



Dublin Historical Society

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03444 • FOUNDED 1920

Newsletter No. 16 - November, 1990

Notice of Meeting

The Society's Fall meeting will be on Wednesday, November 28th, at 7:30 p.m., in the Louise Shonk Kelly auditorium at the Dublin School.

The speaker will be Lois Stabler, of Keene, editor of *Very Poor and of a Lo Make, the Journal of Abner Sanger*. She will speak on the life and times of Abner Sanger (1739-1822), who spent most of his life in Keene, but lived in Dublin from 1789 to 1799 on his sister's farm opposite the present golf club house.

Mrs. Stabler spent seven years deciphering the diary and translating it into comprehensible English. The result is a most valuable and entertaining record of life in Cheshire County at the end of the 18th Century. Members wishing to do their homework can buy copies of *Very Poor and of a Lo Make* at the Historical Society of Cheshire County or at any Toadstool bookshop.

Schoolhouse Report

Repairs to the old school-house are finally under way. The accumulation of earth and leaves outside the northwest corner has been removed, the sills and part of the floor in that corner are being replaced and the drainage around the back of the building rerouted to prevent future rot. Necessary changes to the drainage of the Consolidated School play yard have been made by Conval.

Mike Haman is the contractor, supervised by George Bogosian on behalf of the Society.

To clear the decks for this work, on October 7th, a stalwart group of Society members packed the building's contents and moved them to storage. Our thanks to Linda and Rusty Bastedo, Albert Handy, Martha Raymond, Lucy Shonk, Ned Whitney and Tom Wright for their strong-backed efforts!

- Sharron Monaghan

1990 Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting, held at the church vestry on September 8th, was the

by-now-traditional french toast breakfast. Thirty-three members were present.

The President thanked Pat Egan for his work as Treasurer and Trustee and extended the Society's good wishes to Pat and Mary Anne as they leave Dublin for Boston. She also thanked Mary McKee, retiring Trustee, for her three years' service to the Society.

The President also gave notice of a proposed by-law change which would permit the annual meeting to be held on any date in September.

Elected at the meeting were:

President	Lucy Shonk
Vice President	Sharron Monaghan
Treasurer	Thomas Wright
Trustee (3 yrs.)	Terry Dwyer

Elected by the Trustees at their meeting the same day:

Secretary	Laura Scott
Archivist	John Harris
Curator	Linda Bastedo

Recent Accessions

Since the last newsletter, Robert N. Gowing, son of the late Charles Albert Gowing and nephew to Henry and Alice, has sent us an extensive collection of family papers and photographs, including fifty diaries dating between 1880 to 1955.

Lorna Trowbridge has generously given us a nearly complete copy of the sermon preached in Dublin in 1777 by Samuel Langdon, then President of Harvard, at the ordination of Dublin's second minister, the Rev. Edward Sprague. This copy belonged to Lorna's late father, Robb Sagendorph.

At the annual meeting in September, Ray and Alice Ellis presented the original 1836 constitution of the Dublin Union Library - an amalgamation of the Dublin Social Library and the Dublin Literary Society - together with formal consent to the merger by the shareholders in the Dublin Social Library. The Ellises also gave us two early photographic townscapes.

Thea Sabine and Grace Forbes have added substantially to our collection of Brush family papers.

We have also received a mystery gift: a photograph, c. 1890, of the "Parting of the Ways", which was the intersection of the Old Harrisville Road and what is now Route 101. The picture came in a plain wrapper with no indication as to the sender except a Lincoln, Mass. postmark. Was this very welcome gift intentionally anonymous, or is some kind person wondering why they haven't been thanked? Can any member shed light on this puzzle?

Other good things have come to us from Bill Bauhan, John Lord, Charles Nims

and Ned Whitney. To all our generous donors, the Society extends warm thanks.

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Shortly before this newsletter went to press, Jessie Hale gave the Society's archives a very large collection of letters, diaries and photographs of her grandparents, the late Joseph Lindon and Corinna Putnam Smith. It will be some time before the archives department is able to finish examining and cataloguing such a volume of material, but, as one example, there is Joseph Lindon Smith's diary, and a bound volume of his letters home, written from Europe in 1886. There will be many more such items of interest to describe in future newsletters.

- John Harris

Cemetery Project

Many thanks to all of you who volunteered to help with the cemetery project. As I would like to finish entering all the information and corrections into the computer this winter, I would appreciate having all the "verified" information back to me by Thanksgiving. If you are having problems, or would like me to pick up your finished section, please call me at 563-8205.

- Laura Scott

Dues Notice

Cards and envelopes for 1991 dues are enclosed with this newsletter. Please note that the dues have not increased over last year's.

Minimum dues, however, only just about cover the cost of these newsletters, so the Society depends on extra contributions to pay for its preservation work. All contributions are tax-deductible.