

HISTORY

OF

RUTLAND COUNTY

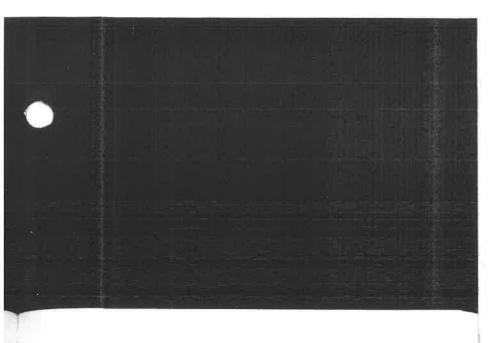
VERMONT

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

EDITED BY

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SYRACUSE, N. Y.
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1886



TOWN OF WESTHAVEN.

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

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 Fairlaven, 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 a dividing line." James Witherell and Lemuel Hyde were constituted sents to present the petition to the Legislature. At another meeting, on the 2d of the same month, on the question as to the location of the dividing line, stood against placing it at "Mud Brook" forty-eight to nine; Hublaid River, forty-eight to nine, and in favor of the present line from Poultiney 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.

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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 wastly 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

unters' 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 avorite haunt and runway."

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 own which he had purchased of Joseph Hyde; and Benoni Hurlburt a simiir privilege with a lot, on the bank of East Bay, which he sold in July, 1784, n Luman Stone, of Litchfield, Conn. Carver's Falls seem to have derived ame from one Joseph Carver, who, together with Joseph Haskins, Jonafall 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 nestern part of Westhaven. In 1872 Beriah Mitchell came from Woodbury, Conn., to Westhaven by the way of Castleton, and settled on the farm now octupied 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.

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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 Machine ide of Bald Mountain on the place since known as the Benjamin farm.

McCotter, from Pennsylvania, came this year and erected the first grist-

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.

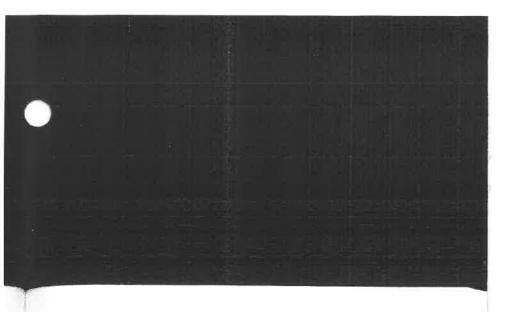
In the early part of 1785 Charles Rice came to Fairhaven from Brookfield Mass., and was first constable in that town in 1793 and 1794. Late in 1795 he removed to Westhaven and kept a tavern on the place occupied a few years ago by Nathaniel Fish, and now occupied by Mrs. Maria Abell. His wife Abigail, 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 Hub bardton River, and operated a forge on the Falls, afterwards owned by Gen. eral Jonathan Orms. He leased the lot owned by Captain Eleazer Deceley, 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 n 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; 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 overplus 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 directive 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 1807 let removed to the farm first settled by Hiram Barlow, where he remained south 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.



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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 ite "Gleason stand." Willard, Miriam, Oliver F., Alman and Rollin, all his en, resided in town for years, the first named coming in 1832 and establishing a salesroom for the "Terry mantel clock" near the Apollos Smith pace. 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 is 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 tantery in Fairhaven, and the third was drowned at seven years of age near Carter's Falls about 1799.

Major Tilly Gilbert, who came to Fairhaven in 1788, and became promish 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 lears. 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 is there as early as 1805, and afterwards owned a strip of land in Fair-in, including the site of Ira C. Allen's marble dwelling-house. In 1806 is presented the town of Fairhaven with the bell which still swings in the beling of the village school-house. He died in Westhaven, August 22, 1824, in its seventy-first year. His wife, who survived him, was Catherine Cutler,

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

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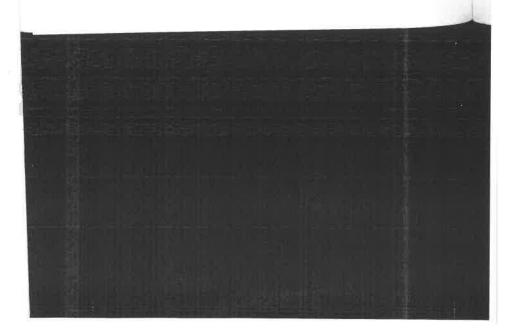
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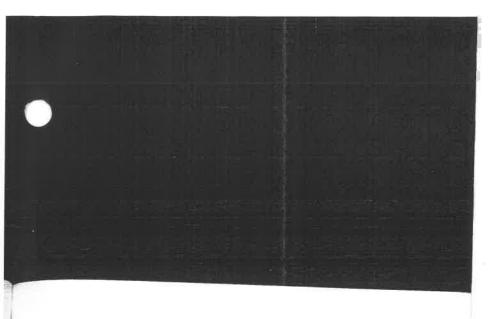
General Jonathan Orms, a carpenter and mill-wright, came from Northum ton, Mass., about 1788, by the way of Pittsfield, Vt. He first engages building a forge for Dr. Simeon Smith on the west side of the falls, which is afterwards purchased, and on which he erected the saw-mill and grist-p known so well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

Dan Smith, nephew to Dr. Simeon Smith, was born January 28, 1759, and 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 morks 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 longer 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 Panton, February 15, 1833.

Apollos Smith, senior, a brother of Dan Smith, removed from Share, 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, Apalis, 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 at known, as the records cannot be found. At a meeting held in "March ye loday 1800," Oliver Church was chosen moderator; William Wyman, tous clerk; Oliver Church, Isaac Howe, Joel Dickinson, selectmen; John Howe town treasurer; Artemas Wyman, constable; John Barne, Elijah Tryon, William Wyman, listers; Noah "Preast," 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-





TOWN OF WESTHAVEN.

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

At the same meeting a tax of one cent on a dollar was laid to hire preach-

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

ut 1790 the first store in town was started on the knoll northeast of Jence of J. G. Briggs, by Smith & Woodward; the business being pterwards 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 tothing 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, antil 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 welve years ago.

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

The first saw-mill in town, as before stated, "the Hunt mill," was erected the 1-wer fall of Hubbardton River in 1785. There have been three other In that stream in town; the first being a saw-mill erected by Erastus Heman about one and one-half miles above the Hunt mill; Quartus Torrey erated one between the spoke factory site and the Coleman mill, and Isaac orton 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 hoats every year, and employ from five twenty-five men.

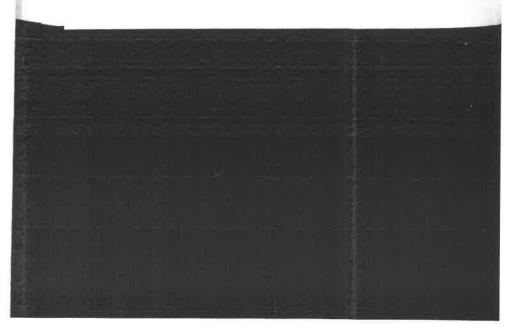
The grist-mill and saw-mill of Nelson O'Donnell has been in operation for ten or twelve years; L. B. Cook is the present proprietor of the spoke factory

Post-office.— It is probable that the post-office in Westhaven was cetablished 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 Ranson 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.

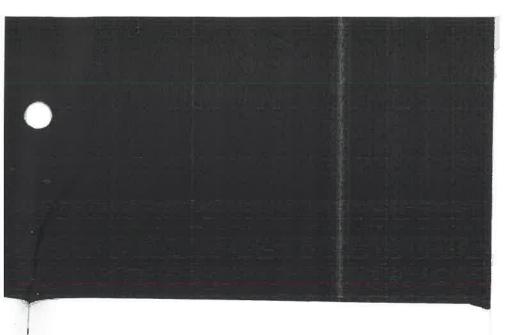
Professional.— There are no physicians in town at present, though in times past such able physicians as Drs. Heler, Armstrong, Sanford (now of Castletoni and Palmer, have had extensive practice in town. The only attorney at present in town is Hon. R. C. Abell, who was born on the 17th of October, 1831 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 Rebilion, 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.



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1810	679		
15 20	684		
1830	727		
1840	774	-1	
1850	7/8	CINIC	WAIZ.
1860	579		
1670	713		
1680	422		



TOWN OF WESTHAVEN.

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

Volunteers for one year. - Charles Allard, Harvey W. Harrington, 11th igt: 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,

regt.; Joseph Rivers, Joseph White, 9th regt.

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

Furnished under draft and paid commutation. - Walter C. Brockway, Anirew B. Cole, Emery Wood.

The present officers of the town of Westbaven (1885) are as follows: Vol-By N. Forbes, town clerk and treasurer; Rodney C. Abell, John S. Moore, saat Jakway, selectmen; W. L. Hitchcock, William Preston, Edward Adams, 3d, 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, ि Will agent; W. L. Hitchcock, superintendent of schools; James Kelley, overer of the poor.

The population of the town has varied according to the following figures: ^{791,} 545; 1800, 430; 1810, 679; 1820, 684; 1830, 724; **18**40, 7**7**4; 1850, ¹¹⁸; 1860, 579; 1870, 713; 1880, 492.

Ecclesiastical. - The First Baptist Church of Westhaven was organized in 1933, with a membership of nine persons. William Ellis Patterson was their hast pastor. The society now has a membership of between thirty and forty, the no pastor. The church edifice was erected in 1831 at a cost of \$2,000, has a seating capacity for 200 persons. The property is valued at \$5,000.

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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. 0.) 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.

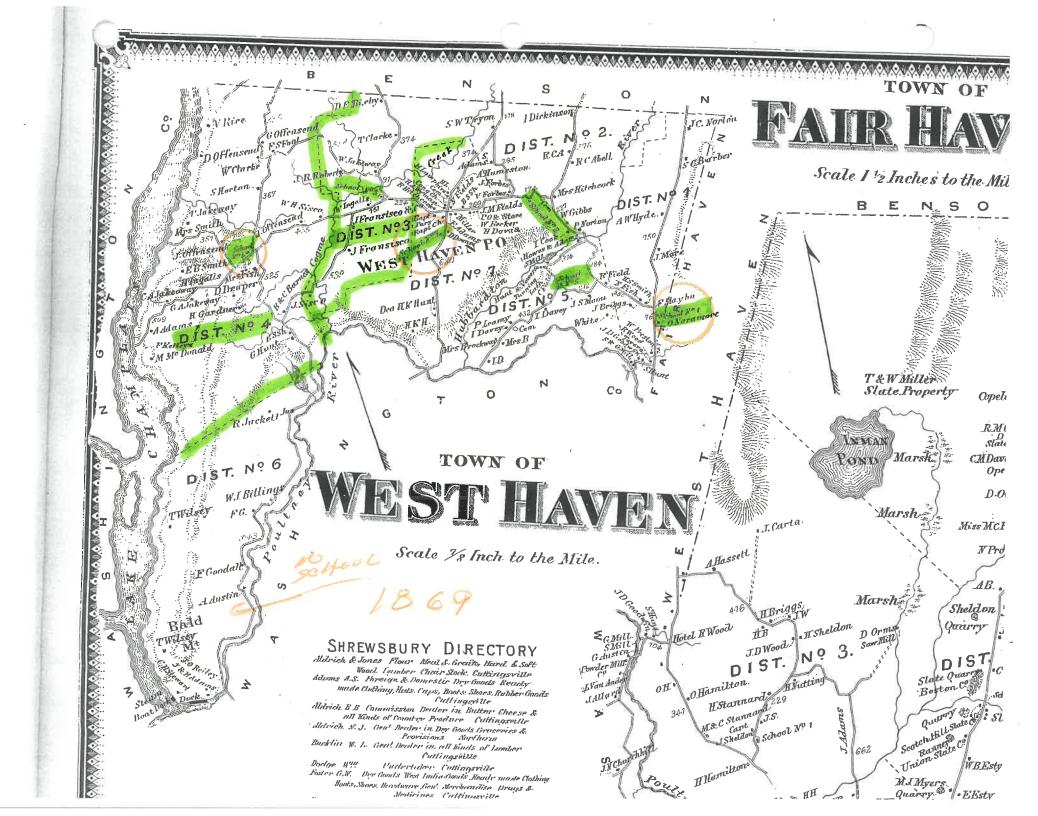
Hunt's Cheese Factory, located on road 23, was built in 1875. It now uses the milk from 140 cows, from which is manufactured 40,000 lbs. of cheese per annum.

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.

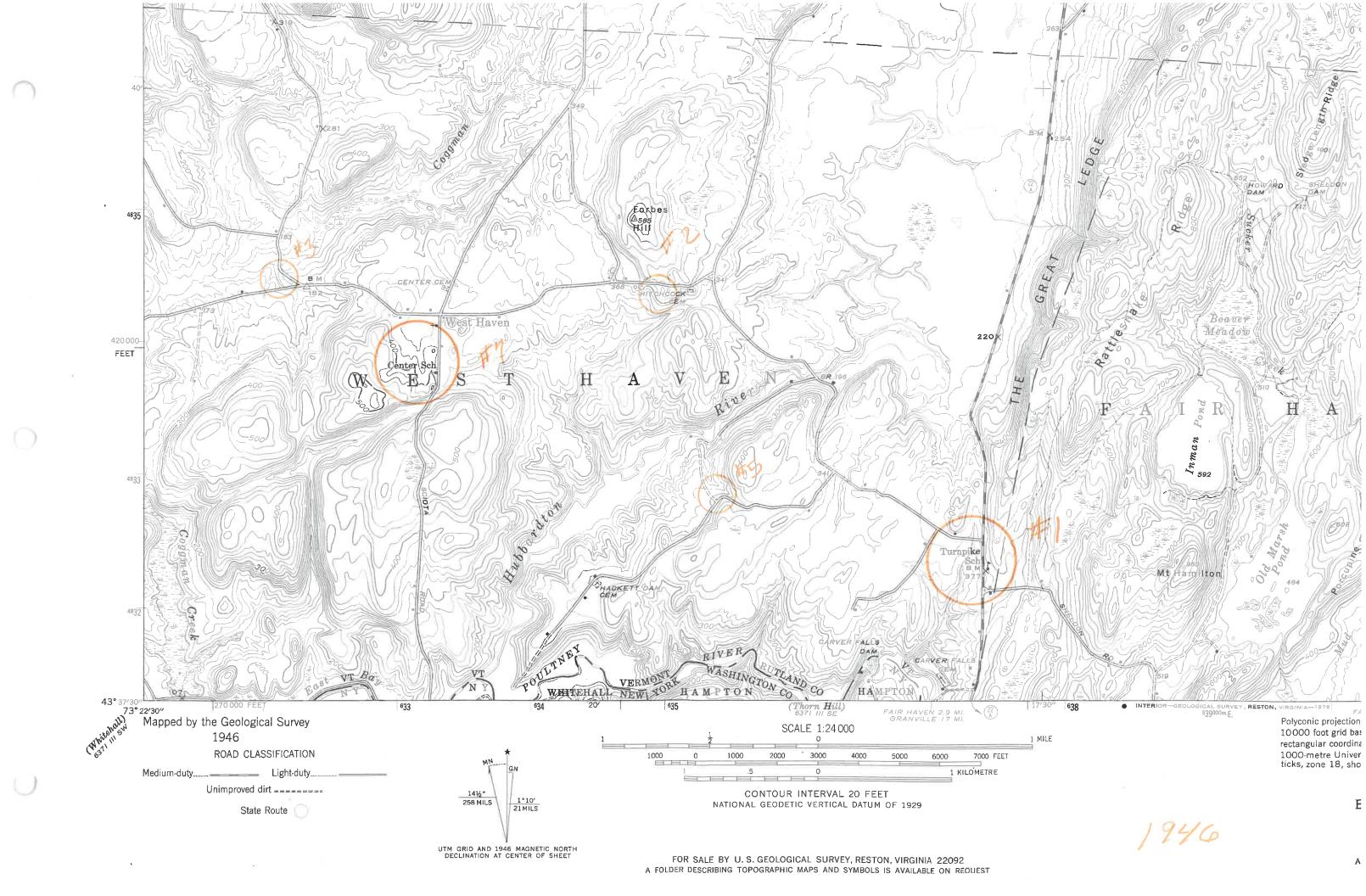
J. P. Hunt's saw-mill, spoke and ax helve manufactory, located on Hubbardton River, near road 12, manufactures about 75,000 feet of lumber, 500 sets of spokes and 200 dozen ax-helves annually.

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. 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







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