

lars and foundation walls. John Forsaith and J. H. Whittier remained in the village but a few years. Henry Swett caught the gold fever and went to California in 1849 or 1850, and died soon after his return. Daniel S. Woodward remained in the village several years. He built the large house on Crescent street known as the Gahagan house, and later removed to Hill, N. H., where one of his sons is still in business.

Perley Knowles was a brick mason and plasterer; he came to the village from Canterbury and built the house now owned by Oscar E. Smith. His oldest son, Charles, worked a few years at the trade before the family moved to River Falls, Wis., where both father and son resumed the occupation and the son is still in the business. The father died in 1899.

Henry Knowlton was another brick mason and plasterer as early as 1846, and was joined by his younger brothers, Charles and Alonzo, some years later. Charles left the village about 1855, but Alonzo has continued his residence in the village to the present date, though doing but little work at his trade in these later years.

George Neller with his brother William and his brother-in-law, Fred Williams, has done most of the mason work for the last ten years or more.

CHAPTER III.

CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, HOTELS, ETC.

In the early days, before any churches were organized in the village, religious services, preaching, prayer meetings, and Sunday-schools were held in schoolhouses and private residences. The first clergyman residing in the village was Rev. Moses Elliott, usually called Priest Elliott, who had a small farm on Queen street, a good but eccentric man, who invariably ended his discourses with a fervid disquisition on the millenium. He was of the Congregational faith, and did considerable pastoral work in addition to cultivating his farm.

Elder John Harriman, a Christian Baptist clergyman, resided

across the river on the Canterbury side, but was often called to the village for religious services. For a time he preached quite regularly at the Borough schoolhouse, and baptized a considerable number of converts in the outlet near the Eben Elliott house. Elder Harriman was a broad-shouldered man, having an immense head of hair hanging down on his shoulders; a striking figure, not easily forgotten.

There were two women, wives of Joseph and James Elliott, who preached occasionally, and the old Elliott homestead, which stood on the site of the Washington House, was often used for religious services.

Dea. Abial Rolfe, an uncle of Capt. Nathaniel Rolfe, though not a clergyman, was very prominent in religious matters for many years, holding meetings and doing much that might be called pastoral work. To show the zeal of Deacon Rolfe, it may be stated that on Sundays he would hold a Sunday-school in the Union schoolhouse at an early morning hour, then harness up his horse and drive to the old North church at Concord, of which church he was a deacon, and attend the forenoon service; then drive home and get dinner, after which he again harnessed up his horse and drove to Horse Hill, where he held a Sunday-school and prayer meeting at the schoolhouse. Deacon Rolfe was universally beloved and respected by the entire community; disputes and quarrels were usually referred to him, and his decisions were always accepted by both sides. In all questions of lands and bounds his word was law. He was a surveyor by occupation, and surveyed the land and marked the bounds of nearly all the farms in the vicinity. So highly was he esteemed for his religious life, that while in personal conversation with himself no person ever used profane or vulgar language. After the church at West Concord was formed Deacon Rolfe withdrew from the old North church at Concord and united with the West Concord church. He was quite a remarkable man, and it is also quite remarkable that so little mention is made of him in Rev. Dr. Bouton's History of Concord.

The first church building in Penacook was erected in 1843, and dedicated on October 12th by the Christian denomination, who began services there, on completion of the building, with Elder

A. C. Morrison for pastor. This society held regular services in the church until 1848, and then sold the building to the First Congregational society. The Christian society did not, however, give up their services at that date, but continued holding their meetings at the Washington hall for three or four years longer. The desk was supplied by a large number of preachers, among whom were Elders Elias Shaw, John Harriman, John Gillingham, Joseph Elliott, George W. Hutchinson, Edward B. Rollins, J. M. Smith, Peter Hussey, William M. Morrill, Moses Polley, Sleeper, Fairfield, Kidder, Burden, and Young.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AND SOCIETY.

Previous to 1845 some of the citizens of Penacook, who belonged to the Baptist denomination, attended church at Boscawen Plain, in the Baptist meeting-house, which stood a few rods south of the brick store.

The first movement to secure Baptist preaching in Penacook was made by the brothers Henry H. and John S. Brown, who purchased the dry goods store of Crosby & Gage, refitted it for use as a church, and named it Union hall. They secured the services of Rev. Edmund Worth of Concord for preacher, and began Sunday services there about February, 1845. Union hall stood on the site of Dr. A. C. Alexander's residence. One half of the hall is now the ell of the residence, and the remaining half is a part of the stable.

On July 19, 1845, a preliminary meeting of Baptists was held at the house of Dea. David Brown, to canvass the subject of establishing a Baptist church. At an adjourned meeting one week later it was resolved to form the "First Baptist Church of Fisherville," and they invited the Baptist churches of Concord and other towns to meet in council on August 6, 1845, to take action on public recognition of the new church.

The council met on that date and formally recognized the church, then organized with Rev. Edmund Worth as pastor, David Brown and Benjamin Hoyt as deacons, and Henry H. Brown as clerk. There were thirty-three original members of this church, whose names were as follows:

Allen, William H., and wife, Chloe F. Allen.
 Allen, Ebenezer W., and wife, Caroline Allen.
 Brown, David, and wife, Eunice Brown.
 Brown, Henry H., and wife, Mary A. D. Brown.
 Brown, John S., — Hannah M. Brown.
 Brown, Samuel F., — Martha A. Brown.
 Clough, Philip C., and wife, Lucy Clough.
 Eastman, Luke, and wife, Sarah Eastman.
 Hoyt, Benjamin, — Sarah E. Call.
 Haynes, Jeremiah A., and wife, Sarah L. Haynes.
 Simpson, Hiram, and wife, Mary S. Simpson.
 Tewksbury, Jacob L., and wife, Joanna Tewksbury.
 Hale, Joseph, — Martha A. Cowell.
 Worth, Edmund, — Sarah A. Burpee.
 Mary Dickerman.
 Sarah C. Eastman.
 Lucretia Johnson.
 Martha A. Perkins.
 Maria Webster.

This church was admitted to membership in the Salisbury Association of Baptist churches in September, 1845.

On March 20, 1846, the First Baptist *Society* was organized to conduct the business affairs of the church, with fourteen original members, whose names were as follows: Edmund Worth, David Brown, Henry H. Brown, Benjamin Hoyt, John S. Brown, Samuel F. Brown, William H. Allen, Philip C. Clough, Jeremiah A. Haynes, Ebenezer W. Allen, Jeremiah Burpee, Jr., George Puffer, Hiram Simpson, Levi R. Nichols.

The first officers of this corporation were: Samuel F. Brown, clerk; John S. Brown, treasurer; William H. Allen, Henry H. Brown, and Hiram Simpson, standing committee.

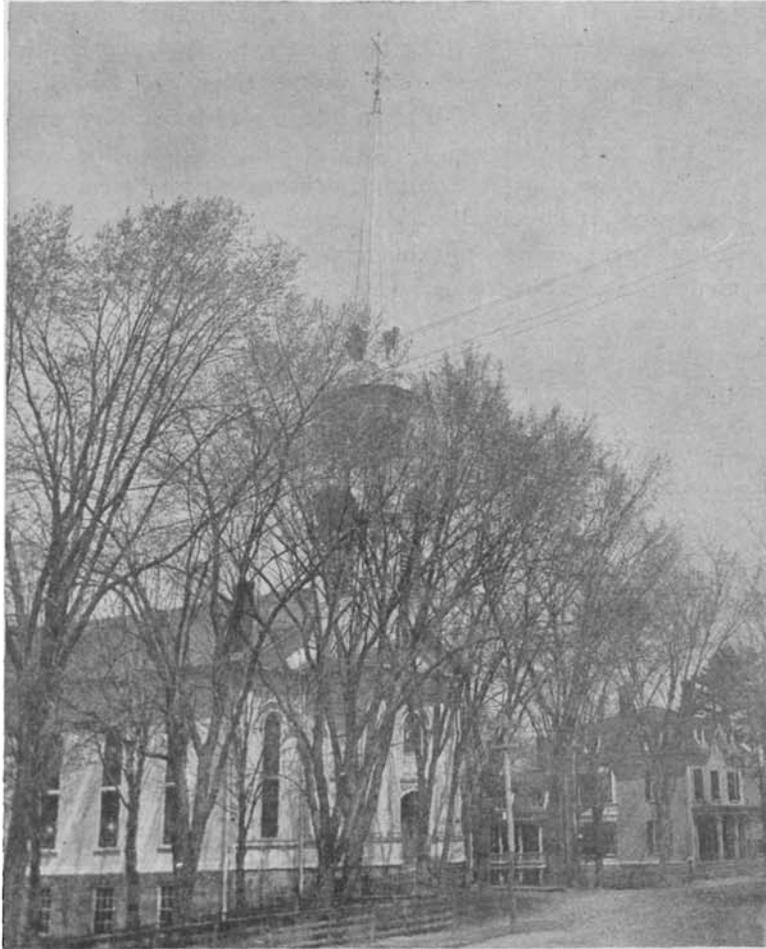
Of all the original members of the church and society only one, John S. Brown, born February 26, 1809, is now living (January, 1901).

The Baptists remained at Union hall until September, 1849, when, by reason of an increasing congregation, they found it necessary to look for a larger room, and secured the Graphic hall,

then just completed, which hall is still used for religious services by the Methodist church. Four years later, in 1853, the Baptists moved back to the Boscawen side of the river, and leased the meeting-house built by the Christian denomination in 1843, which they used for Sunday services, and while there occupied the Granite hall, also a room in the Coburn block, for evening meetings.

As early as 1847 the Baptists began talking of building a church for their own use, but financial difficulties caused a postponement of the matter for ten years. In 1857 it was decided to build a house of worship, and a committee consisting of John S. Brown, Dana W. Pratt, and Samuel Merriam was chosen to procure plans, raise the necessary funds, and have general charge of building and furnishing the church. Mr. John S. Brown gave a large amount of his time and labor to the enterprise, and contributed a large portion of the funds. The church building was located on the northwest corner of Merrimac and Centre streets, on a lot of land donated for that purpose by the Contoocook Manufacturing & Mechanic Co., the front entrance being on Merrimac street, and a side entrance to the vestry on Centre street.

The building is 80 x 52 feet on the ground, having a granite basement story, with the main building of wood with slate roof. A finely proportioned spire rises above the vestibule to a height of 150 feet. In the belfry is hung the largest bell in the village, on which the hours are struck by the hammer of the four-dial town clock located just below it. The main audience room contained seventy-two pews on the floor, and enough in the gallery, which extended around three sides of the room, to furnish seating capacity for about six hundred and fifty people. A very fine organ, built by Hook of Boston at a cost of \$2,050, was placed in the south gallery, at the opposite end of the room from the pulpit. The pews were upholstered, the floors carpeted complete, and the walls and ceiling tastefully frescoed. In the basement story the rooms were a vestry, or lecture room, with seats for two hundred and fifty persons, a smaller vestry for prayer meetings, a large parlor for the ladies' society, also a kitchen for the same, and a library room for the Sunday-school. All the fittings and furnishings were of the best, and when the church was completed it was



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

called the finest church in the state. The entire cost was \$18,500, the funds being raised by subscription, and largely from the brothers, John S. and Henry H. Brown.

The church was dedicated on September 8, 1858, the order of exercises being as follows: 1. Organ voluntary. 2. Invocation, by Rev. D. J. Smith, pastor of the Methodist church. 3. Hymn No. 932, read by Rev. Mr. Eaton of Dunbarton. 4. Reading Scriptures, by Rev. A. W. Fiske, pastor of the Congregational

church. 5. Prayer, by Rev. Mr. Damon of Bow. 6. Hymn No. 941. 7. Dedication sermon by the pastor, Rev. Joseph Storer. 8. Dedication prayer by the pastor. 9. Anthem by the choir. 10. Benediction by Rev. Mr. Eaton.

In 1872 the society built a large, substantial parsonage on the northeast corner of Merrimac and Centre streets. In this work Mr. John S. Brown was chairman of the building committee, and gave his time and labor in superintending the work, as he had previously done when building the church. The entire cost of the parsonage was \$10,500, of which sum Charles H. Amsden and John A. Coburn contributed \$500 each, and John S. Brown contributed the remainder. In later years the parsonage was found to be too large an establishment for economical use by pastors' families, and it was finally sold in 1896 to John Chadwick, who has since occupied it as his homestead. The proceeds of the sale were used to pay the balance of the cost of repairs on the church, and \$1,000 remaining was paid over to John S. Brown.

In 1888, thirty years after building, the church was entirely remodeled and refurnished inside at a cost of \$7,500, exclusive of the cost of the stained-glass memorial windows which were contributed mostly by individual members or their friends, as memorials of the following members: Henry H. Brown, John S. Brown, Samuel F. Brown, Eunice H. Brown (mother of Henry, John, and Samuel), Martha A. Brown, John A. Coburn, Abigail E. Fox, Rev. Edmund Worth (the first pastor), John Sawyer, Samuel Merriam, and Charles H. Amsden.

In the main audience room the side galleries were cut shorter, the organ was moved to the north end of the room, the speaker's platform, the baptistry, and the choir gallery were all rebuilt, the pews newly upholstered, new carpet laid, new chandelier and lighting fixtures hung, and the walls and ceiling frescoed, also all wood finish painted, varnished, or polished. These repairs, together with the stained-glass windows, made a marked change in the appearance of the church, and were considered a great improvement. This work was done under the direction of a committee consisting of Charles H. Amsden, Edmund H. Brown, and A. C. Alexander.

The church was rededicated on March 14, 1889 (Thursday evening), with the following exercises: 1. Organ voluntary. 2. Anthem by the choir, consisting of Harry A. Brown, tenor; Mrs. D. F. Dudley, soprano; Grace A. Prescott, alto; David A. Brown, bass. 3. Invocation by Rev. H. F. Thayer of Hopkinton. 4. Reading Scriptures by Rev. C. E. Milliken, pastor of the Congregational church. 5. Hymn No. 113, read by Rev. A. C. Coult, pastor of the Methodist church. 6. Hon. Charles H. Amsden, chairman of the building committee, then made the report of the rebuilding operations and read an extended historical sketch of the church. 7. Prayer by Rev. H. N. Stetson of Suncook. 8. Reading Scriptures by Rev. F. H. Davis of Franklin Falls. 9. Dedication anthem by the choir. 10. Sermon by Rev. C. W. McAllister of Manchester. 11. Hymn No. 500. 12. Dedication prayer by Rev. J. K. Ewer of Concord. 13. Doxology. 14. Benediction by Rev. Stephen Coombs.

This church has maintained a Sunday-school since 1845, and has a library of 1,000 volumes. Two zealous and successful pastors have gone out from this church, Rev. Joseph F. Fielden, now preaching at Winchendon, Mass., and Rev. Millard F. Johnson, now preaching at Nashua, N. H. Another young member of this church, William Ide Brown, oldest son of John S. Brown, was studying for the ministry, but gave up his studies to serve his country in the army, and was killed at Petersburg, Va., on March 29, 1865, just before the close of the war.

The First Baptist *church* and the First Baptist *society* worked in harmony from 1846 to 1898, with the exception of one occasion. This was in 1872, when a difference occurred on the question of terminating the pastorate of Rev. George G. Harri-man, with the result that a considerable number of the church members withdrew on the first Sunday in January, 1873, and established preaching services and a Sunday-school at a later date in Sanders hall on Main street. At the beginning of the following year, 1874, they called Rev. J. E. Burr to be their pastor, and took the name of Main Street Baptist church. Mr. Burr proved to be an excellent pastor and continued in charge of this Main Street church until 1878, at which date the First Baptist church invited the members of the Main Street Baptist church to

unite with them. A conference of members from each church met and arranged the details for the union, and on February 17 the formal reunion took place, and the ninety-five members of the Main Street Baptist church were enrolled as members of the First Baptist church.

From that date the labors of church and society were entirely in harmony until 1898, when the First Baptist church organized as a corporation, the First Baptist society transferred all its property to the church, and was then dissolved. The business of the church has since been transacted under the direction of a board of trustees.

The first pastor of the Baptist church, Rev. Edmund Worth, served from August 6, 1845, to March 3, 1856. The pastors following were, Rev. Joseph Storer from April 4, 1856, to March 30, 1862; Rev. Joseph Henry Gilmore from June 19, 1862, to September 16, 1864. During this short pastorate the church and Sunday-school reached high-water mark as regards numbers and interest of the members. Rev. Ira E. Kenney served from March 14, 1865, to March 1, 1868; Rev. George G. Harriman from September 2, 1868, to January 1, 1873; Rev. William B. Smith from January 10, 1873, to December 31, 1878; Rev. J. B. Robinson from July 6, 1879, to March 1, 1881; Rev. George T. Raymond from July 1, 1881, to May 27, 1883; Rev. Welcome E. Bates from Nov. 1, 1883, to December 11, 1888; Rev. W. N. Thomas from May 9, 1888, to August 2, 1891; Rev. A. S. Gilbert from January 1, 1892, to September 1, 1896; Rev. Daniel C. Easton (supply) from September, 1896, to March, 1899.

Rev. William H. Allison began his first pastoral work with this church on March 19, 1899.

The deacons of this church have been David Brown, Benjamin Hoyt, Henry H. Brown, William H. Allen, Franklin A. Abbott, Henry F. Brown, Edmund H. Brown, and William Arthur Bean.

There have been some 575 members of this church from the date of organization up to January 1, 1901, the number at the later date being about 150.

The Sunday-school has been conducted for the larger portion of its existence by three superintendents, Dea. Henry H. Brown, Dea. Franklin A. Abbott, and Dea. Edmund H. Brown. Other super-

intendents serving for shorter terms were William W. Allen, Dea. Henry F. Brown, M. Quincy Bean, John H. Moore, and Dr. Anson C. Alexander, who is serving for the present year, 1901.

METHODIST CHURCH.

The Methodist church was organized in October, 1847, and first held their meetings in Washington hall. They remained there only one year, and then moved to Granite hall. There the church increased in numbers so rapidly that they soon felt the need of



GRAPHIC BLOCK (METHODIST CHURCH).

more commodious quarters. About 1851 they purchased a lot of land lying between Summer and Merrimac streets and erected thereon a church building which was dedicated August 22, 1852; the dedication sermon was delivered by Professor Baker of the Methodist Theological Institute of Concord. That building was used by the church until 1867, in which year they sold the property to the Catholic society and purchased the Graphic block on Main street, which property they still hold, using the second and third floors for church purposes, and renting the stores on the ground floor. This society also own a comfortable parsonage at

the northeast corner of Summer and Centre streets. There is a flourishing Sunday-school connected with this church, which has a well-selected library and an active and efficient corps of officers. The main room on the second floor is a cheerful and attractive audience room, furnished with modern settees instead of pews, and has a fine reed organ for the choir, and a piano for Sunday-school use. They have always maintained a choir which adds much to the effect of the services. Opening out of the main room, on the west side, is a chapel or class-room, which may be entered from the stairway at the rear of the building, as well as from the audience room. The third floor is used for social gatherings, and has a parlor, dining-room, kitchen, coat-room, etc., the whole establishment being well designed for the use of the church and society.

The pastors have been Revs. John McLaughlin, Mr. Knapp, H. Loud, W. D. Cass, Jacob Sanborn, D. J. Smith, James Pike, J. C. Emerson, D. C. Babcock, Samuel Orr, N. P. Philbrick, N. Culver, S. P. Heath, W. H. Jones, L. E. Gordon, L. P. Cushman, J. K. Shiffer, H. Woodward, E. R. Wilkins, C. W. Taylor, A. C. Coult, W. C. Bartlett, R. Sanderson, S. E. Quimby, G. W. Farmer, and E. N. Jarrett.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The First Congregational society was organized September 11, 1848, the original members being Richard Gage, Almon Harris, Joseph Gerrish, and Calvin Gage. This society purchased the meeting-house built by the Christian society in 1843. The society secured for pastor Rev. Isaac Knight, who began preaching November 12, 1848. A church was formed of twenty-three members, and organized, May 8, 1849, and Mr. Knight continued as pastor until his decease on July 25, 1850.

The North Congregational church of Concord, in Fisherville, was organized in March, 1849, and occupied the chapel which was built for them, mainly by the efforts of Henry Rolfe and his family. This chapel was a commodious one-story wooden building, located on land now covered by Eagle block, and was dedicated August 19, 1849. Their first pastor was Rev. Thomas P. Vernon, who came from Rhode Island; he was followed by

Rev. Jesse M. Cross, a young man who had studied for the ministry with Rev. Mr. Tenney at West Concord. Rev. Enoch Corser also preached for a short time there. This church had forty-three members recorded on the clerk's book.

On November 6, 1850, these two Congregational churches were united by action of an ecclesiastical council called for that purpose, and the consolidated First Congregational church started with a membership of sixty-six persons, only one of whom is still living (July, 1900), Mrs. Eliza Rolfe. This church, it seems, did not at first settle any regular pastor, but the desk was supplied by Rev. Mr. Stone, Rev. Henry Wood, Rev. Mr. Cummings, Rev. John R. Young, Rev. Joseph E. Bodwell, up to June 1, 1851; then Rev. Mr. Campbell began preaching and continued until November 30, 1851, when he preached a farewell sermon. He was followed by Rev. Pliny B. Day for two months. Next the Rev. Mr. Stearns began preaching in February, 1852, and remained till September, 1852. Rev. Daniel Lancaster next began preaching in September, 1852, and made a longer supply than any of his predecessors, remaining until 1854 or later.

The clerk's record book shows the first baptism in this church, dated July 6, 1851, and the child was named Henry Gerrish Ames; the rite of baptism being performed by Rev. Mr. Campbell. When these two churches united, an engagement was made to hold the services alternately in the meeting-house on the Boscawen side and in the chapel on the Concord side; but that arrangement did not prove to be satisfactory and was terminated in 1854, when the church voted to hold all services on the Concord side. About 1855 this church gave up the chapel and moved into Graphic hall, which had previously been occupied by the Baptists. Their old chapel building was rented for singing schools and other purposes, and was finally destroyed by an accumulation of snow on the roof in the winter of 1861-'62.

In 1857 the church called a council and settled Rev. Albert W. Fiske as their pastor. He had begun preaching in December, 1856, and continued as pastor until October, 1863. His successors as pastors were Rev. W. R. Jewett in 1863, Rev. Marvin D. Bisbee in 1874, Rev. F. V. D. Garretson in 1878, Rev. John H. Larry in 1880, Rev. Charles E. Milliken in 1884, Rev. Edward G. Spencer

in 1892, and Rev. Edwin B. Burrows in 1897. This last pastor retired in September, 1899, by reason of failing health. Rev. J. E. Whitley was ordained at the Congregational church, July 19, 1900.

The deacons of this church have been Eldad Tenney, Luther Shedd, Almon Harris, Joseph Moody, David Putnam, Thaddeus O. Wilson, Fisher Ames, John R. Davis, and Lorenzo M. Currier, the last named being the only one living in 1899.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MAIN STREET.

Soon after the first regular pastor was installed the church left the Graphic hall and moved into the meeting-house on the Boscawen side. They purchased the building and fitted it up for their use, and have remained there to the present date.

In 1888 their church building was remodeled inside, refurnished, stained glass put in the windows, and new heating and lighting fixtures supplied, at a cost of some \$2,200, making it a very neat and attractive place of worship. This work was done under the personal direction of Charles H. Sanders, chairman of

the committee. This church also owns a chapel on Merrimac avenue which they built in 1873. This chapel is used for evening meetings and for social meetings, and is well adapted for such uses.

The Sunday-school connected with this church is in a flourishing condition and has a well-selected library, the superintendent in 1899 being Lorenzo M. Currier.

The first reed instrument (a melodeon) ever used in church in the village was at this church, January 14, 1849, played by Asa L. Drew. This instrument is still in existence at the Isaac K. Gage homestead.

CATHOLIC CHURCH.

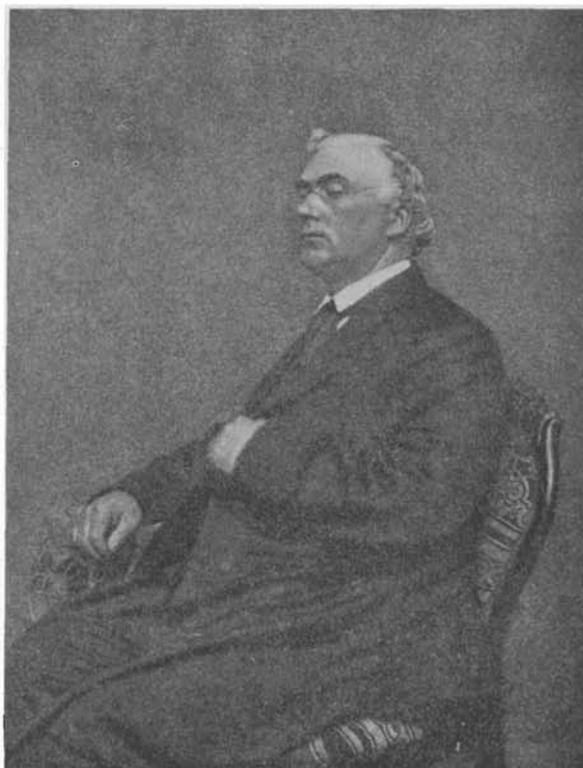
The first priest having charge of this mission was Rev. William McDonald of Manchester. When he came to the latter city in



CATHOLIC CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, PLEASANT STREET.

1849 there was but one church of his faith between Boston and the Canada line, along the Concord, Northern, and Vermont Central railroads. The one only was at Lowell. It is believed that the first child he baptized in Penacook was Andrew Linehan, in May, 1852. He was succeeded by Rev. John B. Daley, who took charge of Concord and the mission around it in 1853, or thereabout. Mass was said at first in private houses, usually on week

days, at half-past three in the morning. This early hour was necessary, as those employed in the mills were obliged to go to work at five o'clock. The first houses in which mass was said were those of Michael Bolger, John Gahagan, John Linehan, and Ellen Cooney. Father Daley was succeeded in the charge of the Concord parish by Father O'Reilly, who died shortly after assuming

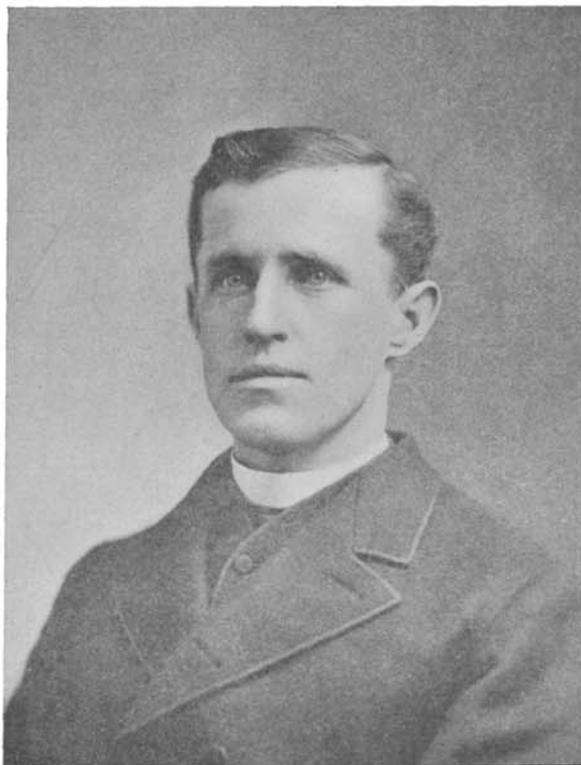


VERY REV. JOHN O'DONNELL.

the duties of the position, and Father Daley again took charge until the appointment of Rev. John O'Donnell of Nashua.

The Catholic congregation was first gathered in this village by Rev. John O'Donnell, and began holding regular services in Granite hall in 1863. The congregation soon outgrew that small room, and moved to the Pantheon hall on the Boscawen side of

the river. This church had no pastor settled in the village, but was under the charge of the pastor of the Concord church. In 1865 Rev. J. E. Barry was appointed to the pastorate of the Catholic church at Concord, having the church here also under his care. His labors here built up the congregation so rapidly that in 1867 they purchased the church edifice built by the



REV. GEORGE H. FEENEY.

Methodists on the lot lying between Summer and Merrimac streets. A notable result of Father Barry's labor here was the temperance society which he organized, and which included in its membership nearly every member of the congregation. There has, probably, been no single Christian movement in our village that resulted in greater good to the people than this temperance work by Father Barry.

This congregation remained under the care of Father Barry until 1882, when Rev. M. P. Danner was appointed pastor, this being the first resident pastor of the congregation, and a parsonage was bought on High street, the house now being owned by Ira Phillips. During the pastorate of Father Wilde, this house was exchanged for the Holmes place, at the east end of Summer



CORNELIUS J. COAKLEY.

street, which is now owned by David Twomey. The present pastor, Rev. D. F. Hurley, soon after his arrival, in 1893, concluded the purchase of the Sanders property, on Sanders hill, and fitted up the Sanders house as a parochial residence. In 1896 he built a large one-story building in the rear of the parsonage, called St. John's hall, for society and social meetings, and in 1898 he completed the church of the Immaculate Conception,

a large building, which, from its location on the hill, is the most prominent landmark in the village. At the dedication of this church there was a notable gathering of the Catholic clergy, including the head of the diocese, Bishop Bradley of Manchester. This church building, with the parsonage and the St. John's hall, makes the most complete and valuable church property in the village. The congregation is much the largest of all in the place, and their Sunday-school is correspondingly large in the number of its members.

Two former members of this church have been ordained to the priesthood,—Rev. Timothy P. Linehan of Biddeford, Me., a younger brother of Hon. John C. Linehan; and the late Rev. George H. Feeney of Walpole, N. H., son of Lucius Feeney, a soldier of the Fifth Regiment N. H. Vols., who was killed at Gettysburg. George Keenan died just before he was to be ordained to the priesthood. Two other young men are now studying for the ministry,—Cornelius J. Coakley and Richard Dolan. One young lady, Margaret, the only daughter of John C. Linehan, entered the order of the Sisters of Mercy, in Portland, Me., in 1885.

The pastors of this church have been: Revs. John O'Donnell, John E. Barry, M. P. Danner, John T. McDonnell, Louis M. Wilde, M. H. Eagan, D. F. Hurley, and D. W. Fitzgerald.

SECOND ADVENT CHURCH.

The Second Advent denomination held meetings in the village from 1852 to 1857, mostly in Granite hall, or Hosmer's hall, as it was then called. Elder John G. Hook of Concord was the most prominent of the preachers, and had the most powerful voice ever heard in the pulpit in the village. Other preachers were: Elder Locke, from Weare; Elder Cummings, who held meetings in a large tent; Rev. Mr. Preble, and others. A large number of people attended these meetings, some probably from curiosity, but a considerable number were believers of the Second Advent doctrine. Samuel Burpee, an overseer in the Penacook mill, was a prominent member of that denomination, who gave up his situation in the mill and gave away his property shortly before the date of the expected appearance of the Lord. Quite a number of men and

women of this faith prepared their ascension robes, confidently expecting that the end of the world would come on a certain date in 1857, but they were disappointed then as they had been at appointed dates in previous years. One, at least, of the number, Elder Hook, continued in his belief of the early coming of the Lord, and continued preaching until his decease in 1898. In the later years of his life, after evangelistic work in all parts of the country, he secured a small chapel on Pleasant street, and often preached near the scene of his early labors of nearly fifty years before.

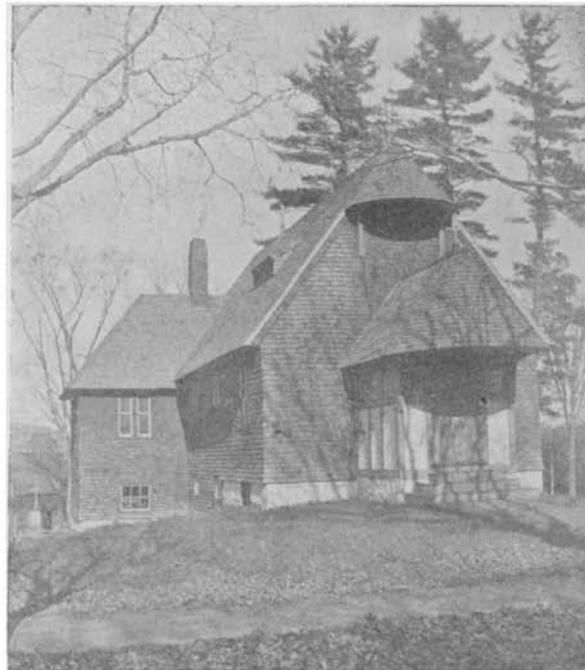
EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first regular services by the Episcopal denomination in the village were held in Sanders hall on May 15, 1881, by the Rev. Daniel C. Roberts, D. D., vice-rector of St. Paul's church, Concord.

After using that hall for a season as their place of worship, they rented the Congregational chapel on Merrimac avenue, and continued services there until 1890, when their present church building was completed. The services there were continued by the vice-rector of St. Paul's. He was assisted by the Rev. Thomas G. Valpey, deacon, a master in St. Paul's school, until January, 1882, when his duties at the school absorbed his time and attention. Mr. Roberts continued in charge until the fall of 1882, when the Rev. Henry Bedinger, curate at St. Paul's church, became responsible for the work at Penacook. In 1884 Mr. Bedinger removed from the diocese, and was succeeded by Mr. Valpey, who returned to the mission, and remained in charge, under the former arrangement with St. Paul's church, Concord, until his lamented death, which occurred November 15, 1890. Under Mr. Valpey's faithful and vigorous pastorate, the mission grew into the proportions of an "organized mission," and its members and friends began to consider the possibility of building a church edifice. Mr. Valpey pushed the enterprise with energy and enthusiasm, enlisting friends and securing funds. In 1888 the land was purchased, and a building committee appointed, consisting of the Rev. Thomas G. Valpey, John Harris, and William Taylor. The actual work of building was not commenced

until the summer of 1889. It was completed during the following winter, and the first service was held beneath its roof on February 2, 1890, at 3 o'clock p. m.

The plans were the gift of the late Rev. Henry A. Coit, D. D., LL. D., the first rector of St. Paul's school. They were drawn on the lines of a church in Cornwall, England. The architect was Henry Vaughan of Boston. The bills were all paid, and when the church was completed it was consecrated by the Rt. Rev.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MERRIMAC STREET.

William W. Niles, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., bishop of New Hampshire, on the 27th day of May, 1890.

A commodious guild room was finished and dedicated in November, 1892. After the great bereavement sustained in the death of Mr. Valpey, the services were continued under the auspices of St. Paul's church, conducted by the Hon. Horace A. Brown, as lay-reader, until early in 1891, when they were under-

taken by the Rev. A. Wright Saltus of St. Paul's school. Mr. Saltus left the diocese late in 1892, and the former arrangement continued with the Hon. Horace A. Brown as lay-reader until August, 1893, when the connection with St. Paul's church ceased, and the Rev. William Lloyd Himes, general missionary of the diocese, became responsible for the conduct of the services, with the Rev. Charles Reuben Bailey, Ph. D., deacon, as curate. This arrangement continued until the ordination of the latter to the priesthood, when the charge devolved upon him, and he continued as priest in charge until October, 1898, when he resigned. The church has been served since by the Rev. Lucius Waterman, D. D., Rev. A. Wright Saltus, and Rev. John Knox Tibbits.

This has been a labor of love from the beginning. St. Mary's is under special obligation to the Rev. Thomas G. Valpey, of blessed memory, an ideal pastor, who is remembered elsewhere for his virtues and his deeds; who left in Penacook, as monuments of his unselfish devotion, the church edifice, built through his constancy, energy, and self-sacrifice, and the beginning of an endowment fund, for which purpose he bequeathed three thousand dollars. To this sum two thousand dollars was added by the bequest of the late Mrs. Sarah G. Smith. The first treasurer was the late Franklin D. Frost, succeeded by his nephew, Irving M. Frost, who was in turn succeeded by John Harris, who still holds the office.

SCHOOLS, TEACHERS.

The first schoolhouse in the village was a union schoolhouse, built by the districts of the Boscawen and Concord sides, probably about 1815, and was located near where the Gahagan house now stands, on Crescent street. This was on the main road, which at that time passed through what is now the yard of the Concord Axle Works. The schoolhouse was set centrally on the town line, and the boys' seats, on the north side of the room, were in Boscawen, while the girls' seats, on the opposite side of the room, were in Concord. This house remained at that location until after the old bridge was carried away and the road changed to cross the new bridge at Main street; then the Boscawen scholars had a longer walk to reach the schoolhouse. One of the girls

who then lived in the Plummer house, just east of the old hotel, now remembers going to school over the new road from the old hotel, across the new red bridge, then clambering down the rocks at the south end of the bridge, and walking outside the large rock now to be seen in the water near the Knowlton house (there was then no dam on the river and the water did not come up to the big rock), then down the river bank and across the island to the schoolhouse. She recalls also that water for the school was taken from a spring at the foot of a large pine tree which was standing about where the east end of the Penacook mill now stands.

This union schoolhouse was moved in 1826 to the hill opposite the Contoocook mill, afterwards known as Brown's hill, and was there again placed on the town line which runs between the Winn house and the double tenement house next south. School was continued there for ten years, until the Union district was dissolved in 1836. The schoolhouse was later sold to John Johnson, who moved it to Queen street, where he used it for a carpenter shop and manufactory of coffins for several years; it was finally destroyed by fire in September, 1867.

The Boscawen district, after the dissolution of Union district, built a new schoolhouse in 1836, on the west side of Main street, just south of the present Congregational church, and a few years later moved it to the north side of Queen street, a few rods west of Main street, where the writer first began "going to school," in 1844. In those days "discipline was maintained" by the help of the schoolmaster's ruler or ferrule. That was a persuasive instrument of oak, about two and a half inches wide, one half inch thick, and two feet long, and when wielded by the vigorous arm of a Richard Morgan, was simply irresistible; the writer is positive about this matter.

After the dissolution of Union district there was no schoolhouse built on the Concord side for some years, but schools were kept in private houses during the winter months. Henry Rolfe (an older brother of Col. Abial) kept school in his house for a season, and Wm. P. Chandler also kept school in the old Chandler house, now occupied by E. L. Davis.

In 1840 a new district (No. 20) was cut off from the Borough district, No. 2, and a "Little Red School House" was built

on the Rolfe estate, which is still standing on Rolfe street and used for a dwelling house. The first schoolmaster in that house was Abial R. Chandler. In this house the school rapidly increased in number of scholars attending, as the village was growing rapidly for several years, so that it became necessary to build a larger house.

In 1849 a two-story wood schoolhouse was built on the site now occupied by the larger brick schoolhouse. That white schoolhouse was destroyed by fire in February, 1877, and the present brick schoolhouse was built immediately afterwards. This last schoolhouse was enlarged in 1889, and now accommodates three hundred scholars.

The first schoolhouse at the Borough district, No. 2, was built probably as early as 1807, at which date the district (No. 2) was laid out, but no definite information has been obtained in regard to that house. The present brick schoolhouse in that district was built in 1852. The one next preceding it had been in use for some thirty years at least, and may have been the original schoolhouse in the district; it was located several rods west of the present house, near the fork of the road. That old schoolhouse was later purchased by Miss Matilda Drown (sister of Albert H. Drown), a notable school teacher, who moved it over to the village and placed it where Cephas Fowler's house now stands. There she kept a private school successfully for several years. The old schoolhouse is now a part of the residence of William H. Raymond.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20.

The clerk's record book of this district only covers the period from 1874 to the present, the older records having been lost. At the annual business meeting in 1874, at which time Samuel F. Brown was moderator and Wm. W. Allen clerk, the district voted to raise \$200 to pay for painting the schoolhouse. This was the two-story wooden building erected in 1849, and contained but two school rooms.

In March, 1876, the district voted to raise \$200 to pay for shingling and repairing the house; but shortly after it was re-

paired, on February 13, 1877, it was burned to the ground. The record says nothing about the fire directly, but many of the citizens will recall the occasion and remember what a great heat it made, also how the firemen struggled to keep the neighboring houses from destruction.

In the following month, March 7, 1877, at the annual meeting, the district voted to build a new schoolhouse; also voted to raise the sum of \$5,000, to be used, with the money received from



SCHOOLHOUSE, DISTRICT No. 20.

insurance on the old building, in payment for the new house. A building committee was then appointed, consisting of Charles H. Sanders, John Whitaker, John C. Linehan, George W. Abbott, and David Putnam. This committee was given power to purchase more land, locate the house, and furnish the same.

At a subsequent meeting, March 24, 1877, the building committee was authorized to use a part of the insurance money for the purchase or exchange of land. At this meeting the superintending and the prudential committees were authorized to make arrangements for sending the scholars to Penacook Academy,

this being a temporary arrangement for schooling while the new house was being built.

At another meeting, on October 22, 1877, the district voted to raise a further sum of \$1,200 to complete the new schoolhouse.

The clerk's record gives no information as to the entire cost of the building, or in regard to the dedication exercises. It is learned from other sources that at the dedication of the new schoolhouse Hon. John C. Linehan, for the building committee, made a report on the building and turned over the keys to the prudential committee of the district; he also read a paper on the history of the district. The keys were received by Charles H. Sanders, prudential committee. Miss Ellen Abbott, one of the teachers, read an original poem, and Professor Patterson of Dartmouth College delivered a fine oration. The mayor of Concord, Hon. John Kimball, was present, and made some remarks suited to the occasion.

At the annual meeting, March 19, 1881, Charles H. Sanders and Charles W. Hardy were appointed a committee to join with the prudential committee in an examination of the schoolhouse with a view to building a porch around the front doors to protect the hallways during cold and stormy weather. At a special meeting, July 30, 1881, that committee reported a plan for building the porches at the front doors. Their plan was accepted and adopted, and the district voted to raise \$300 to pay for that work.

In 1884 the district voted to adopt the act of legislature creating a board of education, and Edmund H. Brown, Alfred E. Emery, and William W. Allen were chosen as the first members of the board.

The matter of increasing the capacity of the schools came up for action at the annual meeting, March 6, 1885, and John H. Rolfe, C. H. Sanders, and Nathaniel S. Gale were appointed a committee to report on the matter. This committee reported at an adjourned meeting, March 26, but their report was laid on the table and received no further action at that time, though the fact remained that the schools were then overcrowded.

At the annual meeting, in 1886, the matter of heating the schoolhouse came up and was referred for action to a special meeting, April 15, when the district voted to have the house heated by steam,

appointed William H. Rundlett, John H. Rolfe, and George A. Tucker a committee to take charge of the work. Also voted to raise the sum of \$1,100 to pay the expense of the same.

In 1888 the subject of evening schools was brought up and was referred to the Board of Education, who arranged to commence such additional schools. This arrangement appears to have been satisfactory, as at the next annual meeting, March 21, 1889, the district voted to continue the evening schools and appropriated \$200 for expenses of the same.

At this meeting a committee consisting of John H. Rolfe and William P. Chandler was appointed to act with the Board of Education to investigate the ventilation and sanitary condition of the schoolhouse and report at a meeting to be called for that purpose.

On May 9 a meeting was held at which the committee reported, recommending an addition to the house 32 feet 8 inches wide, 40 feet long, two stories high, and cellar, at an estimated cost of \$4,500. This report was accepted and adopted, and the Board of Education was instructed to raise the money. At a subsequent date it was arranged that the city issue bonds amounting to \$4,500, the proceeds of same to be used in payment for this addition to the schoolhouse; the payment of these bonds to be extended over a term of ten years.

The records first show the report of the Board of Education in 1892; this report gives the average attendance of scholars for the year at 248. Six schools were provided, as follows: First and Second Primary, First and Second Intermediate, and First and Second Grammar. Three terms were kept during each year. During this year the board fitted up a library for the schools.

At the annual meeting in 1894 the district voted to purchase a piano for the schools. At this meeting the matter of uniting with the Union School District of Concord came up for discussion, and a committee was appointed to consider the matter, but the record shows no further action on the subject during that year.

In 1896 the district voted to purchase a new flag. A flagstaff had been erected in front of the schoolhouse some years before, at which time a flag was presented to the schools by D. Arthur Brown, this being the first flag ever owned and used regularly

at the schools, but no mention of the matter was made in the clerk's record.

At the annual meeting of 1897 the question of uniting with Union School District came up again, and a committee consisting of A. E. Emery, George W. Abbott, and John C. Farrand was appointed to confer with the Concord Board of Education. A special meeting was called on July 15 to hear the report. A. E. Emery and George W. Abbott made a majority report in favor of uniting, and John C. Farrand a minority report against uniting. The proposal to unite was voted down, the district preferring to remain independent.

It is to be regretted that the early records of this district have been lost, so that it is impossible to get a complete list of the teachers, but the names of some of the early teachers have been obtained from Col. Abial Rolfe and his daughter, Miss Lizzie Rolfe.

Colonel Rolfe taught the winter term in 1847 in this district, having previously kept the school two winters in district No. 4. and later kept the school in district No. 2, in 1849. Other male teachers of the early days were William H. Eastman, Richard Morgan, Warren Sanborn, Abi Scales, Rev. Mr. Pinkham, Samuel Batchelder, Isaiah L. Pickard, Fred Chandler, John A. Abbott, and Warren Abbott.

Some of the female teachers of the earlier years were Susan Dow, Harriet Chandler, Matilda Drown, Miss Eaton, Miss Clement, Myra McQuesten, Alma Farnum, Sarah Tenney, Martha Farnum, Elizabeth Brown, Mary Brown, Susan Hazelton, Ellen Abbott, Miss Dimond, Miss Chase, Martha Coombs, Etta Danforth, Emma Jones, Clara Smith, Eliza Moore, and Susan Moore.

The present clerk's book of the district gives the teachers' names only from 1882, at which date Louis J. Rundlett was principal of the schools. He was followed by George A. Dickey in 1886, H. E. Richardson in 1891, H. H. Randall in 1896, and W. E. Gushee in 1897. Since 1882 there have been a large number of female teachers, but one only has remained continuously to the present date, Miss Maria Carter. Miss Lizzie Rolfe was one of the teachers in 1882, and she continued until 1891. Others who have been teachers since 1882 are Miss J. E. Wells, Susie C. Ferrin, Alice

L. Morse, Alice H. Warden, Helen P. Bennett, Grace E. Colby, Mary L. Rolfe, Grace M. Powell, Mary S. Emery, Ella N. Jones, Mary A. Williams, Lucy E. Warner, Evelyne M. Winkley, Susie E. Pickard, Lillian M. Bickford, Florence A. Chandler, M. Ethel Pike, Ruphella Luce, L. E. Elliott, Etta C. Pease.

The yearly expense for sustaining the schools in this district in 1882 was \$2,035.39, and in 1897 it was \$3,700.02, showing an increase in fifteen years of over 50 per cent.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14, OR NO. 7 (BOSCAWEN).

The first records obtainable of this district begin in 1836. At the dissolution of the Union district (Boscawen and Concord) the number of the district appears on the records, and as late as 1856, as No. 14, and the record also speaks of the district in 1849 as No. 7, so it is not clear at what date the number was changed, or why changed. It is probable, however, that the change was made at about the time when the new schoolhouse was built, in 1848.

The first schoolhouse of this district was built in 1836, on a lot of land next south of the present Congregational church lot. In 1843 that house was moved to the north side of Queen street, a few rods west of Main street. In 1848 the district voted to build a new schoolhouse and sell the old one. The business was put in the hands of a committee consisting of Abial R. Chandler, John C. Gage, and Abner B. Winn. This committee purchased ninety-six square rods of land of Richard Gage (father of Calvin, John C., Luther, and others), at \$1 per square rod, or \$90 for the whole lot. They erected a two-story brick building, 33 x 50 feet, at a cost of \$2,400, and furnished it for the first schools at a cost of \$168.36.

They sold the old red schoolhouse to John Flanders (grandfather of Mrs. W. G. Buxton) for \$93. It was then moved to the upper end of Main street, and fitted up for a dwelling house. It is still standing as the ell part of the residence of Fred Abbott.

The last school in the old house was the summer term of 1848, kept by Nancy P. Hosmer (sister of Dr. W. H. Hosmer), who received the sum of \$1.25 per week for her services, and her

board at Abner B. Winn's was paid by the district at the rate of ninety-five cents per week.

In those days the board of teachers was contracted to the lowest bidder, and it would seem that there must have been sharp competition to bring the price down to the figure above noted.

When beginning the schools in the new house prices seemed to advance, as the first male teacher, Stephen H. Folsom (an uncle of Charles H. Sanders), received \$6 per week for the winter term, 1848-'49, besides his board, which cost the district \$1.70 per week, and was paid to Jonathan C. Shepard, father of our veteran citizen, Charles P. Shepard.

Daniel B. Whittier was the next schoolmaster, and taught the two winter terms, 1849-1850-'51. At the annual meeting in March, 1851, the district voted a resolution of thanks to Mr. Whittier for his valuable and acceptable services as teacher, and tendered to him the use of the upper school-room for a select school, when not in use by the district schools, free of charge or expense. Mr. Whittier then opened his select or high school, keeping a spring and fall term for several years, and taking scholars from both sides of the river and some from neighboring towns. This was an excellent school, and was the first successful high school ever kept in the village.

At the annual meeting of 1861 it was voted to adopt the "Somersworth act," and a superintending committee was elected. Very young scholars were being sent to the schools about this time, as shown by the action of the district at the March meeting of 1862, when it was voted to exclude from the schools all children under four years of age. The committee, who erected a fence around the school grounds, reported that they had set out seven rock maple trees in the school yard, at a cost of \$2.34, which trees are still standing in the yard of Edward Coleman, and are probably worth all that they cost.

In 1863 the district proved its liberality by increasing the salary of the clerk to \$2 per year; it had previously been only \$1 per year.

Repairs on the schoolhouse in 1871 cost some \$400. There was an article in the warrant that year to see if the district would adopt Penacook Academy for their high school, paying to the

academy as much for each scholar who attended there as that scholar's share in the district funds would amount to; but that article in the warrant was passed over by a vote of forty to nineteen. That did not satisfy the friends of the measure, and a special meeting of the district was called on April 15, 1871, when it was decided to adopt the Penacook Academy as high school for the district by a vote of forty-three to thirty-eight. This arrangement with the academy continued in force until 1883. The district paid in all \$1,439.40, an average of \$119.95 for each year.

At the annual meeting of 1875 the district voted to employ male teachers for the winter terms of school, the practice for the last ten years having been to employ female teachers only for both the winter and summer terms.

In 1877 the district again voted to raise the salary of the clerk; this time they made the compensation \$5 per year.

At the next annual meeting, 1878, auditors were first appointed to audit the accounts and report of the prudential committee.

The district established a precedent at the annual meeting of 1881 by instructing the prudential committee to hire Louis J. Rundlett to teach the school for the ensuing year. At this same meeting the district seems to have awakened to the fact that their clerk had been serving for many years for a very limited compensation, as a vote was passed to pay him then \$25. The district further decided to employ a music teacher and a teacher of drawing.

The annual meeting of 1883 fixed the clerk's salary at \$10 per year, and decided to terminate the arrangement with Penacook Academy.

At the annual meeting in 1885 the district voted to adopt the act of the legislature relating to a board of education for control of the schools, and elected the first Board of Education, which consisted of A. C. Alexander, John C. Pearson, and Willis G. Buxton. The clerk of the district, Abraham Hook, having died during the year, after a service of thirty consecutive years, there was a resolution of respect to his memory passed by unanimous vote.

At a special meeting on April 11, 1885, there was a vote passed

for raising the sum of \$1,500 to defray the expense of repairing the schoolhouse; but on August 1st of the same year another meeting was called to see if the district would rescind the action of April 11, and to take action in relation to the purchase of Penacook Academy building and land. A committee was appointed to confer with the proprietors of Penacook Academy, and to report at an adjourned meeting on August 11. At the adjourned meeting the district voted to raise \$3,000 for the purchase of the academy property, and appointed A. C. Alexander, C. J. Ellsworth, and J. C. Pearson a committee to execute the business. The district also voted at this time to sell the old schoolhouse at auction. It was bought by Edward Coleman.

At the annual meeting of 1886 the financial report for the year was made by the Board of Education for the first time. The building committee reported that they had hired \$2,500 for the district, and had received \$1,025 from the sale of the old schoolhouse. They had paid the trustees of Penacook Academy \$3,000 for their property, and had paid out for repairing and furnishing the building the further sum of \$1,260.84, making a total outlay for the new schoolhouse of \$4,260.84.

This was an excellent arrangement for the district, as it secured a fine, large building and ample grounds, well shaded with trees, situated on the main street of the village, and it was purchased at about one fourth of the original cost of the property.

On opening the schools in the new house the number of teachers was increased to three for the first term, and after that to four.

In 1887 the district voted to pay the Board of Education sixty dollars for their services during the past two years, this being at the rate of ten dollars each per year. This district has been fortunate in its officers, and has kept good men in the several positions for long terms. The clerk, Abraham Hook, served the longest term of any officer, a little over thirty years; Hon. John C. Pearson has been chosen moderator for nearly twenty years; Joseph Chandler served about the same number of years as prudential committee, and others on the prudential and superintending committees have served long and faithfully for the manifest benefit of the schools.

The yearly expenses for the schools have increased gradually

each decade, as shown by the following figures: In 1837 the sum was only \$82.34; in 1848, \$214.99; in 1858, \$270.02; in 1868, \$522.52; in 1878, \$1,182.50; in 1888, \$1,422.75; and in 1898, \$1,585.33.

The salaries paid per week to teachers at these several dates, including board, were as follows:

1837, male teachers,	\$5.25	female teachers,	\$2.20
1848, male teachers,	7.50	female teachers,	2.80
1858, male teachers,	12.75	female teachers,	3.75
1868, male teachers,	13.00	female teachers,	7.00
1878, male teachers,	14.00	female teachers,	9.00
1888, male teachers,	15.50	female teachers,	8.00
1898,		female teachers,	\$10.00 to \$12.00

The district paid for board in 1842 as low as 98 cents per week for female teachers, and \$1.00 for men. As late as 1856 the district paid only \$1.50 per week for board of Mary J. Ambrose, and paid her only \$1.75 per week for teaching. Some of the citizens will recall that Miss Ambrose was a daughter of Samuel Ambrose, the tavern keeper at Boscawen Plain, and that she married Prof. John R. Eastman who for thirty years past has been one of the principal astronomers at the naval observatory at Washington.

For building the fires and ringing the bell for the whole year 1851, the district paid \$2.50 to Curtis Flanders, who ten years later was the first man from this village to enlist in the army for the War of the Rebellion, and gave up his life to save the Union.

The cost of fuel in the early days of this school was small, as in 1841 the district paid but \$2.50 per cord for good hard wood.

One of the earliest records of the district is a teacher's certificate which is as follows:

“This may certify that Miss Elizabeth Brown is duly qualified to instruct youth in those branches usually taught in our District schools.
 Dated Fisherville, N.H. } Signed Caleb B. Tracy }
 May 21st 1849 } Edward Buxton } Supt. Committee.”
 Isaac Knight }

These three committee men were all Congregational clergymen. Some of the teachers in the old red schoolhouse were D. Dana, Reuben M. Call, Josiah Stevens, Jr., Stephen H. Folsom, Thomas

Whidden, Richard Morgan, and Peltiah Brown. Also, Mrs. M. Moody, Mrs. Sally Martin, Abia Atkinson, Nancy P. Hosmer, Mary G. Brown, Nancy Call, and Matilda Drown.

The following list comprises nearly, if not quite all, the teachers who have served the district since 1848.

MALE TEACHERS.

Stephen H. Folsom,
 Samuel Batchelder,
 John W. Symonds,
 Philip Hunt,
 W. H. Foster,
 Richard F. Morgan,
 H. L. Burnham,
 Charles M. Emery,
 John French,
 George Long,
 W. E. Walker,
 L. J. Rundlett,
 B. S. Harmon,
 C. S. Murray,
 H. E. Chamberlin,
 Bert E. Holland,
 J. M. Barton,
 G. A. Sanborn,

MALE TEACHERS.

Daniel B. Whittier,
 John A. Kilburn,
 Wm. V. Morrison,
 Henry L. Colby,
 J. E. Pecker,
 Charles Bunker,
 Mr. Kilburn,
 Warren Abbott,
 C. M. Sargent,
 E. Wayne,
 C. A. Caldwell,
 J. M. Marden,
 A. O. Taylor,
 Robert Frame,
 Robert A. Ray,
 C. S. Flanders,
 F. G. Atwell.
 E. K. Smith.

FEMALE TEACHERS.

Elizabeth Brown,
 Abby A. Taylor,
 Nancy P. Hosmer,
 Mrs. J. W. Symonds,
 Miss Hill,
 Betsey Simonds,
 Abby Young,
 Miss Dow,
 Miss C. A. Green,
 Miss L. J. Runnells,
 Sarah Chandler,
 Ellen Daggett,
 E. Webster,
 F. A. Plummer,
 Mary E. Rowell,
 S. E. Moore,
 Susie A. Smith,

FEMALE TEACHERS.

Mary G. Brown,
 Laura J. Taylor,
 Caroline Whittemore,
 Miss Foster,
 M. A. Swett,
 Mary J. Ambrose,
 Miss Riddle,
 Miss Wadleigh,
 Miss A. B. Scales,
 Sarah E. Tenney,
 Susan Locke,
 M. A. Forsaith,
 Ellen K. Abbott,
 Rebecca K. Rowell,
 S. T. Hook,
 Mary E. Kimball,
 Lizzie Smith,

Mary M. Gage,	Lizzie Shepard,
Sadie Gage,	Nellie Eastman,
Eliza Morrison,	Lottie Wallace,
Cordelia A. Sanborn,	Addie A. Butrick,
Ella F. Stone,	Julia E. Flanders,
D. E. E. Hill,	Ida A. Knox,
Nellie Bean,	Hannah Gage,
Miss Wyman,	Addie L. Flanders,
Alice M. Sargent,	M. Grace Caldwell,
Susie A. Hall,	Jennie L. Homans,
G. A. Chandler,	M. E. Pike,
Georgia Chandler,	Miss Robertson.
Lucy Warner,	

Of the male teachers, no one has remained long, but among the female teachers, Ella F. Stone served for fourteen years without a break, and Susie A. Hall has served continuously since 1887, and bids fair to break the former record made by Miss Stone.

LIBRARIES.

The first public library established in this village was the one located at the Batchelder store on Washington square, about the year 1850. This was owned by Mr. Batchelder and books were let out to the citizens, but on what terms can not now be ascertained.

THE FISHERVILLE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

This was a voluntary corporation organized under the general laws of New Hampshire, and the first meeting of the corporators was held on July 21, 1865. The names of the corporators were as follows:

Henry H. Brown, Rev. D. J. Smith, Rev. A. W. Fiske, Isaac K. Gage, John S. Brown, William H. Allen, Nehemiah Butler, Calvin Gage, Abial Rolfe, Rev. Ira E. Kenny, Rev. W. R. Jewett, Abner B. Winn.

The by-laws of the Association were adopted August 5, 1865, and the first board of officers were elected on August 7, as follows: President, Nehemiah Butler; secretary, Isaac K. Gage; treasurer, William H. Allen; trustees, Henry H. Brown, Rev. Ira E. Kenny, and N. Butler. The capital stock of the association was limited to \$10,000, and the par value of the shares was placed at \$5. There were issued in all eighty-five shares of stock for

which the treasurer received \$425. The ladies of the village were actively engaged in starting the library. Mrs. Lucretia Brown (wife of Deacon H. H. Brown) started the work of raising funds, and secured a gift of \$100 from Francis Fisher, of Boston, one of the men for whom the village was named. Abial R. Chandler, of Lawrence, a former resident of the village, contributed \$100. Mrs. Francis M. Winn was also one of the ladies who secured a large amount of subscriptions.

It appears that a *Ladies' Library Association* was formed at about the same time as the corporation, and was a strong support of the corporation in financial matters, as they contributed cash from subscriptions, etc., \$819.13, and cash from proceeds of fairs and levees \$527.47—in all \$1,346.60.

The first purchase of books was paid December 14, 1865, to Graves & Young, Boston, Mass., amounting to \$421.22, and the total amount expended for new books during the existence of the corporation, was \$1,626.44. The library was first located in the carpet-room of the Allen store. It was afterwards moved in 1869 to the old Gage store on the Boscawen side. It was next moved, in 1876, to the Penacook academy and placed in care of Rev. A. C. Hardy, principal of the school, who took all care of the books with no charge for services as librarian or for room rent, the consideration being the free use of the books by his scholars. In 1880 the library was moved to Sanders block. In 1882 it was again moved to Chadwick's block on Main street, and in 1886 it was moved for the last time to the Coburn block over the canal.

The librarians were Sarah P. Gage, William H. Allen, Nellie Eastman, Annie Gage, Luther C. Gage, Mary H. Gage, Rev. A. C. Hardy, Charles H. Sanders, and Mary Durgin. The salary of librarian was \$26 per year. Rev. A. W. Fiske did considerable work for the Library Association preparing the catalogue, etc. Rev. W. R. Jewett also was employed at times in covering and repairing the books.

The largest number of books owned at any time, as recorded in secretary's book, was 1,466, in 1884.

As early as 1883 the Library Association appointed a committee to confer with the trustees of the Concord Public Library to see what arrangements could be made for transferring the library

to Concord, but as there is no record of a report by that committee, it would appear that they could not make the desired arrangements. In 1886 the name was changed to Penacook Library Association.

There were but three presidents of the Association, Nehemiah Butler, elected in 1865, followed by William H. Allen in 1879, and by Willis G. Buxton in 1885.

The secretaries were Isaac K. Gage in 1865, George S. Morrill in 1866, Stewart I. Brown in 1869, C. H. Sanders in 1880, Stewart I. Brown in 1881, and Edmund H. Brown in 1886.

The treasurers were William H. Allen elected in 1865, Charles M. Rolfe in 1876, Charles H. Sanders in 1878, and Edmund H. Brown in 1888.

In 1888 this library was consolidated with the city library at Concord, and arrangements made for delivering books from the city library to the citizens of the village, without extra charge.

About 1856 there was a small library owned by the Philologian Society and used by the members of that society only. It was kept in the upper hall of Graphic block, which was the home of that society. The books were distributed among the members of the society at the dissolution of the society.

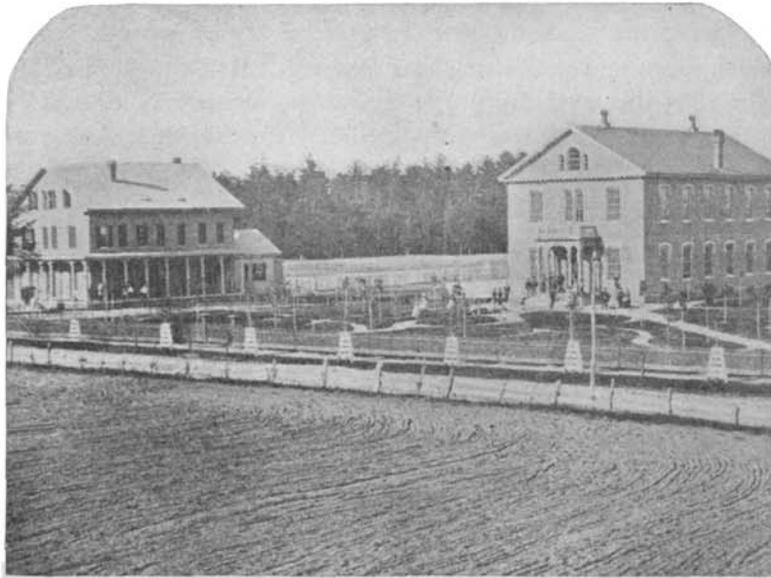
PENACOOK ACADEMY.

A number of citizens of Fisherville met on January 26, 1866, and formed an association, under the state laws, to be called Penacook Academy. The original stockholders of this academy were Henry H. Brown, John S. Brown, Calvin Gage, Isaac K. Gage, Ira E. Kenney, Healey Morse, Nehemiah Butler, and David A. Brown, of whom John S. Brown alone remains at this date (1901). On February 2d the stockholders voted that the trustees should erect suitable school buildings upon the lot of land which had been donated by William H. Gage, for that purpose. The school building was erected at an expense of \$15,000, and the rooms were opened for pupils on November 6, 1866. The first board of teachers consisted of Monroe Weed, A. M., Mrs. Mary A. Weed, Miss Eliza T. Moore, and Prof. John Jackman.

Professor Weed died in June, 1867, and was succeeded by A. C. Stockin, A. M., who remained as principal of the academy for

about two years. The next in succession was Joseph F. Fielden, A. M., who took the position in the spring of 1869.

Hiram Lawrence was elected principal and began his service in the summer of 1870; he remained but two years and was followed by Prof. E. C. Allen in 1872. The school had, during these years, received hardly enough patronage to make it successful, and was a constant expense on the hands of the stockholders.



PENACOOK ACADEMY, 1866.

In the spring of 1871, the Boscawen school district, No. 14, voted to adopt the Penacook academy as their high school, allowing the advanced scholars to attend the academy, and for their tuition paid to the academy a sum equal to what their schooling would cost in the district school. This arrangement was a help to the academy as well as a good thing for the district. It was quite a material support to the financial affairs of the academy.

In 1875 Rev. A. C. Hardy came to the village from Portsmouth, and made an arrangement with the trustees to take charge of the school and run it on his own responsibility. He changed the name to "Penacook Normal Academy," enlarged the course of study, engaged a larger number of teachers, and opened with

bright prospects for a successful school. He continued his labors for three years, but could not make it a financial success, and so felt obliged to give up the enterprise.

The trustees then employed C. A. Caldwell, who remained two years. In 1880 Rev. J. H. Larry took the school, renamed it the "School of Practice," and put so much life and energy into the enterprise that it was quite a successful school for some three years.

In 1883 district No. 14 decided to discontinue sending scholars to the academy, thereby withdrawing considerable financial support, and the school was closed.

In 1885 the academy property was purchased by district No. 14, and the building was remodeled inside, fitting it for use of the district schools.

HOTELS AND LANDLORDS.

The number of hotels in the village has been but two, except for a limited time. The first hotel, or tavern, was built by Capt. John Chandler, on the Boscawen side of the river in 1787, and has been kept open as a hotel from that date to the present day. It is now known as the Penacook House.



PENACOOK HOUSE (1787).

Captain Chandler was a large landowner and energetic business man. Some of his descendants have always resided in the village. His granddaughter, Harriet Chandler, at the age of eighty-three is still (1899) in excellent health physically and mentally. The brothers, William P. and Fred G. Chandler, are descendants in the fourth generation.

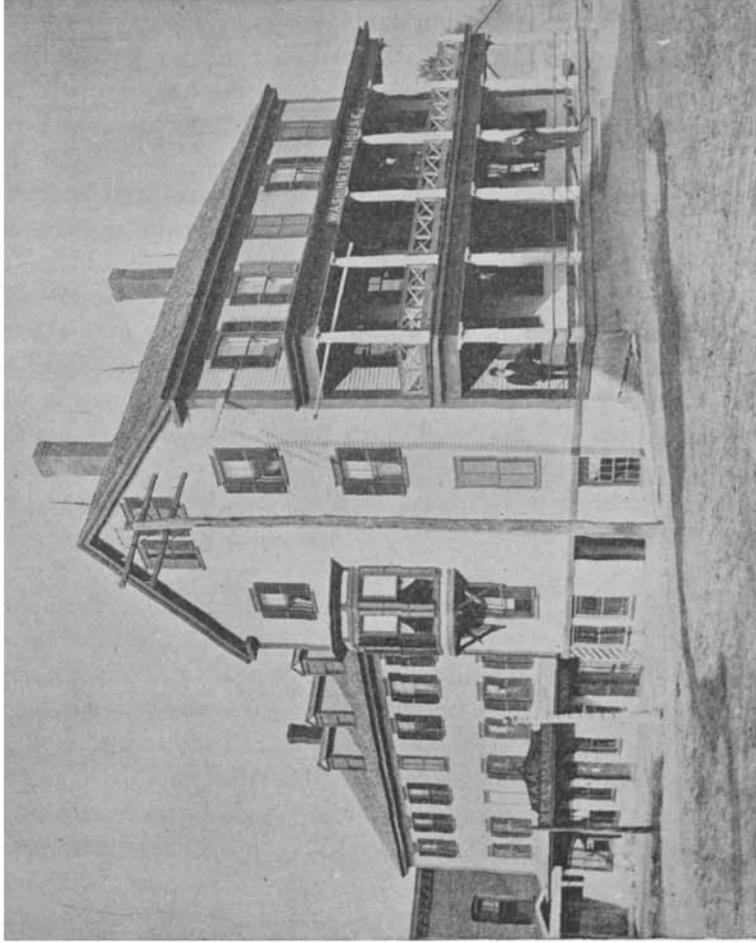
Captain Chandler remained as landlord for thirty-one years, and firmly established an excellent reputation for the house, which has been maintained most of the time for the one hundred and twelve years of its existence.

In 1818 Reuben Johnson, son-in-law of Captain Chandler, took the position of landlord and held it successfully for twenty-two years. The sons of Mr. Johnson moved to Minnesota in 1854, but one daughter—the widow of the late Isaac K. Gage—still resides in the house built and occupied by her father in his later years. Luther Johnson succeeded his father in the management of the hotel in 1840, and was also engaged in trade at the old store nearly opposite the hotel. He had the honor of being the first postmaster of the village.

Samuel Ambrose was the next landlord from 1850 to 1855, and was later landlord for many years at the old hotel at Boscawen Plain. None of his family now resides here. Healey Morse, father of our estimable citizen, George A. Morse, kept the house from 1855 to 1860.

For the next two years the house was kept by a Mr. Blake, and by "Jockey" Stevens. In 1862 the house was purchased by Hannibal Bonney, who is still the landlord after a service of thirty-nine years. Mrs. Bonney has been a notable landlady whose table has been famous for many years, and is still most highly esteemed. Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Bonney this house has attained its highest reputation as a well-kept hotel. Mr. Bonney served his country as a soldier in the regular army as early as 1835, and had a varied and romantic career before settling down as a landlord here.

The Washington House, on the Concord side of the river, was built in 1847 by John Sawyer and Joseph Eastman. There have been eleven landlords since the house was opened, their names being as follows: George Dame, J. S. Durgin, A. M. Hoffman,



WASHINGTON HOUSE, WASHINGTON SQUARE.

Augustus Hutchinson, George Craft, Ira C. Edgerly, Charles Morrison, John C. Morrison, Gilman Shaw, John Hopkins, and Cornelius O'Brien.

The most notable of these was Maj. Jeremiah S. Durgin, who took the house about 1852. He was a major in the militia and served four years in the army during the Civil War, entering the service as captain of the company which he enlisted in the village, and which went into the Seventh Regiment, N. H. Vols. He was mustered out as a major. His three sons, Abner, Hiram, and



CENTRAL HOUSE.

Scott, were also in the army. Hiram was killed at the second Bull Run battle.

The Cutler House, corner of Washington and Main street, was fitted up as a hotel in 1898, and is doing quite a large business. Mr. Cutler also conducts a bakery and caters for public and private parties. The name of his house was changed in 1901 to the Central House, and is owned by Isaac Baty.

POST-OFFICE AND POSTMASTERS.

A post-office was established in the village in June, 1843, upon petition of William H. and Isaac K. Gage, who went to Concord

and laid the case before Governor Hill, and the department at Washington established the office on request of the governor. Luther G. Johnson was appointed postmaster June 26, 1843, and opened an office in the old store opposite the tavern on the Boscawen side.

At that date the postage on a letter was six and one fourth cents (fourpence), if carried less than thirty miles; if carried over thirty and under eighty miles the postage was ten cents; for over eighty and under one hundred and fifty miles, twelve and one half cents (ninepence); over one hundred and fifty and less than four hundred miles, eighteen and three fourths cents, and if over four hundred miles, the postage was twenty-five cents. If the letter weighed one ounce, four times these rates were charged, so if anyone wanted to send a letter to New York weighing one ounce, the postage required was one dollar. Postage on newspapers within the state where published was one cent; out of the state, one and one-half cents. Two years later, in 1845, the rate for letters of one half ounce weight, carried under three hundred miles, was five cents, and over three hundred miles, ten cents. In 1851 the rate on one-half ounce letters for any distance under 3,000 miles was fixed at three cents, if prepaid, or five cents if not prepaid; and drop letters were put down to one cent each. Postage stamps and stamped envelopes were first issued in 1852, and the present rate—two cents for one-ounce letters, any distance within the United States,—came into effect in 1875. Postage stamps were introduced in the United States in 1847, and stamped envelopes in 1851. Money orders were established in 1864, and the railroad post-office also organized in 1864. Registered letters came into use in 1855. Free delivery in cities was first begun in 1872, and postal cards made their appearance in May, 1873.

When the office was established prepayment of postage was optional, and there were always a considerable number of letters lying in the post-office, because parties to whom they were addressed did not find it convenient to pay the postage and take the letters. Previous to the establishment of the office in Penacook the residents on the Boscawen side had to get their mail matter from the office at Boscawen Plain, and residents on the

Concord side had to use the West Concord office. Postal cards were then undreamed of. Letters and mail matter were sometimes forwarded by the teamsters, who drove the big four- and six-horse freight wagons to and from Boston and the towns in New Hampshire and Vermont. Neighbors in going to the post-office carried mail matter for the families in their vicinity. The regular conveyance for the mails at this date was the stage lines, this being before the railroad was built through the village.

The second postmaster was Isaac K. Gage, who was appointed August 26, 1846, and he continued the office in the same old store on the Boscawen side.

For the third term of the office Luther G. Johnson was again appointed postmaster February 9, 1849. He retained the office in the same location as before, but resigned after one year's service to remove to the West.

Greenough McQuesten, the fourth postmaster, was appointed May 4, 1850. He was a bookkeeper at the store of H. H. & J. S. Brown, and moved the office May 21, 1850, to the Coburn block, on the Concord side. His daughter Myra was his assistant, and was a very capable and efficient clerk.

The fifth postmaster was John Ellsworth, uncle of Charles J. Ellsworth. He was appointed April 6, 1853, and held the office for two terms. He was previously in charge of the old carding mill on Commercial street. His youngest daughter, Mary (Polly), was the assistant, who will be remembered by the older residents as a beautiful young woman and the leading alto singer of the Congregational choir.

The next, sixth in office, was Dana W. Pratt, who was appointed January 18, 1861. Mr. Pratt was a man of more than ordinary ability, but not as popular a man with the public as some of his predecessors in office. He was previously a dry goods merchant at the old Allen store. His assistants in the post-office were Miss Myra McQuesten and his niece, Mary Pratt.

The seventh postmaster was Samuel F. Brown, who was appointed January 18, 1865, and served four successive terms, a longer period than any of the postmasters up to the present date. Mr. Brown was one of the five Brown brothers who came to the village in 1843 to engage in manufacturing. He was overseer of

the weaving department at the Penacook mill for many years previous to 1861, when he enlisted in the band of the Third Regiment, N. H. Vols., and went to the front. He moved the office to the east end of the Coburn block, to the store now occupied by Wm. F. Hoyt. His assistants in the post-office were his wife and Miss Sarah Ames.

The eighth postmaster was Luther Gage, who was appointed December 15, 1880, and held the position for two terms. On



COBURN BLOCK, POST-OFFICE.

July 28, 1883, the name of the office was changed from Fishersville to Penacook. This was done on petition of the citizens, and mainly by the efforts of Isaac K. Gage. Mr. Gage had for assistant in the post-office his son, Luther C. Gage.

The ninth postmaster was John H. Rolfe, who was appointed February 16, 1888. Mr. Rolfe was of the fourth generation in the Rolfe family, original settlers of the Concord side, and one of the most popular men in that sterling old family. His aptitude for public affairs has kept him in some official position for many years, his longest term of service being foreman of Pioneer Engine

company, which office he has held for over twenty years. His assistants in the post-office were his wife and Miss Lydia Rolfe.

The tenth postmaster was Luther C. Gage (son of Luther Gage, postmaster in 1880), who was appointed January 15, 1891. He held the office but one term, and had for assistants his wife and father.

The eleventh postmaster, Leander C. Prescott, was appointed January 15, 1895. Mr. Prescott was one of the millers at Stratton & Co.'s flour mill, and as he retained his position there, he could give but little time to the post-office business. He was, however, ably represented by his first assistant, John B. Dodge, a man universally respected and esteemed by the whole community. The other assistant was Miss Hattie Smith, a niece of Postmaster Prescott.

The twelfth and last postmaster, Horace B. Sherburne, was appointed January 19, 1899. Mr. Sherburne is also engaged in the insurance business in company with Hon. Willis G. Buxton. Since he assumed the office the Penacook office has been united to the Concord office, and the name is now Penacook Station, Concord, N. H. Another change was made in 1899 by extending the free delivery system to this office, two carriers being at first employed. Letter boxes were placed in various parts of the village, so that the citizens now enjoy about as good postal facilities as the citizens in the city. The present assistants in the post-office are Mrs. Sherburne and Miss Hattie Tucker. In 1900 free rural delivery was established at this office, beginning with two routes, and another route was added soon after.

CHAPTER IV.

ENGINE COMPANIES, FIRES, ETC.

On March 21, 1844, Reuben Johnson, Richard Gage, Jeremiah Kimball, Timothy Abbott, John S. Brown, and their associates, met at the Union schoolhouse and formed themselves into a company to be known as the Fisherville Fire Engine Co. No. 1, and adopted a code of by-laws for the government of the organization. These provided that the company should consist of at least twenty-