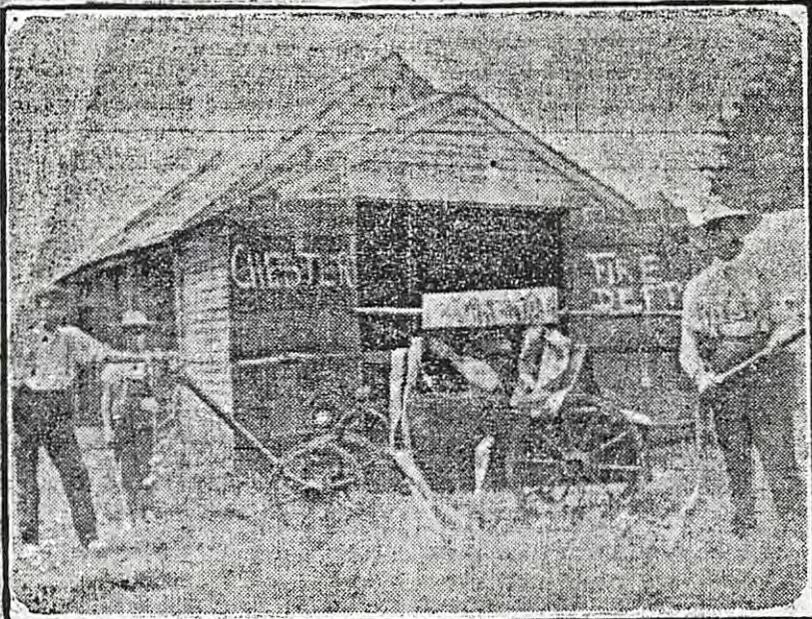


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### A RELIC OF OLD, OLD DAYS.



—Photo by Howard Edwards.

### **Chesler's Fire Apparatus of 1829.**

Special to The Union.

CHESTER, Nov. 1—The historian and curiosity seeker will find in the Chester fire department a relic of rather an antediluvian design, which furnishes an interesting reminiscence. The first fire fighting apparatus here of any account was an engine purchased by individual subscription in 1829, and was situated on Chester street near where Luther Hall now lives, which was at that time the center of the town, near which was the pretentious residence of Judge Daniel French. On the opposite side of the street was the postoffice building, and a little farther west was the Orcutt tavern, and nearly opposite was Tompkins's store. Nearby was Benjamin Fitz's blacksmith shop. A little farther west was the Adams place. Opposite the residence of John H. Robie was a wheelwright shop and an edge tool manufactory, and still a little farther west, on what is known as the Cheswell place was Elliott's tavern and a grocery store, all of which have passed into history and have become obsolete, even if anything remains of these once enterprising places of business.

The machine was operated by some rotary movement of which no description is given. In the early forties it was exchanged for the present engine. The man who holds the butt is Arthur H. Wilcomb, the efficient chief of the department, but there is no organized company, and in case of fire the chief depends altogether on volunteers. This machine was built in Boston in 1842 by Hunneman & Company.

There is no suction hose. The water

supply is furnished by a bucket brigade, and a few lengths of leading hose completes the equipment. Its throwing capacity easily reaches the steeples of the highest churches and has been the means of saving thousands of dollars worth of property since it was acquired. There is also a good supply of hooks and ladders conveniently placed near the engine house so that the center of the town is well protected in case of fire except in case of severe drouth, when for lack of water the department would prove nearly useless, but this condition should not exist, as the town has at its disposal the sum of 200 and interest since 1892, amounting to nearly \$350, a legacy left the town by the late Jonathan Fresser for the building of a reservoir on the common for fire purposes.

The proposition has thus far failed to materialize, as at each meeting when the subject has been considered there has been an effort made by the village residents to have the town raise a sum of money in addition to construct a more extensive system, thereby deferring the project continuously.

When this engine was first purchased it was situated in the quarters of its predecessor, but soon after was moved to where the electric railroad station is now, where it remained many years, when the house was removed to its present site in the rear of the town hall. In bygone years many of the prominent residences were supplied with buckets made of leather for especial fire purposes, which were placed in conspicuous places in the hallway, some of which are still in existence and in a good state of preservation.



Miss Alice A. Gould.

Innovations are popular with political parties, but the Democrats will work a new scheme for their rally on Saturday evening. From 7:30 to 8 o'clock a concert will be given by Hallinan's orchestra in the town hall.

The 102d, or November communication of Star in the East lodge, A. F. and A. M., was held this evening. During the month there will be three special meetings, and that of Nov. 15 will be

dates. Edmund Debery, J. B. C. and present as inspector. Hadley B. en was master and M. Eva Rand Hampton, lecturer. The affair was exceedingly enjoyable and a most profitable one.

#### GREENFIELD.

Special to The Union.

GREENFIELD, Nov. 1.—Under the auspices of the Ladies' Benevolent association, an interesting Hallowe'en program

### GREENVILLE'S FIRST GOLDEN WEDDING.



**Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Livingston.**

Special to The Union.

GREENVILLE, Nov. 1.—The first golden wedding observance ever held in Greenville was celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Livingston. All of their children and grandchildren were present as follows: Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Livingston, Masters Ralph, Oscar, Leon and Miss Hazel Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Livingston, Masters Carl and Roy Livingston, Nashua, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Livingston, Townsend, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Elliott and Miss Medora M. Elliott, Lester L. Livingston and Miss Hattie F. Livingston.

Other relatives who were present and helped to make the day one of the happiest of the many gatherings which the family has ever known were: Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Richardson, Chicopee, Mass.; J. W. Perkins, Andover, Me. Mr. and Mrs. Livingston were presented with a Morris chair, two rockers and a dining table by their children and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Livingston. George E. Livingston made the presentation in behalf of the children. B. G. Livingston responded. One of the prettiest features of the day was the presentation of a \$5 gold piece from the seven grandchildren by Miss Hazel with these words:

"The jolly seven have brought their gift.

'Tis small, but very bright,  
And weighted with love, I'm sure 'twill  
tip the scales all right."

In addition to these was a purse of gold from their nephews and nieces in Brooklyn and New York. The Rev. T. E. Gale, pastor of the Congregational church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Livingston are members, made a fitting address, and in behalf of the friends and society presented a purse of gold. The Grand Army attended in a body and presented their brother comrade with a purse of money. Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Richmond also remembered them with a gold piece, and in addition to this they received other presents from neighbors and friends.

The room was tastefully decorated with evergreen, and autumn leaves, chrysanthemums and pinks. The couple received their friends under an arch of evergreen.

Among those who called to extend congratulations were: Mrs. Abby Lynch, Miss Abby Allen, Miss Flora Kimball, Mrs. W. H. Sanborn, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Wheeler, Miss Bertha Sawyer, Mrs. W. B. Graham, Miss Lillie Bacon, Mrs. Alice Farrer and son, Chester, S. H. Bacon, Mrs. J. P. Nutting, Mrs. C. F. Davis, Mrs. C. A. Preston, Mrs. B. P. Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Robbins, Mrs. Searle, Mr. and Mrs. George Blanch and Mr. and Mrs. Marcellus Hodgman.

A poem composed by Miss Abby Allen was read by Miss Bacon, and another poem from Miss Annie P. Swallow of Nashua, was read by Miss Kimball.

Mr. Livingston is an old soldier and member of the Grand Army.

*The Orange County California  
Genealogical Society*

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