

recent book on the history of Chester, NH:

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William Dennis (1858-1860), calligrapher. His grandfather was Sir George Barney, the chief justice of india. He grew up on Chester Street. When he was a boy, his parents, Dorcas and Green Dennis, caught him making a perfect copy of a U.S. five-dollar bill. After receiving a stern lecture, he promised to go straight and never make counterfeit money again. He attended the New Hampshire Business College in Manchester. In 1876, when he was only seventeen years old, he was declared in the national magazine "The Youth's Companion," "the Champion Pen Man in the World." The next year he returned to Chester and gave a series of twelve lessons on ornamental writing. He spent the rest of his life in New York City as Professor Dennis, devoting himself to the art of calligraphy, selling testimonial and memorial scrolls. In 1922 he published "Studies in Pen Art," a book on fancy writing and fonts.