

Milford Times: Sept. 19, 1885

BRUIN FINDS THE LONE ELM TREE

Standing in the vacant lot just north of the door knob factory, is a large elm tree, one of the old landmarks of the village. Some forty years ago, when most of the surrounding country was in its pristine condition, Dr. Z. Mowry on returning from a professional visit to Highland, encountered near the corner where Sebring's house now stands, a huge black bear which came out of the woods west of the road. Bruin, either from fear of the Doctor's pills, or some other reason equally potent, concluded he was not in congenial company, and took the road to the village with the doctor in close pursuit. Coming to the elm tree his bearship lost no time in ascending it, while the doctor rode rapidly to the village and informed the village sportsmen of the game awaiting a shot from them. A man named Mason, the only one who seemed to have retained his wits, seized his trusty rifle, and repairing to the tree, with the unerring aim of an old backwoodsman, sent a ball crashing through Bruin's head, the huge animal falling to the ground dead. A good supply of bear steak was the doctor's reward for his services in treeing the 'bar,' a fee not to be despised at that early time in the history of our village. Many of our citizens will, no doubt, remember the incident.