

Undertaker

and Licensed Embalmer.
Carry in stock a full line of caskets, robes, etc. Also furnish flowers from some of the best florists in New England

Manufacture
Light pleasure carriages, wagons of every style from a light delivery to the heavy lumber wagon. We make a specialty of

Undertakers' Wagons and Hearses.
Manufacture hubs, bend heavy oak rims, sled runners, sleigh runners, etc.—in fact can furnish anything wanted in the carriage line.

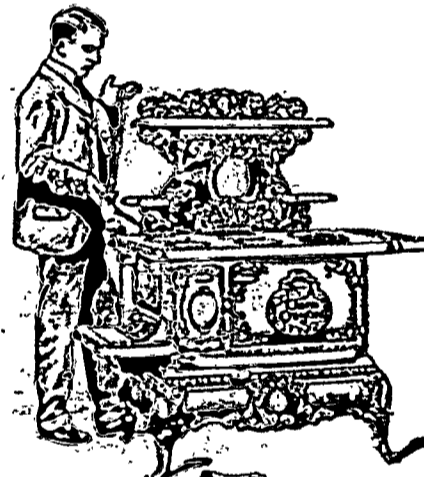
B. J. Perkins

A. E. CARTER

FURNITURE DEALER AND UPHOLSTERER.

Will supply your wants in Furniture, Carpets, Curtains, Rugs, Picture Frames, Spring Beds, Mattresses, etc.
We also do Upholstering and Furniture Repairing in all branches, at seasons of the year when we can spare the time. Right here let us say that from now until March 1st is the time when it can best be attended to.

We have bought and are already receiving some of our Straw Matting for the spring trade. We shall be able to show the largest line of these popular carpets ever exhibited in town. We shall make prices that will sell this large stock. Call and see if we cannot make you happy.



The Glenwood and Crawford are still sold at the old stand.

WHY?
Because they are the recognized stoves of today; therefore they sell best and give best satisfaction.

TEST
Our prices and you will surely try our stoves.

W. F. THAYER.



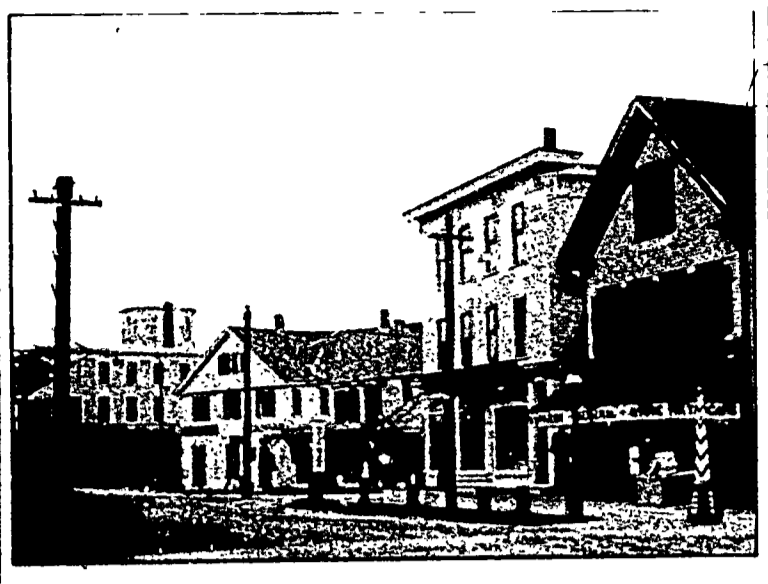
We sell a large amount of this flour and it gives perfect satisfaction in every case. Try it. At this store you will find a first class line of

GROCERIES

at fair prices. In purchasing your Christmas or New Year delicacies give us a call.

D. E. EDGERLY.

Lady traders were James C. March, who was the first town clerk John W. Cook and Jeremy Wingate. Mr. Duffie's history of Rochester has a brief sketch of early Farmington and records the following incident: About 1800 John Wingate, Esq. built a house and blacksmith shop where he carried on his trade. The shop stood on the corner of the street and the house in the Hiram Barker mansion was on a part of John Hays' land back of the Roberts' lot. This was long noted as Wingate's Tavern, where Squirt Wingate dealt out justice and supplies for the hungry and thirsty. He was a staunch Federalist and a great ad-



WEST SIDE MAIN STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

mirer of General Washington. A branch of the Washington Benevolent Society held its meetings in a room which he had fitted up for the purpose. At one time a party of Democrats having imbibed rather freely, found this room and seeing the cabalistic letters W B S on the chairs, concluded they belonged to some accursed Federalist society. In their rage they were proceeding to demolish the chairs and hurl them through the windows, when the "Squire" suddenly appeared on the scene and persuaded them to desist by telling them all could see that W B S stood for Wingate's Best Seats.

In 1802 Lt. Anthony Peavey built a pound for which the town paid him \$20. This old pound is still in very good condition, and is situated on the road running from the Lois Rand farm to the Ten Rod road.

From the time of its incorporation as a town Farmington progressed rapidly and the growth was a sure, healthy increase in population and wealth. In 1820 the village numbered fifteen frame dwellings, five stores, one mill, a tavern, and Mr. Elijah Badger was manufacturing shoes. Badger was the pioneer shoe manufacturer in this village that was destined to become the smartest shoe town in New Hampshire. We had attained some little eminence as a manufacturing centre before the war. That was in the days of brogans, before machinery had become perfected and when every farmer who would might take "stock" home and make it up. We are all prone to look back over the past and to speak of the good old days in a tone of regret, and who shall say that those carefree days before the war, when manufacturers did not worry over "orders," "specials" or any of the nerve-racking rush orders of today, were not the ideal days of our lives? Then every farm within a radius of a dozen miles was occupied and the owners were busy making shoes. All the ready money needed—and more—was thus earned and the farm was carried on at the same time.



EAST SIDE MAIN STREET, LOOKING NORTH.

But the rebellion changed all this and with the new condition of things the farmers were obliged to come into the village if they would continue in the shoe business. Our manufacturers, with few exceptions, had started on their own resources, which in most cases consisted of clear heads, strong bodies, plenty of determination and very little cash; and this change of conditions raised obstacles that men of less courage would have deemed insurmountable. Factories must be erected and filled with costly machinery, and few of our manufacturers were financially able to do this, but "where there's a will there's a way," and surely the business men of this village had the will.

So they set to work and by hook or crook secured the necessary backing. Factories were erected, unoccupied houses were converted into shops and filled with machinery, and in the place of a small country village comprising a few stores and dwellings strung along the main road, there sprang up a live, wide-awake hustling shoe town, full of life and filled with the busy hum of industry.

Save from the fact that Farmington has always been famous for its good housewives and fair women with mild dispositions, a second Rip Van Winkle might have climbed the wooded slopes of rugged old Caverly mountain, and after a snooze that would have been but a nap compared to the original's somnambulistic feat, looked down upon a scene as changed as the one that met the eye of Irving's hero. If the tooting of a dozen whistles had not molested this second Rip, his bump of curiosity would certainly have been aroused on waking, by the sight of huge volumes of smoke arising from a score of tall chimneys.



CENTRAL HOUSE, CENTRAL STREET

Dwellings were erected, new streets laid out and the demand for labor far exceeded the supply.

The story of our town's rise is so different in almost every respect from other New England villages, that when properly told the history of its growth seems marvelous and is extremely interesting. Unlike so many settlements throughout New England and even the whole Union may well be included in the comparison we had no great natural advantages. Such water power as Dover, Somersworth, Milton, or

the towns in the Merrimack valley, were not available in this village. The town's early growth was due to the efforts of Manchester men, who had been attracted to Farmington as the largest in New Hampshire.

The story of the early growth of Farmington is told in an article by Mr. J. F. Hall, in the "White Store" column. The country was then a vast, unbroken wilderness, and the advantage of a river running through the town, and the geographical location of Farmington, was a great asset. It was with either of these, but the mass of the early immigrants was handicapped to be considered as a whole, was more than made good by the character and indomitable will possessed by an early manufacturer. They were the most part natives of the village or had been raised on the hard and rocky farms of the nearby towns. Not one of them but had his full share of hardship and nearly all were on intimate terms with Old Man Poverty himself. From early boyhood they had labored on the farm, and what education they had was obtained during the winter terms of school in these rural districts. And when they were old enough to go out in the world and work it is more than likely that a good share of their earnings went to help the folks struggling for an existence at home.

But the hardships that the boys and youth passed through schooled him to meet and overcome obstacles that might seem insurmountable to the young man of today. That Elijah Badger made a failure of shoe manufacturing before the year was out did not in the least deter Mr. Martin L. Hayes from starting in 1837 to manufacture shoes for himself, and he was shortly followed by G. M. Herrin. J. L. Roberts was among the early manufacturers and he was succeeded by his brothers, George E. and Henry L. Roberts. Alonzo Nute and his brother, Jeremy O., formed a partnership about this time and they were followed by Luther Wentworth, H. B. Edgerly, Israel Hayes, N. T. Kimball and John L. Pratts, John H. Hurd, C. W. Thurston, George A. and Edwin F. Jones, E. C. Kinnear, John M. Berry, John F. Cloutman, A. E. Putnam, D. W. Kimball and others.



JONES FACTORY, MAIN STREET.

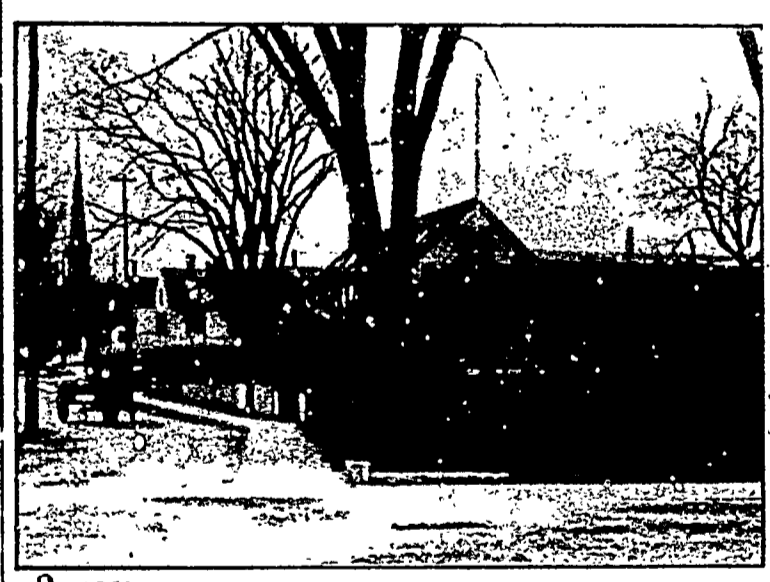
These manufacturers with hardly an exception were successful, and they labored early and late to achieve it. Perhaps no better description of our conditions as a community can be obtained than the following extract from the Boston Journal of June 15, 1859, evidently written by some sojourner in our village—

Farmington, N. H., June 14, 1859

Messrs. Editors: Supposing that a few facts from this locality would not go amiss, I am inclined to forward a few items. This village contains about three thousand inhabitants, principally engaged in shoe manufacturing. There are nine large establishments for this branch of business which turn out an extraordinary number of brogans in the course of a year. There is also a large sawmill in full operation.

Improvements are constantly being made in the surrounding lands; a number of new buildings are in course of erection, and with a continued run of the present activity in business, but a few years will elapse before Farmington will be ranked as one of the most thriving and prettiest villages in New Hampshire.

Like most places, however, which employ so much male help to the almost utter exclusion of females, the general society is exceedingly turbulent. Indeed, as a stranger coming into the place on Saturday evening, I thought I had happened into a strong community of roughs—one fight of the rough and tumble order, and a horse race, both almost directly in front of the hotel, being the first occurrences of note. Subsequent acquaintance, however, with the older and less migratory inhabitants has shown me the existence of a strata of society, if not exactly aristocratic, still quite creditable to a town of such democratic tendencies as Farmington.



GROVE STREET, NUTTER HEEL FACTORY

The place boasts of one hotel and that is kept by mine host Barnard, who is an excellent hotel conductor; he sets a neat, well-furnished table and keeps a number of good looking turnouts in the way of stylish carriages and fast horses.

There are two churches here in good circumstances, Baptist and Orthodox. The Baptist has for a preacher Rev. Mr. Cilley, and the Orthodox has Rev. Mr. Tappan both men are worthy and possess the confidence and respect of all. There are fine choirs connected with these denominations, in one of which I recognized the pleasant face and sweet voice of Mrs. James E. Fernald, former Miss Laura Whitehouse for a long time a resident teacher and singer in Dover, where she has a host of friends.

This communication is signed "Promis" and affords a fairly good idea of society as it existed in our village at that time. The revolution of business methods wrought by the war put an end to the "excursion of brogans" in the shoe business. Farmington did not fall into a sudden decay, but the front and business part of the village was a scene of desolation, and laborers and manufacturers. However, the village did what shoe business it could under the circumstances.

But in spite of this adversity, Farmington increased in population and continued to grow in importance as a shoe centre until 1875, the year of the great fire. Here is an account of that calamitous event printed in the "Friday Evening Post" of the 10th of August, 1875. This account is supposed to be from the pen of the Hon. John D. Linn, and is the most correct account extant.

Friday morning, July 12, 1875. Congregation at Farmington. On Wednesday evening, the 10th of this week, Farmington was visited by the most destructive fire ever in Strafford county. It broke out in the old part of the town, near the house of E. F. Nutter, proprietor of the "White Store," and spread and the carriage house was seen to be on fire.

The White Store

HOLIDAY NEWS.

We confine ourselves largely to staple, practical goods, and in this line our showing is better than ever. A few of the lines from which very desirable holiday gifts may be selected:

LINENS, TOWELS, APRONS, HANDKERCHIEFS, KNIT GOODS, GLOVES, UMBRELLAS AND FLANNELETTE GOODS OF ALL KINDS.

Besides the above we are very strong in Fancy Goods, such as Baskets, Work Boxes, Collar, Cuff and Handkerchief Boxes, Comb and Brush Sets, Jewelry, Fancy Calendars, Books and Bric-a-brac.

No other store in town offers the advantages to the average shopper that the White Store does, with its innumerable stock and varied articles to select from.

There isn't a shadow of a doubt regarding the quality and style of our goods, nor a question as to our prices.

We advise early shopping. Commence now, it will be more satisfactory than waiting until the last few days before Christmas.



Christmas Gifts.

We are headquarters for Holiday Gifts in Clothing and Men's Furnishings, and our line is larger and better than ever.

Fancy Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, Neckwear; extra warm Gloves and Mittens, wool and fur lined; Sweaters, Toques and Tam-o-shanters, Suit Cases, Grips and Trunks; Hats, Caps and Umbrellas, Fur Coats, etc.

We are agents for A. B. Kirschbaum & Co's. Guaranteed Clothing, and have a large stock of Gents' Overcoats.

BOSTON CLOTHING COMPANY.
J. P. BENNETT.

Good Things to Eat.

You may hunt the town over and you will not find another place that has a better line of choice groceries than can be found at this store. In canned goods we have everything. Call for the DAISY BRAND when getting Corn, Peas, String Beans, Tomatoes, etc.

MONANDOCK BRAND.

Try this brand when you want an extra fine Peach, Cherry, or Pineapple for sauce. It cannot be beat.

ARMOURS CANNED Meats of all kinds. Many varieties of Teas, Coffees. We can suit all tastes and persons. A full line of fresh Nuts, Fruits and Vegetables always on hand. All the leading brands of Cigars.

FANCY CHINA.

We have purchased a large assortment of fancy china that is sure to be a big seller. You will find many articles among this lot that will be suitable for Christmas presents. Give us a call.

J. F. HALL, GROCER.