

CRESSY'S HISTORY OF NEW ENGLAND

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NEW ENGLAND consists of six States and Boston, which is in an awful state.

The principal inhabitants are YANKEES.

These are a thrifty race. Put ten of them on a desert island and in a year they will all be rich.

Ninety per cent of the Yankees are farmers, laboring on side hill farms to support the other ten per cent who live in the cities.

They do not "till" the soil in New England. They blast it. The crops are planted in among the rocks with a bean shooter or a gun. They harvest them with search warrants.

New England has two seasons—Winter and August. Its principal crops are snow and Summer Boarders. New Englanders live on the boarders in the summer and on snow, plug chewing tobacco and hard cider in the winter time.

The Down East Yankee has a keen gift of humor, BECAUSE it is a gift.

New England was discovered sort of spasmodically by the Norsemen, Vikings, Swedes, Ten-cent Repertoire Companies and Medicine Shows. But along about 1664 it had a boom. For about that time a lot of disappointed Methodists over in England got dissatisfied with the deal they were getting from the Baptists and Quakers, and decided to go over and discover America and start a settlement where they could do unto others as others had been doing unto them. And so they did.

They chartered from The Cook Excursion Agency a second-hand excursion steamer called *The Mayflower*, and left old England for New England.

Statisticians have figured out that, judging from the amount of furniture "brought over in the *Mayflower*," the boat was slightly over three miles long.

History states that they landed at Plymouth Rock, down on Cape Cod, Mass. But I do not see how they could. I have been there and seen the rock. And it is up on the side of a hill, in a park, surrounded by an iron fence. But anyhow the rock has become famous as the home of Plymouth Rock Hens, Plymouth Rock Pants and Plymouth Gin.

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Just to show how they hated Old England, they named the new country New England. And named most of their settlements after towns in Old England—Portsmouth, Manchester, Brighton, Worcester, Dover, York, New London.

These old boys were honest, though. Of course, they could have stolen the land from the Indians, as we did the rest of it later on, but they did not. They bought it and paid for it. They paid three quarts of rum for the whole business.

And if the price of booze keeps going up, they can soon buy it back for the same price.

The Indians demanded prompt payment on this trade, so they called the place Caps C. O. D.

Up to a few years ago codfish was the principal article of diet in New England. No country store was considered properly decorated unless it had a string of codfish in the front window.

A store so decorated was like a Mason. It could be found in the darkness as well as in the light.

MASSACHUSETTS takes pride in the Boston Tea Party, the Republican Party, Ciam Bakes, Boston Beans, Cape Cod Fire Lighters, Ben Butler, John L. Sullivan, Attelboro Jewelry, Lynn Shoes, Ayer Pills, Worcestershire Sauce, Parker House Rolls, Cold Liver Oil, Joe Mitchell Chapel, the North Station, the Transcript, Henry Cabot Lodge, Charles Ponzi, Stephen Douglas's Shoes, Lydia Pinkham's Bank Account, Doctor Ayer's Pill Mines, J. B. Keith and Joe Miller's Vaudeville, Doctor Seidlitz's Powder Mill, Mr. Waltham's Watches, Mrs. Goose's Song Book, and Mary Baker Eddy's discovery of Christian Science.

Here it was that Harriet Beecher Stowe put on an Uncle Tom Cabin Show, Neal Dow, Senator Volstead's grandfather, went on the Water Wagon, and Daniel Webster put out his dictionary. (A firm at Worcester later put one on the market that was a dead steal, word for word, from Dan's book.)

Salem, Mass., introduced Witch Burning Matinees. The first woman to be burned as a witch was a Miss Hazel Peabody. Witch hazel was named in her honor; but too late to do her any good.

While New England was strictly a Protestant country,

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they named their principal river for an Irish girl—Mary Meek.

Probably the best known of Massachusetts' historical spots is Concord. The birthplace of Concord Grapes, Louise M. Alcott's "Little Women," and Paul Revere's horse. It was just east of here that Paul got pinched for speeding. It was also here that the British could not get over the bridge.

North Adams is known as the place where Mister Hoosie started his tunnel.

RHODE ISLAND is too small to "pick" on. About all there is to say that it is there. A special Providence (R. I.) watches over it. Its products are Geo. M. Cohan and Ciam Bakes.

CONNECTICUT. Deepest research fails to show how, when, where or by whom this word was invented. Even the natives do not attempt to pronounce the second "e" in the word.

Connecticut raises more and worse tobacco than any State north of Mason & Dixon's line.

Down at Hartford a Mister Aetna started making bets with people on how long they would live. He did so well at it that finally he incorporated and called it The Aetna Insurance Company. So, other companies were formed, and today Hartford, Conn., is betting against the whole world on how long they will live. WINNING RIGHT ALONG, too!

VERMONT is called the Green Mountain State, because here mountains are green in the summer time. A very unique distinction.

Vermont starts at the White River Junction (the only place on record where one river forms a "junction"); extends up and down the west shore of the Connecticut River quite a ways.

Vermont is probably, judging from the amount of stuff that is brought in over the border to moisten it, the driest State in the Union.

Vermont's principal city was named for a departed Bostonian, St. All-Beans.

Rutland is so called because of the roads leading in and out of it.

Bennington was in Vermont, so the British had to go there to stage the Battle of Bennington, unsuccessfully.

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The two outstanding features in Bennington today are the monuments commemorating this event and a hotel that no one but the owner can pronounce the name of. Vermont's leading industry is raising Admirals for the United States Navy.

Another is the maple sugar industry. Give a Vermont farmer three maple trees and a barrel of brown sugar and he will produce three tons of Pure Maple Sugar.

MAINE is where a wink in the drug store saves nine in the hotel. The State of Maine was named for a battleship.

Maine's claim to fame—or otherwise according to one's personal views—is that it produced Neal Dow, the inventor of the water wagon.

The most deceptively named town in Maine is Bar Harbor. It is not what it gives the impression of being. You have to go into the back room or upstairs there, just as you do in any other Maine town.

Maine could sell nothing stronger than water so she specialized on Poland Water from POLAND SPRINGS. Although Poland Springs is a stream about as big as a rake handle, they ship enough of this water each day to raise the level of Lake Erie two feet.

NEW HAMPSHIRE has eighteen miles of seacoast, not a shipyard in the eighteen miles, but has a ship in her coat of arms.

New Hampshire is a sheep-raising State. After a sheep has put in a summer browsing on New Hampshire's rock-bound hills, it looks like an ant-eater.

New Hampshire is justly proud of her Hall of Fame. On its walls are such names as ex-President Franklin Pierce, Horace Greely, Mary Baker Eddy, Winston Churchill, Denman Thompson, B. F. Keith, William E. Chandler, and Pliny White, the most successful of all bank burglars.

That New Hampshire stole the "whole State of Florida" has always been the contention of the Democrats.

There are fewer Jews in New Hampshire than in any State in the Union. Possibly because the "p" in the word Hampshire is silent, the name does not appeal to them. More likely because no Jew could make a living off of a New Hampshire Yankee.

During a Republican administration New Hampshire

is always Democratic, and during a Democratic administration it is always Republican, thus enabling them to always be on the opposite side.

About one-twentieth of New Hampshire is horizontal. The rest is perpendicular. The perpendicular farmers raise whiskers, sheep and mortgages. The horizontal or valley farmers run more to intensive farming, the favorite crops (lately) being barley, malt and hops. They import the raisins.

BOSTON is the real HUB of New England.

So called because a hub is a part of a wheel, and all Bostonians have wheels.

Boston is one of the most advanced cities on the continent. It is an hour ahead of Chicago, two hours ahead of Denver and three ahead of San Francisco.

Boston is a moral, law-abiding town. They have not had a policeman's strike there in four years.

You can go to Boston, but not THROUGH it. There are two railroad stations, North and South, entirely disassociated.

Boston is the baked bean center of the world.

Boston has the longest street, Washington Street, in the world. If it was ironed out straight, it would reach just below Charleston, South Carolina. It is probably the hardest street in the world to cross. Milk Street tried it and turned to Water. Summer Street tried it and turned to Winter.

Boston's greatest pride is in Bunker Hill Monument, built to commemorate a battle that took place on Breed's Hill, two miles away.

Boston has a splendid harbor. In ye olden times they used it to dump tea in. Now the bootleggers use it to dump booze in when too closely pursued.

Boston's Business Center consists mostly of Grave Yards, Boston Commons and the Public Gardens, underlaid with subways and overlaid with elevated railroads.

Boston has the most wonderful newspapers on earth.

Bostonians are often misunderstood. People think they are cold. They are not. They are just numb.

Boston is the Capital not only of Massachusetts but of all New England.

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