

HOTELS

Chesley Hayes House.—This house was built by Chesley Hayes on the southwest side of Main Street two blocks above the Plumly store, in 1830, and was the first hotel in town. It was conducted by Mr. Hayes for three years, when his health failed and he sold it to Daniel H. Lombard of Readfield, who added a larger, three-story structure which might be called the main house. Lombard kept the house a few years when he rather suddenly left town. The house, after this, saw many changes. We find that Eli D. Hoskins paid the taxes in 1840, and Ira Fish in 1843. Jacob Fish kept the house as a hotel in 1846, and Joseph Bean & Co. in 1847-48. In 1849 Jameson & Hartwell took the house and managed it four or five years. It was known at this time as the Lincoln Stage House and seems to have been rather popular. A. S. Thing had the house for a year or two and then John H. Morrill, who was proprietor when it was burned in 1856. Mrs. Lamos owned the house at this time.

Mansion House.—We do not know who built the Mansion House, a little farther north on the street, but it was built rather early in the history of the town. Ami M. True & Co. managed the hotel from 1843 to 1855, and perhaps later. We remember George O. Cutler as landlord in the '70s, and H. G. Coburn later. Still later it was run by H. H. & J. B. Stetson, and when the house was burned, 20 June, 1887, Joseph L. Fessenden was proprietor.

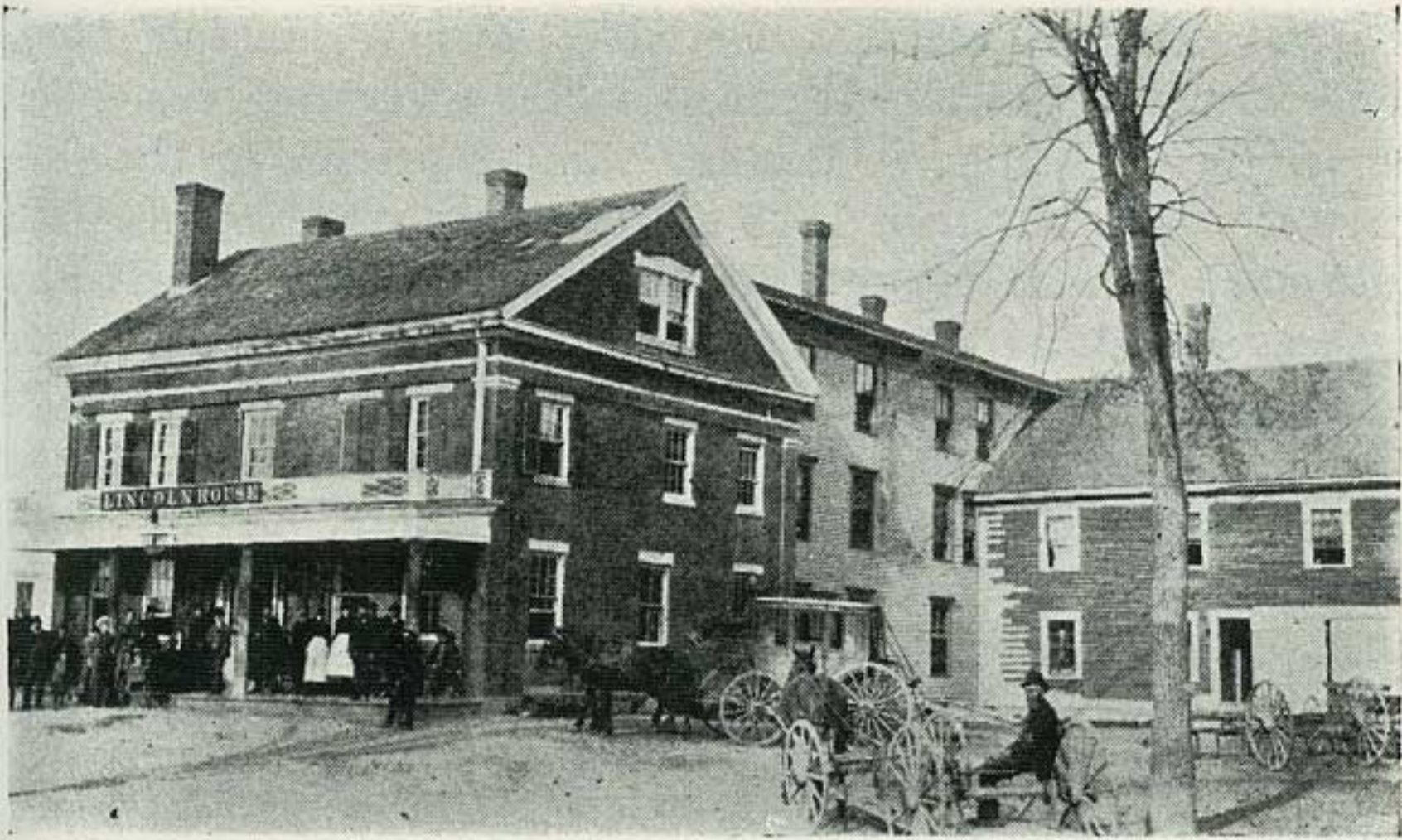
Penobscot House.—When the Steamboat Company came up the river an important landing was at Lincoln Center, and this was likely to be, for the most part, the terminus of the route. The Company naturally needed a hotel for the accommodation of passengers and others. The contract to build was given to Nelson Jordan. This was in 1847, the same year that the first steamboat, the Mattanawcook, came up to Lincoln. Jordan built the house, which was located on



MANSION HOUSE

the west side of the Military Road near the steamboat wharf. The house was opened to the public in June 1848, and we learn that John Merrill was the first proprietor, and that a man by the name of Heald took it from him. This was very likely Timothy Heald, but we do not know. Kirby had the house for a short time, and then James Babcock for about fifteen years and Harvey Reed several years.

Lincoln House.—This house is said to have been built by William P. Leighton about 1850. He sold it, a few years later, to Peleg T. Jones, whose residence it was for a few years and in 1857 he opened it as a hotel. He sold in 1859 to H. G. Coburn, who managed it as a hotel a few years till he went to Washington when he sold the hotel to Libby Brothers of Molunkus. They had it several years, when H. H. Fiske took it in 1870 and he, with Stockbridge and others, managed it till 1884, Woods Bros. and Woods and Clay till 1889, Samuel H. Clay till 1895 and Hiram Burr till



EARLY VIEW OF LINCOLN HOUSE

1916, when J. F. Kelley took the house and has kept a good place for travellers until the present time.

Whittier House.—This was on what is commonly known as the Fuller farm, and it was kept as a public house from about 1838 till 1850. It was Col. Whittier's custom to ring his bell at a quarter before twelve, and, going through the rooms he would say, "Gentlemen, this is the bitter bell, dinner will be ready in fifteen minutes, step right up and get your bitters, gentlemen." Joseph Whittier was also agent for this property which was owned by Daniel L. Miller and Timothy Fuller.

Cottage House.—The Cottage House has a comparatively brief history and all within the life-time of Capt. Cyrus J. Fay, who built the house, not much before 1840, as on the 3 March of this year it was advertised for sale as the "new tavern stand." This was not in the town of Lincoln, but just over the line in No. 4 (Winn). Its relations, however, were quite as close with Lincoln as with Winn. It was a rather popular and flourishing place during the days of the

steamboats on the Penobscot which had a landing here. This was the earliest settlement on the river and was called Snowville. Thomas S. Ranney was proprietor of the Cottage House from about 1848 till 1851 and perhaps later, till he went to Winn village and built a hotel there. Capt. Fay was agent of the Steamboat Co. and had a dwelling house and store in the immediate vicinity. As noted elsewhere these were burned in 1848. The Cottage House was burned a few years ago.

MILITARY

THE AROOSTOOK WAR.

The Aroostook War is often referred to as a subject of ridicule, as there was no bloodshed and it was soon ended, but to the people of Maine it was a matter of real concern, and the cause of much excitement. The prompt action of the Governor and the Legislature of Maine in calling upon the militia to be in readiness for active service and in advising the President and Congress of the threatening state of affairs on the border, resulted in such decisive action of the National Government as promptly ended the trouble.

Any extended discussion here of the causes of the disturbance would be out of place, but a brief statement of the events and the conditions that brought on the "war" seems to be proper in this connection, as Lincoln was closely connected with all that transpired. It was nearer the seat of war than any other town of consequence, many men of Lincoln took part, and all the troops that were mustered and sent to the frontier passed through the town over the Military Road.

At the Revolution the northeastern boundary was not satisfactorily settled, the British claiming an error, and the War of 1812 did not improve conditions. This left a disputed territory, which included an American settlement on the north side of the St. John River, as well as a large territory south of the St. John. The settlement on the north consisted almost entirely of people of French descent who had fled from their homes when the English took possession of Acadia. This had been incorporated as the town of Madawaska and had sent a representative to the Maine Legislature, though the British authorities remonstrated.

In June, 1837, Ebenezer S. Greeley, under authority of the County Commissioners of Penobscot County, went to Madawaska for the purpose of taking a census of the people,

and at the same time for distributing the surplus from the U. S. Treasury which had been apportioned to the State of Maine. Mr. Greeley was arrested and taken to the nearest shire-town for imprisonment, but the sheriff refusing to accept the prisoner, he returned to Madawaska and continued his work. Gov. Harvey of New Brunswick, hearing that money was being distributed to the people, apparently assumed that it was a bribe and he caused the agent to be again arrested, and placed in Fredericton jail. At this juncture Gov. Dunlap of Maine issued a general order announcing that the soil of Maine had been invaded, and calling upon the militia to hold themselves ready for active service, but a short time afterwards a message from President Van Buren caused the agent to be released. This ended this phase of the trouble, which is often mentioned as the Madawaska war.

The general question of the boundary was referred for arbitration to William, King of the Netherlands, who rendered the strange and unjust decision that the boundary should be a line half-way between the two lines claimed. This was not satisfactory to any one concerned, but it was specially unjust to Maine and to the United States. But this country was anxious to avoid war and offered Maine a million acres of land in Michigan for the loss she would sustain, but Maine declined, declaring that neither her lands nor her citizens were for sale.

Matters were unsettled and threatening and the territory thus in dispute was a rich field for trespassers and plunderers from New Brunswick. The region along the border was robbed of its most valuable pine timber.

In 1838, evidently in anticipation of trouble, the following votes were passed by the town of Lincoln. 2 April, 1838, choosing Samuel F. Hersey agent to procure arms and equipment from the State for the militia company of Lincoln; 10 Sept. 1838, authorizing the Selectmen to receipt for the arms and equipment received from the State. 10 Sept. 1838, voted that John Allen take the arms and equipment, clean them and keep them till the next March meeting.

Information of the depredations along the border was given to the Governor in January, 1839, when the Legislature was in session. He communicated the facts to that body in secret session and a Resolve was passed on the 24 Jan. relating to trespassers on the public lands and Rufus McIntire, Land Agent, and Hastings Strickland, Sheriff of Penobscot County, with an armed force of two hundred men, hastily left for the Aroostook to arrest the men and secure the cut timber.

It is reported at this time that the number of trespassers on the territory was one thousand men, with more than twenty yokes of oxen and half as many horses. Following the secret session of the Legislature of the 24 January, 1839, \$10,000 was appropriated. Also, by a resolve of the Legislature, volunteers were called for and many responded to the call. A report from Augusta under date of 26 Jan. 1839, says: "Today has been a scene of excitement such as this village has seldom witnessed." On the 5 February, 1839, one Division was reported to be at Mattawamkeag Point, one at Chadbourn's (Molunkus) and one at Lincoln. By the 15 February a considerable force of volunteers had reached the disputed territory.

On the 17 February General Isaac Hodsdon was ordered to detach one thousand men from the Division under his command and proceed at the earliest possible moment to the place occupied by the Land Agent to aid him in carrying into effect the order in relation to trespassers.

Affairs moved rather rapidly during the latter part of February and the first part of March. We read that the Bangor artillery and the Dexter artillery arrived at Lincoln 22 February, and the Dexter rifles were five miles south of Lincoln the next morning.

18 February a Resolve of the Legislature appropriated \$800,000 for the protection of the public lands. A report from Bangor 20 February, 1839, says: "The detachment of one thousand men are now mustering in our streets." The next day it was reported that many volunteers had arrived

on the Aroostook, and that they had erected a fort of logs and had mounted five field pieces. A brass field piece of four pounds was sent from Lincoln. 26 February General Hodsdon arrived in Bangor, also the detachment of cavalry destined to form the line of videttes which will be established from Bangor to the mouth of the Aroostook Road.

Congress promptly authorized the President to raise 50,000 troops, and appropriated \$10,000,000 for expenses.

Most of the troops went by the Military Road to Houlton, but it appears that some marched by the Aroostook Road *via* Patten and Masardis. A correspondent says the road from Sunkhaze to Lincoln was long on account of its being a new road.

The statements of fact given above have been gathered from many sources, and many of them have been confirmed by a much-respected citizen of Lincoln who was one of the actors, and with whom the writer has often spoken of these days, and who, shortly before his death, was interviewed by a correspondent of the Lewiston Journal. I quote a few paragraphs. He was a member of the Lincoln rifles, nearly or quite all of whom volunteered. He admits the weather was intensely cold and that they suffered as they rode on horse-sleds, in spite of the buffalo skins which were abundant at that time.

A party of four men were detailed to capture a camp belonging to one DeBeck where there were supposed to be more than one hundred men, but they had few fire-arms. They were captured by strategy. DeBeck and all the horses were taken. He continues: "It was no easy work for the horses to plow their way through the deep snow. When one team had broken out ahead for a while, another took the lead. In this way we progressed slowly. Leavitt had left me in guard of DeBeck, and together we rode on the rear sled. As we went on, a slight rise in the road shut off the other teams from our view. Quick as a flash, DeBeck seized an ax lying at his feet, raised it high above his head and was about to plunge it into my head, when I leaped up, wrenched

the weapon from his hand and knocked the Canadian into the snow. Then I put my foot on his neck and told him I'd kill him if he moved. I shouted to my companions and they came hurrying back. We bound him and put him on the sled and he was finally repentant." The man who relates this was a large and always a powerful man, and one may easily believe that at the age of twenty-two he was fit to do such things.

ADDRESS OF GEN. ISAAC HODSDON TO THE
SOLDIERS UNDER HIS COMMAND

Head Quarters	} · March 5, 1839.
Northeastern Frontier	
at Houlton	

"Officers and Soldiers of the Detachment:

The Commander-in-Chief in the exercise of the powers vested in him by the Constitution, has called into the actual service of the State, a portion of its physical power, and he has conferred upon you the distinguished honor of being the first troops ever placed under Martial Law by the State or called out to enforce the supremacy of the civil authority.

"You are already apprized that a band of lawless depredators principally the subjects of, and owing allegiance to, a foreign power, have, in defiance of the civil authority, and with shodden feet, entered upon this *holy ground*, and have been, and still are, destroying, plundering the almost invaluable timber on our public domain, and your aid is now invoked to assert the majesty of the Laws and give a practical illustration of the declaration that 'the way of the transgressor is hard.' To this end, fellow soldiers, it is only necessary to remind you that you are the heirs and descendants of those patriots, whose blood has enriched, and whose valor has purchased this goodly land for an everlasting inheritance for you and your children."

After referring, in minute detail, to the duties of a soldier, he reminds them that "the soldier" is forbidden to indulge in irreverence at Divine Service, drunkenness, profane swearing, card playing, raffling and every kind of gambling."

To the officers he says: "The fervent prayers of absent parents, wives, children, and affectionate and dearly beloved friends are daily and hourly ascending to the God of Armies for the protection of these *good men and true* who are committed to your charge; and these prayers, it is hoped and trusted will be mercifully heard and graciously answered. The tear that moistens the eye of the soldier in gratitude for the kindness of his officer is worth more to a sensitive mind than all the honors which Royalty can confer."

In addressing the soldiers he declares he "has no appropriate language to express his feelings. To you this is the dawning of an auspicious day.—It is you fellow-soldiers that give protection and safety to the husbandman, the mechanic and the merchant. You are the shield that surrounds your legislators, your judges and magistrates, and even the heralds of salvation are indebted, under God, to you for the security they enjoy in publishing the gospel of peace. How exalted the station! How important the trust!—— The duties of a soldier are often arduous and attended with privations but little known to other classes of society, but it is the *duty* and will be the *pleasure* of your officers to afford you all possible relief consistent with the public service. In times of trouble and affliction approach them with confidence that they are your friends. And if you should unfortunately have misplaced your confidence, make your appeal to the Commanding General whose highest ambition is to deserve the character of the soldier's untiring friend."

By ISAAC HODSDON,

Major-General Commanding.

WM. H. MCCRILLIS,

Aid-de-Camp, pro tem.