


HISTORY OF WATERBURY.

FESTUS HAYDEN.

Festus Hayden, son of Cotton and Sally (Miller) Hayden, and nephew of David and Daniel Hayden, was born in Williamsburgh, Mass., February 11, 1793. He was the fourth in a family of eighteen children. In early life he came to Waterbury to live in the family of his uncle David. He engaged in the manufacture of buttons with General Gerrit Smith of Watertown, and after General Smith's death was associated with his successor, Woodward. Later he became connected with W. H. & C. B. Merriman, and was intimately associated, either as an owner or designer, with nearly all the early enterprises of the town.

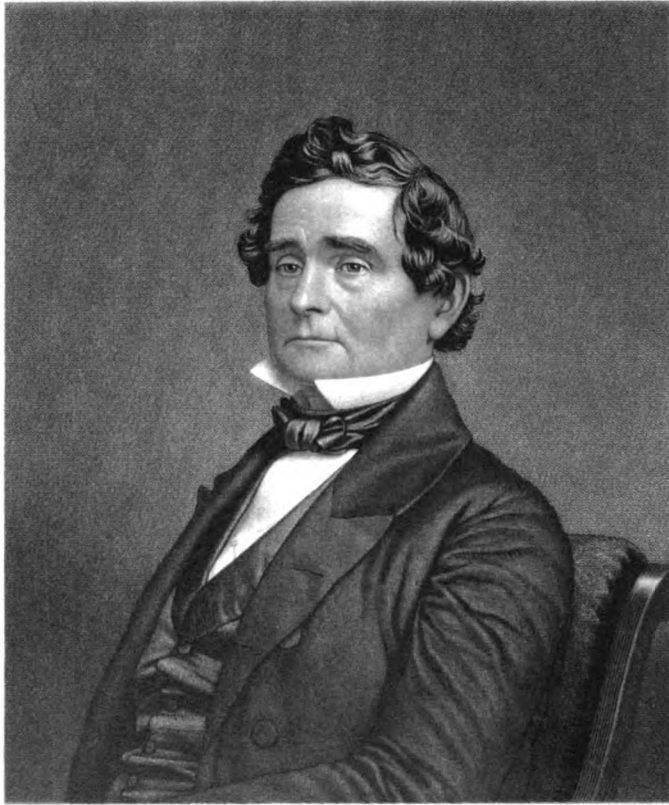
Mr. Hayden married Sophia, daughter of Lemuel and Sarah (Clark) Harrison, February 10, 1816. He died January 11, 1858, and his wife, May 27, 1873. (For their children, see Vol. I, Ap. p. 62. See also under Holmes, Booth & Haydens.)

THE HON. GREEN KENDRICK.



Green Kendrick's ancestors were Virginians, with a mingling of Puritan stock. John Kendrick, his father, was a cotton-planter who lived near Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, N. C. He was a man of marked religious character and eminent usefulness in the affairs of the church, the state and society. His house was a centre of hospitality, and his hand was ready to aid in every good work. Mr. Kendrick's mother was a woman of great force of character, who administered her manifold duties as mistress of the house and the plantation with energy and fidelity.

Green Kendrick was born April 1, 1798, and was the seventh in a family of eleven children. He had such means of education as were afforded by the country schools of the period, and, although by the help of diligence and zeal he made excellent progress, he always regretted the lack of a thorough collegiate training. It was doubtless his remembrance of the difficulties besetting the gratification of his early thirst for knowledge that led him to serve the interests of education so faithfully during his life. After leaving school he busied himself in the management of the plantation, but at the age of nineteen or twenty engaged in mercantile pursuits in Charlotte. On June 12, 1823, he married Anna Maria, the eldest daughter of Mark Leavenworth and great-granddaughter of the Rev. Mark Leavenworth. This happy union, which lasted for forty-seven years, largely determined Mr. Kendrick's future course, for soon after his marriage he visited his wife's native town and was greatly attracted by its manufacturing interests, then in their earliest development. Upon the earnest request of his father-in-law, he removed to Waterbury in 1829, and became thenceforth a



Green Kendrick

WATERBURY, CONN.

BEGINNING OF THE BRASS INDUSTRY.

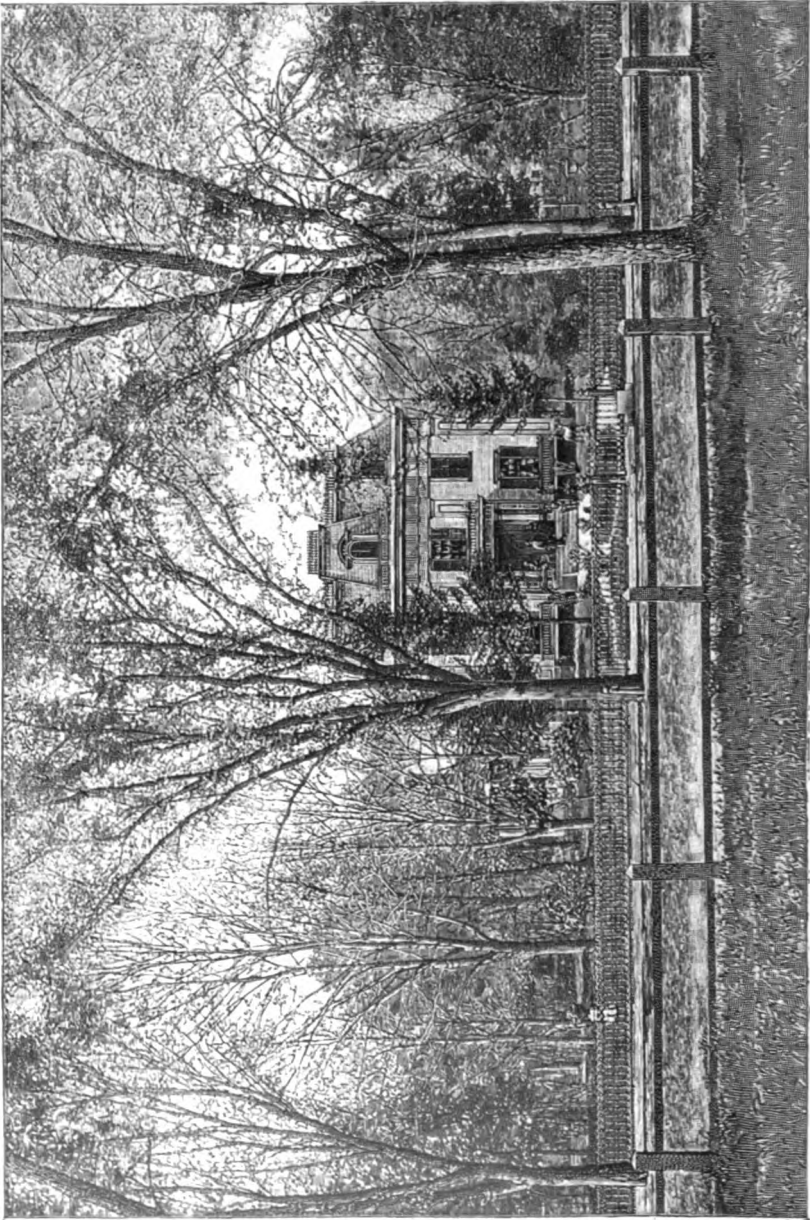
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Northern citizen, identifying himself in every way with the interests of his adopted town and state.

Mr. Kendrick became a member of the firm of Mark Leavenworth & Co., manufacturers of clocks; afterwards, under the firm name of Leavenworth & Kendrick, he was among the first to engage in the manufacture of gilt buttons, an industry out of which grew the manufacture of brass. He subsequently engaged in the manufacture of pocket cutlery and organized the Waterville Manufacturing company, which under his direction procured skilled labor from abroad and proved the practicability of competing successfully with Europe in this useful art. He later organized and successfully established under peculiar difficulties the Oakville Pin company. He was interested in the American Suspender company and many other manufacturing corporations. Indeed, his interests were co-extensive with the industries of the town, with its business and its financial institutions, for nearly the entire period of his residence in Waterbury. In the later years of his life he obtained the controlling interest in the manufacture of silver-plated ware, then recently established in Waterbury by Rogers & Brother. During the period of his control of this company its business increased rapidly and it became the leader in its special field, with a reputation for excellence in all particulars.

While actively engaged in the industries of Waterbury at home, Mr. Kendrick served the town abroad yet more efficiently. To him was due, in part at least, the passage in 1837 of the general manufacturing law of Connecticut, providing for the easy organization of joint stock companies and the more efficient combining of capital in co-operative work. The passage of this law gave a stimulus to all the manufacturing industries of Connecticut, and especially to those of Waterbury and the Naugatuck valley.

Mr. Kendrick was a leading member of the Whig party, serving it to the extent of his ability in all its relations to the town, the state and the nation. To one knowing Mr. Kendrick intimately, his relations to his party, and his power to serve it, were seen to be among the most gratifying results of his life. He was called to represent the town eight times, and his district three times, in the legislature; was honored with the office of lieutenant-governor of the state in 1851, and subsequently in an election by the legislature came within one vote of being elected governor. He was speaker of the General Assembly in 1854 and 1856. In 1856 he was the candidate of his party in the legislature for United States senator, and was defeated by Lafayette S. Foster by only two votes. Subsequently, after the death of President Lincoln, Mr. Foster became vice president; so that two votes in the Connecticut legislature



RESIDENCE OF MISS MARTHA KENDRICK, SOUTH SIDE OF CENTRE SQUARE. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN BEFORE MR. KENDRICK'S DEATH.

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would have changed the vice-presidency. Mr. Kendrick was loyal to the Whig party as long as it existed, and then stood aside, acting with the Democratic party so far as he acted at all. Ever loyal to his conception of duty and his convictions of right, he followed them without regard to party lines. By nature manly and just, he outgrew party bondage and in his later years sought to conciliate and harmonize the differing elements of strife, always preferring principle to party. Born at the South, he deeply regretted the necessity of war, but was loyal to the section of his adoption.

Mr. Kendrick took an active interest in everything that concerned the prosperity of Waterbury and the education of its people. He was chairman of the Board of Education for many years and at the time of his death, and also president of the Board of Agents of the Bronson library. He was active in his support of the First Congregational church. His convictions of religious truth were profound, but he was not a church member, for he could not adopt a creed as a whole unless he was willing to accept it in detail. Here, if anywhere, he believed, was the place for frankness and honesty; if he could not enter the church without mental reservations, he would not enter at all. Yet his interest in the church was deep and permanent, and in all that concerned its material prosperity he served it faithfully. He was chairman of the society's building committee in 1840, and again of the building committee of the present church, in 1874 and 1875, to the erection of which he subscribed \$10,000. Mr. Kendrick thought deeply and constantly on religious subjects, and was not only serious but reverential.

Amid the cares of a busy life he was always ready to lead in all movements to improve and beautify the town. The beautiful Centre square owes to him and to the Messrs. Scovill and others its transformation from the condition of an unpromising bog to what it now is.

Few events in the history of Waterbury have excited a deeper interest in the community than the opening of Riverside cemetery. Mr. Kendrick was one of the pioneers in this movement and devoted himself to the complete organization of the plan. He was chairman of the board of trustees and delivered the address at the dedication of the cemetery.*

*The address, with an account of the dedicatory services, was published in a pamphlet entitled, "The Riverside Cemetery, at Waterbury, Conn., its Articles of Association . . . with the Dedication Address, &c. . . . Waterbury, 1853." It is reproduced in full (occupying pp. 23 to 42) in the handsome "Book of the Riverside Cemetery" published by the board of trustees of the Association in 1889. At the dedication of the Hall Memorial chapel at the cemetery, in June, 1885, the writer of this note referred to Mr. Kendrick as "the kindly old man, the loyal friend, who, when the cemetery was opened, fulfilled a service similar to that which I am now fulfilling, and whose remains we laid away nearly twelve years ago in the spot of his own choosing on yonder hillside" (p. 61).—J. A.

The construction of the Naugatuck railroad found in him an active promoter. Its projection and speedy completion were largely due to his untiring energy and coöperation. He was a director of the railroad company from its final organization until his death.

Mr. Kendrick was an orator of exceptional power. Had he devoted himself to public life he would have been a leader in any legislative body. He was not only a pioneer in laying foundations for the prosperity of his adopted town, but he realized the necessities of its future, and endeavored with his utmost ability to introduce amidst the elements of its growth the thorough education of the masses, that every one might enjoy the privilege of honorable and intellectual citizenship.

Mr. Kendrick died, after an illness of a few hours' duration, on August 26, 1873. His wife had passed away on May 6, 1870. Their children are John, who married Marion Marr, and had two sons, John and Greene, and died May 27, 1877; Katharine, who married Frederick G. Wheeler and has several sons and daughters; and Martha, unmarried, who continues to occupy her father's home on Centre square.*

E. E. PRICHARD.

Elizur Edwin Prichard, born in 1804, was the third son of David Prichard, Jr., and his wife Anna Hitchcock, who was a lineal descendant of Henry Cook of Salem, Massachusetts Bay, in 1639, of Nathaniel Merriman, William Ives and Matthias Hitchcock, three of the founders of New Haven, and of the William Lewis of Farmington who with Samuel Steele received in 1657 from the Indians of that town "the tract of land called Mateticoke."

He reached manhood at the period when Waterbury first felt the impetus toward general manufacturing. His earliest independent venture seems to have been about 1826, in making iron and brass castings (Beaufort iron being used, at \$45 per ton). In 1829 he was making gilt buttons, and in 1833 umbrella, parasol and cane trimmings of fine quality, occasionally of gold. In the earlier days he frequently carried the goods to market in an ordinary travelling trunk. Buttons were made in Waterbury at that time that were sold at \$75 a gross, but not, I think, by him. This was, perhaps, the most profitable of his enterprises, especially during the panic of 1837, when his name on a promissory note was of great service to his townsmen. It is not easy to picture to men who began a business career after 1850 the difficulties that were involved in the carrying

* A discourse commemorative of Mr. Kendrick's life and public services was delivered at the First church by the Rev. Joseph Anderson, on Sunday, September 21, 1873. It was published in full in the *Waterbury American* of September 24.