

elevation of land, extending two miles from east to west across this part of the town. With the exceptions of these elevations the town is very level, the surface nowhere being broken by abrupt elevations. In the extreme southeastern portion of the town is a comparatively small tract of low lying land hardly suitable for easy cultivation, and east of the Calais road, on the rear of the road lots in the north part of the town, are a few swamp lots. Aside from these small blocks the town is a most excellent one for agricultural purposes and every lot in town except those spoken of is capable of making a good farm, and indeed most of them are already made.

In looking over the good old town of Hodgdon we find that it has fully kept up its reputation as one of the best towns in the county. After many years of cultivation the farms are still producing bountifully and show no signs of losing their fertility. Waste places are being reclaimed. Many new and handsome farm buildings have been recently built and evidences of prosperity and good cultivation are seen on every hand.

WESTON

The tract of land included in the town of Weston at the time of its incorporation was originally granted to the trustees of Hampden Academy and consisted of a parallelogram two and one half miles wide and seven and one-fifth miles long. This rectangular tract extends in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction, its northwest corner projecting a short distance beyond a bend in the Mattawamkeag River and its southwest corner extending something over half a mile south of the Baskahegan stream. The east line of the original town just skirts the lakes, leaving between this line and Grand Lake an irregular tract containing some 6000 acres, known as the Monroe Gore.

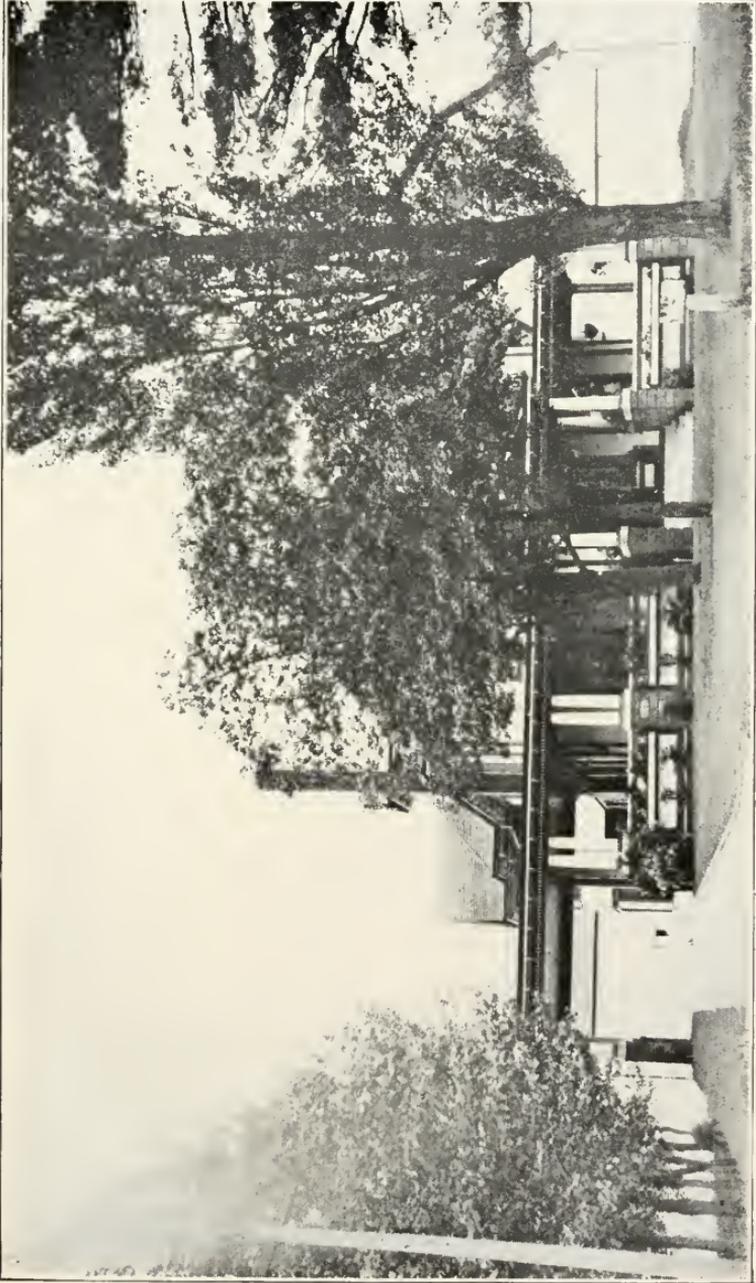
The resolve granting this half township to Hampden Academy was passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts June 18, 1803. The tract was surveyed by Charles Turner, Jr., in the year 1804, and the following is a record of his survey: "Beginning at a cedar stake, marked, standing at the southeast end of the Indian Portash (sic) or carrying place from Baskahegan stream to the Great Schoodic Lake and run east by the magnet one mile and 280 rods to a beech (sic) tree marked 'S. E. C.

H. A. C. T. 1804,' from thence run north 700 rods to a white pine tree marked, standing by the Great Scoodic Lake. Began again at the aforesaid cedar stake at Baskahegan and run west (crossing said stream) 200 rods to a white maple tree marked 'S. W. C. H. A. C. T. 1804,' from thence run north (crossing Baskahegan at 190 rods) continue on in the whole seven miles and sixty-five and a quarter rods to a stake, marked, from thence run south till it strikes the Great Lake, passing through ponds, thence by said lake till it comes to the afore-mentioned white pine tree."

This record reads somewhat blindly at first sight, but upon comparison with the map of the town the original boundaries can be readily traced. Mr. Turner run north "by the magnet." The variation of the compass at that time was thirteen degrees to the west, so that by running by the compass without allowing for variation the tract is inclined in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction. The record of Mr. Turner's survey establishes for all coming time the location of the old Indian Portage, or carrying place, from the Baskahegan Stream to the Grand Lake. This portage commenced at the point where the south line of the Hampden Academy Grant crossed the Baskahegan and continued in a northeasterly direction until it struck the Grand Lake. Eastward of the Academy Grant and between the east line of that grant and the irregular coast line of the Grand Lake (then called Scoodic Lake) is a tract of nearly six thousand acres, known as the Monroe Gore. Between the south line of the Academy Grant and the north line of the half township granted to Thomas Danforth (now the town of Danforth) is a strip 147 rods wide, a part of which is known as the Nelson tract. As these two tracts are included in the present town of Weston, it is proper to insert their documentary history at this point.

On the 10th day of July, 1830, the Land Agent of the State of Maine contracted to Edmund Monroe a tract of land in the County of Washington, situated between the Hampden Academy Grant and "Scoodic Lake" and containing 5892 acres. Mr. Monroe paid \$301.00 down and gave four notes, bearing date of May 17th, 1830, and payable in one, two, three and six years respectively, each note being for \$293.00, with interest annually. This tract was deeded by the Land Agent on May 14, 1835, to James Crosby of Bangor and Deodat Brastow of Brewer, assignees of Edmund Monroe, and has since been known as the "Monroe Gore."

By a resolve passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts



FARM HOME OF JOHN McLWAIN, CARIBOU

Feb. 19, 1802, a grant of five hundred acres of land was made to Amasa Smith. This tract was not located until Sept. 1820, when it was surveyed by Alexander Greenwood, and on Nov. 18, 1820, it was deeded by Geo. W. Coffin, Land Agent of Mass., to David Nelson, of New Gloucester, assignee of Amasa Smith. The tract is thus described by the record of Mr. Greenwood's survey:

"Beginning at a white maple tree, the same being the southwest corner of the grant to Hampden Academy, marked S. W. C. H. A. A. G. 1820, D. N., thence running south one hundred and forty-seven rods to a beech (sic) tree standing on the north line of the half township granted to Thomas Danforth, Esq., marked G. 1820, D. N., thence running east on the line of said grant to Thomas Danforth five hundred and forty-four rods and eleven links to a yellow birch tree marked G. 1820 D. N. A. G. J. G. I. F., thence running north one hundred and forty-seven rods and eleven links to a yellow birch tree standing in the south line of the grant to Hampden Academy marked G. 1820, D. N. A. G. J. G. I. F., thence on said Academy line five hundred and forty-four rods and eleven links to the bound first mentioned."

David Nelson conveyed the tract to Mr. Joseph L. Kelsey of Bangor, by his deed dated April 25, 1835. The land has since been sold to settlers and, though now a part of the town of Weston, is still known as the "Nelson Tract."

The first settlers upon the Hampden Academy grant were John Davenport, Thomas Gilpatrick and William Butterfield, Esq. Of these, Mr. Davenport was the first to make a chopping, and Mr. Gilpatrick was the first settler who brought a family to the grant. John Davenport came from St. Albans and settled on the lot where Joshua Butler now lives, a short distance south of the middle line of the town. He cleared a farm and built a set of buildings and was for many years a respected citizen of the town. He died in Weston some twenty years ago. Thomas Gilpatrick came from Unity in 1825. He purchased of the trustees of the academy one thousand acres of land for twenty-five cents per acre. Mr. Davenport had made a chopping the year before and this chopping Mr. Gilpatrick cleared and put into crop at the halves. He afterwards settled near where Mr. Otis A. Gilpatrick now lives, where he built a log house and in 1827 his wife and son David came to their new home. Mr. Gilpatrick lived on this place some six years, when he moved to a timber house at the foot of the hill some

distance north of where the old homestead now stands. Mr. William Philbrook had made a ten acre chopping on the place and built a timber house. The family lived in this house till about 1841, when Mr. Gilpatrick built the buildings on the top of the hill, now known as the Gilpatrick homestead. He cleared a number of large farms and was extensively engaged in farming and lumbering. His house was for years a stopping place for travellers and was a place well known in all that section. He afterward bought the William Butterfield farm, some distance farther north, upon which he lived until his death in 1876. Mr. Gilpatrick was a prominent man in the town during the whole time of his residence there, at times doing a large business and being actively interested in the affairs of the town. Mr. William Butterfield, known throughout southern Aroostook for many years as "Squire Butterfield," was born in the town of Sidney and removed from there to New Brunswick, where he remained a number of years. He came to Weston about 1827 and settled on the lot now occupied by Mr. Ruel Peters, opposite the old steamboat landing. Mr. Butterfield was a land surveyor and in 1828 he lotted the Academy grant, dividing it into lots, or sections, running east and west across the grant, each lot containing five hundred acres more or less. The lot upon which Mr. Butterfield settled was numbered six in this survey. This lot was deeded by Josiah Kidder, secretary of the trustees of Hampden Academy, to Charles Buck of Bangor, April 12, 1831, and was conveyed by Mr. Buck to William Butterfield by deed dated August 25, 1835. Mr. Butterfield was appointed justice of the peace soon after coming to Weston, and the records show that he performed marriages there as early as 1832. He cleared a large farm on this lot and built the homestead where he lived for many years. He was extensively engaged in trading and lumbering and was a leading citizen of the town during all the time of his residence there. He moved to Danforth some twenty years ago and died in that town.

Mr. Samuel Cleaves was one of the early settlers of the town. He came from Clinton in 1827 and settled in the south part of the town near Baskahegan stream. Mr. Cleaves went from Weston to California, but afterwards returned to Haynesville, where he died.

Mr. Joseph Foss came from Clinton in 1828 and settled on the lot where Mr. Edward Earle now lives, being section 8 of the Butterfield survey. Mr. Foss purchased of the Academy trustees four lots, or sections of land, being lots numbered Eight,

Nine, Ten and Eighteen, and afterwards bought of the town lot No. Seventeen, which was the school block. Mr. Foss cleared a large farm and was also largely engaged in lumbering. He was a prominent citizen and business man for more than twenty years, when he removed to California and afterwards to Wisconsin, where he died.

Mr. Samuel Springer came from Augusta in 1829 and settled on the lot in the south part of the town, afterwards owned by Samuel J. Foster. Mr. Springer cleared the farm and lived upon it until about 1847, when he sold to Mr. Foster and moved to Robbinston and afterwards to Danforth, where he died. Mr. Stutely Springer was a well known citizen of Weston for many years. He came from Augusta in 1830 and settled some distance west of his brother Samuel on the lot now occupied by Mr. Charles Powers. He died in Weston in 1869. Mr. John Springer, another brother, came from Augusta in 1832 and settled on the lot where D. J. Barker, Esq., now lives, in the extreme southern portion of the town. Mr. Springer cleared this farm and built the buildings upon it. He was engaged also in lumbering and in 1868 moved to Eaton in Washington County, where he died in 1883.

Mr. William Gellerson came from Brighton in 1832 and settled in the northwest part of the town. He had a mill on Cold Brook near his farm, and was engaged in farming and lumbering for many years. He died in Weston some thirty years ago. Mr. Thomas Gellerson came at the same time and settled near his brother William. He was also engaged in lumbering, and was a well known citizen. He died at his home ten years ago. Mr. George Gellerson, another brother, came at the same time and settled near the others and this portion of the town has ever since been known as the "Gellerson Settlement." Mr. Geo. Gellerson cleared a good farm and was also for some years engaged in lumbering. He afterwards became a Free Baptist preacher and preached for many years in Weston and adjoining towns. Some twenty years ago he moved to Houlton, where he died in 1881. Elder Gellerson was a good man and was much respected by all who knew him.

Mr. Isaac Loveland came from Brighton in 1832 and first settled in the south part of the town. He afterwards bought a lot in the Gellerson settlement, where he cleared a farm and built a house and barn. After remaining there a number of years he removed to Orono, where he died.

Mr. Elijah Gove came from Waldo County in 1832 and set-

tled in the rear of Thos. Gilpatrick's farm, where he died many years ago. During this year (1832) a number of settlers came to the town, most of whom have now passed away. Mr. Joseph Webber came from Clinton and settled on part of the Joseph Foss lot, the original five hundred acre lots into which the town was divided by the Butterfield survey having afterwards subdivided into smaller holdings. Mr. Webber made a small clearing and built a log house and after remaining some ten years returned to Clinton. Mr. Ira Watson came from New Hampshire in 1832 and settled in the northern part of the town, where he cleared a farm and built a set of log buildings, and died many years ago. Mr. Hezekiah Harris, who is now the oldest settler living in the town, came from New Brunswick in 1832 and settled on the lot where he now lives, in the north part of the town. Mr. Harris cleared a large farm and kept a house of entertainment for travellers for many years. Though now advanced in years and past work, Mr. Harris is still quite active and enjoys walking around among his neighbors and talking about the olden times when there were no roads in the town and when the early settlers were subjected to many hardships. Mr. Braman Price, a son-in-law of Mr. Harris, now carries on the farm.

Mr. James Brackett, one of the early settlers of the town, came from Mount Vernon in 1830 and settled near the middle of the town. He cleared the farm and lived on it until his death in 1845. His son, William Brackett, then took the farm and lived on it until his death in 1855. His widow afterwards kept a public house here for many years and this was long one of the pleasantest and best known stopping places upon the Calais road. Mrs. Brackett died in 1873 and her sons, Horace M. and Gilbert L. Brackett, now live on the old homestead. Mr. Luther Brackett was also for some time a resident of Weston and lived on the farm where Mr. George Brannan now lives, part of section 12. Mr. Brackett was afterwards appointed U. S. Consul to Pictou and did not return to Weston to live.

Dr. Joseph O. Smith came from Addison in 1833 and with his son, Mr. B. C. Smith, settled on the farm where Mr. James Moody now lives, part of section 11. Dr. Smith was an educated gentleman of pleasant and kindly manner, and is spoken of with much respect by those of the citizens who remember him. He practiced his profession for some time after coming to Weston. Mr. Barney C. Smith, as his name appears upon the records of the town, had the active management of the farm and also carried on the business of blacksmithing. He, like most of his

neighbors at that time, was engaged in lumbering and was a prominent citizen of the town. He moved to Hodgdon about 1850, and his father, Dr. J. O. Smith, afterwards returned to Addison. Mr. Stephen Smith, son of Dr. Smith, came to Weston at the same time and settled on the next lot south. He was engaged in farming and lumbering for many years, and some six years ago moved to Houlton, where he now resides.

Mr. Joseph E. Shorey was a resident of Weston at this time and was engaged in lumbering. He had no farm in the town and soon after settled in the adjoining town of Bancroft. Mr. Sweet Ellis came from Brighton in 1833 and settled in the northwest part of the town. Here he cleared a small farm and afterwards moved to Haynesville and died many years ago. Mr. Charles Megquier came from Poland in 1833 and settled a short distance north of Mr. James Brackett, on part of section 13. Mr. Megquier commenced felling trees on his lot on June 17, 1834, as appears by a diary kept by him at that time. He that year felled and cleared twenty-three acres and finished clearing Nov. 1st. In the spring of 1835 he commenced work on the farm April 1st. He that year sowed five bushels of wheat on five acres and raised 166 2-3 bushels of prime wheat. Mr. Megquier was then absent from the town for a number of years, returning in 1839. He extended his clearing and built a good set of buildings and continued to live upon his farm until his death, six years ago. He was a man of strict integrity and was one of the most prominent citizens of the town. He was postmaster at Weston for many years and held numerous town offices. His son, Arthur Megquier, now lives upon the farm and has a store nearby. Mr. Samuel F. Marble came from Poland in 1833 and settled on the lot next north of Mr. Megquier's. He cleared this farm and lived on it until his death some eleven years ago. Mr. Marble was a highly respected citizen and took an active part in the affairs of the town. His son, Greenleaf Marble, now lives on the old farm.

Mr. Thomas Pratt came from Clinton in 1833 and settled in the northwest part of the town. Here he cleared a good farm and built a good set of buildings. He lived upon the farm until his death some ten years ago. He is spoken of as a good citizen and a worthy man. Mr. Lewis Smart, who is now one of the oldest settlers living in the town, came from Vassalboro to Old Town in 1831 and in 1834 came to Weston and first took a lot near the middle of the town, where he made a small clearing and then took the lot in the north part of the town now

known as the Faulkner farm, and made a shopping and built a log house, but did not remain upon the lot. He then took a lot on Trout Brook ridge in the west part of the town, where he cleared a good farm and built good buildings. In 1848 he moved to the farm on the Calais road where he has lived ever since. Mr. Smart was for many years an active citizen of the town, but is now advanced in years and quite infirm. His sons, Frank and Charles Smart, live in neat residences near him on the old farm.

Mr. Patrick Faulkner came from Ireland and settled in Weston in 1835, in the rear of Mr. Hezekiel Harris's lot. Here he made a good farm upon which he lived until his death some ten years ago.

Among the other citizens who were in the town at the time of its incorporation we may name the following: Mr. Joel Foss, son of Joseph Foss, came from Lincoln in 1831, but did not settle upon a farm in the town until 1840, when he took the lot upon which Mr. J. C. Foss now lives, part of section 8. He cleared this farm and lived on it ten years and then moved to the farm on which Mr. Charles Clark now lives, where he lived until 1872, when he moved to Danforth and now keeps a public house in that village. Mr. Foss was a prominent citizen of Weston and well known throughout the county. He was for many years engaged in land surveying and was a member of the board of county commissioners from 1858 to 1861. He was also a member of the State Legislature in 1852 and for the two following years and again in 1881. Mr. Orrington S. Foss lived with his father, Joseph Foss, and afterwards moved to Orono, where he died. Mr. William Butterfield, Jr., settled on the lot where his son, David Butterfield, now lives, and lived there until his death some three years ago. Mr. Samuel Butterfield first settled on the farm where David Butterfield now lives. He afterward moved to the farm now owned by Mrs. Benj. Moody, section 9. He sold this farm to Mr. Moody and moved to Jackson Brook, where he now lives.

We have thus briefly mentioned the settlers who opened up the town of Weston and a large majority of whom were citizens of the town at the time of its incorporation.

The act of incorporation was passed March 16, 1835, and was signed by Gov. Dunlap on the following day. On April 14, 1835, a petition was addressed to Wm. Butterfield, Esq., a justice of the peace, to issue a warrant for a town meeting. This petition was signed by Samuel Springer, Stutely Springer, John

Davenport, Joseph Foss, Orrington S. Foss, Thos. Gilpatrick and John Springer. The warrant was issued to Mr. John Springer, who was directed to call a town meeting at the dwelling house of Joseph O. Smith on Thursday, April 30, 1835. The inhabitants met according to the warrant, were called to order by Wm. Butterfield, Esq., adjourned to Dr. Smith's barn and chose the following officers, viz: Joseph E. Shorey, moderator; O. S. Foss, clerk; Wm. Butterfield, Joseph Foss and Barney C. Smith, selectmen; Thos. Gilpatrick, collector and constable; Stephen Smith, treasurer. At the time of the organization of the town of Weston there were but two incorporated towns in the whole territory now embraced in Aroostook County, Houlton having been incorporated in 1831 and Hodgdon in 1832. At that time these towns were all in Washington County, Aroostook not being incorporated as a separate county until March 16, 1839. On the list of voters in Weston in 1836, twenty-five names appear and at the town meeting held that year it was voted "not to grant licenses for retailing ardent spirits." At that time and in fact for many years after, large lumbering operations were carried on in this vicinity and nearly all the settlers of the town were more or less engaged in this business. Some who afterwards settled there and became prominent citizens were attracted thither by the opportunities offered for engaging in this pursuit.

In 1844 Mr. Benjamin Buzzell came from Alexander and settled in the north part of the town. He cleared a farm and lived upon it for nearly forty years and moved to Danforth, where he died. Mr. Edward Bedel now lives on this farm.

Mr. Samuel J. Foster came to Weston in 1847 and bought the Samuel Springer farm in the south part of the town. Mr. Foster was a member of the firm of Foster & Lincoln of Bangor, lumber operators. He made many improvements upon the farm and built a very large and costly residence, two large barns and a fine stable. The house was at the time one of the most expensive private residences north of Bangor. In the stables were stalls for a hundred horses and there were times when nearly all were filled. Mr. Foster owned some very fine driving horses and the fame of his roadsters and of their remarkable performances is still remembered in this section. In addition to his extensive lumber operations he paid much attention to farming and raised large crops of hay and grain. He was a man of much energy and enterprise and carried on a large business in Weston and vicinity for a number of years. He lived

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