

## PORTSMOUTH ICE COMPANY

PJ 2 Apr 81 - Elias Perkins, whose death occurred this city last week at the advanced age of 85, is spoken of as a kind, industrious neighbor.

He served in the war of 1812 both on land and sea, and at its close retired to his home to till the soil in peace, together with his father who was a veteran of the Revolution. Elias, in 1843, inaugurated the ice business in Portsmouth, but he was discouraged from it when the *N. H. Gazette* one day pleasantly remarked, "There may be seen a man in our streets trying to sell ice for a living, and he seems to be as independent as a hog on ice in cold Greenland;" and he thereupon quit the traffic in disgust. Dr. David Kimball kindly took off his hands all the ice he could not sell, gave him an encouraging word, and, taking courage, he again entered into the business, now successfully followed by his two sons Geo. A. and Langdon M.

PJ 8 Jan 81 -- Ice averaging 12 inches thick being cut from the pond on Banfield road by Portsmouth Ice Company, George A. Perkins, prop.

PJ 18 Feb 82 -- First crop cut from pond on Peverley Hill road by GA Perkins amounted to 2000 tons, average 14 inches.

See Page 288, Vol. II, They Came to Fish.

PJ 17 November 1886 -- Langdon M. Perkins sold ice business to A.M. Gardiner and George A. Perkins

See Johnson Rope Walk, #149.

John W. Schurman has bought the stock, and good-will of the Portsmouth Ice Company, and will continue the business under the same name. A.M. Gardiner, surviving member of old firm, will stay in the ice business under his own name.

PJ 17 February 1900

**Record of Ice Cutting.**

Believing that the following records of the dates on which he began to cut ice every winter for the past 33 years will be of general interest, we have secured the same from ex-Alderman Charles E. Hodgdon, the veteran dealer of the city. It will be seen that the present winter is not without its parallels and is not so extraordinary as many have supposed:

Winter of	2d Cutting	3d Cutting
1870-71 Jan. 5		
71-72 Jan. 9	Feb. 7	
72-73 Dec. 19	Feb. 13	
73-74 Dec. 23	Feb. 2	
74-75 Dec. 22	Jan. 19	
75-76 Dec. 21	Feb. 17	
76-77 Dec. 26		
77-78 Jan. 10	Jan. 30	
78-79 Jan. 2	Jan. 30	
79-80 Jan. 14	Feb. 24	
80-81 Dec. 21	Jan. 25	Feb. 8
81-82 Jan. 18	Feb. 9	
82-83 Dec. 27	Jan. 23	
83-84 Jan. 8	Feb. 8	
84-85 Jan. 27	Feb. 18	
85-86 Dec. 28	Jan. 19	
86-87 Dec. 30	Jan. 13	
87-88 Jan. 9	Jan. 23	
88-89 Jan. 30		
89-90 Jan. 23	Feb. 24	
90-91 Dec. 15	Dec. 20	Jan. 20
91-92 Jan. 27		
92-93 Dec. 27	Jan. 11	Jan. 30
93-94 Dec. 20	Jan. 18	Feb. 20
94-95 Jan. 2	Jan. 28	
95-96 Jan. 9	Feb. 13	
96-97 Dec. 28	Jan. 27	Feb. 25
97-98 Jan. 6	Feb. 8	Mar. 1
98-99 Dec. 19	Jan. 23	Feb. 24
99-00 Jan. 30		

Herald 26 March 1913 -

The ice business of the city of Portsmouth will be done by one firm the coming summer, to be known as the Portsmouth Ice Co.

For some time it has been known that Boston parties were trying to bring this about, by the purchasing of the business of some of the smaller dealers, whereby a standard price could be maintained by all engaged in the business.

On Tuesday evening a meeting of the local dealers was held at the Rockingham at which time the Portsmouth Ice Company was formed with Mr. Haywood of Boston as its president

and E. M. Langdon of Kittery as secretary. James W. Harvey and Charles E. Hodgdon are the directors.

It is announced that the new company has purchased the business that has been conducted by James Schurman, Joseph Mott and a Mr. Drake.

In conversation with a prominent ice dealer, he stated that the company was formed for the mutual protection of the local ice dealers and to maintain a uniform price to their customers.

With this new move on the part of the dealers, the general public naturally asks "How would you like to be the victim?"