



Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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Summer/Fall 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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When I wrote my previous President's Message, optimism was in the air, and there was hope that it would be safe to hold an in-person fall membership meeting. Unfortunately, the Delta variant has thrown everyone a curve ball, complicating matters considerably. Vermont has now passed 35,000 cases of COVID-19, resulting in 328 deaths, which is a substantial increase for our small state. The daily positive case count has increased dramatically, many times with over 150 new cases per day. For the state's latest Covid-19 numbers and information see: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/85f43bd849e743cb957993a545d17170> and for a detailed accounting of cases on a town-by-town basis see: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/covid-19-communities>. Therefore it would be unwise to hold a meeting this fall, and we are going to hold off on an in-person membership meeting, until the spring of 2022.

The 17th New England Regional Genealogical Conference will be held May 4-6, 2023 at the MassMutal Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. This location provides space for at least 7 lectures at a time, in addition to a Exhibit Hall, and an area for dining events. The theme of the conference is "Missing Branches are Not the End of the Line." The conference tri-chairs are: Judy Goss, a longtime member of GSV and one of the chairs of Virtual NERGC 2021; John Leppman, past president of both GSV and NERGC and current NERGC delegate and Rob Weir of New Hampshire Society of Genealogists. Congratulations to all of them, and a sincere thanks to them for their service to the genealogy community. While the next NERGC is still in the early planning stages, things are beginning to already take shape. GSV will be looking for plenty of on-site volunteers at the conference. More information will be available as we approach the 2023 conference. Look for more information on the conference in future Newsletters and online at <https://nergc.org>.

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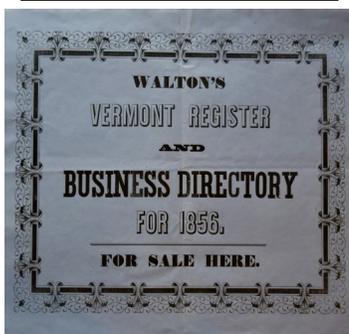
Diantha Howard of
Grand Isle, Vermont

This issue of the Newsletter contains an obituary Euclid Durkee Farnham, the longtime president of the Tunbridge World's Fair and Tunbridge historian. For additional information and insights, see the article from 2019 entitled: "Mr. Tunbridge in his Own Words" which was recently reprinted in the Official Guide to 149th Tunbridge World's Fair a supplement to *The White River Valley Herald*: <https://www.ourherald.com/pageview/viewer/TunbridgeFair2021#page=0>.

GSV is continuing offering several of our publications: *A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition*; *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham*; *Georgia, Vermont Vital Records*; *Vermont Families 1791: Volume 2*; *Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995*; and *Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records* at special sale prices. [see page 5 for the prices and shipping rates] Please note that the GSV membership discount does not apply to already discounted items. We are also running a buy-one-get-one-of-equal-or-lesser-value-free sale on back issues of *Vermont Genealogy* Volume 1: 1 through Volume 25: 2. [see page 5 for sale prices and shipping rates] This is a great opportunity for newer members to add to their collections of GSV publications. For orders greater than 6 copies contact me stevens@vermontel.net for the postage, which will be based on the weight of the order. Remember, the more you purchase in a single order, the more you can save on postage.

The latest issue of *Vermont Genealogy*, Volume 26: 1, should have arrived in members mailboxes by the time you read this message. Be sure to check the address label for your renewal date.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President



Lewis R. Morris: Vermont's First U.S. Marshall

While a majority of the first U.S. marshals had been appointed by President Washington in the fall of 1789, Lewis R. Morris did not become a marshal until March 4, 1791. Prior to this, Morris grew up in New York where he worked as an aide for both General Phillip Schuyler and General George Clinton during the American Revolution. When the war ended in 1783, Morris then worked as a secretary for Robert Livingston, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs under the Articles of Confederation government, during which the attendees negotiated the terms of the upcoming census.^[1]

By 1786, Morris had left New York and settled in the Vermont territory. In the five years, between moving to Vermont and his appointment as a U.S. marshal, Morris became a successful businessman and local politician. His influential friends from the Revolutionary War, his success in local politics, and his role in helping Vermont become the fourteenth state, all helped Morris secure his U.S. marshal's appointment from President Washington.^{[2][3]}

Since Vermont did not become a state until March 4, 1791, Congress passed special legislation on March 2, 1791 for its enumeration.^[4] The census of Vermont started on April 4, 1791 and ran through September 4, 1791. The official 1790 census schedule does not clearly show whether Morris utilized deputies to assist in the enumeration process nor is there indication of the exact completion date.^[5] However, we do know that Secretary Jefferson received Morris' returns by October 24, 1791, so it is probable that he either completed the enumeration by the deadline set by Congress or shortly thereafter.^[6] According to the 1790 Census Report, Vermont had a total population of 85,539 people, including 16 slaves.^[7]

These slaves are a matter of some dispute since, in 1777, Vermont had abolished slavery for women over 18 and men over 21. In 1870, the Chief Clerk of the Census Office, Colonel George D. Harrington, who was from Vermont, changed the reported status to 16 "Free colored" because "an examination of the original

manuscript returns shows that there were never any slaves in Vermont."^[8] In addition, in his introduction the 1908 book *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont*, Simon N.D. North, Director of Census Bureau from 1903-1909, also suggested that the enumerator/s, local clerks, or some other government official accidentally classified some of Vermont's "Freed Colored" people as enslaved.^[9] Additionally, there was a mathematical error in some of the initial returns that caused Vermont to have a total population of 85,539 people, as opposed to the actual population of 85,425 people.^{[10][11]} Regardless of the mistakes associated with Vermont's 1790 census returns, Morris continued to serve his state and nation as a U.S. marshal for four years.

After leaving the U.S. Marshal Service, Morris served his state and nation in numerous different ways including, as a three-term congressman in the U.S. House of Representatives (May 22, 1797-March 3,

1803) and as the speaker of Vermont's House of Representatives (1803-1808).^[12] Ultimately, Lewis R. Morris permanently retired from a life of public service in 1817 and spent the rest of his life at his home in Springfield, VT, where he died on December 29, 1825.

Footnotes:

1. "History - The First Generation of United States Marshals/The First Marshal of Vermont: Lewis R. Morris," U.S. marshals Service, last estimated release October 11, 2019, <https://www.usmarshals.gov/history/firstmarshals/morris.htm>. (Accessed October 11, 2019).

2. Ibid.

3. "To George Washington from Lewis R. Morris, 22 February 1791," *Founders Online*, National Archives, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-07-02-0238>. (Accessed October 11, 2019).

4. United States, Cong., House of Reps, "An Act giving effect to the laws of the United States within the state of Vermont," March 2, 1791, 1st Cong. 3rd sess., in *The Public Status at Large of the*

(Lewis R. Morris, continued on page 3)



Engraved Portrait of Lewis R. Morris, c. 1798.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress

(Lewis, R. Morris, continued from page 2)

United States of America..., ed. Richard Peters (Boston, MA: Charles C. Little & James Brown, 1845), pg. 197. PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/1st-congress/c1.pdf>. (Accessed October 11, 2019).

5. "Summary of population, by counties and towns [Vermont]: 1790," *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont*, 1: 9-10.

6. "Schedule..." *Return of the whole number of persons within the several districts of the United States: according to "An act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States," passed March the first, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one* (Philadelphia: 1793), pg. 3. PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/content/census/en/library/publications/1793/dec/number-of-persons.html>. (Accessed November 7, 2019).

7. "Vermont," *Return of the whole number of persons within the several districts of the United States: according to "An act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States," passed March the first, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one*, pg. 11. PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/content/census/en/library/publications/1793/dec/number-of-persons.html>. (Accessed November 7, 2019).

8. Table II Population by Counties 1790-1870 Ninth Census—Volume I: *The Statistics of the Population of the United States* (Washington, DC: 1872), p. 68.

9. "Population of the United States as returned at the First Census, by states: 1790," *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont*, 1:8.

10. *Ibid.* pg. 3. There is not a clear date for when the error was discovered, but Director North noted the mathematical error in a footnote in his introduction section to *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont* in 1908.

11. "Population of the United States as returned at the First Census, by states: 1790," *Heads of Families/1790/A Century of Population Growth Maine, New Hampshire, & Vermont*, 1:8.

12. "Morris, Lewis Richard," *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*, last estimated release October 11, 2019, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=M000983>. (Accessed October 11, 2019).

Source: <https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/ttc-lewis-r-morris.pdf>

New Members

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email: bconnie101@aol.com

researching: Austin, Crandall, Hall, Johnson, Mitchell

DEATHS.

☞ Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

Virginia (Blake) Clark 1922-2021

Charlestown, N.H. – Virginia Clark (nee Blake) died July 14, 2021, after a brief stay in the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, N.H. She was 98 years old, still strong in mind and spirit, and will be missed greatly by her daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren, and many friends and caregivers.

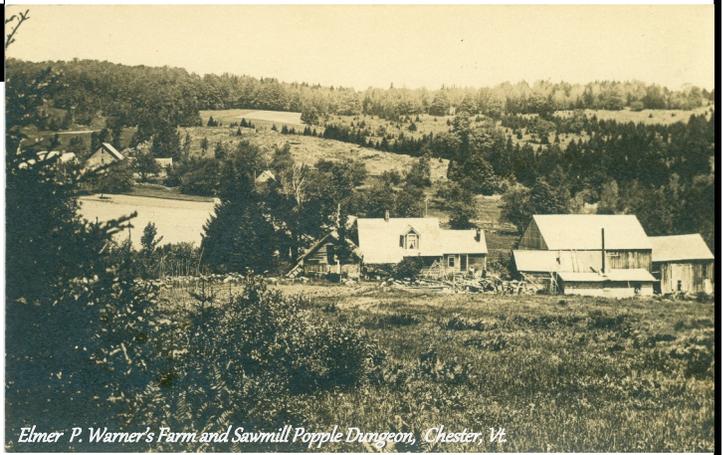
Virginia Alice Blake, "Ginny," was born Aug. 11, 1922 on a farm on Popple Dungeon Road, Chester, Vt. She was predeceased by her husband Robert "Rob", her brother Charles, and sisters Esther, and Priscilla. She is survived by her daughters Virginia "Ginger" Clark, Toronto, Canada; Lucinda "Cindy" Morton, Haverhill, Mass.; Diana Vargo (Steve), San Diego, Calif.; and Patricia Weiskopf (Harry), Elgin, Ill. – and by her many beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren across the USA and in Canada.

Ginny and Rob married in Chester Baptist Church Feb. 14, 1942. Throughout their many moves for Rob's far-ranging work in horticulture, they became active members of the church in their community. Her faith, bright mind, love for family and friends, and far-reaching talents sustained her and brought joy to our lives.

From 1978 to 1980, Ginny and Rob served in the Peace Corps in Western Samoa. They "retired" to Charlestown, N.H., where she worked for the Student Conservation Association in Claremont. In 2004 SCA nominated her as Outstanding Older Worker in New Hampshire, an award established by the federal Experience Works Program. She self-published four books of memoirs and history. Her book *The Source: The Settlement, Farms and Genealogy of a Small Community in Vermont* is a history of the families and farms that grew up along Chester's Popple Dungeon Road.

Her last years were spent at Maplewood Assisted Living in Westmoreland, N.H. with her beloved Rob, who was next door at Maplewood Nursing Home. The family would like to thank the good people of Maplewood Assisted Living for their care and friendship over the years – it was truly home. The family is planning a memorial service next August 2022 to celebrate her 100th birthday – and, hopefully, to avoid Covid restrictions.

Source: *Eagles Times*, July 23, 2021



DEATHS.

 Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

Euclid Durkee Farnham 1933 – 2021

Tunbridge, VT — Euclid Durkee Farnham, age 87, of Tunbridge, VT, died on Monday, June 21st, 2021, at The Village in White River Junction, VT, after a struggle with Alzheimer's disease and pancreatic cancer.

Euclid was born on November 18, 1933, to J. William and Alice (Durkee) Farnham of Tunbridge, VT. He attended grade school at the one-room schoolhouses on Whitney Hill and in North Tunbridge Village. Euclid graduated from South Royalton High School in 1952. Throughout this time he lived on his parents' farm on The Crossroad off of Whitney Hill Road. He grew up proud of the fact that he was an eighth generation resident of Tunbridge.

Euclid enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1955. He served in the Signal Corps and was stationed in Germany. Euclid planned to study history at Boston University with assistance from the G. I. Bill. Upon his discharge from the Army in 1958 he found that his father needed his assistance on the family farm. He continued as a self-employed Jersey dairy farmer until his retirement in 1996.

Euclid became a member of the Congregational Church in 1961. He served on the parish council for five decades, was treasurer for forty of those years and especially enjoyed singing in the choir.

In August of 1981 Euclid and Priscilla (Neale) were married. From that time the two of them together served God, their town and community. Euclid-and-Priscilla (often said as one word) enjoyed together some of the following: love, music (from Mozart to Willie Nelson), desserts (especially Oreo cookies and chocolate ice cream), flower and vegetable gardens, barn cats, Scottish Terriers, politics (staunch Democrats), photography, covered bridges, Robert Frost, trains, his farm and its history, hugs, books, Casablanca, Maine trips with seafood, and people (their interests, histories, families and heritage).

Public service was essential to Euclid's life. For 37 years he served as the town and school moderator. Numerous committees, commissions, and presidencies followed through the years.

Mr. Farnham was a true Renaissance gentleman.

While Euclid never realized his hope to study history in college, he had a phenomenal knowledge of local and American history with a specialty in the American Civil War. He visited many Civil War sites and helped organize the 18th Vermont Regiment, a non-profit which raised money and advocated for the preservation of Civil War battlefields.

Euclid felt a special responsibility to remind the community of its heritage, to teach about life during wartime and to honor veterans. This included the Tunbridge Town Hall program and ceremonies during Memorial Day. Euclid was involved in

organizing the Tunbridge Historical Society in 1961, for which he served as president for 45 years. He was well-known for his slide shows of historic places, "ghost walks" in local cemeteries, history walks and the "Tunbridge Speaks" program. Euclid brought historical presentations to schools and community groups throughout the state, and he worked as a substitute teacher in local schools for fifteen years.

Mr. Farnham published a pictorial history of his town (Tunbridge Past), a pictorial history of the Tunbridge World's Fair, and a long series of monthly columns (1987-2005) about the Tunbridge's past in Behind the Times.

For decades Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus had fun delighting children of all ages in the area.

Euclid loved the Tunbridge World's Fair, served on the board of directors for nearly half of a century and was president of the board for 32 years. He advocated for fairs across Vermont and was a member of the Vermont Fair Association for more than thirty years, serving as president of that body for two years.

Mr. Farnham especially was privileged to perform many marriages as a Justice of the Peace for over 40 years.

Predeceased family include his parents William and Alice Farnham, his brother Dewey and sister-in-law Ruth Farnham and his nephews Bruce Farnham and Daniel Farnham. Euclid's wife Priscilla survives him. When Euclid and Priscilla began dating he reminded her that he was related to most of the town. His surviving family includes his niece Diane Mattoon (Hale), Deborah Farnham, and numerous cousins, great nephews and nieces. He is also survived by Priscilla's sister Jean Wolfe (David), and nephews Ben Wolfe (Michaeline Kadlub) and Tim Wolfe (Kellyann).

Euclid's family wishes to express their deep gratitude to the caring staff of the following organizations: the Veterans' Administration, Hope Home Care Services, The Village at White River Junction, Bayada Hospice, Passion for Home Care and TLC Home Care.

In lieu of bouquets in memory of Euclid the family requests that people take flowers or plants from their garden or garden center to a nursing home or memory care facility in their area.

Donations in Euclid's memory can be made to the Tunbridge Historical Society and to the Friends of the Tunbridge Library.

A private graveside burial was organized at the Village Cemetery in Tunbridge. The Boardway and Cilley Funeral Home in Chelsea assisted with arrangements. A private message of sympathy for the family can be shared at www.boardwayandcilley.com.

Source: *Valley News*. Jul. 2 to Jul. 14, 2021.

The Weston Cornet Band
DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION

—AT—
 SCHOOL HOUSE HALL,
 —ON—

Thursday Evening, Feb. 5, 1880.

PROGRAMME.

SELECTIONS, By the Band.

THE THRILLING DRAMA

Among the Breakers.

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

David Murray,	J. T. Bryant.
Larry Divius,	C. H. Lester.
Hon. Bruce Hunter,	E. D. Bryant.
Clarence Hunter,	D. G. Wiley.
Peter Paragraph,	W. S. Fenn.
Scud,	D. J. Pratt.
Miss Miss Minnie Daze,	Miss Lillie Drury.
Bess Starbright,	Miss E. Wilder.
Mother Carey,	Mrs. W. N. Holden.
Biddy Bean,	Mrs. Lizzie Miller.

SONG, C. H. Lester.

To conclude with the Farce entitled

SMASHINGTON GOIT

—OR—

PEACE AND QUIET.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

Mr. Smashington Goit,	D. G. Wiley.
Mr. Twitterly Fluttersome,	W. L. Paine.
Mr. Jonas Closefit,	C. H. Lester.
Carpenter,	A. L. Waite.
Mrs. Fluttersome,	Miss Lillie Drury.
Clara,	Miss Florence Waite.
Melly,	Miss Mary Fenn.

Admission 15 and 10 cents.

Doors open at 6 o'clock.

Commence at 7 o'clock.

From the Collection of John A. Leppman

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 2nd edition
 by John A. Leppman, softbound. Item No. GSV 11.

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Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions
 Hardbound. Item No. GSV 3
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Georgia, Vermont Vital Records.

by Peter S. Mallet, ed.
 Hardbound. Item No. GSV 4
 Sale Price \$15

Vermont Families 1791: Volume 2

by Scott Andrew Bartley
 Hardbound. Item No. GSV 5
 Sale Price \$10

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995

by Robert M. Murphy
 This is the every-name index for 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue.
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Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records

by Mary Ann Z. Wheeler
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Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1 is out of print.

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2. Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; **Sale price \$10.** This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonters.

Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900. Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens, 1992, 406 pp. Item No. GSV 2; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This is a complete compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served as early as 1776.

(Continued on page 7)

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 July 15 — Summer issue
 Oct. 15 — Fall issue
 Dec. 15 — Winter issue

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Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham. Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; **Sale Price \$20.** Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont's oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845 and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an index of nearly 1,000 names.

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records. Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; **Sale Price \$15.** This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899. Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; \$45.00 members, \$50.00 non-members. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the Windsor County Probate Court Districts—Windsor and Hartford. The records cover the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century, more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate record volume.

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; **Sale Price \$20.** This is the every-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard installment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; **Sale Price \$20.** This book is a comprehensive transcription of census and vital records for Sudbury, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book is among the very best genealogical resources about a Vermont town. This is a cooperative publication between GSV and Picton Press.

A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition. John A. Leppman, 2005, softbound. Item No. GSV 11; **Sale Price \$5.** (Mail orders should add \$2.50 for postage and handling, not the \$4.50 normally charged.) This is a new edition of *A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy* was released in April 2005. It includes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to Scott Andrew Bartley's *Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories* (Vol. 10, No. 1 of *Vermont Genealogy*, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

Index to the History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Compiled by Joann H. Nichols. (1998), softbound, Item No. D1; \$3.50, plus \$1.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy. An index to J[ohn] C. Williams, *History and Map of Danby, Vermont* (Rutland, Vt., 1869; reprinted S.L. Griffith Library, 1976). **Limited Number Available.**

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Issues 1: 1-13: 4, are available for \$5.00 each, except special issues 10: 1 and 11: 1 & 2, which are available for \$10.00 each. Issues 14: 1 & 2, 14: 3 & 4, 15: 1 - 26: 1, are available for \$10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of \$2.00 (\$3.00 to Canadian addresses) for each single issue, \$2.50 (\$3.50 to Canada) for each double issue (i.e., the \$10 issues). For multiple issue orders, please add \$1 for each additional 1 to 5 issues. Note: issues 1: 4, 3: 3, 3: 4 and 4: 4 are out of print.

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E. CHARBONNEAU.

Richford, July 16.

Coffins, Caskets, Burial Robes, &c

My stock of these goods is unsurpassed. I use the most approved embalming process, thereby preserving the natural features for an indefinite time.

FREE HEARSE.

My Undertaking department will be in charge of C. W. Searles, who is competent to attend to all details. A full supply of coffin plates and trimmings constantly on hand.

W. S. LIVINGSTON,
West Berkshire, Vt., Aug. 17, 1885. yl

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