

upon the farm until his death in 1858. The farm was then purchased by Mr. John Weller and Mr. William Lawrence, who opened the house as a hotel and did a large business in farming and raising and dealing in horses. This partnership was dissolved after a few years and Mr. Lawrence moved to Houlton. Mr. Weller afterwards disposed of his interest in the property and now resides in Danforth. The Foster mansion was burned some ten years ago and the large farm has been divided. Mr. E. L. Heal now owns one portion and Mr. Weston Brannan the other.

In 1855 the "Monroe Gore" and the "Nelson tract" were both incorporated with the town of Weston and the town is now bounded north by Haynesville and Orient, west by Bancroft, south by Danforth, in Washington County, and on the east for its entire extent by the waters of the beautiful Grand Lake. The road from Houlton to Calais runs in a southerly direction entirely across the town and for much of the distance the land west of the road rises in high, mountainous ridges. In the north part of the town, a short distance east of the Calais road, is Longfellow Lake, a very pretty little sheet of water discharging into Brackett Lake, which is of much larger extent and which empties its waters through a narrow thoroughfare into the Grand Lake. In the south part of the town is a smaller lake, called Sucker Brook Lake, the outlet of which is a small brook flowing northward and emptying into the Grand Lake at Davenport Cove. The scenery from the Calais road is very beautiful in a pleasant summer's day, the view extending across the wooded points and away to the broad waters of Grand Lake.

AMITY

The town of Amity is the northernmost of what may be properly designated as the coast towns of Aroostook County, as, in common with the towns lying south of it in the same range, it is separated from the possessions of Her Britannic Majesty by a water boundary. The coast line of the State of Maine, on its eastern border, in reality extends northward nearly to the north line of the town of Amity and for the past two years a detachment of the U. S. Coast Survey has been at work in this region, determining the exact contour of the eastern coast and making

an accurate map of this boundary. The Monument Stream which forms the head waters of the St. Croix, rises about a mile south of the north line of Amity, and, flowing southward in an irregular course, forms the eastern boundary of the United States until it discharges its waters into North Lake in the town of Orient. Amity lies directly south of Cary, is bounded on the west by Haynesville and on the south by Orient.

The settlement of the town dates back to the year 1825 and in that year Jonathan Clifford, who may be regarded as the pioneer settler of the town, commenced a clearing on the lot now occupied by Mr. James Lizette, in the north part of the town, a short distance west of the present Calais road. Here Mr. Clifford cleared a farm, upon which he lived for many years and on which he died some twenty years ago. At the time of Mr. Clifford's settlement a few pioneers had established themselves upon the adjoining township of No. 11, now Cary, and their smokes could be seen from the ridge upon which he commenced his clearing. These were his nearest neighbors and no road passable in summer led to his wilderness home. In 1826, Mr. Edmund Cone took a lot near Mr. Clifford's and commenced making a clearing. Mr. Cone came from New Salem, Mass., to Houlton in 1815 and lived in that town until he removed to his new home in what was then called No. 10, now the town of Amity.

In Houlton Mr. Cone was employed for a number of years as a teamster, and he afterwards made a clearing on the lot in the south part of that town near the Hodgdon line, now owned by Mr. A. K. Bradford. Before leaving Houlton Mr. Cone married Miss Barbara Shepard of Richmond, N. B., and together they bravely commenced the work of making a home in the forest. Mrs. Cone was a most excellent woman and was a courageous and efficient helpmate in these pioneer years. Mr. Cone cleared up a large farm and was for many years a prominent citizen of the town. He was one of the officers of the town at its first organization, and continued to take an active interest in its affairs until his death in 1883. His son, Mr. Elisha Cone, now owns the old homestead, but lives upon a farm on the Calais road.

Mr. Seth Farrar was one of the earliest settlers of the town. Mr. Farrar came from Searsmont and settled in New Brunswick. He then emigrated to the south part of Hodgdon, and made a clearing on the lot afterwards owned by Daniel Smith. In 1826 he moved to Amity and took a lot in the north part of the town,

a short distance east of the present Calais road. Here he made a farm upon which he lived for some twenty-five years, then moved to No. 11 (Cary) and afterwards to Orient, where he died some thirty years ago. A number of his sons now live in the south part of the town.

In 1826 Jonah Dunn, Esq., came from Cornish, in York County, and established his residence in Houlton. Mr. Dunn was a man well educated and of much ability and force of character. He had represented the District of Maine in the General Court of Massachusetts, and after the separation from the mother state was a member of the Maine Legislature. He took an active part in the movement for the establishment of a military post at Houlton, and was instrumental in having the military road opened to that place and with his son, Columbus Dunn, built a part of that road. He was also a contractor and builder of portions of the road from Houlton to Calais. Immediately upon coming to Houlton, in 1826, Esquire Dunn purchased of the State a block of land in No. 10, now Amity, consisting of four lots of 100 acres each, and including the Columbus Dunn homestead and the Walton lot on the east side of the Calais road, and the John Reed lot and Charles E. Dunn lot on the west side. In 1827, Columbus Dunn, a son of Jonah Dunn, Esq., settled on the block. At that time the only road was a lumber road from Houlton, through Hodgdon and Cary, passable for teams only in the winter time. Here Mr. Columbus Dunn cleared a farm and established the home where he lived until his death in 1879. Deacon Dunn was for many years one of the most prominent citizens of the town and was one of its active religious workers. He was postmaster of Amity for 18 years and held numerous town offices. His widow still lives at the old home with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. Erastus Haskell, who now has the farm. Mr. Charles Dunn, brother of Columbus, came soon after and settled on the lot next south, afterwards the Walton homestead. Mr. Dunn remained there some twelve years and was one of the selectmen of the town in the first year of its organization. He afterwards returned to Houlton, where he now resides.

Soon after the arrival of the Dunns a number of settlers came to the town and commenced making clearings in the forest. Mr. Asa Tracy came from Gouldsboro in 1827 and made a chopping on the lot in the rear of the Lemuel Tracy homestead. He moved his family to the town in 1829 and afterwards bought the lot where his son, Samuel Tracy, now lives, and remained

there until his death in 1870. During the following year (1828) Jonathan Greenleaf, Samuel Newman, Benjamin Winship, William Clark and James H. Curtis settled in the new town. Mr. Jonathan Greenleaf, for many years a well known citizen of Amity, came from the town of Starks and settled in the south part of the town. He cleared a farm and kept a hotel here for many years. He was a man of much business ability and took an active part in the affairs of the town. Mr. Greenleaf died in 1868. The old house, so long a stopping place for travellers, has since been burned, but two sons, Thomas and John Greenleaf, still live on the farm. Mr. Samuel Newman came from Sangerville and made a clearing some distance north of Mr. Greenleaf's. He was chosen one of the selectmen at the organization of the town. He left Amity many years ago and after living for a time in Orient and afterwards in Haynesville, returned to Sangerville and died.

Benjamin Winship first settled on the lot opposite the Jacob Simpson lot, where he lived for a number of years and then removed to the south part of the town and died many years ago.

William Clark came from Liberty and settled on the lot where his son, William Clark, now lives. He cleared this farm and lived on it until his death in 1854. His son, David Clark, then took the farm and at his death in 1858 Mr. William Clark, the present proprietor, took possession of the farm.

Mr. James H. Curtis came from Dexter and settled on the lot where Mr. Samuel Tracy now lives. He made a clearing on this lot and built a log house and barn and after living there some six years moved to what was afterwards known as the Walker place. Here he built a set of buildings. Mr. Curtis lived on this farm until 1846, when he sold to Mr. Erastus Haskell and moved to New Brunswick.

Mr. Samuel Wilkins was also one of the early settlers of the town. He settled in the north part, a short distance east of the Calais road, and lived in the town until his death in 1867.

A few years later than the settlers mentioned above, Mr. William Williams, who was then living in Houlton, bought four lots a short distance south of the center of the town. These lots included the two lots now owned by Mr. John R. Williams, the Benj. Curtis lot, and the Calvin Curtis lot. Mr. Williams made a clearing on the lot now owned by Benjamin Curtis, where he built a log house and lived upon the place a few years when he removed to Houlton and did not return to Amity to live. His son, Jared Williams, made a clearing on the lot where Mr.

John R. Williams now lives and remained three years and sold to Mr. George Robinson. Mr. John R. Williams bought the farm in 1838 and has been a well known citizen of Amity ever since. Mansfield Williams, another son, lived on the Curtis place and traded at the "corner" near Mr. Greenleaf's. He afterwards moved to Houlton and died there some years ago. Abram Williams also lived on this place for a time and moved to Houlton and afterward to Hodgdon, where he had a farm near the Mills and where he died a few years since.

Rev. Elisha Bedel, the first clergyman, settled in Amity, came from the town of Crawford and organized the first church in the town. At the first town meeting Elder Bedel was chosen one of the selectmen. He remained in Amity until about 1845.

The act of incorporation of the town of Amity was passed March 18, 1836, and was approved by Gov. Robt. P. Dunlap on the day following. The warrant for the first town meeting was issued by Hiram Estey, Esq., justice of the peace, to Edmund Cone, April 11, 1836. The meeting was held April 21st and the new town was organized by the choice of Columbus Dunn, moderator, Edmund Cone, clerk, and Edmund Cone, Elisha Bedel and Samuel Newman, selectmen. James H. Curtis was chosen treasurer and Asa Tracy, collector and constable.

At the first State election after the incorporation, fifteen votes were thrown in the town, all of which were for Governor Dunlap. The year 1837 was an extremely hard year for the new settlers and bread was scarce. By the town records it appears that Messrs. Todd and McAllister of Calais owed the town for the stumpage on lumber cut on the school lots. This money should, of course, have been devoted to the support of schools, but so great was the destitution that at a meeting held on June 5, 1837, it was voted to divide the amount equally among the inhabitants. It was afterwards decided to expend the gross amount for corn and divide the corn among the settlers. Teams were therefore sent to Calais and the corn was procured and divided among the hungry settlers.

In 1836 Benjamin A. Curtis came from Dexter and first settled on the lot where Daniel Williams now lives. Here he made a small clearing, but soon moved to the lot on which John Reed now lives. He cleared a number of acres on this lot and lived on it some ten years. He then moved to the Alexander Carr lot where he lived until 1858, when he bought of Mansfield Williams the lot where he now lives in the south part of the town. Mr. Curtis improved this farm and built a new house. He lost

three sons in the army and is now old and feeble and unable to work.

Mr. Daniel Harmon came from Calais to Amity in 1837 and taught the town school. He bought a piece of land of Columbus Dunn and lived in the town some six years and moved to Portland. Mr. Harmon was an educated man and was clerk of the town for a number of years. James Austin and Jonathan Small came from Kennebec County about 1835 and settled on the lot where Alexander Carr now lives. Mr. Small died shortly afterwards and Mr. Austin moved to No. 11 and afterwards returned to the southeast part of Amity, where he died. John Dakin came from Nova Scotia and in 1836 settled on a part of the Walker lot, where he cleared a farm and built a set of buildings. He afterwards sold to Mr. James H. Curtis and moved to the west part of the town, where he died some years ago. Mr. Hartley Deering came from Orient in 1836 and bought the Samuel Newman lot. He lived on this lot two years and then exchanged farms with Mr. James Daggett of Hodgdon and moved to that town, where he died. Mr. Seth Kempton came from Milltown in 1837 and settled on the lot afterwards owned by Mr. Alden Spurr. He lived on this lot until 1848, when he removed to Gardiner. Mr. Peter Beede came from Milltown in 1837 and settled on the lot next east of Seth Kempton. He lived on the farm until 1848, when he moved to Kennebec County, and died. Mr. Samuel Slipp now owns this farm.

Mr. Daniel Williams came to Amity in 1838. He had been engaged in teaching in Pennsylvania, and upon first coming to Amity was employed as a clerk for Mr. Daniel Wood, who had a store near Mr. Greenleaf's. In 1840, Mr. Williams bought the lot where he now lives and where he has made a good farm and a pleasant home. He has been a prominent man in the town for many years, and though now eighty years old, is still smart and active.

Mr. Israel Davis came from Concord, N. H., about the time the town was incorporated or very soon after. He took a lot in the northwest part of the town. The Davis brook, a tributary of the Meduxnekeag, runs through this lot and on this stream Mr. Davis built a mill containing an up-and-down saw. After his death in 1868, his son, Mr. Elbridge G. Davis, took the property and added a grist mill and afterwards a shingle mill. This mill was afterwards burned and Mr. Davis built a new mill with steam power, into which he put one shingle machine and was planning to put in a rotary saw, but died in 1888

before completing his designs. The mill has not since been operated and the engine and machinery have been removed.

James Daggett, Jr., came from Hodgdon in 1838 and bought of Hartley Deering the Samuel Newman lot. He cleared a large farm and lived on it until 1866. He then moved to Oakfield and afterwards to Massachusetts. After a few years he returned to Amity and lived with his son, Mr. Warren Daggett, until his death in 1885. Mr. Samuel Shepard came from New Brunswick about 1837, and after living for a while on a part of Edmund Cone's lot, bought of Charles Dunn the lot next north of Columbus Dunn's. He built the buildings on this farm and about 1844 sold to James Ballard and moved to the Gidrey lot in the southwest part of the town, where he lived a number of years, and then returned to New Brunswick. James Ballard came from Massachusetts as a teacher. He bought the Samuel Shepard farm and lived on it some three years, and sold to Mr. Milo Walton and returned to Massachusetts. Mr. Hammond Estabrook came from New Brunswick in 1840 and took a lot in the west part of the town. He cleared a farm and lived on it until his death in 1864. His son, Mr. Jed Estabrook, now lives on the farm. Mr. Lemuel Tracey bought the lot where he now lives in 1842. He cleared a large farm and has for many years been one of the leading citizens of the town. Mr. Thomas Greenleaf, a brother to Jonathan Greenleaf, came from Starks in 1840 and took a lot in the south part of the town, one mile west from the Calais road. He made a clearing of forty acres and built a house and barn. He lived here six years and moved to Missouri. Mr. Warren Daggett now owns this farm. Mr. Milo Walton came from Chesterfield, N. H., to Houlton in 1845 and kept a drug store in that town for two years. In 1847 he moved to Amity and bought the farm next north of Columbus Dunn. He immediately entered into the business of orcharding and fruit raising, which he planned to carry out on a large scale. He set extensive nurseries of apples, plums, cherries, etc., and had also a large amount of small fruits. He had just commenced to reap the first fruits of his enterprise when his death in 1854 suddenly terminated what promised to be a most successful business career. He was a man of much ability and worth and his early death was a severe loss to the town where he had fixed his residence. His widow continued the business to some extent until her death in 1871. His son, Mr. Isaac T. Walton, now has the farm. Mr. Alden Spurr came from New Brunswick in 1848 and bought the Seth Kempton lot in the south-

west part of the town. He cleared a large farm and built a good set of buildings. Mr. Spurr was engaged in lumbering and was an active and prominent citizen during his residence in the town. Two of his sons died in the army and some time after the close of the war he moved to Milltown and afterwards to Houlton, where he died a few years ago. Mr. Calvin B. Curtis bought the farm where he now lives in 1849. It was then a wild lot and Mr. Curtis cleared the farm and built the buildings. He has also worked at blacksmithing a part of the time and has been one of the leading citizens for many years. Mr. Jacob Simpson came from Warwick, N. B., and was for several years engaged in lumbering in this vicinity before moving to Amity. About 1850 he bought the farm where Mr. John Hughes now lives. He cleared a large farm and was extensively engaged in lumbering until about 1864, when he sold the farm to Mr. James Martin and returned to New Brunswick.

Mr. George R. Burt came from New Hampshire in 1850 and bought the farm on which Mr. John Reed now lives. Here he opened a store and continued to trade until his death in 1856. Mr. James Lander, the veteran stage driver, then bought the place and established his home there. He continued to drive the stage from Houlton to Calais and Mr. Adrian Vandine, afterwards collector of customs at Houlton, entered into partnership with him in trade. Mr. Vandine was engaged most of the time in hauling goods and Mr. John Reed was employed as clerk in the store. Mr. Lander died in 1861, and Mr. Vandine retained the property and business until 1866, when he sold to Mr. John Reed and removed to Houlton. Mr. Francis McCarric came from Bailyville in 1851 and first settled on the lot opposite Jacob Simpson's. He lived on this lot seven years and then moved to the farm in the north part of the town, formerly occupied by Benj. Curtis, where he lived until his death in 1874. Mr. Alex. H. Carr now has this farm.

As a whole, Amity will rank as a good farming town. The surface is not abruptly broken and the soil, though somewhat stony in places, is fertile and productive. A large part of the town is still covered with its original forest growth and is owned by non-resident proprietors, a fact which has interfered with the growth and development of the town. The town has good schools and good religious privileges and seems to enjoy a general feeling of social good fellowship. Taken all in all, Amity will rank as one of the best towns in southern Aroostook.