

# GENEALOGY OF THE MACHINE INDUSTRIES OF WINDSOR, VERMONT

## Compiled by Guy Hubbard, Windsor Vt, 1922

### SOURCES

As name WINDSOR indicates, many of the early settlers were CONNECTICUT YANKEES from the HARTFORD DISTRICT.

**TINMOUTH IRON WORKS** (Near Rutland, Vt.), 1785-1870

**WINDSOR & PLYMOUTH ASCUTNEY IRON CO.** 1836-1872

Tyson's Furnace, Plymouth, Vt.  
Builder and Proprietor  
Isaac Tyson, Jr. (Well known Baltimore Chemist and Manager of Coppers Works at Stratford, Vt.)  
Francis Draper Superintendent of Furnace

DEWITT CLINTON was Governor of New York and builder of the Erie Canal. He came to Windsor, Vt. in 1827 to assist in the Connecticut River Project, and at that time became interested in the Rotary Pump.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL MOREY, born at Hebron, Conn., in 1762, built and operated on the Connecticut River near Fairlee, Vt., a successful Steamboat in 1793.

THOMAS BLANCHARD, born at Sutton, Mass., in 1788, was inventor of Gunstock Lathe. In 1829, he built at Springfield, Mass., the steamboat "Vernon" and in the fall of that year navigated it from Hartford, Conn., to Windsor, Vt., for the Conn. River Valley Steamboat Co.

JOHN M. COOPER was an inventor from Guildhall Vt.

ASAH EL HUBBARD, born at Meriden, Conn., in 1787, came to Windsor, Vt. in 1800 and learned trade there.

JABEZ PROCTOR was a Mill Owner of Proctorsville, Vt.

NICANOR, KENDALL, born at West Windsor, Vt., in 1807. Learned trade of Gunsmith there in a shop of Asa Story. Kendall was a son-in-law of Asahel Hubbard.

COLMAN S. HUBBARD, son of Asahel Hubbard, learned his trade under his father and Nicanor Kendall.

CARLOS COOLIDGE, born at Windsor, Vt., in 1792, graduated at Middlebury College and became a Windsor lawyer.

RICHARD S. LAWRENCE, born at Chester, Vt. in 1817, learned Machinist and Gunsmith trades at North Watertown, NY Came to Windsor, Vt. in 1838.

BENJAMIN TYLER HENRY, born at Claremont, NH, in 1821, learned trade there at shop of J. B. Ripley & Co.

SAMUEL E. ROBBINS, born at Boston, in 1810, was a wealthy Lumber Merchant of Boston and Bangor, Maine.

SEWEL F. BELKNAP, born on farm near West Dummerston, Vt., in 1812, rose from laborer to Railway Contractor, and before death at thirty-six built Boston, Portsmouth & Saco, Fitchburg, and Central Vermont Railways.

WARREN CURRIER, born at Walpole, N.H., in 1817, studied Law at Windsor, Vt., and became an attorney there.

LEMUEL HEDGE, born at Windsor, Vt., in 1786, became a Cabinet Maker and Mechanic there. Invented Paper Ruling Machine, 1817; Engine for Dividing Scales, 1827.

COURTLANDT C. PALMER, born at Stonington, Conn., in 1800, was a leading New York Hardware Merchant and backer of the inventors Walter Hunt and Louis Jennings.

CHRISTIAN SHARPS, born at Washington, N.J., in 1811, learned Gunsmith trade in local shops. He invented his famous Breech Loading Rifle at Cincinnati, in 1848, conceiving his idea from the Hall Breech loader of 1811.

FREDERICK W. HOWE, born at Danvers, Mass., in 1822, learned Machine Design and Construction under Zeba Gay of SILVER & GAY COMPANY, North Chelmsford, Mass.

HENRY D. STONE, born at Plainfield, N. H. in 1815, learned trade of Patternmaker at Woodstock, Vermont.

DANIEL B. WESSON, born at Worcester, Mass., in 1825, was Gunsmith and Inventor for George Leonard, Jr., of Shrewsbury, Mass., maker of Revolving Hammer Pistols.

EDWIN CLARK, was from Grover & Baker Sewing Machine Co.

GEORGE A. FAIRFIELD, born at Lansingburg, N. Y., in 1834, learned Machinist's trade under Lucius and Ira Dimmock, builders of Textile Machinery at Northampton, Mass.

CHARLES E. BILLINGS, born at Weathersfield, Vt., in 1835, learned Blacksmithing under his father at Windsor, Vt.

GEORGE W. HUBBARD, nephew of Asahel Hubbard, was born at Windsor, Vt., in 1836, and studied Engineering at Norwich University, Norwich, Vermont.

LAMSON & GOODNOW CUTLERY WORKS, 1842  
Shelburne Falls, Mass.

Ebenezer G. Lamson Founder and President  
(Mr. E. G. Lamson was born at Sterling, Mass., in 1814)  
Abel F. Goodnow Treasurer  
B. Buchanan Yale Sales Agent

EASTBURNE E. LAMSON, born at Shelburne Falls, Mass., in 1843, was a student at Brown University.

LIEUT. RALPH H. LAMSON, nephew of E. G. Lamson, was an officer in United States Navy during Civil War.

GENERAL HIRAM BERDAN, born at Phelps, N. Y., in 1824 was a well-known Mechanical Engineer and was Commander of famous Berdan Sharpshooters from 1861 to 1864.

ALBERT BALL, born at Boylston, Mass., in 1835, learned trade under WOOD & LIGHT, and WILLIAMS & RICH, of Worcester, Mass. Contractor with L. W. POND, 1861-63.

WILLIAM PALMER, brother of Courtdand C. Palmer, was a successful Firearms Inventor of New York City.

ROGER W. LOVE, born at Providence, R. I., in 1842, was graduate of Brown University, and Artillery Officer.

DENIS LANE was a Plainfield, Vt. mechanic.

QUIMBY S. BACKUS learned trade under BAXTER D. WHITNEY of Winchendon, Massachusetts.

DAVID A. MOORE was a ROBBINS & LAWRENCE apprentice.

FREDERICK E. WELLS, born at Buckland, Mass., in 1844, was apprentice under E. G. LAMSON at Shelburne Falls.

GEORGE H. COATES was born at Windsor, Vt., in 1849.

EBEN STOCKER was born at Hartland, Vt., in 1846.

LUTHER HAWLEY was born at Windsor, Vt.

HENRY D. LAWRENCE, cousin of Richard S. Lawrence, was born at Windsor, Vt. in 1851. Graduated at Dartmouth.

RUSSELL L. JONES, born at Deerfield, Mass., in 1824, was owner of cotton mills at Colrain, Mass.

CHARLES JEWETT JONES was son and partner of above.

W. D. WOOLSON was clerk in First National Bank of Springfield, Vt. Came to J. & L. Co. at Windsor in 1888.

MACK P. MOWER was a Windsor, Vermont, schoolboy

JAMES HARTNESS, born at Schenectady, N. Y., in 1861, learned trade at YOUNGLOVE, MASSEY & CO. and UNION STEEL SCREW WORKS at Cleveland. Later worked for UNION HARDWARE CO. of Torrington, and PRATT & WHITNEY superintendent of J. & L., 1889

GILBERT A. DAVIS was a Windsor lawyer born in Chester.

MAXWELL EVARTS, born in New York in 1862, youngest son of Secretary of State Wm. M. Everts, a native of Windsor. General Counsel of Southern Pacific R.R. and an associate of E. H. Harriman.

GEORGE O. GRIDLEY, born at Harvinton, Conn., in 1869, learned trade at WATERBURY BUTTON COMPANY, and came from Waterbury to Vermont with James Hartness.

FRANK L. CONE, born on a farm in Weathersfield, Vt. in 1868, learned trades of carpenter and patternmaker.

CHARLES A. MOORE, born at West Sparta, N. Y., in 1845, was Founder and President of MANNING, MAXWELL & MOORE.

R. P. SCHWERIN was an official of the Pacific Mail & Steamship Co. and an associate of Mr. Maxwell Everts.

**POTTER & JOHNSTON MACHINE CO.**, 1898  
Pawtucket, R. I.

James C. Potter President and Engineer

John Johnston Vice President

NEAL W. FOSTER, born at Chester, Vt. in 1884 learned machinist trade at WINDSOR MACHINE COMPANY Later became Secretary to Mr. George O. Gridley.

DANIEL H. PARKER, born at Gardner, Mass., in 1882, was draftsman for BAXTER D. WHITNEY & SON, Winchendon.

**STANDARD MFG. CO., HAKEWESSELL & HENN**  
1888-1898. Hartford, Conn.  
Spencer Coil Feed Automatic Screw Machines.

Christopher M. Spencer Inventor

Edwin C. Henn Machinist and Contractor

Reinhold Hakewessell Draftsman and Toolmaker

**THE ACME MACHINE SCREW COMPANY** 1898-1902  
Hartford, Conn.

Acme Automatic Screw Machines—Special Products

A. W. Henn Organizer and Secretary

Edwin C. Henn Superintendent and Inventor

Reinhold Hakewessell Inventor and Vice-President

**THE NATIONAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY,**  
1898-1902. (Offshoot from National Screw & Tack Co.) Cleveland

Standard Products from Acme Automatics

W. D. B. Alexander Organizer and President

Orin S. Wertz Secretary

**THE NATIONAL ACME MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
1902-1916. Cleveland-Montreal.

Acme Automatics—Auxiliaries and Products,

W. P. B. Alexander President

Orin S. Wertz Treasurer (Died in 1909)

A. W. Henn Secretary

Edwin C. Henn Superintendent and Engineer

Oliver L. Henn Demonstrator and Salesman

**THE NATIONAL ACME COMPANY,** 1916—  
Cleveland—Montreal—Windsor, Vt.

Automatic Screw Machines—Auxiliary Machines—Opening Dies—Collapsing Taps—Sawto Products.

A. W. Henn President

Edwin C. Henn Vice-President and Engineer

Oliver L. Henn Demonstrator and Salesman

### DESCENT LINE OF THE WINDSOR INDUSTRIES

YANKEE INGENUITY-NATIVE BORN-WATERPOWER PATENTS

By Inclination and of Necessity many of the early inhabitants of Windsor became Millwrights, Gunsmiths and Inventors. From Vermont Timber and their Native Iron, with the help of ample Water Power, and under the protection of the United States Patents, these men, more than a century ago, began to manufacture in quantities their novel and practical Devices. In an attempt to solve their Transportation Problem, and to more fully develop their Water Powers, they organized:

**THE CONNECTICUT RIVER COMPANY,** 1824-1828

**THE CONN. RIVER VALLEY STEAMBOAT CO.,** 1828-1832

Canalization of River—Development of Steamboats

Gov. DeWitt Clinton Promoter and Advisor

Capt. Samuel Morey Canal Engineer

Thomas Blanchard Steamboat Builder and Pilot

**THE ASCUTNEY MILL DAM COMPANY,** 1833-  
Construction of Stone Dams on Mill Brook.

The following Chain of Industries resulted:

**THE AMERICAN HYDRAULIC COMPANY,** 1828-1829

**THE NATIONAL HYDRAULIC COMPANY,** 1829-1839  
Rotary Pumps and Fire Engines—Underhammer Guns

John M. Cooper Inventor of Rotative Piston

Asahel Hubbard Inventor of Rotary Pump

Jabez Proctor Financial Backer and Manager

Nicanor Kendall Gunsmith and Inventor

Colman S. Hubbard Machinist and Gunsmith

Gov. DeWitt Clinton Promoter of Rotary Pump

Carlos Coolidge Patent Attorney

**N. KENDALL & COMPANY,** 1839-1843  
**KENDALL & LAWRENCE,** 1843-1844  
Hubbard's Rotary Pumps—Kendall's Underhammer Guns

Nicanor Kendall Gunsmith and Proprietor

Richard S. Lawrence Gunsmith and Designer

Benjamin Tyler Henry Gunsmith and Inventor

**ROBBINS, KENDALL & LAWRENCE,** 1844-1840

**THE WINDSOR CAR & RIFLE COMPANY,** 1849-1850

**THE ROBBINS & LAWRENCE COMPANY,** 1850-1856

**THE VERMONT ARMS COMPANY,** 1856-1858  
"Windsor" U. S. Rifles—Railway Cars—Sharps Rifles—Jennings Repeating Rifles—Revolving Hammer Pistols—British Enfield Rifles—Gun Machinery and Machine Tools—Single and Double Thread Sewing Machines

Samuel E. Robbins Manager and President, 1844-56

Nicanor Kendall Superintendent (Retired in 1849)

Richard S. Lawrence Mechanical Engineer, 1844-56

Sewel S. Belknap Silent Partner (Died in 1849)

Warren Currier Incorporator and President

Lemuel Hedge Inventor of Band Saw in 1849

Courtdand C. Palmer Promoter of Jennings Rifle

Christian Sharps Inventor of Sharps Rifle

Frederick W. Howe Designer and Superintendent

Henry D. Stone Superintendent and Inventor

Benjamin Tyler Henry Gunsmith and Inventor

Daniel B. Wesson Expert on Revolving Pistol

Francis Draper Superintendent of Foundry

Edwin Clark Inventor of Sewing Machine

Carlos Coolidge Patent Attorney

George A. Fairfield Gunsmith and Machinist

Charles E. Billings Apprentice and Die Sinker

George W. Hubbard Apprentice Draftsman



**LAMSON, GOODNOW & YALE,** 1858-1864

**E. G. LAMSON & COMPANY** 1864-1865

**THE WINDSOR MANUFACTURING COMPANY,** 1865-1870  
Single and Double Thread Sewing Machines—Machine Tools—Gun Machinery—Trip and Drop Hammers—Springfield Rifles—Ball's Repeating Carabines—Palmer's Breech Loading Carabines—Berdan's Rifles—Lane's Saw Mills—Stone Channelling and Quarrying Machinery—Special Machinery built to order

Ebenezer G. Lamson President and Manager

Eastburne E. Lamson Treasurer

Ralph H. Lamson Works Manager

General Hiram Berdan Firearms Expert

Albert Ball Superintendent, 1863-1868

William Palmer Inventor of Palmer Carbine

Roger Love Bookkeeper

Dennis Lane Inventor of Saw Mills

Quimby S. Backus Machinist and Inventor

David A. Moore Inventor of Ratchet Wrench

Frederick K. Wells Bookkeeper and Cashier, 1860-1865

George H. Coates Apprentice and Machinist

Eben Stocker Apprentice

Luther W. Hawley Secretary

Henry D. Lawrence Apprentice and Bookkeeper

Carlos Coolidge Patent Attorney

**JONES, LAMSON & COMPANY,** 1870-1883  
Cotton Cloth—Textile Machinery—Machine Tools

**JONES & LAMSON MACHINE CO.,** Windsor, Vt. 1876-1888  
Turret Lathes and other Machine Tools

Ebenezer G. Lamson Founder and President

Eastburne E. Lamson Secretary

Ralph H. Lamson Manager of Machine Business

Russell L. Jones Manager of Cotton Business

Charles Jewett Jones Treasurer

Henry P. Stone Inventor and Superintendent

W. D. Woolson Assistant Treasurer

Mack D. Mower Apprentice and Machinist

**THE WINDSOR MACHINE COMPANY** 1888-1915  
Turret Lathes—Gridley Automatic Lathes—Gridley Piston and Piston Ring Machines—Gridley Automatic Multiple Spindle Drills

Gilbert A. Davis President, 1888-1902

George W. Hubbard Managing Director, 1888-90

Maxwell Everts President, 1902-06

George O. Gridley Inventor, Manager and Vice-Pres.

Frank L. Cone Designer and Superintendent

Mack D. Mower General Foreman

Charles A. Moore Director and President, 1906-11

R. P. Schwerin Director, 1903-11

James C. Potter Director and President, 1911-15

John Johnston Director and Vice-Pres., 1911-15

Neal W. Foster Machinist Later Secretary

Daniel H. Parker Designer and Production Man

Henry E. Warren Toolmaker

**THE NATIONAL ACME NEW ENGLAND PLANT,** 1915-  
Gridley Automatics

George O. Gridley General Manager, 1915-21

Oliver L. Henn Works Manager

Neal W. Foster General Manager and Asst. Treas.

Mack D. Mower General Foreman

Daniel H. Parker Office Manager

### RELATIONSHIPS

**FALES & JENKS MACHINE COMPANY,** Pawtucket, R. I.  
David Fales and Alvin Jenks formed a partnership at Central Falls, R. I., in 1830, and in 1835, purchased the R. I. patent rights on the Hubbard Rotary Pump. This company still manufactures it, almost unchanged.

**ORIGINAL CITY WATER WORKS OF ST. LOUIS, MO.**  
Asahel Hubbard built and installed first pump in 1830.

Father of Senator Redfield Proctor, who was Secretary of War, Governor of Vt., and founder of Vt. Marble Co.

**WHITNEY ARMS COMPANY,** Whiteville, Conn.  
Colman Hubbard Secretary, 1860-1865.

**ROBBINS & LAWRENCE.** 1851-1856

**SHARPS RIFLE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,** 1851-1875  
Hartford, Conn.  
Sharps Rifles—Enfield Rifles—Machine Tools—Gun Machinery—Weed Sewing Machines

Richard S. Lawrence Master Armorer, 1852-1872 (Aided C. M. Spencer to perfect Spencer Repeating Rifle)

Christian Sharps Inventor and Superintendent (Also Proprietor of SHARPS & HANKINS ARMORY, Phila.)

Hezekiah Conant Draftsman and Inventor (Taught C. M. Spencer drafting, and with him joint inventor of Williamite Spooler, first machine built by PRATT & WHITNEY, Founder of CONANT THREAD COMPANY)

Rollin White Gunsmith and Inventor (Original Inventor of SMITH & WESSON REVOLVER)

Joseph Dana Alvord Contractor (Became leading Contractor at WHEELER & WILSON CO.)

After 1875 the Sharps Plant became:  
**THE WEED SEWING MACHINE COMPANY,** 1875-1893  
Weed Sewing Machines—First Spencer Automatic Screw Machines—Col. Albert Pope's First Bicycles.

George A. Fairfield Founder and President

**THE POPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,** 1893-1914  
Columbia Bicycles—Pope-Hartford Automobiles

Col. Albert Pope Founder and President

George A. Fairfield Director

Ned Lawrence Superintendent (Son of Richard S. Lawrence.)

**PRATT & WHITNEY COMPANY,** Hartford, Conn.  
This company, whose origin was influenced by Sharps Company, purchased the old Sharps Plant in 1914.

Howe's Plain Miller became LINCOLN MILLING MACHINE

**ROYAL ARMORY OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
Enfield Lock, England  
Robbins & Lawrence at Windsor, built nearly all the Mechanical Equipment and first 25,000 Interchangeable Army Rifles for British Government, 1854-1856.

President of MISSOURI CAR & FOUNDRY CO., 1872-1876

**E. A. STEARNS & CO.** Brattleboro, Vt. 1830-1868  
(Now part of STANLEY RULE & LEVEL CO., New Britain.)  
Hedge Dividing Engines—Hedge Patent Jointed Rules  
Lemuel Hedge Inventor and Founder