

Current Officers & Directors

President: Joel Page

Vice President: Rick Fletcher

Secretary: Richard Gagne

Treasurer: Georgeana Little

Directors:: Lynn Austin, Diancy Boyden,

Richard Gagne, Georgeana Little,

Peter Opstrup, Shirley Opstrup

Honorary Board Members: June Dodge, Barb Juell

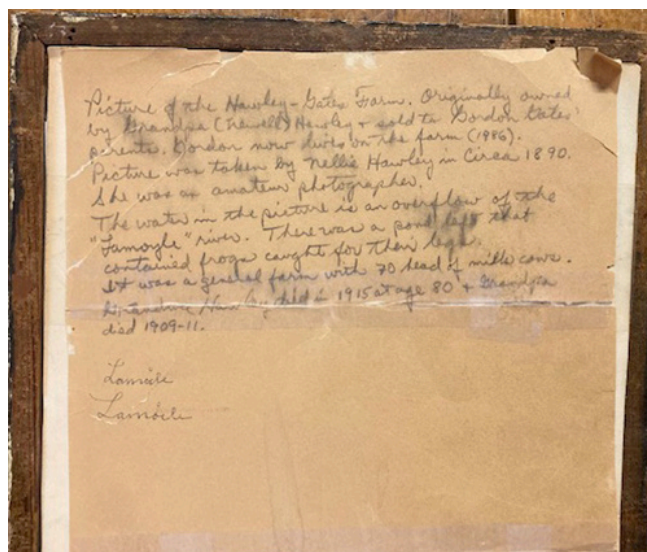
Mystery Photo

This photo was found in our collection but its exact provenance is unknown. The note on the back gives some information and is transcribed below. Only the name of the person who died in 1915 is unclear. If you can identify the farm or have any information, you can contact the CHS at Info@CambridgeHistoricalSociety.org



Picture of the Hawley-Gates Farm. Originally owned by Grandpa (Wendell) Hawley & sold to Gordon Gates' parents. Gordon now lives on the farm (1986). Picture was taken by Nellie Hawley in Circa 1890. She was an amateur photographer.

The water in the picture is an overflow of the "Lamoyle" river. There was a pond left that contained frogs caught for their legs. It was a general farm with 70 head of milk cows. [?????] Hawley died in 1915 at age 80 & Grandpa died 1909-11.



Early History of Cambridge

by Ida Morgan Anderson

Beginning in 1935, Ida Morgan Anderson began serializing a column on the History of Cambridge in the *Cambridge Town Crier*. Many of our readers may remember the series of 27 Installments. The Harkener continues publishing the installments for a new audience on the assumption that the copyright (if it ever existed) has long since expired. We hope you will enjoy these "blasts from the past."

Installment Sixteen

Charles Bennett was another early settler whose ancestors came from England. He had two sons, Miles and Eli. Their grandfather Noble on their mother's side was a captain in the Revolutionary war. Miles stayed on the home farm, Eli began the study of law, but his eyes failing him, he went to sea in company with Harrison and Chauncey Warner, on a whaling voyage around Cape Horn. Among the curiosities which he brought home were a whale's tooth, tropical sea shell and an ostrich egg. He never made but one voyage. The remainder of his life was divided between the practice of law and the making of furniture. In 1844 he married Mary Putnam whose grandfather was a cousin of General Israel Putnam, who served in the Revolutionary war.

Joel Putnam who died at the age of ninety-four was also a third cousin of General Putnam. The Putnams originally came from England where they had large estates and traced descent from the nobility.

The Gates' families came from Rutland, Vermont. E. J. Gates and his son, J. E. held a large place in the esteem of their neighbors, and often served as referees in their disputes. They owned a large farm in the village.

Gardner Gates had a fine farm at the west end of the village. In 1831 he married Clara Dyer, the fifth child of Edward Dyer, who came to Clarendon, Vermont, from Rhode Island in 1789. Among her ancestry was Mary Dyer, a Quaker. The government of Massachusetts banished Quakers and sentenced to death any who should return to the colony. Mary Dyer left the colony,

upon the enactment of this law, but soon returned on purpose to offer up her life. She was arrested and sent to prison, but was reprieved after she was led out to be hanged, and against her will was carried out of the colony. She speedily returned and was hanged on Boston common June 1, 1660. George Alfred Townsend tells the story in a stirring poem.



Mary Dyer
1660

Ye preachers! as ye look
Above the Jewish Book
Out on the sitting people, who never answer
ye!

Think of the Quaker folk
Whose living necks ye broke -
Of Mary Dyer walking, to court the gallows
tree!

Twice to the tree she went
in wonderful content,
Hands clasped in two young men's who hanged
before her face.

"O shame, young men to touch so!"

The preachers said, o'er much so,
Who thought death's friendship to a man
carnality's embrace.

Yet back came Mary Dyer
To be hanged lone and higher;
"Ye Roundheads ran from bishops; we Quaker
women stand,

I come into your country
Not with the world's effrontery,
But Woman, loving Death, because ye make a
hateful land!"

They hanged her from the ladder,
But went home sorer, sadder;
"Her name may be as deathless as ours be
hated by her?

O pretty, fearless minion!"
How bloody is opinion!

Five Hundred years will not forgive the death of
Mary Dyer.

C. D. Gates

After the death of Gardner Gates, his wife managed his large business with great skill and ability for many years. Of their three sons, Clarence Dyer Gates remained in Cambridge. He was educated at Fort Edward Institute, N.Y., and Dartmouth College. From college he enlisted in the First Vermont Cavalry of which he became adjutant September 4th, 1862. He was in thirty-six battles and fifty engagements, among them Gettysburg,



Continued on Page 3

Continued from Page 2

Winchester and Stoney Creek. He also served as aide to General Custer and was with him in the battle of Cedar Creek. He was a prisoner in both Libby and Belle Isle prisons. He was mustered out November 19, 1864. He received his commission of colonel and aide de camp of the volunteer militia, from Governor John B. Page, October 17, 1867. He died June 25, 1917. He married Frances E. VanAmum of W. Troy N.Y., in 1860. She was a descendant of one of the Dutch patroons, or "lords of the manor" to whom Gov. Peter Minuit granted a great estate in Rensselaer county, N.Y.

Upcoming Programs

March 8, 2023



The Morse/Mann Mansion: Dr. Mann's Hospital

Part 1 of this 2 part series covers the early history of the house, built and owned by the Morses. Architectural details of the downstairs area are shown, and stories of Dr. Roger Mann's early life in Waterville are included.

July 12, 2023

The History of Cambridge High School Reg Wilcox

Join CHS alum Reg Wilcox for a look at the history of the school and add your memories to his.



Programs to Come
Arranged but not scheduled

Soup to Nuts: An Eccentric History of Food Rebecca Rupp

Vermont's Remarkable Sharpshooters Howard Coffin

**All programs are at the Warner Lodge, School Street, Jeffersonville at 7:00 pm.
Refreshments are always provided (and delicious)**

Membership Application/Renewal

Please complete this form and mail to: Cambridge Historical Society
PO Box 16
Jeffersonville, VT 05464-0016
or email to: rgtle@stoweaccess.com

New

Renewal

Name _____

Address _____
Number Street Town State Zip

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Membership Category

Individual \$15.00

Family \$25.00

Business \$25.00

Please consider becoming a:

Patron \$500.00

Benefactor \$1,000.00+

If you have suggestions about program topics or have some great ideas for fundraisers,
please let us know by listing your ideas below.

Cambridge Historical Society
PO Box 16
Jeffersonville, VT 05464



We're back for another year of interesting and informative programs. This year we are including oral histories recorded and edited by our Secretary, Richard Gagne.

If you have an idea for a program please let us know. You can call Georgeana Little at (802) 335-2002 or email rgtle@stoweaccess.com

We have included a Membership Application in this issue. All memberships renew in January and current members should have received a renewal notice in the mail.

This Newsletter is one of the perks of membership, so to continue receiving The Harkener renew your membership, and THANK YOU.