

Milford Times: July 1, 1932

HURON RIVER RAN UPSTREAM

From the Times, March 14, 1896

In xxxxxxxxxxx summertime of the year 1848 this writer, who at that time resided in Brighton, was sent for by Bradford Hubbard to advise in regard to a calamity that had befallen the Pettibone dam and flouring mill, and it was thereby given him to see effects and power of a comparatively small body of water.

Early risers who had occasion to cross the river that morning saw that the bridge was gone, that the turf, bogs and small brush on quite a portion of the marsh near the mouth of Pettibone Creek was gone, and looking up the creek saw that the saw mill dam was gone, and still further up the stream that the dam of the flouring mill was also gone.

Where was the bridge? It was, of course, to be expected that a staid, respectable old bridge with no known erratic propensities would, on the occasion of a flood too great to be withstood, more or less quietly float down the stream. The bridge in question was apparently not of that kind, and when the flood came floated upstream halfway toward Armstrong's mill where it lay, high, dry and whole on the south bank of the river.

A heavy stone wall under the wheel xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx flouring mill was mostly carried away, leaving where the northwest corner of the wall had been, a hole over six feet in depth. One huge stone of several tons was taken down stream a number of rods, and was not replaced in xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx the spot where the water left it.

Much more might be related of the queer doings of the flood of water, but it was only proposed to tell how the bridge went off and up the river. As far as known, no one was witness to the catastrophe.