

mond's expertise and sense of humor are legion. On one occasion, two men started fighting. One thing led to another, and one of the men bit off his opponent's ear. Dr. and Mrs. Drummond took flashlights to the scene of the fight. They searched for the missing ear until they found it. Dr. Drummond hastened back to his patient, who was waiting at the hospital, and successfully reattached the ear to its proper place, where, I believe, it remained.

Dr. Drummond sometimes took drastic measures in order to persuade people to move along. One outstanding occasion happened prior to a ball that was being held as a fundraiser. A large group of friends gathered at the Drummond house for pre-ball cocktails. They had such a good time socializing there that they simply were not interested in getting to the ball on time. Dr. Drummond brought a horse into the house, thinking that this maneuver would drive the guests out of the house and on to the ball. Alas, the plan backfired. All of the guests thought a horse in the house was great fun, they were even less inclined to leave, and they were all late to the ball.

Paying for health care was as large an issue forty and fifty years ago as it is today. Although the costs seem insignificant compared with current hospital bills, many

people had just as much difficulty scraping up enough money to go to the hospital or to see the doctor. A hospital room for a day cost \$9 in 1953. Remembering that the average weekly wage in 1953 ranged from about \$55 - \$80, it is easy to recognize that a stay of several days would cause a serious financial hardship. Dr. Drummond, however, never turned a patient away if he or she could not pay for his services. His practice was to send out two bills. If there was no response after the second notice, he threw the bills away. Some patients showed their appreciation by bringing him non-monetary items such as freshly caught trout or an apple pie.

When Dr. Drummond retired, the Buxton-Hollis Community Hospital became obsolete. People traveled away from their local communities to Portland and to Biddeford and beyond for their health care needs. The immediacy and familiarity of the country doctor was broken. We have adjusted to the new methods, and to the new jargon, of "health delivery services," but sometimes something seems missing in the translation.

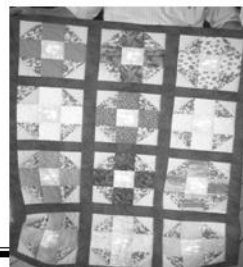
*Meg Gardner, Staff Writer*

### *Mary Coffin*

#### *Print Donated*

The Board of the Historical Society would like to thank *Richard & Beverly Atkinson* for their recent donation of a lovely framed print of young *Mary Coffin*, daughter of *Rev. Paul Coffin*. We look forward to displaying it for all to enjoy!

*Thank-you to Marion Layman*, granddaughter of *Nettie Stevens Young*, has sent us another lovely quilt to be used as a fundraiser this year. It is a crib quilt in various beautiful shades of purple with off white lambs and lots of purple pansies. Thank-You, Marion! The board hopes that members are willing to sell chances again this year! For anyone with a new grandchild, it would be a special prize! Raffle tickets are included in this newsletter for any interested in winning this beautifully worked crib quilt. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00. Please send your tickets and money to Jan Hill, 190 Haines Meadow Rd., Buxton, ME 04093.



"The Artist on the Saco":  
**Gibeon Eldon Bradbury**

#### **CARD SERIES CON'T...**



**"Wild Roses & Hummingbird"**

The second in a series of six lovely floral note cards, *Wild Roses & Hummingbird* by *Gibeon Eldon Bradbury* will debut this summer at the **Buxton-Hollis Historical Society sale table on July 24th at Dorcas Fair (9-3 PM, Sat.) / Buxton Community Day. Courtesy of Beverly and Richard (Sandy) Atkinson of Bar Mills, the first card offered in 2009 was Bradbury's "Trillium, Lilies and Violets."** Cards are \$1.25 each or 4 for \$5.00. They will also be available at the **Society Museum and the Saco Museum.**

"Bradbury's paintings remind us to savor the beauty and complexity of a flower."