

History of Windsor county, Vermont

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GILL FAMILY,

The pioneer of this family in Springfield was a carpenter and mill-wright, who came from Exeter, R. I., about the year 1770. Previous to his becoming a resident of this town, the original proprietors at a meeting held by them March 1, 1763, voted to give any person starting a saw-mill on their grant twenty acres of land and furnish a set of irons for the mill, on condition that said mill should be kept in good repair for a term of fifteen years. This right had been secured by Simon Stevens and Page Harriman, and they by deed dated February 8, 1771, transferred it to Daniel Gill, the tract in question being located at the lower falls on the Black River, now the site of Gould's mills. Mr. Gill proceeded to blast the rock on his purchase preparatory to building, expending considerable time and money, but Richard Morris claimed the tract by title from the province of New York, and though overtures were made to Mr. Gill by Mr. Morris to settle the difficulty, he abandoned the project. He was elected a member of the Legislature of 1784 and 1792, and while attending the latter at Rutland was presented with a petition signed by 195 inhabitants of Springfield and vicinity, bearing date of October 19, 1792, appointing him with Captain Abner Bisbee as agents to select homesteads for them in Upper Canada, in response to a proclamation issued by John G. Simcoe, governor of that province. Returning from that mission he was taken sick and died at Sing Sing, N. Y. His wife's maiden name was Mercy Whitford, of Exeter, R. I., and they had six children, viz.: John, married, but left no children, and died in Springfield; Amos Whitford, built the house now standing on the Gill homestead, located in the eastern part of the town and afterwards emigrated to New York State, where he died; Betsey, married Mr. Dyke, of Weathersfield; Mary, married Bradley Wilson and removed West; and Martha, married Mr. Ranney of Westminster, Vt. Amos, son of Daniel, was born in 1765, and married Sally, daughter of Roger and Huldah (Stodder) Bates, December 30, 1790. They had eleven children: Arnold, born September 26, 1791, moved to Hartland; George R.; Daniel A., born September 9, 1796, married Theoda Tower, and died March 7, 1886, leaving no issue; Mary, died single; Charles; Martha, died single; Sarah, died young; Amos, died unmarried; Sarah (deceased), married Oscar P. Rice, of Grafton, Vt.; Nancy (deceased), married John C. Richardson of Westminster, Vt.; Albert G. is a resident of Des Moines, Ia. Amos died November 13, 1847. George R., son of Amos, was born March 24, 1793, married Theodita Walker and had six children, viz.: John R.; Horace, resides in Monticello, Ia.; Martha, wife of Franklin Tolles, of Weathersfield; Maryetta, wife of Honestus Stevens, of Felchville, Vt.; George, resides in Monticello, La., and Robert B. George R. died February 29, 1856. John R., son of George R., born in Springfield November 12, 1816, married Mary Chittenden, and has three children, viz: George T., Mary, both residents of Springfield, and Kate, wife of Lewis Bowen, of Alstead, N. H. Robert B., son of George R., was born in Springfield, April 9, 1830, married Mary Ward and has two children, Sarah and Jennie O., and has been a resident of Weathersfield since 1866. Charles, son of . Amos, born in Springfield

DETAILS