

## Historical Sketch of Lincolnville

BY JOSEPH MILLER

Lincolnville, prior to its incorporation as a town, was called the Plantation of Ducktrap and Canaan. The town was incorporated June 23, 1802; in honor of Gen. Lincoln, of Massachusetts, who served in the revolutionary war, it was called Lincolnville. In the first census taken after the organization of the general government, the plantation contained 278 inhabitants; this was in the year 1790, twenty years after the first settlement. The first permanent settlement in the Plantation was made by Nathan Knight in the year 1770. He came from Squam Island, near the mouth of Kennebec river, and settled on the farms now occupied by his two grandsons, Rufus and Sampson Knight. Nathan Knight, Jr., father of Rufus and Sampson, was the first male child born on the plantation; he was born Nov. 24th, 1776. Mr. Knight had made considerable progress in clearing and cultivating his land prior to the revolutionary war. He was soon enabled to keep considerable stock by cutting hay in the large meadow on his premises. After the war commenced and the British had taken possession of Bagaduce, he was much annoyed by raiding scouts of soldiers from the British forces stationed over there. At one time a party came in the night and took seven cattle out of his yard and drove them off. When he discovered in the morning what had been done, he took his double barreled gun and pursued them. There were no open roads then, but he followed their trail through the woods for a considerable distance, but did not overtake them. He said if he had overtaken them he would have fired upon them if there had been a dozen. No one acquainted with the man would doubt his word. I knew the old gentleman well in his declining years when he cultivated and cured his own tobacco, and I have a tobacco box