

The David Batchelder Family
by Jonathan W. Stevens

David Batchelder, son Nathaniel and Mary (Emerson) Batchelder, was born in Townsend, Massachusetts, on May 20, 1772 and moved to Andover in 1796, first appearing on the grand list in 1797, with an appraisal \$20. He then returned to Townsend, where he married Sarah "Sally" Adams on February 20, 1798. Sally, daughter of Archelaus and Hannah (Farwell) Adams, was born in Townsend, on April 25, 1774. Several of Sally's brothers settled in the area, including Peter Adams (1761-1832), who settled on East Hill and is buried in East Hill Cemetery.

The children of David and Sarah "Sally" (Adams) Batchelder born in Andover were: **Abel Batchelder** born on July 30, 1799 and died in Andover on May 24, 1801 and was buried in East Hill Cemetery. **Sarah "Sally" Batchelder** born August 28, 1801 and died in Boston, Mass., on October 29, 1890. Sally married Daniel Sawyer, Jr. in Andover, on December 4, 1827. Daniel, son of Daniel and Jane (Miller) Sawyer, was born in Hancock, N.H., July 29, 1800 and died in Ludlow, Vt., July 1, 1877. Both are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow. **Hannah Batchelder** born September 29, 1803 and died in Dayton, Wisconsin, on March 2, 1872. Hannah married Arad Ross in Andover, February 28, 1832. Arad, son of Thomas and Lucy (Green) Ross, was born in Ludlow, Vt., on April 8, 1808 and died in Dayton, Wisconsin, on June 20, 1894. Both are buried in the West Dayton Cemetery. **David Batchelder** born in October 7, 1805 [*see later*]; **Abel Adams Batchelder** born in October 16, 1811 and died in Ludlow on August 22, 1874. Abel married Lois Chandler in Andover, on January 3, 1837. Lois, daughter of Henry and Abigail (Hutchins) Chester, was born in Chester, on January 10, 1813 and died in Ludlow on January 24, 1893. Both are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow. **Abigail "Nabby" Batchelder** born on December 8, 1814 and died in South Haven, Michigan, on May 11, 1906. Nabby married Otis Ross in Andover, on November 27, 1834. Otis, son of Leonard and Martha (Burpee) Ross, was born in Ludlow, on December 21, 1810 and died in South Haven, Michigan, on January 5, 1906. Both are buried Lakeview Cemetery in South Haven. **Lovina Batchelder** December 14, 1817 and died in Ludlow, on December 3, 1865. She married Francis Curtis Giddings in 1846. Francis, son of Henry and Betsey (Curtis) Giddings, was born in Boxford, Massachusetts, on April 13, 1823 and died in Reading, on February 10, 1892. Both are buried in Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow. Lovina, died suddenly and her husband was arrested for poisoning her with strychnine, but after a very public hearing, the charges were dropped and it decided that Lovina had committed suicide

On December 10, 1798, David Batchelder was the highest bidder with \$3 (plus the cost of the sale) for the whole of Lot 17 in the 4th Range, except 5 acres (40 rods east to west and 20 rods south to north) in the northeast corner. The property was sold for delinquent taxes at a public vendue for 2 ½ cent tax granted by an Act by the Legislature for repairing roads and bridges in Andover. It was unredeemed on December 9, 1799, and the deed was dated February 3, 1800, signed Joel Manning, Tax Collector. The lot had been the property of Samuel Adams, who was David's brother-in-law. Samuel had purchased Lot 18 in the 4th Range on September 29, 1789, and this was the lot on which he settled. Rogers also sold him Lot 17 in the 4th lot on August 21, 1793. The road was laid out on October 4, 1799, from the house of Samuel Adams to the house of Samuel Clark, the road was altered slightly in 1803. Samuel and Katy (Lawrence) Adams, sold their home farm Lot 18 in the 4th Range to Benjamin Taylor of Chester on January 28, 1802. This property, along with a part of Lot 19 in the 4th Range and a small part of Lot 18 in the 3rd Range, in the latter part of the 19th Century was known as the "Samuel Nutting Farm" and was purchased on July 29, 1911, by Henry Waltanen and John Kalinen, two Finnish immigrants, who had recently arrived from Fitchburg, Mass. Kalinen bought out Waltanen's share in the property.

On December 25, 1801, David Batchelder purchased from Amos Barton a parcel 25 rods wide in the southeast corner of Lot 17 in the 5th Range, which was contiguous to his home farm. On April 15, 1802, David purchased 5 acres in the northeast corner of Lot 17 in the 4th Range from Samuel Adams. This was parcel that had been excepted from his original vendue purchase. On February 7, 1807, David purchased a non-contiguous parcel from Phineas Adams, the east half of Lot 18 in the 5th Range, bounded north by Sullivan Sheffield, west by Levi Johnson, south by Joel Butterfield and east Benjamin Taylor. This parcel was located on the Boynton Hollow section of North Hill. On September 22, 1814, David purchased from Moses Dodge the west half of Lot 15 in the 4th Range except what was owned by Samuel Clark. On April 22, 1818, David purchased from Moses Dodge the east part of Lot 15 in the 5th Range, except the five acres in the southeast corner owned by Phineas Parker, plus 1 ½ acres in 16 in the 5th Range.

Sarah "Sally" Batchelder "was killed instantly by a fall from a carriage in Jaffrey, N.H." on September 15, 1840, age 66 years 4 months 20 days and was buried East Hill Cemetery. The accident was mentioned in the September 23, 1840 issue of the *New Hampshire Sentinel*, published in Keene, N.H. "Melancholy. We learn on Tuesday last, as Mr. Batchelder of Andover, Vt., with his wife, was returning from a visit to Townsend, Mass., in a wagon, the hold-back strap broke, in descending a hill in Jaffrey, and the horse got clear, but the wagon was overturned by passing over a bank. Mrs. B. was instantly killed, by wounds on the head. Mr. B. escaped unhurt." David Batchelder died in Andover, on December 19, 1840, age 68 years 6 months 19 days and was buried East Hill Cemetery.

On March 25, 1841, David Batchelder, Daniel Sawyer Jr., Sally (Batchelder) Sawyer and Lovina Batchelder all of Andover and Arad and Hannah (Batchelder) Ross and Otis and Nabby (Batchelder) Ross all of Ludlow deeded to their brother Abel Adams Batchelder of Andover "all the land which David Batchelder late of Andover aforesaid Deceased was seized and possessed of at his death consisting of a number of tracts." On the same date Abel deeded the "Dodge farm" consisting of 150 acres to his brother in-law Daniel Sawyer, Jr., and also on the same date he deeded an undivided half of the remaining property to his brother David Batchelder.

On December 24, 1847, Abel Adams Batchelder deed his undivided interest in "all the land deeded me by David Batchelder, Daniel Sawyer, Jr., Sally Sawyer, Lovina Batchelder, Arad Ross, Hannah Ross, Otis Ross and Nabby Ross, by deed dated March 25, 1841, except the east half of Lot 18 in the 5th Range reference being had to a deed from Phineas Adams to David Batchelder dated February 2, 1807. Abel and his family moved to the Snell District in Ludlow in March of 1848.

David Batchelder, Jr. married Abigail Heald in Chester on September 10, 1846. Abigail, daughter of Jesse and Mary "Polly" (Dudley) (Burton) Heald, born in Chester, November 5, 1810. Mary Dudley's first husband was Aaron Burton who died in Andover in 1799 and was buried in East Hill Cemetery. His is one of the oldest gravestones in town. Mary subsequently married Jesse Heald of Chester, in 1802. The children of David and Abigail (Heald) Batchelder all born in Andover were: **Myron David Batchelder**, born on February 9, 1848. Myron married Alice M. Harwood in Chester, May 26, 1874. They lived in Chester, then Brattleboro, and then in the early 1900s they moved to Wilbraham Road in Springfield, Mass., where Myron died on January 31, 1924 and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery. **Edmund Abel Batchelder** born August 18, 1851 and **Abbie Mary Batchelder**, born May 16, 1855. Abigail (Heald) Batchelder died in Andover, on July 14, 1857, at the age of 46 years 8 months and 9 days of Consumption and was buried in East Hill Cemetery. David Batchelder married second Augusta S. (Evans) French in Weathersfield, on February 15, 1859. Augusta, daughter of Emery and Phebe Evans, was born in Hartland, on July 17, 1825 and died in Andover on March 17, 1871, age 45 and was buried in East Hill Cemetery. Augusta's brother Charles A. Evans, was residing in the Batchelder household at the time of the 1860 Census.

On December 7, 1872, David Batchelder sold to his son Edmund A. Batchelder for \$2,000 "all the land that I own or possess in the town of Andover being the homestead and the piece of land we call the Phineas Adams land." This consisted of 175 acres more or less and the third parcel described as "being an undivided half of a certain pasture that is owned in common with Abel A. Batchelder," consisting of 50 acres. Also, "all of stock and farming tools, sugar utensils etc." At the same time, Edmund took out a mortgage with his father "To maintain my honored father the rest of his natural life and provide for him in sickness and in health and furnish him with all the necessaries that is requisite for him in his declining years. And also, that my sister Abbie M. shall have the privilege of a home with me as long as she remains single and wishes to remain there for a home."

In August and September of 1873, Edmund A. Batchelder ran an ad to sell the family farm at public auction in *Vermont Journal* (Windsor) and *Vermont Chronicle* (St. Johnsbury). The ad giving a vivid description of the property at the time, states the following: "Farm For Sale Wishing to work at a trade, the subscriber offers for sale his farm, known as the David Batchelder farm, situated in the north part of Andover, four miles from Peaseville, and six miles from Ludlow, containing 175 acres, more or less, divided into tillage and pasture, having considerable more wood than is needed on the farm, a very fine sugar orchard of 350 trees, and a stationary horse power for sawing wood and thrasher and jigger-saw and cider mill, a good two story house and a barn 30 x 75 feet, cellar running the entire length, newly -made; also never-failing excellent water to house and barn, also numerous young apple, pear and plum trees and grape vines. Said farm will be sold at auction on the first of October, unless previously disposed of. Please call and examine before the auction. E.A. Batchelder."

However, Edmund did not sell the farm at this point. He was living in Chester he married Emma Lizzie Nutting in Chester, on December 24, 1873. Emma, daughter of Samuel H. and Julia (Spaulding) Nutting, was born in Cavendish, on May 18, 1855. According to Emma's obituary in the *Springfield Reporter*: "the deceased when quite young, moved with her parents to Ludlow and later to Andover, where her girlhood was passed. She was educated in the common schools and Black River Academy, from which she went out to teach very successfully for several terms." After his marriage he moved back to Andover. Edmund and Emma Batchelder had the following children: **Wallace Nutting Batchelder**, was born in Andover, on June 20, 1875 and died in Waterbury on June 21, 1919; **Leslie Edmund Batchelder** was born in Andover, on November 11, 1876 and died in Chester, on November 23, 1896; **John Spaulding Batchelder**, was born in Andover, on March 17, 1879 and died in Springfield, on March 2, 1903; **Almon Jessie Batchelder**, was born in Andover, on August 31, 1881 and died in Denver, Colorado, March 5, 1969. Almon married Abbie L. Earle in Littleton, Colorado, on March 28, 1914; **Morton Samuel Batchelder**, was born in Andover, September 26, 1887 and died in Springfield, on July 11, 1913 and **Ruth Julia Batchelder**, born in Chester, on August 28, 1896 and died in Denver, Colorado, on July 11, 1914.

On March 25, 1874, David Batchelder and Edmund A. Batchelder sold to David's brother Abel A. Batchelder of Ludlow their interest in the east half of Lot 18 in the 5th Range. Abel then subdivided the property. On April 21, 1874 he sold the portion between Otis Spaulding and Nathan Boynton west of North Hill Rd., consisting of 15 acres, to Orren and Foster E. Taylor of Ludlow, and on July 2, 1874 he sold the portion east of North Hill Rd., consisting of 35 acres to Gilbert E. Hemenway.

On April 11, 1877, Edmund A. Batchelder purchased from Charles Mudgett of Weathersfield the "Albee place" formerly the Samuel Clark farm, located south of the homestead farm. On February 25, 1881, Edmund sold both parcels to Mudgett. The family continued to live on the farm until June of 1888 when they moved to W.H.H. Chapman's farm on South Hill in Ludlow. Mudgett sold to Seth Lewis of Weathersfield on November 23, 1889. On July 27, 1922, Ethel E. Parsons of Northampton, Massachusetts,

sold "the Seth Lewis Place" to John and Emma (Moisio) Kalinen. In 1890, Edmund A. Batchelder and his family moved to Chester, where their youngest child was born. David Batchelder, died in Chester, at the residence of his son Edmund A. Batchelder, on January 4, 1892 and was buried in the family plot in the front of East Hill Cemetery. In 1901, Edmund's family moved to Springfield, where he worked for Bryant Chucking Grinder. Edmund A. Batchelder died in Springfield on January 15, 1918. After his death Emma moved to Denver, Colorado, where she died on October 4, 1919. At the time she was residing in the household of her only surviving son Almon Batchelder.

Abbie Mary Batchelder married Dea. Fernando Cortez Baldwin in Andover, on November 21, 1882. Fernando, son of Benjamin and Bethiah (Manning) Baldwin, was born in Andover, February 1, 1822, and became a widower when his first wife Elizabeth (Cook) Baldwin died in Andover, January 31, 1874, age 51 years. Though a significant age difference between F.C. Baldwin and Abbie, it seemed to be a happy union. Dea. Baldwin died in Andover, on December 20, 1899, and was buried in Heald Cemetery with his first wife. A death notice in the *Vermont Tribune* on December 29, 1899 stated: "Dea. F.C. Baldwin, who died at his home in [the] Puffer district, was one of our oldest residents, having lived here all his days. He united with the Baptist Church in his youth and lived a good Christian life and for many years was one of the deacons."

Abbie subsequently married Clarence Edward Aldrich in Andover, on March 20, 1901. Clarence, son of Jairus Clark and Lucy Ann (Cressey) Aldrich, was born in Londonderry, on March 15, 1854. In about 1895, Clarence came to Andover, working at the cheese factory just above Village of Peaseville. According to the 1900 Census, was a boarder in the household of Joseph Henry Hutchinson, the brick house just east of Peaseville. The Hutchinsons had purchased the property April 2, 1894, from Lucius and Jane E. (Haseltine) Jaquith. Mr. Hutchinson, died in Andover, on May 29, 1901, and on December 20, 1901, his widow Eliza M. (Patch) Hutchinson, acting as the administratrix of the estate sold the property to Clarence Aldrich.

Abbie Aldrich was appointed Andover Post Mistress on April 29, 1903, and her compensation that year was \$145.69. The Post Office Clarence Aldrich died in Andover, on August 10, 1925, of Bright's Disease and was buried in Heald Cemetery. On 26 October 1925, Charles Leonard, Administrator of Clarence Aldrich's Estate sold the property to Arthur William Bergqvist, a Finnish immigrant, who was residing in New York City. Abbie and the Andover Post Office then moved into the Derby Place in the village. On August 22, 1935, Abbie applied for State of Vermont Old Age Assistance. She didn't own any real estate or personal property, only \$250 in the bank, and her only income was her Postmistress salary. The Andover Post Office was discontinued on April 14, 1937, effective April 30, 1937, with Abbie's retirement. Upon her retirement she lived with Joseph F. Lamson's family. Abbie died in Andover, January 26, 1940 and buried with her late husband Clarence Aldrich in Heald Cemetery.

The Batchelder family first settled in Andover in late 1790s, and the last member of the family residing in town died in 1940, however there are still members of the descendants of the family as nearby as Ludlow. Next time you drive by East Hill Cemetery, stop and take a look at the gravestones, and remember this important early Andover family.

Note: The gravestones in East Hill Cemetery use the spelling Bachelder, but the town records generally use the spelling of Batchelder. Therefore, to be consistent, the preferred spelling of Batchelder has been used throughout this article.