

Hebron, Connecticut
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Old Burrows Hill School Tells Its Own Story
(Copied from an article by Adelle White who once taught here)

" No one seems to have a good record of my birth but tradition has it somewhere in the 1700's.

" Before many years a busy place developed around me. To the east cotton mills hummed. South of me an axe factory and a gun plant were built, and at the top of the south hill a church building went up with a membership of 125. At the foot of the south hill, a large store was built because so many people had come to this locality to live. The store was owned and operated by Daniel Burrows, who was also a member of Congress at one time. Thus he helped to make the laws to govern the people as well as feed them.

" That is why my neighborhood is called Burrows Hill.

" In those good old days families were not small, so every desk in my schoolroom was filled. I remember the desks ran around next to the wall with benches in front of them. One day 60 came into my room. The teacher was puzzled to know what to do with so many, so he sent them out to bring in blocks of wood to sit on.

" This street was at one time the business section of the town. In 1814 a man moved into the neighborhood from Vernon. He had to take a house on the outskirts of the district before he could build.

" A few years later there were so many children my school room was not large enough, so they built another school house east of me and so made room for all. But as the years went by the mills in the Valley ceased to hum, the axe and gun factories were closed. Many houses were either torn down or burned and so the school became small and they decided to have the children all come back to me.

" The desks were brought from the Valley and set up in my room, which gave me quite a modern look. I was happy watching children build dams in the brook and pick violets in season on the hills."