

SECRETS OF OLD DARTMOUTH



BY
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AT THE

MARY A. CRAPO SCHOOL

1959 - 1960

Dear Girls and Boys,

This history of Dartmouth was written especially for you in order that you can learn more about your town. As you read this booklet, think of what life was like for the children who lived in your town years ago.

May you have as much pleasure reading these stories as I had writing them for you.

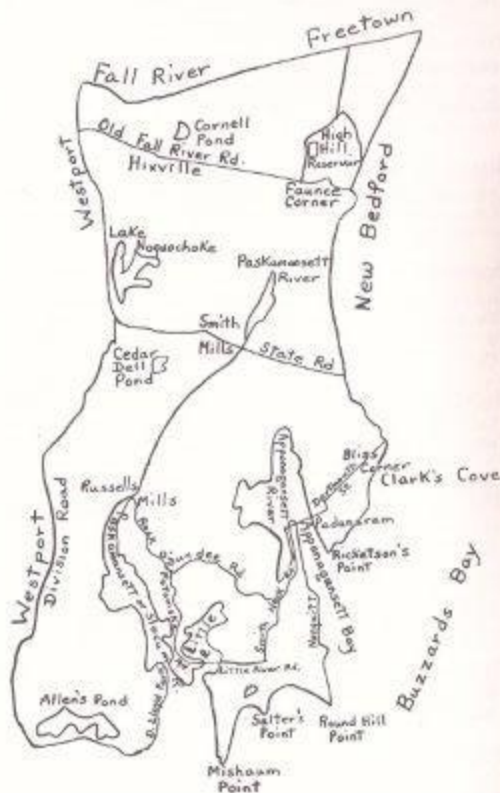
K. R. C.

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DARTMOUTH TODAY



Dartmouth is the fourth largest town in area in Massachusetts.

DARTMOUTH'S FIRST INHABITANTS

Who were the first inhabitants of Dartmouth? The first people who lived in our town were not white people. Dartmouth's first inhabitants were Indians.

When someone uses the word "Indians" what comes to your mind? Are most of the thoughts that come to your mind about Indians, "good" things?

As you read this story you may be surprised at how much we learned from the Indians.

These Dartmouth Indians were the Acushnests (^A^u^uⁿ^e^ts) (A^u ^ucush ^unet^s). the Apponeganetts (Ap^u ^upon^u e^u gan^u set^s), and the Acoaxsets (^A^u^u^x^e^ts) (A^u ^ucok^u set^s) of the Wampanoag Tribe. The Wampanoags belonged to the once powerful Algonquin Indians who claimed New England as their territory. The Indians loved to roam freely through woods. Dartmouth was their home. They must have enjoyed Dartmouth for much of it was wooded at that time.

What was Dartmouth like then? Dartmouth was a wilderness. Remember, there were no stores or shops in the wilderness. There was no place one could go to buy things. The Indians had to be able to take care of their own needs. It is absolutely necessary that all people have food, clothing, and shelter. To secure their food, clothing, shelter, and also their tools and utensils, the Wampanoags learned to use the plants and animals that were around them.

INDIAN FOOD

What did the Indians have for food? Where did they get it? They ate the plants and animals they found around them. The food the Wampanoags ate came from the ocean, rivers, woods, and fields near home.

Since they had no cows or goats, Indian children did not have milk to drink as you do. They never could have bacon for breakfast or a ham sandwich for lunch because they did not have any pigs. Neither did they have chicken or lamb. All these animals were brought to our country later by the white men.

The ocean supplied the Dartmouth Indians with much food. The rivers also offered them food for they were alive with fish.



Indians using fish for fertilizer.

Two of these rivers are the Acushnet River which flows into Buzzard's Bay at the present city of New Bedford and the Apponegansett River which has Padanaram Harbor as its mouth. The Little River and the Slocum River which empty into Buzzard's Bay at Potomska (South Dartmouth) also helped to supply the Wampanoags with food. So did the Westport River.

In these waters the Indians found clams, quahogs, mussels, periwinkles, scallops, oysters, crabs, eels, lobsters, and many kinds of fish. How many of these have you seen? Perhaps you have collected the shells of some of these shellfish.

Have you ever eaten eels? They are delicious when fried. The Indians ate eels. They had a way of catching eels by treading them out of the river mud with their feet. Now-a-days if we need extra vitamins we can buy vitamin pills. But the Wampanoags got some of their vitamins from the oil in the eels.

Sometimes the Indians used dugout canoes when spearing for fish or lobsters. Often they walked into the water to spear lobsters that were close to the shore. Their spear looked like a long two-pronged fork.

In New Bedford there is a little point of land facing the Acushnet River. This piece of land was once called "Smoking Rock." The Wampanoags used to gather there for clambakes. How do we know the Indians held clambakes at this spot? When the land there was plowed over by the white settlers heaps of discarded clam shells were found. Stone arrowheads used by the Indians were also found there. Does this help you understand how clambakes, so common here in the summer time, first began?

INDIAN FARMING

Although Dartmouth's soil was stony and not very rich, the Indians did a little farming here. They raised corn, beans, pumpkins, squash, cucumbers and tobacco. Corn was their chief food summer and winter. The Indians had a clever way of deciding when to plant their corn. They said, "When the oak leaf has uncurled to the size of a mouse's ear it is time to plant our corn." They used a stone hoe or maybe just a pointed stick. Perhaps they made a crude hoe by fastening a clam or a quahog shell to a stick. Deer antlers were sometimes used this way, too.

For fertilizer, in order to make the soil richer, they used fish and kelp (seaweed). They buried the fish or kelp in the soil with the seeds. The Indians dropped a fish or two in every little hill

to help the plant grow tall and strong. They watched their fields closely for a while after planting. Do you know why they did this? This was done to keep wild animals from digging up the fish. When we plant corn now we have to try and keep the birds from eating the seed. The Indians had that problem, too. It was the duty of the women and children to drive off the flocks of hungry birds that were about the fields.

Of course, the tobacco the Indians raised was used for smoking. They were pipe smokers. The Indians made their pipes of clay.

BERRIES

It was one of the women's chores to gather the food that could be found in the woods. Wild fruits were quite plentiful. In Dartmouth the women found blueberries, huckleberries, blackberries, raspberries, grapes, strawberries, wild black cherries, cranberries, and beach plums. How many of these wild fruits have you picked in Dartmouth?

Sometimes the Indian women dried the berries. When they were dried they put them into baskets. Then they buried the baskets and berries in holes in the ground for use in the winter.

NUTS

The Wampanoags also ate nuts found in this area. Walnuts, hazel nuts, chestnuts, and hickory nuts were some kinds of the nuts found here. They ate acorns, too. The Indians knew the wild roots that were edible. They dug into the ground to get these wild roots. When spring came they probably went searching for fresh green herbs that were good to eat. They liked the taste of the small onions that grew wild.

DRIED FOODS

Besides drying berries the Indian women also dried corn, squash, meat, and fish. The dried corn was their grain food for the winter. The corn was used to make bread and pudding. Much of the corn was crushed or pounded into meal by the Indian ladies. That was hard work. How did they do it? Sometimes the dry kernels of corn were placed on a large flat stone. Then the Indian lady would crush them with another smaller stone she could handle easily. Sometimes the Indians used mortar and pestle. The mortar might be called a bowl. It was hewn out of rock by chipping,

scraping, and rubbing. The pestle was another rock used as a pounder. After much use the mortar and pestle became somewhat smooth. Can you understand why they were one of the cherished possessions of the ladies?

MORE FOOD FROM THE WOODS

In wooded Dartmouth the Indians found plenty of meat. They knew the woods well. Wild turkeys were found here in abundance. They ate many turkeys and other wild birds. Sometimes they ate birds' eggs. Deer were plentiful, too. Have you ever seen a deer here? Many of those graceful animals have been seen at a distance in the meadows of Dartmouth. They are beautiful animals.

The Wampanoags also ate partridges, ducks, pheasants, rabbits and beaver. You probably have not seen a beaver here but partridges, ducks, rabbits, and pheasants still add beauty and food to Dartmouth.

INDIAN TOOLS

At the present time many of the tools we use are made of iron or steel. The Indians used shells, stones, or the bones of animals for cutting tools.

INDIAN CLOTHES

How did the Indians dress? They used the skins of animals for clothing. It was hard work to make their clothes. The animal hides were scraped and cut with homemade knives and scrapers. The women did this work. When working, they did not wear as many clothes as we do. The men and women dressed somewhat alike. The women usually wore a one piece deer skin wrap-around skirt. For special Indian ceremonies the ladies dressed in a long one piece garment which they had decorated beautifully with shells. Both sexes wore moccasins. As jewelry, they wore animals' teeth, shell beads, and feathers.

In colder weather, the women wore long dresses. The men wore trousers. They frequently wore leggings and arm bands when it was cold. For winter time they used an animal skin robe which left one shoulder uncovered. These robes were called blankets.

INDIAN MONEY

Do you know what the Indians used for money? The Indians used wampum as we use money. They made wampum from shells. What kind of shells do you think the Indians used for wampum? Did you guess clam shells? The Indians usually used hard clam (quahog) shells. From the quahog shells they made pretty purple and white beads.

The Indians did not use the quahog shells just as they found them. First, they broke the shells. Then they would take the little bits of quahog shells and polish them. After the shells were polished, the Indians bored a hole through them. Why did they bore a hole through them? The Indians bored a hole through the middle of the shells so they could put them on a string. What do you suppose they used to bore the hole? They used bits of shells and a stone awl. Your father may have one at home, only his probably is not made of stone. Some Indian awls were made of bone.

From very early time people have worn jewelry or decorations of some sort. The Indians were no exception. They frequently wore copper beads. Feathers and shell ornaments were tucked into their hair. Do you know what a pendant is? This form of jewelry was sometimes worn by the Indian. Indian pendants were made of shells, stones, or animals' teeth.

Many Indians wore belts of wampum around their heads. Probably you have seen pictures of Indians with these wampum head beads. Some Indians also placed a belt of wampum around their neck. This served as a necklace or a collar. Sometimes these wampum belts were so long they reached below the Indian's knees. Wampum beads were also made into bracelets.

INDIAN HOMES

The Wampanoag homes looked like little circular huts. These huts were made of skins, or bark, or mats spread over poles. A space was left for a door. A hole was also left on the roof for a smoke hole. These holes could be closed if it rained or snowed. A deer skin was often used to close the door.

When a fire was necessary, it was built in the center of the home so the smoke could go out through the roof.

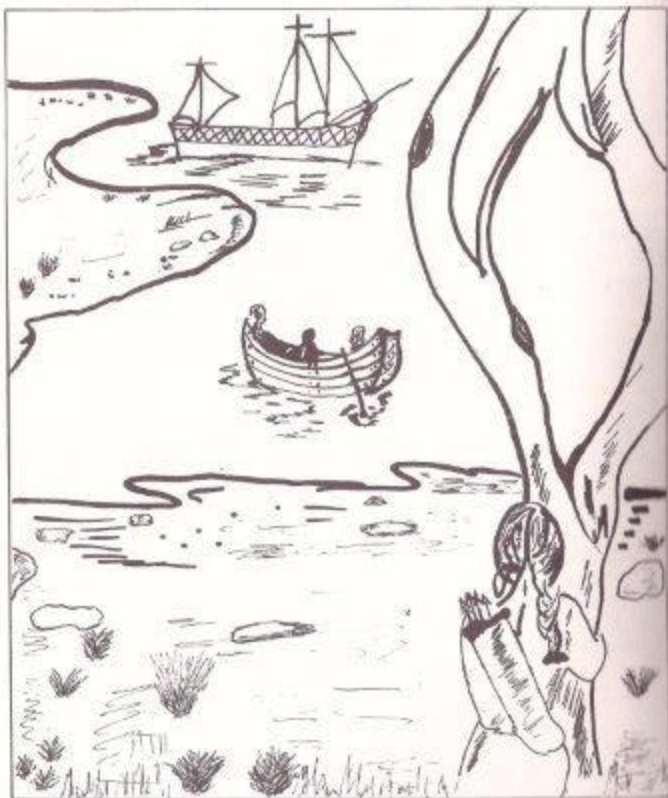
What did the Indians use for beds? The Indians slept on skins or mats on the floor.

INDIAN TRAVEL

How did the Indians get from one place to another in this wilderness? They made trails. The Wampanoags needed trails for hunting, for trading, and to get water for drinking and transportation. Some roads in present day Dartmouth were once Indian trails. These include Slocum Road, Tucker Road, Chase Road, and Barney's Joy Road.

The Indians made dugout canoes and used them to travel from place to place. Canoes were very common among the Indians. Can you picture these dugout canoes on Dartmouth's rivers?

Now do you feel better acquainted with Dartmouth's earliest inhabitants?



An Indian watches as Gosnold approaches the shore of Old Dartmouth.

DARTMOUTH'S FIRST WHITE VISITOR

Have you ever dreamed of being an explorer and going to a spot where no one else has ever been? How do you think the first white man to set foot on the Indian territory of Dartmouth felt? The first white visitor to Dartmouth gave us a good picture of our town as it was over three and one half centuries ago.

Who was the first white man to come to Dartmouth? Where did he come from?

According to old Norse Viking saga (stories) Eric the Red sailed into Buzzard's Bay in the tenth century. (Norse refers to Norway where the Vikings first lived. Norway is a small country across the Atlantic Ocean in northern Europe).

If Eric the Red did sail into Buzzard's Bay, he probably came to Dartmouth. But we cannot be certain because he left no proof of his visit. The Norsemen were also called Vikings. We are certain the Vikings did sail far and wide from their homes in Greenland. We know they often sailed great distances from their homeland. Since they failed to leave any trace of their exploring, we can't be absolutely sure they came here.

CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

However, we do have proof that, ever so many years ago, in 1602, Captain Bartholomew Gosnold, a daring English explorer, explored this area. That makes Captain Gosnold the first white man to come to Dartmouth. He sailed across the Atlantic Ocean from Falmouth, England to America.

Why did Gosnold come to America? He came for two reasons. Gosnold wanted to find a short course to our present day state of Virginia. He also expected to start a plantation somewhere along the Atlantic Ocean coastline.

The name of Gosnold's ship was the Concord. The Concord's home port was Dartmouth, England. Gosnold had thirty-one men with him.

Gosnold first stopped at Cuttyhunk Island. He gave this island its name. If you haven't visited Cuttyhunk Island you have probably seen it. On a clear day this two mile long island can be seen easily from Salters Point, Mishaum Point, Smith Neck, or the Town Landing.

Gosnold must have meant to stay in this area for some time because at Cuttyhunk he had his crew build a store-house and a fort on an island within the island.

GOSNOLD'S VISIT TO THE MAINLAND

Looking across from Cuttyhunk, Gosnold could see the mainland. Dartmouth was on the mainland directly across from Cuttyhunk. Gosnold decided to see what the mainland was like. While some of his men continued working at Cuttyhunk, Gosnold and others of his crew sailed across the bay in the Concord and landed on the shore near Round Hill (M. I. T. Laboratory). Do you know where Round Hill is? It is on Smith Neck Road in South Dartmouth near Salter's Point. Gosnold called Round Hill "Hap's Hill" because it was hoped "much hap (happiness) might be expected from it."

While on this expedition to Dartmouth, Gosnold was met by a group of Indian men, women, and children. The Indians were very friendly to Gosnold and his men.

Gosnold and the Indians did some trading. The Indians gave Gosnold tobacco, hemp, turtles, boiled fish in twig baskets, artificial strings, colored wampum and the skins of such wild animals as deer, otter, fox, beaver, and wildcat. How pleased Gosnold was! The natives also gave Gosnold some sassafras roots. Have you ever seen sassafras? You can still find it in Dartmouth. In Gosnold's time sassafras was in great demand. It was used as medicine. Gosnold did some exploring that day but as night approached he returned to Cuttyhunk.

GOSNOLD'S DESCRIPTION

The captain had much praise for our locality. He described the natives as "a fair-conditioned people." What do you think he meant? He also said the Indians treated him and his men with "all courteous kindness." That is fine praise. If company comes to your house and they say something like that about you it makes your mother very happy.

Gosnold described the mainland thus, "the main the goodliest continent he had ever seen, promising more by far than we did in any way expect, for it is replenished with fair fields and with fragrant flowers, also meadows, and hedged in with stately groves, being furnished also with pleasant brooks and beautified with two main rivers."

Remember that when Gosnold spoke of the mainland he meant Dartmouth. What do you suppose he meant when he said, "It is replenished with fair fields and with fragrant flowers?"

Dartmouth still has some beautiful meadows. Just before it is time to cut the hay the meadows are colorful. Next summer stop and look at one of Dartmouth's meadows. They really are pretty.

Captain Gosnold mentioned our "stately groves." Do you know what groves are? At that time there were groves of beech and cedar in our town. Are there any groves in Dartmouth now?

Gosnold said the mainland was "beautiful with two main rivers." The two rivers spoken of by our first white visitor are the Acushnet River which separates New Bedford and Fairhaven and the Apponegansett River which flows into Padanaram Harbor. Gosnold made two other remarks that might interest you. While here he picked some wild strawberries. Later he said they were "as sweet and much bigger than in England." Gosnold also mentioned that deer and other wild beasts were very plentiful. Thanks to Captain Gosnold we have a better picture of Old Dartmouth.

GOSNOLD'S VISITORS

Remember you read that Gosnold returned to Cuttyhunk Island. A few days later while Gosnold's men were still working on their shelters on Cuttyhunk Island, they saw some canoes approaching the island. How surprised they were! The canoes were coming from Dartmouth. There were eleven canoes. Who do you think was in these canoes? Fifty Indians were in the canoes. If forty-seven of the Indians were men, how many women were there? Because Gosnold did not want the Indians to discover his fortifications, he left the fort and went to meet the Indians. He and some of his men met the Indians at the shore. Gosnold said that although the Indians acted very friendly they carried bows and arrows with them.

The Indians brought many furs for trading purposes. Gosnold said the Indians brought beavers, martins, otters, wild-cat skins, black foxes, coney-skins, deer-skins, seal-skins and other kinds of skins not known to Gosnold and his men. Just think of all the wild animals found in Dartmouth in those days! Can any of these animals be found in Dartmouth now? In return for the furs the white men gave the Indians straw hats and knives.

Three days were spent in trading. Gosnold said most of the Indians were dressed in deer-skins. The men and the women

dressed in about the same way. The explorer also mentioned that the Indian men were taller than the Englishmen but the Indian women were short and fat.

Gosnold said a few of the Indians had thin black beards. But most of the Indians did not have beards. Strange as it may seem to us, some of the natives had make-believe beards that were made of the hair of animals. It was the custom in those days for white men to grow beards. In his writings, Gosnold tells us that one Indian wanted to trade his make-believe beard for the red beard of one of the white men. The Indian did not think the white man's beard could be real because he had never seen a reddish-colored beard before. How the white men must have laughed at that! Probably they often teased their companion about trading his "make-believe" beard.

The Indians had no matches. Did you ever wonder how they made a fire? Gosnold reported the Indians he saw had fire-making sets. These fire-making sets were carried in small leather bags. The leather bags (animal skins) were attached to a belt the male Indians wore around their waist.

The Indians did their trading in the daytime. As night approached they retired to the opposite end of Cuttyhunk. After three days of trading, the Indians got into their canoes and paddled back to the mainland.

GOSNOLD RETURNS TO ENGLAND

Gosnold did not remain here very long. He arrived here in May and in June sailed back to England to sell his cargo of sassafras, cedar trees, and furs.

Although Gosnold later returned to America, he did not come back to Dartmouth. He went instead to Virginia. He is buried there. He was captain of the "Godspeed," one of three ships that arrived in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. Gosnold was also a member of the council that governed the Jamestown settlement.

It is too bad Gosnold did not establish a colony here. If he had done so, Dartmouth, not Jamestown, would have been the first permanent English settlement in America.

THE PURCHASE OF DARTMOUTH

When your mother sends you to the store to buy something, what do you have with you? Your answer is right — money. This story is about a very large purchase paid for with — no — not money this time! If you read this story, you will find out what was used instead of money.

The earliest settlers in Massachusetts came from England. These courageous men and women formed colonies in Plymouth (1620), Salem (1628), and about Massachusetts Bay (Boston), 1630. Soon some of these colonists wanted to spread out and gain new territory. A few of them moved into Dartmouth.

When did the settlers decide to come to this locality? We cannot be sure just when the first white person moved into Dartmouth. We do know that between 1630 and 1650 some people spread out into this unknown wilderness.

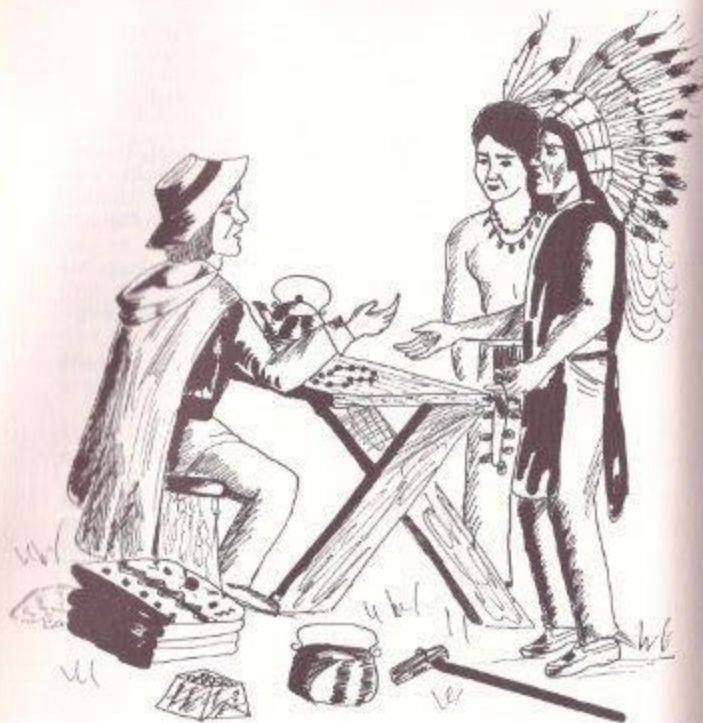
The first white people to make their homes in Dartmouth came from the Plymouth colony. This is not strange since the boundary of the Plymouth Colony almost reached Dartmouth.

Earlier the Plymouth colony had made peace with the Indian chief, Massasoit. They knew this section of Massachusetts belonged to Massasoit. We can be proud that they did not just take the land as some settlers did. In some places the early settlers just pushed the Indians from their land. Instead, some Plymouth settlers asked Massasoit to sell this land to them. Massasoit agreed to sell them the land.

DARTMOUTH PURCHASE

It is said that the white men bought the land from Massasoit. How much money do you think they paid for it? Actually, not much money was given for the land. Instead the purchasers gave the Indians things they needed or wanted. Here is a list of things the Indians received in exchange for the land.

30 yards of cloth	two kettles
eight moose skins	one cloak
fifteen axes	two English Pounds in Wampum
fifteen hoes	eight pair of shoes
fifteen pair of breeches	one iron pot
eight blankets	ten shillings in another comoditie



Massasoit sells Dartmouth to the white people. Name some of the things pictured that were used as payment for the land. Were the berries mentioned?

Does this list seem a little strange to you? We certainly don't buy land that way now. But that was the way the earliest settlers traded with the Indians. They gave them the things they felt the Indians wanted or needed. Perhaps you noticed English pounds and shillings. Pounds and shillings were English money used not only in the country of England but also in the English colonies in America.

You may be curious as to the value of two English pounds in wampum. Our first story told us that wampum was white or purple beads made from clam or quahog shells.

In 1640 the Plymouth court set a price for wampum. They did this in an effort to be fair to the Indians. (Remember making wampum was slow work.) The court decided that six pieces of wampum would have the same value as one penny. The members of the court felt that one dollar was worth about three hundred pieces of wampum. The court also decided that it would take 1,500 pieces of wampum to have the value of one pound. At that rate, how many pieces of wampum would equal two pounds?

We do not know what article is referred to when the bill of sale states "10 shillings in another comoditie."

DISAPPEARANCE OF MANY INDIANS

When Dartmouth was purchased, Massasoit promised to remove within a year all the Indians who lived here.

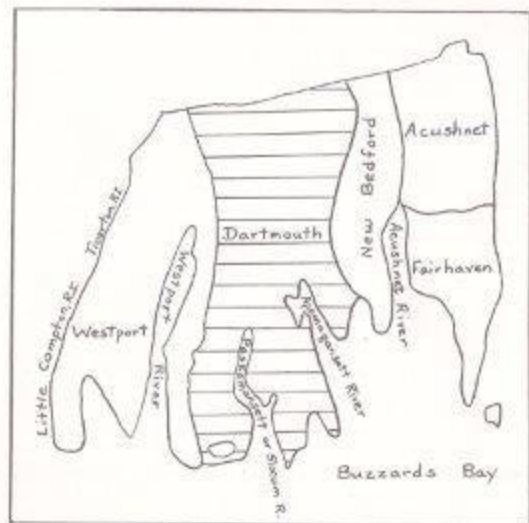
That proved the hardest part of the arrangement to carry out. Some of the Indians did not leave this area. However, there were not nearly as many Indians in Dartmouth then as had been here when Gosnold explored in 1602.

Perhaps you are wondering what happened to all the Indians. About 1618 a very serious sickness — a deadly plague — had caused many, many Indians to die. What is a plague? The Indians referred to this time as "the time of the great sorrow." It greatly reduced the number of Indians in southern New England since thousands of Indians died. Nine out of every ten Indians that lived along the Massachusetts coast died. The Indian population fell from 30,000 to 1,000. No wonder the Indians called it a time of great sorrow!

THE DEED

When someone buys a piece of land, he gets a deed for the land. A deed is really a piece of paper that tells where the land

OLD DARTMOUTH



The town of Dartmouth as it was originally in 1652. Very small sections of Little Compton, R. I. and Tiverton, R. I. also belonged to Dartmouth. The striped area shows Dartmouth as it has been since 1787.

is and who bought it. The white settlers had a deed for our town. Not all, but some of the purchasers' names were on the deed. One part of the deed says: "Massasoit and Wamsutta (Massasoit's son) sold to William Bradford, Captain Myles Standish, Thomas Southworth, John Winslow, John Cooke and their associates . . ."

Whose name headed the list of purchasers? Yes, William Bradford headed the list. He was the governor of Plymouth colony. Everyone liked Governor Bradford. When you study American history you will learn more about Governor Bradford.

The name of Captain Myles Standish is next on the list. He was in charge of the Plymouth militia (guards or army). One of America's greatest and best beloved poets, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, wrote a famous poem about Myles Standish. It is called, "The Courtship of Miles Standish." You will probably read it when you are in a higher grade in school.

John Cooke was another purchaser. He was one of the few purchasers who actually came to live in Dartmouth. John Cooke had come to America as a passenger in the Mayflower in 1620. That meant he was one of the Pilgrims. He was only a boy at that time. When he grew up he became a Baptist minister. He was forced to leave Plymouth because his religious views differed from those of the Plymouth colony. He settled in the Fairhaven section of Old Dartmouth. There is a monument to John Cooke in Fairhaven. He was the last survivor of the Pilgrims who landed in Plymouth in 1620.

Not all the purchasers signed the paper that recorded the sale of Dartmouth. John Cooke and John Winslow were the signers for the white people. Massasoit's older son, Wamsutta signed for the Indians. Since Massasoit could not write he left his mark. His mark looked like this M M.

DARTMOUTH'S NAME

Although the sale took place November 29, 1652, the deed was not recorded until June 1664. How many years later was that? This time the paper was signed by Massasoit's younger son, Philip.

Our town received its name then, too. The original charter says, "The said town bee henceforth called and knowne by the name Dartmouth." Did you notice two words that were spelled differently 300 years ago?

How did the settlers select the name Dartmouth? We feel that Dartmouth, Massachusetts, was named for Dartmouth, England. Why do we feel that way? You may have read that the Pilgrims who came to Plymouth set sail from Plymouth, England. Originally they set sail in two boats. The names of these boats were the Mayflower and the Speedwell.

Our history books tell us that the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth (U. S. A.) in the Mayflower. What happened to the Speedwell? The two ships started out together from Plymouth, England, but they soon ran into trouble. They had to sail into the harbor at Dartmouth, England. The Speedwell needed much repair so it had to be left behind. The Mayflower sailed on alone. Remember the early purchasers of Dartmouth (Massachusetts) were from Plymouth, Massachusetts. Perhaps these settlers wished to use the names of the two English towns from which they had embarked. Thus we have the names Plymouth and Dartmouth as towns in Massachusetts.

There is another explanation of how our town might have got its name. Gosnold's ship, the Concord, belonged to Dartmouth, England. On his return from America, Gosnold gave much praise to our locality. So did the members of his crew. Probably some of the people in Dartmouth, England, decided they would like to come here. Maybe they wanted to name this new town after their native town in England. Dartmouth, England, was a seaport and fishing port just as Dartmouth, Massachusetts, was after the white men settled here.

Dartmouth, England, got its name from its location on the mouth of the Dart River. Now do you have a better idea of how our town received its name?

DARTMOUTH'S SIZE

Was the Dartmouth of 1664 the same size as present day Dartmouth? No, Dartmouth was much larger in 1664. In 1664, Dartmouth contained about 104 square miles. Now Dartmouth contains 61.4 square miles. About how much smaller is Dartmouth now? However, Dartmouth is still a large town in land area. In fact we are the fourth largest town in the state of Massachusetts. But just imagine how large a town we would be if Dartmouth still owned all its original land!

When Dartmouth first became a town it included present day Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Acushnet and Westport.

These places had Indian names. The Indians called New Bedford and Acushnet, Cushena. Cushena means as far as the river. Dartmouth was known as Ponaganset. Sconticut was Fairhaven's Indian name. Westport was known as Coakset. A small part of the towns of Tiverton, Rhode Island, and Little Compton, Rhode Island, were also part of the original Dartmouth territory.

You might like to read a portion of the details of this real estate deal between Massasoit and the white settlers. It is quite interesting. It said in part, "all that tract or tracts of land lying three miles eastward from a river called Cushnet (Acushnet River) to a flat rock on the westward side of said harbor and with all the rivers, creeks, meadows, necks, and islands that lie in and before the same, and from the sea upward to go so high that the English may not be annoyed by the hunting of the Indians in any sort of their cattle."

The boundaries of our town were not very exact at the time of the purchase. The people who bought the land could be sure of only one of the boundaries. That was the thirteen miles of shore line bordering Buzzards Bay.

Can you picture how our town looked 300 years ago?

Their tools were the simplest. In the beginning most of them had hoes but no plows. With the aid of a hoe, they planted corn, wheat, oats, peas, and beans. The hoe also helped them keep the weeds from the hills of their growing crops. Later they would cut the grain crops with a sickle or a scythe. They also planted fruit trees such as apple and pear trees for they found that most fruits that could be grown in England could also be grown here.

Do you recall that Gosnold spoke of our "fair meadows"? Hay grows in the meadows, doesn't it? Our early settlers found a plentiful supply of this wild grass. After it was cut and dried they used it as feed for the cattle and sheep they brought with them. They also brought pigs. In the fall, some of the cattle and hogs were killed for food. Do you know how they prepared this meat so it would not spoil? Did you guess that they smoked or salted it?

RALPH AND JOHN RUSSELL

One of Dartmouth's historians, (if you can find the root word of historian, you will be able to tell what the word means), Daniel Ricketson tells us that Ralph Russell was one of Dartmouth's earliest residents. Mr. Ricketson claims that Ralph Russell moved to our town from Taunton. Mr. Ricketson further claims that Ralph Russell established the first iron forge in our town. It was supposed to be in Russells Mills. We cannot be sure that Mr. Russell established an iron forge here. However, we are sure his son, John Russell, became Dartmouth's first representative at the General Court in Plymouth. That was in the year 1665.

What is the longest walk you have ever taken? Were you tired? It was about 40 miles to Plymouth from Dartmouth. Mr. Russell walked both ways when he attended sessions of the General Court in Plymouth. That seems like a very long walk, but we should remember that people walked more in those days than we do now. Mr. Russell followed old Indian trails that led through the forest.

Apparently Mr. John Russell had a fairly large house. Up until the late sixteen hundreds, the town meetings were held at his house. After Mr. Russell died, the voters gathered at the "home of widow Russell."

Do you recall that Myles Standish was one of the original purchasers of Dartmouth? On March 20, 1661, the same John Russell you read about in the previous paragraph bought Myles Standish's share of Dartmouth. Mr. Russell's land was in what we now call Padanaram. It contained 3,200 acres. Mr. Russell

paid Myles Standish \$210.00 for the land. The land ran from Bush Street (the Padanaram School is on Bush Street) north to Russells Mills Road (the Town Hall is located on Russells Mills Road). John Russell's share also included Bliss Corner and the land in that vicinity.

MILITIA AND LAW

Because of the constant threat of Indian uprisings, in 1667 two men, Sergeant James Shaw and Arthur Hathaway, were appointed to organize a militia. It was their task to drill the men in the use of arms. In 1671, the population of the town had risen so two more appointments were made to the militia. John Smith was made a lieutenant. (Some people believe this same Lt. John Smith is buried in a peaceful shaded cemetery off the road on Little River Road, South Dartmouth.) Jacob Mitchell was appointed ensign bearer. What is an ensign? What would be the duty of the ensign bearer? It was a wise move on the part of the early residents to have all the men trained in the use of arms. In another story you will find out how that training helped them.

At a town meeting the rules or laws are made for the town. A Dartmouth town meeting was called for July 22, 1674. In those days only men had the right to vote. At this July meeting, it was voted that "All the town meetings do begin at ten of the clock and to continue until the moderator (the person in charge of the meeting) duly relieved the town, not exceeding four of the clock." Do we have a special hour when our meetings start now? Can you find out who the present moderator is?

"That all such people as to neglect to appear at the town meeting, shall forfeit to the town 1 shilling and six pence a piece, and for coming to the meetings too late, three pence an hour." (Do you think fining the people helped?)

The next year, 1675, there was a complaint about the condition of some of the fences. A gentleman was given authority to "view men's fences and to notify them for a sufficient fence or condemn them and give men warnings when they had to mend them." In the days when each settler owned many sheep and other animals, it was the duty of the fence viewer to make sure each farmer kept his share of the fence in good repair. Many of these so-called fences were actually rambling stone walls. (In what way could neglected fences cause trouble?)

Thus we can see that our infant town was beginning to progress.

KING PHILIP'S WAR (1675 - 1678)

Did you ever become angry with a friend of yours? Did you disagree because you felt he had taken something that belonged to you?

This story is about an Indian chief who fought the white people because he thought they took something belonging to the Indians.

The people of Dartmouth first learned about war in their own backyard.

MASSASOIT'S FRIENDSHIP

You have probably already learned that when the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth in 1620 one Indian chief was very good to them. Massasoit was that Indian chief. Massasoit was very kind and friendly to the early white settlers. As long as he lived there was peace between the white men and the red men. Massasoit lived about forty years after signing a friendly pact with the Pilgrims in Plymouth.

WAMSUTTA

When Massasoit died (1662) he was succeeded by his elder son, Wamsutta or Alexander. Wamsutta was his Indian name. The white people usually called him Alexander. Alexander did not rule long. He began to show ill feelings to the white people. He was thought to be plotting with other Indians to harm the settlers. He was asked to go to Plymouth to explain his actions. Wamsutta went to Plymouth. The leaders of Plymouth found Wamsutta not guilty of trying to harm the white settlers. On his way back home from Plymouth, Wamsutta became ill and died.

Wamsutta's younger brother, Philip, blamed the white settlers for Wamsutta's death. He imagined that the white people had poisoned Wamsutta.

PHILIP BECOMES SACHEM

When Wamsutta died, Philip became sachem (chief) of the Indians in this area. He called himself King Philip. His Indian name was Metacomet. He could be very cruel. He did not like the white settlers. The white settlers knew this so they forced him

and his followers to give up the seventy guns they had brought to Plymouth with them.

By this time most of the Indians were using guns instead of bows and arrows. Where did the Indians get so many guns? The Indians secured guns, gunpowder, and knives from the white settlers. When the white people wanted corn or land, some Indians would not accept anything in trade except the white men's weapons.

In fairness to the Indians, we should try to understand why Philip might have hated the English settlers. Philip knew how good his father, Massasoit, had been to the white men. Many settlers bought their land from the Indians. They paid for it in guns, blankets, knives, and jewelry. But not all settlers were fair to the Indians. Some took the land without paying for it. Others did not trade fairly with the Indians. Sometimes when trading furs and skins with the Indians, the settlers gave them valueless trinkets.

Then, too, Philip could see more and more white-faced people moving into what was once the redman's own territory. The Indians felt the hunting grounds belonged to all of them. They did not understand the white man's idea of private ownership of land. The Indians dreaded the white-faced strangers. They thought the white man would be their master and would make slaves out of them. Some early English sea captains had seized some Indians and sold them as slaves. All these things made Philip angry with the white men. He realized his people were getting poorer. Since he was proud, it hurt him to see his people being driven away from their land.

Philip said to a friend, "They (the white people) disarmed my people. But a small part of the dominion of my ancestors remains. I am determined not to live until I have no country."

TROUBLE BEGINS

Actually a short time after settlers began to move into Dartmouth, Philip started to do small things to annoy them. But it was not until after Massasoit died that Philip really began to trouble the settlers.

One day Philip sent gifts to other Indian chiefs scattered throughout what is now Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Then he asked the other Indian chiefs to help him drive out all the white men. Not all Indian tribes were friendly to the white people.

Some Indian chiefs did help Philip. Throughout Massachusetts the Indians made sudden attacks on the settlers. They practically wiped out settlement after settlement.

PROTECTION FROM THE INDIANS

How could the settlers protect themselves from the Indians? For protection the settlers built blockhouses (or stockades). In some towns, settlers' houses were turned into blockhouses. These strong houses were built to resist the Indian attacks.

In our town, the settlers had three places to go in seeking safety. One was in Padanaram. It was on the east bank of the Apponagansett River at the foot of Lucy Street, not too far from where Elm Street and Russells Mills Road meet. There a stockade had been built around the home of John Russell.

What does the dictionary say about a stockade? Does it say that a stockade has high strong walls built of close-fitting logs standing upright in the ground? Does it tell you there are holes or slits in the walls to shoot through? Does it tell you a stockade has a high strong gate that can be barred up tight when necessary? A stockade has all these things. This Dartmouth stockade was sometimes called, "Russell's garrison."

Russell's garrison was about twenty feet square. Maybe, some day your teacher will help you measure off a twenty foot square on the playground so you can see just how big Russell's garrison was. On the south side of the garrison, a ten foot square had been added. There was a brook close by where people could get necessary water. An Indian settlement and a fort were on the opposite side of the Apponegansett River.

Another place where the Dartmouth settlers could feel safe was in present day Fairhaven. It was the home of John Cooke. Remember John Cooke was one of the original purchasers of Dartmouth. A stockade was built around his home, too. John Cooke's stockade was at the end of the Coggeshall Street Bridge in Fairhaven. Do you know where that is? The third refuge the settlers had was Palmer's Island. Palmer's Island is a small island in New Bedford harbor.

METHOD OF ATTACK

The Indians liked to attack suddenly. There were not very many Indians so they thought if they attacked suddenly and quickly they probably would not lose many men. In the beginning the In-

dians probably thought they could scare all the white people away. But they could not scare the new settlers away. The white people had no intention of leaving America. The white men turned their backs on their old homes in Europe and stayed in America.

King Philip's War spread quickly. Everywhere people felt in danger of the Indians. In several villages the homes were burned and people killed. Some white people were carried off as captives.

THE DARTMOUTH TREATY

In Dartmouth a treaty had been made between the local Indians and the settlers. The Indians said they would not attack the settlers. The settlers promised that no harm would come to the local Indians. Captain Samuel Eels was in charge of Russell's garrison in Dartmouth.

On July 21, 1676, Captain Benjamin Church and his army arrived at Russell's garrison. Captain Church had been sent by the officials of Plymouth colony. He was a good Indian fighter. Captain Church and his small army spent the night at Russell's garrison. They did not build a fire as it might have attracted the enemy.

The next day Captain Church saw a band of Indians. He chased them in the direction of Smith Mills. There he captured many of them.

Do you recall that the settlers in Dartmouth had promised no harm would come to the local Indians? Unfortunately, that promise was not kept. Dartmouth Indians were among the 160 Indians Captain Church marched to Plymouth. Eighty of these Indians were Dartmouth Indians. These Indians were marched from Russell's garrison to Clark's Cove. They followed an old Indian path. Then they walked through the forests of present day New Bedford and Acushnet to Plymouth. In Plymouth the Indians were sold as slaves. As slaves, the Indian captives were shipped out of this country and taken to the West Indies. Can you locate the West Indies on the map? Among the Indians sold as slaves were King Philip's wife and son.

ATTACK ON DARTMOUTH

Now the Indians really were angry. Philip had been waiting for a chance to strike a blow. The Indians attacked Dartmouth fiercely.



Captain Church hunting for King Philip

"To the garrison! The Indians are on the warpath!" was the cry heard. Many settlers were warned in time. They fled from their cabins and found safety at Russell's garrison and Cooke's garrison. These were the only Dartmouth settlers who escaped to tell the story. Others were not so fortunate. Settlers in Dartmouth were widely scattered. Not all of them heard the warning. They were caught unawares by the Indians.

There were about thirty-seven homes in Dartmouth at that time. All of these were burned. The Indians burned the barns and sheds, too. They destroyed all the crops belonging to the settlers. Cattle, too, were slain. The people who had not found shelter were cruelly killed. Dartmouth was left in ruins.

CAPTAIN CHURCH'S VICTORY

Most of the white people did not know the Indian way of fighting. The Indians would strike and move quickly from place to place. They often hid in dark swamps.

But one white man did know the Indian way of fighting. That man was Captain Benjamin Church. Captain Church was still trying to catch Philip. He scoured the woods looking for him. Captain Church knew the ways of the Indians. He knew better how to fight them than most of the white people. He also knew how to make friends with the Indians. When Captain Church was hunting for Philip, he had more Indians than white soldiers helping him. He and his men hunted from place to place without catching Philip.

Finally, a friendly Indian told Captain Church where Philip and his followers were hiding. Philip and his friends were hiding in a swamp. They thought they were safe. In trying to run away, Philip was caught and killed. This cruel war ended with Philip's death.

The time of King Philip's War was referred to as "black and fatal days, the saddest that ever befell New England." King Philip's War certainly caused much sadness in our town.

DARTMOUTH GROWS LARGER

"My, how you have grown!" How many times has someone said that to you or your brothers and sisters? Most likely, you have heard that remark many times.

You can tell when you have grown taller and put on weight. The clothes you wore last year are now too small or too short for you. Of course, gaining weight and growing taller are not the only ways you grow. Each year you grow in many different ways. When you do, some changes have to be made.

Towns grow, too. This story will tell you some changes that were made as our town of Dartmouth grew from a settlement of less than a dozen families to a town of more than one thousand people.

Because the town of Dartmouth had suffered so great a loss of homes, animals, and crops during the King Philip's War, the people of Dartmouth did not have to pay taxes to Plymouth Colony for a few years. This was a big help because many of the town's inhabitants had lost practically everything they owned.

Although the Plymouth Court offered help in the form of exemptions from taxes for a few years, it scolded the settlers too. The Court pointed out that the Indian trouble was probably God's way of punishing the people of Dartmouth for not worshipping God the same way they did. This proves that the Pilgrims were out of sympathy with those who did not worship God in the exact way they did.

The Court also ordered the Dartmouth settlers to build their homes close together for safety sake. But the settlers could not do this even if they wanted to. Dartmouth settlers were, for the most part, farmers. Therefore, they had to build where the land was suitable for farming.

But the assistance given by the Plymouth Court was not the only help the Dartmouthites received. Help, in the form of money, came to them from thousands of miles away. Early town records reveal that Great Britain and especially Ireland, generously sent money to aid the Dartmouth sufferers of King Philip's War. (What ocean separates Great Britain and Ireland from our town?)

In a few short years after King Philip's War the townspeople regained their courage. How hard they worked to again establish their town! Almost immediately they started to rebuild their

homes and clear more land. While clearing the land for farming, the settlers also began to build the solid stone walls we see many places in Dartmouth. How the early settlers must have labored to pile such heaps of rocks into long stone walls!

By June 20, 1678, the town had recovered enough to have its first town meeting since King Philip's War. Town officials were again selected.

STRANGE LAWS

Sometimes in these early town meetings the townspeople made laws which seem strange to us. You might be interested in some of these laws concerning animals. The woods of Dartmouth abounded in wild animals. These animals were one danger the early settlers had to cope with.

In the year 1684 it was ordered that the Indians be allowed to hunt, provided, "that they do kill three wolves or three bears or pay ten shillings (English money) to each village." It also "ordered that the English shall have teen (ten) shillings for the killing of a wolf or deer." This law points out that there must have been many wolves and bears in Dartmouth 300 years ago. Are there any wolves here now? Why not?

It may interest you to learn that the wolves were very troublesome to the Pilgrims in Plymouth. The Pilgrims were forced to have an armed guard watch their fields for a few weeks after planting the seeds. Otherwise the hungry wolves would dig up the fish planted to fertilize the seeds. It would seem as if the early Dartmouth settlers had the same problem since they were obliged to go armed at all times as a protection against wild animals.

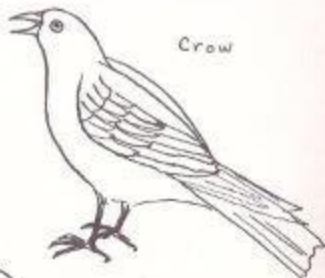
In 1686 the townspeople voted to have a pound made. What is a pound used for? Do you have a town pound now? In 1707 a town pound was again mentioned. This time the townspeople voted that the pound must have a "convenient" gate with iron hinges and a lock.

The original pound located in the Russell's Mills section of Dartmouth is still standing. This pound is in good condition. Try to see it sometime. It is on Russells Mills Road close to the Russells Mills School. If you travel from Padanaram to Russells Mills, the pound will be on your left. It is close to the road. The pound is all of stone except for the gate. Notice that there is a ledge in back of it. How might that help? Any stray animals kept in this pound until his master called for him was fed by the man who lived in the house adjacent to the pound.

Blackbird



Crow



Bear



Wildcat

Goose



Wolf



What do the early Dartmouth records say about these birds and animals?

The remains of the pound located in the Padanaram section of Dartmouth can also be seen. Only sections of the stone wall are now standing. The fragments of this pound are located at the head of the Apponegansett River near the Town Hall. Look for the remains of this pound at the point where the water is nearest to Russells Mills Road.

Do you ever think of birds as being a nuisance? In the year 1704 the town required "that every householder being a planter shall kill twelve blackbirds between the first day of January and the middle of May yearly, on pain of forfeiting (giving up) three half pence for every bird they shall neglect killing of said number." They also ordered "that for every blackbird that shall be killed within the time limit over the number of twelve, each planter shall be paid one penny out of the town stock."

Why did they make this law? Do we need this law now? In addition, the town voted that each crow killed would count as three blackbirds. Which bird did the settlers feel was the biggest pest? What makes you think so?

MORE LAWS ABOUT ANIMALS

In the year 1713 much of Dartmouth was still forested. The wolves were continuing to cause trouble and alarm. Therefore, the townspeople voted, "That twenty shillings shall be added to each person that shall kill a wolf within the township of Dartmouth." What does that mean? Don't you imagine that in the winter time the men and older boys often went hunting to get rid of some of these wolves and other wild animals. Naturally they would be interested in earning the twenty shilling reward, too.

Another animal is mentioned in the records of 1721. The town records of that year said the voters agreed "that all geese running at large from the first day of April to the last day of October without their wings cut and without a yoke upon them shall be placed in the town pound, and the owner of such geese shall pay one penny a piece for pounding the same." Why did they want the wings of the geese cut?

The law further stated that there had to be a "sufficient fence around any pond, river, or cove where any geese were swimming over any of the waters into any field, meadow, or pasture it shall be lawful for the owner of such land forthwith to take up all such geese and pound them in any yard or house as they may have."

Besides paying one penny a piece to get back his geese, the owner also had to pay for any damage the geese might have done.

If the geese get out again, the owner would have to pay a larger sum of money to get them back. Why did the settlers keep geese?

Still another animal was referred to in the town meeting of 1722. The inhabitants voted that there shall be "three shillings allowed for any grown wild cat that shall be killed within our township from the last day of September to the first day of March yearly to the person or persons that kill them." They also added "and six shillings for each wild cat killed the other part of the year." During what months of the year did they pay the most for wild cats? Aren't you glad that these wildcats, which were once so numerous, have disappeared!

What is meant by domesticated animals? Domesticated animals are also mentioned in the town records. The settlers were required to have a mark notched in the ear of each cattle. You might call this a form of branding the cattle. The ear mark had to be registered with the town clerk. This was necessary since the cattle were allowed to roam loose in the fields. Hogs, too, were allowed to roam around. The town record of March, 1728, reads as follows: "Voted that hogs may go at large."

ENGLISH-STYLE PUNISHMENTS

Many of our early colonists came from England. England had strict laws for wrongdoings. People were punished in strange ways. Some of the punishments were severe. Naturally, the early colonists brought many of these punishment ideas with them. One means of punishment was called the stocks. Stocks consisted of a wooden frame with two large boards. The holes were cut out in the center of the boards where the two boards came together. For punishment, a person might have to sit with his feet, or feet and hands, caught in the stocks. The large boards were separated until the man's feet were set in place. Then the boards were placed together and locked. Of course, the man could not get his feet out then. How painful it was to sit that way for any length of time! Often people would stand and stare at the one being punished. The onlookers sometimes ridiculed the man in the stocks. It was considered all right for them to do so.

The early Dartmouth residents used some of these English ways of punishing people. How do we know this? We know this because in 1686 it was voted that John Russell should make a pair of stocks for Dartmouth.

Another method of punishment that originated in England was the whipping post. Almost all the early towns in America had a whipping post. The whipping post was a tall post to which a standing man could be tied. The man was stripped to the waist. While tied, the man was given blows on his bare back. A leather whip was used. Part of the man's punishment included having other people watch him get punished. We would not like this kind of punishment.

But like every other community in those days, Dartmouth had a whipping post. In 1709, the townspeople voted to have Henry Howland "make a pair of stocks and whipping-post." Whipping posts were used in Dartmouth as late as 1785. Mr. George Taber said his mother was present at the last public whipping which was given in the Fairhaven section of old Dartmouth. For such an event bells were rung as a signal that someone was to be punished. School was dismissed so the pupils could witness the punishment. Spectators were welcome. Around 1800 this type of punishment was stopped. That must have made people happy because most people do not usually enjoy seeing other people punished.

OTHER LAWS

Let us look at a few other laws the early Dartmouthites thought necessary.

By 1686 the town had grown large enough to require a meeting house. (How many years had passed since the town had been organized?) That year the voters ordered that a meeting house be built "24 feet long, 16 feet wide, 9 feet stud (What does that mean?) and to be covered with long shingles, and to be enclosed with planks and clabboards, and to have an under floor laid, and to be benched around, and to have a table to it suitable to the length of said house. Also for two light windows." Did you notice how many important details were included?

Apparently the building was not erected immediately for as late as 1694 the town records prove the meetings were held at the home of John Russell.

By 1739 the townspeople desired a new town house with "convenient glass windows and shutters." Three men were selected to supervise the building of this new town house. They were also to see that the old town house was sold or pulled down. Where are our town meetings held now?

The early townspeople looked with disfavor on people who did not work. In 1742 a workhouse was open for "the setting to work of all idle persons." Eighteen years later, in 1760, James Smith was given permission to live in the workhouse for two years at \$5.00 a year. Mr. Smith was to use the \$5.00 to make repairs on the workhouse. The voters gave him the right to "take care of all the poor and idle persons that shall be sent to him to keep them in labor (work)." A workhouse is again mentioned in the town records of 1773 when the townspeople voted to build a new workhouse in the Bedford section of Dartmouth.

As early as 1747 there was some thought on the part of the villagers in Acushnet of separating the present town of Acushnet from Dartmouth. But the town voted that Acushnet village should not be separated from Dartmouth. The people of Acushnet had to wait another 40 years before their wish was fulfilled. Can you figure out what year that was?

Have you ever heard of seining fish? When men fish with a seine they use a large round fish net. The seine is held upright in the water by weights or floats. When it is hauled in it is pulled by its ends. Thus the fish are caught in the middle.

On May 21, 1771, the townspeople voted "to lay a duty of two Shillings Lawful Money per Barrel on all fish Seigned within the harbors or covers of this Town the present year." Can you think of any reason why this law might have been passed?

It may interest you to know that as early as the 1700's Dartmouth had fish inspectors. Do we have fish inspectors now? What do you think the duties of a fish inspector would be?

DARTMOUTH IN 1768

In 1768, nineteen years before New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet were separated from our town, we find these facts about old Dartmouth. The population of the town was 5,033. In that year there were 722 dwelling houses in our town. There were 158 tanneries, slaughter houses, and other workhouses.

In a slaughter house animals are slaughtered (killed). Then the hides (skin) of the animals is removed. Finally the animals are butchered to be sold as meat in the stores.

The hides of animals are treated and preserved in the form of leather in a tannery.

Thirty grist mills, fulling mills, and saw mills were located here in 1768.

Wheat or corn or barley are ground into flour at a grist mill. The first settlers in Dartmouth had to grind their grain using a wooden mortar and pestle. That was a very slow way to do it. They had to have a way to grind corn more quickly. Therefore, grist mills were built along the streams. The water flowed over the wheel along side the mill. The water forced the wheel to turn. This provided the power for the grist mill. Remember, the women of the families did all their own baking in those days. They used more flour than most of us use today. The farmers loaded the corn or wheat they had raised into a wagon and transported it to the grist mill. The man who worked at the mill was called a miller. The farmers waited while the miller ground the grain into flour. Can you see why the miller was a big help in a town?

Woolen cloth was made thicker and fuller in a fulling mill. In the early days of our country most the settlers raised their own sheep. Sheep are very useful animals. Sheep give us food. They also give us wool. Once a year the wool was cut from the sheep. When it was cut it was soft and thick and long. Cloth was made from the wool. The cloth was usually woven in the home by the women. The spinning wheel and the hand loom were important items in the early American homes. There were no stores where they could buy cloth so the ladies had to make the cloth. Sometimes flax was combined with the wool. Linen is made from flax. Since flax was grown in Dartmouth, maybe it was sometimes used in combination with wool.

Saw mills were time savers for the pioneers. After the early farmers cut down trees, they hauled some of the logs to the sawmill. There the logs would be cut into finished lumber. The finished boards were used in building their homes and other buildings.

There was only one iron works in our town in 1768. Maybe that was because the iron found in the bogs around here was of a poor quality. At the iron works chunks of iron were melted down. While hot the iron could be pounded into different shapes. Tools, horseshoes, plows, pots for cooking, and wagon wheel rims were some of the things made at a iron works.

Much farming was carried on. Over 10,000 acres of land was used for pastures. A little more than 2,000 acres of land was used for growing crops.

There were more animals than people in Dartmouth in 1768. The list of animals included 797 oxen, 525 horses, 1,965 cows and heifers, 7,108 goats and sheep, and 383 hogs.

What animals were found in the largest number? Let's see if we can find out which animals are found in the largest number now. Why do you think the farmers kept so many oxen and horses? Why don't we have many of these animals now? What do goats give us? What is another name for hogs?

Do you think it fun to compare old time Dartmouth with the Dartmouth you live in?

MEN HAVE A TEA PARTY IN BOSTON

We usually think of tea parties as something just for ladies or little girls and their dolls. However, at this tea party not a single lady was present! What a strange tea party! Let's find out more about it.

Dartmouth played an important part in the start of the Revolutionary War. The story that follows will tell you about that part.

THE UNFAIR TAXES

Massachusetts was one of the thirteen original colonies. It was a colony of England. The early Massachusetts settlers were English people. Because Massachusetts was an English colony, the English king thought he could make the settlers here pay taxes on certain goods. The king put a tax on several things the English sold to the colonists.

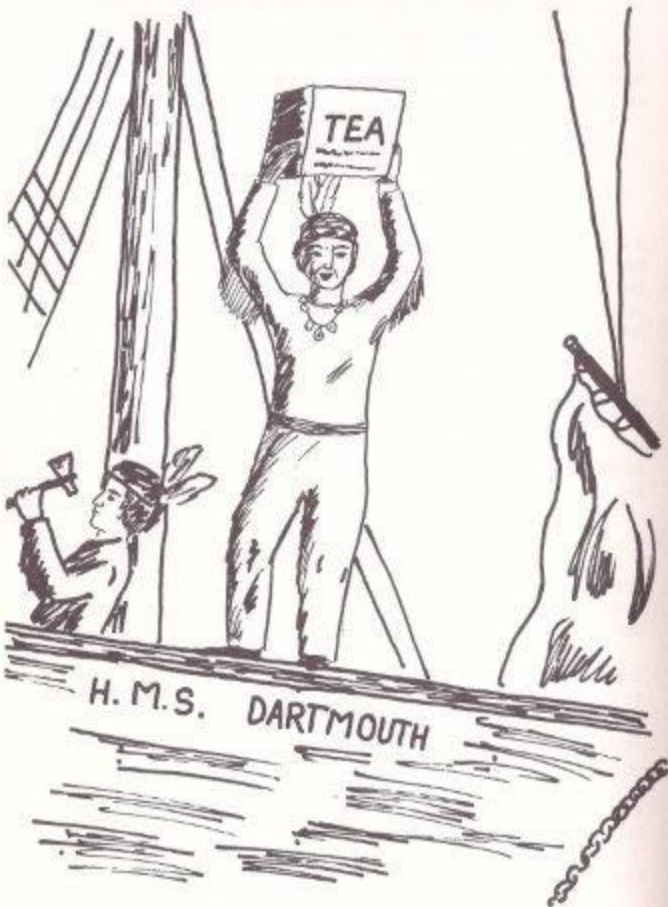
The colonists did not like to pay taxes to the English king. They said the king had no right to tax them if they couldn't help to make the laws. But the English king would not let the colonists help make the laws. The king did not think the colonists should have the same rights as the people in England. He said, "The colonies belong to England. They must do as we say. They must pay taxes to England!"

THE TAX ON TEA

Soon the English king learned that the colonists were very angry about the taxes. The king decided to remove all taxes on everything except tea. The colonists still objected. Again they said, "If we can not help make the laws why should we pay a tax?"

The colonists said they wouldn't pay the tea tax. The English king reminded them that the tax on tea was only a few cents on the pound. The colonists said, "We know it is only a few cents on each pound of tea. It isn't the amount of the tax, it is the idea of being forced to pay one. Even if it was only a one cent tax on the pound of tea we would be against it."

Now the English colonists liked tea very much. The English had been tea-drinkers for a long time. But the unjust king told them they would have to buy the taxed tea or go without any tea. The colonists became very angry. They said, "We will go without tea rather than pay the tax on it. When the tea ships come into



Boston Harbor, we will not let them remove the tea. We won't buy it. We won't even let it be brought into the country. It must not be unloaded. It will have to be sent back to England."

But the governor who had been sent to Boston by the English said, "The tea must be landed. We will not send the tea back. These ships will not sail back to England until the tea has been landed."

The patriots had heard enough. They were tired of protesting against the tea tax. They decided to take action. It took courage but the patriots were very courageous. They held a protest meeting at the "Old South" meeting house in Boston. They voted to take action immediately. "We'll make Boston Harbor a teapot tonight!", the patriots said. That was December 16, 1773.

THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

Shortly after dark a war whoop was heard in Boston. People rushed to their windows and saw a number of Indians. But these Indians were not real Indians. They were white men dressed as Indians. They were clothed in blankets. They had painted their skin copper-colored. Do you wonder why the white men were disguised as Indians? They did this so the English governor and other officials could not recognize them. If they had been recognized, they might have been punished later by the English governor. The white men disguised as Indians had axes and hammers in their hands. They ran for the Boston wharf where the tea ships were. There was no uproar. Quickly and quietly they boarded the tea ships. Using their axes and hammers they ripped open the tea cases and dumped the tea into the harbor. What pleasure it gave them to spill the tea into the sea! They made Boston harbor a tea pot.

A large crowd of people were on the wharf watching the Indians. There was no disorder. The onlookers watched quietly, but happily.

After throwing the three hundred and forty-two cases of tea over the sides of the ships, the Indians carefully swept up the decks of the ships where the tea cases had been opened. Not even a speck of tea remained. They put everything in order on the ships. They accidentally broke a padlock. They replaced it with a new one. They did not want to damage any property. They only wanted to unload the tea.

EXCITEMENT THROUGHOUT THE COLONIES

The news of the Boston Tea Party spread rapidly. Horseback riders carried the story throughout Massachusetts and to the other twelve colonies. As you can imagine there was great excitement when the news reached the other colonists. People were delighted to hear what the Boston Indians had done. Bells were ringing and people shouting. In some country towns bonfires were lighted to celebrate this great event. It was a daring act to throw the tea overboard. After all the colonies were small and England was very powerful at that time. England was then the most powerful country in the world. No wonder the colonists were overjoyed when they heard about the Boston Tea Party! They laughed about the large cup of tea they made for the fishes.

DARTMOUTH'S PART IN THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

Why has this story of the Boston Tea Party been included in this history of Dartmouth? Because Dartmouth played a large part in this daring deed. A Dartmouth man, Henry Perkins, was a participant in the tea party. One of the tea ships was a Dartmouth ship. It was called the "Dartmouth." It had been built in Dartmouth by Dartmouth men. The "Dartmouth" was the first ship built in our town. It was launched in Dartmouth in 1767. It was owned by a Dartmouth man, Francis Rotch. Francis Rotch was a shipowner who made his living by carrying goods from one place to another.

Earlier in the year 1773, Mr. Rotch had sailed to England in the "Dartmouth" with a cargo of whale oil. This he sold in England. For the return trip back to America, the ship carried one hundred forty-four chests of tea. Boston merchants paid for this tea but we know they never received it because it was dumped into the harbor. Mr. Rotch was present at the protest meeting held in the "Old South" meeting house. He was scolded on all sides by the excited patriots. Mr. Rotch told the patriots he would like to sail out of the harbor without unloading his cargo of tea. But he also explained to the disturbed patriots that he could not get the permission of the English governor to do so as the governor was absent. Mr. Rotch tried several times to get this permission but he was not successful.

Following the Boston Tea Party throughout the colonies, the people said they would give up drinking tea. That was a big sacrifice. People promised not to buy any more tea until the tax was removed.

Like all the colonists, the residents of Dartmouth were against the tea tax. Also like most Englishmen, they enjoyed a cup of tea. Tea was the favorite drink of the ladies of Dartmouth.

DARTMOUTH STANDS FIRM

In Dartmouth, in January 1774, a meeting was called. That was a little more than a year after the Boston Tea Party. Both men and women went to the meeting but there were more women than men. There were fifty-seven ladies who attended the meeting. The ladies agreed not to drink any more tea until the tax was removed. Instead they promised to drink only home made tea, probably made from the roots and flowers of the sassafras or perhaps from raspberry leaves. They probably felt they were fighting a battle for liberty by drinking the not-so-pleasing home-made tea. Upon hearing that one local man had just purchased some tea, the ladies went to him and asked him to give it up. When this gentleman saw how serious the ladies were, he gave them the tea right away.

Six months later on July 18, 1774, a town meeting was held in Dartmouth. The tea tax was one of the things discussed. On that day the townspeople voted, "that we will not purchase any goods manufactured in Great Britain and Ireland which shall be imported from thence after this day, that we will not purchase any goods from any hawker, that we will not purchase any foreign tea whatever . . ."

Thus you see the inhabitants of Dartmouth loyally joined with the rest of the colonists in refusing to support the tea tax.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR (1775 - 1783)

Do you know why we never have school on April 19? April 19, Patriots' Day, is a holiday. This story will tell you why April 19 is an important day in our history for it marks the beginning of America's freedom and independence.

In the story of the Boston Tea Party, you learned that Massachusetts was one of the thirteen original colonies. We often say England was our mother country. In those days, it was thought that the colonies were for the benefit of the mother country.

As the mother country, England was forcing the colonists to pay taxes on certain items they bought. The colonists felt they should be allowed the same liberties as the Englishmen who lived in England. The colonists did not want to pay taxes to England. In fact, they refused to do so. These unfair taxes eventually resulted in war between England and the colonies. This was called the Revolutionary War. It was also referred to as the War of Independence because the thirteen colonies were fighting for their independence, or freedom. The war lasted about seven years. The American colonists won their independence in the Revolutionary War. Our thirteen separate little colonies became our first thirteen states.

The Revolutionary War was very hard on the colonists. There were not many people in this country then. Most of the people were farmers. They did not have much money. The colonies only had a few trained soldiers. They had no navy. There were not really organized. Besides they were fighting against England, the strongest and richest nation in the world. The colonies probably would not have won the war without the aid of France, who sent men, money, and ships to help us. France's help came when we sadly needed it.

PREPARATION FOR WAR

You will learn more about this war next year when you study American history. For now, let's find out what part Dartmouth played in this war and in the years leading up to the war.

An excise tax is a tax on goods made in this country to be sold and used here. The colonists objected to this tax. In 1754, the Dartmouth residents said they would not pay the excise tax on wine and other liquors. (People in other towns voted the same

way.) They also refused to pay the tax on the following fruits: limes, lemons, and oranges. These fruits were not grown here. We had to import them. They were brought here by English ships.

In 1756 the townspeople voted to purchase a supply of gun powder and bullets to have on hand. Many of the townspeople did not believe in fighting but purchased the stock of powder because it was required by law.

Eighteen years later, in 1774, the Dartmouthites stood firm with other towns and cities in the colonies. They voted not to obey some English laws. They felt rather unhappy to go against English laws but they realized it was necessary because the English laws were too harsh.

There was one good reason why it disturbed the people of Dartmouth to take action against Great Britain and Ireland. The townspeople had not forgotten the aid sent them by Great Britain and Ireland after King Philip's War. But time had changed things!

1774 VOTE

What did Dartmouth's townspeople vote in 1774? First, they said they would not buy any goods manufactured in Great Britain and Ireland which were brought into our country. This was hard on the colonists because the English did not allow them to do any manufacturing. The people had to wear coarse, homespun American clothes.

Why did the English forbid the colonists to engage in manufacturing? Because if the colonists didn't do any manufacturing they would be forced to buy manufactured goods from England. England wanted to sell her goods to us. That was what a colony was supposed to be for.

Secondly, the Dartmouthites said they would not purchase any goods from any hawker or peddler. What is a hawker? Third, the voters promised not to purchase any foreign tea. Do you know what the word foreign means? Lastly, our townspeople said they would not export any flax seed to a foreign market. What is flax seed used for?

QUAKER BELIEF

Many of Dartmouth's early settlers were Quakers. The Quakers did not believe in fighting or in wars. They thought fighting was wicked. They believed men should love each other and live in peace. Nevertheless, they realized they had to be prepared if war

came. It seemed certain war would soon begin. Therefore, in 1775, our Quaker community voted to support the colonies in their fight against England. They also bought a supply of powder (for guns) and other ammunition to have in case the town needed it.

England steadfastly refused to change the laws the Americans disliked. The Americans would not obey these laws. The quarrel between them grew hotter. England sent troops here to force the colonists to obey the laws. Of course, the colonists did not like that.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR BEGINS

The Revolutionary War began at the battle of Lexington, Massachusetts April 19, 1775. (Now perhaps you can understand why April 19 is called Patriots' Day.) This battle was fought between four hundred trained British soldiers and seventy-seven untrained American soldiers called minutemen. Every man promised to be ready to fight at a minute's notice. The minutemen formed companies and drilled at night. (Sometime, try to go to Lexington and see the monument to these minutemen.) The colonies had no regular army at this time. The army was mostly made up of volunteers. On April 21, 1775, three companies of Dartmouth men were hastily gathered and marched from our town to Roxbury (near Boston) to join the colonial army.

The battle of Bunker Hill, Massachusetts, June 17, 1775, was also important. Dartmouth men were there, too.

In 1775, the port of Boston was closed by the British as punishment for the Boston Tea Party. No goods could be brought into Boston. No goods could be shipped out of Boston. Needless to say, this law caused great hardship among the people of Boston and the surrounding towns.

These people were not forgotten by the residents of Dartmouth who appointed a committee to "receive all the donations for the poor of Boston and Charlestown now suffering by reason of the Boston Port Bill (as it was called) that may be offered by the inhabitants of this town, make remittance as soon as may be to the overseer of the poor of Boston."

DARTMOUTH MEN SEE ACTION

In the first three years of the fighting, Dartmouth supplied one hundred twenty men. Actually, approximately five hundred Dartmouth men served in the army sometime during the war. Dartmouth also supplied a large number of men for the colonial navy.

Did any fighting take place in Dartmouth during the Revolutionary War? Yes, our town was invaded by the British on September 5, 1778. Let's see why the British raided old Dartmouth. After all, Dartmouth was not one of the most important cities in the thirteen colonies.

The Revolutionary War interfered with some of old Dartmouth's way of earning a living, whaling and trading. Just before the war broke out, old Dartmouth had about one hundred ships engaged in whaling and trading. This was soon stopped by the powerful English navy. About fifty of our town's whaling ships were destroyed by the British during the war. The captured sailors were given two choices. The British said:

"Join a British man-of-war (war ship) or join a British whale ship."

Most captured colonial seamen preferred to join the whale ships. In this way, the British learned many of our whaling secrets.

PRIVATEERING

Remember that Britain's powerful navy soon halted most of our whaling and trading. Of necessity, most of our ships had to be withdrawn from trade. That means many ships were idle in old Dartmouth. What were these men who worked on these ships to do? Some of them turned to privateering.

Privateering is a new word to you, isn't it? It may be a little hard for you to understand. Privateering is a war term. Privateers were ships used during the war. They were not war vessels. Instead they were merchant (trading) ships outfitted with guns. These privateers would try to capture enemy ships. Any ships and cargo captured belonged to the privateersmen.

Privateering was a daring and dangerous thing to do but many privateersmen made small fortunes by engaging in it. Besides, all the ships they captured or destroyed could no longer be used by the English. In that way, privateering helped the cause of the colonies.

A few of Dartmouth's residents became interested in privateering. They brought their prizes (that is what the captured ships were called) into Dartmouth's harbors, chiefly Bedford harbor, the harbor on the Acushnet River. They unloaded their cargoes there and stored them in the warehouses that had been built along the Acushnet River.

When trouble started, the British did some privateering too. Indeed, they sometimes used Bedford harbor. A British war sloop, the Falcon, brought two prize ships into Bedford harbor. Leaving the two ships at the mouth of the Acushnet River under the control of some British seamen, the Falcon sailed away.

FAIRHAVEN

In the Fairhaven section of old Dartmouth, there was an intensely patriotic group of men organized as a militia. These men were determined to regain control of the two American ships seized by the British. Consequently, on May 13, they chartered the "Success," an old sloop (boat) tied up in Acushnet Harbor.

Under the leadership of Captain Daniel Egery, about twenty-five of the Fairhaven militia boarded the "Success" on a dark and foggy night. They hid below the decks. Captain Nathaniel Pope was the naval officer in charge of the "Success." He piloted her out of the harbor and skillfully navigated her beside the first captured sloop. Before the British were aware of what was taking place, the Fairhaven militia had boarded the sloop and recaptured her. The British seamen aboard were taken prisoners. The captured sloop was taken into Fairhaven and anchored there.

But the old Dartmouth patriots had not finished their work. It was now daylight, yet they set sail again in an effort to regain the other captured colonial sloop. The old Dartmouth militia had some keen sharpshooters. After hitting several British seamen, including a British officer, they forced the British to surrender. None of the colonists were hurt. The "Success" sailed back into the Acushnet River harbor with the sloop and the captured British seamen. As prisoners, the British seamen were marched to the Taunton jail for safe keeping.

Thus old Dartmouth can claim credit for the first recorded sea victory in the Revolutionary War. Many of the Bedford merchants in old Dartmouth were Quakers. As Quakers, they did not participate actively in the fighting. Because war had not yet actually been declared, many of these Quakers disapproved of retaining the fifteen British seamen and of marching them to Taunton for safe keeping. But the highest authority in Massachusetts at that time backed the action of the Fairhaven militia. The British sailors were kept prisoners.

Many Americans, including Dartmouth residents, were captured during the war. Some of them, especially those taken at sea, were kept in prison in England until the war ended.

Privateersmen from other towns, especially Boston and Providence, Rhode Island, also found Bedford harbor a haven. They knew the supplies they needed could be secured here. The privateersmen felt that Bedford harbor was a safe place to keep their prizes. Actually, Dartmouth had few ship owners who turned to privateering but many of her men were sailors on ships engaged in privateering.

However, the British soon learned that our town contained large stores of guns and ammunition and other war supplies. They felt it their duty to destroy the supplies concealed here. Of course, the British knew that when the colonists captured a British ship its cargo might later be used against them in the war. Therefore, they decided to take action to stop the privateering here. They were determined to stop the privateersmen from using the Acushnet River as a home base.

TORY HELP

You may be thinking that all the colonists favored gaining freedom from England. That was not the case. Although there was strong feeling in favor of separating from England, many colonists did not want to fight with England. They took England's side in this trouble.

The colonists who favored England were called Tories. Some of these Tories gave secret information to the English. In that way, the British found out the best time to attack Dartmouth. They selected a time when most of the men were absent.

Why were most of the men away from the town? The men had gone to Rhode Island to help the American army engaged in fighting there. No wonder the British decided it would be a good time to attack the town!

THE ATTACK

Early in the morning of September 5, 1778, a British squadron of about twenty vessels was sighted in Buzzards Bay. Carrying a force of between 4,000 and 5,000 men, the ships sailed into Clark's Cove. Do you know where Clark's Cove is? Soon the large ships cast anchor, smaller boats were lowered, and the British army was taken ashore. Since the population of all of Dartmouth numbered about 7,000 people at that time, this large army of British soldiers must have seemed frightening.

General Gray was the British leader. General Gray and his soldiers marched into the New Bedford section of Old Dartmouth.

Did the British kill or harm the inhabitants as they marched through the town? No, they did not harm many people. Only three men were killed. One of these armed men fired on the British soldiers first. Immediately, the British shot the three Dartmouthites.

Actually, there were not many people in the Bedford section of Dartmouth by the time the British arrived because the townspeople had been warned of such a possibility. The first warning was a posted notice put up August 17, 1778. The notice proposed that the townspeople move food, clothing and all other private property out into the country or some other place of safety. The notice further mentioned that the town officials would move such goods at the owners' expense if the owners wished. Many of the town's citizens heeded this early warning and had moved into the woods or some place away from the water by the time the British fleet arrived on September 5.

Then, too, when the British fleet was sighted three shots were fired from Fort Phoenix (Fairhaven) to alert the townspeople. Soon after these shots were fired the area near the water front was almost deserted as people fled carrying as many of their belongings as they could. Many of these fugitives found shelter in the woods. Remember, much of Dartmouth was still forested.

But we should remember that the British had not come to Dartmouth to harm the people. Their desire was to destroy the ships and the storehouses. This they soon accomplished. They set fire to practically all the boats on the Acushnet River. That meant the British destroyed about seventy ships. (One of these ships was named, "No Duty on Tea.") Most of the seventy ships were privateers, prizes, or whale ships. The British also burned about twenty shops and warehouses.

What was stored in the warehouses? A variety of supplies were stored in the warehouses. Included were molasses, coffee, sugar, rum, tea, tobacco, cotton, gunpowder, sail cloth, cordage and medicine.

Were any homes destroyed? Yes, about eleven houses were destroyed. These eleven houses were located along the water front. For the most part only those houses near the wharves were destroyed. The wharves were burned, too. The British marched along the Acushnet River shore. That was a march of about six miles.

MAJOR ISRAEL FEARING

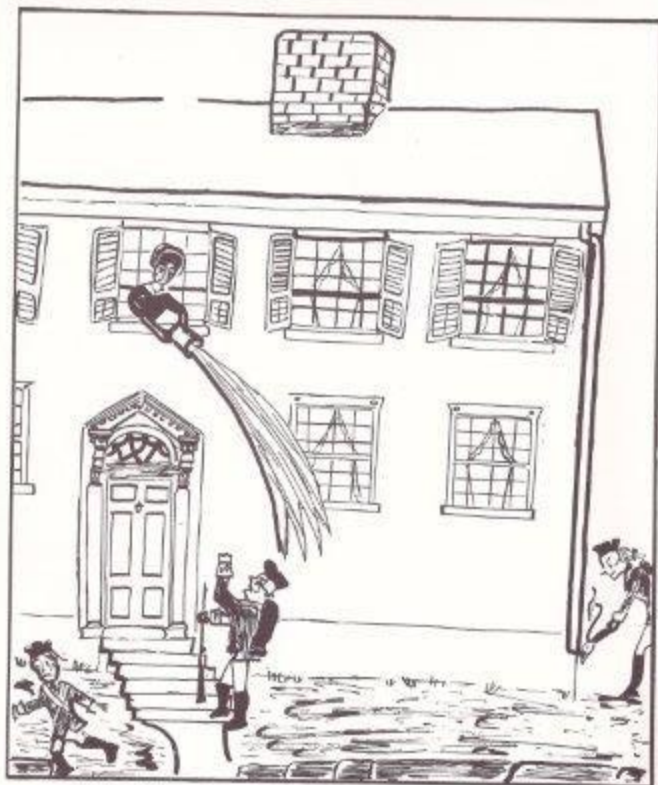
Next, the British moved into present day Fairhaven. They destroyed Fort Phoenix. The British intended to treat the Fairhaven section of old Dartmouth as they had treated Bedford. They wanted to burn the houses and buildings along the banks of the Acushnet River. The homes of several patriotic colonists were destroyed. But young Major Israel Fearing of Wareham determined to give the British a battle in the Fairhaven section of old Dartmouth.

Fairhaven had a spirited militia. Upon hearing of the landing of the British troops at Clark's Cove, minutemen from the surrounding towns joined the Fairhaven militia. The colonel in command was an elderly gentleman who felt it was useless to try to fight against such a superior number of soldiers. His fear was passed on to most of the men he was leading.

But one man refused to give up so easily. That man was Major Israel Fearing. He asked for volunteers. About one hundred men offered their services. Although his men were few, they felt they could strike a blow at the enemy. Major Fearing placed his men where they could not be seen by the British. When Major Fearing noticed that some of his volunteers were losing their courage, he took a position in the rear and threatened to shoot any man who lost courage and tried to desert the group. His actions quieted the men and apparently gave them renewed courage for they fired upon the British in earnest. Completely taken by surprise, the British made a hasty retreat and took to their ships in the harbor. Thus, thanks to Major Fearing's splendid courage, the Fairhaven section of old Dartmouth was spared more damage and destruction.

PADANARAM DESTRUCTION

Perhaps you are wondering if the British came to any section of present-day Dartmouth. Yes, at the time most of the British ships sailed into Clark's Cove, a few British vessels sailed into Padanaram Harbor. They knew exactly where to go because their pilots, or guides, were two Tories. (One of these was Joe Castle. You will learn more about him later.) These two Tories had previously lived in Padanaram. Because of their strong loyalty to the British, these Tories had been forced to leave Padanaram village. Many Tories had been sent away from the colonies at the time of the Revolutionary War. Can you guess why?



British soldiers attempt to burn the Akin house in Padanaram. This house is still standing on Elm Street.

The two former Dartmouth Tories felt that Mr. Elihu Akin was largely responsible for them being forced to leave Dartmouth. They wanted to get even with him.

After piloting the English ships into Padanaram Harbor, they pointed out the property belonging to Mr. Akin. The British burned Mr. Akin's home. They burned his brother's home, too. They also attempted to burn Mr. Akin's sister's home but the house was saved through the high courage of the woman who lived there. She put out the fire by throwing water on it. Again, the British set fire to the house. Again, the lady extinguished the blaze. A third time the British put a torch to the house. Undaunted, the lady threw pails of water on the fire extinguishing it and at the same time dousing some British soldiers. The disgusted British left without doing any real damage to the house, thanks to the lady's brave efforts.

The British burned a ship recently built on the shore of the Apponegansett River in Padanaram. An Akin relative was part owner of the newly constructed boat. This destruction was also a matter of getting even with the Akins.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT

This was the only time the British actually did any fighting in our town, although less than one year later on April 2, 1778, a much smaller British squadron made an attempt to move into Bedford harbor. However, this time they were unsuccessful. The British ships sailed away after a barrage of shots from the reconditioned Fort Phoenix made them feel uncomfortable.

Occasionally, still, our harbor was used to harbor captured British ships.

Our town continued to help the other colonists in their fight for independence, until the Revolutionary War ended. For instance, on October 14, 1780, it was "voted that 1057 pounds (money) and 161 silver money be raised by way of tax on the inhabitants of said town . . . for purchasing the town proportion of beef sent for by the General Court to supply the Continental Army."

We can honestly say our town did its part in the Revolutionary War.

SOME STORIES CONCERNING THE BRITISH INVASION OF DARTMOUTH

THE LADY AND THE WARMING PAN

Have you ever seen or heard of a warming pan? Warming pans were used to heat beds in colonial days. A warming pan looked like a covered frying pan with a long handle. The pan was heated by filling it with hot coals. Then it was moved around under the blankets to heat the bed. There were no furnaces to heat houses in colonial times. Therefore, a warming pan would be very useful in cold weather. After all no one likes to get into a cold bed.

One lady who was fleeing to escape from the British soldiers during the British raid left behind all her household belongings except her brass warming pan. She was determined she wouldn't leave the warming pan because she had had to save her money for many years in order to afford one. As she moved through the woods the brass warming pan brushed against the branches of the trees. You can imagine what a racket that made! The other people who were fleeing with this lady felt that the noise might attract the British soldiers. They did not want to be caught by the British. They threatened to leave the lady unless she discarded her noisemaker! She refused to surrender her cherished warming pan — not after waiting years to own one! Since she would not abandon it, her companions abandoned her. Fortunately, the British did not go into the woods where she was hiding so both she and her warming pan were safe.

A DESERTER

Another story of the Revolutionary War days concerns a man named Joe Castle. He was a farm hand. He worked on the farm of Mr. Joseph Russell. Apparently he did not care for either his job or the loyal colonists. When the British marched into old Dartmouth, Joe Castle decided to join them. We would call Joe Castle a Tory. Before deserting Mr. Russell's farm, Joe took a piece of chalk and wrote a message on the barn door. This was Joe Castle's message:

"I make no more stone wall for old Joe Russell."

It may interest you to know that Joe Castle was forbidden to ever return to Dartmouth. Loyal Dartmouthites let it be known that Joe Castle would be unwelcome. They threatened to arrest and fine him if he ever returned to our town.

A STRANGE REWARD

A woman is given credit for saving a house in the present-day New Bedford section of old Dartmouth. She was busy knitting when British soldiers entered the house in which she lived. She was not surprised as she heard they were coming. She paid no attention to them. The British took all the food from the pantry. She said nothing but kept on knitting. She very calmly continued her knitting until the soldiers set fire to the building. Then she quickly dropped her knitting and put out the fire. This happened twice. The British gave up and went away. When the gentleman who owned the house heard of this lady's courage, he gave her a reward. You'll never guess what it was! It was five pounds of rice! Perhaps it was not much of a reward for such a deed but maybe rice was the lady's favorite food!

"SPIC AND SPAN"

Sometimes we hear a person spoken of as a "spic and span" housekeeper. What does that mean? A lady who could thus be described was cleaning her house when she was advised the British soldiers were approaching. Unafraid, she did not stop her cleaning. Her neighbors, who were hastily preparing to depart, tried to get her to accompany them. This she refused to do. Instead, she remarked, "If the enemy come to my house, they shall find it in good order." What would you have done if you found yourself in a similar situation?

A TEMPTING MEAL

What favorite New England food is considered ideal for Saturday night's supper? Did you know it was pork and beans? At one home in old Dartmouth some loaves of bread, pork and beans had already been put into the oven in preparation for a meal (breakfast). When the occupants of the house heard the British were coming, they fled without waiting for their food. Can you guess the ending of the story? The aroma was so tempting you could hardly blame the British soldiers for partaking of such a delicious meal.

A PATRIOTIC COLONIST

The British came prepared to burn the home of Mr. Bartholomew West, a very patriotic colonist who lived in present-day Fairhaven. When the British arrived, they announced they were

going to burn the West home. Mr. West, an elderly and sickly gentleman, was ill in bed at that time. Mr. West was unable to leave the house by his own power. His housekeeper asked the British soldiers to carry him to safety. This they refused to do. Whereupon the determined housekeeper lifted Mr. West out of bed and promptly carried him outside to safety. She didn't lack courage, did she? Although Mr. West's life was spared, his home was completely destroyed. That was the price he paid for his devotion to the colonies.

A HASTY EXIT IN VAIN

A story is told about Miss Betsey Tinkham. Miss Tinkham happened to be at Clark's Cove when the British fleet arrived on September 5. She didn't live at Clark's Cove but was there attending a wedding. When she saw the British boats approaching, she hastily departed from the wedding. She ran all the way home (corner of Union Street and Acushnet Avenue). Her first thought was to save some of her valuables. But where to put them? She finally decided the best place would be on a boat in the Acushnet River. There they could be floated up the river. Surely, they would be safe there! But as you know the British burned practically all the craft on the Acushnet River and Miss Tinkham's boat was no exception. Miss Tinkham herself was not harmed. She escaped to the woods.

EXTRA TROUSERS

Our next little incident tells of the clever use Jonathan Kempton made of an extra pair of trousers. When Mr. Kempton heard of the approach of the British troops in Dartmouth, he hurried to his home. He quickly tossed a few valuables into a small trunk. Seeking to have extra clothing, he donned a second pair of trousers over the trousers he was already wearing. But, alas, he had lingered too long! As he was dashing out of his home he was met by a couple of British soldiers. They promptly seized both Mr. Kempton and his trunk. As several soldiers set fire to some bedding in the house, Mr. Kempton was placed under the supervision of one guard. This guard immediately started to march him to the water front. In trying to help himself to Mr. Kempton's watch, the guard discovered that his prisoner was wearing two pair of trousers. Mr. Kempton was quick-witted. He bargained with the guard. "If you let me go free, I'll give you this extra pair of trousers." The soldier must have figured he had

nothing to lose and he probably thought an extra pair of trousers might come in handy. At any rate, the bargain was made and carried out whereupon Mr. Kempton hastily rushed home. Once there he found the other British soldiers had departed. Mr. Kempton was able to put out the fire and save his house. He was lucky.

JOHN PAUL JONES

John Paul Jones is recognized as one of our country's outstanding naval heroes. He captured more prizes than any other privateersman.

Mr. Jones came to America from the country of Scotland in the year 1773. When our Continental Congress created a navy in the year 1775, John Paul Jones offered his services. In recognition of his great ability, the Continental Congress appointed him senior lieutenant.

While doing fine service along our North Atlantic coast, Jones frequently visited the Acushnet River harbor in Dartmouth. Many of his crew were Dartmouth men.

Once while fighting a British brig-of-war which was much superior in gun powder to Jones' "Providence", Jones used old bolts, spikes and other pieces of scrap iron in his guns. Where did Jones get the scrap iron? Jones got the scrap iron from a Dartmouth resident. It proved effective causing much damage to the British ship. The British surrendered. Jones brought his prize into Dartmouth's Bedford harbor. Many of the dead seamen from this battle are buried in old Dartmouth.

THE "BEDFORD"

It may surprise you to learn that a Dartmouth ship was the first to fly the American flag in foreign waters. This ship was named "Bedford." It sailed to England with a load of whale oil. The "Bedford" arrived in England in February 1783 on the day the treaty of peace was signed ending the Revolutionary War. The "Bedford" was the first American ship to fly the American flag with thirteen stripes (What do these thirteen stripes stand for?).

LAFAYETTE

In the preceding story you learned that the country of France aided us greatly in the Revolutionary War. One Frenchman, Lafayette, was outstanding in the assistance he gave our country. Lafayette,

ette came all the way across the Atlantic Ocean from France to help us. He used some of his own money to buy things for us. Lafayette worked very closely with General Washington, the first president of the United States. Washington loved Lafayette and treated him like a son.

At one time during the Revolutionary War, Lafayette was stationed close by to Dartmouth in the town of Warren, Rhode Island. He was the commander of the American troops that were stationed there. Once he rode his horse through our town. He was riding at the head of his troops. That was the year 1778. You will read more about Lafayette when you are older. But don't forget that this famous Frenchman, who loved liberty as we do, once passed through our town.

Did you enjoy these little stories about the Revolutionary War?

EDUCATION

The chief goal of education has always been to develop young people into better citizens so they will be able to take their place as adults in the community. The Indians who lived in this country educated their children — not by sending them to school, but by teaching them the skills that would help them to get enough food and to protect themselves when they became adults.

What kind of an education did the early white settlers in America need? Most of them were farmers so the boys were taught to be good farmers. The girls were trained to be good future housewives and mothers. The early pioneer children received their education in their own homes.

EDUCATION OF A COLONIAL BOY

From his father, a boy learned to make shovels, knives, plows, sleds, carts, wagons, brooms, baskets, and wooden bowls. He made wooden handles for axes, hoes, spades and pitchforks. He learned how to build fences, houses, and barns. Farmers cut their hay and wheat with sickles and scythes in those days. You can be sure that was hard work since it was all done by hand and muscle. From his father, the early American boy learned how to use the sickle and scythe. The boy in the family helped with the planting and worked out in the field. He learned to make shoes from the hides of animals. That was the kind of education he needed when our country was an infant settlement.

A COLONIAL GIRL'S EDUCATION

The girl's education was not neglected either. She learned homemaking skills while very young. Remember, all clothes were made at home then. The amount of cloth needed for the family kept the girls and the mother very, very busy. Making cloth was slow, tiresome work. The girl had to learn how to comb wool, spin it into thread, and then weave it into cloth. She needed to know these skills in order to help the family, and also so she could take care of her own family when she married. As she grew older, the girl started making the linen she would need after marriage. The young lady learned how to embroider and knit.



In early Dartmouth the boys worked hard.

There were no electric or gas stoves then. The food had to be cooked in pots at the big fireplace. Pots were hung over the open fire on an iron rod called a crane. The crane was fastened to the side of the fireplace. Cooking was a skill girls learned early in life. They knew how to make butter and cheese for they could not go to the store to buy any. They learned how to salt and pickle meat so there would be meat for the long winter months. The girls had to know how to make candles for candles furnished the needed light. Do you know what a mold is? Perhaps your mother uses a mold for making jello. When making candles, the girls and ladies poured hot wax or fat into molds of tin and iron.

Thus, you can see the children who lived in this country in colonial days worked very hard to get an education even though most of them never attended a regular school. For the most part, their entire day was spent in work.

EARLY LAWS

An early colonial law in Massachusetts fixed a fine of ten pounds on any town not hiring a schoolmaster (as teachers were called then). When it was discovered that many towns were neglecting to hire a teacher, the General Court of Massachusetts increased the penalty to twenty pounds. (If a pound was worth \$4.00, how much did these penalties amount to?)

Although the General Court passed a law saying each town must have a teacher, no law was passed to say boys and girls must go to school. In fact, attending school was considered a luxury. It was because a parent had to pay a certain sum of money if his child attended school. Only boys went to school in those days. It was considered a waste of time and unnecessary for girls to go to school. Most children who lived on farms never attended school.

THE FIRST SCHOOLS

We usually think of schools when we talk about education. The first mention of a formal educational system in Dartmouth can be found in the town meeting records of July 7, 1702. The records contain the following report:

"At a Town Meeting the 7th day of July 1702 it was agreed forty pounds (English money) for the paying of our Schoolmaster, 18 pounds for a years schooling."

Mr. Daniel Shepherd was the first Dartmouth teacher mentioned by name. The 1711 minutes (report) of the Dartmouth



Dipping candles was one of the chores for girls in early Dartmouth. Notice the big fireplace.

Friends (Quakers) tells us that there were no school houses at first. Instead, lessons were taught in someone's home.

"Daniel Shepherd of Shepherd Plains, not far from here toward the Tucker Road, taught a school in John Russell's home near the present Town Hall."

Many of the early teachers were also ministers. The ministers were the best educated people. (This was true in most New England colonies.)

Evidence that early Dartmouth teachers boarded out is noted for the first time in April, 1728, when it was "Voted that Josiah Mayhew shall have forty shillings for boarding, William Palmer the town Schoolmaster."

SUBJECTS TAUGHT

By 1727 more than one teacher was needed. Town records state, "Voted that there shall be suitable schoolmasters to teach the children to read, write, and cypher." (Cypher means arithmetic.)

In the early 1700's, schools were only kept four months of the year. However, the teacher often taught all year only in three different sections of the town.

Since geographically Dartmouth commanded the northwest portion of Buzzards Bay, many of its men became interested in fishing and shipbuilding.

Usually the very early schools offered only three subjects: reading, writing, and arithmetic. But because so many men were interested in the sea, perhaps it is not surprising that navigation was one subject offered in the Dartmouth schools in 1735. (What does navigation refer to?) Those who studied navigation had to pay extra money for the lessons. Surveying was also taught for those interested. (What does surveying mean? Why might a knowledge of surveying be useful?)

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

From 1798 to 1866 all Massachusetts towns were by law divided into various school districts.

From earliest time until 1826, the town selectmen had the power to hire and dismiss teachers. In 1826 the state passed a law permitting the towns to have school committees. The school committee took over the job of hiring and dismissing the teachers. Usually Dartmouth's school committee consisted of three members.

These members were generally chosen from as near as possible the three corners of the town, Smith Mills, Russell's Mills, and Padanaram. That seemed the fairest way. Each member was supposed to supervise the school districts closest to his home. It was the duty of the school committee members to visit the district schools to examine the progress of the pupils.

It was the custom for the teachers to board with the different families of the district. The usual arrangement was for the schoolmaster to stay a few days, a week, or possibly longer with one family and then move on to another. The family sending the most children to school boarded the teacher for the longest period. This constant moving about in boarding places must have been hard on the teachers.

DARTMOUTH'S FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOLHOUSE

All records seem to indicate that the first public schoolhouse in our town was built at the head of Gulf Road, also known as Seth David Corner (near Motha Square) in South Dartmouth. This first schoolhouse was a small one-room building. It was situated by the side of the highway so that the door opened directly unto the road. Apparently, the highway served as a play area. It was reasonably safe at that time because there were no cars or busses on the roads then. (It was the custom to build the school house just off the road.) John Greenleaf Whittier, one of America's greatest poets, wrote a poem which begins thus:

"Still sits the school house by the road."

It is a lovely poem. You will enjoy reading it when you are older.

THE SCHOOLS

Some of these early schools were quite small. Let us read the measurements of a one-room school built in Dartmouth over a century and a quarter ago. (How long is that?)

"The floor is 15 feet 8 inches by 15 feet 4 inches. The height of the room, 7 feet 8 inches, and there was formerly a little entry 3 feet 8 inches in width."

This building held up to sixty children. How crowded it must have been! Maybe your teacher will let you measure your room some day. You may feel your room is overcrowded, but I'm sure you don't have any where near that number of children in your room.

Neither time nor money was spent in decorating Dartmouth's first schoolhouse. The pupils were seated on long backless benches. These benches were usually placed on three sides of the room. Backless benches must have been very uncomfortable after a while.

The teacher had a high sloping desk at the front of the room. He sat on a high stool so he could keep a sharp eye on all his students.

There might be a chair or two in the room to be used by the visiting school committee or other visitors.

Neither the inside or the outside of the building was painted. It must have been somewhat gloomy. There were no blackboards, outline maps, or globes. The teacher and pupils had little to work with. The pupils wrote on slates.

The schools were heated by a large stove. Students were expected to supply the wood. Those who sat near the stove were likely to be uncomfortably hot. Those who sat at a distance from the stove were very cold. Aren't you glad we have such comfortable schools now?

COMPARISON OF EARLY AND PRESENT DAY SCHOOLS

In what other ways did these early schools differ from ours? Here are some ways those schools were unlike our schools. The old schools were all one-room buildings. We do not have any one-room schools in Dartmouth now. These early schools were ungraded. We have grades in our schools. Some very young children attended school in the 1700's and 1800's. Just imagine some children were only two years old while others were as old as eighteen years. What a wide range of ages the teacher had to work with in the same room! Now, girls and boys have to be almost six years old before they can enter school. We do not have teenagers in the same room as our youngest children. All children in a class are about the same age.

The early schools had no playgrounds. Very little time was allotted for play, anyway. Our schools have large playgrounds where we can get together and have fun several times a day.

Until the year 1848 school kept every day but Sunday. When schools were in session, the teachers had to teach on July 4, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas. We would think it strange if we went to school on these days, wouldn't we!

Until a century ago, each pupil supplied his own textbook. As a result very often there was a variety of textbooks in the same class. At the present time, the town supplies us with our books. Our books are uniform for each class or at least for each group within a class. The books of long ago did not include the beautiful color illustrations our books of today contain. These illustrations help to make our books more interesting and help us to picture what we read.

How our schools have grown! From one teacher in 1702, we now have 150 trained personnel. No longer do we have dark, poorly ventilated schools. The schools in Dartmouth are equipped and planned to give you the best possible education. We have the best books, and all kinds of supplies. Our furniture is comfortable, too. In one of our earliest high school graduating classes (in the late 1800's), there were 6 students. This year (1961) there were 156 in the graduating class of the Dartmouth High School.

One sign of growth in our educational system is today every boy and girl must attend school. Boys and girls have the opportunity to attend school until they are at least sixteen years old.

Our educational system has changed in many ways. Name some of them.

HENRY H. CRAPO

When we say someone is "famous" what do we mean? Can we say the President of the United States is famous? Can we call the governor of our state famous? This story is about a Dartmouth teacher who became famous. His name was Henry H. Crapo.

BOYHOOD

Henry H. Crapo was born in Dartmouth, May 24, 1804. He was the son of a farmer. His father was able to make only a modest living as a farmer. As a boy, Henry had to work hard on the farm, too.

Henry had little opportunity to go to school but he was possessed of the same thirst for knowledge as our great former president, Abraham Lincoln. Like Lincoln, Henry was largely self-educated. He loved to read. He read all the books he could lay his hands on. He kept a little note book in which he wrote down the new words he came across. He made his own little dictionary. By doing this, he improved his vocabulary tremendously.

A SURVEYOR

Henry did not wish to devote his life to farming. At that time there was a demand for surveyors. Henry decided to become a surveyor. To learn this skill he read a book on surveying. But a surveyor needed a compass. (Why?) Henry did not own a compass. He had no money to buy a compass. That did not stop him. Henry decided to make a compass. He secured permission from a neighboring blacksmith (Why were there so many blacksmiths then?) to make a compass out of some scrap iron the blacksmith had. Henry worked on his compass in the blacksmith's shop using the forge while the blacksmith was at dinner. Henry Crapo showed ingenuity in making his own compass. (What does that mean?) When he had a compass, Mr. Crapo was ready to earn some money surveying.

Perhaps someone can bring a compass to class. Remember the needle always points to the north. Find N, S, E, and W, in your room and on the playground.

COUNTRY SCHOOLMASTER

Henry Crapo decided to earn some money in another way, too. He determined to be a teacher. Why did he want to be a teacher?



Dartmouth's first schoolhouse.

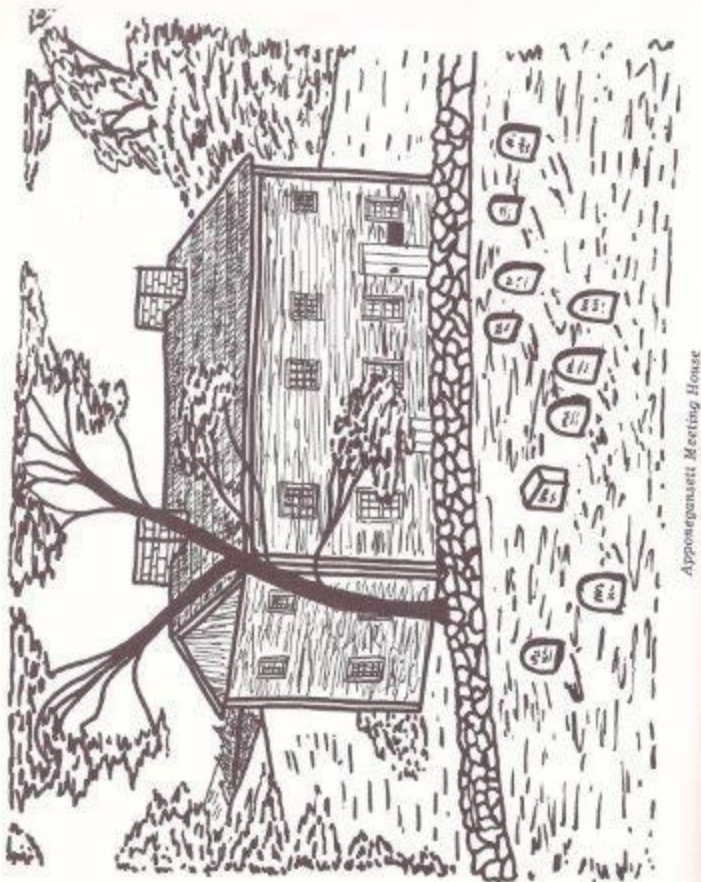
At Mr. Crapo's death, a fellow-worker said, "Michigan never had a governor before who devoted as much personal attention and pains-taking labor to his public duties as did he."

What wonderful praise for this Dartmouth native and former teacher!

THE CRAPO GIFT

When Mr. Crapo's wife, Mary Ann Slocum Crapo passed away in 1876, she left \$3,000 to our town. The money was to be used to promote the welfare of the boys and girls in Dartmouth schools. In appreciation of Mrs. Crapo's generosity, Dartmouth later honored her by calling the elementary school on Slocum Road (near the town hall) the Mary A. Crapo School. The most recent purchase with money from the Crapo Fund was an audiometer. (You have seen this audiometer. If you don't know what it is used for ask the school nurse. Then you will realize that our audiometer certainly is for the benefit of all Dartmouth children.)

The Crapos unquestionably merit recognition in our town's history. If you work as hard as Mr. Crapo did, perhaps your name will also go down in Dartmouth's history — so aim high!



Apponegensett Meeting House

jamin Taber moved here from Nantucket and started making boats on the shores of the Acushnet River. It was he who built the first whaleboat in this area. Other builders soon followed Mr. Taber.

THE ROTCH FAMILY

However, Joseph Rotch, one of New Bedford's founders, was the first person to carry on a large and prosperous shipbuilding industry here. Mr. Rotch moved to Dartmouth (the Bedford section) from the island of Nantucket in 1765. Under Mr. Rotch's leadership, the Bedford waterfront became a very busy place. Ship after ship was built under his direction. Some of these ships were used in whaling. Other ships that Mr. Rotch built became merchant ships. Merchants ships are trading ships. They carry goods to be sold from one place to another.

The first large merchant vessel was built here by Mr. Rotch's son, Francis Rotch. It was called the "Dartmouth." You learned about the "Dartmouth" when you read the story of the Boston Tea Party.

SHIPBUILDING IN PADANARAM

We do not know the exact date when shipbuilding started in the Padanaram section of Dartmouth. However, we do know some shipbuilding was carried on there in the 1700's. When did you learn that? Did you remember that when the British invaded old Dartmouth in 1778 they burned a boat that had just been built on the Apponegensett River there? Therefore, we know some ships were built and fitted out in Padanaram 200 years ago.

As early as 1750 a few whaling ships were being built on the Apponegensett River. The gentlemen who owned this business remained at South Dartmouth for only ten years. Then they moved their shipyard to the Bedford section of Dartmouth as the Acushnet River formed a better harbor for such an undertaking.

During the Revolutionary War, shipbuilding in this area was almost at a standstill. But by the 1820's sailing vessels, fishing boats, and whale boats were again being built and launched in shipyard on the shores of the Apponegensett River in Padanaram. At least three different companies built ships there.

About the year 1826 or 1827 two gentlemen, Charles Matthews and Mathew Thatcher, started to build ships in South Dartmouth. Theirs was not the only shipyard on the Apponegensett River.

Mr. Daniel Homer also had a shipyard in Padanaram. What a busy place Padanaram harbor must have been!

In the middle of the nineteenth century (When would that be?) four other men started to build large whaleships in Padanaram. These men were Alonzo Matthews, John Mashow, James M. Babbitt, and Frederick Smalley. These four men continued shipbuilding until 1856. During that time they built about thirty-five ships. One of these ships was named, Bark Henry H. Crapo. (Do you remember what Henry Crapo did?)

SHIPBUILDING IN RUSSELLS MILLS

Some, but not much, shipbuilding was carried on in another place in Dartmouth. Can you guess where that was? Ships were built in Russells Mills just below the village on the Slocum River. At least one of the larger boats had to be floated down the Slocum River on barrels because the river was not deep enough to float the boat. There is an interesting poem written about a whaleship that was fitted out at Russells Mills. It is entitled, "Grandfather's Pocketbook." After you have read it, try to think of the story it tells.

GRANDFATHER'S POCKETBOOK

Grandfather's pocketbook, faded and old!
Years three score and ten have over it rolled
Since the day and the hour when it was new,
And the sheen on it wore its glossiest hue.

Now tis gray with the touch of time's mouldy fingers,
The hard prints of which on it still lingers.
Tis made of morocco, once shining and red; —
Grandfather bought it the day he was wed!

He looked on its contents with little less pride
Than he gazed on his fair, his beautiful bride;
For that he well knew would keep want from the door,
And a welcome would give to the weary and sore.

Tis a joy to gaze on this pocketbook old —
With its cavenous cells for silver and gold.
It brings to our thoughts the time far away
When these were plenty as the script of today;

When sovereigns and guineas of genuine gold,
And great silver dollars were made in a mould.
Look! here's a letter, all blotted with tears,
Yellow with age, and stained by the years:—

Tis a love letter and reads much the same
As letters this day of a similar name:—
It begins with "My Darling", and tells of a love
Earnest as that of the angels above;

Tis directed to grandmother, her maiden name,
And there seems to be in it a shadow of blame
That their wedding day is so far away—
(Tis just a year from the date to the day)

It says: From Cape Cod to Boston he rode in a stage—
And grandfather names's at the end of the page.
And here's a lock of grandfather's hair!
As curling and black, as shining and fair,

As when grandmother's scissors it cut from his head,
On his twenty-first birthday, when he lovingly said,—
"Take, Susan, I pray, the whole of my head."
And that was the way he asked her to wed.

Here's their marriage certificate, crumpled and torn.
See where twas folded, how it is worn!
Twas the year eighteen hundred the ink was wet,
Just two years from the time my grandparents met;

When they to each other gave heart to heart,
To cherish and love till death should them part.
A sailor was grandfather, brave hearted and bold,
And fearless of danger as I have been told;

Energetic and active, to all ports he went,
And short was the time that at home he spent.
But sweet were the hours there that he passed,
Though the shadow of parting was over it cast.

He sailed out of Dartmouth, one bleak winter's morning,
Just as the break of day was first dawning.
Grandmother's lips he touched with a kiss,
And gave her the pocketbook, saying "Take this.

There's enough for whatever you'll want to buy—
Take care of the babies, and dearest, good bye!"

Of that vessel and crew not the slightest word,
From that day to this has ever been heard.
Grandmother waited, year out and year in,
Till her hair turned gray and her eyes grew dim;

But the loved came not, her sad heart to cheer,
Nor tidings of him e'er did she hear.
But one night in a dream as she quietly slept,
Grandfather came in and over her wept.

Over her leaned, his clothes dripping wet,
And told her then, that his sun had set;
In his face, icy cold, distinctly she read
That his body forever and ever was dead.

Time brought to grandmother offers of marriage,
A house in town and a handsome carriage;
But to each and to all grandmother said—"Nay!
In patience I'll wait till the coming bright day,

When the mansion in heaven is ready for me,
And the face of my husband again I shall see."
And now she has gone at eighty odd years,
To the home that she yearned for thro' misty tears,

And I think of the meeting on that other side
Of grandfather's greeting his long ago bride.
And I wonder, if there the perfect joy given
Compensates for the happiness here that was riven.

The babies, two boys, are old men now,
And silver hair crosses each furrowed brow;
Father and grandfather each have become,
And their journey on earth almost is done;

But thro' life's evening shadows a fair white hand
Beckons them on to the Better Land.
Grandfather's pocketbook faded and old!
Its leaves in reverence I tenderly fold,

And lay its treasures back in their place,
Putting them up in the old-fashioned case;
For, mid the choicest things I have and hold
Is grandfather's pocketbook, faded and old!

Do you like this poem? Why?

SHIPBUILDING ON THE WESTPORT RIVER

In the days when Westport was still a part of Dartmouth, Paul Cuffe was building ships on the Westport River. Mr. Cuffe was half Negro and half Indian. He built the first schoolhouse in Central Village (now in Westport) and what is more he paid the teacher's salary. Anyone who wished was allowed to go to his school.

The ships Mr. Cuffe built later sailed "the seven seas." One of his ships sailed to England with the first all Negro crew. A loyal American, Mr. Cuffe was caught by the British during the Revolutionary War. He was put into prison but later escaped.

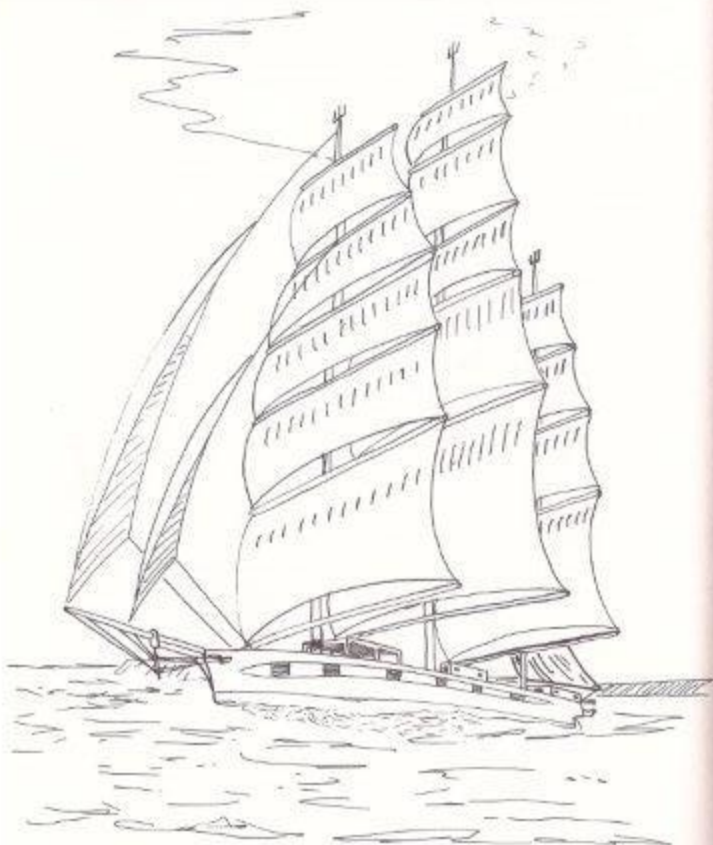
COMPANION INDUSTRIES

Wherever shipbuilding was going on, coopering was also done. Coopering refers to the making of barrels. The man who did this work was referred to as a cooper. Many barrels were needed because most of the things that were shipped at that time were shipped in barrels. Boxes were sometimes used, too. The barrels were wooden barrels. The large boards were used in building ships. The smaller boards were used for the barrels, boxes, or perhaps buckets. The fairly large barrels could hold many things. For example, the early settlers smoked or salted and then packed their beef and pork into barrels. What meat they didn't need was shipped out of the country to be sold elsewhere. Barrels were also used on fishing boats to keep the salted fish. Flour was packed in barrels, too.

In Dartmouth, one could see coopers at work close by to any shipyard. You might say the two businesses went hand in hand.

In those days none of the ships had motors. They were all sailing ships. Therefore, sail-making could also be found in the same area where shipbuilding was carried on. These sail-making places were (and still are) called sail lofts.

There is a sail loft on the water front in Padanaram now. It is located on Elm Street near the Yacht Club. Perhaps you could ask one of the men who work there to come to school to talk to you sometime. No doubt he could tell you some interesting things about sailmaking. Remember, the making of sails is a skill which dates from the early history of our town and contributed much to our Dartmouth heritage.



WHALING

What does the expression "There (Thar) she blows" mean to you? Read this story and you will find out what "There (Thar) she blows" meant to Dartmouthites a century and a half ago.

From the earliest times, Dartmouth men were interested in fishing. That's not surprising since the town is located on the shores of Buzzards Bay. You might say the sea was at our doorstep. Local fishermen caught many cod, herring, and mackerel. They sailed out of Dartmouth's harbors in their sturdy boats. Sometimes they used hooks to catch fish. But more often large nets were used. The nets were let down over the sides of the boat and spread out. Later the nets were lifted or pulled in. How happy the fishermen were when the nets were full!

As early as 1750, Dartmouth seamen were interested in a new kind of fishing. What was this new kind of fishing? This new kind of fishing was the catching of whales, or whaling, as it is usually called.

WHAT ARE WHALES?

Whales are not fish even though they live in the ocean. Whales are really very large animals. Whales are the biggest animals that have ever lived on this earth.

Whales are mammals. You are a mammal. Have you a pet? Dogs and cats and horses are mammals also. Mammals are warm-blooded animals. That means their blood stays the same temperature all the time. Except on very hot summer days our bodies are warmer than our surroundings. Fish are cold-blooded animals. That means their blood changes with the temperature of the water. Their temperature goes up and down with the water in which they live.

Real fish have gills by which to breathe. Like all mammals, whales breathe by means of lungs. They breathe in oxygen by means of their lungs. That means whales have to come to the surface of the ocean every so often in order to breathe. While underwater whales have to hold their breath just as we do when we swim below the surface. However, whales can hold their breath much, much longer than people can but just like us, they will drown if they stay under water too long.



A harpooner ready to strike a whale.

THE VALUE OF THE WHALE

Why were these whales so valuable? The bodies of whales were useful in many ways.

Whales have a very large amount of fat under their skin. This fat is called blubber. The thick blubber, which is between the whale's skin and flesh, helps to keep him warm. (Which whales do you think would have the more blubber — those living in the frigid zones or those living in temperate zones?) The blubber was boiled down to oil.

There was much oil in the whale's head, too. Whale oil gave a good light. Brushes were made from the large bone in the enormous head of the whale. A kind of wax was secured from the head of the whale, also. This wax was used to make candles. Candles were still in great demand in those days even though whale oil lamps became popular. There was still no electricity. Since the whale was so valuable, many men were willing to risk their lives in the dangerous business of whaling.

WHALING VESSELS

Whaling vessels were large sailing vessels. If you want to see what a whaling vessel looked like, visit the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. There you can see the Bark "Lagoda," a model of a whaleship. This 60 foot long model is one half the size of a real whaler. The "Lagoda" is the largest ship model in the world and is exact in every detail. A study of model "Lagoda" will help you to picture the whaling ships that put to sea from this area.

Each 120 foot long whaler was equipped with several smaller boats. What were these smaller boats used for? Just imagine a whaler was out to sea. Suddenly a member of the crew, the look-out man, sighted a whale. Immediately he told of his discovery by crying out "There she blows!"

Quickly members of the crew lowered some of these small open boats. In their small boats they started to pursue the whale. There were six men in each small boat. The men rowed hard until they were close to the whale. In the meantime, (maybe) the whale went below the surface. But remember, as mammals, whales have to come to the surface every so often in order to breathe. As soon as the whale again came to the surface to breathe, the harpooner of the whale ship threw a harpoon into the whale.

A harpoon looked like a spear. It was a long pointed iron. The head of it was something like a fishhook — once in the whale's body he could not free himself of it.

The harpoon had a one thousand three-hundred foot rope attached to it. Sometimes, the injured whale put up a tremendous fight. It would swim around, gamely and excitedly, trying to get rid of its pursuer. As the whale swam, it pulled the small boat after it. A whale has been known to overthrow a boat or maybe smash it to pieces. A whale could smash a boat with a single blow of its powerful tail (called flukes) or perhaps crush the boat with its strong jaws. One small boat was always ready to pick up any whaler who might be thrown or pulled into the sea by the activities of the frantic whale.

Though whaling was exciting, it could be extremely dangerous, also. It called for fearless, strong men — men who felt it a challenge to conquer the biggest monsters to inhabit the earth!

THE KILL

But the whale was not yet dead. When the whale seemed to have tired and lost strength, the men in the small boat would quietly and quickly row up to the side of the whale. Then the ship's mate would thrust a lance into the whale's lung to kill him. Again, this was a dangerous time for the whale would fight for his life. Sometimes as he fought for his life, the whalers lost theirs.

GETTING THE OIL

When the whale was dead it was towed to the whaler by the one thousand three-hundred foot rope on the harpoon. The blubber was stripped off while the whale was still in the water.

Now the blubber could be cut up. It was sliced into small pieces, something like bread you would buy at the store. The whaling vessels were equipped to boil down the blubber while at sea. The small pieces were placed in very big kettles and boiled down to oil. The oil was stored in large barrels in the hold of the ship.

LENGTH OF TRIP

The early fisherman spent many weeks, months, and sometimes years, looking for whales. These whaling vessels would be

at sea from six months to a couple of years depending on their luck in catching whales.

As time went on ships had to sail further away to get whales. The first sailing ship which sailed into the Pacific Ocean in search of whales is said to be the "Rebecca" which sailed from Dartmouth, September 21, 1793. (The Panama Canal had not been built then so the ships had to sail around South America to get to the Pacific Ocean. Trace their route on the large map of globe in your room.)

WHALING IN DARTMOUTH

As early as 1755, whaling was pursued by Dartmouth men. We know that four vessels were engaged in whale fishing in 1765. Whaling vessels were built on both the Acushnet and Apponegan-sett Rivers.

As many as fifty whaling vessels were fitted out annually in Dartmouth from 1770-1775. In this work, more than one thousand men found employment as seamen. Since whaling was then in its infancy, the whalers did not have to go too far off shore to catch whales. The great whales came close to the shore where the settlers lived.

The earliest whaling schooners were smaller than the whalers built later on. When the smaller boats were used, the whale blubber was not boiled down at sea. Instead, the captured whale or possibly two whales, would be towed into Acushnet River harbor. There the blubber was removed and boiled down to oil in what was called a trypot. The oversized pot was located on the shore of the river.

By the time of the Revolutionary War, the number of whaling vessels in Dartmouth had increased to sixty. We have already learned that most of them were destroyed by the English during the war.

In 1785 (ten years after the British raid) only one whaling vessel left Dartmouth. No other ship left our shores until 1787. But at least the townspeople had enough courage to renew their interest in whaling and the business was beginning to pick up again.

When people think of whaling, they usually think of the city of New Bedford — the offspring of Dartmouth — which like many offsprings grew larger than its mother. New Bedford was recognized as the outstanding whaling port in the world. For



A whale smashing a boat with his powerful tail (Hakes.)

many years it was the chief seat of the American whale fishery. With the largest whaling port next door to us, many Dartmouth men put to sea on New Bedford whalers. Some Dartmouth men were owners of whale ships that claimed New Bedford as their home port.

But after New Bedford separated from Dartmouth, the present town of Dartmouth continued to do some whaling although on a much smaller scale than New Bedford. Records show that five Dartmouth vessels were engaged in whale fishery in the year 1837. At the same time, 129 Dartmouth men were employed in whaling.

When whaling was at its peak (around 1845), Dartmouth had as many as one dozen vessels in the fleet of whalers.

The whaling business declined rapidly after the discovery of petroleum (oil). Petroleum was easier to get and proved even better than whale oil for lighting purposes. But while whaling lasted, it added color to our way of life.

DARTMOUTH WHALERS

The following is a list of some of the whalers built in Dartmouth by Matthews, Mashow and Company between 1845 and 1858:

Schooner Mosell	Bark Sea Queen
Schooner Pearl	Bark Henry H. Crapo
Schooner John Mashow	Bark Morning Star
Brig China	Bark Cape Horn Pigeon
Brig Norma	Bark Benjamin Cummins
Schooner Ocean Queen	Bark Morning Light
Bark Tropic Bird	Schooner J. W. Flanders

A WHALE OF A TALE

Here's a whale of a tale, me hearties!
A whale of a tale, it's true.
But you'd be saying the very same thing
If it suddenly happened to you.

We set sail on Friday morning
Out on the ocean wide.
Friday it be an unlucky day
And the skipper's wife, she cried.

"Oh, please! Don't leave old Dartmouth Town!
Please be home today!
Once you're on those open seas
Then you are gone to stay!"

Once we were out upon the sea
The skipper saw a whale.
Too late! The beast rose up on high
And struck us with his tail.

There's an old saying 'mongst sailors
"A dead whale or a stove-in boat"
And our good hulk Esmerelda
Was ne'er more seen afloat.

I am the only sailor left
Who remembers that fateful time
And if it were not a whale of a tale
I would not have set it to rhyme.

Gina L. Serman

WHALES

There are many kinds of whales
Sulphur-bottoms, right ones
None with fins and all with tails
Black and even white ones

Famous ones like Moby Dick
And when they're ill, like this
A gritty substance, when they're sick
Turns into ambergris.

They swim and sail the ocean wide
And oh boy! would you rave
If you could see a whale inside
It looks just like a cave.

Whales guzzle up their dinners
And really get quite fat
There's plenty of blubber for skimmers
So what do you think of that?

Carol Portnoy

THE MILLS OF DARTMOUTH

Some of you live in Russells Mills or Smith Mills. Did you ever stop to think of how these sections of Dartmouth got their names? This story will give you the answer.

EARLY SETTLERS

The earliest settlers had a full time job of getting food, clothing and shelter. There was little or no time for leisure. Eventually as the population began to increase, people began to think of how much easier a settler's task would be if he could take his trees to a saw mill to be cut into lumber (boards) for home building and other purposes. People also sought a quicker way to grind corn.

There were many streams in old Dartmouth. Water power and wind were the only power the colonists could control and use. Therefore, settlers gathered near the areas of water, especially at Smith Mills and Russells Mills. Wherever water was available, the settlers began to use it for water power. The names Russells Mills and Smith Mills clearly indicate that mills were established in both places.

Unfortunately, some records about Dartmouth's early history have been destroyed. Therefore, we are unable to tell the complete story of the town's infancy since little or no information is available. We know that our town was incorporated in 1664.

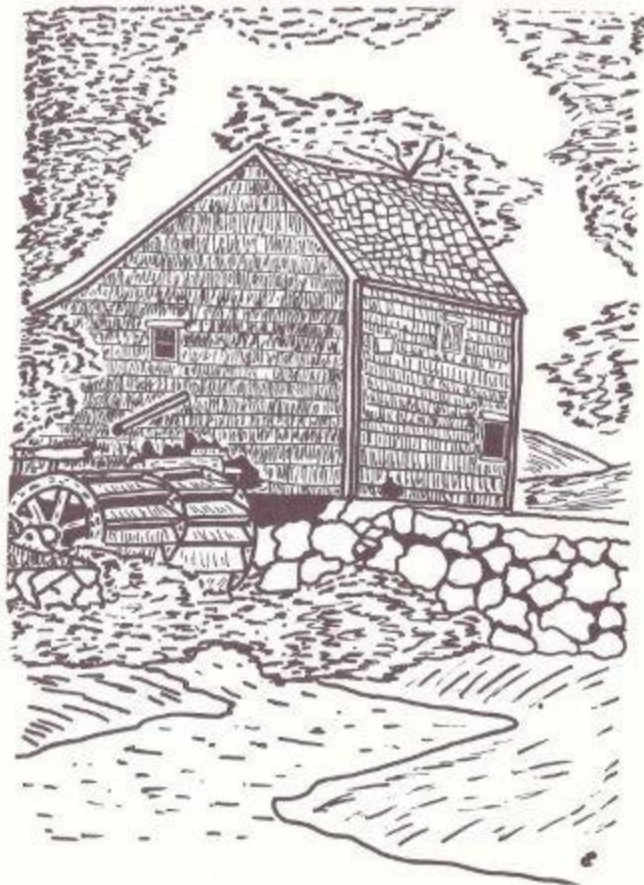
SMITH MILLS

In the year the town was incorporated two men, Henry Tucker and George Babcock were given permission to build a mill at Smith Mills. We don't know just when it was built, but we know it was built before 1681. How can we be sure of that? Because town meeting records for 1681 were to be posted at "the mills." (Notice the plural is used indicating there must have been more than one mill.) The Paskamansett River supplied the power for the mills.

Town records prove that there was a grist mill and a fulling mill (for weaving cloth) in Smith Mills in 1702. The fulling mill was in operation until 1775.

How did Smith Mills get its name? In 1706, Elishib Smith bought the mill property in Smith Mills. He and his family con-

OLD GRIST MILL IN RUSSELLS MILLS



trolled the mills in Smith Mills for close to a century. Smith Mills was named for these mill-owning Smiths. Elisha Smith built a saw mill. There was a need for it for much of North Dartmouth was still heavily wooded.

Benjamin Cummings bought out the Smith property in 1792. He, too, built a saw mill. Later a cotton factory was erected nearby. In 1821, "The Mercury", an early New Bedford newspaper, carried an advertisement seeking a man to run the cotton mill in Smith Mills. The 1801 records refer to an "oil mill." When the Cummings property was sold in 1823, it was sold with "oil mill and blacksmith shop."

In the year 1899, Smith Mills had a grist mill, a new mill, two blacksmith shops and two wheelwright shops. (What do you think was made in a wheelwright shop?)

HIXVILLE

The Hixville section of North Dartmouth also had a mill. About one mile east of Hixville center on the road to Faunce Corner the road crosses the Noquochoke River. This was the site of a mill which in 1710 was called a "new saw mill." Probably many cedar and pine trees of North Dartmouth were cut up there. A book published in 1899, "History of Bristol County" states that at that time Hixville had a saw mill and a blacksmith shop.

In 1768 a mill was located south of Smith Mills on the Chase Road near the junction of the road from Cedar Dell. The mill was known as Barker Mill.

PADANARAM

We know there was a saw mill in Padanaram in the early seventeen hundreds because in 1708 the townspeople voted to "lay out a highway near Ponagansett saw mill." Another saw mill began to operate in Padanaram around 1776. It was in operation for thirty years. A rich trader, John Wady, purchased a farm at the head of the Apponegansett River where the Apponegansett River and the brook meet (the brook is described as Allen's or Howland's brook) "on which yoused to stand a saw mill." 1780 records show that Mr. Wady owned two mills but only the saw mill is mentioned by name.

Shortly after 1800 a wind mill was erected in Padanaram at the corner of Middle and School Streets. The wind served as power for a mill. This mill was a grist mill.

RUSSELLS MILLS

At least a dozen mills were located at Russells Mills at one time or another. Most of them were on the Paskamansett River which flows in back of the present-day fire house. Other mills were located on Destruction Brook. Destruction Brook joins the Paskamansett River a short distance below Russells Mills village (Davoll's Store). Both flow into Slocum River. Here were located saw mills, grist mills, and at least one fulling mill.

How did Russells Mills get its name? It was named for an early Dartmouth settler, Joseph Russell. He and his family owned and operated mills in Russells Mills for several generations. (A generation is about thirty years.)

Early in the town's history, Russells Mills had a grist mill.

As early as 1702 a fulling mill was located at Russells Mills. Records show that Potomska Road (it leads from Little River Road to Rock-o-Dundee Road) was laid out in 1702. The records indicate that this road passed over the river, where Joseph Russell's fulling mill was located. This mill changed hands several times before being acquired by Benjamin Cummings. He decided to change the mill from a fulling mill to a shingle mill. What a big help that was, for the very earliest settlers hewed out shingles by hand. That was one of their jobs during the long winter months. They sold the ones they didn't need.

There was also a carding mill located at Russells Mills. It was probably started about 1830. It was in operation until 1860. Perhaps you are wondering what work was done at a carding mill. At a carding mill, sheep's wool was cleaned and combed. Then it was formed into rolls about twelve inches long. The process after this was called spinning. Most of the spinning was done in the homes by the women.

Giles Slocum established an iron forge in Russells Mills in 1787.

The "Medley" (New Bedford's first newspaper) carried this advertisement in 1794 — Joseph and Elihu Russell of Dartmouth offer "to dress and colour cloth at their new works at Russells Mills."

Records of 1899 indicate that at that time Russells Mills had a grist mill (Allen and Howland Mill), a saw mill, a blacksmith shop, and a wheelwright shop.

A vacant mill is still standing in Russells Mills not far from the village. It was a grist mill. It was in operation until a few years ago.

THE WHITTLING YANKEE

Have you a nickname? What is it? Who gave it to you? Does it suit you? What nickname is often used for the Dartmouth High School athletic teams? Is it a good one for them?

Read this story about a Dartmouth man whose nickname was "The Whittling Yankee." Be ready to tell if you think his nickname was a good one for him.

BOYHOOD DREAM

What do we mean when we say a person is a "native" of Dartmouth? Are you a native of Dartmouth?

The inventor of the plow was a Dartmouth native. His name was Jethro Wood. Jethro Wood was born in Dartmouth in the year 1774. Like many of the early Dartmouth residents, his parents were Quakers.

Like most boys, Jethro liked to tinker with things. Even as a child he dreamed of making a plow that would be an improvement on the all wooden plow used for centuries. One day Jethro took a pewter cup and melted it. From this he moulded a toy-model (miniature) plow. Next he made a small harness. You would probably never guess what he used for the harness. He cut the buckles off a pair of braces. (Today we call braces, suspenders.)

What do you suppose Jethro did then? He caught the family cat and fastened her to the plow. Then he drove her through his mother's flower garden. He thought it was fun to have the cat pull the plow. But his mother did not think it was fun. She was unhappy when she saw what had happened to her flower garden. She liked her flowers very much and did not want to see them ruined. Besides she took pity on the poor cat! That was the last time Jethro used the cat as a beast of burden.

Jethro may have stopped bothering the cat but he did not stop trying to make a better plow.

WOOD'S NICKNAME

Later Jethro moved from the state of Massachusetts to the state of New York. There the people called him "the Whittling Yankee." Let's see why they gave Wood that nickname.

Do you know what whittling is? As a boy, your father may have done some whittling. Many boys like to whittle. In colonial days in our country, the men spent long winter evenings whittling with their jack knives. They whittled out wooden bowls, plates, and spoons. They whittled out other things too, including spindles for the spinning wheel.

Almost every boy was the proud owner of a good, sharp knife. He cut out home-made toys such as tops, whistles, bows and arrows or maybe a wooden doll for his sister. (Wooden dolls were very popular in early America.)

Jethro Wood whittled day after day. You see he had made up his mind that he was going to make a better plow. That's why he did so much whittling. For his first trials, Jethro always used a potato — a long potato rather than a round potato. He cut away (whittled) small pieces of the potato until he had the curve he thought he wanted for a plow. He would then proceed to make an iron plow that had the same curve as the potato. This explains how Wood got the nickname "Whittling Yankee."

A "Yankee" is a person who lives in the northeast section of our country. We know that Dartmouth is in Massachusetts. We also know that Massachusetts is in the northeast section of the United States. Therefore, we can be spoken of as "Yankees." Now can you understand how Wood got his nickname? How well earned it was!

THOMAS JEFFERSON'S INTEREST

Wood worked patiently on his plow for many years. At the same time, Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States, was trying to invent a new plow. Of course as president, Thomas Jefferson was kept busy running the affairs of the United States. Just the same, Jefferson made some improvements on the plow. He used a sheet of thin iron along the edges of his wooden plow. The iron made the plow stronger and it could stand rougher usage than the all-wood plow could take.

Jefferson heard the Wood was also hoping to make a better plow. Jefferson wrote several letters to Wood urging him to keep trying until he succeeded. Thomas Jefferson's letters encouraged Jethro Wood.

SUCCESS!

Jethro took President Jefferson's advice and kept on trying to make a better plow to use in the fields. Finally in 1819, after

years of trying, his dream came true. He succeeded in making a better type plow.

What was different about his plow? In the first place, Jethro Wood's plan was for an iron plow, not a wooden plow. In the second place, it had replaceable parts. If you can find the root word of the word replaceable, you probably will guess its meaning. It meant if a farmer broke one part of his plow, he did not have to buy a whole new one. He could send to Jethro Wood's shop and buy just the part he needed. That would save money because buying just a part of the plow was much less expensive than buying a whole new plow. Wood's plow became very popular. His iron plow helped to break up the land on farms everywhere.

Don't you think this Dartmouth native was clever?



Salt works — Padanaram

THE SALT INDUSTRY

THE IMPORTANCE OF SALT

Did you realize that our bodies require salt? We do not need much salt to be healthy but we must have some salt. You may be thinking, "I never shake salt on my food before eating it." That may be true but probably your mother adds salt to your food as she cooks it.

Long before people began to use ice to keep their food from spoiling they used salt as a preservative. For several reasons, salt was an absolute necessity for the pioneer settlers in this country. The early settlers salted and smoked all kinds of meat. Much fish was salted, too.

SALT MAKING

Early in our town's history salt was made in Dartmouth. Most of the salt was sold elsewhere. Salt making was an important industry here. In the early 1700's (around 1720) the salt industry started in Dartmouth. Salt works were located along the shores of Smith Neck and Mishaum Point. One section of Dartmouth, Salter's Point, was originally known as "Salthouse Point." We can't ever forget that Salter's Point was a salt works area, can we!

In the 1800's salt works were located at Salter's Point, Mishaum Point, Nonquitt, on the Gulf (Hill) Road near the Padanaram Bridge, on Bakerville Road, and in Russells Mills. There were also several salt works on both sides of the Apponagansett River in Padanaram.

In 1810 a salt works started at Ricketson's Point, South Dartmouth. In that year Clark Ricketson leased (rented) to Isaiah Small an area of land "sufficient to contain 80 cranes of salt works." The lease price was set at \$25.00 a year.

Records prove that in the year 1840 there were thirteen establishments for the manufacture of salt in Dartmouth.

You may be curious about the amount of salt water required to make one bushel of salt. Approximately three-hundred and sixty gallons of sea water was needed to produce one bushel of salt.

How much did this salt cost? The price varied, but fifty cents a bushel was the highest price paid for salt. If between ten thousand and twelve thousand bushels of salt could be purchased in one year, how much money would be taken in?

GETTING THE SALT

You may be wondering just how the salt was obtained from the salt water. Here is a description of one way this was done.

Salt water was pumped from the ocean (Buzzards Bay). The pumping was done by windmills. We usually think of the Netherlands (Holland) or Cape Cod when we think of windmills. Did you ever imagine that Dartmouth was once dotted with picturesque windmills?

After the water was pumped from the sea by the windmills, it was carried through tunneled logs (or pipes) to vats. These vats were large wooden trays. The vats were rather shallow. They were only about one foot deep. They were not very large, usually about fifteen feet square. At night or in rainy weather covers were placed over them. These vats were too bulky and heavy to be lifted by men. Therefore, cranes were used to place the covers on the vats. (Why were the covers necessary?)

Just for the fun of it leave a dish of water on a window sill in your classroom. See how long it takes for the water to evaporate. Where does the water go?

The salt water went through four vats before the sun evaporated the water. The vats were arranged in tiers, or layers, one above the other. There were usually four vats in a tier. The water ran through wooden spouts from the top vat into the next vat and so on until the bottom vat was reached. This usually took about three weeks. The finished salt was left. The salt was placed in a salt house to dry. The air (wind is moving air) blowing in through the cracks in the salt house dried the salt!

Because the sun was used to evaporate the water, the salt was made in the summer months — usually from May to October. Why?

THE BRUSH METHOD

Another method of salt making was the brush method. In the brush method of making salt, water dripped down to brush (small trees and shrubs) which held the salt particles. (The salt was shaken off afterwards.) The water dripped down from one tier to another. It might interest you to learn that the final water was called "bitter water." This "bitter water" was sold to the Norton Grinding Company in Worcester, Massachusetts, at an excellent price of \$1.00 a barrel.



1894. Saltworks at Ricketson's Point, Padanaram, So, Dartmouth in the year 1894. This drawing shows only a small section of the salt works. There were many more trays and covers just like the ones you see in this picture.

A century and a half ago if your mother was running low on salt, she would have told your father. Probably he would have hitched his oxen or horses to a wagon and driven to the salt house to buy some salt. He might have taken you along with him for the ride. Don't you think it would have been interesting to see the salt works?

Remember some salt-making had been carried on in Dartmouth since the early 1700's. As time passed it was found we could buy salt very cheaply from the West Indies (Locate the West Indies on the map). But at the time of the War of 1812 (When we again fought against England) the English ships so controlled the seas we could no longer secure salt from the West Indies. That forced us to again make salt.

Dartmouth's older residents may recall seeing the last salt works in Dartmouth. The salt works on Gulf Road employed the brush method. The other method was used in the salt works on Smith Neck Road near Gulf Road.

SALT WORKS' REMINDER

Some excellent paintings of the Dartmouth salt works can be seen in the Dartmouth High School. The Padanaram fire house also has some paintings of the salt works in Dartmouth. Try to see them some time.

ITEMS YOU'LL ENJOY

1. Do you know what a ferry is? As early as 1695, a ferry was in operation at the site of the present Hix's Bridge in Westport. Westport was then a part of Dartmouth.
2. Early in our town's history there were no bridges across the rivers. Those who had to cross the rivers usually used small boats. In some places they walked across the river at low tide.

Before 1835, there was no bridge across the Apponegansett River in Padanaram. However, a person could get across the river by ferry. The ferry was run by Mr. Charles Slocum. The fare was four pence — half penny per passenger.

When the first bridge was built across the Apponegansett River in 1835, it was a toll bridge. That meant you had to pay to use the bridge. The money went to the people who had built the bridge. In this way they got back the money they spent building the bridge. Of course, they also needed money to keep the bridge in good repair.

The tolls may seem strange to you. The tolls were listed as follows:

- 1¢ for each sheep or swine (pig)
- 4¢ for each cattle
- 4¢ for each foot passenger
- 8¢ for horse and rider
- 10¢ for horse and wagon
- 16¢ for each horse and chaise, chair, sulky, or sleigh
- 25¢ for each horse and coach, phaeton, or chariot
- 20¢ for each cart or sled drawn by more than one beast
- 4¢ for each beast without rider

Since 1870 no charge has been made to cross the Padanaram Bridge. For how many years have people been able to use the bridge without paying tolls?

3. Historians do not feel that the earliest Dartmouth houses had fireplaces. Why do they feel that way? The minutes (records) of 1710 contain this item, "Wm. Soule is Appoynted to procure a Pot to make a fire in and Coals to burn it in."
4. Early in our country's history there were very few roads. Rivers and streams or the trails made by the Indians were the only highways. However, as soon as people began to

use ox-carts and wagons, they needed roads. Usually the road was made by widening the old Indian trails.

When were Dartmouth's first roads built? By 1684 our town had begun to consider laying out roads. Later, a surveyor named Benjamin Crane devoted most of the years from 1710-1721 dividing the town of Dartmouth into farms and laying out roads. He suggested that each road be four rods (one rod equals sixteen and one-half feet) in width. After his death the width of the roads was reduced to two rods. County Street, one of the earliest streets laid out in the Bedford section of old Dartmouth, was four rods wide. Maybe you would like to find out how wide streets of the present day have to be.

5. Did you ever wonder what doctor the early residents of Dartmouth called when they were very sick? As far as we can find out, the first doctor in old Dartmouth was Dr. Benjamin Burg who was born in 1708. He died at the age of forty. Dr Burg is buried in the present town of Acushnet.
6. Were the residents of the 1700's self-reliant? It appears so. For at a town meeting of 1768, the townspeople were called upon to consider the matter of "Encouraging our own Manufacturers."

What does that mean?

7. In 1774 George Claghorn, builder of the famous ship, the "Constitution" (later referred to as Old Ironsides) established a shipyard in the Bedford section of Dartmouth. His shipyard was at the junction of present day North and Second Streets. Mr. Claghorn was a Dartmouth native.

Some day plan to see the "Constitution." It is preserved at Chelsea, Massachusetts.

8. The Quakers (Friends) were among the first people opposed to slavery. In 1716 they went on record as being against slavery. By 1785 all Dartmouth Friends had ceased to have slaves.
9. The Quakers' meeting house (church) has been on the same site, on the banks of the Paskamansett River on Russells Mills Road, since 1699. The present meeting house was built in the year 1790.
10. The first fire engine in Dartmouth (Bedford village) was purchased by Joseph Rotch in 1772. This engine was made in England. The engine had double pumps but did not carry

water. The townspeople were expected to have water buckets in their homes ready for use in case of fire. Everyone was supposed to help. The buckets were passed from one man to another down a line until they reached the fire engine.

A story is told that one man put beans in his water bucket. When the bucket was needed he had forgotten he had filled it with beans. Accidentally, he poured the beans into the fire engine. Of course, the pump became clogged and was useless until the beans were removed. Imagine his embarrassment! How upset the firefighters must have been!

11. Have you ever heard of the apprentice system? In his early youth, that great American, Benjamin Franklin, was an apprentice to his brother.

If the boys in your class had been living two hundred years ago, probably many of them would have served as apprentices.

An apprentice was a boy learning a trade from a skilled master. The training started when the boy was about ten years old. His parents signed a paper saying the boy would work faithfully from sunrise to sunset (What a long day!) for from five to seven years. The apprentice received little or no money, but he did get his board and room.

Sometimes the life of an apprentice was hard. Then the boy was tempted to run away. Benjamin Franklin ran away. The following article appearing in the 1794 "Medley" (the first newspaper in this area) tells of a Dartmouth apprentice who also ran away.

"Run-away from the subscriber, the 27th, an indented apprentice boy, by name of Hattle Brayley; sixteen years old — about four feet six inches high — light complexion and short hair. — Had on, when he went away, a short green outside coat, fustic-colored broadcloth trousers, patched on the knees with cloth of the same kind and colour as his coat, — a good felt hat. Took with him, a good led coloured broadcloth coat — a jacket and breeches — also a seal skin cap.

"Whoever will return said Boy shall receive a handsome reward and all charges. All persons are forbid harbouring or trusting him on any account (account) — and Masters of vessels are hereby forewarned against taking him to sea — as they will answer for it at their peril."

"Thomas Akin, a blacksmith"

Do you wonder if Hattle Brayley was ever caught?

12. The following entry was found in the Town Meeting records dated April 16, 1868:

"Voted not to pay the toll of scholars (pupils) as must cross a toll bridge to attend a Public School."

Maybe that is one reason why scholars were absent so often!

13. What did whalemens from this area do with their leisure time? They did beautiful scrimshaw. Scrimshaw is a carving or drawing done, not on paper, but on a sperm whale tooth, a walrus tusk, or perhaps a piece of ivory. What patience was needed to produce scrimshaw! Some of the articles the seamen made were cribbage boards (cribbage is a game) or wheels to use in cutting cakes and pies. Look for displays of scrimshaw when you visit the Whaling Museum.
14. A Dartmouth teacher of the late 1800's had this strange experience while boarding around. One family told him he could sleep in the guest room. Just before getting into the bed, he blew out his candle. Imagine his surprise to find something under the bedclothes! Most likely, you could never guess what it was. It was a large cheese that had been placed there (where it was dark) to age.

Do you think the teacher had a restful sleep that night?

15. You often write stories in school, don't you? Years ago, school children wrote stories for their teachers, too. About 1890, a young Dartmouth student, Almy King, wrote this story in class. As you read it, notice what a clear picture she gives of her school. How can you tell she liked it?

"Our School-house

Our school is pleasantly situated in Bakerville, on the east side of the road. It is surrounded by a large yard and fence. Out of the back windows we can look out at Buzzard's Bay.

There are eight windows and each has curtains.

It is painted white with green blinds.

Inside there is a stove, six blackboards, a clock, a desk, four charts, and twenty-four desks. It has a belfry and in it a bell which rings out quarter of nine in the morning to warn the children who are on their way to school that they will be late unless they hurry. It rings again at nine o'clock when school begins. It is the duty of certain boys to ring the bell by means of a heavy rope.

Sometimes the bell turns over. Then the boys must climb into the belfry and right the bell.

The schoolhouse is about thirty feet long and twenty-eight feet wide. The wood work is grained.

It is very pleasant because the sun shines in most of the day. Now perhaps you might like to write a description of your school or classroom.

16. In the olden days, people used to gather seaweed in the Fall. The seaweed was placed against the foundation of the house to keep out the winter cold, snow, and ice. You might call the seaweed a form of insulation.
17. The Indians referred to Nonquitt as Bare-Kneed Rocks. Can you think of any reason why they did so?
18. Potomska (near Little River Bridge, South Dartmouth) was sometimes referred to as the "Cow Yards" because cows were shipped out from there. Some people feel Potomska was called the "Cow Yards" because cows were allowed to roam all over that area.
19. Early Quaker records refer to Smith Mills as Newtown.
20. How long has Dartmouth had a public library? As early as 1878, a Literary and Social Club was started in South Dartmouth. The purpose of the club was to establish a public library. The Southworth Library in Padanaram was dedicated in 1890. How wonderful that many people realized the value of good books!
21. Very early in the town's history, surveyors of timber and plank were chosen. There were also surveyors of hoop staves, (What would they be used for?) shingles, and clabboards.
22. W. W. Crapo, a son of Henry Crapo, (Do you recall he was a prominent Dartmouth educator in the early 1800's?) told an interesting sidelight about a Russells Mills miller (around 1850).

The miller's grist mill work did not always require his attention. In his spare time, he began to make an article needed on the land. The miller made hay rakes for the neighboring farmers. Watching the miller make these handmade hay rakes was a favorite pastime of the boys in the village.

23. You would think it strange if you didn't see a large American flag flying on the school grounds when school is in session. Since 1909, by law, every school must fly the American flag. In his 1892-93 School Report, Superintendent of Schools, Seth Crocker, remarked, "The American flag now waves over many of our village schools and it is hoped that this beautiful emblem . . . may ere long be seen floating daily above every school-house in our town."

In his 1897-98 report Mr. Crocker announced, "Every school now has a flag."

Thanks chiefly to Mr. Crocker, flags were flying at the Dartmouth schools more than a decade (How long is a decade?) before the law made school flags obligatory.

24. You have favorite games you enjoy playing at recess time. Some of the games you like to play are jump rope, hop-scotch, baseball, and dodge ball.

In the late 1800's school children liked to play tag, jack-stones, London Bridge, and drop the handkerchief. How many of these old favorites have you played?

25. During the War of 1812, an American sentry kept watch at the peninsula opposite the Town Landing. This is where the Slocum River meets the Little River. Why was the area guarded? It was guarded because the British man-of-war "Nimrod" was anchored offshore and patrolled the New Bedford area closely. That made the Dartmouthites feel that the British might try to sail up the Slocum River to do some damage. The townspeople had not forgotten the 1778 British invasion during the Revolutionary War.

26. During the Revolutionary War, Russells Mills village displayed a liberty pole. What was a liberty pole? A liberty pole was a pole placed in the ground with a colonist's cap on top of the pole. This cap represented all the villagers and indicated that the settlers were loyal to the colonial cause.

27. About the year 1700 an Indian meeting house was located on the side of the road about one mile from Russells Mills village on the Horseneck Road.

28. Nonquitt roads have Indian names we read about in the very beginning of Dartmouth's history such as: Samoset, Acushnet, Massasoit, Wamsutta, and King Philip.

29. One of Salter's Point's roads honors Gosnold.

POPULATION

1675 — About 30 homes

1765 — 4,506 inhabitants

1776 — 6,773 inhabitants

(These figures were for Old Dartmouth which also included New Bedford, Fairhaven, Acushnet, Westport. These towns were not set off from Dartmouth until 1787.)

1790 — 2,499

1880 — 3,430

1800 — 2,660

1890 — 3,122

1810 — 3,219

1900 — 3,669

1820 — 3,636

1910 — 3,669

1830 — 3,866

1920 — 6,493

1840 — 4,135

1930 — 9,000

1850 — 3,868

1940 — 9,011

1860 — 3,883

1950 — 11,115

1870 — 3,367

1960 — 14,608

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