

some interest, and serve, with those of others, to fill a page of local history.

In the early part of the present Christian century, there was clustered in the vicinity of the meeting-house, which then had no steeple, the house of Rev. Mr. Ainsworth, at the south-east corner of the common; Danforth's tavern, where Cutter's hotel now stands; the store of Joseph Thorndike, Esq., and David Page's store, on the east side; Cragin's saddlery-shop, on the north-east corner; and on the north, a large pile of buildings belonging to Joseph Cutter, Esq., of which only the main dwelling-house now remains. He kept a tavern, and had very ample accommodations for his customers. He was, I think, much the largest landholder in the township, and had an ambition to settle each of his numerous sons on a farm, which he accomplished to a great extent. At the south-west corner of the burying-ground was a school-house. East of Danforth's tavern was his blacksmith-shop, north of which was the dwelling-house of Capt. Samuel Adams.

Commencing at the common, the road to the north-east, leading to Peterborough, and to the south-easterly part of Dublin, passed by a small house on the corner, at the left, no longer there, which was occupied at one time by Mr. Cummings, afterwards by Dr. Johnson and by Jonathan Lufkin; there turning north, the road extended by the place where the Melville academy now stands, less than a quarter of a mile, where it forked, the direct road proceeding northerly towards Dublin, by the houses of Mr. Newton and Thomas French,—the easterly fork, which was the principal road, running over the hill by a house occupied by David Smiley, Esq., attorney-at-law. This house has gone, and the road over the hill has gone with it. The more modern route, north-east, by Mr. John Cutter's tannery, and easterly of the meadow, entered this old road at the foot of the hill, on the east.

Nearly a mile east of the village was the house of Widow Bryant.

The road forked a few rods easterly. On the northerly branch, which branched again, lived Samuel Cary, Benjamin Lawrence, Deacon Jesse Maynard, Azael Gowing, Moses Stickney, Samuel Stickney, Silas Adams, Jacob Jewell, Benjamin Frost. Proceeding a short distance, the easterly branch appeared to run into a north and south road, but the northerly part was the main road to the north-east. A few rods to the south was the house of Alpheus Crosby; in front, that of Asa Sawyer. Pursuing the main road, at a distance of about half a mile, on the right side, was the house of Lieut. Thomas Adams, which has disappeared. Another was built near, on the left side, many years since, occupied by Daniel Emery. Not far beyond, at the place where a road now leads off to the East village, there came into this road, from the west, a short branch road, on which lived Mr. Bates. At this point came another fork. On the northerly branch, which has been slightly changed at its commencement, a quarter of a mile brought the traveller to another fork, the westerly road being merely a local branch, terminating at the house soon after owned by Samuel Pierce. On the easterly or main branch, we came next to the school-house of the district of my early boyhood, and in the field some quarter of a mile south-east was the house of Ebenezer Burpee.

Miss Hitty Brooks was one of the teachers of the summer school,—a most estimable young lady, whose kindness dwells in my memory. She afterwards married Samuel Pierce.

The old school-house has disappeared, and a few years more will carry all its memories with it. A few of its inmates at a later date still remain.

Starting once more upon our way, we find next where was the house of Whitcomb Powers, at the base of the hill, on the left. It is no longer there. There was none a little