

he now lives with his son. The venerable Captain is now in his 99th year, but is hale and strong and still walks about among his neighbors. He is a pensioner of the War of 1812. Near Capt. Young's is the comfortable home of Mr. Wm. D. Bither, one of the oldest living residents of the town. Mr. Bither had four sons in the Union Army and is a patriotic citizen. His son, Mr. Charles O. Bither, has a handsome residence nearby. He is one of the active citizens of the town and two years ago represented his class in the State Legislature. Mr. John H. Clough was for many years a resident of Linneus. He was engaged in the construction of the Military road and afterwards settled in Linneus in the west part of the town. He is now an old man and lives with a son in the village of Houlton.

Mr. Afr'ca Buck, an early settler, took a lot west of Benj. Bither's, where he made a farm and lived upon it until his death some twenty five years ago. Mr. John Hutchinson settled on the east side of the Military road something over a mile north of the Corner. His farm comprised the farms now owned by John Taylor, Frank Hutchinson, John Stewart, Wm. D. Bither and Chas. O. Bither. Mr. Hutchinson lived on this farm some twenty years and removed to Oakfield.

Mr. John C. Carpenter came from Corinna in 1841 and settled in Haynesville. In 1848 he removed to Linneus and took a lot some distance west of the Military road, where he made a farm upon which he lived until 1869, when he removed to Houlton, where he now resides. Mr. Carpenter was a member of the Board of County Commissioners in 1873.

NEW LIMERICK

The township lying immediately west of the town of Houlton now comprises two incorporated towns, the north half of the township having been incorporated in 1864, as the town of Ludlow, and the south half dating back as a town to 1837, when it was incorporated as the town of New Limerick. This latter half township was granted by the Massachusetts Legislature to the trustees of Phillips Limerick Academy sometime previous to the year 1810.

The first settler upon the territory now included in the town of New Limerick was Mr. Samuel Morrison. Mr. Morri-

son was born in the town of Wells, in York County, and at the time of the Revolutionary War was old enough to serve as a soldier. He served through the campaign against Burgoyne and was present at the surrender at Saratoga. At the conclusion of the war he settled in the town of New Limerick in the District of Maine, in which town people from Massachusetts commenced to settle as early as 1775. Here he resided for many years and accumulated some considerable property. After the grant by the Massachusetts Legislature of the half township of land in aid of Limerick Academy, Mr. Morrison purchased of the trustees several lots in the grant. The half township was located and surveyed by Major James Irish and was laid off in six parallel ranges running from east to west, each range being one half mile in width. These ranges were lettered A. B. C. D. E. F. beginning at the northeast of the grant and lettering south on the east line. The lot lines were then run from north to south, dividing each range into twelve lots, thus making in the grant seventy two lots, each one half mile square and containing 160 acres.

The first deed to Samuel Morrison was made in 1810 and was given by "Wm. Swasey of Limerick, County of York and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, physician, in the capacity of secretary for and in behalf of the trustees." The deed declares that "In consideration of \$480 to said trustees paid by Samuel Morrison of Limerick, in the county and state aforesaid, husbandmen * * * do hereby sell and convey unto the said Samuel three lots of land situated in the County of Washington, between the Schoodock waters and the River St. John, being lot No. 1 in F Range, No. 2 in A Range, and No. 7 in E Range, containing 480 acres, more or less, as laid down on the plan of sale."

In 1817 Mr. Morrison started with his family on their long journey through the forest to their new home in the wilderness of northeastern Maine. They came with their own teams, bringing with them a sufficient supply of provisions to last until a crop could be raised. The family arrived in Houlton in the fall of 1817. Houlton was then in its infancy as a settlement, and contained but few families, with small clearings in the forest. The Morrison family remained for a time in Houlton, until a small clearing was made upon the lot in the extreme southeast corner of the town next to the Houlton line, being the lot described in the original deed as lot No. 1, Range F. Mr. Morrison afterwards acquired the lot adjoining this, being lot No. 1, Range E, and upon this lot he built the large square two-story house, which is

still standing on the road running from the Military road to the Shaw Tannery in New Limerick, the farm being now owned and occupied by Mr. Britton. Isaiah Morrison afterwards settled upon Lot No. 7 Range E, now occupied by Mr. Hatfield. Samuel Morrison afterwards purchased three more lots in the half township and these lots, viz: Nos. 4, R. E., 4, R. F. and 3, R. F., containing four hundred and eighty acres, were conveyed to him by Wm. Swasey for \$480, the deed being dated Jan. 31, 1818. The Morrisons remained in New Limerick for a number of years and then removed to Linneus, where the descendants of Samuel Morrison still reside.

In 1820 True Bradbury and Christopher C. Bradbury of Limerick purchased a large tract of land in the Limerick Academy grant and True Bradbury soon afterwards came to the grant and built a mill on the Meduxnekeag Stream. His brother, Christopher, went at the same time to New Brunswick, where he was for a number of years engaged in the business of wool carding. The Bradburys did not move to New Limerick with their families until 1828, when True Bradbury established his home on the lot now occupied by Stephen Hunter, near where the road from the tannery intersects with the "County Road," so called. The large barn built by Mr. Bradbury is still standing. Christopher C. Bradbury took the lot immediately west of his, now occupied by Edward Hannigan. He lived there for eight years and in 1836 removed to Hodgdon. Mr. Jabez Bradbury, a cousin of True and Christopher, settled on the lot north of Christopher, which lot is now occupied by C. C. Bradbury, a grandson of True Bradbury. Jabez Bradbury was engaged in building a mill in Hodgdon as early as 1829, but retained his residence in New Limerick for a number of years after that time.

True Bradbury remained in New Limerick and engaged in farming and lumbering until his death in 1844. His son, Thomas M. Bradbury, then came into possession of the estate and carried on the farm and mill until 1861, when he removed to Houlton, where he is now engaged in trade.

Another of the early settlers who was for many years a resident of the town and was well known throughout the County, was Capt. Moses Drew, who came from Limerick to the Academy grant in 1820. He first settled near where Mr. George Smith now lives, where he made a clearing, built a house and barn and lived for a number of years. He afterwards took the lot immediately south of Christopher C. Bradbury, now occu-

ped by Rufus Piper. Here he lived upon this farm until the fall of 1844, when he purchased the lot at the foot of Drew's lake, where he continued to reside until his death in 1877. Mr. Jonathan Hayes had made a small clearing near the lake where the pine grove now stands and there was an old dam at the foot of the lake built for driving purposes. Capt. Drew built a mill at the foot of the lake and also cleared up a farm and built a good set of buildings. He was also for many years engaged in lime burning, the rock being procured in the adjoining town of Linneus. In 1861 he built the mill which is now standing. After the opening of the road from Houlton Drew's lake was for many years a pleasure resort and Capt. Drew kept a house of entertainment and also kept boats for the use of fishing parties. This was before the passage of the Maine law and pond water was by no means the only liquid required by the fishing parties of those days. Capt. Drew was a man of large physique, of a most kindly disposition and an inveterate joker. His son, Moses Drew, now carries on the farm and mill. He has built a new dam and enlarged the mill and in place of the old up-and-down saw, now has a rotary, planer, clapboard machine, lath machine and machine for planing and fitting clapboards. The mill is nine miles from Houlton and the lumber is hauled to Houlton station for shipment.

The town of New Limerick was organized April 15, 1837. There were present at the organization, True Bradbury, his sons, Ebenezer C., Aaron N., Moses and Cyrus K., Hall J. Bradbury, son of Ebenezer C., John Dow, Moses Drew, Lemuel Drew, father of Moses, Royal B. Colbroth, John Felch, Joseph Goodenow, Oliver Gould, Jonathan Hayes, Samuel Morrison, Samuel Morrison, Jr., Stephen Randall, Joseph Stimson, Charles Spooner, Moses Philpot, Ira Webber and Ivory Webber. From the valuation list of that year we find that there were 23 resident taxpayers and 59 scholars. There were in the town in 1837, 119 acres of mowing land, 67 acres of pasturing, and 11 acres of tillage. The tillage land was valued at \$6.00 per acre and wild land at \$1.00. There were 15 horses in the town valued at \$30 each; 14 oxen at \$20 each; 28 cows at \$15 each; 7 head of young cattle and 28 swine valued at \$3 each. True Bradbury was the heaviest taxpayer. His entire valuation, including one mill valued \$10, and 1300 acres of wild land at \$1.00 per acre, was \$1426, and his tax was \$12.27.

Of those who were present at the organization of the town we have already spoken of the Morrisons, the Bradburys and the

Drews. Most of the others we have been able to trace. John Dow was a Maine man, a ship carpenter by trade, and went to New Brunswick about 1830 to work at that business. He came to New Limerick in 1836 and bought the farms of Christopher C. and Jabez Bradbury. Mr. Dow resided upon the first named farm until his death in 1852. His son, Absolom S. Dow, has been town clerk of New Limerick for many years. He resides on a small farm not far from Drew's Lake. Royal B. Colbroth came from Limerick soon after the Morrisons. He married Samuel Morrison's daughter, Mehitable, and settled on the lot adjoining the Morrisons near the New Limerick lake. The farm is now occupied by Hiram Nickerson. Mr. Colbroth afterwards moved to Ludlow and died there. John Felch came from Limerick and settled on what is now known as the Mullen farm. Mr. Felch cleared up the farm and was for many years a prominent citizen of the town. He removed to Minnesota in 1856. Joseph Goodenow was an adopted son of Aaron Putnam, one of the pioneers of the town of Houlton, and was living in Houlton when the Morrisons arrived there in 1817. He soon after married Miss Dolly Morrison and removed to New Limerick, where he afterwards died. Oliver Gould came from Berwick. He is taxed in 1843 with lot 9, Range D, which is the lot next east of the Rufus Piper farm, and part of lots 9 and 10 Range E, north of Drew's Lake. Mr. Gould was the first town treasurer of New Limerick. Jonathan Hayes came from Limerick and made the first clearing on the Moses Drew lot at the foot of Drew's Lake. Stephen Randall came from Limerick and settled on the lot next north of the Drew farm. He cleared up the farm and lived on it until his death some ten years ago. Charles Spooner came from Limerick and settled on a part of the lot upon which the tannery is now situated. Mr. Spooner married a daughter of Samuel Morrison. He was the first collector of taxes in the town. Simeon Lougee was one of the early settlers and made a farm east of the tannery lot upon which his son now resides. In 1841 Ephraim Nickerson and Benjamin F. Nickerson of China came to New Limerick and bought the Morrison farms. Benj. F. Nickerson afterwards purchased considerable land in different portions of the town and was a prominent citizen. Daniel Cookson, James Meservy and Daniel James came about 1840, and James Monahan and Patrick Fleming in 1845.

The early settlers of New Limerick, like the pioneers of the Houlton settlement, whose nearest neighbor they were,

were subjected to many hardships and privations in their struggles to make for themselves homes in this then remote forest region. There were no roads passable by carriages and many of the settlers were obliged to carry grain on their backs to mill and bring back flour to make bread for the families. The first road opened into the town was the road now leading by the tannery. This road was cut out soon after the settlers commenced to come upon the town, but was **not** passable for carriages until long afterwards. In 1840 the "new county road" so called, was opened. This road runs entirely across the town from east to west on the line between Ranges B and C, and now forms a part of the mail route from Houlton to Patten. The establishment of the tannery at New Limerick has resulted in building up quite a little village in the vicinity of that enterprise and has added much to the business of the town and to its valuation.

In the spring of 1875 Messrs. C. and W. I. Shaw of Dexter purchased the lot upon which the tannery now stands, comprising 160 acres, and also 3000 acres of hemlock timberland in the adjoining town of Linneus. The south branch of the Meduxnekeag Stream runs through the tannery lot and the Messrs. Shaw first commenced the construction of a saw mill in which to manufacture the lumber for the extensive buildings of the plant. They erected the tannery buildings the same year.

The road from Houlton to the tannery runs near New Limerick Lake, or Nickerson Lake, as it is now called. This is a beautiful little sheet of water some two miles or more in length and perhaps a fourth of a mile wide. On the north side of the lake the ground slopes gradually from the road to the lakeside, while on the south it rises in an abrupt wooded bluff to a considerable height, adding much to the beauty of the landscape. This little lake furnishes a pleasant summer resort for the citizens of Houlton and many fine cottages have been erected on its shores.

New Limerick is exceptionally well watered and there are pretty little lakes and swift flowing streams in nearly every portion of the town. Drew's Lake, a handsome sheet of water some four miles long and two miles wide, lies partly in the southwest portion of New Limerick and partly in the town of Linneus. From this lake flows a branch of the Meduxnekeag River, which after running southward a short distance into Linneus, turns again northward and re-enters New Limerick about midway of the south line flowing up by the tannery and then

turning to the east and flowing on to Houlton and beyond. In the northwest corner of the town is Cochrane's Lake, the outlet of which runs into Bradbury's Lake, a short distance farther to the east, and from the latter lake a considerable stream flows in a southeasterly direction, uniting with the Meduxnekeag branch a short distance from the tannery.

SMYRNA

The town of Smyrna was originally Township No. 6, in the third range of townships west from the east line of the State. It is bounded on the north by Township No. 7, R. 3, on the east by the southern part of Letter B, R. 2, town of Ludlow and the northern part of New Limerick, on the south by Oakfield, and on the west by Merrill Plantation.

The surface of the town in the southern portion is considerably broken, and in some places high wooded ridges or bluffs rise to a commanding height and can be seen from all the surrounding towns.

Leaving the village of Houlton near the residence of Col. B. H. Putnam, the stage road runs in a westerly direction across the western portion of the town of Houlton, cutting through the "horseback" and passing some very handsome farms in that town. It then continues due west for about two thirds of the distance across New Limerick, when it turns to the northwest and skirting the foot of Cochrane's Lake, near Titcomb's mill, leaves New Limerick at the extreme northwest corner of that town and enters Smyrna about half a mile north of the southern line of the town. The road continues across Smyrna in a general westerly course, when it turns to the south and runs in a south and southwesterly course across the plantation of Dyer Brook to Island Falls.

The first settler upon the town of Smyrna was Mr. Nehemiah Leavitt of Royalton, Vt. who came to the town about the year 1830. Mr. Leavitt had, previous to that time, received from the State Legislature, a grant of the township on condition that he should place 100 settlers upon the town within five years, build a saw mill and grist mill and four schoolhouses.

The East Branch of the Mattawamkeag runs in a southerly direction entirely across the town near its western line Mr.