

Dublin Historical Society

Dublin, New Hampshire 03444 • Founded 1920

Newsletter No. 28 – July, 1994

Elizabeth Pool to Speak At Dublin Historical Society's Summer Meeting On July 19th.



Elizabeth Pool

Noted writer and lecturer Elizabeth Pool of Dublin, will be the featured speaker at the Society's summer meeting at the Dublin School Auditorium on Tuesday, July 19th at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Pool's subject is "The Fascinating Randolph Bourne."

Randolph Silliman Bourne (1886-1918)—an American essayist and critic who authored *Youth and Life* and *History of a Literary Radical*.

Elizabeth Pool has published books on history and mythology and lectured on a variety of subjects on a number of occasions, including the prestigious Amos Fortune Forum. In July, 1992, Ms. Pool delivered her

Amos Fortune talk "Pen, Brush, Chisel and Clef/Dublin's Halcyon Days", which dealt with distinguished part-time residents in Dublin, covering a time during the late 19th and early 20th centuries when the area was a haven for world-renowned writers, musicians and visual artists. The entertaining and informative talk was reprinted in booklet form and has been widely circulated.

Elizabeth Pool's childhood summers in Dublin and four decades of year round residence have resulted in a life-long love affair with this town, which she feels is steeped in a special magic. Ms Pool is married to another noted Dubliner, Beekman H. Pool, and they reside on Pumpelly* Hill.

This program is open to the public and we encourage you to bring friends and neighbors. Anyone who has had the privilege of hearing Elizabeth Pool in the past, will attest that this is an evening not to be missed.

*Named after Raphael Pumpelly (1837-1923) a noted explorer and geologist who conducted expeditions under Carnegie Institute auspices and became Harvard's first professor of mining. Note Mark Twain's reference to Pumpelly in this issue's feature on Mt. Monadnock.

In Memoriam

The Society lost three honorary members this winter, two of whom were descendants of early Dublin settlers.

Helen Scribner died on January 18th. She was the widow of Glen Scribner, with whom for many years she operated the Clover Farm store opposite the Town Hall.

Mrs. Scribner was a link with Dublin's early days, being a descendant of Abijah Richardson, who settled here in 1794.

The Society extends its sympathy to her children, Richard Scribner and Glenna Eaves, and to her grand-

children, Nancy Campbell, James Eaves, and Daniel, Rebecca and William McQuillen.

Elliott and Kathleen Allison died on April 7th & 8th. Elliott was also a link with Dublin's early days, being a descendant of Eli Allison, who settled here in 1783. Elliott's father, Henry Darracott Allison, and grandfather, Milton Dexter Mason, owned and operated the Clover Farm Store before the Scribners.

Elliott was President of the Dublin Historical Society in 1961 and 1962, and Kathleen was Secretary from 1960 to 1962. They were generous

and substantial donors of material to the Society in the late 1980's, when the Society's archives were being organized.

The Allisons were experts on the natural history of Dublin, and wrote *Monadnock Sightings* (1979), an illustrated listing of over 200 birds seen in Dublin, and *The Wildflowers of Dublin, N.H.* (1980).

The Society extends its sympathy to Mr. Allison's niece, Nancy Shook Bender and to Mrs. Allison's brother in England.



The Monadnock/Dublin Continuum

In Society trustees' meetings over the past year, we've adopted a ritual of having a board member give a short reading or reminiscence of social or historical note relating to Dublin.

A number of these "Dublin or Monadnock Moments" have taken wing as full fledged articles in the Society Newsletter. "The Bethel Connection" article in the September '93 Newsletter, by Nancy Campbell was prompted by William Bauhan's recollections in researching the history of his property, the former James house.

This issue's collection of paeans to Mt. Monadnock, by many of America's 19th century literary giants, was inspired by Marney Bean's reading, at a recent meeting, snippets from Helen Cushing Nutting's book, *To Monadnock*, published by Stratford Press (1925).

-Dick Friz

THE MONADNOCK TOWNSHIPS, 1749

From "The Grand Monadnock" by Edward W. Emerson, M.D., *New England Magazine* 1896.

It has been asserted that those who open a new country are not the practical, money-making people,—those come later,—but the visionary men whose imagination presses the service of their stout hearts and strong arms. One may well believe that the majesty of this presiding mountain drew and kept about in feet the men whom the niggard soil and long winters might well have repelled. That the mountain was an influence the names of the region show. It was called the Grand Monadnock; the beautiful twin summits ten miles eastward in Peterborough and Temple were the Pack Monadnocks;* a minor hill to the south, Little Monadnock; and the townships granted around in Cheshire County, Monadnock Number One or Rowley-Canada (now Rindge); Monadnock Number Two or Jaffrey; Number Three, Dublin; Number Four, Fitzwilliam; Number Five, Marlborough; Number Six, Packersfield (now Nelson); Number Seven, Limerick (now Stoddard); Number Eight, Camden (now Washington). These towns, though granted much earlier and settled as soon as it was in any way safe, were incorporated in the ten years before the Revolution, and so attractive had this region of rocks and woods and wolves become that in 1775 Cheshire County already had more than eleven thousand inhabitants.

*[Pack Monadnock lies between Peterborough and Temple; North Pack Monadnock is in Greenfield.]

MONADNOCK FROM AFAR

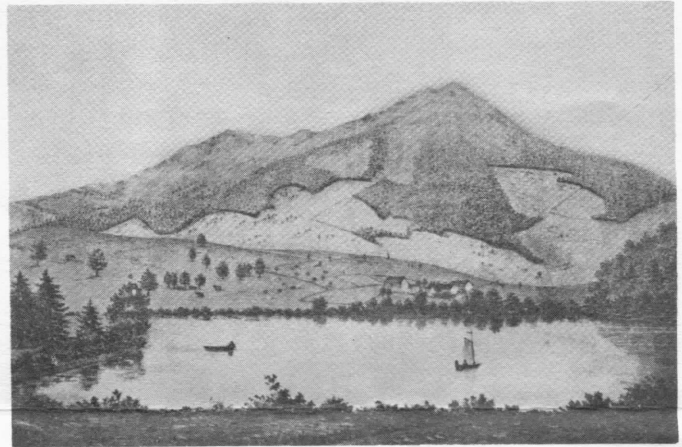
These two poems or fragments of poems by Ralph Waldo Emerson were not published until after his death. (By courtesy of Houghton Mifflin Company.)

I

Dark flower of Cheshire garden,
Red evening duly dyes
Thy sombre head with rosy hues
To fix far-gazing eyes.
Well the Planter knew how strongly
Works thy form on human thought;
I muse what secret purpose had he
To draw all fancies to this spot.

II

A score of airy miles will smooth
Rough Monadnoc to a gem.



MONADNOCK FROM STONE POND, MARLBOROUGH, N.H.

From a lithograph not before 1860, perhaps 1870 (the drawing by A.E. Dolbear, the lithograph by Milton Bradley) owned by the Peterborough Historical Society and photographed through the courtesy (by Mr. C. T. Johnson of Jaffrey).

THOREAU'S VISIT TO MONADNOCK, 1858

After dinner we kept on northeast over a high ridge east of the summit, whence was a good view of that part of Dublin and Jaffrey immediately under the mountain. There is a fine, large lake extending north and south, apparently in Dublin, which it would be worth the while to sail on. When on the summit of this, I heard the ring of toads from a rainpool a little lower and northeasterly. It carried me back nearly a month into spring (though they are still ringing and copulating in Concord), it sounded so springlike in that clear, fresh air. . .

We proceeded to get our tea on the summit, in the very place where I had made my bed for a night some fifteen years before. There were a great many insects of various kinds on the topmost rocks at this hour, and among them I noticed a yellow butterfly and several large brownish ones fluttering over the apex.

It was interesting to watch from that height the shadows of fair-weather clouds passing over the landscape. You could hardly distinguish them from forests.

MONADNOCK FROM WACHUSETT [1862]

By John Greenleaf Whittier; through the courtesy of Houghton Mifflin Company.

I would I were a painter, for the sake
Of a sweet picture, and of her who led,
A fitting guide, with reverential tread,
Into that mountain mystery. First a lake
Tinted with sunset; next the wavy lines
Of far receding hills; and yet more far,
Monadnock lifting from his night of pines
His rosy forehead to the evening star. . .

KIPLING AND MONADNOCK [1892]

"For the honour of Monadnock" one afternoon there was made of New England snow by Rudyard Kipling an image of Gautama Buddha facing the Mountain. Kipling's essay, "In Sight of Monadnock," telling of this and other New England matters, has recently been published in this country in the volume, *Letters of Travel*.

The following comprises the first few verses of a poem signed by G.R. in a Sept. 15, 1908 issue of the long defunct *The Dublin News*, published for summer visitors by Gerald and George Henderson.

FAREWELL TO DUBLIN

1

The leaves are changing color and the frost is in the air,
And the time is drawing close when all the branches will be bare.
And Oh! my heart is weary and my head is bowed with woe:
I've been in Dublin fifteen weeks, and now it's time to go.

2

There sleeps the great Monadnock, like a spirit of the blest;
She cares not for the stranger who is weeping on her breast.
What matters it to her that one or all should go away?
Though men may come and men may go, she knows she's bound to stay.

3

In summer, when the year is young, she decks herself in green;
In autumn, in her red and gold, she's splendid as a queen;
When winter comes she dresses up in all her firs, I'm told,
And draws a blanket over her to keep her from the cold.

4

She is the Queen of Dublin, but in spite of this I fear
She's not had half the jolly time that we have had this year.
She can't go out to parties, but this she may prefer,
For as she cannot go to them the parties go to her.

I

These paragraphs, written by Mark Twain with Monadnock at his "left elbow," were published by Harper & Brothers in *Mark Twain's Letters* (1917), and are here republished through their courtesy.

Dublin, October 9, 1905.

Last January, when we were beginning to inquire about a home for this summer, I remembered that Abbott Thayer had said, three years before, that the New Hampshire highlands was a good place. He was right—it was a good place. Any place that is good for an artist in paint is good for an artist in morals and ink. Brush is here too; so is Col. T. W. Higginson; so is Raphael Pumpelly; so is Mr. Secretary Hitchcock; so is Henderson; so is Learned; so is Sumner; so is Franklin MacVeagh; so is Joseph L. Smith; so is Henry Copley Greene, when I am not occupying his house, which I am doing this season. Paint, literature, science, statesmanship, history, professorship, law, morals,—these are all represented here, yet crime is substantially unknown.

The summer homes of these refugees are sprinkled, a mile apart, among the forest-clad hills, with access to each other by firm smooth country roads which are so embowered in dense foliage that it is always twilight in there, and comfortable. The forests are spider-webbed with these good roads, they go everywhere; but for the help of the guide-boards, the stranger would not arrive anywhere.

The village—Dublin—is bunched together in its own place, but a good telephone service makes its markets handy to all those outliars. I have spelt it that way to be witty.

II

This paragraph by Albert Bigelow Paine is taken from *Mark Twain's Letters*, which he edited; by courtesy of the publishers, Harper & Brothers.

There came another summer at Dublin, New Hampshire, this time in the fine Upton residence on the other slope of Monadnock, a place of equally beautiful surroundings, and an even more extended view. Clémens was at this time working steadily on his so-called *Autobiography*, which was not that, in fact, but a series of remarkable chapters, reminiscent, reflective, commentative, written without any particular sequence as to time or subject-matter.



A summer outing on Dublin Lake with Mt. Monadnock in the background – late 19th century

Collection—Dublin Public Library

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Recent Accessions

The Society has received a number of important gifts from **Jane Frothingham Hawkins**. Outstanding among them is an oil painting of Mt. Monadnock at twilight by the late Alexander R. James, which is now on exhibit at the archives room.

In addition, Mrs. Hawkins has added to her previous gifts of photographs of Dublin scenes, including many taken by her late father, Francis E. Frothingham in the late 1890's to the early 1900's. Among these is a view of the lake and mountain printed through silk, an unusual technique which gives the enlarged print an interesting texture. The Society is most grateful for these very generous gifts.

Books by Dublin authors have been received from **John W. Harris** and **Clinton B. Yeomans**.

Treasure Trove

On June 10, the Archivist and Assistant Archivist (Nancy Campbell) joined **Char Forsten's** fourth grade class at the Dublin Consolidated School for the opening of a mysterious locked cabinet. The cabinet, to which the key had been lost, had not been opened for many years, and its contents could only be guessed at.

When opened by a member of the Conval mainte-

The following is excerpted from a "tongue-in-cheek" column which ran in the Dublin Opinion, March 9, 1949.

Chit-Chat with RIPLEY

Dublin has a new Society. It was convened last evening immediately upon the adjourning of Town Meeting. It is called the Dublin Procrastination Society, a new non-partisan, non-sectarian, noncommittal civic group. Abigail Ungaline of Mistaken Road was elected President. Mr. Coddington Forkstroke, president of a similar society in Newport, R.I. was on hand to help for the organization, ably assisted by Gwinn Owens.

The purposes, aside from obstructing progress... "will be to foster the development of civic progress by appointing committees to make recommendations to initiate surveys and investigate and consult on all subjects of interest to Dublin."

Membership ...stems mainly from two organizations now almost defunct but heretofore active in the same field...Dublin Stagnation Soc., founded by a group of eminent Republicans when that party took over the town and Dublin Obstruction, Inc., now to be confused with Dublin Animal Obstetricians, a Democratic

nance staff - an experienced lock-picker - the cabinet turned out to contain a nearly complete set of school records from 1822 to 1967, when the Dublin School District merged into Conval. All this caused some excitement among the students, especially for those looking for their parents' and grandparents' reports.

These important papers have now been taken to the archives room, where they will be processed as needed for preservation purposes, catalogued, and added to the Town's school archives.

New Light on Abbott Thayer

Your Archivist returned from a recent foray to Washington with a wealth of new material on Abbott H. Thayer, kindly supplied by members of the curatorial staffs at the **Archives of American Art**, the **Museum of American Art** and the **Freer Gallery**, all divisions of the Smithsonian Institution.

Thayer's two principal patrons were Charles L. Freer and John Gellatly, both of whose collections were given to the Smithsonian, with the result that Washington has more of Thayer's paintings than any other city. Your Archivist saw the dozen or so on exhibition, and was also shown the ones in storage.

There is interest in Thayer's work in high places. A number of his paintings at the Museum of American Art were selected by Vice-President Gore to hang in his official residence.

group formed about the same time. The Dublin Historical Soc. was refused admission on the grounds it was too progressive.

The new President immediately launched a bold new program...chief points: 1. construction of a roller coaster rack for autos over the oval so that passing tourists write home what fun they had in Dublin; 2. an escalator for Dublin Hill sidewalks and 3. free birdseed for pigeons in the Lower Village. This was included because "part of the program should be for the birds."...the President warned that "Dublin could suffer from an unhealthy tendency to act too hastily, or from trying, even with good intentions to rebuild itself overnight. Instead, we should urge procrastination at every possible turn. The only move that we should really get behind is that we close off our Main highway and direct it to Harrisville."

C R E D I T S

This issue of the Dublin Historical Society Newsletter has been prepared and edited by Richard Friz.

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