

## MONTAGUE TOWNSHIP

On November 14, 1850, the Montague Township was formed from West Turin and embraced Township 3, or *Shakespeare*, of the Boylston Tract. Montague was subdivided into 117 lots by Benjamin Wright in 1805.

Named for Miss Mary Montague Pierrepont, a daughter of Hezekiah B. Pierrepont, former owner of this town and of large tracts in this and adjoining counties, Montague was presented, by this lady, a set of record books in consideration of the compliment. Miss Mary Montague died in Brooklyn in January of 1853.

Montague remained the undivided property of the Pierrepont family until 1853, when the east half except the parts previously conveyed, fell to the share of Joseph J. Bicknell, and the west half to James M. Miner, both of whom had married daughters of Hezekiah B. Pierrepont.

Solomon Holden, the first settler, moved to Montague in the fall of 1846 along with his family. The settlement known as Gardner's Corners would be named for Joseph M. Gardner, the first merchant. A sawmill was raised by S. P. Sears in 1847.

Miles of road were laid out, a sawmill was erected on Deer River in 1850, and a post office was later established in about 1856. Most of the settlers were from St. Lawrence and Jefferson counties. The first framed schoolhouse was built in 1850.



Sheldon's Dry Good Store