

## Some Early Settlers and Persons of Ashland, New Hampshire

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### **ORA ALDEN BROWN<sup>1</sup>**

Ora Alden Brown, merchant; b. 4 March 1864, Bridgewater NH, son of Horace and Mary Augusta (Fletcher) Brown; educated Ashland (NH) public schools and Bryant & Stratton Commerical School Boston; he m. Ashland NH 1 June 1893 Sarah Addie Cheney. He clerked in a general store business under firm name of Hughes & Brown, 1889, becoming O.A. Brown, October 1, 1906; director and general manager and treasurer Asquam Transportation Co.; director White Mountain Telephone and Telegraph Co.; trustee Ashland Savings Bank. Town Clerk 1888-1900; town treasurer since 1890; treasurer Grafton Co. NH, 1903-9; commissioner Grafton Co. NH; president Ashland Board of Trade. Mason. Granger. Children: Ruth C. and Robert.

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### **PERSON COLBY CHENEY<sup>2 3</sup>**

Person Colby Cheney, manufacturer, governor, United States senator, was born Feb 25, 1828 in Holderness (now Ashland) NH. He attended academies in Peterborough and Hancock NH and in Parsonfield, Maine; engaged in the manufacture of paper in Peterborough until 1866; He was president of the Amoskeag Fibre Ware company; and in 1853 was a representative in the New Hampshire legislature. In 1862 he entered the union army as regimental quartermaster.(Thirteenth Regiment, NH Volunteer Infantry 1862-1863) In 1864 he was elected railroad commissioner, serving three years. Moved to Manchester NH in 1867 and engaged in business as dealer in paper stock and continued

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<sup>1</sup> Who's who in Pennsylvania: A Biographical Dictionary of Contemporaries, Volume 1 (Google eBook); 1909

<sup>2</sup> Herringshaw's encyclopedia of American biography of the nineteenth century: Accurate and succinct biographies of famous men and women in all walks of life who are or have been the acknowledged leaders of life and thought of the United States since its formation (Google eBook); Thomas William Herringshaw; American publishers' association, 1901

<sup>3</sup> Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-2005: The Continental Congress, September 5, 1774, to October 21, 1788, and the Congress of the United States, from the First Through the One Hundred Eighth Congresses, March 4, 1789, to January 3, 2005, Inclusive; United States. Congress, Andrew R. Dodge, Betty K. Koed, United States. Congress. Joint Committee on Printing; Government Printing Office, 2005

the manufacture of paper at Goffstown NH, also engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1871 he was elected mayor of Manchester, N.H.; in 1875 was elected governor of New Hampshire, and was re-elected in 1876 [so 1875-1877]; he was appointed United States senator to fill a vacancy, serving from 1886 to 1889 [Republican, vacancy caused by the death of Austin F. Pike, and he served from Nov 25, 1886 to June 14, 1887 when a successor was elected and qualified]. He then resumed his former manufacturing pursuits. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Switzerland 1892-1893; died in Dover, Stafford Co. NH on June 19, 1901; internment in Pine Grove Cemetery, Manchester NH.

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### **GEORGE B. COX<sup>4</sup>**

George B. Cox, a successful attorney of Laconia and counsel for the New Hampshire State Law and Order League, was born in Ashland, Grafton Co. NH July 16, 1860 son of Benjamin Franklin and Ann (Currier) Box. His paternal ancestors were among the first settlers of Holderness (now Ashland) NH; and his mother's family was of Scotch descent. The great-grandfather of the present generation of the Cox family was a man of considerable wealth and prominence, who took an important part in public affairs, and how owned the only covered carriage in the town, a circumstance which added greatly to his dignity.

Wallace Cox, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native and lifelong resident of Holderness. He owned a large farm, and his active period was devoted to its cultivation. He was by nature a quiet, unassuming man, holding himself aloof from all matters which might lead to public notoriety; and he was a member of the Episcopal church. He married Hannah Kimball, a native of Holderness, and reared a family of five children, of whom the only survivor is William Cox, a resident of Lowell.

Benjamin Franklin Cox, son of Wallace, and father of George B. was born in Holderness, and there reared to agricultural pursuits. He took an active interest in the town government, and was elected to various offices, serving with ability and faithfulness. he married Ann Currier, a daughter of William Currier of Plymouth, N.H.; and they became the parents of but one child, George B., the subject of this sketch. Benjamin F. Cox, died at the age of fifty-eight years. Mrs. Cox, his widow, is still living, and is now fifty-nine years old.

George B. Cox was educated in the public schools of Ashland and Plymouth, the New Hampton Literary Institution, and Wesleyan University. Previous to entering the law school, Mr. Cox taught school in Candia for one year, and served as superintendent of schools in the town of Ashland. In 1885 he began his legal studies with Judge Hibbard, of

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<sup>4</sup> Biographical review: containing life sketches of leading citizens of Stafford and Belknap countries, New Hampshire (Google eBook); Biographical Review Publishing Company; Biographical Review, 1897 - New Jersey

Laconia, and two years later entered the Boston University Law School, where he was graduated in 1888, with the degree of Bachelor of Law. Admitted to the bar in July of the same year, he associated himself with N.J. Dyer; and the firm of Cox & Dyer conducted a general law business in Laconia until 1894.

In politics Mr. Cox is a Democrat, and has frequently stumped the State in the interest of his party. He served as a member of the School Board for three years, acting as its Chairman during his last term. In 1890 the Citizens' Temperance Union was formed in Laconia, and for four years he was retained as its counsel. In January, 1894, Mr. Cox was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Law and Order League of new Hampshire, a strong temperance organization, supported by many of the most influential citizens of the State, and is still serving as such. In 1895 he was retained as counsel for the league, and is still acting in that capacity. He has labored diligently and successfully in forwarding the aims and purposes of the league, having worked exclusively for its interests for six months, but of late, owing to the demands of his law practice, has been obliged, to a certain extent, to relinquish his efforts in its behalf. Mr. Cox has also performed some work in the lecture field in his native State during the past four years, his recent efforts in this line being confined mainly to the subject of temperance.

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**DANIEL CILLEY HILL(S)**

[Barker Lapham Hill(s), son of Timothy & Betsey (Lapham) Hill(s), b 28 Oct 1808, d. 20 June 1895 Campton NH; m. 7 Jan 1835 Mary Ann Cilley. She b. 16 Sep 1815, d. 13 Feb 1886 Campton NH, daughter of John & Betsey (Hills) Cilley. He d. Campton NH. Children: (1) Elizabeth Cilley Hills, b 10 Feb 1837; and Daniel Cilley Hills b 28 Nov 1844, the subject of this topic.]

Daniel Cilly Hill(s), son of Barker Lapham & Mary Ann Cilley) Hills, banker of Ashland NH was b. Nov 28, 1844 in Compton NH.

He was president of the Ashland Savings bank. Did not marry, no issue.

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**HON. HIRAM HODGDON<sup>5</sup>**

Hon. Hiram Hodgdon, son of John & Sally (Thurston) Hodgdon, was b. and educated in Northfield NH. When 21 years of age he left home to seek his fortune. He made his way to Boston MA where he found employment as a dry goods clerk, remaining for one year.

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<sup>5</sup> History of Northfield, New Hampshire 1780-1905:In Two Parts with Many Biographical Sketches and Portraits Also Pictures of Public Buildings and Private Residences (Google eBook); Mrs. Lucy Rogers Hill Cross; Rumford Printing Company, 1905

She went to Ashland and took charge of the old brick store owned by Cutting Follansby. The arrangements were that Mr. Hodgdon received one half of the proceeds in return for his services and management. In 1862 he entered into full partnership with this same employer under the firm name of Follansby & Hodgdon. He was active in business for 27 years with the exception of two years that he served with the Twelfth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, in the Civil War. About 1880 he went west, dealt largely in land and erected houses in promising localities, which found a ready sale. In 1886 a company was formed, composed of Thomas P. Cheney, George E. Scribner, N.P. Batchelder and Hiram Hodgdon. They purchased the Baker Mill water privilege and built a building, 110x54 feet and three stories high. Seven sets of cards were put in and the factory has since been known as the Ashland Knitting Company and is still in active operation. Mr. Hodgdon is still connected with the business. He m1) Martha Webster of Danville, who d. in 1880. He m2nd) Mrs. Plaisted of Ashland ---, 1900. He is a Republican and, although desiring no office, was clerk of the town for a term and was elected to the New Hampshire Senate in 1879. He is a Baptist in belief and is connected with that church and society. He is also a member of Mr. Prospect Lodge, No. 68 F. and A.M. Children: George M. Hodgdon, b. Aug 13, 1835; m. Sept 15, 1857 Millie Plaisted of Ashland. He is a farmer and resides in Ashland. They have a son and dau.[Charles Merrill Hodgdon, b. 24 Oct 1860, m. Apr 5, 1886 Cora Nelson. He d 11 Jan 1895; and Christie Hodgdon, b. 1 Jan 1887 Ashland, m. 9 Jan 1890 George Flanders. She resides at her fathers and has three dau]; Sarah Eaton Hodgdon, b. Oct 27, 1838; m. Jan 11, 1887, Alonzo P. Chamberlain of Dunbarton. He d. Dec 11, 1893. She resides at Ashland.

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### **GEORGE HOYT WHIPPLE**

George Hoyt Whipple was born in Ashland, New Hampshire, on August 28, 1878, the son of Dr. Ashley Cooper & Frances Anna (Hoyt) Whipple. His paternal grandfather, Solomon Mason Whipple was also a physician. He attended local schools until, at age 13 and prepared for college at Phillips Andover Academy. He graduated from Yale University in 1900 and received his medical degree in 1905 from John Hopkins University. In 1908 he went to the Gorgas Hospital in Panama to work for a year with Samuel Darling, the resident pathologist. He was an American pathologist, best known for his work on disorders of the liver. In 1914 he married Katherine Waring. In 1921 he was appointed dean at the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco CA, and from 1921-77 as dean, department head and teacher of pathology at the medical school in Rochester NY. From 1936-43 he was a member of the board of scientific directors at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. He died in Rochester NY. He was presented the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1934 for his work with anemia and the physiology and pathology of the liver.

Biographical Memoir of George H. Whipple  
<http://tinyurl.com/7lf27wz>