

[Smith, Seneca S.]

BOWLBY SCHOOL DISTRICT HISTORY
(excerpt)

[passage obliterated from transcriber's source] any, are more deserving of special mention than Seneca S. Smith. In attempting to trace his career, honorable as it is in itself, it behooves us to say that he was a lineal descendant of "Muckle Andrew" Smith. He was the fifth son of Charles A. Smith. His father was a farmer by occupation, so he received his early agricultural training upon his father's farm.

His early educational advantages were improved and he became a school teacher of considerable experience, having taught several terms in the district schools of Bath with much credit to himself. He was one of the standard, reliable men to be found in every town, who seek to be useful in their day, filling his place creditably and honestly and according to an enlightened judgment. He was born on his father's farm Sept. 22, 1838 and in early life he was united in marriage to Miss Azuba Cameron of Hammondsport. Shortly after their marriage they began housekeeping on the Smith farm and in his possession it remained until his death from tubercular trouble. He died among his wife's people in Hammondsport, where he had previously gone to receive medical treatment from Dr. Babcock, but his disease and the icy hand of death were barriers too great for human skill to roll away, so he passed to the world beyond on Jan. 21, 1883, in his 45th year

He practically lived all his life on his father's farm. He was a successful farmer, teacher, and lumberman, having cleared nearly all the east side of the Quinn road that is included in the Smith farm. For years he ran a saw mill near the site of the old school house, and did much custom sawing...In religious sentiment he was inclined toward the Universalist church, and in politics a strong Republican.

After his death Mrs. Smith and two daughters Mabel and Bessie went to Illinois to reside. Mabel married Henry Benham formerly of Hammondsport and has a family of five children. She is now living at Peoria, Ill. Bessie married a man in the west, and now lives at Joliet, Ill. She has three children. Mrs. Smith's death occurred in Illinois several years ago, and she is buried there.

Steuben Farmers' Advocate, Bath NY, Fri. 11 Feb 1938