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#### REFERENCE BOOK

— OF -

## SOUTHBRIDGE.

JACOB EDWARDS LIBRARY Southbridge, Mass.

# THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T

TOWN HALL, SOUTHBRIDGE.

#### SOUTHBRIDGE.

KNOWN far and wide as a town of surpassing loveliness, Southbridge has long since taken its place among the more considerable places of Central Massachusetts. Its citizens are noted the length and breadth of the state for their enterprise and progressiveness, having built and fashioned with unaided efforts, a muncipality within whose portals are to be found in varying plenty the charms and conveniences of a modern city.

Here, in this place a hundred years ago, a forest stood in all its primeval grandeur and solitude. A few pioneers had, indeed, cleared land for beautiful and thrifty farms, but the era of growth had not then been reached, although the first fair promise of future greatness had been given, and the early inhabitants predicted much that has actually taken place. But could those venerated sires return to the scene at the closing years of the century they might see their prophetic

visions a hundredfold fulfilled. Where reigned vegetation in rank profusion, and where rocks and hillocks obstructed the way, they would gaze upon broad and beautiful streets and avenues, wide expanding lawns, and, to their unaccustomed eyes, almost countless palatial residences and imposing public buildings. They would see instead of a few primitive grist mills and sawmills that then stood at infrequent intervals along the winding river, immense manufactories,—busy hives of industry—whose products go over every sea and to every land on the round globe. And they would see in place of the rough trails that answered them for roads, well kept highways branching out in all directions and uniting the town with scores of other prosperous and enterprising communities. The slow and clumsy vehicles of one hundred years ago they would see superseded by elegant private turnouts, and cars that run by electricity, and such would be the amazement of our forbears, that they might well think this not to be the sphere upon which they once were dwellers, but some Utopia of which tradition spoke even in their time.

The first white inhabitants of Southbridge and her sister towns came from Medfield and other colonies that were the direct offshoots of Plymouth, about 175 years ago. There was no towns in those days, but it

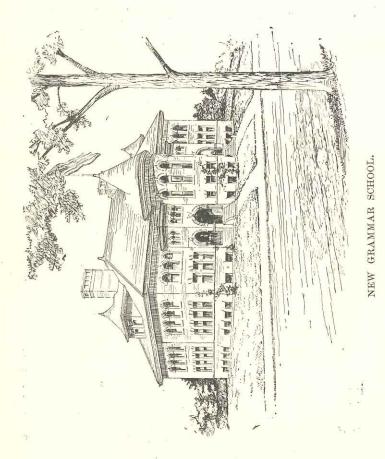
was not long before Sturbridge, Charlton, Dudley and Oxford became such. Southbridge was a part of the first three towns above named for 90 years or more, it not being till 1816 that it was incorporated. Fifteen years before that date, the place was raised to the dignity of what was known as a poll parish, a municipality with many of the privileges of a town, yet not a body by itself, still owing its allegiance to other towns. One of the first acts of the poll parish was to build a church, which members of different denominations used in common. No great impetus was given the town, however, until after its incorporation, and then began an era of expansion that has continued without interruption down to this day. In 1836 a town hall was built. Factories began to rise, growing and expanding with each succeeding year, until at last the parent towns were left hopelessly behind in the race.

Up to 1850, however, the town retained many of its early characteristics, but from that period on ward a new destiny seemed to have been decreed, for it forged ahead with bounds and leaps into the front rank of the large and splendid towns that are the boast and glory of Massachusetts.

That individuality that has always been the town's is as marked today as ever. Southbridge is no suburb or outlying district of some other town or city, a condi-

tion that characterizes so many other towns in the county. It is never spoken of as on the road that leads to some other place, for it is itself the center of its own section of New England. It is decidedly metropolitan in all its material features and creations. There is no advantage possessed by the average city of the Commonwealth but what Southbridge has equally as complete, and her having these metropolitan advantages does not affect in the least her suburban opportunities, which with the average city are eliminated. Her streets are as well lighted by electricity, she has as many and as good sidewalks, and as well built and maintained streets as any community in the State. She has a water supply and an electric street railway service. Her public library is probably the largest in any town of its size in the entire country. The state of Rhode Island has only three that are larger and the state of New Hampshire only five. The annual appropriation for the support of the public library approaches \$2500. Southbridge has a town hall that cost its people \$100,000. It is a magnificent structure, surpassing in its size and architectural arrangement and general excellence any other municipal building in the State outside the larger cities. The town's indebtedness is small, her prosperity is large, and her credit giltedged. It is greatly to her credit that all her material advantages are the work of her own people. She has never been the recipient of any notable benefactions, except that the portion of the building in which is the public library was given it by the late Holmes Ammidown.





### . PAIGE, CARPENTER CO. .

- - INCORPORATED - -

The Oldest, Largest and Most Complete Department Store in Southern Worcester.

#### 22--DEPARTMENTS--22

DRESS GOODS,

LININGS & TRIMMINGS,

CLOAKS & SHAWLS,

GLOVES & HOSIERY,

DOMESTICS,

CARPETS,

CURTAINS,

SMALL WARES,

UNDERWEAR,

CORSETS,

FANCY GOODS,

WRAPPERS,

COTTON UNDERWEAR, HATS, CAPS & FURS, FURNISHING GOODS,

TRUNKS & BAGS,

UMBRELLAS, ROBES,

TOILET ARTICLES

HORSE BLANKETS,

CLOTHING,

BOOTS and SHOES,

BLANKETS.

In every department you will find an unequalled assortment, and we guarantee our prices for the same quality of goods.

Paige, Carpenter Co.



JOSEPH M. OLNEY,

FORTUNATE from the start in the selection of its civic officers Southbridge can today point to as able and efficient a board of selectmen as at any time in its history.

Mr. Joseph M. Olney, chairman of the present board, occupies a substantial position in the larger interests of the town, and a secure place in the hearts of his fellow citizens. He is in the prime of life, having just turned 50, and as alert in mind and body as at the flush of manhood. Mr. Olney handles the multifarious duties, both public and private, that devolve upon him with the utmost ease and good nature, and has a faculty of getting at the real solution of a problem in a quick, decisive and accurate manner. Long intimacy with the affairs of Southbridge has made him conversant with all its needs and his counsel and judgement is relied upon implicitly in many of the important steps taken by the town. Mr. Olney has had a somewhat eventful career. At the breaking out of the war he was in the United States navy, and, although but a mere lad, had already visited China and other countries of the Orient. He remained in the service until the

close of the Rebellion—55 months in all, and figured in some of the great sea engagements of the times, among others having been aboard the Cumberland when that ill-fated vessel was sunk, and saved his life by swimming ashore.

Mr. Olney was deputy sheriff from 1890 to 1893, and filled that office with great ability, his dash and personal address making him an ideal officer. In 1891 he was first elected selectman, and his fellow townsmen have given him their suffrages for that office, almost without a break ever since. Since 1890 he has been tax collector also, his efficiency and promptness in this office being on the same high plane that marks everything else that he does. In 1896 he was selected by his party to lead the forlorn fight for the senate in this district, in the face of overwhelming odds. Notwithstanding this he polled the handsomest vote ever given a defeated candidate in a hopelessly republican district.

In addition to the offices that he has been called to fill Mr. Olney has been on some of the most important special committees appointed by the town during the last dozen years. He is a member of nearly all the secret and benevolent organizations in town, is a member of Aleppo Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Boston, Worcester County Commandery Knight Templars, and Odd Fellows. A becoming dignity and courtliness of manner characterizes Mr. Olney's personality, always easy of approach, however busy, and most considerate of every detail that comes under his official notice. His repeated election to the office of selectman has earned for him among his friends the title of "mayor" and the dignified appellation seems to fit him perfectly. Mr. Olney's charity is one of his leading characteristics.

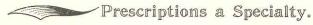
#### ESTABLISHED 1870.



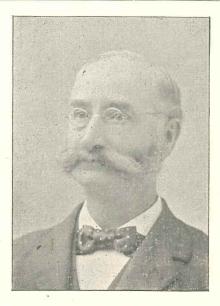


# SHEPARD'S PHARMACY.

All Goods Belonging to a first-class Drug Store will be found on our Counters.



All Electric Cars stop at our corner. Patrons of the road are always welcome, and will find our store a convenient place to wait for a car.



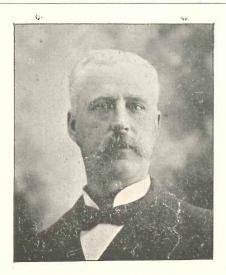
THOMAS SANDERS.

Thomas Sanders, clerk of the board of selectmen, although one of the staunchest of republicans, active in the party's interests and always ready to defend its principles, is one of that class of patriots who does not believe in allowing politics to enter to any great extent in town affairs. Hence, he may truthfully be said to be a man of the people regardless of party affiliations. He was first elected a selectman in 1880, and continued

each year till 1884, when he withdrew from the office. For more than 25 years Mr. Sanders has been a leading figure in his party, not only in this town and district but in the entire county. As treasurer of the town committee he has actually been the "ways and means" committee of his party and to his tact and skill is due many of the successes that have come to his side.

But it is not as a public man wholly that Mr. Sanders holds the esteem of his fellow townsmen. In a far greater measure he is honored for his loyalty to the best interests of the town, for his consideration and regard for the hundreds of workmen under him, and for his readiness, at all times, to assist the under dog. Every instinct of his nature is manly, benevolent, forbearing, human kindness manifesting itself in every lineament of his face and in every act of his life. To know him but casually is good, but to understand him thoroughly and enjoy the intimacy of friendship is a privilege to be prized. Mr. Sanders is treasurer of the Southbridge Printing Co. He was born in Fall River in 1845, and when a young man came here when his father built, and put in operation, the extensive cloth printing establishment. He has an intimate knowledge of the details of printing business, having had practical lessons in every branch of the work. Mr. Sanders is a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston, and an active and prominent Mason. He is a past master of Quinebaug lodge, a member of Doric Royal Arch chapter, a member of Hiram and Goddard councils, Lawrence chapter Rose Croix, Worcester; Aleppo Temple, Mystic shrine, is a Knight Templar and a member of the Massachusetts consistory 32 degree Masons, Boston. He is a past regent of Phoenix council, Southbridge, and is likewise prominent in the Knights of Pythias.

As an after dinner speaker Mr. Sanders is par excellence.



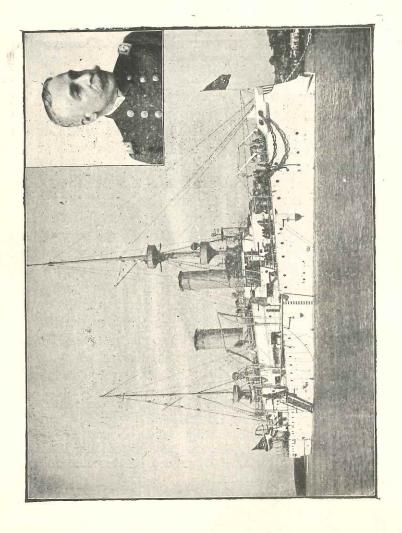
WILLIAM C. CALLAHAN.

W. C. Callahan, elected to the board of selectmen is a product of Southbridge, having been born here May 22, 1851. He is essentially the architect of his own fortune, having had no favoring advantages as a boy, and what he is he owes entirely to his inherent push and correct notions of the principles of life.

As a boy he attended the common schools and like all boys of his time and circle went to work early. His first employment was under his father, an excellent gentleman of the old school who had charge of the

drug department at the extensive print works of the Hamilton Woolen Co. Later he worked in various capacities for the same company, and finally drifted to the American optical works, where his skill and intelligence brought him good remuneration. Here he remained a number of years attending to his duties strictly, but finding time outside working hours of improving himself. He took an active part in the life of St. Mary's parish and to his efforts was due the founding of St. Mary's temperance society, being its president the first five years of its existence. He was also 1st lieutenant of the McHale guards, a military organization composed of the young men of the parish, and in various ways has figured prominently before the people. As a member of the Democratic town committee he has been of invaluable service to his party, and his counsel is always sound and conservative.

Mr. Callahan is a veteran fireman, having been a member of the old Melvill company 10 years and Hook & Ladder No. 2, for two years, being foreman of the latter company. Mr. Callahan has been sexton of St. Mary's cemetery 18 years. In 1881 he went into the undertaking business, taking special courses of instruction in the methods of caring for bodies, and soon became very proficient. In 1893 he built a large business block on Hamilton street, where he carries on the house furnishing business.



# C. H. ULLRICH, - PRACTICAL - -

## - CIGAR MANUFACTURER -

AND DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF

Smokers' Articles in General.

WHO MAKES THE

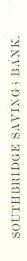
**Admiral** 

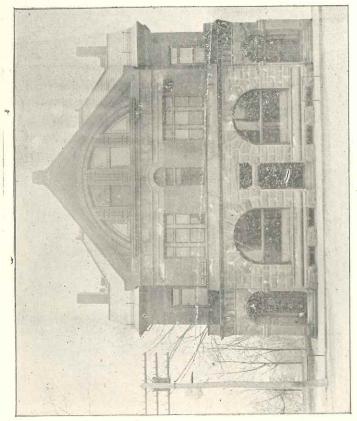


Dewey,

MONOGRAM, PRIVATE STOCK, CABINET CIGARS, RED HAND, GOOD SMOKE, PONIE GUV'NOR AND LITTLE STARS.

C. H. ULLRICH, 7 Central St.





THE Southbridge Savings Bank has been in existence just 50 years, being incorporated April 23, 1843, consequently it seems no more than right that a few facts of interest connected with its early history and growth be presented at this time. The first meeting of the corporation was held in the rooms of the Southbridge National Bank, Tuesday, May 16, 1848, at 4 o'clock and Samuel L. Fiske and Samuel M. Lane were chosen respectively chairman and secretary. Twenty-two names were presented for membership and were unanimously elected members of the corporation. Of this number Jacob Edwards, C. A. Paige and C. A. Dresser are the only surviving members and Jacob Edwards is the only one of the first board of trustees now living. An organization was perfected as follows: E. D. Ammidown, president; David R. Porter, Eber Carpenter, Samuel Hartwell, vice president; Manning Leonard, secretary; S. M. Lane, treasurer.

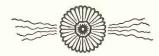
The first depositor was Fanny Richardson of South Brookfield, June 22, 1848, and the second was a Southbridge man, Michael Roach. The first year \$6,759.91 was received in deposits from 100 depositors and \$4,642.26 from 102 depositors the second year. Mr. Lane received a salary of \$20 for his first year's services as treasurer. This was reduced to \$15 the following year. A steady growth marked the progress of the bank until the year 1886 when it was deemed advisable to erect a building and thus procure more convenient banking rooms and a committee composed of F. L. Chapin, S. Dresser and Geo. W. Wells were appointed to secure plans and carry forward the work of construction, and as a result of their efforts, was obtained the beautiful and well equipped building today.

#### John A. Hall.

No citizen of Southbridge is better known or more highly esteemed than its treasurer, Mr. John A. Hall. He was born here 29 years ago, and none are more loyal to him than those with whom he passed his early years and grew side by side to manhood with him. Of athletic build and habits, he excelled in healthful outdoor sports during his school life, and won a reputation in almost all of them.

In 1890 he entered the Savings bank as assistant treasurer, where he showed marked ability for the duties devolving upon him, and in 1894 when the treasurership became vacant he was the natural and unanimous choice of the trustees for the position. Nor has he since his assuming this larger responsibility given anything but the clearest of proof that he possesses the qualifications of which his early work gave promise. His standing with the people of Southbridge needs no other comment than the magnificent support they have repeatedly given him for the office of town treasurer. His first election to the office was in 1894 and he has held it ever since, the Democrats having for three years made no nomination against him. Mr. Hall has also served the town as auditor. He also has

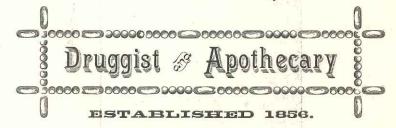
been very active in church work and is at present treasurer of the Y. M. C. A. Personally Mr. Hall is one of the most agreeable of men, kindly considerate of the feelings of others, and charitable to the last degree.



#### George Place.

Starting in a humble way as a resterauteur and caterer, George Place has in a few years earned an enviable name in his line, and by hard and conscientious work has built up a fine business. He thoroughly understands the art of providing for his large and growing patronage and those who visit his place once invariably become regular customers. Mr. Place has recently erected a fine building on Central street, completely equipped with all the appliances for carrying on his business in the most approved way, and fitted up in a most elegant and attractive manner.

## GEO. H. HARTWELL, PH. G.



Oldest and Best Equipped Drug Store in Southern Worcester County.

BEST DRUGS, CIGARS AND SODA. = = =

Public Telephone.

All Electric Cars stop at our door. Competent persons always in charge.



Old Corner Drug Store, Cor. Main and Central Sts.

HARTWELL'S.



F. H. KEECH.

One of the attractive stores on the main street of Southbridge is that of F. H. Keech, in the Y. M. C. A. building. Mr. Keech is a progressive business man, thoroughly up-to-date in his methods and keeps a store that compares in all its appointments with the best stores of the larger cities. Patrons can always find there the very best of fruit and confectionery in great variety. Also the choicest brands of cigars. Mr. Keech has a very large ice cream business, his reputation for

making the best being firmly established. In connection with the business he runs a fine restaurant which has a large and growing patronage. Mr. Keech is a first-class caterer, having had 15 years experience, and is in much demand at societies, balls, etc. He is a Connecticut man, and has been a resident of Southbridge nearly four years.

#### M. B. Landman.

M. B. Landman in December, 1897, opened a boot and shoe store in Gay's block, No. 19 Central street, and from the first met with success. The 11 years preceding his coming to this town he carried on the same business in Norwich, Conn., familiarizing himself with every detail of his business. Mr. Landman keeps a large and varied stock of boots, shoes, rubbers, slippers, etc., and his prices are as low as is consistent with first class goods.

#### Interesting Events.

Southbridge incorporated 1816.

First town meeting held March 6, 1816.

First town clerk of Southbridge was Timothy Paige.

First town treasurer Luther Ammidown.

First selectmen—Gersham Plimpton, Samuel Fiske, Joshua Mason, William Morris, Fordyce Foster.

First Constable Dexter Clarke.

The first tax collector of Southbridge had a salary of \$13 a year.

The first representative this town had in the legislature was Gersham Plimpton.

Appropriation for schools 1816 was \$400, in 1898 it was \$22,000.

Oak Ridge cemetery opened 1801.

Old town hall built 1838.

First high school established 1840.

First sawmill on Quinebaug river 1732.

First woolen fabric made here 1790.

First store opened 1799.

Globe Village takes its name from the Globe Manufacturing Co., the predecessor of the Hamilton Woolen Co. The Globe Co. was incorporated 1814.

# BAY STATE MARKET



The fire from

The only first-class and strictly up-to-date MEAT MARKET in Southbridge.

20000

Also a General Line of PACKAGE GROCERIES.

Fully Ely Juns

HERMAN S. SCHUETT.

Fish, Clams and Oysters Fresh Every Week.
Call on us and be convinced of what we say. We buy
and sell strictly for cash.

BAY STATE MARKET,

No. 9 Central Street.

## Fire!



FEW PEOPLE THINK OF A FIRE THESE DAYS

> Except when an alarm strikes. Well, that's all right, perhaps, but—the time will shortly come when heat will be as welcome as it has been dreaded.

It doesn't take the Fall days long to fall. Winter days are bound to follow, and cold ones for those who get left without the best heating apparatus.

## GURNEY BOILERS

FOR STEAM AND HOT WATER,

Are easy to operate, safe, economical and efficient.

#### The GLENWOOD RANGES and HEATERS

SAVE TIME AND WORRY.

The names GURNEY and GLENWOOD are sufficient guarantees of excellence.

These Goods are Sold By

#### GEO. L. WINTER

Catalogues and Estimates Furnished Free.



JOHN J. BOWLEN.

Among the most energetic and progressive business men of Southbridge, its street commissioner, Mr. John J. Bowlen stands well up in the front rank. In 1871 he came here to take charge of the extensive staging interests of J. W. Draper, a property which he managed with such skill that its value increased many fold, and later, when Mr. Draper ventured into manufacturing, he availed himself of Mr. Bowlen's capabilities, the two going in together. In the meantime, Mr.

Bowlen, still little more than a youth, had attracted the attention of his fellow citizens as a man of sterling qualities, possessed of an aptitude for organization and leadership, and a good man for counsel. He and a few others led the movement that brought the Democratic party in Southbridge out of chaos, and placed it on a firm and safe footing, so that it has since been in the ascendancy. Toward this end he has given much of his time, and also contributed most generously of his money.

Selling out his interest in the button manufacturing business, Mr. Bowlen engaged in the hotel, restaurant and livery business. He took charge of the old Edwards House in 1884, and ran it successfully for several years. Meanwhile, his activity had launched him into an extensive teaming, lumbering and contracting business, and these larger interests being more congenial to his temperament, he eventually relinquished the hotel business and devoted all his time to other affairs. Thoroughly mastering whatever he turned his hand to. Mr. Bowlen set himself the task of becoming proficient in road building, a business that has come to be of the first prominence throughout Massachusetts. He became a member of the State Highway Association, mastered the most approved theories of good roads,

and acquired the practical knowledge. He has visited all parts in the state and examined closely all road improvements. How well he has succeeded in this line may be inferred from the fact that last year he secured a large contract for building state roads. Mr. Bowlen has taken a deep interest in the welfare of Southbridge ever since he came here. He is a veteran fireman. Was at one time foreman of the old Tiger hand engine, and for three years chief of the Southbridge fire department. He has been the choice of his party for selectman, and representative in the general court, and has served on important special committees of the town. Mr. Bowlen belongs to several benevolent organizations, is at present Master Workman of Optic Lodge, A. O. U. W., and a prominent member of the Knights of Columbus, has been Chief Ranger of Southbridge Court, F. of A. Eight years ago he purchased valuable property on Chapin street, since adding by more purchases, and has built a beautiful residence there and improved the surroundings greatly. Mr. Bowlen is a welcome guest at public, private and society functions, and is always down for a speech.

#### J. B. PLANTE & CO.

Small Wares, Fancy Goods of all Descriptions.

bers, Boots, Shoes and Rubbers, Carpets, Hats, baps.

Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, Linings, Trimmings, Ribbons, Corsets, Gloves, Etc.

EDWARDS' MEMORIAL BLOCK,

Main Street, - Southbridge.

#### SOUTHBRIDGE POST OFFICE.

Arrival and Departure of Mails.

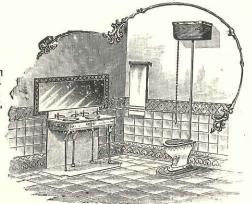
Mails Arrive From	Mails Close For
8.45 a. m. New York, Boston, W 12.30 p. m. ter, Norwich, Putnam, 6.40 p. m. Eastern, Western dle and Southern State	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{orces-} \\ \text{Can-} \\ \text{Mid-} \\ \text{S} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 6.30 \text{ a. m.} \\ 12.15 \text{ p. m.} \\ 3 \text{ p. m.} \\ 4.45 \text{ p. m.} \end{array} $
6.30 p. m. Fiskdale, Sturbridge, field, East Brimfield, Ho and Wales.	. **
8.45 a. m. 12.20 p. m. 6.45 p. m. Webster, Dudley, Quine and New Boston.	$\begin{cases} 6.30 & \text{a. m.} \\ 12.15 & \text{p. m.} \\ 3 & \text{p. m.} \\ 4.45 & \text{p. m.} \end{cases}$
11.10 a. m. Stations on N. Y., N. H. R. R., between Beand East Thompson.	H. & 6.30 a. m. oston 6.30 p. m.
11.10 a. m. { Globe Village.	6.50 a. m. 10.45 a. m.
2.30 p. m. { Mashapaug.	} 3.30 p. m.

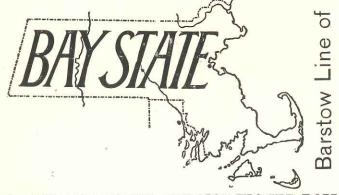
# SANITARY PLUMBING,

STEAM AND HOT WATER HEATING.

Hot Air Furnaces.

TIN SMITHING, GAS PIPING.





BAY STATE STEAM AND HOT WATER BOILERS, BAY STATE FURNACES, BAY STATE RANGES.

Wm. H. Clarke, PUBLIC LIBRARY BLOCK.

#### TIME TABLE.

Eastern Division, N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. OUTWARD FROM SOUTHBRIDGE.

		.50. 44.	
A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	Р. М.
Lv.—Southbridge 6.45	9.25	12.40	3.20
Sandersdale 6.50	9.30	12.45	3.25
West Dudley 6.56	9.34	12.50	3.29
Quinebaug 7.04	9.40	12.55	3.34
Ar.—Webster 7.18	9.55	1.06	3.46
Putnam 7.45	10.30	1.35	6.00
Norwich 9.15	11.55	3.00	7.40
Blackstone 8 35	11.25		
Hartford1015	11.20		0.10
Providence 11.58			8.18
Worcester 8.00	11.50	1 55	
Boston 10.00		1.55	
	12.28		5.55
INWARD TO SO	UTHBRIDG	Ε.	
Lv.—Boston	8.32		3.32
Worcester 6.40	9.25	11 00	4.55
Providence 8.30			
Hartford5.10		8.30	1.55
Norwich 6.10		9.15	2.20
Blackstone	9.35	0.10	5.00
Putnam 7.35		10.40	3.53
Ar.—Webster 8.10	10.35	10.40 $11.45$	
Quinebaug 8.20	10.45		6.03
West Dudley 8.25	10.49 $10.50$	11.55	6.14
Sandersdale 8.40		12.00	6.20
Southbridge 8.35	10.55	12.05	6.25
0.00	11.00	12.10	6.30

#### A. E. JEANERET.

The leading jewelry store in the hustling town of Southbridge is that of A. E. Jeaneret's, in the Y. M. C. A. Corner Store. Succeeding to the extensive business of Monroe, Carter Co., Mr. Jeaneret, who has assoness



A. A. JEANERET.

ciated with him, his son, Mr. A. A. Jeaneret, has built up and enlarged the business, adding to the good name of the establishment. The Messrs. Jeaneret are practical watch makers and jewelers, a trade which this family has followed through three generations. In addition to a fine and complete line of jewelry, clocks, watches and silverware, the firm carries a large

line of stationery, writing material and fancy articles, and make a specialty of Christmas, wedding and birth-



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING.

day gifts. Prices at this store are always reasonable, and customers may rest assured that the most careful attention will be given them. The watch and clock repairing department is equipped with the very best of tools, and the men who handle them are experts at the business. Their best references are the people of Southbridge. Mr. A. E. Jeaneret has been in the jewelry business 35 years; in Boston.

#### Interesting Events.

Big dam at Globe Village gave way 1828, causing great damage.

Hamilton Woolen Co. organized 1831 with a capital of \$200,000.

First agent of the Hamilton Woolen Co. was Samuel Hitchcock. Present agent, Charles W. Hill.

The "Big Mill" was built 1836. Destroyed by fire Sunday morning Dec. 9, 1850, and rebuilt the following year.

Big spec shop built 1872.

Manufacture of spectacles commenced in this town in 1831.

Congregational church society organized 1811. First pastor Rev. Jason Park.



GEORGE W. FAULKNER.

There are but few men who have had a more varied career than the genial landlord of the Faulkner House, Mr. George W. Faulkner. He came to Southbridge in 1843, and when little more than 20 started west to make his fortune. The western country was but little developed when he landed in Cleveland in 1853. Here he was a hotel clerk for a time and then went to the Collins House one of the considerable hotels of Tole-

do. His employer, Mr. Collins, sold out shortly after this and Mr Faulkner accompanied him to St. Louis and helped run King's hotel of that city. At that time Denver began to come to the front as a mining center, and in 1859 Mr. Faulkner and two other companions set out across the plains on foot for the mines. This

was long before railroads were built west of the Mississippi. They travelled over the famous Smoky Hill trail, a country swarming with hostile Indians, passing hundreds of human skeletons that told of the hardships and dangers of such a journey. Nearly four months after leaving Leavenworth the little party reached Denver then a mere mining camp. Mr. Faulkner prospected for some time, turned his hand to anything going, and after some thrilling experiences headed for civilization. Arriving in St. Louis he began running on the Mississippi steamboats from St. Louis and met many of the famous gamblers and frontiersmen who frequented those boats. Among others that he met was the famous Indian fighter, Kit Carson. Mr. Faulkner was in that country when the war broke out and hastened home to enlist in the Federal army. He went into the 15th Massachussetts regiment as a private, being mustered out at the close of the war as commissary sergeant. He participated in all the battles of the fighting Fiftheenth, but was never wounded, although the hardships that he endured has left him a victim of rheumatism.

Mr. Faulkner has passed many years of his life as a caterer and is one of the best hotel men in this region.

#### Interesting Events.

Savings bank established 1848. The first depositor was Miss Fanny Richardson of Brookfield, \$200.

First hotel built 1825.

First newspaper published 1828.

First man killed on Southbridge branch, Timothy F. Crane, 1866.

First passenger train into Southbridge Nov. 9, 1866.

Union church built 1867.

Central Mills Co. incorporated 1837.

Sandersdale print works built 1867 and '68.

National bank incorporated 1864.

Gas introduced at the Hamilton Woolen Co's mills 1851.

Hamilton Woolen Co's "new mill" built 1860.

Gayton Ballard became agent of the Hamilton Woolen Co. 1865.

Hamilton Woolen Co. established a free library at Globe Village 1860. It contained 2,500 volumes.

Delaines first made here 1844.

Joshua Ballard agent 1846.

The Irish and French congregations separated 1870. Rev. Michael F. LeBreton first pastor of Notre Dame church.