


 THE SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

March, 1949

At the Annual Meeting last June it was suggested that the Society publish from time to time, and send to members, a letter or bulletin which would contain information as to the doings of the Society and give all our members, especially those living at a distance, more insight into our activities, and which would serve as a connection between them and their Society, and promote the feeling that there was something more to membership than the mere payment of dues, after which they were to be forgotten for another year.

With the foregoing in mind an attempt is now being made to launch our first issue. It was finally decided to call it "The Scituate Historical Society Bulletin" and to issue it quarterly, the first in March, the second in June, which should appear just before the Annual Meeting, then in September previous to our Anniversary observance, and again in December, when ordinarily the shutters are up and the Society usually is in a state of suspended animation.

A program such as this will be much more interesting and helpful if the members themselves will offer suggestions, and from time to time write articles on any subject pertaining to our Society, or of historical interest in Scituate or elsewhere. We would be particularly glad to hear from those at a distance who are unable to enjoy the advantages of living in Scituate. These we will be glad to publish and in that way it is felt that a very welcome and important addition to our activities will be made. As a matter of fact, it cannot be carried on without the assistance of our members, and an invitation to contribute is hereby extended to all our members and friends.

With the assurance that the Officers and Trustees will do their best, we hereby present our first attempt at publishing something which could grow into a very valuable and necessary part of our activities.

Wilmot M. Brown, President

You all know of course of the Society's ownership of the old Mill at Greabush. This is an historical monument of the greatest importance, being generally acknowledged as the oldest water driven grist mill in the Old Colony, and therefore probably the oldest in the country. The Mill was acquired and put in operation in 1922, and in 1936, at the time of the celebration of the Town's Tercentenary the grinding machinery was again repaired and corn was ground by water power from the adjacent pond. Since then no repairs were made until the spring of 1948 when the building was re-roofed by funds partly from the treasury of the Society and partly by subscription. Your President made valiant attempts at our June and September meetings to arouse interest in this matter so that further subscriptions might be made and the Mill again put in operation, and the building itself be prevented from falling to decay. We as trustees of this priceless heritage should see to it that it is preserved for future generations, remembering that the longer it endures the more valuable it becomes.

We are therefore taking the liberty of enclosing with this issue a copy of the circular prepared last year soliciting subscriptions for this purpose, as we consider this as one of the most important projects now before us, as our Society was founded for the purpose, among others, of preserving things pertaining to Colonial times, and our failure to do this will not be overlooked by future and perhaps more appreciative generations. Please let us all subscribe to this undertaking. Any amount, large or small, will be thankfully received and appreciated.

Another thought, and perhaps a mercenary one, might be injected here. Last summer the Mill was kept open on eight afternoons in August for public inspection and the number of visitors was really astonishing. All wanted to buy meal ground here and were disappointed when told that grinding was impossible. It might be that quite an income could be received from this source, especially if the sight seeing busses would stop here, which probably they would be more than willing to do.

Among the new exhibits received at the Cudworth House in 1948 was one which has received a great deal of attention especially among the newer residents of Scituate. This is a large engraving about four feet long and proportionately wide, showing in perspective a view of Dreamwold when that estate was in its prime. This was presented by Mr. C. Albert Brown, who was a trusted employee of Mr. Lawson throughout his entire stay in this Town. This also, like the old Mill, becomes more valuable with age, and we consider it a very well worth while addition to our exhibits, and should be seen by all visitors to the Cudworth House.

The Cudworth House is full of antiquities, but we wonder if the oldest of them all has not escaped your attention. We refer to the stone step at the front door. This is a piece of conglomerate, remarkable for its large flat surface, which is seldom seen in rock of this character, more often occurring as rounded boulders due to being rolled and ground by ice in the glacial ages. Possibly this was split by hand, which with stone of this kind is very hard to do. Geologically speaking, conglomerate of itself is not of great age, perhaps not over a million years, but the "pebbles" or stones of which it is composed have been rolled and ground perhaps millions of years before being deposited in the sedimentary material and hardened by countless ages of pressure into its present form. Please give it a passing look the next time you visit the Cudworth House.

We wish we could print here a picture of an event which occurred in the old barn on December 23. This took the form of a tableau presented by the Junior Church of the First Parish depicting the Nativity scene, and was really wonderful, as the old barn with its ancient furnishings provided a perfect background for the scene. The star in the east shone over the roof and under the flood lights the costumes and robes of the Junior Choir made a beautiful pageant. We were very glad to cooperate with the Church in this manner and hope it may be repeated. A picture published in the Quincy Patriot Ledger and a colored photo by one of our members may be seen at the Cudworth House this summer.

The annual meeting will be held this year on Saturday, June 18. We hope it will be warmer than last year when we were obliged to adjourn to the Church to keep warm. The features of this meeting were the drumhead election of Officers and the talk by Mr. Stephen Jenney on his experiences in Korea with the Army of Occupation.

Those attending the Anniversary on September 11 were pleased with the colorful procession from the Cudworth House to the Church, preceded by a drummer and the national flag, then the choir in their crimson robes followed by members and guests of the Society it formed a truly impressive ceremony. The choir sang to drum accompaniment the old hymn, "Forward Through the Ages". This was the second year a drum conducted procession was held, and it seems like a good feature to continue.

Our Vice President, Mr. Charles C. Lincoln has been very active this winter in taking measurements and making drawings of the interior of the Mill. This is being done so that as the restoration fund increases we will have something on which estimates of the cost of repairs may be based.

Please send us your ideas as to this publication, critical or otherwise, also anything you think will be of interest to our members. We believe that with your help we will be able to make this sheet something which will be looked forward to. Also, show it to your friends; perhaps some would like to join us.

In conclusion, do not overlook your subscription to the Old Mill Restoration Fund. Checks should be made out to the Fund as above and sent to Mrs. Annie Somers, Fund Treasurer, North Scituate, Massachusetts.

THE SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Vol. 1. No. 2

June, 1949

Upon starting to prepare this, the second number of our Bulletin, the first thing which comes to mind is, naturally, what was the effect of and the response to the first issue? In answering this question we may say that for the most part it was well received. A number of letters have come to hand praising our efforts along this line, and expressing satisfaction that this step has been taken, and that the writers are looking forward with pleasure to receiving future issues.

It was also apparent that our plea for funds to restore the old Mill was well received, the result being that several generous contributions for this purpose have come to hand. These amounts came in a large measure from members living at a distance, and in one instance from a non-member. It was a little disappointing that the response of our local members was not larger than it was. However, several of these did, by telephone and in conversation, express their pleasure at our attempt to keep our members informed as to our doings, and to wish us success. These conversations were usually followed by a subscription so that on the whole we believe that we may chalk up a "bullseye" for the first issue and proceed with confidence with our next.

Wilmot M. Brown, President

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual business meeting this year will be held at the Cudworth House on Saturday, June 18 at 3:00 P.M. for the election of officers and other business. After the meeting Sara Bailey Brown will speak, in her own inimitable way, taking as her subject "The Widder Wade", which is bound to be very interesting. To conclude the day, refreshments will be served by the House Committee.

Please take due notice of this meeting, as this Bulletin will be sent to all members of the Society. The previous custom of sending a separate card will be discontinued. The above is the only notice which will be sent. Please bear this in mind, make note of the day, and make every effort to attend.

ANNUAL DUES

Notice is hereby given that the yearly dues of annual members should be paid on or before the day of the meeting, June 18. A prompt response to this request will considerably ease the minds of the Officers and Trustees, who after all, must give thought to the financial problems of the Society.

PRATTS HISTORY

At the April meeting of the Board of Trustees it was voted that for a limited period this summer Pratts "Early Planters of Scituate" would be sold for \$3.50 per copy, to be purchased at the Cudworth House or through the officers of the Society only. No books will be sold through dealers. This is a wonderful opportunity to obtain a book which will become more valuable with time, as probably no more printings will be made, and will eventually become a classic of Scituate history as Deans History has become in the past.

CUDWORTH HOUSE REPAIRS

It is with pleasure that we announce that the Board of Selectmen have allotted a sum of money for repairs on the exterior of the Cudworth House, to be expended under the direction of your President. A contract has been made and repairs will, we hope, be completed by the time of the Annual Meeting.

In connection with the above-mentioned repairs on the Cudworth House, we are also glad to say that we believe the Old Mill Restoration Fund has now reached such proportions that complete repairs may be made to the building, putting it in good condition throughout. After this is done the next problem is to put the machinery in operative condition which is necessary if the property is to be restored to its fullest extent. We hope this will be possible. We are depending on our Street Department to replace the antique fence in front of the building.

One of our members has in preparation an article on the history of the Groveland Cemetery at North Scituate. This will be based on old papers on file in the Cudworth House which were written about fifty years ago. As this cemetery was established in 1699 by the Conihasset Partners, it is one more of the historical spots in Scituate which should be better known to all of us.

The first visitors to the Cudworth House this season were the Girl Scouts of Troop 1. On May 10 they, with their leaders, spent an interesting hour looking over the exhibits there and very little escaped them. We are glad that the young people are interested in such things, and are very willing to open the house for groups of this character. They will visit the Mill later in the summer.

Under the will of Mary E. Scott who died in Pontiac, Michigan last fall, the Society was bequeathed some furniture of the appraisal value of \$37.00. As the estate had no funds to pay for its packing and transportation to Scituate, and as it was estimated that the cost of doing so would be around \$150.00, and that the goods were of no antiquarian value, the Trustees voted to sell the material at Pontiac. This was done and the sum of \$48.00 was turned into our Treasury.

At the annual Town Meeting in March it was voted to take over the Old Men of Kent Cemetery on Meeting House Lane. We can now be sure that our Park Department will take proper care of this historic spot and that the long years of its disgraceful neglect have come to an end.

The Scituate Betterment Club is to be congratulated on their success in bringing about this action.

We plan to open the Old Mill during at least two afternoons a week in August and some in July if possible. We would like to obtain volunteers from our members to do this. The hours will be from two to five, and if a few could find the time for this work it will be very highly appreciated.

The Cudworth House will be open as usual this summer. The opening date is expected to be July 5, and it will remain open daily, except on Mondays, until September 17. This later opening and closing, first tried last year, proved a success, as there were quite a number of visitors during September.

We are trying to establish a correct mailing list. It would be a thoughtful act if any member who knows of another who did not receive this Bulletin would drop a card to Box 53, Egypt, Mass., giving us the correct address. Also, we would be glad to hear from every member, giving us their correct mail address.

We know you are all curious to hear about "The Widder Wade", so be sure to come to the annual meeting and find out for yourselves.

- - - - -

An open letter to the members of the Scituate Historical Society.

"Last summer on a visit to Scituate I was impressed by the valuable antiquities that have been given over to the care of the Society: early furniture, portraits of early settlers, maps, books, glass and china, firearms, costumes and heirlooms of infinite variety. These are all being given unremitting care by the Officers and the custodian, and members should be grateful. But aside from all these, so well tended in the Cudworth House, there is one which is perhaps more historic, more important, and more valuable: the Steadman Russel Stockbridge Mill.

"As all members of the Society know, this was the first water-driven mill in the Old Colony. It is a monument to one of the earliest business enterprises in the country, and as such should be honored and preserved with great care. However, any building more than threehundred years old needs constant repairs in little ways, and once in a while in a larger way.

"Last year, due to the unceasing efforts of your President, the roof covering was completely renewed, but other important repairs are necessary if the Mill is to survive the onslaught of future years of New England weather. Today these repairs can be made for a few hundred dollars. In five or ten years time, without those repairs there may be no mill to repair. Aside from its historic worth the mill is a valuable piece of property, and it belongs to the members of the Society. It is yours to neglect or preserve.

"The dues in the Society are nominal and the pleasures they entitle you to are great. Every member should be able to give one dollar, most can easily spare five, and a majority can give more. Every member must have one friend or more who would be interested in the preservation of one of New England's outstanding landmarks.

"I, as a visitor, do not know to whom to send contributions. I gave my small bit to your President, and in conversation with him learned that others from a distance who seldom get to Scituate have sent in substantial checks and encouraging letters.

"I hope the present members will start, and start now, to get more new members and more and larger contributions to the Mill fund. I sincerely hope that it will not be said of the present members a few years from now that they came forward with 'too little too late'. "

Signed, Philip H. Wood

Brookline, Mass. May 1, 1949.

- - - - -

THE SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Vol. 1. No. 3

September, 1949

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of our Society was held at the Cudworth House on June 18, and at the meeting the Society accepted with regret the resignation of our Treasurer, Mr. Hamilton Welch. Mr. Welch has served us for over twenty years, giving much of his time and effort for the good of the Society. As partial compensation for his work with us a resolution was adopted conferring on him the title of Honorary Genealogist of the Society, a field in which he has long been interested and in which he has done notable work. We wish him well, and hope he may long continue the work in which he excels.

A new Treasurer, Edith Agnes Young, was chosen to succeed Mr. Welch. With her business experience she is ably fitted to fill the position, besides being vitally interested in the affairs of the Society. All other officers were re-elected. A list of these with their addresses and telephone numbers is given below.

President	Wilmot M. Brown	Egypt, Mass. (Scituate -	708W
Vice President	Charles C. Lincoln	No. Scituate, Mass. "	503W
Clerk	Mary W. Stenback	Scituate, Mass. "	315W
Treasurer	Edith A. Young	No. Scituate, Mass. "	1026
Genealogist	Hamilton W. Welch	Scituate Center, Mass. "	78
Treasurer - Old Mill Restoration Fund	Annie W. Somers	No. Scituate, Mass. "	200
Editor Bulletin	Wilmot M. Brown		

Anniversary

The observance of our thirty-third anniversary will be held this year on Saturday, September 10. The Cudworth House will be open to members and guests at 1:30 P.M. Light refreshments will be served by the House Committee, and we hope during this period to be entertained by a concert on the Scituate Chimes by Mr. Richard Burt. At 2:45 the traditional drum-conducted procession to the First Church will be held, led by the robed Choir who will furnish the music for the occasion, under the leadership of Mary W. Stenback. At the Church the speaker will be Mrs. Inez Haynes Irwin, whose subject is "Famous Names in Scituate". As this is written full details have not been arranged, but printed programs will be available on the day of the meeting.

Please plan to attend and bring as many guests as possible, as this is an open meeting, and not restricted to members only. These annual observances have been growing in interest since the war, and we hope for a large attendance.

On Sunday September 11 at 11:00 A.M. the Society has been invited to attend an historical service at the First Church, as has been the custom for several years past. Please make an effort to attend, thereby tending to deepen the spirit of cooperation existing between our Society and this ancient Church.

Through the cooperation of the Scituate Garden Club the grounds around the Old Mill have been cleared of weeds, the grass cut short, and the space between the Mill and the street graded up with loam. We understand it is the plan of the Club to make suitable plantings here at the proper season, and to care for the grounds in the future. The planting is in the hands of a competent committee and the thanks of the Society are hereby extended to the Garden Club with the hope that there may be more cooperation between the various organizations of Scituate whose object is to preserve and beautify the historic spots in our town.

A communication: "I have wondered as to the age of the Cudworth House and who built it. I read in a book called "Old Scituate" that it was built by Zephaniah Cudworth, born in 1752, and who in 1773 married Elizabeth Studley. If this is true we are wrong in setting the date of building in 1723; however, we know that the house was standing in 1729 by an article in the records of the First Church dated March 17, 1729, whereby the Church voted to move the Meeting House from Meeting House Lane to "a certain piece or gore of land betwixt two highways that goeth by Balch's to Cohasset" - (the house now owned by Mrs. Brooks), the one by James Cudworth's house, the other by John Otis's (on what is now Branch Street). This move was not accomplished until 1737, but it definitely establishes the fact

that the Cudworth House was built and occupied before 1729.

"The James Cudworth living there at that time was doubtless the grandson of General James, and who was born in 1682. There were, however, two Zephaniahs, the one mentioned above, and another, born in 1719 whose birth is recorded in the vital records of Scituate, but there is no record of his marriage or death here. It may be assumed that he moved out of town. Dean says that this Zephaniah had sons, Noah, Melzar and James, but this is an error as these sons are recorded in the vital records as being the sons of the Zephaniah who was born in 1752. This Zephaniah also had a daughter Cynthia, who married Captain Daniel Ellms in 1801.

"It may be, therefore, that the Cudworth House was built about 1723 by the grandson of General James who would have been forty-one years old at that time.

"Have you any further information on this matter?"

A.D.L.

In connection with the above letter, there is an old deed in the Cudworth House whereby one Jaol Garrett, Spinster, conveyed to James Cudworth, Yeoman, in 1728 a house and eight acres of land in Scituate, which was, in the words of the deed: "the house where my father in his lifetime dwelt."

Her father was Joseph Garrett who died in 1714 - (Scituate V.R.). Now, Dean says that the land of the Garretts was "nearly in front of the First Society's Meeting House as it now stands". This was written in 1830 and was, of course the Old Sloop, and the house opposite was the Cudworth House. If Jaol Garrett's father occupied this house in his lifetime, and we must assume that his daughter knew the facts, the Cudworth House may have been built by him perhaps at the time of his marriage to Ruth Buck in 1676.

Joseph's father was Deacon Richard Garrett, who was the first Town Clerk of Scituate, and was also Clerk of the Conihasset Partners. The Cudworth House may be much older than claimed to be, or there may have been an older house on this location which was removed and the present house erected later.

We would be glad to hear further on this matter.

Editor

It may interest many of our readers to learn that in far away Arizona a lineal descendent of Rodolphus Ellms has built for his occupancy a replica of the old Ellms house on Tilden Road now owned by Mr. Richmond Bingham, but owned and occupied by members of the Ellms family up to about 1915. We understand that the mantels, cupboards and other interior fittings have been carefully copied and installed in the new house.

This house must make quite a contrast with the prevailing Spanish type of architecture used in Arizona, and indicates the value set upon these relics of our ancestors by those who are removed to a distance, in contrast to those to whom these things are a common sight, and who too often do not give them a thought. Mr. Ellms is to be congratulated upon his interest in the affairs of his progenitors.

The other day your President had the privilege of speaking to the people of the South Shore over Station WJDA in Quincy. There is so much to be told about our Society that the six minutes time allotted was hardly sufficient, but even so it was heard by a great many, and will help to arouse interest in our Society.

THE SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

Vol. 1, No. 4

December, 1949

The observance of the thirty-third Anniversary of our Society was held on the afternoon of September 10. This was the final event of the season, and proved to be a very entertaining and instructive occasion, besides creating a new record of attendance at these meetings. The Cudworth House was opened at 1:30, at which time the visitors were entertained by a chime concert by Mr. Richard Burt, and during which the House Committee, headed by Mrs. Edith Young, served all comers with lunch including coffee, cake, etc. This occupied the time until 2:30, when at the roll of the drum, sounded by David La Vange, members congregated at the door of the old barn where had been placed as a doorstep, a flat stone which once formed a part of the foundation wall of the Old Sloop as the building of the First Church was affectionately known from 1774 until it was burned in 1879. This stone was presented to our Society by the First Church, represented by Mr. William Muller, a member of our Society, who in a short and able speech of presentation called anew for our people to cherish and preserve not only the material relics of our ancestors but their spiritual and moral values as well. He also expressed the hope that the spirit of cooperation existing between the two organizations would continue for all time. The stone was accepted by your President as being not only of historical value, but also a very useful part of our equipment.

The drum was again sounded and the members and visitors formed a procession headed by the National colors and drummer and the robed choir of the First Church, and took up the march to the Church with the choir singing "Brother, Sing your Country's Anthem". The invocation was given by the Rev. Leon C. Fay, Minister of the Church, and after a short word of welcome by the President the Rev. Raymond B. Johnson gave a reading of some verses by Stephen Vincent Benet, followed by the choir singing some verses written by Naomi Schofield Creelman on the occasion of the Tercentenary of the Town, thus following our custom of presenting each year one song of local origin.

The speaker of the afternoon was Mrs. Inez Haynes Irwin whose subject was "Famous Names in Scituate". The number of them is much greater than is realized by most of us, beginning with Gen. James Cudworth, progenitor of the family whose house we occupy as the home of our Society.

An interesting interlude in the proceedings was the presentation to the Society of a framed copy of the certificate of incorporation of the First Congregational Church of Scituate, to be hung in the Cudworth House as marking an important event in the history of our Town and its churches. Mr. Carleton W. Spreadbury, being introduced by the President on behalf of Dr. Rice and the Congregational Church, presented the certificate, which was accepted by the Hon. Vernon W. Marr.

The exercises closed with the choir and congregation singing Katherine Lee Bates' hymn "America the Beautiful", as has been our custom for several years past.

The Church was filled to capacity and we feel very much gratified that our efforts to interest people in things historical is meeting with success.

- - - - -

We wish to extend our thanks to the Weymouth Historical Society and its President, Mr. Franklin Reed, for the gift to our Society of a portrait of the Rev. Warren H. Cudworth, and a biography of him by his sister, they being direct descendants of our own Gen. James. We are also glad to say that in our library is a book written by the Rev. Cudworth who served as chaplain of the First Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers throughout the Civil War - 1862-65 - this book being an account of his experiences while serving with the Army. He was also the minister of the East Boston Unitarian Church. The portrait now hangs in the east parlor of the Cudworth House.

A study of our By-laws adopted in 1916 at the foundation of the Society would indicate some need for revision, as part of them, particularly in regard to the number of Committees and their duties, are now "more honored in the breach than the observance". The revision is now being studied by the Trustees and will be brought before the Annual Meeting next June.

- - - - -

This summer we were presented with a child's crib, evidently very old and hand made, with very nice workmanship. The donor was Mr. Alvin Vinal. The crib has been in his family for many generations, and probably was made by some of his ancestors. We are sorry that this gift was overlooked at our September meeting, and we are taking this opportunity of conveying to Mr. Vinal our appreciation of his kindness.

- - - - -

We are pleased to announce that the American Antiquarian Society has taken notice of our Bulletin and has asked to be placed on our mailing list. Their request has been complied with and copies will be sent to them to be placed on file at their headquarters in Worcester.

- - - - -

Arrangements have been made with the American Automobile Association to publish in their Tourists Guide, places of historic interest in Scituate, including of course the Cudworth House and the Old Mill.

- - - - -

We have continued our program of repairs on the Cudworth House. We are now engaged in shingling the lower part of the south roof and the front side wall. An aluminum cap has been placed over the chimney to prevent rain and snow from falling into the fireplaces. With these repairs the house will be in good condition, and present a handsome and well cared-for appearance.

- - - - -

One of the needs of our Society is for a librarian. We are the owners of quite a few books, and the papers and historical documents in the filing cabinets and the safe are a very considerable number. In our opinion these books and papers should be indexed, classified and stored in such a manner that any one could be found when wanted. It would be well to take one of the small rooms for this purpose, and equip it with proper shelves and cabinets, and have all of this material kept together. This is bound to be quite a task, but if some of our members would volunteer for this work, and a proper plan adopted, it could be accomplished during the coming summer.

- - - - -

To the Editor of the Bulletin -

The observance of our 33rd anniversary brought a guest from Boston laden with gifts in the person of Mrs. Charles Manson. Mrs. Manson is an adopted daughter of Scituate, having married into the well-known family of that name. Down thru the years she has been a devoted admirer of her seafaring forbears. Time had left her the heritage, her gifts. She was happy in the knowledge that in Scituate there was our own Scituate Historical Society to love and cherish the many beautiful gifts and keep them for future generations to enjoy as she had. A beautiful damask cloth in excellent condition, together with books, correspondence, and records of an irreplaceable sort were hers to give. Of sentimental value were a tiny pair of white kid shoes and gloves to match. Bridal finery of an older era with data covering the details of a joyous occasion, and later, much later, the notation of the passing of the bridegroom. In the hustle and bustle of today it is good to reflect that these are the priceless evidences of a patient, wholesome people of which we do not want to lose the pattern.

There was also a fund of material given to our Genealogist, Mr. Welch, for study, dealing with family as well as Town history, there being a dearth of both covering seafaring families in the Town. Mr. Welch expressed his delight at receiving this material, and expects to make good use of it.

We thank you, Mrs. Manson, and like the proverbial snowball, our gratitude will grow with the years.

Sincerely yours

Jeannette C. Quinn

The thanks of the Society are hereby extended to Mrs. Manson, and to Mrs. Quinn for her kind letter reminding us of these gifts.

Editor

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Great uncle Stephen Litchfield was a very astute young man. Born in 1793, he waits until 1830 before choosing a wife and then he married, possibly with an eye to the future, great aunt Mary Wade, the last unmarried daughter of the "Widder" Margaret Wade, and Mary took him home to the white house at the top of the hill on Country Way, North Scituate. Thus, in addition to a wife he acquired a house, a barn, a garden, a wood lot, a horse, a yoke of oxen, geese, hens, and probably a cat.

To this he added the fruits of his own labors, and when he died in 1890 he was considered to be well fixed. This is how he did it - his ledger from 1820 on shows just how.

For cutting 4' wood	- - - - -	.25
For cutting 3½' wood	- - - - -	.22
1 day's work picking stones	- - - - -	.50
Letting horse to go to Cove (Cohasset)	- -	.36
Letting horse to go to Neck (No. Scituate Beach)	- -	.36
Horse and "waggon" to go to "Dagister" (Dorchester)		\$1.80
Helping kill "beef"	- - - - -	.21
"Butchering one pig	- - - - -	.33
1 day's work on highway	- - - - -	.67
1 day's work gundelosing	- - - - -	.50
Oxen and cart, ½ day	- - - - -	.88
"Halling" stones ½ day	- - - - -	.25

Still and all, his expenses were not too great.

½ "Sheep"	- - - - -	.75
12 lbs pork	- - - - -	.73
7 "Lopsters"	- - - - -	.42
6 lbs butter	- - - - -	1.25
½ Veal	- - - - -	.72

The good old days? Well, rather. Europe and Asia and the islands of the seven seas were far away, and if they had their troubles, Great uncle Stephen knew little about them and cared less. He worked hard, ate "heartly", slept twelve hours a night, owed no man, put money in the bank and lived to be ninety-seven. What more could a man ask of life?

Sally Bailey Brown

Our barn will again be used this year to depict the Christmas tableau, the Nativity Scene. This will occur on the evening of December 18. It will be produced under the auspices of the Junior Church of the First Parish.

Additional repairs to the Old Mill have exhausted the Restoration Fund, and before further work can be done more money must be raised. Won't you please remember this worthwhile cause, and by your liberal subscriptions enable us to bring the Old Mill back to life. Please address correspondence to Scituate Historical Society, Egypt, Mass.