Abraham Marland, born Feb. 22, 1772, in Ashton Parish, England, was four years old when his mother died, and he went to live with her uncle, John Lawton. He attended school until he was 8 years old and then went into his uncle's woolen factory to learn the trade. When he was 15 his uncle died, and Abraham went to another factory to finish his apprenticeship.

In 1793 he went to London to seek employment, ran short of money and shipped on a merchant vessel for the West Indies. He wished to cancel all his debts before leaving England, so was forced to get a bondsmans before he could draw any advance pay. A Jew who was an entire stranger to Marland, assumed the charge, for 1/2 a crown.

The supercargo who was over Marland was a gross and corruptable man, and young Abraham found himself getting into slipshod ways and resolved to jump ship at the first opportunity. A pilot agreed to take him ashore for 1/2 a crown.

He returned to London but was unable to find the Jew who went his bond. This he regretted, and he said that the skipping the ship and letting the stranger into debt, was the one dishonorable act of his long, upright life.

He remained in London for 4 years and got work for the firm of Woomwell & Gott, in Leeds, where he finally became an overseer. He later went into business for himself. He married Mary Ann Sykes, daughter of Wm. in the vicinity of Leeds, Feb. 3, 1800. He came to Boston, Sept. 17, 1801.

Samuel Slater, of Pawtucket, R.I. a fellow countryman and father of the cotton manufacturing in this country, was known to Abraham, and he called on him for advice. Slater advised him to give up all thought of manufacturing and take up farming. Marland however, hankered for his old trade. He went first to Beverly and worked for Col. Burnham for $1 a day.

He went out to Patterson, N.J. to get a set of machinery for his employer, and while there, ordered a set for himself. In Aug. 1803, he set up in Lynfield.
Here he met old Jonathan Abbott, whom he calls "a celebrated mill-right" and his son, Stephen. They induced Marland to come to Andover, and as he had insufficient water power in his plant he agreed to make the change.

He came, May 1807 and lived in a house on Brook street later occupied by Moses Clement and last, as I recall, by "Sonny" Wardwell as a stable. Here Abraham lived for three years, beginning his manufacturing in a shed on a hand loom and using a spring shuttle, which an improvement on anything used locally and people flocked to see the operation. Later a small building was put up for him by Jonathan Abbott.

At that time, Joseph Stevens, a trader, lived in the house opposite the Baptist Church. Ephraim Abbott, the gristmill man, lived on the site of the Peter B. Smith place. These and an Abijah Chase, were connected with Abbott Village first mill.

In his Lynfield plant, Marland made cotton yarn, in addition to his wool carding industry. The raw material cost 10¢ a lb. and sold in yarn for 50 ¢. He made a profit of $10 a day, of which he made no mention at first.

When he left England he had $2000, which he invested in cloth, thinking that he could sell it here at a profit. Pierce Bryant of Boston took it on credit and Capt. Seth Johnson, brother of the master of the vessel in which Marland came, became responsible for the duty. Bryant failed, and all Marland got for his cloth was a bbl. of Flour, valued at $10, which Marland took with him to Beverly. He prospered later, however and fully rewarded Johnson, his friend.

He began to make woolen goods here in Andover and continued for 4 years in his little mill. This stood just beyond the Stone Bridge in Abbott Village, was 40' long, 18' wide and was 2 stories high. It was first used for making cotton yarn and not changed to woolen manufacture until 1812, when they also added satinet to the output.
The MARLAND FAMILY

The made blankets for the Army during War of 1812. He sold these locally also, going from house to house to deliver them.

He moved from the little structure after 4 years, and built the stone building occupied by Mitchell’s Coperative Store in 1853, the site of the Village Hall. He kept a store in front of this building where he sold his flannels and blankets. He spun the yarn and then turned it over to the townspeople who wove it.

Prince Ames’ wife, Eunice (Rasse) and a Mrs. Flint of W. Andover, used to go to Boston on foot once a week, to sell goods, and they took his stuff in and bought stock for him. He was very exact about paying his bills and paid his help once a week, English style.

The family moved from the old house (where the Woods lived) which, I think, was owned by Capt. Stephen Abbott, to the mill house in Abbott Village, which was also owned by Capt. Abbott. In 1813 they moved into the house they lived in, in 1852. The house stood between the two water privileges so as to be convenient to each. I think it was the Coggswell place.

Abraham sold part of his machinery to Paschal and Isaac Osgood and it was taken to the old mill, owned later by Eben Sutton in North Andover. It is said that Mr. Marland bought a third interest in 1813 in the Cochichewick Mill, owned by Paschal and Abel Abbott, and sold in 1819 to Samuel Ayer. The Abbotts left for Dexter, Me., where they founded the woolen mills still held by the family.

Marland’s partners did not understand the wool business very well, so he spent a good deal of time superintending the new plant. Finally he withdrew and gave all his time to the Abbott Village mills.

He exchanged the home he occupied for the Peter Shattuck place opposite—the family mansion. The Marland mill property, which had been a grist and saw mill, held by the Lovejoy family, fell into the hands of Peter Brooks, a wealthy man and creditor of Phillips. In 1821, Brooks bought the oldest brick mill, on site of the Powder Mill or near it and boarding-ho. (brick) also. Marland hired the place from him.
The following year he fitted the place with machinery and stayed there until Sept. 1, 1828. Then he bought out the Brooks' holdings on both sides of the river for $22,000 - 5% at interest and $500 to be paid annually. By Oct. 22, 1833 all was paid and the mortgage redeemed - 30 years of strenuous work going into the achievement. Brooks asked if it was his own money or if he had hired it, and Marland answered, "All my own."

Several years before, in hard times, people in business failed all over the State, hands were turned away and workers left because wages were insecure. Marland feared some such breakup and went to Skinner & Kidder and asked for a loan of $600 for a few days. Col. Bridges of North Andover was in the office and he said he would lend twice the amount.

Marland paid off all the help and dismissed them. All came back and acknowledged that outsiders, jealous of his success had influenced them and persuaded them to leave. He forgave them and took all hands back.

A stranger drove in haste into Andover one day and inquired the way to the Marland mill. The man whom he asked had a small account against Mr. Marland, and fearing the stranger meant business difficulties, he directed him falsely, and dashed to the mill where he took the amount of his bill in flannel remnants. The stranger finally found the mill and transacted his business and drove off. Back came the man with the remnants to exchange them for money, but Mr. Marland informed him that he SOLD cloth and was not buying just then.

In 1834 the mill was incorporated and Mr. Marland acted as President until his death in 1849, when he was 77. He was the oldest and most successful manufacturer in Essex Co. and it looks to me as though he were father to the Dexter Mills of Maine, the North Andover woolen mills, Ballardvale mill and the Marland mill here.

(0. Howarth said that James Howarth who came here from Lancaster in 1818 made the first flannel and blanket in Andover. Marland bought up the flannel woven on hand looms by the natives and sewed it together and made the blankets he said peddled first and sold later at (Corporation) store.)
The MARLAND FAMILY

The third house on the east side of the bridge in Ballardvale was built by John Marland, son of Abraham, born in England, Dec. 19, 1802. He married Lucretia Dorr of Boston, June 2, 1829.

The first house was known as the "Mill House"; the second was held by Dan Poor. The Marland place was later known as the Ellis house and last I knew was held by Scott Walker's brother in law. I went there in Scott's day one evening with the Young People's Temperance Society for a meeting. One note I read said that Scott built the 3rd house and Marland the 4th. That the first one, built 1836 was burned in 1842 and rebuilt in 6 weeks; the grotto built in 1845. The hedge set, and the wall and orchard in 1840- the aqueduct, 1848. He spent between $60,000 and $70,000 on it. He owned the largest cattle in Andover, which he bought from A. Sheldon of Wilmington.

The aqueduct he built carried water from Red Spring to his house in the Vale. It started near a big elm near a ravine a short distance from the R.R. tracks, leading from the land he bought from Hackett in 1848. The tree was later struck by lightning and it broke the aqueduct where it crossed the spring road. The mill house and roof are still to be seen near the spring.

Marland's 1836 house was west of a fine grove of native oaks, and his first query on returning from a business trip abroad and found that his house had been burned, was "Are the trees safe?"

Abraham Marland's first home was on Brook Street; his 2nd in a corporation house built somewhere in Marland Village, maybe near Gleason's; his third was the Coggswell place in Abbott Village where both Abraham and his wife died. Francis Coggswell thinks that the land for the burying ground of the Episcopal Church was given by old Abraham. Francis Coggswell lived in 1852 in the Torr place and after the death of Abraham, moved into the Marland home, where he died.
EXTRACTS FROM OLD MARLAND FAMILY BIBLE
NOW BELONGING TO FRANKLIN W. HOBBS.

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MEMORANDUM.

The within named Abraham and Mary Marland left England in Brig. TWO POLLIES, Capt. Seth Johnson, on the 9th day of July, 1801, together with William Sykes, brother of Mrs. Marland, and arrived in Boston in the U.S. 17th Sept. following."

"Abraham Marland and Mary Sykes married at Leeds in the County of York, England, on the 3rd day of February 1800, the former born Feb. 22, 1772; the latter Jan. 26, 1779."

"Abraham Marland died Feb. 20, 1849.
Mary Sykes Marland died Oct. 9, 1854."

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Abraham Marland and his wife, Mary Sykes, had:

Thomas, Jr. (B), b. Nov. 9, 1800; m. Elizabeth Carr, June 15, 1819; d. at sea in ship "Hope", Capt. Tate, July 27, 1821. His stone is in South Yard. Elizabeth was of Chester, N.H. She m. 2nd., Thomas Hartley, Mar. 4, 1822.

John (2), b. Dec. 19, 1802; m. June 2, 1829, Lucretia Dorr of Boston, "a fine lady"; he d. April 16, 1865; built home in B'vale-3rd house east side of bridge.

Mary Sykes (2), b. Aug. 9, 1806; m. June 8, 1829, Francis Coggswell; she d. Dec. 28, 1877; he was a lawyer; lived in Ossipee, N.H.


William Sykes (2), b. May 21, 1808; m. June 4, 1835, Sarah Northey of Boxford; she and her sister Lydia and her father lived in Squire Kneeland's cottage. Wm. d. Aug. 29, 1847; she d. Dec. 30, 1900 age 89; was the daughter of Abijah Northey and Lydia Holman, b. in Salem.

Anne Brierly (2), b. Dec. 12, 1810; m. Sept. 6, 1836, Thomas S. Pierce of Petersburg, Va. They had:-

Anne d. May 29, 1892.

Mary Alice (3), b. 1838

Thomas Marland (3), b. 1839

Harriet Fletcher (2), b. Feb. 18, 1813; m. George S. Young, April 14, 1840; he was in business with Jr. Marland in the Vale and went abroad to buy machinery for him; he later introduced fine delaine wool in the Pacific Mill and was treasurer there.

Hannah Jane (2) b. Mar. 20, 1815; m. Rev. Samuel Washburn of Philadelphia, July 7, 1835; she d. here Mar. 23, 1845; no ch. recorded here.

Sarah Fisher (2), b. Mar. 7, 1817; m. Dr. Francis Clarke, July 9, 1839; she d. June 8, 1849; had:-

Samuel Francis (3), b. 1840

Amase (3), b. 1844; educated here by uncle Punchard; m. a Sturtevant

Frank Darracott (3), b. 1846.
The MARLAND FAMILY

Children of Abraham(l) Marland and his wife, Mary Sykes. (cont.)

Elizabeth Caroline (2), b. July 25, 1819; m. Joseph Warren Greene, Sept. 24, 1862; she d. -

Abraham (2), b. Oct. 18, 1821; d. Nov. 11, 1821.

Julia Maria (2), b. July 30, 1823; m. Franklin Darracott, Sept. 24, 1846; he was of Boston, son of George; they lived in Punchard's 1st house, now Horace Tyer's; he was called a Civil Engineer. They had:-

Julia Marland (3), b. 1847; d. 1849

Wm. Sykes (2) Marland and wife, Sarah Northey, had:

Abbie (3), b. 1836; d. April 16, 1855 of consumption.

Sarah Helen (3), b. 1838; m. May 18, 1867, George H. Poor, a lawyer, son of James and W. Susanna; had: Mary (4); Edith (4) a teacher.


Abraham (3), b. 1841; was Town Clerk; d. May 11, 1911; m. 1881 in No. Ch. Salem, Elizabeth N. Lord, 24, of Salem, dau. of Daniel and W. Ella had: Harold W. (4), b. June 6, 1890; grad. Textile Sch.; in Arlington M. Charles Hitchcock (3), b. 1843; lived in B'vale; m. Laura E. Lord of Acton, Me; was station agent at B'vale; d. Aug. 24, 1903.

Mary Sykes (3), b. 1844; d. in asylum; not recorded here.


Helen (4), b. April 11, 1876


Mary K. (5), b. March 21, 1881

Wm. Marland lived awhile in the house occupied by and owned, 1912, by Henry Flint-on North side of the street, below. Mannings - the Ballardvale Co. owned the place in 1850 and Wm. Marland's brother, John had some dicker with Stimson, the former owner and got it. Wm. lived there until his family came to the Northey place. Ellis had John Marland's home after John, and later an Englishman named Riley (Ryley)
Charles Hitchcock (3) Marland (Wm. Sykes (2) and w. Laura Land, had:--

Harry Freeman (4), b. Feb. 21, 1879; m. 1900, Anne Therese Roche of Lowell, 20, a weaver, daughter of Edw. Roche and Sarah McAvery, b. in Lowell; Irish; she d. April 18, 1909 of typhoid, at 29 yrs., 3 mos., 17 d.

Harry Freeman (4) Marland (Chas. H. (3) Wm. S. (2) and wife Anne T. Roche, had:--


Sarah Dorothy (5), b. Mar. 15, 1903.


Clifford (5)

Charles Northey (4) Marland (Chas. H. (3) Wm. S. (2) and w. Ann Shattuck, had:--

Laura Northey (5), b. Nov. 12, 1894; in Ballardvale.

Edna Louise (5), b. July 24, 1908

Mary Sykes (2) Marland and husband, Francis Cogswell, had:--

Wm. Cogswell (3), b. - ; m. Sue Holt, sister of Mrs. W. Gildsmith; had 1 dau.

Joseph (3), quite a sport; went away.

John (3); m. Ruby Merrill's sister; lived in Florida.

Ben Punchard (3) b. 1845; d. in year 1897.

Thomas Marland (3), a twin; was in Civil War; b. July 17, 1844; was Pres. of Arlington Trust Co.

Mary (3); m. W. Hobbs; had son Franklin (4), who was Treas. of Arlington Trust Co.