

History written upon the stones.  
 Many an old story of Bradford told by the tombstone  
 of Elmwood Cemetery.  
 Early settlers of the town whose memory is not  
 permitted to be lost.

Some curious epitaphs as well as many that are  
 touched with pathos even after many years- early  
 incidents of the settling days of the town brought  
 to the mind by the names of the first Ministers  
 and others who were pioneers- a crying need for  
 work of restoration and improvement.

The old cemetery on Salem street in the  
 seventh ward is of much historic interest,  
 as on its stones are recorded names which  
 are closely interwoven with the history of  
 the early settlement of Bradford. Many  
 names there seen are familiar in our new  
 annex today, their ancestors who sleep in  
 this quiet spot being men highly respected  
 for their integrity and sterling worth and  
 who were honored with many positions of  
 public trust.

The first settlement in the vicinity of  
 Bradford dates back to 1649, when Rev.  
 Ezekiel Rogers gathered together 60 fami-  
 lies and settled with his flock on what  
 was called Rogers' plantation. It covered  
 the territory now occupied by Rowley,  
 Georgetown, Groveland, Boxford and  
 Bradford. One of the streets was called  
 Bradford street, as several of the settlers  
 had lived in Bradford, England.

The settlement at Bradford originated  
 from this colony, the first settlers being  
 John and Robert Haseltine and William  
 Wilde. An old stone, partly covered with  
 moss, in the old cemetery, which bears the  
 inscription "Here lyes burried ye body  
 of Deacon Robert Haseltine," marks the  
 final resting place of this pioneer settler.  
 Nearby is a stone engraved: "Hannah, ye  
 wife of Mr. Robert Haseltine, who died  
 March ye 13th 1729 and in ye 70th year of  
 her age." She was familiarly known as  
 Ann Haseltine and was the first bride in  
 the original colony in Rogers' plantation.  
 There were seven children. Lieut. David  
 Haseltine, who died in 1790, when 82 years  
 old, and Rachel, his wife, who passed  
 away in 1783, are interred nearby, and are  
 probably of the same family. Several old  
 stones of various dates bear the name of  
 Robert Haseltine and several generations  
 of these first settlers sleep here. The  
 first Robert Haseltine was appointed a  
 ferryman by the general court in 1655.  
 It is recorded that he was ordered to  
 "keep a ferry over the Merrimack river,  
 charging 4d. for the ferriage of a stranger  
 if they pay presently, and 6d. if they  
 bookt."

William Wilde sold out his claim in the  
 settlement in a few years and moved to  
 Ipswich, where he died in 1662. The grant  
 given by Rowley to the original settlers  
 was 40 acres, and a written agreement in  
 which minor claims were set forth was  
 signed by all interested. John Haseltine,  
 being unable to write made his mark

soon other families were attracted to this  
 location and the little colony increased.  
 Ten years after the first settlement there  
 were many houses built, and, the Indians  
 being troublesome, three garrison houses  
 were erected in different parts of the col-  
 ony. The community was called "Rowley  
 village on the Merrimack." Later this  
 was changed to Merrimack, but Jan. 7,  
 1672, it was changed to Bradford, in mem-  
 ory of Bradford, England.

In 1665 John Haseltine, one of the origi-  
 nal settlers, who had previously moved  
 to Haverhill, gave the town an acre of  
 land for a site for a meetinghouse and  
 burial place. From this date it is proba-  
 ble that interments took place in what  
 is now the old cemetery. Many of the  
 oldest stones are broken and not legible,  
 being covered with moss and rust. One  
 of the oldest stones which can be read  
 marks the grave of John Spofford, who  
 died April 22, 1697. There are probably  
 several older, but the dates have been  
 obliterated by time and neglect. The  
 greater number of the oldest stones which  
 are legible bear dates later than 1700.

The first meeting house stood on the  
 west corner of the cemetery, and the  
 dead were interred in the rear. It was  
 built in 1670, five years after the land  
 was donated to the town, and was a rude  
 log house. However, it must have been  
 of a good height, as it is recorded that in  
 1690 a gallery was added. The first school-  
 house erected in the town was also built  
 on this lot, and it was 22 feet long, 18 feet  
 wide and studded 7 feet."

The town was incorporated in 1668, and  
 annual public meetings were held from  
 that date. Religious services were also  
 held occasionally in the large barns of the  
 settlers. The first minister to hold meet-  
 ings was Rev. Zechariah Symmes, son  
 of Rev. Zechariah Symmes of Charles-  
 town, Mass., who, with his family, came  
 over from England in the same ship with  
 Mrs. Ann Hutchinson. His first year's  
 salary was "forty pounds, one half in  
 wheat, pork, butter and cheese, the other  
 half in corn and cattle." In 1668, a very  
 unpretentious parsonage was built, and in  
 1708 the second parsonage was erected op-  
 posite the cemetery, where Alfred Towne  
 now lives. This house was recorded as  
 being "45 feet by 20 and 15 feet stud, and  
 having 4 chimbleys." Mr. Symmes was  
 born in Charlestown in 1637 and was a  
 man of large stature. He preached for a  
 time in Pawtucket, R. I., previous to com-  
 ing to Bradford in 1667. In 1681 he asked  
 the authorities to grant him "a con-  
 venient burial place" in the old cemetery,  
 and it was voted and granted, the place  
 selected being in the eastern side of the  
 hollow. Here he was laid to rest  
 years old. The stone which marks

grave is in a good state of preservation, and the inscription, which is in Latin, tells of his life, labors and goodness. His wife is buried nearby, and the inscription on her stone is almost obliterated.

The second church was erected on the hill a few rods east of the first building. It was built in 1705, and was 48 feet long, 40 feet wide and 20 feet stud. This church stood until 1751, when the third church was built on the common, nearly opposite the present church on Church street. The second pastor was Rev. Thomas Symmes, son of the first. He was installed at Bradford, December, 1708, and is described as "a goodly person, having a clear, good voice and genteel deportment; agreeable and affable, having a quick temper, but keeping it under control; strong intellectually and studious." He introduced singing by note and in parts into the church and met much opposition. Later he introduced instrumental music, and it brought out a loud protest. To a committee that waited upon him regarding this innovation, he replied: "I introduced, and I shan't be determined by those who neither know what they say nor whereof they affirm. The pastor is master in doctrine and music." His firm stand carried the day, and instrumental music continued to be part of the service. He died in 1725, and his stone bears the inscription: "Rev. Thomas Symmes, died Oct. 8, 1725, aged 43. He was an eminent Christian, very lowly in his life, and every way an accomplished minister, of great industry, fidelity, and concern for the generation after, saying, 'While I live I will seek their good, and when I die, write on my grave: Here lies one who loved and sought the good of the rising generation.'" Nearby is interred his wife, and her stone records: "Here lies all that was mortal of Elizabeth, wife of Rev. Thomas Symmes, who died in 1714, aged 38 years."

One of the most curious features of this cemetery is a row of slate stones about the centre, which mark the graves of the six wives of Nathaniel Thurston, who lived in the brick house which is quite near the cemetery. His first choice was named Betsy. She died in 1790, when 34 years old, and shortly afterward he married a lady named Martha, who died in 1799, when 32 years. Not discouraged, Mr. Thurston again entered the matrimonial harness in a very short time with a younger lady named Huldah, who died when 24 years, in 1801. One child of this union, named Benjamin, died the same year, and is buried near. Again this much bereaved gentleman wedded a lady named Clarissa, who shared his joys and sorrows but a short time, dying in 1803.

When his first wife died he buried her in the middle of the lot, and those in succession were interred north of her. But he had evidently not counted on so many wives, as the space gave out with number four's interment. He must have had a preference for the name of Martha, as his fifth choice bore the same name as the second. When she died, in 1804, the space began to be filled in the other direction, and Martha number two, who was wife number five, rests beside wife number one.

Only one year was between the death of this lady and her predecessor. By this time the marrying habit seems to have become chronic with Mr. Thurston, and he took as a sixth helpmate a lady named Mary, who followed the rest in 1808. Even a sixth bereavement did not dismay him and he made a seventh choice, the lady's name being Emma. Later he went to New York and shortly afterwards died there. His body was brought back to Bradford and interred at the end of the conspicuous row, aside of number six. A

stone similar to the six slate ones, all of which record that each wife was the "comfort or consort of Nathaniel Thurston," marks his grave. It is inscribed: "Hon. Nathaniel Thurston. Died at Lanesburg, N. Y., Oct. 21, 1811. Aged 56. For many years he was a member of the legislature, and was distinguished for his benevolence and greatly lamented by his friends." His seventh wife, it is pleasing to record, survived him. She returned to her relatives in Marblehead and died some years afterward, but her body was not brought to Bradford to be placed in this row. As Mr. Thurston was but 56 years old at the time of his death, yet had had seven wives, had he lived to an old age it is appalling to think of what a record he might have made.

The Griffings were among the earliest settlers in Bradford, and old stones record the resting place of Theophilus Griffing, who died in 1717, and Nathaniel Griffing, who passed away in 1763. Several other members of this family are also interred here.

The large number of stones bearing the name of Kimball would seem to infer that that numerous family were all dead were it not for the fact that the Bradford directory contains almost two pages of that name, which was connected with many public interests in the early history of the town. On the oldest stones the name is spelled Kembell, and Capt. Richard Kembell, whose grave is marked by a very old stone, was one of the committee of three that was chosen to attend to the ordination of the third pastor of the town.

Jonathan Kimball was another old settler who rests here with several of his family. Abel Kimball lived to be 78, dying in 1846, and his wife, Abigail, who died about 30 years ago, lived to the round age of 94 years. Manuel Kimball died in 1858, when 83 years. Capt. Jonathan Kimball died in 1856, his wife, Abigail, dying the year previous. Thomas Kimball was the first constable of the town. Lieut. Edward Kimball died in 1861 and his wife, Sophia, in 1826. Leonard Kimball passed away in 1853, George Kimball died in 1862 and his wife, Betsey, in 1874. Elizabeth Kimball, who lived to the age of 88, and Charles Kiruball, who rounded three-quarters of a century, also rest here. Hezekiah Kimball was among the early settlers and died in 1833. Royal Kimball died one year previous, and his wife, Ann, died in 1859. Daniel Kimball died in 1815, and on the stone erected to his wife, Mary, who died in 1823, is the verse:

"Behold, my friends, as you pass by,  
As you are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, so you must be;  
Prepare for death and follow me."

Capt. Daniel Kimball died in 1801 and his wife, Sarah, who died in 1833, almost reached the century mark, being 96 years when her death occurred. Joseph Kimball and his wife, Abigail, both lived to be 73 years, and Jesse Kimball, who died in 1827, was 66 years. On his stone is the following:

"I yet do speak, tho' I am dead,  
The sovereign Lord made this my bed.  
And what I have to say to thee  
Prepare for death and follow me."

In 1784 Francis Kimball built and ran a saw mill on the shores of Johnson's creek, and many of that name were connected with that industry. Joseph Kimball, with Eliphalet Hardy, also ran a grist mill there, which was known as the "lower." All three sleep in this quiet spot. Ebenezer Kimball died in 1798, his wife Mary following in 1819, when 96 years. Edmund Kimball and his wife Rebecca were early settlers, the latter living to be 92 years. Timothy Kimball died in 1800, and William in 1795. The stones which mark both graves are of black slate.

A marble slab on four posts is erected to the memory of Obadiah Kimball and his wife. It is inscribed: "To the memory of Deacon Obadiah Kimball, who deceased 22nd of Oct. 1804. Aetat. 76. And Mrs. Abigail Kimball, who deceased 8th of Dec. 1804. Aetat. 76.

"The saints on earth and all the dead  
But one communion make.  
All join in Christ, their living head,  
And of his grace partake."

Eliphalet Kimball died suddenly in 1785. Lieut. Benj. Kimball and his wife, Betsey T., sleep near by, and besides the above named scores of that numerous family found here a resting place.

Daniel T. Pearsons, who died in San Francisco in 1850, is interred here, and on his stone is the verse:

"Tho' cold Daniel's pillow and dark his  
abode  
As the shade which at even tide play;  
Invisible spirits encircle the clod  
And watch the slow, mouldering clay."

The third pastor of the Bradford church was Rev. Joseph Parsons, who was ordained at Bradford June 8, 1726. His ministry of 39 years was very successful. Many of his sermons were collected and printed. A copy of one of them which was preached at an installation at Salisbury, entitled "A Minister's Care About His Life and Doctrine," is in the Boston Public library. He died in Bradford in 1765, and a stone, erected by his parishioners, bears the following inscription: "This stone is placed over the dust of the Rev. Joseph Parsons, A. M., Pastor of the First Church in Bradford, as a testimonial of the esteem and regard his flock bore to him as an excellent minister and christian. Prepared for a better world he was favored with a quick and easy dismissal from this May ye 4th, 1765, in the 63rd years of his age and the 39th of his ministry." The inscription on the lower part of the stone is almost obliterated, and were it not for the support of a friendly tree, against which it leans, it would probably have fallen before this time. At the back of this stone, leaning against it, is another which presumably was erected by his family. It is inscribed: "Rev. Joseph Parsons, A. M., son of the Rev. Joseph of Salisbury. Graduated, 1720. Ordained, 1726. He preached the Artillery Election Sermon, 1744, and the Governor's Election Sermon, 1759. Died May 4, 1765, in the 63rd year of his age and the 39th of his ministry." His wife, Frances Usher, daughter of Lieut.-Governor Usher of New Hampshire, lies buried near. She was one of 10 children. Her stone is engraved: "Here lies buried Frances, the wife of Rev. Mr. Joseph Parsons, who died Sept. 18th, 1747, in the 43rd year of her age." A daughter, Elizabeth, who died in 1734, and a son, William, who passed away in 1742, are interred near by. On the footstone of the former a coffin is crudely carved, and its grimness is unpleasantly suggestive.

A plain white slab marks the grave of a Prussian who found rest here. It is inscribed: "Charles Berg. Born in Kirn, Prussia, on the Rhine, Nov. 29, 1827. Died in Bradford, July 4, 1858. 30 years.

In sacred slumber dust to dust  
My own loved husband lies;  
May I submissive bow and trust  
That God of love who formed the skies."

Several of the Merrill family are interred here. Joseph Merrill, who died in 1798, and Richard, who passed away a year later, sleep side by side.

Asa Merrill died in 1808, and Jesse in 1816. Mary Merrill died at Boxford in 1811, and on the stone erected to Timothy Merrill, who died in 1804, is the verse:

"While quick he plunged the watery deep  
His body sank in lasting sleep,  
But here the billows end their strife,  
The spirit mounts to endless life."

The Carletons were among the earliest settlers in Bradford, and scores of that name found rest in this spot. Among the first was "Bezabeel Carleton, who departed this life in 1777." On a stone near by it is recorded that Sarah Rollins, who died in 1804, was "formerly the wife of Bezabeel Carleton." Abigail Carleton, "relict of Deacon Thomas Carleton," was 77 years old when she died in 1789, and Thomas Carleton died in 1772. He was one of the pioneer manufacturers of South Groveland, then called East Bradford, and in 1760 he built a fulling mill on Johnson's creek. Jacob Carleton was a later member of that family, who passed away in 1847, and Sally, his wife, died in 1835. Col. Daniel Carleton was a man of much prominence, who died in 1821 when 60 years old. "Mettabel" relict of Col. Daniel Carleton, died in 1835, and Sarah Carleton the same year. Nehemiah was another member of that numerous family, who died in 1845 after lying three-quarters of a century, and his wife, Lydia, who died three years previous, was 68 years of age when death beckoned. The stones erected to Stephen Carleton and his wife Judith are very old, and the greater part of the inscription is not legible. A large number of this name are interred in the oldest part of the cemetery, and many of the stones are almost covered with moss.

Members of this family built the first saw mill erected near Johnson's creek. Some years ago the mud sills of this mill were discovered. Edward Carleton built a grist mill on the shore of the creek, and did what was called an extensive business in those days. Phineas Carleton, in connection with Aaron Parker, built several mills there. The sluice-way of one of these mills was dug by Cuff Dole, who is noted as "a person of color, of remarkable strength, of steady habits, and who died in the comfortable hope of a blessed immortality."

A curious verse is on the stone erected to James Campbell, who died in 1813. It reads:

"My life was eighty-two years long,  
But quickly ended like a song.  
Come, young & old, you've souls to save,  
Prepare for death, see here's the grave."

William Conkey died in 1807 when but 26 years old, and his stone bears the following:

"Death with his dart has pierc'd my hart,  
When I was in my prime.  
When this you see, grieve not for me,  
'Twas God's appointed time."

The fourth pastor of the Bradford church was Rev. Samuel Williams, grandson of Rev. John Williams of Deerfield, Mass., who was taken captive by the Indians at the time of the Deerfield massacre. He was ordained at Bradford Nov. 20, 1765, and remained until 1780, when he left to teach in Harvard as professor of mathematics and natural philosophy. His last years were spent in Rutland, Vt.

The fifth pastor was Rev. Jonathan Allen, a native of Braintree, Mass. He was ordained in Bradford, June 5, 1781. When Ann Judson and Harriet Newell, who were both at one time pupils at Bradford academy, decided to adopt a missionary life, a special service was held in Haverhill previous to their taking leave of the town. Rev. Mr. Allen preached the sermon on that occasion, and it made a deep impression. The services closed by the congregation uniting in singing a hymn written by this minister. Part of it was as follows:

"Go, ye heralds of salvation,  
Go and preach in heathen lands;  
Publish loud to every nation  
What the Lord of life commands.  
To His grace we now resign you,  
To Him only you belong;  
You with every Christian Hindoo,  
Join at last th' angelic song."

Mr. Allen wrote many hymns and composed poems which were very popular in their day. Among them were "On the Existence of God," "Eulogy on General Washington" and "An Ode to Creation." In the famous revival of 1806, which spread all over Massachusetts, many of his hymns were sung, and several of them are found today in popular hymn books. Growing old in the service, a young minister was installed to aid him and shortly afterward his public ministry ceased. He died in Bradford. A plain, unpretentious marble slab marks his grave, which is not far from the street. On it is inscribed: "Rev. Jonathan Allen, Senior pastor of the first church in Bradford. Died Mar. 6, 1827. Aged 78.

"Blessed are the righteous and forever blest,  
In the high mansions of immortal rest.  
Yea, blessed is their memory, it shall bloom  
In fragrant memory o'er the mouldering tomb."

A plain slate stone marks the grave of Mr. Allen's first wife, Elizabeth, who died June 21, 1821, when 72 years old. The following verse is on the stone:

"Death has no more for thee to dread,  
Let rest attend thy lowly bed.  
Till the last trumpet rends the skies,  
Then in thy Saviour's image rise."

Nearby is a marble slab which has fallen flat on the grave of his second wife, and which is inscribed: "Mrs. Mary, wife of Rev. Jonathan Allen, died Sept. 12, 1854. Aged 83 years.

"Rest, dear mother, rest,  
Away from earthly care.  
Ascend and dwell among the blest,  
And live forever there."

Among the early settlers were found many of the Woodman family. An old stone, much defaced, has this inscription: "This in memory of Stephen Woodman, who departed this life Feb. the 9th, 1781, in the 80th year of his age." Nathaniel Woodman died in 1797. On the stone to Richard Woodman, who died in 1855, are the words:

"He lived in peace with all men  
And died in peace with his Maker."

His wife, Mary, died two years later, when 69 years old. Many other members of the Woodman family are interred here.

The stone erected to Joseph, son of Stephen and Betsey Colby, has the following verse:

"Art thou in health and spirits gay?  
I, too, was so the other day.  
And thought myself of life as safe  
As thou who reads this epitaph."

Dr. Benjamin Mussey, who died in 1799, when 63 years old, was a prominent figure in Bradford's early history. His wife Sarah died in 1821, when over four score years. Miss Eliza Mussey died in 1797, and Charles of the same family passed away when he had lived but one score of years. His stone notes his early death:

"See there the youth whose cheerful bloom  
Promised a train of years to come.  
When death derided the expected joys  
And all the flattering hopes destroys."

The Tenney family records go back to the early history of Bradford, and several old stones record that members of that family found rest here. Lieut. John Tenney, who died July 1, 1808, was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and the stars and stripes float over the grave of this fearless man. Beside him rests his wife, Rose, who died in 1785. James Tenney died in 1815 and Charlotte, his wife, died eight years later. On the stone that records the death of Mrs. Hannah Tenney it is recorded that she was "formerly the wife of Obadiah Hall." She

rests beside her first choice, who died in 1738. A monument is erected to Shurral Tenney and his family, who are buried near Nathaniel Thurston and his six "comforts." Mr. Tenney lived to be over four score, dying in 1823, and his wife, Martha, lived within four years of the century mark. Two daughters, Rebecca and Mary, rest nearby.

The stone erected to Sarah Patridge, who died in 1844 at the early age of 23, has the verse:

"Farewell! But round our bleeding hearts

Dear thoughts of these shall twine;  
And fondly cherished there, impart  
The virtues that were thine."

Several members of the very numerous Brown family rest here, among them Samuel Brown, who died in 1848, and his wife, Lois C., who passed away 25 years ago, when over 70 years old. On her stone is the chilling verse:

"Come to my grave alone when no foot-  
steps are falling near,

And water my lowly bed with affection's  
gentle tear.

Pause by the heartless stone, by the  
marble cold and chill,

And think of the heart below as the mar-  
ble cold and still."

Benjamin Brown, who died in 1835, and his wife Parthenia, who lived three-quarters of a century, dying in 1873, are also interred here. John Markle was an old settler who died in 1844 when four score years, and his wife, Elizabeth, followed three years later. Other members of this family who are interred nearby were named Milton, Addison and Burton.

A large slate slab which rests on four posts records the death of Benjamin Gage and his wife. It is inscribed: "Beneath this stone is interred the remains of Maj. Benj. Gage, who departed this life July 27, 1796. Aetat 66. Likewise the remains of Mrs. Priscilla Gage, consort of Maj. Benj. Gage, who lived but one day after her husband. Aetat 67. They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and death they were not divided.

"That friendship which unites the pair,  
That love which soothes each anxious  
care,

Must cease when death dissolves the  
chain

And marriage vows no more remain.

The husband and the wife must lie

Till the last trumpet's sound

Awake the dust beneath the ground.

May but that love our souls inspire

Then may we quit this mortal strife

And sweetly languish into life."

Abijah Gage, who lived to be 93 years, dying in 1836, is interred here, and also his wife, Deborah, who died in 1828 when 84 years. William and Clarissa Gage, who rest nearby, are of this family. The stone erected to Lieut. Asa Gage, who died in 1807, suggests a solemn thought:

"Mortals, how few among your race

Have given this thought its weight;

That on the flying moment hangs

Your everlasting state."

Mary, "relict of Lieut. Asa Gage," who died when 75 years of age, in 1841, sleeps near. On her stone is engraved the pertinent question:

"Oft as the bell with solemn toll

Speaks the departure of a soul,

Let each one ask himself "Am I

Prepared, should I be call'd to die?"

Capt. Nathaniel Gage and 40 others from Bradford took a prominent part in the battle of Bunker Hill. Uriah Gage and his wife Hannah, who both died in 1837, were aged respectively 82 and 73 years. One stone marks their graves. Mr. Gage was one of the earliest shoe manufacturers in this vicinity. In 1792, he and Timothy Phillip, Samuel and Wil-

Ham Tenney were engaged in the manufacture of shoes. In Bradford, and their shoes, at first carried on horseback, were sent to Boston, Salem, Newburyport and Portland.

An amusing story is told of Rev. Mr. Allen, Bradford's fifth pastor, who was very friendly with Uriah Gage, who was a genial, hospitable man. Mr. Allen had started a temperance society which was not a total abstinence society; the members only pledging themselves to abstain from excessive use. Mr. Allen, with Deacon Griffin, called on Mr. Gage; and after discussing the new movement, asked the latter to sign this unique pledge. A few minutes afterward Mr. Gage asked them to "take something," producing a decanter and "fixins." The visitors looked at each other, and Mr. Allen remarked: "I believe, Deacon, we have a clause in our constitution which allows us to drink on extra occasions." "Yes," answered the deacon, "and it's a pretty cold day." "And," added the minister, "it's very clear that this is an extra occasion." It is needless to add that after refreshments were partaken of the subject of temperance was not again discussed.

Like the Kimball family, the long rows of stones bearing the name of Day would seem to indicate that the family was extinct, but the many bearing that name at present in the seventh ward contradicts this supposition. On two rows of conspicuous stones the names of 20 members of this family are recorded, and many others are interred in different parts of the cemetery. Among the oldest stones is one erected to Deacon Moses Day, who died in 1751. Abraham Day died in 1784, and his wife Mary died four years previous. Joseph Day died in 1852, and his wife six years later. Another Joseph and his wife, who is termed "consort," both died the same year, 1806. Nearby rest Thomas, Frederick, Benjamin and his wife, and Bailey Day and his wife, Hannah. Royal Day, who is interred here, owned a very large farm at Ward Hill, which is today known as the "Day place," and many of that family live in that part of Bradford.

Many of the Head family lived at Ward Hill, and several of that name reside there at present. "Head's hill" still bears the name of those early settlers. Many of them are interred here, among them Amos Head, who died in 1725, when 70 years, and his wife Mehitabel, who lived within one year of fourscore, dying in 1832.

Hubel Walker was the pioneer in the finishing of leather industry. He was also one of the first town clerks. He is interred here with many others of that family, the inscriptions on their stones being almost obliterated by time. Sarah Walker, who died in 1803, and Mary, who passed away 12 years later, when a year over fourscore, were of this family.

Many of the Webster family now living in Bradford have ancestors interred in this ancient burial place. A curious stone marks the grave of Ebenezer Webster. He was one of the first members of the church, joining in 1742. He died in 1768. The verse on his stone is all run together, as follows:

"Halt passenger as you go by remember man was born to die consider time is running fast and death will surely come at last."

Samuel Webster died in 1769, when 80 years. His wife, Mary, died the following year, when 77 years. Another Samuel Webster died in 1815, and his wife, also named Mary, three years later. Asa Webster was another early settler, who died in 1775. Very old stones are placed at the graves of Robert Mulicren and his wife, Rebecca, who both died about the middle of the last century, after living nearly 90 years. They were identified with the first church, and their names are recorded

among the early members. Samuel Mulicren died in 1720.

Capt. Daniel Thurston was a representative from Bradford in 1773, and was chosen to represent the town at the provincial congress held at Cambridge. He died in 1831, when 72 years, and Susan, his wife, lived until 1843, when she was fourscore years. Another Daniel Thurston died in 1855, and Abigail, his wife, in 1829. Joshua Thurston and his wife, Clarissa Ann, both died in 1845, he surviving but one month after her demise.

Chadwick street in Bradford attests that many of that name lived in the town. An iron fence surrounds the lot where lies Samuel Chadwick and his wife, Hannah, who both died in 1863, when over 70 years. Another Samuel, presumably a son, and his wife, who was also named Hannah, repose in the same enclosure, the latter living 85 years. Jonathan Chadwick died in 1808, when 78, and "Sarah, relict of Jonathan Chadwick," died in 1821 at the round age of 87 years. William, Broadstreet and Dorothy Chadwick, who rest nearby, were of this family. Col. Benjamin Chadwick died in 1857, and Joseph in 1832. The wife of the latter died in 1839. Both she and her husband were 71 years old when they passed away. A score of this family lie in this old plot, awaiting the final call.

Several of the Peabody family live not far distant from this burial place, where repose many of their ancestors, and the Peabody school attests that many of that name were connected with the history of Bradford. Among those who rest here are John Peabody and his wife, Alice, Mary and Martha, their daughters, rest nearby, and on the stone erected to the latter is the terse truth:

"From death's arrest no age is free."

Thomas West was one of the earliest settlers, who died in 1782. Mary West died in 1781, when 85 years. Thomas Morse was another pioneer settler, who died in 1799. His wife, Elizabeth, followed three years later. Both were over 70 years. Four other members of the Morse family are buried near. James Lindall died in 1782. Ezra Trask and his wife and daughter, Matilda, sleep not far distant. The latter passed away the last year of the 18th century.

Many descendants of the first settler, Robert Haseltine, who kept the first inn in Bradford, died in 1768. A very old stone records "Here lies buried Mrs. Deborah Greshom Haseltine, who died Oct. the 25th in the 62nd year of her age." Amos Haseltine died in 1824 after three-quarters of a century of life, and his wife, Abigail, died 10 years later, when 81 years. A stone erected to John Haseltine has the inscription: "Deacon John Haseltine. Born in Chester, N. H. Exit in Bradford in 1837. Aged 80 years." Rebecca, his wife, died in 1846.

Mrs. Abiah, wife of Phineas Cole, died in 1775, and Catherine, his second choice, died 20 years later. Abigail and Bethiah Cole, who both died in 1775, sleep near Abraham Tyler and his wife, Hannah, died respectively in 1821 and 1828, and Phineas P. Tyler and his wife, Sarah Ann, rest close by.

William Stickney was a selectman in the early days of Bradford's incorporation. On the old stones the name is spelled Steickne, and one very ancient stone records that Prudence Steickne died in 1716. Several of the Parker family were also among the earliest settlers. Daniel Parker died in 1740. Moses Parker was a man of much influence in the pioneer days of the town and kept the first store of any importance in what was then called East Bradford. This store, which was a typical country store, was at what is still known as "Parker's Corner" in South Groveland.

Samuel Jenkins died in 1859. His first wife was named Survier and his second choice died in 1852. Calvin Jenkins is interred near by. Other old settlers were Joshua Alice and his wife Susan, John Stevens, who lived to be 72 years, and also Mrs. Deborah Hovey and Eliza Jane and Ann Hovey, whose graves are marked by black slate stones. Mrs. Dolley Shortridge, who died in 1855, when 78 years, is interred near by.

Ebenezer Griffin died in 1729, when 66 years; his wife, Priscilla, preceded him 4 years. This family was very prominent in the early public affairs of the town. Other old settlers were Isaac, Phebe and Abigail Buswell. The Osgoods figured prominently in the early settlement, and it is recorded that in 1647 John Osgood and Thomas Hale were appointed "to lay out the road from Andover to Haverell." Several of this family rest here. Samuel Trask, his wife and several of that name are interred here and several of the Hill family. Samuel Phillips died in 1829 and his wife six years later. Hiram Phillips died in 1854, when 50 years, and his wife, Judith F. Wilkins, passed away four years ago, when 82 years. Jesse Johnson, who died in 1830, rests near. Alice, wife of Deacon Enoch Allen, died in 1833, and a stone is erected to "Mrs. Elizat, wife of David Burphee," who died in 1828. Edwin Blodgett died in 1849. Many others who were identified with the early interests of Bradford are interred here.

The ancient character of this cemetery can be seen from the fact that but three soldiers of the civil war are interred here. They are: David Heckman, who was a member of Co. F of the 50th Massachusetts; Joseph Myers, a member of Co. K in the same regiment, and Charles H. Stewart of Co. A of the 19th Massachusetts. The colors they loved float over the graves of those heroes who faced death for love of country.

In the oldest part of the cemetery many of the stones are broken and fallen, and parts of it bear a look of utter neglect. Several of the stones erected at a comparatively late date are also fallen or falling. As the greater part of the names recorded here are familiar in Bradford today a movement among its citizens—or at least among those who have ancestors buried here—to preserve the records of this historic spot would be a commendable one. A visit to Pentucket cemetery will show what a small amount of money can do to beautify and preserve an ancient cemetery and make it what the last resting place of the dead should be. As the site of the first church and schoolhouse this cemetery also possesses a historic interest.

When the early citizens who took so much pride in their native town were laid to rest here nothing disturbed the quiet of the spot save an occasional farmer's team which was driven leisurely past. Until 1854, the year when the Georgetown branch of the Boston and Maine railroad was built, no shrill whistle of a locomotive disturbed the slumberers. Could they revisit earthly scenes today they would wonder at the iron horse which rushes past this spot on the east, and the whirr of the electrics on the west would confuse their minds, which were not familiar with our rapid transit methods of travel. Such noise and bustle would cause them to wish to return to their quiet sleep in Mother Earth, while the fact that Bradford had almost lost its identity and merged into "greater Haverhill" would be a most marvellous piece of news to the inmates of these narrow cells. Ancient cemeteries, like histories, are a link between the past and the present, and are sacred spots which should be revered and respected and an effort made to preserve their records from being obliterated by time or forgetfulness.

## Frank D. Kelly Heads Cemetery Association

Frank D. Kelley was elected president of the Proprietors of Elmwood Cemetery at the annual meeting of the organization in the Bradford postoffice last night.

Other officers elected were: clerk and treasurer, Thomas D. Brown; trustees, the foregoing and George E. Durgin, George E. Kimball, Oscar A. Chapman, Clifford Poor and Charles G. Johnson.

At a meeting of the trustees following the regular meeting, Oscar Adams was elected acting superintendent to succeed the late Raymond B. Nisbett.