



Hartford Historical Society

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

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER



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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September-October 2026



Voters Approve Hartford Fire District No. 1 in 1893

By Scott Fletcher

On September 4, 1886, the *Landmark* reported that a petition was circulated in Hartford to establish the town's first fire district. "We need not say that the petition should be granted," said the publisher. But it was not. The town lacked a sufficient supply of water to support a network of hydrants, and residents had just been taxed in 1884 for a new high school. In 1893, however, the *Landmark* launched another series of articles, which documented the process of creating Fire District No. 1 in White River Junction.

Shall the Junction be Protected from Fire?

The *Landmark*, May 12, 1893

"A petition already signed by most of our business men is being circulated, asking the selectmen of the town to lay out a fire district at the Junction. We see no reason why this should not be granted and our village be enabled to receive the advantages to be derived from a good water system such as the Hartford Water Co. can furnish.

"Property here is too valuable to longer run the risk of fires which may happen at any time, day or night. And what supply of water is available in such a contingency beyond a meagre amount available from the present inadequate supply for domestic purposes? Without any public water service to rely upon, the business part of the Junction, as well as that used for residences, is constantly exposed to a conflagration which may reduce the village to ashes. Such a calamity is too deplorable to contemplate. Insurance would cover the loss only partially. In the event of a

In his book, Historical Highlights of the Town of Hartford, Vermont, John W. St. Croix said that construction of the first fire station in Hartford started in November 1893. The building was completed at a cost of \$1,474.22. The first fire fought by the new district was in a small storehouse of the Boston & Maine Railroad in West Lebanon, NH. A second floor was added to the fire station in 1919 with an apartment for the fire chief upstairs.

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From the Editor . . .

Hartford voters approved Fire District No. One in 1893, and the town's first steam-fired pumper engine was delivered in December of that year. The *Vermont Standard* reported that it could spray 400 gallons of water a minute. Clarence Bogle was elected the town's first Chief Engineer. We have pieced together a narrative from articles in the *Landmark*.

Also in 1893, Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital opened on the Dartmouth campus in Hanover, NH. It was built by Hiram Hitchcock, a wealthy hotelier, in memory of his wife Mary who had died in 1887. Hiram owned the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, and Mary had been a popular society hostess. Hiram retired from his hotel in 1866 and moved into a mansion on the Dartmouth campus. Soon, Hiram and Mary traveled the world and, on their return, Hiram lectured at Dartmouth on the ancient art of the Mediterranean. The college awarded him a Master of Arts degree in 1872. Mary Hitchcock left relatively

little in the historical record, but we located a tribute to her on the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center website.

When the Confederate Army fired on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, twenty-four year-old Horace French left Kimball Union Academy and walked to Hartford where he joined the Third Vermont Volunteers. He spent much of the Civil War on the front lines and was captured at the Battle of the Wilderness in 1864. He was confined in fifteen different Confederate prisons before being exchanged. In 1926, Horace French addressed a reunion of Union soldiers in St. Johnsbury and his remarks are in this issue. He was the only surviving soldier of the eighty-two who joined the Union Army in Hartford on the first day of the war.

We hope to see you on September 9 when we learn how the American Revolution impacted Vermont's native population. Please see our calendar for info.

Scott Fletcher, Editor

Curing a Bolting Horse

The Landmark, July 20, 1894

"A horse, purchased at an equine "rubbish" sale, was a confirmed bolter. No sooner was it harnessed than it set off at a full gallop, a career which generally ended in a smash and the immediate release of the culprit.

"But the new purchaser, far from trying to check this propensity, resolved, as he said, to "humor him a bit," and generously "lent him to a fire engine."

"The horse soon found that he was encouraged not only to bolt at the starting, but to keep up the pace, and in six months was quite ready to stand in harness or to start at any speed wished by his driver."

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.



Hartford Historical Society

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Who Was Mary Hitchcock?

From the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center Website

When Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital in Hanover, New Hampshire, was demolished in 1995, three years after the new Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) opened in Lebanon, a century-old time capsule was discovered among the debris. Inside was a love letter to Mary Maynard Hitchcock, written by her husband Hiram Hitchcock, the wealthy hotelier who had built the hospital in 1893 as a memorial to his late wife. Hiram wrote of his childhood sweetheart, "It is a memorial of one of the noblest and best of God's gifts to the human race. God grant that this hospital may be all, and more than all that she would have it to be. She was my life here. May God in His infinite mercy unite us again."

Hiram's grief was understandable. The couple had known each other since Mary was 8 and Hiram was 10, having both grown up in the small town of Drewsville, New Hampshire. Mary was born there in 1834 to Roxy Davis Maynard and John P. Maynard, and Hiram's family moved from Claremont, New Hampshire, to Drewsville in 1842. After what was termed "a long courtship," they were married in 1858, when Mary was 24. Hiram had already embarked on a successful career in the hotel business, having moved to New Orleans at age 20 to work at the renowned St. Charles Hotel and later at the Nahant House, a seaside resort hotel just outside of Boston.

After their wedding, Hiram and Mary moved to New York City, and a year later Hiram and two colleagues—Alfred B. Darling and Paron Stevens—built the



Mary Hitchcock was a hostess in New York City society as her husband Hiram Hitchcock built and operated the popular Fifth Avenue Hotel. Hiram built the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital in 1893 after her death from unknown causes.

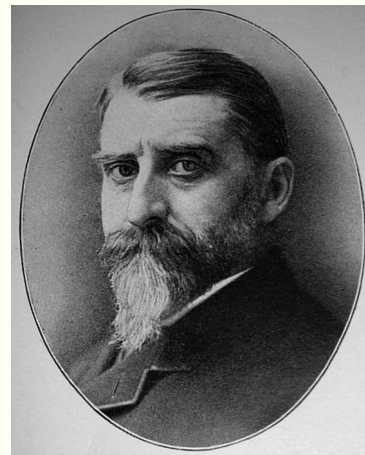
Fifth Avenue Hotel, which was the largest and one of the most popular hotels in Manhattan. Mary became a prominent hostess, entertaining such luminaries as President Grover Cleveland and Theodore Roosevelt prior to his presidency. But, while their business and social lives were thriving, the couple's personal life was consumed with loss. Their daughter Mary, born in 1863, lived only a month. A year later, when Mary was 31, their son Maynard was born, but he died just 14 months later.

Three years later, Hiram retired at the age of 34, reportedly due to ill health. During the years from 1866 through 1879, he and Mary traveled the world as Hiram pursued his interest in archaeology. While traveling in Europe, Hiram gave Mary a bracelet, earrings and a brooch that were copies of the crown jewels of Russia.

During this time, they also bought a house in Hanover, New Hampshire, that had belonged to Dartmouth College Professor Henry Fairbanks. Dubbed "Hitchcock Mansion," the large, French-style house stood where Russell Sage dormitory is now located, and their property stretched down to the Connecticut River.

The couple returned to New York City in 1879, as Hiram resumed his role of running the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and also helped found Madison Square Garden, serving as its president. They divided their time between Hanover and New York, but Mary died in New York of unknown causes in 1887 at the age of 53. Hiram initially commemorated her life by

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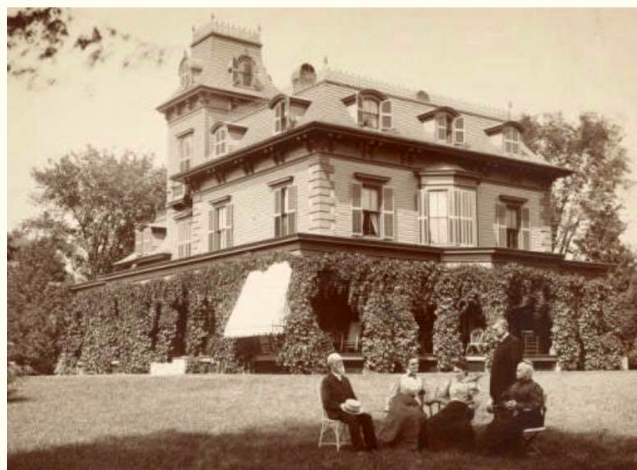
The Hitchcock Hospital at Hanover

Portsmouth Daily Chronicle, September 4 1889

HANOVER, N.H. Plans for the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital have been formally accepted, and work will be commenced in season to complete the foundations this fall. The structure will be of brick, with Portland stone trimmings, about 200 feet long, and with accommodations for 30 patients. It is estimated that the cost, exclusive of land, is \$50,000. The hospital corporation organized with the following officers: President, Hon. Hiram Hitchcock (above right); secretary, Prof. H.A. Hitchcock; treasurer, George Hitchcock; and board of trustees.

redecorating the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College in Hanover, which overlooked the northeast corner of the Dartmouth Green, and also buying the church a new organ. In 1889, he decided to further honor her memory by paying for the construction of a new hospital. Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, which opened on May 3, 1893, would serve the Upper Valley's residents, be a teaching hospital for Dartmouth (now Geisel) Medical School students and also train nurses. The Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital Training School for Nurses, which also opened in 1893, educated nurses for 87 years until its closing in 1980.

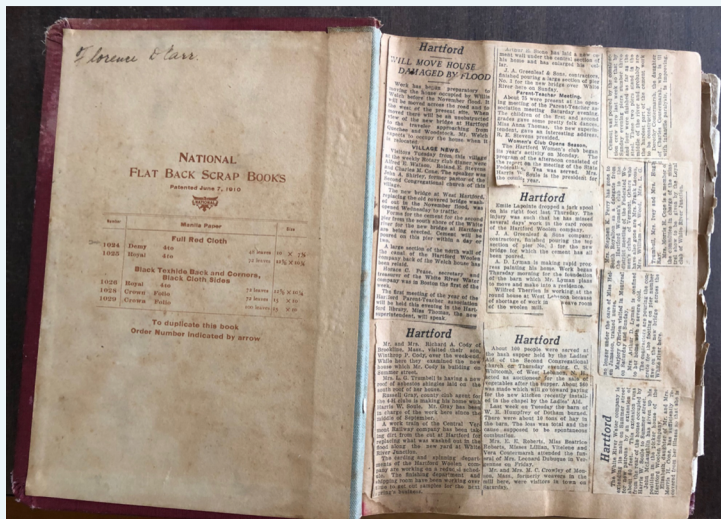
Built at an estimated cost of about \$220,000, the state-of-the-art hospital was bright and airy and graced by impressive pillars, a fireplace carved from Siena marble and a beautiful mosaic tile floor. After Hiram officially donated the hospital to the corporation that would oversee it, he then addressed Dr. Carleton Frost, a close friend and dean of Dartmouth Medical School. He said, "This hospital is a lasting memorial of the great moral and sympathetic power of a noble



Hiram and Mary Hitchcock moved in to this mansion on the Dartmouth College campus after he retired in 1866. Hiram and Mary rest in the college cemetery.

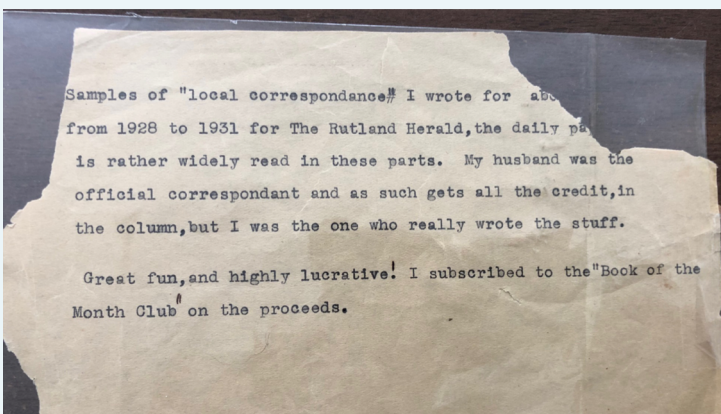
Christian woman's life in its devotion to the relief of human suffering and misery; and it is a precious privilege to have been permitted to establish a memorial that, under Providence, will realize the fond aspirations of that life."

News From the Garipay House



Clockwise from top left, Eddie Bettis donated a hand agitator that once made wash day a little easier. HHS board member Steve Mead takes inventory of the *L'Formatore*, an Italian-American newspaper published in White River Junction by G. Filofax. Olsen Roofing LLC of Lyme, NH put a new standing seam roof over the porches of the Garipay House. Kathryn Whalen of Hartford donated a book of clippings from the *Rutland Herald* she found in a free library in Lebanon, NH. A typewritten note tucked in the scrapbook by Florence D. Carr notes that she wrote these entries about social life in Hartford from 1928 through the 1930s while her husband received the bylines.

For more information about the Hartford Historical Society, the Garipay House, and our activities, please contact us. Donations are also greatly appreciated.



destructive fire, it is easy to see that the present high insurance rates would hereafter be increased.

"The underwriters would not venture except at higher rates risks a second time upon buildings, stock of goods and household furniture that experience has shown were extra hazardous. The safest plan is to afford protection by the establishment of a fire district and to utilize the water supply offered by the Hartford Company. In no other way can safety against fires and possible heavy losses be attained.

The time to secure the fire protection so badly needed is now! The matter must be settled before the pipes are laid, or the Company will not be able to furnish water at all for fire purposes. The move is one of vital importance to the present and future prosperity of the Junction.

"Every real estate owner, every man engaged in business, every householder, in fact every permanent resident of this village is interested in having security against fires, so often attended with loss of life and always with greater or less loss of property. Capital naturally seeks investment where there is comparative safety. Men prefer to build and establish industries and to locate residences where there are proper facilities for fighting fire. All who desire the growth of the Junction and its general prosperity should see at once the necessity of a water service for its protection. The tax upon hydrants to be located in the proposed fire district falls upon the tax payers within its limits.

"It is estimated that fifteen or twenty hydrants would be required to properly cover the district. The Company estimates the annual rental of each hydrant at \$25 each year. Should additional hydrants be required from time to time, they would be furnished at the same rate. The cost of these hydrants represents the interest on extra expenses of laying pipe for the same. Even if a single fire did not occur within a year and not a hydrant was opened, the annual tax would not be a loss to the tax payers of the fire district any more than an insurance premium paid year after year is a loss to an individual.

"The experience of all places that have provided for protection against fire by an efficient water system has been that the saving in insurance more than compensated for the additional tax. Any plea for urging upon an intelligent and progressive community like that at the Junction the value and advantages of a fire district and a water system in connection, seems almost needless. The plan commends itself at the first glance. But immediate action is required.

"There is no time for delay. We have confidence in the enterprise of our citizens. When their attention is called to a great public benefit, we believe they will hasten to secure it. This matter we must settle at once for it involves the safety and security and advancement of the Junction through the years that are to come!"

In May 1893, Hartford residents again submitted a petition to the selectboard asking that the boundaries of a new fire district be established, and that the town hold an election to approve funding for fire apparatus, a storage facility, a suitable water supply, and staffing. These boundaries were set and published in the *Landmark* for review by voters.

Fire District Boundaries Set

The Landmark, June 2, 1893

"The boundaries were as follows: Beginning at New Hampshire line on the south shore of the White River at its mouth, and following the west shore of the Connecticut River south to two pine trees on the bank of said river about 75 feet south of the house belonging to the estate of Wm. Renahan; thence westerly to a point of rocks south of Mr. Donahue's; thence northerly, following the base of the hill and in rear of the buildings including said hill tenement and barn belonging to N.B. Safford's estate, continuing along the base of the hill, and in rear of all buildings, to a point west of the northwest corner of the furniture store owned by Hanchett & Alexander; thence westerly in a straight line to the south-east corner of the Farnsworth lot, on the 2nd Terrace, and following the rear line of Farnsworth, Muzzey, Bogles, Bagley, Pease, and other lots on said Terrace, until the line strikes the Pierce farm; thence along the Fair Ground road to south-west corner of the Russ place and thence along the east line of the Mann brothers lot bought of D. Tilden from Pierce farm, northerly to a point 30 feet west of the last tenement built by Edmond Daily; thence northerly in a straight line across the White river to the south-west corner of James Cooper's homestead lot, and along said Cooper's west line to his north-west corner; thence east along Cooper's north line to his north-east corner, thence easterly along the foot of the hill as the base of said hill runs to the intersection of the Barnes and Lyman road leading to Olcott; thence east to the Connecticut river; thence south along the west shore of said river to and across the White River to the place of beginning."

The *Landmark* reported that, "Voters within this district were warned of a meeting to be held at Gates'

Opera House on Tuesday June 6, 1893 at half past seven o'clock p.m., 'To take such action as they judge best under the law; and it thought best, make choice of all necessary officers to carry out the object and make effectual the purpose for which the meeting was called.'"

The meeting was lightly attended, but it laid the groundwork for the new district. "There were only 11 voters present at the Fire District meeting held in Gates' Opera House last Saturday night," said the *Landmark* on August 11, "but the business for which the meeting had been called was transacted as follows: C.C. Bogle was elected chief engineer, E.E. Bagley first assistant. N.P. Wheeler second assistant. The chair was instructed to select a committee to draft a code of by-laws, and named O.W. Daley, W.E. Huntoon and F.T. Williams.

The third article in the warning, which was "to authorize the purchase of pails and ladders for fire purposes, and storage of same at expense of the district," was disposed of by the chief engineer and his assistants being authorized to procure necessary pails and ladders, and provide a suitable place for storing them. All of which is well enough, as a precautionary measure, but what the district wants is water, and we hope the business men who interested themselves in this movement at the outset will not give up until something more satisfactory has been accomplished. The Hartford Water Co. have made, it is thought by many, a very fair offer. At present, and for some time to come, it will be impossible for the district to go into the water business on its own responsibility, hence it would seem unwise to longer delay making some arrangement with the company."

FIRE DISTRICT MEETING

The *Landmark*, October 13, 1893

"In compliance with the request in writing of five legal voters of Fire District No. 1, in Hartford, Vermont, (Charles R. Jamason, clerk of said Fire District being absent from the state of Vermont) the legal voters of said Fire District No. 1 in Hartford are hereby notified and warned to meet at O'Neill's Hall in said District, on the 17th day of October, 1893, at 7:30



Hartford's first fire engine was a steam pumper built by the American Fire Engine Company of Seneca Falls, NY. The Vermont Standard reported that it was a Silsby-type machine, like the 1894 model above, that could pump 400 gallons of water per minute. The pumper was delivered to White River Junction in December 1893, and cost \$3,000.

o'clock p.m., for the following purposes, namely: To see if the District will vote to purchase a fire engine and other fire apparatus, or any part thereof, and to provide for the construction of cisterns and storage reservoirs for protection against fire, and for care and storage of the same, and to raise money to defray expenses of the same. Dated at Hartford, October 11th, 1893. N.B. Hazen, chairman of Prudential Committee of Fire District No. 1 in Hartford. Vt."

Voters Approve Fire District No. 1 In White River Junction

"The prospect of having some sort of protections against fire in this village were never brighter than now. At a special meeting of the fire district held at O'Neill's Hall, Tuesday evening, which by the way, was largely attended, the universal opinion seemed to be that it was time to act, after listening to Chief Engineer Bogle's explanation of how the villages of Ludlow and Springfield managed at a comparatively small expense to protect themselves against fires with a steam engine, a motion to appoint a committee to procure for the fire district similar apparatus, was carried without a dissenting voice.

"The motion was made by Wm. Batchelder, and is as follows: "Moved to appoint Clarence Bogle, E.E.

Continued on page 10.

A Hard Road from South Pomfret to West Hartford

From the Vermont Standard, April 15, 1875



Post card donated to the Hartford Historical Society by the estate of Leon and Betty Stetson.

“The driver of the South Pomfret and West Hartford stage has this spring, as usual, found the transition from sleighing to wheeling, "a hard road to travel." Starting on wheels from South Pomfret, he is obliged to change for a sleigh at O.M. Chedel's and then change back to wheels at E.S. Wood's, and the same on his return, making four changes in his daily trip.

“This piece of road from Chedel's to Wood's of about two miles runs over elevated ground and most of the way through open fields where the wind is expected to blow, and the snow to fly, every day from December to April, and very seldom disappoints the most active expectations in that respect; and the result is that the road is a terror to travelers all winter, and is the same in the spring for a long time after it is comfortable wheeling on most other roads.

“As this road is on the route of a good deal of travel from the valley of the White River to the county seat, as well as a daily stage and much other travel to the railroad station, and as the town has never invested anything in building railroads, many of the inhabitants think the town could afford to make two miles of new road down on the streams and out of the winds. Why not?”

Captain Horace French Speaks at Civil War Reunion

St. Johnsbury Republican, September 9, 1926

"Comrades and friends: It gives me a peculiar pleasure to meet with you on this, our 41st annual reunion. We are but a small remnant of the grand old 3rd Vermont Volunteers that went to the front in 1861 to help preserve this Union. Of the 33 officers that went from St. Johnsbury in command of our regiment, not one is left, and of the 82 men who enlisted at Hartford, Vt., I am the only survivor.

"We miss those that have gone on a little in advance of some of us. Peace and rest to them all. We are left for some good purpose by the Great Commander with whom we have to do whether we are loyal or not. Here is where we were camped. From here we started for the front, knowing little of what was in store for us.

"Eight hundred and eighty-two able bodied men left St. Johnsbury July 24 in 23 cars for the front. There were additions to this number by recruits. So, there were on the roles 1,748 men. Two hundred and six were killed and 679 wounded. This regiment was one of the fighting regiments. Its heaviest loss was at the Battle of the Wilderness, where 68 were killed and 600 were wounded. I was taken prisoner at that battle, had a forced vacation of one year. When captured my weight was 200; when I came out of the rebel so-called hospital, I weighed 115, a loss of 85 pounds, and it took some time for me to get on my feet.

"This regiment was at the front from the first skirmish until the close of the war. I had four and one-half years of service. I enlisted on the day that Beauregard commenced the war by bombarding Fort Sumter in Co. F in the Hartford Company, was made orderly sergeant, later lieutenant, and was detailed on the staff of the old Vermont Brigade and found a commission as captain waiting for me when I was released from prison. I came out of the war \$300 in debt, and have been in debt much of the time since. But with God's blessing, I have been able to pay 100 cents on the dollar with enough to carry me through.

"I go before long--in God's good time. I am nearing the terminal where all change and am hoping for the right transfer paper to be ready when the call comes. I have had some seemingly hard jolts in my long and somewhat eventful life. Seven of my eight children and their mother have passed on to the higher life. My good companion and I lived in our home 52 of the 57 years we were together. Now I make my home with my son. I am getting used to the loneliness slowly. Time is a partial healer.

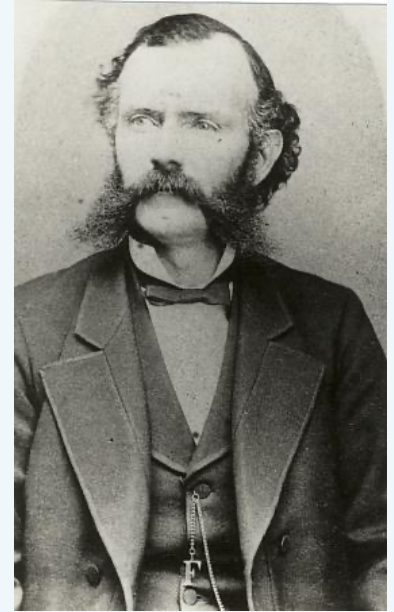
"I have much to be thankful for -- my friends, my connection with this grand old regiment and friendship of such men as Col. Samuel E. Pingree, one of God's noble men. Peace and rest to them all.

"It is said we are as old as we feel. I do not feel as old as 90 sounds. Being 89 over 6 months, the government calls me 90. I am contending with some of the evils and ills we oldish fellows are heirs to. As the old lady said, "If we think we are used up and no further use, it helps make it so."

Notwithstanding the infirmities of 90 years, my blessings have out numbered my troubles. So I look at the blessings and drop the rest. Among the many things I have reason to be thankful for are: I am not lame; eyesight good; do not use glasses. I hope for some more good years, if I can be well and of any use. If not, I hope it will not be for long.

"I miss the Colonel with whom I have come to these reunions over 30 times. My sadness was taken away when I recalled the fine visits we had. A more companionable man I never met. I can almost see his smile and feel his warm hand clasp. I am thankful that I was blessed with his eternal friendship. We that are left as a guard to help those less fortunate must get busy and occupy 'till He comes. It won't be long.

"Soon some of us will be with the majority. And I hope we'll hear the "well done" we have been hoping for. May the Good Lord help us to endure to the end here, and take us to Himself in His good time. "The Lord be with us 'till we meet again."



When Confederates fired on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, Horace French and two classmates at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, NH, walked to Hartford and enlisted in the 3rd Vermont Volunteers. After the war, he operated a printing company in White River Junction.

Bagley and N.P. Wheeler agents to purchase fire apparatus for the district, and to locate and build suitable cisterns and reservoirs, and an engine house and provide all things necessary for the protection of the district from fire; and that said agents be instructed to expend a sum not exceeding \$9,000, which shall include fire apparatus, cisterns, reservoirs, engine house and all things necessary, and that said agents be authorized to draw orders on the treasurer of said district for such sums as they may expend or debts incur in behalf of the district in carrying out the purposes of this vote, not exceeding in the whole the sum of \$9,000." In addition to the above, a tax of 10 per cent of the grand list of the district was voted, the same to be raised before the first of January, and paid into the hands of the treasurer before the first of January, 1894, to be used in paying the running expenses of the district, under the direction of the



Hartford firefighters with a Maxim M3 pumper engine in 1926.

prudential committee. It will be seen by the above action of the meeting that Chief Engineer Bogle and his two assistants have the power to go ahead and procure an engine and other necessary apparatus. We are glad that the district has at last done something, and although it is not what we ought to have, for a starter will do very well." The *Landmark*, October 20, 1893.

On January 1, 1894, Chief Engineer C.C. Bogle presented a report to the town on progress building a water supply and an engine house for the new fire district. Costs exceeded original estimates, in part due to, "defects observable in the construction of the reservoirs." But Bogle's report was accepted as, "able and exhaustive." Thus, the town came to have an engine house on River Street, a water supply, a horse drawn pumper engine, hoses, and a fire company "not exceeding thirty in number."

Thank You HHS Supporters!

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THANK YOU!

Yesterday's News

Age and Exercise, *The Landmark*, July 4, 1929

Amounts of physical activity required by healthy persons at different ages, as computed by various authorities, are summarized in an article on exercise by Dr. James O. Nall. The program quoted calls for four hours daily at the age of five, five hours daily from seven to nine years, six hours daily from nine to eleven years, five hours daily from eleven to thirteen years, four hours daily from thirteen to sixteen years, three hours daily from sixteen to eighteen years, two hours daily from eighteen to twenty years, and one hour daily for persons over twenty years of age.

Mountain Time, *The Landmark*, December 16, 1892

Mrs. John Rose Magruder has made her home for the last ten years in Mexico where her husband has mining interests. During the greater portion of the time she is the only woman in camp, and on this account, as well as in order to be of aid in case of illness, she has acquired considerable knowledge of medicine. A clever device adopted to show the native women when certain powders or pills should be administered was to make a little sketch of the country in that immediate vicinity and mark off on the mountainside the different stages of the sun from early morning to evening at which the medicine was to be administered.

Hack Job, *The Landmark*, July 1, 1882

A burglarious attempt was made upon A.L. Pease's store one night last week, by breaking a light of glass near the bolt that fastens the back door; but fortunately the bolt was driven in so tightly that it could not be removed by the would-be burglar. It was a bungling operation, evidently not the work of an artist. Home talent is suspected.

Like Father ... *The Landmark*, June 23, 1883

The eight-year old son of a minister near here seems to take to religious work as naturally as a duck takes to the water. Last Saturday, his father bought some strawberries, carried them home for supper, put them on the table, and left till supper time. When supper was ready, the children with mouths and eyes watering for the delicious fruit, gathered around the table somewhat ahead of time and made some demonstrations that looked like commencing earnest work. The mother says to them, "Hadh't you better wait till father comes? There has been no blessing asked yet." "No, mother," says the boy, "I can say grace as well as he can--no need to wait;" and then he bowed his head over his plate and said the one he was accustomed to hear as well as one could wish; the next move was for the strawberries. Thus was the old man thrown out of his duties by the usurpation of the boy. The grace at that meal was surely meant, for his heart was in it; he wanted the strawberries, was thankful for them and returned thanks. This act of devotion was certainly not merely of form.

Neatly Done, *The Landmark*, November 3, 1883

Perrin collected a bad store debt the other day very neatly. When he was in trade here a few years ago, one Charles Harrodon got into his debt \$2.00 for a pair of pants, and then went out of the state. David set down his \$2.00 as so much lost and mourned over the calamity to his finances for a long period. He is now clerking in Wheeler's store, and last week who should come into it but Charles Harrodon who, not knowing Perrin, stepped up to him and called for some article and then handed him \$5.00 out of which to take his pay. When he had got hold of the money Perrin says, "I believe you are owing me \$2.00 for a pair of pants." Harrodon turned pale and purple and melancholy looking, and then said, "Yes, well take it out of the \$5.00," which David intended to do and did do. Since this \$2.00 streak of luck, they have had molasses on their pancakes every morning at Perrin's.

Watts New? *The Landmark*, January 3, 1890

KILOWATTS is the term which is to be used hereafter to express the power of electric machines. The word "horsepower" will no longer be employed in referring to the power of any electric motor.

Hartford Historical Society

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HHS Calendar

THE GARIPAY HOUSE MUSEUM is open by appointment and/or when the “Welcome” flag is hanging on the front porch. 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 second Tuesday of the month at the Garipay House at 10:00 a.m. (Please check for exact date.)

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 - “The Native Americans’ American Revolution,” presented by Dr. Colin Calloway. 7:00 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ; 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village. Free and accessible.

Wednesday, November 11, 2026 - “War in the Connecticut River Valley, 1777-1782,” presented by Izzy Provoncha. 7:00 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ; 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village. Free and accessible.

The **Genealogy Center** on the second floor of the Hartford Library is open Fridays from 3-6 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.

Website: <http://www.hartfordvthistory.com/>

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