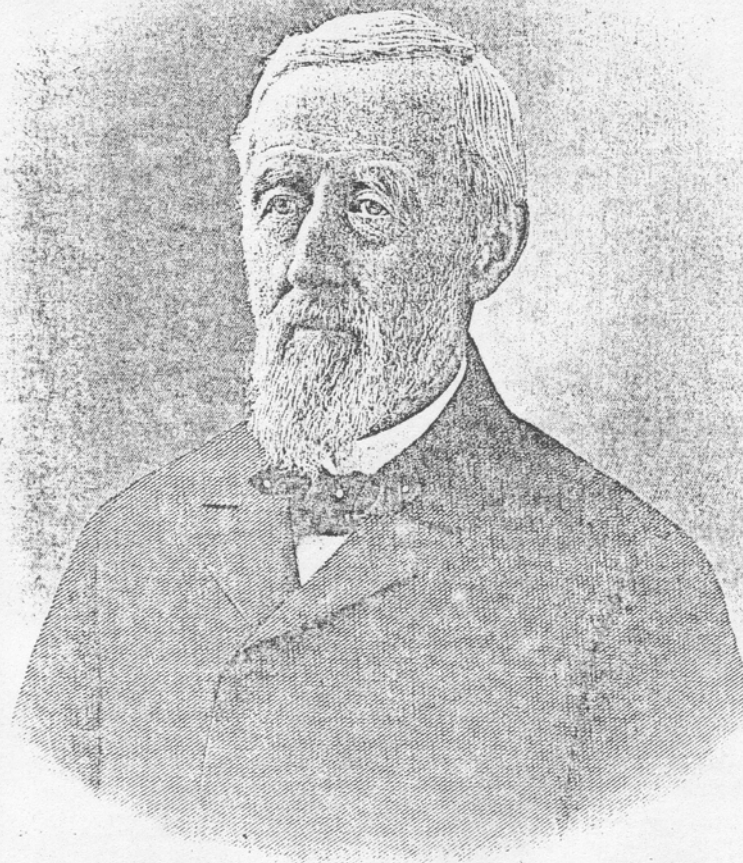


“Moses Weld Terrill,” pp. 27-30 from *Commemorative Biographical Record of Middlesex County, Connecticut, containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens, and of Many of the Early Settled Families*, Illustrated, J.H. Beeres & Co., Chicago, 1903.



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W. W. Terrell

and a citizen of public spirit and lofty purpose.

Mr. Terrill was born in Morristown, Vt., October 2, 1826, and came to Middlefield, Conn., in 1861. The name, however, is historic in Connecticut. Lewis Terrill, the great-grandfather of Moses Weld, settled in Mansfield, Tolland Co., Conn., and was married there December 25, 1733, to Mehitable Hibbard. She died while still a young woman, and his second wife was Anna Simons, to whom he was married May 30, 1745. He had children by his first wife, but they are not all recorded in the family annals. Mrs. Anna Terrill was the mother of seven children, Thomas, Arad, Lewis, Anna, Josiah, Hannah and Eunice Simons.

Arad Terrill, the great-grandfather of Moses Weld, was born in Coventry, Conn., August 23, 1750, and married Miss Jemima Brace, by whom he had eight children, Timothy, Thaddeus, Samuel, Jemima, Susan, Anna, Mehitable and Lewis. Arad Terrill left Coventry and moved to Hampden county, Mass., where he spent some years. Later in life he went to Bennington county, Vt., and was the progenitor of the family in that State, where he lived and died. By occupation he was a farmer and blacksmith, and he won the name of being an industrious and honest man.

Timothy Terrill, the grandfather of Moses Weld, was born in Massachusetts, August 7, 1770, and accompanied his parents to Vermont. There he was married, November 22, 1792, at Rupert, to Martha Leavitt, and their children were as follows: Triphena, born August 4, 1796, married Hiram Cady, and moved to Brown county, Wis., in the 'fifties, settling at De Pere. Moses, the father of Moses Weld, was born May 9, 1799. Aaron, born July 19, 1801, died in Vermont; he lived in Morristown, where he was engaged in agriculture. Asaph L., born September 2, 1803, was a farmer, and lived in Underhill, Vt. Rachel died young. Arad, born April 2, 1808, spent the greater part of his adult life in Jefferson county, N. Y., where he died. Silas H., born December 11, 1810, died of typhoid fever in Underhill, Vt., in 1861. John, born February 2, 1814, died at Morristown, Vt. Timothy Terrill married for his second wife Charlotte Fullington, of Fairfax, Vt., and their children were as follows: Joseph, born October 4, 1815, learned the trade of carpenter and went

MOSES WELD TERRILL, a retired citizen of Middletown, Middlesex county, is a man who has endeared himself to the community by his thoroughly manly spirit and kind and generous nature. He is spoken of as a good neighbor, a man of uncompromising integrity,

west to St. Joseph, Mich., where he died early in life. Timothy, Jr., born December 19, 1819, lives at Morrisville, Vt. Malana, born November 27, 1824, married a Mr. Lee, of Jericho, Vt. Timothy Terrill was a farmer, and he lived to be sixty-two years of age. He was a Whig, and attended the Congregational Church.

Moses Terrill was born in Rupert, Vt., and during his youth had very limited educational privileges. His parents were early settlers in a section of Vermont that was then very new, and until the children were well advanced in years schools were few and scattered. Moses attended a term or two when he was almost grown, in fact, he received most of his schooling after he was twenty-one. In 1825 he married Matilda Weld, who was born in Cornish, N. H., April 14, 1801, daughter of Moses and Miriam (Harding) Weld. Her parents moved to Vermont when she was ten years of age, and there she was reared and educated. Moses Terrill was possessed of some resources, and he bought a piece of land near the homestead of his parents, and cleared a handsome farm, where he passed the remainder of his life. He died in 1883, outliving his first wife by many years, she having died April 13, 1830. Moses Weld was her eldest child, and the only other child that reached maturity was Newton A. He was a farmer in Morristown, Vt. After the death of Mrs. Matilda Terrill, Moses Terrill married Miss Minerva Calkins, who was born in Hyde Park, Vt., April 18, 1803, and died in October, 1901, aged ninety-eight years and six months. She was the mother of children as follows: Lester H., born January 7, 1833, died in Middletown, September 1, 1898. Benjamin F., born December 13, 1834, is living in Middlefield, Conn. Carlos B., born in 1837, resides in Morristown, Vt. Emily M., born May 9, 1839, married Samuel C. Town, of Morristown, and is living there.

Moses Terrill located in a new town and section of the State, and the acquisition of a competence and a comfortable support for his old age required an immense amount of labor. He was ready to pay the price, and worked hard, met with good success, and in his old age was possessed of a comfortable fortune. Politically he was a Democrat in his earlier life, but when the anti-slavery question became pronounced, in 1843, he joined the Liber-

ty party, and later became a Republican. He served in the State Legislature, and was a man of more than local influence and character, though he never sought office, or had much to do with the management of party machinery. He was a liberal contributor to the church, and other helpful moral and religious movements. His record is that of a good man and a loyal citizen.

Moses Weld Terrill grew to manhood in his native town, attended the academy at Johnson, Vt., one term, and spent two terms in a select school. With this his school days were ended, and as his health was not of the best his parents deemed it unwise for him to remain on the farm, and accordingly secured him a place as clerk with Hon. V. W. Waterman, at Morristown. There Mr. Terrill remained two years, and then clerked for P. S. Benjamin, at Wolcott, Vt., for one year. With W. G. Ferrin, as a partner, he bought out the establishment of Mr. Benjamin, and continued there for a year, when they sold out, Mr. Terrill returning to Morristown, where he was engaged in mercantile pursuits on his own account for twelve years. In 1861 he came to Middlefield with an acquaintance, Rev. E. Dickerman, who had invented a clothes-wringer, and induced him to join in its manufacture. A combination with David Lyman, Esq., was made, forming the Metropolitan Washing Machine Company, of which Mr. Terrill was president, and after Mr. Lyman's death was made treasurer. It proved a position of honor and profit, and he held same until the consolidation with the American Wringer Company occurred in 1891. The Rogers Manufacturing Company, of Rock Fall, Conn., was organized in 1892, and Mr. Terrill became its president, and is still acting in that capacity.

Moses Weld Terrill and Miss Almira O. Ferrin were married at Morristown, Vt., July 17, 1848. She was born June 24, 1826, daughter of John and Hannah (Jacobs) Ferrin, and she died March 6, 1896, her remains now resting in Middlefield Center, Conn. Children were born to this union as follows: John M., born June 3, 1849, at Morristown, Vt., was at one time in the livery business; he married and has eight children. Willis E., born June 16, 1851, at Morristown, Vt., is secretary, treasurer and manager of the Rogers Manufacturing Company at Rock Fall, and has his home in Mid-



dletown. Fred W., born April 30, 1853, at Morristown, Vt., is one of the prominent men of Middlefield, Conn., having represented that town in the Legislature, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention, held at Hartford, in 1902. Lily M., born January 8, 1864, at Middlefield, Conn., is the wife of Rev. David G. Downey, pastor of St. John's Methodist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. May L., born June 10, 1868, at Middlefield, is Mrs. Thomas C. Cheney, of Morristown, Vt.; her husband is State's Attorney there, also clerk of the State Legislature.

Mr. Terrill is a Republican, and cast his first presidential vote, in 1848, for the candidates of the Free Soil ticket. He was representative from Morristown in the Vermont Legislature in 1855 and 1856; and served in the Legislature of Connecticut in 1866, 1867, and 1883. In local affairs he has filled many responsible positions, such as first selectman, assessor, justice of the peace, member of the board of relief, and school visitor. From 1861 to 1892, he lived in Middlefield, where, at Baileyville, he built one of the best country residences in Middlesex county. In 1892 he removed to Middletown, where he has since resided. To a certain extent it may be said that he has retired from business. He has, however, extensive and important interests that occupy such portion of his time as he cares to give to business affairs.

While in Middlefield Mr. Terrill wielded an active influence for the upward movement of the community. He has always been a man of undoubted integrity, and his word has never been questioned. He was one of the foremost contributors to, and most active workers in, the erection of the Methodist Church at Middlefield, of which he is a trustee. Mr. Terrill's business sagacity is conceded by all, and his character is without a stain. He has been associated with several important business enterprises, and for one of his years is a very well preserved man. His record as a business man will bear investigation, and reflects credit upon him. He has been successful and accumulated a comfortable competence, not by self-denial, for he and his family have had the comforts of life becoming people of their station.

On his mother's side Mr. Terrill comes from one of the old families of New England, being a representative in the eighth generation in this country of the Weld family, the an-

cestor of which was (I) Joseph Weld, Mr. Terrill's line being through this Joseph's son (II) John, (III) Joseph, (IV) John, (V) Moses, (VI) Moses, Jr., and (VII) Matilda, who married Moses Terrill. This history of the Weld family can be traced back to 1352, when William Weld was high sheriff of London. The family of Weld in America dates back to 1632, when Joseph Weld and his brother, Rev. Thomas, settled in New England, at Roxbury, Mass. They came from Suffolk, England. Joseph Weld was one of the prominent men in the Colony, rendered valuable service to Gov. Winthrop in military and state affairs, and was one of the first donors to Harvard College. He was an acquaintance and friend of John Eliot, the "apostle to the Indians." Savage says: "He was the richest man in the Colony at the time of his death. As a recompense for his important service he received valuable estates in West Roxbury, recently known as the Bussey farm, which he bequeathed to his son, John. He stands third on the organized roll of members of 'the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company' and was chosen ensign at its organization at Boston on the first Monday of June, 1638. He was captain of the Roxbury Company, 1636, and was in the regiment of which John Winthrop was colonel, and Thomas Dudley was lieutenant-colonel."