

Westford Recollections

by Mrs. Charles S. Kennedy
Long-Sought-For School,
No. 8

Long-Sought-for School, No. 8 was originally located in the "North End" on Tenney Road. Today it may be found at the Edwin Gould Estate (Forest View Farm) where it was moved and used as the blacksmith shop at this self sustaining and prosperous Farm. An addition on the front of the building now houses trucks and the property. Many felt that this was the only schoolhouse of the ten districts that no longer existed, but we are delighted to learn that it is very much in existence and possesses a history of its own. Both the Lyon School No. 9 and Long-Sought-for No. 8 are owned by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Picking of Forest View Farm. While serving the Town as a district school, the 1891 School Report states that "Long-Sought-for is a bright and pleasing school and the children are regular and punctual,

pupils - 14, average attendance, 11 "

The Town Report for the year ending in the spring of 1872 states that an appropriation of \$1900 was made for the Long-Sought-For School house, \$1847.22 was expended, leaving a cash balance of about \$52.00 on the amount appropriated.

One of the pupils at the Lyon School recalls her teaching having walked from No. 9 to No. 8 for a teacher's conference. This same pupil also relates that the family living in the brick tavern on the corner of Route 40 was angry with the teacher at Long-Sought-for so consequently made their children walk to Lyon No. 9.

After reflecting upon the educational advancements of a hundred years ago, it is different to envision what schooldays will be like in the year 2,070.

Next week - The Graniteville School No. 10.
