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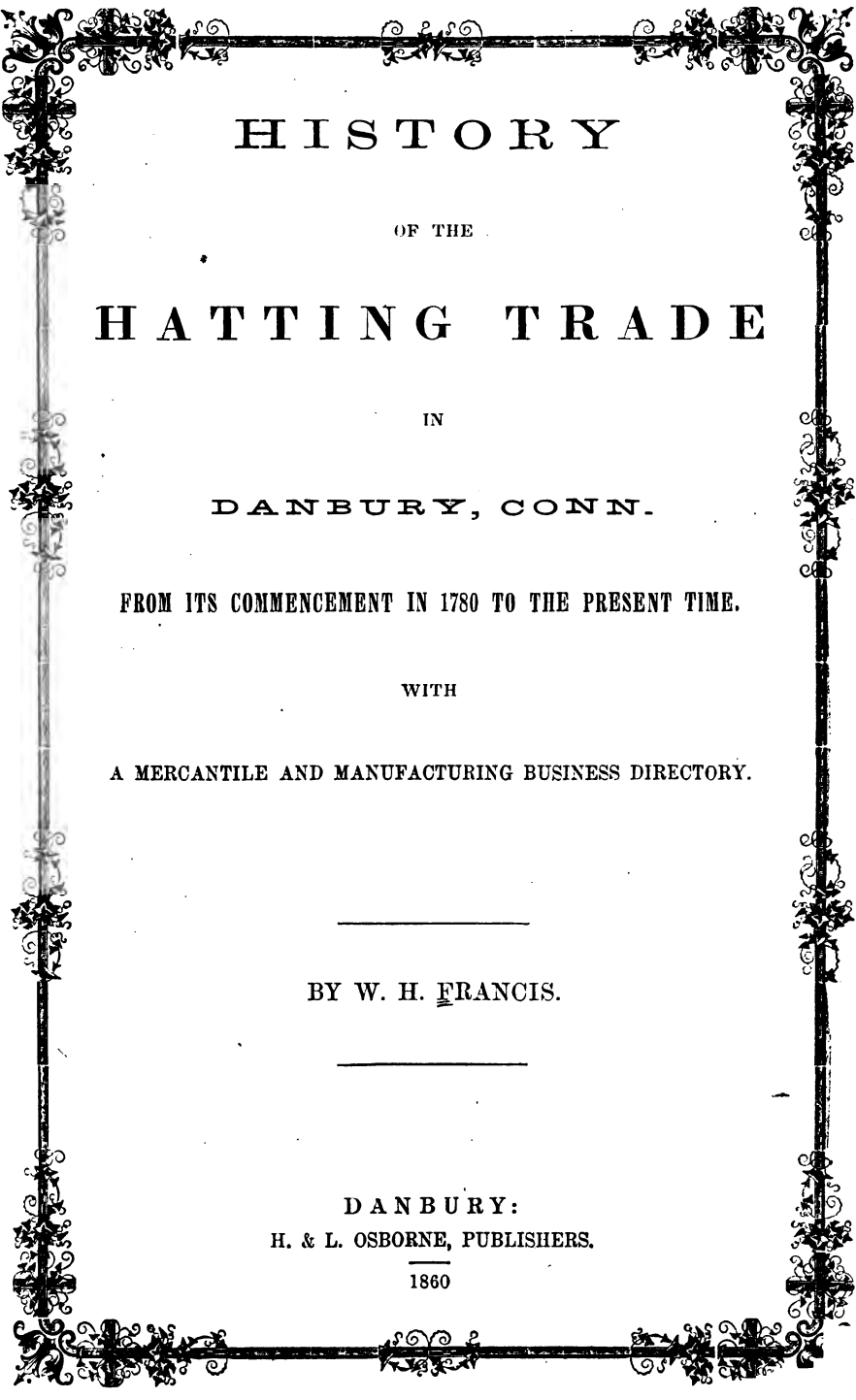
FROM THE BEQUEST OF
CHARLES SUMNER

CLASS OF 1830

Senator from Massachusetts

FOR BOOKS RELATING TO
POLITICS AND FINE ARTS

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HISTORY
OF THE
HATTING TRADE
IN
DANBURY, CONN.

FROM ITS COMMENCEMENT IN 1780 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

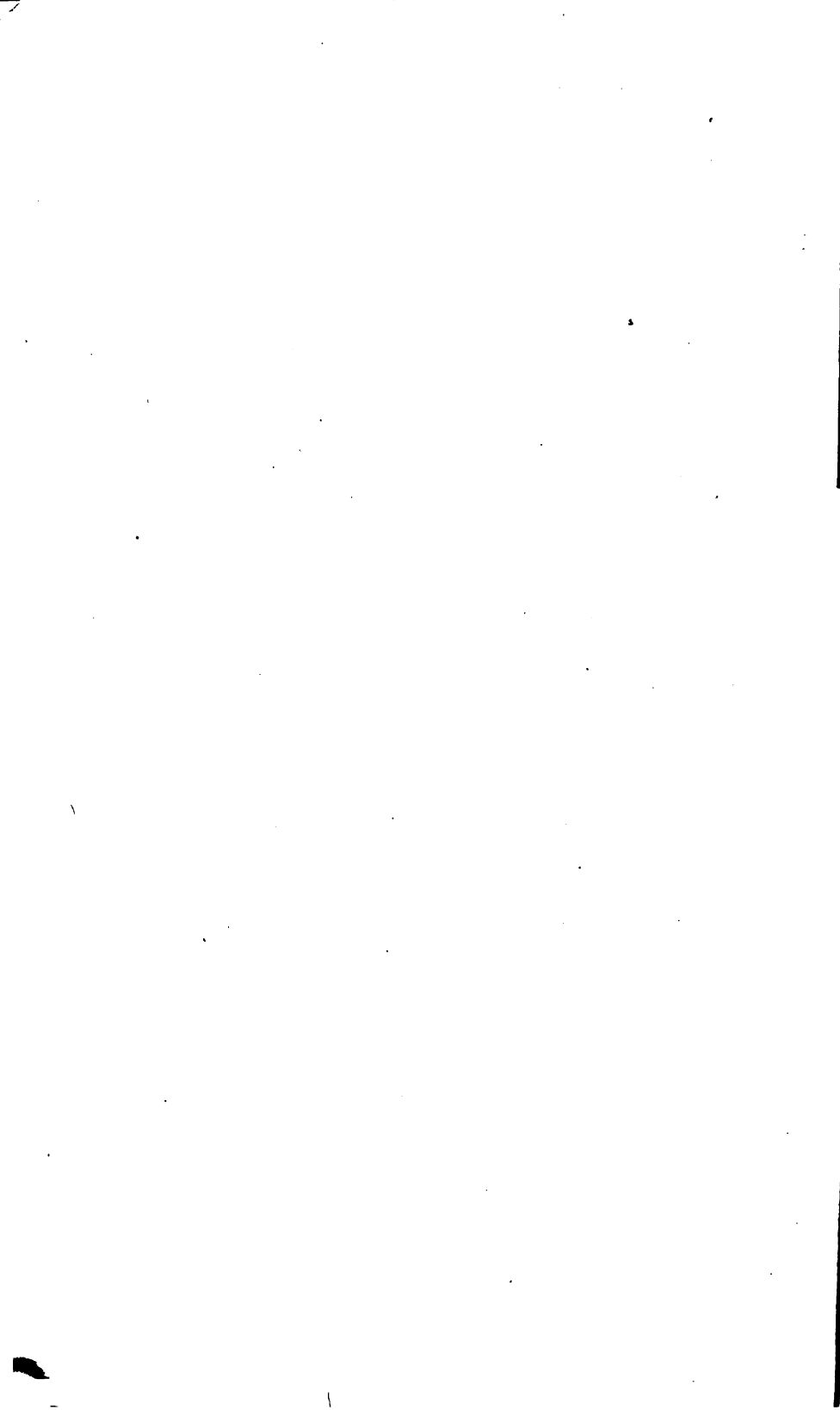
WITH

A MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

BY W. H. FRANCIS.

DANBURY:
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1863, Oct. 15:

Gift of
Gen. Chas. Sumner;
113 Custom.
(C. C. 1630.)

P R E F A C E .

SOME four years since we collected for the columns of the TIMES a few statistics concerning the Hatting Trade in Danbury. At the request of several of the largest dealers, and many others, we now present these statistics, somewhat revised and enlarged, in pamphlet form, trusting that they may serve to show, in some degree at least, the commencement and steady increase of the trade in this town.

The whole has been collected from different sources, with particular attention to getting at the real facts, and the tables, obtained from each firm personally, may be relied upon as correct statements of the business actually done.

We here acknowledge our indebtedness to those of our venerable citizens who have so kindly unlocked the store-house of memory for our benefit; also, to the several firms favoring us with their statements, as well as to all who have in any way assisted us.

Our limits will not permit us to notice every event connected with Hatting in Danbury, or mention all the firms from time to time engaged, but only enough to show the increase and changes in the trade, glance at some of the results in a general way, and enable one to follow the subject understandingly through the long series of years that have intervened since the infancy of the trade and the present day.

W. H. FRANCIS.

HISTORY OF HATTING IN DANBURY.

It is said to be a sober fact in history that the first building ever erected in this country as a Hat Shop was built in Danbury, and the first hat ever made in these United States was made in this town!

Be this as it may, certain it is that in the days of the Revolution, when our town was but a hamlet, when provincial's blade was crossed with that of royalist, and a little phalanx of stout hearts were contending for the inborn rights of man; when the seeds of future glorious empire were being planted in the furrows ploughed by the cannon-ball, harrowed in deeply by the iron-shod war horse, the tramp of wheeling and charging columns, moistened and enriched by the generous flow of the life blood of patriots, we find

1780.—ZADOC BENEDICT engaged in the less chivalric and bloody occupation of making Hats in a small red shop, standing near the grounds now the site of the Depot, in Main-street. With limited resources and capital, he kept up the fire under his solitary kettle and employed, to work up his "stock," the services of *one journey-man and two apprentices*, turning off hats at the rate of *three per day, or one and a half dozen per week*,—two hats being an average for a good workman in a day.

This is according to the statement of some of our oldest citizens, about the first that was done at hatting in Danbury, and although hats had undoubtedly been made here long before this, still we shall take this as the starting point and regard it as the commencement of what has since proved an important and extensive trade.

Starting out from this we shall find the trade steadily increasing, and furnishing in its growth examples of energy, perseverance and success almost incredible.

1787.—Col. Russell White and Oliver Burr, firm of Burr & White, or O. Burr & Co., carried on what was then considered an extensive trade, employing thirty hands, variously engaged, and turning off hats at the rate of fifteen dozen per week, or seven hundred and fifty dozen per year. The hats of this period were without elegance, being heavy, rough, and unwieldy. They sold at from \$6 to \$10

each,—enough to buy two or three fine hats now. One man could make about nine hats per week, but the process of making was very different from what it is now.

The manufacturer bought the skins in a bundle. The fur then had to be taken from them by hand and assorted. Then it was bowed into “bats,” with the old “bow,” “pins,” and “catgut,” and these “bats” were made into hat bodies. After the hats were made (everything being done by hand,) they were distributed to the ladies living in the vicinity, in order to have the hair, that remained sticking in the nap, removed by tweezers. Imagine, if you please, a hundred different maids and matrons in our town at the present day, tweezers in hand, opening their doors to the hatter expressman, with his arms full of antique hats ready to undergo the process of picking. Verily it would be a scene.

Among the men employed by Burr & White, were Eli Benedict and William Babcock, who afterwards went to New Haven.

1791.—In the Farmer's Journal, published at Danbury, in this year, we find the following advertisement :

TO BE SOLD BY
O. BURR & CO.
One Hundred Weight of
Good Hat Wool,
And Several pairs of White
English Rabbits,

Whose increase is amazingly fast and the Skins for Fur in great demand,—and their flesh of the most delicate kind ; and to conclude the whole of their excellencies, their keeping requires nothing but vegetables, such as weeds, grass, potatoes, turnips, &c., &c. They need no drink.

Also, given as usual twenty pence per run for Coarse Woolen Yarn.

Danbury, May 18th, 1791.

1800.—In Robbins' Century Sermon, delivered at Danbury, Jan. 1st, 1801, we find these remarks : “ *In the manufacture of hats this town (Danbury) much exceeds any one in the United States. More than 20,000 hats, mostly of fur, are made annually for exportation.*”

Thus, more than a half century ago, our fathers took the lead in the manufacture of hats, and to day their sons are not behind.

1802.—*The first hat store at the South in connection with manufacturing at Danbury was established by two active and well known men, (now deceased,) Zalmon and Seymour Wildman.* They had one store at Charleston, S. C., firm of Z. & S. Wildman ; another at Savannah, Ga., firm of Wildmans & Hoags. Zalmon Wildman manufactured in the shop of Zadoc Benedict, after the decease of the latter in 1803. He also, some years later, carried on quite exten-

sively the finishing of hats for the Southern market, near the grounds now the site of the Pahquioque Hotel in Main-street.

Here, then, we have at this early period two hat stores at the South depending upon Danbury for their supplies. *Almost at the very commencement of the trade, markets were opened at Charleston and Savannah, which have not been closed to this day.*

1803.—During this and following years, Samuel H. Philips, George Benedict, David Wood, William Babcock, Ezra Wildman, Ebenezer & John D. Nichols, Boughton & Starr, and others, carried on hatting in different parts of the township. The fashionable hat of this year was six inches deep with two inch brim.

1805.—Clark & Benedict carried on the hatting business in the red building situated in West-st., and now occupied as a dwelling. Gersham Nichols, at the same time, in a building near the residence of Oliver Stone in Main-st.

1807.—Noah Rockwell commenced manufacturing with his "plank" shop in the cellar of the house now occupied by Mr. Rosabone, in Franklin-st. Also, Hoyt Gregory had a shop in West-st. All these manufacturers carried on the business on a limited scale, employing, probably, from seven to eight hands each, and turning off hats at the rate of four or five dozen per week, or two hundred and fifty dozen per year. Among the men in the employ of Hoyt Gregory were James Seal and Thomas Peck, who eventually engaged in an extensive business at Boston.

In those days they did not burn coal at the rate of two hundred tons per annum, and no steam-engine puffed forth a constant cloud of steam: no extensive "plank" shop was found, with its array of kettles, heated with steam, every one surrounded by men almost crowded for want of room, busy working at "bodies" formed by machinery,—working, working, as if each one were striving to outdo the other. But in a plank-room, small and inconvenient, gathered around one kettle, heated by means of a furnace filled with wood underneath, you would find three or four men pulling and hauling the bodies of coarse fur, which had been formed, not by a machine at the rate of thirty per hour, but by their own hands at the rate of one per hour. A contrast, indeed; but more of this ere we close the sketch.

It must be borne in mind, that in the times of which we are speaking, and, indeed, until a few years since, there were numbers of shops scattered about, and different individuals engaged in the trade in a very small way; serving to make up the aggregate of Hats turned off, but not to be mentioned in such a sketch as this, save in a general manner.

1808-9.—There were 56 hat shops in operation in the Township of Danbury, averaging from 3 to 5 men each. Many farmers were interested in the trade—setting up a kettle and hiring journeymen. It is but a few years since the trade was centralized, and the bulk of capital concentrated in a few large establishments.

1812.—We have our venerable citizen, now President of the Danbury Bank, Samuel Tweedy, (who went into the business as early as 1800,) and James Benedict, firm of Tweedy & Benedict, carrying on the business in a shop situated on the ground where the house of Mrs. Sprague now stands, corner of Main and Elm Streets. Hands employed 30. During the war, the trade between hat dealers and the North West Company was cut off. John Jacob Astor sold at auction, in the city of New York, a large quantity of furs which had been seized. James Benedict, hearing of the sale, attended and bought 5 bales (1000 lbs.) of "old coat beaver" at \$1.00 per lb. The price immediately advanced to \$5.00 per lb.

We must remember that at this time Hat Finishing was a very small part of the trade here; in fact hardly any hats were sent to market finished and trimmed, but were sent in the "rough" to the city, there to be made ready for sale. In this year a machine was invented for blowing fur, and first used in Messrs. Tweedy & Benedict's establishment. It consisted of a wire drum, in which the fur was placed, and the machine moved with a crank by hand. Small, simple, and imperfect, it was thought to be an important invention at that time; now it would be laughed at as a child's plaything.

1814.—Judson and Russell White, firm of White Brothers, conducted a large business (then) in a shop opposite the old factory now occupied by Crosby, Hoyt & Co. Capital invested, \$50,000. Hands employed, about 50—making probably about 200 doz. hats per month, or 2000 doz. per annum. This firm had a warehouse in the city, where the hats were sent to be sold.

Among those who learned the trade with the White Brothers, was Starr Nichols, Esq., (now deceased,) who afterwards became a prominent townsman, contributing in a great measure to the advancement and building up of Danbury. Soon after his "time was out," he commenced the business for himself. Doing very little at first, but steadily increasing, he pushed forward with that zeal which ever after formed so prominent a trait in his character, until when the White Brothers retired from business he took their place, and carried it on with increased energy, employing 50 "makers." He met with several reverses of fortune, but at the time of his death (1856) was engaged in a lucrative business in a hat store in New York city, and today, he is remembered as one of the most prominent men in the trade. His benevolence and active perseverance are well worth imitating.

1816.—Two of our citizens, R. & E. T. Hoyt, merchants in the place, receiving, as the custom was, hats in exchange for their goods, taking a few hats went south and opened a store at Charleston, (S. C.) The hats were made by Tweedy & Benedict, and finished partly in the old finishing shop yet standing on the corner of Main and Franklin Streets. The Messrs. Hoyts began on a small scale, the sales at first amounting to but \$15,000 or \$20,000 per year. But as the

trade increased in importance throughout the country, they took advantage of it, and through their efforts was built up a large establishment, increasing until at one period the yearly sales reached \$100,000. The business continued in the hands of some one of the Hoyt family, until the death of John R. Hoyt, (son of Russell) some twelve years since, and is yet in active operation under F. T. Fanning. David H. Boughton was the first partner taken into the firm, and the following individuals were from time to time connected with the same house: David M. Benedict, Edgar S. Tweedy, F. T. Fanning, Lucius P. Hoyt, and A. E. Tweedy. This hat store was connected with manufacturing in Danbury, up to 1854, and affords an example of prosperity and continued success, with close attention to business as the cause.

In the fall of the same year, (1816,) Zalmon Wildman, (who, as before mentioned, was engaged in the Southern trade as early as 1802,) with Ezra M. Starr—the latter still one of our most respected and influential citizens—started another hat store in Charleston. This firm also commenced with about \$20,000 as the yearly sales; but an enterprise like this in the hands of such thorough and active business men could not but succeed; they were soon firmly established, and went on extending their trade and enlarging their operations until we have as the amount of sales per annum, \$60,000. Hats worth here \$90 per doz., were taken South and sold at \$120 per doz.

1817.—Capt. John Foot, with one Mr. Hodge, manufactured hats for the firm of Wildman & Starr, employing 6 or 8 men, and getting up about 600 doz. per annum. Elias Boughton, Abel Hoyt and others, carried on hatting in Danbury about this time. The hats were then eight or nine ounces in weight. The price for making them, that is the Russia hat, was 92 cts., or 5s. and 6d, Yankee currency.

The manner in which hats were packed and sent to the market deserves mention. Two hats were taken and rolled up together in a paper, then put into a linen bag, and in this shape, to the number of six or eight dozen they were put into a leathern sack; they were then ready for transportation to the city by stage. Compare this with the manner in which hats are packed for transportation now, and contrast the few hats shipped then with the car-loads that are constantly leaving Danbury, for all parts of the country, and you have a fine illustration of progress. Thus does the go-aheadism in a community develop itself. Man is never nobler than when his energies are hard at work to attain some worthy end. Progress lies at the foundation of American Institutions. Progress belongs to us as a nation. Progress cuts down the forest, builds villages, moves in the piston of the steam engine, rattles in the loom, resounds in the stroke of the hammer, and buzzes in the saw. Progress walks in energetic men, whistles in the locomotive, and is upheld by the brawny arms

and iron muscles of millions of laboring men. In this progress, New England has ever taken the lead, and Danbury ranks among its most thriving villages.

In bowing hats by hand, the Saxony and other fine wools could not be used, consequently the home material and all coarse wools were used in making the very few wool hats required.

1818.—A machine was constructed for bowing hats. It was of wood, dished-shaped, somewhat after the pattern of an old fashioned Fanning Mill, and took in enough for two bats at a time. This was thought to be a great improvement, but upon thorough trial it did not work well, and workmen continued to use the "bow" "catgut" and "pins." John Fry and Alvin Hurd went into the manufacture of fine beaver hats.

1820.—Mr. Hurd left the firm and Ephraim Gregory became associated with Mr. Fry. They immediately established a hat store at Charleston, which afforded a good market for many years. This hat store was kept open until the firm closed up their business in 1838.

1821.—Grant, of Providence, Rhode Island, took out a patent for forming wool hat bodies with the vibrating and revolving cone. But the revolving cone had in reality been invented before by one Mason of New Hampshire. This rendered Grant's patent invalid. He, therefore, upon Mason threatening a law-suit, destroyed his first patent, claiming in turn only the vibration, according to an act of Congress passed a short time before. The vibration was an improvement as far as this; in Mason's invention the wool coming in a web from the machine wound itself straight round the cone leaving a hole in the "tip" after the body was formed; then, too, when the bodies came to be "planked" they were found to be compact and firm one way only—whereas, in Grant's method, in consequence of the cone vibrating and revolving at the same time, the web was spread around, thus avoiding the hole in the tip and rendering the body strong and compact. Soon after, Alvin Hurd being in Providence, Mr. Niram Wildman, (who died about one year since, an old and respected citizen,) sent there requesting Mr. Hurd to negotiate with Grant for the purchase of a right. Grant refused to sell, alleging that the machine was not yet brought to perfection. Mr. Wildman then went to Providence himself, from whence, after having thoroughly examined Grant's patent, he returned, and in connection with Rory Starr, constructed the more improved and scientific double cone for forming two hat bodies at once. Grant, in concert with Townsend, the chief stockholder, then brought a suit against Wildman for infringement of patent. The case was appointed to come on at New Haven; but when the parties met a compromise was entered into, in which Mr. Wildman was to have, for a stipulated sum, and the benefit of the improvement, the use of two machines. The suit being withdrawn, Mr. Wildman immediately put up one of his machines in the old Factory in Main street, and commenced the forming of wool hat

bodies, continuing in the business until 1844, during the last three years of this time forming large quantities for Eli White, Esq., of Water-st., New York.

The other machine was loaned to a Mr. Sprague, who put it up in the Sturdevant factory, a little out of the village. The wool bodies were taken and napped with fur, making the well known "Napped Hats," then in vogue. In forming hats by this machine, all fine wool could be used, and the Saxony was much in demand. The machine in its perfection, would form hat bodies at the rate of three hundred per day.

1822.—Up to this time the manner of coloring hats was as follows: The hats were taken from the plank shop and placed, two or three doz. at a time, in a round kettle, from which they were taken by hand once every half hour until the operation was completed, which generally took from eighteen to twenty hours. It was very tedious to watch the kettle so long, but many things were resorted to, to while away the hours, and often after midnight when all was still, the old colorman would indulge in a roast chicken, (there were roosts about) with perhaps a little different liquor than that contained in the dye kettle to wash it down. The first invention of any importance in this line consisted of a square kettle with two sacks; these were filled with hats and let into the kettle and drawn out by a tackle, made for the purpose, so that while one sack was in the liquor, the other was out on the "dripping board." This was thought to be, and in reality was an improved method, but was entirely superseded by an invention of Joel Taylor, a hat manufacturer and a native of our village, made somewhere about this time, (1822.) Six dozen hats were placed upon a large wheel with pins and turned by a crank—the "dye-stuff" was contained in a copper kettle, shaped like a half moon, underneath. The hats on one-half the wheel were in the liquor receiving color, while those on the other half were out cooling. When the colorman wished to reverse this, he had only to turn the crank. This manner of coloring hats, though very simple, took the lead of all the rest, and in all the country there was a great demand for "Taylor's wheel." It was in general use for many years, and may be found in numbers of small shops at the present day. Mr. Taylor has the names of some two hundred persons to whom he sold rights to his coloring wheel, and the amount realized by him altogether reached \$5000. But as the business increased and everything else connected with it was carried on in an extensive manner, it was found that some other way must be devised by which to color the immense number of hats turned off. In the present mode the hats, with the exception of a few of finer quality, are thrown promiscuously, without blocks, into an immense kettle filled with "dye-stuff" heated by steam, where, on account of an improvement in the liquor, they are colored in a few hours—fifty doz. are colored at one time by this method.

Each manufacturer now employs a colorman to dye hats in fancy colors. An individual wishing to buy of a firm hats of a particular color, has only to send them a sample. Hats are dyed in all colors, Black, Brown, Tan, Drab, and in fact almost every shade conceivable.

1824.—Among the manufacturers of this period were Isaac H. Seelye, White & Keeler, Hatch & Gregory, Joseph Taylor, Hugh Starr, and Taylor & Dibble.

1825.—Fry, Gregory & Co. conducted at this time an extensive trade, working up \$80,000 worth of stock per annum; capital invested, \$50,000; hands employed at making, thirty; trimming, ten. This firm also had a store (now occupied by Mr. Osborne,) in West-street, where the hands employed traded, receiving orders instead of cash for their work.

In 1833, Fry, Gregory & Co. sold out their make-shop to William Montgomery, who had commenced hatting in 1832, with Edward S. Brockett. Mr. Montgomery made the hats for Fry, Gregory & Co., who having finished and trimmed them, sent them to their store in Charleston for sale. Mr. Montgomery carried on the fur hat trade until 1853, when building a large factory in connection with the buildings already on the ground, he entered into the manufacture of wool hats, in company with Charles Benedict and Jarvis P. Hull. Mr. Hull soon withdrew from the firm, and it is now that of Benedict & Montgomery.

From an old bill, dated New York, June 20th, 1825, we find that Joel Taylor bought of E. & H. Raymond one hundred Spanish wool bodies at thirty-four cents apiece.

1830.—At some period prior to this year the Silk Hat was invented by a Chinaman. The "Nouveliste" of Rouen narrates the following in relation to it: "M. Botta, son of one of the professors at the Academy of Caen, an intrepid traveler and confirmed archæologist, one of the discoverers of the ruins of Nineveh, undertook a journey to China, and lived some time at Canton. This was prior to 1830. He used to wear there a beaver hat in the European fashion, which suited him so well that he was unwilling to change it. However, when it was worn out, he applied to a Chinese hatter, and giving him all sorts of directions told him to make another like it. The man went to work, and in a few days brought a hat of the required shape, not of beaver, but of some stuff very soft and glossy. M. Botta, on his return to France, preserved this curious specimen of Chinese workmanship, and wishing to have it repaired, trusted it to a hatter, who examined it carefully, and was much struck with its mode of fabrication, which was altogether new to him. He examined the article with the greatest attention, and in a short time the fashion of silk hats came in. The inventor patented his discovery, and made a large fortune, but held his tongue about his debt to the Chinese tradesman, who, seeking a substitute for the beaver which he could not procure, devised the plan of replacing it by the

light tissue of silk." The Silk Hat, therefore had a "Celestial" birth.

1835.—Mr. Alvin Hurd, having learned the art of making Silk Hats from two Englishmen in the city of New York, returned here and set up the business in the shop of Starr Nichols, manufacturing for the firm of Swift & Nichols, with five men employed,—thus introducing into Danbury the art of making Silk Hats. This branch of the trade increased so that in fact it became the most popular one of the day, and in the years intervening between 1840 and 1850 was carried on almost exclusively,—Messrs. Tweedy & White, William Montgomery, N. H. Wildman, and others being engaged in it. After 1850 it gradually decreased, and now nothing is done here at this branch,—the Soft Hat taking its place.

During 1835, and several following years, Messrs. Fry & Gregory, together with Samuel Sproulls, kept in operation a large wholesale establishment in New York city.

1836-7.—These times will be remembered by many, but by none more clearly than by the mechanics employed in hatting in those days. A general stagnation occurred in the money market, banks suspended specie payment, factories were closed, heavy failures in every community overwhelmed business men, all trades seemed to be paralyzed, provisions and the necessaries of life rose to an alarming price, poverty was common, and utter ruin seemed to threaten the entire nation. Hatting in Danbury was, of course, very dull, hundreds being out of employment at their trade for a whole year, doing whatever they could find to do in order to earn food for their destitute families. An instance may be mentioned: it being necessary to remove the water-pipe running through Main-st., a company of hatters were hired at one dollar per day to perform the job, and set to digging. One man receiving for his first day's work a silver dollar, went and invested it in twelve pounds of flour. This job was considered by them all as a lucky affair. The trade received a heavy blow, and when it commenced again it was a long time before confidence was restored and former prosperity returned, and employers and employed continued to feel the effects of its utter prostration for years.

1840.—Hoyt, Tweedy & Co. had a factory at the north end of Main-st., and were also connected with the hat store established at Charleston by the Hoyts in 1816. Since 1840, under Edgar S. Tweedy, John R. Hoyt, F. T. Fanning, Lucius Hoyt, A. E. Tweedy, William R. White, and others, the firm has been known successively as that of Hoyt, Tweedy & Co., Tweedy, Hoyt & Co., Tweedy & Hoyt, A. E. Tweedy & Co., Tweedy & White, and now (since 1857,) Tweedy, White & Co.

1841.—After the napped hats had gone out of fashion, Messrs. Niram Wildman and John Fry went to Roxbury for the purpose of getting information concerning the Wool Hatting. They called on

Col. Lathrop, in that place, who was then considered the best manufacturer of wool hats in this section of the country. Having obtained the necessary information, Messrs. Wildman & Fry returned and commenced the manufacture of wool hats in the old building some time since removed from the grounds of Mr. Fry, employing five men as makers, and two women as trimmers, turning off from eight to ten dozen per day, the bodies being formed in the "old Factory." Wildman & Fry subsequently sold out to Charles Fry and David Wildman, (the latter now deceased,) who continued the manufacture in a building in Main-st., since removed.

Since that time the Wool Hatting has steadily increased in importance, and at the present time several of our largest and most flourishing establishments are solely engaged in the manufacture of Wool Hats, which find a ready market, and the demand for which is still on the increase.

We have then several distinct eras in the trade—a succession of monarchs, as it were, that in their turn flourished and reigned.

The Napped Hat once reigned,
 And the confidence gained,
 The Silk Hat came following after;
 The Pug Hat and Soft Hat now carry the day,
 We must not forget the old "Castor;"
 There's a Pug on each man, a Pug on each boy,
 A Soft Hat on boy, and a Soft Hat on man,—
 The Soft Hat and Pug Hat all wearers employ,
 The Danbury make are scattered like bran;
 They are worn by the poor, and worn by the rich,
 The dandy in broadcloth, and Pat in the ditch,
 The parson, the printer, the actor, the sage,—
 The Soft Hat and the Pug Hat are all the rage.

1845.—About this year a machine for forming fur hat bodies was patented by Wells, of the firm of Wells & Redfield, New York, and soon after improved upon by Burr, St. John & Taylor. The principle on which it was constructed was very simple. This machine and its operation may be described as follows: The fur, weighed out and contained in a box with compartments near at hand, is taken out and fed on to an apron, working on rollers about four feet from the main machine, by which it is carried to a brush cylinder, concealed from view, eight or ten inches in diameter, and making three thousand two hundred revolutions per minute. Passing through this, it is forced with great velocity through a copper mouthpiece, pyramidal in shape, on to a cone made of copper or zinc, perforated with minute holes and steadily turning round. Directly underneath this cone is a blower twelve inches in diameter, revolving fifteen hundred times per minute. This creates a vacuum, properly speaking, exhausting the air from under the cone, and consequently, causing the fur to collect upon it as it is forced out by the blower.

When just enough has been fed on to form the body, the feeder is stopped. When the body is all formed, a cloth is wrapped about it, while another cone, called the mail, is placed over both: the whole is then (by a simple contrivance,) dipped into a tub standing near, filled with warm water, heated by steam. After it has been dipped, the mail is taken off, the cloth removed, and upon turning the cone upside down, the hat body drops off. It is then passed between two iron rollers, or wrung out by hand, then rolled in a cloth and after undergoing the process of hardening is ready for the planks. As soon as the body has been taken from it, the cone is wiped with a dry cloth, to remove the water adhering, that it may not destroy the vacuum, and it is then in a condition to form another hat body. Four attendants are required to each machine: a girl to feed on the fur, a boy to tend the cone, replacing one as soon as the other is removed, a man to carry off, do the dipping, &c., and one man to wring out the bodies and harden them. The average time required in which to form a hat body is two minutes, or at the rate of thirty per hour by one machine.

The improvement of Burr, St. John & Taylor consisted of the mouth-piece, with the adjustable top, an iron which can be raised or lowered, shaping the mouth-piece, (which being copper is easily bent,) so as to throw the fur on to the cone as the operator may require. In the first invention, it was necessary for the attendant to hold a piece of pasteboard before the fur as it came out, raising and lowering it as the case demanded. Great attention had then to be given to the work, and frequent examination was necessary in order to ascertain the lay of the fur. The mouth-piece with the adjustable top was then a decided improvement. Like all other inventions this had to work against a strong prejudice, and it was some time, even after it was improved upon, ere it was firmly established and ranked among the inventions really useful and worthy of patronage.

1846-7.—These were hard years for hatters and many were out of employment for some time. Numbers hired out to farmers during the haying season and the time of harvest. But as times became more brisk, they again found employment in the shops and the trade went on. Nathaniel H. Wildman was at this time manufacturing fur hats. He kept up the manufacture until a few years since, and is now engaged in a hat store at Augusta, Ga. Truman Trowbridge employed a number of hands, also Frederick Nichols.

1849.—Mr. Nathan Benedict came from New York with one of the fur hat forming machines. When it was rumored that such a machine was to be brought here, it created considerable excitement among the mechanics in the trade, and when it actually did arrive a majority of hatters were opposed to it. It was put up by Mr. Benedict in the old Hurlbut Factory as an experiment, under the patronage of A. E. Tweedy & Co. But very little was done the first year, and the enterprise progressed slowly; but as the public confidence in

it was strengthened, the old prejudice died out, and its popularity increased. Other machines were put up, and year after year the business of hat forming increased, until we have now eight of these machines in operation in the establishment of Messrs. Tweedy, White & Co. alone. Such inventions as this made a great revolution in the trade, altering and remodeling very much the system and process of making hats, doing away with much hand labor, and enabling manufacturers to fill out their contracts more readily.

1850.—During this year a needed reform in the manner of conducting the business was brought about. We refer to the introduction of the CASH SYSTEM. Prior to this time, the business had been carried on almost entirely by the trade system. The workman, instead of receiving *Cash* as a return for his labor, obtained an "order" on some one of the merchants in the place, and taking this with him he would present it like a check at the bank, and receive, not the *hard cash*, but certain articles of which he might stand in need; so there was not a merchant in Danbury, but was in some measure concerned or interested in the Hatting business—many of them taking payment in hats, shipping them to New York for sale. Most of the transactions between the different firms were also carried on by trade. This trade or order system was an inconvenient and crippling management for both manufacturers and workmen, but more especially for the latter: tending, as it did, to leave the balance of power in the hands of the former, destroying the equality that exists in a measure at the present time. When the cash system was spoken of, one man is said to have exclaimed, in view of the coming event: "When we get all cash where in the world shall I find the means to obtain my coloring liquor?" He had been so used to paying for it in exchange or trade, that to his mind it seemed at first thought impossible to buy or obtain it in any other manner, even though the *almighty Dollar* be brought into the arrangement.

The cash system was found to work finely,—besides more amply and satisfactorily rewarding the mechanic for his labor, it gave greater facilities to manufacturers, infused new life into the trade, and removed the heavy shackles that had stayed its progress.

The cash system, in fact, made an entire revolution in the moneyed interests and financial operations of our village, and opened a wider avenue for all kinds of business and a more extensive field for the hitherto crippled energies of the whole community. We may set down the introduction of the *Cash System*, then, as an important event, not only in the history of Hatting, but also in the history of Danbury.

1852.—S. A. Brower & Co. started the business of paper-box making in Danbury. Until the soft hat came into use, hats were packed in wooden cases alone. Now one dozen hats are placed in a paper-box and these to the number of six are placed in a wooden case. This mode of packing hats for transportation is a little more expen-

sive than the former, but is at the same time more safe, neat, and convenient.

Mr. E. S. Davis, who bought out Brower & Co, in 1853, now carries on the business quite extensively. At first the demand was very small, but as the manufacture of soft hats increased so did that of paper boxes. Mr. Davis now occupies the whole of the new building 70 x 30, and three stories high (near Tweedy Brothers.) Capital invested \$7000. Sales per annum \$25,000. Paid out to hands per month \$200. Hands employed, eleven. Boards or straw paper used per annum one hundred and twenty-five tons. Number of paper-boxes of all sizes made per annum 216,000. The "Boards" are manufactured in the neighboring towns of Brookfield, Newtown, and New Milford.

Early in the same year (1852,) an enterprise called for by the rapidly increasing trade was brought to its completion. We refer to the Danbury & Norwalk Railroad, which brought us into direct communication with the metropolis, the grand center of trade, and furnished to our manufacturers the long desired facility for transporting hats. Men had no longer to rely upon the slow and uncertain team routes, and the old stager's horn gave place to the shrill whistle of the locomotive. Since the opening of this road, business of all kinds has increased ten-fold, merchants have been enabled to keep on hand a larger and better assortment of goods, the manufacturer to meet the largest demands with greater dispatch, and the buyer has found Danbury easy of access. It is worthy of remark, that the depot now stands almost on the very spot where the little red shop of Zadoc Benedict, with its solitary kettle, stood more than eighty years ago.

Thus has business increased, opened for itself an avenue, and pushed towards the great throbbing heart of trade. Business communities are the veins in the body national—if one is ruptured the rest suffer. Business interests, all over our world, are connected by iron links, and the million keels tracing the path of commerce in every sea.

Danbury has also been the theatre of some of the most original and important inventions in the way of making hats by machinery.

1853.—James S. Taylor of this town, patented his machines for felting or sizing hats, to which their originality and perfect operation has been satisfactorily applied. These machines have been introduced into general use among the best and most extensive wool hat manufacturers in the United States. It is a fact worthy of notice, that these machines have been invented, perfected, and brought into general use in less time than perhaps ever before recorded of any other invention of the same relative value in the mechanic arts, in this or any other country—and it is owing to this invention of Mr. Taylor's that our wool hat manufacturers have been enabled to supply the increasing demand for the finer qualities of that article.

“The Taylor’s Patent Hat Felting Company have about 300 of these machines in use in various parts of the United States—felting at least six dozen hats per day on each machine, equal to 1800 dozen per day for the 300 machines, or 540,000 dozen, on an average, per year; being 6,480,000 hats!” They have secured the patent on the machine in various European countries, and now have machines in constant operation in several of the largest establishments in England, where an agency is about being established. “The largest single day’s work performed by these machines was, probably, in the shop of Wildman & Crosby, in 1856, they having sized on two sets of machines fifty-four dozen hats in one day, the machines being operated by four men, working only ten hours.”

A Frenchman, J. Baptiste Lacille, by name, and many others, have invented machines for sizing hats, and sold their patents for large sums; but the machines failed, not having been brought to perfection, and the Taylor machines have taken the place of all.

1855.—Abijah Abbott commenced the manufacture of band-boxes for Messrs. Benedict & Montgomery. Mr. Abbott now employs four hands, making 30,000 large paper boxes per year, and consuming fifty tons of boards per annum. His sales amount to \$5,000 per annum. In this shop we were kindly shown a machine for cutting and creasing the paper boards invented by Elizur E. Clark, the great New Haven match manufacturer. It was originally intended for making match boxes, but being perfected, was patented for its present use in 1857. The machine feeds itself, and has thirteen knives, which can be regulated so as to cut strips from the sixteenth of an inch to any required width. The machine is highly finished, nicely adjusted in all its parts, and was obtained at a cost of \$375.

The making of wooden cases, is a large item, and three firms, George Starr, George Stevens & Co., and Raymond & Ambler, are constantly employed: the former, in addition, setting up fur blowers, making and repairing blocks, and manufacturing all kinds of Hatters Tools.

Another item is that of Tip Printing. This consists in stamping the design on the tip found in every hat. Dies or stamps of numerous patterns are used, and the vignettes are printed in gold leaf, Dutch metal, or printer’s ink, according to the quality of the hat for which they are intended. Hats are now generally bound by sewing machines. When they were bound by hand, ten or fifteen minutes were required in which to bind a single hat. It is now done by the machine in one half minute.

1856.—We have engaged in the manufacture of Fur Hats :

TWEEDY & WHITE.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$400,000
“ Capital invested,	100,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	26,000 dozen.
“ “ formed “	720,873
“ Males employed,	230
“ Females “	70
Hat forming machines in use,	8
Fur Blowing “	10
Sewing “	6
Steam power (two engines,)	65 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	700 tons.

TWEEDY BROTHERS.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$175,000
“ Capital invested,	30,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	15,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	100
“ Females “	50
Sewing machines in use,	3
Steam power “	35 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	150 tons.

E. A. MALLORY & CO.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$155,000
“ Capital invested,	20,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	8,640 dozen.
“ Males employed,	65
“ Females “	30
Sewing machines in use,	3
Steam power “	43 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	115 tons.

SUTTON & WILDMAN.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$100,000
“ Capital invested,	25,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	7,000 dozen
“ Males employed,	80
“ Females “	20
Sewing machines in use,	2
Steam power “	—
Coal consumed per annum,	60 tons.

CROFUT, BATES & WILDMAN.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$125,000
“ Capital invested,	16,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	8,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	60
“ Females “	40
Sewing machines in use,	3
Steam power “	30 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	225 tons.

GILES M. HOYT.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$50,000
“ Capital invested,	—
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	3,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	38
“ Females “	12
Sewing machines in use,	1

ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF WOOL HATS.

BENEDICT & MONTGOMERY.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$150,000
“ Capital invested,	40,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	24,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	150
“ Females “	50
Carding machines in use,	12
Sizing “ “	18
Steam power “	30 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	500 tons.

WILDMAN & CROSBY.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$62,000
“ Capital invested,	20,000
Number of Hats turned off per annum,	11,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	32
“ Females “	8
Sizing machines in use,	4
Sewing “ “	2
Steam power “	20 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	120 tons.

Taking all these establishments in the aggregate, we have the following table :

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$1,217,000
“ Capital invested,	251,000
“ Paid out to hands per annum,	280,000
Number of Hats turned off “	102,640 dozen.
“ Males employed,	755
“ Females “	280
“ Fur Hats formed per annum,	720,800
Forming machines in use,	8
Sizing “ “	22
Fur blowing “ “	10
Carding “ “	12
Sewing “ “	20
Steam power “	223 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	1870 tons.

1857.—The “panic” of ’57 is still fresh in the minds of all. Since the dark times of ’37, no such financial “reign of terror” has been passed through by our nation. Men who were believed to be beyond the reach of bankruptcy, were totally ruined: names that had stood first in the business calendar were found to be worthless, and business confidence was shaken to a degree never known before. The effects of this “crisis” are still felt, confidence is but partially restored, and the country, particularly the West, is but just beginning to rise from the ruins of its financial interests. Of course Danbury, like all other places where much capital was invested, felt the panic keenly, and a paralyzing stroke was given to the enterprise of the place, from which it has not yet recovered. Public improvements, extensive plans, and large building contracts were brought to a standstill, many laborers were unemployed, and our Hat manufacturers, depending as they did upon the South, and especially the West, for a market, felt the falling off in the demand and consequent stagnation of trade. But Danbury, *unlike* many other places, passed through the panic with very few failures (no heavy ones,) and was enabled to take advantage of the very first indications of returning confidence and financial prosperity. Still, there is no doubt but that *much more* business would be done in Danbury to-day, had the panic of 1857 never occurred. The demand from the West and other parts of the country was then immense and increasing, and our manufacturers were all compelled to increase their facilities in order to meet it.

But we are to day doing a vast deal of business; and we toil, hoping for the day when our whole country, *wise by the very reason*

of defeat, shall have fully recovered from its financial overthrow, when the demand shall tax the energies of manufacturers and workmen, and bring about a steady increase of trade and all those blessings and glorious results, which, of necessity, follow in the wake of well directed energy and toil.

In no particular has there been more changes than in the shape and appearance of the hat. In early times, of which we have spoken, hats were made upon blocks entirely round, consequently when a man turned off a hat it was the celebrated one, 9 inches deep with $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch brim, the bell crowned specimens of which appear once in a while worn by some rustic genius, or some aged stickler for the customs of his fathers, awakening in our mind thoughts of the "olden time." Save these few that we see now and then, and a few more lying, covered with the dust of years, in old garrets, these relics of by gone times and the crude days of hat making are no more.

A book printed in 1585 has the following in regard to the fashions of hats. Many parts of it, especially that in italics, will answer for 1860 as well. The book says :

"Sometimes they use them sharpe on the crowne, peaking up like the spire or shaft of a steeple, standing a quater of a yard above the crowne of their heads; some more, some lesse, as please the fantasia of their inconstant mindes, other some be flat, and broad on the crowne, like the battlements of a house. Another sort have round crownes, sometimes with one kind of band, sometimes with another—now black, now white, now redde, now greene, now yellow—*now this, now that; never content with one color or fashion two daies to an end.* And as the fashions be rare and strange, so is the stuff whereof their hats be made divers also. Some are of silk, some of velvet, some of taffatie, some of sarcenet, some of wool, and what is more curious some of a certain kind of fine haire; these they call bever hattes of XX, XXX, or XL shillings price fetched from beyonde the seas, from whence a greate sort of vanities doe come besides; and so common a thing it is, that every servying countrieman, and othet, even all indifferently doe weare of these hattes; for he is of no account or estimation among men, if he have not a velvet or taffatie hatte."

We give one verse of an old song written in 1636.

"The Turk in linen wraps his head,
The Persian has his lawn too,
The Russe with sables furs his cap,
And change will not be drawn to.
The Spaniard's constant to his block,
The French is constant ever;
But of all felts which may be felt,
Give me your English beaver."

In 1633 the "castor hatte with a silver hat-band" was worn. The

broad brimmed Quaker hat was fashionable in the early part of the seventeenth century.

There are those who can remember the "castor" hat, the hat 3 inches broader across the tip than in the head, the wool hats, 10 or 12 ounces in weight, and the old beaver hat that came down a precious heirloom from father to son. Then the napped hats, silk hats, plain hats, &c., have each in turn been favorites. Now hats are made of every style, shade, and quality to suit all sizes, tastes, complexions, and purses. Some styles with a certain name have been very popular; such as the "Kossuth" hat, the "Cable" hat, and at the present time the "Zouave," while in the tips of many appear in gilt those kingly words in fashion, "*Paris et Londres*," or "*Mode de Paris*." Every season witnesses the introduction of new styles, and the hat emporiums in all our large cities and towns, throughout the entire country, meet the demands of the fashionable and unfashionable world.

Thank God that *fashion* however it degrades many, at least gives employment to the poor, (though it often crushes them,) keeps in play the blood and muscle of earth's nobility, laboring men, the busy looms, the mighty steam arms; and calls out the energy of the capitalist, the demi-divinity of invention, and the genius of the pen, the pencil, brush, and chisel.

The dressing, cutting and blowing of fur is carried on extensively in Danbury. W. A. & A. M. White have in use:

Fur Blowing Machines,	12
" Cutting "	5
Fulling "	2
Hands employed,	70

They have also four wool forming and five carding machines in use. They have dressed during the past year 8000 Buffalo skins, 30,000 Nutria, and a large amount of Beaver, Mink, Martin and Sable for cuffs, collars, muffs, &c., &c. In addition to this they cut for blowing purposes 400,000 Nutria, 10,000 Beaver, 100,000 Hare, and 150,000 Rabbit, making in all 660,000 skins. The machine for cutting is very simple and effective. The skin is passed between two cylinders, in which are several knives besides a bed knife, when the pelt drops and the fur, nicely and cleanly cut, passes along an apron where it is assorted by a girl. A number of these machines have been put up in France and England on account of their superiority over their own machines in point of simplicity, cheapness, and quickness of performance. In this factory there is also a machine for blowing "napping" fur. It consists of a trunk sixty feet long and having ten shelves or apartments on each side. The fur is placed in a fan in the room below, which forces it up into the trunk, through each shelf of which it passes; it then goes down again, is forced up by another fan, goes through each shelf of the grand trunk once

more, and then passes out, having been blown a distance of 2000 feet. This is said to be the only machine of the kind in the country, and was in constant use, years ago, when the napped hats were universally worn. The buildings are very spacious, and the machinery is propelled by an unfailling water power. The processes of dressing, cutting, blowing, &c., &c., (explained to us by the gentlemanly foreman, Mr. Jones,) are very interesting, and show the use of machinery and the benefits of skill and available resources. They have a thirty horse boiler for heating. Coal consumed per annum one hundred tons. The Whites are the most extensive furriers since the times of Astor, and have a large warehouse at No. 63 Broadway, New York.

Messrs. Hurlbut & Co., at the Phenix Fur Factory, also do an extensive business in Fur Cutting and Blowing, employing thirty hands, and having in use seven fur blowing, and five fur cutting machines. In addition to a large water power, they have a thirty horse engine. The factory is large and new, furnished with every facility. Mr. Hurlbut is a man of long acquaintance with the business, and the firm are prepared to execute all orders promptly and in the best manner. A new machine for forming fur hat bodies is being put up in this establishment.

The fur blowing machines in use, were invented about thirty years ago. The inventor's name is not known, and it is supposed that the machine was never patented. It is composed of eight sections, each section having a picker, and under it a riddle. Over the whole there is a perforated top to keep the fur from escaping. The fur, as in the forming machine, is fed on to an apron. As it passes into the first section it is caught by the picker and torn to pieces—the fur being light rises, while the hair falls on to the riddle, where it is entirely separated from the fur yet mixed with it. After the fur has passed through all the sections, it comes out of the machine in a web, thoroughly blown and separated from the hair. An apron running the entire length of the machine underneath, catches all the waste fur, &c., and carries it back to the place of starting, where it is assorted. This fur blowing is of much importance, and many of the machines are in use. We might describe the Wool Forming and Carding machines, but we have not space.

The mystery of invention! who can solve it? The common mind sees the effects produced, and that is all. We admire the nice movements and utility of a machine, but, we lack the idea which suggested and the skill that formed it. Looking for something grand, we fail to see those *first* and *simple* principles on which every invention is based.

A better informed or more intelligent class of mechanics than those engaged in the manufacture of hats, cannot be found. Their work does not interfere with conversation, which is carried on in a lively manner. The religious, political, moral, and social questions

of the day are debated upon at length, and with all the zest of true professors. Their benevolence is unbounded, especially towards their fellow workmen, worn out with years of labor. Does a person wish aid for some poor or unfortunate individual, he goes to the hat shops, and, if his design be a good one, he will not leave without a snug little sum to gladden the heart or alleviate the pain of the sufferer. There are many—*many* who can testify to the truth of this. Benevolence of this kind, in which all, bosses and workmen, join, illustrates a principle of humanity much in contrast with that *semi-selfish* principle usually termed Benevolence. During the early stages of hatting, when the shops were scattered all over the country, many hatters, to use familiar language, taking their gloves and apron went "on tramp," that is, journeyed from shop to shop, working in one place and then another. Numbers have thus traveled from Maine to New Orleans. But the trade has been concentrated, and the day of "tramps" has mostly gone by. Many of the neat little cottages dotting our own valley, and thousands of homes in other places, belong to the mechanics engaged in hatting. Some have little sums at interest, while others toil manfully to meet the wants of their large families, with nothing laid up in store. They have societies and rules for the regulation of prices, &c., in their several departments, and as a class are much interested in education and the various reformatory movements of the age. A great many of our most worthy citizens are hatters, and the majority of our wealthy townsmen have from time to time been engaged in it.

Laboring men are the bulwarks of a nation, and that nation is most successful where the masses are hardworking and industrious. It is the muscular arm of labor that opens the way for civilization, the principle of industry that ennobles a people. The plough has traced better poems than the pen, the hammer built stronger fabrics than logic. The greatest developments of manhood and intellect have come from the laboring classes; the sturdiest arguments in morality and law, and the most useful discoveries and inventions in science and art, have been elaborated at the forge, born behind the plough, or in the shop of the mechanic. The thoughts are larger, nobler when the life current flows through every artery, and physical manhood begets intellectual superiority.

CONNECTICUT SHOULD BE PROUD OF HER WORKINGMEN, FOR IN THEM LIES ALL HER STRENGTH, POLITICALLY AND SOCIALLY. HER MANUFACTORIES OF VARIOUS KINDS ARE HER CITADELS FOR DEFENCE, HER MECHANICS HER STANDING ARMY, AND HER MANUFACTURING FACILITIES BETTER THAN MINES OF GOLD.

LET OUR STATE EVER BE KNOWN AS THE LABORING STATE, THE MANUFACTURING STATE, AND HER MEN AS ACTIVE, HARD-WORKING, MUSCLE AND BRAIN-USING BUSINESS MEN.

1860.—We shall now give full statements of all the firms in operation at the present time, together with the amount of business done during 1859.

FUR HAT MANUFACTURERS.

TWEEDY, WHITE & CO.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$375,000
“ Capital invested,	130,000
“ Paid out to hands per annum,	80,000
“ of Freight Bills, “	2,250
Number of Hats turned off “	20,000 dozen.
“ “ Formed “	700,000
“ Males employed,	250
“ Females “	75
Hat forming machines in use,	8
Fur blowing “ “	10
Sewing “ “	6
Steam power “	100 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	1,000 tons.

The hat forming machines (before described,) were furnished by H. A. Burr & Co., forming (eight machines) hat bodies at the rate of 2,500 per day. This firm form hats for all the manufacturers within a certain circuit of miles. The buildings, which are lighted with gas made on the premises, are large and convenient, furnished with every facility for carrying on the business on a grand scale. Each department is presided over by an experienced “foreman,” and everything is conducted with regard to order and celerity.

A large steam pump forces a stream of water up the hill near by into a reservoir, from whence it is carried in pipes through all the buildings. This would be very serviceable in the case of a fire. Mr. Tweedy is one of the oldest manufacturers now engaged in the trade, and the firm has had long experience.

Being the first to invest largely in the manufacture of hats, they have gradually increased their operations until they now stand at the head of the largest establishment in Danbury, known in the trade as the “Crystal Palace.”

TWEEDY BROTHERS & CO.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$175,000
“ Capital invested,	40,000
“ Paid out to hands per annum,	50,000
“ of Freight Bills, “	1,200
Number of Hats turned off “	10,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	100
“ Females “	50
Sewing machines in use,	4
Steam power, “	35 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	200 tons.

The Messrs. Tweedy are men of business tact and sterling enterprise, as their success since they have been engaged in the business clearly shows. This establishment ranks second in point of facility for meeting a large demand, and when in full operation presents a picture of order and industry suggestive of ability and increasing trade. Their store-house is a fine brick building 85x30, erected at a cost of \$5,000.

P. A. SUTTON & CO.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$170,000
“ “ capital invested,	35,000
“ paid out to hands per annum,	40,000
“ of Freight Bills, “ “	800
Number of hats turned off “ “	8,000 dozen.
“ “ Males employed,	85
“ “ Females “	30
Sewing Machines in use,	3
Steam power “ “	25 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	200 tons.

Mr. Sutton is an influential citizen and a man of tried energy, having worked his way up from the foot of the ladder. His associates E. A. Mallory and F. S. Wildman, Jr., are versed in the business transactions of the day, and well fitted for the duties of their station, while in point of quality the work at the “Hippodrome” is equal to that of any other establishment.

HENRY CROFUT.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$100,000
“ “ capital invested,	12,000
“ paid out to hands per annum,	30,000
Freight Bills “ “	300
Number of Hats turned off “ “	7,000 dozen
“ “ Males employed,	90
“ “ Females “	30
Sewing Machines in use,	2
Steam power,	30 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	200 tons.

This is a well arranged factory, and looking into the various departments we saw a large number of busy hands. Mr. Crofut has had much experience both as a journeyman, foreman, and “boss,” and we do not see why business in the “Palquique Factory,” situated as it is upon the line of the railroad, should not continue to go

on increasing with the amount of steam, always keeping in mind to "stand the pressure."

GILES M. HOYT.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$70,000
" " capital invested,	20,000
" paid out to hands per annum,	16,000
Number of hats turned off " "	3,500 dozen.
" " Males employed,	38
" " Females " "	12
Sewing Machines in use,	1
Coal consumed per annum,	40 tons.

Mr. Hoyt is well known as one of our practical and stirring business men. His establishment has lately been refitted and enlarged in order to accommodate the growing trade, and meet the wants of his customers. Buyers, in search of a good quality of work, should not overlook this establishment.

There are several other small Fur shops, which we shall mention together in the following table :

Amount of sales per annum,	\$125,000
" paid out to hands per annum,	30,000
Number of hats turned off " "	7,036 dozen.
" " Males employed,	75
" " Females " "	25
Sewing Machines in use,	2

WOOL HAT MANUFACTURERS.

BENEDICT & MONTGOMERY.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$210,000
" " capital invested,	50,000
" paid out to hands per annum,	38,000
Freight Bills, " "	2,460
Number of hats turned off " "	29,500 dozen.
" " Males employed,	165
" " Females " "	74
Carding Machines in use,	16
Sizing " " "	14
Forming " " "	9
Sewing " " "	6
Steam power " "	35 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	600 tons.

In this factory there is a monster steam pump patented by Gray of Bridgeport. It raises an immense body of water into a large vat above it, from which vat the water is conducted through the buildings. It also furnishes water for the boilers; indeed, it is *the* pump.

We noticed also an extensive machine for washing hats. Formerly this was a very laborious part of the trade, requiring the services of several men. Now the hats are placed in a machine consisting of twelve buckets revolving on an axis. These buckets being filled with hats, the steam is let on, and as it revolves with great velocity, the water, supplied by the steam pump, is brought across from the vat, and allowed to flow upon the buckets, instead of being carried under, (thus compelling the machine to resist the water,) as was designed by the inventor. It can then be left to perform its work. This machine will wash hats at the rate of 100 dozen per day. It was furnished by Boyington, of Worcester, Mass., and is considered by all who have seen it, to be an invention of no little worth.

Since Messrs. Benedict & Montgomery started the business in 1853, they have gradually enlarged their facilities and increased the manufacture, until they now take the lead in the wool hatting in Danbury. They have a hat store at No. 41 Broadway, New York. Everything in their establishment is carried on in an extensive manner.

E. STURDEVANT.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$125,000
“ “ capital invested,	35,000
“ paid out to hands per annum,	30,000
“ of freight bills “ “	1,500
Number of hats turned off “ “	20,834 dozen.
“ “ Males employed,	85
“ “ Females “	40
Carding Machines in use,	10
Forming “ “ “	6
Sizing “ “ “	20
Sewing “ “ “	4
Large water power,	
Coal consumed per annum,	250 tons.

Through the kindness of H. L. Higby, we spent several hours in passing through this large establishment, commencing at the room for drying wool, and following the raw material through all the different processes of manufacture, until we found it in the packing room in the form of a neat and serviceable hat.

We were shown an apparatus for generating gas from water and Benzole. This gas generator occupies but little space, and supplies

all the light needed in the entire establishment. Several "dumb-waiters" are in use for the hoisting and moving of material, &c., from the different stories, which are very efficient, saving also much hard labor. We witnessed the operation of dyeing wool, which for all hats, except black, is dyed in the raw material. Three hundred pounds are dyed at once. There are two large boilers for heating purposes, furnished with a steam fire regulator, patented by Clark, in 1854. Pure water for drinking is brought from a neighboring spring and carried about the buildings in pipes.

We also saw a triumph of Yankee ingenuity called the "Watch Clock," furnished by Howard & Davis, of Boston, Mass. This clock has an extra dial in which are inserted a number of small brass pins. There are also in the clock five levers connecting with as many wires in different parts of the buildings. These wires are all cased up and can only be reached at the extreme end. The watchman takes his stand at 6 p. m., for a twelve hours' watch. The clock has been set and trebly locked, the keys being kept in the safe. It is the watchman's duty to go his round every half hour, in accordance with the movement of the dial. When he reaches the room where the first wire ends he pulls it, and the lever acting upon a little hammer opposite the dial drives one of the brass pins in a little. When he has gone all through the factory and pulled all the five wires, one pin is driven in, and so on until he is off duty. He has ten minutes in which to go his round; should he fail to pull the wire within this time, the pin goes past the hammer. He must pull the first wire before he can pull any of the others. In the morning if the pins corresponding to his watch are all driven, it is proof that he has done his duty: if any are not driven it proves that he was not faithful, and a figure on the dial shows at just what hour he neglected his duty. The mechanism of the clock is simple, but there is no way of evading its *brazen faced assertions*.

In a lower room there is one of A. W. Carry's Rotary Fire Engine Pumps, patented in 1849. It is connected with the main shaft and always running with a loose belt, while an India rubber hose, seventy-five feet in length, is attached in readiness for instant use. Should the cry of fire be given, the belt is adjusted, the hose manned and in two minutes a volume of water is in use sufficient to put out any ordinary fire. There is also a large vat with hose attached in one of the upper stories. The water power is immense, sufficient to drive any amount of machinery, and furnishing abundance of water for all purposes required. Everything requisite for facility and good work is in use in this establishment, and each department gives evidence of a well regulated system of operation. A fine office and two large store-houses are connected with the factory.

CROSBY, HOYT & CO.

Amount of Sales per annum,	\$125,000
“ Capital invested,	30,000
“ Paid out to hands per annum,	15,000
“ of Freight bills, “	1,000
Number of Hats turned off, “	18,000 dozen.
“ Males employed,	58
“ Females “	12
Carding Machines in use,	7
Sizing “ “	12
Forming “ “	5
Sewing “ “	2
Steam power, “ (two engines.)	30 horse.
Coal consumed per annum,	300 tons.

This firm was known in 1856 as that of Wildman & Crosby, but a change has since been made, owing to the death of Mr. Wildman, and it is now Crosby, Hoyt & Co. As we hinted (in 1856,) they have been obliged to enlarge their quarters, and they now occupy, in addition to the old factory, a new one, large and commodious. They have greatly increased their machinery and other facilities, in order to meet the demands of buyers, and now stand among the most thriving Wool Hat Manufacturers. We like to see men thus keep up to the demands of the age. They have besides steam power a valuable water power. They have the requisites for a large trade, viz: experience in the business and abundant resources.

AGGREGATE OF THE FOREGOING TABLES

SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF BUSINESS ACTUALLY DONE AT HATTING IN DANBURY DURING THE YEAR 1859.

Amount of sales per annum,	\$1,475,000
“ Capital invested,	352,000
“ Paid out to hands per annum,	329,000
“ of Freight Bills, “	9,510
Number of Hats turned off “	123,870 doz. or 1,486,440 hats.
“ Fur Hats formed “	700,000
“ Wool “ “ “	820,500
“ Paper boxes used “	266,000
“ Wooden Cases “ “	31,000
“ Males employed,	946
“ Females “	348
Fur Hat Forming Machines in use,	8
“ Blowing “ “	29
“ Cutting “ “	10

Wool Hat Forming Machines in use,	20
" Sizing " "	46
" Carding " "	33
Sewing " "	31
Amount of Steam power,	255 horse.
" Coal consumed per annum,	2790 tons.

For the better understanding of some parts of this table, we may mention that our establishments are not in active operation during the entire year. We have our dull times every year when but few hands are employed to work up the stock on hand, and we have our busy seasons when the demands rush in upon us and many hands are employed to meet them. Fur Hats range in price from twelve to thirty-six dollars per dozen, and Wool Hats from six to eighteen dollars per dozen—each manufacturer making such a grade of hats as his customers may desire.

The table speaks well for the business enterprise and manufacturing facilities of the place. The amount of sales per annum \$1,475,000, shows that there must be some energy and tact at work, while the number of Hats turned off, 123,870 dozen, or *one million four hundred and eighty-six thousand four hundred and forty Hats*, will compare favorably with that of any other place, city or town.

The table will awaken many queries and suggestions, and shows the result of the slow, gradual increase and concentration of trade during more than eighty years. But we need not dwell upon this table, it speaks plainly and merits careful thought and perusal.

Although our manufacture during the past year has been so extensive, still, we have facilities to meet a much greater demand. The present year opens with an active and increasing trade, buyers are coming in from all quarters, and our manufacturing prospects are brightening. Doubtless coming seasons and years will bring with them still greater changes and success, when the blocked up channels of trade shall have all been cleared, and the financial interests of our country established on a firmer basis.

Hatting then has kept up with the demands and steam-like progress of the age. The little red shop (not large enough to contain the coal used by one firm now,) of eighty years ago increased to score of shops scattered over the township, and these in turn have been concentrated in a cluster of large and commodious factories filled with crowds of busy operatives, clattering with machinery and sending forth constant clouds of steam. The eighteen hats per week have rolled up to nearly thirty thousand; the small capital to *hundreds of thousands*, and the *meagre* sales have increased a *million* fold. All day the hum of trade goes on, and when darkness comes, artificial light shows the way to the still untiring energies of toil. Machinery and human muscles battle together in disposing of the

stock to be worked up for the herder in Texas, the miner in California, the planter in Florida, the Hoosier in Indiana, the trapper in Oregon, the merchant in St. Louis, the Mormon in Utah, and indeed the millions in every part of our confederacy.

Hatting has been the means of building up our village, filling it with an industrious population, and infusing into it all the bustle of trade and ceaseless activity. It supports the grocer and the dry goods merchant, the butcher, the tailor, the shoemaker, the coal dealer, the farmer and all the other various branches of toil and traffic. It is the life of the place, the mainspring to all success and advancement. If you doubt this, you have only to take from the place all the thriving establishments now in operation, withdrawing all the influence which they exert in the financial interests of the day, and in a short time you will have an opportunity to own the truth of the statement.

To show the extent of our trade, we will mention only a *few* of the principal places from whence our manufacturers receive their orders: Charleston, Savannah, Petersburg, Va., Memphis, Augusta, Nashville, Louisville, Montgomery, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, New York, Boston, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Milwaukee, St. Paul, California, Buffalo, Montreal, Hamilton, &c., &c.

Since 1802 our connection with the South has not ceased an hour, and during the past year our *Southern trade has increased a large per cent.* Many of our largest orders are now received from the Southwest, and the broad young West, with all its large and growing interests, is steadily coming up to the demand before the panic of '57.

N. H. Wildman, one of our old business men, has (as we have mentioned) a large Hat Store at Augusta, and David Pearce, a Fur and Hat Emporium at St. Louis, while many others of our citizens are interested in hat stores in various large cities.

Let us enter the Fur Hat forming establishment. Here we see a number of machines from which the fur is issuing, impelled by the blower, and spreading itself around those revolving cones, forming the hat bodies with a precision and rapidity truly astonishing. Appearing here and there about the room are the male and female operatives—here a girl is feeding on the fur, and there a boy is putting on the mail, or is just in the act of dipping the body in a vat. There an operator is just wiping a cone, and yonder the hardener, with three or four bodies rolled in a cloth, is industriously working away. We go up stairs and see ten or twelve machines, standing like a train of cars, with a web of fur issuing from each. These are the fur blowers preparing the fur for the forming machines below. Turn where we will, all through the large building, a whizzing, whirring sound strikes the ear: turn where we will, machines are about us, cones are turning, wheels revolving, and belts are crossed,

and recrossed, while in the engine-room may be heard the heavy breathings of the monster whose gigantic arm propels the whole.

We will now enter the hat shop proper. First look into the plank room, and here we find sixty or seventy men crowded around the numerous kettles, busily engaged in making hats for the million, hardly to be discerned amid the dense clouds of steam, but they ARE THERE working at the bodies which have been brought over from the forming establishment we were in a moment ago. Some are men with broad chests and large muscles, others are small men with nervous frame, but a *will of iron*. One is fitting the body to a block, another is "pinning out the grain," the jest and the laugh goes round, every conceivable topic is freely discussed, and thus the war of tongue and muscle goes on. Old men and young, apprentices and journeymen, some who a half century ago went on "tramp" gaily singing:

"With a groat in each pocket,
And a coat to keep me dry,
To travel I'm no stranger,
I'm a roving HATTER BOY."

But we must go on. Those men in that room yonder are *shavers*. (*Hat shavers*, of course.) Ah! here we are at the door of the finishing-room,—here are twenty-five or thirty men hard at work, swinging the irons with a will,—one is just taking an iron from the fire, while another has just finished his dozen. That one is bringing in a new lot of hats, another is admiring a hat which has happened to take a good finish, while a third with a rough one, growls a little at the stock or the "sizer." The foreman is in and out to inspect the work, &c., and that apprentice boy has just burned his hand with his iron, which makes Tom over there laugh, as he twirls his iron around a 2 XX. Hark! some fellow down in the plank-room is bellowing out "Old Grimes is dead," &c. Well, music and labor go well together. That boy in the room we just passed is cutting leathers. We may now peer into the trimming room, if we wish. Here we have thirty to forty young ladies, (at least they all claim to be young,) occupied in trimming hats. Leathers and tips are in commotion, thread is in demand, needles and fingers are busy, and tongues too; a good-natured laugh is heard once in a while; there is a smile on this one's face, a twinkle (sometimes a tear,) in that one's eye; while from some heart, more merry or more tuneful than the rest, is poured forth a song. Hear the click, click of that sewing machine, striving to rival the nimble fingers of the fair workers; but give us the "originals." Success to the hat trimmers, any way! We might look in upon the stiffeners, curlers, &c., &c., but we have not time, so we may as well step into the storehouse.

This is a large building. See the hat cases piled up around waiting for transportation. That man is marking a case for Charleston;

there is a lot marked for St. Louis, and I heard the "boss" (that large man yonder,) say, yesterday, that he had received a large order from California. The drayman is just leaving with a load of cases for the next train, which the salesman tells me are for a firm in Chicago. This looks like business, does it not? That room in the opposite end of the building is the office. It is well fitted up. Do you see that person talking with the gentleman at the desk? He is a hat buyer from the far West, I know by his appearance. So we have glanced through the entire establishment—not much like the little *red shop* with which we first started, is it? But time, energy and capital work mighty revolutions in trade.

For the benefit of the uninitiated we will briefly mention the different processes gone through with in making and preparing a modern hat for market. The skin is obtained by trappers, and bought in bales; then is washed and pulled and the fur is caroted, cut, assorted, blown, packed, marked, and formed; next the body is hardened, sized, dried, shaved, stiffened, steamed, blocked, colored, washed out, blocked down, dried, brushed, singed, surfaced, blocked again, finished, inspected, trimmed, bound by a machine, curled, ironed off, papered, packed, and marked for transportation.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF DANBURY.

Danbury was settled in the spring of 1685, and its original Indian name was *Pahquioque*. In point of natural beauty and situation few towns in our country will compare with it. It is situated in an undulating valley, living springs bubble forth, and never-failing streams flow down from the surrounding hills to turn machinery, &c. In summer, the streets present a fine appearance with their borders of *real* grass and canopy of shade, and within the circuit of a few miles twelve small lakes or fishing ponds invite to a sail or an angling excursion, while game has not entirely left the brakes and woods. Many visitors are drawn here during the "hot months" to enjoy the pure air and refreshing shade, not to be found in the *bricked in* avenues of the city. From the summit of Mount Tom (or "Mootry's Peak,") a fine view may be had of Danbury and vicinity. Hills

dotted with forests and flocks, and valleys with farm-houses stretch away on every hand, "solitary spires denote distant villages," little lakes sparkle like crystal mirrors, and misty wreaths of floating clouds seem to spiritualize the whole. In the valley at your feet is nestled our village with its numerous spires, and clouds of steam issuing from its factories, in the north stretch the blue hills of the "coal-burners" at the east the village of Bethel appears, at the west old Kenosha shows its bosom, and in the south, twenty miles distant, Long Island Sound lies along the horizon, with here and there a sail.

Within the limits of Danbury there are *fourteen steam engines* in daily operation, and the steam whistles at early dawn call out over *two thousand mechanics and laborers*. Within the borough there are more than four hundred dwellings, besides sixty stores, nine churches three large boarding schools, three ward or public schools, and a large number of private schools. Formerly we had merely a branch of the Fairfield County Bank, with \$100,000 capital, and only \$80,000 of this paid in. But as Hatting and business of every kind became more extensive, the monied interests and wants of the community demanded something larger, and we have now two banks with an aggregate capital stock of more than \$500,000, together with a Savings bank made up of the earnings of laboring men and women.

The lumber trade, which used to be very small, now involves a large capital. We have two lumber yards whose yearly sales amount to *two million feet*, and there was consumed in Danbury during the past year *three millions seven hundred and seventy-five thousand feet of lumber*. Contracts have been made for erecting *eighty* new dwellings during the present year; in Main-st., stores are being refitted, fronts remodeled, and several large blocks lately completed, with others about to be erected, show that public improvement is not neglected. Arrangements are soon to be made for furnishing a thorough supply of pure and wholesome water to every part of the town.

Two printing offices issue each a weekly sheet, and there has been at least one weekly issue since the first printing office at Danbury was established in 1790.

In the large and beautifully arranged cemetery, on the most commanding elevation, a grandly designed monument (for which we are much indebted to the long continued efforts of Stephen A. Hurlbut, Esq.) lifts its eagle crowned shaft to perpetuate the name and fame of "our gallant Wooster," and other neat columns point upward from the mouldering dust around.

The hotels are conducted by hosts well known to travellers, and the boarding schools combine thorough instruction with plenty of exercise and pure air.

Our near connection with New York enables our dry good merchants, tailors, milliners, &c., &c., to keep constantly on hand the newest and latest styles, and the facilities for transporting manufac-

tured articles and produce of all kinds are complete. Our markets are supplied with every delicacy in its season, the city papers reach us yet damp from the press, and we are in communication by telegraph with all parts of the country.

Danbury then, for an inland town, abounds in fine openings for any kind of business requiring those unfailing resources with which nature has so signally favored New England, and facilities, the fruit of an active public spirit.

In view of the foregoing pages we must conclude that there is in our little valley a vast amount of enterprise and business energy; that as a town we are in the highway of improvement. Let us see to it that we keep up the march of *progress* in solid and ever increasing column. Success to the poor man and the rich, employers and employed. Success to Danbury and all her sister Towns. May the steam whistles continue to call out workmen with the morn, and busy establishments to be alive with labor. May the fruits and rewards of labor fill the lap of our common country, and the *right arm of its power never be paralyzed.*

LET THE STROKES OF BUSY HANDS KEEP TIME WITH THE MARCH OF INTELLECT, AND MUSCLE BATTLE WITH BRAIN IN ALL THE GRAND WORKSHOP OF THE UNIVERSE. LET THE DAY HASTEN WHEN ALL SHALL MORE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE NOBILITY OF LABOR, THE ARISTOCRACY OF THE ANVIL AND THE PLOUGH, THE BEAUTY AND WEALTH OF THE CRYSTAL DROPS OF LIFE WRUNG FROM THE BROW OF THE SONS OF TOIL.

The strokes of Labor
Falling on the world's great finger board,
Like master hands,
Wake strains of music,
Pealing from ten thousand pipes,
Swelling the noblest anthem of the years.

Entered according to Act of Congress in the Clerk's Office, of the District Court of the United States for the District of Connecticut, in the year 1860, by H. & L. Osborne.

THE OLD BEAVER HAT.

I.

On the well worn bench in a porch deep and wide,
 'Neath the roof tree century grown,
 An old man sat down 'mid his mellow lands broad,
 A king in his rich country home.
 A suit of grey clothed his corpulent frame,
 His sleeve cuff had pins half a row,
 He smoked and talked with a silver-haired dame,
 As he'd done forty years ago.

II.

His grandchild had stolen the old beaver hat,
 From his head white with touch of years,
 And in it had hidden her own sunny curls,
 And the tips of her little ears:
 It came down all over her bright dimpled face,
 And the brim touched her shoulders fair,
 A soft, tinkling laugh came from out the old hat,
 As she tripped round the old man's chair.

III.

The house-dog stretched on his rug in the sun,
 Half opened his dark hazel eye,
 And wagged his tail at the little one's fun ;
 The good woman spinning near by,
 Stopped her wheel as she thought of other days,
 And the bygone threads looked o'er ;
 His "specs" grew dim to the grandfather's gaze,
 And he lived in the times of yore.

IV.

Round the beaver's brim cluster'd all the years fled,
 "A garland of sorrow and joy,"
 Its bell-crown had covered his sire's own head,
 And he played with it when a boy,
 That old beaver hat "planked" way back in the years,
 Called up scenes through memory's portal ;
 The child was a bud from the parent stem gone
 To bloom in the gardens eternal.

* * * * *

V.

The child fell asleep on the smooth oaken floor,
 The old beaver hat for a pillow ;
 The good woman started her spinning once more,
 And the last of the sunbeams yellow
 Made the channels gold that time had worn,
 On the cheek of the old man dreamer,
 Nodding o'er the years forever flown,
 Half awake and just half in slumber.

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whose well known reputation as a caterer for the public has
not been excelled.

THE HOUSE

HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY RENOVATED AND ENLARGED,
and I trust the public can be as well accommodated as at
any other house where they profess to keep a Hotel.

THERE IS IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOUSE A GOOD

LIVERY STABLE,
WITH GOOD CARRIAGE AND SADDLE HORSES.

**Horses boarded by the week or month, under the care
of experienced Grooms.**

JOHN R. FORRESTER, Proprietor.

MACDONALD & FORD,

DEALERS IN

STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS,

AND

MILLINERY GOODS

AT THE

DANBURY DRY GOODS EMPORIUM,

IN GRIFFING'S NEW BLOCK,

BETWEEN THE

PAHQUIOQUE BANK AND FORRESTER'S HOTEL,

MAIN STREET,

DANBURY, CONN.

HENRY J. MACDONALD.

H. RICHMOND FORD.

WOOSTER HOUSE,

WITHIN A FEW RODS OF THE DEPOT,

MAIN STREET.

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THE ACCOMMODATION OF GUESTS, WITH
AMPLE GROUNDS FOR EXERCISE
AND RECREATION.

ITS ADVANTAGES AS A

SUMMER RESORT,

ARE UNSURPASSED BY ANY IN THE STATE.

HOT AND COLD WATER BATHS
AT ALL HOURS.

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PROVIDED FOR VISITORS.

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FANCY ARTICLES.

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OF ALL KINDS.

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Main Street,

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DRESS GOODS, SHAWLS, MANTILLAS, CLOAKS, PAR

ASOLS, HOUSEKEEPING GOODS OF EVERY

DESCRIPTION, CLOTHS, CASSIMERES,

AND VESTINGS, HOSIERY,

GLOVES, DRESS TRIMMINGS, EMBROIDERIES, &c.

MANTILLAS AND CLOAKS,

We make to order, at the shortest notice, besides a large stock always on hand to select from.

Black and Fancy Silks.

The best Black Silks imported, with a great variety of high and low cost

FANCY SILKS.

In Silks and Fine Dress Goods we have the largest and most attractive stock to be found in the State.

DOMESTIC GOODS AT JOBBERS' PRICES.

JOHN H. SLATER,

CHAS. K. SLATER.

E. S. HUNTINGTON & CO.,
WATCHMAKERS, JEWELERS,
AND
S T A T I O N E R S ,
MAIN STREET.

E. S. H. & Co., have constantly on hand a good assortment of
FINE WATCHES, CLOCKS, (of Paris and American Manufac-
ture,) JEWELRY, SILVER and PLATED WARE,
SPECTACLES, SHEET MUSIC, FANCY
GOODS, PERFUMERY, TOILET
ARTICLES, &c., &c.

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goods at extremely low prices.

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variety of Stationery offered at less than New York prices. Blank
Books of any pattern of ruling, or style of binding, manufactured to
order.

LITHOGRAPHING and PRINTING neatly executed.

Manufacturers and others, are invited to examine our stock.

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HARDWARE AND CARPENTERS' TOOLS.

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PLOWS, HARROWS, CHAINS, HORSE-RAKES,
SCYTHES, CRADLES, &c.

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IRON AND STEEL, ALL SIZES.

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BOX STOVES,

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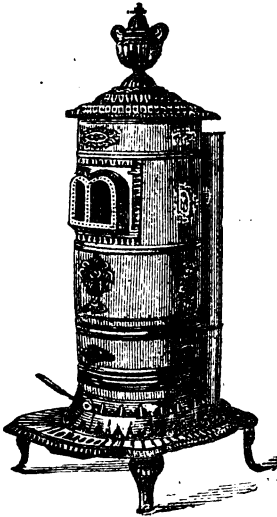
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MATTRESSES, FEATHER BEDS,
PILLOWS, BOLSTERS, &c.

CARPETS.

THREE-PLY, BRUSSELS, INGRAINS, COTTON, HEMP,
RAG, MATTINGS, MATS, OIL CLOTHS,
RUGS, SHEEPSKINS.

STOVES.

PARLOR, KITCHEN, STORE AND OFFICE STOVES,
SUMMER RANGES, FURNACES, HEATERS, &c.

TIN WARE.

PAILS, KETTLES, BOILERS, DIPPERS, PANS.

CROCKERY.

CHINA, FRENCH AND STONE, ROCKINGHAM WARE,
PLATTERS, PLATES, CHAMBER SETS.

GLASS.

TUMBLERS, GOBLETS, PITCHERS, PRESERVE, &c.

PLATED WARE.

TABLE CUTLERY, MIRRORS, LAMPS, VASES.

WOODEN WARE.

FURNITURE MADE, REPAIRED, AND EXCHANGED.

G. E. HULL,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

DRY GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES,

HOSIERY AND GLOVES,

TRIMMINGS,

NOTIONS,

AND EVERYTHING USUALLY FOUND IN A FIRST CLASS

DRY GOODS STORE.

~ALSO~

MANUFACTURER OF EVERY STYLE OF

SILK, LACE AND CLOTH

MANTILLAS!

DANBURY

SHIRT MANUFACTURING CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

SHIRTS, COLLARS, DRAWERS,

AND

SHIRT TRIMMINGS,

FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.

CUSTOM SHIRTS

Cut to measure and made in the best manner.

DIRECTIONS FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT SENT BY MAIL

A PERFECT FIT WARRANTED.

R. S. FANTON, Agent,

Corner Main and Wooster-sts., opposite the County House.

S. STEBBINS & CO.,

Main Street,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF

LUMBER, PINE AND SPRUCE TIMBER,

LATHS, SHINGLES, &c.

Doors, Sash and Blinds on hand

AND MADE TO ORDER.

STEAM SAWING, PLANING AND TURNING.

BENEDICT & NICHOLS,

DEALERS IN

D R Y G O O D S,

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS AND HARDWARE,

CARPETS, PAPER HANGINGS,

PAINTS, OILS, &c.,

LIME, CEMENT, PLASTER,

AND

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

STARR BENEDICT.

DAVID P. NICHOLS.

ISAAC W. IVES,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

**PINE AND SPRUCE
TIMBER AND LUMBER,
LATHS, SHINGLES, &C.,
DOORS, SASH AND BLINDS,
STEAM SAWING AND PLANING.
OFFICE IN WHITE STREET.**

BERND & JARRETT,

IMPORTERS,

AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF

ALL KINDS OF

S B G A R S .

**TOBACCO AND SNUFF,
MEERSCHAUM AND FANCY PIPES.
THREE DOORS SOUTH OF THE POST OFFICE.
DANBURY, CONN.**

H. H. BERND.**J. H. B. JARRETT.**

DANBURY MARBLE YARD,

MAIN STREET,

(Near the Bridge.)

K. C O M E S .

MONUMENTS, TOMBSTONES,

TABLE AND COUNTER TOPS

MANUFACTURED TO ORDER.

SPECIMENS OF WORK CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

H. S. & J. HARVEY,

DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,

PERFUMERY,

PURE WINES AND LIQUORS

FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES,

Fine Toilet Soaps, Fine Hair and Tooth Brushes,

TRUSSES AND SHOULDER BRACES,

TOILET AND FANCY ARTICLES,

Glass, Putty, Paints, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs,

BURNING FLUIDS, SEEDS, PENS, INK, PAPER, ENVELOPES,

TOBACCO, SEGARS, &c.

EXCHANGE PLACE.

G. HOLMES & CO.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES

AND

PROVISIONS,

Wood and Willow Ware, Paints and Oils,

FRUIT OF ALL KINDS,

FISH, CLAMS AND OYSTERS

IN THEIR SEASON.

SEASONED WOOD CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

First door south of the Wooster House.

Danbury Machine Shop.

HARRISON FLINT,

Manufacturer of Wool Carding, Picking and Dusting Machines,

Hat Forming, Hardening and Stiffening Machines of various

patterns, Pouncing Machines, for Wool or Fur

Bodies, Blowing and Picking Machines for Fur.

Also, all kinds of Wood Working Machines, Woodworth's Planers,

Steam Engines, Forcing Pumps.

Keeps constantly on hand and for sale Steam Pipe and Fittings,
Rubber Packing, Cocks and Valves, Machine and Carriage Bolts,
Washers and Nuts, Leather and Rubber Belting, &c.

A. JUDD,
DEALER IN
Family Groceries, Books, Stationery,
CONFECTIONERIES, &c.
MAIN STREET,
NEAR CONCERT HALL.

JAMES H. BEEBE,
SADDLE AND HARNESS MAKER,
AND DEALER IN
TRUNKS, WHIPS, MARTINGALES, &c.
LIBERTY STREET, NEAR MAIN.

THE PEOPLES'
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
CLOTHING EMPORIUM,
UNDER THE AMERICAN TELEGRAPH OFFICE.
On hand and constantly receiving a large and choice selection of
Goods of the latest styles and fashions.
S. ZARKOWSKY, Agent.

GEORGE HARRIS,
TUNER OF ALL KINDS OF
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.
ORDERS LEFT AT THE
MASONIC HALL BOOK STORE.

CHARLES BEACH,
DEALER IN
GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,
Families supplied with the best Butter in market.
FIRST DOOR SOUTH OF THE PAHQUIQUE HOTEL.

M. HARRIS,
DEALER IN
Ready Made Clothing and Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods.
FIRST DOOR SOUTH OF HARVEYS' DRUG STORE.

EDGAR A. BENEDICT,
DEALER IN
DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,
Dye-Stuffs, Patent Medicines, &c.
MAIN STREET.

CHARLES DEKLYN,
BAKERY AND CONFECTIONERY,
OYSTER AND ICE CREAM
SALOON,
FIRST DOOR SOUTH OF THE POST OFFICE.

N. T. HOYT,
DEALER IN
CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES,
AND
PROVISIONS OF ALL KINDS,
PAHQUIQUE BANK BLOCK.

C. S. WILSON,
MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF LADIES'
AND GENTLEMENS'
BOOTS AND SHOES.
☞ A full stock always on hand to select from.
PAHQUIQUE BANK BUILDING.

A. HICKOK.
CONSTANTLY ON HAND AND MADE TO ORDER
EVERY VARIETY OF
BOOTS AND SHOES.
Custom work neatly and promptly executed by experienced hands.
MAIN-ST., OPPOSITE GRIFFING'S BLOCK.

TIMES JOB OFFICE,
REAR OF MASONIC HALL BOOK STORE;
POSTERS, PROGRAMMES, CIRCULARS, CARDS, Plain
and Fancy, and Business Notices of all kinds, neatly executed, at
short notice.

**HOUSE, SIGN AND ORNAMENTAL
PAINTING.**

Particular Attention paid to all kinds of

SIGN PAINTING.

H. S. HARVEY.

JANUS HARVEY.

**H. & A. STONE,
MEAT MARKET,
WHITE'S BLOOK, NEAR THE BRIDGE.**

The public may rest assured that no pains will be spared on our part to make this Market the best place in town to patronize.

H. STONE.

A. STONE.

**ADAMS & CO'S EXPRESS,
WM. P. STEVENS, Agent.**

Office in the Danbury & Norwalk Railroad Depot.

QUICK RETURNS AND PROMPT DELIVERY.

**D. & J. STEVENS,
BUILDERS,**

RETAIL DEALERS IN

Pine and Spruce Timber and Lumber, Lath, Shingles, &c.

Steam Sawing, Planing and Moulding, Manufacturers of Doors, Sash, Blinds, &c., at the WHITE STREET PLANING MILL.

GEORGE STARR,

MANUFACTURER OF

HAT BLOCKS,

Planks, and all kinds of Hatters Tools, Hat Cases, &c.

STEAM SAWING, PLANING, AND TURNING.

ELM STEET, NEAR MAIN.

**NORMAN & GOOTMAN, Agents,
MERCHANT TAILORS.**

AND DEALERS IN

**Ready-Made Clothing & Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods,
CLOTHING MADE TO ORDER AND WARRANTED TO FIT.**

Clark's Store, nearly opposite Danbury Bank.

STEPHENS & HOYT,**MERCHANT TAILORS,**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

Cloths, Cassimeres, Vestings, Ready-Made Clothing,
HATS, CAPS, AND FURNISHING GOODS GENERALLY.**Main Street, opposite Danbury Bank.****Peoples' Meat Market,**

NEAR THE DEPOT.

The subscribers having built a new store, are now prepared to
furnish Meat of all kinds, Poultry, Hams, Smoked Beef, &c.

Fresh Meat every morning, furnished by wagon, or at our store.

Call and see for yourselves.

F. A. NORRIS.

G. M. NORRIS.

B. D. NORRIS.

G. HULL & SON,

DEALER IN

Stoves, Tin, Hardware, Crockery, Glass and Stoneware,

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS,

Kerosene Oil, Fluid, and Builders' Hardware,

MAIN STREET.**DANBURY DYE WORKS.**

FANCY DYEING AND CLEANING,

Faded and Stained Goods neatly restored.

SHAWLS AND SILKS CLEANED AND DYED.

D. FISHER,

SOUTH END OF THE PARK, MAIN STREET.

MISS E. BANKS,**M I L L I N E R ,**

HULL'S BLOCK, OVER G. E. HULL'S STORE.

Hats, Caps, Flowers, Ribbons of all kinds, Head Dresses, &c.,

CONSTANTLY ON HAND AND MADE TO ORDER.

MRS. S. H. NORTHROP,

MANUFACTURER OF

ALL KINDS OF GENTLEMEN'S LINEN.

FAMILY SEWING PROMPTLY AND NEATLY EXECUTED.

Over Harveys' Drug Store.

TONSORIAL SALOON.

SHAVING, HAIR DRESSING AND SHAMPOOING

DONE WITH ARTISTIC TASTE.

Hair Cutting done in the latest and most approved styles. Hair and Whiskers dyed with the greatest care. Ladies and Childrens' Hair Cutting receive quick and prompt attention.

JOHN F. NOBLE, Tonsorial Facial Artist,
WOOSTER HOUSE.

NASH, RAYMOND & CO.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

**OYSTERS, CLAMS, FISH,
FRUIT, VEGETABLES, &c.,**

ALL IN THEIR SEASON.

TERMS CASH.

HAWLEY BRADLEY,

Manufacturer and Dealer in

CARRIAGES & HARNESSSES,

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

WHITE STREET, NEAR MAIN.

S. S. PECK & CO.,

Dealer in every kind of

FAMILY GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Opposite the Wooster House.

S. S. PECK.

J. B. WILDMAN.

E. S. SANFORD,

Dealer in

BOOTS AND SHOES, GAITERS AND RUBBERS,

Findings and Sole Leather,

MAIN STREET, OPPOSITE DANBURY BANK.

S. STEBBINS & CO.,

Dealers in

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, HARDWARE,

Oil Cloths, Paper Hangings, Window Shades,

AND

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

C. H. REED & CO.,
 MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN
BOOTS AND SHOES,
 OF MENS', LADIES' AND CHILDRENS' WEAR.
 Gentlemen's Fine Boots made by the best workmen, at the
 MASONIC HALL BOOT AND SHOE STORE.

D. B. PEARCE,
 AT THE "UP TOWN STORE,"
 dealer in
 DRY GOODS, GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,
 MAIN STREET.

MORTIMER JENNINGS,
 HISCOCK-ST., MANUFACTURER OF ALL STYLES OF
 CARRIAGES and WAGONS, both LIGHT and HEAVY.
 Also, dealer in WHEELS, BODIES, CARRIAGE PARTS,
 SHAFTS, HUBS, SPOKES, FELLOES, AXLES, SPRINGS,
 &c., &c. Repairing done with neatness and despatch.

MORGAN CHITTENDEN,
 ARCHITECT AND DRAUGHTSMAN,
 Office at Barnum & Starr's. SAFETY, BEAUTY AND CON-
 VENIENCE secured in building. Twenty years' experience in the
 business makes him confident of being able to give satisfaction.

L. H. BOUGHTON,
 (opposite the Park,)
 WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
BOOTS AND SHOES of all kinds.
 Custom Work neatly and promptly executed.

DR. WM. J. RIDER,
SURGEON DENTIST,
 OFFICE IN CROSBY BLOCK, MAIN STREET.
 ESTABLISHED IN DANBURY IN 1848.

JAMES OSBORN,
GENERAL DEALER IN
CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES,
AND PROVISIONS.

The best brands of Flour always on hand.
OPPOSITE CONCERT HALL.

HORACE MARSHALL,
CABINET WAREHOUSE.

Dealer in all kinds of Cabinet Ware, Chairs, &c. Coffins on hand and made to order. Furniture repaired. A FEW RODS NORTH OF THE COURT HOUSE.

MISS R. TROWBRIDGE,
MILLINER,

ROOMS OVER THE DANBURY AND NORWALK RAIL-ROAD DEPOT.

Constantly on hand and made to order, Hats of the most approved styles and fashions. Also Head Dresses, Caps, Ribbons, Flowers, &c.,

PARK HOUSE,

CORNER OF MAIN AND WOOSTER STREETS,

TRAVELERS ENTERTAINED, AND GOOD STABLING FOR HORSES.

GEO. BATES, Proprietor.

MRS. H. M. SEAMAN,
MILLINER AND DRESS-MAKER,
THREE DOORS BELOW THE POST OFFICE, UP-STAIRS.

Constantly on hand, a full assortment of Bonnets, Flowers, and Ribbons, and goods manufactured by an experienced Milliner. Also, Dressmaking executed in all its branches, and patterns of all kinds for sale cheap.

BARNUM & STARR,
BUILDERS.

STEAM SAWING AND PLANING. DOORS, SASH, BLINDS, AND MOULDINGS.

Manufacturers of Bedsteads of various patterns.

N. BARNUM,

F. STARR.

PETER M. WILSON,
IRON AND BRASS FOUNDER,
OPPOSITE PAHQUIQUE HAT FACTORY.

All kinds of Castings for Machinery, Grate Bars, Brass Boxes, &c. Patterns made at short notice. Old Iron or Brass bought or taken in exchange. Iron Fence of different patterns constantly on hand.

THORP & BABBETT,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

Oysters, Clams, Fish, Fruits, Vegetables, &c.,

First Door South of Pahquique Building.

OYSTER SALOON

SOUTH BASEMENT OF GRIFFING'S BLOCK.

CLARK'S VARIETY STORE.

DRY GOODS, YANKEE NOTIONS, CHOICE GROCERIES,
PROVISIONS AND MEDICINES AT REASONABLE PRICES,

At W. H. CLARK'S VARIETY STORE,

SOUTH END OF MAIN STREET.

Farmers will find a market at this Store for their produce.

LOUIS MAEGLING,
FANCY DYER,

WHITE STREET, OPPOSITE THE WOOSTER HOUSE.

Silks and Woolen Dresses, Fancy Ribbons, &c., dyed, cleaned, scoured and neatly finished.

Go to the Peoples' Coal Yard,

BETWEEN THE PAHQUIQUE HAT FACTORY AND DELAY STREET,

Where you can always find a good assortment of Coal under cover dry and clean. Also, all kinds of wood.

M. H. GRIFFING.

Blacksmith's Coal constantly on hand.

SAMUEL MORRIS,

Dealer in

Choice and Cheap Family Groceries, Provisions, &c.

CALL AND SEE !

CORNER OF ELM AND MAIN STREET.

**RITTON & WHITE,
DAGUERREAN ARTISTS,**

ROOMS THREE DOORS SOUTH OF THE DEPOT.

AMBROTYPES, MELAINOTYPES, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND
STEREOSCOPIES, taken in the best style of the art, in any
weather.

**JOHN ROWAN,
BAKERY AND CONFECTIONERY.**

WEDDING PARTIES FURNISHED. ICE CREAM
IN ITS SEASON.

MAIN STREET, OPPOSITE DANBURY BANK.

F. H. AUSTIN & CO.,

DEALERS IN

FANCY DRY GOODS,

Laces, Embroideries, Hosiery, Gents' Furnishing Goods, Millinery
Goods, and Ready Made Bonnets. First door north of Masonic
Hall, nearly opposite the new Church.

CHARLES BENNETT,

DEALER IN

**DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES,
SHEET MUSIC, AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
OF ALL KINDS.**

Pictures, with and without frames, and Frames made to order.

NEARLY OPPOSITE DANBURY BANK.

MRS. M. T. LEACH,

(FORMERLY MRS. LOVEJOY.)

MILLINER.

A large variety of Ribbons and Flowers constantly on hand. Par-
ticular attention paid to Caps for aged ladies, and embroidering
infants' caps and hoods. Hats bleached and pressed. Over G.
Holmes & Co's store.

**A. KNOX,
HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER.**

GRAINING, MARBLING, AND PAPER HANGING.

WHITE STREET, OPPOSITE THE WOOSTER HOUSE.

DAVID HANFORD.

Manufacturer of

BOOTS AND SHOES,

Of every variety, and dealer in Leather Findings, &c.

Main Street, a few doors south of the Depot.**MRS. MALLETT,
FASHIONABLE MILLINER,**

AND DEALER IN

Straw and Fancy Silk Hats, Caps, Head Dresses, Flowers, Ribbons, Ruches, &c.

OVER THE POST OFFICE.**JUDGE PETERS & SON,
GENTLEMEN'S****Hair Cutting, Dressing and Shaving Saloon.**

Also, Ladies and Childrens' Hair Cutting and Curling.

No. 3 EXCHANGE PLACE.**DANBURY HOTEL,**

NEAR THE

DANBURY AND NORWALK RAILROAD DEPOT,**GEORGE HALLOCK, Proprietor.****J. A. ROUTH,
CARD WRITER.**

ORDERS LEFT AT THE WOOSTER HOUSE

*WILL BE PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.***MORSE'S WARDROBE,**

CORNER MAIN AND LIBERTY STREETS.

Clothing Ready Made and Made to Order,

Silk Hats, Caps, Straw and Furnishing Goods, and Furs,

in their season.

WM. H. RAYMOND'S
 RESTAURANT AND OYSTER SALOON,
 Refreshments furnished at all hours. Oysters, Fish, Clams, and
 vegetables in their season.
 BRIDGE STORE, MAIN STREET.

ROBERT C. COWAN,
 GENERAL DEALER IN
 BOOKS, STATIONERY, CHEAP PUBLICATIONS, NEWS-
 PAPERS, &c. First door south of the R. R. Depot. Book Bind-
 ing done to order at New York prices. Books, Magazines, Music,
 &c., if not on hand will be supplied at short notice.

H. STONE,
 DEALER IN
Family Groceries,
 Of all kinds. Farmers' produce taken in exchange. White's Block
 near the Bridge, Main street.

WM. E. WRIGHT,
House Painter,
 And Glazier, and dealer in PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES, &c.,
 Hull's Block, opposite Danbury Hotel.

J. SCHNEIDER,
Book Binder.
 BOOKS, MAGAZINES, and NEWSPAPEPS neatly and sub-
 stantially bound, at the lowest prices. All orders left at the Ma-
 sonic Hall store, will be promptly attended to.

M. R. MURRAY,
HOUSE PAINTER, PAPER HANGER & GLAZIER,
 PECK'S BLOCK, WHITE STREET.

T. G. ROBINSON,
Merchant Tailor,
 Also dealer in READY MADE CLOTHING, and GENTS' FUR-
 NISHING GOODS.
 (Griffing's Block, adjoining Forrester's Hotel.

Dr. B. St. JOHN, DENTIST,

OPPOSITE THE SAVINGS BANK, MAIN STREET.



All operations performed with the greatest tenderness and care, giving the least possible pain to the patient, and warranted to give satisfaction. During an extensive practice, has never charged a customer one cent for repairs on work done at his office.

SCHOOLS.

JACKSON INSTITUTE,

And English and Classical Boarding School, F. J. Jackson, A. M., Principal. Location healthy. Instruction thorough, and terms reasonable.

DEER HILL INSTITUTE,

For Young men. J. L. Townsend, Principal.

DEER HILL BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL,

For Misses. Mrs. Sherwood.

ROSE HILL BOARDING SCHOOL,

For Girls. Mrs. Geo. White.

LAWYERS.

AVERILL & BREWSTER, Office formerly occupied by D. B. Booth, Main street.

WHITE & FRY, Office in Main street, over the Danbury Bank.

WM. F. TAYLOR, Office in Pahquioque Bank Building, Main-st.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

E. P. BENNET & SON, Office, Deer Hill Avenue.

WM. F. LACEY, Office and Residence, Main street.

WM. E. BULKLEY, Office in A. B. Hull's Block, Main street.

E. GREGORY, Office and Residence in George street.

E. A. BROWN, Main street, opposite the Post Office.

BANKS.

PAHQUIOQUE BANK. Capital, \$250,800. A. Seeley, President. Wm. P. Seeley, Cashier.

DANBURY BANK. Capital, \$326,900. Samuel Tweedy, President. Jabez Amsbury, Cashier.

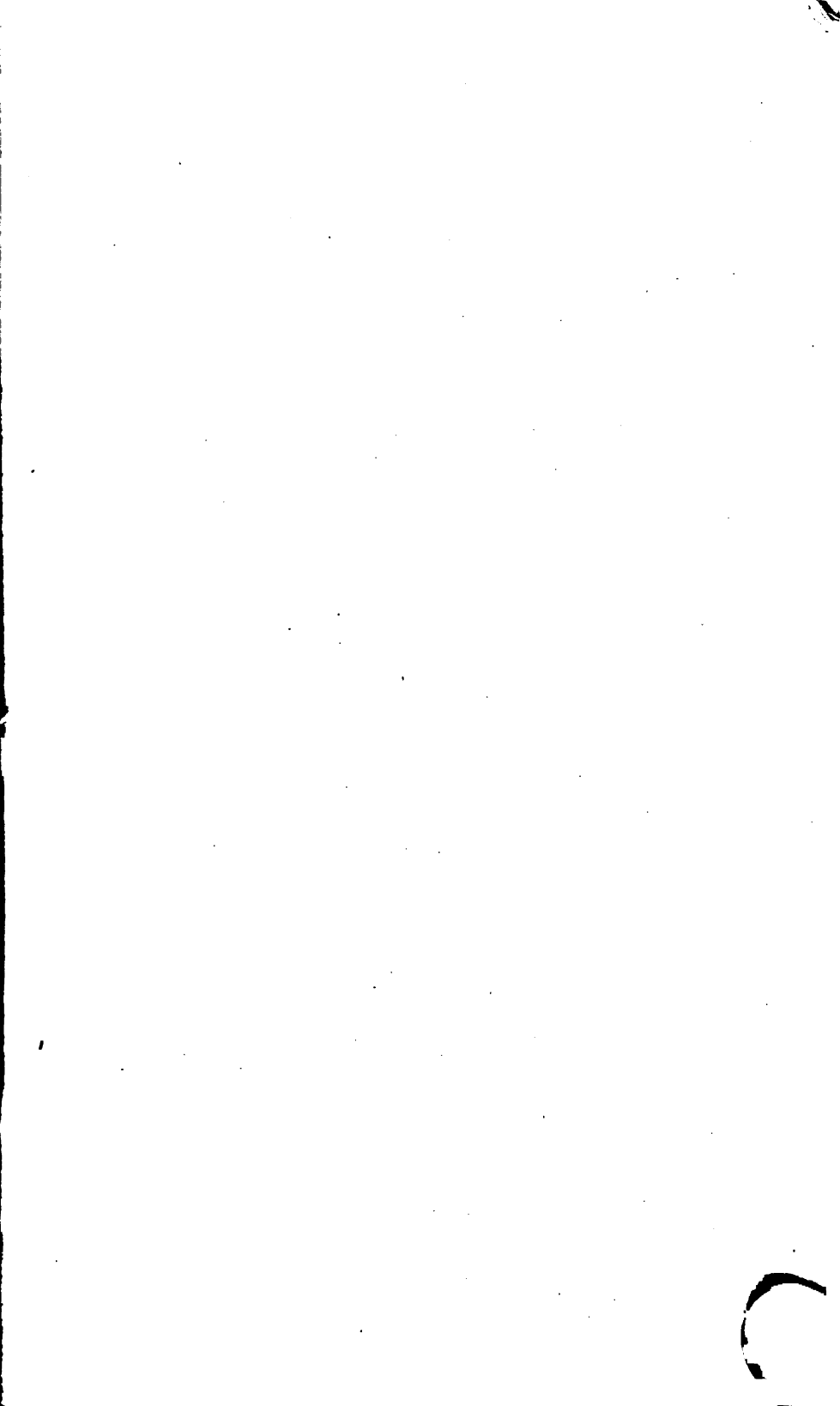
SAVINGS BANK. Amount of Deposits, \$340,000. G. W. Ives, Treasurer.

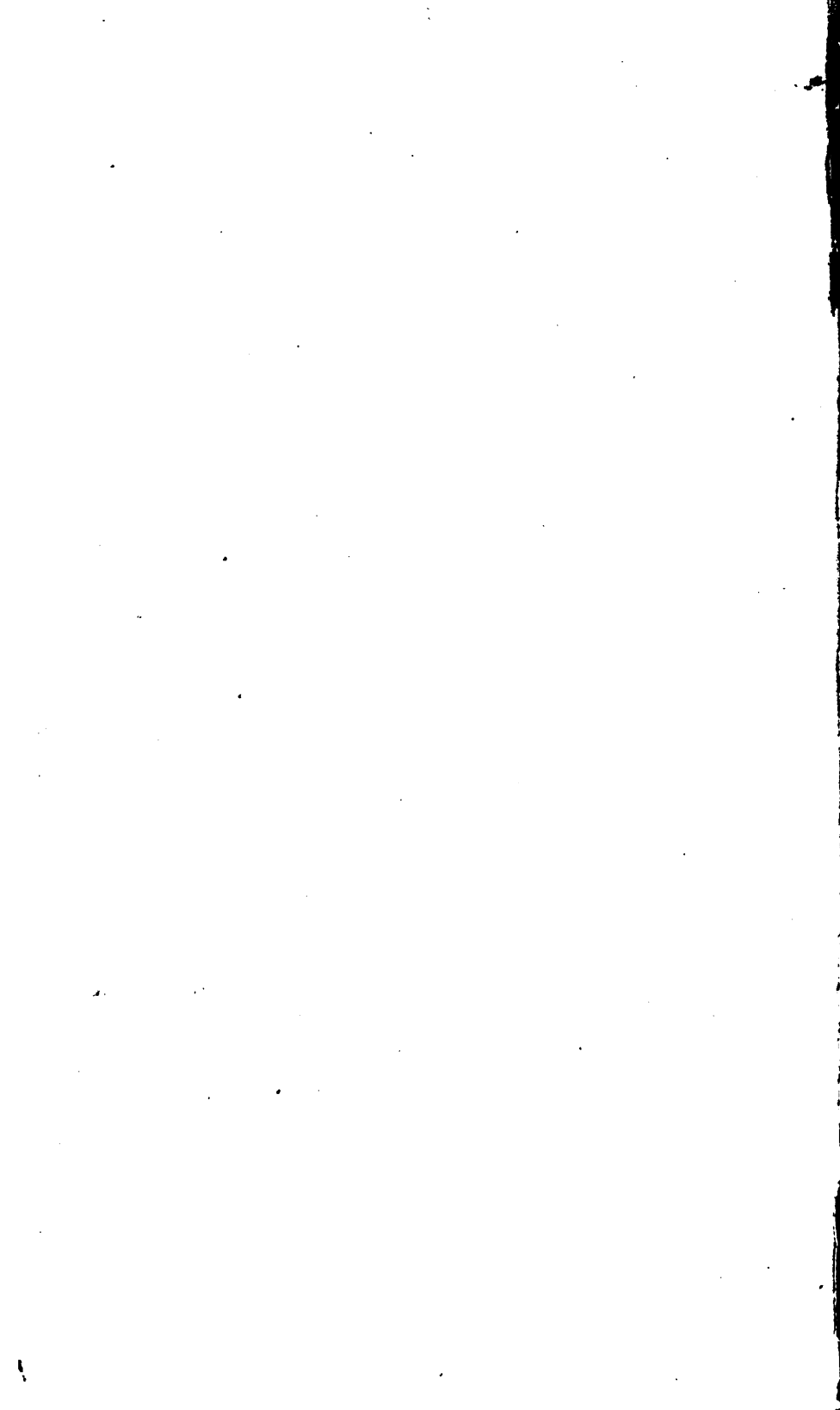
INSURANCE.

Danbury Mutual Fire Insurance Company. O. Stone, Agent.

Hoyt & Scribner, General Insurance Agents.

E. S. Sanford, Agent of Hartford Fire Insurance Company.







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