

GAZETTEER
— AND —
BUSINESS DIRECTORY
— OF —
RUTLAND COUNTY, VT.,
— FOR —
1881-82.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY
HAMILTON CHILD,

AUTHOR OF WAYNE, ONTARIO, SENECA, CAYUGA, TOMPKINS, ONONDAGA, MADISON,
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COLUMBIA, SULLIVAN, SCHOHARIE, OTSEGO, ULSTER, CHAUTAUQUA, ST.
LAWRENCE, BROOME AND TIOGA, CATTARAUGUS, ALLEGANY, AND
OTHER COUNTY DIRECTORIES IN NEW YORK STATE, AND ERIE
AND CRAWFORD COUNTIES, THE BRADFORD OIL DISTRICT IN
PENNSYLVANIA, AND BENNINGTON COUNTY, VERMONT.

PERMANENT OFFICE, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

"He that hath much to do, will do something wrong, and of that wrong must suffer the consequences; and if it were possible that he should always act rightly, yet when such numbers are to judge of his conduct, the bad will censure and obstruct him by malevolence, and the good sometimes by mistake."—SAMUEL JOHNSON.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.:
PRINTED AT THE JOURNAL OFFICE,
August, 1881.

committee chosen for that purpose, and the town voted to build a church thereon, thirty-six feet in length, twenty feet in breadth, and a story and a half in height. This tract is situated on a rise of ground about midway between the Pond bridge and Pond Mountain, and on the north side of the road. The church was built in 1790, but was never entirely finished. This was the first house erected in the town for public worship, and used in common by all, and after having been abandoned as a church it was for many years used as a barn, and was finally blown down during a storm, on March 27, 1847. On the same tract of land with the meeting-house, was laid out, also, the first burial-ground, where lie buried many of the first settlers of the town.

The Universalist Church, located at Wells village, was erected in 1855, on the site occupied by the old church, built in 1821. Rev. Aaron Kinsman was the first settled minister, locating here in 1821. There is no resident pastor at present.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, located at Wells Corners, was organized about the year 1810, with Rev. Anthony Price as pastor. The first house of worship was erected in 1802, which was succeeded by the present edifice in 1842, which was built at a cost of \$1,500, and will comfortably seat 200 persons. The present value of the church property is about \$1,000. Rev. J. Phillips is at present pastor.

St. Paul's Church, (Episcopal), located at Wells village, was organized by Rev. P. Dyer, April 27, 1844. The building was erected in 1840, at a cost of \$1,800, and will comfortably seat 150 persons. The property is at present valued at \$2,000. Rev. E. J. Randall is at present pastor, with a membership of twenty-one.

WESTHAVEN, the most westerly town of Rutland County, is located in lat. 43° 36' and long. 3° 44' east from Washington, and is bounded north by Benson, east by Fairhaven, south by Poultney River, which separates it from Whitehall, N. Y., and west by Lake Champlain.

The surface of the township is quite uneven, several ridges of mountainous hills passing through different parts of the town, mostly in a north and south direction. The largest of these, called Ball Mountain, located in the southern part of the town, contains about 4000 acres of land, entirely worthless for purposes of cultivation. The country is watered by several small streams, the principal of which are Hubbardton River and Cogmen Creek. Hubbardton River flows through the eastern part of the township and empties into East Bay, about one mile below Carver's Falls. Cogmen Creek rises in Root's Pond, in Benson, passing through the township about three miles west from Hubbardton River, also emptying into East Bay.

The soil varies, and taken as a whole is not much different from that of the adjoining towns, clay, perhaps, predominating. The timber is that common to all mountain districts of Vermont.

In 1880 Westhaven had a population of 492; it was divided into seven school districts and had seven common schools, employing two male and six female teachers, at an aggregate salary of \$807.50. There were ninety-four pupils attending common school, and the whole cost of the schools for the year ending October 31st, was \$1,031.13. S. R. Hitchcock was superintendent.

WESTHAVEN, (p. o.) a hamlet located in the central part of the township, contains a church, one store and post-office, one blacksmith shop and about eight dwellings.

Hunt's Cheese Factory, located on road 23, was built in 1875. It now uses the milk from 140 cows, from which is manufactured 40,000 lbs. of cheese per annum.

J. & H. Adams & Co's boat-yard, located on East Bay, was established about thirty years ago. They manufacture from one to six canal boats annually, employing from five to twenty-three men.

J. P. Hunt's saw-mill, spoke and ax helve manufactory, located on Hubbardton River, near road 12, manufactures about 75,000 feet of lumber, 500 sets of spokes and 200 dozen ax-helves annually.

Westhaven was originally included within the limits of the township of Fairhaven, chartered by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont on the 27th day of October, A. D., 1779. By an Act of the Legislature approved October 20, 1792, the township was divided and formed into two townships, the eastern part retaining the name of Fairhaven, and the west taking the name of Westhaven. The name, Westhaven, was adopted by the inhabitants of Fairhaven at a town meeting held March 27, 1792, and for the reason, without doubt, that it was the west part of the original town. The question of the division of the township appears to have been agitated a great deal by the early settlers, and they were not entirely harmonious on the subject of the dividing line between the two towns. Twenty of the citizens of the town, residing between Muddy Brook and Hubbardton River, in the central part of the township, remonstrated against the division. The town of Westhaven took about three-fifths of the area of the original township, leaving to Fairhaven the remaining two-fifths. The two towns were jointly to elect one Representative to the General Assembly. This they continued to do until the annual election in 1823, when separate elections were held. Previous to this time, the annual Freemen's meetings were held, sometimes at the school-house near Mr. Minot's, in Westhaven, and at other times at the school-house near Mr. Stannard's, in Fairhaven, the people of both towns meeting together and having at times a good deal of sectional feeling in regard to their affairs.

The settlement of the present town of Westhaven was not begun to any extent until the year 1783. Previous to this, and it is believed before the chartering of the township, Benoni Hulbert had made a claim and commenced some small improvements near the intersection of Hubbardton and

Poultney rivers ; but it is not known that he became a resident of the township until the year 1781. How long he remained in the town is not known. It was but a few years at most.

In 1782 Beriah Mitchell, of Woodbury, Conn., began some improvements in the township, where he continued to reside until 1786, when he returned to Connecticut.

Early in the year 1783 Capt. Eleazer Dudley and family, and Abijah Peet, also from Woodbury, settled in the township and began the work of clearing a farm, a little west of where Nathaniel Fish lately resided. Wm. Dudley was the first town clerk of Fairhaven and was interested in several proprietary shares in the township. In 1788 he sold his interest to Dr. Simeon Smith and removed from the town. John Howes, also from Woodbury, Elijah Tryon, of Granville, Mass., John and Henry Cramer and others, came the same year. In 1784 Hiram Barlow, an early settler of Tinmouth, and Cornelius Bronson, of Woodbury, came. In 1786 Benjamin and Cooley Weller, and Benjamin Chippann, settled on the west side of Ball Mountain, on what has since been known as the "Benjamin farm." During this year, James McCottin, from Pennsylvania, came into town and erected the first grist-mill, near where Michael Blake now resides. The first saw-mill was erected in 1785, on the lower fall on Hubbardton River, since known as "The Hunt Mill."

Dr. Simeon Smith, from Sharon, Conn., came to Westhaven in 1787, locating on the premises first settled by Capt. Dudley. Dr. Smith had been a druggist and trader in Connecticut, was a physician by profession and had been compelled by business misfortunes to leave Connecticut and seek his fortune in another country. He became at once the leading and most prominent business man in the vicinity, and at his death, February 27th, 1804, he bequeathed the town \$1,000, which was to be kept at compound interest at six per cent. for a term of sixty years, at the expiration of which time the accruing interest of the accumulated fund should be appropriated to the schooling of youth, to have one good grammar school kept in Westhaven, the overplus to be used for the benefit of other schools and the support of Gospel ministry, and if any over, for the support of the poor and needy in said town. The subsequent accruing interest became available after July 13th, 1868, and at that time the fund amounted to \$22,996.69. Had it not been for an early loss of \$100.00 of principal, and loss of interest while waiting for investments, the sum would have reached nearer its possible earnings, \$32,987.69.

About 1790 the first store was started, located on the knoll north-east of where J. G. Briggs now resides, Smith & Woodward, proprietors ; the business was afterwards carried on at the same place by Charles Rice and Bohan Shepard, and later by Shipherd, Rice and Higgins. Another store was kept near where Mrs. Adaline Hitchcock now resides, by Lemuel Hyde and John Bronson. The firm was dissolved prior to 1800, and the business continued

at the same place by John Van Allen, and perhaps others, for a few years, and then discontinued. A carding machine and clothing works were established by Erastus Coleman, on the upper falls of Hubbardton River, about the year 1802, and continued for about thirty years, when he erected a woolen factory on the same ground and continued in the manufacture of woolen cloth until 1844, since which time the building has been taken down and all business discontinued at that place.

Oliver Church, from New Marlboro, Mass., purchased, June 30, 1780, of Samuel Allen, of Tinmouth, the right of Nathan Clark in the town of Fairhaven. He did not become an inhabitant of the town until about ten years afterwards. In 1801 he removed to the farm first settled by Hiram Barlow, and continued his residence there until his death, in 1826. In the year 1800 he married Lucy Barker, who survived him a number of years, dying in 1859, aged 76. Of their large family there are now living, Mrs. Calista Adum, in Westhaven, Mrs. Lucy Tyler, in Portland, N. Y., and Oliver Church, in Pike, N. Y. During all the period that he resided in the town, Esquire Church, as he was called, was a prominent and influential citizen. He represented the towns of Westhaven and Fairhaven in the Legislature of the State, in the years 1803, 1806, 1807, 1810, 1811 and 1819. He held the office of justice of the peace for many years, and possessed the confidence of the people of the town in a remarkable degree, doing almost all the conveyancing and justice business for many years.

Samuel Adams, from Suffield, Conn., came to Westhaven in 1792, with his wife, four sons and one daughter, locating on road 6, upon the farm now owned by his grandson, Samuel. Horace resided with his father upon the old homestead until his father's death, when the property reverted to him. He was a popular and influential citizen, and a representative in the General Assembly three years. He died March 28, 1866, aged 82 years. At his death the property came into the possession of his son, Samuel, who still retains it. Samuel represented the town in 1864 and 1865, and has for a number of years held the office of justice of the peace.

Oliver Hitchcock was born March 12, 1776, at Bristol, Conn. He came to Vermont early in the present century, but did not permanently settle in Westhaven until 1821. He was well known to "old stagers" of fifty years ago as the jolly landlord of the "Gleason Stand." Willard, Miriam, Oliver Franklin, Alman and Rollin, were all children of Oliver, and were all residents of Westhaven for a number of years. One only, Rollin, now resides in the township, he having one son residing near him, on the Downs farm, and another, Oliver Orville, residing with him on the old homestead. Willard, eldest son of Oliver, was born in Bristol, Conn., July 22, 1799. He married Adaline Welton in 1822, came to Vermont in 1832, and bought the place now owned by William Preston, near the Apollos Smith place. Mr. Hitchcock here, associated with a Mr. Hill, also from Connecticut, established a depot and salesroom for the "Terry Mantel Clock." They employed ped-

dlers, and, though almost the first in the enterprise, soon furnished Vermont with plenty of these time-keepers, many of which—hair-locks—are running yet. After a few years, on account of failing health, Mr. Hitchcock removed to the old homestead, where he died in 1842, leaving a widow and four children, of whom Mrs. Hitchcock, Willard L. and Anna, are still living in the township,—Mrs. H. at the age of 77 years.

Gideon Briggs, from Deerfield, Mass., came to Castleton early in the present century, and subsequently settled in Westhaven in 1824, locating upon the farm now owned by John Carty, on road 24. He died in Castleton in 1857, aged 81 years. His wife, Hannah, died in 1861, aged 76 years. Their son, Justus Briggs, now resides upon the Gilbert place, on road 9½. He married Sarah Ann Harrington, and has a family of one son and two daughters, all residing at home.

James Field came to Westhaven, with his son, in 1834, locating on what is called the Com farm. He died March 6, 1851, in his 73d year. His wife, Hannah, died April 10, 1856, aged 73 years. His son, Rodney, located upon the farm now owned by V. H. Forbes, in 1835, remaining there one year, when he removed to the place he now occupies on road 9.

James Adams came to Westhaven from Somerset, England, in 1830, locating upon the farm now owned by his sons, James, Henry and George, on road 23. He is still living at the age of 86 years.

The First Baptist Church, located at the village of Westhaven, was organized in 1803, consisting at its organization of only nine members, with William Ellis Patterson as their first pastor. The society now has thirty-four members, but no settled minister. The church building was erected in 1831, at a cost of \$2,000, and will seat 200 persons. The property is now valued at \$8,000.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

DR. W. H. SPENCER, Dentist, at Poultney, Middletown and Castleton, publishes a card on page 306. His admonition should be followed. "Don't Neglect your Teeth."

S. D. WILLIAMS, the popular Boot and Shoe dealer, at Fairhaven, is doing a thriving business. Those in want of "boot gear" will do well to call on him. See his card, on page 306.

O. C. MARTIN, of Benson, breeder of pure blood merino sheep, publishes a card on page 260. Mr. Martin has for near twenty years been in the business, and for several years has taken particular pains to keep his stock pure. He will fill orders with fidelity and to the interests of his customers. He also breeds Jersey cattle and fine horses.

WM. SIMPSON, of the Rutland Steam Dye Works, is a thoroughly practical dyer. He was for many years foreman dyer in one of the largest cloth factories in Galashiels, Scotland. Do not be afraid to trust him with your goods; he knows how to handle every fabric, and keeps to the front in all the newest styles of colors. His work, he claims to be equal to any done in the country. See his card, on page 306.

HISTORY
OF
RUTLAND COUNTY
VERMONT.

*WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF SOME OF ITS PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS*

EDITED BY
H. P. SMITH AND W. S. RANN

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
D. MASON & CO., PUBLISHERS

1886

The only post-office of the town is at this village ; it was presided over in early years by Levi Lewis, who was followed by Orlin Lewis. William H. Hull took the office about 1860, to about eight years ago, when R. W. Goodrich took it for about two years ; he was followed by J. C. Dean one year, and he by O. R. Hopson, the present official.

CHAPTER XLIII.

HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF WESTHAVEN.

WESTHAVEN, the most westerly town in Rutland county, lies just east of Lake Champlain, and is bounded on the north by Benson, on the east by Fairhaven, and on the south by the Poultney River, separating it from Whitehall, N. Y.

The surface of this town is rough and broken, the various ridges which cross it extending generally north and south. Bald Mountain, occupying the entire southern extremity of the town, contains about 4,000 acres of land which by its rough and irregular elevation renders it almost impossible of cultivation. The town is separated from Fairhaven by a natural barrier called the Great Ledge, which is not, however, so high nor steep as to offer any serious obstacle to highway travel. The country is drained by several small streams, of which the largest are Hubbardton River and Cogman's Creek, the former entering the eastern part of the town from the north and flowing into Poultney River about a mile west of Carver's Falls, while the latter flows in a parallel course about two miles farther west.

The territory of Westhaven was originally included in the town of Fairhaven, chartered by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont, October 27, 1779. The warning for the March meeting in 1792 proposed for the people, among other considerations, "to see if they will agree to petition the Legislature of this State to divide this town into two, and to see if they can agree on a dividing line." James Witherell and Lemuel Hyde were constituted agents to present the petition to the Legislature. At another meeting, on the 22d of the same month, on the question as to the location of the dividing line, the vote stood against placing it at "Mud Brook" forty-eight to nine ; Hubbardton River, forty-eight to nine, and in favor of the present line from Poultney River to a line on the hill parallel with the west line of Brooks's lot, thence along the Great Ledge to Benson, forty-eight to seven. At an adjourned meeting on March 27, it was voted that this part of the territory be called Westhaven. By an act of the Legislature, approved on the 20th of the following October, the separation was confirmed.

The petition of Messrs Witherell and Hyde to the Legislature, convened at Rutland on the 8th of October, contained the following reasons why the division should be effected:—

“ 1st, Because ‘ the public road goes more than 16 miles from the north-west to the southeast corner, at which extremes the town is inhabited.’

“ 2d, Because it is 13 miles from the southwest corner to the east side of the town.

“ 3d, Because there is a ‘ Great Ledge,’ which nearly divides the east from the west part.

“ 4th, The west part of the town having better land than the east part, yet a large share of it remaining in a state of uncultivation; and the east part having natural accommodations for water works, and great roads through it, makes it consider its future importance;— so that each part has its expenses while not considering the expenses of the other part, they cannot agree on a center as one town, yet when divided there is not the least difficulty, each being ready to agree on a center for itself.

“ 5th, The town being longer than a 6 mile square town, the inhabitants have always expected to be divided, and although at times they might disagree about the place where to divide, yet each extreme has scarcely ever failed of wishing to get rid of the other, which has at times created difficulties which we do not wish to mention.”

Against this petition the following persons protested that “ they think the town so small that a division will be injurious, the Grand List being only £2283 and 10s., the number of freemen not exceeding one hundred, and the land on the west of the line of a vastly superior quality, therefore they pray that the town may not be divided:— but if it is to be, that the dividing line may extend so far westward as to take in one-half of the whole number of acres in the town, and so far as to Hubbardton River”: Samuel Stannard, Alexander McCotter, John Howes, Isaac Turner, Abraham Utter, Jonathan Orms, John Warren, Amos Lay, Russel Smith, Ansel Merritt, Martin Merritt, James Merritt, Daniel Cushman, Philip Priest, Timothy Goodrich, Daniel Munger, Peter Cramer, Henry Cramer, jr., Dan Smith, Joel Hamilton.

The two towns, however, continued jointly to elect one representative to the General Assembly until 1823, since which time the elections have been separate.

The settlement of Westhaven is contemporary with that of its sister town. It may be inferred from the language of the charter of Fairhaven and from the general disturbance of affairs at the time, that during the War for Independence the territory of the town was not extensively occupied or improved.

“ Along the shore of the lake and the borders of the bay and rivers there were a few settlements commenced, as will be seen by subsequent records, but mainly the town was a wilderness, inhabited by wild beasts and traversed by

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hunters' trails. We hear of bears and wolves in the town after it began to be settled, and it is probable that the deer had within our ancient borders many a favorite haunt and runway."¹

Major Ebenezer Allen, of Tinmouth, and Captain Isaac Clark, of Castleton, had a "hunting camp" on one of the ledges in Westhaven, not far from the Benson line from which paths radiated in various directions, before the town was chartered. The proprietors met at this camp on the 21st of August, 1780, to begin the survey of the proprietary pitches. They allowed Major Allen the privilege of covering with a proprietary right a tract in the north part of this town which he had purchased of Joseph Hyde; and Benoni Hurlburt a similar privilege with a lot, on the bank of East Bay, which he sold in July, 1784, to Luman Stone, of Litchfield, Conn. Carver's Falls seem to have derived their name from one Joseph Carver, who, together with Joseph Haskins, Jonathan Hall and John Vandozer, claimed to have been unjustly deprived of possessions in the vicinity which they had improved, "having fled" from southern New England to this State to "resume its liberties and promote its interests." He does not, however, seem to have effected a permanent settlement here. Samuel Stannard, afterward a resident of Fairhaven, resided for a time in the western part of Westhaven. In 1872 Beriah Mitchell came from Woodbury, Conn., to Westhaven by the way of Castleton, and settled on the farm now occupied by Mrs. Adelaide Hitchcock and her son, Willard. He was constable in 1784, and a leading man. He returned to Connecticut in 1786. The place passed from his hands into his brother's, Ichabod Mitchell, who came here about 1783, and kept a public house at the corner of the road.

James Ball and Perley Starr, together, bought the original right of John Fassett, jr., near where Rodney Field lives, and early began improving the same. They left in a short time.

Sometime before April, 1783, Captain Eleazer Dudley and Abijah Peet, both from Woodbury, Conn., settled in town, the former on or near the old school lot about where Mrs. Maria Abell now resides, and the latter farther north. Thomas Dixon came from Castleton about this time and settled on the Benson line, next north of Mr. Peet's. John Howe, of Woodbury, Conn., Elijah Tryon, of Granville, Mass. and Elisha Frisbie, John and Henry Cramer, lived in the east part of the town. Timothy Lindsley and others came the same year from Connecticut and were closely followed by Heman Barlow, Cornelius Brownson, David Sanford, Samuel Lee, Amos and John McKinstry and others. John Howe occupied the present farm of John Moon, and Elijah Tryon settled on the place still occupied by his grandson, Cyrus W. Tryon. In 1786 Benjamin and Cooley Weller and Benjamin Chippann located on the west side of Bald Mountain on the place since known as the Benjamin farm. James McCotter, from Pennsylvania, came this year and erected the first grist-

¹A. N. Adams's *History of Fairhaven*.

mill on the place now owned and occupied by Michael Blake. The first saw-mill stood on the lower fall on Hubbardton River, and is now known as the Hunt mill.

In the early part of 1785 Charles Rice came to Fairhaven from Brookfield, Mass., and was first constable in that town in 1793 and 1794. Late in 1795 he removed to Westhaven and kept a tavern on the place occupied a few years ago by Nathaniel Fish, and now occupied by Mrs. Maria Abell. His wife, Abigail, sister to Isaac Cutler, of Fairhaven, died June 19, 1820. He died in Canada, whither he had removed before the War of 1812. His tavern sign read:

"Nothing on this side, and nothing on t'other;
Nothing in the house, nor in the stable either."

Dr. Simeon Smith came from Sharon, Conn., in 1787, being compelled to retrieve his declining fortune in a new country. He built a saw-mill on Hubbardton River, and operated a forge on the Falls, afterwards owned by General Jonathan Orms. He leased the lot owned by Captain Eleazer Dudley, and erected there the house afterwards occupied by Major Tilly Gilbert, across the road from Dr. Smith. He was selectman for the old town of Fairhaven in 1789, '90 and '91; representative in 1789, 1792 and 1797; was the delegate for the town to the State Convention at Bennington in January, 1792; in 1788 was elected one of the assistant judges of the Rutland County Court, and in 1792 was probate judge for the district of Fairhaven. At his death, on the 17th of February, 1804, at the age of seventy years, he bequeathed to the town of Westhaven the then generous sum of \$1,000, to be kept at interest for sixty years, and afterwards devoted to the following uses: "To have one good grammar school kept in Westhaven near the village where I now live, the over-plus for the benefit of other schools and the support of a gospel minister, well-educated and regularly instructed in the ministry, and if any over for the support of the poor and needy in the said town of Westhaven, under the direction of the civil authority and the selectmen of said town."

William J. Billings, a hatter, came from Greenfield, Mass., in 1810, and resided in town until 1834, when he removed to Fairhaven to live with his daughter, Mrs. Joseph Sheldon. He died December 30, 1850. He had descendants now living in this vicinity.

On the 30th of June, 1780, Oliver Church, from New Marlboro, Mass., bought of Samuel Allen, of Tinmouth, the right of Nathan Clark in the old town of Fairhaven, but did not settle until about ten years later. In 1800 he removed to the farm first settled by Hiram Barlow, where he remained until his death in 1826. He married Lucy Barker in 1800, who survived him until 1859. He represented the sister towns in 1803, '06, '07, '10, '11 and '19; and held the office of justice of the peace many years. Descendants of his are still living in town and in different parts of New York. Harvey Church, of Fairhaven, was his nephew.

Samuel Adams came from Suffield, Conn., in 1792, with his wife, daughter and four sons, and settled on the place which has remained in the family ever since. His son, Horace Adams, came into possession of the place upon his father's death, and became an influential citizen, representing the town for three years. He died March 28, 1866, at the age of eighty-two years, leaving the property to his son Samuel.

Oliver Hitchcock, born at Bristol, Conn., March 12, 1776, came to this town from Great Barrington, Conn., in 1816; went back in 1818, and in 1820 returned and stayed. He soon came to be well known as the proprietor of the "Gleason stand." Willard, Miriam, Oliver F., Alman and Rollin, all his children, resided in town for years, the first named coming in 1832 and establishing a salesroom for the "Terry mantel clock" near the Apollos Smith place. The only one now remaining in town is Rollin, who was born on the farm he now occupies September 24, 1822.

Nathaniel Dickinson, who came to Fairhaven as early as 1790 from Massachusetts, and kept store and tavern — the old Lyon tavern — there, resided in Westhaven, near Dr. Simeon Smith's, as early as 1809, and died there in July, 1811. His wife was Sally Gilbert, only sister of Major Tilly Gilbert, of Fairhaven.

Stephen Fish, born in 1787, came to Fairhaven, about 1810 to reside with his uncle, Joel Hamilton. He shortly afterward removed to Westhaven, where he carried on the old Minot farm until 1827, residing meanwhile at the foot of the long hill on the old turnpike, where he kept the turnpike gate. In September, 1819, he purchased, in company with Heman Stannard, 100 acres, which he afterwards owned in full and which he sold to Otis Hamilton in May, 1835. He died December 3, 1849.

Asa Goodrich resided at an early day near Jonathan Orms's mill. He had three sons, Erastus, Ansel and Alvin, the first of whom was an apprentice of General Orms, the second a tanner, and operated the old Beriah Rogers tannery in Fairhaven, and the third was drowned at seven years of age near Carver's Falls about 1799.

Major Tilly Gilbert, who came to Fairhaven in 1788, and became prominent there, removed to the old Minot house, so called, in this town, in 1832, and remained until his death, September 5, 1850, at the age of seventy-nine years. Among his descendants is his son Benjamin Franklin Gilbert, still living in Fairhaven at the age of eighty-nine years.

The Minot farm before mentioned is so called from Christopher Minot, who resided there as early as 1805, and afterwards owned a strip of land in Fairhaven, including the site of Ira C. Allen's marble dwelling-house. In 1806 he presented the town of Fairhaven with the bell which still swings in the belfry of the village school-house. He died in Westhaven, August 22, 1824, in his seventy-first year. His wife, who survived him, was Catherine Cutler,

widow of Dr. Simeon Smith. His son-in-law, John Thomas, afterwards kept a store here.

General Jonathan Orms, a carpenter and mill-wright, came from Northampton, Mass., about 1788, by the way of Pittsfield, Vt. He first engaged in building a forge for Dr. Simeon Smith on the west side of the falls, which he afterwards purchased, and on which he erected the saw-mill and grist-mill known so well as "Orms's Mills." He was employed by Solomon Cleveland in 1796, on Lyon's mills in Fairhaven. About 1790 he married Eunice Hines at the house of Timothy Goodrich, and removed to Westhaven, on the ground lately owned by Seth Hunt, building the two-story dwelling which still stands there in 1804. He afterwards resided on the south side of the highway in Fairhaven. During the War of 1812 he was appointed general-in-chief of the militia in Vermont, having his headquarters at Burlington. His wife died in Westhaven March 27, 1824, and was buried in the cemetery just north of his house. He was afterwards twice married. In 1842 he removed to Castleton Corners, where he died August 8, 1850, aged eighty-six years, and was buried beside his first wife in Westhaven. His descendants, who are numerous, reside in Whitehall and Jamestown, N. Y., Cleveland, O., and elsewhere.

Dan Smith, nephew to Dr. Simeon Smith, was born January 28, 1759, in Suffield, Conn., and came from Sharon, Conn., to Westhaven as early as 1787. He resided near the town line. In the summer of 1801 he leased the iron works in Fairhaven village; in July, 1803, he purchased them, and in October, 1807, sold them to Jacob Davey. During the War of 1812 he built a forge and nail factory on the falls in this town, and also made nails on the Fairhaven side of the road, opposite the old Smith tavern, now Ransom Wood's. He died in Pantton, February 15, 1833.

Apollos Smith, senior, a brother of Dan Smith, removed from Sharon, Conn., to Troy, N. Y., and thence to Westhaven about 1787, where he opened the celebrated "Smith Tavern," kept for so many years by his son, Apollos, and now kept by Ransom Wood. He was born in Suffield, Conn., December 5, 1756; married Anna Gay, December 3, 1778, and died February 25, 1810. His children were: Augustus, Apollos, Simeon, Horace, Augustus 2d, Cornelia, Henry G. and James.

Upon the division of the old town of Fairhaven this town was immediately organized, with William Wyman first town clerk. The other officers are not known, as the records cannot be found. At a meeting held in "March ye 10 day 1800," Oliver Church was chosen moderator; William Wyman, town clerk; Oliver Church, Isaac Howe, Joel Dickinson, selectmen; John Howland, town treasurer; Artemas Wyman, constable; John Barne, Elijah Tryon, William Wyman, listers; Noah "Prest," grand juror; Hezekiah Heler, Isaac Stevens, Samuel Adams, jr., Barnabas Lerdie, Simeon Downs, Isaac Howe, David B. Phipponee and Elisha Orton, surveyor of highways; Ebenezer Ste-

mens and Person Kelsy, fence viewers; Lemuel Hyde and Clement Smith, pound-keepers; Ashel Cone, sealer of leather; "Captain" Dan Smith, sealer of weights and measures; Joel Jones, tythingman.

At the same meeting a tax of one cent on a dollar was laid to hire preaching.

Business Interests.— Aside from the forges and mills on the falls already mentioned, there has never been any very extensive manufacturing interests in this part of the town; owing, no doubt, to the proximity of Westhaven to the thriving village of Fairhaven, with its vastly superior privileges, and, since the opening of the railroad, its additional shipping facilities.

About 1790 the first store in town was started on the knoll northeast of the residence of J. G. Briggs, by Smith & Woodward; the business being afterwards continued by Charles Rice and Bohan Shepard, and earlier still by "Shipherd," Rice & Higgins.

Lemuel Hyde and John Bronson also kept a store near the present residence of Mrs. Adelaide Hitchcock. Previous to 1800 this firm was dissolved, and the trade continued by John Van Allen and others for a few years.

About the year 1802 Erastus Coleman established a carding-machine and clothing works on the upper falls of Hubbardton River. This business he continued for about thirty years, when he erected a woolen factory on the same site, and operated it until 1844.

Rollin Hitchcock is authority for the following account of former business operations in town:

The saw-mill now operated by J. P. Hunt was built for a woolen factory about 1834 by Isaac Norton, of Benson, and Hiram Coleman, son of Erastus, of Westhaven, and served the purposes of its construction about twenty years, William Eastwood succeeding Mr. Norton not far from 1850, and afterward owning the entire interest. The building was then unoccupied for a time, until a Mr. Vowers, of Warren county, N. Y., converted it into an ax-helve and spoke factory. J. P. Hunt went in with him, and bought him out about twelve years ago.

The public house now kept by Ransom Wood was first opened by Apollos Smith, sr., before 1790, and afterwards kept by his son, Apollos, jr., until near the middle of the present century. One Fayette Smith then succeeded him, remaining only five or six years, and followed by a Mr. Booth. Ransom Wood came into possession of the property about thirty years ago.

The first saw-mill in town, as before stated, "the Hunt mill," was erected on the lower fall of Hubbardton River in 1785. There have been three other saw-mills on that stream in town; the first being a saw-mill erected by Erastus Coleman about one and one-half miles above the Hunt mill; Quartus Torrey operated one between the spoke factory site and the Coleman mill, and Isaac Norton ran one between the Torrey mill and the spoke factory.

There used formerly (about 1850) to be a union store kept at what is called the village. Before that and as early as 1828 or 1830 Harry Palmer kept store there, being followed by Quinton, Church & Torrey four or five years. Afterwards Church & Quinton failed.

Hunt's cheese factory, T. G. Hunt proprietor, was built in 1875, and manufactures over 40,000 pounds of cheese per annum.

J. & A. Adams & Co.'s boat yard, located on East Bay, was established more than thirty years ago. They manufacture from one to six canal boats every year, and employ from five twenty-five men.

The grist-mill and saw-mill of Nelson O'Donnell has been in operation for ten or twelve years; L. B. Cook is the present proprietor of the spoke factory.

Post-office.—It is probable that the post-office in Westhaven was established in the first quarter of the present century, with Apollos Smith, jr., as first postmaster. The office was then in the old Smith tavern, where Ransom Wood now lives. It was then moved into the neighborhood of its present location, and kept by Ransom Armstrong for about fifteen years. John Adams and E. F. Baker followed successively, for about five years each. When James Field was appointed the office was removed to about a mile east of the residence of Mrs. Hitchcock. In about a year Moses Field succeeded James and brought the office back to its former site. Newton Sawyer succeeded Moses Field and remained in the office about eight years; Perry W. Smith followed him about one year, when the present incumbent, Rollin Hitchcock, was appointed in the spring of 1884.

Professional.—There are no physicians in town at present, though in times past such able physicians as Drs. Heler, Armstrong, Sanford (now of Castleton) and Palmer, have had extensive practice in town. The only attorney at present in town is Hon. R. C. Abell, who was born on the 17th of October, 1831, studied law with William Barnes, of Albany, N. Y., and admitted in March, 1856. He has always practiced in Westhaven and vicinity.

Military.—In the Revolutionary War the territory of Westhaven, embraced within the limits of the original town of Fairhaven, was too thinly peopled to furnish any conspicuous chapters to the history of that war. In the War of 1812 the inhabitants actively interested themselves on the side of their country. It is probable that the town united with Fairhaven, which started a body of troops for Plattsburg. They were informed before they had reached their destination that the battle had been fought. In the last war, the Rebellion, the following names are accredited to Westhaven, sufficiently illustrating the readiness with which the inhabitants responded to the several calls for men:

Volunteers for three years, credited previous to the call for 300,000 volunteers of October 17, 1863. — Oscar O. Cook, Henry F. Davis, co. C, 11th regt.; William Edwards, co. B, 9th regt.; Timothy W. Lamphere, 11th regt.; Frederick Mayhew, co. I, 11th regt.; Norman Pratt, co. C, 11th regt.; Edgar W. Sager, co. B, 5th regt.; Willard J. Sisco, co. B, 9th regt.

Credited under call of October 17, 1863, for 300,000 volunteers and subsequent calls. Volunteers for three years.—Dorwin A. Forbes, John Grant, 9th regt.; William Jones, co. I, 17th regt.; Thomas Marlboro, 8th regt.; Lewis F. Montgomery, cav.; Doran H. Orms, 9th regt.; John W. Owens, co. F, 4th regt.; Shepard C. Parker, co. E, 8th regt.; Frederick Plumtree, 7th regt.; Theodore R. Smith, 9th regt.; Lewis B. Vananden, co. C, 11th regt.

Volunteers for one year. — Charles Allard, Harvey W. Harrington, 11th regt.; John Humphrey, co. C, 7th regt.; James Johnson, 9th regt.; Matthew M. Kelley, co. C, 11th regt.; Daniel Rearden, co. C, 7th regt.; Francis Rivers, 11th regt.; Joseph Rivers, Joseph White, 9th regt.

Volunteers re-enlisted. — Frederick Mayhew, Edgar W. Sager.

Volunteers for nine months. — Henry J. Adams, Windham H. Eastwood, Samuel A. Fish, John Q. Gilbert, George D. Hunt, Eugene S. Lee, George Offensend, Herbert C. Rice, Samuel B. Rice, Gardner S. Roberts, Theodore R. Smith.

Furnished under draft and paid commutation. — Walter C. Brockway, Andrew B. Cole, Emery Wood.

The present officers of the town of Westhaven (1885) are as follows: Volney N. Forbes, town clerk and treasurer; Rodney C. Abell, John S. Moore, Isaac Jakway, selectmen; W. L. Hitchcock, William Preston, Edward Adams, ad. listers; Charles Ingalls, constable; Willard Hitchcock, Henry J. Adams, David Offensend, auditors; James Kelley, Orville O. Hitchcock, fence viewers; Robert Doig, David Offensend, Justus Briggs, grand jurors; Rodney C. Abell, town agent; W. L. Hitchcock, superintendent of schools; James Kelley, overseer of the poor.

The population of the town has varied according to the following figures: 1791, 545; 1800, 430; 1810, 679; 1820, 684; 1830, 724; 1840, 774; 1850, 718; 1860, 579; 1870, 713; 1880, 492.

Ecclesiastical. — The First Baptist Church of Westhaven was organized in 1803, with a membership of nine persons. William Ellis Patterson was their first pastor. The society now has a membership of between thirty and forty, with no pastor. The church edifice was erected in 1831 at a cost of \$2,000, and has a seating capacity for 200 persons. The property is valued at \$5,000.