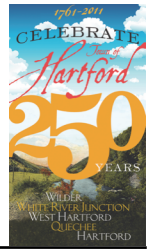




Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street
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HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER

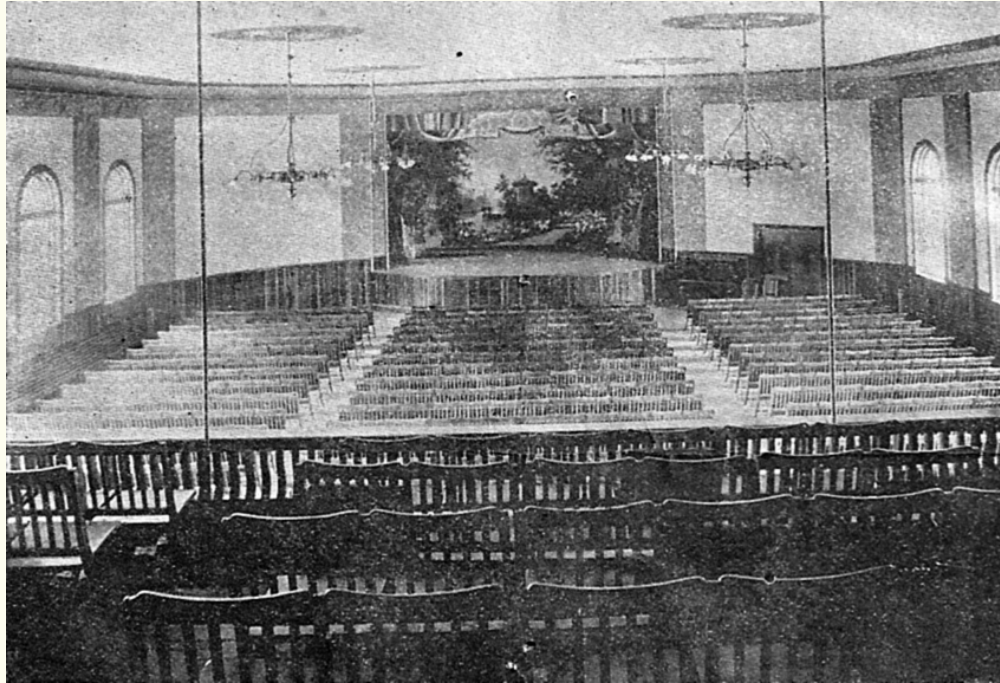


Volume 34, No. 5

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November-December 2021

Gates Opera House Electrifies White River Junction



The first media mention of the Gates Opera House is a short note in *The Landmark* in March, 1890. “We understand Miss Mae Gates has the plans drawn and the necessary preliminary arrangements about completed for the erection of a large brick block on the corner where the old Gates homestead now stands. The lower floor is to be suitably arranged for stores, banks, and the post office, and the upper half will be used as a hall.”

Mae Gates was just thirty years old when she decided to rebuild the heart of her hometown, White River Junction. Her father, George W. Gates, died in 1887 leaving considerable wealth, and her mother had died the following year. Mae grew up on the dusty streets of Hartford, but she had also visited Boston and other fashionable cities. She could have relocated but, instead, Mae decided to move her family home around the corner to Gates Street and raise a modern office block in White River Junction.

Mae was determined that the building would have fine stores, electric lighting, and an opera house as lavish as any in Vermont. The contractor was S.S. Ordway & Co. who had recently completed a Congregational Church in Wilder. Construction started in the spring of 1890 with the goal of finishing before winter, but work stretched into the following year. The building was wired for electricity in January 1891 and the first tenants opened for business in April.

On June 10, residents flocked to the new Gates Opera House for its first event, which was Hartford High School’s graduation ceremony. Patrons climbed a staircase from the street to a vast hall on the second

The Gates Opera House opened with the Hartford High School Graduation Ceremony in 1891. The Landmark reported that the theater seated as many patrons as the Montpelier Opera House.

Continued on page 4.

From the Editor . . .

The entrance to the Gates (Briggs) Opera House has not changed much since it opened in 1891. A stairway from the street leads to the foyer, which served as a mud room in those dusty times. To the right, a ticket window still greets patrons. And the old hall still welcomes guests to special events. This issue, we look at some of the performances and events that helped bring “city life” to Hartford.

We also look back at Herbert Miller, founder of Green Mountain Cards, which created colorized photos of Hartford. Mr. Miller didn’t intend to get into the postcard business but, once there, he and his wife Jeanette built a multi-faceted family business that is still thriving.

We don’t often devote a page to poetry, but the sparkling piece by Alice Cone Perry in this issue captures the pride of Hartford residents when a new train depot opened in 1937. It might be lost except for an apt editor at the *Rutland Daily Herald*.

On page three you will find a loaded bit of local history. In 1844, Vermont was a free state yet a Hartford official located an escaped slave hiding in town and helped her owner send her back to Georgia. Many, but not all, Vermonters were outraged.

The HHS warmly thanks two friends for \$100 gifts in memory of Alfred M. Kelton who died on October 2. Kelton was a friend to many in Hartford and a public celebration of his life was held on October 23 at the Briggs Opera House.

Once again, we ask for volunteers to take on a variety of tasks at the Garipay House. Please let Pat Stark know if you can help. She will give you a personal tour. We really appreciate it!

Is your mailing address yellow? If so, we hope you will take a minute to join or renew your membership using the PayPal form on our website. Thanks.

Scott Fletcher, Editor

Remembering George Wales



George E. Wales’ broken headstone in the Hartford Cemetery lies near where he was buried in 1860. Wales moved to Hartford in 1813 and was a prominent attorney and judge who served in the Vermont Legislature as well as the U.S. Congress from 1825-1829. His young son is thought to be the first person interred in the cemetery. When a second person was buried there, the boy’s sister told friends she was glad her brother wasn’t alone anymore.

The Mission Statement of the Hartford Historical Society

To acquire, identify and preserve information and artifacts related to Hartford’s past and communicate knowledge of local history through programs, publications, and other interaction with the community.



Hartford Historical Society

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Runaway Slave Woman Captured in Hartford

By Scott Fletcher

On December 20, 1850, the *Vermont Journal* in Windsor published this note, “A new Post Office has been established in White River Junction in this county and Col. Samuel Nutt appointed Postmaster. Col. Nutt is a thorough *locofoco*, but we think will make an efficient Postmaster.”

Col. Bailey brought at least one slave from Georgia to Norwich. Hearing that Vermont was a free state, she escaped and fled to Hartford.

What was a “locofoco?” And why did this paper apply the term to one of Hartford’s most prominent citizens? Well, it was a label that Nutt carried for the rest of his

life due to a national incident when he was a Justice of the Peace here in 1844.

In August, 1844, a southern lawyer named Colonel S.T. Bailey brought his family from Georgia to Norwich, VT to attend graduation exercises at Norwich University. Bailey brought at least one slave with his family. She was the family’s maid and, according to one paper, was recently separated from her husband who had been sold. Hearing that Vermont was a free state, she escaped from the family and fled down Christian Street. Col. Bailey learned that his maid was seen traveling south, and followed her to Hartford. Here, Bailey found local official Samuel Nutt who said he would help.

The two main political parties at the time were the Whigs and the Democrats. Whigs opposed slavery while Democrats considered it a matter of states’ rights. Bailey and Nutt were both Democrats.

Further, Col. Nutt had become aligned with a branch of the Democrats that arose around 1835 in New York City to oppose the local government known as Tammany Hall. They were recognized as a third party for about a decade and known as Locofocos. The name came from a kind of self-igniting match that was reportedly used by the group during a meeting in New York after Whigs turned off the gas lighting. Primarily, Locofocos favored limited government.

Nutt proceeded to find the woman. One paper reported that he paid a local resident for information. Regardless, the former slave was located, bound with cord, and taken by wagon back to Georgia. The

journey wound through Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Some have described the trip as the Underground Railroad in reverse. Southern sympathizers likely assisted Bailey enroute.

Having taken the woman back to Georgia, Col. Bailey returned to Vermont where he and Col. Nutt were arrested and charged with kidnapping. Vermont laws called for six months in prison. In the end, though, both men were released when prosecutors could not prove to the court that the slave woman was captured and transported against her will.

After the trial, Col. Bailey took his family back to Georgia and defended himself in a letter to his local paper, which was reprinted by the *Boston Chronicle* and many other papers. He complained that Whigs throughout New England and the middle states had a deep-rooted hatred for slaveholders. Calling for greater unity among southern states, he urged them to develop, “means of self-reliance.”

Many Vermonters were outraged by the kidnapping and trial. Col. Nutt was labeled a *catchpole*, slang for a tax collector. The *Woodstock Age* called Bailey and Nutt, “inhuman.” *The Vermont Watchman and State Journal* said, “the crime of Col. Nutt is severely punishable.” In Montpelier, the *Green-Mountain Freeman* asked, “Is this the land of Ethan Allen?”

This letter to a Woodstock paper from a reader in Windsor was one of few supporting Col. Nutt. “It will be seen, that so far as Col. Nutt was concerned, the bloody tragedy turns out to be a cutaneous eruption of the brain of some over-zealous friend of the ‘downtrodden slave.’ We have no objection to people manifesting what they may consider laudable zeal for ‘the slave,’ but when their zeal gets so far ahead of the truth as it did in this case, and is manifested in unjust aspersions upon the reputation of our worthiest citizens, it is time for sober-minded people to pause, and for the public press to see that justice is done.” *Spirit of the Age*, January 23, 1845.

But Col. Nutt would continue to be known as a locofoco even after bringing the Junction House to White River Junction and becoming Hartford’s postmaster in 1850. He lived in Hartford until 1870 when his wife died and he moved to Randolph. He died in 1871 and is buried in St. Anthony’s Cemetery.

As for the slave woman, there is no record of her name, or what became of her after this ill-fated visit to Hartford.

Gates Opera House continued from page 1.

floor. *The Landmark* noted that the seating capacity of 1,200 was comparable to the Montpelier Opera House. The balcony reportedly held another four hundred.

The stage of the Gates Opera House stretched across the wall opposite the entrance. Walls featured hand-painted decorations, and six huge electric chandeliers hung from the ceiling. The lights were initially powered by a steam boiler in the basement, but Mae Gates soon contracted for electricity from water turbines on the Mascoma River in West Lebanon.

On February 7, 1893, Rufus Somerby's Grand Equine Show was presented at the opera house with shows in the afternoon and evening. Trained horses, ponies, and mules performed throughout the hall.

their twelve children. The family traveled around the country in their own Pullman Palace Coach and had entertained President Rutherford B. Hayes at the White House.

The Landmark reported, "The concert by the McGibney Family at Gates' Opera House, Saturday evening, proved to be one of the best ever given in this place. The company was listened to with pleasure by a large audience, and the Sons of Veterans, under whose auspices they appeared here, netted something over \$40 from their share of the receipts."

Hartford residents flocked to a variety of events at the new venue in its first year including a minstrel show, a comedy troupe, lectures by noted speakers, and events hosted by local organizations. The Central Vermont Railroad moved its annual ball from St. Albans to White River Junction since this town now had one of the finest halls in the state.

In November 1891, an organization known as the Kings Daughters and Sons announced a series of five events at the opera house over the next three months. The series showcased performers from across the country, including a harpist from Boston and an orator from Kentucky. Reserved seats for the entire series were priced at \$1.25.

Of course not every event was a success. On April 29, 1892, *The Landmark* reported, "The entertainment

On July 4, Hartford residents filled the opera house to see musical numbers and humorous sketches performed by the McGibney family featuring James and Hannah McGibney with



The McGibney Family performed at the Gates Opera House in 1891. They traveled the country in a Pullman Coach presenting musical numbers and comedy sketches. The show featured James and Hannah McGibney with their twelve children. The Landmark called their show, "one of the best ever given in this place."

at Gates Opera House, Saturday night, under the auspices of Abraham Lincoln Post (GAR), was a disappointment. The management had reason to believe that they were safe in promising their friends a treat, and regret, we doubt not, their failure to make good the promise."

After many annoying power outages in the Gates Block, Mae Gates switched from waterpower to a steam-powered electric generator in 1892. Her investments in electricity evolved into the Mascoma Electric Light and Gas Company, which eventually powered many buildings in Hartford and nearby towns.

On February 7, 1893, Rufus Somerby's Grand Equine Show was presented at the opera house with shows in the afternoon and evening. Trained horses, ponies, and mules performed throughout the hall. At the conclusion of the afternoon show, children were invited onto the stage for pony rides.

The following month, some three hundred Hartford residents gathered in the opera house for the annual town meeting where former Vermont Governor Samuel E. Pingree was reelected as town clerk.

Local residents dreamed of performing at the Gates Opera House, and many were cast in locally produced concerts and plays. The Norwich Dramatic Club and the Dartmouth Glee Club also performed. And there was the occasional opera such as when the Ideal Opera Company of Boston presented, "Countess for a

Day,” in 1894.

The Gates Opera House was frequently rented by fraternal organizations for meetings and parties. An Odd Fellows meeting in 1894 attracted more than three hundred members to hear speakers from Rutland and Brattleboro. The large capacity of the hall made such events more lively and profitable than ever before.

One glamorous event was by invitation only, but members of the public could watch from the balcony for twenty-five cents. And there were political events.

One glamorous event was by invitation only, but the public could watch from the balcony for twenty-five cents.

house at a reduced rate to the Catholic Church Bazaar, which raised over \$3,000 toward the church debt, leaving a balance of just \$500. Alfred E. Watson officiated at the event.

In 1896, J.E. Brosnahan of Bellows Falls leased the opera house and produced a successful series of plays, which *The Landmark* called the best ever seen in Hartford. Mae Gates served on the Executive Committee of the White River Musical Association, which provided overall direction for the opera house.

In 1897, Professor J.T. Morrison demonstrated a projecting Kinetoscope at the opera house. The device, developed by Thomas Edison and his assistant William Dickson at the Edison Lab in New Jersey, projected loops of film shot on an early movie camera that Edison called a Kinetograph. Professor Morrison’s show featured thirty-five short films. Accompanied by music played on an Edison phonograph, the projector provided Hartford’s first cinematic event.

Gates Opera House was dark during the first week of August in 1900 when Mae Gates went to Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover with a lingering illness. She died there on August 8 of complications from surgery. But the opera house sprang to life later that month when Windsor County Republicans gathered to rally support for President William McKinley who was running for reelection against

Tuesday evening, November 2nd, 1920. Election returns will be received by Western Union private wire and special operator, in Gates Opera House. Every voter in this community is cordially invited. Come and bring the ladies. Good music. Good time.—
REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE.

The Landmark, *October 28, 1920.*

William Jennings Bryant.

In 1920, *The Landmark* reported that Hartford High School was hosting basketball games at the opera house. On November 2 that year, Hartford residents gathered at the

opera house to hear live telegraph reports of Warren G. Harding’s victory in the presidential election.

During World War II, Gates Opera House served as a USO center for service men and women in transit. It also became a training facility for navigators in the Civil Air Patrol. After the war, J.J. Newberry converted the opera house into retail and storage space, and installed a stairway that shuttled shoppers upstairs where residents recall a festive toy department during holidays.

In 1972, the Gates Block was purchased by Fred and Margaret Briggs who were merchant tenants in a store called Briggs Limited. The opera house was not used for many years but, in the early ’Eighties, the old hall occasionally hosted a theater company called the Green Mountain Guild. By then, it was known as the Gates-Briggs Opera House.

In 1985, David Briggs produced a concert featuring musicians from the radio show, *A Prairie Home Companion*. “From that, we did a mixed bag of things,” says Briggs who was instrumental in forming a nonprofit organization called River City Arts. They brought acclaimed, semi-professional theatrical productions in the summer. In the winter, there was a string of productions called the Cabin Fever Music Series that presented notable talent from around the country. But River City Arts folded in 1996.

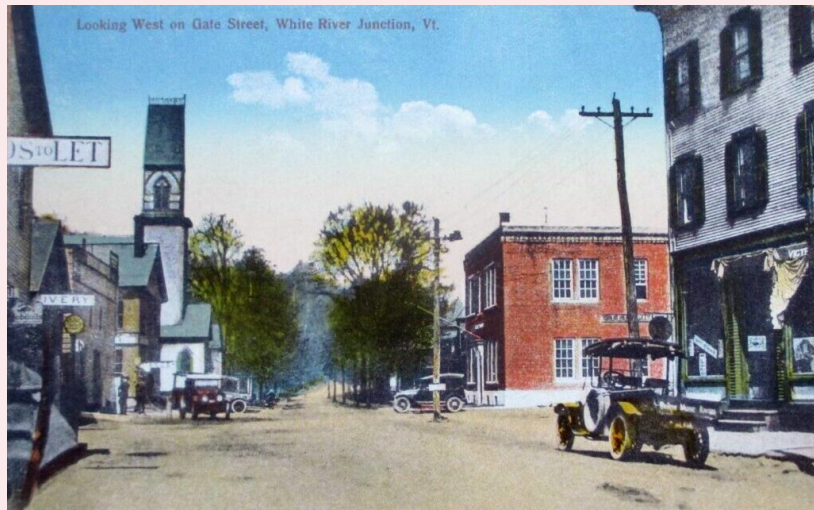
In 1998, *Northern Stage* began a seventeen-year run of theater productions. It now thrives in the Barrette Center for the Arts around the corner. Recently, David Briggs has worked to create a community arts foundation to support music, theater, dance, and film. “It will probably always be a mixed-use venue,” says Briggs, “hosting town meetings, political events, exhibitions, and other things beyond the arts.”

David Briggs hopes that the foundation will update the hall to meet the technical needs of current productions. But patrons will still climb the original staircase leading to the historic foyer and box office. The original stage sits behind a screen and hand-painted Victorian decorations look down from a cornice around the ceiling—traces of the old Gates Opera House that electrified the town.

Green Mountain Studios Captures Scenes of Hartford's Past



White River Junction, Vt. in the future.



Looking West on Gate Street, White River Junction, Vt.



Looking Northwest from Railroad Station, White River Junction, Vt.

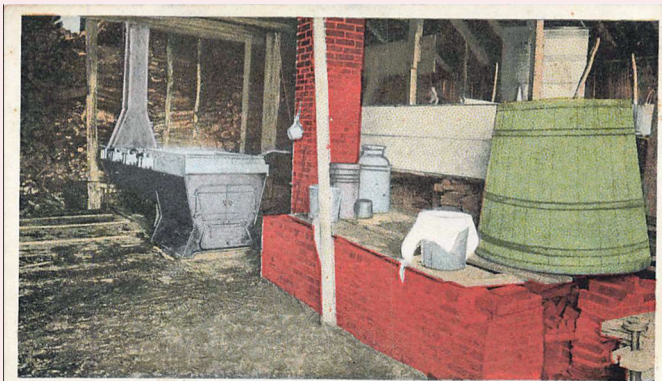


In 1904, Herbert Miller was working for his father selling Excelsior carriages across New England. In his spare time, he sold picture postcards for a small company and earned \$128 in commissions. Finding that the postcard firm was nearly bankrupt, Miller collected his commission in postcards. Not only that, he spent \$335 on more postcards to enhance his inventory. This was the beginning of the Green Mountain Card Company.

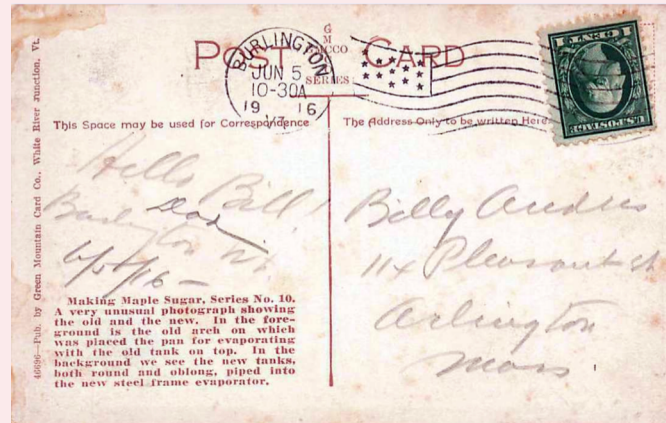
For several years, Miller traveled and sold carriages during the week, and then spent weekends with his wife Jeanette shipping postcards to customers. Business grew and postcards filled his home on Fairview Terrace in White River Junction. Finally, he devoted himself to the young company fulltime. He imported postcards from Europe and started producing them himself, hiring Hartford residents to color black and white photos.

In 1911, Miller purchased the Dartmouth Pennant and Banner Company and hired the former proprietor. Using felt from the Hartford Woolen Mill, Miller sold pennants across the country. A fire destroyed his building during the first year, but it was quickly rebuilt.

Miller developed new processes for adding felt and leather appliques to his pennants, and his market expanded to include resorts and political candidates. In 1930, The Landmark reported that the company provided pennants

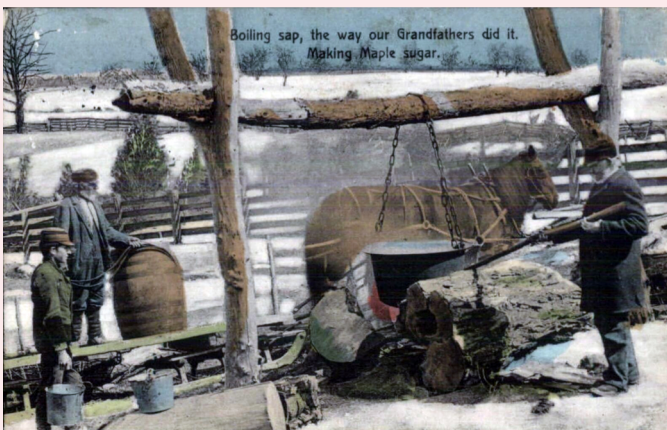


Interior of a Sugar House. The old brick arch has been discarded and the new style evaporator installed. *Making Maple Sugar Series.*

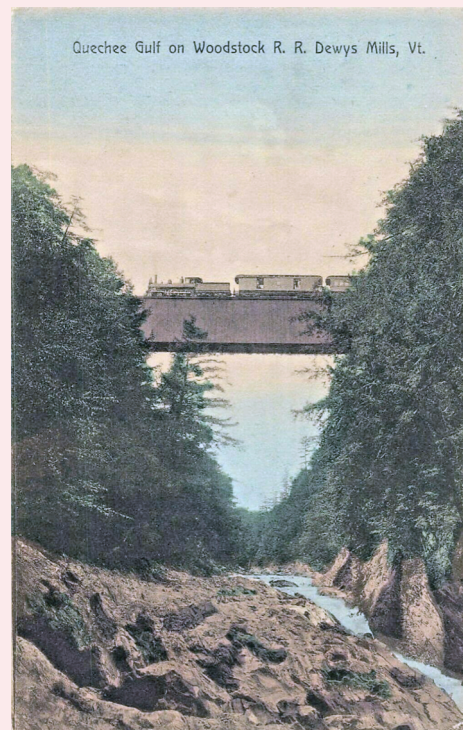


1898—Pub. by Green Mountain Card Co., White River Junction, Vt.

Making Maple Sugar, Series No. 10.
A very unusual photograph showing the old and the new. In the foreground is the old arch on which was placed the pan for evaporating with the old tank on top. In the background we see the new tanks, both round and oblong, piped into the new steel frame evaporator.



Boiling sap, the way our Grandfathers did it. *Making Maple sugar.*



Quechee Gulf on Woodstock R. R. Dewys Mills, Vt.

for more than 500 colleges along with banners, pillows, and other items.

In 1933, Green Mountain Card Company evolved into Green Mountain Studios as Miller diversified into wood, glass, and metal items from Europe and Asia, eventually hiring buying agents in those areas and displaying eclectic products for retailers at gift shows around the country. Wooden bowls were very popular.

But postcards are the legacy of Green Mountain Studios. There are scenes of White River Junction, the Vermont State Fair of 1907, and men mixing dough for Hanover Crackers. A striking view of a train atop the Quechee Gorge was photographed by Herbert Miller and hand-colored by local artists. A series of cards captured the process of sugaring in Hartford around the turn of the Twentieth Century.

In 1938, Richard Miller, son of Herbert, opened a retail store to serve visitors passing on Route 5. That was 25,000 Gifts, which offered Vermont-themed gifts to visitors.

When fire destroyed Green Mountain Studio in 1946, Herbert Miller moved to an adjacent building but decades of postcards and pennants were lost. Losing vision, he continued to walk to work, arrange shelves, and ship products until passing in 1971.



Part of the Exhibition Buildings, Vermont State Fair.

Copyright 1907. W. F. Turner. Owned by Green Mountain Card Co.

Twilight Aquarium Makes Brief Splash in Hartford

In May 1950, The Landmark noted the arrival of three hundred tropical fish in town, destined for display at 25,000 Gifts. Owner Richard Miller had recently completed an aquarium that already housed eighteen varieties of freshwater fish native to Vermont and New Hampshire. Eventually, he hoped to display all of the forty-some species found in the northeast.

To house the fish, Miller added a circular building to his store at the intersection of U.S. Routes 4 and 5 in White River Junction. He called it, Twilight Aquarium. Native fish were displayed in tanks in the walls of the room while the tropical fish were displayed in smaller tanks in the center of the room.

"There was a turnstile and a small admission charge," explains Kip Miller who worked with his father at 25,000 Gifts and now operates Quechee Gorge Gifts and Sportsware. Visitors to the aquarium were greeted by an undersea mural painted in fluorescent colors.

Kip Miller recalls that the project was very labor-intensive. Everyday, his father monitored the tanks and cooked ground beef for his fish. "He worked closely with the Vermont Department of Fish and Game to gather and maintain the collection," Kip says.

When the aquarium opened for its second year, Richard Miller advertised that the aquarium housed sixty species of fish. Kip Miller recalls that the aquarium had a sturgeon from Lake Champlain so large it could barely turn in its tank. Joan Harris worked at 25,000 Gifts while attending Hartford High School, and she recalls an intimidating northern pike that had to be kept in its own tank lest it eat its neighbors.

The aquarium lasted four years before Richard Miller decided it was not bringing enough visitors to



Richard Miller hoped to attract a flood of customers to see his display of New England's freshwater fish. Miller's son Kip remembers his father collecting fish at the family's cottage on Lake Morey. Water for the tanks came from a spring on the hillside above the store. After the fish departed, the round showroom became a retail space and was demolished when the store had to be moved when Route 5 was widened in the 'Sixties.

justify the cost and effort. Closing the aquarium, he entered a partnership with John Cone at the Hartford Woolen Mill to sell woolen garments and bolts of fabric. Twilight Aquarium became a retail space and hundreds of fish were returned to their native habitats.

When Kip Miller returned to Hartford from service in the Navy in 1970, he worked with his father at 25,000 Gifts. By that time, however, the interstate was whisking many visitors past White River Junction.

In 1980, Kip and his wife Liz had an opportunity to buy the gift store at Quechee Gorge, so he started managing both stores. In 2006, Kip and his father decided to close 25,000 Gifts. The building is now owned by LISTEN Community Services.

Quechee Gorge Gifts and Sportsware is currently managed by the Miller's son and his wife. But Kip and Liz still enjoy working at the store and visiting with customers.



AT LONG LAST

By Alice Cone Perry

Rutland Daily Herald, December 4, 1937

Come all you citizens of Hartford town,
Come Hanoverians with scholar's gown.
Come all you stylish folks, out Woodstock way,
Come all you travelers who night or day.
Have had occasion to pass through our place,
Come one and all and see this classic grace.
This light and sweetness, waiting dedication,
To use and glorify our railroad station!
For lo! these many years we blushed with shame,
Whenever we would speak our hometown's name.
Reminding others of the dismal shack,
Where, milling in confusion by the track,
Unhappy people struggled up and down,
Seeking a way to reach or leave the town.
Uttering, moans of keen exasperation,
That men should call that thing a railroad station.
But all is joyfully changed at last,
And now home folks and cheerful travelers avow,
That ghastly dump already is forgot,
Because the new is all the old was not.
From marble sills to choo-choo weathervane,
A thing of charm in sunshine and in rain.
We all acclaim with loud appreciation,
White River's beautiful new railroad station!

Alice Cone Perry was born in Hartford in 1892. She was the daughter of Charles Cone and Kate Morris Cone. Like her mother, Alice attended Smith College. In 1936, she published a book of poetry called, *Laughter and Love*. She also wrote a memoir of growing up in Hartford called, *A Valley Family*. In 1941, she won "Best Essay" in a statewide literature contest with a piece called, *The Undesirability of the Appearance of Virtue*. In 1944, she tied for first place with an essay entitled, *Recollections of Culture*.

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THANK YOU!

Yesterday's News

Col. Samuel Nutt of Hartford has raised fifty-three pounds of potatoes from one potato weighing six ounces—so says the *White River Advertiser*. *Vermont Journal*, November 26, 1852.

Thomas O'Neill is quite a favorite with the Junction House girls. A bevy of them visited him recently, and to supply his absence they stuffed out some of his cast off clothing. Thomas returned suddenly, and showed them the difference between real and stuffed goods. *The Landmark*, March 25, 1882

Where does the whiskey come from? Who sells it? A woman was drunk about the depot and another about the post office Wednesday, making music for the young men and a few old ones by her obscene talk, such as used to be heard on North Street, Boston, in the old days. Who sold them the stuff? A man as also drunk the same day but he seemed to know enough to hold his tongue. *The Landmark*, October 23, 1886

Christmas was well observed at the Methodist church Monday evening, the house being crowded almost to being uncomfortable. The exercises were such as are usual in all well regulated communities. Singing by the Sabbath school children, speakings, and recitations. We think the performances were all most excellent, but that of Gracie Tinker and Martin's children especially so. The latter sang a song together, the boy less than five years old and about the size and shape of a pin cushion, did admirably well, stood up as prompt as a soldier, the girl did well too, both being loudly cheered. Grace Tinker spoke the well known poetry of the coming of Santa Claus and went at it with all the energy and confidence of one who had had long training, which she had not, this being her first piece. She is an extra girl. Chase's little girls and Eaton's did well also and were loudly applauded. The tree yielded a bountiful harvest, especially in pop corn, of which we received enough to feed our hens for some time. We also got a hat, and a collar, and some pop corn, and a pig, and some more corn, and a primer (Jesse Dow sent that), and some pop corn, and some corn, and some more corn. *The Landmark*, December 30, 1882

With potatoes at \$1 per bushel, pork 6 1/2 cents and beef 5 to 6 cents live weight, maple syrup \$1 per gallon, and butter 30 cents, it does seem as though farmers might make a living and take *The Landmark* besides. *The Landmark*, April 8, 1882

It is one of the simplest things in the world to make a cup of good coffee, and this can easily be accomplished by applying a little common sense. If you put boiling water on coffee, and do not let it boil, you have all the good qualities preserved. One reason dyspeptics cannot drink coffee is because it is boiled. I have made as good coffee in an old tomato can as I have ever supped from the finest French coffee urn. We should take lessons in this matter from the Turks and Arabians, who grind their coffee to a fine powder. When the coffee is ground as fine as possible, put it in a little bag of unbleached muslin, which should be tied tightly enough to prevent the escape of the grounds. If you use a cupful of un-ground coffee you can make a quart of very strong, black coffee. In making coffee, many people sacrifice flavor for strength. Bitterness comes from boiling. When boiling water is placed on the bag of ground coffee it should stand at least three minutes before serving. Remember, the longer it stands the stronger it becomes." *The Landmark*, August 21, 1886

**HOLIDAY SEASON
AT HAND!**

I have just received from Boston and New York a full line of useful and fancy articles suitable for

Christmas & New Year's Gifts,
SUCH AS NICE

HATS & BONNETS,
FEATHERS, PLUMES, RIBBONS,
LACES,

LACE TIES,
GLOVES, COLLARS, CUFFS, HOODS,
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MRS. W. S. COLBURN
White River Junction, Vt., Dec. 12, 1882.

The Landmark, December 23, 1882.

Hartford Historical Society

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Printing and postage of this issue is paid for by gifts to the Hartford Historical Society in memory of Alfred M. Kelton.

HHS Calendar

THE GARIPAY HOUSE MUSEUM is open by appointment only. Please call 802/296-3132 or email us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.org. Phones/email are checked twice a week.

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS are open to the public on the first Monday of the month at the Garipay House at 6 p.m. (Please check for exact date.)

The **Genealogy Center** on the second floor of the Hartford Library is open Fridays from 2-6 p.m. and by appointment. Please call Carole Haehnel at 802/295-3974 or email her at: chaehnel151@comcast.net. Interested in helping residents explore their family histories? Please contact us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com.

Websites

Hartford Historical Society: <http://www.hartfordhistory.org/>

Hartford History Timeline: <https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/1456118/History-of-Hartford-Vermont/>

Very Vermont - Stories from the Green Mountains: <https://veryvermont.exposure.co/very-vermont>