

A Memorial

TRIBUTE TO A WORTHY MAN.

Unique Place won in the Hearts of his Friends by the Late Isaac T. Haight of New Lebanon.

(Special Correspondence.)

It would be difficult to name a man of New Lebanon whose death will be felt as deeply and by so many as that of Isaac T. Haight, whose death you briefly noticed last week. For all the years of his active life, Mr. Haight had been closely identified with the well-being of the town, and universally recognized as an influence for the upbuilding of the community. A man of the most unassuming and unpretentious bearing, he had a liking for the pushing methods which many seek prominence when service was required of him in whose honesty of purpose and intelligence and clear-sightedness everyone felt perfect trust, was instinctively called upon during his service as school commissioner, he left an impression on the minds of the numerous teachers with whom he came in contact which will remain fixed in their memory. He showed counsel in regard to their numerous and vexatious problems was no less valuable to them than the keenly sympathetic kindness with which it was given. For a long series of years he was the voice of the peace and it is doubtful if any man who ever held that office ever used it more effectively for the service of his fellow-citizens than he. But he always discouraged the beginning of litigation, never sought to win notoriety in the cases he heard. Though his knowledge of law, as practically applied to rural affairs was unusually vast, he never desired to "air it" in his court or elsewhere. Yet it was always at the service of any neighbor who felt the need of it. It was evident that he rather desired to be a peacemaker among neighbors than a judge between litigants. Many a case of threatened law-suit which came to him was cleared up and settled without friction, through his impartial advice and mutually friendly suggestion. For several years he also acted as railroad commissioner for the town.

When New Lebanon Grange was organized the choice for Master fell naturally and inevitably upon him, and his invaluable leadership in those days of the organization contributed more than any other element to its steady and healthful growth. At first, in the lack of a suitable hall, the grange met in rooms he secured for its use at the vacant Wyomanock house, and for a long time he had, of a winter, to walk over to the hotel from his home, a mile away, build the fires, fill the lamps, sweep the rooms, go back home to get his chores, and get his supper, and then return to preside as Master. It was only by accident that this wholly unrequited service to the grange was discovered. He did it not because it was his proper work, for it was not; not because of a desire to win favor, for it would never have been known for his well-being, but solely from that characteristic kindness of purpose and desire to help others which made him the noble neighbor he was.

And, after all, it was in that relation, our neighbor, that Mr. Haight won his unique place in the hearts of those fortunate enough to know him intimately. He was a busy father, like most of those about him, with no fewer burdens of his own to bear, and no less work of his own to do than they. Yet he was always ready to sacrifice his own time, his own interests, his own leisure to the welfare of others. If he felt the call or help of counsel was a real one, no matter how busy he was, he would do it. He was a busy father, like most of those about him, with no fewer burdens of his own to bear, and no less work of his own to do than they. Yet he was always ready to sacrifice his own time, his own interests, his own leisure to the welfare of others. If he felt the call or help of counsel was a real one, no matter how busy he was, he would do it.

Richmond's Oldest Woman.
Mrs. Lucretia White, aged 93 years, the oldest woman in Richmond, Mass., and a real daughter of the American revolution, died Saturday morning in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Nellie F. Newton in Richmond after a two weeks illness following a paralytic shock. She was the widow of William White of Williamstown who died 22 years ago.

THE RIDER FAMILY.

Some Facts Concerning its Early History That Older Readers Will be Interested in.

(Special Correspondence.)

The Rider family came to America, or Plymouth, Mass., in 1633. They resided in Yorkshire County, England, East and West Riding. A Mr. Rider who lives in Maine has sent me some account of our ancestors. He thinks the name was originally Ryther. One of his grandfathers, Daniel Rider, a student at Dartmouth College, changed his name from Rider to Ryther (old style). The Rider coat of arms was a blue field with three golden crescents. The name Rider came from the Kings' armed riders in war, now called cavalry (See Green's History of England.)

My paternal grandfather was Benjamin, son of William, son of William. My grandmother's name was Freeborn Hicks, daughter of Weston Hicks, who was for ten years assistant to the Governor of Massachusetts, answering to Lieutenant Governor of to-day. He lived at Newton, now Cambridge, Mass. He moved there to what is now Newport, R. I., where he had, at the time of the Revolution a large estate. Although a member of the Society of Friends, he was obnoxious to the British who annoyed him by cutting down his fruit trees and destroying his fences. He had no sons to perpetuate a family surname; he named father's mother Freeborn (long a family name.) A much loved cousin (one of uncle Jonathan's daughters) bore that name as did one of uncle Benjamin's daughters. Benjamin was father of the late Luther Rider of Chatham, whose mother was a sister of aunt Marcy's. Grandmother Freeborn Hicks Rider was a Quaker preacher but her husband at the time of their marriage was not a Quaker. A Lieutenant Samuel Rider was dealt with according to the phraseology of that day for resisting an officer who tried to impress some of his men for the war between England and Holland when Cromwell was Lord Protector of England.

C. G. R. S.

BIG BANQUET

Given by the Albany Chamber of Commerce on Saturday Evening.

The fourth annual dinner of the Albany Chamber of Commerce was held at the Ten Eyck on Saturday evening and it was by far the most attractive dinner ever given by that organization. Over 250 members and their guests sat down at 35 tables. The speakers' table was beautifully decorated with roses and smilax interspersed. Throughout the drawings were hundreds of small red, white and blue, incandescent electric lights. Butterflies of flags decorated the walls back of the speakers' table, and in the center was a large coat of arms of the State. All of the small tables were decorated with cut flowers, smilax and potted plants.

The menu was the most beautiful ever seen in Albany, the outer cover being of French illuminated onion skin paper on which the seal of the Chamber of Commerce was embossed in orange and gold. The cover was engraved with the seals of the state and city and the day and occasion of the dinner. On the first inside page was a fine picture, in photo-gravure, of Governor Higgins printed on hand made Japanese vellum, the balance of the pages were devoted to the menu, toasts, musical selections, etc.

Unique illustrated song sheets printed on old-fashioned straw wrapping paper and tied with a coarse hemp cord were also given to each of the diners. The ice was served in a delicate box made in the shape of a chrysanthemum. The instrumental music was furnished by a brass and string orchestra of fifteen pieces.

The toastmaster was William H. McElroy, of New York and other speakers were Julius M. Mayer, Attorney-General; Senators John Raines and Thomas F. Grady and Assemblyman Moreland. Governor Higgins was unavoidably detained.

Born in Chatham in 1821.

Hannah Hunting Carpenter died Jan. 14 in Pine Plains, aged 84 years 9 months. The Register of that place says that "in 1816 her father purchased a farm at Chatham, Four Corners, now Chatham, Columbia Co., N. Y., and emigrated there from Dutchess Co., that year. The farm dwelling was where the present dwelling of Louis F. Payne, the celebrated politician, is located and in that farm dwelling, she, the second daughter, was born in 1821. The present cemetery there was part of this farm and there was a hill of scrub oaks and bushes."

Years Gone By.

Looking Backward.

Some Things That Were Transpiring A Quarter Century and Less ago.

(Special Correspondence.)

Twenty-five Years Ago this Week
John Kudoibb was appointed janitor of the public school at Chatham.

William Rogowski purchased the property on Main street, Chatham, occupied by Smith & Clark and the residence occupied by H. M. Ford. Two children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Murray, of Chatham, died of diphtheria.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Boright, of Chatham, observed the 15th anniversary of their marriage.

Chatham had a Good Templars lodge with 66 members.

Truman Stuppelbeen bought the Charles Robinson farm at Ghent.

Charles J. Arnold and Miss Mary Urban, of Ghent, were married.

C. H. Carpenter purchased a farm near New Britain.

John K. Francisco became proprietor of the "Francisco House" at Chatham.

Edward McEvoy, of Chatham, sustained a broken thigh by being thrown into an empty bleach vat at Shufelt's paper mill.

Mrs. W. H. Pulver, of Valatie, sold her residence to Peter W. Springstein, for \$3000.

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Snake on Ice.

Our Valatie Correspondent Doesn't Doubt Our Story.

The incredulity of some people is wonderful. Doubt was expressed in last Saturday's Courier as to the truth of the "rare" occurrence which some papers had published regarding the killing of a three-foot-long snake on the ice on Wild's pond recently. If a snake wouldn't crawl on the ice to cool off with the mercury at 80 in the shade where would he go? If anyone should find it, wouldn't he be likely to kill it? Would anyone say he killed it if he hadn't? It is a "rare" occurrence but not half so "rare" as it would be for a snake to be found on the ice in the pond in the summer with the thermometer at 80 degrees. There are a good many "rare" occurrences in Valatie. A man came in and paid the writer a bill the other day that has been standing (or running) a year. Speaking of "rare" things you should see some of the rare steak at some of our boarding houses. What is rarer than a winter with summer weather? No, no! don't doubt anything that comes from Valatie, even though the regular correspondent didn't send it in, until you have made an investigation. Valatie can show more "rare" things than any village around here of half its size if "rare" means "half done."

Reasonable Proposition.

A demand has arisen in New York state for local option in dealing with the liquor question, and an organized movement to help it along has been started. In his recent message Governor Higgins laid down this reasonable proposition: "It seems illogical for the state to impose the same upon cities, villages or other local civil divisions of the state, against the wishes of a majority of the inhabitants. A bill has been introduced at Albany which would give local option to the residence sections of cities, villages and towns, and this measure has the support of the Anti-Saloon League, Springfield Republican.

John Morrissy purchased the Adams farm near Chatham for \$3800.

Christian Fetting leased the Clarence Klittell farm at West Ghent.

George Kline purchased the Daniel Falls farm near Kinderhook.

Wm. Powell sold his interest in the Red Rock store to J. J. Powell.

Asa Gage leased the Andrew Van Buren farm at Kinderhook.

ALBANY CAPITOL UN-SAFE.

Assembly Stairs Need Fixing Again And Other Parts of the Building May Have to be Repaired.

(Special Correspondence.)

The trustees of state public buildings at Albany, N. Y., Saturday afternoon instructed Robert J. Hill, superintendent of public buildings, to close all approaches to the Assembly staircase in the state capitol, including the entrance to the Assembly chamber and the elevators leading thereto. This action was taken on the recommendation of the state architect, George L. Helms, on the basis of a report made to him by William Barclay Parsons and Daniel E. Moran, expert engineers of New York city, after an examination of the Assembly staircase, which has been under suspicion for several months. The engineers have reported that the integrity of the capitol building as a whole should be investigated in this connection, including tests of the foundations.

With reference to the crumbling conditions of the Assembly staircase, the engineers advise that the conditions which caused the cracks, observed for several years, are still in force, and that a state of great internal stress exists in that part of the structure, and that the public should be excluded from the use of the staircase because of the danger of falling pieces of stone or of a collapse of the staircase. It is believed by those familiar with the conditions that the situation is exceedingly serious, and, at the best, part of the building will be out of use for two or three years.

Made Imbecile by Cigarettes.

Charles L. Moore, twenty-five years old, of Whitesville, R. I., was committed to the Worcester Insane Hospital Jan. 24. According to testimony given by physicians, incessant cigarette smoking is responsible for the young man's condition. A policeman informed the court that Moore smoked at least eight boxes of cigarettes each day. He had been continuing this practice for the last two years, and now he is an imbecile. The doctors said that on account of nicotine poisoning the man's mind is entirely blank.

Masonic Convention.

The Masonic convention of the several lodges of the Fourteenth Masonic district, will be held at St. John's Hall, Hudson, Feb. 12th and 13th. The convention will be under the direction of R. W. John Laube, helmer, Grand Lecturer, who will exemplify the standard work of the three degrees as follows: Monday, Feb. 12th at 3 o'clock p. m., first degree; Monday, Feb. 12th, at 8 o'clock, third degree. All Master Masons are invited to be present.

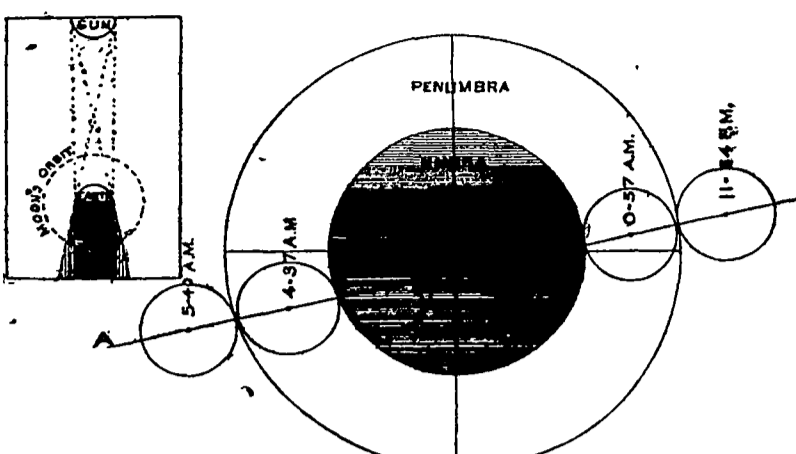


Diagram of Total Eclipse of the Moon, February 9.

Moon's Eclipse.

An Interesting Article by Mr. L. M. Muzzey.

It will pay you to arise at 2 a. m. on February, 9 and see the Eclipse, if the Weather is Fair.

(Special Correspondence.)

The total eclipse of the moon, which will take place during the early morning hours of the ninth of February, will be a very interesting phenomenon, if the weather conditions should prove favorable. Although occurring at that portion of the night which we are accustomed to devote to sleeping, it will repay one to witness it. Many things in science seem simple to us to-day that to our forefathers, were shrouded in inscrutable mystery. It is difficult for us to imagine how deeply eclipses affected men's minds before the dawn of astronomical science. To them they were without the order of nature—terrible presages of dire events, and at home at one time, it was blasphemous and punished by law, to talk publicly of their being due to natural causes.

The earliest recorded observations of lunar eclipses were those made at Babylon in the years 719 and 720 before Christ. It is probable that the cause of lunar eclipses was not so easy to guess as was that of solar ones; but a great number could not have been observed, and their times of occurrence recorded, without its being noticed that they always occurred at full moon, when the earth was opposite the sun. The idea that the earth cast a shadow and that the moon passed into it, could then hardly fail to suggest itself. The reason why eclipses of the moon only occur occasionally, is of the same general nature with that of the rare occurrence of solar eclipses. The center of the earth's shadow is always, like the sun, in the ecliptic, or in the plane of the earth's orbit around the sun.

The path of the moon around the earth, however, is inclined to the ecliptic about five degrees, so that unless the moon happens to be very near the ecliptic, and therefore very near one of the nodes at the time of full moon, she will fail to strike the shadow, passing above or below it. Sometimes a whole year passes with out there being any eclipse of the moon.

The Diagram Explained.

It may interest the readers of the Courier to observe from the diagram here presented the manner in which the February eclipse will occur. This diagram is reproduced from a large scale drawing made by the writer, from which may be read to within a few seconds, the exact times of the different phases of the eclipse. The large shaded circle represents the shadow cast by the earth into space, and the moon during this eclipse passes nearly through the center of the shadow—a distance of about 5700 miles. The smallness of the cut, necessarily precludes showing the elements of the eclipse used on the large drawing, and deduced from data given in the Nautical Almanac for 1906, but a brief statement will enable the reader to follow the moon from one phase to another. It must be remembered that the times given in the cut are standard time, and that for the meridian of Chatham, the time of the eclipse will be five minutes and 38 seconds earlier. First the moon moving along the line A-B,

RESTOCK WITH SHAD.

Senator Smith will Introduce Bill to Establish a New Plan.

State Forest Commissioner James S. Whipple, Senator Sanford W. Smith, Assemblyman E. Washburn Scoville, the Legislature, and the Governor are expected to co-operate in a new attempt to restock the Hudson river with shad, the finest of food fishes.

Senator Smith has already communicated to Commissioner Whipple his intention of introducing a bill for the purpose, and the commissioner expects soon to meet the senator with former Game and Fish Protector Matthew Kennedy, of Hudson, in a conference as to the details of the legislation and the means to accomplish the object.

Death of Milton Moore.

Milton Moore, a former resident of Columbia county and a mine owner in Colorado, died recently. He was inspecting some of his mine property a week ago Sunday, when he fell down a shaft 178 feet. Although alive when reached he died soon after without regaining consciousness.

Farewell Sermon.

Rev. A. O. Wyckoff preached his farewell sermon as pastor of the Presbyterian church in Valatie on Sunday. He and Mrs. Wyckoff will move to Ossipee the first of next month.