

HINCHLEY



A Pioneer Family's Legacy in the Town of Gates



John M. Robortella

HINCHLEY



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This book is # _____
of a special press run
of 200 copies in June 2023.



Inset photo: Democrat and Chronicle Media Group. Hinchey Road photo: Gates Historical Society

Today, the Hinchey Homestead and one barn are familiar structures at 634 Hinchey Road in the Town of Gates, Monroe County, N.Y. The homestead and a number of barns and outbuildings are pictured above circa 1900 on the then-unpaved Hinchey Road. Depicted in the inset photograph, which was taken for an article which appeared in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle on October 2, 1955, is the original home of Gates pioneer William S. Hinchey. This was the first clapboard house built in the town. William hosted a meeting of the Gates highway commissioners in the house on June 9, 1829. When the new homestead was completed and ready for occupancy in the late 1870s, the original home was moved to the north side of the homestead. It was the family's wish that this house remain standing for as long as possible as a testament to the Hinchey pioneer spirit. The family's wish was honored. The original home remained in place until the mid-1960s.

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John M. Robortella

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The Gates Historical Society

and

Gates Town Historian William A. Gillette



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Hinchey: A Pioneer Family's Legacy in the Town of Gates

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John M. Robortella

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Photographs on the front cover:

Top left: *Three generations of Hinchey's are pictured shortly after the birth of Franklin William Hinchey in 1904. Seated and holding Franklin William is his grandfather Franklin Hinchey. Standing, from left: Ellen Lytle Hinchey, Ellen Terrell Hinchey (Franklin William's mother) and William Hinchey (Franklin William's father).* (Gates Historical Society)

Top right: *In addition to operating the Hinchey farm on more than 300 acres in Gates, Franklin served as a land and tax agent for the New York Central Railroad. He traveled frequently throughout New York State and had an office in New York City. The New York Central trains, crossing Howard Road at a then-grade crossing just north of the Hinchey Homestead, often stopped for Mr. Hinchey as the single passenger going and coming home from railroad business. Mr. Hinchey is seated third from the left in this combination locomotive/passenger car.* (Gates Historical Society)

Bottom left: *William and Franklin Hinchey, and James Cummings, prepare for a day's work on the Hinchey farm circa the 1900s. Mr. Cummings was hired by Mr. Hinchey to come to Gates to build the Hinchey Homestead. He remained here and lived with the family. Mr. Cummings died in May 1920 at the age of 72 and is buried in St. Pius Tenth Cemetery in Chili, N.Y.* (Gates Historical Society)

Bottom right: *Franklin Hinchey (1904–1954) is pictured with cattle on the Homestead circa the early 1920s.* (Gates Historical Society)

Photographs on the back cover:

Top photo: *Among those identified in this family group photograph, which was taken circa 1915, are William Hinchey (at right), his wife Ellen (middle), and their sons Harmon and Franklin.* (Gates Historical Society)

Bottom photo: *A scene from the Hinchey farm circa the 1900s.* (Gates Historical Society)

*The Gates Historical Society dedicates this publication
to the unending friendship
of the descendants of pioneer William Steele Hinchey
to the people of the Town of Gates.*



*Their immediate and long-standing support of the Gates Historical Society,
and their dedication to the rich historical heritage of the Town of Gates,
especially through the efforts of Wolcott and Cindy Hinchey, who were the last family owners of the Hinchey Homestead,
made possible the preservation of this historic location
for generations to come.*



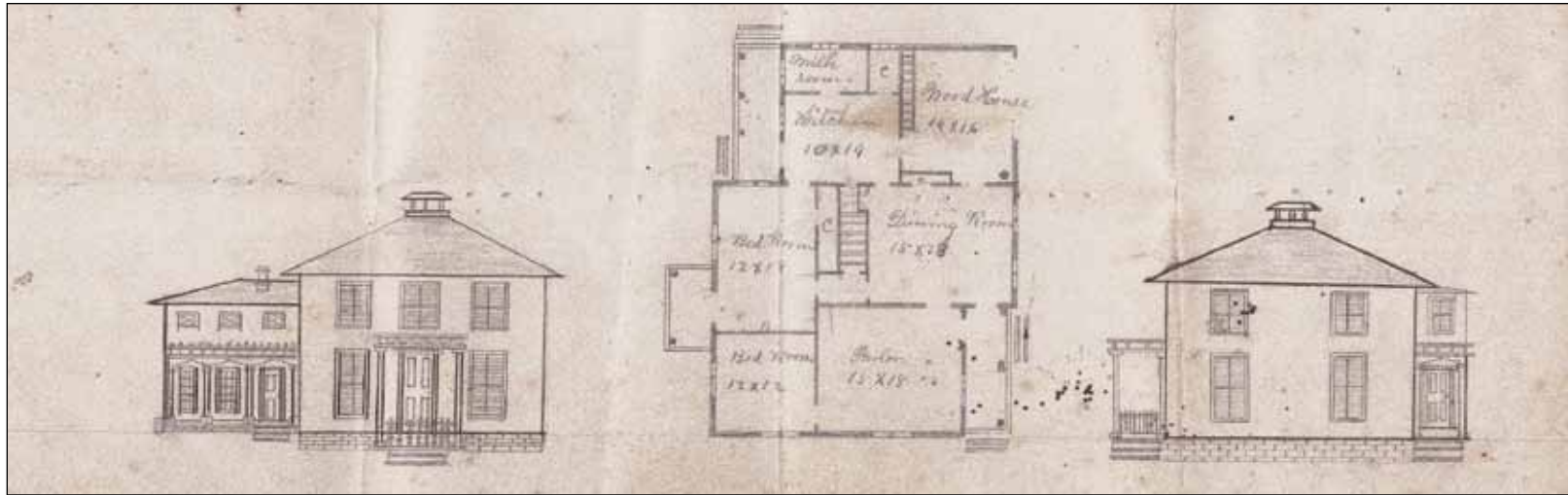
Today, the Hinchey Homestead is owned by the Town of Gates and is operated by the Gates Historical Society.

John Robortella

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Elizabeth Booth Hinchey



Gates Historical Society

Above: *The original sketches of the design for the Hinchey Homestead by Elizabeth Booth Hinchey, the first wife of Franklin Hinchey. Below: The Hinchey Homestead as it appeared circa 1900. It was built in the 1870s. A farm structure, which no longer stands, is visible to the right (to the north side) of the homestead.*

Foreword

As immigrants moved westward across the frontier of the United States, new communities were established. Some survived and some did not. In all cases, those that survived did so because there were individuals and families who had vision, determination and dedication. In this book, author John Robortella chronicles the Hinchey family whose members recognized the potential for the town known as Gates. By using exceptional primary sources, this work has peeled back the curtain to reveal how the engagement of several generations of one family assured that the Town of Gates would survive and flourish into the 21st century.

By including an entire diary of one family member who lived in the Homestead in the 1800s, and interviews with others who lived in the Homestead in the 20th century, this family story provides the reader with a view directly into day-to-day life in two very different eras. Mr. Robortella has created a remarkable gift to the current and future residents of the Town of Gates by chronicling the lives, times and contributions of one family upon whose shoulders we stand.

Garth Brokaw
President of the Gates Historical Society



The Phelps and Gorham Land Purchase. The Town of Gates is located within in the Short Range of Towns west of the Genesee River, First Range, Towns No. 1 and No. 2.

The Hinchey Family

THE HINCHEY LEGACY IS MORE THAN simply Hinchey Road which today extends from Chili Avenue west through what was the Hinchey farm to Pixley Road in the Town of Gates in Monroe County, N.Y.

Throughout the history of this quintessential American community, which began with the arrival of the pioneer families in the early 1800s as they settled the Phelps and Gorham land purchase, the Hinchey name—and especially that of Franklin Hinchey—is found throughout the official Town documents and in the records of the Gates Presbyterian Church, the local school districts and community organizations. He and his family were certainly “giving back” before that became a modern-day phrase.

Franklin successfully managed two concurrent careers: the operation of the family farm, which at one time comprised more than 300 acres in Gates, and as a land and tax agent for the New York Central Railroad.

Two of Franklin’s great great grandparents were John William Hinchey, who was born in Concord, Massachusetts, *circa* 1700; and his wife Elizabeth Ingersoll (1701–1769). Their son Samuel, who was born *circa* 1744, was one of Franklin’s great grandfathers.

Franklin’s grandfather Samuel M. Hinchey (1765–1834) was born in Fort Edward, N.Y. He had six children with his first wife Lucy King, and nine children with his second wife Lucy Steele, among them William Steele Hinchey who would become Franklin’s father



Gates Historical Society

Among the wranglers lining up horses in the Hinchey pasture, circa the 1910s, are William Hinchey, John Brown, Abe Derocher, James Cummings and John Switzer.

and one of the first pioneers to settle in the Town of Gates; and Samuel McClure Hinchey who joined his brother William in Gates.

William was born in 1797 in Saratoga County, N.Y. He married Lucy Ann Davis (*circa* 1808–1870) who had 11 children, among them Franklin, who was born on November 20, 1828, in Gates. Franklin’s siblings were:

- *Emmeline A. Hinchey Wheeler*; born in 1825; died on October 19, 1873, in Nankin (Wayne County), Michigan.
- *Martha A. Hinchey*; born *circa* 1826; died 1893.

- *Captain John James Hinchey*; born on March 4, 1831 in Monroe County, N.Y.; died on March 6, 1908, in Bristol (Genesee County), Michigan.
- *Jesse Hawley Hinchey*; born *circa* 1833.
- *John S. Hinchey*; born September 22, 1836; died at the age of 8 on February 27, 1845; buried at Gates Presbyterian Church Cemetery on Buffalo Road in Gates, N.Y.
- *Mary Jane Hinchey Coon*; born on June 4, 1838; died on February 7, 1916, in Franklin Township, Iowa.

- *Louisa Hinchey*; born *circa* 1840.
- *Julia G. Hinchey*; born June 8, 1842; died at the age of 2 on February 22, 1845; buried at Gates Presbyterian Church Cemetery on Buffalo Road in Gates, N.Y.
- *Julia E. Hinchey Kegley*; born July 15, 1846; died October 20, 1892, in Gilbert (Story County), Iowa.
- *Carolina Josephine Hinchey Tabor*; born *circa* February 1848; died on July 22, 1907, in Seattle (King County), Washington.

Franklin's brother John James, known as J. J., entered the Union army at the rank of second lieutenant during the Civil War. He wrote a number of letters home to Franklin, including one on July 21, 1863, in which he sent Franklin \$200 with the request that Franklin ". . . put into bank for me or my wife. I will express you more in September if I live thus long." J. J. held the rank of captain in the 9th Regiment, Michigan Cavalry, when he was mustered out of the Army. He died on March 6, 1908, and is buried in Bristol Cemetery, Genesee County, Michigan.

Franklin's sister Carolina Josephine ("Josie") became a landscape artist. By 1877, she was signing her work as *C. J. Wilkins* and began to be identified in the art records as *Caroline* rather than Josephine or Josie.

Images of several of Carolina's paintings appear on pages 7, 43 and 44. Two of her paintings hang in the Hinchey Homestead in Gates.

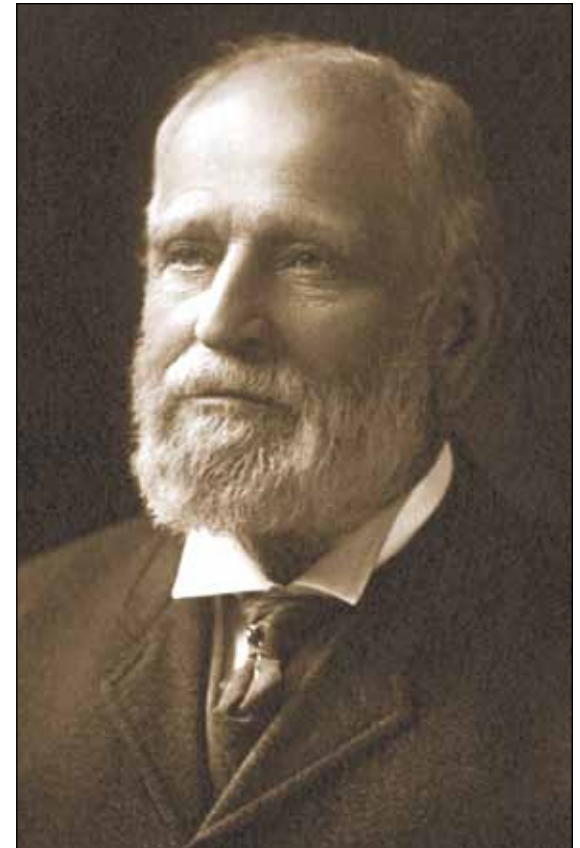
FRANKLIN'S FATHER WILLIAM IS RECOGNIZED as the first member of the family to settle in the Town of Gates *circa* the 1810s. He purchased land in the vicinity of the present-day intersection of Hinchey Road and Howard Road and built the first clapboard home in the town. It was located on the present-day Hinchey Homestead site and remained standing until the 1960s as the family wished to recognize their ancestor's humble beginnings of life in Gates.

The earliest documentation of the original home, which is pictured in the frontispiece of this book, appears in a handwritten journal of town records which reports that William hosted a meeting of the Gates highway commissioners in the home on June 9, 1829.

It is likely that his son Franklin received his early education at Gates District No. 4 schoolhouse which was located on the north side of Buffalo Road just west of what was known as Gates Center. Later in his life, Franklin served as a trustee of this school, the rebuilding of which was completed in January 1931 when it was renamed Thomas Edison School.

At the age of 17, Franklin attended the academy at Riga Corners. In the winter of 1846, he taught school in District No. 5 in Gates which was located on the northeast corner of present-day Buffalo Road and Elmgrove Road and was known as the "Beaman District."

The following winter, he taught at District No. 4 (his home district) and also had charge of District No. 3 which originally was within



Gates Historical Society

Franklin Hinchey (1828–1912).

the Gates boundaries and is now part of the City of Rochester.

In 1849, Franklin attended the State Normal School in Albany, N.Y., from which he graduated in 1850 and was licensed to teach in any school district in the state. He taught in his home district and later in Genesee County, and was elected superintendent of schools for the Town of Gates in 1853.



Courtesy of William and Gloria Hinchey

This is the earliest known photograph of Franklin Hinchey and the only photograph located to date of his first wife Elizabeth Booth Hinchey. The photograph is dated March 1865 and was taken at the Rochester studio of Masterson & Wood, 74 and 75 Arcade. Elizabeth died in 1870.

In 1855, Franklin's father William sold the Hinchey property to William Jeffrey of Rochester, N.Y., and moved with Franklin's siblings to Ypsilanti, Michigan, during the western period of national migration. Newspaper editor John O'Sullivan wrote that it was "manifest destiny" for Americans to carry the "great experiment of liberty" to the edge of



Gates Historical Society

Ellen Lytle Hinchey, Franklin's second wife.

the continent, to "overspread and to possess the whole of the [land] which Providence has given us." He wrote that the survival of American freedom depended upon it.

Mr. Jeffrey leased the land to Frost & Co., a nursery business. Franklin remained in Gates and worked as a teacher and as forman of the family's farm, which was now under new ownership and management, until 1860 when he became a land and tax agent for the New York Central Railroad.



Following the sale of the Hinchey property in 1855, the new owner leased the land to Frost & Company, a nursery business in Rochester, N.Y., which operated under the name of Genesee Valley Nurseries. Franklin remained in Gates and worked as foreman of the farm for the new operators. Pictured above is the envelope of a letter from the nursery company to a customer in Jefferson County, N.Y.

In 1861, Franklin borrowed \$500 and made the first payment to buy back the family farm from Mr. Jeffrey. During Franklin's lifetime, the family farm expanded to more than 300 acres.

FRANKLIN MARRIED ELIZABETH T. (LIBBY) Booth (born *circa* 1833) on March 11, 1852, in Gates Presbyterian Church. She was the daughter of William R. and Eunice Gilbert Booth. The Booth homestead stands today as a commercial building on the north side of Buffalo Road opposite the former Gates Presbyterian Church.

Elizabeth was a prolific writer and kept a diary and papers which have been preserved in the Hinchey Homestead (*see* p. 51). She wrote about life on the homestead and about the weekly Sunday sermon topics at church. She



Gates Historical Society

Franklin and Ellen Hinchey, and their son William (each identified in the photograph above), along with other family members, were among the congregation at the dedication of the third sanctuary of the Gates Presbyterian Church on May 12, 1908.

sent letters to her brother J. Ansel Booth, and to other soldiers from Gates, who were serving in the Army during the Civil War.

When Franklin began planning the construction of the new family homestead, Elizabeth sketched the designs of the house (*see p. iv*). Her writings also include poems, dozens of recipes, an enigma, a hand-drawn and colored map of the United States which she completed prior to her marriage to Franklin, and the historic record of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln and watching the Lincoln funeral train pass through Gates on its journey to Springfield, Ill., in 1865.

Elizabeth died at the age of 36 on January 24, 1870. Her death record lists the cause of death as inflammation of the lungs. Franklin and Elizabeth had no children.

On February 10, 1871, Franklin married Ellen Winans Lytle (*circa* 1832–1920) of Chili, N.Y. She was the daughter of Zara Lytle (1808–1852) and Elizabeth Hemingway (1808–1836).

Franklin and Ellen had one son, William Steele Hinchey (1874–1964). Together, Franklin and his son operated the Hinchey farm—which by the time of Franklin’s death in 1912—had become a Holstein cattle farm.

The Hinchey cattle grazing area was located off present-day Pixley Road. This property later became Brook-Lea Country Club.

FRANKLIN’S 50-YEAR CAREER AS A LAND and tax agent for the New York Central began in 1860 when Erastus Corning was president of the railroad. Franklin’s office was located in a small station which stood between Mill Street and Front Street in Rochester. His initial work involved seeking contracts for the wood which was then used for fuel for the locomotives and for railroad ties.

In 1873, Franklin purchased much of the

right-of-way for the installation of main-line tracks between Rochester and Albany. In 1883, he began the purchase of land for the third and fourth tracks between Rochester and Buffalo, which bisected the Town of Gates and which were located about a quarter-mile north of the Hinchey farm. When Franklin had to go to work in the office, the trains would stop for their single passenger at the then-grade crossing at Howard Road (*see* photo on p. 13).

It was noted in Franklin's obituary, which appeared in the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, that he maintained his office in Rochester until the early 1880s when he opened an office in New York City under Chauncey M. Depew, who was then general counsel for the New York Central. During this time, Franklin served as land tax agent for the entire length of the railroad, and in addition had similar responsibilities for the Harlem; the New York & Putman; the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg; and the Adirondack & St. Lawrence railroads.

As the New York Central expanded, Franklin was given charge of the main line between Syracuse and the east side of Erie County, and a similar distance on the West Shore; the E. W. & O. between Richland and the eastern line of Niagara County; the entire Pennsylvania system running south from Lyons, N.Y. (including about 600 miles of track); and the greater part of the main line. At about the same time, the *Democrat and Chronicle* reported that Franklin purchased the land for the yards at Dewitt, N.Y.

Several years later, he was involved in the acquisition of land for Karner's yards, for a



Gates Historical Society

William Hinchey (1874–1964) and Ellen Terrill Hinchey (1872–1940) are pictured shortly after their marriage in 1896. Among the family mementos which were donated to the Gates Historical Society is a printed invitation from William's parents Franklin and Ellen inviting friends to the homestead in 1896, to meet "our son and his wife."

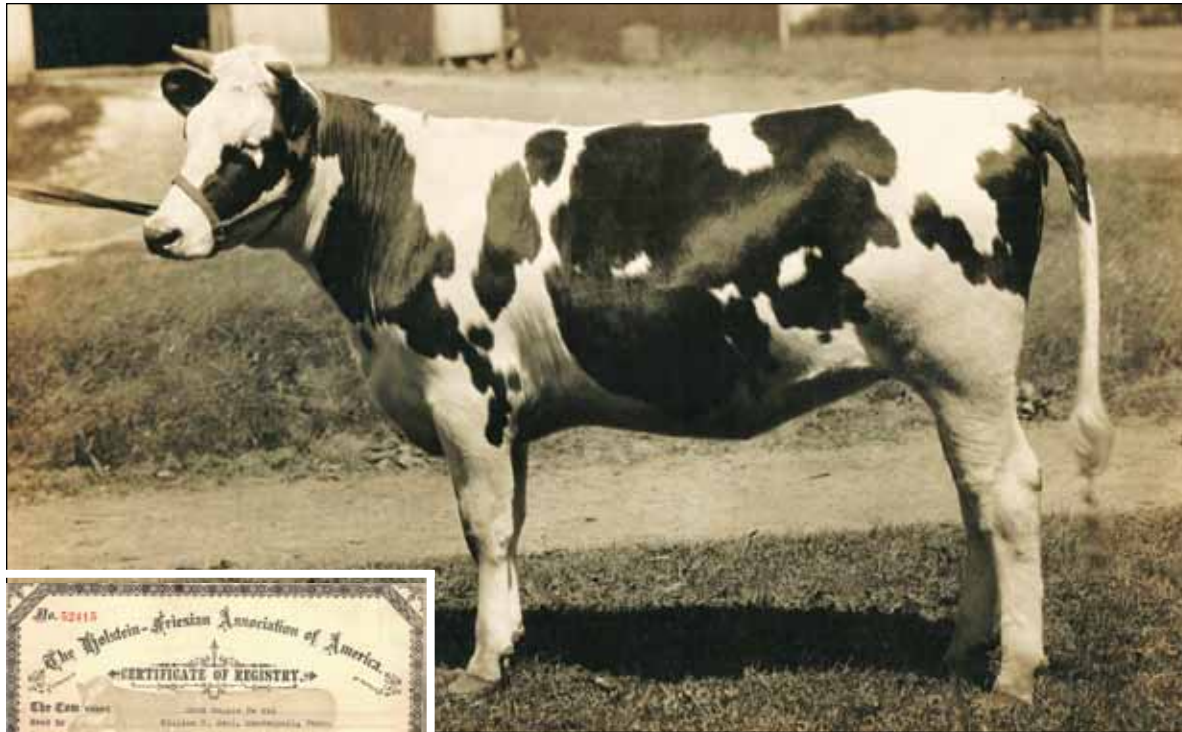
large block of property in West Albany, and in 1892 for the land for the elevated tracks in Rochester. In 1893, he bought the land for the New York Central freight house.

At the time of his retirement from the railroad in 1910, Franklin—who received a railroad pension—was engaged in purchasing land on the Pennsylvania Division of the New York Central for double-tracking of that road

and overseeing the arrangements and taxes on the company's properties.

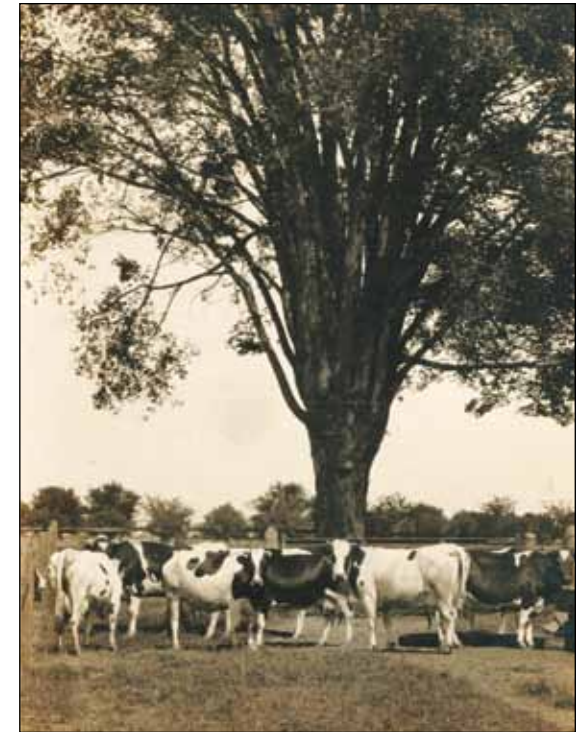
FOR YEARS, FRANKLIN WAS A RULING elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Gates (known today as the Gates Presbyterian Church). The involvement of Franklin's parents in the organization of the church on October 28, 1828, is not known, but is likely.

The congregation originally met in the



Gates Historical Society

"Inka," pictured above, one of the herd of registered Holsteins which the Hinchey family introduced to Gates agriculture in the 1890s, won first place in the Junior Yearling category at the New York State Fair in 1914. And yes, every Holstein on the Hinchey farm had a name and a registration certificate.



Gates Historical Society

The Franklin Hinchey Stock Farm of registered Holstein dairy cattle was located on the east and west sides of Pixley Road, in the area of present-day Brook-Lea Country Club, on what was known as Town Lot #28.

Howard House on the southeast corner of Buffalo Road and Howard Road until the first church was constructed in 1833 at a cost of \$400. Franklin's involvement in the second church, which was built on the site in 1845 at a cost of \$1,000, included his contribution of a melodeon.

When the second church burned to the ground in January 1905, insurance paid all but \$75 of the coverage because the foundation walls were still standing. Services were

then held in Union Hall (the former Becker's Market and Furniture Store on Buffalo Road).

Fundraising for a third church edifice was chaired by Fanny Field who lived in the homestead across from the church on Buffalo Road. Members of the building committee were A. J. Rudman, C. C. Beaman, D. M. Jackling and Franklin. The stone for the church came from the nearby Munn farm. The cornerstone was set on August 24, 1907. The new church was dedicated on May 12, 1908 (*see photo, p. 4*).

Franklin died on May 14, 1912. Services were held in the family homestead. Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Rochester.

Ellen died on July 12, 1920, in her 82nd year.

From her obituary which appeared in the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle* on Monday, July 19, 1920:

"Mrs. Hinchey adopted school teaching as her profession, and was graduated from the old Ingham University at Leroy [N.Y.], in the class

of 1852. For 22 years, she followed her chosen work, teaching, among other places, in the high schools of Pittsford and Bergen.

“Mrs. Hinchey made her home in Gates for fifty-nine years. She was an honored member and regular attendant of Gates Presbyterian Church and for many years a faithful teacher in its Sunday school. Her old age was sweet and mellow with the accumulated experiences of trying to do good. Besides her son, William S. Hinchey, she leaves two grandchildren, Franklin William and Harmon Terrill Hinchey. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. John B. White on Thursday afternoon in the presence of a large company of friends. Interment took place in the family lot, in Mount Hope Cemetery.”

FARM OPERATIONS CONTINUED UNDER THE ownership of Franklin’s son William. On September 16, 1896, he married Ellen Orphia Terrill (1872–1940).

Ellen gave birth to twins on July 20, 1900: a boy named Franklin Harmon Hinchey and a girl named Ellen Terrill Hinchey. The babies did not survive. Franklin Harmon died on August 15, 1900; Ellen Terrill died a day later on August 16, 1900. They are buried in Chili, N.Y.

William and Ellen had two more children: Franklin William Hinchey, who was born on June 14, 1904; and Harmon Terrill Hinchey, who was born on May 18, 1908.

During his years of operating the family farm, William became a pioneer in the breeding of Holstein dairy cattle and raised trotting horses which were raced at fairs throughout the area.



www.LiveAuctioneers.com

Mountain Vista with Cattle in Foreground is an 1883 painting by Carolina Josephine Hinchey Tabor. She signed it C. J. Wilkins, which was her professional artist name. Overall 36" high x 48" wide. The painting was sold at auction in 2014 for \$750 from the estate of Sam Sitterle (1927–2012), who lived in San Antonio, Texas.

About 10 years prior to his death in 1964, William retired from farming and began selling some of the land for real estate development. A portion of this land includes the present-day suburban tract of homes on Lansing Circle South, Lansing Circle North, Marilyn Parkway, Hinchey Road and Howard Road.

William’s son Franklin married Marion

Isabelle Dix (1907–2000) on June 28, 1927. They had four children.

William’s son Harmon married Caroline Marsh (1913–1981). They had one son.

Harmon was the last member of the Hinchey family to reside in the homestead.

FOLLOWING HARMON’S DEATH ON APRIL 26, 1998, the homestead, the one remain-

ing barn, and the three-acre site passed to Wolcott Hinchey, who was the son of Harmon and Caroline. Wolcott planned to sell the property.

When citizens learned of the sale, a group was organized by Susan I. Swanton, who was then the director of the Gates Public Library. They formed the Gates Historical Society with their initial goal of preserving the homestead, which is the only structure in Gates listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Swanton became the society's first president as fundraising began.

"I'd like to see my house preserved, and the historical society seems to be very dedicated and very interested in preserving the history of the town of Gates, and that house in particular," said Wolcott in an article in the *Gates-Chili Post* on August 30, 2000.

A local physician enabled the purchase to close when he held a mortgage to provide the new society with time to raise the remaining funds. The sale of the property to the Gates Historical Society closed on January 8, 2002.

In addition, Wolcott conveyed an approximately 12-acre parcel of land to the society. It is located on the west side of Howard Road, just south of the railroad overpass. This parcel was part of the original Hinchey farm and is now classified mainly as a wetland. The parcel became a wetland after the railroad entered bankruptcy and stopped maintaining a drainage ditch on the property. Today, the Society retains ownership of this acreage.

The Gates Historical Society transferred ownership of the Hinchey Homestead to the Town of Gates on May 4, 2004, following the Town's acquisition of a Federal grant from the

Save America's Treasures (S.A.T.) program and a State grant from the New York State Parks, Historical Preservation and Recreation Department.

The Federal S.A.T. grant was received with the support of Congressmen John J. LaFalce (NY-29th District) and Maurice Hinchey (NY-22nd District). From 1999 to 2017, more than 1,300 projects nationwide received \$328 million to provide preservation and conservation work on nationally significant collections, artifacts, structures and sites.

The Hinchey Homestead was one of only several sites in the Greater Rochester area to have received an S.A.T. grant at the time (the others having been the George Eastman House, the Susan B. Anthony House and a cobblestone home in Orleans County). The grant award recognized that the Hinchey Homestead is a location of national importance.

Through a collaborative agreement, the Society operates the homestead as a historic site and passive park. With modifications only for electricity and water service, the homestead remains virtually untouched since the pioneer days. The interior has never been remodeled. Visitors can still see the intricate woodworking details which were highlights of the craftsmanship of the day. All the rooms are just as they were in Franklin's day, including the hand-operated water pump in the kitchen, the indoor two-seater privy and the attic cistern which provided an early version of running water.



Renee Thompson

The Historic Gates Presbyterian Church Quilt

When the second Gates Presbyterian Church burned to the ground in January 1905, insurance paid all but \$75 of the coverage because the foundation walls were still standing. Franklin Hinchey served on the fund-raising committee. His wife Ellen participated by organizing the sale of squares for a quilt, which was followed by an event for the ownership of the quilt itself. Ellen won the quilt which remains in the Hinchey family and has been displayed at the Hinchey Homestead on occasion. The ownership of the quilt passed to Barbara Hinchey Frank, the granddaughter of Franklin and Ellen, until the sale of her home. Today, the quilt is displayed in the home of her son Jack Frank.

Prologue to Gates

WHEN COL. HUGH MAXWELL—THE “Christian Patriot” of the American Revolutionary War—and his survey crew were cutting their way through the western New York forest on July 20, 1789, to map the 10 towns west of the Genesee River in the Phelps and Gorham Land Purchase, they came upon a small brook known today as Little Black Creek:

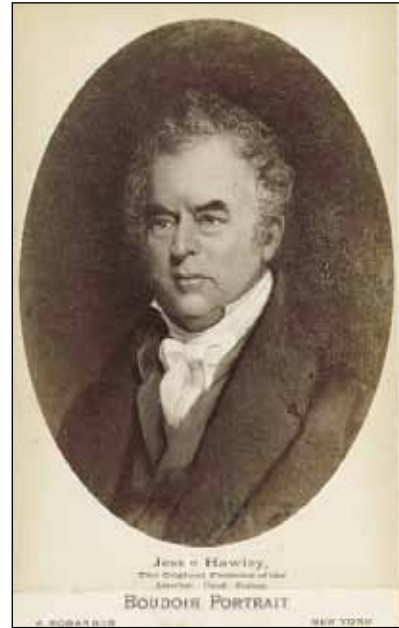
3rd mile between 2 and 3 in the first range W. Genesee

122 rods to a small muddy brook running S.
The mile is such land and timber as the last.

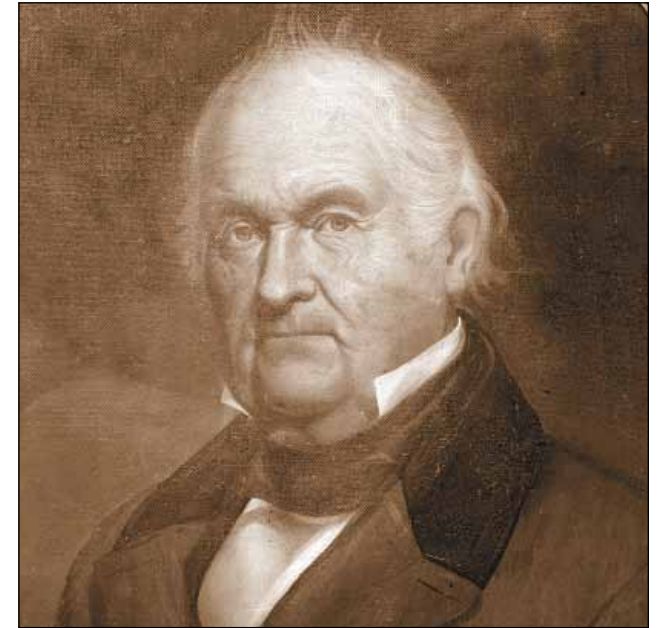
—*Field Notes of Col. Hugh Maxwell*
July 20, 1789

Col. Maxwell’s field notes, now in the archives of the Geneva (N.Y.) Historical Society, are believed to be the first written description of land in what today is the Town of Gates.

William Walker, who was America’s first real estate agent at the Phelps and Gorham office in Canandaigua, N.Y., offered buyers huge tracts of land for sale, sight unseen. These buyers were primarily land speculators from New England. On November 8, 1790, a group of investors from Northampton and Springfield, Mass., paid £600 to purchase Town No. 1 in the Short Range. The buyers were Robert Breck, Justin Ely, Samuel Henshaw, Samuel Hinckley, Ebenezer Hunt, Moses Kingsley and Quartus Pomeroy. Their town became known as Northampton and included present-day Gates.



A Bogardus, New York, alchetron.com



Albert R. Stone Negative Collection, Rochester Museum & Science Center

At left: Jesse Hawley (1773–1842) was a flour merchant in Geneva, N.Y. who became an early and major proponent of building the Erie Canal. When faced with business difficulties, he served 20 months in debtors’ prison in Canandaigua, N.Y., from which he wrote 14 essays under the name “Hercules.” The essays appeared in the *Genesee Messenger* and served as inspiration for New York Governor DeWitt Clinton to support the construction of the Erie Canal. Hawley was also an investor in real estate in the Town of Gates and sold property to pioneer William Hinchey. Mr. Hawley met Oliver Phelps while Mr. Phelps also “did time” in debtors’ prison in Canandaigua.

At right: Jonathan Child (1765–1860) was the first mayor of Rochester, N.Y., and the son-in-law of Colonel Nathaniel Rochester. He also invested in real estate in Gates and sold property to William Hinchey.

Mostly likely, they never traveled here to see their purchase. Their interest was in subdividing the property and selling lots at a profit.

Ebenezer (Indian) Allen is regarded as the first white man to live west of the Genesee River, but the first to settle and actually make a home in the Town of Northampton was Peter Sheffer, a native of Berks County, Penn., who arrived in western New York at the age of 85

with his sons Peter and Jacob. In July 1789, the Sheffers reached Geneva, then moved west to Bloomfield, N.Y., where they purchased 1,200 acres. The elder Mr. Sheffer divided the land among his three daughters, and with his sons traveled south down the Genesee and found Ebenezer Allen at his log house near the village of present-day Scottsville, N.Y.

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TOWN OF Northampton was held on April 4, 1797, at the Sheffer home. Josiah Fish was elected supervisor; Eli Granger was elected town clerk. In 1798, a school committee was formed consisting of Josiah Fish, Chapman Hawley, Joseph Morgan and Peter Sheffer.

On March 30, 1802, the State Legislature subdivided Ontario County and created Genesee County, which was divided into four towns: Northampton, Southampton, Leicester and Batavia.

In 1808, three new towns were created and separated themselves from Northampton: Murray, Parma and Riga. Residents in the last remaining remnant of Northampton then began to talk about identifying their town by a name of its own.

Between 1800 and 1810, settlements began in what is now the Town of Gates. Although there were a few primitive homesteads along the Genesee River as early as 1792, pioneers at first did not stray too far from the waterway. An excursion of only a few miles west of the river was a trip into the frontier of the dense and unoccupied forest.

John Harford, who at one time owned one-twelfth of Northampton, came in the early 1800s, settled just east of the corner of present-day Lyell Road and Spencerport Road, and is credited as having been the first pioneer to live in present-day Gates. He also achieved a number of other Gates milestones: first to build a house, first to clear the land, and first to sow and harvest grain.

Isaac Ray, Harford's son-in-law, also arrived at about the same time and cleared

1833	Geo. D. Lucy		Hinc	John M. Hughes	27	584		Gates
1834	Jan 23 rd N		Hinc	William King	27	589	709	Gates
	Jan 23 rd N		Hinc	Relatid Rogue Dal	28	191	2	Rogersport
	Jan 23 rd N		Hinc	Lawson A. Conant	28	192	27	Parma
		William	Hinc	Geo. Davis	28	422	49	Gates
	Jan 23 rd N	Mr. S.	Hinc	Jesse Hawley	29	155	6	Hawley
	Jan 23 rd N	Mr. S.	Hinc	Hiram S. Dodge	29	178	29	Parma
	Jan 23 rd N	Mr. S.	Hinc	Silas Reed	29	502	77	"
		Thomas	Hinc	Lucy Hinc	29	177	18	Hawley
			Hinc	Geo. Davis	30	273	57	Rogersport
1835	Jan 23 rd N		Hinc	Geo. Hinc	31	173		Parma
1835	Jan 23 rd N		Hinc	Geo. Hinc	31	173		Parma
			Hinc	Geo. Hinc	31	173		Parma

Monroe County (N.Y.) Clerk's Office

Detail from the handwritten Monroe County 1834 index of deeds recording William Hinchey's purchase of land from Jesse Hawley and the transfer of property from his mother Lucy to him following the death of his father Samuel.

land for a large farm east of Gates Center on his father-in-law's property. (Gates Center is traditionally recognized as the intersection of present-day Buffalo Road and Howard Road.)

By about 1804, Samuel and Daniel Gilman, Charles and Abraham Harford, and John Courtright settled in the eastern portion of Gates. Each of these settlers was leaving the general security of the Genesee River area and pushing west into new lands.

The first tavern was built of logs on Buffalo Road in 1806. Two of its early proprietors were William Jameson and Joshua Beaman.

Isaac Dean settled about a mile south of Gates Center and established a sawmill in 1810 near present-day Chili Avenue and Howard Road. A year later, Chauncey Dean bought it and continued operations.

William S. Hinchey arrived about 1810, settled a mile south of the center, and lived in the first clapboard house in the town.

Although the first recorded birth in Gates is that of a daughter born to Ezra Mason in 1818, historians believe that there must have been earlier births because of the number of families then living here.

IN 1808, THE CITIZENS OF NORTHAMPTON petitioned the New York State legislature to create their own town, which they decided to call Gates. They selected the name in honor of General Horatio Gates, the American Revolutionary War officer who received the surrender of General Burgoyne at the Battle of Saratoga in 1777 and who died in New York State in 1806.

Although the petition to create the Town of Gates was sent to Albany in 1808, it would be four years before it was approved and another year before it took effect.

Inasmuch as Murray, Parma and Riga had separated from Northampton and state action

to establish Gates would take several years, residents in Northampton decided to reorganize their new town ahead of time. On April 4, 1809, they met at the home of Jeremiah Olmstead to elect officers.

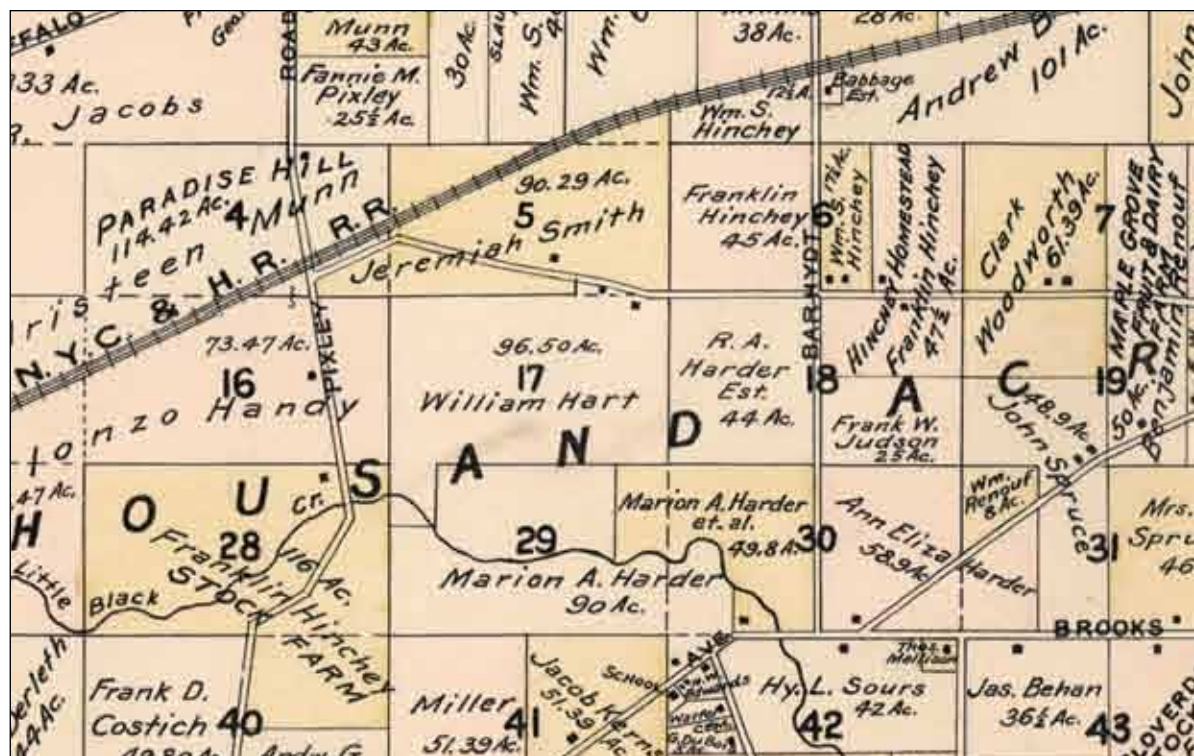
The early settlers realized that they needed certain services that they could not provide on their own—among them roads, schools and law enforcement. They decided that the most equitable way to pay for these was by a tax on their property. All of them worked their land, raised crops and livestock for their families, and sold their excess products. Those with large farms had much extra to sell and could pay a higher tax; those with small farms had little extra and could afford only a smaller tax. Back then, the property tax was a fair system of raising public funds because it was based on a taxpayer's ability to pay.

At that 1809 meeting, only the freeholders—that is, men who owned property—could vote. They were Daniel Budd, Frederick Bushnell, Benjamin Cowles, Samuel Currier, Moses Everett, Charles Harford, William Hencer, Samuel Latta, Abel Rowe, Jacob Teeples, Augustus B. Shaw, Silas O. Smith, Isaac Vandeventer and John Van Sickles.

Land Transfers to the Hinchey

THE YEAR 1810 IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE time of arrival of William Steele Hinchey and his family in the Town of Gates. This was confirmed by his great grandson William during an interview he gave to a reporter on the occasion of the Gates sesquicentennial in 1963 (see pp. 15–16 for the interview).

The property index in the Monroe County



Map of the Town of Gates, 1902, © J. M. Lathrop and Roger H. Pidgon, Gates Historical Society

Detail from the 1902 map of the Town of Gates in which year the total Hinchey holdings comprised more than 328 acres. Note: Howard Road is incorrectly labeled on the map as “BARHYDT Road.” The property identified as that of Ann Eliza Harder is the site of present-day Walmart and the former Westgate Plaza. The 12½-acre “wetland” on the south side of the railroad tracks off present-day Howard Road was listed as a separate parcel. Today, this property is owned by the Gates Historical Society.

(N.Y.) Clerk's Office begins in 1821 when the county was formed. The index records William's purchase on March 30, 1826, of a tract of land from George B. and Lucy Burbank on Lot #87 which was located in the present-day Town of Greece near the area of Mt. Read Boulevard (Liber 10, Page 243). The purchase price was \$1,625.

Documentation of the Hinchey family in Gates is further recorded in the handwritten

minutes of the Commissioners of Highways when they met “. . . at the house of Wm. S. Hinchey on the 9th of June 1829 . . .” to approve a new road in the area of present-day Brown Street in the City of Rochester.

William's first Monroe County-recorded transaction in the Town of Gates occurred on April 1, 1830, when he purchased 10 acres for \$200 from James S. and Anna Wibert on Lot #18 which was located on the south side of

Hinchey Road opposite the present Hinchey Homestead (Liber 18, Page 494).

Apparently some of the initial land purchases were made in the name of William's father Samuel. After his death in 1834, Samuel's wife Lucy transferred property on Lot #18 to William (Liber 29, Page 297).

William continued buying land in Gates, especially on Lot #6 on the north side of present-day Hinchey Road. Among the sellers were Jesse Hawley on June 3, 1834 (88 acres for \$1,150, Liber 29, Page 158) and Jonathan Child in 1839 (44 acres for \$1,500 subject to a \$230 mortgage held by Jesse Hawley, Liber 50, Page 44) (*see p. 9 for details about them*).

When William sold the Hinchey land to William Jeffrey (a real estate investor in Rochester) in 1855 (Liber 123, Page 392) and moved most of the family to Michigan, Franklin remained in Gates and worked for the Frost Nursery Company which had leased the land from Mr. Jeffrey.

In the 1860s, Franklin began to buy back the land from Mr. Jeffrey. The first of the buy-back deeds was recorded in the Monroe County Clerk's Office in 1863 for a parcel of land on Lot #18 on the south side of Hinchey Road (Liber 175, Page 194).

The next buy back of property was for a portion of Lot #6 (the current homestead site) with a transfer from Mr. Jeffrey's wife Virginia to Franklin in 1864 (Liber 184, Page 174).

During this period, Franklin purchased a great deal of additional land in Gates, as well.

In 1869, about a year before the death of Elizabeth, she and Franklin sold a parcel of land to Elizabeth's brother J. Ansel Booth on

Lot #28 in Gates (Liber 228, Page 153), which was located on the west side of present-day Pixley Road. By 1872, Ansel eventually built two structures on the property.

Among Franklin's largest transactions was the purchase of 90 acres on the north and south sides of Hinchey Road about a quarter-mile west of the intersection of present-day Howard Road and Hinchey Road. He bought the property on April 18, 1903, from Matilda Smith, who was the executor of the estate of Jeremiah Smith. It was a purchase that just about doubled the size of the Hinchey farmland holdings (Liber 666, Page 89). The southern portion of the property extended to the present-day corner of Hinchey Road and Pixley Road (*see map on p. 11*).

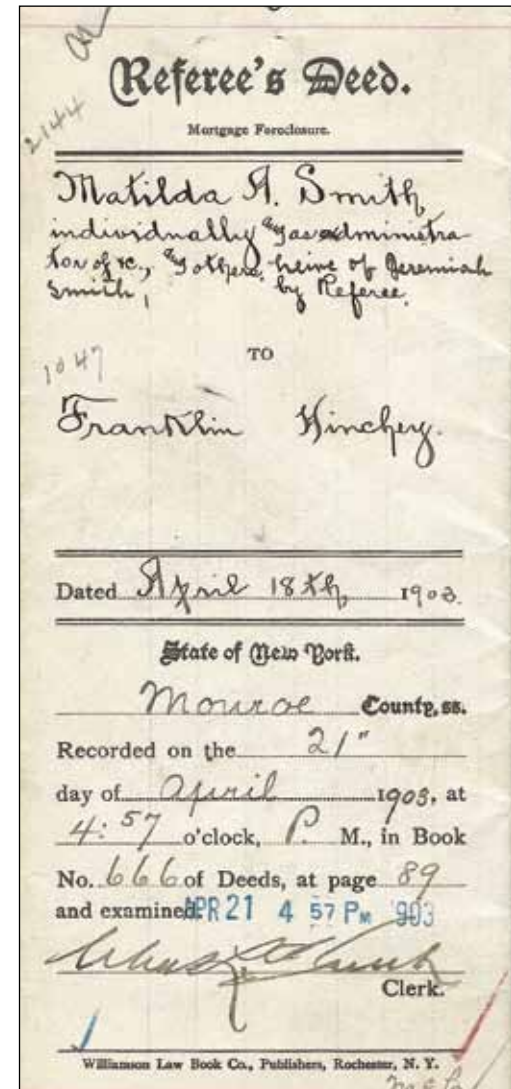
In addition to the homestead site, the farm encompassed 47 ½ acres on both sides of Hinchey Road and an additional 45 acres in the vicinity of Lansing Circle North, Lansing Circle South and Marilyn Parkway.

Franklin also acquired 116 acres on both sides of Pixley Road (in the vicinity of present-day Brook-Lea Country Club) which served as the Hinchey Stock Farm. This purchase brought the total family farm to more than 328 acres in the town.

Shortly after Franklin's death on May 14, 1912, the family holdings were listed in his will which was filed in the Monroe County Surrogate's Office:

- The John Schott Farm on Pixley Road;
- The Jeremiah Smith Farm on Hinchey Road;
- The Hinchey Homestead and Farm on Hinchey Road;

- A house and lot on Howard Road; and
- A house and lot on Buffalo Road.



Gates Town Historian William A. Gillette

This is the cover panel of the original deed which conveyed the 90-acre Smith farm to Franklin Hinchey. The deed was donated to the archives of the Gates Town Historian.

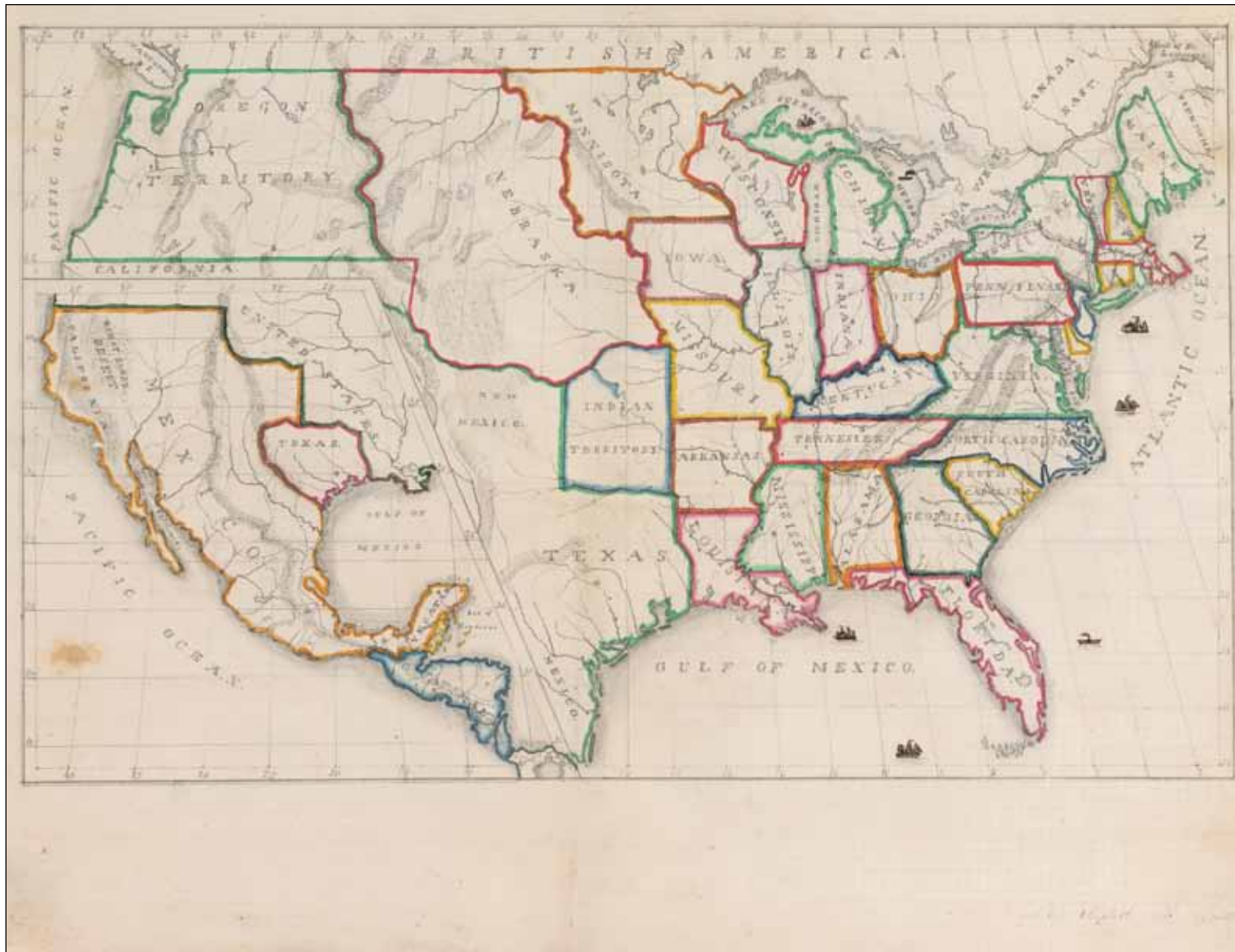


Gates-Chili Fire Department / Gates Town Historian William Gillette. Restored images by DeBergerac Productions (Mike Champlin, Producer), Fairport, New York

At left: *The view of the Hinchey Road/Howard Road intersection, looking north toward Buffalo Road from approximately the corner of present-day Howard Road and Loderdale Road. The Hinchey farm extended to the north along the east and west sides of Howard Road. Present-day Lansing Circle South, which extends west off Howard Road, is located just north of the intersection. The windmill on the Hinchey farm is partially visible on the left side of the photo.*

At right: *The view of the then at-grade New York Central Railroad crossing on Howard Road. The Howard Road overpass over the railroad tracks was constructed in the 1940s. Franklin Hinchey often boarded trains at this crossing when on business as a land agent for the railroad. It was at this crossing that the Hinchey family observed the funeral train carrying the remains of President Abraham Lincoln to Springfield, Ill., in the early morning hours of April 27, 1865. Elizabeth Hinchey wrote about the passing of the train in her diary (see diary entries on pp. 64 and 65).*

These still photo images are taken from a 16mm black-and-white film made in 1932 by the Gates-Chili Fire Department which depicts the route starting from the original Company No. 1 firehouse, then proceeding east on Chili Avenue, then north on Howard Road, then across the Buffalo Road/Howard Road intersection, and left on present-day Gatewood Avenue to Thomas Edison School. The original film is now in the archive of the Gates Town Historian.



Gates Historical Society

Among the papers preserved in the Hinchey Homestead is this map of the United States which was hand-drawn and colored by Elizabeth Booth Hinchey, the first wife of Franklin Hinchey. The map is dated to circa 1850, as she signed it Elizabeth Booth, having drawn it prior to her 1852 marriage to Franklin. Her signature is somewhat faded but still visible in the lower right corner of the document.

William Steele Hinchey in His Own Words

WILLIAM STEELE HINCHEY (b. 1874), the only child of Franklin and Ellen Hinchey, was 89 during the Town of Gates sesquicentennial in 1963. He was honored during the 150th year commemoration that August as the oldest living native of Gates at the time, and gave an interview to Thomas Flynn, a reporter for the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle newspaper. The reporter basically took dictation and transcribed verbatim William's descriptions as he looked back on his long life on the Hinchey Homestead. The article appears here in its entirety.

He'll Be Honored at "Sesqui"

Times Moves Back for Gates Man, 89

By Thomas Flynn

" . . . Smoked all my life . . . I smoked anything or everything . . . corn silk and mullein leaves . . . rattan . . . anything that would burn. . . I never was a heavy drinker . . . took a glass of beer once in a while. . .

" I done my share of hard work, too, pitching hay and what not. . . Sometimes we'd be working . . . there was no hours you know . . . you didn't figure you'd start working at such an hour and come six o'clock you'd be through. . .

" . . . There was none of that. . . You'd get up at three in the morning to milk . . . get some breakfast . . . go out and get the horses



Ron Kiley, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, 1963

William Steele Hinchey was honored as the oldest living Gates native in 1963 on the occasion of the town's sesquicentennial. He gave an interview to the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle in August of that year.

hooked up and start haying.

" . . . If the weather looked pretty good you'd get a piece of hay down . . . get the horse on the rake and start raking . . . might be half past nine at night 'fore you'd be through. . .

There was a long silence as William Steele Hinchey took a deep drag on his cigarette and exhaled the swirling smoke halfway across the room.

Oldest Gates Native

His thoughts seemed to travel with the

disappearing smoke . . . back through the long, dusty years. At 89, he is the oldest living native of the Town of Gates. . . . This week he'll be honored during the town's sesquicentennial celebration. He resides at 634 Hinchey Road . . . named for his ancestors.

Then, in the halting speech of a man who knows he no longer must be quick about anything, Hinchey continued his story.

"I was born right out there on the front lawn . . . that's where the old house was . . . the family moved into this place when I was 5 years old . . . guess that makes this house 84 years old.

"My grandfather bought this land in 1810 . . . sold it a few years later and went out West during the boom. My father stayed here . . . starting buying the property back . . . took him quite a while but he did it.

First with Holsteins

"Well, 'cept for the time I was in school . . . I didn't graduate but I've read the books of Caesar, Cicero and Virgil . . . I worked the farm. We were the first people to bring Holstein cattle into this town, far as I know, anyhow. . . .

"Oh, we had crops too . . . corn, potatoes . . . then I had some peaches . . . had about 20 acres of peaches . . . across the road and about 10 acres of apples . . . lasted about seven years, then they're gone. . . .

"Once drove a horse and buggy clear up to Niagara Falls . . . was 16 or 17 at the time . . .



Gates Historical Society



Gates Historical Society

At left: William tends sheep on a Hinchey family field circa 1900. At right: William and his son Harmon, who was born in 1908, are pictured on the familiar steps leading into the kitchen of the homestead.

got home three days later . . . that was a trip in those days.

“Been to New York City many times . . . fact is, I got tired of it . . . my father was land agent for the New York Central and had an office in New York . . . I used to flag the train down out here on Howard Road . . . I had a pass . . . hop aboard and be off.

“He was with the railroad 50 years . . . then they passed the law that you had to retire at 70 . . . he was 81 then . . . so he had to step out . . . it just about killed him.

“Never was in the armed services . . . if they’d made another draft in World War I they would have grabbed me . . . I was 45 . . . the next draft would take in all those 45 and under . . . I never made the draft.

“Times got tough . . . I sold my wheat for 40 cents a bushel up in Caledonia . . . got a cent a quart for my milk . . . those were Depression days and folks didn’t have any money.

“Sold my farm in 1954 . . . at that time I was taken with a dizzy spell . . . just didn’t feel good . . . so I decided it was time to start taking it easy . . . now I’ve only got three acres left out of 300.

“I go for a ride once in awhile with my son, Harmon and his wife . . . but if I get more ’n a stone’s throw from here I don’t know where I am . . . everything’s changed.

“I get up when I get ready in the morning . . . sometimes don’t get up before 11 . . . 12 o’clock. I go to bed about 11 at night but haven’t been sleeping good . . . forepart of the

night I’m up every hour to see what time it is. . . .

“The doctor was out here on the 26th to give me a checkup . . . test of my heart . . . my lungs . . . my kidneys . . . and, uh, I ask him how I am . . . he says I’m OK . . . he says there’s nothing wrong with me . . . I can do whatever I want.”

• • •

William died at the homestead on January 9, 1964. At his death, he was a member of Aetolian Lodge of Masons and Gates Presbyterian Church. William’s wife Ellen predeceased him by 25 years. He was survived by his son Harmon, five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

205
SCHEDULE of the whole number of Persons within the Division allotted to *Abm*

NAME HEADS OF FAMILIES	FREE WHITE PERSONS, (EXCLUDED HEADS OF FAMILIES)																				
	Males							FEMALES													
	Under 5 years of age	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	90 to 100	100 to 110	110 to 120	120 to 130	130 to 140	140 to 150			
<i>John Pixley</i>																					
<i>Samuel Hinchey</i>	1	3	1																		
<i>Spencer Woodworth</i>	1	1	1	1	1																
<i>James Wibert</i>																					
<i>Samuel M. Hinchey</i>	1																				
<i>Samuel Hinchey</i>		1	1	1																	
<i>William Hinchey</i>	1	1	1	1																	
	10	12	11	12	14	11	6	1	1					12	9	9	10	14	4	10	1

Samuel M. Hinchey →

Samuel and William Hinchey →

Three Hinchey families are listed on the 1830 U.S. Census of the Town of Gates. They include pioneer William S. Hinchey (1797–1879) (bottom row), with eight people living in his home; his brother Samuel McClure Hinchey (second row from the bottom), with a family of six; and his father Samuel M. Hinchey (1765–1834) (fourth row from the bottom), with a family of three. Also listed are the families of Spencer Woodworth (fifth row from the top), who lived on the farm just east of the Hinchey's on present-day Hinchey Road opposite Loderdale Road; and James Wibert (tenth row from the top), from whom William bought property on the south side of Hinchey Road (Town Lot #18) in 1830. The name at the top of the list is John Pixley for whose family present-day Pixley Road is named.



Gates Historical Society

Filling the barn on the Hinchey farm circa 1910 with the mechanization of a steam tractor.



Gates Historical Society

At left: Harmon and Franklin Hinchey, the sons of William and Ellen Terrill Hinchey, are pictured with two Holstein calves circa 1915.

73	232210	Ellen, Walter	head	M	W	31	M	1907		W. Va.	Canva
74		Ellen, Walter	wife	F	W	35	M	1907		W. Va.	Canva
75		Ellen, Walter	daughter	F	W	13	S	1907		W. Va.	Canva
76		Ellen, Walter	son	M	W	13	S	1907		W. Va.	Canva
77		Ellen, Walter	son	M	W	9	S			W. Va.	Canva
78	232211	Franklin, Charles	head	M	W	35	M			W. Va.	New York
79		Louise, Charles	wife	F	W	33	M			W. Va.	New York
80		Howard, Charles	son	M	W	6	S			W. Va.	New York
81		Louise, Charles	daughter	F	W	1	S			W. Va.	New York
82	232212	Hinchey, William	head	M	W	45	M			W. Va.	New York
83		Ellen, William	wife	F	W	48	M			W. Va.	New York
84		Franklin, William	son	M	W	15	S			W. Va.	New York
85		Harmon, William	son	M	W	11	S			W. Va.	New York
86		Ellen, William	mother	F	W	87	W			W. Va.	New York
87		Baker, Cassena	Cousin	F	W	75	S			W. Va.	New York
88		Cummings, James	boarder	M	W	72	S			W. Va.	New York
89	232213	Nelson, Nelson	head	M	W	36	M			W. Va.	New York
90		Agnes, Nelson	wife	F	W	32	M			W. Va.	New York
91		Laura, Nelson	daughter	F	W	11	S			W. Va.	New York
92		Joseph, Nelson	son	M	W	6	S			W. Va.	New York
93		William, Nelson	son	M	W	2	S			W. Va.	New York
94	232214	Leatern, William	head	M	W	48	M	1896	nat. Eng.	W. Va.	New York

Fourteenth Census of the United States: 1920—Population

Detail from the Fourteenth Census of the United States, Gates Township, February 2, 1920. Franklin's son William is listed as the head of the household. Also living in the homestead were William's wife Ellen; their sons Franklin, 15, and Harmon, 11; Franklin's widow Ellen Lytle Hinchey, 87; Ellen's cousin Mary Cyrene Baker, 75; and James Cummings, 72, who is listed as a boarder. James was hired by Franklin to come to Gates in the 1870s to build the Hinchey Homestead. He remained with the family until his death in May 1920 shortly after this census was taken. Mr. Cummings is buried in St. Pius Tenth Cemetery in Chili, N.Y.



Gates Historical Society

William S. Hinchey, the son of Franklin and Ellen Lytle Hinchey, was born in 1874 and is pictured circa 1890 with a bicycle of the era.

The (Abbreviated) Franklin Hinchey Family Tree

◆ *Franklin's Great Great Grandfather*

John William Hinchey
Circa 1700-?

Franklin's Great Great Grandmother

Elizabeth Ingersoll
1701-1769

◆ *Franklin's Great Grandfather*

Samuel Hinchey
Circa 1744-?

Franklin's Great Grandmother

Rebecca Wheeler
Circa 1748-?

Samuel and Rebecca were married
on March 27, 1764, in Concord, Mass.

◆ *Franklin's Grandfather*

Samuel M. Hinchey
1765-1834

Franklin's Grandmother

Lucy Steele
1777-1813

◆ *Franklin's Father*

William Steele Hinchey
1797-1870

Franklin's Mother

Lucy Ann Davis
Circa 1808-1870

Franklin's Sister

Emmeline A. Hinchey Wheeler
1825-1873

Franklin's Sister

Martha A. Hinchey
1826-1893

Franklin's Brother

Capt. John James Hinchey
1831-1908

Franklin's Brother

Jesse Hawley Hinchey
1833-?

Franklin's Brother

John S. Hinchey
1836-1845

Franklin's Sister

Mary Jane Hinchey Coon
1838-1916

Franklin's Sister

Louisa Hinchey
1840-?

Franklin's Sister

Julia G. Hinchey
1842-1845

Franklin's Sister

Julia E. Hinchey Kegley
1846-1892

Franklin's Sister

Carolina Josephine Hinchey Tabor
1848-1907



Franklin Hinchey
1828-1912



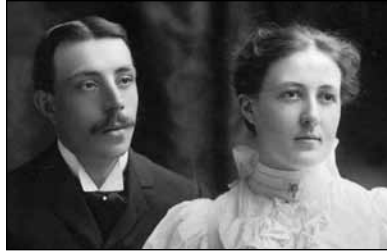
Franklin's First Wife
Elizabeth T. Booth
1833-1870



Franklin's Second Wife
Ellen W. Lytle
1832-1920



Franklin's and Ellen's Son
William Steele Hinchey
1874-1964



Franklin's Son and Daughter-in Law
 William Steele Hinchey 1874–1964
 Ellen Terrill 1872–1940
 William married Ellen
 on September 16, 1896.

Franklin's Grandson
 Franklin Harmon Hinchey
 July 20, 1900–August 15, 1900

Franklin's Granddaughter
 Ellen Terrill Hinchey
 July 20, 1900–August 16, 1900



Franklin's Grandson
 Franklin William Hinchey
 1904–1954
 Franklin married
 Marion Isabelle Dix (1907–2000)
 on June 28, 1927.



Franklin's Grandson
 Harmon Terrill Hinchey
 1908–1998
 Harmon married
 Caroline Marsh (1913–1981)
 on August 14, 1944.



Franklin's Great Granddaughter
 Barbara Hinchey
 Born in 1928
 Barbara married James Frank
 on June 28, 1947



Franklin's Great Grandson
 William B. Hinchey
 Born in 1931
 William married Gloria Jeane Marsh
 on November 14, 1953



Franklin's Great Grandson
 Ronald C. Hinchey
 1932–2016
 Ronald married Barbara Ann
 Bierbrauer on July 5, 1952



Franklin's Great Grandson
 Peter F. Hinchey
 Born in 1934
 Peter married Marya Frances
 Wolfer on August 20, 1960.



Franklin's Great Grandson
 Wolcott T. Hinchey
 Born in 1949
 Wolcott married Cynthia Lennon
 on March 28, 1982.

From Deacon Jonathan Brewster to the Terrill Family and the Hinchey Family

ONE OF THE EARLIEST PHOTOGRAPHS IN the archives of the Hinchey Homestead is the picture which appears on this page of Eunice Brewster Loomis.

Eunice was one of the great grandmothers of Ellen Terrill who married William Steele Hinchey in 1896. The marriage joined the Terrill and the Hinchey families.

Here is a “mini tree” of this branch of the family:

◆ *Deacon Jonathan Brewster*

Born August 25, 1744, in Windham, Connecticut. Died April 29, 1820, in Middletown Springs, Vermont. Jonathan married **Eunice Kingsley**. Eunice was born on July 9, 1745, in Windham, Connecticut. She died on June 18, 1820, in Middletown Springs, Vermont. Jonathan and Eunice had six children, among them was **Eunice Brewster**.

◆ *Eunice Brewster*

Born 1770 in Windham, Connecticut. Died September 11, 1849, in Middletown Springs, Vermont. Eunice married **Fitch Loomis** (1770–1844) in 1793. Eunice and Fitch had four children, among them was **Lydia Loomis**.

◆ *Lydia Loomis*

Born 1807. Died January 29, 1856, in Middletown Springs, Vermont. Lydia married **Thaddeus Terrill** (1803–1874) in 1826. Lydia and Thaddeus had five children, among them was **Harmon Terrill**.



Eunice Brewster Loomis (1770–1849). The handwritten note at the bottom of the photo reads: Ellen & Ann's grandmother Terrill. She was Eunice Brewster. "Ann" refers to Anna Eliza Terrill (1873–1962). She was the daughter of Harmon and Althera Terrill and the younger sister of Ellen Terrill.

◆ *Harmon Terrill*

Born February 14, 1838, in Poultney, Vermont. Died April 9, 1920, in Ogden, N.Y. Harmon married **Althera Amanda Goodridge** (1840–1920). Harmon and Althera had three children, among them was **Ellen Terrill**.

◆ *Ellen Terrill*



Born January 1872 in Ogden, N.Y. Died June 19, 1940, in Gates, N.Y. Ellen married **William Steele Hinchey** (1874–1964) in 1896. William and Ellen had four children, among them **Franklin William Hinchey** and **Harmon Terrill Hinchey**.

◆ *Franklin William Hinchey*

Born June 14, 1904, in Gates, N.Y. Died April 10, 1954, in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. Franklin married **Marion Dix** in 1927. They had four children: Barbara (1928–), William (1931–), Ronald (1932–2016) and Peter (1934–).

◆ *Harmon Terrill Hinchey*

Born May 18, 1908, in Gates, N.Y. Died April 26, 1998, in Gates, N.Y. Harmon married **Caroline Marsh** in 1944. They had one son: Wolcott (1949–).

The Extended Hinchey Family

Children and descendants of Franklin William Hinchey (1904–1954) and Marion Isabelle Dix (1907–2000):

BARBARA HINCHEY (1928–)



BARBARA married James Harold Frank (1927–1998) on June 28, 1947.

They have three children: John (Jack) Donald Frank (1951–), James Harold Frank (1953–) and Julie Ellen Frank (1964–).

◆ **John (Jack)** married Elaine Margaret Bell on August 26, 1972. They have three children: Barbara Jean Frank (1979–), Steven Patrick Frank (1982–) and Edward John Frank (1986–).

Barbara married Christopher Clinton Bales (1975–) on October 9, 2011. They have one daughter Kelly Jean Bales (2013–).

Steven has one son Edward Kingsley Frank (2010–).

Edward married Elizabeth Marie Kinsman (1989–) on August 8, 2015. They have three children: identical twins Abigail Hammond Frank and Emma Bell Frank who were born in 2019, and James Matthew Frank (2022–).

◆ **James** married Andrea Foubister in 1973. Their children are Jacob Robert Frank (1977–) and Jessica Melanie Frank (1979–). James married Susan Hamel in 1996. Their children are Ethan James Frank (2001–) and Clara Ellen Marie Frank (2006–).

◆ **Julie** married Thomas Kopf in 1986. They have twins James Otto Kopf and Rebecca Ellen Kopf who were born in 1987.

WILLIAM BRUCE HINCHEY (1931–)



WILLIAM married Gloria Jeane Marsh (1931–) on November 14, 1953.

They have three children: William Bruce Hinchey Jr. (1955–2002), Sharon Lee Hinchey (1958–) and Kurt Richard Hinchey (1964–2003).

◆ **William Jr.** married Darlene Leibeck on September 24, 1983. They have two sons: Cody James Hinchey (1987–) and Travis William Hinchey (1990–).

Cody married Lindsay Ermentraut on September 17, 2022. They have two children: Charlotte Jane Hinchey (2020–) and William James Hinchey (2022–).

◆ **Sharon** married Timothy Hazzard on May 23, 1981. They have two daughters: Kelly Jeane Hazzard (1990–) and Nicole Elizabeth Hazzard (1991–).

Kelly has one son: Chase Joshua Brongo (2017–).

Nicole married Paul Wojcik on May 14, 2016.

◆ **Kurt** married Belinda Naugle on June 3, 1989. They have two children: Jessica Lynn Hinchey (1992–) and Kory Richard Hinchey (1994–).

Jessica married Patrick Muldoon on November 14, 2020. They have one son Kolton Michael (2021–) and are expecting a daughter in January 2023.

RONALD C. HINCHEY (1932–2016)



RONALD married Barbara Ann Bierbrauer (1933–2013) on July 5, 1952.

They had seven children: Ronald David Hinchey (1953–), Raymond Franklin Hinchey (1954–1957), Anne Marie Hinchey (1955–), Douglas Richard Hinchey (1957–), Susan May Hinchey (1957–), Barbara Lee Hinchey (1959–) and Linda Jean Hinchey (1965–).

◆ **Ronald D.** married Donna Leaty in 1970. They had two children: Tracy Lee Hinchey (1971–) and Ronald Edward Hinchey (1975–1999). Ronald married Kim Tyras in 2000.

Tracy married Daniel Foster in 1991. They have one daughter, Kayla June (1994–). Tracy married Steven Cyran in 2014.

Kayla has two children: Cameron Frederick Foster (2012–) and Isabella Rosalie Foster (2018–).

Ronald E. married Ann Ware in 1995. He has two children: Zachary (1995–) and Michaela (1997–).

Michaela married Gus Draves in 2016. They have three sons: Jacob (2016–), David (2019–) and Oliver (2021–).

◆ **Raymond** (1954–1957)

◆ **Anne** married Donald E. Swarthout in 1975. They had two sons: Michael Edward Swarthout (1975–) and Peter Joseph Swarthout (1978–). Anne married Jonathan Gorton in 1990.

Michael has two sons with Amie Feroletto: Alex James (2017–) and Zachary John (2019–).

Peter married Katherine Goodwin in 2012.

◆ **Douglas** married Alma Mull in 1977. They had two children: Jennifer Leigh Hinchey (1980–) and Jeffrey Allen Hinchey (1982–). Douglas married Paula Schojan in 1991.

Jeffrey married Katie Jackson in 2011. They have two sons: Gavin Allen (2012–) and Colin Jackson (2015–)

◆ **Susan** married Floyd Tosh in 1975. They had two daughters: Amy Marie Tosh (1978–) and Katie Lee Tosh (1981–). Susan married Patric O'Brien in 1984 and Patric adopted Katie in 1998.

Amy married Thomas Favitta in 1999. She has one daughter: Madison Leigh Favitta (1999–). Amy married Michael Mayer in 2003. She has two children: Landon Michael Mayer (2003–) and Ava Marie Mayer (2004–).



Ronald Clinton Hinchey with Ronald David, Ann Marie and Douglas Richard. They are pictured shortly after Douglas Richard was born in 1957.

Madison has one daughter: Melody Jayne Glick (2019–).

Katie L. O'Brien married Erich Boersch in 2007. They have twin daughters: Ella Marie Boersch and Lillian May Boersch (2013–).

◆ **Barbara** married Harold Polle in 1980. They have one daughter: Diana Lynne Polle (1987–).

Diana married Adam Rossi in 2013.

◆ **Linda** married Don M. Onderdonk in 1985. They have two daughters: Rachel Lynn Onderdonk (1987–) and Courtney Elizabeth Onderdonk (1998–).

Rachel has two daughters: Stephanie Grace Onderdonk (2006–) and Nora Leigh Onderdonk-Babcock (2018–).

Courtney married Cody NiCastro in 2019.

PETER FRANKLIN HINCHEY (1934–)



PETER married Marya Frances Wolfer (1939–) on August 20, 1960. They have two children: Franklin Peter Hinchey (1964–) and Andrea Frances Hinchey (1966–).

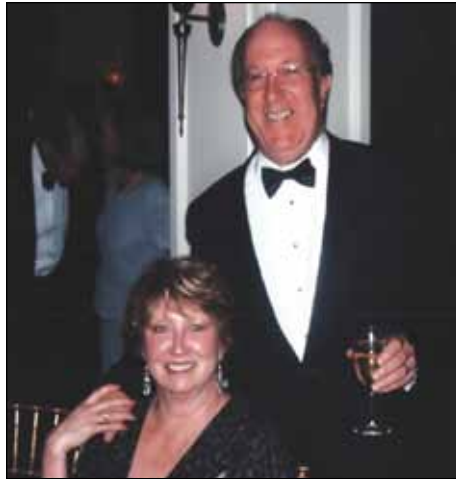
◆ **Andrea** married John Robert Unson (1967–) on August 22, 1992. They have two children: Ian Robert (1998–) and Abigail Frances (2004–).



Ian, Andrea, Abigail and John Unson.

Son and descendants of Harmon Terrill Hinchey (1908–1998) and Caroline Marsh (1913–1981):

WOLCOTT T. HINCHEY (1949–)



WOLCOTT married Cynthia Lennon on March 28, 1982. They have two daughters: Breanne Kathryn (1976–) and Caroline Hinchey (1983–).

◆ **Breanne** married Seth Oyer on June 28, 2003. They have two daughters: Emma Bay Oyer (2008–) and Reese Kathryn Oyer (2010–).

◆ **Caroline** married Christopher McGraw on October 15, 2013. They have two children: Charlotte Catherine McGraw (2015–) and Hugh Wolcott McGraw (2018–).



The daughters of Wolcott and Cynthia Hinchey: Caroline McGraw (at left) and Breanne Oyer (at right).

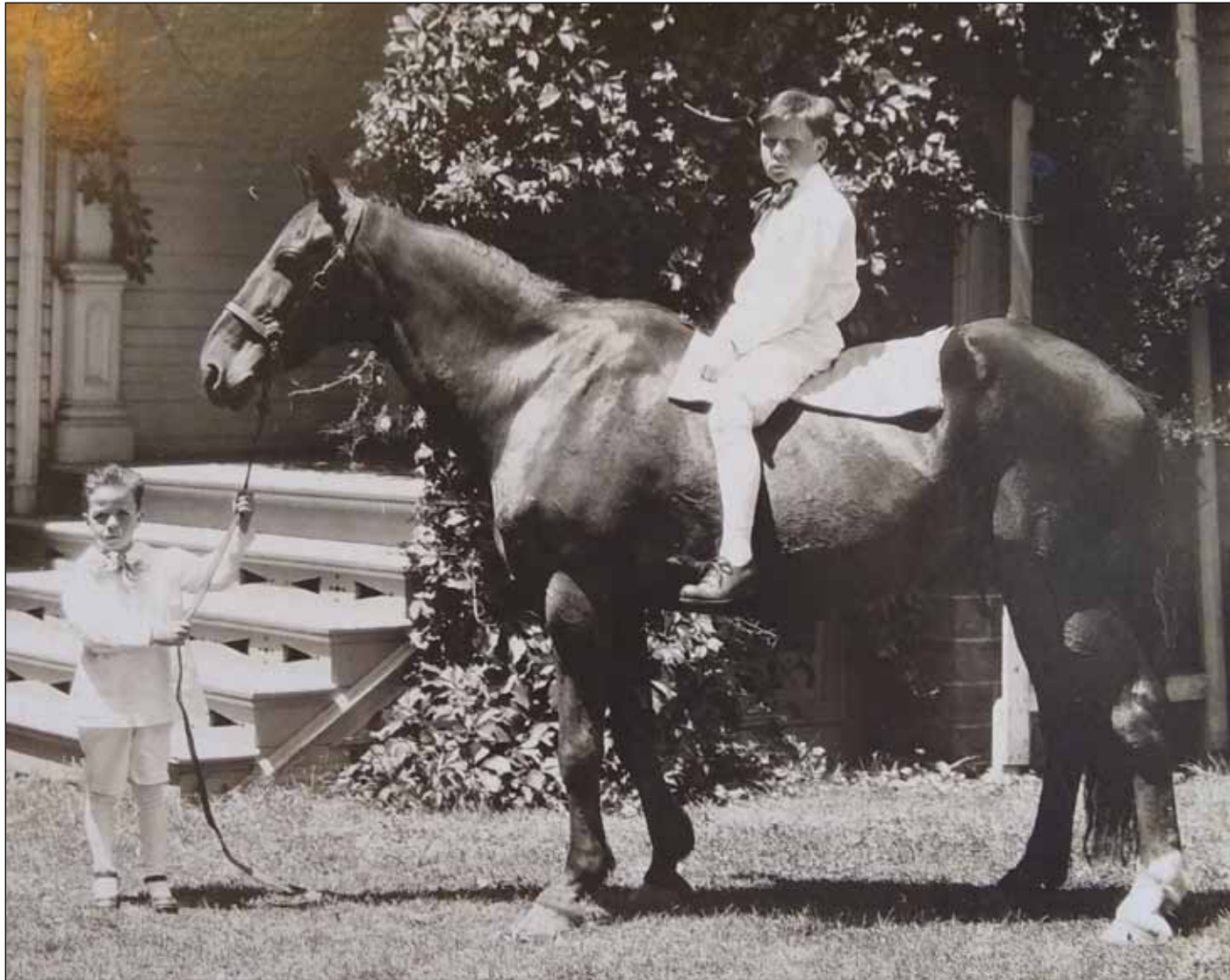


Wolcott's father Harmon Hinchey is pictured aboard the tractor at the Hinchey Homestead circa the 1990s.



Wolcott's mother Caroline Marsh Hinchey served as a librarian at West High School in Rochester, N.Y. She is pictured here circa 1955.

From the Hinchey Family Scrapbook



Franklin Hinchey with his brother Harmon, who was leading "Billy," are pictured on the Homestead circa 1912. Franklin was born in 1904; Harmon was born in 1908.



This is the interior of one of the first-floor rooms in the Hinchey Homestead circa 1910. It is one of hundreds of never-before-published photographs which are in the archives of the Gates Historical Society at the Homestead.



Wolcott Terrill Hinchey is pictured in winter shortly after he was born in 1949. Wolcott's father Harmon was the last member of the Hinchey family to reside in the Homestead. Wolcott is named after his uncle Wolcott Marsh who was the brother of his mother Caroline Marsh Hinchey.



Ellen Terrill Hinchey and her sister Anna Eliza Terrill (1873–1962) are pictured in this undated photograph on the Hinchey Homestead. Ellen Terrill married Franklin's son William Steele Hinchey in 1896.



Ellen Terrill Hinchey and her son Franklin posed for a photograph in the yard of the Hinchey Homestead several years after Franklin was born in 1904.



The original “G” boys of Gates. Among those who have been identified in this photo circa 1928 at the Hinchey Homestead are (from left): Cecil Westfall, Harmon Hinchey, [?], Howard Rogus, Harry Jackling, [?], Franklin Dix and Franklin Hinchey.

Franklin Dix, who was the brother of Marion Dix who married Franklin Hinchey in 1927, served as a Constable in the Town of Gates. He was on duty at a Gates Town Board meeting on November 14, 1932, when his service revolver discharged. He sustained a bullet wound to his abdomen, was taken to St. Mary’s Hospital, and died the next day. The Town Board was meeting at the home of Town Clerk Mary Harrington on Wegman Road when the injury occurred. In those days, town meetings were held in private homes until the first Town Hall was opened in the former Lee’s Tavern at 1548 Buffalo Road in the early 1940s. Constable Dix is formally recognized for his service-related death at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C. A plaque in his memory also has been installed at the former location of the Harrington home on Wegman Road in Gates.



Lawrence Frank and William Hinchey are pictured circa 1951 with William’s grandson Jack Frank and William’s son Franklin in the Hinchey Homestead.



Seated in back: Marya and Peter Hinchey. Front: Andrea and Franklin Hinchey.



Barbara Bales, Jack Frank and Edward Frank joined Barbara Hinchey Frank at the Hinchey Homestead on the occasion of Barbara’s 80th birthday on September 16, 2008.



Barbara Hinchey Frank is with her brothers at the Hinchey Homestead on her 80th birthday in 2008. They are the children of Franklin and Marion Dix Hinchey. Seated: Ronald Hinchey. Back row, from left: William, Peter and Barbara.

Visiting Home: A Reminiscence

Barbara Hinchey Frank, who was born in 1928, visited the Hinchey Homestead on December 2, 2018, during the Gates Historical Society's "Holly Days" holiday open house.

Renee Thompson provided the following reminiscence of Barbara's visit home.

Holly Days at Hinchey Homestead

By Renee Thompson

BARBARA HINCHEY FRANK, AT THE AGE of 90, visited the Hinchey House for Holly Days in 2018. She was escorted by her son Jack Frank and was greeted by the Gates Historical Society with a wonderful reception.

Barbara walked through each room with open eyes, remembering days from the past. She spoke of placement of furniture, different paintings and wallpaper. She identified paintings in each room.

Her great grandmother Ellen Lytle painted the peonies artwork in the dining room. The story is told that Ellen's son William Hinchey had picked the flowers.

A painting by C. J. Wilkins is displayed over the fireplace in the parlor. She was the youngest sister of Franklin Hinchey, who built the house. Another painting by Ms. Wilkins in the front parlor is said to be of the Grand Tetons. There is also a painting in the house by the artist Frank Tabor, who was the second husband of Ms. Wilkins.



Barbara Hinchey Frank

All the Hinchey children used the baby buggy in the front parlor. Barbara had been in it as an infant.

The Steinway piano in the parlor was a gift to Franklin and Harmon Hinchey. Barbara can play, but she does not like an audience when doing so.

We went upstairs where Barbara told us where her father's room had been. She remembered the toys she had played with as a child.



Barbara, William and Ronald Hinchey are on horseback with help from their father Franklin in 1933.

The cow on wheels was displayed in one of the bedrooms. She showed us where she sat with her grandmother who taught her how to sew and darn socks.

Barbara's chore as a child was to clean the gaslights and empty chamber pots. She grew up across the street and would come over to help her grandmother with household chores.

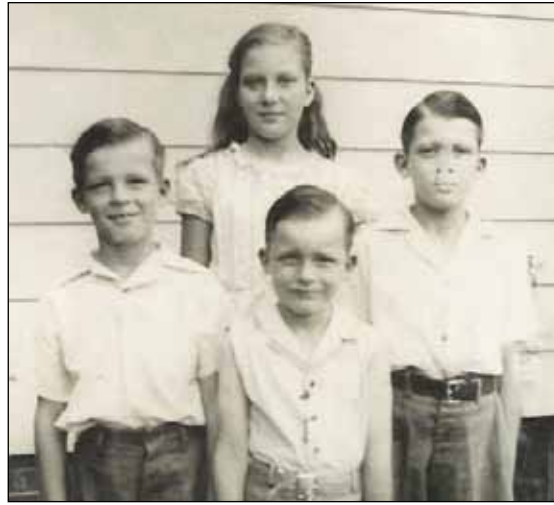
Barbara and James Frank had their wedding reception there at the Hinchey house, June 28, 1947.

We also celebrated her 80th birthday there on September 16, 2008.

Barbara sat in the dining room having punch at the end of the tour. She felt the presence of her family all around her while she was there. This visit brought back many pleasant memories for her.



Ronald David Hinchey shortly after he was born in 1953.



Barbara with her brothers (from left) Ronald, Peter and William in 1941.



Franklin Hinchey, circa the mid-1930s.



William Hinchey, shortly after he was born in 1874.



Franklin Hinchey with a calf on the front lawn of the Hinchey Homestead in winter, circa 1910.



William Hinchey married Gloria Marsh on November 14, 1953. From left: Ronald Hinchey, James Frank, David McCullum, Janet Mason, William Hinchey, Gloria Marsh Hinchey, Peter Hinchey, Barbara Frank, Joyce Stanfield and Marge Sharp.



Marion Dix Hinchey with her daughter Barbara circa 1929.



The sons of Franklin and Marion Dix Hinchey are pictured as teenagers. From left: William (1931-), Ronald (1932-2016) and Peter (1934-).



Ronald Clinton Hinchey as a high school senior. He was born in 1932.



Ronald Clinton Hinchey married Barbara Ann Bierbrauer on July 5, 1952. Among those in the photograph are Franklin William Hinchey, William Steele Hinchey, Marion Dix Hinchey, Ronald C. Hinchey, Barbara Ann Hinchey, Dorothy Bierbrauer Rose, Harvey Rose, Lydia Mary Leavens Brown and Raymond Brown.

At left: Four generations of the Ronald Hinchey family: From left: Ronald Clinton Hinchey, his son Douglas Richard Hinchey, his grandson Jeffrey Allen Hinchey and his great grandson Gavin Allen Hinchey who was born in 2012.





At left: Ronald Clinton Hinchey on his horse "Major" circa 1952.



Ronald Clinton Hinchey with his sons Ronald David and Raymond Franklin in 1955.



Ronald C. Hinchey with his daughter Susan May Hinchey O'Brien, Susan's daughter Katie O'Brien Boersch, and Katie's twin daughters Ella Marie and Lillian May who were born in 2013.



At right: Ronald Clinton Hinchey with his brother William on Ronald's wedding day on July 5, 1952.



Five of the seven children of Ronald and Barbara Ann Hinchey are pictured in 1961: Standing in back: Ronald David. Front row: Douglas Richard, Susan May, Barbara Lee and Anne Marie.



Brothers and sister William Hinchey, Barbara Hinchey Frank and Peter Hinchey are pictured at the Hinchey Family Reunion in 2017.



With Barbara Hinchey Frank on the occasion of her 80th birthday on September 16, 2008, at the Hinchey Homestead are (from left) Ethan Frank, James Frank, Susan Frank and Clara Frank.



A family gathering in 2018: Front row, from left: James Frank, Edward Frank, Rebecca Pollot, Julie Kopf, Renee Thompson, Barbara Hinchey Frank and Jack Frank. Back row, from left: Beth Frank, Dave Pollot, Catharine Kopf and James Kopf.



Ellen Hinchey and her son Franklin, who was born in 1904, enjoyed wading in Lake Ontario at Sea Breeze in 1907.



Among those identified in this photograph getting ready to begin a day's work on the Hinchey farm circa the 1910s are (from left) William S. Hinchey, James Cummings and young Franklin Hinchey. The driver is unidentified.



Jack Frank and his sweetheart Renee Thompson.



Ronald C. Hinchey with six of his children in 1966. Standing in back row: Ronald C. and Ronald D. holding Linda Jean. Front row: Douglas Richard, Susan May, Barbara Lee and Anne Marie.



Thomas Edison School, 8th Grade, 1948. Peter Hinchey is in the back row, third from left.



Front row, seated, from left: Barbara Bales, Edward Frank, Barbara Hinchey Frank, Jack Frank, Kelly Bales and Renee Thompson. Back row, standing, from left: Steven Frank, Beth Frank, Edward Frank and Chris Bales.



James Frank, who was born in 1953, is the son of Barbara and James Frank.



Wolcott Hinchey, the son of Harmon and Caroline Hinchey, is pictured on the steps at the Hinchey Homestead with his Davy Crockett cap, circa the 1950s. Wolcott was born in 1949.



Barbara Hinchey Frank



Edward and Beth Frank with their twin daughters Abbey and Emma Frank, and their son James Frank.



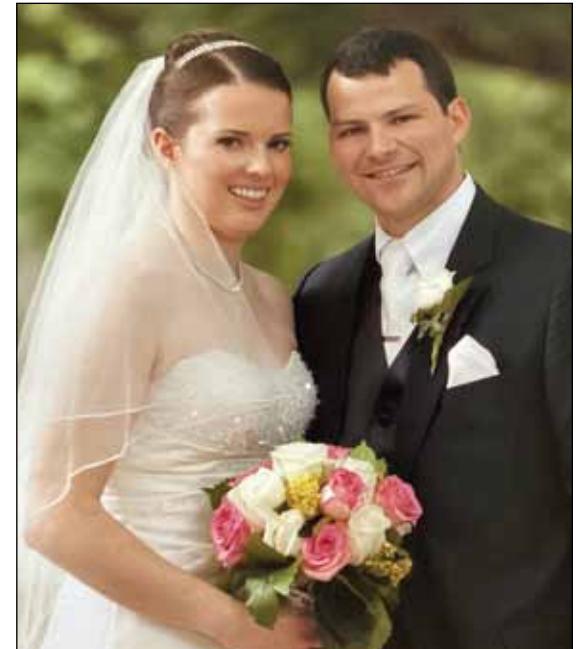
Steven, Edward and Jack Frank.



Kelly Jean Bales



Barbara Frank and Christopher Bales on their wedding day, October 9, 2011.



Elizabeth Kinsman and Edward Frank on their wedding day, August 8, 2015.

A Hinchey Remembrance

William Bruce Hinchey, who was born in 1931, is the son of Franklin William Hinchey (1904–1954) and Marion Isabelle Dix Hinchey (1907–2000). William's sister is Barbara Hinchey Frank. Peter Hinchey is his brother. Another brother, Ronald Hinchey, passed away in 2016.

In 1953, William married Gloria Jeane Marsh. They had two sons: William Bruce Hinchey Jr. (1955–2002) and Kurt Richard Hinchey (1964–2003). They have one daughter Sharon Lee Hinchey Hazzard (1958–).

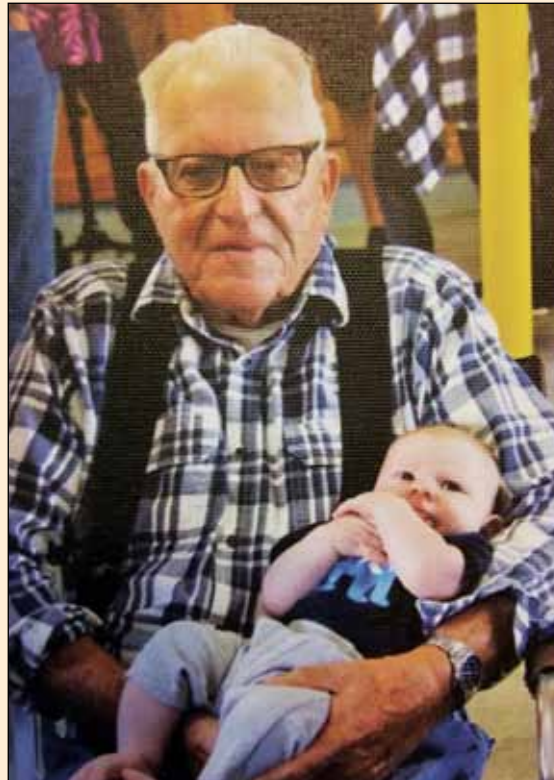
William, who is the great great grandson of pioneer William Hinchey who arrived in Gates *circa* 1810, wrote the following reminiscence in 2022.

By William Bruce Hinchey

AFTER MOM AND DAD GOT MARRIED in 1927, they built their house at 691 Hinchey Road in the apple orchard across the road from the Hinchey Farm. I was born in the house in 1931.

My first memories of the farm are probably when I was 8 to 10 years old. I would jump the picket fence and go to the barn to be with Grandpa [William Steele Hinchey, 1874–1964]. I would follow him around doing chores. He always gave me some little thing to do. He most always had a calf in the basement of the house that we would care for.

When I was older, I helped clean the barn and bed the cows. When I was 16, I drove a



William Hinchey is pictured shortly after his great grandson William James Hinchey was born in 2022. The parents of William James are Cody and Lindsay Hinchey.

team of horses and dragged the field. I liked staying at the house as much as possible. Gramma [Ellen Terrill Hinchey, 1872–1940] always made me say my prayers. There most always were two huge bowls of pudding—one chocolate and one vanilla—made by Auntie Terrill (she was Gramma's sister who lived in the house, too) that I loved.

All us kids loved playing at the house. There were so many places to hide and two stairways to run up and down and jump. When we didn't mind Gramma, her punishment was for us to run around the huge dining room table ten times! Gramma died when I was 10 years old.

My dad had a small slaughterhouse in back of the cabbage house. He butchered lambs, pigs, calves and cows. I helped him when I was in high school. I didn't go to school on Tuesdays. He butchered and we delivered to Russer Meats and Webber's store at Bulls Head [in Rochester, N.Y.]. Dad bought and sold animals from livestock auctions and farmers.

My first job out of high school was cleaning and bedding the cows, milking, and whatever chores there were. Grandpa was always out in the barn at first, but then just me. My pay was \$150 a month. We delivered milk to Bartholomay Dairy.

The Hinchey farm extended west to Pixley Road, and to where Brook-Lea Country Club is today, and north to the railroad. I remember Grandpa selling off lots along Howard Road and Hinchey Road to pay the taxes. Eventually, the land was all gone.

When Gramma and Grandpa died, the caskets were in the front parlor.

At our house at 691 Hinchey Road, we had a big yard. Mom would take me to the clothesline to be outside. Later, we had a ball field out back. Kids from the neighborhood



Marion Dix Hinchey (back row, at left) is pictured with her father Clinton Dix and her husband Franklin Hinchey (back row, at right) with their four children (front row, from left) Ronald, William, Barbara and Peter, circa 1936.

came to play ball and hide-and-peek. The cows were in the orchard and sometimes we had cow potty fights.

We went to Thomas Edison Elementary School on Buffalo Road, and had to walk there. Then we went to Spencerport High School. We walked to Buffalo Road to get the bus.

I think life on Hinchey Road was very good. I made some lifetime friends. I met Gloria in 1952. We were married in 1953 and

continued to live on Hinchey Road. Mom and Dad went to Florida with the Jacklings and on the way back, Dad had a heart attack at the age of 47 in North Carolina. He died there.

I took over his buying and selling of cattle but concentrated on hogs. I still worked at the farm until October 1954 when the cows were sold. A pig yard was located in the orchard north of the garage at the farm. I went to buy pig feed from restaurants and bread stores and dairies (for outdated milk). I made a hog pen

and loading ramp in the lower shed instead of keeping them in the horse barn. I bought a large truck and expanded the business to five days a week, going to Caledonia, Pavilion, Palmyra, Sennett and Buffalo to sale auctions. I sold the hogs to Tobin Packing Company and later shipped hogs to Ohio, Indiana and Albany.

On May 12, 1955, Billy Jr. was born in the house in which I was born. That made three living William Hinchey's that same year. Billy Jr. became a cattle trucker with his own business. When our son Kurt finished high school, he became an auctioneer, so he sold at the markets. I bought and Billy trucked. When Billy died at the age of 47 in 2002, my brother Pete and I took over his trucking business. We did it until I was 85 and I sold the business to our nephew Doug Hinchey.

Gloria and I have six grandchildren—three boys and three girls. Two of the girls became teachers and one is a mental health therapist. Two boys worked at Brodner Mower [on Lyell Road in Gates] and one works for the Town of Sweden, N.Y.

We now have four great grandchildren and a fifth is due in January 2023 which will make three great grandsons and two great granddaughters. There are also now four generations of Williams.

Our daughter Sharon is now building a house on our land to be close to us oldsters. One of her daughters has already spoken for our house. When Kurt and Belinda married, they built a house also on our land, so it is going to be another Hinchey Homestead. Kurt died in 2003 at the age of 38.



The wedding days of the children of William and Gloria Hinchey. At left: William Hinchey Jr. married Darlene Leibeck on September 24, 1983. Middle: Sharon Hinchey married Timothy Hazzard on May 23, 1981. At right: Kurt Hinchey married Belinda Naugle on June 3, 1989.



Far left:
Harmon Hinchey at age 2 and his older brother Franklin Hinchey at age 6 were photographed in 1910.

At left, top:
Franklin and Marion Dix Hinchey are pictured in this undated photograph. They were married on June 28, 1927.

At left, bottom:
Franklin Hinchey and his sons William and Ronald in 1950.



The Paintings of C. J. Wilkins

CAROLINA JOSEPHINE HINCHEY TABOR, who was born in 1848 in Gates, was the daughter and the 11th child of William and Lucy Ann Hinchey and eventually moved to Ypsilanti, Mich. with most of the family.

She became a landscape artist, married art dealer Ira Wilkins on July 2, 1884, in Denver, Colo., and subsequently began signing her work as *C. J. Wilkins*. Art records also identified her as *Caroline* rather than Josephine or Josie. Later, she married Frank Tabor who also was an artist and with whom she operated a studio in Seattle, Wash.

An undated and unsigned letter in the possession of Renee Thompson of Scottsville, N.Y., described Carolina “. . . whose genius as a painter puts her on the front rank of American artists. Much of the grandest scenery in the [?] mountains has been transferred to canvas by this gifted lady, and what is more gratifying, her pictures always find ready sale at handsome figures.”

Following her death in 1907, the *Seattle Star* reported that a number of her paintings were displayed at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition (also known as the Chicago World's Fair).

At her death at the age of 59 following a long illness, she was buried under the name of Carolina Josephine Tabor in Seattle.

Ms. Thompson has compiled a listing of a number of Carolina's works from known locations and owners, and from research on artwork websites.



Detail from Landscape with Trees by C. J. Wilkins, circa 1900; gift of Mrs. Charles W. Stimson in 1957 to the Frye Art Museum, Seattle, Wash.

Two of Carolina's paintings are displayed in the Hinchey Homestead in Gates: one is over the fireplace in the front parlor and is described as the Grand Tetons. The second is a mountain view with a bridge and trees, and is displayed in the sitting room on the first floor.

A third, *Mountain Vista with Cattle in Foreground*, appears on page 7 of this book.

The fourth is at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle and is pictured above.

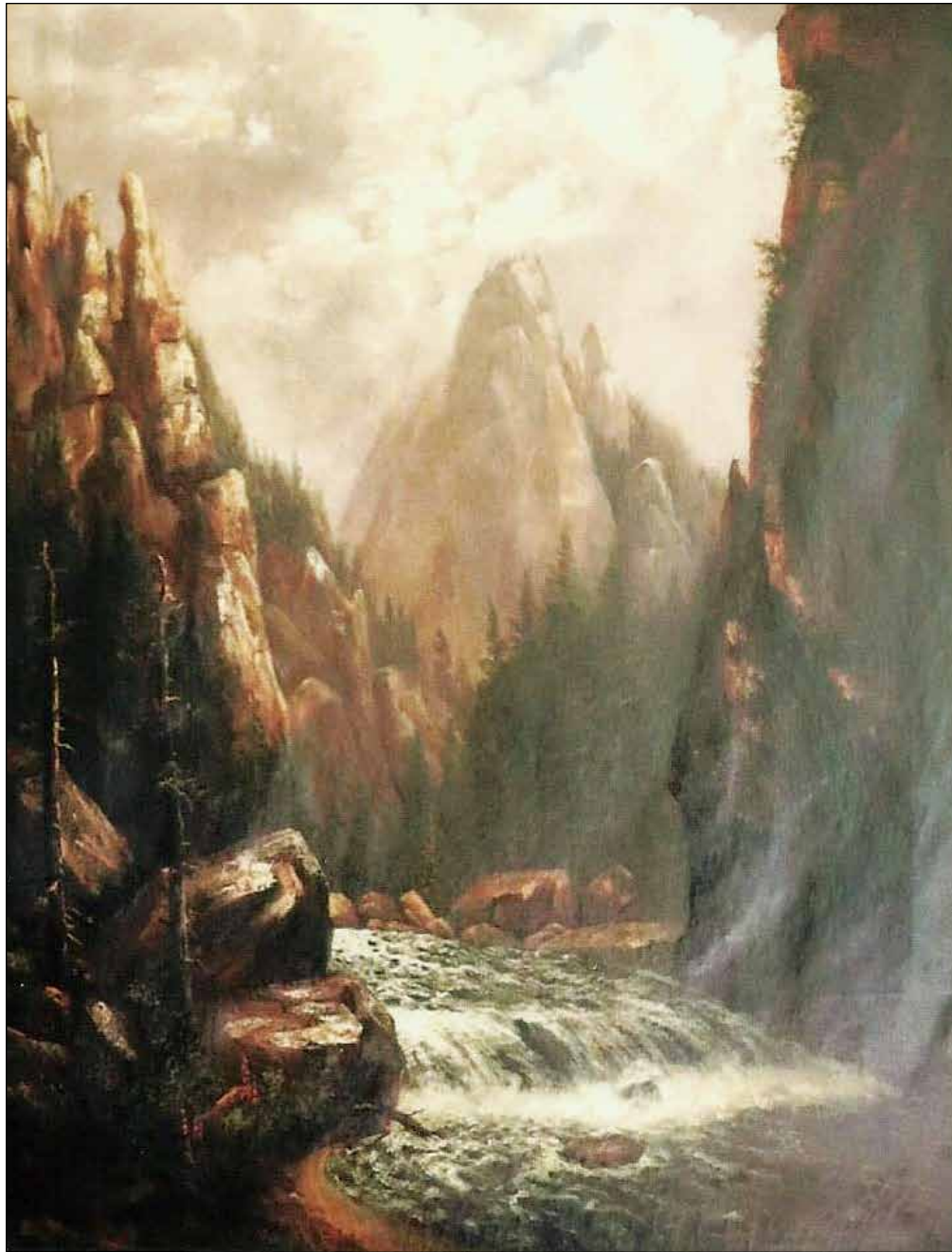
A fifth work is an 1877 American autumn landscape. A sixth painting of pine trees, rocks and a stream was purchased by Jack Frank of

Scottsville, N.Y., from a seller from Oregon.

The seventh painting identified as Carolina's work of autumn colors, rocks and a stream is located in Houston, Texas. And an eighth work with mountains and a rushing river was recently sold on the Auction Ninja website.

Artwork listings also included a Seattle reference to Carolina's *A Night on Elk Mountain*.

One of her husband Frank Tabor's paintings is also displayed in the Hinchey Homestead in the front parlor.



Detail images from several works by C. J. Wilkins. Far left: Mountains and Rushing River which sold on Auction Ninja for \$412. At left: American autumn landscape, 1877. Below: Fall color with rocks and stream.



Touring the Hinchey Homestead

Members of the Gates Historical Society operate the Hinchey Homestead and offer tours to visitors and school groups throughout the year. Following are excerpts from the tour of the home which are described to guests by Society volunteers.

Grand Tour of the Homestead

*Tour Notes by Laura Nolan
President of the Gates Historical Society,
2003–2017*

THE HINCHEY HOMESTEAD IS THE most important 19th century residential property in Gates and the only structure in the town which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1852, Franklin Hinchey married his first wife Elizabeth Booth. They lived in the house where Franklin grew up—a small frame structure located close to Hinchey Road which was built *circa* 1810 and which was the first clapboard house in the town.

When the new homestead was completed, the old structure was moved to the north of the property where—at the family's wish—it remained standing as a testament to the Hinchey pioneer spirit. The original home was eventually razed in the 1960s. (*See* the photo of the original home on the frontispiece of this book.)

Elizabeth figured heavily in the design of the Homestead. She studied many subjects, including architecture, and among the fam-



Gates Historical Society

The writing desk in the living room. The framed marriage license of Franklin Hinchey and Ellen Lytle is displayed on the wall to the right of the desk.

ily papers was discovered a small handmade notebook of her drawings containing plans for 28 houses, including an octagon house. Some inspiration also came from Franklin who would gather ideas when he was invited to the homes of the very wealthy while he was in New York City on business. Sadly, Elizabeth

never was able to live in her dream house. She died in 1870.

In 1871, Franklin married Ellen Lytle. They had one son William Steele Hinchey in 1874. Construction on the new Homestead also began that year.

The design reflected the influence of the Italianate style which was popular during the Victorian era. The Homestead was built by James Cummings and Patrick Fitzsimmons. They were two Irish carpenters with shipbuilding experience who were recruited by Franklin from New York City. Franklin was told that shipbuilders would have the most talent for forming the rounded walls of an Italianate house with their familiarity of shaping the rounded bows of the ships.

According to Architectural Research Coordinator Cynthia Howk of the Western New York Landmark Society, the Homestead is an 1870s High Style house of Italianate detail. Some of the features which denote this style are the rounded walls and bay windows. If one was to divide the house in half, both sides would be mirror images of the other. In this style, the exterior of the house must look perfectly balanced, even if it would mean the addition of features which would not be visible from the interior.

Most of the craftsmanship in the house was tooled by hand, such as the moldings, ceiling medallions for gas lights, *faux* painting on woodwork and fireplaces. This explains why it took six years to complete the construction.

The family was finally able to move into their new home in 1880. The house is 4,000 square feet. It has 14 main rooms; plus closets, halls and privy. The ceilings are 10 feet high.

Young William remembered moving into the house when he was six and lived the rest of his life in the Homestead. When he married in 1896, he brought his bride Ellen Terrill to live with his parents in their large home. This was a family tradition that would continue into the next generation.

In 1900, William and Ellen had twins who died in infancy. Later, they had two sons: Franklin (1904–1954), whom they called Young Franklin; and Harmon (1908–1998).

Young Franklin married Marion Dix in 1927 and the following year built a home on the south side of Hinchey Road. It is the second house east of the intersection of Hinchey Road and Howard Road. Franklin and Marion had four children: Barbara, William, Ronald and Peter.

Harmon lived in the Homestead, bringing his bride Caroline Marsh there after their marriage in 1944. In 1949, Harmon and Caroline had their son Wolcott.

After living a long life, William died in 1964 at the age of 89 in the guest bedroom and in the same bed where his father Franklin had passed away in 1912.

Harmon's wife Caroline lived until 1981. Harmon then lived alone in the Homestead until his death in 1998.

Ownership of the property passed to Harmon's son Wolcott who eventually sold the property to the Gates Historical Society on January 8, 2002. On May 4, 2004, the Society



Gates Historical Society

The washing machine with its hand-operated circular agitator and clothes ringer.

transferred the ownership of the property to the Town of Gates.

EVERY MORNING, ONE OF THE HIRED hands would pump water from the cistern in the basement (filled with rain-water from the eaves troughs) to a huge tank (which looks like a metal-lined hot tub) in the attic. This would allow the family to have running water by way of gravity all day long.

The Kitchen

A large cast iron stove stood along the south wall of the **kitchen**. This was not only used for cooking, but also helped to provide heat to the room in the winter months. In the summer, a kerosene stove with three burners was used to keep the room cooler.

The **wood shed**, which is now the Society office, was used not only for wood storage but also contained a six-door icebox. Since most families only had two-door iceboxes, this size would more likely have been used in a restaurant or hotel. An **icehouse** was on the property directly behind the wood shed.

The **laundry room** leads to a partially enclosed porch that has been used for storage. In the winter, it would be used as a freezer for meat and frozen foods. The meat hooks can still be viewed in the ceiling. In summer, the enclosure was removed to provide an area in which the women would sit to shell peas and beans, and to peel potatoes.

The laundry room also leads to the attached **indoor privy**. It has two seats. The gas light fixture on the wall is still intact. When the privy needed cleaning, the farm hands would hitch a team of horses to the stone sled under the structure and drag the contents out to the fields to be used as fertilizer.

The **pantry** contains most of the kitchen cupboards. The china cabinet doors and drawers open from both the pantry and the dining room. This enabled the ladies to clear, wash and return the dishes to their proper places without disturbing the gentlemen who may have remained at the table enjoying their cigars and brandy.

The house did not have screens on the windows, so two of the cupboard doors were built with screens to protect the fresh baked goods while they were cooling. Hence, they were often called “pie keepers” or “pie savers.”

Another item of interest in the pantry is the flour bin. This is one of several items from the family’s original clapboard house which was built on the property. It is said that it was sometimes necessary to fill this large container three times a week. The window in this room has a board on it that used to be adjustable. The family could slide the board up or down according to the height of their children, thus preventing them from tumbling out of the window. Needless to say, this was especially important on the second floor of the house.

Though the house was built with gas lighting, the family would often make use of kerosene lanterns and oil lamps in the evening. They would be cleaned in the morning and stored on the shelf above the cupboards during the daylight hours.

The **bench table** is a unique piece of furniture donated by the Kitt family. Nancy Kitt was one of the founding members of the Society.

The Living Room

In the 21st century, the Hinchey **living room** could be referred to as the “family room.” It was where the Hincheys enjoyed various hobbies and toys. There was always a fire going in the fireplace and everyone gathered here in the evening.

The **fireplace** is one of five in the house. Each one is decorated differently, but all are



Gates Historical Society

There are five fireplaces in the Homestead. Each is decorated differently and are set closer to the walls than anything built today to allow more heat to enter the room.

Count Rumford design. They sit much closer to the wall than anything built today, which allows more heat to enter the room.

The fruit wood **secretary** is another piece of furniture from the *circa* 1810 house.

The **pump organ** was donated by a family from Webster, N.Y. Their ancestors had purchased it in 1871, and after four generations of ownership, they decided it would be best cared for in a museum. The Gates Historical Society is very grateful to them for entrusting this treasure to the Hinchey Homestead.

The **oil painting** above the fireplace was

created by C. J. Wilkins, who was one of Franklin Hinchey’s sisters and a well known painter whose work was exhibited at the Chicago World’s Fair in 1893. Her name was Caroline Josephine but it is said that she was forced to use her initials because no one would purchase her paintings if they knew she was a woman.

As we continue the tour, visitors will notice a **medallion** on the ceiling in every room. The house was originally built with gas lighting, and every room contained a beautiful chandelier. However, styles changed in the early 1900s, and table lamps and floor lamps were becoming very popular. When the gas lighting was converted to electricity, all but three of the chandeliers were cut down and never replaced.

The hand carved **crown molding** is quite impressive. The narrower (lower) picture moldings are a necessary feature for hanging all of the heavy ornate paintings. The walls are all solid plaster and extremely thick. It would be impossible to hang any large items by any other method without destroying the walls.

The Guest Bedroom

This room was originally designed to be a second parlor, but the family chose to use it as a guest bedroom. It has also been known as the “birthing and dying bedroom.” The room was only used by family members when they became too elderly or frail to climb the stairs.

The bed is of **Eastlake** design. The Eastlake movement was a 19th-century architectural and household design reform movement started by British architect and writer Charles

Eastlake (1836–1906). The movement is generally considered part of the late Victorian period in terms of broad antique furniture designations. The bed has always been positioned in front of the door. It is the only space in the room where it will fit. The door leads to the west porch which has never been used. It is there strictly for exterior balance.

The name of the **wallpaper** is “Roosevelt’s Roses.” It was named for Franklin Roosevelt, who was a Democrat. Grandpa William, however, was a staunch Republican, so when Aunt Caroline had this paper installed in 1944, she did not dare tell him the name or he would have ripped it down!

The **closet door** in this room is a perfect example of the *faux* style of painting used throughout the homestead. Paint is cleverly used to simulate stained woodwork. It is also used on the fireplaces to replicate granite, marble and slate.

The Bathroom

Many people think the bathroom must have been added at a later date, but it was in fact part of the original architecture. The tub and dresser are original fixtures. The toilet and sink were replaced around 1944.

The Parlor

As visitors enter this room from the bedroom, they will notice the pocket doors dividing the two rooms. The doors not only provided privacy, if needed, but also prevented heat from escaping in the winter months when the house could become drafty.

The **oil painting** above the fireplace in the



Gates Historical Society

The high quality of the workmanship and fixtures in the Homestead is evident in the smallest details, such as the intricate door hinges which were selected for the home.

parlor is also part of the C. J. Wilkins collection. It is said that this beautiful scene was painted in the Grand Tetons.

The **Steinway piano** in the front parlor was a 1910 Christmas gift to Young Franklin and Harmon from their grandfather Franklin. Even though it was a Steinway, neither of the boys ever learned to play it. Young Franklin’s daughter Barbara learned to play, but Renee Thompson writes in a reminiscence in this book (*see p. 29*) that Barbara did not prefer an audience.

The **Gentleman’s Chair** was considered the most comfortable chair in the house, and therefore was offered only to the men who came to call.

The **baby pram** was given to grandma Ellen Hinchey in 1900 when she was expecting twins. Sadly, both babies died before their first birthday. The pram was not used again until her grandchildren were born.

As visitors exit the parlor, they note the ornate brass hinges (pictured at left) and door handles. They are also of **Eastlake** design.

The Entrance Hall

The **arched doorway** and blue porch ceiling both indicate the Italianate style of architecture. This door was never used as a main entrance to the Homestead. The family felt it was too far for their guests to walk after putting their horses and buggies in the barn. The door on the east side of the living room was chosen instead. The only time the front door was ever put to use was when they needed to remove a casket through the wider double doors following a funeral service. It was also opened for ventilation.

The **wallpaper** in the front hall is a perfect example of Aunt Caroline’s love of George Washington. The name of the paper is “Washington At Trenton” and unfortunately it has not withstood the lack of climate control as well as some of the other rooms.

The **chandeliers** in the downstairs and upstairs halls are the only two original gas lights that remained after the conversion from gas to electricity.

The Upstairs Hall

The clock on the false mantle was given to the Society by the family of Raymond E. Morris, a local attorney and the first legal

counsel to the Gates Chili Central School District. Mr. Morris lived to the age of 101.

The Front Bedroom (West Side)

This bedroom was occupied by Mary Cyrene Baker. Cyrene's mother died at an early age and census records tell us that Cyrene was raised by an elderly aunt. When her cousin Ellen Lytle married Franklin Hinchey, Cyrene came to live with the young couple. There was a difference of about 14 years of age between the cousins, and even now they rest beside one another in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Rochester.

The Large Bedroom (West Side)

This was the **master bedroom** for grandpa and grandma Hinchey (William and Ellen Terrill Hinchey). After Ellen's death, grandpa could no longer bear to occupy this room alone. He moved to one of the small rooms in the servant's quarters. The master bedroom was later given to his grandson Wolcott, which he used until he left for college.

The East Bedroom

This was the **original master bedroom** for great grandpa and great grandma Hinchey (Franklin and Ellen Lytle Hinchey). The room was later used by Harmon Hinchey and his wife Caroline.

The family attended elegant parties, both here and in New York City. Many beautiful items of clothing were found stored in the attic.

Caroline's sister Hulda traveled all over the world, which is quite evident from the stickers attached to her suitcase. The dance cards on



Gary Newman

Of interest to visitors in the upstairs hall are two sewing machines, three carpet sweepers and a pre-electricity vacuum cleaner. The back bedrooms at the end of the hall were used by farm hands and hired help including James Cummings, one of the shipbuilders who built the home and who remained in Gates with the family; and housekeeper Mrs. Wilcox on occasion.

display in the room are evidence of how the times have changed. The gentlemen selected all of their dance partners at the beginning of the evening and kept track of the ladies on these dance cards. These cards belonged to grandpa Hinchey.

The Back Bedrooms and Back Hall

These bedrooms were used by the farm hands and hired help. The first room on the right originally had a sink and was much later converted to a full bath.

The second room on the right was always

occupied by Jimmy Cummings, one of the Irish shipbuilders who built the house and who stayed on as a hired hand. The other carpenter, his brother-in-law Patrick Fitzsimmons, also stayed on, but had his own house nearby.

The first room on the left was always saved for the cleaning lady Mrs. Wilcox. She had her own home on Archer Road in Chili, N.Y., and only stayed if the weather or hour of night made it too dangerous for her horse and buggy to navigate the dirt roads home after dark.



Gates Historical Society



Gates Historical Society



Gates Historical Society



Gates Historical Society



Gates Historical Society

Photos on this page depict the large cast iron stove along the south wall of the kitchen, the bathroom sink with faucets for the "running water" from the attic cistern, two bedrooms, and a view of the one remaining barn on the property which is located north of the homestead.

The Diary of Elizabeth Booth Hinchey

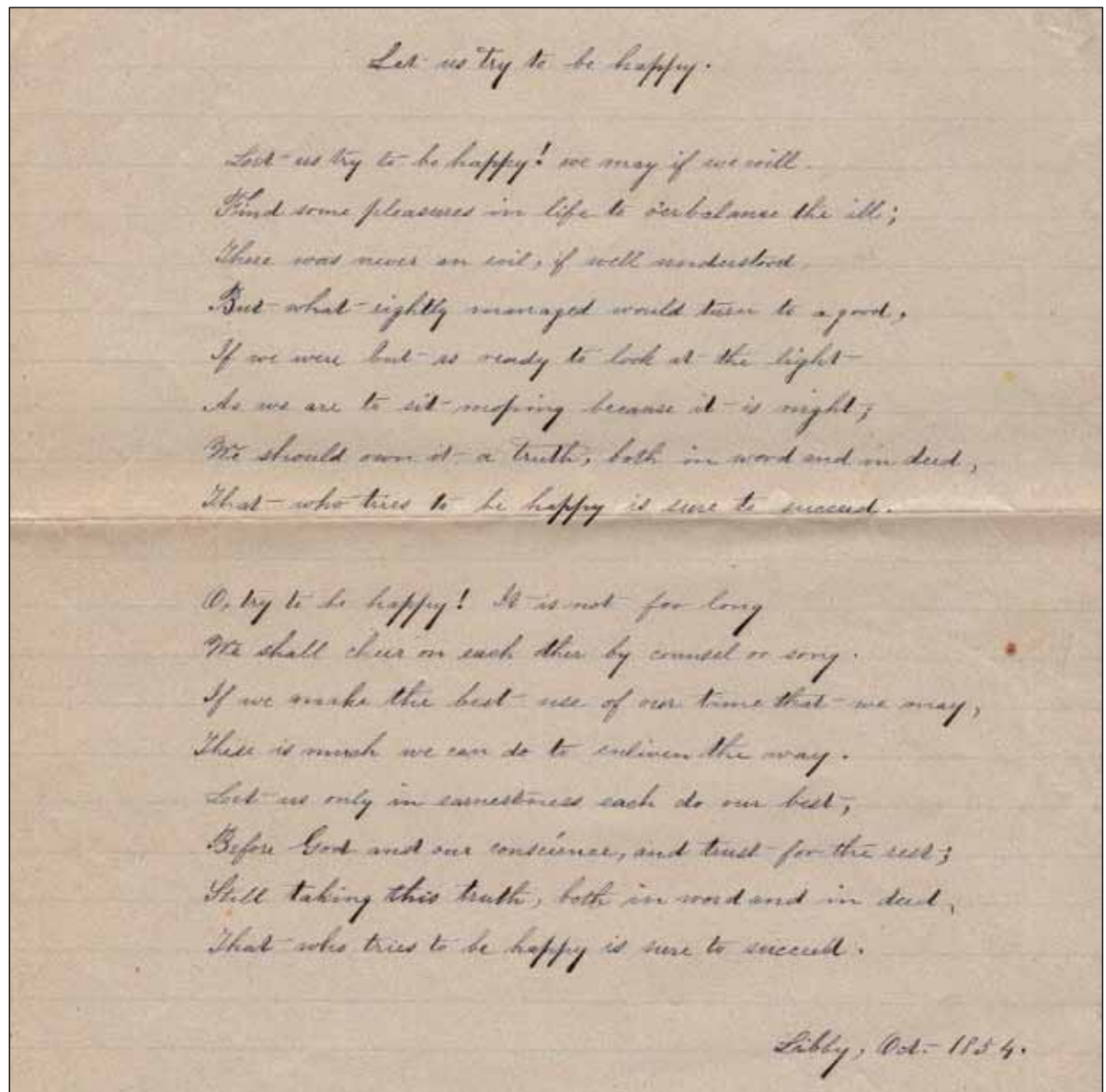
ELIZABETH (LIBBY) BOOTH HINCHEY (September 28, 1833–January 24, 1870), was the daughter of William R. and Eunice Gilbert Booth whose home still stands on the north side of Buffalo Road opposite the former Gates Presbyterian Church.

Elizabeth married Franklin Hinchey on March 11, 1852. She was a prolific reader and writer, and kept a diary which has been preserved in the personal archive of Barbara Hinchey Frank.

Elizabeth wrote about life on the homestead and about the weekly Sunday sermons at the Gates Presbyterian Church. She sent letters to her brother J. Ansel Booth and to other soldiers from Gates who were serving in the Army during the Civil War. Her diary also includes a number of recipes; “formulas” for dying cloth; a long list of books which she read in 1864, 1865 and 1866; and a “recipe” for cologne.

When Franklin began planning the construction of the new family homestead, Elizabeth worked with him and sketched the designs of the house. Her writings also include poems, an enigma, a hand-drawn and colored map of the United States (which she completed prior to her marriage to Franklin) and the historic record of watching the Lincoln funeral train pass through Gates on its journey to Springfield, Ill., in April 1865.

Following the death of Elizabeth in 1870, Franklin married Ellen Lytle of Chili, N.Y., on February 2, 1871. Franklin and Ellen com-



“Let Us Try To Be Happy” by Elizabeth (Libby) Booth Hinchey, October 1854, in her own hand.

pleted the construction of the Hinchey Homestead into which they moved in the 1870s.

A transcription of Elizabeth's diary is printed here in its entirety in typeset copy. A number of images of the actual handwritten pages accompany the transcription.

Only minor editorial refinements have been made to the text of the diary for this transcription. For example, upper case letters have been used at the beginning of sentences, commas have been inserted to assist the reader, and periods have been added at the end of sentences. Upper case letters used in the middle of sentences have been changed to lower case. Spelling and grammar, though, have not been corrected. The Latin adverb *sic* ("thus," or in full "thus is written") has been omitted so as not to overwhelm the reader. Where the reader will note a misspelled word, the word appears this way in the diary.

Material that appears in ~~strike through~~ denotes words or phrases that are crossed out in the diary.

Portions of the diary that remain illegible after many attempts to decipher them are indicated with a question mark in brackets [?].

The transcription is presented generally in the order of the diary pages. The only sections that have been rearranged and are printed together is that of the "formulas" for dying cloth and the list of books.

For this transcription, page breaks from the original diary have been modified. Text flows from page to page. As such, the original diary page numbers are not shown.

To avoid a number of footnotes on each page, or extensive notes at the end of the

book, brief descriptive editorial comments are included with a number of the diary entries for background information.

Jan. 1864
E. T. Hinchey
Gates



February 1864

Feb. 2nd—James & Warren Goble called.

2nd—Our folks sent chickens and apples to Dr. Shaw.

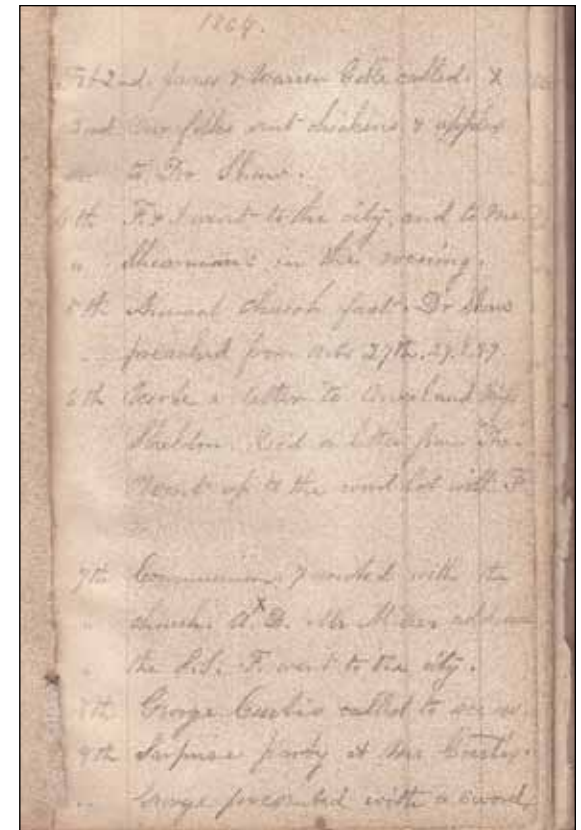
Dr. Shaw is mentioned often in the diary. He was an officiant at the First Presbyterian Society of the Town of Gates, commonly known at the Gates Presbyterian Church, which the Hinchey family attended regularly. The first official minister of the church was the Rev. James Ballantine who was appointed in 1845 at a salary of \$350 and \$400 annually thereafter. From 1861 to 1866—which include the years of Elizabeth's diary—the pulpit was supplied by clergy from Rochester or by students—Ed.

4th—Fr. and I went to the city, and to Mrs. Shearman's in the evening.

The references to "Fr." throughout the diary are to Franklin Hinchey, Elizabeth's husband—Ed.

5th—Samuel Church past. Dr. Shaw preached from Acts 27th, 27 & 49.

6th—Wrote a letter to Ansel and Mrs. Sheldon. Rec'd a letter from "Theo." Went up to



Diary of Elizabeth Hinchey, page 1, February 1864.

the wood lot with Fr.

Ansel is J. Ansel Booth (1826–1908). He is Elizabeth's brother and served in Col. Patrick Henry O'Rourke's 140th New York Volunteer Infantry, Company D, in the Civil War. He and Elizabeth communicated frequently by letters—Ed.

7th—Communion. I visited with the church. A. D. Mr. Miller addressed the S.S. Fr. Went to the city.

References to "S.S." refer to Sunday School. The diary also includes a number of references to "went to the city." Elizabeth frequently visited the library at the Rochester Athenaeum to borrow and return books—Ed.

8th—George Curtis called to see us.

Gates resident George M. Curtis (circa 1838–1897) most likely called on the Hinchey family to inform them that he was going to enlist in the U.S. Army in Col. O'Rourke's Company D. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and was captured in action at Bethesda Church, Va., on June 2, 1864. Lt. Curtis was ultimately released and mustered out of the Army on May 15, 1865. His homestead was located on Gates Lot #138 along present-day Lyell Road just east of Elmgrove Road. He is buried in the Elmgrove Methodist Church cemetery on Spencerport Road—Ed.

9th—Surprise party at Mr. Curtis. George presented with a sword, sash & felt by his friends in Gates. "3 cheers for Lieut. Curtis."

9th—I received a letter from Ansel.

10th—Mrs. Clark visited here.

11th—Received a letter from Tilda W. Letter from Ansel.

12th—Answered Tilda's letter. S. School.

13th—Singing school again tonight.

14th—Dr. Shaw preached about the leper. "Lord, if Thou will," etc.

15th—Spent the evening at Clark's.

Clark refers to Clark Woodworth and his



Courtesy of the Rochester Historical Society

George M. Curtis, pictured in this carte de visite at the rank of lieutenant, called at the Hinchey Homestead on February 8, 1864 (see entry at left).

family who were the nearest neighbors of the Hinchey family on Gates Lot #7 which was located east of the Hinchey Homestead on present-day Hinchey Road near the corner of Loderdale Road. Clark Woodworth Jr. married Elizabeth's sister Julia Annis Booth—Ed.

16th—Went to the city. Uncle Sperry's folks over in the evening to an oyster supper.

Uncle Sperry refers to Calvin Sperry who was Elizabeth's uncle. The Sperry Homestead was located on Gates Lot #110 near the corner of present-day Long Pond Road and Spencerport Road. Calvin served as Supervisor of the Town of Gates in 1836—Ed.

17th—The big snowstorm of the season. Carrie staid over two nights.

19th—Sent [?] with Ansel's letter to Vena. Letter from Ansel.

20th—Wrote to Ansel & cousin [?]. Cousin Marion staid over night. Went to Julia's in the afternoon.

The references to "went to Julia" or "Julia & the children here" in the diary refer to Elizabeth's sister Julia Booth Woodworth who lived just east of the Hinchey Homestead on Hinchey Road—Ed.

21st—Dr. Daggett preached from Gen. 45th & 5th [?].

22nd—Mr. & Mrs. Hinchey, David and [?] came from Mich. Letters from Ansel & Vena.

The references in the diary to the Hinchey family from Michigan refer to Franklin Hinchey's siblings, many of whom moved to Michigan during the mid-1800s—Ed.

24th—Wrote to Ansel & Vena.

25th—Aunts Candace and Rachel from E. Bloomfield came.

26th—A letter from Ansel.

27th—Aunt Sperry visited here.

28th—Mr. Chilcott preached in Gates church from "There is but a step between one and death."



Gates Historical Society

The parents of Elizabeth Booth Hinchey and J. Ansel Booth: Eunice Gilbert Booth (1804–1896) and William Booth (1800–1892). As this book went to press, there is only one known photograph of Elizabeth (see p. 3).

15th—Harriet & Eliza Simmons & Josephine Fields visited here.

17th, 18th—Went to Mr. Pratt’s. Staid over night. S. School in the evening.

20th—Rev. Mr. — from Pittsford preached from “And it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock.”

23rd—Heard chirping birds this morning.

24th—Attended Reuben’s examination.

25th—Mrs. Fred Rowe visited here, and brought us George’s picture. Frank rec’d. a deed of 10 acres land from his father.

This reference is to Julia Rowe. The Rowe Homestead was located on Gates Lot #160 along present-day Buffalo Road east of Elmgrove Road. Julia’s son George A. Rowe was killed in action at Fredricksburg, Va., during the Civil War on December 13, 1862, at the age of 21. George’s last letter to Franklin Hinchey was written on September 30, 1862—Ed.

26th—Letter from A.

27th—Easter. Dr. Anderson preached from “If any man be in Christ,” etc. In the evening Dr. Shaw preached from “But now is Christ—risen from the dead.”

30th—Snow fell nearly a foot in depth. Wrote a letter to Ansel.

April 1864

Apr 1st—Went to the city. Signed a \$4,000 mortgage for 44 acres of land.

March 1864

1st Mar.—Visited at Aunt Sperry’s.

2nd—Visited at James Goble’s.

3rd—Visited at Julia’s. Letter from A.

4th—Mr. & Mrs. Hinchey started for Mich. Letter from Nancy.

6th—Dr. Shaw preached on the “In dwelling of the Holy Spirit.”

8th—Aunts Candace and Rachel went to Bergen. I went to Julia’s, staid over night. Rec’d. letters from A. & Mary Sheldon. Commenced wearing hair flowers.

11th—12 years ago to day I was married.

Franklin and Elizabeth were married on March 11, 1852—Ed.

12th—Wrote a letter to Ansel. Mr. Caudle brought our horse home.

Wallace and Nellie Caudle lived on the south side of Buffalo Road near the present-day Gates Community Center. He operated a dairy and delivered milk to customers from a horse-drawn wagon—Ed.

13th—Rev. Mr. Warner preached from “Rooted and grounded in love.”

14th—Heard the first robin this morn. Wrote a letter to Nancy Hinchey.

Apr 3rd—Communion. 5 united with the Ch.

5th—Went to the city in the evening, soldier's memorial.

7th—Letter from Ansel. S.S. tonight.

7th—Mr. Herriman staid overnight.

8th—Closing evening of our Singing S. tonight. 38 pieces sung.

9th—Rec'd a letter from Ansel & Mary Stiles.

10th—Rev. Mr. Little preached at Gates from 2nd Kings 2nd & 21st.

12th—Rec'd a letter from Ansel. Went to Julia's in the afternoon.

13th—Wrote to Ansel. Made Daisy's net.

14th—Went to the city in the evening. Letter from Ansel.

16th—Julia & the children here.

17th—Dr. Shaw preached from "And when he was yet a coming the devil threw him down and tore him."

18th—Wrote to Ansel.

20th—Mrs. Kline called.

22nd—Went to Julia's.

23rd—Mother went to Julia's. Rec'd a letter from Ansel.

24th—Dr. Shaw preached from "And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed,"



Gates Historical Society

The homestead of Eunice and William Booth was located on the north side of Buffalo Road opposite the former Gates Presbyterian Church. The structure stands today as a commercial enterprise.

etc. In the eve. Mr. Boardman preached from "Behold the Lamb of God," etc.

25th—Spent the evening at the Gardner's.

26th—Wrote a letter to Ansel.

28th—Wrote to Vena.

May 1864

May 1st—Dr. Shaw preached from Acts 26th,

9th, 10th, & 11th. Temperance meeting in the evening at Gates church.

2nd—A letter from Ansel with Geo. Curtis' picture enclosed.

3rd—Wrote to Geo. Curtis.

4th—A letter from Jane Cook. Fighting commenced between Grant & Lee.

5th—Julia & the children here.



Gates Historical Society

Clark Woodworth's parents arrived in Gates in 1819 and settled on this homestead on Gates Lot #7 located on present-day Hinchey Road near the corner of Loderdale Road. Clark married Julia Annis Booth, the sister of Elizabeth and Ansel. This photograph was taken in the mid-1800s. Clark's son William has been identified in the photo, kneeling to the left of the group with the family dog. It is believed that Clark is standing at center with his wife Julia.

6th—Choir meeting. 7th. Rec'd letter from Nancy.

8th—Augustus Shaw preached from the words "He endured as seeing Him who is invisible." In the evening Dr. Shaw preached from "As for me, I will call upon God."

9th—Fast-day for the Army. Went down to meeting. Wrote a letter to Ansel. Rec'd a letter and (a paper from Ansel) photographs from Julia Hinchey.

References to Julia Hinchey in the diary are to Franklin's sister Julia Hinchey Kegley who lived in Michigan—Ed.

11th—Went to the city to sign a deed.

12th—Aunt Sperry visited here. Wrote to Augusta & to Julia Hinchey.

13th—Heavy rainstorm.

15th—Dr. Shaw preached from "This man's religion is [?]"

16th—A letter from Ansel since the Battle of the Wilderness. "Chester Colt is missing."

Chester Colt from Brighton, N.Y., was a Hinchey family friend and perhaps was a Sunday School student of Franklin Hinchey. Chester served in Col. O'Rorke's 140th Regiment during the Civil War and signed his letters "Your Scholar, Chet"—Ed.

17th—Letter from Vena.

19th—Rec'd two letters from Ansel, May 7th & 14th. Made my baskets.

20th—Wrote to Vena and Nancy H.

21st—Went to see Mahala. A letter from Ansel.

Mahala was a cousin who lived in Rochester, N.Y.—Ed.

22nd—Dr. Shaw preached from John 5th & 30th.

23rd—A letter from Ansel.

25th—Julia & the children here.

26th—Wrote to Jane Cook and Ansel. Finished our baskets.

27th—Wheat headed out on the nursery farm. Went to the city.

29th—Sick at home. James Hinchey came last night.

James Hinchey was Franklin Hinchey's brother—Ed.

30th—Letter from Ansel.

June 1864

June 2nd—Nancy & the children moved down.

4th—Went to the city. A letter from Ansel and Tilda Wood[?]. Heard Mr. Starkweather had left our Bible Class. Mr. Scrantom took Bible C.

5th—Communion today. 6 united with the church.

6th—Went to Mr. Shepherd's.

7th—Simon Flanigan commenced work today. Wrote to Ansel.

Simon Flanigan was a hired hand on the Hinchey farm—Ed.

9th—Visited at David Simmons.

10th—Went to Chili & the city. Letter from Jane Cook.

11th—Letter from Ansel. Heard that Geo. Curtis was a prisoner in Richmond. Wrote to Mary Stiles.

12th—Mr. Ellinwood preached from Exodus 12th & 2nd.

13th—Started for New York. Went through Auburn S. Prison.

13th—Staid over night in Syracuse.

14th, 15th, 16th, 17th—Went to Albany. Took the evening boat *St. John* & arrived in New York at 8 a.m. Went to Barnum's in the afternoon and around the city. In the morn-



Gates Historical Society

When the congregation outgrew the first Gates Presbyterian Church, this new \$1,000 frame structure was built. Dedication services were held in 1845.

ing took the 6th [?] and went to Central Park. Called on Mrs. [?] and Miss Doty. Went over to Brooklyn. Took the morning boat *Daniel Drew* at 7 and went up the Hudson. Arrived at Albany at 4 p.m. Took the cars for Syracuse. Staid overnight. In the afternoon came home. A very pleasing journey indeed. Found two letters from Ansel stating that Theodore is also taken prisoner.

The reference is to Theodore D. Sperry, Elizabeth's cousin, who was the son of Calvin and Sarah Sperry of Gates. Theodore enlisted in the 140th New York Volunteers on August 21, 1862, was captured in action on June 2, 1864, at Bethesda Church, Va., and held at Andersonville Prison in Georgia, the most infamous Confederate prison of the Civil War which at one time held an estimated 45,000 Union soldiers. Theodore was paroled out of Andersonville about

June 15, 1864, at about the time that Elizabeth received the letter from Ansel that Theodore had been taken prisoner—Ed.

19th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Every good & perfect gift,” etc.

20th—Sent letter to Ansel & papers.

Elizabeth and others often copied letters which they received from soldiers serving in the Army and sent them to local newspapers for publication. One of the “papers” to which she refers here is probably the Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle—Ed.

22nd—Attended commencement at Leroy. Letter from Ansel of May 31st.

23rd—Letter from Ansel of June 11th. Sending home 3 letters for the boys.

24th—Sent papers to Vena. S. School Festival at Booth's Grove near Lake Avenue.

25th—Cousin Delia etc. came to dinner.

26th—Dr. Shaw preached from “This is a faithful saying,” etc. Went to No. 9 S.S. Letter from Ansel June 15th.

The references in the diary to No. 9 S.S. refers to Sunday School classes which were held at No. 9 School in Rochester—Ed.

27th—Went to Greece & city. Staid over night at Julia's. Went to Nancy's in the afternoon.

29th—Went to Tilda Wooden. Visited the School. Julia rec'd a letter from Ansel June 14th.

30th—Neighbors visited here.

July 1864

July 1st—Wrote to Ansel.

2nd—Attended Teachers Picnic at Spencerport.

3rd—Dr. Shaw preached from “She hath wrought a good work.” Brick church paid for.

The “Brick church” refers to the Brick Presbyterian Church in Rochester, N.Y., at which Dr. Shaw’s father served as distinguished pastor. In 1880, Dr. Shaw became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church Wellsboro in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania—Ed.

4th—At home all day. Our folks & Clark’s went to the lake.

5th—Went to the city. Got letter from Ansel. Attended scientific lecture at the church in the evening. Albert Goble staid over night.

6th—Wrote to Ansel & Jane Cook.

7th—Went to Uncle Sperry’s & home with Julia all night.

8th—Went to Nancy’s. Staid overnight. Next day at J’s. Letter from Ansel.

10th—Dr. Shaw preached from John 19th & 19th.

12th—Went to Mahala’s. Rec’d a letter from Vena & one from Ansel.

13th—Wrote to Ansel & Vena.

14th—Visited at Mrs. Field’s. Julia Sperry staid over night.

The Field family lived in the brick structure that stands today on Buffalo Road, just east of the Buffalo Road–Howard Road intersection, opposite the former Gates Presbyterian Church. Over the years, the Field, Booth and Chase families owned the home—Ed.

15th—Went to Clarendon.

16th—Julia & the children here.

17th—Sick at home.

19th—Wrote to Ansel. Called at Mrs. Pixley’s.

21st—Wrote to Mary Sheldon.

22nd—Visited school. A letter from A. Heard Theodore was a prisoner in Richmond.

23rd—Visited at Mrs. Finch’s.

24th—Prof. Hotchkins preached from the words “Come & see.” Went to concert at No. 9. Heard that [?] was drowned while bathing in Potomac River.

25th—Letter from Ansel. Bought Mrs. Green’s cow, \$38. Wrote Ansel.

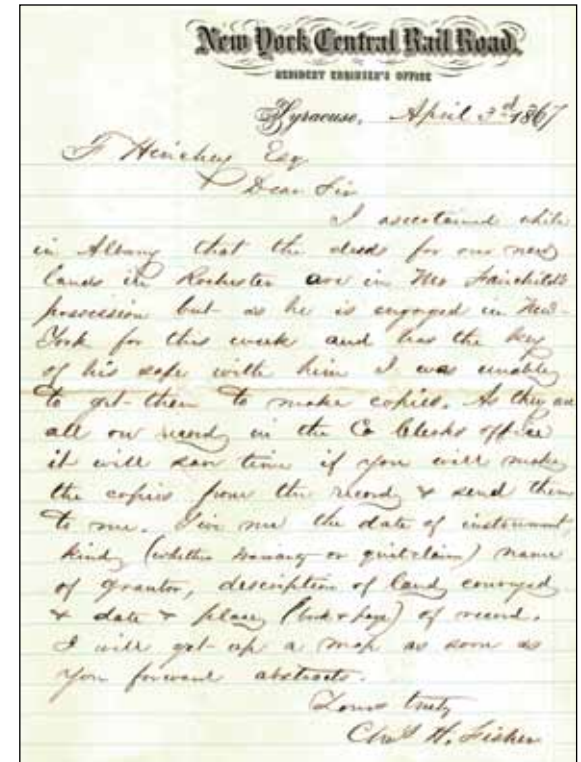
26th—Went through C. B. Woodworth’s Chemical & Glass Works. Wm. Sperry staid overnight S & last.

27th—Letter from Ansel. Attended [?] drawing class.

28th—Attended drawing class.

29th—Went to the city.

30th—Attended drawing class, 4 days.



Gates Historical Society

As a land agent for the New York Central Railroad, Franklin Hinchey received a great deal of correspondence related to railroad business, including this letter of April 3, 1867, regarding copies of deeds for the railroad’s new lands in Rochester.

July 31st—Rev. Dr. Wright preached from “Though the outward man perish.”

August 1864

Aug. 1st—Went to the city. Rec’d a letter from Ansel and answered it. Send A. D. G. \$5.00 and [?].



Rochester Historical Society

Soldiers of the 140th New York are pictured at their camp at Warrenton Junction, Va., in the winter of 1863–1864. J. Ansel Booth wrote a number of letters home from this location. At this winter camp, the soldiers were outfitted with Zouave uniforms—decorative vests, baggy pants, turbaned and tassled hats—an honor in recognition of their record of service.

2nd—Went to Clarks. Staid overnight. 4th came home. Went to Fred Rowe's.

5th—Visited at Mrs. Shearman's.

6th—Attended drawing class. Letters from Ansel & Julia Hinchey.

7th—Dr. Hotchkiss preached about Cain & Abel's sacrifice.

8th—Went to Churchville.

10th—Attended drawing class.

11th—Mrs. Lovelace's funeral.

13th—Attended D. C. letter from Ansel. Wrote to Ansel.

14th—Dr. Robinson preached from John 14th & 12th.

15th—Attended drawing class.

18th, 19th—Letter from Ansel. Went to the city.

20th—Aunt Sperry and Mrs. Fox visited here.

21st—Cousin Fannie Rider and Mr. Rider staid over Sunday. Mr. Leet preached from "What shall I do to be saved?"

22nd—Wrote to Ansel and Vena. A letter from Ansel.

24th—Started for Mich.

25th—Visited at T. C. Wheeler's.

26th—Visited at Tullar's.

27th—Attended Sun. S. at Baptist C.

28th—Mr. Hewitt preached from "Take us the [?]" etc., in the evening from "Then thou prayest," etc.

29th—Went to Pinckney.

30th—Went to Mr. Stiles.

31st—Boat to Ypsilanti.

September 1864

2nd—Started for home, arriving 11 o'clock Saturday noon.

4th—Sick at home. Mrs. Field very sick. 5th. Pa started for Ohio.

5th—Letter from Ansel. Mother went to Julia's. Staid over night. Called to see Mrs. Field.

7th—Visited at Cousin Wm's and Myron's.

8th—Cousin Lenora & Julia visited.

9th—Letter from Ansel.

11th—Mrs. Field died this morning at 2 a.m. Mr. Leet preached from "And he brought him to Jesus." Attended concert in Chili.

12th—Mrs. Field's funeral. Mr. Leet preached from "Man dieth & wasteth away; man giveth up the ghost and where is he?" Job.

13th—Letter from Ansel. Wrote to him. Worked on picture.

14th—Prepared for picnic.

15th—Attended picnic. Went to city.

16th—Our folks went to Uncle Sperry.

17th—Julia & children here. Letter from V.

18th—Dr. Shaw preached from "Be clothed with humility," etc. Attended concert at No. 9.

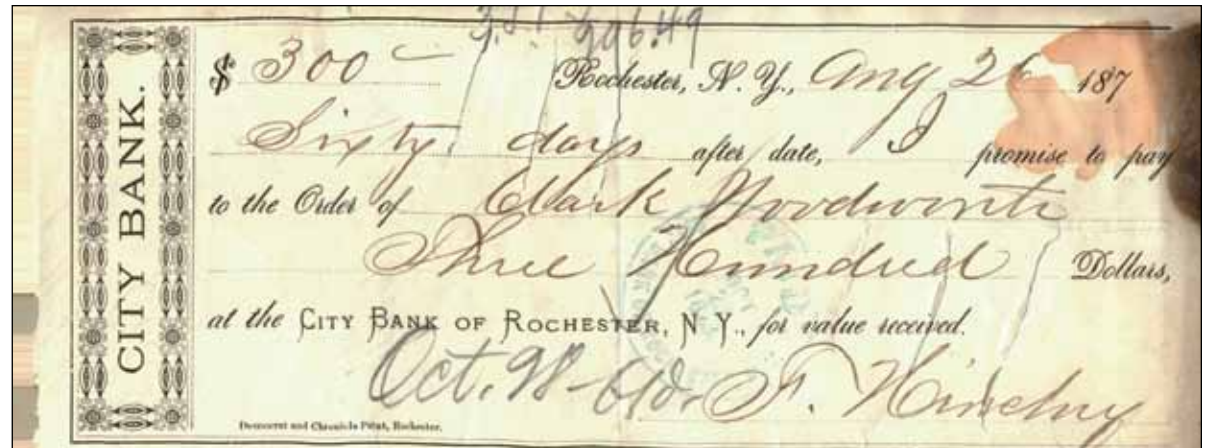
21st—Attended State Fair. Letter from Ansel.

22nd—Attended State Fair.

23rd—Went to Uncle Sperry's to see Eugene and Augusta. Sat up with Henry Field, who died at 20 min. to 4 in the morning.

24th—Aunt Sperry and Augusta visited here.

25th—Henry Field's funeral. Mr. Leet preached from John 16th and 33rd (11 years and 6 mo.).



Gates Historical Society

Among the financial records in the Hinchey papers is Franklin's promissory note in the amount of \$300 due to neighbor Clark Woodworth. The note is dated August 2nd but the year in the 1870s is not filled out.

27th—Went to the city. Wrote to Ans.

28th—31 years old today. Letter from Ansel.

October 1864

Oct. 1st—Went to Christening.

Oct. 2nd—Mr. Leet preached on the "Temptation of Christ."

3rd—Went to the city. A letter from Ansel. Com. Grayon.

4th—Visit to Uncle Sperry's.

6th—Wrote to Ansel.

7th—Mr. Smalley died; buried [?].

8th—Mr. Huntington preached from Ecl. 9th & 10th.

9th—First snowstorm of the season. Mr. Leet preached from "To teach us to number our days."

10th—Augusta starts for home. A letter from Ansel.

11th—Ed Eliot came from Buffalo. Went to the city. Got my picture frames, \$1.20, 1.75, 2.20.

12th—Julia and the children here.

13th—Attended Mrs. Field's auction.

14th—Letter from Ansel & Vena.

16th—Dr. Shaw preached from Jeremiah 44th & 4th.

17th—Ansel's birthday, 37.

18—Cousin Delia and Aunt [?] came from Bergen.

19th—Attended Brockport Fair, took \$4.00 premiums. Letter from Jane Cook.

20th—Cousin Jesse's folks and Diana's here. In the evening went to the city to see the torch light procession of the [?] meeting.

21st—Wrote to Ansel.

22nd—Wrote to Jim and Jane Cook. Went to Julia's in afternoon. Letter from Vena.

23rd—Dr. Shaw preached from "He that is unjust let him be [?]," etc. Closing of S.S. at No. 9.

24th—Wrote to Julia Hinchey.

25th—A letter from Ansel, 17th Oct.

26th—Julia & Nancy here. I went home with them. Went to Nancy's.

28th—A rainy day. Went home. Letter from C. M. Booth.

29th—A rainy day. Wrote to Vena.

30th—Mr. Leet preached from "Now abideth faith, hope," etc. In the evening Dr. Shaw preached from "There were many widows in Israel," etc.

31st—Wrote to Cousin Orrin.

November 1864

Nov. 1st—Worked on mother's picture.

Nov. 2nd—Mother and Aunt Rachel went to Julia's. Vote came. "Jimmy Lane."

3rd—Went to the city to Mahala. Wrote to Ansel. Letter from A. Fr. started for Albany.

4th—A rainy day.

5th—Went to Clark's in the evening.

6th—Dr. Shaw preached from "Watch & pray," etc. In the evening Dr. Robinson preached from "There is no power but of God," etc.

8th—Election Day. Wrote to Ansel.

9th—Fr. went for wood for the R.R. Co.

13th—Mr. Leet preached from Matt. 10th & 25th.

14th—Went to the city.

15th—Went to Julia's.

16th—F. went again for wood. Went to Nancy's.

17th—Julia & the children came home with me.

18th—F. came home. Mother to city.

19th—Sent Ansel 3 slices of fruit cake for Thanksgiving.

20th—F.'s birthday. Dr. Shaw preached about David & the ark of God, and [?].

21st—Went to Bergen.

22nd—Went to Fannie Rider's.

23rd—Went to Mrs. Kellogg's.

24th—Went to Delia's to Thanksgiving & then home.

26th—To Julia's in the afternoon.

27th—Mr. Scofield preached from 1st John 4th & 7th.

28th—Commenced an original crayon picture.

29th—Heard that Beecher Sperry has got the small-pox.

31st—A letter from Ansel.

December 1864

1st Dec.—Julia Sperry visited here.

3rd—Letter from Mr. Doty, Albany.

4th—Communion. 14 united with the church 8 on [?].

5th—Letter from Ansel, sending for boys.

6th—Went to Mrs. Smalley's.

7th—A rainy day. Letter from A.

8th—Snowed all day.

10th—Went to the city. Heard Theodore had been exchanged and had got as far as Annapolis.

11th—Dr. Anderson preached from “We have not an High Priest.”

12th, 13th, 14th—Copying letters and making [?].

15th—Went to the city & to Mahala’s.

16th—J. & the children here.

17th—Mrs. Garrett’s house burned. Went to the city.

18th—Funeral of Geo. H. [?]. Dr. Shaw preached from Mark 16th and 6th.

19th—Theodore Sperry came home from Andersonville where he was confined a prisoner 6 months.

20th—Theodore and Julia came over & spent the day. Letter from [?].

21st—Went to Uncle Sperry’s.

22nd—A letter from Ansel.

24th—Christmas at home.

25th—Christmas at church. “This shall be a sign unto you,” etc.

26th—Christmas in the city.

28th—Went to Greece and Uncle S.’s in the evening to a sing.

29th—A letter from Ansel stating he is coming home. J. J. H. came home today.

John J. (J. J.) Hinchey was Franklin Hinchey’s brother. His name at birth was James.



Gates Historical Society

Ellen Lytle was born in 1832 in Chili, N.Y. She married Franklin Hinchey on February 2, 1871, a year after the death of Elizabeth.

It is believed that he preferred to be called John J. (J. J.) in remembrance of his brother John who died at the age of 9. He held the rank of captain in Company E of the 9th Michigan Cavalry—Ed.

31st—Last day of 1864.

January 1865

Jan. 1st—Funeral of Sophia M. Bull. Dr. Shaw

preached from “My daughter is even more dead, but come & lay Thy hand on her & she shall live.”

2nd—Theodore Sperry staid over night. Went to Nancy’s to an oyster supper.

4th—Wrote to Vena.

5th—Mother went to Julia’s.

6th—Jane Cook came from Brighton.

8th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Here is the patience of the Saints.”

9th—Went to Mr. Gardner’s.

10th —Ansel came with a furlough of 15 days. Uncle Sperry’s folks over in the evening.

12th—Went to Uncle Sperry’s and to Mrs. Simon’s.

14th—Julia & the children here.

15th—Augustus Shaw preached on “The church, the body of Christ.”

17th—To Julia’s to an oyster supper.

18th—Donation.

20th—Uncle Sperry’s and Clark’s folks here to dinner. Went to [?] Tableau in the evening.

21st—Ansel started for camp again.

22nd—Dr. Shaw preached from Romans 10th & 3rd.

23rd—Copied Ansel’s letters.

26th—Went to the city.

27th and 28th—C. letters.

29th—Dr. Shaw preached on the “faithfulness of God,” Deut. 7 & 9th.

30, 31st—Copied Ansel’s letters. Wrote to a Chester Colt here.

February 1865

Feb. 2nd—Went to city & Uncle Sperry’s.

3rd—Fannie Rider came. Letter from Ansel. Mother sick.

5th—At home. Mother sick.

6th—Letter from Vena.

10th—Carlisle Barsdale’s child buried. Mother sick.

11th—Julia here.

12th—At home. Stormy Sunday.

13th—Niven’s girls called, & Julia.

16th—Aunt Sperry & Julia & the children here. Went to the city.

18th—Cousin Ann & husband & children came.

19th, 20th—No church. Chester Colt staid over night.

21st—Ann went to Uncle Sperry’s.

22nd—Went to the city. Wrote to A & V.



Rochester Public Library Local History Division, rpf01743

Elizabeth recorded the great Genesee River flood in downtown Rochester on March 17, 1865. The next day, she went into the city to see the devastation. She was able to go only as far as Washington Street.

24, 25th—Copied letters.

26th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Are there few that be saved?”

March 1865

Mar 2nd—Went to J. B. Nather’s.

5th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Who went about doing good?”

Mar 6th—Sat for our pictures.

7, 8—Copied letters

9th—Went to the city.

10th—Went to Julia’s.

11th—Wrote to Julia Hinchey.

12th—Cold day at home.

13th—Finished copying letters.

14th—F. started for Michigan. Letter from Ansel stating that he has been mustered in as 2nd Lieut. of D Co. 140th for the unexpired term of enlist.; commission dated Feb. 14th, 1865.

15th—Mother went to the city.

16th—Wrote & sent pictures to Cousins Orrin & Louisa.

17th—Great freshet in Rochester.

A devastating flood struck the City of Rochester in the morning of March 17, 1865, after a winter of extreme cold and heavy snows. Ice jams broke causing the Genesee River to flood the city worse than the Flood of 1857. The water was six feet deep at the Four Corners in downtown Rochester—Ed.

18th—F. came home from Mich. Went to the city to see the waters, up to Washington St.

19th—Mr. Caudle's baby buried.

20th—Went to the city to see the sights.

21st—Went to Julia's. Cousin Marion came.

23rd—Copied Ansel's letters.

25th—School closed.

26th—Dr. Shaw preached from "The floods, oh Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice."

27th—Went to Mr. Miller's.

28th—Went to Bergen.

29th—Went to Cousin Fannie's to eat maple sugar.

30th—Home again.

April 1865

Apr 2nd—Communion. 12 unified.

3rd—Went to the city. Fall of Richmond.

4th, 5th, 6th—Went to Julia's to help them move.



Gates Historical Society

With no refrigeration, cutting, hauling and properly storing blocks of ice was the only way to have some cooling in the summer months. Pictured is James Cummings, at right, and another worker loading the ice house at the Hinchey farm circa 1895. The ice was cut from nearby ponds. The ice house was lined with sawdust for insulation. Some years, ice stored this way might last well into August.

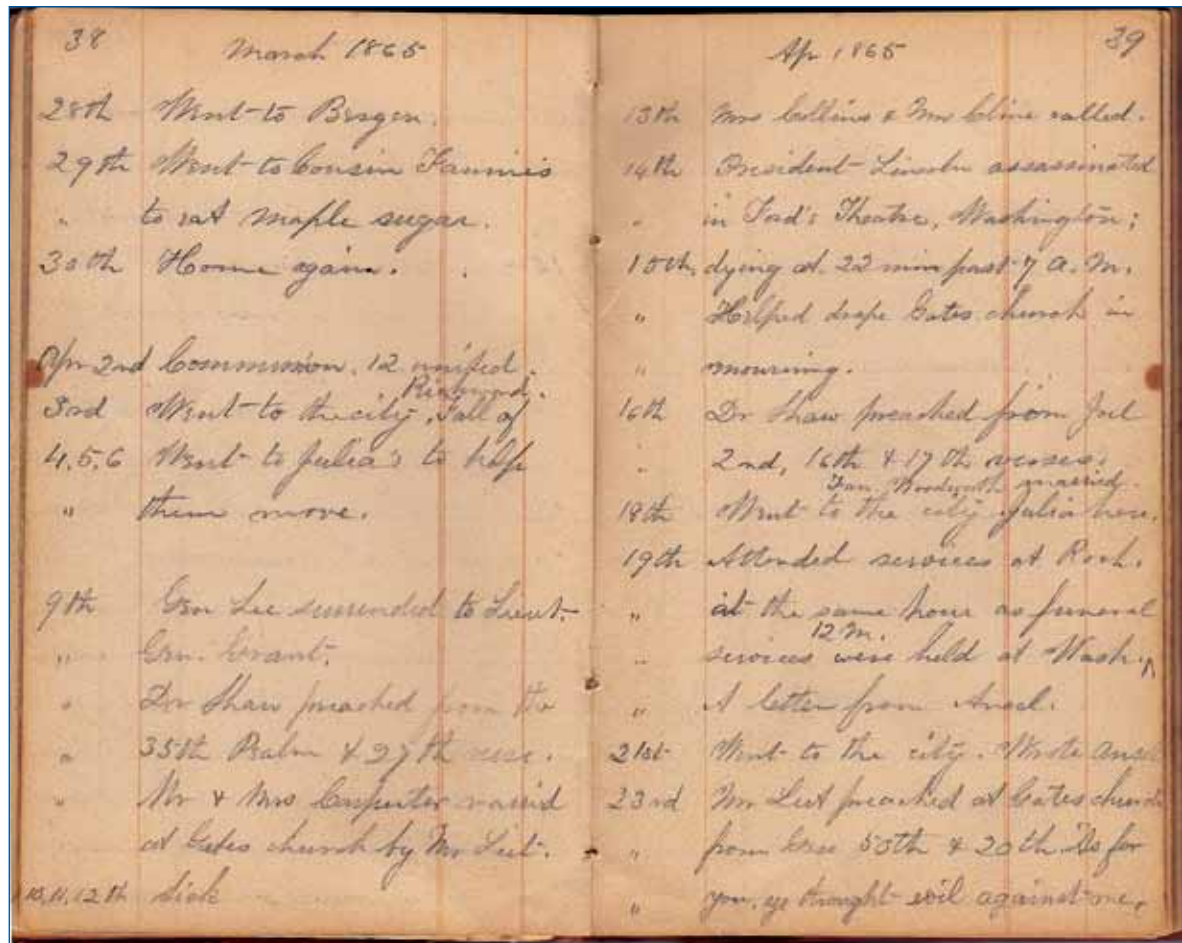
9th—Gen. Lee surrendered to Lieut. Gen. Grant. Dr. Shaw preached from the 35th Psalm & 27th verse. Mr. & Mrs. Carpenter married at Gates church by Mr. Leet.

10th 11th, 12th—Sick.

13th—Mrs. Collins & Mrs. Cline called.

14th—President Lincoln assassinated in Ford's Theatre, Washington; dying at 22 min. past 7 a.m. (See diary entry on facing p. 65.)

15th—Helped drape Gates church in mourning. (See diary entry on facing p. 65.)



Barbara Hinchey Frank Personal Archive

Elizabeth's entry for April 14, 1865 (above, right), reads "President Lincoln assassinated in Ford's Theatre, Washington, dying at 22 min. past 7 a.m." The next day, she wrote "helped drape Gates church in mourning," a reference to her attendance at the Gates Presbyterian Church on Buffalo Road to drape the house of worship in memorial bunting.

16th—Dr. Shaw preached from Joel 2nd, 16th & 17th verses. [?] Woodworth married.

18th—Went to the city. Julia here.

19th—Attended services at Roch. at the same hour as funeral services were held in Wash. 12 N. A letter from Ansel.

21st—Went to the city. Wrote Ansel.

23rd—Mr. Leet preached at Gates church from [?] 50th & 20th, “So for you, ye thought evil against me, but God meant it until good.”

24th—Went to the city. Letter from A.

25th—Wrote to Vena & Ansel. Copied Ansel’s letter for the *Democrat*.

26th—Cousin Ella Booth visited here from Syracuse.

27th—Got up at 4 o’clock to see the train containing President Lincoln’s remains pass by on their way to Springfield, Ill.

28th—Went to Julia’s.

30th—Rev. Mr. Lenord preached from “I have overcome the world.”

May 1865

May 2nd—Went to Mahala’s. Went to cleaning the old house.

3rd, 4th, 5th—House cleaning.

6th—Dr. Shaw’s text was “Preaching peace by Jesus Christ.”

8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13—Papering, etc.

14th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Henceforth thou shalt [?] man.”

15th—Went to the city.

16th—Papered

17th—Went to Mahala’s. Almost gone.

18th & 19th—Papering, etc.

20th—Moved.

21st—A warm day. At home.

23rd—Great service at Wash.

24th—Went to mother’s with Julia.

28th—Mr. Hamilton preached “Love is of God,” etc. Went to No. 9 S.S.

May 31st—Cousin Mahala died at 3 p.m.
June 1st. Went to [?].

June 2nd—Mahala’s funeral.

4th—Communion. S.S. No. 9.

23rd—Welcome Home to “The Boys in blue.”

The pages of the diary continue to be hand-numbered consecutively, but there are no entries from early June to October 1865—Ed.

October 1865

Oct. 24th—Mary E. Sheldon married.

Oct. 26th—Party at the [?].

December 1865

Dec. 12th—Dr. Shaw’s reunion. 25th anniversary.

Dec. 25th—Christmas. Dinner at Julia’s. Surprised by a present of a gold watch [?] from Frank. Several other presents in silver from Mother & Julia at pretty Christmas Tree.

26th—Wrote for Peterson’s Magazine.

29th—Wrote to Mrs. Eagle & Mr. [?]. 29th. Went to Buffalo

31st—Dr. Shaw preached on strengthening the character, Acts 27th, 16 & 17th.

January 1866

Jan 1st—Went to the city & to Clark’s to an oyster supper in the evening. Theo. Sperry married. Lucy went home.

Lucy was apparently a housekeeper who lived in the Hinchey Homestead from time to time. Elizabeth recorded Lucy’s departure for home several times in the diary—Ed.

2nd—Went to the wood lot in the afternoon.

3rd—Spent the day with mother. F. to E. Bloomfield.

4th—Went to Julia’s to “chicken pie.”

5th—F. to Buffalo; cold day.

6th—To Chili Collector’s.

A reference to traveling to the tax collector’s office in Chili, N.Y., presumably to pay the annual property tax bill—Ed.

7th—St. home. Very cold.

8th—Cousin Rachel here.

10th—Theo., Sarah, Julia & Nellie here.

11th—Donation for Mr. Leet \$165.

12th—Went to Mendon.

14th—Dr. Shaw preached from “Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seekest thereon not.”

Jan 15th—Went to Newport House.

17th—Julia & the children here.

18th—Went to Uncle Sperry’s to a dinner party. Henry Pratt married Monday, 15th Jan. 1866.

19th—Went to Chili Center to a donation and had buffalo robe stolen. Letter from Mrs. [?].

20th—Heavy wind all day & night.

21st—Windy & very cold. At home.

22nd—Windy night. Some warmer.

24th—Thrashing clover seed.

25th—David Simmons & wife here.

27th—Mother & I went to Julia’s.

28th—Sick at home. Mr. Leet here.

29th—Went to Lewiston.

30th—Tim & Sam left.

31st—Mrs. Bliss visited here.

T-224.
TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State New York Supervisor's District No. 19 Sheet No. 99 A
 County Rensselaer Enumeration District No. 8
 Township or other division of county Gales Ferry (See District) Name of Institution, +
 Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, + Ward of city, +
 Enumerated by me on the 1st day of June, 1900, Geo B Sperry Enumerator. 0535

IN CITY	LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				NATIVITY			CITIZENSHIP			OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION			EDUCATION			PRECED. OF SER.				
				SEX	AGE	HAIR	EYES	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Place of birth of person	Naturalized	Foreign born	Native born	Common law	By treaty	By naturalization	None	Common school	Academy	College	Normal school	Other	Army	Navy
1	1	Sperry Geo 1842	Head	M	58	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York				Farmer	0	2	2	0						
2	2	Ellen E	Wife	F	57	Dark	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
3	3	William C	Son	M	12	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
4	4	Mary Cyrene Baker	Cousin	F	54	Dark	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
5	5	James Cummings	Son	M	12	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
6	6	James Cummings	Son	M	10	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
7	7	James Cummings	Son	M	8	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
8	8	James Cummings	Son	M	6	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
9	9	James Cummings	Son	M	4	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
10	10	James Cummings	Son	M	2	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
11	11	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
12	12	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
13	13	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
14	14	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
15	15	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
16	16	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
17	17	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
18	18	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
19	19	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
20	20	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
21	21	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
22	22	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
23	23	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
24	24	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
25	25	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
26	26	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
27	27	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						
28	28	James Cummings	Son	M	0	Blue	Blue	New York	New York	New York					0	2	2	0						

Detail from the 12th Census of the United States, taken on June 1, 1900. Recorded at the Hinchey farm with Franklin Hinchey and his wife Ellen are Franklin's son William and his wife Ellen; Mary Cyrene Baker (a cousin); and James Cummings. The Woodworth neighbors are listed just a few lines down from the Hinchey's.

February 1866

Feb. 1st—Julia here.

2nd—Church Fast. Sat up with Mary Conklin.

3rd and 4th—Communion. 15 or more united with the church.

6th—Chas. Dun[?] commenced with [?] to the city at night.

7th—Went to mother's. Wilcox & family came visiting.

8th—To Julia's.

9th—To Uncle Sperry's.

10th—At home.

11th—Stormy Sunday, at home.

13th—Went to mother's & to Julia's in the evening with Uncle Sperry's folks.

14th—Sat up with Mary Conklin.

15th—Mrs. Wheeler here last night.

16th—Read *The Daisy Chain* by Miss Yonge, an excellent book.

A reference to The Daisy Chain, Or, Aspirations: A Family Chronicle, by Charlotte Mary Yonge, first published January 1, 1856—Ed.

18th—Homer [?] agent preached from “It is more Blessed,” etc.

20th—Mother & Julia here.

21st—Made work-box.

24th—Sat up with Mary Conklin.

25th—Stormy day. At home.

26th—Ansel copying, glass works.

27th—Letter from [?].

March 1866

March 1st—Mary Conklin died.

3rd—Julia here.

4th—Mary Conklin’s funeral. Mr. Bartlett preached from the words “These are they that came out of great tribulation.” Lucy went home.

6th—Mother’s birthday. 62.

7th—Went to mother’s.

8th—Temperance meeting.

10th—Went to Mr. Pratt’s.

11th—Married 14 years ago today. Prof. Northrup preached from “The camel [?].”

12th, 13th—Sick.

15th—Went to Mary Woodworth’s.

16th—Went to the city. Lucy went home.

19th—Stormy day, at home.

20th—Went to Buffalo.

21st—Theo. [?] to any oyster supper.

22nd—Julia & the children here. “A happy day,” 1st Kings 14th & 13th.

23rd—Temperance meeting at night.

24th—Went to the city.

25th—Cold & stormy & windy again.

27th—Went to mother’s.

28th—Doctor & Mrs. Behan, Cassie & Clark’s folks here to tea.

29th—Mr. & Mrs. Shearman to tea.

30th—At home. Lucy went home.

31st—Went to the city.

April 1866

Apr 1st—Com. 82 or 3 united with church. Homer Hayden’s funeral.

3rd—Went to Buffalo.

5th—Went to mother’s. Cousin Fanny & Mr. Rider came. 2 very hot days.

6th—Went to Julia’s.

7th—Went to the city.

8th—Rev. J. M. [?] preached from “I determined to know nothing among you save Jesus Christ,” etc. Mr. Clark lectured on temp. in the evening.

9th—17th anniversary of Julia’s wedding. Supper in the evening to C’s.

11th—Went to the city. Had teeth filled.

12th—J. & I to mother’s. Black steer got choked. [?] came up & killed him.

13th—Papered the kitchen.

14th—Sick today.

15th—Sick at home. A beautiful day.

16th—Went to mother’s.

17th—Very warm & pleasant.

18th—Went to the city.

19th—Cleaning yard. Tem. 90° at noon.

20th—Beautiful nice weather.

21st—Went to the city with Ansel. Took [?].

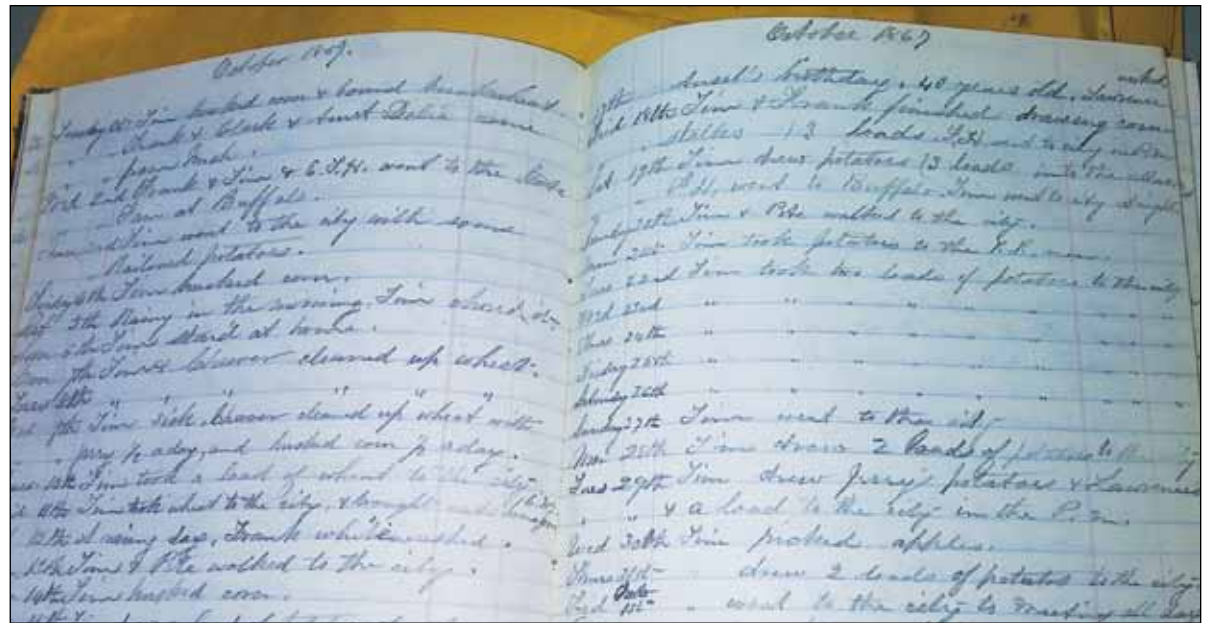
22nd—Dr. Shaw preached from “Wo unto thee, O, Jerusalem, wilt thou not be made clean?”

23rd—Big rain.

- 24th—Snowed nearly all day.
- 25th—Frost this morning.
- 26th—Snows again today.
- 27th—Went to the city. Cold today.
- 28th—Helped set out apple trees. Very warm & high wind.
- 29th—Cold & high wind all day. Went to church in the evening. Dr. Shaw preached on goodness as the great element of the Christian character. A splendid sermon. Cold tonight.
- 30th—Cold and clear. Sewed on dress.

May 1866

- May 1st—Cold E. wind. F. sowed barley.
- 2nd—Went to city. Cold N. wind.
- 3rd—Made garden. N. wind.
- 4th—Little warmer. M. garden.
- 5th—Went to mother's.
- 6th—Dr. Shaw preached on the sin of irreverence. [?] S. S. at No. 9 commenced.
- 7th—Frost this morning. Made garden. Mr. Dunning here to tea. Sowed flower seeds.
- 8th—Warmer. Wilcox & Rider came. Cut seed potatoes.
- 9th—A little rain last night.
- 10th—Mother came. Made soap.
- 11th—Cut seed potatoes. Went to city.



Gates Historical Society

Detail from Franklin Hinchey's October 1867 journal in which he kept meticulous records of farm operations.

- 12th—Cut seed potatoes.
- 13th—A little rain in the night & this evening. Communion. Quite a number united with the church. S. S. at No. 9. Snowy day. Lucy went home today.
- 14th—Frost this morning.
- 15th—Frost this morning. Julia here.
- 16th—A cold rainy day.
- 17th—A big white frost this morning. Lucy came in the af.
- 18th—Josephine Field's funeral. Letter from Rachel.
- 19th—Went to mother's & called at Uncle Sperry's.
- 20th—Dr. Robinson preached from "Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall." A very warm day. Thundershower in the afternoon so that there were only 34 at S.S. at No. 9. Ella Booth married.
- 21st—Cleared off cold after the rain.
- 22nd—Cold north wind. Very cold. I went to Albany at night.
- 23rd—Very cold.
- 24th—Little frost. Went to Mrs. Pratt's in the afternoon.

25th—Cousin Ella Booth & her husband from Syracuse visited at Julia's.

26th—Mrs. B. W. Smith died this morning.

27th—A rainy Sunday. Did not go to No. 9 at 5 o'clock.

28th—A showery day.

29th—Mrs. Smith's funeral. Rain. Lucy came back to work.

30th—Rained in the afternoon.

31st—Pleasant.

June 1866

1st—Went to Ogden in the afternoon.

2nd—Went to the city.

3rd—Went to Trinity Church to hear Mr. Witherspoon preached from "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my [?]." Went to S.S.

4th—A rainy afternoon.

5th—Mrs. Johnson's funeral & rainy.

6th—Eliza & Mary Simmons here.

7th—S. Sup's. decision against Golden came.

A reference to the State School Superintendent's decision in a court case. Franklin Hinchey was first elected as a local superintendent of schools in 1853 and must have had such an interest in the case that Elizabeth noted the decision in her diary—Ed.

8th—Went to the city.



Gates Historical Society

In 1917, among the students at District #4 (which became Thomas Edison School several decades later) in the front row are Maude and Ruth Bonnett, Pearl Caudle, Marion Dix, Mildred Metcalf and Marion Pixley. Among the boys in the back row are, from left: Herbert Dearcop, Harmon Hinchey, Franklin Dix, Edward Metcalf, Franklin Hinchey and Harold Pixley. The teacher's name is not known.

9th—Went to the Newport House.

10th—Dr. Condit preached from "I am forcefully & wonderfully [?]." Ansel came home with [?]. A nice Sunday School at No. 9.

11th—A beautiful day.

12th—Went to Bergen.

13th—Sick with the teeth & [?]. Cousin Ann came from Canandaigua to Julia's.

14th—Sick with my teeth.

15th—Had my teeth lanced in 4 places.

16th—Better today. Mother came all day.

17th—On the bed all day nearly.

18th—Had 2 teeth taken out.

19th and 20th—On the bed.

21st—Considerably better.

22nd—Went to mother.

23rd—Went to the city.

24th—Rev. Mr. Couch of the [?] Society preached. A good S.S. at No. 9.

25th—Sick.

26th—Sewed a little on [?].

27th—Uncle [?] and Cousin Elvira came from Ohio.

28th—Went to the city.

29th—Went to Julia's.

30th—Sewed.

July 1866

1st—Dr. Condit preached from "One thing I know, wherein I was blind, now I see." Concert at No. 9.

2nd—Sewed.

3rd—Went to city at night.

4th—All the folks here to dinner.

5th—John & Eliot here to tea.

6th—Went to Julia Dunning's.

8th—Dr. Condit preached from "Show thyself a man."

9th—S. School at No. 9. Went to Bloomfield.

10th—Returned.

11th—Cousin Elvira home.

13th—Went to Lockport.

15th—Hot, dusty & windy. Did not go to church. Had a good S.S. at No. 9.

16th—Hot today.

17th—Elvira came. Lucy gone home.

18th—2 days. Rainy day.

19th—Went to Julia's.

20th—Went to Uncle Sperry's.

21st—Lucy went home.

22nd—At home 'till 5, at No. 9.

23rd—Sewed. Ellen & [?] called at night. Went to Clark's in the evening.

24th—Elvira here in the forenoon. Went to the city in the afternoon.

25th—Cut Lucy's dress.

26th—Mrs. [?], Mrs. Osborn & Miss Lavy here to tea. F. to Buffalo.

27th—Sewing.

28th—F. to Albion. Men drew in barley.

29th—At home. No buggy. S.S. at No. 9. Mr. [?] over.

30th—Rode to Julia's on horseback.

31st—To the city and after thrashers.

August 1866

Aug 1st—Rather rainy, quite cool.

2nd—Mrs. Hayes & Julia here.

3rd—To the city. Thrashers came.

4th, 5th and 6th—Rained all day Saturday. Thrashed. Sunday a rainy day. Monday night.

6th—Dr. Mills came & took out my tooth. Thrashers up on creek farm today thrashing rye. Elvira went to Ohio, 4th.

7th—Thrashing wheat & barley at our barn. 236 B. wheat.

8th—Thrashing the stacks. Went to Clark's with machine at night.

9th—Rained nearly all night and all the forenoon.

10th—Went to Julia's in the afternoon.

11th—Went to the city with Mrs. Hayes & Julia.

12th—Went to church. Dr. Parker preached. Rained at night. No S. S.

13th—Rained all day.

14th—Cold and showery.

14th —Went to mother's in after noon with Julia & Mrs. Hayes. Letter from Rachel.

15th—Went to Batavia.

16th—Went to mother's.

17th—Went to Ogden in the forenoon.

18th—Matilda Woodworth visited here in the afternoon.

19th—Went down to church. Dr. Parker preached. A heavy shower at noon and rained all the afternoon. No S. S. at No. 9.

20th, 21st—F. & C. went after sheep. Were gone overnight.

22nd—Sewed, etc.

23rd—Went to mother's.

24th—Went to the city. Rained.

25th—Went to the city in afternoon.

26th—Went down to church. Dr. Parker preached from "The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly." S. S. at No. 9.

27th—Quilted Lucy a skirt.

28th—Mother over visiting. We went to Julia's in the afternoon & visited with Ruth Sperry.

29th—Put on my white quilt.

30th—Went to the city to Dr. King's greenhouse. Julia got her "what not" at Mrs. Hayden's.

31st—Went to the city & got my [?] stand.

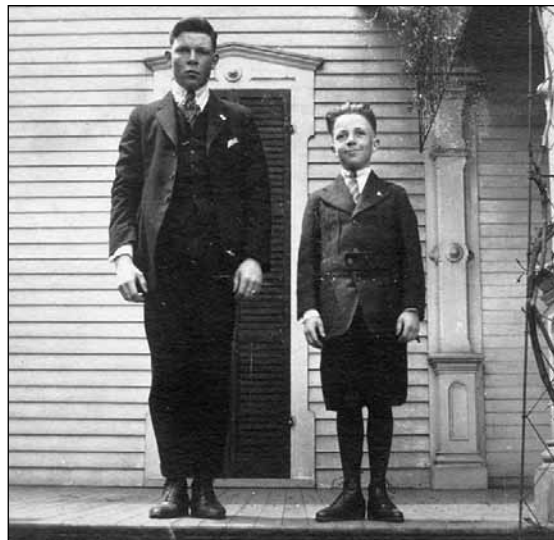
September 1866

Sept. 1st—Quilted all day.

2nd—Mr. Gardner preached from John 19th & 34th. S. S. concert at No. 9.

3rd—Went to the city to sign a loan at Savings Bank.

4th—Not very well.



Gates Historical Society

Brothers Franklin William Hinchey (1904–1954) and Harmon Terrell Hinchey (1908–1998) were the sons of William and Ellen Terrell Hinchey. They are pictured on the porch of the Hinchey Homestead circa 1918.

5th—Prepared for picnic.

6th—Picnic at Wooden's Grove. Gates & No. 9 School united.

7th—Commenced raining before noon & rained all night.

8th—Made Jim a frock & Frank an undershirt.

9th—Mr. Gardner preached on "The Beatitudes." S. S. at No. 9.

10th—Put on a delaine quilt.

11th—Quilted all day. A rainy day.

12th—Mother came over & helped me quilt. Julia came up in the afternoon. Finished the quilt. Canned peaches in the evening.

13th—Went to mother's in the forenoon; in the afternoon to the city. Canned grapes.

14th—Canned fruit all day: beans, succotash, apples, pears, plums, etc.

15th—Made tomato pickles & went to the city at 10 o'clock.

16th—Went to the First Church and heard Mr. [?] preach from "Counting the cost." No Sunday S. at No. 9. Raining.

17th—A showery day.

18th—Brick Church picnic, to Livonia. Rained all the way there and back.

19th—Monroe Co. Fair postponed on account of the weather. Spent the afternoon at mother's. Rained.

20th—Julia & I went to mother's in the afternoon to see Aunt Candace. A rainy day.

21st—A rainy morning. Pretty good equinoctial this time.

Equinoctial: Of or relating to the spring or autumnal equinox—Ed.

22nd—F. got a telegraph to go to Mich.

23rd—Mr. Lamberton preached from 1st Cor. 2nd & 9th.

23rd—Attended the funeral of Mrs. C. C. Woodworth.

24th—Frank started for Mich. on the 9:35 p.m. train.

25th—Went to the city in the evening.

26th—A rainy day.

27th—Went to the city in the afternoon. Rec'd. a letter from Frank.

28th—Took Mrs. Hayes to the city in the afternoon. Another letter from Frank. His mother very sick, not expected to live the week out. Called at Mr. Pratt's. Saw Mr. & Mrs. Morgan from Connecticut out on their wedding tour. My birthday, 33 years old.

29th—Beautiful weather. Went to city & mother's in the afternoon.

30th—Dr. Chester from Buffalo preached from "He was not ashamed to call them brethren." Dr. Bartlett was up to No. 9 School, also Mr. Whittlesee, Bible agent. Collection for him of \$2.57. Frank came home in the night. His mother died Friday, 28th, aged 58 years and 7 months.

October 1866

Oct 1st—Went to the city twice.

2nd—Visited at Mrs. Rebecca Stewart's in the afternoon.

3rd—Went to the Fairgrounds in the morning to carry articles to exhibit.

4th—Went to the Fair. A nice show, better than usual.

5th—Went to the Fair.

6th—Went to the city to get the buggy mended.

7th—Communion. Dr. Chester officiated. S. S. at No. 9.

8th—A beautiful day.

9th—Julia & I visited at Carrie's.

10th—Sewed at home.

11th—Visited at Uncle Sperry's.

12th—Cousin Louisa & her husband from Ohio came. Wrote a letter to Elvira.

13th—Had company to tea.

14th—Dr. Chester preached on "The Conversion of Paul of Tarsus," 1st [?], 1st & 16th.

15th—Went to Mount Hope with the cousins.

16th—Went to Syracuse.

17th—Beautiful warm weather.

18th—Came home.

19th—Taken sick. 22nd.

There are no entries from mid-October 1866 to mid-November 1866 due to Elizabeth's four-week illness. It appears from subsequent entries that she was not able to walk. She no longer recorded the topics of the Sunday readings at the Gates Presbyterian Church, perhaps due to her illness or disability. Diary entries do not record her ability to leave the house until January 1867—Ed.

November 1866

Nov. 16—Carrie came over in the afternoon. 4 weeks ago today I was taken sick.

17th—Theodore over in the evening.

18th—Frank staid at home all day with me. Went out in the sitting room for the first time.

19th—Can't walk yet.

20th—Frank's birthday. Julia & children up in the p.m.

21st—Mr. & Mrs. Conklin up in the evening.

22nd—Snowed all day.

23rd—Snowed a little.

24th—Carrie here in the morning.

25th—Mrs. Jameson's funeral. Ansel up in the afternoon.

26th—Julia up in the afternoon.

27th—Beautiful day.

28th—Rainy.

29th—Thanksgiving. All the folks, Carrie & Delia, here to dinner. Mother brought the roast turkey & fixings. Ansel didn't get home.

30th—A rainy, showery day.

December 1866

Dec 1st—Cold and snowy. Frank Baker, Ellen & [?] Clark & Julia spent the evening here.

2nd—Sunday. Mr. & Mrs. Andrews called to see me.

3rd—A nice day.

4th—Rain—warm.

5th—Very pleasant.

6th—Carrie & Julia came up in the afternoon. Mr. Hinchey & Julia came from Mich.

7th—A beautiful day.

8th—Clark & Julia up in the evening.

9th—Sunday. F., Lucy & Julia went to S.S. & to Gates Church. A nice day.

10th—A beautiful day.

11th—Cold. Lucy & Carrie went to the city. Julia & the children were here.

12th—George Curtis & his wife, & Theodore & his wife, were here in the evening. Also Clark & Julia.

13th—Mr. H. went to Harder's & the doctor's, etc. Cold.

14th—Mr. Smith's auction.

15th—Julia & her father went to Mr. Hart's.

16th—Sunday. Snowed all day. All stayed at home.

17th—Snowed all night & all day.

18th—Julia went to the city.

19th—Mother, Julia & the children here. Snowing again.

20th—Mr. Hinchey and Julia started for home. Very cold.

21st—Thermometer 16 below zero this morning.

22nd—Rained in the p.m. Made Lucy a calico dress.

23rd—Sunday. F. & Lucy went to meeting & S.S.

24th—Trimmed Christmas Tree. Ansel came up & staid overnight.

25th—Christmas Day. Tree loaded down with presents. Mrs. Eliot sent me a beautiful housewife. Frank gave me a gold ring & a calico dress. Mother gave me a book & an apron. Julia gave me a nice handkerchief. Carrie gave me a glove box & collar, etc., etc. Tim gave me a \$2.50 looking glass. Lucy gave her picture.

A "housewife" was a sewing kit and was often carried by Civil War soldiers—Ed.

26th—A nice day. Wrote to Mrs. Eliot.

27th—Cousin Fanny Rider came from Bergen. A dreadful snow and windstorm in the p.m.

28th—A dreadful storm and high wind. Made my new dress.

29th—Fanny went to Julia's.

30th—Sunday. F. went to church cross lots. Crossroads drifted full but no sleighing on main roads.

31st—Cold but pleasant. Good bye, old year.

January 1867

1st—Went over to mother's to spend New Year's.

2nd and 3rd—Nice weather. Carrie came over at night & helped me cut and fit a [?] dress. Lucy went down to Clark's to help butcher. Killed our pigs there. Wrote to Julia H.

4th—Made Katie Eagan a dress.

4th—Wrote to Cousin Louisa & to Rachel.

5th—Wrote to Mary Manning. Sewed a dress.

6th—F. went to church. Snowed all day.

7th—Sewed, etc.

8th—Sewed.

9th—Went to the city. Bought cloak and dress.

10th—Went to Mr. Dunning's.

11th—Went to Julia's.

12th—Went to mother's.

13th—Cold & snowy. At home.

14th—Went to city.

15th—Sewing a dress

16th—Donation.

17th—[?] Society at Albert Koing's.

End of daily diary entries.

Elizabeth's Recipes

IN SOME RECIPES, ELIZABETH PROVIDES only the ingredients and brief instructions. In others, she provides no instructions at all. She assumes the cook will know how to take it from there, such as when she says "make a custard, the same as for pies" or "make a nice biscuit crust." Enjoy!

Sausage Recipe

To forty pounds of meat, one pound of salt, 7 single handfuls of sage, four tablespoonfuls of allspice, four of molasses, one of saltpeter, three of pepper.

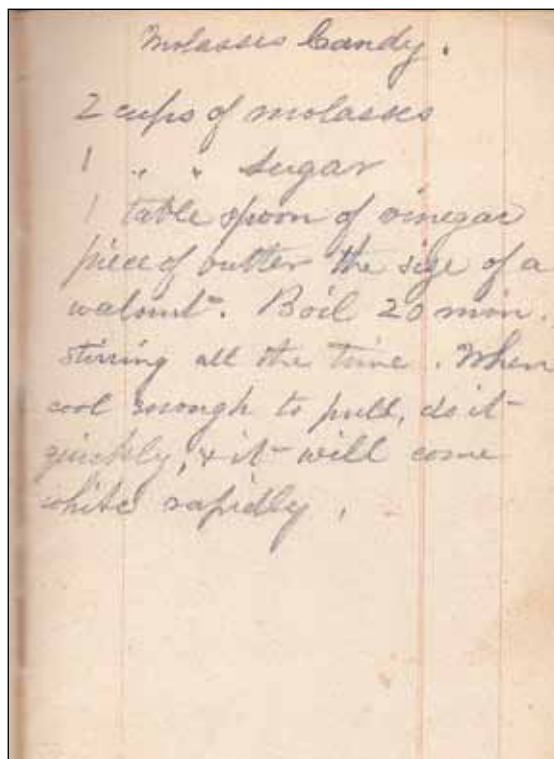
Molasses Candy

2 cups of molasses
1 cup of sugar
1 tablespoon of vinegar
Piece of butter the size of a walnut. Boil 20 min. stirring all the time. When cool enough to pull, do it quickly, & it will come white rapidly.

Green Tomato Pickles

1 peck tomatoes
1 lb. sugar
2 tablespoons mustard
1 tablespoon black pepper
2 tablespoons of cinnamon
and 2 of cloves, whole.

Slice the tomatoes, sprinkle salt between the layers, let them stand overnight (in a crock).



Diary page 83.

Drain off the water that soaks out of them, then scald them in 1 qt. of vinegar and 2 of water.

When they get cold, drain this off, and make new syrup of 1 qt. of vinegar and the sugar and spices. Scald the tomatoes in it a few minutes, and set away.

Country Pudding

Put a layer of stale breadcrumbs in the bottom of your pudding dish, then a layer of tart apples sliced thin.

Sprinkle a little sugar over the apples. Add another layer of breadcrumbs & another of apples, etc. Crumbs should form the top layer.

Make a custard, the same as for pies, & pour over it.

Bake one hour.

Indian Bread

1 qt. meal
1 qt. flour
1 qt. buttermilk
½ cup molasses
Salt
1 teaspoon [?]

Bake 2 hours.

Sponge Cake

1½ cups sugar
1½ cups flour
4 eggs
3 tablespoons sweet milk
1 heaping teaspoon baking powder.
Salt
[?]

Cocoa Nut Cakes

3 eggs
10 ounces sugar
6 ounces grated cocoa nut

Roll a tablespoonful of the paste at a time in your hand in the form of a pyramid, and place them on prepared tins to bake. Bake in a cool oven.

Oyster Fritters

Make a batter of 3 eggs, little flour and water. Take 1 doz. oysters. Save the brine. Add a nutmeg, pepper & salt, mix them in the batter and fry them brown in butter.

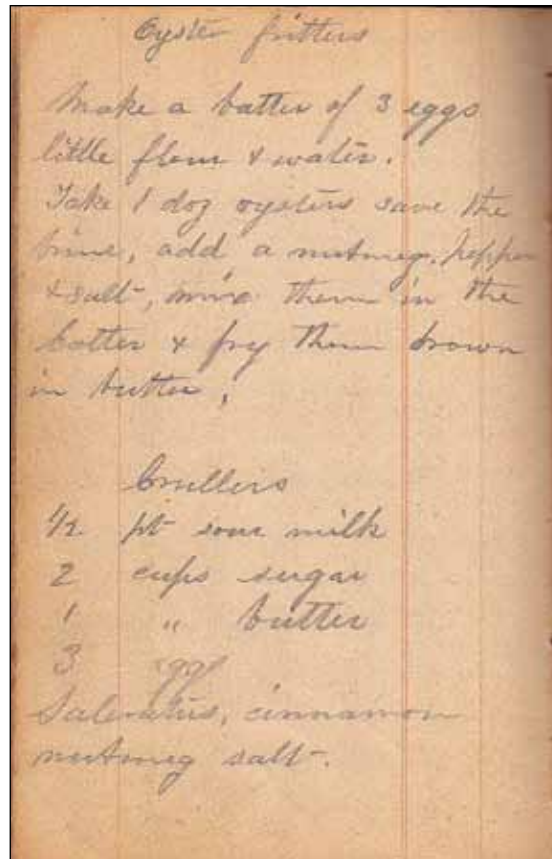
Crullers

½ pt. sour milk
2 cups sugar
1 cup butter
3 eggs
Saleratus, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt.

Saleratus is sodium bicarbonate (or sometimes potassium bicarbonate) as the main ingredient of baking powder. It is a chalk-like powder used as a chemical leavener to produce carbon dioxide gas in dough and was a precursor to baking soda—Ed.

Blackberry Cake

1 cup sugar
¾ cup butter
1½ cup flour
1 cup blackberry jam
3 eggs
3 tablespoons milk



Diary page 94.

1 teaspoon saleratus
Nutmeg, cinnamon, all spice

Bake in two sheets

Black Cake

½ lb. of brown sugar
½ lb. of browned flour
½ lb. of butter (nearly)
½ pint molasses
6 eggs

Cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg.
1 lb. raisins
1 lb. currants
½ citron
1 tablespoon cream tartar
1 teaspoon saleratus

Mountain Cake

1 coffee cup of butter
1 tea cup of milk
3 tea cups white sugar
4 tea cups flour
5 eggs, beaten separately
1 teaspoon cream tartar
1 teaspoon saleratus

Flavor to taste.

Molasses Drop Cakes

1 cup molasses
½ cup butter
½ cup water
3 cups flour
2 teaspoons ginger
1 teaspoon saleratus

Drop with a spoon on a hot-buttered tin and bake quick.

Bahi Pudding (Carrie [?])

1 cup sugar
1 egg
1 lump of butter (size of an egg)
½ cup of milk
1 teaspoon of cream tartar
½ teaspoon of soda
1 teaspoon of extract of [?]

Ham Omelet

2 eggs
¼ lb. butter
Little pepper
2 tablespoons minced lean ham

Fry the ham two minutes in a little butter, then stir in the batter for the omelet. Add no salt to the butter.

Black Cap Pudding

1 pt. new milk

Stir into it 3 tablespoonfuls of flour. Simmer it away until pretty thick. Add 2 ounces butter. Let it cool and stir in the yolks of 4 eggs and ½ pound of currants. Put in a well-floured pudding bag and boil 1½ hours. Stir it occasionally to prevent its settling.

Codfish Balls

Freshen a teacup of codfish. Chop it fine. Take nearly a quart of water. Beat 2 eggs and a lump of butter the size of an egg, and put them with the codfish in the water. Heat until it thickens without boiling. Take mashed potatoes and mix them with the mixture into flat cakes and fry them brown, both sides.

Almond Custard Cake

4 eggs, beaten separately
4 tablespoonfuls white sugar
1 pound of almonds, blanched & cut fine
1 pt. sour cream
Vanilla

Mix as thick as sponge cake batter & put between layers of cake, as for jelly cake.

Lemon Pie

The juice & grated rind of 1 lemon
1 cup water
1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons of flour &
1 tablespoon of butter

This will make 2 pies.

Corn Starch Cake

Tip-Top

1 cup sugar
2 cups flour
1 cup corn starch mixed in 1 cup of sweet milk
2 teaspoons cream tartar
1 teaspoon saleratus
Whites of 8 eggs
Lemon, vanilla & [?] water & a little salt

Ham Pie

Make a nice biscuit crust. Line your bake dish, fold in a layer of potatoes sliced thin, pepper, salt & a little butter. Then a layer of lean ham, considerable water, and bake.

Marble Cake

Whites of 4 eggs
1 cup white sugar
1½ cups flour
¾ cup butter
¼ cup sweet milk
1 teaspoon lemon
½ teaspoon cream tartar
¼ teaspoon saleratus
•••

Yolks of 4 eggs
1 cup dark brown sugar

½ cup molasses
½ cup butter
½ cup sweet milk
2½ cups flour
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus
Cloves, allspice, cinnamon & grape juice.

Put together in layers.

Ginger Snaps

2 cups molasses
1 cup sugar
1 cup lard
2/3 cup warm water
1 tablespoon saleratus
Little salt

Spiced Tomatoes

8 lbs. tomatoes after being skinned
4 lbs. sugar
1 qt. vinegar
Cinnamon and cloves

Boil away until thick.

Silver Cake

1 cup white sugar
2 cups flour
¾ cup butter
½ cup sweet milk
1 teaspoon lemon
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus
Whites of 4 eggs

Make into Mountain Cake

Variety Cake

Take any 3 nice kinds of cake, baked [?], and place them together with frosting between, and frost the top.

Cream Sponge Cake

5 eggs
2 cups white sugar
3 tablespoons sour cream
2 teaspoons cream tartar
1 teaspoon saleratus
1 teaspoon rose water
Salt and flour enough for a soft batter.

Pickled peaches, quinces, etc.

1 pt. vinegar
3 lbs. sugar
5 lbs. fruit

Sponge Cake

1 cup sugar
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus
1 teaspoon lemon
Whites of 6 eggs
Little salt

Jelly Cake

3 eggs & the white of another
1 cup sugar
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus
2 tablespoons sweet milk
1 teaspoon lemon
Little salt



Renee Thompson

Detail from page 61 from Elizabeth's original diary opened to the entries for May 1865.

Fruit Cake

1 teacup of sour cream
1 cup sugar
1 cup raisins
1 cup currants
½ cup citron
½ cup grape preserves
1 tablespoon rose water
Nutmeg, cinnamon, salt, saleratus & flour.

Dredge the fruit in flour and put in last.
Brown the flour.

Muffins

1 pt. buttermilk
2 eggs
4 tablespoons butter or [?]
1 teaspoon saleratus
Salt & flour enough to make a stiff batter

Bake 20 minutes
(One doz. muffins)

Tomato Ketchup

1 gallon cooked tomatoes
1 tablespoon mustard
2 tablespoons cinnamon
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper
Salt & little vinegar
Boil down 1/3

Cologne

30 drops rose
30 drops lemon
30 drops bergamot
5 drops cinnamon
1 pt. alcohol

Citrus bergamia (the bergamot orange) is a fragrant citrus fruit the size of an orange, with a yellow or green color similar to a lime, depending on ripeness—Ed.

Rice Pudding

2 cups rice
1½ cups sugar
3 eggs
Nutmeg, salt, milk, raisins.
Will make a panful.

Fried Cakes

1½ cups sugar
1 cup buttermilk
1 egg
4 tablespoons butter
Salt, nutmeg, saleratus

Fried Cakes

1 cup sugar
½ cup sour cream
1 egg
Nutmeg, cinnamon, salt

Put the mixture in a pint-cup, and fill with buttermilk.

Delicate Cake

1½ cups sugar
½ cup butter
½ cup sweet milk
2 cups flour
1 tablespoon of almond
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus
Whites of 4 eggs

Lemon Pie

Peel a lemon & slice it fine. Add 1 teacup sugar, 2 eggs, and a little water. Bake with super & under crust.

Nut Cake

1 cup butter
2 cups sugar
1 cup sweet milk
5 eggs

1 lb. currants or raisins
1 cup flour
1 pint hickory nutmeats
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon saleratus

Ginger Snaps

1 cup of sugar
1 cup of molasses
1 cup of butter
2/3 cup hot water
1 teaspoon saleratus
1 teaspoon ginger
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Nut Cake

2 cups sugar
1 cup sweet milk
3 cups flower
½ cup butter
1 teaspoon cream tartar
½ teaspoon soda
1 pint hickory nut meats, vanilla or almonds.

Jelly Cakes

1 cup sugar
1 egg
1 lb. flour
1 nutmeg
1 teaspoon saleratus
Little salt

Add warm milk enough to make a stiff dough. Roll it out like thick pie crust. When done, spread it thick with jelly and strew some powdered sweet almonds over it.

Rusk

3 cups sugar
3 cups sweet milk
1 cup butter

Heat these together & stir in flour enough to make a stiff batter. Add 2 eggs & 2 large spoonfuls of yeast & let it rise. When light, put on tins and rise again. Then bake.

Rusk is hard, dry biscuit or a twice-baked bread. It is sometimes used as a teether for babies. In some cultures, rusk is made of cake, rather than bread. This is sometimes referred to as cake rusk. In the United Kingdom, the name also refers to a wheat-based food additive—Ed.

Instructions for Dying Cloth

Green for Woolen (Brass)

1 lb. goods
2½ oz. alum
1 lb. [?]

Steep to get the strength, but not boil; soak the cloth until a good yellow. Throw out the chips. Add indigo compound, little at a time, until a good color.

Black. Woolen (Iron)

5 lbs. goods
1 lb. extract of logwood
1 oz. blue vitriol
1 oz. copperas

Dissolve the vitriol in warm water. Wring the goods out of this water. Dissolve the copperas

in another water sufficient to cover the goods. Leave them in for a few minutes, then dissolve the logwood in a clean water. Put in the goods & boil a half hour. Expose them to the sun & air as long as you please before washing in suds.

Copperas consists of green crystals of hydrated ferrous sulfate, especially as an industrial product. It was used in the leather tanning industry. The history of producing green vitriol, as it was known, goes back hundreds of years in Scotland. In 1814, seven copperas-producing manufacturers were located in Steubenville, Ohio—Ed.

Blue for Cotton (Brass)

5 lbs. cloth (wet in soap suds)
1 oz. copperas
1¼ oz. prussiate of potash
1½ oz. oil of vitriol

Dissolve the copperas in water sufficient to cover the cloth. Put in the cloth for 1 hour, airing them occasionally. Then take them out and rinse thoroughly. Put the potash into clean water, add the oil of vitriol, and put in the cloth another hour. Then wash in soap suds after they have dried a little.

Prussiate of potash is a yellow soluble crystalline compound used in case-hardening steel and making dyes and pigments—Ed.

To color cochineal red woolen (Brass)

To 1 lb. cloth or yarn take:
2 oz. solution of tin (poison)
1 oz. cochineal
½ oz. cream [of] tartar

Wring the yarn in strong soap suds, then put the rags in sufficient soft water to make a good dye. Let them boil a few minutes. Wet the yarn in the dye. Then put in the other materials and let it boil 20 minutes. Take out the cloth and wash in soap suds.

The cochineal is a scale insect from which the natural dye carmine is derived. Carmine dye was used for coloring fabrics and became an important export good during the American colonial period—Ed.

To color yellow and orange cotton. Brass.

5 lbs. cloth

Dissolve 1½ lbs. of sugar of lead in hot water. In same quantity of cold water dissolve 12 oz. of some prussiate of potash. Put the cloth first in the lead, rinse well, then wring it out and rinse in the potash.

Orange

After the above, dip in strong lime water boiling hot. Piece of lime big as your head, slashed as for whitewash, settle and pore off. Dye the rags before washing.

To color cotton green. Brass

1½ lb. Fustic
1½ oz. extract [of] logwood

To be colored in Brass. This will color 5 or 6 lbs. rags.

Boil the fustic ½ an hour, then put in the rags. Boil them a few minutes, take them out and drain them over the kettle while you put in the logwood, & boil it a few minutes. Then put in the rags and leave them in 'till dark enough to suit. Wash them in clean water.

Black

Put 1 oz. vitriol in a little hot water, in which dip the cloth first. Dissolve a tablespoon of [?] as in the logwood extract, & then put in the cloth.

Fustif is a yellow dye obtained from either two kinds of timber—Ed.

The Book List of Elizabeth Booth Hinchey

THE BOOK LIST OF ELIZABETH (LIBBY) Booth Hinchey is recorded as listed in her diary. Duplicate entries have not been included. The book titles and authors, where noted, are transcribed as Elizabeth recorded them. As such, book titles and authors' names may not be complete.

Books read in 1864

Heaven Our Home

Satan's Devices

American Family Robinson

To Love and To Be Loved, A. S. Roe

Lady of the Isle, Mrs. Southworth

Youth's Keepsake

3 Era's in Woman's Life, T.S.A.

Moss Side, Marian Harland

Marion Grey by Mrs. Holmes

Darkness & Daylight, Mrs. Holmes

A Peep at No. 5, Mrs. Phelps

Christian Repository

Crown of Success (A.L.O.E.)

Memoir of Mrs. Henrietta Shuck

Holy Bible, Golden Grained

1865

Heart Treasure, Oliver Heywood, 1666

The Old Helmet, Miss Warner

Dollars & Cents, Miss Warner

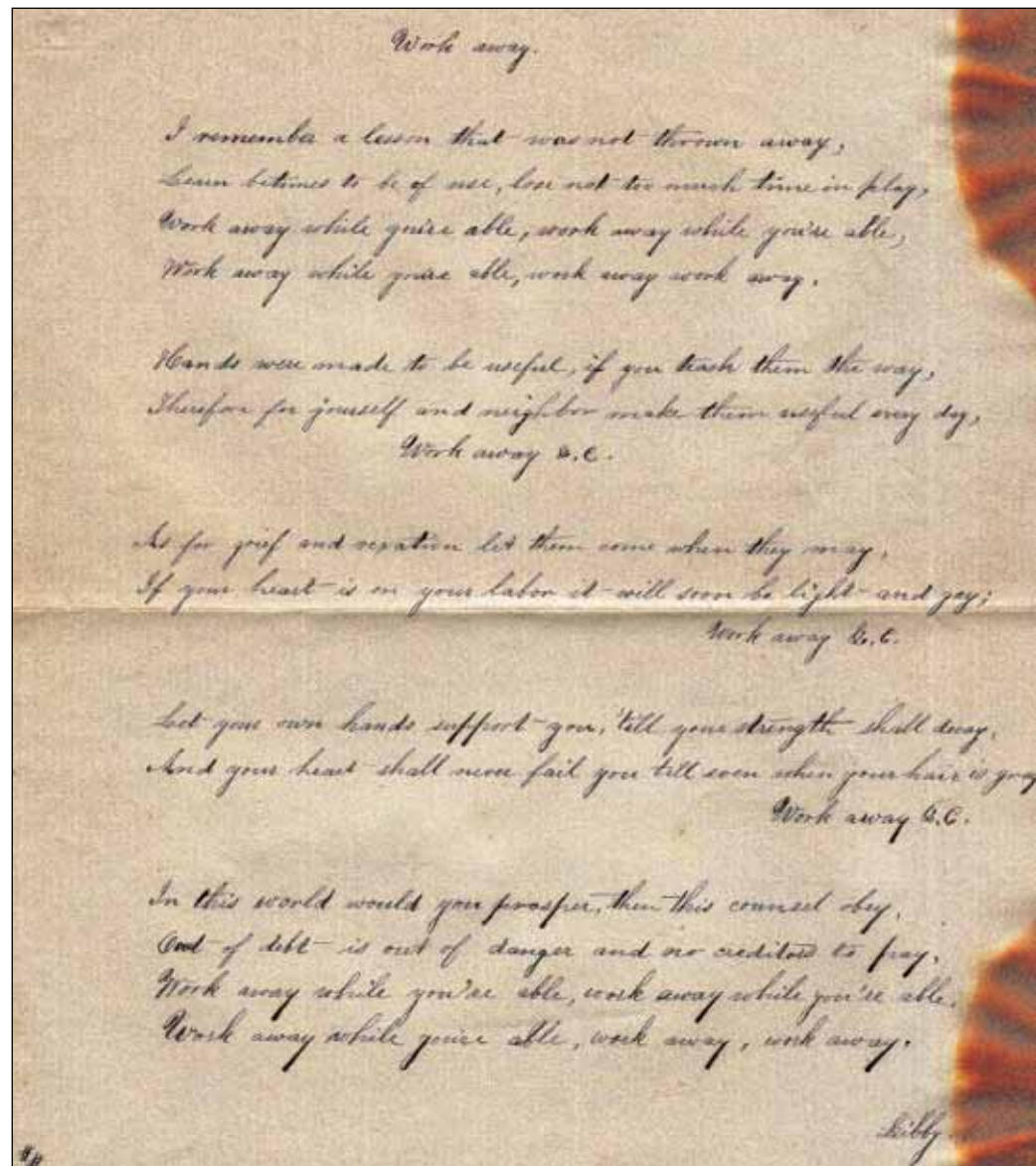
Schönberg-Cotta Family

Recreations of a Country Parson

My Brother's Keeper, Warner

The Abbot, Walter Scott

Melbourne House, Warner



"Work Away" by Elizabeth Booth Hinchey, in her own hand. Undated. Signed "Libby."

Tales of a Grandfather, Scott
Hannah Thurston, Taylor

Books Read in 1866

History of England
History of Methodism
Coelebs in Search of a Wife
The Daisy Chain by Miss Yonge
Lilian, A Tale of the Times
of Bloody Queen Mary
School Days at Rugby
Life of Pauline Cushman
Hopes and Fears by Miss Yonge
Homes of the New World
Amy [?]
The Dean's Daughter
Haunted Hearts
Heartsease; or The Brother's Wife, Miss Yonge
Pigne, James Montjoy
Margaret & Her Bridesmaids. Beautiful.
Life of Margaret Maitland
The Neighbors, Miss Bremer
Examples from 18th Century, Mrs. [?]
The Athelings & Silvia's Lovers
These are two separate books—Ed.
Downing's Country Houses
Clever Woman of the Family
Diary of Kitty Trevelyan
The Hidden Path, Marion Harland
"Onward" or the Mountain Clamberers
The Trial, or More Links of the Daisy Chain
The House on the Moor
The Story of Hemet
The Star and the Cloud



Rutledge
Life in the Old World, F. Bremer
Dynevor Terrace by Miss Yonge
Carrie's Confession [?] Shay
Lois the Witch, Mrs. Gaskell

Books to be called for at the Athenaeum 1865

Col. Nathaniel Rochester and other community leaders established the Rochester Athenaeum in 1829 as an association "for the purpose of cultivating and promoting literature, science and the arts." In 1891, it merged with the Mechanics Institute to form a trade school which eventually led to the establishment of the Rochester Institute of Technology—Ed.

Ivanhoe by Walter Scott
School Days at Rugby, Thomas Hughes
Tom Brown at Oxford, Thomas Hughes
House & Home Papers, Mrs. Stowe
Agnes of Sorrento, Mrs. Stowe
Evangeline, Longfellow
Hiawatha, Longfellow
[?] Princess, Tennyson
Bride of Lammermoor, Scott
John Godfrey's Fortunes
The Old Helmet, Warner
Bitter-Sweet, [?] Holland
Nemesis, Miriam Stone
Mary Barton, Mrs. Gaskell
East Lynne: Or the Earl's Daughter
Two Vacations (Cotta)
Faith [?]
The Heir of Redclyffe
James Montjoy, Or, I've Been Thinking,
A. S. Roe
Charms & Countercharms, Miss McIntosh
English Orphans, Miss Holmes
A New Atmosphere
Home Influence, Grace Aguilar
Sand Hills of Jutland, Anderson

Rab and His Friends, Brown
Pride and Prejudice, J. Austen
Last of the Mohicans, Cooper
Red Rover
The Two Guardians
Castle Builders
Hopes and Fears
The Young Step-Mother
Oswald Gray by Mrs. Henry Wood
Squire Trevlyn's Heir, by Mrs. Henry Wood
Verner's Pride by Mrs. Henry Wood
The Shadow of Ashlydyat
 by Mrs. Henry Wood
The Castle's Heir by Mrs. Henry Wood
The Mill on the Floss
Mattie:—A stray, Casphar
Amy Herbert, Miss Sewell
Laneton Parsonage: A Tale . . .
Ursula
Katharine Ashton
Ivors
Margaret Percival
The Earl's Daughter
Swiss Family Robinson
Life of Caroline Foy
 Washington Irving's works
 Frederika Bremer's works
Redwood, Hope Leslie, Mrs. Sedgwick
Nathalie
Ellen Middleton, Lady (Georgiana) Fullerton
Grantley Manor, Lady (Georgiana) Fullerton
Don Quixote
Hearts & Homes, Ellis
Rose Douglas
Lady Alice of the New Una
Norman Leslie
 The Complete Works of Mrs. Hemans

Broken Columns
Old Homestead
Sunshine of Greystone
Enoch Arden
Homestead on the Hillside
Farmingdale, Ellen Daere
Queen of the County
Faith Gartney's Girlhood
The Lady of the Lake
 Scott's complete poetical works
Self-Sacrifice
Adam Bede
The Old Curiosity Shop
John Halifax, Gentleman
Two [?]
Home Influence: A Tale for Mothers and Daughters

Page note from Elizabeth:

29 from the Athenaeum Library.
 6 of them worth reading again.

End of book list.

The following notes appear to be locations of Hinchey relatives in Michigan and Wisconsin:

Mrs. Mary Haight—Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Mrs. Wm. DeMott, Delevan, Wis.
 Antoniette
 Mr. Adolphus Peirson, Olivet, 13 miles from Marshal North, by stage.
 Cousin Laura.
 Mr. Ferdinand Tallmadge, Olivet.
 Cousin Adeline.
 Mr. Levi Oovey, Oxford, 13 miles north of Pontiac by stage.
 Cousin Diantha

Miscellaneous Enigma.

I am composed of 43 letters.

Key 18, 29, 17, 13, 5, 23, 7, 34, 24, 14, 39, 24, 25 is a body of water.

Key 39, 2, 15, 28, 14, 13, 24, is the name of a person.

Key 1, 9, 5, 23, 35, 39, 42, 13, 8, 19, is a blessing and a curse.

Key 41, 13, 32, 25, 22, 11, 13, 10, 23 is the name of a king.

Key 30, 16, 37, 26, 38, 9, 24, 14, 38, 20, 36, 18, 26, 11 are instruments of war.

Key 12, 40, 4, 24, 14, 17, 27, 29, 39, 1, 12, 34, 31, 13, 25, 15, is a maxim
of great use.

Key 8, 32, 5, 43, 21, 6, 25, 18 may be said of many teachers.

My whole was the advice of a General to his troops.

Ethelinda.

Rochester, N. Y.

Answer.— "Put your trust in God, my boys, and keep your powder dry."

Barbara Hinchey Frank Personal Archive

A "Miscellaneous Enigma" copied by Elizabeth Booth Hinchey in the Civil War era. Attributed by Elizabeth to Ethelinda.

The Civil War Letters in the Hinchey Family Archive

This chapter is an excerpt from Writing Home: Civil War Letters from the Hinchey Family Archive, a book of the more than 60 letters written to Franklin and Elizabeth Hinchey, and to others, by soldiers who were serving in the Civil War. The book was published by the Gates Historical Society in 2013. It is available in the Society's gift shop and online at www.gateshistory.org.

•••

WHEN LIBBY HINCHEY HEARD THE news that news that President Abraham Lincoln had been assassinated, she went to the Gates Presbyterian Church, less than a mile north of her home, and helped drape the church in mourning bunting.

On Tuesday, April 19, 1865, she attended a service in Rochester, N.Y., at the same hour that a memorial was being held for President Lincoln in Washington, D.C.

And on Wednesday, April 27, 1865, she arose at 4 a.m. to be at the New York Central railroad tracks, where the Howard Road overpass is now located, to see the funeral train bearing President Lincoln's body pass through Gates on its way to Springfield, Ill.

She recorded all of this, and much more, in her diary. Her thoughts, together with letters that she and her family and friends received from local soldiers, provide a record that has been handed down through the generations. It shows in so many personal ways how the Civil War touched the lives of people in the Town

*"Please write again sometime,
for a letter goes far towards making one forget,
for the time being, the misery and loneliness that is around him."*

—Theodore D. Sperry (1837–1919)

*"So here's to all our friends and you and I,
a land filled with peace and happiness for us all.
May each one long live in the little spot, dearest of all the earth to him,
at home."*

—J. Ansel Booth (1826–1908)

of Gates and especially how the soldiers from Gates endured the conflict.

During the 1860s, Libby, Franklin and their neighbors carried on correspondence with their relatives and friends who were serving in the Army during the Civil War. When the Gates Historical Society purchased the Hinchey Homestead in 2002, more than 60 of these letters were found in the Hinchey papers, having been carefully preserved for more than 150 years by the family.

James Ansel Booth wrote most of the letters. Libby was his sister. The Booth family lived on Buffalo Road just east of Howard Road, across from the former Gates Presbyterian Church. The home still stands today as a commercial enterprise.

Ansel, as he preferred to be called, was 35 when he was mustered in as a private in Com-

pany D of Colonel Patrick O'Rorke's 140th New York Volunteer Infantry on September 13, 1862. He rose through the ranks and by February 14, 1865, had been promoted to second lieutenant.

The 140th New York fought in some of the most famous of the Civil War battles: Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg. Ansel was at Appomattox Court House when Lee surrendered to Grant.

Through it all, he wrote long letters to his sister and brother-in-law. They are filled with anguish when he learned that his cousin, fellow Gates soldier Theodore D. Sperry, was taken prisoner and held at the infamous Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

He writes about the contrast between North and South: ". . . so free and so well at the North, and such suffering, so black, so

dark despair about the south. . . .” And as the war dragged on, he became disillusioned and less idealistic with the military and took issue with anyone who spoke against the Union.

He preferred that it was “pleasanter” to think of the home of his brother-in-law, Clark Woodworth, just east of the Hinchey family: “. . . the choicest little bits in Gates, and Frank’s . . . next near neighbor. . . .” And nearly every letter begs for the recipient to “please write soon.”

Libby and Franklin received letters from Franklin’s brother John J. (J. J.) Hinchey, who served in Company E of the 9th Michigan Cavalry; from George A. Rowe, who was in Company B of the 108th New York Volunteer Infantry; and from several others, as well.

In addition, the Hinchey Family Archive includes copies of letters written by George F. Happ of Irondequoit, N.Y., to his family. George’s brother Louis moved to Gates in the late 1800s; opened Happ’s Hotel, which later became the McCoy Manor, on Buffalo Road at the corner of Wegman Road; and built a house and grocery store in 1902 at the corner of Buffalo Road and Howard Road. Today, Happ family descendants include members of the Pixley family.

All of the Civil War–era letters in the archive were transcribed by Mickey Schlosser of the Gates Historical Society and are published unabridged in *Writing Home: Civil War Letters from the Hinchey Family Archive*. Other than reading about the war in the newspaper, having a letter was the only source of personal communication. Letters were read, reread and carefully saved. At times, families shared their



Civil War Glass Negatives Collection, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-DIG-cwpb-00487

This photograph shows the ruins of homes in Fredericksburg, Va., following the battle in December 1862, at which George A. Rowe of Gates was killed in action. The last letter which he wrote to Libby Hinchey, dated October 10, 1862 is printed below.

letters with their local newspapers, providing firsthand accounts of battles and updates on how the soldiers were doing.

• • •

This is the last letter in the Hinchey Family Archive from George Rowe. He was killed in action at Fredericksburg, Va., on December 13, 1862, at the age of 21.

Camp Boliver Heights, Va., Oct. 10, 1862
Mrs. Hinchey, Dear Friend,

I received your welcome letter yesterday and it was truly a welcome one as we had not received any mail in two weeks. We received the back mail today when I got the letter which you spoke of, also 4 from home.



Rochester Public Library Local History Division

Surviving members of the 140th New York Volunteer Infantry gathered at Seneca Park in Rochester, N.Y., circa 1900 on the occasion of an Arbor Day tree-planting ceremony. A small "x" indicates General Elwell Otis. It has not been confirmed if J. Ansel Booth is in the photograph. The soldier in the Zouave uniform has been identified as Richard Kingston, a member of the regiment. A legend on the back of the photograph reads, "Members of the 140th Reg't. at Seneca Park Arbor Day when the Oak Tree was dedicated. Gen'l. Otis making the speech of acceptance." The photograph is part of the Rochester Public Library's "Many Roads to Freedom: Abolitionism and the Civil War in Rochester" project.

"I do not know that there is any news to write, as I suppose you will have seen Dr. Behan before this reaches you. You can imagine our surprise when coming in from picket Saturday night. We met the Dr. & Edgar. I tell you, we were glad enough to see them, they being the only two from Gates we have seen since we left. We have not been over to visit the boys in the 140th but I expect to go tomorrow. They are camped about 3 miles from here on the other side of the Potomoc.

"We hear from there every day, as some of our boys are over there, or their boys here. Five of our boys were there on Sunday and saw William Colt, who was there on a visit. They said that we looked poor, having been sick. I

believe the boys of the 140th are well. A good many of the 108th boys have been sick since we came here, but the most of them are getting better.

"We are as comfortable as could be expected, having received our knapsack and also some blankets.

"Frank spoke of the Bible class. I was glad to hear that it was kept up and hope it will be continued 'till we can once more join it. But if we are never permitted to, I trust we shall meet one day where there will be no more parting, neither sighing nor sorrow, where there will be no more war, but all will be peace & joy. God grant that we may know we have the prayers of our friends, daily praying God to protect us.

"Indeed, God has been good to me for I have not been sick one day while most of our company have been, more or less.

"Mr. Hinchey wants me to write how badly James Lane was wounded. His arm is broken, I believe, near the elbow. I did not see Jim after the battle, but some of the boys told me it was a bad wound. Most of the boys were shot near the head, they being on their knees when they fired.

"Tell Mr. Hinchey that we should like to have him make us a visit by and by. Virginia is not such a great ways, and he can see something of war here. We do not know how long we shall stay here, but I think likely we will not move for some time.

“The rebels are within 6 miles of here and their pickets within 3 or 4. We have to go on picket once a week. Since I commenced to write this letter, 25 out of each company have gone somewhere to do guard duty. I was gone after water to wash the supper dishes and when I came back, the boys were all gone. We have to go about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile for water, and when we get there, wait an hour before we can get any.

“Beecher would have wrote a few lines if he had been here, but he has gone with the rest.

Our company only numbers 31 men fit for duty.

“Tell Mrs. Field I would like to have her write. Remember me to her and all the rest of the friends. I shall expect an answer to this soon, also one from Mr. Hinchey. But I must close as the drum will soon beat and lights must be put out.”

From your friend George

“You will see that I took the hint about the paper.”

•••

The 140th New York Volunteer Infantry was involved in the Appomattox Campaign (March 28–April 9, 1865) when this letter by J. Ansel Booth was written to Franklin Hinchey on April 3, 1865.

The campaign included engagements at White Oak Ridge, Va., from March 29–31; Five Forks, Va., April 1; the fall of Petersburg, April 2; and Appomattox Court House, April 9.

The 140th sustained 57 total casualties in the campaign, including six enlisted men killed in action, 18 wounded, and 30 missing or captured.



Gates Historical Society

This 1864 campaign wall poster encouraged the reelection of Abraham Lincoln. J. Ansel Booth, the brother of Libby Hinchey, was a staunch Lincoln supporter.

The letter begins with Ansel asking Franklin to send him money. It appears that the soldiers had not yet been paid. In addition, Ansel was present at Appomattox Court House when General Lee surrendered to General Grant.

April 3 /65

Frank,

Send me 10 or 15 dol. as soon as possible. And, in the course of a week or ten days, unless you hear that we have been paid, send as much more.

“From the successes of yesterday and the day before, this campaign won’t be over in a week, and no one knows when.

“Since breaking camp at 1 a.m. on the morning of the 28th ult., every day gives us something huge of its kind. The first day was long from 1 a.m. ’till 10 p.m. Beautiful marching as good as the average, no fighting by the 1st Brigade. About 3 a.m. the 29th,

our bivouac was in a cornfield. The rain began falling in the most approved style, continuing till 5 p.m. The most of the afternoon, we were standing in line of battle. Marching and fording streams had most thoroughly soaked the boys. The sun went down clear, the new moon was out bright, and the regiment went on picket all night long. I walked the line and watched. Again at 3 on the morning of the 30, the rain came down in torrents, ’till near 10 o’clock in the forenoon. Then the sun came out, and soon after orders to advance the skirmish line. That meant me, too. Off we went across the field and into the woods. I had charge of the extreme left of the skirmish line, extended just so as to include the woods, say 30 rods to we may bring up.

“Miller has not come in yet. We, 5th Corp, are over the south side R.R. & after Bob Lee at a right smart trot. The boys carry but little more than birds, besides gun & equipment. They go light and with a will, the most of them.”

Ansel

And from Ansel’s second letter to Franklin which was also written on April 3, 1865:

“And then it came, broad and full, ‘Gen. Lee has surrendered his entire army.’ There was a moment’s stillness without breathing, and hurrah! hurrah! hurrah! ad infinitum. Hats and caps went up like leaves in the whirlwind. There was swinging of sabres and cheering and crying and whistling and shouting and singing interminably. It seemed as if the tumultuous joy would never end. And why should it?”

The Hinchey Path to the Kings of England

THE FAMILY TREES OF ELIZABETH BOOTH of Gates, N.Y., who married Franklin Hinchey in 1852, and of Ellen Lytle of Chili, N.Y., who married Franklin in 1871, lead to William the Conqueror, the first Norman king of England who reigned from 1066 until his death in 1087; and to his son Henry I, who reigned as king from 1100 to his death in 1135.

The ancestors of Elizabeth and Ellen range from those in the Massachusetts Bay Colony of Colonial America to several saints of the Roman Catholic Church who lived in the first millennium.

The research for the family trees was compiled by genealogists from the United States, England, France and Belgium who shared their work on Geni.com, a genealogy website founded in 2006 and owned by MyHeritage since November 2012. *The New York Times* groups Geni.com with FamilyLink.com and Ancestry.com, and describes it as “a vast and growing trove of digitized records.” As of December 2021, more than 160 million profiles had been created on Geni.com.

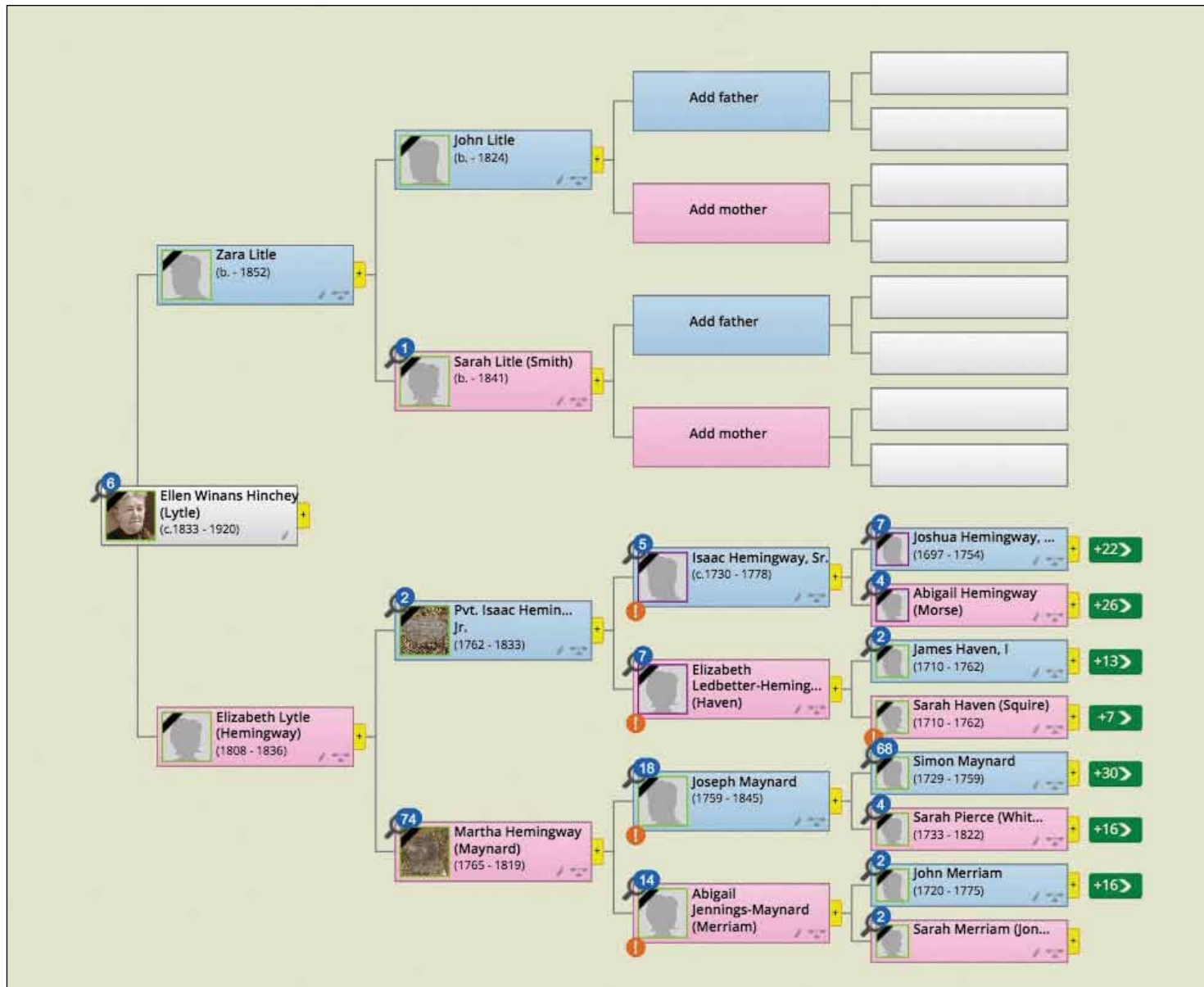
When a new listing is added to the database, the researcher’s name and date is recorded on the subject individual’s “home page.” In addition, the names of the listing’s manager and curator are identified for further documentation and accuracy.

The genealogists who contributed to the family trees are listed in the Acknowledgments section of this book.



geni.com

Elizabeth Booth's family tree extends to four of her 40th great grandparents which follows a path that begins with her father William R. Booth. The first page of this extensive family tree appears above.



geni.com

The family tree of Ellen Lytle Hinchey's father Zara (Litle) Lytle is not yet complete and extends only to his parents. But Ellen's maternal family tree extends to four of her 42nd great grandparents. The first page of her family tree from the Geni.com website is pictured above.

Following is the family tree of Ellen Lytle Hinchey which follows a path to her most distant ancestors.

ELLEN WINANS LYTLE HINCHEY



Born *circa* 1833 in Chili, N.Y. Died July 1920. Ellen married Franklin Hinchey on February 2, 1871.

Ellen's mother:

Elizabeth Hemingway Lytle



www.findagrave.com/memorial/19733733

The headstone on the grave of Ellen's mother Elizabeth Hemingway Lytle in Buckbee Rural Cemetery, Chili, N.Y.

Born March 4, 1808. Died December 16, 1836, in Chili, N.Y.

Ellen's grandmother:

**Martha Maynard Hemingway
(Mother of Elizabeth Lytle)**



www.findagrave.com/memorial/19733401

The headstone on the grave of Ellen's grandmother Martha Maynard Hemingway in Buckbee Rural Cemetery, Chili, N.Y.

Born March 31, 1765, in Framingham, Massachusetts. Died May 19, 1819, in Riga, N.Y. Buried in Buckbee Rural Cemetery, Chili, N.Y. Martha was the daughter of Joseph and Abigail Jennings Maynard. She married Isaac Hemingway in Massachusetts on December 3, 1785.

Ellen's 1st great grandfather:

**Joseph Maynard
(Father of Martha Hemingway)**

Born January 10, 1759. Died May 4, 1845. The date of Joseph's marriage to Abigail Merriam is not known.

Ellen's 2nd great grandfather:

Simon Maynard (Father of Joseph Maynard)

Born May 8, 1729, in Sudbury, Mass. Died 1759 in Stow, Mass. Simon married Sarah Whitney on January 18, 1754 in Stow, Mass.

Ellen's 3rd great grandfather:

Joseph Maynard (father of Simon Maynard)

Born *circa* 1698 in Sudbury, Mass. Died *circa* February 6, 1750, in Sudbury, Mass. Joseph married Miriam Willard on January 29, 1722.

Ellen's 4th great grandfather:

**Zachariah Maynard Sr.
(Father of Joseph Maynard)**

Born June 7, 1647 in Sudbury, Mass. Died February 11, 1723, in Sudbury, Mass. During his lifetime, Zachariah was married to Hannah Pendelton and to Hannah Goodrich.

Ellen's 5th great grandmother:

**Mary Rice Maynard
(Mother of Zachariah Maynard Sr.)**

Born August 18, 1619, in Standstead, Suffolk, England. Died after 1680 in Sudbury, Mass. During her lifetime, Mary was married to Thomas Axtell (May 1638 in England) and John Maynard (June 15, 1646, in Sudbury, Mass.).

**Ellen's 6th great grandmother:
Thomasine ("Tamasin") Frost Rice
(Mother of Mary Rice Maynard)**



www.findagrave.com, Memorial ID #29452706

The monument on the Rice cemetery plot in Sudbury, Massachusetts, in which Ellen's 6th great grandmother Thomasine Frost Rice is buried.

Born *circa* August 11, 1600, in Stanstead St. James, Suffolk, England. Died June 13, 1654, in Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts Bay Colony, Colonial America. Thomasine married Edmund Rice on October 15, 1618, in England.

**Ellen's 7th great grandmother:
Thomasine Belgrave Frost
(Mother of Thomasine Frost Rice)**

Born before February 1, 1562, in Stanstead, Suffolk, England. Died June 13, 1653, in Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts Bay Colony, Colonial America. Thomasine married Edmond Frost on September 26, 1585, in England.

**Ellen's 8th great grandfather:
John Belgrave
(Father of Thomasine Belgrave Frost)**

Born *circa* 1533 in Cambridgeshire, England. Died *circa* February 12, 1591, in Leverington, Cambridgeshire, England. During his lifetime, John was married to Joanna Strutt (September 22, 1560, in England) and Elizabeth Fayerfoxe (October 25, 1578, in England). Some online family trees show John Belgrave as the son of Sir Richard Belgrave. The online WikiTree.com website disputes this, citing that no parents for John Belgrave are given in a 1986 published study of the Strutt family. However, Geni.com, the source for this family tree, reports that John Belgrave was the son of Sir Richard Belgrave and Lady Elizabeth Belgrave.

**Ellen's 9th great grandfather:
Sir Richard Belgrave
(Father of John Belgrave)**

Born May 15, 1509, in Glemstead, Suffolk, England. Died June 25, 1584, in Glemstead, Suffolk, England. Sir Richard married Elizabeth Haddestone (who became Lady Elizabeth Belgrave upon the marriage) on June 25, 1544.

**Ellen's 10th great grandfather:
Sir John Belgrave Sr.
(Father of Sir Richard Belgrave)**



www.geni.com

Born *circa* 1490 in Belgrave Manor, Leicestershire, England. Died May 30, 1512, in Dungeon, England. Sir John Sr. married Susannah Freeman in 1505 in England and Joan Swyke in 1508 in England. He died possessed of a manor in Belgrave which his family continued to hold until the beginning of the 17th century. After having been mortgaged several times, it was sold probably between 1635 and *circa* 1645.

**Ellen's 11th great grandmother:
Margaret Cotton Belgrave
(Mother of Sir John Belgrave Sr.)**

Born 1473 in Hemstall, Ridware, Staffordshire, England. Died 1560 in Belgrave Manor, Leicestershire, England. Margaret married Richard Belgrave in 1490 in England.

**Ellen's 12th great grandmother:
Joanna FitzHerbert Cotton
(Mother of Margaret Cotton Belgrave)**

Born *circa* 1435 in Norbury, Derbyshire, England. Died *circa* 1485. Joanna married John Cotton in 1472 in England.

Ellen's 13th great grandfather:

Sir Nicholas FitzHerbert, Knight
(Father of Joanna FitzHerbert Cotton)

Born 1410 in Norbury, Derbyshire, England. Died November 19, 1473, in Norbury, Derbyshire, England. Sir Nicholas married Alice Booth in 1433 in England. He was the 11th Lord of Norbury and was Knight of the Shire for Derby in 1434, 1446 and 1452. He served as Sheriff of Derby in 1448 and 1466.

Ellen's 14th great grandfather:

Henry FitzHerbert
(Father of Sir Nicholas FitzHerbert, Knight)

Born *circa* 1365 in Norbury, Derbyshire, England. Died 1410 in Derbyshire, England. Henry married Amilla Downes in 1400 in England.

Ellen's 15th great grandmother:

Alice Longford FitzHerbert
(Father of Henry FitzHerbert)

Born 1330 in Longford, England. Died 1410. The date of Alice's marriage to William FitzHerbert is unknown.

Ellen's 16th great grandmother:

Alice le Boteler
(Mother of Alice Longford FitzHerbert)

Born 1290 in Longford, Derbyshire, England. Died March 15, 1356, in England. Alice married Nicholas Longford in 1322. She was the sister and one of four co-heirs of Edward le Boteler, rector of Weston-Turville in County Buckingham, England

Ellen's 17th great grandfather:

William le Boteler, 1st Baron Boteler
(Father of Alice le Boteler)



wappenwiki.org, file: B175 Boteler.svg

Born June 11, 1274, in Oversley, Warwick, England. Died September 14, 1335, in Wem, Shropshire, England. During his lifetime William was married to Beatrice Boteler and Ela de Herdeburgh. In the 24th year of the reign of King Edward I, William was in ward to Walter de Langton, Lord Treasurer of England; and Walter de Beauchamp, steward of the King's household. William obtained renown in the Scottish wars of the period. He was summoned to Parliament as a Baron in the early 1300s.

Ellen's 18th great grandmother:

Angharad verch Griffith
(Mother of William le Boteler)

Born *circa* 1244 in Wem, Shropshire, England. Died June 22, 1308, in Wem, Shropshire, England. Angharad married William le Boteler on October 2, 1261, in England.

Ellen's 19th great grandmother:

Emma de Audley
(Mother of Angharad verch Griffith)



geni.com

Born *circa* 1226 in Knockin, Shropshire, England. Died June 22, 1308, in Cheshire, England. Emma married Gruffudd ap Madog in 1246 in England. She was the daughter of Henry de Aldithley, Sheriff of Shropshire and Staffordshire.

Ellen's 20th great grandmother:

**Lady Bertrade de Audley (de Mainwaring),
Baroness of Audley**
(Mother of Emma de Audley)

Born 1196 in Mainwaring, Bersted, Sussex, England. Died November 1246 in Hulton Abbey, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England. Bertrade married Sir Henry d'Audley in 1217.

Ellen's 21st great grandmother:
Amicia Mainwaring (Kevlioc de Meschines), of Chester
(Mother of Lady Bertrade de Audley)



todmar.net

Born *circa* 1167 in Kevlioc, Merionethshire, Wales. Died 1200 in Chester, Cheshire, England. Amicia married Sir Rafe de Mainwaring in 1179 in England. He was Justice of Chester, Member of Parliament.

Ellen's 22nd great grandfather:
Hugh de Kevlioc (de Cyfeiliog), 5th Earl of Chester, Vicomte of Avranches
(Father of Amicia Mainwaring of Chester)



queffelecadrak.canalblog.com

Born *circa* 1147 in Kevlioc (Cyfeiliog), Monmouth, Monmouthshire, Wales. Died June 30, 1181, in Leek, Staffordshire, England. He married Bertrade de Montfort in 1169, possibly in France.

Ellen's 23rd great grandmother:
Maud of Gloucester (FitzRobert), Countess of Chester
(Mother of Hugh de Kevlioc)

Born 1120 in Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. Died July 29, 1190 (as recorded in *The Annals of Tewkesbury*), in Chester, Cheshire, England. Maud married Ranulf de Gernon in 1141 in England. Also known as Maud FitzRobert, Maud was an Anglo-Norman noblewoman. She was the daughter of Robert, 1st Earl of Gloucester, who was an illegitimate son of King Henry I of England. Her husband Ranulf was the 4th Earl of Chester, whom she allegedly poisoned with the assistance of William Peverel of Nottingham. However, accord-

ing to her biography on Wikipedia.com, this is an unsubstantiated rumor for which there is no evidence.

Ellen's 24th great grandfather:
Robert de Caen, 1st Earl of Gloucester
(Father of Maud of Gloucester)



www.pinterest.com

Born *circa* 1090 in Base-Normandie, Caen, Calvados, Normandy, France. Died October 31, 1147, in Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. He married Maud de Creully in 1115 in England. Robert was the illegitimate son of King Henry I of England. Orderic Vitalis records him as "Robert, the king's son" and specifies that he led a force from the Cotentin in September 1123 to quell a rebellion led by Amaury de Montfort Comte d'Evreus and Waleran de Beaumont Comte de Meulan.

**Ellen's 25th great grandfather:
Henry I "Beauclerc," King of England
(Father of Robert de Caen)**



www.etsy.com

Born September 1068 in Selby, North Yorkshire, England. Died December 1, 1135, in Saint-Denis-le-Ferment, Department de Eure, Haute Normandie, France. Henry was called "Beauclerc" because of his study habits, *beauclerc* meaning well-learned, scholarly, erudite. He gained the title of Lord of Domfront in 1092, Comte de Coutances in 1096, Comte de Bayeux in 1096 and King Henry I of England on August 2, 1100. He was crowned King of England on August 5, 1100 in Westminster Abbey, London. Henry I was the husband of Matilda of Scotland and Adelicia of Louvain. He also had a number of partners and concubines.

**Ellen's 26th great grandfather and
26th great grandmother:
William "The Conqueror," King of England
(Father of Henry I, King of England)**



www.thefamouspeople.com

Born October 14, 1024, in Château de Base, Falaise, Calvados, Normandie, France. Died September 9, 1087, in Prieuré de Saint-Gervais, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, Haute-Normandie, France. William married Matilda of Flanders in 1053 in France.

**Matilda of Flanders
(Mother of Henry I, King of England)**



www.pinterest.com

Born circa 1031 in Ghent, East Flanders, Flanders, Belgium. Died November 2, 1083, in Base-Normandie, Caen, Calvados, Normandie, France. Matilda married William FitzRobert, known as William the Conqueror, in 1053 in France.

**Ellen's 27th great grandfather:
Baldwin V, Count of Flanders
(Father of Matilda of Flanders)**



Wiles Web Site, www.myheritage.com

Born August 19, 1012, in Bihorel, Seine-Maritime, Normandy, France. Died September 1, 1067, in Lille, Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France. He married Adela of France in 1028.

**Ellen's 28th great grandfather:
Baldwin IV the Bearded, Count of Flanders
(Father of Baldwin V)**



www.amazon.com

Born January 8, 980, in Ghent, Flanders, Belgium. Died May 30, 1035, in Gent, Oost-Vlaanderen, Vlaams Gewest, Belgium. During his lifetime, Baldwin IV was married to Ogive of Luxembourg (1012) and Eleanor of Normandy (1031).

Ellen's 29th great grandfather:
Arnulf II the Young, Count of Flanders
(Father of Baldwin IV the Bearded)



commons.wikimedia.org

Born December 961 in Vlaanderen (Flanders), Belgium. Died March 30, 987 in La Chapelle-Saint-Laurent, Deux-Sèvres, Poitou-Charentes, France. Arnulf was married to Rozala of Italy.

Ellen's 30th great grandfather:
Baldwin III, Count of Flanders
(Father of Arnulf II the Young)



www.pinterest.com

Born in 940 in Vlaanderen (Flanders) Belgium. Died on November 1, 962, in Abbey of St. Bertin, Saint-Omer, Vlaanderen, France. Baldwin III was married to Matilda of Saxony, the Countess of Flanders. He was called “co-count” because his father survived him.

Ellen's 31st great grandfather:
Arnulf I the Great, Count of Flanders
(Father of Baldwin III)



www.youtube.com

Born December 12, 889, in Ghent, East Flanders, Flanders, Belgium. Died March 27, 965, in Ghent, East Flanders, Flanders, Belgium. The details about his first marriage are uncertain or unknown. He was married to Adele of Vermandois in 934 in present-day Belgium.

Ellen's 32nd great grandfather:
Baldwin II “The Bald,” Count of Flanders
(Father of Arnulf I the Great)



www.britannica.com

Born circa 865 in Flanders, Belgium. Died September 10, 918, in Blandijnberg, Ghent, East Flanders, Flanders, Belgium. Baldwin married Ælfthryth, Countess of Flanders, in 893.

Ellen's 33rd great grandmother:
Judith, Countess of Flanders
(Mother of Baldwin II “The Bald”)

Born October 844 in Orléans, Loiret, Centre-Val de Loire, France. Died after 870, in Auxerre, Yonne, Bourgogne Franche-Comté, France. During her life, Judith was married to Æthelwulf, King of Wessex; Æthelbald, King of Wessex; and Baldwin I “Iron-Arm,” 1st Margrave of Flanders.

Ellen's 34th great grandfather:
Charles II “The Bald,” Western Emperor
(Father of Judith, Countess of Flanders)



alchetron.com

Born June 13, 823, in Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Hesse, Germany. Died October 6, 877, in Mont Cenis, Brides-les-Bains, Savoie, Rhone-Alpes, France. Charles married Ermentrude of Orléans, Queen of the Franks, on December 14, 842; they were divorced in 867. He then married Empress Richilde on June 22, 870.

Ellen's 35th great grandmother:
Judith of Bavaria
(Mother of Charles II "The Bald")



www.klanenbendixen.dk

Born circa 805 in the Frankish Empire, Altdorf (present Weingarten), Bayern, Germany. Died April 19, 843 at Tours (present department d'Indre-et-Loire), Frankish Empire (within present France). She was the second wife of Louis I, the Pious. They married in February 819 which marked the beginning of her rise as an influential figure in the Carolingian court.

Ellen's 36th great grandmother:
Hedwig, Abbess of Chelles
(Mother of Judith of Bavaria)

Born 770 in Altdorf, Mittelfranken, Bayern, Frankish Empire (present Germany). Died April 19, 843 in Bayern, Frankish Empire (present Germany). Hedwig married Welf I, Count in present Germany. She was a Saxon noblewoman, the wife of Count Welf I and mother-in-law of Emperor Louis the Pious through his marriage to Judith, her daughter. She was possibly born at Altdorf in the Frankish lands of Alamannia (present-day

Germany). According to Bishop Thegan of Trier, she was a member of the Saxon high nobility, the daughter of Count Isambart. In her later life (about 826), she appears as abbess of Chelles near Paris, however, it is uncertain if she had already become a widow by then. Through her marriage to Welf, she became the matriarch of the dynastic Welf family and is an ancestor of the Carolingian dynasty, the kings of Italy, Russia, Brittan (sic), the Hagenéter rules of Piedmont and the Bavarian Welfs.

Ellen's 37th great grandmother:
Theodrada of St. Quentin, Abbess of Herford

(Mother of Hedwig, Abbess of Chelles)
Born *circa* 755 in France. Died circa 806 in France. Theodrada married Isembart, Count in Thurgau.

Ellen's 38th great grandfather:
Bernard, Count and Abbot of St. Quentin
(Father of Theodrada of St. Quentin)

Born *circa* 725 in Austrasia, France, Neustria (present Normandy), Frankish Empire (present France). Died circa 784 in Austrasia (present Lorraine), Frankish Empire (present France). He was the father of two children. Other details of Bernard's two marriages are unknown.

Ellen's 39th great grandfather:
Charles "Martel," Mayor of the Palace
(Father of Bernard)



commons.wikimedia.org

Born August 23, 676, in Herstal, Liege, Walloon Region, Belgium. Died October 22, 741, in Quierzy, Aisne, Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie, France. Charles "The Hammer" Martel was the defacto King of the Franks from 737–741 (officially he was Duke and Prince of the Franks). He was also known as a great general and is most famous for his victory at the Battle of Tours, in which he defeated an invading Muslim army and halted northward Islamic expansion in western Europe. He was married to Rotrude of Treves (690–724) with whom he had five children. He had one child with his second wife Swanhild, and he had four children with Ruodhaid, his mistress.

Ellen's 40th great grandfather:
**Pépin II “The Fat,” d’Héristal, Mayor of the
Palace of Austrasia
(Father of Charles “Martel”)**



ebay.com

Born *circa* 640 in Herstal, Liège, Walloon Region, Belgium. Died December 16, 714, in Jupille-sur-Meuse, modern Belgium. During his lifetime he was married to Piectrude and Alpais.

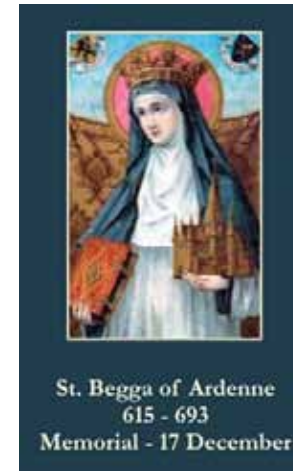
*Ellen's 41st great grandfather
and grandmother:*
**Ansegisel de Metz
(Father of Pépin II “The Fat”)**



art.mngp.fr

Born *circa* 610. Died *circa* 662 in Andens Monastery, Siegburg, Cologne, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany. He married Begga de Landen in 639 in Austria. She would become Saint Beggue of Austrasia.

**Saint Beggue of Austrasia (Begga de Landen,
Abbesse d’Andenne)
(Mother of Pépin II “The Fat”)**

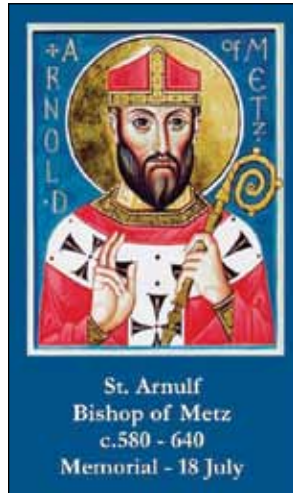


www.pinterest.com

Born June 2, 613, in Liège, Walloon Region, Belgium. Died December 17, 693, in Andenne, Province of Namur, Walloon Region, Belgium. She married Ansegisel de Metz in 639 in Austria. Saint Beggue was the daughter of Pepin of Landen, mayor of the palace of Austrasia and his wife Itta. On the death of her husband, Saint Beggue took the veil, founded several churches and built a convent at Andenne sur Meuse where she spent the rest of her days as abbess. She is venerated as a saint of the Roman Catholic Church on her feast days of September 6 and December 17.

Ellen's 42nd great grandfathers
and grandmothers:

Saint Arnoul, Bishop of Metz
(Father of Ansegisel de Metz)



www.pinterest.com

Born *circa* August 13, 582, in Nancy, Lorraine, Frankish Kingdom. Died July 18, 640, in Remiremont Church of the Apostles, Metz, Austrasia, Lorraine, France. He married Dode de Metz in 602 in Austrasia. She would become Saint Dode of Metz. Saint Arnoul is venerated as a saint of the Roman Catholic Church on his feast day of July 18. Saint Arnoul is the Patron Saint of Beer Brewing.

Saint Dode Clotilde de Metz
(Mother of Ansegisel de Metz)



www.findagrave.com, Memorial ID #174752419

Born *circa* 583. Died *circa* 611. Buried in St. Begga's Collegiate Church, Ardenne, Namur, Belgium. She married Saint Arnoul, Bishop of Metz, in 602 in Austrasia. Many historians reject her existence. She is said to be the daughter of Arnoaldus and Oda.

Pépin of Landen
(Father of Saint Beggue of Austrasia)



historydropoff.blogspot.com

Born *circa* 580 in Landen, Vlaams Gewest, Belgium. Died February 27, 640, in Metz, Moselle, Alsace-Champagne-Ardenne-Lorraine, France. He married Itta of Nivelles in 613 in Belgium.

Saint Itta of Nivelles
(Mother of Saint Beggue of Austrasia)



www.pinterest.com

Born *circa* 592 in Landen, Flemish Brabant, Flanders, Belgium. Died May 8, 652, in Nivelles, Walloon Region, Belgium. She married Pepin of Landen in 613 in Belgium. Following the death of her husband Pepin, and on the advice of the missionary Bishop of Maastricht Saint Amand, Itta founded the Benedictine nunnery at Nivelles, with a monastery under the abbess. She entered the monastery and installed her daughter Gertude as abbess, perhaps after resigning the post herself. She is venerated as a saint of the Roman Catholic Church on May 8.

How Many Ancestors Do We Have?

THERE'S A TERM IN GENEALOGY CALLED *PEDIGREE COLLAPSE* THAT describes how the number of ancestors in a family tree is fewer than one might think.

Without *pedigree collapse*, a family tree is binary. It begins with the individual, then two parents, then four grandparents, then eight great grandparents, then 16 great great grandparents, and so on. The number of individuals grows exponentially and, as shown on the chart on this page, becomes higher than it possibly could be.

When Ellen Hinchey's binary tree is taken to her 42nd great grandparents, it reaches to over 17 trillion people—more than the world population ever. (The United Nations reports that the world reached a population of 7 billion in 2011 and that it will reach over 8 billion in 2023.)

But when the number of ancestors stops doubling every generation, a family tree has reached *pedigree collapse*. The term itself was coined by Robert C. Gunderson of the Genealogical Society of Utah in 1980.

For example, *pedigree collapse* can occur when a pair of brothers marries a pair of sisters, such as when twins John and Victor Robortella married sisters Josephine and Rose Padulo causing collapse in the Robortella and Padulo family trees but not affecting the direct bloodline. During their lifetimes, they lived in the Town of Gates.

So how many ancestors do we have? Certainly not as many as would be shown on a binary family tree. According to author Mercedes Brons, everyone has at least some degree of *pedigree collapse* in their family tree. In fact, it is impossible not to. Most people can go back six to eight generations and find no evidence of it. But the further back you go into your family's history, the higher the chance that it will be found.

According to *Family Tree* magazine, Rutgers University professor Robin Fox estimates that 80 percent of historical marriages have taken place between second or closer cousins. This causes the same folks to occupy multiple spots on family trees.

A Binary Family Tree (Without Consideration for *Pedigree Collapse*)

Parents	2
Grandparents	4
1st Great Grandparents	8
2nd Great Grandparents	16
3rd Great Grandparents	32
4th Great Grandparents	64
5th Great Grandparents	128
6th Great Grandparents	256
7th Great Grandparents	512
8th Great Grandparents	1,024
9th Great Grandparents	2,048
10th Great Grandparents	4,096
11th Great Grandparents	8,192
12th Great Grandparents	16,384
13th Great Grandparents	32,768
14th Great Grandparents	65,536
15th Great Grandparents	131,072
16th Great Grandparents	262,144
17th Great Grandparents	524,288
18th Great Grandparents	1,048,576
19th Great Grandparents	2,097,152
20th Great Grandparents	4,194,304
21st Great Grandparents	8,388,608
22nd Great Grandparents	16,777,216
23rd Great Grandparents	33,554,432
24th Great Grandparents	67,108,865
25th Great Grandparents	134,217,730



41st Great Grandparents	8,796,093,153,280
42nd Great Grandparents	17 trillion +
Far enough!	

Acknowledgements and References

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Should errors or omissions be found, these rest with the author alone. None of those who provided their valuable expertise bear any responsibility in that eventuality.

J. M. R.
Gates, N.Y.
June 2023

Individuals and Organizations:

The Rev. Laura Bachmann, Pastor, Gates Presbyterian Church, Gates, N.Y.

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Barbara Hinchey Frank

William A. Gillette, Town Historian, Town of Gates, N.Y.

Hon. Cosmo Giunta, Supervisor, Town of Gates, N.Y.

Peter Hinchey, Albion, N.Y.



Gates Historical Society

William Hinchey (at right) is pictured with his two sons Franklin (at left) and Harmon (center), and with Franklin's four children on the farm circa the 1930s. Harmon is holding Barbara. The boys are (from left) Ronald, Peter and William.

William and Gloria Hinchey, Churchville, N.Y.

Wolcott and Cindy Hinchey, LeRoy, N.Y.

Gary Newman, Gates, N.Y.

Laura Nolan, Greece, N.Y.

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"Skip" Bremer

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Steven Avery Kelley

Bryan Collin Kennedy

Lynnea Marie Lux-Kosiewicz

Ben Miller

Bryan Anthony Moore

Adri Overgaauw

Elizabeth Quick

Dustin Ray Rhoades
 Carol Ann Selis
 Virginia Lea Sooy
 Paul Suppo Jr.
 Dean Ronald Tanner Sr.
 Sven Terclavers
 Linda Kathleen Thompson
 Karla Kay Walsh

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Gates Historical Society

These barns, outbuildings and a windmill were located on the Hinchey property just to the east of the homestead, which is slightly visible in this photograph to the left of the main barn and behind the trees. The photograph is circa 1910.

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- Deed, 1830, James S. Wibert, et. al., to William Hinchey, Gates Lot #18, Liber 18, Page 494.
- Deed, 1834: Jesse Hawley to William Hinchey, Gates Lot #6, 4,000 Acre Tract, Liber 29, Page 158.
- Deed, 1834: Lucy Hinchey to William Hinchey, Gates Lot #18, 4,000 Acre Tract, Liber 29, Page 297.

- Deed, 1839: Jonathan Child to William Hinchey, Gates Lot #6, Liber 50, Page 44.
- Deed, 1855: William Hinchey to William Jeffrey, Gates, Liber 123, Page 392.
- Agreement, 1855: William Hinchey to William Jeffrey, Liber 124, Page 234.
- Deed, 1863: William Jeffrey to Franklin Hinchey, Gates Lot #18, Liber 175, Page 194.
- Deed, 1864: Virginia Jeffrey to Franklin Hinchey, Gates Lot #6, Liber 184, Page 174

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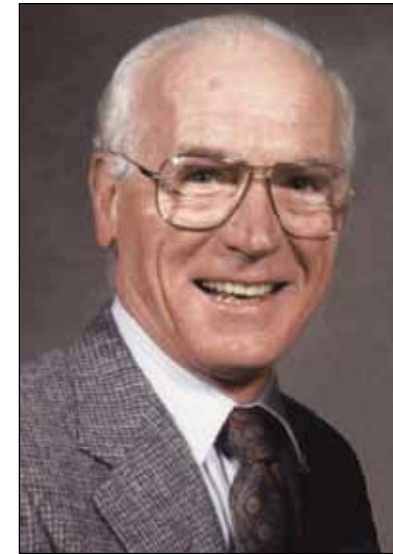
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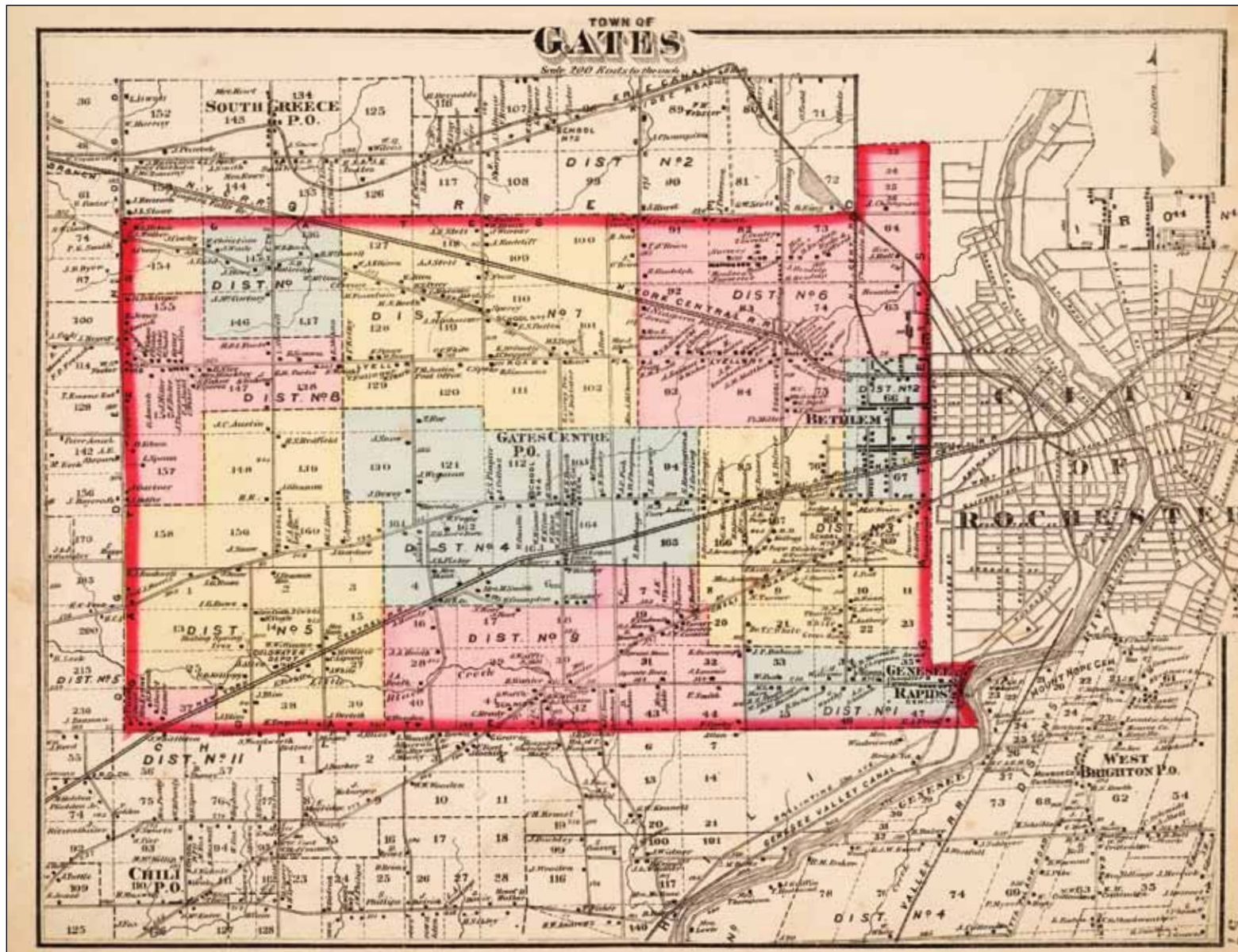


Michael Volpe Family



John Robortella

Michael Volpe (1920–2005) lived on Hinchey Road opposite the Hinchey Homestead. He was regarded as a treasured friend of the family and a devoted member of the Gates Historical Society. Following his passing, the Society honored and recognized his friendship with the planting of a tree on the front lawn of the homestead at a ceremony on June 23, 2007. In addition, the Society dedicated the book Gates Revisited: Timeless Images from Family Albums to his memory.



From the collection of the Rochester Public Library Local History Division

The Town of Gates is outlined in the 1872 Atlas of Monroe County, New York. Note that the town borders extended east and north into present-day Rochester. The Hinchey Homestead is located on Gates Lot #6 on the map.

Index of Names

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF the Hinchey family with the same first names. For this index, each is listed only once with his or her dates of birth (and death, if applicable) to identify the individual.

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Two portraits of Franklin William Hinchey (1904–1954). The photo at left was taken in March 1906. The photo at right is his portrait when he was 21.

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Gates Historical Society

The Hinchey Homestead and fields are pictured in this aerial photograph circa the 1950s. The view from the air is looking northwest. The smaller barn which is visible in the middle right portion of the photograph is no longer standing. Also in view are the backyards of some of the homes on present-day Howard Road.

Colophon

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JOHN M. ROBORTELLA, OF CANANDAIGUA, N.Y., is the author and co-author of several books on local history including *The Gates Police Department: Two Centuries of Public Safety* (with Gates Police Officer William A. Gillette [Ret.]), Finger Lakes Historical Press, 2015; *The Farmington Railroad Tragedy of 1900* (with Reginald W. Neale), Finger Lakes Historical Press, 2014; *Writing Home: Letters From the Hinchey Family Archive* (with Mickey Schlosser), Gates Historical Society, 2013; *Frogleg George: The Legend No One Really Knew*, Gates Historical Society, 2009; *Cold-water: An Eclectic History of the Hamlet*, (with Donald G. Ioannone), Finger Lakes Historical Press, 2019; and *Steps West: The Field Notes of Col. Hugh Maxwell (1733–1799): Pre-emption Line and Land Surveys in the Phelps and Gorham Purchase in New York State*, Finger Lakes Historical Press, 2023.

He is a graduate of SUNY Empire State College. A former newspaper reporter and editor, he retired in 2012 after a 32-year career at the University of Rochester. He is a Life Member of the Gates Volunteer Ambulance Service, a member of the Ontario County Historical Society, Historic Geneva, Yates County History Center and the Gates (N.Y.) Historical Society; and a past member of the Rochester (N.Y.) *Democrat and Chronicle* Board of Contributors. From 2010 to 2016, he wrote the “Past Tense” Finger Lakes history column in the newspaper’s *Canandaigua Magazine* and *Rochester Magazine*.

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*As of March 2023

Camp / Fort M.S. Vols.
Nov. 22nd, 1864.

Libby,

Your note of the 14th inst was in a day or two since the V was correct but all your that handbill of impudent enquiries, to that you back by the earliest opportunity. Don't be humbugged. Allow the Dept. to tell such stuff to marines, mormons or green horns.

Who was that Col. Powers, son in law of Genl. Puller?

I did not write for Assemblyman or were provided at the time of making the paper or some name out the name, from some newspaper. But it would work and so neglected the matter.

As to Mr. Curtis, wouldn't state of object coming back into reputable society he insist that he never went into your lot I'll stick to the union boat until it goes down.

The boat "Shaw Trade" is all right in another month to

During the 1860s, Franklin and Elizabeth (Libby) Hinchey, and their neighbors, carried on correspondence with their relatives and friends who were serving in the Army during the Civil War.

James Ansel Booth wrote most of the letters. Libby was his sister. Ansel, as he preferred to be called, was 35 when he was mustered in as a private in Company D of Colonel Patrick O'Rourke's 140th New York Volunteer Infantry on September 13, 1862. He rose through the ranks and by February 14, 1865, had been promoted to second lieutenant.

Ansel wrote this letter to Libby on November 22, 1864. In it, he discusses the 1864 election results and questions why James Curtis did not vote for Abraham Lincoln. (Curtis was a major in the 4th Infantry Regiment California Volunteers.)

The two-page letter closes with "... send me a good pair of stockings."

The envelope, addressed simply to Franklin Hinchey Esq., Rochester, N.Y., appears below.



Hinchey Family Archive



Hinchey: The Family Legacy is More Than Hinchey Road

THE HINCHEY FAMILY LEGACY IS MORE THAN SIMPLY HINCHEY ROAD IN THE TOWN OF GATES in Monroe County, N.Y. Throughout the history of this quintessential American community, which began with the arrival of the pioneer families in the early 1800s as they settled the Phelps and Gorham land purchase, the Hinchey name—and especially that of Franklin Hinchey—is found throughout the official town documents and in the records of the Gates Presbyterian Church, the local school districts and community organizations. He and his family were certainly “giving back” before that became a modern-day phrase.

The Hinchey legacy continued into the 21st century when Wolcott Hinchey, who is Frankin’s great grandson, made it possible for the Gates Historical Society to acquire and preserve the Hinchey Homestead.

From the construction of the first clapboard house in the town by William Hinchey in the early 1800s, to the completion by his son Franklin of the Hinchey Homestead in the 1870s which stands today, the family’s dedication to their town and to their nation is a remarkable example of their efforts to succeed over two centuries. Their diaries, which document day-to-day farm life, also include national events such as family members’ military service in the Civil War, and events which touched the Town of Gates such as the passing of the train carrying the remains of President Lincoln to Illinois in 1865 which was witnessed by the family and recorded in the diary of Elizabeth Hinchey.

The Hinchey Homestead remained in family ownership until 2002 when it was acquired by the Gates (N.Y.) Historical Society and subsequently by the Town of Gates. Today, the three-acre homestead with its one remaining barn is the only location in the town which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is open for public tours and educational programs.

The Gates Historical Society and Gates Town Historian William A. Gillette have collaborated with John M. Robortella, past editor of the *Gates-Chili News* and the author of several local history books, on this history to provide a modern-day reminiscence of the Hinchey family.



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