

# The Buckland Times <sup>604</sup> #9

December 1995

editor etc. Sue Way 74 Hudson St. Manchester, Ct. 06040-3102

\*SPONSORED BY & available at\*

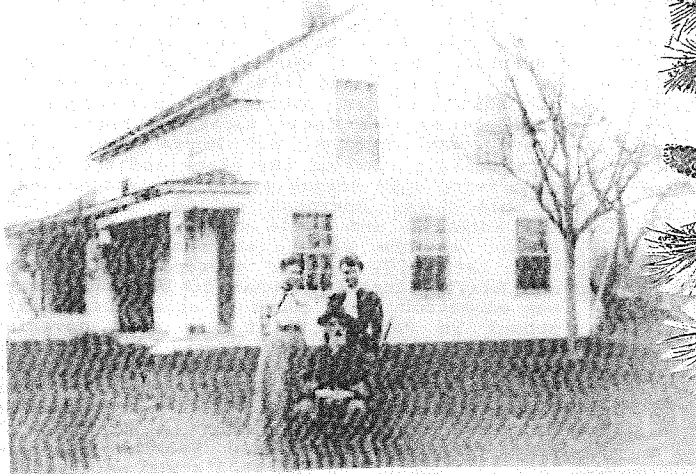
## BEFORE HARTMAN'S

What was the northern section of Buckland like before there was a Hartman's Tobacco Plantation? For many people it must seem like it was always there. But, much of the land in this area changed hands between 1900 & 1902, so in fact before 1900 things were quite different. In 1902 Jeremiah Healey (Andrew's father) bought what was known as the Gallup Farm which was in the hands of the Peoples Saving Bank. This began as a partnership- John D. Gallup & Edgar D. Allen, both "of Glastonbury". They had bought from T. Wells Smith in 1881 who bought from Merritt Buckland in 1865. It included what later became the Boukus Farm and was one of the largest farms in the area. The Burnham Farm stretched off to the West and included what would later become the Lewis Farm (the dairy portion of the Burnham Farm) and the Chaponis Farm. The Grant Brothers (Hiram A. & William H.) are listed as Grocers and Meat Dealers in Buckland apparently at the General Store (1890 Manchester Directory). The Maloney Bros. are listed there as grocers in 1891. Thomas Lumbley was the blacksmith on Windsor St. in 1890 and at the corner of Adams St. & Tolland Tpk. in 1891. Charles O. Wolcott owned and worked the Quarry property for many years before it was purchased by the Hartman's in 1902. The invention of concrete apparently meant that sandstone was no longer in great demand. It was at this quarry that Wolcott and his workers discovered the dinosaur bones in 1894. Many people know something about the quarry but, I'm not sure people realize that there were several quarry sights, and that they were worked for more than 100 years. Just think Manchester could have had and perhaps still could have its own "Dino-Quarry" Park. There must be people young and old who would enjoy digging for their own Dino Bones.

Most of the farming done in Buckland before 1900 is referred to as general farming. Almost everyone kept some cows, pigs, grew corn, rye, buckwheat, made butter. Tobacco was grown, but it did not dominate. In fact Connecticut Valley tobacco at that time was facing overwhelming competition from tobacco grown on the Indonesian Island of Sumatra! This might explain the financial trouble that both the Gallup and Burnham farms experienced around the year 1900. The coming of the Hartman Plantation to Buckland was an important turning point. It meant the end of quarrying in Buckland. The success of companies like Hartman's meant the revival of tobacco farming in Connecticut and a turn away from general farming towards intensive, specialized large scale farming. It was about this time as well that the Adam's Paper Mill and Keeney & Wood Paper Mill (just over the Hockanum River) burned in 1897 and 1899 respectively and were not rebuilt. Except for the Hilliard Woolen Mill which continued to be important, agriculture now dominated the life of the Village of Buckland. Buckland which at one time seems to have had 3 stores settled back with one General Store.

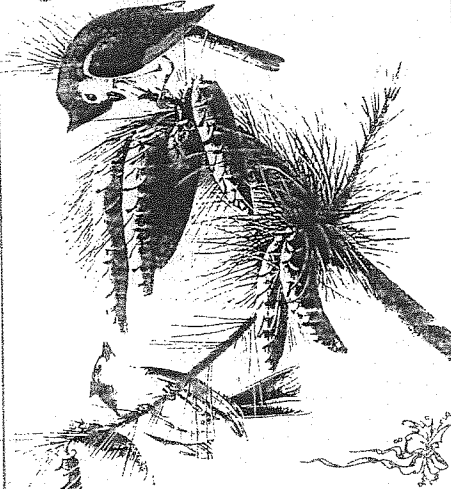
## THE LATHROP AND BRIGGS FAMILIES MOVE TO BUCKLAND AND WHAT COULD IT ALL HAVE TO DO WITH THE WAPACOOTA INDIANS?

Dick Keeney would have loved this story!



The Lathrop house in 1901, 278 Burnham St. said to have been built by Horace Keeney who died age 83 in 1877. Pictured are Susan Lathrop (later Briggs), Anna G. Lathrop (later married Frank Birdsey-Dick Keeney's mother was Mabel (Birdsey) Keeney, he was also cousin to Miss Irene Birdsey Buckland. I understand that didn't help him out much in school.) and George F. Lathrop.

## The Season's Greetings

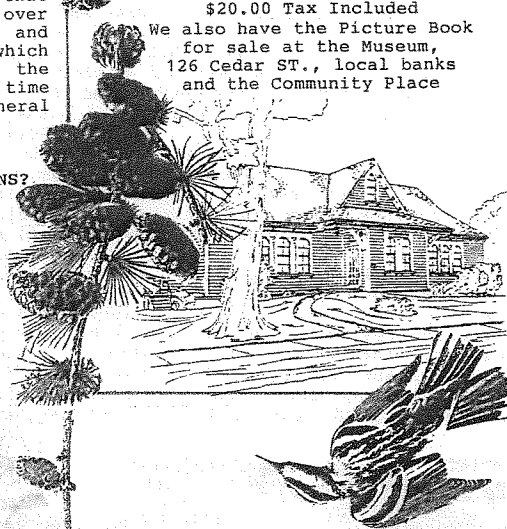


**WOODLAND GARDENS**  
The area's largest professional growers.

168 Woodland St. → Manchester  
Open 7 days → 643-8474

## OLD MANCHESTER II ...The Storytellers

80 different storytellers from 1789 to 1984  
14 chapters, 272 pages  
\$20.00 Tax Included  
We also have the Picture Book for sale at the Museum, 126 Cedar ST., local banks and the Community Place



## Needle In A Haystack



### Books

Collectible, Out of Print & Used books  
\*\* Tuesday - Jan. 24 - 7:00 PM \*\*  
Come & swap stories about old Buckland, Hilliardville, Meekville & Oakland  
with me, Sue Way your neighbors and your hosts Marcel & Mary Goetz  
218 Hartford Rd.  
P.O. Box 2362  
Manchester, CT 06045-2362 643-2468

**THE BRIGGS BOYS MOVE TO BUCKLAND**

"What was it like to move to Buckland in 1927 at the age of 11 and 13?" I asked. Well - Lawrence and Maynard tell me it was kind of tough for two country boys from the woods of Maine. They didn't know what to make of the Polish, Lithuanian, Russian, and other accents of their new neighbors. They had heard nothing like it in Maine. And then of course they discovered they had accents of their own which sounded mighty unusual to their new schoolmates. This let them in for a lot of teasing, and as brothers they soon found themselves fighting "back to back" on the playground. Larry remembers one fight in particular. He was wearing a new pair of pants, not easy to come by in those days, and he was pushed from behind into a mud puddle. This was the last straw as far as he was concerned and a fight was soon in progress, with Miss Irene Buckland leaning out the classroom window trying to put a stop to it. Larry had no intention of stopping until he had made his point no matter what the consequences. I'm sorry to say that I forgot to ask what the consequences were, but this fight may have in fact settled things between the boys. Larry and his opponent later became friends while working together in the tobacco fields. Larry and Maynard remembered trading lunches, some of their baked bean sandwiches for the black bread, mustard and lard sandwiches of their new friends of Eastern European heritage.

Why did their family move to Buckland? Their father John Briggs died in the Spring of 1927 at the logging camp where they lived in Maine. Their mother was Susan (Lathrop) Briggs and her parents, Charles and Susan (Burnham) Lathrop lived on Burnham St. in Buckland. Susan Lathrop died just a few weeks later. Charles Lathrop asked his daughter to come home and keep house for him. In return he would make a home for the three of them. The Briggs brothers have come to see that having two young grandsons move in was quite a trial for their grandfather, a retired farmer now aged 71. Their income would come from regularly renting 9 acres to the Hartman Tobacco Plantation for \$500 a year. It has been said to be some of their best tobacco land, some say that was because the Lathrops made a business of collecting night soil from Hartford tenements and carting it out to the farm for fertilizer. They also sold the vegetables they grew on Front St. in Hartford. Larry and Maynard chuckled over the story of the "honey cart" slopping over one night as their grandfather accidentally cut across a street corner giving the policeman standing on the corner an unwanted surprise! Susan also tyed tobacco and worked in the tobacco beds in the Spring for the Hartmans. The boys were soon earning some money of their own in the tobacco fields or across the street digging potatoes for Bert Lewis at 25¢ a basket. They did a little hunting - woodchuck, skunk(?), and squirrel with their break action 22 rifle and they did a little fishing at Batson's pond for bullheads (catfish to us

suburbanites), eels and caught frogs. Of course they had to tell me that the frogs legs kick in the frying pan. Charles Kaselauskas had to tell me the same thing. Susanne Batson Shorts never said anything about frogs, but she was the one who first told me about the boys playing hockey to go fishing!

The Briggs family arrived in the fall in time to start the new school year, and they came by train. They had their first good look at Manchester from the train station. Their belongings were packed in trunks and picked up later at the depot by their Grandfather with his "lumber box wagon". This was an 8'by4' wagon with sides used to haul lumber and many other things. (perhaps like the one that sits in front of Memory Lanes Antiques in Coventry) But, I had to ask, "How had a girl from So. Windsor and Manchester met a young man from Maine in about 1910?" Well, that's a story that takes a little telling.



E. H. MORSE.  
Proprietor.

Founded as a Bryant & Stratton College in 1860.



It is our purpose to develop the mental and moral powers of a student that he or she may make a successful and satisfactory business life.

We have 2 COMPLETE COURSES:—COMMERCIAL and SHORTHAND. Our Catalog explains them. Send for it.

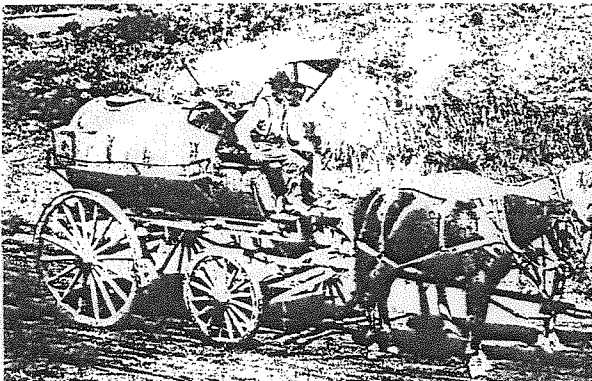
We have an elegant equipment.  
We employ high-saluted men teachers.  
We render weekly reports to parents.  
We enforce perfect discipline.

**839 MAIN STREET,**

Telephone 714-4. CORNER OF  
ASYLUM STREET,  
HARTFORD, CONN.

AND WHAT COULD THIS ALL HAVE TO DO WITH EDWARD H. MORSE PROPRIETOR OF MORSE BUSINESS COLLEGE

The family of Cyrus T. and Lorinda (Later) Briggs lived on the south side of the Kennebeck River upriver from Bingham, Maine. Maynard says the "T." didn't stand for anything it just looked good. Lorinda Later was Irish and was remembered for, among other things, smoking a clay pipe. Their home was called Briggs landing, or "the carrying place", or "the hunting place". They operated a grist mill and had strung a cable across the river with a barge with "sweeps" attached to it which ferried grain and flour and passengers, etc. back and forth to the main road on the other side of the river. [turn the "sweep" one way and the current pushed the barge across, turn the "sweep" the other way and the barge went in the other direction. They also took in boarders who wanted to take advantage of the good hunting and fishing in the area. About this time it was the habit of quite a few successful businessmen in Hartford to take their vacations here. Among these was Edward H. Morse who became particularly fond of the place and the family. He offered John Briggs sister Iva a scholarship to his Morse business college in Hartford. She accepted and while there boarded at the YWCA. At the same time Susan Lathrop had been left \$200 by her grandparents, Timothy and Roxy (Gillette) Burnham to be used towards her education. She chose to attend Dressmaking school in Hartford. It was most convenient to board there at the YWCA. Her roommate, of course was Iva Briggs. Susan was invited to come home with Iva for a vacation. There of course she met John. We'll leave the rest to your imagination. This is in fact the kind of story that many American families have in common. In the 1800's and early 1900's local schools were mostly grammar schools. For further education or training many young adults went away to school. Many families who moved west sent their children east to attend school. Susan E. Lathrop and John Briggs were married in 1911 at the Wapping Congregational Church.



The "Honey Wagon" may have looked something like this oil tank wagon.

**SCHEDULE** Free Inhabitants in *The Town of Coventry* in the County of *Connecticut* enumerated by me, on the *3* day of *August* 1850.

Dwelling-house numbered in the order of habitation.	Family numbered in the order of habitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	Description.		Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Place of Birth.	Males within the United States, within 100 years of age.	Females within the United States, within 100 years of age.
			Age.	Sex.				
70	81	Henry Lathrop	47	M	Farmer	Conn		
		Ellen Lathrop	44	F		Conn		
		Amelia Lathrop	23	F		Conn		
		Wm Lathrop	21	M	Hatter	Conn		
		George Lathrop	17	M	Manufacturer	Conn		
		David Lathrop	15	M		Conn		
		Marion Lathrop	11	F		Conn		
		Frederic H. Lathrop	8	M		Conn		
		Ellen G. Lathrop	3	F		Conn		

Town of Coventry 1850 Census

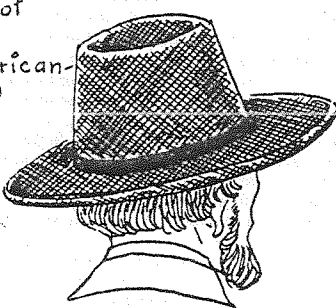
**BORN IN MINNESOTA ?**

Looking through 1900 Census records for Buckland I had noticed that Charles Lathrop was born in Minnesota. "Minnesota ?" I wondered, and so I asked now, "How had this happened?" I mentioned as well that I'd noticed that Mrs. John Hackett (Agnes Murtaugh Hackett) had also been born in Minnesota about 1888. The Briggs brothers were surprised to hear about Mrs. Hackett, but they knew their Grandfather's story very well, and it's quite a story. After hearing their story I set out to do some research, to see if I could document it and fill in some missing details. I had some success and learned some interesting things, and so what follows is their story with a few additions.

Charles Eugene Lathrop's parents, George Fayette Lathrop and Ellen Ora(?) Beers were married in Coventry 9 Mar., 1854. I found George at age 17 living with his family in the 1850 Census. (see above)- I have found that middle names were not common in America until the 1800's, and then they were often used to honor a grandparent, friend or some other important person. They had a practical purpose as well. Families were large and most sons wanted to name one of their sons after their father. You could very quickly have several George Lathrops living in the same area! Notice that George and his brother William are called "hatters" or "hat manufacturers". I think most of us would not have guessed that a lot of hats were made in Coventry, Ct.. In fact before 1850 Coventry had become a place with "considerable notoriety as a manufacturing village in advance of Willimantic." (History of Tolland Co.) This was largely due to the water of Lake Wamgunbaug (Coventry Lake) and Seth Boynton, his ingenuity and his carding mill built in 1815. (Boynton's Mill, Coventry, Ct. by A.E. Carlson & M. Williams) Seth Boynton was also an inventor (1st patent 1811) and improved, manufactured and sold carding machinery mostly to small service mills "that were principally for homespun". That is to say the farmers brought their raw material in to be carded and then brought the product home with them.

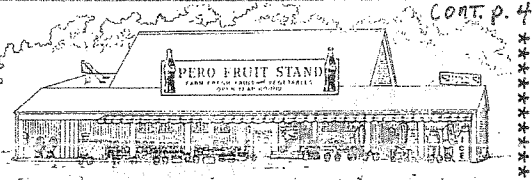
to be made into cloth. This enterprise brought prosperity to Coventry and also trained a good many 1st class mechanics, etc. However by the 1850's "factories were putting out cloth faster and cheaper than farm woman could". Hilliard's Mill in Buckland no doubt would have been one of those factories! By 1855 the bank had foreclosed on Boynton's Mill, but hat manufacturers and others were already filling the void. There were 5 cotton mills, 6 wool hat manufacturers, an iron foundry, saw mill grist mill, woolen mill and stove manufacturer in Coventry in 1850 according to the manufacturing schedule of the U.S. Census. From The Story of Columbia, Ct. 1954 where there were more of the same type of hatters: "The hats were made of wool cones, therefore the fields were full of sheep. The cones were delivered around town to the woman, who ironed them into shape with very heavy irons, some of which weighed 15 pounds. . . . The hats were hard, heavy and hot. (You have to wonder why they were used) It was a common sight in those days to see all the females old enough to sew, trimming hats during the long winter evenings. The trimming consisted in sewing in the hat band, piping the edge and putting a band around the crown. What a trial this was for their eyes can well be imagined, and they were satisfied if the family earned a couple of dollars a week. These were called 'nigger hats' (also plug hats) as the whole output was sent to the south and sold to slave owners for the outfitting of their slaves." (p.58) According to the family story George saw the Civil War coming, exactly when is uncertain, as you'll see. But, it must have been evident to most everyone that America and it's economy were going through great changes. People had been moving West since before the Revolution, but the economic turmoil and difficulties produced by the war encouraged and forced many to make the move west. New territories continued to be opened up and this in turn was putting pressure on the Eastern farm economy. -It's not surprising that George and Ellen decided the best future for them was in the west. George had grown up in a farming family. Even so, it must have been a big decision to make. Preparations for the trip can be imagined. It is believed

country hat of felt-American-1850

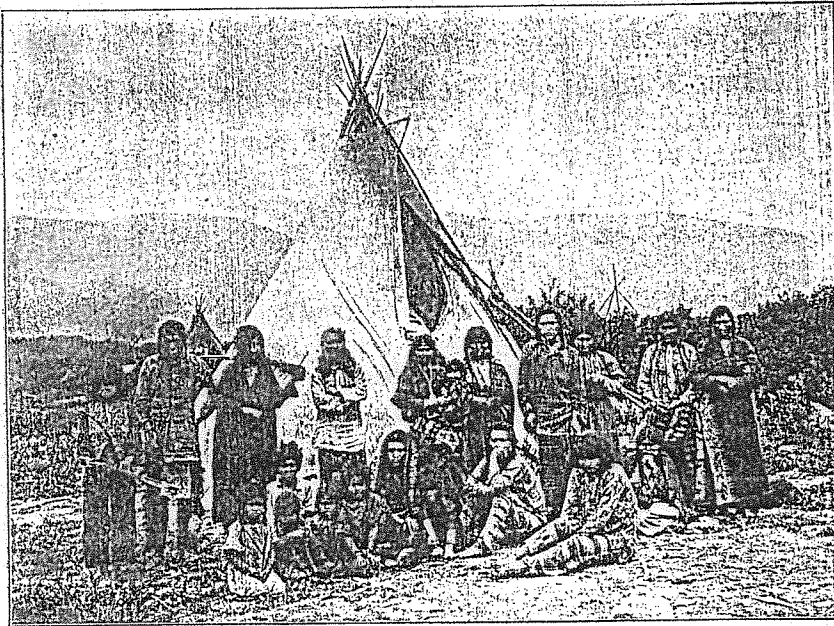


POPULATION OF COLUMBIA

1810 - 834
1820 - 941
1830 - 962
1840 - 842
1850 - 876
1860 - 832
1870 - 891
1880 - 757
1890 - 740
1900 - 655
1910 - 646
1920 - 706
1930 - 648
1940 - 853
1950 - 1329



**PERO FRUIT STAND**  
 276 Oakland Street Manchester, CT 06040  
 Phone (203) 643-6384  
 Watch for the "Oakland Extra" in the  
 \*\*\*\*\*!! next Buckland Times !!\*\*\*\*\*

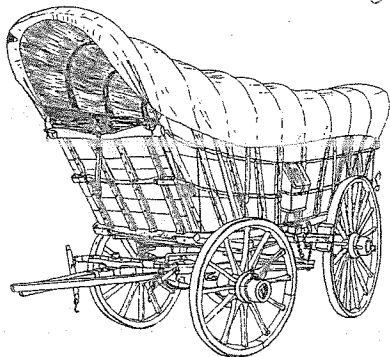


ONE OF THE "FIRST FAMILIES" OF ST. PAUL IN 1835.

that brother William and his family went as well. For women taking leave of family and friends was the most difficult thing. They took a train as far as the Mississippi River, forded and then went by covered wagon to Minnesota, the St. Paul area. And there in a town called Faribault in Rice Co. they built their cabin and on 2 Apr. 1856 Charles Eugene Lathrop was born. Treaties with the Indians that had occupied the land had been signed only a few years before. Below is a description from Minnesota a State Guide of what happened soon after the signing.

It's difficult to believe just how quickly development took place even in the 1850's. I won't try to describe the larger ongoing conflict between the settlers and native Americans who in this region were known as the Wapacoota a part of the Dakota tribe called the Sioux by the French. I will say however that most people don't seem to realize that pressures put upon the native American way of life forced many of them into starvation. The reference librarian at the Buckham Memorial Library in Faribault did some reading for me and confirmed my suspicions, the last buffalo was seen in that area in 1850. One morning while Ellen was alone in their cabin baking bread and Charles was still in the cradle two Indian braves and a squaw broke into the cabin. The squaw grabbed the baby and demanded the bread if she ever wanted to see her baby again Ellen gave them the bread of course and the baby was returned. This was the end of the incident. They had been very lucky. Perhaps it was realizing this along with receiving word of several cabins in a nearby town being burned that brought George Lathrop to the point of decision. They were moving back East. As you will see later George Lathrop was particularly sensitive to his wife's feelings. As difficult as it must have been they packed up and made the difficult trip back east. In fact they may have spared themselves from greater difficulties, the financial panic of 1857 (see below) and the "Sioux uprising"

Cont. p. 5



"Little Crow venomous leader of the Sioux uprising" 1862 the picture and caption come from The American Heritage Book of Indians. 1961 Picture above and caption come from "A Thrilling Narrative of the Minnesota Massacre and the Sioux war of 1862-63" by A. P. Connolly 1896

Minnesota a State Guide 1941 W. P. A. Historical Survey

a great tide of immigration began to flow into the southwestern part of the Territory. Steamboats on the Mississippi, the Minnesota, and the St. Croix were crowded with passengers and cargo; all the river landings bustled with colorful activity, as with every boat new arrivals disembarked and departed on stagecoaches over the newly constructed Government roads.

Many boarded the boats at Galena, Dunleith, or St. Louis. Others made the tedious journey overland in prairie schooners, driving their cattle, folding streams, and camping by the way. A few hoped to make their fortunes in commercial or professional fields, but the majority were eager for lands offered by the Government at a cost of \$1.25 an acre, proof of occupancy, and cultivation.

Pioneer homes began to dot the wilderness, at first chiefly in the hardwood country nearest the watercourses. Breaking and clearing the land was a laborious task with the limited facilities at hand, and comparatively little was at first cultivated. But by the close of 1854 about 500,000 acres had been sold in Minnesota; in 1856 more than 1,000,000 acres were transferred to settlers, and in 1858 nearly 2,500,000 more.

Villages sprang up almost overnight. The clatter of grist mills was heard on a dozen streams. Merchant milling had its first substantial beginnings in the St. Anthony vicinity in 1854, and soon Mississippi River traffic began to swell with shipments of wheat and flour to eastern and southern markets.



**SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in**

of Connecticut enumerated by me, on the 26th day of August 1860.

Post Office Coventry

Town of Coventry 1860 Census—the families of George F. and Ellen O. (here called Ora E.) Lathrop and William A. & Mary Lathrop.

33	196	209	William L Lathrop	31	m	Hatters	1800	1840	Coventry
34			Mary E	29	f				"
35			Mary L	1	f				"
36	210		George F Lathrop	26	m	Hatters	1840	1880	"
37			Ora E	24	f				"
38	*		Charles E	4	m				Minnesota*
39			Frederick H	9 1/2	m				Coventry

of 1862, "the first great attack in the Indian wars". [the reference librarian suggests that this book may be available through inter-library loan The Wapacoota and the White Man by Richard J. Steinmann 1971]

According to the family they stopped in Brooklyn upon their return and there George once again went to work in the hat business. Land records show that he bought land from his father in 1858 and the 1860 U.S. Census shows that by then they were living again in Coventry. If you were just looking at Census records you might think very little had changed since 1850 unless you looked to the right and noticed that Charles was in fact born in Minnesota! The 1860 industrial census shows that George Lathrop was operating a hat factory, having produced 500 doz. hats in that year. (It does say George Lathrop I checked the original at the State Library.)

Now of course the Civil War was fast approaching and would begin the following year 1861. He may have sold the business that year anticipating what the Civil War would do to his business, but apparently it

was not quite that simple for his brother William who is listed in probate records as an insolvent debtor in 1860. The coming conflict might have already had an effect on commerce or this may have been the best way to bring his business to a close. I suppose it would be difficult to add up all the businesses that suffered as a result of the war, but it's easy to see that the 1870 Industrial Census shows there were no longer any Hatters listed in Coventry. George Lathrop and family are still living in Coventry in 1870, but he is now working as a farm laborer. Their son Frederick H. Lathrop born in 1859 in Coventry died there in 1866 and was buried in the graveyard that happened to be very nearby and so, the story that was handed down from generation to generation says that Ellen woke up many nights thinking she heard her son crying. If you'll look carefully at the map above you'll see that a G. Lathrop lived on what today is Lake St. very close indeed to Nathan Hale Cemetery where Frederick is buried. Again George Lathrop moved his family this time to Long Hill Rd. in SO. Windsor

Cont. p. 6

**SCHEDULE 5.—Products of Industry in** Coventry **in the County of** Soldier **State** Connecticut **during the Year ending June 1, 1860, as enumerated by me,** Francis Peck **Ass't Marshal** Coventry **Office**

Name of Corporation, Company, or Individual, producing articles to the value of \$500.	Name of Business, Manufacture, or Product.	Capital Invested, in real and personal estate, in the Business.	RAW MATERIAL USED, INCLUDING FUEL.			Kind of Motive Power, Machinery, Structure, or Resources.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS.			ANNUAL PRODUCT.		
			Quantities.	Kind.	Value.		Males.	Females.	Persons of both sexes.	Quantities.	Kind.	Value.
John D. Lathrop	Hatter	400	300 lb.	Wool	300	Hand	1	25	125 doz	Woolen	110	
George Lathrop	Hatter	1000	200 lb.	Wool	130	Hand	3	25	571 doz	Woolen	160	
Francis Peck	Hatter	400	120 lb.	Wool	110	Hand	1	25	115 doz	Woolen	45	

**A History Of Minnesota**

One conservative Pennsylvanian who had come to St. Paul refused at first to lend at that rate, believing that no honest business could stand it. He finally ventured a small loan to a real estate dealer, who bought land of the government at \$1.25 per acre and sold it at \$2.50 to another, who in turn disposed of it at \$15.00, all within a brief time. The boom of 1856-57 in Minnesota had its parallel in all our western states, but it may be doubted whether its violence and rate were elsewhere quite equalled. The whole urban population was more or less infected with the virus of speculation. Fortunes seemed to be dropping from the skies, and those who would not reach and gather them were but stupid and sluggards. Every man who had credit or could obtain it invested in property which ever continued to rise in value. At the existing interest rate, every man who had money to spare would be slow to refuse a loan. Debt became universal. The boom was at no time greater than in the spring and summer of 1857. People were pouring in, hotels were overflowing, merchants could hardly keep their stocks filled up, the town-site speculators thronged the curbstones, there was prospect of a good harvest—all signs pointed to continued and increasing prosperity."

On the twenty-fourth of August the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company of New York failed; its immediate creditors were forced to default, as were those next in order. Before sundown there were suspensions and failures in every considerable town in the whole country. The panic struck Minnesota with extreme violence. The eastern banks and other creditors called their loans.

**The Minnesota Massacre: Sioux on the warpath**

In 1862, when North and South were locked in Civil War, the frontier state of Minnesota felt the fury of an even more fundamental internal conflict. The Santees, an eastern branch of the Sioux Nation, having endured a decade of traumatic change on a narrow reservation along the upper Minnesota River, launched the first great attack in the Indian wars that would rack the West for many years to come.

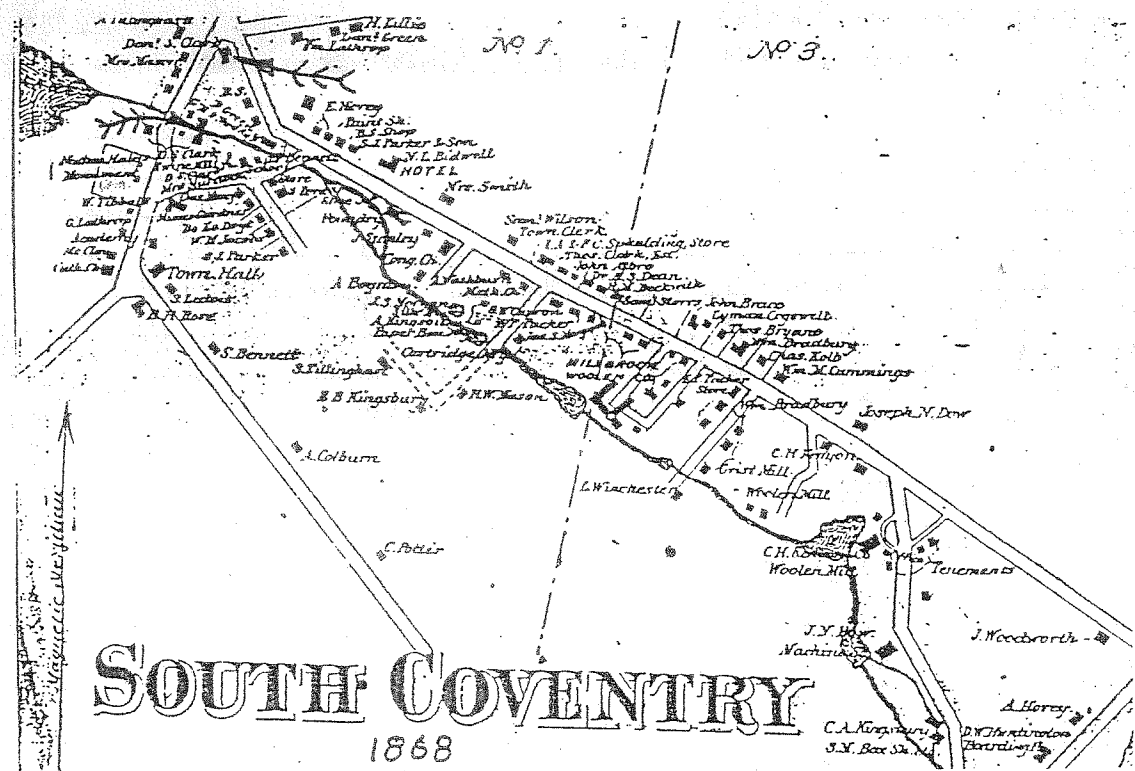
Eleven years earlier the tribe had ceded 24 million acres of hunting ground for a lump sum of \$1,665,000 and the promise of future cash annuities. Some genuine attempts had been made to ease the Indians into the society of whites. Indian families were offered brick houses (right) if they would agree to give up their hunting way of life and begin farming. Many of those who accepted this option continued to live in tipis, however, and used the brick houses for storage. In addition to the disruption of their culture the Sioux gradually found themselves dependent on trade goods, which made them easy prey for white merchants, who gave credit and then collected di-

rectly from the government. Thus the Indians saw little of the annuities for which they had sold their birthright. Their anger finally reached the flash point when, following a winter of near starvation, the annual payment failed to arrive on time.

Bursting from their reservation, they killed more than 450 settlers in the region before they were defeated by a hastily assembled force of raw recruits led by Colonel Henry Sibley (above, right). Even the Episcopal Bishop of Minnesota, Henry Whipple (above, left), a man of compassion and understanding who later pleaded with President Lincoln to spare the lives of most of the defeated miscreants, described the killing as "the most fearful Indian massacre in history."

After the uprising many horrified whites adopted the precept that naked force was the only law Western Indians could learn—while others like Whipple argued for peace. There followed alternate fighting and truce, which the U.S. Cavalry set out, once and for all, to end in 1876 in a great battle with the Sioux at Little Bighorn.

The Indians by Time-Life Books text by Benjamin Cappes p. 170 The Old West Series



in the hope that this would ease his wife's mind. Across the street lived the family of Timothy and Eveline(Gillette)Burnham and here Charles met their daughter Susan Burnham. George Lathrop moved once more to 278 Burnham St. having bought 9 acres and a house from Horace Keeney(not closely related to Dick Keeney but probably a cousin), who is said to have built the house. George and Ellen lived the rest of their lives here and left their home to Charles, who lived there to the remarkable age of 98. I would guess that a lot of you knew him, and his daughter Susan Briggs. She passed the Timothy Burnham house on to her son Maynard and the Lathrop house to Lawrence. The Burnham family has lived in this area for some 335 years and yes Inez Burnham Batson of Burnham St. and Susan Burnham Lathrop were related, as I figure it they were 4th cousins, making Susanne Batson Shorts and Lawrence and Maynard Briggs 7th cousins once removed (?).

- Thomas Burnham
- Thomas Burnham-Bro.-John Burnham
- Charles Burnham-1st cous.-John Burnham
- George Burnham- 2nd cous.-Silas Burnham
- Eli Burnham - 3rd cous.-Zenas Burnham
- Lucius Burnham- 4th cous.-Zenas Burnham
- Edward L. Burnham-5th cous.-Timothy E. Bunham
- Inez B. Batson-6th cous.-Susan B. Lathrop
- Susanne B. Shorts-7th cous.-Susan L. Briggs
- 7th c.1 r.-L. & M. Briggs

You can still see the Timothy Burnham house(Maynard's home) on Long Hill Rd., but not the Lathrop house. Sometime in 1975 someone at the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce decided that this section of Buckland was a potential sight for the J.C.Penney Warehouse. The public became aware of this in the Fall of '76 and the decisions had all been made "mountains moved" by June of '77. Very shortly this house and about 12 others were gone. It all happened so quickly, too quickly I think for the people of Manchester to think about what was happening. Personally I find it very hard to believe that American

law or principles required these people to give up their homes so that their land could be sold by the town to other private individuals (stock holders) only to promote the general economic well being of the town, hold down taxes, provide jobs. The State had passed a law allowing the town to use it's power of Emminent Domain to create an industrial park. What exactly gave them the right to do that? I think, if asked none of those stock holders, job seekers or citizens hoping for tax relief would have said that these people should be forced to give up their homes to provide them with these benefits. Where do your property rights come from? In America if you buy a piece of land and work hard noone can take it away from you- right? Or could it be that if your neighbors decide that your property is the best place for the next super store or business you'd better be prepared to take whatever the town offers you and look for another place to live, no matter what the consequences might be for you and your family. Does the law at least require the town to compensate you for the inconvenience of moving? No, it doesn't seem so. Is it too much to ask that an old house be moved? I don't think so. Can they compensate you for the loss of a home that holds three generations of family history? I doubt it. My price would be very high. These are some of the things that the people of Manchester didn't get the time to think about before they were asked to vote on the referendum that decided the issue. Fortunately some families are very hearty. Lawrence and Vivian Briggs live now in a very nice home in Vernon. I hope their story and this issue of the Buckland Times will show you how remarkable it is to look at some of the tangible evidence of our own great grandparents lives. It might serve to show as well that the course of true love nor American History ever did run straight, but love they say conquers all. \* \* \* \* \*

If you'd like some research done, January & Feb. are the best months to ask. Call 860-643-8313 or write Sue Way 74 Hudson St. Manchester, Ct 06040-3102

This issue of the Buckland Times was \*  
 "SPONSORED BY and PRINTED AT\*\*\* \*  
 \* \* \* \* \*

**EMBE** MAIL BOXES ETC®  
 THE PLAZA AT BURR CORNERS  
 MANCHESTER, CT 06040 (203) 643-6264

- Office Supplies
- Passport Photos
- Private Mailboxes
- FAX Transmissions
- Custom Packaging
- Rubber Stamps
- Copies
- Keys
- Corrugated Boxes
- Etc, Etc, Etc,

Page 6