

the War of 1812. He was an active and useful citizen, who had the general good of the community at heart. An old-time Whig in politics, he joined the Republican party on its formation. He died at his home in this town, August 28, 1861. His wife, whose maiden name was Sally Gregg, was a native of Windham. Of the children born to them the following survive: Jacob N., a resident of New York City; Samuel, who resides in Yonkers, N.Y.; Maria, wife of Henry Damon, of Reading, Mass.; Robert, a resident of the State of California; John H., the subject of this sketch; and Luther, who, like his brother Robert, resides in California.

John H. Dinsmore was given a common-school education. From his early manhood he has been engaged in tilling the soil. He owns a valuable and productive farm, situated at the head of Corbett's Pond; and its fine location and carefully cultivated acres attract the attention of the passing traveller. Mr. Dinsmore married Adrianna Black, whose father was a native of Corinna, Me. Mrs. Dinsmore has had three children: Arthur H., who is no longer living; George G.; and Bertha L.

In politics Mr. Dinsmore is an active supporter of the Republican party, and he has done good service to the community in the administration of public affairs. He was Town Auditor for a number of years, was a member of the Board of Selectmen for three years, and represented his district in the legislature in 1892-93. He also served on the Board of Supervisors. The ability and judgment he displayed in the transaction of public business is appreciated by his fellow-townsmen, who regard him as a leader in local politics. He is now President of the Republican Club.

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**G**EORGE R. STEVENS, a retired farmer of Epping, Rockingham County, N.H., was born in Pembroke, N.H., on April 12, 1831. His parents were Theophilus and Mary (Robinson) Stevens. Theophilus Stevens, his great-grandfather, purchased a farm in Epping, under grant of King George III. His son, Samuel Stevens, inherited this place, to which

his son Theophilus succeeded, leaving it in turn to George R. The father, a native of Epping, spent his life here in agricultural pursuits. He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, who devoted his chief attention to his private affairs. He died on June 6, 1881, having the respect of all who were acquainted with his worth. His wife, who was born in Meredith, N.H., passed away on April 25, 1862. They were the parents of four children — Samuel G., Alpheus S., Jonathan E., and George R., who is the only one now living.

George R. Stevens received a rudimentary education in the common schools, subsequently taking a two years' course of study at the academy in Pembroke. He afterward engaged in farming, to which occupation he has since devoted his time. In 1889 Mr. Stevens retired from active work, though he still supervises the farm. He now has a comfortable home in the village. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party; and, although he has never sought public office, he served the town with credit as Selectman.

Mr. Stevens has been twice married. His first wife, Dorothy A., was a daughter of Joseph Fogg, of Raymond. She died in January, 1862, leaving one son, who attained a promising manhood, but died in Boston in January, 1896, aged thirty-eight years and six months. Mr. Stevens's second wife was Celia E. Johnson, daughter of Darius D. Johnson, of Epping. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens have one son living — George E. Stevens, a well-known business man of Epping. The mother is identified in the membership of the Congregational church. Mr. Stevens is a man of high moral and social standing, who is in active sympathy with all movements for the good of his town and the progress of humanity in general.

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**W**ILLIAM P. WALKER, merchant tailor, one of the prominent business men of Portsmouth, who has occupied his present quarters at 8 Market Square since March 13, 1849, was born in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, February 4, 1825. He is a son of Arza and Lydia (Baker) Walker, and comes of early English stock.

His paternal grandfather, who was a farmer, and, as far as known, a lifelong resident of Cheshire County, married a Miss Elizabeth Hartman, with whom he reared four children — Jimmy, Joza, Arza, and Phila. The father was upward of eighty years old when he died.

Arza Walker, the father of William P., was born in Chesterfield, and reared on a farm. He devoted his life to the pursuit of agriculture in his native town, and died there in 1829 in middle age. His wife, also a native and lifelong resident of Cheshire County, was but thirty-nine years of age at her death in 1828. Six of their children attained maturity; namely, Sabrina, Horton D., Lawson, Parker D., Caroline B., and William P. Sabrina, now deceased, became the wife of the Hon. William Hale, Governor of New Hampshire; and Caroline B. married John B. Merrill, and now resides in Beloit, Wis.

William P. Walker, left fatherless and motherless when but four years old, was taken charge of by his uncle, Martin Cole, a farmer, of Mount Holly, Vt. Living on Mr. Cole's farm, he began to assist in the chores as soon as he was capable, while for a part of every year he attended the district school, which was three and a half miles distant. When he was twelve years of age, he went to Salem, Mass., to live with his elder brother, Horton D. Here he attended school for about a year, and then became a pupil of Dummer Academy at Newbury, Mass. A course of study lasting eighteen months at this institution finished his schooling; and he then joined his brother Horton, who had removed to Portsmouth. At the age of seventeen he began to learn the tailor's trade, to which he served an apprenticeship of three years, the first with the Portsmouth firm of Brown & Clarke, and the second and third in Massachusetts, respectively at Lynn and Salem. In 1848 he commenced his business career in Portsmouth, and in 1849, as already mentioned, established himself in his present quarters. There for nearly half a century he has weathered the vicissitudes of trade, establishing a widespread reputation for reliability.

Mr. Walker was married to Miss Anna C. Peele, a native of Salem, Mass., and has one daughter, Nellie P. Mr. Walker is a mem-

ber of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 56, A. F. & A. M.; Washington Chapter, No. 3, Royal Arch Masons; De Witt Clinton Commandery, Knights Templars; and of Piscataquis Lodge, No. 6, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mrs. Walker and her daughter are members of St. John's Episcopal Church.

**J**OHAN H. BRACKETT, a native-born resident of Greenland, Rockingham County, formerly Selectman and Representative of the town, was born here, November 26, 1838, a son of Thomas and Sarah W. (Veasey) Brackett. His earliest known ancestor, Anthony Brackett, was a native of England, who came to this county in 1632, locating in Portsmouth. He subsequently removed to the town of Greenland, where he died. The farm upon which he first located is now owned and occupied by Mr. Dudley Littlefield. From him the line descends through seven generations to the subject of this sketch, as follows: Thomas, Thomas (second), Joshua, James, Joshua, Thomas, John H., the last-named being of the eighth generation in this country.

Thomas Brackett, the first, was killed by Indians in Portland, Me., in 1676, and his wife and three children taken prisoners.

Joshua Brackett, the grandfather of John H., was a native of this town. His son, Thomas Brackett, spent his entire life in Greenland, and was an influential citizen, prominent in town affairs. He served as Selectman and Representative for two terms. He was a member and active worker in the Congregational church. In politics he affiliated with the Democratic party. He died in 1868, at the age of seventy-seven years.

His wife, Sarah, had twelve children: John H., who died in infancy; Sarah G., Mary F., Sarah A., and Alice, who are also deceased; John H., named for his deceased brother; Thomas, Martha, James, and Frederick, who have all passed away; Grace, wife of John Scott; and Alice, second, wife of George I. Walker, of New Market. The mother died in 1885, at the age of seventy-four years.

John H. Brackett was born and reared on his present farm, then the property of his par-