



C. S. AYRES' FURNITURE ROOMS

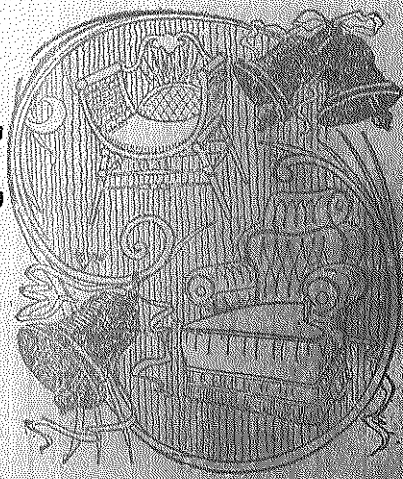
86 MAIN STREET,
SOUTHBRIDGE, MASS.
A FULL LINE OF

FURNITURE

CARPETS, OIL CLOTH, LIN-
OLEUM MATTING, RUGS,
CURTAINS, WALL
PAPER.

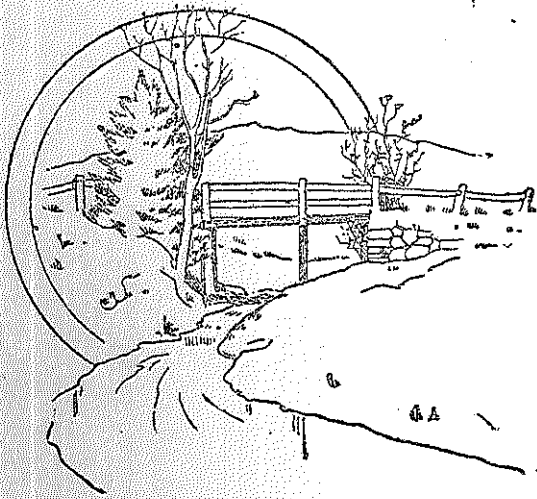
**CROCKERY,
GLASS WARE,
TIN WARE,**

**FANCY BASKETS,
PICTURES,
CURTAIN POLES
AND TRIMMINGS,
MIRRORS AND
NOTIONS.**



JACOB EDWARDS LIBRARY
Southbridge. Mass.

SOUVENIR



SOUTHBRIDGE.

1863.

Geo. Grant—Press Print.

H
974.43
S

FIREMEN'S Grand Muster at Southbridge, September 9th, 1998, in honor of Mass. State Firemen's Convention. Prizes \$430.00 divided as follows: Hand engine, \$250 in gold. First prize, \$125; second, \$75; third, \$50. Entrance fee for the above contest \$10.00. Steamer contest—one prize. Satin tilted water set, goblet and slop, gold lined. Value \$60.00. Hose contest—one prize. Satin tilted water set, goblet and slop, gold lined. Value \$60.00. Hook and Ladder contest—one prize. Satin tilted water set, goblet and slop, gold lined. Value \$60.00. A polished black walnut or oak clock, extra fine finish, eight day regulator, value \$60.00, in place of water set, if preferred by winner.

Chief marshal, Chief Charles P. Phipps; assistant marshal, Ex-Chief Chas. E. Wilson; aids, Ex-Chief H. C. Cady, Ex-Chief Calvin Claffin, Ex-Chief J. J. Bowlen, Ex-Chief W. T. Clarke, H. S. Cheney; committee of arrangements, Chief Chas. P. Phipps, chairman, C. E. Wilson, secretary; district chiefs, B. C. Stone, Patrick Flynn, Geo. J. Lamoureux, C. F. Marble, H. A. Dresser, C. H. Pellett, C. W. Mills, L. N. Duquette, P. Caplette, Thos. McGrath, J. E. Hefner, M. E. Walters, F. A. Wald, John Brennan, J. J. Hogan, J. W. Smythe, H. P. Tiffany, W. C. Barnes; catering committee, H. A. Dresser, L. N. Duquette, C. E. Wilson; reception committee, the committee of arrangements; invitation, printing and financial committee, Chas. P. Phipps, Thos. McGrath, P. Flynn, John J. Hogan, C. E. Wilson; music committee, B. C. Stone, J. E. Hefner, Chas. H. Pellett; trans-

portation committee, C. F. Marble, B. C. Stone, W. C. Barnes, Thos. Brennan, J. Jordan, John Coggins, M. P. O'Shaughnessy.

Interesting Events.

Columbian mill burned Aug. 9, 1884.

Skating Rink destroyed by fire July 7, 1886.

Hamilton Woolen Co's shoddy mill burned March 12, 1890.

In April '59 the Edwards house barn was burned and 43 horses were burned to death.

Clemence's old box shop on West street burned in November 1857.

Dresser opera house burned Dec. 27, 1874.

Paige's mill destroyed by fire May 23, 1870.

Hamilton Woolen Co's boarding house barn burned Dec. 31, 1860. There was 28 horses burned to death.

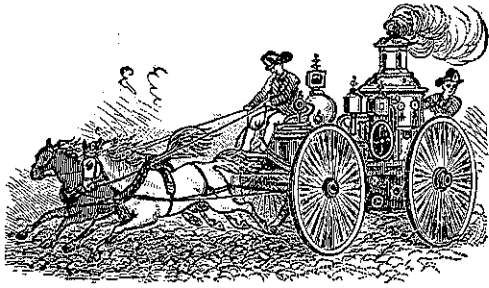
St. Mary's parochial residence burned Jan. 14, 1872.

Globe Village old engine house built 1862.

Hamilton Woolen Co's gas house blew up Aug. 22, 1868. This was, perhaps, the most fatal casualty the town ever had, five lives were lost and two others seriously injured. Those who were killed:—Martin White, John Devoy, Patrick Brogan, Michel Larochele, John Brown. Those injured:—Lucian Clemence, Hamilton Holmes.

The number of men this town sent to the civil war was 237. The town sent 9 men into the navy.

St. Mary's cemetery opened 1853:



History of the Fire Department.

THE fire department of Southbridge, like Diogenes of old, started out in a "tub," for the engine of 1832 consisted of only a huge box-like arrangement on wheels, into which the water was put by the pailfuls, and from which it was forced onto the fire by hand-power. It was in the year just mentioned that the town voted to have such fire protection. The Hamilton Woolen Company had had one for a few years previous. The town engine cost \$350 and it was housed in the small building now standing on Central street next to the police station but which was at first erected on land leased of Deacon Elisha Cole, back of the Baptist church. A hose carriage and other apparatus was procured about the same time. The Hamilton Woolen Co., consented to the use of their engine by the town, and two fire companies were formed, that in Center Village, Co. No. 1, on July 11, 1832, and Co.

No. 2, in Globe Village, in February, 1833. The records of the former company are preserved in the Southbridge Public Library, and contain many interesting items. The first board of officers of Co. No. 1, consisted of Josiah Snow, foreman, John K. Smith, second foreman, Milton Joslin, clerk and treasurer, Adolphus M. Cheney, Stilman Plimpton, Sumner Marsh, Joseph B. Cunningham, and Thomas I. Weaver, hosemen, and Samuel M. Lane, E. D. Tiffany and Arad Sly, standing committee.

The first fire after the formation of the company is recorded as taking place Saturday evening, Jan. 19, 1833, at Globe Village. The records of Co. No. 2, have not been discovered, but from other sources it is learned that the leading men of the town were interested in the fire department, and many who have since held most honorable and responsible positions were officers in one or the other of these early companies. Among these men may be mentioned C. A. Dresser, Daniel F. Bacon, Henry Fish, R. H. Cole, Samuel C. Hartwell, John P. Steadman, Israel C. Trow, Ebenezer D. Ammidown, Jacob Edwards, Jr., Lucian Lyon, C. A. Paige, G. A. Dresser, and the late Sylvester Dresser. Company No. 1 was re-organized twice, and finally disbanded in 1852.

In the last named year, and again in 1855, attempts were made to procure better fire engines and to improve the department, but they failed, and it was not until 1859 that the town voted to buy two new engines and to erect suitable buildings in which to store

them. The two engines were "Tiger Engine No. 7," and "Melvill Engine No. 6," which were purchased in Boston at the time that the "Hub" was introducing the steam fire engine. These engines cost a little over \$1500. The houses, erected respectively in 1860 and 1861, are the one still used on Central street, and the other, the building standing near the iron bridge, Globe Village.

In 1860 the fire department was regularly established according to the legislative enactment of 1855, and the first board of engineers, appointed by the selectmen, consisted of William Edwards, who was probably the first chief, C. A. Dresser, Pliny Litchfield, Lorenzo R. Stone, John M. Clemence, L. W. Curtis and Frank P. Pratt.

"Tiger Engine Co., No. 7," was completely organized Jan. 16, 1860, and Danforth K. Olney was its first foreman. Other foremen have been Pliny M. Clarke, Albert Martin, Edward E. Tiffany, John J. Bowlen and Otis P. Stone. Some of its members were George H. Hartwell, Munroe Reynolds, William C. Barnes, A. J. Bartholomew, Franklin Cady, George L. Winter, Hiram C. Wells, Charles S. Edmonds, and James M. Marble. James Bryson, the first Southbridge man to die a soldier in the civil war, was a member of this company. Tiger engine is still owned here having been purchased of the town by the Veteran Firemen's Association which was formed here in 1893. Melvill Engine Co., No. 6, was organized May 17, 1860, George A. Dresser was the first foreman, and he had as suc-

cessors, William Harley, Alonzo H. Bosworth, Paul Whelan, Dennis Ryan and others. Melvill engine was sold when the hand fire engine companies disbanded about 1876, and is now the property of some town near Boston.

In 1875, the two Cole steam fire engines, still owned by the town, were purchased at a cost of \$8,500 from Cole Bros., Pawtucket, R. I. A committee appointed by the town, consisting of William C. Barnes, Robert Herron and Gayton Ballard, had charge of this purchase, as well as that of two hose carriages, hose and other apparatus, the whole costing about \$15,000. The hook and ladder trucks were purchased later. Pliny M. Clarke was the first chief of the steam fire engine department. He was succeeded by George W. Wells, Geo. A. Dresser, Henry C. Cady, Calvin Claffin, J. J. Bowlen, C. E. Wilson and the present chief, Chas. P. Phipps. The first captain of Steamer Co. No. 1 was Henry C. Cady; of Steamer Co. No. 2, Joseph Bartlett. The first foreman of Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1, was John Cruff; of Co. No. 2, R. W. Cheney.

In 1894 the new brick engine house at Globe Village was erected. Southbridge is well provided with water in case of fire, both from hydrants and from street subterranean reservoirs. The Gamewell Fire Alarm system has been introduced and given general satisfaction. A. Fyfe Hall is the electrician. The greatest fire Southbridge has experienced was on Nov. 14, 1863, when all the buildings, together with the Baptist church, between Central and what is now Foster street, were consumed, with a loss of over \$30,000.

CHIEF CHAS. P. PHIPPS.

Reposing the utmost confidence in its fire department, the citizens of Southbridge are a unit in their



CHAS. P. PHIPPS, CHIEF ENGINEER.

high esteem of its chief, Mr. Chas. P. Phipps, in whom they recognize superior qualifications for the position, and to whose efforts must be ascribed in large measure the present excellent condition of the department. He devotes his best thought to the betterment of his charge, being always on the alert for anything tending toward improvement of the department, and his unceasing interest has inspired every man under him to do his level best. He enjoys the fullest confidence of the firemen, and not a man among them but would heartily respond to any task he might assign. Placing every reliance upon his judgement and working in the closest harmony, the efficiency of the fire department has

become about perfect, and is regarded as a model for other places. Chief Phipps has been connected with the department about 16 years, beginning as a hose-man on steamer No. 2, and has worked up through all the grades to the position of chief, which he has held three years. He is thus familiar with every duty of a fireman, and knows just how much to exact from each man. During his administration the apparatus has been completely overhauled, and every detail of the work was supervised by himself. Not only has the apparatus been brought into first-class condition, but Chief Phipps has prevailed upon the town to add to the equipment, and two new hand horse carts, two indicators, repeaters, hundreds of feet of hose and various other material has been the result. Mr. Phipps is a member of Quinebaug lodge, F. & A. M., Doric Chapter, R. A. M., and Hiram Council. He is also a member of Armor Lodge, K. of P., and belongs to the Fire Chief's Club of Massachusetts. Southbridge appreciates his untiring efforts in its behalf, and its people are as loyal to him as he has always been to them.

CHAS. F. MARBLE.

Heartily supporting his chief in everything tending toward the upbuilding of the department District Chief Chas. F. Marble is one of the most conscientious



C. F. MARBLE, DISTRICT CHIEF
AND CLERK.

and valuable members of the board of engineers, ready at all times to respond to the call of duty. He was born in Southbridge 28 years ago and joined the department in 1893, and two years later, having displayed marked aptitude for the requirements of the position, was made a district chief and clerk of the board. As clerk he has introduced new methods of keeping the records and under this system every detail of

the business of the department is attended to with scrupulous care. At his suggestion many improvements have been brought about, for which his col-

leagues give him ungrudging credit. Mr. Marble is an active member of the Massachusetts State Firemen's Association and takes a lively interest in its ongoings. Six years ago he engaged in the teaming business here and has, by careful attention to his work built up a large and growing business, keeping several horses and giving employment to a number of hands, Mr. Marble is personally a most agreeable young man and enjoys the highest esteem of all who know him.

PATRICK F. FLYNN.

Beginning as a fireman on the old Melvill No. 6 hand engine and working up to his present position on



the board of fire engineers, Mr. Patrick F. Flynn is entitled to a high rank in the annals of the fire department of Southbridge, and none are better qualified than he by temperament or training for the exacting and important duties of an engineer. A mechanic of the first order, there is no part of a machine that he does not understand thoroughly, and this knowledge is of great value in case of an emergency. Many times during the years of his connection with the department, he has brought his skill into play, tiding over many a difficult point. On all things pertaining to the department, his judgement is excel-

lent, and his coolness and prompt decision at fires has saved thousands of dollars worth of property. Mr. Flynn is a native of Southbridge, and one of the most highly respected of its young men. His repeated appointment to the board, year after year, is a forcible illustration of the confidence reposed in him. He is foreman of the Hamilton Woolen Co.'s machine shop at the lower mill, a position which he has occupied 12 years, and for 10 years previous was in the main shop at the "big mill," of which his brother has charge. Mr. Flynn is an able organizer, and has rendered valuable service in arranging for the big muster of Sept. 9. He is in for improvements in the department whenever the occasion requires, and can always be counted on in an emergency.

GEO. J. LAMOUREUX.

District Fire Chief Geo. J. Lamoureux is one of the oldest and most experienced firemen in Southbridge. He ran with the old Tiger hand engine many years, and has always shown the greatest interest in the department. Mr. Lamoureux has been on the board of engineers about eight years, and is one of its most valuable members. In the life of the town he is prominent, having been a resident 48 years. He has been a constable many years, is now overseer of the poor, and is counted among the solid men of the town. Mr. Lamoureux was one of the founders of St. Jean Baptiste society, and has been its president and treasurer many years. He has



GEO. J. LAMOUREUX,
DISTRICT CHIEF.

also been sexton at Notre Dame church ever since the French people have had a religious organization here. For over 30 years he has been foreman of the sash, door and blind department at J. M. & L. D. Clemence's.

BRADFORD C. STONE, DISTRICT CHIEF.

The oldest member on the board of engineers, in point of service, is Bradford C. Stone, whose long record is sufficient guarantee of his efficiency. Mr. Stone is a man of excellent judgement, and his counsel always carries weight. He is cool and collected at fires, and has a way of taking in the situation at a glance and knowing just what orders to give. He can be relied upon at all times to do the very best thing that an occasion demands. Mr. Stone is one of the best known and most highly respected men in Southbridge. For the past 28 years he has occupied the position of boss farmer over the large outside interests of the Hamilton Woolen Co., and in the performance of his duties has always given the best of satisfaction. He is a little past 60, and just in the prime of his usefulness. Through a series of unavoidable mishaps it was impossible to get his cut for this souvenir, and none regret it more than the compiler.