

# TURNPIKE TALES

by Jim Ford

## **"TURNPIKE TALES" #37 Part II**

*(Historical items from the "Madison Bouckville Antique Week" region)*

*By Jim Ford*

The Madison-Bouckville area has been rich in history from the arrival of the first settlers to the present day. As an addition to the newsletter, we have decided to share some of that history in order that the patrons who travel to the Madison-Bouckville Show will have a better understanding of our truly unique region.

### **MOSES MAYNARD AND HIS FAMILY**

**ARBA MAYNARD** – We now continue with the family of Moses Maynard and begin with Arba Maynard, the son from his first marriage to Anna Lincoln. Arba Keyes Maynard was born on April 25, 1803 at Madison Four Corners, as the Village of Madison was called at that time.

Arba received a good education, attending district schools and when sixteen years of age became a school teacher. When he was twenty-one he began the study of law and classics under Judge Edward Rogers in Madison. Rogers had graduated from Williams College and Yale Law School and settled in Madison in 1813. In the years 1839-1841 Edward Rogers served in the U.S. House of Representatives. Alba certainly had a good law mentor.

In 1832, Maynard was admitted to the New York State Bar. He opened a law office in Sherburne, New York but soon left to establish a practice in Fredonia, New York in 1836. While in Sherburne, Alba married Minerva Gates (1817 to 1842). They would have one son, Graydon (1836 to 1878) and a daughter, Minerva.

Following the death of Minerva in 1842 and daughter Minerva in 1846, Alba never remarried. He seems to have been ready at this juncture to pursue other occupations.

This was realized when he decided to move to New York City and board with his half-brother, Butler Maynard. In 1855 Arba was appointed as a Judge of the Marine Court of the City of New York. Butler Maynard and Arba's son, Graydon, were listed as Officers of the Marine Court.

In 1864, with the intention of making a farmer of his son, Arba moved to Minnesota and settled in Le Sueur County. He purchased a number of valuable land parcels, but could not interest his son in farming. Graydon opened a country store instead.

While living in Le Sueur County, Alba represented the county in the Minnesota Legislature during the sessions of 1866-1867 and in the fall of 1867 was the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office of Lieutenant Governor.

Arba continued to buy land, much of it from tax sales. He eventually moved to Atwater, Kandiyohi County, Minnesota. That is where he died on December 18, 1894. A lifelong member of the Masonic Order, he is buried in the Atwater Union Cemetery.

\*\*\*\* It is interesting to note that Graydon Maynard eventually had business dealings with John Mason Spicer, the head of the Great Northern Railroad. When a new extension to the railroad line was proposed, Mr. Spicer selected a site along that new route for a new community and named it Maynard. Maynard, Minnesota is located west of Minneapolis and as of the last census report had a population of 345.

**BUTLER MAYNARD** - Our next member of the Maynard family is Butler Maynard. He was the first child born of Moses Maynard's second marriage. Butler was born on January 1, 1812 at McClure's Settlement (the early name for Bouckville).

Butler Maynard took an interest in the bookbinding and publishing business at an early age. After learning the basics of the trade, he joined with a Mr. Williams from Hamilton, New York and eventually they formed the partnership of Williams & Maynard. Their business was located on Eaton Street in that village.

A publication entitled: THE MEDLEY or STORIES FOR SUSAN IN PROSE AND VERSE was published by them. Later, Butler Maynard had sole control of the firm and CONSCIENCE DISOBEYED, Or Story of NED BRIGHT was published under his name alone. This book, dated 1840, was also published on Eaton Street.

Mr. Maynard was married twice during his lifetime. The first was to Maria L. Dascomb of Paris, New York. Their marriage produced five children: William B., Sarah E., Helen Maria, Edward D., and George Maynard.

\*\*\*\* It is interesting to note that William B. Maynard died from a fall while pruning a tree in his yard in Rochester, New York.

\*\*\*\* Edward D. Maynard died at the Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. as a result of disease. He had been a member of Co. E, 12th New York Cavalry during the Civil War.

\*\*\*\* Butler's wife, Maria (Dascomb) Butler, died as a result of complications from the birth of George Maynard.

Butler Maynard returned to Bouckville c.1842 and established his bookbinding business there, first in the hotel of his father, then in his own shop, and finally back at the hotel. The hotel that we mention is what was then known as the "White House," but in recent times was called the Bouckville Hotel.

At some point before 1850, Butler Maynard moved to Syracuse, New York and became a bookbinder there. Following the death of his wife in October of 1850, the children were placed with families in the vicinity of Madison and Bouckville and by 1855 Butler is living in New York City with his brother, Arba. He seemed to be trying a new setting and occupation.

A new occupation was found when he became an officer of the Marine Court in New York City, along with Arba's son, Graydon. As we have seen, Arba was a Judge of the Marine Court. However, in 1867 Butler married for a second time to Elvira M. Curtis of Madison, New York and the couple moved to Rochester, New York where he became an insurance agent.

Prior to 1876 Butler and Elvira returned to New York City and the couple lived at a variety of places. Butler was listed as a clerk. The death of Butler Maynard occurred on May 13, 1895 in N.Y.C.