

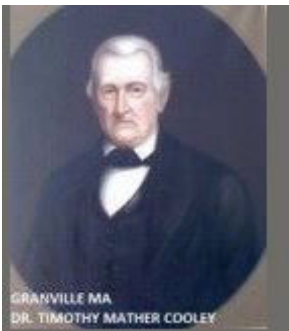


Welcome to the continuing story of Woodlands Cemetery, Granville's country cemetery on the shores of Degano Pond.

Winter is a quiet time as far as New England cemeteries go. But Spring will arrive again in due course with chirping birds, green leaves, and probably the usual threat of a Spring snowstorm.

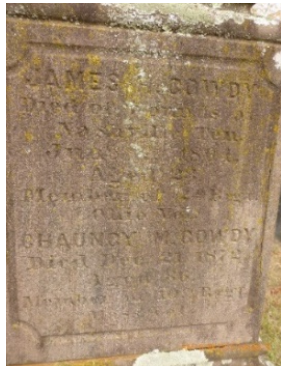
In the update category, we have applied for Community Preservation Act funds with the town committee and expect to hear later of their decision. Approval will mean that we can repair some broken stones and secure others that are dangerously loose.

Historically.... buried in Woodlands is Timothy Mather Cooley, (1772 - 1859) an important figure in the town for more than 60 years. He was a pastor, an educator, a member of most of the church councils in the area, and a trustee and later vice-president of Williams College. He inspired many young Granville men to pursue college. He was the son of Capt. William Cooley who led a company in the Revolutionary War. He died December 14, 1859 and his headstone is central in the Cooley plot that has the fence that we are undertaking to repair. It is because of his excellent record keeping on births, marriages, and deaths that we have a great amount of genealogical information available. He married Content Chapman and raised a family at 662 Main Road in a house that still stands.



Timothy M. Cooley

Woodlands also has many military patriots. Both James H. Gowdy and his brother Chauncy M. Gowdy served in the Civil War. In Nashville, TN, Cpl. James died from a gunshot to the side. In Cold Harbor, VA, Pvt. Chauncy received a severe thigh wound and mustered out of the military in July, 1864. They were the sons of Noble C. and Lydia W. Graves Gowdy. Chauncy was listed as a cigar maker at his enlistment. Cigar making was a viable and profitable endeavor in the early 19th century in Westfield and Granville.



The inscriptions read:

*James H. Gowdy
Died of Wounds at
Nashville, Ten.
June 7, 1864
Aged 23*

*Member of 2 D Regt.
Ohio Vol.*

*Chauncy M. Gowdy
Died Dec 21, 1872
Age 36*

*Member of 10th Regt.
Mass. Vol.*

For those interested, Albion Wilson's book, *History of Granville, Massachusetts*, is a treasure trove of local history. It is out of print but the library has a copy and an edition can sometimes be found for sale on www.abebooks.com.

From the officers and members of the Woodlands Cemetery Association, WoodlandsCem@comcast.net