

Greenville Shaw Family

Compiled by Bruce A. Fowler
Hartland Historical Society ~ 2013 (Updated December 14, 2021)

Sylvanus Shaw

s/o Ebenezer Shaw & Anne Colson

b. 28 May 1765 Abington, Massachusetts

d. 18 Jan 1852 Cummington, Massachusetts (West Cummington Cemetery)

m. 15 Nov 1792 Hingham, Massachusetts

Persis Wilder Stodder

d/o Laban Stodder & Persis Wilder

b. 30 June 1773 Hingham, Massachusetts

d. 11 Aug 1852 Cummington, Massachusetts (West Cummington Cemetery)

Ch. SHAW:

1. Sylvanus Shaw; b. 21 Mar 1793

2. Ebenezer Shaw; b. 19 Oct 1794, d. 1878

3. Brackley Shaw, Sr; b. 1 June 1796, d. 1848

4. Bela Shaw; b. 21 Nov 1798

5. Lora Shaw; b. 28 Feb 1801

6. Clarissa Shaw; b. 28 Sep 1802

7. Caleb Thaxter Shaw; b. 12 Sep 1804

8. Persis Shaw; b. 19 June 1806

9. Spencer Shaw; b. 31 Jan 1808

10. Louisa Shaw; b. 19 June 1810

11. Charles Colson Shaw; b. 1 Mar 1811, d. 10 Apr 1893

12. Mary Ann Shaw; b. 30 July 1813, d. 6 Aug 1817

13. Alonzo Cushing Shaw; b. 8 May 1816, d. 13 June 1817

11. Charles Colson Shaw

b. 1 Mar 1811 Cummington, Massachusetts

d. 10 Apr 1893 Dexter (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter)

m1. 1 May 1838 Hingham, Massachusetts

Jane P. Whiting

b. 6 May 1813 Hingham, Massachusetts

d. between 1850 & 1857 Cummington, Massachusetts

They were living in Cummington in C/1850 with their 3 surviving children. Following Jane's death, he moved to Dexter in 1851, remarried to Betsey and remained there until his death. He owned and operated tanneries with his son Greenville J. Shaw in Hartland, Burnham, Plymouth and Detroit.

Ch. SHAW:

1. Florian Thorning Shaw

b. 17 Feb 1839 Cummington, Massachusetts

d. 15 Aug 1866 Dexter (Elmwood Cemetery, Dexter)

m. 4 Oct 1862 Dexter (her 1st marriage, his 2nd)

Shepard Parkman

b. 20 June 1838 Dexter

d. 28 May 1897 Dexter (Elmwood Cemetery, Dexter)

He remarried for a 3rd time to Mary Eliza Parkman. All 3 of his wives are buried with him. They were living in Hartland in C/1870 where he was noted as a Superintendent at a tannery; likely at his father & brother-in-law's business Shaw & Son Tannery.

Ch. PARKMAN:

- I. Flora Shaw Parkman
- b. 11 Jan 1864 Dover-Foxcroft
- d. 24 Feb 1952 Dexter (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter)
- m. Arthur Preston Abbott

2. Charles Ballou Shaw

- b. 7 June 1840 Cummington, Massachusetts
- d. 25 Sep 1840 Cummington, Massachusetts (West Cummington Cemetery) at 3mths

3. Hellen Frances Shaw

- b. 29 June 1842 Cummington, Massachusetts
- d. 8 Oct 1842 Cummington, Massachusetts (West Cummington Cemetery) at 3mths, 9dys

4. Greenville Jefferson Shaw

- b. 1843 Cummington, Massachusetts
- d. 1903 Bath

5. Mellissa Jane Shaw

- b. June 1845 Cummington, Massachusetts
- d. 23 Dec 1846 Cummington, Massachusetts (West Cummington Cemetery) at 1yr, 4mths

6. Willis Irving Shaw

- b. 6 Aug 1849 Cummington, Massachusetts
- d. after 1910

m2. 24 Sep 1857 Chelsea, Massachusetts

Elizabeth Gorman Roberts "Betsey"

b. 1830 Hudson

d. 28 July 1900 Huntsville, Ontario, Canada (Stone at Mt Pleasant Cemetery with no dates) by Suicide
She moved to Huntsville following Charles' death likely living with their son Charles O. Shaw.

Ch. SHAW:

6. Elizabeth Gorman Shaw "Lizzie"

b. 1858 Dexter

d. Quebec, Canada

m. 25 Dec 1881

Charles Thaxter Shaw

b. 14 June 1858 Detroit

d. 18 Apr 1927 Quebec (Cimetière Mont-Royal, Outremont, Quebec, CA)

He is a grandson of her father Charles' brother Brackley Shaw. They moved to Quebec in 1881.

7. Charles Orlando Shaw

b. 9 Nov 1859 Dexter

d. 3 Dec 1942 Huntsville, Ontario, Canada

m1. 28 Oct 1886 Boston

Jennie Lavinia Abbott

b. June 1863 Dexter

d. 1928 Huntsville, Ontario, Canada

They moved from Massachusetts to Huntsville in 1898. Charles was the owner of Anglo-Canadian Leather Company in Huntsville locally referred to as "The Tannery".

Ch. SHAW:

I. Pauline Lavinia Shaw

b. 28 July 1888 Boston

d.

m. Robert James Gill

II. Jennie Elizabeth Shaw

b. 27 July 1891 Boston

d. 23 Oct 1970 Guelph, Ontario, Canada (All Saints Anglican Cemetery, Huntsville, CA)

m. Charles Worrell Conway

III. Charles George Shaw

b. 6 Sep 1895 Boston

d. 8 June 1961 (Emily Cemetery, Omemee, Canada)

m2. 12 Nov 1931 Ferndale, Michigan (He at 71yrs old, she at 50yrs old)

Amanda Paully

b. 27 July 1881

d.

She was living with the family in Huntsville in C/1901 & C/1911.

8. Walter B. Shaw

b. 1868 Dexter

d. 7 Dec 1928 Manhattan, New York (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter)

He lived in New York City where he was a dentist in C/1910.

4. Greenville Jefferson Shaw

b. 19 Sep 1843 Cummington, Massachusetts

d. 13 Nov 1903 Bath (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter) at 60yrs of Pneumonia

m. 17 Dec 1864

Jennie Maria Luce

d/o William A. Luce & Hannah B. Copeland

b. 27 Nov 1845 Milo

d. 28 Jan 1919 Bath (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter)

In 1867, Greenville and his father purchased the Josiah Billings Tannery in Hartland on North Street, then known as Billings Street, located at the Upper Dam where they began operating Shaw & Son Tannery as well as operating a tannery they had previously purchased in Burnham. They soon purchased 2 more tanneries in Detroit & Plymouth, all operating under the same Shaw & Son Tannery banner.

Greenville and his family had moved to Burnham at the time of the Hartland purchase then to Detroit by C/1870 and remained there until they closed all but the Hartland tannery in 1878 due to a major area bark shortage which was then a key component of the tanning process.

“Greenville J. Shaw was born in the State of Massachusetts in 1843. When he was eight years of age he came to Penobscot County and settled at Dexter, where he received a common school education. He also attended the Maine State Seminary at Lewiston for three terms, and is a graduate of Eastman's Business College of Poughkeepsie, New York. At the age of twenty he took charge of the tannery at Vernon, New York where he had charge of eighteen men, and in 1866 he purchased one half interest in the business. In 1867 he purchased the tannery in Hartland in company with his father and in the winter of 1868 and 1869, also in company with his father, he purchased the tanneries at Detroit and Plymouth, which made four tanneries and eighty men under his immediate charge at one time. In 1878, during the scarcity of

bark, he was obliged to close three of his tanneries, and at present operates only the one at Hartland, where he has fifteen men engaged.” ~ History of Penobscot County, Maine - 1882

Greenville got his start breeding trotters while living in Detroit around 1876 when he began operating Trout Brook Stables located next to Brackett Brook across the road from his tannery. He raced several of his trotters at local tracks including the East Somerset Agricultural Fairgrounds in Hartland but most of his trotting stock was raised for Boston & New York markets. It was here Shaw purchased one of his most notable prize stallions ‘General Withers’ from Kentucky in 1876. ~ Compiled from the article “Cream Brook Farm” by Clark P. Thompson - 2007

In late 1880, he built Maple Place Farm, so called by Shaw, on an 8 acre lot on Commercial Street then known as North Street and with Jennie and their 4 surviving children moved to Hartland where he operated his remaining tannery. The new farm included 2 large stables and a fenced pasture where he continued breeding thoroughbred trotters. That same year, he also purchased a 640 acre farm in Stetson which he renamed as Cream Brook Farm where he also raised and bred horses as well as premium cattle and operated while living at his new residence in Hartland.

“In 1880, Greenville J. Shaw purchased Cream Brook Farm in Stetson which was first owned by Major Stetson, the original proprietor of the town of Stetson. It contains 640 acres of good land, well-watered, and is peculiarly adapted to grazing. In 1826, the Major made a present of the whole tract of land to Amasa Stetson, who improved it and remained in possession of the farm until about 1860, when he sold out to M. L. Rice, of Bangor, who was the first to convert it into a dairy farm. Rice kept from fifty to seventy-five cows. He was the first to develop the farm into a butter producing farm; the butter manufactured by him gained the best reputation, perhaps, of any butter produced in the State. In 1870, Rice sold the farm to Charles Collins, of Aroostook County, who remained in possession of it until he sold out to the present owner, Mr. Shaw, who gave the farm its present appropriate name.” ~ History of Penobscot County, Maine - 1882

Among Shaw’s notable stallions he purchased and bred were ‘General Withers’ & ‘Gideon’, the latter being the father of ‘Gretchen’ who was sired by ‘Young Rolfe’ by Mr. C. Horace Nelson and foaled the legendary ‘Nelson’ born at Nelson’s Sunny Side Farm in Waterville in 1881 and considered to be the greatest trotter of his era. ~ Compiled from Lost Trotting Parks of Maine Website

By 1882, Shaw had also purchased the 90 acre Ireland Farm which extended along the southern side of Pleasant Street to the Canaan Road where a Right-of-Way was granted about 1886 for the new railroad line’s plan to continue to Harmony. A large portion of the property would later be purchased by H. C. Baxter & Brother Canning Company as the location for their new canning facility opening in 1913.

In 1884, the continuing bark shortage was threatening operations at Shaw’s Hartland tannery and he gave notice in the Pittsfield Advertiser he planned on closing the business however he was able to continue for another couple of years.

In March of 1886, Shaw held a large gathering of some 50 friends, patrons and reporters in Stetson to give notice of his pending retirement operating Cream Brook Farm in part due to his other business interests. He announced he was putting his entire stock of horses, cattle and the farm up for sale with the exception of ‘General Withers’ whom he brought back to Maple Lane Farm where he continued his breeding operations for several more years. Cream Brook Farm was eventually purchased in 1889 by Alphonso S. Rand.

In 1887, a great flood heavily damaged Shaw's remaining tannery in Hartland. The extensive damage coupled with lingering bark shortages forced Shaw to close his last tanning business soon after as he focused on his operations at Maple Place Farm and other business ventures.

Shaw was very active in town affairs while he lived in Hartland and along with Archibald Linn was a leading advocate to bring the Seaboard & Moosehead Railroad to Hartland in 1886. He served as a Town Selectman in 1887 & 1892 and was a member of the Hartland School Committee. He also served a leading role in creating the Hartland Town Hall Association in 1891 which would pave the way for a new dedicated Town Hall to be built in 1892 on Academy Street. Shaw was also a long time member of the Masons and Odd Fellows.

Greenville was named an Executor of Archibald Linn's Will upon his death in 1889 and had a role overseeing the continued operations of Linn's woolen mill by his 3 surviving heirs who reorganized as the Linn Manufacturing Company soon after their father's death.

In September of 1898, Shaw sold all his remaining real estate holdings in Hartland including Maple Lane Farm and his tannery property with its support buildings to the Linn Manufacturing Company. The house at Maple Lane Farm would be occupied for a time by Archibald's son Robert Wilson Linn, Sr who was living there with his family by C/1900. Robert and his family remained there until the house was acquired by the American Woolen Company as part of their 1916 purchase of the bankrupt Linn Woolen Mills and its related Linn Estate properties. In November of 1919, the American Woolen Company renovated the house into a 4 apartment dwelling as noted in its sale at auction below in 1932.

Shaw later had business interests in a Salmon Farm on Sears Island off Searsport in the late 1890s which he operated for a short time before moving to Bath in 1900 where he opened and operated an insurance company at the time of his death.

"Mr. Greenville J. Shaw of Bath died last Friday (November 13, 1903) from pneumonia, aged 60 years. Mr. Shaw was the son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Shaw of this town (Dexter). He was reared in Dexter and at the age of 21 years went into the tannery business with his father. After a number of years he went to Burnham, from there to Detroit and later settled in Hartland, following the tannery business in each town. After a few years of successful business in Hartland, Mr. Shaw purchased a large farm in Stetson and devoted his time and money to raising fancy horses and also was a successful breeder of Jersey stock. The farm was widely known as the Cream Brook Farm. In 1900, Mr. Shaw moved to Bath where he had since conducted a large insurance business. A widow and four children survive him; Alice, Grace, Frank and Henry. The remains were brought to this village last Monday night. At the station was a body of Masons and Odd Fellows who escorted the remains to the Universalist Church and remained with them through the night. The funeral was held in the church Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock, Rev. W. H. Gould officiating. Several of the relatives came to town with the body. The interment was in Mt. Pleasant." ~ The Eastern Gazette - November 19, 1903

In 1932, the support buildings and associated lots of the former Shaw Tannery and the residence at the former Maple Lane Farm, now commonly known as the Century House, were sold at auction as part of the bankrupt American Woolen Company's assets which included several real estate holdings purchased from the Linn Estate in 1916.

The auction brochure listed the property as: 2. NOS. 40-43 Commercial Street; "Approximately 15,200 square feet of land with two story frame four-family dwelling, having five rooms to each family, toilets, electricity." It was purchased by Mr. Bean from Dover for \$300 who immediately sold it to Carl Randlett who rented out the apartments for many years until his death. It since passed through several owners including Harold Carson, Sr and has recently been renovated by its new current owners.

Ch. SHAW:

I. Frederick Ellsworth Shaw

b. 24 Oct 1866 Vernon, New York

d. 1868 Vernon, New York at 2yrs

II. Frank Irving Shaw

b. 12 Oct 1868 Burnham

d. 14 Jan 1920 Fairfield (Ireland Cemetery) at Central Maine Sanitarium of Tuberculosis

m. 28 May 1892 Bangor (both noted as residents of Hartland)

Cora Adele Webb (**See Moor/Moore Family**)

d/o Nathan M. Webb & Almeda Moor

b. 8 Aug 1869 Hartland

d. 11 July 1917 Woolrich (Ireland Cemetery w/Frank) from injuries sustained in an auto accident
They had no children.

They were living with her parents in Hartland before moving to Pittsfield by C/1900 and then to Woolrich by C/1910.

*“Opening in 1904, The Maine Sanatorium was the state's first facility for the treatment of tuberculosis. The sanatorium was privately owned until 1915 when it was taken over by the state, along with Chase Memorial Sanatorium in Fairfield. The facilities were renamed the Western Maine Sanatorium and **Central Maine Sanatorium** respectively. People with the best chance of recovery were sent to the Western Maine Sanatorium. Those who were not expected to recover were sent to the Central Maine Sanatorium. Practicing an open air policy, patients slept on porches or in rooms that were open the outdoors. It was believed that fresh air, rest and a proper diet would help aid recovery. Dairy cows, a corn silo, creamery and large farm supplied the food for the facility. The sanatorium was also known for its Fourth of July parades, with floats and participants dressed in a variety of costumes. Games were held and the activities were open to participants who were in good health. The sanatorium was closed in July of 1959.”*

III. Rosa Towle Shaw

b. 31 Mar 1872 Detroit

d. 20 Aug 1921 Boston (Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter)

She never married.

She and her sister Alice were living in Farmington in C/1910 both working as Bookkeepers before Rosa moved to Boston by C/1910 where she resided the rest of her life.

IV. Alice Jane Shaw

b. 26 Apr 1877 Detroit

d. 5 Jan 1957 Portland (Foot Stone at Mt Pleasant Cemetery, Dexter but no death date)

She never married.

She and her sister Rosa were living in Farmington in C/1910 both working as Bookkeepers before Alice moved to Bath by C/1910 to live with her widowed mother. She remained in Bath until her mother's death then moved to Portland by C/1930 where she resided the rest of her life.

V. Henry Greenville Shaw

b. 26 Jan 1879 Detroit

d. 1953 Bath (Oak Grove Cemetery, Bath)

m1. 17 May 1899 Bath

Mae Emma Buker

d/o Henry C. Buker & Elizabeth Stevens

b. Dec 1879 St Albans

d. 28 Jan 1900 Bath (St Albans Village Cemetery w/parents) at 21yrs
Mae is a sister of Earl Bradford Buker, Sr.

m2. 8 Dec 1909 Bath

Sarah A. Harriman

d/o William E. Harriman & Eliza E. Magwood

b. 1881 Bath

d. 17 Mar 1967 Bath (Oak Grove Cemetery, Bath)