

New Hampshire  
State History  
of the  
Daughters  
of the  
American Revolution



1930



mittees on historic work; D. A. R. state librarian, 1923-1925, and was instrumental in establishing the state fund for the purchase of historical and genealogical books for Memorial Continental Hall Library.

Miss DeMerritt was for many years an active member of the State Federation of Women's Clubs; chairman of literature and library extension committee; chairman of reciprocity and club extension committee; second vice-president, 1907-1911; first vice-president, 1911-1913, and president, 1913-1915; state secretary General Federation, 1915-1917; chairman of forestry committee in the Federation; president of the Dover Woman's Club and the Durham Woman's Club.

Miss DeMerritt is a descendant of both paternal and maternal lines from the immigrant Elie de Merit, 1669-1747; is a great-great-granddaughter of Major John DeMerritt, of the American Revolution, who was one of the party to go from Durham by boat at night under General Sullivan, and took part in the capture of Fort William and Mary at New Castle, December, 1774, afterwards secreting a part of the ammunition on his own premises at Madbury.

Miss DeMerritt is a member of the National Society, Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, New Hampshire Chapter; is a director of the Children's Aid and Protective Society of New Hampshire; New England Wild Flower Preservation Society; Boston Browning Society, and affiliated member of the New Hampshire Daughters in Boston.

Mrs. Madeline T. Reynolds was born in New York City in 1901, daughter of George and Fylie (Linde) Thorndike; graduate of the Horace Mann School, New York City, a finishing school for young ladies; Episcopalian; married Stanley Caldwell Reynolds and has two children.

Mrs. Reynolds is a Real Granddaughter of the American Revolution. Her father was born in 1838, the youngest son of Capt. Israel Thorndike and second wife, Anne Dickey. Capt. Israel Thorndike was born in Beverly, Mass., in 1755, and in 1780 was part owner and commander of "The Resource," an armed vessel.

STELLA H. SYMES (MRS. FRED)

*Chapter Historian.*

## MARY BUTLER CHAPTER

### LACONIA

#### History of Chapter Name:

The Mary Butler Chapter was named for Mary Butler, wife of Lieut. Ebenezer Eastman, of Gilmanton. She became famous because of her ride from her wilderness home to Cambridge to learn the fate of her husband after the Battle of Bunker Hill. Of that ride it has been written "A million men have lived, a million men have died, who never saw a deed so grand as Mary Butler's ride."

As the town of Gilmanton originally extended to the Winnepesaukee River in what is now the city of Laconia, when a chapter of the D. A. R. was organized here, it seemed fitting to name it for one whose courage and devotion at the time of the Battle of Bunker Hill made her the woman pre-eminent in the locality which the chapter would serve.

The chapter was organized July 10, 1918. Mrs. Caroline LaProhon LaFrance was appointed organizing regent by Mrs. Will B. Howe, state regent.

#### Charter Members:

Brockington, Dorothy LaFrance (Mrs. —). Transferred to Abigail Fillmore Chapter, Buffalo, N. Y.

Buckley, Ida Swain Plummer (Mrs. William V.)

Busiel, Grace M. (Miss)  
 Busiel, Helen Juliette (Miss)  
 Clark, Claribel (Miss). Vice-regent, regent.  
 \*Curtis, Sadie S. (Mrs. Charles E.)  
 George, Edith S. Busiel (Mrs. Oscar J.)  
 Harriman, Alice Stratton (Mrs. Alpha H.) Vice-regent.  
 Hayford, Eldora B. (Mrs. Erville O.)  
 Heard, Nettie Barker (Mrs. Edwin M.)  
 Hibbard, Mary Gale (Mrs. Charles B.). Resigned. Historian.  
 Hill, Jessie M. (Mrs. George R.)  
 Jewett, Abby Harlan (now Mrs. Charles J. Austin) Historian.  
 \*Jewett, Isabel (Miss)  
 Johnson, Martha E. (Miss)  
 King, Helen Martin (Mrs. William A.)  
 La France, Caroline LaProhon (Mrs. Dr. A. J.) Organizing regent.  
 Parent, Clara V. (Mrs. Louis W.) Secretary.  
 Putnam, Lizzie Luella (Mrs. Arthur W.) Registrar, secretary.  
 Rollins, Maud W. (Mrs. Ellsworth H.) Historian.  
 Sanborn, Gertrude E. (Mrs. Harry C.) Vice-regent, regent.  
 Smart, Abbie J. V. (Mrs. Chester A.) Treasurer, regent.  
 Smith, Ethel C. (Mrs. James S.) Secretary, vice-regent, regent.  
 Smith, Marion Swain (Mrs. Joseph G.) Secretary, treasurer.  
 Towle, Louise Stratton (Mrs. Clifton A.) Transferred to Exeter Chapter.  
 Turner, Mabel Swain (Mrs. Henry H.) Secretary.  
 Varney, Laura E. Varney (Mrs. Edmund C.) Vice-regent, regent, historian.  
 Weymouth, Blanche (Miss)

Chapter Work under Five Regencies:

*Mrs. Caroline LaProhon LaFrance, 1918-1921*

For World War work the chapter adopted a French orphan. Each member paid \$1.50 to the Liberty Loan Fund, 50 cents per capita toward the restoration of Tilloloy. Relics were sent to Memorial Continental Hall. Subscriptions were made to the Sarah E. Guernsey fund, International College, Immigrants' Manual, Memorial Fountain and painting sent to France.

*Mrs. Laura E. Varney, 1921-1923*

The chapter subscribed to the following worthy objects: International College; Industrial School at Tamassee, S. C.; National Old Trail roads; Guernsey Scholarship fund; Pilgrim Memorial fountain; Manual; bell at Valley Forge and toward furnishing the corresponding secretary general's office in Memorial Continental Hall.

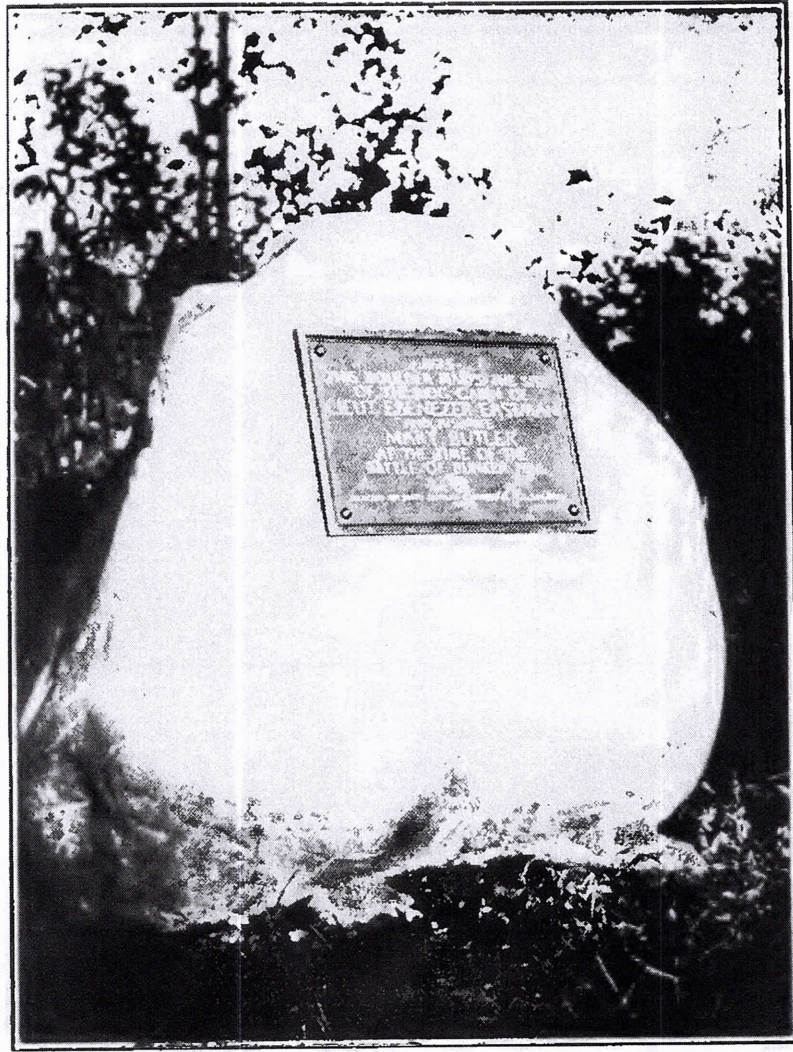
Marked the site of the Mary Butler cabin in Gilmanton and acquired title to the land on which the boulder and tablet stands

Inscription:

1775  
 This boulder marks the site  
 of the log cabin of  
 Lieut. Ebenezer Eastman  
 and his wife  
 Mary Butler  
 At the time of the  
 Battle of Bunker Hill

\*Deceased





Marker on site of Log Cabin of Mary Butler Eastman, in Gilmanton,  
erected by Mary Butler Chapter

*Mrs. Abbie J. Varney Smart, 1923-1925*

The chapter located and marked the graves of forty-four Revolutionary soldiers; began the work of compiling historical material for their book, "Old Meredith and Vicinity." Contributed money to International College, Manual, Ellis Island (with a box of material), Old Trail Roads and Valley Forge bell. In the state D. A. R. pageant put on a scene of pioneer days, "Mary Butler's Ride."

*Mrs. Ethel Carley Smith, 1925-1926*

The chapter completed the material for their book, "Old Meredith and Vicinity" and issued same; restored old burying grounds and marked the old town pound in Meredith by placing an inscribed granite tablet in the wall.

*Miss Claribel Clark, 1926-1928*

The chapter bought and paid for a chair for Constitution Hall; marked the graves of thirty-seven Revolutionary soldiers, one of whom was a member of the



New Hampshire Society of the Cincinnati. A bronze marker was placed upon the grave of our Real Daughter, Mrs. Janette McMurphy; twenty-one flags were placed in school rooms; medals were given to pupils writing the best essays on "The History of the Constitution of the United States," and "The History of New Hampshire before 1789." Subscriptions were given to the Student Loan fund and Franconia Notch forest fund. The location of graves and records of 152 Revolutionary soldiers were put in shape by Mrs. Mary Gale Hibbard, then historian, and sent to the state historian to be printed in the *Smithsonian Bulletin*.

Charter membership in 1928, seventy-two

#### Biographies of Chapter Regents:

Mrs. Caroline LaProhon LaFrance was born in Portland, Me., February 1, 1860, daughter of Dr. E. P. and Susie Helen (Green) LaProhon; educated in Notre Dame Training School; Catholic; married Dr. A. J. LaFrance, of Augusta, Me., October 5, 1898, and has two children; has also served the chapter on board of managers and various committees; Revolutionary ancestor, Jonas Clark.

Mrs. Laura E. Varney Varney was born in Rochester August 10, 1863, daughter of George F. and Eliza C. (Ham) Varney; educated at Gilmanton Academy; Congregationalist; married March 12, 1883, Edmund C. Varney, of Gilmanton, and has two sons; has served her chapter as vice-regent and historian, chairman of board of management, historical research committee and others; Revolutionary ancestors, John Clark, of Barnstead; Moses Hayes and Elijah Varney, of Rochester.

Mrs. Abbie J. Varney Smart was born in Farmington July 1, 1870, daughter of George F. and Eliza C. (Ham) Varney; educated at Rochester High School; Congregationalist; married December 5, 1891, Chester A. Smart, of Parkman, Me.; has served her chapter as treasurer, chairman of board of management, chairman of committee on marking graves of Revolutionary soldiers; Revolutionary ancestors, John Clark, of Barnstead; Moses Hayes and Elijah Varney, of Rochester.

Mrs. Ethel Carley Smith was born in Lowell, Mass., November 14, 1875, daughter of James M. and Elizabeth (Burleigh) Carley; educated at Cambridge (Mass.) Latin School and Meriden Academy; Episcopalian; married July 30, 1901, James S. Smith, of Laconia, and has two sons; has served her chapter as vice-regent, secretary, chairman board of management and other committees; Revolutionary ancestor, Gordon Burleigh.

Miss Claribel Clark was born in Gilford (now a part of Laconia) June 11, 1860, daughter of Samuel C. and Clarissa (Hall) Clark; educated at Tilton Seminary; Baptist; has served her chapter as vice-regent, chairman Americanization, board of management and other committees; Revolutionary ancestors, Col. Jonathan Mitchell and Lieut. Jonathan Mitchell; she is a descendant of Francis Cook, of the Mayflower.

Mrs. Gertrude E. Whitten Sanborn was born in Laconia, July 16, 1870, daughter of James S. and Sarah J. (Berry) Whitten; educated at Laconia High School and Tilton Seminary; Congregationalist; married June 16, 1898, Harry C. Sanborn, of Sanbornton; Revolutionary ancestor, Richard Whitten.

#### Biography of Real Daughter:

Mrs. Janette M. McMurphy, accepted as a Real Daughter April 12, 1924, by Mary Butler Chapter, was born in Lisbon February 12, 1839, and died January 4, 1927; married Henry McMurphy.

She was the daughter of Reuben Sherman, born in Gloucester, R. I., July 22, 1763, and died in Lisbon May 3, 1843. He enlisted in Gloucester, R. I., April 12, 1779, and served as a private for one year; enlisted again in April, 1781, and served, in Captain Lovell's Vermont Company until December, 1781; allowed pension August 14, 1832. She is buried in Salmon Hole cemetery, Lisbon.

## Biography of Prominent Member:

Mrs. Mary Gale Hibbard was born in Laconia August 19, 1860, daughter of Lucian and Sarah Elizabeth (Chadwick) Gale; a graduate of Swarthmore College (Penn.) in 1882, with degree of A.B.; received the degree of A.M. in 1891; taught Latin in the Baldwin School, Penn., and also taught in Bryn Mawr College, Penn.; she was a visitor student at Newnham, Cambridge, England, during the summer of 1901; Unitarian; married December 14, 1897, Charles B. Hibbard, of Laconia.

Mrs. Hibbard was much interested in getting out the book, "Old Meredith." She did a great deal of the research work, edited the book and was one of the four to finance the book.

MRS. LAURA E. VARNEY,

*Chapter Historian.*

## MARY TORR CHAPTER

## ROCHESTER

## History of Chapter Name:

The chapter was named for Mary Torr, daughter of Vincent Torr, the immigrant who settled at Dover and later fought in the Revolution. Mary Torr married Judge Thompson, of Durham. As she was the ancestor of practically all of the charter members, it was thought that sufficient reason existed for naming the chapter for her.

The chapter was organized April 19, 1906, chartered October 25, 1906; organizing regent, Mrs. Millie A. G. Worcester, appointed by Mrs. John McLane, state regent.

## Charter Members:

Berry, Mrs. Elizabeth D. Board of managers.

\*Chase, Mrs. Abbie McDuffee. Board of managers.

Hussey, Carrie H. W. (Mrs. Charles E.) Treasurer, regent.

Leavitt, Ella S. G. (Mrs. Justin M.)

McDuffee, Nellie F. (Mrs. George) Regent, historian.

\*Safford, Mrs. Martha A. Regent, historian.

\*Sweet, Mrs. Josephine W. Board of managers, vice-regent, historian.

\*Waldron, Mrs. Adelaide C. Historian.

Wallace, Miss Annie. Secretary, vice-regent, regent, state regent, vice-president general.

Wentworth, Harriet A. C. (Mrs. H. L.) Registrar, secretary.

\*Wentworth, Mrs. Lydia H.

\*Worcester, Millie A. G. (Mrs. H. L.) Organizing regent.

## Real Daughter:

Mrs. Hannah M. Howard, widow of John Howard, was born June, 1815, and died April 30, 1919. She was the daughter of Joseph and Jennie Brown. Joseph Brown (1748-1849), private in the Continental Army, enlisted October, 1775, in Capt. Joseph Parsons' Company of Rye for the defense of Portsmouth against the expected attack of the British fleet. He was stationed at Great Island, now New

\*Deceased



DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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*Shaw Cemetery, Lily Lake, Pittsfield*

Shaw, John

*Grave in Family Lot on Farm Settled by Jonathan Towle, near Wild Goose Pond, Pittsfield*

Towle, Jonathan

*Grave on Farm Once Owned by Fred Morrill on Tilton Hill, Pittsfield*

True, John

*Grave on Farm Owned by Noah Weeks, Jenness Pond, Pittsfield*

Watson, William

*Loudon Center Cemetery, Loudon*

Currier, Amos  
Ordway, Daniel  
Ordway, Joses  
Osgood, Chase

Sanborn, Captain John  
Sargent, Captain Thomas  
Swett, Thomas

*Family Lot on Farm Owned by David Baston, Epsom*

Philbrick, Daniel

*Bickford Cemetery, Ossipee*

Garland, Amos

*Cemetery on Farm Owned by J. W. Sanborn, Gilmanton*

Barter, Henry  
Carr, Elliott

Wilson, Captain Nathaniel

*Family Lot on Farm Owned by Fred Foss, Barnstead*

Dennett, Moses

*Knowlton Cemetery, Chichester*

Sargent, Jonathan

Seavey, Daniel

*Pine Ground Cemetery, Chichester*

Smith, Josiah (Government Headstone)

*Edmunds Cemetery, Chichester*

Carpenter, Josiah  
Sanborn, Dudley (Government Headstone)

Stevens, N. (Government Headstone)

*Cemetery on Bear Hill, Chichester*

Maxfield, R. (Government Headstone)