

Short and Simple Annals

I HANNAH Shaw late Resident in Deerfield in the County of Franklin depose and say—that sometime in January last I came from Northampton to Mr Hubbard's in Sunderland and I staid all night there till next day Twelve o.Clock. While I was there Mr. Delano came along as Mrs. Hubbard said, and she went out and spoke to him, as she told me, and told him there were a couple of poor persons who were going to see him. This was the same day that I got to Mr. Hubbard's. Mrs Hubbard told me that her son would go and carry me to one of the selectmen if I was not afraid of a Young horse they had. I told her I was not afraid of any horse. A young man who had a hair lip, said to be Mr. Hubbard's Son, carried me away and told me he was going to carry me to one of the Selectmen Mr Delano, and he carried me and left me close to Mr. Delano's Gate, and said that was Mr. Delano's house. Mr. Hubbard went off and I have never seen him since.

My husband Peter Shaw was with me during the whole of this time and was brought with me from Mr. Hubbard's to Mr. Delano's. Mr. Hubbard drove with us, as near Mr. Delano's gate as he could, and left us in the Street and we went into the Kitchen by the back door, we sat a long time, and I asked the woman where Mr. Delano was, she said he was not at home but would be in by and by. After some time he came in. After

[EDITORIAL NOTE: The following literal transcript of an early deposition of 1823 found in Book 52, page 170, of the Franklin County (Mass.) Registry of Deeds has been communicated by Amelia F. Miller, member of the OLD-TIME NEW ENGLAND Editorial Committee.]

asking how we did. I said to him, Sir, we are a couple of poor creatures both sick and lame and if you do not believe it I could let you see my sores, and I told him we came to him for assistance. He said he did not want to see the sores. I told him I had shown them to his wife. He asked me where we came from. I told him we came a long journey from *Pennsylvania*. He ask'd me why we did not stay there. I told him we got disappointed by the death of my husband's uncle. that we were both foreigners. and the State paid our bills wherever we got sick, and I told him whatever they did with their poor they might do with us. Mr. Delano said they had no poor house there, but that there was one in Deerfield, and that if we would go there he would give us money to pay our Toll over the Bridge. I told him if he gave me ever so much money I could go no further till I staid awhile and rested myself. He asked me where I wanted to go I told him we wanted to go to the state of New Hampshire. that I had a sister if she had not moved, lived in Chesterfield, but that I wanted to rest myself before I went any further. At this time the mail came in and Mr. Delano left me as I supposed to attend to the mail.

After the Post had gone he came in and sat down and read the paper awhile, then got up and went out and said nothing more to us till sundown. At this time a gentleman came in. Sometime after, Mr. Delano came in and asked him if he had put his horse under the shed. He told him he had. Mr. Delano then said to me you see how they begin to flock in, it will be impossible for me to keep you over night. Well sir, said I, I cannot help

it. I cannot go out this cold night. I told him to make any shift for me. that I could lie down on the floor by the stove and keep comfortable, or I could sit up in the chair.

He told me we should feel better after supper, that we could have Buffalo Skins around us to keep us warm and go a mile or two in a cutter. After he ate supper he went away somewhere and after I had done my supper he came in again. Now says he I have got a cutter for you and you can go two or three miles. I cannot keep you to night and you must go.

When he came, there was a gentleman came with him, Mr. Delano happened to call him Doctor. By that I thought he was a Doctor and being used to opium and laudanum I asked him if he had any opium or laudanum, & I had money to get it with. He said no he had not, Mr. Delano then spoke and said you are going over to Deerfield to the poor house, and there is a Doctor to attend you. You can get opium and laudanum and keep your money. The Doctor was there at the time when Mr. Delano said this, and standing close to me. Mr. Delano then spoke and said come, the cutter is at the door and the man is waiting to carry you. Then I began to fret and cry and said if I must go, give me a candle that I can find the way out, I can't see. Mr. Delano then said that the snow gave light, that I did not want a light.

We went out and Mr. Delano went to the door with us, and we left the Doctor in the Room. As we went out I said to them you are a pack of hard hearted Brutes here in Sunderland. We got into the cutter that stood close to the door and went off over the Bridge. The man that carried us paid the Toll over the Bridge he told me that he belonged to Vermont himself, and had got to go as far as

Greenfield, that night. He left us at the Willow tree Tavern. I told him that I could not go to the Tavern that I had no money to *pay for my lodging*. He said he would go in *put his horse under the shed* and speak a good word for us, but we went into the Tavern and I saw no more of him.

The next morning the Tavern Keepers son carried us to Col. Wilson's, to the poor house. I had only six cents in money.

Question by the Agents to the Town of Deerfield What did the man that carried you from Mr. Delano's say to you after you got into the sleigh.

Answer. I asked him where he was going to carry and began to cry and told him I was so cold I could not go far. He said his orders were to carry us a couple or three miles over to Deerfield, to the Tavern.

Question by R. E. Newcomb Atty. for W. Dilano & L. Sanderson Was this conversation immediately after you got into the Sleigh and before you went over the Bridge.

Answer. It was between Mr. Delano's and the Bridge

Question. When did you and Peter leave the State of Pennsylvania on this journey,

Answer. A year ago last November we left Peter Shaw's house, cousin to my husband on the Blue Mountains in Pennsylvania,

Question. Did you pursue your journey in a direct course as fast as you and your husband were able till you got to Sunderland,

Answer. We did.

Question. What States did you pass through on your journey till you got to Sunderland.

Answer. The Jersey York and Connecticut to Massachusetts.

Question. Was it your object when you left Pennsylvania to go to New Hampshire.

Answer. Yes, Sir. It has been two or three years, and the reason was a gentleman from New Hampshire told my husband who is a hatter that it would be better for his trade to go there because there were not so many straw hats worn there as at the southward.

Question. on your journies did you pass through the Cities of Philadelphia & New York.

Answer. We did. We went through Philadelphia on Sunday Morning, and did not stop at all. And we were never there together at any other times. I have myself been in all the great Towns in the United States with my first husband John Branoc. we were wire dancers.

Question. What was your mode of travelling from Town to Town and State to State till you got to Sunderland.

Answer. We got along by the help of the good people. They would sometimes give us money, and victuals and lodging. I walked some on my crutches, and we rode some.

Question. How long did you stay in the city of New York

Answer. Five or six weeks or thereabouts. It was about May a year ago that we left there. We were in the Poor house or Almshouse supported at the public expense.

Question. How long did you stay in Northampton.

Answer. A month six weeks or two months I cannot tell how long. We were supported by the Town or state.

Question. How long was it after you left Northampton before you got to Mr. Delano's in Sunderland

Answer. We staid the first night at Warner's Tavern in Hadley. He gave

us lodging and ninepence the next morning.

We came from Northampton on Tuesday, and staid at Warners as mentioned. On Saturday night we staid at Mr. Huntington's the ministers, on Sunday we got along to the next Tavern in Hadley at the Mills where we staid that night. On Monday we went on a little way and stopped at a house where they were killing hogs. there we stayed two nights.

A man who was there butchering took us in his sleigh and carried us on towards Sunderland. A man with a load of Bags overtook us, and the man that was carrying us asked him to take us in and carry us on to Sunderland. the man that had the bags carried us as far as Mr. Hubbard's, and stopped and said he was so heavy loaded he could not carry us any further and we got out and went into Mr. Hubbard's.

Question. What day did you and Peter leave the Poor house in Deerfield, last.

Answer. about Twelve O.Clock yesterday and staid at James Logan's by the Saw mill last night, where we ate supper. We ate breakfast this morning at William Wilson's in this Town. He gave us dinner to day.

Question. At the time you left Col. Wilson's poor house, did you leave it with the intention, of pursuing your journey to Chesterfield New Hampshire & did you so state to Col. Wilson.

Answer. I did.

Question. Where is your & Peters home

Answer. Any Poor house. When I am sick we get into any Poor house we can find. There is no one place more than another that we can call our home.

Question. When were you and Peter Married.

Answer. We were married in Danbury in Connecticut about eight years ago, and lived there till two years ago, when we set out for Pennsylvania, for Peter Shaw's my husbands cousin before mentioned. He would not own us, and we staid there only one night. Peters wife gave us a breakfast & three cents, and we left them and returned as before stated.

Question. On your Journey from Pennsylvania to Sunderland did you stop at Danbury in Connecticut.

Answer. We did not.

Question by the Agents of Deerfield. How were you supported between New York and Northampton when you were sick and unable to travel.

Answer. By the State, the same as I was in Deerfield. I was confined in York State ten weeks and three days. After I left the city. I was not detained in Connecticut by sickness.

Question by same. How old are you and your husband.

Answer. I am sixty years old. My husband is, as he says 74.

Question. What coloured Horse was it that brot you from Sunderland to Deerfield.

Answer. A white horse—and further saith not.

her
Hannah X Stamm
mark

Fees.

Officer serving citation	\$1.55
Justices fees	2.50
Deponent's fees	<u>.33</u>
	\$4.38

Franklin Co. Town of Greenfield. This Second day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Twenty three personally appeared before us the subscribers Two Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Franklin quonum unus the aforesaid deponent, and after being carefully examined, and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth made oath that the foregoing deposition by her subscribed is true. Taken at the request of the Inhabitants of the Town of Deerfield to be preserved in perpetual remembrance of the thing, and we duly notified Erastus Graves of Sunderland in said County by causing a citation to be served upon him by a copy left at his dwelling house in said Sunderland. And we also duly notified William Delano and Lucius Sander-son both of said Sunderland, and the said William and Lucius attended.

Elijah Alvord
Geo. Grennell

the foregoing is a true Copy of the Original Recd.

July 7, 1823 Recorded and Compared
By H. Leavitt, Regt.

Announcement of Guided Tours for Two Important Historic Buildings In and Around Boston During the Winter Months

"The Vale," Home of Theodore Lyman, Lyman St., Waltham, owned by S.P.N.E.A.

Open 10-1 P.M. every Wed. from Jan. 4 until regular open season for visits with volunteer trained guides from the Concord Junior League. (Nominal fee; Society members admitted upon presentation of membership cards.)

The Parker-Appleton Houses, 39-40 Beacon St., Boston, now home of the Women's City Club.

Open 10-4 P.M. every Wed. for guided tours. (Nominal fee.)