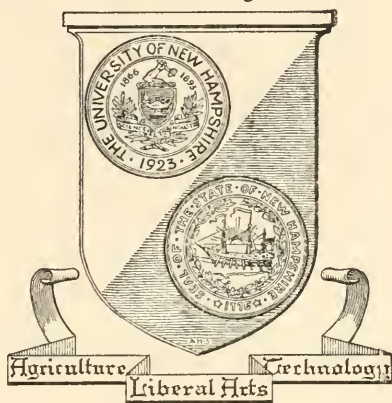


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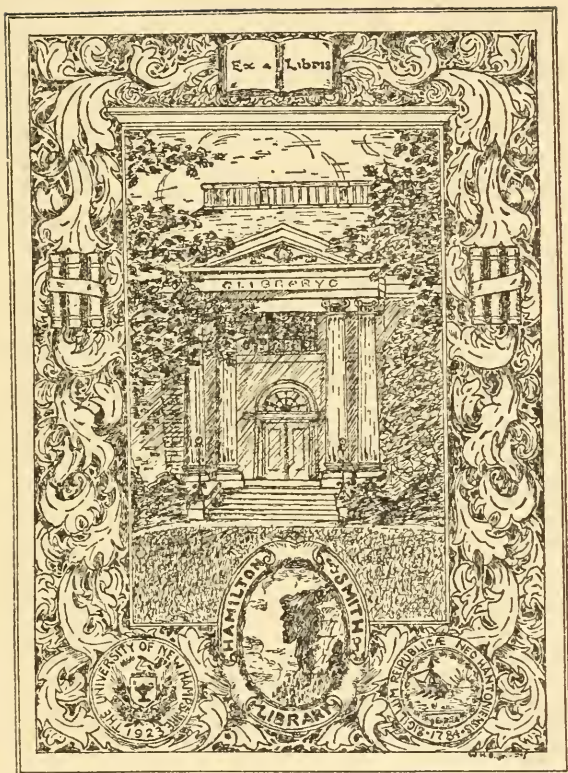


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HISTORY

OF

BEDFORD, NEW-HAMPSHIRE,

BEING

STATISTICS,

COMPILED ON THE OCCASION

OF THE

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN ;

May 19th, 1850.

BOSTON :

PRINTED BY ALFRED MUDGE,

No. 21 SCHOOL STREET.

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NOTICE BY THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

THE undersigned, having completed the labors assigned them, present to the inhabitants of Bedford this volume, illustrative of their past history. They gratefully acknowledge the co-operation, in this work, of the citizens generally, and their cheerful assistance in collecting materials, furnishing information and fixing dates. The Committee have also availed themselves of the town-books —graveyard inscriptions —records in family bibles —ancient newspapers, and manuscript journals: wherever they have resorted to published works, they have given credit, accordingly, in the proper place.

If under some heads, as the Centennial Celebration and Genealogies, there may appear to the reader to be too much minuteness of detail, it should be remembered, that what may now seem to be small items, may in fifty or one hundred years hence, be of incalculable importance. The only regret is, that such a work was not commenced at an earlier period, when much that is now lost was

within the memory of some living. After all their endeavors to attain accuracy, it is feared some errors will be found in dates and names, as is almost unavoidable in a work like the present. In the order of arrangement, too, some matter may seem to come in anomalously, being introduced in one part, when it properly belongs to another part of the volume. But it was hoped—if the important facts were given—it would not be viewed of much consequence whether they were or were not in exactly the right section. But the compilation, such as it is, is commended to the candor of the community.

PETER P. WOODBURY,
THOMAS SAVAGE,
WILLIAM PATTEN.

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CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OF THE

TOWN OF BEDFORD, N. H.

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS.

NOTICE was given publicly by advertisement and from the pulpit, that a meeting of the inhabitants of Bedford would be held at the Town-House, on Wednesday, Feb. 7th, 1849, to take into consideration the approaching 19th of May, 1850; which completed a Century from the incorporation of the town. Met according to notification.

Voted, — Samuel Chandler, Esq., Chairman of the meeting, and Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Secretary.

After discussing for some time the subject of the call, it was thought expedient to commemorate the day by a public address — and such other exercises as may be thought best at some future day.

Voted, — That a Committee of three be appointed by the chairman to have the subject brought before the town, by an article in the warrant for the annual town-meeting, in March next, and address the citizens on the subject at that time; P. P. Woodbury, Thos. Savage and William Patten, were appointed this committee.

At the annual March meeting, an article to this effect having been inserted in the warrant, the subject was presented, and received with the most cordial feelings by the inhabitants, and it was—

Voted, — That they would celebrate the day, — and that the same individuals, P. P. Woodbury, Thos. Savage and W. Patten, be a committee to carry the same into effect.

The committee met at Dr. Woodbury's, March 23d, 1849. After consultation, it was agreed to direct the following letter: —

Bedford, March 23d, 1849.

ISAAC O. BARNES, Esq.

Dear Sir: — The undersigned, being a committee appointed by the town of Bedford, at their last annual town-meeting to carry into effect the commemoration of the 19th May, 1850, — that being one hundred years since its incorporation; — We hereby respectfully invite you to address the inhabitants of Bedford, on that occasion.

The materials for such an address are abundant.

Yours Respectfully,

PETER P. WOODBURY,
THOMAS SAVAGE,
WILLIAM PATTEN.

Boston, March 27th, 1849.

Gentlemen: — I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d inst., inviting me to be present and address the inhabitants of Bedford on the 19th May, 1850, — being the hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of that town.

Although I am highly flattered by the kind partiality which has prompted you to extend to me this invitation, yet I assure you, gentlemen, I accept with great reluctance and very many misgivings, because I am very sensible, that the committee could have confided the task to much abler men — natives of our town. Yet, under all the circumstances, I am constrained to comply with your request, and will, if I have the ability to do so, be with you on the day proposed, and discharge, as well as I may, the obligation which this call imposes upon me.

I remain, Gentlemen, very respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

ISAAC O. BARNES.

Messrs, P. P. Woodbury, }
Thos. Savage, } *Committee.*
William Patten, }

MEASURES PREPARATORY TO A HISTORY
OF THE TOWN.

CENTENNIAL.

The inhabitants of Bedford, Male and Female, are requested to meet at their Town-House, Monday, 30th of April, next, at 2 o'clock, P. M., to see what measures shall be adopted to celebrate the 19th May, 1850.

P. P. WOODBURY,
THOS. SAVAGE,
WILLIAM PATTEN,
Committee.

April, 30th, 1849. — Met agreeably to notice: chose Samuel Chandler, Esq., President, and Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Secretary.

Individuals were appointed to prepare Genealogical and Statistical accounts, as follows:—

To Rodney McLaughlin, was assigned the history of the Barron and Martin families.

Ann Orr, — history of the Orr family.

Isaac Riddle, — history of the Dea. Aiken family.

Samuel Chandler, — history of the Smith family.

Moody M. Stevens, — history of the Moore and Elijah Chandler family.

William P. Riddle, — history of the Riddle and Aiken family.

John Goffe, — history of the Goffe family.

Joshua Vose, Jr., — history of the Vose family.

James Walker, — history of the Walker family.

Gardner Nevins, — history of the Barnes family.

P. P. Woodbury, — history of the Gordon family.

David Atwood, — history of the Bell family.

Cyrus W. Wallace, — history of the Wallace family.

Daniel Moore, — history of the Burns family.

Samuel Abbott, — history of the Abbott and Rand family.

The above families were thus assigned, because they had become extinct in town, or had no representatives that would feel themselves responsible without such assignment.

B. F. Wallace, was appointed to prepare a History of Piscataquog Village. The Selectmen, in connexion with the Town Clerk, to give lists of town Officers, Representatives, Population, Valuation, Taxation, Support of Paupers, Bridges, &c., &c. Rev. Thomas Savage, was designated to prepare a History of the Church and Ministry, Schools, &c. P. P. Woodbury, table of Physicians. James Walker, table of Attornies. Adjourned to May 28th, 1849.

May 28th, 1849. — Met according to adjournment. Chose P. P. Woodbury, T. Savage and W. Patten, a Committee to petition the Selectmen to have the subject brought before the Town, for their action.

The subject was brought before the Town at their next meeting, and the Town directed the same Committee, viz.—Woodbury, Savage and Patten, to do what they should think best, in regard to the contemplated celebration; calling meetings, making preparations, &c., &c. Also, the town ordered the Selectmen to employ some one to make a map of the town, by actual survey, and have a lithographic impression of the same, to be attached to the contemplated History of the Town, by the above Committee.

(The survey was made, and the map drawn by B. F. Wallace, Esq., — see copy annexed.)

At their annual meeting, the town also voted \$300, to meet the expenses of the publication; the money to be refunded to the town after the sale of the books. At this meeting, also, the town still directed the above committee to procure and have the necessary arrangements made, for the centennial.

April 28th, 1850. — A meeting was called by the Chairman of the Committee, at which meeting, Samuel Chandler was chosen Chairman, and James Walker, Secretary. Immediate arrangements were made for the celebration.

The following gentlemen were chosen to act on the occasion :—

President of the day.

PETER P. WOODBURY.

Vice Presidents.

THOMAS CHANDLER,
MOODY M. STEVENS,
SAMUEL CHANDLER,
JOHN FRENCH,

JOHN McALLISTER,
THEODORE GOFFE,
JOHN PATTEN.

Committee of Arrangements.

- District, No 1. — Leonard C. French.
2. — Willard Parker and Daniel Moore.
3. — Isaac Darrah and John Patten.
4. — John Adams and Adam Chandler.
5. — Andrew Dow and G. W. Riddle.
6. — Joseph H. Stevens.
7. — John Barr.
8. — L. C. French, 2d, and Thos. Holbrook.
9. — Charles F. Shepard.
10. — John Goffe.
11. — Eljah C. Stevens.
12. — Gardner Nevins.
13. — Rodney McLaughlin.
14. — James Walker.
Union District. — Simon Jenness.
-

The 19th of May coming on the Sabbath, it was concluded to have the celebration on the 22d ; it was further decided to supply the tables with meats and other refreshments, suitable for the occasion, free of expense ; and, also, that the several Committees of Arrangements invite all the inhabitants within their respective districts, to contribute money and provisions for the occasion ; and further, that the Committee of Invitations, — P. P. Woodbury, T. Savage and W. Patten, — invite all absent friends and natives of the town, with others, at their discretion. More than three hundred printed cards of invitation were forwarded, and many more that were written.

May 22d, 1850. — The Sabbath previous, (the 19th) was a pleasant and beautiful day ; the Monday and Tuesday following were very rainy ; but on the morning of the 22d, the sun rose with all his splendor and beauty, the day was remarkably fine and brilliant, and this is the more worthy of note, as several days after the 22d, were rainy, causing the remark to be made — that Providence seemed to give us one delightful day, among a number that were unfavorable. As early as 8 o'clock, A. M., the people began to assemble. On the Saturday previous, the tables, — with a platform for the speakers, elevated about four feet, with an area of twenty feet square, —

were arranged on the common immediately south of the town house. It was expected to attend the exercises of the forenoon in the new Presbyterian Church ; but, in consequence of the number of people, nearly 3000, it was found to be impracticable. The procession having reached Dr. Woodbury's, there received the President of the day, Vice-presidents, Orator, Chaplain, and Committee of Arrangements. It then made a circuit near the church and back to the common, where the company took their appropriate seats, attended with martial music. The following is the order of procession, and of the exercises of the day :—

Bedford Centennial.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The Procession will form precisely at 10 o'clock, at the Presbyterian Church.

AID. CHIEF MARSHAL. AID.

AID. PRESIDENT OF THE DAY. AID.

ORATOR, AND CHAPLAIN.

VICE PRESIDENTS, AND READERS OF THE CHARTERS.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

INVITED GUESTS.

CITIZENS GENERALLY.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

I. VOLUNTARY FROM THE CHOIR.

II. INVOCATION AND READING OF SCRIPTURE,
BY REV. CYRUS W. WALLACE.

III. HYMN,—BY NATHANIEL GREENE, ESQ., BOSTON.

READ BY REV. JAMES T. WOODBURY, OF ACTON, MASS.

O God, who heard our fathers' prayer
For liberty and life —
Who ruled the Elemental war,
And shielded them from strife —
To Thee we bend, to Thee we raise,
With grateful hearts, the hymn of praise.

Thou, whom our fathers fled to serve,
Who didst their steps sustain,
When they their trembling hearts did nerve
To seek this far domain —
To Thee their children bend, and raise,
With grateful hearts, the hymn of praise.

God of our fathers, hear us now,
Incline thine ear, we pray,
And mercy to their children show,
Assembled here to-day,
While they, to Thee, attempt to raise,
With grateful hearts, this hymn of praise.

IV. READING OF THE CHARTER FOR NARRAGANSETT, NO. V.

BY JAMES W. SAVAGE, ESQ., N. Y. CITY.

V. READING OF PETITION AND TOWN CHARTER,

BY D. B. FRENCH, DART. COLLEGE.

VI. PRAYER,—BY THE PASTOR, REV. THOMAS SAVAGE.

VII. PSALM LXXVIII.

READ BY REV. THOMAS SAVAGE.

(Tune, " St. Martins." Congregation will unite with the Choir.)

Give ear ye children to my law,
Devout attention lend ;
Let the instructions of my mouth,
Deep in your hearts descend.

My tongue by inspiration taught,
Shall parables unfold,
Dark oracles, but understood
And own'd for truths of God.

Which we from sacred registers,
Of ancient times have known ;
And our forefathers' pious care,
To us has handed down.

Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
And they again to theirs —
That generations yet unborn,
May teach them to their heirs.

Thus shall they learn, in God alone,
Their hope securely stands —
That they may ne'er forget his works,
But practise his commands.

VIII. ADDRESS, — BY HON. ISAAC O. BARNES, OF BOSTON.

IX. ORIGINAL HYMN, — BY MISS STEVENS, BEDFORD.

READ BY REV. STEPHEN T. ALLEN, OF NEW YORK CITY.

Tune, "Lisbon."

Roll back, thou tide of time,
Nor let thy pace be slow,
And place us where our fathers stood
A hundred years ago.

Theirs was a thorny way,
A rugged path they trod ;
Theirs too, a noble courage was,
To dare so wild a road.

Heroic, brave and true,
In Heaven alone their trust,
Our fathers faced a savage foe,
Nor deemed the act unjust :

The dark and deepning shade
Of forests bending low,
O'er hill and dale was densely spread
A hundred years ago.

To-day, with grateful hearts,
Their memories we recall—
Commemorate departed worth,
To God ascribing all.

X. BENEDICTION, — BY REV. SAMUEL ABBOTT,
OF ANTRIM, N. H.

ADDRESS:

BY HON. ISAAC O. BARNES.

THIS is an occasion of unusual interest to all of us. It is an important epoch, not only in the history of our town corporation, but of the nation, and even of the world, which can scarcely be passed in silence, or regarded indifferently. It is a point of time, when all seem inclined to pause and review, as carefully and as much as it may be done, the events of the past.

The end of the present year completes a period of one hundred years, comprising the last half of the eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth centuries; and it may be well said to have been infinitely more eventful than any other equal portion of time since the apostolic age. One hundred years ago, Europe, —enlightened, refined, intellectual Europe, —had scarcely emerged from barbarism. George the Second sat upon the throne of England. The bloody massacre of Culloden had just been enacted; and had released the then new House of Hanover from further fear of the return of the Stuarts. Louis the Fifteenth reigned in France. Pope Benedict, in the eternal city. Elizabeth was Empress of Russia. Philip the Fifth was King of Spain; and Frederick the Great, and Theresa ruled, with despotic sway, in Austria and Germany.

The population of Great Britain was not half as large as that of the United States is now. The whole number of British colonial subjects, on this continent, including those upon the adjacent islands, was less than three millions. There was no such nation as the United States; there were, instead, a few feeble and unimportant English colonies, made up of exiles from the mother country; having fled hither to escape persecutions, the most cruel, vindictive and unnatural. These colonists were still struggling with poverty, and still alarmed by constant incursions of the yet unconquered savage. The Canadas and Louisiana belonged to the French. That adroit and ambitious nation, had, long before, established a line of missionary stations from the gulf of the

St. Lawrence to the falls of St. Mary's, and thence to the mouth of the Mississippi: the Jesuits were employed as their agents,—an order of the Roman Catholic Church most efficient and most faithful to their engagements. It is true, at that time, the mission-house had declined, and given place to the military garrison; but the subsequent conduct of the savage, along the French frontier, proved, but too clearly, that he had been taught to hate the English, and stimulated to the most ferocious deeds of cruelty on our borders. The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, concluded only two years before, in 1748, while it was said to have secured only a "hollow peace" to Europe, really afforded no safety whatever to the British colonists here.

A hundred years ago, the New Hampshire troops had just returned gloriously triumphant from the capture of Louisburg. A Portsmouth merchant, William Vaughn, had planned this expedition; Geo. Whitfield, the celebrated English preacher, then in this State, had furnished this motto for the flag of the New Hampshire regiment, viz: "*Nil desperandum Christo duce.*" It was, in fact, a religious, and anti-Catholic crusade. So were all the inter-colonial wars, in which our fathers were engaged, on this continent. Hitherto, England had been a second-rate power; now, since the death of Louis the Fourteenth, the splendor of the Court of St. Cloud began to pale: the relative strength of the two kingdoms had just been subjected to a severe test,—the French had failed to restore Charles Edward, the grandson of the renegade James, to the throne of his ancestors,—Catholic supremacy on the island of Great Britain was at an end. Soon the great struggle, on *this* continent, between these mighty antagonists was to come: the tempting prize was all the rich alluvial lands in the great valley of the Mississippi. It was soon to be decided, once and always, whether the French and Catholicism, or the English and Protestantism, were to be in the ascendant, and control the destinies of this nation.

A hundred years ago, Washington was a youth, just old enough to be enrolled in a military train-band; the elder Adams was not enough of a boy to labor in his father's shop; Jefferson was a mere child, and Madison and Munroe were unborn. A hundred years ago, and Wolfe and Montcalm were yet to fall in deadly strife before Quebec; the French were to be routed, to lose the mastery of the Canadas and Louisiana, and, finally, a footing upon the western continent.

A hundred years ago, and Louis the Sixteenth, and the hapless Maria Antoinette, were yet to fall under the axe of the guillotine. Robespierre, Marat, and Danton, were yet guiltless of the blood of their countrymen. Napoleon and Wellington were not yet ; the fields of Marengo, of Austerlitz, and Waterloo had no bloody celebrity.

A hundred years since, and our colonies had not felt the oppression, and encountered the hatred of the mother country. The battles of Lexington, Bunker-Hill, Saratoga, Trenton, and Yorktown, were yet to be fought. Our own Stark had not yet won immortality at Bennington ; nor had our Langdon, Pierce, Poor, Cilley, Sullivan, and last, though not least, our own townsman, John Orr, and hosts of others, yet earned the meed of praise, which is, and ever will continue to be, awarded to their patriotism and their valor. And less than half a hundred years since, this county of Hillsborough could not boast of the heroic achievements of the gallant, but now lamented McNeil, nor the fearless Miller. Nor could we speak of the fresher laurels, which have just been gathered, by the younger Pierce ; and by another son, as brave and as chivalrous as the best of them, Bowers, of Nashua.

But to come to the subject which to-day more particularly claims our attention.

A hundred years ago, there were residing within the limits of this town, then known as Narragansett, No. 5, some fifty families, comprising from two hundred to two hundred and fifty souls.

These families were scattered along the hill-side, hid away in the sunny nook, by the meadow-patch, or buried among the dark pines on the border of the great river, which forms our eastern boundary. They were an honest, industrious, frugal, faithful and pious people. Principally foreigners, or of immediate foreign extraction ; they came here for the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty. In their own country, they could not lift up their voices, in praise and thanksgiving, to that Omnipotent Being, from whose boundless beneficence comes every good and perfect gift ; they could not bow down in humble adoration of their Creator ; unless these acts were performed after the strict formulas of the Church of England. They must have suffered here, for many years, all the privations incident to a frontier life ; and yet finding out, as they did, gradually, the resources and capabilities of the country, they must have cherished strong hopes for the

future. Alas! such is the inevitable fate of man, that no one of them can be here to-day, to see their anticipations confirmed, or their hopes justified. No living soul, of all who rejoiced together, when the civil authorities granted the prayer of their petition, for an act of incorporation, giving them a new name, and enlarged powers and importance as a people; not one living soul of all of them, is left, to join with us, this day, in mutual congratulations for the successful issue of that embryo effort at self-government. The primeval rocks indeed remain; here and there, a sturdy oak of the olden time still stretches forth the same branches, which sheltered our fathers from the summer's sun, and which have, so far, defied the wintry blast. The placid Merrimack still glides gently by us; but no man, no woman, no animated being, that had ever floated on its surface, or laved in its waters, is alive, to-day, to render thanks for this, among the thousands of Heavens blessings, which have been bestowed upon us.

“Where are the birds that sweetly sang,
 A hundred years ago?
 The flowers, that all in beauty sprang,
 A hundred years ago?
 The lip that smiled,
 The eyes that wild
 In flashes shone
 Soft eyes upon, —
 Where, O where, are lips and eyes,
 The maiden's smile, the lover's sighs,
 That where so long ago?”

Who peopled all the city's streets
 A hundred years ago?
 Who filled the church with faces meek,
 A hundred years ago?
 The sneering tale
 Of sister frail,
 The plot that worked
 Another's hurt, —
 Where, O where, are the plots and sneers,
 The poor man's hopes, the rich man's fears,
 That were so long ago?”

Where are the graves, where dead men slept
 A hundred years ago?
 Who, whilst living, oft-times wept,
 A hundred years ago?
 By other men,
 They knew not then,
 Their lands are tilled,
 Their homes are filled, —
 Yet nature, then, was just as gay,
 And bright the sun shone as to-day,
 A hundred years ago.”

I abstain at this time, purposely, from attempting anything like an outline, even, of a history of this town, because that task has been appropriately assigned to a committee of your citizens, and we all anticipate great pleasure in soon being able to avail ourselves of the result of their labor and research.

I may be permitted, however, to say as much as this, that the territory was granted by the "Great and General Court" of Massachusetts, not far from one hundred and twenty years ago. Included in the same grant, was land enough for six other town-ships. This grant was made to the soldiers, who had served in King Philip's, or the Narragansett War, and to their surviving heirs at law. In June, 1733, it seems, these grantees, in number, about eight hundred and forty, met, on the town-common, in Boston, for the purpose of dividing equitably, the property, thus given to them. They formed themselves into seven separate societies, and each society organized and chose an executive committee, to look after its interests. One of these societies was composed of such of the grantees as resided principally in Boston, Roxbury, Dorchester and in that neighborhood. These executive committees afterwards, namely, on the 17th of October, 1733, met by appointment, in Boston. The numbers of the several town-ships, from number one to number seven, were placed in a hat, and Col. Thomas Tileston, of Dorchester, one of *our* committee, drew No. 5, known as Souhegan-East, before that time. It embraced all the land now within the limits of Bedford, and also that part of Merrimack north of the Souhegan River.

If this grant was the price of patriotism, it was an act of tardy justice to the parties to be rewarded; for the Narragansett War had long since ended. The treacherous and vindictive Philip, of Mount-Hope, had been hunted down and destroyed, sixty years before. The dreadful massacre of the young men at Bloody Brook, and the terrible penalty afterwards inflicted upon the savages, at Turner's Falls, were, even then, tales of other times. But whatever was the motive or the cause of this grant from Massachusetts, this was the origin of Bedford. With very few exceptions, the original proprietors of this town sold out their interest in it, at an early period. They never came here to reside permanently. And I believe it would be difficult to find, to-day, more than two or three families, in the whole town, who are directly

descended from any of the grantees of Narragansett, No. 5. I know of but two; one is the Chandler family, who are the lineal descendants of Zachariah Chandler, Esq., of Roxbury, Mass.; and the other, the family of Gardner Nevins, Esq., who are the descendants, by the mothers' side, from John Barnes, of Hingham, Mass. The town was named by Governor Wentworth, no doubt, in honor of His Grace, the fourth *Duke of Bedford*, then Secretary of State, in the government of His Majesty, George the Second.*

Who were its first inhabitants? What was their origin? And what, if any, were the peculiarities of their character and condition?

I have preferred that a general answer to these inquiries should occupy much of the space assigned to me, upon this occasion, rather than to enter upon the discussion of topics, which, however they may befit the time and place, belong, much more appropriately, to others.

In the first place, then, almost the entire population of Bedford, was, at the time of its incorporation, of Scottish descent. There were a few, and but very few families from the colony of Massachusetts, and, of course, of English extraction. There may have been also one or two Irish families,—of pure Milesian blood. And there were *some* African Slaves. Of this last description of persons, there were, in this town, as shown by the Official Records, at the commencement of

* For the gratification of persons curious in such matters, it may be stated that the name *Bedford*, is said by certain very early authorities, to be derived from a Saxon word, signifying "beds, or inns upon a ford." The situation of the very ancient and important town of the same name, in England, on both sides of the river Ouse, probably contributed to this interpretation of the word. Later writers, say, it was derived from "Buda" or "Beda," which means a petty king. The people of Bedford, in England, adopt the latter, as the true origin of the name of their town. It may be added, that, although Gov. Wentworth may have given the name to this town, yet, it is altogether probable, that the inhabitants themselves first suggested it, in honor of the noble Duke, who had for a long time most faithfully and honorably administered the government of the Island, from which their immediate ancestors had emigrated. The Duke of Bedford, held the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland for many years. The Bedford family, or perhaps we should say, the *Russell* family, is one of the oldest and ever has been, and is now, one of the first families among the English nobility. The Present Duke *Francis*, has never been very actively engaged in political affairs, yet he is a man of great energy of character and enterprise, and will leave to his descendants, vast and valuable estates, redeemed and improved by his industry and his genius, as well as a name worthy his noble ancestry. His son and only child, William, Marquis of Tavistock, is now heir to the Dukedom. Lord John Russell, the present Prime Minister of England, is a younger brother of the Duke of Bedford.

the revolution, ten. But a large majority of the people, of those who made the first openings, run the lines, marked the trees, — petitioned Governor Wentworth and His Council for an act of incorporation, on the 10th of May, 1750; — built the first meeting-house, and the first school-houses, and first dragged a seine in the Merrimack for shad and salmon, — of those, in short, who first came here with a fixed and settled purpose to abide permanently and to make this place their home, — trace their origin to *Scotland*. They are sometimes called *Scotch-Irish*. The reason for this peculiar designation, will soon appear. It is true that nearly all this class of settlers, or their fathers and mothers, came to this country, directly from the great Northern Province of Ulster, in Ireland. Yet they were, nevertheless, not Irishmen. No Irish blood ran in their veins. The two races were and are entirely distinct; as unlike as it is possible they can be, with the same general features, and the same color. They were no more Irishmen, than is a Connaught or Munster-man, who works upon our Rail-ways, a yankee; no more than is the European or American missionary or merchant, who takes up his residence at Macao, Hong Kong, or at the factories around Canton, a Chinaman. The Scotch and the Irish are as dissimilar as possible, in their manner of life, their habits of thought and action, and especially in their forms of religious worship, and in their religious creed. The Scotch are zealous Protestants, and Presbyterians. The Irish as zealous Roman Catholics. The Scotch were the besieged, and the Irish the besiegers at Londonderry. One party fought desperately at the Boyne, Limerick and Aithlone for William, and the other as desperately for James the Second. To this general rule there are, to be sure, some rare exceptions. There were Irishmen who joined the party supporting William and Mary, and they have been denounced as traitors and heretics for it ever since, by their countrymen. I suppose there *were* also Roman Catholic Scotchmen, though I think it would have been difficult to have found many of the latter, who professed the faith of St. Peters', at, or near the time of the last English Revolution. The protestant Irish are known to this day, by the term of "Orangemen." But this name was not applied to them, until many years after William, the Prince of Orange, had ceased to govern England, and to exist. The bitter prejudices, and hatred which have been engendered, in the old country, between the Orangemen and the Catholic

Irish, have never abated to this day. And we have frequent occasion to lament the intemperate and foolish broils, which so often occurs between them, even in this country, where both parties are at full liberty to consult their own tastes and their own consciences, as to the manner of their religious worship, or their religious belief.

But, the inhabitants of Bedford were neither Orangemen nor Catholic Irishmen. They were Presbyterians and Scotchmen. Names which are almost synonymous. Born, and educated among these people, if I cannot say exactly with Byron, "I am half a Scot by birth, and bred a whole one," I can appreciate the sentiment of the generous-hearted Jenny Deans, when she said to her countryman, the Duke of Argyle, referring to her dress, which was the national costume, as she was suing through his influence, for the pardon of her unfortunate and condemned sister, "I thought your Grace's heart would warm to the tartan."

I can never forget, that my earliest and most intimate friends and associates claim a common father-land with Bruce and with Burns; that they could speak of the wild highland chiefs as of their own "kith and kin"—that they could talk of John Knox, as the founder of *their* church,—that the "Cotter's Saturday Night," was *their* poetry,—that Sir Walter Scott, and the authors of "Douglas" and the "Gentle Shepherd," were as much their countrymen, as if they had lived on the same side of the Atlantic.

I can never forget how readily, in the dreamy days of our youth, we could transport ourselves, in imagination, to that cold, but romantic region of Britain,— "where not a mountain lifts its head unsung,"—that we could climb over the Pentland and Grampian hills; fly o'er the "peak of Ben Lomond,"—take a sail upon Loch-Katrine—inspect the ramparts and battlements of castles Stirling and Dunbar—search the rooms in Holyrood House—find the blood-stains of Rizzio—deplore the fate of the unfortunate, perhaps, the guilty, Mary; and repeat with the poet,—

"She was a *woman*, and let all
Her faults be buried with her."

We did more than this. We stole away, again and again, into that fairy-land, which, the belief in the supernatural, has, for ages, firmly established in Scotland; there we danced

with witches and warlocks, and consorted with Brownies, Kelpies, and Water-wraiths : or, under the guidance of the great poet of nature, we hied away to the castle of Macbeth, became familiar with the "wierd sisters;" "the white spirits and black, red spirits and gray," who first seduced the Scottish Thane, by fair promises and deceitful predictions, into murdering his kinsman and his sovereign; and then, like the arch-fiend they served, left him in his extremity, miserably to perish, the victim of his own and his wife's wicked ambition. We could see, as palpably as could the guilty assassin himself, the air-drawn dagger that informed him of the "bloody business" upon which he was intent. We beheld also the ghost of Banquo, whose ugly visage and ill-timed visit so marred the feast, and frightened the host from his propriety. We saw "Birnam-wood come to Dunsinane," and heard the last agonizing cry of the dying tyrant.

We could scarcely fail to be reminded of the national character of our friends and neighbors, by listening to their *songs*. It is true there was no Wilson, nor Sinclair, nor Dempster to sing them; yet, I assure you, "John Anderson, my Jo," has been given here with *great effect*, we being the judges. How often has our boyish patriotism been aroused by "Bruce's Farewell;" — the sentiment of the "Banks and Braes of Bonny Doon," has been *felt* and appreciated here, as well as the "Farewell to Ayershire," and "Flow gently, sweet Afton:" — no flower was ever so sweet as the "Flower of Dunblain," as we have had it, with its sweeter accompaniments. And was there ever sung or said a nobler sentiment than — "A man's a man for a' that, and a' that."

Need any one be told who composed the church and congregation here, when he, who ministered so many years at the altar, who solemnized the marriage-contracts, who officiated at the holy rites of baptism, who lifted up his hands in prayer, at the bed-side of the sick and the dying, was none other than a lineal descendant of that Highland clan, whose name he bore, and who "ever scorned to turn their backs on friend or foe." And of whom the song says: —

"While there's leaves in the forest and
Foam on the river,
Mac Gregor, despite them, shall
Flourish forever."

Again the Caledonian characteristics appeared as we saw,

“ On a winter’s night, our granum spinnin,
To make a web of good fine linnen.”

But, alas! many of us are compelled to acknowledge that these youthful remembrances are fading out; that we have

“ Wandered mony a weary foot,
Sin’ auld lang syne,”

and that we are only too happy to avail ourselves of an occasion like the present, to come home, and say, “we cannot but remember that such things were, and that they were most precious to us.”

As for myself, I adopt with all my heart, and assume as my own, the answer of the noble Duke, to the affectionate Jenny Deans before referred to. “MacCullum More’s heart must be as cold as death, when it does *not* warm to the tartan.”

Our earliest inhabitants were then, Scotch, in their origin; but they were called *Scotch-Irish*. Let us turn back to the written history of this peculiar people, and see what we can learn of them. We must commence as early as the reign of James the First, in 1603. Elizabeth, his immediate predecessor, had carried out, during her time, the rigorous and unrelenting policy of her father, Henry the Eighth, in harassing and persecuting her Catholic subjects; and especially, the Irish portion of them. By this means, the spirit of rebellion was *fostered*, not subdued, in that unfortunate Island. James, had not seen the end of the second year of his reign, before he was called upon to crush the conspiracies of Tyrone and Tyrconnel of Ulster, and soon to put down the rebellion of O’Dogherty and others. These conspirators and rebels, having either fled from their country, or having been slain in the several contests in which they were engaged, a very large section of the Province of Ulster, covering six counties, equal to a half a million of acres, reverted to the crown.

It became very important to James, to repeople this deserted territory, not only with loyal subjects, but with those of the Protestant faith.

For the early history of the Scotch-Irish, both while they were at home, and since their emigration to America, I am greatly indebted to Dr. William Henry Foote, of Virginia,

who has, very recently, given to the world, two large volumes, one, entitled *Sketches of North-Carolina*, and the other, *Sketches of Virginia*; both of which, are filled, with highly interesting matter; chiefly touching the history of the Presbyterians, who came to this country at a very early period. He says, "that in the fulfilment of this design," that is, in furnishing Ulster Province with Protestants, "he (James) planted those colonies, from which, more than a century afterwards, those emigrations sprang, by which western Virginia and the Carolinas were in a great measure peopled." He might have included also, Londonderry, Bedford, New Boston, Antrim, Peterborough and portions of the inhabitants of many other towns, in this State, as well as of many towns in Massachusetts and Vermont. "The project of James," he goes on to say, "was grand and attractive, and in its progress, to complete success, formed a race of men, law-loving, law-abiding, loyal, enterprising freemen; whose thoughts and principles, have had no less influence in moulding the American mind, than their children to make the wilderness blossom as the rose."

The King seems, very naturally, to have selected his own countrymen, the Scotch, as far as he could, to take possession of these vacant lands which were now desolate, over-run with wood and infested with noisome wild beasts. But the Scotch, needy as they were, very reluctantly complied with the wishes of their sovereign; so forbidding was this Irish province, in all its aspects, that it was deplored as a calamity to be compelled to remove thither: and it was often sneeringly and reproachfully said of the unfortunate or the guilty, "Ireland will be your latter end." In 1626, it began to improve rapidly;—an unusual religious excitement having prevailed throughout the province, attracted the attention of the Presbyterians of Scotland, and many ministers and their congregations hastened to Ireland, where, by their labors and unwearied efforts, they ultimately helped to lay the foundation of the Irish Presbyterian Church. One of the immediate results of this revival, was the establishing the *Antrim Monthly Meeting*, which afterwards came to be a very interesting and important religious association. The province of Ulster contrasts very favorably with any other portion of Ireland to this day. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland lately addressed a letter to the General Assembly of the same church in the United

States; in which they say, "that, in Ulster, where their principles are more widely disseminated, the recent visitation of the famine and pestilence was much less severe, than in those provinces in which the Roman system still unhappily maintains its degrading and paralyzing ascendancy." Macaulay says, "that whoever passes from a Roman Catholic to a Protestant county in Ireland, finds that he has passed from a lower to a higher grade of civilization;" and this is confirmed by the statements of all observing travellers. In 1631, having heard of the success of their puritan friends, the Independents, or Separatists, who had settled at *Plymouth* eleven years before, and learning also that the *Salem* settlement, then three years old, was prosperous, the Presbyterians of Ulster anxious to escape, if possible, from the injustice of the perfidious Charles the Second, whose reign had just commenced, began to make preparations to remove to America. Agents were appointed, who proceeded to London, to procure a passage to New England; but for some reasons, unexplained, the project was defeated for a time. Soon after this, "they sent over an agent who pitched upon a tract of land near the mouth of the Merrimack river, whither they intended to transplant themselves." This fact is stated by Cotton Mather. The expedition, which was undertaken in pursuance of the report of this agent, failed, as we shall see; but it is more than probable, that this was the cause of the settlement of our Londonderry, nearly a century afterwards: for we find the Ulster emigrants, who landed in Boston and Portland in 1718, immediately inquiring for lands on the Merrimack river, and there they did ultimately settle and remain.

But the attempt to reach New England, which was made in 1636, failed. The vessel, which sailed from Lock-Fergus, a port very near Belfast, in Ireland, on the 9th of September, was of one hundred and fifty tons burthen; she received on board one hundred and forty emigrant passengers,—her name was "*The Eagle Wing*." Four of her passengers were distinguished preachers,—*Blair, Livingston, Hamilton, and McClelland*. Among others on board, there were families of the name of *Stuart, Agnew, Campbell, Summerville* and *Brown*. She was bound to New England. She was following directly and immediately in the track of the "*May-Flower*." Her passengers were to have settled upon the Merrimack,—our Merrimack river. The "*Eagle Wing*" never reached her port of destination; but we will

allow one of her passengers, the Rev. John Livingston, to give us the reasons for her failure. "We had," he says, "much toil in our preparation, many hindrances in our out-setting, and both sad and glad hearts in taking leave of our friends; at last, we loosed from Lock-Fergus, but were detained sometime, by contrary winds, in Lock-Regan, in Scotland, and grounded the ship to look for some leaks in the keel: yet, thereafter, we set to sea, and, for some space, had fair winds, till we were between three and four hundred leagues from Ireland, and no nearer the banks of Newfoundland, than any place in Europe. But, if ever the Lord spoke by his winds, and other dispensations, it was made evident to us that it was not his will that we should go to New England, for we met with a mighty heavy rain from the north-west, which did break our rudder, which we got mended by the skill and courage of Captain Andrew Agnew, a godly passenger, and tore our foresail, five or six of our champlets, and a great beam under the gunner's room-door broke; seas came in over the round-house, and broke a plank or two on the deck, and wet all that was between the decks; we sprang a leak, that gave us seven hundred, in the two pumps, in the half-hour glass. Yet we lay at hull a long time, to beat out the storm, till the master and company came, one morning, and told us that it was impossible to hold out any longer, and although we beat out that storm, we might be sure, in that season of the year, to forgather with one or two more of that sort, before we could reach New England." The account goes on to state, "that amidst all the fears and dangers, the most part of the passengers were very cheerful and confident; yea, some, in prayers, expressed such hopes, that rather than the Lord would suffer such a company, in such sort, to perish, he would put wings to our shoulders and carry us safe ashore." Several of the passengers were sickly; an aged person and one child died; one child was born on ship-board. It was baptized by Mr. Livingston, and called *Seaborn*. After a long and most anxious consultation, with a fervent prayer to Almighty God for wisdom to direct them, the passengers agreed to yield to the earnest solicitations of the master. The ship was put about, and re-entered the harbor of Lock-Fergus on the 3d of November, having been absent about eight weeks.

The "*Eagle-Wing*" left the shores of Ireland, as did the *May-Flower* those of Holland, with the same high

purpose, of finding a new habitation, where there was "*freedom to worship God.*" The "*May-Flower*" succeeded in reaching this continent; though, it is said, through the treachery of her master, at a point, very distant from that, to which she was destined. The "*Eagle-Wing*" was compelled, by stress of weather, to return again to the land of religious intolerance.

The company of pious and devoted ministers, and their congregations, who left Ulster, in this vessel, with flattering hopes for the future, and who returned disheartened and cast down, had yet, in the Providence of God, a great work entrusted to their agency. "This company of men," as Dr. Foote says, "were, subsequently, the efficient agents in the hands of God of embodying the Presbyterians of Ireland, of spreading their principles far and wide, and marshaling congregation after congregation, whose industry made Ulster blossom as the rose. It was better that God's wise Providence sent them back to Ireland, and shut them up to the work — and last, it was best of all, that they laid the foundation of that church, which may claim to be the mother of the American Presbyterian Church, the worthy child of a worthy mother."

We must now leave, for a while, this little group of passengers, who composed the freight which the "*Eagle-Wing*" was too feeble to bear across the broad Atlantic, during the Autumnal gales of 1636. We are obliged to leave them in bad company, and, under circumstances most inauspicious; for we leave them to the tender mercies of the faithless Charles the First; to the uncertain and dangerous discretion of the shrewd, ambitious and unforgiving Oliver Cromwell; to the reckless and shameful profligacy of Charles the Second; and to the knavery and stupidity of the bigoted James the Second. Meanwhile, we must hasten to the consideration of some passages in their subsequent history, immediately connected with their actual emigration to this country.

Pass on with me now, for the space of fifty-two years, from 1636 to 1688. James the Second — the great-grandson of Mary, Queen of Scots, whom Elizabeth may almost be said to have murdered from envy, and the son of Charles the First, who perished on the scaffold, because he kept faith with no party, — had abdicated the throne of England. He had previously sent his wife, Mary of Modena, and his infant and only son, to France. All his relatives had deserted him.

Even his daughter Anne, and her husband, the Prince of Denmark, had fled from his palace in the night. He, himself, having seized the great seal of state, stole from his bed-chamber at early dawn, hastened to a boat, in readiness for him, threw the seal into the Thames and escaped down that river. After some further difficulties and delays, he reached Paris in safety. His eldest daughter, the offspring of his first wife, and her husband, William of Orange, were now proclaimed jointly King and Queen of England.

James, being in France, was urged and entreated, by the Catholic Louis, to return to Ireland, from which he had lately heard reports favorable to his cause, and to make a struggle to re-gain his crown. He at last complied, though with great reluctance, and being provided with twelve thousand French troops, a train of artillery and a supply of money, he landed in Kinsale, Ireland, in March, 1689. Stopping, for a very short time, at Dublin, he hastened to the north of Ireland, to *our* Ulster, with his foreign allies, and sat down before Londonderry, then in a state of seige.

You will pardon me, I feel assured, for recalling to your recollection some of the incidents, connected with the "*seige of Derry*," when you reflect upon the important bearing, which it had upon the character and destinies of our Presbyterian friends in the north of Ireland and their posterity, here and elsewhere.

I confine myself to Graham's account of it. On the third of December, 1688, an alarm was spread throughout the island, that the Catholic Irish had determined to rise and murder indiscriminately the protestants, on the next sabbath. The messenger, who carried this news to Derry, reported that on his way, he had passed the Catholic troops, and that their advance guard was close upon the city. All was consternation and dismay. There were no military preparations for defence. The citizens ran together, each eagerly and anxiously inquiring what could be done. Many advised to open the gates and give their invaders an honorable reception. A few, bolder, and with better judgment, insisted that the gates should be shut, and that the soldiers should be resisted to the death. Among these were the *Rev. James Gordon*, of Clondormet, and *Horace Kennedy*, one of the Sheriffs. At length, there assembled a group of the "*Apprentices*" to the manufacture of linen, (a large business at that time in Derry.) These spirited apprentice boys heard the discussion of the public authorities, and perceived the

danger to which the city was exposed. The soldiers began to cross the river and approach the walls of the town. A few of the leaders of the Apprentices immediately seized the keys and rushing to the gates, shut them in the face of the enemy.

The siege was now commenced. The entire space, inclosed within the walls, was only two thousand feet in its longest diameter, and six hundred in its smallest. And yet there were shut up in this city, *twenty-seven thousand persons*, who were doomed to endure, for eight long months, famine and pestilence, constant exposure to the fire from the enemies batteries, and all the concurrent horrors which the imagination can conceive to exist under such circumstances. So feeble did the defences of the city appear, to De Rosen, the French officer, who came over with James, when he first saw it, that he exclaimed, with a disgusting oath, that "his men should bring it to him stone by stone." The French general was mistaken—he knew little of the determined energy of the men, women, and apprentice boys, with whom he had to contend. Exasperated, at length, that no offer to capitulate was made, he resorted to the brutal expedient of collecting from Belfast, (distant a hundred miles from Derry,) and its neighborhood, over four thousand men, women, and children, of the Protestant party, without regard to condition; robbed them of their food and clothing, and drove them like so many cattle, under the walls of Derry, to perish in view of their friends.

To prevent this inhuman and barbarous destruction of life, the authorities of Derry erected a gallows on the walls of the town; sent to De Rosen for a priest to confess the prisoners, (some of them distinguished French officers,) assuring the general, that they should be hung, one by one, until there were no more to execute; unless he permitted the multitude under the walls to depart. This retaliatory measure produced the desired effect. The Belfast people were released, but not till hundreds had perished from starvation and exposure. In all the agony and despair of these unfortunate beings, while held by the infamous order of De Rosen, there was none of them but what urged their friends, within the walls, to hold on and hold out, and not to yield in sympathy to the sufferings of those on the outside. But I must not continue these horrible details. It suffices to say, that after having been reduced to the extremity of eating horse-flesh,

of feeding upon dogs, cats, rats and mice, and when, at last, there remained but half a pint of meal to a man per day, when the soldiers began to glare upon the citizens, and upon each other, with the famished look of starving cannibals, the long hoped for relief came. The ships of King William hove in sight, with men and supplies. The siege was raised. The army departed; but not until the Catholic party had lost nine thousand of their soldiers and more than two hundred of their officers.

It would be difficult to find, in the whole history of modern warfare, an example of such endurance, of so much personal suffering, of such devotion to the cause in which they were engaged, as was exhibited by these resolute Presbyterians in the defence of their homes and their religion, at the siege of Derry.

The vast importance to the cause of Protestantism and the English government, of the successful defence of this fortress, will be appreciated, when it is understood that James anticipated its speedy reduction, and had made his arrangements to cross directly over to Scotland, join the infamous Claverhouse, make a rapid descent upon England, and drive his son-in-law, William, back to his native Nassau. The names of these apprentice boys, who so nobly shut the gates, and thus defeated the ultimate purposes of the besieging party, as Graham says, "deserve to be preserved in letters of gold." Many, very many of their descendants, are now to be found in this country. They are known to be in Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, here in New Hampshire, and doubtless, in many other states of the Union. The leaders, and more prominent of these young men, were *William Crookshanks, Robert Sherrad, Daniel Sherrad, Alexander Irwin, James Stewart, Robert Morrison, Alexander Conningham, William Cairns and Samuel Harvey.*

Never were a people more unfortunate after all their efforts, than were these brave Presbyterians! They had held the troops of James in check, while they defended successfully the last stronghold of King William in Ireland: and until Claverhouse had been attacked and destroyed in Scotland. They had freely mingled their blood with the waters of the Boyne. They had consecrated the "billyow Shannon," that "river of dark mementos," by the sacrifice upon its banks, of their dearest friends, before the gates of Limerick and Aithlone. They had, in short, expelled James and his allies

from the land, and were looking with great confidence for something like tolerance in religious belief and religious worship, from William of Nassau and his protestant wife. But they were doomed to the sorest disappointment, and ultimately became so disgusted with the calculating and selfish policy of William, his unreasonable and unjust demands of rents and tythes, as well as with the exactions and persecutions of the Anglican church, which now came to be regarded by them, as little better than the Roman Catholic, that they determined, once and forever, to abandon their country, and seek refuge in the wilds of America.

The tide of emigration, now began to flow towards this country. "Ship load, after ship load," sailed from Ulster, with better success, than had attended the "*Eagle-Wing*." These vessels reached our shores in safety, and the descendants of the immigrant passengers, whom they bore hither, may be counted to-day, by the thousands and tens of thousands, on the broad fields of Pennsylvania, in Virginia, in the Carolinas; in every portion of the sunny South. Away across the mountains, in Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and everywhere, in the mighty West; and here, among our own Granite-Hills; and, indeed, in greater or less numbers, throughout the entire Union; the same conscientious, determined, unyielding, persevering men and women, as were their fathers and their mothers, who sacrificed every earthly comfort, in defence of that cause, the nearest and dearest to their hearts, the principles of the religion of Calvin and Knox.

The first Presbyterian minister, who came to America, was *Francis Mackemie*; and the first Presbyterian church on this Continent, was gathered by his exertions, in Accomac County, in Virginia. He assisted also, in organizing churches in Maryland. The precise time is not known: but it must have been just at the close of the seventeenth century. His name indicates his origin. *He* also was from Ulster, and Scotch-Irish. Mather says, there were "Presbyterian ministers, residing in New England, before Mackemie's time." But, if there *were* such ministers, they very soon adopted the "Congregational form of discipline." *We* know of no earlier churches of the Presbyterian denomination in New England, than that in Londonderry, in this State, which commenced with the town itself, in 1719; and the Federal Street Church, in Boston, gathered in 1727, the members of both of which came

from the same common stock, the Scotch-Irish, in Ulster. The congregational form of government, was adopted in the Federal Street Church, in 1786. It is the same church, over which Dr. Belknap, the historian of New Hampshire, was settled, in 1787, and subsequently, the late celebrated Dr. Channing, and is now under the pastoral care of Dr. Gannett.

Mackemie's churches were certainly organized more than twenty years before either of these. Mackemie was ordained, at Lagan, Ireland, as early as 1682. He went first to Barbadoes, and thence to Virginia and Maryland. He, at one time, officiated as minister in the church, which he had assisted to organize at Snowhill, in Worcester County, Maryland. He was a man of extraordinary intellectual powers, and was universally beloved by the people of his charge. Irving Spence, Esq., in his letters on the early history of Presbyterianism, says "that the memory of no gospel minister was ever held in higher honor by an American congregation, than that of Mackemie at Snow-Hill. Tradition has made a record of his many excellencies, and one generation has uttered his praises in the ears of its successor, and you may ever yet hear its echo." In the village of Rehoboth, Maryland, near the Virginia line, there is, at this day, a Presbyterian church organized in the time of Mackemie. Dr. Foote, to whom I am indebted for this sketch of the father of Presbyterianism, in America, says, "you may find now in Accomac, Virginia, a congregation of Presbyterians, rising, Phœnix-like, from the ashes of those, who heard Mackemie preach and pray."

Mackemie revisited his native country, in 1704, and induced other Presbyterian ministers to come and settle in this country. Two of these ministers, were *NcNish* and *Hampton*.

Mackemie assisted in forming the first Presbytery in America, at Philadelphia, probably in 1705; though the first leaf of the records of that Body is missing, and the precise time cannot now be known. The first Presbytery in New England was formed in Londonderry, N. H., April 16, 1745, by John Morehead, of Boston, James McGregore, of Londonderry, and Robert Abercrombie, of Windham, with an elder from each of these churches. The first Synod in New England was formed at Seabrook, N. H., May 31, 1775; the first meeting of this Synod was held at Londonderry, N. H., September 4, 1775. It was composed of three Presbyteries,

namely, the Presbytery of Salem, the Presbytery of Londonderry, and the Presbytery of Palmer; the Church of Bedford was represented there by Rev. Mr. Huston, and belonged to the Presbytery of Palmer.

In 1706, Mackemie and his friend and fellow-laborer, Hampton, commenced a journey from Virginia to Boston. On their way, they stopped in New York to pay their respects to Lord Cornbury, then the Governor of that Province; they were treated courteously and, upon invitation, dined with his Excellency at the castle. Afterwards, they were invited to preach by some Presbyterians settled in New York, and they did preach; Mackemie in the dwelling-house of William Jackson, in Pearl Street, and Hampton, on the same day, at Newton, Long Island. For this they were both arrested, by *Thomas Cardale*, sheriff, on a warrant, signed by Lord Cornbury, charging them with having taken it upon them to preach in a private house, *without having obtained a license* for so doing, contrary to the known laws of England; and being, likewise, informed that they were gone into Long Island with intent there to spread their pernicious doctrines and principles, to the great disturbance of the Church by law established; and directing the sheriff to bring the bodies of Mackemie and Hampton to Fort Anne. They were both arrested and imprisoned in the fort; indicted by the grand jury, and, after suffering a long confinement, were brought to trial. The prosecuting attorney called four witnesses, who had heard Mackemie preach; but the defendant told him they need not be sworn. "I own," said Mackemie, "the matter of fact as to preaching, and *more* than these gentlemen could declare on oath; for I have done nothing therein of which I am ashamed, or afraid; but will answer it not only before this bar, but before the tribunal of God's final judgment."

Attorney. You own then that you preached, and baptized a child at William Jackson's?

Mackemie. I did.

Att'y. How many hearers had you?

M. I have other work to do, Mr. Attorney, than to number my auditory, when I am about to preach to them.

Att'y. Were there above five hearing you?

M. Yes; and five to that.

Att'y. Did you use the rites and ceremonies enjoined by, and prescribed in, the book of Common Prayer, by the Church of England?

M. No; I *never* did, nor ever will, till I am better satisfied in my conscience.

The trial proceeded, and, in spite of all the efforts of Cornbury and his officers, they were both acquitted by the petit jury, and set at liberty; not, however, till they had been compelled to pay an exorbitant bill of costs!

Would any one believe, now, without evidence which cannot be impeached, that such a scene as this was exhibited in *Protestant* New York, under the reign of Queen Anne, not one hundred and fifty years ago? while in *Catholic* Maryland a man might live in peace, whether Jew, Mohammedan, or pagan, — whether Atheist, Deist, or Polytheist, — provided he neither molested his neighbor, nor endangered the public morals. The truth is, that “great moral cataclysm of the Reformation,” as it was called, so far as all the Tudors and Stuarts were concerned, from Henry the Eighth to Anne, amounted substantially to this, and nothing more, — it was a transfer of spiritual power from Rome to London; from the Vatican to St. James’s; from the Pope to the Monarch of England. Protestantism was a matter of convenience, merely to the crown. Elizabeth is said to have *married* Protestantism, and to have taken its *name*; but, it is added, “most of the court Protestantism of her time was of a damaged character.” It was assumed that the sovereign of Great Britain, whoever it might chance to be, man or woman, boy or girl, was, *jure divino*, the head of the church; from whom emanated, and in whom centered all spiritual power, and all ecclesiastical authority; the head of the Church and of the State, was one and identical. The *immediate government* of the church was committed to the Bishops, — the lordly prelatical bishops, as they were called by the Puritans, — the *higher* order of the clergy. The Anglican Church, thus constituted, became, as it was fitly denominated, the “queen, mistress, or nothing,” and withal was a tremendous political engine, with which to govern and control the nation. Henry the Eighth wielded this power with a frightful energy; “he burned as heretics, those who avowed the tenets of Luther; and hung as traitors, those who owned the power of the Pope.” He required unconditional submission to his authority, as self-constituted head of the Church. His successors, down to the period of which we are treating, at least, followed his example, so far as they had the ability, and circumstances would permit.

To this church organization and this form of church government, the Presbyterians dissented from the beginning, *toto coelo*. They never could, nor ever did, admit but one Great Head of the church, the Saviour of the world. They never could, nor ever did, admit the unscriptural assumption of *different grades* of the clergy. They never could, nor ever did, admit the right of the mother church to prescribe the forms of prayer and supplication which should be offered at the throne of our Heavenly Father.

For this non-conformity to the will of the Bishops, they have been hunted down, like wild beasts, among their native mountains—they have been chained to the sea-shore at low-water, and left to drown by the sure reflux of the tide—they have been subjected to the excruciating torture of the “iron-boot”—or to the still more exquisite and horrible pains of the thumbkin. For this non-conformity, in matters purely of conscience, they have “suffered extremities, that tongue cannot describe, and which heart can hardly conceive, from hunger, nakedness, lying in damp caves, and in the hollow clefts of naked rocks, without shelter, covering, fire or food.” They fell by the hand of the assassin; were slaughtered by thousands, in battle. They have been fastened together, like dogs in leashes, and driven as a spectacle through the country. People have been put to death, for daring even to *speak* to them, in their distress. Fathers have been persecuted for supplying the wants of their children, and children for nourishing their parents, husbands for harboring their wives, and wives for cherishing their husbands. In all these trials, sufferings, privations, tortures, and even in the agonies of death itself, they were sustained by their own approving consciences, by a steady and unshaken reliance upon the promises of God, and, above all, by the great example of the patient endurance of Him, who died for us all, on Mount Calvary. These men and women had subscribed the national “solemn league and covenant,” that “copious and poetical creed,” that great declaration of the independence of the church. They had proclaimed their eternal separation, in spiritual matters, from the civil government of the land; and like the fathers of this American Republic, they had pledged their lives, their fortunes, and all that was dear to them, to the fulfilment of these sacred engagements.

Were the descendants of such a people, and, especially, was Francis Mackemie, one of the most talented and able and conscientious of their sons, to be deterred by the threats, or hindered by the malice of a petty colonial governor, from fulfilling his mission of preaching the gospel, in its simplicity and truth, upon the continent of America?

But the time was very soon to arrive, when neither Lord Cornbury, nor the government of Virginia, nor the Legislative nor Executive power of any of the colonies, nor all of them combined, could hinder nor prevent the free and unrestrained promulgation of the doctrines of Presbyterianism throughout the length and breadth of the land. This church was about to arise, and, in her strength, to stand boldly forth, and assert her rights and defend her doctrines. The people were beginning to gather around her ministers, and to listen, with more interest, and increased attention to their instruction. Soon some of her ablest advocates and most eminent teachers were to take the field — soon was to arise the first of that series of "*Log Colleges*" which afterwards proved of incalculable advantage to the church, and to the people, as the nurseries of sound learning and piety — soon, were to appear, the Tennents, father and sons, the Blairs, that "Apostle of Virginia," Samuel Davis, our own Macgregors, the Smiths, Stanhope, and a host of other able and popular preachers and "men of mark." The Presbyterian faith and its legitimate fruits came to be better understood and more highly appreciated — the immediate government of every church by elders, chosen by its own members — the perfect equality of the clergy — those spiritual judicatories, the church session or consistory — the Presbytery or classis — the Synod and the General Assembly, rising regularly and gradually, one above another, each exercising only such powers, as are specially delegated by its own legitimate constituency, and all operating as a system of checks and balances upon each other, present to the mind a model of republicanism, which it would be difficult to excel, in framing a civil code, based upon the representative principle, for any people.

Permit me now for a moment, to turn to another and a very large and interesting division of the Presbyterian Church of the United States; I mean the accessions which have been made to its numbers directly from Scotland.

The great influx of Scotch emigrants to this country, began in 1747. It was the year which followed the battle of Cul-

loden. It is hardly necessary to repeat a very familiar historical account of the ill-advised efforts of *Charles Edward*, the grand son of James the Second, who so ingloriously fled from his kingdom, sixty years before, to regain for his family the crown, which his ancestor had so foolishly and so basely lost.

With a few friends, a few stands of arms, and very little money or means, this enthusiastic young Prince landed in Scotland, on the 16th of July, 1745. A portion of the Highland clans, and some others from an inherent principle or impulse of loyalty for the legitimate heir to the crown, and some, perhaps, from a mere spirit of adventure, rallied around his standard. At his first appearance, wild and impracticable as his scheme seemed, to the sober and judicious, he occasioned, nevertheless, much excitement. It will occur to you at once, that this is the same personage referred to in the chorus of a popular song of the times, which was "Who'll be King but *Charlie*." George the Second, then King of England, became alarmed at the progress of Charles Edward, and his followers, and sent the Duke of Cumberland, with an army, to chastise the invader, and to punish his rebellious subjects in the north. The hostile parties met at *Culloden*, near Inverness, in Scotland. The party of the Pretender was totally defeated; the principal escaping, barely with his life. Cumberland pursued the fallen foe, with unnecessary, with even *brutal* severity, killing in cold blood, the unfortunate adherents to Charles, and burning their houses over their heads. He received the name of "the *butcher*," on account of the atrocities of which he was then guilty. He carried many of his prisoners to London. Many were publicly executed, as a warning to the rest of the King's subjects. The offenders were, however, so numerous, that George II. at length changed his course towards them, and granted a general pardon, upon the condition, that they would first take the oath of allegiance to him, and his house, and then emigrate to the plantations. Preferring expatriation, to an ignominious death, they, of course, availed themselves of the royal clemency. Soon they began to land on the shores of America. The first important settlement which they made, was on the Cape Fear river, in North Carolina. This settlement proved to be a very valuable acquisition to the Presbyterian Church, and ultimately to the country. Industry, frugality, intelligence, and consequently, correct moral deportment, were then, as now, charac-

teristics of the Scotch. These qualities belonged eminently to the Cape Fear settlement. They were strict conscientious Presbyterians. They had taken the oath of allegiance to their King. It was the condition of their pardon. It will not then be thought so wonderfully at variance with the standard of morality, if many of these people are found at the commencement of the war of the Revolution, to reluct at taking arms against the government they had so solemnly sworn to support. Nor will it be considered so uniformly an offence altogether unpardonable, if they are at first, found to raise their voices and their arms in the cause of their annointed sovereign. When we censure, with our accustomed severity, all those who did not heartily unite, at the out-set, with the popular party of '75, we must remember, that these Scotchmen, of all the rest of the world, had the best reason to dread the very *name* of civil war and revolution. Besides, the course then adopted, was unquestionably, with many of them, the result of an irrepressible feeling of loyalty, as well as sense of religious obligation to keep faith with the government, which protected them. Does it become us to stigmatize with opprobrious epithets all those pious and conscientious persons clergymen and laymen, who fled the country, or who refused to lend their aid to the Revolutionary party in our incipient struggle with the mother country? Is it not much more charitable, and abundantly more rational to suppose, that many of them, our own countrymen as well as the Scotch, acted from high moral and religious principle?

We had a remarkable instance of political defection, very near home; our first minister, the Rev. John Huston, refused to subscribe to the "*association test*." He was the only man in the town who did not pledge himself, body and soul, to the cause of freedom. Let us, before we utterly condemn his course, look for a single moment at the circumstances attending his acts. He was alone in his views; nobody sustained him, not a single member of his church or congregation: look at him when the doors of his church were shut upon him, when he was forbidden ever again to ascend to the sacred desk; when the officers arrested him, and required bonds for his detention within the limits of the county; when he was spurned by his former friends; when all the insults of an excited and indignant people were cast upon his defenceless head,—and then say, in candor, whether he probably endured all this, simply because he was an enemy

to a republican form of government? or rather, whether he was not acting under the belief that he was forbidden, by one whose commands he dared not disobey, to resist and levy war upon the "powers that were." Let us be kind, let us be charitable; let us, at least, be *just* to the memory of our long since departed, sincere, but sadly mistaken, spiritual guide and minister in holy things. He has gone, as have the early settlers on Cape Fear river, and thousands of others, who fell into the same error, to their final account. And we, who have been made happy in the triumph of liberty — in the overthrow of despotism — in the glorious results, which have succeeded the efforts which they opposed, after all, feebly and ineffectually, can afford to forget and forgive; "*Nil mortuis nisi bonum.*"

I am strongly tempted, even at the hazard of your reproof, for trespassing too long upon your kind indulgence, to introduce a single Scotch Presbyterian Emigrant, who came here as late as '75, and joined her friends in North Carolina — a woman, one whose name has adorned the pages of history and of romance, and has been rendered immortal by the best pen, that ever described Scottish scenery or Scottish character — she is none other than *Flora MacDonald*.

Go with me, in imagination, to an island called South-Uist one of the Hebrides, near the western shore of Scotland. There we shall find, hid away in a cavern, by the sea-side, the Prince, *Charles Edward*, just escaped from the hot pursuit of the soldiers and spies of the Duke of Cumberland, after the disasters of Culloden. He is here, under the care of the Laird of Clanranald, though in imminent peril, every moment, of falling into the hands of his enemies, who have pursued him like blood-hounds, and are now searching the island for his hiding-place. Various expedients have been devised to effect his safe removal. In the midst of anxious deliberation, among his friends, *Flora MacDonald*, a relative of Clanranald, accidentally arrived on a visit. A young lady just returned from Edinburgh, where she had been to be educated, beautiful, kind-hearted and devotedly attached to the cause of Charles. Her father was dead. Her mother, who had married a second time, lived on the neighboring Isle of Skye, where *Flora* was born, and where was then her home.

A romantic scheme was now proposed for the deliverance of the Pretender. This was, that he should put on the dress of

an Irish serving-woman, and leave, for the Isle of Skye, in the company of a female. Flora was requested to take the principal part in this perilous enterprise. Such was her zeal for her fallen, though still her "rightfu' lawfu'" Prince and heir to the throne, that she consented. With the utmost difficulty, the party escaped in the night, in a boat, the Prince attired as a female servant, and assuming the name of *Betsey Burke*, with nothing but the feeble arm and woman's wit of Flora McDonald, for his protection. They encountered a storm of much severity, during the navigation of that fearful night. At early dawn the next morning, they attempted to land at point Waternish, on Flora's home island. They were suspected by some soldiers, who fired upon their little bark. They retreated, and soon gained the shore at another place, in safety. Here again, in another sea-side cave, this young man, the object of so much solicitude, was carefully secreted, while Flora hastened to procure food and relief for him. By the advice of her friends, as soon as they were refreshed, Flora, still accompanied by Charles, in the dress of *Betsey Burke*, made all haste to reach the town of Kingsburg, on the opposite side of the Island, a distance of twelve miles, which they performed on foot that day. The danger was now considered past — the Prince was saved. At parting, he kissed his fair guide, and said to her: "Gentle, faithful maiden, I entertain the hope that we shall yet meet in the Royal Palace." But they never met again. The poor broken-hearted Prince was doomed to die in obscurity. Flora was soon after arrested, and with many others who had participated with her in this bold and romantic adventure, carried to London and imprisoned in the Tower, on a charge of aiding and abetting attempts against the life of King George the Second. During her imprisonment, many of the English nobility became interested in the fate of this high spirited and noble hearted girl. Learning that she was a Presbyterian, and of course, not a partisan of the Pretender, whose life she had saved by her courage and her sagacity, the King was prevailed upon to pardon her. She was sent back to her native Island, literally loaded with the richest presents. She was married four years after her release, to Allen McDonald, and continued to reside in the Isle of Skye. She became the mother of a numerous family, and in 1775, *came to this country and settled in North Carolina*. The time of her arrival here was unfortunate for her — the Revolution had

but just begun. Her kinsman, Donald MacDonald, who had been an officer in the '45 of her favorite Charles and who had taken the oath of allegiance to George the Second, and emigrated to save his life, was already a military officer in this country, in the King's service, by the appointment of the Governor of North Carolina. Flora MacDonald, was therefore at once surrounded by such influences, as to induce her to lend her aid to the royal party in the Carolinas. Her friends, including her husband, who opposed the patriots, were soon defeated as disastrously as they had been at Culloden. After much suffering, great privations, and pecuniary loss, she, with her family, left our shores, for the place, where, thirty years before, she had bid farewell to Prince Charles. She had hazarded her life, first for the House of Stuart, and then for the House of Hanover, and she had the best reasons for saying, with the good natured Mercutio, in the play, "*A plague o' both the houses.*" She was an exemplary woman, in all the relations of life, modest, gentle, and retiring in her manners, and Dr. Foote says, "her memory will live in North Carolina, while nobleness has admirers, and romantic self-devotion to the welfare of the distressed can charm the heart," and, adds, "Massachusetts has her Lady Arabella, Virginia her Pocahontas, and North Carolina her Flora MacDonald."

I ought to mention the fact, in this connexion, that in the old north state, to this day, the original character, habits, and even the language of the Scotch are preserved and continued, with less of change, than in any other part of the United States. In some of the churches, in the presbytery of Fayetteville, the gospel is still preached in the native tongue of the Highlanders, the Gaelic.

It was in Fayetteville where Flora MacDonald resided for some time. Her house, which had become an object of great interest to visitors, was unfortunately destroyed a few years ago, by fire.

I cannot forego the pleasure of referring to one other Presbyterian heroine, who has been connected with events of a much more recent date, and the account of whose courage and intrepid conduct I have very lately received from her own lips, much more in detail, than I can now repeat it. Franklin Chase, our Consul at Tampico, just after the battles on the Rio Grande, received peremptory orders to leave the town and Mexican Territory, in six hours, and not to disobey,

upon the peril of his life. The order was in direct violation of the treaty, between the two countries; yet from the revengeful character of the people, he knew it would be executed to the letter. He was largely engaged in trade. All his property consisted of a house, and a store filled with valuable goods. He prepared, of course, to leave all: but his wife, *Ann Chase* refused to go with him. He entreated and commanded her, but to no purpose. At length, tearing himself away, he was enabled to reach an American Sloop of War, lying in the offing, just in season to comply with the tyrannical order of the Mexican General. Mrs. Chase, was now left alone. There was not an American in the place. She was surrounded by excited and bitter enemies, a defenceless woman. But she did not falter or flinch, or droop in despondency. She was equal to the emergency. She soon began to make preparations to effect the surrender of the town to the Naval forces of the United States, then cruising in the Gulf of Mexico. She engaged certain Mexican pilots, to give her the exact soundings over the bar, at the mouth of the river, on which the city stands. With the aid of this information, and an old English chart, she constructed a plan of 'Tampico, and its neighborhood. She then contrived to open a correspondence with the Commodore of the American fleet. She was carried herself in an open canoe; rowed by two Indians, twenty miles to sea in the night, to the Commodore's ship. She there furnished him with the plan already prepared; and made arrangements to raise a signal in the town, when the proper time should arrive for a safe landing. She returned, unobserved, and unharmed, and immediately set to work to redeem her pledge, to the Commodore. One bright morning, soon after, to the utter astonishment and dismay of the Mexicans, she was seen on the highest point of the roof of her dwelling-house, her arm encircling and sustaining a flag-staff, from which floated in the breeze, the American stars and stripes.

In vain the people shouted to her, and threatened her with instant death, if she persisted in maintaining her position. She replied, in her accustomed calm and collected manner, "*you can do me but little harm: you can only rob me of a few short years of life, by any death you can inflict. I have raised this flag of my country over my house, and here it shall remain. I have taken my stand under its folds, and it shall be my shroud, if I perish upon this roof.*" And there she did remain, until relieved by a detachment of officers and men, from the American Squadron, accompanied by her husband.

The result is well known. The Mexicans became alarmed, panic-stricken, and finally fled in all directions. The town was completely deserted, before a single boat had landed. Mrs. Chase, alone, had put to rout the inhabitants, soldiers and all, and was sole mistress of Tampico.

For this daring and brilliant exploit, she deserved, and has received the highest commendations, the praise and the thanks of the people of the United States. The city of New Orleans, presented to her, a splendid service of plate. The ladies of Cincinnati, sent her a beautiful flag. Others, have honored her, by forwarding to her, swords, fire-arms, and even pieces of artillery, in token of respect, for this deed of heroism.

It is almost impossible, to disconnect in our own minds, such a female, from all that is masculine, ferocious, and passionate. Yet, if you should ever have the good fortune to meet this lady, you will find her, quiet, modest, and retiring; intelligent, kind and benevolent; a pious, devoted Presbyterian, and just the last person, one would have selected at first sight, for the warlike service in which she was involved.

It is hardly necessary for me to add, that she is descended from the same stock, we have considered so much, to day; that she is one of the very best of that people, who are "brave as they are gentle, and gentle as they are brave." She is *Scotch-Irish*; her parents are of Londonderry, on the Foyle, and she is related, in no very distant degree, to the noble house of the *Red Douglas*.

We had, but a few short months since, *here*, in our midst, an eminent and striking example of the high moral and intellectual qualities, of the Scotch-Irish character, in a female, a native of this town. One, whose presence we sadly miss now. It is true, she had never endured the horrors of a beleagured town, she had saved no fallen prince from an untimely death: she had captured no city. No emergency ever occurred, connecting her name with any perilous or romantic adventure. She was no heroine, in the common acceptance of the term. Hers was a life of calm, quiet, steady, but earnest devotion, to one great end and purpose; namely: the moral, religious and intellectual culture of the youth, of her time. In this cause she labored and toiled, in comparative obscurity, to be sure, for the last fifty years. It is, perhaps, praise enough to say, that at the time of her death, she could undoubtedly have summoned around her, more well instructed pupils, than any female of her age, in New England.

There are few natives of Bedford, who came upon the stage, since the commencement of the present century, who do not remember, with grateful affection, the valuable instruction, the kind advice, the pious and excellent precepts and example, of *Ann Orr*. Who of us, does not *feel* to-day, that we should experience an additional thrill of pleasure, if we were able once more, to cluster around our kind-hearted, strong-minded, and sensible old school-mistress, take her by the hand, and ask of her the continuance of the approbation and the blessings which she bestowed upon us, when we were her "boys."

But this cannot be. She, too, has left us. She sleeps on yonder rising ground, never to awake, until all are summoned—the teacher and the taught—the master and the pupil—the learned and the ignorant—the wise and the foolish, to render a final account to the great Judge, whose name she told us to reverence, and whose example she prayed we might imitate.

Presbyterianism, that is, the government of the church by elders, and the utter negation of all prelatical power, in ecclesiastical affairs, dates very far back. It was found, according to Dr. Miller, among the simple-minded Paulicians, in the seventh century. It was the church government of the Albigenses, and of the Waldenses, including the Bohemian Brothers. It can be traced even to the synagogues of the Jews, before the Saviour's advent. It has been sustained by the most eminent believers in christendom. By Luther and Melancthon and Bucaer, in Germany. By Favel, Calvin, and others, in France and Geneva. By Zuingle, in Switzerland. By Peter Martyr, in Italy. By A. Lasco, in Hungary. By Junius, and others, in Holland, and by a decided majority of the enlightened and pious friends of the Reformation, in England.

Here, it is comparatively modern and new. We derive it from Scotland, its "homestead," in Great Britain, and principally, through the Scotch-Irish of Ulster; although we are largely indebted to the Scotch, the Huguenots and the Hollanders, for many professors.

We must not forget, that it first began on this Continent, with Francis Mackemie, only one hundred and fifty years ago, on a narrow strip of land, between the Chesapeake and Delaware—that, then, hardly venturing to show its face in the

light of day, it was seen begging of the Cavaliers of Virginia for a license to assert its doctrines; that it was punished by imprisonment in New York, and spurned by the Church of England, as "a religion not fit for a gentleman."

The Separatists, Independents, or Congregationalists, as they are now everywhere known, had occupied all the ground in New England, long before Presbyterianism made its appearance. Carver, Bradford, and Standish came one hundred years before MacGregore, Cornwell, and Boyd. The "Speedwell" had, indeed, been driven back by the tempests of the ocean, like the "Eagle-Wing;" but the "May-Flower," had weathered the storms, and brought with her, to our own shores, the representatives of one great division of the puritans of Great Britain. These men, the "Pilgrim Fathers," had established a *Spiritual democracy*, under the name of Congregationalism, a system of church government, which originated here, and with them, and which so well accorded with the prevailing sentiment of the times, that it was almost universally accepted in the New England Colonies. *Republican Presbyterianism*, had, therefore, to seek another field for her labor. That field she found in the vast territory of the Middle, Southern, and ultimately, of the Western and South-western States. The progress and relative condition of the two systems, may be learned, very readily, by consulting the religious statistics of the country. In 1843, there were in the United States, 3584 Presbyterian churches, only 11 of them being in New England, and nine of that eleven, in New Hampshire, the other two, in Massachusetts. There were 2672 ordained ministers, and probably, 900 licentiates and candidates; and 279,782 communicants. There were, at the same time, stated upon the same authority, not far from 1500 Congregational churches; the Presbyterians exceeding them, by two thousand and eighty-four. Of these fifteen hundred churches, more than one thousand were in New England. The number of Congregational ministers was about 1350, against 3572 ministers and licentiates, of the Presbyterian church, the balance, in favor of the latter, being 2222. The Congregational communicants are stated at 180,000, being nearly, 100,000 less than those of the Presbyterians, at the same time. This estimate of the Congregational churches and ministers, does not include those, which have rejected, what are called, the doctrines of the Reformation, better known as Unitarian. The churches of this last descrip-

tion, are nearly all confined to Massachusetts, where Congregationalism first began. I believe there is no instance where a Presbyterian church has directly and openly adopted the faith and forms of Unitarianism. The Federal Street Church, in Boston, which was the second Presbyterian church ever organized in New England, and which was successively under the pastoral care of Morehead and Annin, two zealous disciples of Knox and Calvin, might seem to be an exception. But the members of that church voted to change, and did change, the form of its government to that of Congregationalism, before it became Unitarian.

In view of the very imperfect, brief, and hasty sketch of the origin, progress, character and success of Presbyterianism in New England, and throughout the United States, which has been attempted to-day ; who is prepared to estimate the value of the labors, the sacrifices, and the sufferings of its early founders ? Who does not perceive and acknowledge the vast importance of the mission of the Scotch-Irish to our shores ? Failing, in their first attempt to reach us, from physical causes, altogether above and beyond their control, they hastened back upon that "Eagle-Wing;" which proved too frail to sustain them in the wider trans-atlantic flight, which they meditated, not to repair and refit for a second voyage, the feeble craft in which they had hazarded their lives ; but to fit and prepare themselves, their countrymen and their posterity for the great work ; which although postponed for a time, they foresaw, must sooner or later devolve upon them. That work was to raise the standard of their religion in the vast wilderness of America. Hither, in God's own time, they came, bringing with them, what was better than silver and gold, their habits of untiring industry, of frugality, and strict economy : bringing with them, that unconquerable energy of character, which overcomes all opposition ; bringing with them, minds enlightened and enriched by the best learning of the age, and a religious profession and a faith drawn from the bible, and tested by the sufferings and the martyrdom of thousands of its converts. With such habits, and with such moral and religious principles, they could not fail of success.

But the length to which these remarks have extended, admonishes me that it is time to dismiss the subject, and to take my leave. Still, I would linger at the parting, hesitate upon the farewell. Standing, as I do, in the midst of the friends of my youth, my school-mates, and the playmates of

my childhood, each face, and each familiar name associated with some of the dearest recollections of my life ; I would, before we part, gladly recount, with you, some of the events, and revive some of the scenes, with which we were so familiar, in our earlier, younger and brighter days. I would run with you again over the green fields to cull the wild flowers, or, stray away into the pastures, to gather the mountain-laurel, which blooms upon our native land, as it blooms no where else. I would ascend the highest hill, for a broader gaze upon the bright horizon which encircles us. I would plunge into the forest, or loiter along the meadow-brook, or I would launch, with you, the light boat, for a sail upon the clear bosom of the ever-flowing Merrimack. Or, we could go back, if we would, in imagination, to our childish gambols. We could join in the sportive mirth of a thanksgiving evening, or rejoice in the holy-day pastimes of the General Election and the Fourth of July. We might revisit the old school-house, and once more con over those, sometimes irksome, but always most important tasks of elemental learning, which have so often puzzled and perplexed us.

Would we not, if we had the time, recall some of the scenes of the severe daily toil of our fathers? We might drive "the team afield" again ; and even put our hands to the plough once more. It would do us no harm. It was the honest and healthful employment, by which, they, who brought us into life, earned their and our daily bread. Or, in the stillness of the sacred Sabbath morning, we might assemble at the old meeting-house, and listen to him, who was commissioned to bear the message of peace to the upright in heart, and denounce with fearful indignation the unrighteous and the dissolute.

We would recross the threshold of the dear old cottage, where first the light of Heaven was revealed to our wondering eyes, — where we were nurtured and sustained by the fondness of a father, and where every wish was anticipated, and every want supplied from that over-flowing fountain of kindness — a mother's love — which never fails, but with the latest pulsation, and the last breath of her with whom it dwells. And would we not, sad and sorrowful as might be the duty, repair, once again, to that hallowed spot of earth, "where heaves the turf, in many a mouldering heap," the common burial ground of our kindred and our friends ; and, kneeling solemnly and prayerfully, around the grave of a

venerated father, or bending, in unabated grief, over the ashes of a sainted mother, should we not find consolation in the belief, that *their spirits*, though released from the body, still lingered around, to hold communion with our own,—that they may still be the unseen guardian angels, to shield and protect us, in all our trials and temptations, while we live, and to beckon us on to a happy immortality.

But I am unwilling to ask your further forbearance; and I will only beg leave, in conclusion, using the language of an eminent English poet, to repeat a sentiment, to which I am certain all hearts will respond, with the most cheerful alacrity.

“ There is a land, of every land the pride,
Beloved by Heaven, o’er all the world beside ;
There is a spot of earth supremely blest,
A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest.
Here woman reigns : the mother, daughter, wife,
Strews with fresh flowers, the narrow way of life :
Around her knees domestic duties meet,
And fire-side pleasures gambol at her feet.
Where shall that *land*, that *spot of earth*, be found ?
Art thou a man ? a patriot ? look around !
Oh, thou shalt find, howe’er thy footsteps roam,
That land *thy* country, and that *spot*, *thy* home.”

FESTIVITIES OF THE OCCASION.

THE Exercises having been performed, according to the order, a short recess took place, after which, the large assembly partook of the Collation prepared, — a blessing having been first implored, by Rev. Isaac Willey, of Goffstown. The duties of the table being concluded, the President of the day, introduced the free and social services of the afternoon, with some suitable remarks. In this short preliminary address, he gave some brief sketches of the principal pioneers of Bedford, such as Walker, Patten, Goffe and others; and the foremost of her sons, who entered the Revolutionary army immediately upon hearing of the battle of Concord, as did John Orr, and others. As there will be brief biographical notices of individuals, embodied in the following history, it will be unnecessary here to anticipate this part of the volume: only one or two interesting allusions by the President, will be given.

Having spoken of one of the first settlers, Mr. Robert Walker, he said: "I introduce to you his only surviving son, Robert Walker, now in the 89th year of his age. He says he has nothing to present to you but his gray hairs. I will endeavor to speak a word for him. In the Revolutionary War, the tories of New Boston were contemplating burning Washington and his contemporaries in effigy, calling it *burning the Pope*. The Whigs of the same place were determined to oppose them, and they sent down to good old Bedford for some smart active men to come and help them — and this is one of the lads that went."*

Alluding to the late Miss Ann Orr, he said: "At our first meeting to make appointments for the Centennial, she was with us, and had the second appointment made, that to get the history of the Orr family. This she accomplished in good style. She had a desire to see this occasion. She was the mother of teachers in this vicinity. It is rare to find the person who was born and educated in Bedford for the last half century, but that has been under her instruction more or less."

* Names of the individuals who went to New-Boston, — Capt. Thomas McLaughlin, Zaccheus Chandler, John Patten, James Walker, Robert Walker, Griggs Goffe, Joseph Goffe, James Grier, William Moor, Nathaniel Martin and Josiah Gordon.

The President also spoke of the Hon. John Orr, one of the worthies of Bedford. "He was, for many years, an elder of the Church; Justice of the Peace, and of the Quorum; Senator of the third District; Councillor of Hillsborough county, and many years a Representative from Bedford. His parents died when he was very young. I will give you his character, by relating an anecdote he related to the Sabbath school at its first formation in May, 1818. He says, 'I was bound out to Dea. Robert Walker, a farmer, until I should become twenty-one years of age. I thought my master and my mistress were too severe. After working hard all day I had to go after the cows. The cows went where they pleased. One had a bell on, which was of great service to me. On one occasion I was treed by a bear, up in the woods back of the school-house we are in, and I should have had to stay all night, very likely, had not a girl (Rebecca Henderson) run home and informed Mr. Walker, who came and relieved me. But the worst thing, and for what I disliked them the most, was, they made me get verses in the Bible and repeat them to them. This I did not like, and I thought I would not stay, but would run off. One afternoon I started and ran some time until I was tired. I then sat down on a log and began to think what I should say when I should get where I was going. They would not believe me. They knew Dea. Walker was a good man. I began to think about the Bible I had studied, and this is the text of Scripture that came into my mind, "servants be obedient to your masters," not only to the good and gentle, but to the froward. I knew the Bible said right. I was ashamed of my conduct. I got up from off the log, turned my steps home, and worked out my time. I think Dea. Walker was just the man I ought to have had. I think if anything ever did me any good it was studying the word of God. I believed it then, and I believe it now.'"

"Col. John Goffe was a man of some consequence in his day. He was the only son of John Goffe, Esq., who was the son of John Goffe, of Boston; and probably a grandson of Major General Wm. Goffe, who left England in 1660 — one of the Judges who condemned King Charles I. Col. John, settled at the mouth of Cohas Brook, the outlet of Massabissic pond, at the Merrimack river, about three miles below Manchester city. His occupation in early life, was hunting, which was the most delightful and profitable. He is named Hunter John in some of the old deeds. He was

frequently in the French war, in 1756. He directed a letter to Gov. B. Wentworth, showing the necessity of sending more troops about the frontier, where he then was, doing military duty on the *Contocook and Penacook*. He was the Representative of the town of Bedford and Amherst, and while in that capacity at Portsmouth, in 1777, he directed a most thrilling letter to his son John, the Major."

[The letter was then read.]

The President then announced the first regular toast : —

19th of May, 1750. — Ever to be remembered by the descendants of Bedford — the Petitioners on that day received a charter of Incorporation, whereby they could support their religion, which was that, and that only, they petitioned for.

Responded to by HON. HORACE GREELY, of New York City.*

"Although, Mr. President, I had no intimation till an hour ago that I should be expected to speak on this occasion, and certainly could not have expected to speak to the sentiment we have just listened to, yet I gladly avail myself of your invitation. And although I feel that the entire subject which engages our thoughts this day, has been fully discussed and well nigh exhausted by our Orator, while the topic suggested by this sentiment has received the amplest justice at his hands, I shall not fear that my words, though they seem but a feeble repetition of his, will fall on impatient or unwilling ears. You need not be told that the century which has elapsed since this town was first settled has been crowded with astonishing and memorable events ; that the event which we are here met to commemorate, carries us back to the days of Franklin's mechanical thrift and Washington's boyhood — that in 1750 this fair land of ours was, all but a thin belt on its Atlantic border, a vast, unbroken wilderness, the haunt of savage beasts and savage men ; that men now live, in whose childhood the woodman plied his axe and the ploughman turned his furrow on the soil of this town in imminent peril of the Indian's deadly rifle-shot ; and that the mother and

* Horace Greely was born just over the line of Bedford, in Amherst, the school he attended, and the better portion of his father's farm being in Bedford, where he resided during a portion of his early years.

her babes in the primitive homes of Bedford, trembled with no unfounded terror, when the night-fall brought not back to them, the husband and father, who had left them in the morning to pursue his daily avocation. Nor need I speak to you of the birth, the growth, the maturity, during the century whose close we celebrate, of those great principles of Civil and Religious Freedom, for lack of which, the world had suffered and sorrowed through so many years. The American and the French Revolutions, so unlike in their features and results, are the two great political events of the past century; each shedding a bright though a peculiar radiance on the great truths respecting the rights of Opinion — of a voice in the election of Rulers and the enactment of laws; of the sanctions and limitations of Power, and of the absolute Freedom of Worship, which constitute the fundamental, inalienable Rights of Man. “The Rights of Man!” a phrase now familiar as household words, but sounding strangely in the ears of the People, the toiling masses, of a single century ago. But now those words have a power unbounded by the actual enjoyment of Free Institutions. At their sound, the thrones of despotism totter at Vienna, and reel in Paris; even the dreary ice-palaces of Russia, begin to confess its power. No one can reasonably doubt that the last century has accomplished more than all its predecessors for the establishment of the great vivifying principle that Civil and Religious Freedom is the inalienable Right of all Mankind.

So, too, in Physical Science. The Steam-Engine, the Steamboat, the Steamship, the Locomotive, the Railway, the Electric-Telegraph, are a few among the achievements of the century beginning with 1750. And how completely have they transformed, or are destined to transform, the whole Industrial and Social condition of Man! A century ago, the journey hence to New York would have required a fortnight, and have subjected the adventurous traveller to great discomfort and peril. But I did a day’s work yesterday in New York, and must do another in that city before closing my eyes to-morrow; such are the wondrous facilities of modern travel. That the Telegraph has annihilated space is no metaphor, when a message sent from Halifax at noon of to-day, may have reached St. Louis two hours *before* noon of this same day. The time is rapidly approaching when a vote taken in Congress at dark will be announced in that day’s evening

papers at San Francisco, some hours earlier (by the sun or the clock,) than it will appear to have occurred. Measured by events rather than almanacs, it is long enough since those few pioneers from Londonderry bravely ventured across the Merrimack and began to let day-light into the woods of what is now Bedford.

“The founding of New-England, the history of New-England, the people of New-England, and especially the Puritan and Presbyterian ancestry of New-England, have properly been the theme of your Orator. I will not trespass on a field so well trodden before me, even though plainly invited by the sentiment you have asked me to respond to. Yet I may with just pride, as a son of New-England, bear testimony to the character she has imprinted on her children who have migrated to other regions — who, impelled by her rugged soil and crowded homes, have wandered away in pursuit of fame, or fortune, or larger scope for usefulness, or opportunity to sow and reap in thankfulness the harvest of humble but contented toil. I have found them on the shores of Lake Superior and on the great rivers of the West. I have met them as representatives of the furthest West and South in the Grand Council of the Nation. Go where you will on this Continent, and if you find Activity and Thrift, be sure there are sons of New-England not far from you, and that they are not idle or inefficient. Visit the whaler in the Pacific, the packet-ship at Canton, the mining “gulch” in California, or the lead “diggings” of the Upper Mississippi, and you will find sons of New-England in all, and wherever they constitute half the population, you may safely assume that it is not in position the lower half. If they dig few Canals or grade few Rail-Roads, they yet cause many to be dug and graded, and show how the desired result may be surely attained with the smallest expenditure of labor. And although all communities have their unworthy members, of whom a part will find a change of residence advisable, and although jealousy and conscious inferiority in intelligence, industry or morality, have excited in many quarters a hostility to the “Yankees,” which tries to hide its envious impulses beneath a mantle of contempt, yet I venture to say, that there is no part of the Western world, where the Puritan race is known, in which the assurance, “I am descended from the first Colonists of New-England,” is not a passport to confidence and consideration. So may it be to the end of Time !

“What nobler testimony than this could I bear to the faith of New-England — so distinguished by reverence for God and independence of the power of Man? What could I say for that Faith which her innumerable churches and school-houses; her teachers, missionaries and martyrs, will not have said before me? The Common Schools of our vast country, so rapidly increasing, are grafts from hardy Puritan stock. The graduates of these thickly clustered school-houses, are teaching throughout the continent. The Rock of Plymouth is not merely the corner-stone of our gigantic edifice of Civil and Religious Freedom; from it, as from the rock smitten by the Divine Lawgiver of old, gush the streams which still gladden and vivify the Liberties of the world. The marriage of Order to Liberty — of Loyalty to Freedom — had its earliest exemplifications on the soil of New-England, and her Town-Meetings are to this day the most orderly and striking examples of practical Democracy in the World. Who does not see that the independent congregation, choosing its own Pastor and settling its own Creed, is the block whereon the Township has been molded — that it is to the existence of “a Church without a Bishop” that we are indebted for “a State without a King?” Whatever the faults of the primitive Faith of New-England, I have never heard it accused of quenching the innate aspiration for Liberty nor of paralyzing the arm raised in resistance to despotism and tyranny. And in an age so pervaded and electrified by the spirit of Change — an age of Movement, Progress, Revolution — of change from which creeds and theologies are not exempted — let us rejoice in the assurance that the God of our Fathers still rules over the Universe, and that Faith in His being, His goodness, His wisdom, His omnipotence, is not and cannot be supplanted nor superseded by any device of man — that Error is transient and Truth immutable — that the more signally Man triumphs over brute Nature, the nearer he is brought face to face with the Uncreated Cause; and that when Continents shall have been girdled and Rivers enslaved by the genius of Man, he must still bow in humble reverence at the footstool of his Creator, and recognize that no elevation above the lower beings, can lessen the infinite distance which separates him from the Great Father of All, nor limit his absolute dependence on God. And so, as Knowledge shall increase, and Science extend her dominion, and Intellect multiply her triumphs, our race shall more and more recognize its help-

lessness in the hands of Omnipotence, and turn to the Faith of our Fathers for guidance and solace through life, and assurance in death of a radiant and blissful immortality."

The President then announced the second regular toast —

19th May, 1850.—Thanks to God, our religious institutions are still with us, and we most earnestly pray they may be the first, and above all other things, supported by us and our posterity.

Responded to by REV. MR. DAVIS, of Amherst.

"I respond with pleasure," he said, "to a sentiment, which so expresses the real desire of my heart, and the more so, because I may be regarded, as representing another denomination. I have always rejoiced in the delightful harmony subsisting between the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches of New Hampshire. We have heard much to-day of the trials and privations of the early Scotch settlers in this country. In the history of their conflicts, we had a repetition of the same adherence to religious convictions, — the same faith in God, and in God's word, — which so marked the planting of the Puritan Churches. I have listened with delight to the eloquent remarks of the gentleman who has preceded me, but I wish to hold up more distinctly, the great thought, that the movement which resulted in the settlement of these Presbyterian townships, was a religious movement. The persons engaged in it possessed a living faith in God's word, and their desire and prayer was, that their children might enjoy the same blessing. For this reason they prized the Catechism, the Sabbath and an educated ministry; and they placed little reliance on any other means of religious training. Herein is the secret of the virtues of their descendants.

"The generations that grew up under their tuition were well instructed in the doctrines of the Bible. I cannot properly illustrate the value of their example in each of the particulars now suggested, without encroaching on the time which may be better occupied by others. As much has been said of Scotland and the Kirk, I may be permitted to add, that we are not only indebted for the use, but somewhat, also, for the excellence of the Catechism, to Presbyterians. The Catechism, as you know, was made in England, yet the Scotch had a hand in it, as one anecdote will show. It appears

that in the composition of the Catechism, the Westminster Divines, first agreed upon a list of questions, to which answers were to be furnished afterward. Having agreed upon the questions, the framing of the answers went on quite smoothly, until they came to the fourth, "What is God?" numbers proposed replies, or amendments to the replies, but every attempt to describe or define the author and the object of worship, failed to satisfy the assembly; they were evidently brought to a stand in their labors, when one of the Scotch Commissioners, Alexander Henderson, "*Clarum et venerabile nomen*," modestly rose, and read that incomparable definition, beginning, "God is a Spirit," &c, which was unanimously adopted, as the answer of the question. Henderson and his associates made other contributions to this work, which had done so much to impart precision and spirituality to our conceptions of God and the doctrines of religion.

"In regard to the estimation in which these Presbyterian Churches have held the ministry. I am constrained to say, that their example has furnished a constant reproof to the innovations and changes which so extensively prevail in other congregations.

"Permenence in the ministry is an element of strength. In its influence on the community, it is closely allied to reverence and those order-loving virtues — contentment, perseverance, and the thrift of Godliness — which make a happy and united population. Most of our Churches are taking sorrowful lessons in another direction. A few days since the speaker entered on the seventh year of his ministry. With the recurrence of the anniversary of my settlement, my thoughts naturally turned back to the fathers and brethren, who inducted me into the sacred office. Of the ten settled pastors of this immediate vicinity, then present, one only continues in the same field of labor, that one is this brother before me, so esteemed and beloved as your pastor. In commendation of the better usage of the Presbyterian Churches, I conclude with an invocation of continued spiritual blessings on the Pastors who keep their flocks, and the flocks that keep their pastors."

Several songs were prepared, by natives of Bedford, to be sung at the table, but were omitted for want of time. As they are not discreditable to the Bedford muse, they are inserted. The following is one of them. —

S O N G .

Here we meet, a gath'ring number,
 Hovering round the festive board ;
 Near to where our fathers slumber,
 Ever to be long rever'd.
 Youth's elastic step is bounding,
 Hoary age is moving slow ;
 While hills and dales and all surrounding,
 Speak one hundred years ago.

The wild flow'r blossom'd on the mountain,
 Snuff'd its fragrance in the breeze ;
 While below, the gushing fountain
 Murmured 'neath the forest trees.
 Nought was seen but flowery wild wood,
 When the stormy winds did blow ;
 These our fathers in their childhood,
 Saw one hundred years ago.

But how changed the situation,
 Since the lapse of many years ;
 Forests faltering, lose their station,
 Sink, and verdant fields appear.
 Now the white man scales the mountains,
 Wandering ever to and fro ;
 By the red man's lakes and fountains,
 His, one hundred years ago.

See the high and cloud cap'd steeple
 Mutely stand and gaze around —
 See the enterprising people,
 Listening to the gospel's sound.
 All ; — but bids us think who gave it —
 Who such seed did early sow ;
 Calling upon us to save it,
 Sown, one hundred years ago.

To our fathers, who did sever
 This, our home, from forests wild ;
 Be our grateful thanks forever,
 On their monumental pile.
 Let us ne'er forget their trials,
 As they stemm'd the tide of woe ;
 Glorifying, in the hand that brought them
 Here, one hundred years ago.

The President then announced the third regular toast —

Our Parents. — Long, long left us, gone to reap their reward of glory
 — with gratitude we remember them ; may we ever practise their virtues, and
 teach them to our children by precept and example.

Responded to by REV. MR. CLARK, of Manchester.

"Mr. President. — Were an apology admissible on an occasion like the present, I should certainly offer one and instantly retire. I sincerely regret that the sentiment to which I am called upon to respond, was not put into the hand of a son of New Hampshire; I am her son only by adoption. And yet, I flatter myself, I am by no means a stranger to such feelings as are yours to day. It is my proudest boast, that I am descended from a New England ancestry; yes, Sir: — that the blood of the man who stood by the side of Miles Standish, on board the Pilgrim Ship, (I refer to the mate of the ship,) flows through my veins: I trust I shall be pardoned for so boasting while moved by such associations as these.

"The sentiment just proposed, Mr. President, reminds me of the debt of gratitude we owe our ancestors; and the obligation we are under to emulate their virtues, we and those who may come after us; and who, Sir, of all this assembly, does not respond to that? Who has not felt his heart beating with pride as he has listened to the eloquent portraits of our ancestors, by the gentlemen on my right? And who is not impressed with a deeper and more abiding sense of obligation, in the regard suggested, by the sentiment I have the honor to propose? If any, let him think of the privileges — civil, religious, literary — he enjoys as the result of the labors of those ancestors. Let him remember their steady perseverance amid difficulties, which would have disheartened common men, — let him remember their calm endurance, patient resignation, and triumphant faith; virtues which were never before more beautifully illustrated. Let him call to mind, that such a band of adventurers, so heroic and high-minded, were landed upon no other shore. But, Mr. President, I must not anticipate what remains to be said by other gentlemen near me. I can only express the conviction from what I have seen and heard to-day, that if the forms of those noble fathers and mothers are not here, much of their spirit remains. Believe me, Sir, — that although their dust mingles with the clod of the valley, — their influence lives —

'The Pilgrim Spirit has not fled,
It walks in noon's bright light —
And it watches the bed of the glorious dead
With the holystars by night —
And it watches the bed of the brave who have bled,
And shall guard this ice-bound shore,
Till the waves of the Bay, where the May-Flower lay,
Shall foam and freeze no more.'

Be it ours to cherish them in grateful remembrance, to copy their virtues, and emulate their example, that we may at last reap a like reward of Glory with them."

The President then announced the fourth regular toast —

The Emigrants, and Guests of Bedford.—We greet you welcome to our town, and our festive board. Pleasant and profitable to meet as relations, friends, and acquaintances,—it is the first time and the last, we shall ever meet on such an occasion, in Bedford.

JOHN ATWOOD, Esq., of Albany, New York, responded, and closed with a complimentary remark to his old neighbors of Bedford, which called out Rev. Mr. Savage.

MR. SAVAGE, addressed a few remarks to those represented by the gentleman who had just spoken—natives of Bedford—who after a long absence, had come up to this Centennial Festival. "They had not forgotten old Bedford. They revisited the scenes of their childhood.

'They all had run about these braes,
And sat beneath this vine —
And blessings on the golden days
Of auld lang syne.'

But great changes have taken place. The mountains, the hills, the vallies, were the same. But where were the men of other days?" The speaker alluded to the fact, that he had known their fathers. Many of them were living, when he first came to preach in the town. He spoke of the venerable members of the Session, long since gone. He spoke of the length of his ministry in Bedford, about twenty-five years, and of himself, as only the third settled minister since the foundation of the Church—a hundred years ago—a circumstance creditable to the people, to say nothing of the pastors. There was an interval of thirty years between Mr. Houston and Mr. McGregor. He said, "the more he had been led to investigate the history of Bedford, the more he was impressed with the idea, that he had been laboring among a people that were nobly descended. The two Pattens, Matthew and Samuel; the two Walkers, James and Robert, Col. Goffe, and others, who settled the town, lived long enough, to put their names to the association test, [it was here read,] which, at the commencement of the Revolution, was circulated

through the Provinces for signers ; thus enjoying the double privilege, of being pioneers in the settlement of the country, and also of giving their influence to establish its independence."

He begged leave to be somewhat personal, and to speak of himself, or rather of his ancestry, in connexion with Bedford. He had found in the historical researches he had been obliged to make, facts that very much deepened the interest he felt in the place where he had so long labored. The town was one of those granted for services in the Narragansett, or King Philip's War. His first American ancestor, Major Thomas Savage, commanded the Massachusetts forces, in that war. He found the name of his son, as one of the grantees on the Proprietors Records and of his grandson, Habijah Savage, on the Town Records, among the non-resident tax-payers, as late as 1760 or '70. He concluded with commending the friends, who had united with us on this occasion, to the favor of God, and with the hope that all might be prepared to meet in "the city, which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

The President then announced the fifth regular toast —

The changes of one hundred years ; — The woolen and linen wheels, — for the Cotton Mills and spinning jennies, — are not more wonderful than the horse's two days journey to Boston, with wooden panniers, with a tub of butter on either side, or both, filled with linen cloth and thread, to the Steam Engine, and the telegraph wires.

The President, to show the result of the changes, related an anecdote of Hon. Matthew Patten — first Judge of Probate of Hillsborough County under the Constitution, Representative to the General Court in Nov. 27th, 1756, — going to Londonderry to know when the General Court would set. On the 30th, he set out for Portsmouth, went as far as Alexander McMurphy's, in Londonderry, and received the account that the General Court had adjourned till Tuesday, the 14th of December, next.

To exhibit the contrast, between the past and the present, more strikingly ; the President, said, he had a note, received that morning from Washington City, it was a Telegraphic communication from his brother, Judge Woodbury. The following, is a copy of the despatch, which the President read.

Washington, D. C. May 22d, 1850. }
9 o'clock, A. M. }

P. P. WOODBURY, Esq.,

Dear Sir:—We have no news here this morning, except fair weather, warm disputes about the Galphin claim, and wrangling over the Compromise report. The Supreme Court, expects to adjourn the first of June.

Truly yours,

LEVI WOODBURY.

To the fifth sentiment, REV. C. W. WALLACE, responded as follows:—

“Mr. President, — I wish to express my gratitude to you, for calling upon me to respond to this sentiment. Ministers are sometimes accused of wandering from the text. With the theme before me, I shall be exposed to no such liability. The field is so broad, I can scarcely pass beyond it. A century! What changes, how many, how great, have transpired within the period of its passing years. One hundred years ago, and had we assembled on this spot, how unlike the present had been the prospect around us! These hillsides, now clad in all the freshness of spring, and giving such promise of reward to the toil of the husbandman, were then covered with the primeval forest. There, roamed the wild bear and bounded the timid deer, and fresh behind him, was the trail of the Indian, as he retreated before the march of civilization. Then, highways were mere bridle-paths. The timber of yonder Sanctuary, now forsaken, because of its age, was then growing in the forest, and the multitudes who have since worshipped God within its walls, were then mostly unborn.

“From this spot, where we are now assembled, the trees had been then probably removed, a few patches and narrow fields had been reclaimed. All the rest, these hills, these vallies, now fresh in the promise of a speedy harvest, all was then an unbroken wilderness. How changed! If we cast our eyes over a wider circuit, we behold changes, greater far, and vastly more important than these. Our admirable system of Common Schools, though established by our Puritan Fathers, when they first landed on these shores, have really gone into practical operation in most parts of the country, within the last one hundred years. Owing to the sparseness and

paucity of the population, the means of education were exceedingly limited, at the time of which we speak. The district school-house, with its session of a few weeks in the year, stood at an inconvenient distance from many of the people. The Academy was a rare curiosity, standing in some remote village, resorted to by a few only of the hardy sons and ruddy daughters of that day ; while the college withheld its more than golden blessings from all except a very limited number of the sons of wealth. Now, how changed. The School-house stands beside every Church, and at every cross-road. The High-school is found in every village, and the Collage opens its treasures to all who have energy to dig in its hidden mines. A hundred years has witnessed an amazing advance in the mechanic arts. Then, the plough was a rude machine, furnished at a greater cost, and worked by double the strength required for the same purpose, at the present day. Then, the strength of woman's foot turned the wheel, the skill of her fingers the thread, and the power of her arm drove the shuttle ; now, the river is turned from its bed, and made to spin and weave in making its passage to the sea. Then, upon the saddle and pillion, our grandfathers and grandmothers jogged lovingly along ; but all these have passed away, and the chaise, and coach, and cushioned rail-car, have taken their place. The mechanic, what has he not done ? He has made fire and water, and the winds of Heaven, perform the work of man. He has levelled mountains, and leaped rivers. The old world he has laid along side the new, and the Heathen nations he has brought to our doors. He is the pen of a ready writer to the Author and Historian—and the gift of tongues to the Missionary of the cross."

After glancing at the progress of philanthropy, and advert-
ing to the subject of war, slavery, benevolent and religious
institutions, and civil government ; the speaker alluded to
some changes that were not improvements, and proceeded to
speak of the physical deterioration observable at the present
day. In this respect, he said : — "The women of the present
day are feeble representatives of the past, and each genera-
tion seems to become weaker. I have been told, that my
grandmother, of precious memory, — and well do I remember
her, when at the age of three score and ten, she moved
with a firm step through the house, the windows shaking
at the tread of her foot, — I have been told, that when at the

age of eighteen or twenty, she would take a load of linen thread, of her own manufacture, and start from Londonderry, her native town, and travel to Boston, a distance of forty miles, and back, in three days. Mr. President, — there are other changes, more recent to which I might advert. I stand amid the sepulchres of my fathers, I behold the faces of those who were the companions of my youth, and the solace of my riper years; many friends have I found in this world, but none truer than the companions of my boy-hood, whose names were the first written, and will be the last to fade from the tablet of my memory.

“The earth may perish, the heavens like a vesture may be changed, the sun may grow dim with age; but the God of our fathers is our God, we come to the same throne of grace, sprinkled with the same atoning blood, and drink at the same unfailing fountains, and seek the same eternal Heaven.”

The President then announced the sixth regular toast —

The Orator of the day. — If our *houses and Barnes* appear as well a century to come, as they do to day, posterity will have no reason to be ashamed of their inheritance.

HON. ISAAC O. BARNES, spoke briefly on the subject of education.

The President then announced the seventh regular toast —

England, Scotland and Ireland. — Our mother countries; their united blood produces the best of stock, defying the world for competition.

REV. JAMES T. WOODBURY, of Acton, Mass., spoke very amusingly in responding to this sentiment.

“I know not, exactly,” he said, “why I am called upon to support this sentiment, except that your Committee of arrangements have somehow got an impression, from my long and intimate acquaintance with the people of Bedford, and my love and respect for them, that I am a native of the town. Well, whether native or not, I am so much pleased with the proceedings here to day, that I have not the least objection to being considered such, though perhaps, you may have. I am much of the mind of the honest Irishman, who, on being asked “How he liked America?”

replied, 'Indeed, Sir, I like it entirely, and I have concluded on the whole, to make it my native country.' Good blood, — good blood, — in old Bedford, — no better in the world. Just such as you might expect from such an origin, and from such a mixture. If one sort of blood is any better than another, I think, from the specimens of the stock that we have seen here to day, we may prove yours as good as the best. You have feasted us richly, mind and body, we have had eloquent prose, good poetry, viands and music, beauty, literature, and religion. Your fathers! no better men, ever lived than your fathers. You never need be ashamed of them, only see to it, that they never need be ashamed of you. Who loved their God, or, who loved their country, any better than they? Are the Colonies oppressed, taxed without being represented; they put in the mild, respectful, but decided remonstrance. Is this course persisted in by the King and Parliament, and the blood of their brothers shed at Lexington and Concord, — they fly to arms, they take the field in open resistance, they get the news the same day, they are up all the next night, baking bread, mending and making clothes, and start, before light, the very next morning for the seat of war. They rendezvous at Medford, the head quarters of their friend and neighbor, with whom they had fought in the old French War, twenty years before — Gen. John Stark. And at the next encounter with the Red-coats, on Bunker-Hill, the 17th June, they are there, behind the rail-fence; and there they could stand fire from British men-of-war, in Mystic river, and the Battery on Copp's Hill, not discharging a musket till they could see the white of every man's eye, and then, my life for it, they shot down their full share of the thousand and fifteen British, killed and wounded that day. Bedford was well represented at Bunker-Hill, not in building the monument, but in fighting the battle. And the secret of the indomitable courage of our revolutionary Fathers, was this, they were men of God, men of prayer, they went into battle, — like the 'Ironsides' of the Great Oliver, in 1649, — from off their knees, and so they conquered. They were Presbyterians, stiff sort of men, but we are determined to love them none the less for that. They loved their God and their country, they loved the Bible and the Sanctuary, the Sabbath and Sabbath-school. And, on that rainy Sabbath in 1818, when the first Sabbath-school was organized in Bedford, in that old square School-house that stood yonder, — no wonder old

Lieutenant John Orr, — Hon. John Orr, — was there ; it was just like him to be there, the same set of feelings that led him to Bennington battle, where he was shot down, and made a cripple for life, led him to that School-house that rainy Sabbath, to organize a Sabbath-school, — Love of God, and love of God's word, and love of Country. A lame old man, but not lame enough, or old enough, to stay at home from meeting a rainy Sabbath. Religion, religion in its best form, was the grand leading characteristic of the fathers and mothers of Bedford ; may it be of their posterity. He was there, and not as a silent spectator, he stood up and warmly exhorted, those, then children, mere little boys and girls, to study the Bible, and obey the Bible. Now, John Orr, we hope, is in Heaven, but these, then, little children, are the fathers and mothers in Israel, eminent ministers of the gospel, lawyers, physicians, merchants and statesmen. And these men were not peculiar to Bedford, they were the Puritans generally of New-England, we will ever thank God that such men lived, and that he sifted the kingdoms of the earth, and the best of them, too, that he might with such seed plant this land."

The President then announced the eighth regular toast —

Our Posterity. — May this day be remembered, one hundred years hence, by our descendants who shall then be on the stage of action.

Responded to by DR. LEONARD FRENCH, of Fitchburg, Mass.

He alluded to the fact, that Bedford was the native place of himself and his parents, and long the residence of his grand-parents, of one of whom, on the maternal side, it was also the place of nativity. His address was short, but the very fact, that his connexions of the same name, constitute a large proportion of our population, gave interest to his remarks.

The President then announced the ninth regular toast —

The Scotch-Irish. — They left the north of Ireland, braved the dangers of the ocean, and came to these western wilds to enjoy their religion and liberty. May their offspring appreciate such noble virtues, and cherish them as a rich legacy handed down from their forefathers.

JOHN AIKEN, Esq., of Andover, Mass., responded to this sentiment.

"I cannot," he said, "so far trespass on the patience of the good people, here assembled, as to make a speech at this late hour, and yet, I cannot refuse to answer to my name when called. With great pleasure, I heard, Mr. President, of your proposal to celebrate this anniversary, and with great pleasure have I come up hither, to unite with you in commemorating the virtues of our honored ancestors. And yet, this is not an unmingled pleasure. An absence of thirty years has made me a stranger in my native town where I once knew every man, woman, and child. The men, whom in my youth, I respected, and revered, are gone, all gone, with one or two exceptions, and the young men of that day are the old men of the present. Of the boys of my own age, but few remain, and they as well as myself, so changed, that we scarcely recognize each other. Yet sad as these changes are, I rejoice to be here, that I may unite with you in testifying our respect for our venerated ancestors. Our friend who has addressed us to-day, has uttered in our hearing, many names which we delight to honor, and I will not attempt to repeat what has been so much better said by him. This, however, I will say, that we are largely indebted to the character of our Grandmothers, many of whom were large-hearted, noble women, of rare energy, intelligence, and worth.

"Some three years ago, it was my good fortune, Mr. President, — to visit the home of my ancestors, in the North of Ireland. Belfast is a flourishing and beautiful city, the centre of the linen trade, and surrounded by a country of surpassing beauty. The soil is fertile and highly cultivated, and clothed through nearly the whole year, with a freshness of verdure which in our climate we can see only for a single month. And then the fields are small, containing from one half acre to three or four acres each, and all surrounded by green hedges. Lands for cultivation there, rent for £3, that is, \$15 per acre, annually. Of course, farms must be small and very productive to justify such a rent. But, you will ask, how did the people look? They were a fine looking, intelligent people; in general, well and comfortably clothed, and dwelling in neat, commodious, and tasteful habitations. In most respects, they strongly resemble their brethren the Scotch, and like them are Protestants and generally Presbyterians. The superiority of this portion of the Island over other portions of equal natural fertility, but under a catholic population, is most marked and striking. I took occasion, while at Belfast, to look into the business directory of that and the neighbor-

ing counties, and was gratified to find there many of the familiar names of my own native town. But I will not trespass further, and end as I began, in giving utterance to my cherished and profound veneration for the character of my ancestors, the Scotch-Irish."

The President then announced the tenth regular toast —

Brown Bread. — May the hale yeomanry of old Bedford never despise the hearty and substantial food of their ancestors.

Response by HON. C. E. POTTER, of Manchester.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, — I know not why I should have been called upon by the President, to respond to this sentiment, unless it be, that he thought from my somewhat healthy appearance, I was fond of that most sweet and nourishing food, Brown Bread. [*President*, — That is the very reason why I called upon the gentleman, his size and build show that he was *bred* upon *Brown Bread*.] Well, Mr. President, I plead guilty to the allegation, and have yet to learn, that it is food unpalatable or unhealthy. In fact Mr. President, brown bread was the very staff of life to our forefathers. It was their dependence in the time of scarcity. At all times, its common use gave to them the healthy cheek and the strong nerve. Dyspepsia and gout were unknown to them. This fact was owing to their simple and healthy food. The loaf of brown bread and that other homely, but healthy New England dish — the pot of baked beans, was upon every table; and were they oftener seen at the present time upon our tables, there would be less of Dyspepsia, Gout, and other prevalent diseases of the day. The gentleman from Manchester, who has preceded me (Rev. Mr. Wallace,) has remarked upon the difference in health, betwixt our forefathers and their posterity — there is a marked difference, especially in the health of the females. Need we wonder at the fact? We are learning to consider the homely, but healthy fashions and fare of our forefathers, as old-fashioned and vulgar. Different fashions and habits bring different tastes. This is true of our food. Strikingly so as to bread. The wheaten loaf has taken the place, in some places exclusively, of the loaf of brown bread. Now it is well known, that prisoners and others have subsisted for months upon brown bread and water, and it is stated as a fact, by men who have tried the experiment, that a dog will die in *forty*

days if kept upon *flour bread and water*. If flour bread and water will kill a dog in *forty days*, can we wonder at the ill health of the people of the present time, who partake so often and so freely of the wheaten loaf? The fact is, Mr. President, our females are learning to forget how to make the substantial, healthy, brown loaf and other homely fare of our ancestors, and while thus learning are becoming acquainted with modern luxuries of the table, and their sure accompaniment, *ill-health*. To them in an especial manner would I commend your sentiment. 'The loaf of brown bread. — May the hale yeomanry of old Bedford never despise the hearty and substantial food of their ancestors.' But, Mr. President, I need not further descant upon the Loaf of Brown Bread, its virtues are becoming world-renowned. Famished Ireland has learned its virtues, through the generous sympathies of America; and the inimitable pen of Carlyle has introduced its sweets to the people of England and the Continent. But, Mr. President, whence comes corn bread? It is well for us on this occasion and on *this ground*, to make this enquiry. Corn-bread was the gift of the Indians to our ancestors. *Indian* corn is still the distinctive name of that *maize* found in extensive culture and use among the natives of this country. The *receivers* of that gift, have become the lords of the soil, but where are the *givers*? These questions upon this occasion and on *this ground* are replete with interest. A century has passed since the incorporation of this town. What changes in the country and in the men of this country has a century brought about! Here we see a most striking feature in the progress of civilization. Savage life falls before it, like stubble before the raging fire. This very town, whose Centennial birth day we now celebrate, but little more than a hundred years since, was the home of the Indian. Here they found *plenty*. The moose, the deer, the bear, the beaver and the otter frequented the banks of the adjacent rivers; the trout, the shad and the salmon filled their clear waters, and the wild Indian, as free as wild, sported his birch canoe upon their surface. In short, this neighborhood was the very *paradise* of the Indian. This was the home of Passaconaway, or the Child of the Bear, brave and generous, the enemy and the friend of the English. Here too, ruled Wonalanset, his son, the mild pupil of Eliot. The fierce warrior, whose character was so changed by Christianity that he was called 'Wunnelanshonat,' or 'One breathing soft words,' and who, rather than join with the Indians, his

countrymen, in a war against the English, retired to Canada with his family and friends. Here too, was the home of his successor, the fiercer warrior, John Hogkins, or Kancamagus, the grandson of the renowned Passaconaway, the destroyer of Cocheco and the avenger of his people's wrongs upon Major Waldron. Here the powerful Bashaba held his court and ruled the neighboring nations with as despotic sway as the modern Czar; while myriads of his subjects in war and in peace, looked upon his face with fear and trembling.

"But where are they? Bashaba and subject are alike gone from the land! Nothing remains to tell of their existence, but the beautiful names they gave to the striking natural objects around us. Our people have shown good taste in retaining these Indian names; as expressive as beautiful. On the North, flows the sparkling Piscataquog—the great hunting place of the Indians, as the name implies, Piscataquog, meaning 'The Great Deer Place,' being derived from the Indian words, *Pos*, (great) *Attuck*, (deer) and *Auke*, (place.) On the East, rolls the current of the majestic Merrimack,* giving employment to tens of thousands of busy people, by its unlimited power, expressed by its name; Merrimack, being derived from the words *Merruh* (of strong current) and *Auke*, (place,) with the letter *m* thrown in for the sake of the sound. On the South, is the slow meandering Souhegan or Souheganash, as it was anciently and properly written; derived from the Indian words *Souheke*, (a plain) and *nash*, the termination, denoting the plural of inanimate nouns. Souheganash then, means, 'The Plains,' very expressive and appropriate, as the 'Souhegan' is literally the River of the Plains. On the West, is the beautiful lake 'Baboo-suck,' which should be written Papoosuck, the Pennacooks having no B in their dialect. And how expressive this name—Papoosuck being applied to a double lake or two lakes formed together by a narrow strait, and the word being derived from *Papooeis*, (a child) and *suck*, the termination, denoting two or more, and meaning 'The Twins' or the 'Two Children.' Then, still further West, towers the Monadnock, a mountain most beautifully named; the word being derived from *Manit*, (the Great Spirit) and *auke*,

* Judge Potter differs from some others as to the etymology. They make it read 'Sturgeon.'—[See Allen's *Centennial Address*, Merrimack.]

The Judge is probably correct, however, as the Indian word meaning *Sturgeon* is *Kopposh*, which word has no sound in common with Merrimack.—Ed.

(place) and meaning, *The place of the Great Spirit*. Then a little to the North, rises the beautiful mountains, the Uncannoonucks, or Wunnunnoogunash, as the word should be written. This word is formed from the two words, *Wunnunnoogun* (a breast) and *nash*, the termination, denoting the plural of inanimate nouns, as before suggested, and means *The Breasts*, a name strikingly appropriate, as every one will testify who shall gaze upon these beautiful specimens in our mountain scenery.

"But, Mr. President, pardon this digression, I could not fail to notice these beautiful Indian names, appropriated to natural objects so intimately connected with your town, as specimens of the Indian language; a language, permit me to say, natural, poetical, philosophical, and euphonious.

"But, Mr. President, before I close, I wish to set history right as to one subject that has been much talked of here to-day. The original charters of this town have been exhibited and read. One from Massachusetts, in 1733, granting this township by the name of Souhegan East and one from New Hampshire, in 1750, incorporating the township by the name of Bedford. These charters have been shown and are claimed, as the first grants of the lands in this ancient township. This is a mistake. Almost a century prior to these grants, the legislature of Massachusetts made a grant of a portion of these very lands to the Bashaba, Passaconaway. In 1662, Passaconaway presented a petition to the legislature of Massachusetts, praying for a grant of lands at Amoskeag. The original petition is preserved in the archives of Massachusetts. The signature to this petition is written thus: Papisseconeway. How humiliating, that this old and once powerful Prince, the rightful owner of all this domain, should be compelled to ask a portion of his birthright, from men who had no more right to the land, than the pirate or the robber has to his plunder.

"The following year, the humble petition of King Passaconaway is listened to, and in the very great liberality of the legislature of Massachusetts, three miles in length on either side of the river, of the Sagamore's own land, is granted him! This land was located above Brenton's land and included the North parts of Litchfield and Merrimack and the South parts of Manchester and Bedford bordering upon the Merrimack. This was the fishing and planting place of

the Bashaba, Passaconaway. Here lived his descendants till the progress of civilization swept them from the land. The hearths of their wigwams are still shown upon your intervalles, and there the collection of little mounds show that the bones of many of them are commingling with their native earth. Mr. President, I present the claim of Passaconaway and his people. I do not propose to sue out a writ of ejectment against you or my friends, Messrs. Chandler, Patten, Walker, and others, to dispossess you of your fine farms; but I present their claim for justice to their memories; this I know you will be most happy to accord. At least, you will be pleased

‘That their memory liveth on your hills,
 Their baptism on your shore;
 Your everlasting rivers speak
 Their dialect of yore.

‘That Monadnock on his forehead hoar,
 Doth seal the sacred trust;
 Your mountains build their monuments,
 Though ye give the winds their dust.’

“Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I close with this sentiment,—*The Pennacook Indians**—Our farms occupy their hunting and planting grounds; our villages and cities, the sites of their wigwams; our factories, their fishing places,—we inherit their birthright without even a mess of pottage; may we do tardy justice to their memories, by according to them those virtues our forefathers were unwilling to acknowledge.”

The shining lights and worthies of Bedford, past and present, were celebrated in the following “Metrical Rhapsody,” written for the occasion by George Kent, Esq., of Boston, and read by the Rev. J. T. Woodbury, of Acton, Mass :

* This tribe of Indians, inhabiting the Merrimack intervalles and fishing grounds, from Lowell (formerly Pawtucket, or the ‘forks’) to Concord, (formerly Pennacook) was a warlike and powerful tribe. They had forts at Pawtucket and at Pennacook, and repulsed the dreaded Mohawks in a battle at the latter place. The tribe took its name from ‘Pennacook,’ which means the *crooked place*, being derived from the Indian words *Pannikqua*, (crooked) and *auke*, (place.) Any one acquainted with the remarkable windings of the Merrimack, through the intervalles of Concord, will at once see the appropriateness of the name.

A hundred years ! what hopes and fears
 Are crowded in its pages —
 What scenes to thrill, of good or ill,
 In glancing down the ages !
 Than Scottish stock, not Plymouth Rock
 Can boast of nobler scions —
 Whose mixture good, of Irish blood,
 Speaks true Scotch-Irish “ lions.”

Not *lions* they, which, in our day,
 Might pass for “ just the *dandy* ” —
 But stern old stuff, in aspect rough,
 Yet always shrewd and handy.
 From Ulster’s coast, a valiant host,
 They cross’d the deep blue waters,
 And refuge found, on Yankee ground —
 Sires, mothers, sons and daughters.

In faith severe, they lov’d good cheer —
 In mien sedate, were merry —
 Their jokes to crack were never slack,
 When settled down in Derry.
 As true off-shoots of Nutfield roots,
 Our homestead branch was planted —
 In Bedford’s name, of honor’d fame,
 Our charter’d town was granted.

Hither our *Macs* had made their tracks,
 Our *Orrs*, and *Goffes* and *Pattens* —
 Their house-wives, too, of good “ true blue,”
 Undeck’d with silks or satins,
 No taste had they for fine display,
 Or modern street-yarn spinning —
 Their handiwork — with them no shirk —
 Was making finest linen.

But not alone is raiment shown,
 As proof of skill well noted —
 In lesser arts they bore their parts,
 To industry devoted.
 Viands well cooked are not o’erlooked,
 In summing up their story —
Haggis and *Brose*, in days like those,
 Spoke well the housewife’s glory.

Our “ men folks,” too, were tough as yew,
 To honest thrift attending —
 Year in and out, with labor stout,
 Fit recreation blending.
 To Derry Fair, both late and air,
 Our quota full would muster,
 There once a year, with hearty cheer,
 Where kith and kin might cluster.

Not men on stilts — but clad in kilts,
 Scotch bonnets, and the tartan —
 Whose courage tried was well allied
 To bravery of the Spartan.

But deeds of blood were not their mood,
 Or scenes of rude commotion —
 Wrestle and race found best a place
 To “kittle up their notion.”

Brave, stalwart men, Souhegan's glen
 Could boast from earliest founding —
 Our country's rolls, which proves men's souls,
 Show ardent zeal unbounding.
 Orr's honor'd scars, which bloodier wars
 Might fail to more than rival,
 Did but attest the patriot zest
 With which were found to strive all.

With many a *Riddle*, no “second fiddle”
 We play'd to towns around us —
 While with *More head*, it might be said,
 Some years have always found us.
Aiken to Burns, allied by turns
 To *Moors*, and *Woods* and *Walkers* —
 With *Barrons* bold, as may be told,
 Though *Little* known as talkers.

Our *Bells* could sound a note profound,
 If *Call'd well* to the duty —
 Fitly our *Barnes* can spin his yarns,
 In measure just to suit ye.
Smith, ancient name, well known to fame,
Rose, *Gordon*, *Chandler*, *Taggart*,
Wallace and *Dole*, all swell the roll —
 In which we are no braggart.

We had our *Craig*, and many a *Sprague*,
 And *Rand*, a painter noted —
 Could find a *Page* for many a *Gage*,
 'Mongst others we have quoted.
Nevins and *Barr* were also “thar,”
 With now and then a *Parker* —
 The town could boast of quite a host,
 If any would remark her.

Old “Strawberry Hill” had quite a fill,
 And “Squog” was not found wanting —
 And “Joppa” west could show its best,
 With proper ground of vaunting.
 Not to o'erlook *Foster*, *Holbrook*,
 Or fail where proud to show man —
 We well may claim, of legal fame,
 'Squire *Wilkins* and 'Squire *Bowman*.

The Pulpit, too, has had a few —
 Though not in number mickle —
 Dispensing truth to age and youth,
 Since days of Father *Pickle*.
 Memory will claim *McGregor's* name,
 And *Houston's*, from time's ravage —
 While love can still, with right good will,
 Turn trustingly to *Savage*.

A further store in *Swell, Gilmore,
French, Woodbury, and Colley,*
We might recount, to large amount —
But more to add were folly.
At home, abroad, we're on record
In states throughout the Union —
If proved by works, no quips or quirps
Will bar us full communion.

Then hail the day, whose natal ray
Lights up our happy faces !
To freedom true we pledge our due,
Throughout all times and places.
To friends still dear we send good cheer,
However wide their roaming —
In each full heart they'll find a part,
At every evening gloaming.

The President then announced the eleventh regular toast —

The Ladies of Bedford, — Ever prompt and energetic in every undertaking of a worthy and commendable character.

JAMES O. ADAMS, of Manchester, spoke in response to this sentiment.

“This, Mr. President, is not according to the programme, it is not quite the entertainment we anticipated. I came here, upon the invitation of your committee, to be a looker on and a listener, that I might make a record of the exercises of the day ; not once expecting to be called on to unseal my lips. You, and your fellow-citizens, have left your common vocations, have laid aside all party feelings and sectional interests, and assembled here to pay the tribute of grateful remembrance to your ancestors, to give to each other and the world the assurance that your fathers' mantles and your fathers' spirit have descended to their children, and that you will, this hour, kindle anew the fires of patriotism upon the altar of your hearts. You have met as the members of one household to revive your love for the homes of your youth and your veneration for the silent dead, whose virtues were not entombed with their ashes. It is a family gathering, and no strange voices should be mingled with the familiar words uttered here to day.

“But, Mr. President, if I am an ‘outsider’ and have no right by birth, residence, or domestic relation of any kind, to be a participator in this celebration, I am happy to say, that I am not a stranger to the subject of the sentiment upon which

you have taken the liberty to call me up. The merits of the Ladies of Bedford, whether they be called to perform the duties of the kitchen, or to adorn the parlor, whether they give instruction in the school-room or administer charity to the poor, cannot fail to be acknowledged. It has been my good fortune often to meet with them, here at their rural homes, and in their new residences, in our busy city across the river, and I should be unpardonable did I not confess the truth of the sentiment. We are accustomed to regard man as the only rightful possessor of greatness, and to award to him all the glory and heroism, though in her retirement, where the eye of the world may not behold her, woman may endure and accomplish tenfold more for the good of humanity. The greatness of benevolence is her boon, her empire is that of the heart. It is for her to bear joy and consolation to those around her — to spread peace and happiness around her dwelling. She may not be seen abroad, except by her works of love — her name may not be recorded on the page of the world's great achievements, and she may go down to her grave, with none living to breathe her praise but the hearts of her home and the friends of her little hamlet ; but above the praise of human lips, greater than the honor which time can give, nobler than the recompense of heroes, will be her reward."

S O N G .

Written for the occasion by a young Lady.

Old Bedford may boast of her farmers, mechanics,
 Her doctors, her lawyers, her ministers too,
 In purpose unshaken as pillars of granite,
 Right onward their course is, with strength ever new.

Pass on ! sons of Bedford, press on in your glory ;
 Pass on ! deck your brows with the bright wreaths of fame,
 Generations, unborn, will rejoice at your story,
 For History just waits now to take down each name.

Pass on ! sons of Bedford, pass on in your greatness,
 True greatness, the offspring of goodness and truth ;
 " Pass on," is the watch-word, let none plead the lateness,
 Let none linger listless, because of his youth.

Pass onward, rise upward, the prize is appearing,
 The goal is in sight now, press forward ye brave,
 Secure the bright gem in the prospect that 's nearing,
 And honor immortal shall rest o'er each grave.

VOLUNTEER SENTIMENTS.

[Several volunteer sentiments were given to the President, and many others were ready to be given, had time permitted. We have been able to collect a few for publication.]

BY HON. THOMAS CHANDLER.—“ May the inhabitants of Bedford present to the second centennial a more full genealogical, chronological, and historical table than the first centennial can give to the second.”

BY CAPT. WILLIAM PATTEN.—“ *The Inhabitants of Bedford.*—When they celebrate the second centennial day, may they look back with pleasure on us who celebrate the first, while we hope to be celebrating the praises of God, eternal in the heavens.”

BY ADAM CHANDLER, Esq.—“ *The 22d May, 1850.*—A day ever to be remembered by those present, inasmuch as it calls to our minds in a most striking and vivid view, the feelings, principles and integrity of purpose, which governed our ancestors a hundred years ago.”

BY MR. JAMES F. MOORE.—“ *Our Fathers.*—Dear to us in life, sacred to our memories in death ; while we venerate their names, and cherish their virtues, may we also emulate their christian examples.”

BY JAMES WALKER, Esq.—“ *The Ladies of Bedford.*—Like their ancestor mothers, industrious, modest and generous,—ready to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, —well may we rise up and call them blessed.”

S O N G .

Here prowled the wolf, the hunter roved,
The red man sang the song he loved,
Resolved and firm he stood unmoved,
Nor dreamed of future woe ;
These broad green lands, from east to west
From north to south, he once possessed,
Nor was the savage all unblessed
A hundred years ago.

“ Alas ! for them, their reign is o’er,
Their fires are out on hill and shore,
The wild deer bounds for them no more,”
A broken thing, their bow.
The white-man’s plough turns up their grounds,
And through their woods his axe resounds,
Beside their rills the lambkin bounds ;
Shall we exult ? no ! no !

We turn us to the pilgrim’s cause ;
We venerate its sacred laws,
’T is one that’s gained high Heaven’s applause,
Doth Heaven’s inscription bear.

Ah ! would we, if we could, forget,
 To whom we owe a sacred debt ?
 No ! never, we 'll revere them yet,
 Those names to memory dear.

'T was here our noble fathers strayed,
 'T was here they worshipped, here they prayed,
 And here their mould'ring forms are laid ;
 O ! peaceful be their rest !
 You scarce perceive the rising mound,
 Yet each is consecrated ground,
 By each, devotion lingers round ;
 Blest be their ashes, — blest.

And now the heritage is ours,
 This goodly land, these sunny bowers,
 These hills and valleys, fruits and flowers,
 The flocks and waving grain ;
 The stately, towering forest tree,
 The noble waters, sporting free ;
 All, all the beauty eye can see,
 In this, our wide domain.

“ OUR FATHER'S HOME.”

[These verses will be read with interest by one who should visit the ‘ Old Grave Yard ’ in the east part of Bedford.]

Stranger ! step lightly on the dead,
 That slumber 'neath the clod,
 The place where lies the pilgrim's head
 Now present with his God.

Look round thee — view the sunken grave,
 The tomb-stone drooping low,
 The vestige of departed brave,
 One hundred years ago.

How silent all around thee stand ;
 Death's stillness reigns around,
 No inmate here can burst the bands
 Until the trumpet sounds.

Lone wanderers, of a hundred years,
 They calmly, sweetly sleep —
 Shed not thy warm and bathing tears,
 For they can never weep.

Lock'd in death's cold and last embrace,
 Though flow'rs above may bloom,
 Their form has left not e'en a trace,
 These inmates of the tomb.

But surely, this is not their end —
 Let's look beyond the gloom,
 There, smiles and roses sweetly blend,
 That is, that is, their home.

H Y M N .

Tune, — America.

God of our fathers! Thou
 Wilt deign to bless us now,
 While here we wait ;
 Fathers who 've passed away,
 Their noble deeds to-day
 With grateful hearts we may
 Commemorate.

Thanks be to God alone
 That them he made his own
 Peculiar care :
 Them, who with prayer and might
 Sought freedom, truth and right,
 And left its glorious light
 For us to share.

They every danger dared,
 They every trial shared,
 And murmured not ;
 Our pleasant homes so dear,
 To them looked dark and drear,
 And, by their sufferings here,
 Were dearly bought.

Great God ! thy gracious hand
 Upheld the Pilgrim band,
 When sorely tried ;
 Thou didst our fathers bless,
 May we thine aid possess,
 In works of righteousness
 Be thou our guide.

When circling years have fled,
 And numbered with the dead,
 The hosts around :
 When children's children fill
 Our place o'er vale and hill,
 O may Thy blessing still
 With them abound.

S O N G .

We love our town, our good old town,
 We fear no rude oppressor ;
 To-day, her hundredth birth-day is,
 And many come to bless her.

'T is true, ours is a sterile soil,
 A land of hills and granite ;
 Yet plenty crowns the social board,
 Our peace, there's none can scan it.

We love her hills, her rugged hills,
Which flocks and herds are crowning ;
Her rural shade, her merry rills,
Her stately forests frowning.

We cull the flowers, that sweetly bloom
Beside her peaceful fountains,
Loading the air with scent more pure
Than currents from the mountains.

Though noble are her forest trees,
And beautiful her waters,
More noble are her gallant sons,
More beautiful her daughters.

We contemplate the present good,
With heartfelt joy and gladness ;
But when we muse upon the past,
Our joy partakes of sadness.

The church-yard yonder, "cold and drear,"
Can tell the mournful story ;
Our fathers now are sleeping there,
Remain, their deeds of glory.

There moulder, too, our youthful ones,
To them our tears are given,
Transplanted were those flowers from earth,
To bloom more sweet in Heaven.

The following letters were received, from distinguished individuals, by the Committee on Invitations in answer to an invitation to be present and unite with us on this occasion. The Committee deem it expedient to insert them verbatim.

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| PETER P. WOODBURY, | } <i>Committee.</i> |
| THOMAS. SAVAGE, | |
| WILLIAM PATTEN, | |

Washington City, May 6th, 1850.

Gentlemen : — I have just received your polite invitation to attend the coming Centennial Celebration of the Town of Bedford, on the 22d. inst. Few things would be more gratifying than to accept this invitation, but the pressure of my official duties here, till after that date, must prevent it.

Well may the sons of such Fathers, as first settled the county of Hillsborough, celebrate the event with grateful hearts. They were a hardy race, accustomed to dangers, enured to toil and devoted to civil and religious liberty. But what distinguished them from almost every free people, who preceded them and their co-patriots in planting civilization in the wilderness, was their wonderful foresight as to the means necessary to preserve no less than build up liberty. They soon saw that education and religion, widely diffused among them, could alone be relied on permanently for these great purposes. The village school-house and the village church, therefore, soon became the ornament of every settlement and have served to nurse luxuriantly all the free principles and free institutions which have ever since distinguished the county, where I am proud to have been born.

In whatever quarter of the globe man may be maddened by oppression to break his chains, he must remember, that to remain long free from them, intelligence must be cultivated among the people so as to know the true extent both of their rights and duties, and religion be disseminated with all her sacred sanctions, so as to make all respect what is right in others and uphold the laws and the order of society.

May the town of Bedford see many more Centennials, distinguished like this, by these rich blessings.

Respectfully,

LEVI WOODBURY.

Rutland, Vt., May 17th, 1850.

Dear Sir, — The invitation of your Committee to the Centennial Celebration of the settlement of Bedford, next week, has been duly received, and for the favor please accept my thanks. I have anticipated much happiness in being present on the occasion, and reviving my pleasant remembrances of my native town. All my associations with Bedford, both the place and the people, are delightful. Nothing ever occurred to mar them. There I passed the sunny days of my childhood and youth. There dwelt my nearest kindred and many whom I have ever regarded as friends; and I cannot give a truer utterance of my wishes for the town, than by saying, "Peace and prosperity be within thee."

I regret to say, that imperative duties will prevent my attendance. The distance, though considerable, would not

stand in the way, if other circumstances did not forbid. As it is, my best wishes shall be with you. The occasion, I doubt not, will be alike interesting and instructive. And while many, especially of the fathers, whom I once respected and revered, will not be present, I rejoice to believe that their places are occupied by others who are acting well their parts for the good of the church and of mankind.

Accept the assurance of my heartfelt interest in the welfare of your Committee, personally, and of all the good people of Bedford. May their sun not go down, neither their moon withdraw itself. May they be as the house of David, which waxed stronger and stronger.

With kindest regards,

I am very truly and respectfully yours,

S. AIKEN.

Amherst, N. H., May 13th, 1850.

Gentlemen:—I am honored with your invitation to attend the Centennial Celebration, at Bedford, on the 22d inst.; but the frosts of seventy seven years cautions me in language, not to be misunderstood, to avoid the excitement and fatigue attendant on such meetings. These town celebrations, especially where they go back to the first inroads made upon the forest by civilized man, have ever been peculiarly interesting to me. I love to hear from their small beginnings, their progress in population, in agriculture, in wealth and literature. I love to recur to the hardships and self denial with which the early settlers had to struggle, and compare these conflicts and privations, with the ease, comforts, conveniences and resources of those who succeeded them. These things in a town like Bedford, distinguished as she now is, in her husbandry, in her schools, in the respectable and substantial character of her yeomanry, in her wealth and general improvement, impart an animating and instructive lesson to posterity.

It is to be hoped that some scholar, and I know none more fit than the orator you have selected, will undertake the task of writing and publishing a minute history of the town, from the clearing the first field within its limits, to its present high state of improvement, from the planting of the acorn to

the oak in its full maturity and wide spread dimensions, giving also a concise account of the worthies and distinguished men of the town, who have been gathered to their fathers. Such a history, I am confident would be well received by the public, and amply remunerate its author. If your celebration shall have no other effect, than to produce such a result, it will not have been in vain, but positively useful.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect for the inhabitants of Bedford, and for you their Committee,

Your obedient servant,

C. H. ATHERTON.

Detroit, May 16th, 1850.

Gentlemen: — I regret exceedingly my inability to accept your kind invitation to be present at your Centennial Celebration of the settlement of the good old town of Bedford. It would have afforded me great pleasure to meet my old friends upon that occasion, but circumstances beyond my own control will prevent. The ashes of the dead as well as the loved faces of the living, attract me strongly to my native town, and that attachment I find increasing each day of my life. Permit me, in conclusion, to offer — “*The Town of Bedford*, — may her descendants (widely scattered through the land,) never dishonor their paternity.”

Be pleased to accept, for yourselves and associates, my kind regards, and believe me,

Truly yours,

Z. CHANDLER.

Key West, May 7, 1850.

Gentlemen: — On the 4th instant I received your kind letter of invitation to be present at the Centennial Celebration, which the inhabitants of Bedford contemplate holding on the 22d of the present month. It would certainly give me great pleasure to be present on that interesting occasion; but business, as well as the great distance between us, will, I fear, prevent.

Having been absent from my native town for many years,

I could not, were I personally present, contribute much to the interest of the occasion. As a son of Bedford I shall always remember her with great interest, and rejoice in her prosperity and fame. I could do little more, than give my early and youthful impressions of that noble race of men, whom the American Revolution left in Bedford. That Revolution has been called "*the times that tried men's souls.*" I would alter this to "*the times that PURIFIED men's souls.*" For a sense of common danger destroyed their selfishness, and an ardent desire of liberty elevated and liberalized their minds. In those days, men thought and acted from a common impulse, and rejoiced in a common victory.

Not a single Tory ever lived in Bedford ; almost all, capable of bearing arms, at some period or other of the Revolution, gave themselves up to the service of their country. The strongest evidence of Toryism, that was ever found in the town, as I have often heard the old patriots say, was the fact, that old priest Houston, in his extreme age, did not omit from his *formal* prayer, the mention of the King and Queen quite as soon as the young and warm bloods desired. "There were giants in the land" in those days. The times made the men ; and the men were inspired to be ready and equal to the times. My earliest recollections are busy with the old Soldiers—the big and generous hearted men, who had seen and loved Washington. Does any one seek the cause, why men were better in those days, than at present ?—it may be found in the fact, that in modern times the general desire of wealth makes men selfish, and *selfishness* is opposed to all excellence.

The limits of a common letter are wholly inadequate to discuss the traits of individual character ; and yet, it was the happy blending of individual character, that rendered the revolutionary inhabitants of Bedford a race to be remembered and revered. There was a great similarity between the people of Bedford and Peterborough. They had a common origin—they were tried in the same school of affliction, and rejoiced over the same deliverance. There was a rivalry among many of them in pleasantry, in wit, and in sententious sayings. Their virtues bore a Roman stamp, and truth was inculcated among them as indeed one of the cardinal virtues.

Some characters doubtless shone more brightly than others, as they were contemplated from this or that particular point of view. But there were some traits common to the whole

population. They nearly all possessed a severe virtue, a laborious industry, and cheerful and contented minds; they had received little or no advantages from schools: they were self-taught. If they had not the polish of the Grecian marble, they possessed the strength and solidity of their native granite. I shall long remember, and who will ever forget, the vigorous intellect and Roman character of John Orr? the excellent hearts and gentlemanly deportment of the Chandlers, the Riddles, the Pattens, the Aikens, the Moors, the Walkers, the Wallaces, and others. Memory calls up the laborious and sterling French, the facetious McLaughlin, the kind William Parker, the feeling McQuestion, the venerable Major Goffe and the talented and keen-witted Nathan Barnes. But I call on other memories to complete the list, for mine will not extend half through the catalogue. Among the excellent self-made men of that age, I cannot omit to mention one who admitted me early to his friendship, and disclosed to me the treasures of his mind; there never was, perhaps, a more perfect character in the town — a man who more strictly observed the golden rule, more free from selfishness, or more full of the milk of human kindness — than David Patten, Esq. None ever heard censure from his lips, while he ever acted the peace-maker among those at variance; he was noble by nature, and a Christian by practice; he abounded in charity, and the christian graces adorned his life. Scarcely his inferior in any particular, that constituted the good neighbor and the good man, was the beloved Thomas Wallace, who was called to his reward in middle life. Others, of a later generation, have, I trust, filled the places of the choice ones who have all been summoned to their reward. When I revisit my native town, I see but few faces, here and there, that remind me of my youth; while almost all are strange to my sight, and admonish me that *time has passed*, and that I am growing old. I fear, gentlemen, you will think that this letter smacks of the garrulity of age. I close with the wish that the youth of Bedford may know what their ancestors have been, and imitate their virtues.

With great respect, gentlemen, I remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. GORDON.

Amherst, May 21, 1850.

Gentlemen : — Your polite invitation to attend the Centennial Celebration of the inhabitants of Bedford on the 22d inst. was duly received, and, until to-day, I fully expected to be present on that very interesting occasion. With extreme regret I now find, however, that pressing duties will require my attention elsewhere at that time. It only remains to tender my sincere thanks for the honor of your kind remembrance, and may the day selected to welcome your returning kindred and friends prove as fair and beautiful, as, I am certain, their greeting will be cordial, and their entertainment brilliant and interesting.

With great respect,

Your obd't servant,

FRANCIS P. FITCH.

Franklin, May 16, 1850.

Gentlemen : — I acknowledge with grateful emotion the receipt of your invitation to be present at the Centennial Celebration of your town on the 22d instant, and have to express, in reply, my regret that illness in my family does not allow me to entertain the hope of meeting you on that interesting occasion. Time tries all things. Results developed during the course of the past century must form a noble eulogy upon the characters and wisdom of the early settlers of your territory, and an instructive illustration of the power of religious principle and free mind to bless a community and the world. May the sweetest influences rest upon the scenes and enjoyments of your festival.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. T. SAVAGE.

Nashville, May 16, 1850.

Gentlemen : — I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to attend the Centennial Celebration at Bedford, on the 22d inst. It would give me great pleasure to be present on so interesting an occasion ; but I regret to say, that imperative professional engagements compel me to forego that gratification.

I am, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. ATHERTON.

Lowell, Vt., May 15, 1850.

Gentlemen:—Your invitation requesting my attendance at the Centennial Celebration, Wednesday, 22d May inst., is in hand; and I must say, that nothing would give me more pleasure and satisfaction than to be present on such an occasion. That old and long cherished town that gave me birth, and where I spent the first and most delightful part of my life; the place where I first learned to lisp the endearing name of father, mother, brother, and sister; the place where my first, best and purest impressions were made concerning the reality of another and better world, to which so many dear kindred and friends are gone, will ever be dear to my heart. As I cannot be present, I send my good wishes and prayers for all kindred and friends, for their present and eternal happiness. May union of brotherly love and fraternal affection fill every heart, and may all bosoms glow with gratitude to the Giver of all good.

Yours, &c.,

NATHAN WALKER.

18 Wall St., New York, May 18, 1850.

Gentlemen:—Your favor of the 15th of April, ultimo, inviting me to participate with you in your Centennial Celebration on the 22d instant, has been duly received. I have delayed an answer until this late moment in the hope of being able to accept it. Present appearances indicate however that professional engagements here will prevent me from so doing.

I need not assure you that I feel the highest interest in your celebration and that although absent in person, my heart will be with you. The occasion is one well calculated to awaken in every son of old Bedford interesting reminiscences.

The township system of New England is one of the peculiar features of her well marked character. It is a social as well as a political institution. It is conceded to be the most perfect model of an absolute democracy now extant. It might be added that a happy social equality no where finds so perfect a manifestation. Especially is this true of Bedford. Social as well as political equality has always reigned there. Overgrown wealth and squalid poverty are generally unknown. You, in a measure, realize that happy medium of

condition which political philosophers have always described as the "condition precedent" of a model Republic in a golden age.

But every town gathering, of the kind you propose, has its own peculiar interest. Every town is more or less a community by itself, and as such has a distinctive character. My recollection of Bedford is that it is different from Merrimack; for instance, as New Hampshire from New Jersey. Each town, also, has its own town origin, its town history, its town biography and its peculiar town institutions and politics, to lend distinctness and individuality to its town character.

I cannot imagine any thing, Gentlemen, which would be more delightful than to participate with the assembled inhabitants of my native town in discussing and rescuing from oblivion her ancient story, her original settlement, her doings in the Revolution and in the war of 1812, her contributions to the Army in men and money, her prominent citizens now dead, her growth, her emigration, and every thing worthy of note in her history. I know that the story would be one of which Old Bedford might well be proud. I feel it to be an honor that as one of her sons I am entitled to your invitation. The recollections which such an occasion suggests, the old localities, the streams, the woods, the green hills, the old Church and the adjoining burying ground, where sleep my own kith and kin, and those well remembered faces which used to give vitality to those scenes, neither time or distance can ever obliterate from my mind. I cherish them as the sacred, golden links which tie me to youth and home, and I can truly say of my native town in the words of another,

"Where'er I roam, whatever lands I see,
My heart untrammelled, fondly turns to thee."

With the sincerest good wishes for the success of your Celebration, I remain,

Very truly yours,

P. T. WOODBURY.

Elmira, N. Y., May 20, 1850.

Gentlemen:—I had designed leaving this morning to attend the Centennial Celebration of the settlement of Bedford, to which I am invited by your kind note of the 15th ult.;

but owing to business engagements which I hoped to have been able to postpone, I find at this late hour that it will be entirely impracticable for me to leave home.

I need not say that it would have afforded me great gratification to have met, on so interesting an occasion, the remnant of the fathers with whom I passed my earliest years, and to have taken by the hand those of my contemporaries in age, who remain to fill the places of many of those fathers long since gone down to the tomb. To the stern and uncompromising virtues which characterise the Scotch-Irish, who, I believe, were pioneers in the settlement of the town, is no doubt attributable the permanent prosperity of their descendants; and that large share of social happiness which pervades the homes of those who have staid beneath the paternal roof-tree, unseduced by the restless spirit of adventure which has lured abroad so many of the sons of New England.

Permit me, therefore, to give you the following sentiment :
The Scotch-Irish, — in war they can furnish a Stark, — in peace, a Benjamin Orr.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obd't servant,

ARIEL S. THURSTON.

Boston, May 11, 1850.

Gentlemen : — Your polite invitation to attend the Centennial Celebration of the town of Bedford, N. H., is as undeserved as it was unexpected to me. I regret that weighty reasons, not under my control, prevent my personal attendance on an occasion which will mark the improvement and record the physical and mental progress of your municipality. Having passed that way within a few years, I feel confident that the inhabitants of Bedford for these hundred years have been up and doing whatever their hands have found to be done ; and a long and intimate acquaintance with their spiritual guide in these latter days, assures me of their mental advancement. Such means and appliances continued for a hundred years to come, will light a light which cannot be hid under a bushel or in the shadows of the hills, but must be set on a candlestick or on the mountain tops, enlightening all around ; which is the sincere desire of a New Hampshire boy of the Hillsborough stamp.

Your invited guest,

ISAAC P. OSGOOD.

West Buxton, May 8, 1850.

Gentlemen:—I have received your invitation to be present at your contemplated Centennial Celebration, on the 22d inst. Few occasions would afford me greater pleasure than to be present with you on that day, but age and distance will prevent. I wish you, on that day, all the happiness and satisfaction such an occurrence is calculated and designed to produce.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully,

Your friend and servant,

CHAS. COFFIN.

Ann Arbor, May 16, 1850.

Gentlemen:—I received your polite invitation to attend your celebration on the 22d inst., and it is with no small degree of regret, that I inform you that it will be impossible for me to be present on that occasion. Whether present or absent, in person, be assured my heart will be with you; for who can fail to feel an interest in the welfare of his native land—the home of his fathers—the happy scenes of his childhood? Who can but wish himself present on such an occasion as the one you celebrate on the 22d inst.—an occasion of intense interest to us all?

As we look back on the last century, and cast a thought forward, we can but faintly imagine what changes and improvements may take place in even half that length of time. It is beyond the reach of human calculation. Only let the onward progress of the present day continue for the next half-century, and what shall we become? or rather, what shall we not become? Had I time and talent to enlarge upon this thought, much interest might be awakened on a subject of such importance. But I leave it to those better qualified to think and write, than I can pretend to.

Yours, with great respect,

GEO. S. McALLASTER.

Ann Arbor, May 3, 1850.

Gentlemen:—Your note of the 15th ult., inviting me to attend the Centennial Celebration on the 22d inst., was duly received, and in reply I can only say, that notwithstanding

the good old town of Bedford is not the place of my nativity, yet it would afford me great pleasure to be present on that interesting occasion. Business about that time calls me in another direction, so that it will not be in my power to meet you on that day. But, Gentlemen, you will have my best wishes, and I remain,

Your obedient servant,

REUBEN P. GIBSON.

Manchester, May 1, 1850.

Gentlemen : — I have received your invitation to be present at the Centennial Celebration of the Town of Bedford, on the 22d inst. I very much regret that an unavoidable absence from my home, will probably deprive me of the pleasure of attending. The happy idea, (original, I think with you,) of making this celebration the occasion of collecting and committing to the press, the history of your town and of its early inhabitants, will add permanent importance and value to the natural interest of such a meeting. I hope many of our towns may emulate the example of Bedford. You have my heartiest wishes, that the day and all its incidents may be agreeable, and that they may afford to all interested, present and absent, the most pleasing recollections.

Very Respectfully, Yours, &c.,

SAMUEL D. BELL.

Weston, Vt., June 8, 1850.

Gentlemen : — Your invitation to attend the Centennial Celebration at Bedford, on the 22d ult., forwarded by my brother, I received a week previous. It was a matter of deep regret to me, that I could not attend. Just at that period, my time and attention were so occupied in preparation to remove my family to this place, that I could not accept your invitation, without very serious inconvenience. The address, with all the historical reminiscences you have collected, I expect will be published, and thus many interesting facts and circumstances will be secured from oblivion. To every native of Bedford this must be an interesting little volume. As a record of events from the earliest settlement of the Town, it will no

doubt be interesting to our successors at the close of another century. That the inhabitants of Bedford may seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and enjoy the promised consequent prosperity, is my earnest desire and prayer.

With high respect and esteem, Yours,

JOHN WALKER.

Haverhill, May 13, 1850.

Gentlemen : — Your invitation to be present at the Centennial Celebration, to be holden on the 22d inst., is received, for which you will please accept my grateful acknowledgements. It would give me much pleasure to revisit the scenes of my boyhood on that occasion, but I regret to say that business of an urgent nature will prevent my attendance. It is long since I visited my native town, and doubtless many changes have occurred; yet although many once familiar faces would be no longer there to greet me, I would gladly receive the friendly grasp of the few who remain. My heart will ever cherish the memory of its early home, and be assured I shall be with you in spirit on your coming Festival.

In closing, permit me to offer one sentiment : — The Tree of Liberty, which grew on my native soil.* As *that*, although but a barren trunk, put forth branches and expanded till it became a lofty and magnificent tree, so may the liberty of which that was the emblem, continue to flourish and extend till all the nations of the earth shall be *Free*.

Yours, Respectfully,

JACOB BELL.

Beloit, Wis., May 13, 1850.

Gentlemen ; — It would be in vain I should attempt to express the gratification derived from your invitation to meet

* Alluding to a tree on the Bell place, in the top of which was inserted, in the time of the Revolution, a liberty pole ; and the old saying was, if the tree lives, American liberty will flourish. The tree did live, until some late owner of the place cut it down. — *Editor*.

with and make one of your number, in celebrating the Centennial day of the town in which I was born, and in which I lived more than one-half of that period of time. Inclination is strongly in favor of attending, and none could enjoy the occasion and the company we should expect to meet with, better than myself and family. But the pressure of business at this season, will render it impossible. * * * *

Yours, truly,

DANIEL GORDON.

The following Notices of the occasion, are extracted from the public journals of the day. The following is from the *Boston Post* : —

“ Bedford is near Manchester, as near as the Merrimack river will permit it to be. It contains about 2000 inhabitants, and boasts of fourteen district schools, one private academy, and but one organized church — the Presbyterian church founded by the original settlers, who came here from Ulster in the North of Ireland, because the pudding-headed house of Guelph did not know enough to permit them to perform their preaching, praying, marrying, christening, and burying, according to the Presbyterian forms, as carried over to Ireland from Scotland some century before. The present pastor, the Rev. Thomas Savage, is only the third, who has presided over the ministrations of the church from its foundation, and judging from his well-knit frame, and general appearance, and the activity and energy displayed by him to-day, I should say that there is still good twenty years of hard parochial work in him. There has been a Universalist, and is now a Baptist Society, but, at present, the Presbyterians alone sustain public worship. Agricultural pursuits are favorable to steadiness in religious principles, and there is very little business other than farming carried on in Bedford, except at a point or two on the line of the river, where marks of a new people and new notions are discoverable.

The celebration was a “town affair,” provided for by the voters in town meeting assembled, and nearly every native resident able to move about took part in it, together with some hundreds who had gone forth to seek their fortunes elsewhere, but had returned on this appropriate occasion to see their relatives and exchange kindly greetings with the friends and companions of their youth. Everything was conducted with decent simplicity, and serious yet social propriety.

At 11 o'clock, a procession was formed in front of the meeting-house, under the direction of Gen. William P. Riddle, as chief marshal. Full six hundred ladies, from blooming misses of fourteen to venerable grandmothers, led the van. Then came a good band, followed by about a thousand of the men and hardy lads of Bedford. A march of an eighth of a mile brought them to the spot prepared for the ceremonies of the day, where eight long and loaded tables gave notice of a substantial collation.

For the managers and distinguished guests, a platform, decorated with evergreens and other tasteful ornaments, had been erected, and there the main work of the jubilee was performed.

Dr. Peter P. Woodbury, President of the Day, conducted the proceedings with great tact in a most successful manner, putting things through by daylight, keeping the ball in motion, omitting nothing set down in the programme, nor hurrying or slightly disposing of any part thereof. He had occasion to make several explanatory addresses, and the pithy, courteous, and lively way in which he handled these incidental items contributed essentially to the good humor of the celebration, as well as to the dispatch of business.”

The *New York Tribune* thus speaks of the Celebration :—

“CENTENARY OF BEDFORD, N. H.—The people of Bedford, New Hampshire, celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the founding of their town, on Wednesday, 22d inst. The day was fair and bright—the only clear, warm, rainless day for some weeks—and the attendance of some two thousand citizens and ex-citizens gave a deep interest to the celebration. Several had travelled hundreds of miles on purpose to attend, though obliged by stress of business to start directly from the ground on their homeward journey.

Bedford was first settled something more than a hundred years ago by pioneers from the great central hive of Londonderry, N. H., which had been settled some twenty or thirty years before, by a colony of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, who received grants of lands there in consideration of their signal services in the cause of Protestant Ascendancy in the memorable siege of Londonderry, the battle of Boyne Water, and other struggles in Ireland between the adherents of William III. and James II. respectively. It was chartered in 1750, by George II. and named after the then Duke of Bedford, a Minister of State, and ancestor of Lord John Russell, now Premier. Bedford lies on the west side of the Merrimack River, opposite old Londonderry, now divided into three or four townships, one of which (Litchfield) intervenes between the present town of Londonderry and the River. With Nashua some fifteen miles south, and Manchester on the north-east—the two being the chief seats of Manufactures in New Hampshire—Bedford remains constant to its primitive Agricultural pursuits, to its Presbyterian faith (in the main,) and to its simplicity of manners and purity of morals. The soil, though in good part strong, is hard and rocky, except some fertile intervals on the Merrimack and two or three tributaries. Lately, the growth of Manchester begins to overflow in dwellings on the Bedford side of the River, increasing the population and wealth of the town without changing its general character. Its main aspects have scarcely altered in thirty years, and the dwellings scattered within sight of the Presbyterian Church in its centre, are about as many as they were then,—say forty in all.

Dr. Peter P. Woodbury, (brother of Judge Levi) presided at the celebration, and a most interesting Historical Discourse, illustrative of the origin and settlement of the town, and of the North of Ireland Scotch-Irish race, and their extensive migration to this country during the former half of the last century, was read by Isaac O. Barnes, late Marshal of Massachusetts, a native of this town. Many of the facts therein embodied are fading from the memories of even the descendants of that hardy, God-fearing, man-defying race, and will be read with vivid interest by thousands.

The first clergyman of the town, Rev. John Houston, was the only man in it who took the side of Great Britain in the commencement of the Revolutionary struggle. Though previously beloved and esteemed, and a most worthy and devoted Christian, he was dismissed, and treated as a public enemy. A large portion of the able-bodied citizens were in the first American Army that beleaguered Boston and fought at Bunker Hill; nearly or quite half of all who could handle a musket were with Stark at Bennington and with Gates at Saratoga. Col. (afterwards Gen.) Stark lived and died on his farm just North of the Bedford line. Matthew Thornton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, lived and died just South of Bedford.

Robert Walker, son of the first settler of the town, was present at the celebration, aged 87. The second wife of the missionary, Newell, and several others who have been eminent in Religious efforts have been born here. Some six or eight Presbyterian Clergymen, natives of Bedford, were present and took part in the exercises of Wednesday. And when the whole congregation rose to join in singing the seventy-eighth Psalm, according to an ancient version and to a venerable tune, the resemblance to a gathering of Scottish covenanters of the olden time, as described by Scott, among others, was very vivid and striking.”

HISTORICAL NOTICES OF BEDFORD.

TOPOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF THE TOWN.

BEDFORD, lying in the east part of Hillsborough County, N. H., is situated on the west bank of the Merrimack river, latitude $42^{\circ} 50'$. It is bounded, north, by Goffstown; east, by the Merrimack river, which separates it from Manchester and the north part of Litchfield; south, by the town of Merrimack, and west, by Amherst and New Boston: containing an area of 20.660 acres, and represented on the map nearly in the shape of a square. It is 8 miles from Amherst, 21 from Concord, and 50 from Boston; the north-west corner of the town lies near the base of the Uncanoonucks mountains; the Merrimack and the Piscataquog are the only rivers in the town, the latter passes through its north-east corner, where there is a pleasant and flourishing village, which will be noticed under Piscataquog village; in the west part of the town the land is uneven and abounds in stone, but the qualities of the soil are warm and moist; the east part, bordering on the Merrimack river, is a pine plain with some very productive intervalles; the southern part of Bedford is noted for its abundant supply of clay — suitable for brick-yards. In some years from 20 to 30 brick-yards have been in operation at a single season, millions of brick have here been made in a single year; Lowell and Lawrence, Mass., and Nashua and Nashville, N. H., have been supplied with brick from these yards. Clay, also, has been found of superior quality and worked into brick near the centre of the town, on the farm of Gordon and Woodbury.

In mineralogy the town abounds in a great variety of specimens; iron ore is found at different places, in several varieties; sulphurate of iron embedded in common granite, and red oxide of iron combined with alumen, are common. Black lead, pyrites, copper, schorl, hornblende, epidote, talc, mica, black, yellow and green; gneiss, crystalized quartz, are found here; carbonate of lime (marble) is found in a chasm at the west part of the town, on the David Stevens' farm: One hundred and five years ago, Colonel Goffe built a forge, with a trip hammer, at the mouth of Crosby's brook, and wrought

the ore into iron in considerable quantities. Within a few years iron ore, to some extent, has been transported to Billerica and Lowell, and other forges out of town.

A fine quarry of granite near the centre of the town, on the farm of the late William Riddle, Esq., has been worked to good profit; from this place the Boston and Lowell Rail Road Company obtained much of their stone for headers and sleepers on that road, and here the Concord and Nashua Rail Road Company obtained the stone to build the rail road bridge over Goffe's Falls, and from hence, also, quantities of granite have been carried to Manchester and Nashua for building purposes.

In forest trees, Bedford is not deficient; the principal are white, red, and black oak, walnut, chestnut, maple, birch, pine, and hemlock. In the season of autumn, the woods present a singularly diversified and beautiful aspect, the blended trees and rich colors of the foliage delight the eye of the spectator, and seem to give an air of cheerfulness to the decline of the year. The mountain laurel or spoon-hunt abounds here in June and July, giving to the town the appearance of one continued flower garden; the botanical name of the bush is *Kalmia Latifolia*; the leaf is narrow and leather like, and the shrub bears some remote affinity to the magnolia, being, like that, an evergreen, it is also called calico bush. Of the white oak, great quantities of timber and plank have been obtained for ship-yards, and conveyed to Medford and Charlestown, Mass., by means of the river and Middlesex canal; Newburyport has, also, had great supplies of oak and pine from this town, transported from one place to the other by the river Merrimack. But the chestnut, of late, has exceeded all the other trees in demand for the market, vast supplies having been transported for sleepers for the various rail roads in the adjacent country.

With regard to staple commodities, to which attention has been paid in Bedford, the hop formerly employed a great many farmers, some years there was a produce in this article of 100,000 lbs. It is doubtful whether the farming interest, as a whole, was much benefitted by the cultivation of this plant, it led to a neglect of bread stuffs, and — though the price was sometimes very high, hops being sold some years for 75 cents per lb., — yet the average price was not over 10 cents per lb.: the hop-root was first brought to Bedford by William Campbell. The same root will yield well,

several years, without being removed ; in this respect, it resembles the culture of the sweet potatoe.

The local situation of Bedford, so near important manufacturing towns, has of late awakened in the minds of the citizens great attention to improvement in the various branches of agriculture, and the raising of produce for the market ; the city of Manchester, four miles from the centre of Bedford, and its own village, Piscataquog, also, Nashua and Nashville, a few miles to the south, give the inhabitants of Bedford a market for all the produce of their farms, far superior to anything they ever had before, and superior to the advantages enjoyed by most towns in the State. An Agricultural Society, consisting of citizens in Bedford, was formed in 1845, which has exerted, and still continues to exert, a good influence on the agricultural condition of the town ; they meet once a quarter and discuss agricultural subjects, and sometimes have an address from one of their own number or some gentleman out of town.

While the native forests are fast falling before the woodman's axe, attention ought to be more directed to the cultivation of shade and ornamental trees. Some young men have already engaged in this laudable work ; on the common, near the town-house, William R. Woodbury, son of Doctor Woodbury, set out two or three elm trees in 1843, and in 1847, Mr. Charles Kendall set out maple trees on the common, also, those that surround the Presbyterian meeting-house. For every tree judiciously set out, there is a new claim on the gratitude of posterity.

There are some objects of curiosity worthy of note. On the west line of Bedford, near Chestnut hills, is a vast fissure, or opening in a mighty mass of rock, apparently made by some convulsion of nature ; over the precipice thus formed is a fall of water some 200 feet into the gulf below. Here are found several excavations in the solid rock, sufficiently large to contain several persons, one of them bearing some resemblance to a pulpit, has given name to the place ; at the bottom there is always a small pool of water, where, in the hottest day, the warmth of the sun scarcely penetrates. As one stands on the verge of this tremendous precipice, emotions of sublimity will be awakened ; and any lover of nature, who should have leisure on a pleasant day, would find himself well paid by a visit to this wild and romantic spot. Sebbin's pond, in the south-east part of the

town, is somewhat of a natural curiosity ; strictly speaking, there are three ponds or divisions of water which appear to be united by their waters beneath an extensive bog which floats on the surface, and rises and falls with the water ; the ponds, taken together, are about eighty rods in diameter, and abound with different kinds of fresh water fish.

ORIGIN OF THE TOWNSHIP.

In giving some account of the *Origin of the township*, it will be necessary to call the attention of the reader to the first general Indian war, which occurred in 1675 ; it was a war with the Narraganset Indians, and was known as "King Philip's War," and was attended with great distress and cruelties, many towns in Massachusetts suffered exceedingly, but the enemy was at last scattered and King Philip slain. Hutchinson, in his History of Massachusetts, thus relates the slaughter :— "Philip fled from one swamp to another, divers times very narrowly escaping, losing one chief counsellor after another ; his uncle and sister, and at last his wife and son were taken prisoners. Being reduced to this miserable condition, he was killed August 12th, 1676, as he was flying from a pursuing party, out of a swamp near his residence, at Hope, now Bristol, Rhode Island ; one of his own men, whom he had offended and who had deserted to the English, shot him through the heart ; instead of the scalp, he cut off his right hand which had a remarkable scar, well known to the English, and which was exhibited as a curiosity. Many of the Indian chiefs were executed at Boston and Plymouth, the people were greatly exasperated ; every person in the two colonies having lost a relative or near friend, but," adds the historian, "this does not excuse the cruelty." The cause of this exterminating war, was, in fact, the encroachments of the English upon the Indians. With the shrewdness and sagacity of an Indian, Philip no doubt saw, that, in this way, his people must melt away before the white man. As a matter of curiosity, it may not be out of place to give an authentic letter from King Philip, to Prince, of Plymouth, with the original spelling and expression, exactly as given by Gookin in his account of the Indians :—

"King Philip desire to let you understand that he could not come to the court, for Tom his interpreter has a pain in his

back, that he could not travel so far, and Philip's sister is very sick. Philip would entreat the favor of any of the magistrates, if any English or Engians speak about any land, he pray you to give them no answer at all. This last summer, he maid the promies with you, that he would not sell no land in 7 years time, for that he would have no English trouble him before that time — he has no forget that you promis him. He will come a sune as posible he can, to speak with you, and so I rest your very loving friend,

PHILIP, dwelling at Mt. Hope neck.

To the much honored Governor,
Mr. Thomas Prince, dwelling at Plymouth."

This letter from Philip to Prince was written before the war, probably about 1660, or '70.

In 1732, the General Court of Massachusetts, in consideration of the important services of the officers and soldiers in that war, granted to them or their legal representatives, seven townships of land, as a reward. These were numbered, and it is curious to notice that No. 1, was in Maine, now called Buxton; No. 2, in Massachusetts, now called Westminster; No. 3, was Amherst, or Souhegan-West; No. 4,* adjoined Hatfield, Massachusetts; No. 5, was Bedford, or Souhegan-East; No. 6, was Templeton, Massachusetts; No. 7, was Gorham, Maine.

Since the Indian war, a considerable time had elapsed, — more than fifty years, — and many of the officers and soldiers who served in that expedition, were dead. Of 120 persons, to whom these townships were granted, only 20 veterans

* No. 4, was originally at the Falls of Amoskeag, on the Merrimack, and embraced the present town of Goffstown. In 1736, the proprietors of this township requested of the General Court, liberty to take up their lands elsewhere, and in 1737, the Court granted them, instead of the land at Amoskeag, a tract at Quabbin, now Greenwich, in the county of Hampden, Massachusetts, and another tract west of Hatfield in the same county, both to contain six miles square, or 23,040 acres. In July, 1739, the General Court accepted of the report of a committee, granting to the proprietors of township No. 4, 15,779 acres at Quabbin, and 7261 acres, West of Hatfield, making 23,040 acres. In 1739, the proprietors complained of ponds, swamps, &c., in these tracts, and the General Court added 3500 acres to the grant West of Hatfield. The lands West of Hatfield were included within the township of Chesterfield, and after that was divided, part of them were in Chesterfield, and part in Goshen, though most of them are in Greenwich. — [*Note by the Editors, for which they are indebted to Charles Coffin, Esq.*]

were living in 1733. All the grantees or their representatives assembled on Boston Common, June 6, 1733; at which time they divided themselves into seven distinct societies, of 120 persons each, and entitled to one of these townships. From each society, three persons were chosen as a committee, who on 17th October, 1733, assigned the several townships among their respective societies. Of the individuals to whom this township was assigned, 57 belonged to Boston, 15 to Roxbury, 7 to Dorchester, 2 to Milton, 5 to Braintree, 4 to Weymouth, 13 to Hingham, 4 to Dedham, 2 to Hull, 1 to Medfield, 5 to Scituate, and 1 to Newport, Rhode Island. Of the original proprietors, upon the book of records, which is preserved with the Town books, very few became settlers, the greater part disposing of their claims to those who became occupants of the soil.

INDIANS ON MERRIMACK RIVER.

In the history of the towns bordering on the Merrimack, a notice of the aboriginal inhabitants forms an important part. That part of this town that lays along the Merrimack, was a favorite haunt of the red man, who was once the sole tenant of this western wilderness. The Indian once roamed these woods; the land we cultivate, the forest, the rivers, the mountains around us, once swarmed with a distinct race of the human family. It would be interesting if we could get more information relating to the aboriginal inhabitants of this part of the country, and much is it to be regretted that there has been no historical account of the various tribes that once frequented the banks of the Merrimack.

The Penacook Indians inhabited what is now Concord, and the country for many miles above and below on Merrimack River; and the Indians, the traces of whose settlement are still visible in this town, on the banks of the river, no doubt belonged to this tribe, who with other smaller tribes, or bands, acknowledged subjection to Passaconaway, the great Sachem of Penacook. They ranged the banks of the Merrimack, in quest of fish and game, which then greatly abounded. The head of an arrow, or fragment of a human skeleton, is still occasionally thrown up in the sand, or uncovered by the plough; the last traces of a race that hunted and fished on these waters.

On the bank of the Merrimack River, opposite Goffe's Falls,

is a spot of ground about ten rods long, and four rods wide, which is supposed to have been an Indian burial-place. It was an open space, and entirely cleared, when the first settlers first explored the country. The surface of the bank is about forty feet above the river. Human bones, at various times, have been washed from the bank. In the summer of 1821, Dr. P. P. Woodbury and Dr. Freeman Riddle obtained a part of three skeletons from this place. Some of the bark in which they were deposited, remained. One of them appeared to have been put in the ground in a sitting posture. All their heads lay towards the South. One was supposed to be a female. The hair was entire, and was done up in a bunch on the back part of the head, in a manner not unlike that practised at the present day. The skeletons were sent to Paris, by Dr. Woodbury, for anatomical investigation.

Goff's Falls, and Amoskeag, or Namaske in the Indian dialect, were among the principal residences of the great Sachem, Passaconaway. Here, no doubt, he held his councils; here he swayed the sceptre of his power. His dominions appear to have been very extensive; reaching on both sides of the Merrimack up to its sources, and eastward to the Piscataqua River.

Unlike Philip, Passaconaway was friendly to the English. His friendship, however, might have been from motives of policy. He saw the English must ultimately prevail, and therefore, to use the language of Gookin, — "this old Sachem thought it his best prudence for himself and posterity, to make a firm peace with the English in his time, and submitted to them his land and people, as the records of Massachusetts, in New England, declare, which peace and good correspondency he had and maintained all his life, and gave express command to his son, that he should inviolably keep and maintain amity and friendship with the English, and never engage with any of the Indians in a war against them."

By his persuasion, it is possible that the great "Apostle of the Indians," Eliot, may have been induced to visit these places in the fishing season, when the Indians assembled in great numbers at the different falls in the river, to meet the incoming tide of fish, as they came up every year. In a letter to a friend in England, dated October 29, 1649, he writes, — "I had, and still have a great desire to go to a great fishing-place, Namaske, upon the Merrimac River." Rev.

Mr. Allen, who has given this letter more at large, in his Merrimack Centennial, expresses his opinion that Namaske may be Amoskeag; and for this there is some confirmation in the fact, that, one hundred years ago, Amoskeag was spelt Namaskeag, as appears from Hon. Matthew Patten's journal, where the place is often mentioned. It might possibly have been Goffe's Falls, near to the great burying-place, but it is not material. It is an interesting thought, and not improbable, that the voice of the great "Apostle of the Indians," was once heard amid these then uncultivated forests, proclaiming to the Aborigines the way of salvation.

Wannalancet, son and successor to Passaconaway, was a convert to Christianity, and also a steadfast friend to the English. Of this chief, Gookin relates the following anecdote, perfectly in keeping with the Indian character. Once, on his return from a destructive war, he called on Rev. Mr. Fiske, at Chelmsford. Among other inquiries, the chief wished to know of Mr. Fiske, whether Chelmsford had suffered much during the war. Being informed that it had not, and that God should be thanked for it, he replied, "And me next."

Scenes and incidents no doubt occurred, in ancient times, amid these localities, the actors in which belonged to another race, — scenes and incidents which no tablet has ever recorded, and which no tradition has transmitted. The following authentic account may be a specimen of many that have passed into oblivion.

At a very early period, James and Robert Walker, brothers, were engaged in manufacturing turpentine from pitch-pine trees, on the East side of the Merrimack River, opposite the farm of Mr. Josiah Walker. It was their summer business; they cleared a field, planted corn, and erected a camp near their field, in which to sleep and do their domestic work. One Saturday, two tribes or bands of Indians, came to their camp, and some of them wished to leave their guns in the camp over night, in order to keep them dry, which request was granted. They afterwards went down to the river, near the mouth of "Spring Brook," and encamped. Early the next morning, one of the Indians was heard coming in great haste, and wanted his "Baskeag," (gun,) which they let him have. He was hardly gone, when another came on a similar errand; they asked him what he wanted to do with his gun, which he seemed so anxious to get. He replied "The other

Indian — he go shoot me ; me kill him !” and as they had delivered one of them his gun, they thought they would accommodate the other likewise. The two brothers Walker dressed themselves, and went down where they could overlook the encampment, unperceived by the Indians ; expecting to be spectators of an Indian battle. The first object that met their view was two Indians in a sitting posture, with their guns pointing at each other, at the distance of two or three rods. They remained in this position some time, apparently with the intention of trying each others courage. At length one dropped his gun, sprang to his feet, and extended his hand towards the other, who immediately performed a similar movement, and the expected battle was avoided. The tribes during this time were placed in the order of battle, with knives, tomahawks, and bows and arrows, placed on logs and other convenient places, ready for immediate use in case of necessity. It were well if modern duels ended as amicably.

There were three or four garrisons, or block-houses in the town, to which the inhabitants might resort in case of danger, during the Indian hostilities excited by the French. One of these was at Mr. Robert Walker's, in the North part of the town, on the place of the late Mr. Jesse Walker. Another was on the place lately owned by Theodore Goffe, Esq. ; also, one on the Patten place, and still another, it is supposed, on the place of Mr. Josiah Walker. It was a time of danger, and the inhabitants were constantly on their guard, but the town was never attacked by hostile Indians. When at work, it is said they would keep one man posted as a sentinel, and if practicable, they would work but one day in the same field. Although the town escaped, yet individuals belonging to it were sometimes exposed. In one instance a man was killed. In 1745 James McQuade and John Burns went to Penacook, (Concord,) to purchase corn for their families, and had proceeded on their return home as far as Suncook, (Pembroke,) when they were fired upon by a party of Indians who lay in ambush awaiting their return. McQuade was shot dead, but Burns made his escape by running in a zigzag direction, which baffled the fire of the pursuers, and he arrived in safety to his family. It is related, in addition, that McQuade's mother, soon after, let one of the neighbors have some beans which were brought along in a bag, and a ragged bullet was found among them.

There is a traditionary story of Mr. Robert Walker, that relates, he started one Sunday morning in good season, to go to Londonderry to meeting, and to see his intended, who resided there. As he left his garrison, on horseback, he discovered a trail of Indians in the dew, from behind the barn through the hemp-yard to the road. He kept a sharp look-out, and on coming near the river, he heard a cracking in the wood; he kept the same pace till a turn in the road near by, when he put spurs to his horse, and heard no more of them. He supposed they were watching his movements, in order to waylay him. He came home another route through Litchfield. But we have been led forward by our notice of the Indians, a little too far in point of time.

SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN.

Before entering particularly upon this period, which has already been anticipated, some things having been mentioned that occurred prior to the settlement, it will not be out of place to give a copy of one or two documents found in the archives of the town.

The first is a petition to the General Court of Massachusetts, for a grant to the Soldiers in the Narragansett War, and grant of the petition.

“At a Great and General Court or Assembly, for his Majestie’s Province of the Massachusetts Bay, begun and held at Boston, upon Wednesday, the Thirty-first of May, 1732, and continued by adjournment, to Wednesday, Fourth day of April, 1733, and then met.

“*April 26, 1733.*

“A Petition of a Committee for the Narragansett Soldiers, showing that there are the number of Eight Hundred and Forty Persons, entered as officers and soldiers in the late Narragansett War. Praying that there may be such an addition of Land granted to them, as may allow a Tract of six miles Square to each one hundred and twenty men so admitted.

“In the House of Representatives, Read, and Ordered that the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that Major

Chandler, Mr. Edward Shove, Col. Thomas Tileston, Mr. John Hobson, and Mr. Samuel Chandler, (or any three of them,) be a Committee fully authorized and empowered to survey and lay out five more Tracts of Land for Townships, of the Contents of Six miles Square, each, in some of the unappropriated lands of this Province; and that the said land, together with the two towns before granted, be granted and disposed of to the officers and soldiers or their lawful Representatives, as they are or have been allowed by this Court, being eight hundred and forty in number, in the whole, and in full satisfaction of the Grant formerly made them by the General Court, as a reward for their public service. And the Grantees shall be obliged to assemble within as short time as they can conveniently, not exceeding the space of two months, and proceed to the choice of Committees, respectively, to regulate each Propriety or Township, which is to be held and enjoyed by one hundred and twenty of the Grantees, each in equal Proportion, who shall pass such orders and rules as will effectually oblige them to settle Sixty families, at least, within each Township, with a learned, orthodox ministry, within the space of seven years of the date of this Grant. Provided, always, that if the said Grantees shall not effectually settle the said number of families in each Township, and also lay out a lot for the first settled minister, one for the ministry, and one for the school, in each of the said townships, they shall have no advantage of, but forfeit their respective grants, anything to the contrary contained notwithstanding. The Charge of the Survey to be paid by the Province.

In Council read and concur'd.

Consented to,

J. BELCHER."

"A True Copy of Record :

Examined, Per

SIMON FROST, *Dep. Secretary.*"

"It is hereby Certified, that by an order of the Great and General Court, pass'd the eighteenth of April, 1734, Seven years from the first of June, 1734, was allow'd the Narraganset Claimants.

Attest :

SIMON FROST, *Dep. Sec'y.*"

By referring to the Proprietors' Book of Records, it will be found the above conditions of the Grant were complied

with, as respects provisions for the gospel, though a minister was not settled till after the act of incorporation.

The following documents will not be without interest to those who have a taste for such investigations, especially as they bear on the history of the township.

“Province of New Hampshire :

“At a meeting of the Proprietors of the Lands purchased of John Tufton Mason, Esq., in the Province of New Hampshire, at the Dwelling-house of Sarah Priest, widow, in Portsmouth, in said Province, on the ninth day of November, 1748, by adjournment :

“*Voted,*—That the rights of the original Proprietors of Souhegan-East, otherwise called Narraganset, No. 5, be and hereby are confirmed to them, according as the Lots have been already surveyed and laid out, excepting and reserving only seventeen shares or Rights, as according to said laying out ; the particular rights or Shares so excepted and reserved, to be determined and ascertained hereafter ; but that the particular rights and shares of Maj. Edward White, and the Rev’d Doctor Ebenezer Miller, be not among the excepted and reserved rights as aforesaid, but that their said rights and shares among said Proprietors as aforesaid, be hereby granted and confirmed to them, their heirs and assigns.

Copy examined,

Per GEORGE JAFFREY, *Prop. Clk.*”

The following paper, as explanatory of the last, may be introduced, though the date carries us beyond the present period.

“Province of New Hampshire :

“At a meeting of the Proprietors of the lands purchased of John Tufton Mason, Esq., in New Hampshire, held at Portsmouth, in said Province, on the seventh day of December, 1750 :

“*Voted,*—That the proposed reserved seventeen shares in Souhegan-East, (so called,) otherwise called Narraganset, No. 5, be drawn for at this meeting, and that the particular home-lots as heretofore surveyed and laid out by the claimers under the Massachusetts Government, that shall be drawn by any particular person or persons, shall be to the respective person by whom drawn, and to whom entered, to have and to hold the same in severalty, to them, their heirs and assigns

respectively, forever. And that the other divisions in said Tract of land, as heretofore surveyed and laid out, as aforesaid, belonging unto the home-lots respectively, shall be to the said persons, respectively, who draw the said home-lots, to have and to hold the same, in severalty, to them, their heirs and assigns, forever, in the same manner, and upon the same conditions as they hold in severalty the sundry tracts or parcels of land voted to be held in severalty by a vote passed by said Proprietors at a meeting by them held on the 25th day of July, 1750."

Pursuant to the above vote, the following draft of the said seventeen shares reserved in Souhegan-East, (so called,) otherwise called Narragansett, No. 5, were voted to be recorded in the following manner, as they were drawn at this meeting.

*Drawn to.**Home-lots.*

"1st, Theodore Atkinson, Esq., No. 39, on Merrymack.

2d, Messrs. Meserve, Blanchard, Green and March, No. 61, on Merrymack.

3d, John Moffit, Esq., No. 89, on Merrymack.

4th, John Kinge, No. 76, on Merrymack.

5th, John Wentworth, Jr., Esq., No. 83, on Merrymack.

6th, George Jaffrey, Esq., No. 20, on Babosook.

7th, Mark H. Wentworth, Esq., No. 41, on Merrymack.

8th, Thomas Parker, Esq., No. 95, on Merrymack.

9th, John Ordiorne, Esq., No. 69, on Merrymack.

10th, William Parker, Esq., No. 1, on Merrymack.

11th, Mary Moor and Daniel Pierce, Esq., No. 79, on Merrymack.

12th, Matthew Lacimon, Esq., No. 1, on Piscataquog.

13th, Joshua Pierce, Esq., No 66, on Merrymack.

14th, Samuel, Sally, and Clement March, Esq., No. 75, on Merrymack.

15th, Thomas Wallingford, Esq., No. 17, on Babosook.

16th, Richard Wibird, Esq., No. 31, on Merrimack.

17th, Jno. Tomlinson, and John Tufton Mason, Esq., No. 35, on Merrymack.

A true Copy of record,

as attested by,

GEO. JAFFREY, *Prop. Clk.*

Portsmouth, May 1st, 1796.

Transcribed, June 15, 1796."

It may, perhaps, seem to some readers superfluous to introduce papers of this kind, but it should be remembered that to the future antiquary or historian, they may have great value. The Proprietors' Book of records, preserved in the archives of this town, is becoming quite a relic of antiquity. It is bound in parchment, and is in a good state of preservation. They held their meetings in Boston, at "Mr. Luke Vardy's," also, "at the house of Peletiah Glover, at the sign of the three horse-shoes, near the Common."

One Vote of the Proprietors may be given, showing they had some regard for the religious welfare of their township: — "*Feb. 15th, 1748. Voted, — That one third of the time, Preaching shall be to accommodate the inhabitants at the upper end of the town; one other third part, at the lower end of the town; the last third, about Strawberry hill; — all in such houses as said committee shall think proper for each part of the inhabitants.*" — The committee referred to, were some of the settlers of the place.

We now approach the period of the first settlement of the town. The country was then in a wilderness state, and it required men of strong arms and stout hearts to be pioneers in such an enterprise. Wild beasts roamed where now are cultivated farms and smiling orchards. The following incident, among others, has been handed down from those early times. One day, Robert Walker and Matthew Patten went out in the month of March, to hunt for bears, near Uncanoonuck hills. Finding none, they concluded to return home, and as they were retracing their steps, they came across a catamount track. The track being along their way, they followed it on, till it turned off, and they followed it no further. Just then Walker's dog took the track, and they had not gone far before they heard the dog bark; Walker says, "There, my dog has treed the vermin, and if I don't go and shoot him, he will kill my dog." Patten tried to persuade him off, but in vain. He found the catamount, crouched on the limb of a tree, swinging his tail backward and forward, evidently meditating a spring upon the dog. He levelled his gun and fired; the ball took effect just below the ear, broke his neck, and he fell dead. It was said the tail was long enough to girt and tie in a bow-knot around the body. Robert Walker was said to be a very stout, robust man, as appears from the following circumstance that is related. He was once at Amoskeag Falls, when a man and his wife undertook to cross over from Derryfield side. The man, not

being a good oarsman, went down stream, the canoe ran on a rock and stuck fast, which prevented them from going over the falls. There they were, within sight of a number of persons, but no one ready to give assistance. At length, Walker stripped himself, swam to the rock, placed the canoe bows up stream, seated the man and woman near the middle of the canoe, and then with almost superhuman strength shoved the canoe off, springing into it at the same time, and taking his paddle brought them safe to the shore, to the great joy of themselves and all the spectators. This Robert Walker came from his Uncle Stark's, (father of Gen. John Stark,) in Londonderry, where he had been living, and joined his brother James, in his camp on the bank of the Merrimack, making turpentine and cultivating corn in summer, and hunting wild game in winter. They soon came over this side the river; James to what is now the farm of Lieut. Josiah Walker, and Robert to the place where the late Mr. Jesse Walker lived and died.

The first settlement of the township was in 1737. As early as the winter of 1735, a man by the name of Sebbins,* came from Braintree, Massachusetts, and spent the winter in what was then Souhegan-East. He occupied himself in making shingles, and the spot he selected for this purpose, was South of the old grave-yard, between that and Sebbins' pond, on the North line of a piece of land that was owned by the late Isaac Atwood. In the spring of the year, he drew his shingles to Merrimack River, about a mile and a half, on a hand-sled, and rafted them to Pawtucket Falls, now Lowell. The pond already noticed, and a large tract of land around the same, still goes by his name.

In the fall of 1737, the first permanent settlement was made by Robert and James Walker, brothers; and in the following spring, by Matthew and Samuel Patten, brothers, and sons of John Patten; and soon after by many others. The Pattens lived in the same hut with the Walkers, until they built one of their own, near where Joseph Patten used to live. They commenced their first labors near the bank of the Merrimack, on a piece of ground known as Patten's field, about forty rods North of Josiah Walker's barn. The Walkers were immediately from Londonderry, N. H. The Pattens never lived in Londonderry, though they belonged to

* This name, Sebbins, or Sibbins, is spelt according to the pronunciation, and may be a corruption of the real name.

the company ; they were immediately from Dunstable. The father, John Patten, with his two sons, Matthew and Samuel landed at Boston, stopping there but a short time ; thence they came to Chelmsford, and thence to Dunstable, where he stayed till he came to Bedford. The second piece of land cleared, was on the Joseph Patten place, the field South of the first Pound, where the noted old high and flat granite stone now stands.

With few exceptions, the early inhabitants of the town were from the North of Ireland, or from the then infant settlement of Londonderry, N. H., to which they had recently emigrated from Ireland. Their ancestors were of Scotch origin. About the middle of the 17th century, they went in considerable numbers from Argyleshire, in the West of Scotland, to the counties of Londonderry and Antrim in the North of Ireland, from which in 1718, a great emigration took place to this country. Some arrived at Boston, and some at Casco Bay, near Portland, which last were the settlers of Londonderry. Many towns in this vicinity were settled from this colony ; Windham, Chester, Litchfield, Manchester, Bedford, Goffstown, New Boston, Antrim, Peterborough and Acworth, derived from Londonderry a considerable proportion of their first inhabitants.

"Many of their descendants," says Rev. Dr. Whiton, in his History of the State, "have risen to high respectability ; among whom are numbered four Governors of New Hampshire ; one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence ; several distinguished officers in the Revolutionary War and in the last War with Great Britain, including Stark, Reid, Miller and McNeil ; a President of Bowdoin College, some members of Congress, and several distinguished ministers of the Gospel."

President Everett, in his life of Gen. Stark, thus notices the colony, — "These emigrants were descended from the Scotch Presbyterians, who in the reign of James, were established in Ireland, but who professing with national tenacity a religious belief, neither in accordance with the popular faith in Ireland, nor with that of its English masters, and disliking the institutions of tithe and rent, determined to seek a settlement in America. The first party came over in 1718, and led the way in a settlement on Merrimack River. They were shortly succeeded by a large number of their countrymen, who brought with them the art of weaving linen, and first introduced the culture of the potatoe into this part of

America, and furnished from their families, a large number of the pioneers of civilization in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine; and some of the most useful and distinguished citizens of all these states." These quotations will not, it is hoped, be thought superfluous, when it is considered how large a proportion of the early inhabitants of the town were of Scottish origin. They were, as they are justly represented in the address of Col. Barnes, a well-principled, frugal, hardy, and industrious people, who brought with them a sound attachment to religious institutions. "And it is interesting to notice the similarity between the pilgrims of Plymouth, and the emigrants from the North of Ireland, as respects the motives which led them to emigrate. It was no worldly ambition, it was no unhallowed thirst of gain, that in either case appears to have led these hardy men to leave the comforts and endearments of their native land, and come to this western wilderness. It was, we may believe, in both cases, for the enjoyment of the rights of conscience and religious privileges, that they came across the Atlantic, and settled down in these forests." — [*Historical Sketch of Bedford, by Rev. Thomas Savage.*—1840.]

A few years after the first settlement, the inhabitants petitioned to be incorporated, and in 1750, the town, which had been called Souhegan-East, or Narragansett, No. 5, was incorporated under its present name, and within its present limits, its territory originally extending South, to Souhegan River. What circumstance led to the choice of *Bedford*, as the name, is not certain. It has been suggested, with probability, it might have been in compliment to the Duke of Bedford, who corresponded with Benning Wentworth, Esq., Governor of the Province at the time of the act of incorporation.

SOUHEGAN-EAST VESTED WITH TOWN PRIVILEGES.

April 11, 1748. — Gov. Wentworth informed the Council of "the situation of a number of persons, inhabiting a place called Souhegan-East, within this Province, that were without any township or District, and had not the privilege of a town in choosing officers for regulating their affairs, such as raising money for the ministry," &c.

"Upon which, his Excellency, with the advice of the Council, was pleased to order that the above-mentioned

persons, living at s'd place, be and hereby are empowered to call meetings of the s'd inhabitants, at which meeting they may, by virtue hereof, transact such matters and things as are usually done at town or Parish meetings within this Province, such as choosing officers, raising money for paying such charges of the s'd inhabitants, as shall be voted by a majority present at any such meeting. Provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein contained, shall be construed, deemed, or taken as a grant of the land, or Quieting any possession. And that this order may be rendered beneficial to the s'd inhabitants, tis further ordered, that Capt. John Goffe, Jun'r, call the first meeting, by a written notification, posted up at a public place amongst the inhabitants, fifteen days before the time of the s'd meeting, in which notification the matters to be transacted are to be mentioned; and after that, the Selectmen may call meetings, and are to follow the rules in so doing, that are prescribed by law, for Town and Parish meetings. This Vote to continue and be in force till some further order thereon, and no longer."

CHARTER GRANTED TO SOUHEGAN-EAST, IN 1750.

"At a Council holden at Portsmouth according to his Excellency's Summons, on Fryday, May the 18th, 1750:—*Present*:—Ellis Huske, Theodore Atkinson, Richard Wibird, Samuel Smith, John Downing, Samuel Solley, and Sampson Sheaffe, Esquires:—A petition signed Samuel Miller, William Moore, and others, presented by John Goffe, Esq., and Mr. Samuel Patten, praying for a charter of Incorporation of the inhabitants of a place called Souhegan-East, in this Province, being read, and Joseph Blanchard, Esq., in behalf of the town of Merrimack, also at the same time appearing, and the parties being heard on the said Petition, and agreeing where the line should run, in case his Excellency, with the advice of the Council, should think proper to grant the Petitioners a Charter of Incorporation. Mr. Goffe and Patten, upon being asked, declared that the sole end proposed by the petitioners, was to be incorporated with privileges as other towns, by law, have in this Province.

"Upon which the Council did unanimously advise that his Excellency grant a Charter of Incorporation, as usual in such cases."

The following is a copy of the Petition before mentioned.

PETITION FOR INCORPORATION.

“To his Excellency, Benning Wentworth, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty’s Province of New Hampshire, and to the Honorable, his Majesty’s Council, assembled at Portsmouth, May 10, 1750.

“The humble Petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of Souhegan-East, so-called, Sheweth, That your Petitioners are major part of said Souhegan; that your petitioners, as to our particular persuasion in Christianity are generally of the Presbyterian denomination: that your petitioners, through a variety of causes, having been long destitute of the gospel, are now desirous of taking the proper steps in order to have it settled among us in that way of discipline which we judge to tend most to our edification; that your petitioners, not being incorporated by civil authority, are in no capacity to raise those sums of money, which may be needful in order to our proceeding in the above important affair. May it therefore please your Excellency, and Honors, to take the case of your petitioners under consideration, and to incorporate us into a town or district, or in case any part of our inhabitants should be taken off by any neighboring district, to grant that those of our persuasion, who are desirous of adhering to us may be excused from supporting any other parish charge, than where they conscientiously adhere, we desiring the same liberty to those within our bounds, if any there be, and your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

“ Samuel Miller,
William Moor,
John Riddell,
Thomas Vickere,
Matthew Little,
James Moor,
John Tom,
James Kennedy,
Robert Gilmoor,
Richard McAllister,
James Walker,
John Bell,
John McLaughlin, Senior,
Thomas Chandler,
John McDugle,
Samuel Patten,
Alexander Walker,
Gan Riddell,
Benjamin Smith,

John McLaughlin,
William Kennedy,
Fergus Kennedy,
John Burns,
Gerard Rowen,
John McQuige,
Patrick Taggart,
John Goffe,
John Orr,
John Moorehead,
James Little,
Robert Gilmoor, Senior,
David Thompson,
James McKnight,
Hugh Riddell,
Daniel Moor,
John Clark,
Robert Walker,
Matthew Patten.

These are to certify, that we, the above subscribers, do commission John Goffe, Esq., and Mr. Samuel Patten, to present this petition, in order to obtain incorporation for us, according to their instructions from us, the subscribers.

JAMES LITTLE, *Clerk.*"

[Dated,] *May* 10, 1750.

"Province of New Hampshire.

"George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

[*L. S.*] To all to whom these Presents shall Come,
Greeting :

"*Whereas*, Our Loyal Subjicks, Inhabitants of a Tract of Land, within Our Province of New Hampshire, aforesaid, Lying At or near A Place called Sow-Hegon, on the West side of the River Merrimack, Have Humbly Petitioned and Requested to Us, That they may be Encted and Incorporated into A Township, and Infranchized with the same Powers and Privileges which other Towns, within Our sd Province, by Law Have and Enjoy, and it appearing to Us, to be Conducive to the General good of Our said Province, as well as of the Inhabitants in Particular, By maintaining good Order, and Encouraging the Culture of the Land, that the same should be done, Know Ye, Therefore, That We, of our Especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and for the Encouragement and Promoting the good Purposes and Ends aforesaid, By and with the Advice of Our Trusty and well beloved Benning Wentworth, Esq., Our Governour and Commander In Chief, And of Our Council for sd Province of New Hampshire, Have Encted and Ordained, And by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, Do will and Ordain that The Inhabitants of a Tract of Land, aforesaid, Or that shall Inhabit and Improve thereon hereafter, Butted and Bounded, as follows, (*Viz :*) Beginning at a place three Miles North from the Bridge over Sow-Hegon River, at John Chamberlain's House, and thence to Run East, by the Needle, to Merrimack River, to a Stake and Stones, and to extend that Line West, until it Intersect a Line Known by the name of the West Line of Sow-Hegon East, and from thence to Run North, Two Degrees West, about three Miles and an

half to a Beach Tree, marked, called Sow-Hegon West, North East corner, thence South, Eighty Eight degrees West, by an old Line of marked Trees to a Chestnut Tree, marked, from thence North, Two Degrees West, Two miles, to an Hemlock Tree, marked, called the North West Corner of said Sow-Hegon East, thence East, by the Needle to Merrimack River, to a Stake and Stones, thence Southerly, as Merrimack River runs, to the Stake and Stones first mentioned. And by these Presents, are Declared and ordained to be a Town Corporate, and are hereby Encted and Incorporated into a Body Pollitick and a Corporation, to have Continuance forever, by the Name of Bedford, with all the Powers and Authorities, Priviledges, Immunities, and Infranchizes, to them the said Inhabitants, and their Successors for Ever, Always reserving to us, Our Heirs and Successors, All White Pine Trees growing and being, Or that shall hereafter Grow and be, on the sd Tract of Land, fit for the Use of Our Royal Navy, reserving also the power Of dividing the sd Town, to Us, Our Heirs and Successors, when it shall appear Necessary and Convenient for the Benefit of the Inhabitants thereof. It is to be understood, and is accordingly Hereby Declared, that the private Property of the Soil is in no manner of way to be affected by this Charter. And as the several Towns, within Our said Province of New Hampshire, are by the Laws thereof, Enabled and Authorized to Assemble, and by the Majority of Votes to Choose all such Officers as are mentioned In the said Laws, We do by these Presents, Nominate and Appoint John Goffe, Esq., to Call the first Meeting of the said Inhabitants, to be held within the sd Town, at any time within thirty days from the Date hereof, Giving Legal Notice of the Time, Place and design of Holding such Meeting; After which, the Annual Meeting in sd Town, shall be held for the Choice of Town Officers, &c., for ever, on the last Wednesday in March, annually.

“ In Testimony Whereof, We have caused the Seal of Our sd Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness, Benning Wentworth, Esq., Our Governour and Commander In Chief of Our sd Province, the nineteenth Day of May, In the Year of Our Lord Christ, One thousand Seven hundred and Fifty.

B. WENTWORTH.

“ By His Excellency's Command,
with Advice of Council.

THEODORE ATKINSON, *Secretary.*”

"Prov. of N. Hamps.

"Entered and recorded in the book for Charters, the 21st day of May, 1750.

PER THEODORE ATKINSON, *Secretary.*"

"GEORGE, THE SECOND, By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

[*L. S.*] To all to whom these Presents shall come,
Greeting : —

"WHEREAS, by our Charter, bearing Date the second Day of April, in the year of our Lord Christ, one Thousand seven Hundred and Forty-six, and in the nineteenth year of his Present Majesty's Reign, We did Incorporate a Certain Town in our said Province, by the Name of Merrymac, by such Boundaries, with such Privileges, and under such Limitations, as are Expressed in the said Charter, the Quantity of Land Therein being About Eight Thousand Acres. And Whereas, the Inhabitants Thereof have Lately represented to Us, that the said Land is very mean and ordinary, and Therefore Incapable of supporting such a number of Inhabitants, as will enable them to support the Charge of a Town, Without a Further Addition of Land and Inhabitants. Wherefore, they Humbly Pray that an addition may be made to the Town of Merrymac, on the northerly side Thereof, of a Tract of Land of about three miles in Breadth, and about four miles and an half in Length, which being tho't for the benefit of our said subjects, and for the Mutual advantage of The Whole Inhabitants, We Do by These Presents, By and with the advice of our Trusty and well Beloved Benning Wentworth, Esq., our Governor and Commander-in-Chieff and of our Council for said Province of New Hampshire, Will and ordain, that a Certain Tract of Land, in Breadth about three miles, and in Length about four miles and an half, Bounded as follows, (*Viz:*) Beginning at a Place three miles North of the Bridge over Souhegan River, at John Chamberlin's house, and from Thence to Run East by the needle to Merrymac River, and to extend that Line West, from the place Three miles north from the Bridge aforesaid, until it intersects a line on a point north by the

needle, from the Northwest Corner Bound of the Town of Merrymac, Therefore, Incorporated to Bound Westerly on that line, and on Merrimac River Easterly, and on Souhegan River southerly, shall, and hereby is, annexed to, and united with the said Town of Merrymac, with all the Inhabitants that are or shall be thereon, and that the same shall be, and hereby is, Incorporated with the said Town, with the respective Inhabitants that are, or shall be, on each of the afors'd Parcels of land, and is hereby Declared to be one Intire Corporation or Body Politick, by the Name of Merrymac, to Go in succession forever, with all the Privileges, Powers, Franchezes and Imunities that any other Town Within this Province, has, holds, or enjoys by Law, Excepting as hereafter Excepted :

“To Have and to Hold to the sd Inhabitants, and to their successors, forever, only hereby Reserving All White pine trees that are Growing, or shall hereafter Grow thereon, to his Majesty's use ; Reserving, also, the Power of Dividing the sd Town, when it shall be tho't necessary, to us or to our successors, forever, In Testimony Whereof, We Have caus'd the Seal of our said Province to be hereunto Affixed. Witness, Benning Wentworth, Esq., our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our said Province, the first day of June, and the twenty-third year of His Majesty's Reign, Anno Domini, one Thousand seven Hundred and fifty.

B. WENTWORTH.

“By His Excellency's Command,
with the advice of the Council,

THEODORE ATKINSON, *Secretary.*”

“*Province of New Hampshire.*

“Entered and Recorded in the book of Charters, the 5th day of June, 1750.

THEODORE ATKINSON, *Secretary.*”

“*Province of New Hampshire.*

“By the Hon. John Wentworth, Esqr., Surveyor General of all and singular, His Majesty's Woods, within all and every His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations on the Continent of America.

[L. S.] "To SAMUEL BLODGET, of Goffstown, in the said province, Esq. :

" WHEREAS, His Majesty, by his royal Commission, dated the 16th day of July, 1766, hath been graciously pleased to appoint me Surveyor General of all his Majesty's woods in North America, with power to appoint deputies and under officers to carry the said service effectually into execution :

" I do, therefore, by virtue of Authority vested in me by said commission, appoint and depute you, the said Samuel Blodget, to be one of my assistant deputies, to preserve the King's woods from trespass or waste, and to put in execution all the acts of Parliament, and Statutes enacted for that purpose, and to do and perform all acts and things whatsoever, to the said office appertaining, in the following Districts, viz : — Goffstown, Bedford, Weare, Pembroke, Allenstown, Bow, Dunbarton, Merrimac, Amherst, Litchfield, Chester, Concord, Boscawen, Hopkinton, New Boston, Sanbornton, New Salisbury, Canterbury, Methuen, Wilton, Peterborough, Temple, Plymouth, New Chester, Alexandria, New Britain, Meredith, Lyndborough, Henneker, New Amesbury and Cambden, all in the aforesaid Province; and also, Haverhill, Andover, Dracut, Chelmsford and Ipswich, in the Province of Mass. Bay; Hereby authorising and requiring you, the said Sam. Blodget, to forbid and prevent, by all lawful means, the violation of said acts, and to seize and Mark for his Majesty's use, all pine timber that you may find cut and hauled from the King's woods, without license first had and obtained from me, and all offenders as aforesaid, to prosecute and punish, as to law and justice appertains. And you, the said Sam. Blodget, are hereby required to return to me an exact account of your proceedings herein, quarterly, from this date, or oftener, if occasion shall require, and for your encouragement to exert yourself with diligence and fidelity in the duties of the said office, you will receive such compensation for your services as your merit shall appear to me to deserve, out of the fines and forfeitures only, that may accrue or be levied by your means. This warrant to be in force during pleasure only. Given under my hand and seal, at Portsmouth, the 11th day of February, 1772.

J. WENTWORTH.

"SAMUEL BLODGETT, Esq. :

To be Assistant Deputy Surveyor of the woods."

FRENCH WAR.

THE History of this town will show, that the Inhabitants have not been deficient in public spirit, but have exhibited a readiness to make sacrifices for the welfare of our Country, whenever the exigence of the times demanded. As far back as the French War, in 1756, there were persons belonging to this town in the service of their country. Col. John Goffe was in command of our forces at one period,—and the following are names of private individuals, who engaged in that war:—William McDougal, George Orr, Robert Holmes, Thomas McLaughlin, Samuel Patterson, James Patterson, Nathaniel Patterson, John Orr, and John Moor; the last of whom was taken prisoner at Fort William Henry, and carried to France, from thence to England, whence he returned home.

In 1760, a regiment consisting of eight hundred men, was raised by the Province of New Hampshire, to join the expedition under Gen. Amherst, against Canada. This regiment was under the command of Col. John Goffe, of Bedford, and in fact, was made up in a great measure, of men from the neighboring towns in Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties. Col. Goffe had his rendezvous at "Lytechfield," then the important town of Hillsborough County.

The 10th of May, 1760, Gov. Wentworth summoned his Council and informed them that the Regiment was "to march without loss of time, from Lytechfield to Charlestown, on Connecticut river, which being through an unsettled country and uncertain whether provisions could be got there, he thought it necessary to send provisions to Lytechfield to supply them from thence to Charlestown; and asked the Councils advice thereon, as also about a supply of arms, &c."

The Council advise the Governor that he "give orders for so much provision as will be necessary to victual the regiment from Lytechfield to Charlestown and cause the same to be transported to Lytechfield." They also advise, "that a sufficient number of arms be supplied the men, to guard the regiment on their way to Crown Point."

The provisions were duly provided, and Col. Goffe marched with his regiment to Charlestown. From thence, with a vast deal of labor, a road was cut by the troops through the wilderness, in the direction of Crown Point, for the distance of twenty-six miles, and so well made, that the provisions

of the regiment passed over it in carts without difficulty. It is needless to remark, that such troops under such a leader, were equal to any emergency, and rendered most essential service in the campaign.

Capt. James Walker was engaged in this war, from 1760 to 1763, as a sutler, under Col. John Goffe, his father-in-law. In 1764, he was appointed Captain of a troop of horse, by Governor Wentworth; the commission, dated March 4th, 1764, and signed by Theodore Atkinson, Jr., Secretary, and B. Wentworth, Gov., is in town, in a good state of preservation.

We will here insert a few short extracts from Capt. James Walker's Journal, while Sutler in the French War.

"*June 16, 1760.* I set out for Albany from No. 4, but was detained, and I got to Mr. Grime's, in Swansea, and lodged there all night, and it rained very hard, and the 18th, I arrived at Northfield, and lodged there all night, and the next day to North Hampton, and lodged at Capt. Lyman's. The 20th, I arrived at Westfield, to Capt. Clayer, and 21st *June*, I got to Shattucks, and I went to breakfast at Sheffield. I got to Kinderhook, and lodged there all night. *June 23*, I arrived at Albany. *June 24*, came to Mr. Fisher's to lodge. It rained all that week, and on the Sabbath, 29th, it rained very hard in the morning, and cleared off very pleasant."

"1760, *July 4.* I was at Mr. New-kirk's house, in the Mohawk Country, and returned to Albany the 6th, (Sabbath,) and I paid three dollars for a horse to ride to Mr. New-kirk's. *July 10*, Thursday, Mr. Fisher and I sent one team loaded, to Lake George, with sugar, cheese, and tobacco, and I was very much out of order all that day with the head-ache, and all my bones and flesh was sore, and I was so weak that I could hardly walk the street, and so I remained till the 13th. (Sabbath) I felt some better. *July 19*, Saturday, we sent one cart away, loaded with three barrels of rum, and one barrel of shrub, and one barrel of spirits, and two boxes of chocolate, and one box of soap."

"*July 22.* Mr. Fisher and I lodged at Saratoga all night going to the Lake. *July 23*, we got to Lake George, to Mr. Cooper's, where we lodged all night."

"*July 24.* I set out to go to Crown Point, and tarried all night on the Lake, and got to Ticonderoga the next morning, one o'clock. And 25th, I got to Crown Point and lodged all night with Capt. Rogers; and Saturday 26th, it rained, and the 28th, I went to Col. Haviland, and got a pass to go to Albany, this was a Monday."

"*Tuesday 29.* I saw a pickerel that was four feet and five inches long, that was found dead in the Lake."

"*July 31, 1760.* The Regiment arrived at Crown Point, and 4th of August the Post mustered, and this was a Monday. *August 8,* I got to Lake George, coming back to Albany, this was a Friday, to get stores for the Regiment."

He got back to the army with his stores and proceeds:—

"*August 30.* We pitched our tent and got our stores from the Landing; I went to the Mills to bring more stores and was obliged to stay the 31st day, waiting for the 'Snowshoe,' this was a Saturday."

"*September 2, 1760.* A Schooner and Sloop came up to Crown Point, with the French prisoners and wounded men. Friday, 5th *September*, was a very pleasant day. 7th *September*, Sabbath. 9th, Moon changes at 8 o'clock, morning."

"*September 10, 1760.* Was Wednesday, and we were all waiting for News from the Army, but could hear none. Monday the 8th day, Montreal was surrendered to our arms, and we received the news the 12th day, which was very agreeable to us all."

REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

IN the Revolutionary War, Bedford furnished a large number of citizens, who united in opposing the oppression of Great Britain, and in common with their fellow-citizens, were zealous in sharing the danger and hardships to which they were exposed. Their zeal and patriotism were manifested by a ready compliance with the requisitions of Congress, and the orders of the Provincial Convention. A few extracts from the Town Records, will represent the spirit of that day, and the excitement of that trying period:—

January 16, 1775. "Voted,—To adopt the measures of the Continental Congress."

"Voted,—Capt. Samuel Patten, Capt. Daniel Moor, and Lieut. Samuel Vose, be a Committee to carry said measures into execution."

"Voted,—Mr. James Martin, be appointed Deputy, in behalf of the town, to attend the Provincial Congress, to be

held at Exter, on Wednesay 25th inst., for the choice of a Delegate to represent their province at the Continental Congress, proposed to be held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 10th of May next."

"*Voted*,— That we will bear our proportion, with the other towns in the Province, for sending Delegates to Philadelphia, 10th of May next, if our grievances are not removed before that time."

"*Voted*,— That James Martin, have one dollar per day, for his time and expenses, while he is our Deputy at Exeter, on the present occasion."

" *April 20, 1775.*

" **TO THE SELECTMEN OF BEDFORD.**

"*Gentlemen*,— This moment, the melancholy intelligence has been received of hostilities being commenced between the troops, under Gen. Gage, and our brethren of Massachusetts Bay. The importance of exerting ourselves at this critical moment has caused the Provincial Committee to meet at Exeter, and you are requested, instantly, to choose and hasten forward, there, a Delegate or Delegates, to join in the Committee and aid them in consulting measures for our safety.

" In great haste, and by order of the Committee,
Your Humble Servant,

J. WENTWORTH."

" *April 25, 1775.* *Voted*,— OUR SELECTMEN, inspect the families of our men that are gone to the army, and if they find any in want, to provide what is necessary for them, at the town cost."

" *November 12, 1776.* *Voted*,— That the town pay ten dollars to each man that went to Ticonderoga, on the town's account, in July last, and seven dollars for a drum."

" *Voted*,— To dismiss the soldiers that went out of this town, that served in the Continental army in the year 1775, of their poll tax."

" *Voted*,— Wiseman Clagget, Esq., of Litchfield, to represent the towns of Bedford and Merrimack, in General Assembly, now sitting at Exeter, for the year 1777, agreeable to a precept to us directed."

"*March 26, 1777. Voted*, — Thomas Boies, James Vose, John Martin, Lieut. John Orr, and John Aiken, be a Committee of safety."

"*April 10, 1777. Voted*, — To raise eighty dollars, to give as a bounty to each soldier that shall enlist in this town for the Continental army."

"*May 19, 1777. Voted*, — That those men that went on behalf of the town, from Winter-hill to New York, and thence to Canada, and thence back to Ticonderoga, be free from their poll-rate for 1777."

"*June 15, 1778. Voted*, — The Selectmen of Bedford shall supply the soldier's wives with the necessaries of life, at the rated prices, and that the town pay the overplus."

"*February 18, 1779. Voted*, — The Selectmen of this town stand ready to supply Mr. Robert Morrill's wife with the necessaries of life, at the stated prices, if she come to this town, during her stay in the same, and his stay in the Continental army, for the town of Bedford, unless the Continental Congress make provision in such case."

The following votes, show the great depreciation of paper money at that time.

"*September 17, 1779. Voted*, — To raise three hundred pounds lawful money to purchase grain for Levi Whitman's wife."

"*September 9, 1780. Raised* ten thousand seven hundred pounds, lawful money, to purchase beef for the army."

"*November 15, 1780. Voted*, — To allow Fifty dollars per bushel for Indian Corn."

"*May 24, 1781. Voted*, — To raise thirteen thousand five hundred pounds, L. M., in Continental bills, to purchase beef for the support of the army the present year."

"*May 3, 1783. Voted*, — The Constable be directed to receive One Spanish Dollar, in lieu of one hundred and sixty dollars in Continental bills."

We only add the following to the votes, relating to this interesting period.

"*July 10, 1783. Voted*, — We, will not proceed to business, by reason of it being a day of rejoicing on account of the Peace."

Some extracts from the Journal of Hon. Matthew Patten, are here introduced, illustrative of this part of our history.

"April 20, 1775. I received the melancholy news, in the morning, that Gen. Gage's troops had fired on our countrymen at Concord, and had killed a large number of them. Our town was notified last night. We generally met at the meeting-house, about 9 o'clock, and twenty of our men went directly off for our army, from the meeting, to assist them. And our son John came home from Pawtucket, and intending to set off for our army to-morrow morning, and our girls set up all night baking bread and fixing things for him and John Dobbin." John Dobbin was Mr. Patten's hired man.*

"21. Our John and John Dobbin, and my brother Samuel's two oldest sons, set off and joined Derryfield men, and about six from Goffstown, and two or three more from this town, under the command of Capt. John Moor of Derryfield. They amounted in number to 45 in all. Suncook men and two or three others that joined them, marched on in about an hour after; they amounted to 35. There was nine men went along after, belonging to Pennykook or thereabouts."

"22. I was awaked in the morning by Mr. Chandler's man, with a letter from the Committee of the Provincial Congress, for calling another Congress of the Province immediately. And I went with it as fast as I could, to John Bell's, but he had gone to the army, and both the other Selectmen."

"24. I went and notified on the River Row, to meet at the meeting-house, on our public distress. And I went to Col. John Goffe, to ask his advice, and we met toward evening, and acted on what we thought necessary."

"25. I went at the service of the town, to Col. Goffe, and Merrill, at MacGregor's, and cautioned them to take special care of strangers, and persons suspected of being tories, crossing the river by ferries; to examine and search, if they judged needful. And I got nine flints from Mr. MacGregor, for which I paid him 11s. 8d. old tenor."

* January 20, 1850. Dr. Woodbury called on two daughters of Matthew Patten, Polly and Sarah Patten, and asked them if they could remember anything that took place when they first heard of the battle of Lexington, 1775. "O yes, remember very well, never shall forget. Brother John came home that night, and we sat up all night, baking bread and making small clothes for brother John and John Dobbin, who went away early in the morning. The soldiers kept coming along, and we kept giving the bread and meat, and when night came, we had not a morsel left." "At the battle of Bunker Hill we could hear the guns very distinctly." [Polly lately deceased, aged 89, Sarah, still survives.]—*Ed.*

"July 23, 1777. The evacuation of Ticonderoga. I paid advanced wages. And this day I went to New Boston, to Capt. McGaw's and mustered 52 men for Col. Moor. They were from Lyndeborough, New Boston, Francestown, Deering and Antrim. My expenses was 1s. 6d. at McGaw's. I went to Hugh Gregg's and lodged all night."

The following are the names of those revolutionary soldiers who went from this town, to serve their country in the glorious struggle for independence :—

| | |
|--|---|
| Col. Daniel Moor, | Nathaniel Spofford, |
| Maj. John Goffe, | Robert Dewrump, (<i>killed.</i>) |
| Capt. James Aiken, | Patrick Larkin, |
| Capt. Thomas McLaughlin. | William Houston, |
| Lieut. John Patten, | Hugh Jameson, |
| John Patten, jr., | Whitfield Gilmon, |
| Samuel Patten, | John Bell, |
| James Patten, | James Houston, |
| Robert Patten, | Valentine Sullivan, (<i>taken in the</i> |
| Hugh Campbell, | <i>retreat from Canada; died a</i> |
| John Gault, | <i>prisoner.</i>) |
| Isaac Riddle, | William Kerr, jr., |
| David Riddle, | David Gregore, |
| John Riddle, | George Orr, |
| Amos Martin, | John Ross, |
| James Martin, | James Steel, |
| George Gault, | Stephen Mack, |
| Stephen Goffe, (<i>lost at sea.</i>) | Robert Morrill, |
| Hugh Thornton, (<i>died in serv.</i>) | Josiah Turrill, |
| — Primas Chandler, (<i>taken at the</i> | Patrick O' Murphy, |
| <i>Cedars and never after heard</i> | Patrick O'Fling, |
| <i>of.</i>) | Calvin Johnson, (<i>died in service.</i>) |
| Samuel Barr, | Hugh Matthews, |
| John Callahan, (<i>killed.</i>) | Joseph Matthews, |
| James Moor, | Thomas Matthews, |
| Robert Cornwell, | William Caldwell, |
| John Caldwell, | John Dobbin, |
| James Grear, | John Boies, (<i>taken prisoner and</i> |
| Jonas Cutting, | <i>carried to Limerick, Ireland,</i> |
| William Parker, | <i>thence to Mill prison, England.</i> |
| John Kellen, | Josiah Gordon, |
| John McAllister, | Phineas Aiken, |
| Barnet McCain, | John Manahan, |
| John Griffin, | Thomas Lancy, |
| Luke Eagan, | William Goffe, (<i>killed.</i>) |
| Solomon Kemp, (<i>killed.</i>) | William Barnet, (<i>died in service.</i>) |
| John O'Neil, | David C. Houston, |
| Jonathan Dorr, (<i>killed.</i>) | John Burns, |
| George Hogg, | William Burns, (<i>wounded.</i>) |
| John Gardner, | James Smith, |
| Emigrant Chubuck, | John Russell, |
| Samuel Fugard, | Samuel Turiell, |
| William Newman, | Levi Whitman. |
| — Thomas McClary, | |

The following soldiers were with Lieut. John Orr, at the battle of Bennington, under Gen, John Stark : —

John Barnett,
 Samuel Reinox, (*wounded by a
 musket ball through each hip.*)
 Samuel Houston,
 Robert Burns,
 James Walker,
 William McLaughlin,
 William Moor,
 Adam Smith,
 John Wallace,

Jacob McQuade,
 Samuel McAfee, (*died.*)
 Robert Matthews,
 Isaac Houston,
 Hugh Riddle,
 James Wallace,
 John Aiken,
 John Bell,
 John Morrison,

Very few towns, probably, furnished a larger quota of men for the Revolutionary army. And those who remained at home were willing to make sacrifices, as well as those who went away. The people boiled corn-stalks to make molasses, and drank liberty-tea, (*Ribwort*,*) for a beverage instead of Hyson and Gunpowder tea. But they were a people accustomed to hardships; the females were not strangers to outdoor work, such as raking hay, reaping grain, and cultivating flax. Some of them went out to work for their neighbors, in these employments. The sons and brothers of such women would be hardy and brave.

The following document, connected with the Revolution, is a curiosity, and shows that at that day constituents felt at liberty to instruct their Representatives. It was found among the papers of John Rand, Esq., who is also one of the signers.

“ *Bedford, May 31, 1783.*

“ To Lieut. John Orr, Representative at the General Court of the State of New Hampshire : —

“ Sir : — Although we have full confidence in your fidelity and public virtue, and conceive that you would at all times pursue such measures only as tend to the public good, yet upon the particular occasion of our instructing you, we conceive that it will be an advantage to have your sentiments fortified by those of your constituents.

“ The occasion is this ; the return of those persons to this country, who are known in Great Britain by the name of loyalist, but in America, by those of conspirators, absentees, and tories :

* Common Plantain leaves, considered a good external application for wounds, &c.

"We agree that you use your influence that these persons do not receive the least encouragement to return to dwell among us, they not deserving favor, as they left us in the righteous cause we were engaged in, fighting for our undoubted rights and liberties, and as many of them acted the part of the most inveterate enemies.

"And further, — that they do not receive any favor of any kind, as we esteem them as persons not deserving it, but the contrary.

"You are further directed to use your influence, that those who are already returned, be treated according to their deserts.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| SAM. PATTEN, | } A Committee chosen May 28th, by the Town of Bedford, to give in- structions to their Representative." |
| JOHN RAND, | |
| JOHN GOFFE, | |
| JOHN BELL, | |
| GEORGE ORR, | |

The following interesting item in revolutionary history, is from the "American Archives," compiled by Peter Force, Esq., and printed at the expense of Government, by order of Congress. It is a circular, addressed to the Selectmen of each town in the Colony of New Hampshire, with the signatures from each town, to a declaration of attachment to the American cause. As the document is of considerable value, we subjoin it, so far as relates to Bedford.

DECLARATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"Colony of N. Hampshire, &c. — Committee of Safety,

"April 12, 1776.

"To the Selectmen of Bedford: — In order to carry the underwritten resolve of the Honorable Continental Congress into execution, you are requested to desire all Males, above twenty-one years of age, (lunatics, idiots, and negroes excepted,) to sign the Declaration on this paper, and when so done, to make return thereof, together with the name or names of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the General Assembly, or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

M. WEARE, *Chairman.*"

"In Congress, March 14, 1776.

"Resolved,—That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions and Councils, or Committees of Safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed, within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend by Arms, the United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the British Fleets and Armies.

"Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMPSON, Secretary."

"In consequence of the above Resolution of the Continental Congress, and to show our determination in joining our American brethren, in defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the inhabitants of the United Colonies, We, the Subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our power, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, with arms, oppose the hostile proceedings of the British Fleets and Armies against the United American Colonies."

Signers in Bedford.—*"John Wallace, jr., James Caldwell, William Caldwell, John McKinney, Asa Barnes, Samuel Tirrel, jr., John Moor, James Wallace, James Martin," &c. [See Appendix.]*

The list has about 100 signatures, only a few of which, as they stand, are given here, as, with one exception, all the inhabitants were willing to sign, as appears from the following return.

"To the honorable, the Council and House of Representatives, for the Colony of New Hampshire, to be convened at Exeter, in said Colony, on Wednesday, 5th inst. :

"Pursuant to the within precept, we have taken pains to know the minds of the inhabitants of the town of Bedford, with respect to the within obligation, and find none unwilling to sign the same, except the Rev. John Houston, who declines signing the said obligation, for the following reasons ; Firstly, Because he did not apprehend that the honorable Committee meant that Ministers should take up arms, as being inconsistent with their ministerial charge, Secondly,

Because he was already confined to the County of Hillsborough, therefore, he thinks he ought to be set at liberty before he should sign the said obligation. Thirdly, Because there are three men belonging to his family already enlisted in the Continental Army.

JOHN GOFFE, }
JOHN ORR, } *Selectmen.*

Bedford, June 4th, 1776."

Should any one have the curiosity to examine the work from which the above is an extract, they would find much to interest them. In the return from Amherst it is stated, "all who have seen it have signed, except" — then the names of four are given, who refused to sign. So from Londonderry, the return says, "we find none who refuse to sign except the following persons," naming fifteen. In some towns, all the inhabitants signed the agreement.

Many interesting facts might, no doubt, be collected concerning those who went into the Revolutionary service from this town. There was one in particular, George Orr, whose life was so eventful, that some account should be given. The following facts are from his daughter, Ann Orr, and they extend back to his childhood, long before the Revolution. George Orr, losing his parents when an infant, was brought up till the age of sixteen, by an Aunt Dinsmoor, of Windham. At that age, he went to sea in the merchant service. But as it was then a time of war, he was pressed on board a British man-of-war, and continued in the naval service three years. Peace being restored, he was paid off and honorably discharged in London, from whence he travelled on foot through the country to Edinburgh, took passage for America, and returned to his friends in Bedford.

Intending to settle on a farm, he purchased a piece of land in Goffstown, and went to sea once more, to obtain a little more money to make his last payment and secure a title. But as war had again broken out, he was, on his very first voyage, pressed again into the British navy, and kept there seven years more, generally on the Mediterranean Station. At length an order being received to send a vessel on to the New England coast, the captain of that vessel, requested the commander of the ship, on board which George was bound to Gibraltar, to exchange a number of Yankee seamen, who he feared might desert when they came into a New England

port, and give him an equal number of Europeans for his voyage.

George, speaking the broad Scotch dialect, was taken for a Scotchman, and being asked if he was willing to change ships, readily agreed, and thus, in an unexpected moment was released from the Mediterranean Squadron, and found to his great joy, that the ship was to be anchored in Portsmouth harbor, where he had friends that would aid him in making his escape. As soon as the ship arrived, he persuaded another sailor to accompany him, took the first chance of securing a boat and making their escape. They were closely pursued, but finding friends ready to conceal him, he soon arrived safely in Londonderry. Advertisements were sent after, but he had nothing to fear; the inhabitants of the place would have risked their lives rather than to have given him up. The ship could make but a short stay, so that he could soon bid defiance to naval authority. He, however, always spoke with respect concerning his officers, and said the severity they practised was generally indispensable. He boasted, that through the service, he never got a single scratch from the boatswain's cat. [Thanks to Congress, flogging is now abolished in the American Navy.] As he had never been heard from by his friends, his land had been conveyed to another, and he was left, after ten years' hard service on the ocean, with nothing but the sailor's suit upon his back. The good ladies of Londonderry soon furnished him with clothing. His health was unimpaired, and he was willing to labor, but being no landsman, he was unskilful in farming, and dared not trust himself again on the ocean. As his only resource, he engaged in boating on the Western lakes. Commencing at Schenectady they pursued their course in bateaux, up the Mohawk river, carrying their canoes and baggage from one stream to another, till they reached Lake Ontario, thence pursuing their voyage through the lakes, till they met the Indian traders at Mackinaw, and exchanging their goods for furs, returned to Schenectady in the fall, making but one trip in a year. In this business he spent seven years more of his life. With the little property thus acquired, he returned to Bedford, purchased fifty acres of wild land, built a cottage, married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Wallace, and set himself to clearing up his farm, but was again interrupted by a call to take up arms in defence of his country. He was with the army at Ticonderoga, and was a boatswain under Gen. Arnold, on Lake Champlain. Here a ball split open the

wristband of his shirt, and broke the skin on his hand, which was all the wound he received. Having completed his term of service, he returned to Bedford, and steadily pursued the cultivation of his farm. He died, Oct. 17, 1807.

CHANGES IN MANNERS AND CUSTOMS.

It may be well to glance for a moment at the contrast between the past and the present, as to modes of living, habits, customs, &c. The present generation, surrounded with conveniences and luxuries of life, can but imperfectly comprehend the living and fare of their progenitors. The fine fabrics of the present day, of woollen, linen, silks, &c., were worn by few. Shoes were but little worn in the summer, except on the Sabbath and holidays; they were generally carried in the hand until they got near the meeting, when they were put on. Wheat flour was but little used, chiefly on Thanksgiving-days, and other festival occasions; Rye and Indian was the common bread of the country. Broths were the common food, particularly Barley broth, which was the food for morning, noon, and night, at some seasons of the year. Milk was quite a luxury; Tea and Coffee were rarities seldom enjoyed.

It is related of Dea. Orr, father of the late John Orr, Esq., a man remarkable for Scotch wit and fondness for joke, that at one time he went to Boston, to sell his butter and other produce, and having got through, at the close of the day, and being greatly fatigued, he put up at a place of entertainment in Boston, and being asked what he would have for supper, spoke of his fatigue, and said he would like something to restore his spirits. The landlady suggested a cup of tea would be good for him, which he readily accepted, and of which he drank several cups. After he had done, the lady said it was customary to turn the cup upside down to signify no more was wanted. He apologized, and said he would remember it. The next morning instead of a cup of tea, he took, at breakfast, a bowl of bread and milk, and not wanting the whole, he finished, and then turned the bowl upside down, with the contents on the table. The hostess administered a severe reprimand, but he pleasantly replied, she must not blame him for following her direction.

Splinters of pitch pine, and pitch pine knots were used for lights, instead of candles. Many a scholar of Bedford has studied his lesson by this light, who has afterwards become distinguished in public and private life.

There has been a great change in travelling vehicles. The first buggy-wagon, was owned by Stephen French, and Seth Page obtained the second from Samuel Hodge, of Frances-town, N. H. Venerable farmers, with their wives on pillions behind them, rode to meeting on horseback. The manner of borrowing and lending among our ancestors, was truly patriarchal. A neighbor killed a calf, no part of it was sold, but distributed among relatives and friends, the poor widow always having a piece, and the minister not being forgotten ; if he did not get the shoulder, he got a portion as good. And when a neighbor wished for help to break up his ground, and a number of yokes of oxen were necessary, all he had to do was to let it be known, and not only the oxen and plough could be had, but a man to drive. The inhabitants generally were well acquainted with each other, — their circumstances and wants. The needy and destitute always found a helper, and that, too, with a good and generous heart. There was no aristocracy, — all considered themselves on an equal footing. At the present day, though there is in this town, more than usual equality of condition, yet the change is no doubt great. The Grandmothers were often robust, hardy women, not unwilling to work in the field, reaping grain, &c., as occasion required. Such entries as the following, in Matthew Patten's Journal, are not uncommon.

"Aug. 20, 1763. — I worked at the meadow, and I got 100 cocks this week, and there came up a shower about the middle of the afternoon, and caught about 20 cocks ready for raking. This week Alex'r Orr's wife reaped a little more than half a day."

In those early days, there was a propensity for frolic and fun that would hardly consist with modern gravity. We are now more artificial, and society is less tolerant of the native outbursts of feeling and humour. There is another anecdote related of the same man, that so sadly misunderstood the Boston landlady. People then were less scrupulous in the use of language than now. On one occasion, some words escaped him, that were thought highly out of character, and they got to the ears of the minister ; one said to another,

I must certainly rebuke him, for using such terms. The other said, you had better let Orr alone. However, on one occasion, when several of the clergy were together, and Deacon Orr among them, one of them reprimanded him for the objectionable language. "How could you suffer yourself to speak so?" "Why what was it?" The expression was mentioned to him. "And what o' that," said he, "D' ye expect me to be a spirit an nae flesh?"

The murder of McQuade, by Indians, has been alluded to. Burns, the survivor, had to bear occasionally the ridicule of one of his neighbors, who called in question his courage in this affair. He intimated that Burns' imagination had conjured up the Indians, or peradventure, if it was by Indians, they were Squaws, — not warriors. At one time, one Caldwell, threw this up to Burns, at his house. "Well, well, perhaps you may yet be scared, — by Indians, — Squaws or not." Very soon, Caldwell set out for home; it was just on the edge of evening. He had no sooner gone, than Burns took down his wig, and putting it on, followed Caldwell. He soon approached him, and stepping cautiously, broke the dry twigs off as he passed along; Caldwell hearing the sound, immediately suspected it was an Indian, and jumped into the bushes, where he stood still; Burns did the same. Caldwell ventured out, and looking round very circumspectly, moved on again; Burns too stepped out and moved on after him, breaking more twigs off as he passed along. The moment Caldwell heard the footsteps of the supposed Indian, he would dart into the bushes, and Burns would do the same. At last, Caldwell could endure it no longer, he set out on the run, at the top of his speed. In getting to the nearest house, he had to pass a small brook, over which, was a single square stick of timber, which served for foot people to pass over without getting wet. But Caldwell took the safe cut, and terror giving wings to his speed, went directly through the brook at two bounds, and up the bank, and into the house of his friends, about four rods off. When fairly in, and as soon as he could get his breath, he cries out — "Where's the gun?" There happened to be only a single person in the House at the time, a female. "I say — give me the gun, I have seen a thousand Indians, in the woods, they will be here in a moment." On this, in came the owner, making serious enquiries, what was the matter. "Oh, says Caldwell, I have just come from Burns', and I have seen a thousand

Indians, and they will be here in a moment, no doubt they are now looking through the cracks of the house."

"Oh!" said Moor, the owner of the house, "its nothing else, Caldwell, but Burns, who is making a fool of you, come with me, down to the brook, and I have no doubt you'll see him." To cut the story short, the result was, that Burns was never troubled with any more slurs on his valour.

There was a great deal of primitive simplicity and warm-heartedness among the first settlers. They were principally established near the river; but John Orr, (already mentioned,) Benjamin Smith, and William Moor, selected farms west of Strawberry Hill. Being separated from the main settlement by miles of dense forest, they were warmly attached to each other, and as Mr. Orr had not been accustomed to labor in his native country, he would have found it difficult to get along with his work, if his more skilful neighbors had not cheerfully lent him assistance. "Indeed," said Catharine, wife of Benjamin Smith, more than sixty years afterwards, "I am sure that Billy and Ben never grudged the time they spent helping John Orr to clear his land, for he was a father to us all, and they were never with him without hearing something that did them good. When there was any difficulty, we were all but one family; we were healthy and contented; the only thing we missed, was our sanctuary privileges. We could seldom hear a single sermon without going to London-derry. But we did na' always stay at home. Annie Orr, (grandmother of Rev. Silas Aiken,) and I, carried my Robert in our arms when he was ten months old, travelling on foot, to Mr. McGregor's meeting; Ben went with us, but he did us little good, for he was not worth a fig to carry a bairn. It was a weary journey, but we had a good will to the way, and were never a hair the worse for it. We had a day's preaching once in a while in some barn. In one instance, Margaret Orr left her children at home, and went with John to meeting; but she got no good of the sermon, for thinking of the little ones she had left at home. 'They might be careless, and tittle-tattle down to the brook and fall in and be drowned; I'll not do so again;' said she. The next Sabbath, John, and such of the children as were able, went to meeting, and Margaret staid at home to take care of the baby; and taking her Bible to read a little, the child slipped out and was gone! As soon as she missed it, she ran to the brook, but it was too late; She could only wade into the water and draw it out,

take it in her arms, carry it home, a corpse, and watch in silence till the meeting was done."

The above information is from the late Miss Ann Orr, who had it from the lips of old Mrs. Smith. The following, from the same source, is a graphic sketch of the death-bed scene of a good man. 1752; John Orr was seized with a malignant fever; he seemed to be aware that this might be his last sickness. "He sent for us all," said the venerable Mrs. Smith, when she was more than eighty years of age, "and we gathered around his dying bed, and there was mourning there, such mourning as could not now be heard around the death-bed of a father. He took Matthew Patten by the hand, and told him that he must now take his place in town affairs. 'See that the records are fairly kept, and everything done in an orderly manner.' He gave each one of us such advice as he knew we needed." "And you remember it yet, I suppose;" said Miss Orr. "How can I e'er forget it? 't is the last thing I shall think of in this world, if I have my senses."

Mr. Orr, was, no doubt, a fine specimen of a shrewd, pious, plain-hearted Scotchman, such as Scott has represented the father of Jeannie Deans, in the "Heart of Mid-Lothian."

Changes have taken place at the present day, some for the better and some for the worse. Customs used to prevail, of which it may be said, "They are more honored in the breach than the observance." Of these, one was, having ardent spirits at funerals, a practice that was once almost universal. It is said, that at the funeral of Maj. Goffe, a barrel of rum was set out before the house, for all to help themselves, and it was all gone before night.

Then with regard to the Sabbath, it was formerly better observed than now. The following article appears in the town-meeting warrant for 1779;—"As for some time past, the Sabbath has been greatly profaned, by persons travelling with burthens upon the same, when there is no necessity for it,—to see whether the town will not try to provide some remedy for the same, for the future." Catechistical instruction in families, and schools, now so much neglected, then generally prevailed, while now the Sabbath School system presents some advantages not then enjoyed.

SKETCH OF THE CHURCH AND MINISTRY.

MINISTRY.

THE religion of the first settlers, was for the most part, that of the Church of Scotland, to which country, their ancestors originally belonged, and from which they emigrated nearly a century before their children came to America.

Of this church, the acknowledged founder was John Knox,* who had learnt from Calvin, in Geneva, the form of ecclesiastical government that is known as Presbyterian. The Scotch Kirk, as it is called, was the true child of the Reformation, being, from the first, strongly opposed to the Church of England, which was viewed by them as not having come out from the abominations of Babylon the great; but only as having shaken off a few of the grosser corruptions of Rome.

Neither did the followers of Knox sympathize cordially with the Puritans, or Congregationalists, as they are now called. The great Puritan principle of Church government, that every congregation ought to be governed by its own laws, without being subject to the authority of synods, presbyteries, or any ecclesiastical assembly whatever, was a principle from which the Presbyterian dissented. This, however, was about all the difference. "It is in this," says Mosheim, "their notion of ecclesiastical government, that the difference between them and the Presbyterians, principally consists; for their religious doctrines, except in some points of very little moment, are almost entirely the same with those that were adopted by the Puritans."

* The dwelling-house of Knox is still standing in Edinburgh. This interesting relic which has narrowly escaped destruction, is now in course of repair and restoration, and it is said, will, when completed, resist the ravages of time, probably for as long a period as has elapsed since the Reformer's era. McCrie's *Life of Knox*, just republished, would be a valuable accession to the family library.

About 1650, quite a number went over from Argyleshire, in the West of Scotland, to the counties of Londonderry and Antrim, in the North of Ireland. Warmly attached, as might be expected, to the Presbyterian doctrine and discipline, in which the Church of Scotland was united, — these Scottish emigrants were exposed to the persecutions in which the Protestants of Ireland were involved during the reign of Charles 1st and James 2d, until 1680, the period known as the British revolution, when William and Mary ascended the throne. They then enjoyed more toleration, but still, as they dissented from the Church of England, they were subject to many embarrassments, among which not the least was, being obliged to support a minister of the established religion. Besides, they were continually liable to great hardships and dangers, and many of them suffered in the siege of Londonderry, that memorable affair in 1689, when James 2d, with a powerful force from France, made a descent on Ireland. Accordingly they resolved to emigrate to America.

Springing from such an origin, as did most of the early inhabitants of this town, it might be expected they would be decidedly Presbyterian in doctrine and discipline. That they were so, appears very early in their petitions to be incorporated as a town, in which they say, — “Your petitioners, as to our particular persuasion in Christianity, are generally of the Presbyterian denomination.” The Church of Scotland has been prolific in great and good men. From her bosom have gone forth sons who have been luminaries in the church and the world. Ralph Erskine, George Campbell, and Thomas Chalmers, are names that will go down with lustre, to the latest generations. It is a church dear to the hearts of multitudes now in heaven, and multitudes still on earth. The sacramental seasons, the service at the tables, adapting instruction to the old, the middle-aged, and the young, who took seats in succession, the tokens that have now disappeared, but were then solemn, and perhaps necessary: the preparatory days, and the Monday service, and the gathering together, when the country was thinly settled, on Friday or Saturday, from different and sometimes distant towns, to hold sacred communion with God and each other, furnished altogether a most thrilling occasion, and must have had a most happy religious influence on those who enjoyed the privilege. It was not uncommon to go from this town, and

from New Boston, and even Antrim, to Londonderry, on these sacramental festivals, which occurred only twice a year.

The first Presbytery in New England was constituted in Londonderry, April 16, 1745, and was called the "Boston Presbytery." It was by this body, the church in Bedford was organized, according to the Presbyterian form of government. Immediately on the incorporation of the town, they turn their attention to the settlement of a stated ministry. At the first town-meeting after the charter, we find the following vote:—"Voted, That the ministers be entertained at Sam'l Patten's, at the charge of the town." A call was given to three candidates in succession, but without any important results.

July 26, 1750. "Voted, There be a call given to the Rev. Mr. Alexander Boyd, to the work of the ministry in this town." At the same meeting it was "Voted, That Capt. John Goffe, Dea. John Orr, and Mr. Hugh Riddle are to present a call to the Rev. Mr. Alexander Boyd, to the work of the ministry in this town, and are commissioned to prosecute the call to the Presbytery, and to all intents needful thereto."

March 28th, 1753. "Voted, Unanimously, to present a call for Mr. Alexander McDowell, to the Rev'd Presbytery, for the work of the ministry in this town."

Oct. 1st, 1754. "Voted, To give Mr. Samuel McClintock a call to the work of the ministry in the town of Bedford."

May 31st, 1756, "Voted, Unanimously, to revive their former call to Mr. Sam'l McClintock to the work of the ministry in this town."

Rev. Mr., afterwards Dr. McClintock was settled at Greenland, in this state, and for many years was an able and faithful minister. Rev. Mr. Bouton, in his discourse, entitled "Fathers of the New Hampshire Ministry," mentions Dr. McClintock as "among the New Hampshire pastors, who, more or less, had divinity students." His ministry continued forty-eight years. The day before he died, he said, "that his entire dependence and hope was on that Gospel which he had preached to others." He was a graduate of Princeton College, N. J., 1751; received degree of A. M. at Harvard, and that of D. D., at Yale College, 1791. He died, 1804.

In the next effort to settle a minister they were successful.

Aug. 5, 1756. We find the following in the town records. "Voted, Unanimously, to give Mr. John Houston a call to the work of the ministry in this town."

Mr. Houston was born in Londonderry, 1723, and it was stated to the writer of this notice, by an aged lady of the name of Houston, still living in this town, that his oldest brother was the third male child born in Londonderry. He was educated at Princeton, N. J., at which College he took his degree, 1753. He studied divinity in his native town, with Rev. David McGregor, of Londonderry. Mr. Houston was well-reputed for classical and theological learning, and settled among the people with encouraging prospects of continued usefulness and happiness. By virtue of being the first settled minister of the place, he was entitled to certain lands reserved for that purpose in the settlement of the township, some of which still remains in possession of his descendants. The following is the provision made by the town for the support of Mr. Houston.

Aug. 7th, 1756. "Voted, To give Mr. John Houston, equal to 40 pounds Sterling, in old Tenor, as the law shall find the rate of Dollars, or Sterling Money, for his yearly stipend, if he is our ordained minister. And that what number of Sabbath-days, annually, we shall think ourselves not able to pay them, he shall have to his own use and disposal, deducted out of the aforesaid sum in proportion, (*viz.:*) Apportioning the whole of the aforesaid sum equally among the whole number of Sabbath-days in a year, and those Sabbath-days which shall be so set off to him by the town annually, the town shall be freed from paying to him for them, and shall only pay according to the aforesaid proportion for what number of Sabbath-days we shall keep of his time. And that what number of Sabbath-days the town shall vote, annually, to have of his time, them they shall have at the same rate of proportion, or the whole of his time when the town shall see meet."

According to these conditions, we find the town every year passed a vote, that he should have so many Sabbaths, sometimes ten or fifteen, more or less, as the inhabitants might decide, for his use and disposal, until, at a period of great dissatisfaction, as we shall see, they voted him the whole of the year. On the 28th Sept., 1757, Rev. John Houston was ordained to the work of the ministry in this town. The ministers who took part in the services of the ordination, were the following, according to Matthew Patten's Journal, in which we find the following record: — "Rev'd Mr. True, of

Hampstead offered the prayer; Rev'd Mr. Parsons,* of Newbury, preached from 1 Tim. i., 2, — 'According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust;' Rev'd D. McGregor, of Londonderry, gave the charge; Rev'd Mr. True gave the right hand of fellowship; and Rev'd Mr. White, of Gloucester, concluded by prayer." From this journal, we learn that Mr. Houston's text, the first Sabbath after ordination, was, — "Fear not little flock; it is your father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom;" it is your appropriate; as it must have been a small church and congregation in the midst of a wilderness. The first board of Elders, which was probably chosen about this time, consisted of James Little, James Gilmoor, Benj. Smith, William Moor, and James Moor.†

Among a small parcel of MSS. Sermons, found among Mr. Houston's papers, was an outline of a discourse delivered on occasion of the ordination of Elders, probably this very board. He must have been a young man at the time, as it would be impossible for any but young eyes to decipher the characters, which are very small, on a very scanty piece of paper. As nothing from Mr. Houston's pen, has been preserved in print, it may be interesting to the curious, to look at this specimen of his composition, especially as it shows his sentiments as to the duties of ruling elders. The text is from Titus, i, 5, — "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldst set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee." The Sermon is thus divided:—

- 1st. Show the Divine right of ruling elders;
- 2d. Qualifications of ruling elders;
- 3d. Duties incumbent on them;
- 4th. Application.

* Of Mr. Parsons, the following anecdote is related. He was at times, very passionate, but when the first impulse was over, no man could be more penitent. On one occasion, a bill was presented him for payment, which at first struck him as exorbitant, and he angrily refused. No sooner, however, had the claimant returned to his place of business, than Mr. Parsons entered, and the following dialogue ensued:—

"Have you seen Mr. Parsons this morning?"

"Yes, certainly, I saw you at your house, and presented your bill."

"It was n't Mr. Parsons, it was the devil. I'll settle the bill!"

† There were Elders before this, — as there was an Elder John Orr, who died, 1753.

Passing over the first two, he devoted himself to the third, viz. : Duties of Elders. "These," he says, "are too many to be enumerated. But the main and principal part of their duty and office is to rule and govern the church. To this end, you are to join together, in conjunction with the Pastor, and then you make us a Judicatory of the Lord Jesus Christ; so that whatsoever you bind or loose on earth, shall be bound or loosed in heaven.

"Your office also, according to our Constitution, gives you right to sit and vote in the superior judicatories of the church, from the lowest to the highest. It is also the business and duty of your order, to watch over the moral behavior of your fellow-Christians. And as it is part of the duty of all Christians, to exhort daily, and to love as Brethren, so it is something peculiar to your order, to visit the fatherless and widow, and be ready to give counsel and advice in all difficult matters, to prevent angry debates and heal divisions. You are to reprove, rebuke and exhort, to stand and shut the door of the church against scandalous professors, and open the door to those who are qualified.

"APPLICATION. *First*, — Hence we see the excellency and glory of the gospel dispensation, wherein life and immortality are brought to light.

"*Second*, — Hence we see the necessity of proper judicatories in church matters, to settle controversies, otherwise there would be confusion. Though some object to giving away their rights, yet we know no rights that conflict with the order of God's house. [*Call the names of the elders elect.*] You have, in a free, open meeting, been elected to the office of ruling elders, and after taking time to consider, you have seen it your duty to accept. You are now to be set apart for that office. You are to engage in an office to which there is little of a temporal nature to induce you; an office, honorable, but apt to be the mark of banter, ridicule, and profane drollery. You profess to adhere to the essential doctrines of the Old and New Testament, the only rule of faith and practice as particularly set forth in the confession of faith; and further, you profess, as far as you know your own heart, you now undertake this office, not with a view to honor or a name in the world, nor with a design to lord it over God's heritage, or any similar design whatsoever, but with a single purpose, to strengthen the hands of your brethren, and contribute your mite, to advance the interests of

Christ's kingdom in the world. And to this end, you do engage to apply yourselves to a faithful discharge of the duties of your office, as briefly hinted at : let me exhort you to think often of your solemn engagements, and to apply yourselves to the duties of your temporal calling as Christians ; so to the duties of your peculiar office, and let these be backed by a prayerful and exemplary study to be just and upright, to be inoffensive and modest, savory and holy in your conversation. Think that the least wrong step, or incautious conduct, will be noticed in you. Some will be spiteful and wicked enough to make a handle of it. Walk wisely towards them that are without. Know how you ought to behave yourselves in His house, the church of the living God, — the pillar and ground of the truth.

“Brethren of the Congregation, — You see these men, whom your choice has raised to the office of Elders. You have heard a summary of their duties and obligations. Suffer the word of exhortation. Be exhorted to receive them in love, yield them that respect and submission, to which by their office, they are entitled. Be subject to them in discipline. Permit them to rule over you as their duties require.”

Such is the outline, given with verbal accuracy, of what was probably an interesting sermon, on an extraordinary occasion. But the paper that contains the whole, would scarcely cover the palm of the hand, owing in part probably to the scarcity of paper at that day. It is probable the sermon occupied much time in the delivery, as they were accustomed to long sermons. An old lady from Scotland, said that “in her country, the sermons were two hours and a half long, but had now come to be only one hour and a half, and she feared what the world was coming to.”

We have no records of the Church to which to refer during this early period of its existence. It enjoyed the stated ministrations of the gospel, and seems to have grown in strength and prosperity. The pastor devoted himself from year to year to the laborious duties of his solemn calling. Among his old papers was found one giving a long catalogue of names, with this heading, all in his own hand-writing : “A List of persons supposed to be qualified for being Catechised in Bedford, *Jan'y 10th, 1758.*” On this list are several hundred names, classed apparently by families ; among which we find the names still familiar to us, of Moor, Walker, Patten, Orr, Wallace, Barr, Riddel, Aiken ; and other names

not now among us, as Boies, Little, Taggart, Gile, McDowell, Scobey, &c. Catechistical instruction was then, no doubt, faithfully attended to, with the exception of few, if any, families.

In 1758, we find on the town records a petition of which the following is the commencement : — “ We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Merrimack, being of the Presbyterian persuasion. And whereas we cannot enjoy the privilege of the public worship of God in our own town, according to our own persuasion, nor any where else at present, so convenient as at Bedford, under the ministry of Rev. John Houston, therefore, &c.” Acting on this petition, the town “ *Voted*, — That the inhabitants of Merrimac who pay rates to the support of the gospel in Bedford, have so many Sabbath-days of our Rev'd Pastor's time, for public worship to be held at John Burns' as they pay in proportion with us, toward his annual salary for the present year, if our Rev'd Pastor be willing.”

Nothing appears but that Mr. Houston was happy and successful in his parochial relations, until about 1768, when there appears to have been some grievances, and symptoms of dissatisfaction. On the one hand the minister and elders complained of it as a grievance, that “ a number of persons, members of the church, on pretence of occasional communion at Londonderry, broke off from the use and improvement of common and special ordinances at home ; ” and on the other hand, certain members of the church and congregation complained, among other things, that the minister maintained that “ what he and the deacons did, was above being inquired into ; and for prosecuting to the Presbytery, some of those who have endeavored to enquire into the reason of some conduct of the deacons.” But no open rupture appears to have occurred between the minister and people, until the exciting period of the Revolution. The news of the Lexington battle, 19th April, 1775, spread through the land. All New England was in arms, and thousands moving towards the scene of action. The next year, Independence was declared, and the declaration was received with acclamation. In this state of things, those who set themselves against the tide of patriotic feeling, became very unpopular. Perfect unanimity could hardly be expected in so complete a revolution. Many individuals, from various causes, still adhered to the parent state. Persons of this description were

denominated tories, and enemies to their country, and some of them became so obnoxious to the people, that without the semblance of authority, they were seized by force, and subjected to personal abuse, in a manner unjustifiable.

Mr. Houston took the unpopular side in politics, and being constitutionally inflexible, became a thorough and decided loyalist. In taking this step, he placed himself in direct opposition to the prevailing spirit of the town, and in his public ministrations, as well as private conversation, gave great offence to his people. But we can best gather a correct view of these troubles, by examining the votes of the town in relation to these matters.

May 16, 1775, we find the following article in the warrant for town-meeting. "To see what method the town will take relating to Rev'd John Houston, in these troublesome times, as we apprehend his praying and preaching to be calculated to intimidate the minds of his hearers, and to weaken their hands in defence of their just rights and liberties, as there seems a plan to be laid by Parliament to destroy both."

June 15th, 1775. They voted his dismissal.

As the excitement of those times has passed away, and these things have become matter of sober history, it may not be amiss to give this vote, as being now a mere matter of curiosity. It is a transcript of the spirit of those exciting times, and though expressed in decided language, it does not involve the character of Mr. Houston, any farther than as to his political opinions, in which he probably was entirely conscientious, though in adopting them, he differed from his people, and from the great majority of the clergy of New England, who were friendly to the Revolution. The vote runs thus:—"Whereas, we find that the Rev'd Mr. John Houston, after a great deal of tenderness and pains taken with him, both in public and private, and toward him, relating to his speeches, frequently made both in public and private, against the rights and privileges of America, and his vindicating of King and Parliament in their present proceedings against the Americans; and having not been able hitherto to bring him to a sense of his error, and he has thereby rendered himself despised by people in general, and by us in particular, and that he has endeavored to intimidate us against maintaining the just rights of America: Therefore, we think it not our duty as men or Christians, to have him preach any

longer with us as our minister. Therefore, *Voted*, That he, (viz.) Rev'd John Houston, preach no more in Bedford until the last day of March next, and that he have 36 Sabbath-days more to his own use and disposal, viz., from the 16th of May, last, to the last day of March next, more than the 9 Sabbath-days voted to his own use and disposal at our last March meeting; and that the town be freed from paying him anything for the said 36 Sabbath-days, agreeably to the vote of the town he settled with us on."

The above vote was passed unanimously. In the meantime, Mr. Houston was not silent. He made a communication to the town, of which the following extracts will give a correct impression.

"To the people of Bedford, met or convened at the meeting-house, on Tuesday afternoon, May 16, 1775. Sirs:—As I have been desired by some of our people to give in writing, my thoughts and sentiments about the times, I would observe that my mind for some considerable time past, has been in pain or anxiety for my country. I plainly foresaw, not by the spirit of prophecy, but by the moral reason and nature of things, high measures in opposition to the laws of commerce and trade, that mobs and riots would increase our calamity. And though our opposition some years ago, succeeded in the repeal of the Stamp Act, yet I was afraid some of our late measures of opposition would have a contrary effect. And could I bear a sincere regard for the welfare of my Country, and see the storms gathering thick every way, and not be perplexed therewith. 'T is true, nevertheless, I thought it my duty not to intermeddle much in the disputes of civil policy, nor be strenuous in the present debate between Great Britain and her colonies, but contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. And accordingly I do not remember I ever dipped into the merits of the present dispute, in any of my public discourses; and whoever may think that when I prayed that we might all have the pathway of God and duty made plain and open to us in every respect, and we enabled to acquiesce therein, according to the will of God; or in other words that we might all return to God and duty, from whom we have deeply revolted, I meant thereby Lord North's duties or taxes, I can truly say I had no such thought; these are phrases to which I have been long used." * * * This defence thus closes: "Suffer ministers, then, to go on praying earnestly for all

men, according to the will of God, and to blow the trumpet in Zion, Shewing unto God's Israel their sins, the procuring curse of God's judgments, that we may all repent and turn from them unto God, as the only way we know his judgments can be averted. Surely our doing so here cannot intimidate the minds of our men gone into the war, but rather we may help them thereby, in our earnest prayer to God for them. Suffer ministers, also, to be guided and directed by the leadings and teachings of the unerring word and spirit of God, in all their public prayers, and to hear or receive the word at God's mouth, and warn his people from him, and not from the leadings or dictates of any person living. That we may all be directed in the way of God and duty in every respect, and kept in the same by the almighty power of God, through faith unto salvation, is the earnest desire and prayer of your careful pastor,

JOHN HOUSTON."

Mr. Houston's dismissal did not take place, or rather his pastoral connection was not ecclesiastically dissolved, till 1778, as appears by the following minute :

"Whereas, there appears to be a dissatisfaction among the people of Bedford, relative to Rev'd Mr. Houston, whereby he is not likely to be useful among them in the ministry, by the consent of both parties, this Synod do dissolve his pastoral relation to said congregation.

SIMON WILLIAMS, *Synod Clerk.*

October 1st, 1778."

After this, Mr. Houston occasionally preached as he had opportunity, in this State, and in Vermont. Rev. Silas McKeen, of Bradford, Vt., mentioned to the present minister of Bedford, that he was baptized in infancy by Mr. Houston, in one of his excursions into the state of Vermont. He spoke of the impression made on him when a boy by Mr. Houston's appearance on horseback: a tall, solemn-looking man, with a wig of the fashion of that day. The trials, severe as they were, through which he was called to pass, did not crush his spirit, though they may have rendered more repulsive a temperament that has been said to have been stern and rigid. He no doubt felt himself injured. Had it been merely his removal as minister of the place, he could not complain, because it was no more than might have been expected in such times. But it is painful to add that he was

personally abused ; and as tradition relates, was on a certain night taken away from his family with violence, conveyed in an insulting manner out of town, and returned home again in safety, as the leaders of the party had pledged themselves to his wife, when they took him away. But the whole country was greatly excited. It was confined to no class of people. Lieut. James Moor related the following anecdote. Rev. Mr. Emerson of Pepperell, of strong revolutionary feelings, as might be expected from one who resided in the same town with the commander at Bunker Hill, was passing through Bedford, and called to pass the night with Mr. Houston. Finding what his sentiments were, and seeing too that he made use of tea, at that time a very unpatriotic beverage, he declined sitting down at the same table, and had one provided in another room ; and even then would not unite in asking a blessing. Mr. Houston retained his ecclesiastical standing, through all the difficulties. We find the following minute in the records of the Associate Presbytery.

“At a meeting in Peterborough, March 2d, 1785, The Rev'd John Houston applying to this Presbytery for a union with them, and producing a good certificate from his former Presbytery, it was unanimously agreed that this Presbytery admit Rev'd John Houston as a corresponding member.”

By way of explanation, it should be stated that in 1775, the “Boston Presbytery” was divided into three bodies, viz., the Eastern Presbytery, or Presbytery of Salem ; the Middle Presbytery, or Presbytery of Londonderry ; and the Western, or Presbytery of Palmer. It was to the latter that the church in Bedford belonged, and Mr. Houston removed his relation from that, to the Presbytery of Londonderry. I find also on referring to the records of the Presbyterian church, Long-lane, now Federal street, Boston, that Mr. Houston frequently attended meetings of Presbytery held there. It is said Mr. Houston took quite an interest in the instruction of youth, and at a time when schools were very rare, instructed the neighboring boys at his house on evenings, in reading, arithmetic, &c., for which they felt under great obligations to him in after years. He interested himself in children in his better days, loved to encourage them, and was pleased with an apt reply to any question. On one occasion, it is said, he went into a neighbor's field, after dinner on a summer's day, and found a little son of the owner at work. “Where is your father?” “He is lying down, taking his

rest." "Why should you work and slave yourself, while he is taking his ease?" He pressed the little boy awhile in this way: — at last the boy looked up, and said, — "Sir, he took care of me, when I could n't help myself, and now I ought to do something for him." The ready reply so pleased the old gentleman, that he frequently alluded to it afterwards.

Mr. Houston was united in marriage to Anna, daughter of Robert and Sarah Peebles, by whom he had Samuel, Robert, John, Sarah and Anna. Samuel joined the army and engaged in the Revolutionary war. Sarah was the second wife of Hon. John Orr, and Anna became the wife of Mr. Hugh Riddle. Mr. Houston had three grandsons that were educated at Yale College.

Rev. John Houston died February 3d, 1798, aged 75. His wife died July 4th, of the same year, aged 72. Both were buried in the old grave-yard where suitable gravestones mark the place of their interment.

After the dismissal of Mr. Houston, the town was destitute of a settled minister for nearly thirty years. The people were supplied with preaching by various ministers, but with a single exception, not by any one individual for any length of time. As might be expected in such a state of things, the ordinances were neglected, divisions came in, and the interests of piety suffered a decline. It is a maxim universally true, that if a people would enjoy the blessing of God, and promote the best interests of themselves and their children, it behoves them to sustain the regular institutions of religion.

"During the long period of nearly thirty years," writes the late Rev. Mr. Goffe, of Millbury, Mass., in a letter to the present pastor, "the people hired a great many candidates and preachers, from time to time, but I do not remember that they ever gave one a call to settle with them. In the meantime, the cause of religion ran very low, the church was diminished and scattered, professors lived like other men, and it was scarcely known who they were, only when they came from time to time to the communion-table. As to spirituality in religion, it was scarcely to be found; and here I would say, with deep emotion, that I never knew a revival of religion in town until of late years; and though I hope some souls were born of God, yet they were few and far between."

Looking back from this distance of time, it appears astonishing that the flock of Christ was not irrecoverably scattered during such a long season of destitution. But the watchful

providence of God surrounded the church through these years of peril, and preserved it from the fate by which other churches in similar circumstances have been overtaken.

For two or three years, the pulpit was stately supplied by Rev. Mr. Pickles, whose ministry requires a passing notice. But little is known of his history. He was a native of Wales, and after arriving in this country, appears to have resided in or near Philadelphia. He came to this town some time about 1787 or 8, and excited great attention by his power of preaching. His wife, who was said to be a most estimable lady, soon joined him from Philadelphia. Mr. P. was unfortunately, one of those men who have warm friends and inveterate enemies. He was accordingly the occasion of serious divisions in the town, some being warmly in his favor, and others as much against him. Amid all the conflicting opinions concerning his character, there was one in which all agreed, that he had uncommon pulpit talents. "I was but a youth," writes Rev. Mr. Parker of Derry, "when Mr. Pickles preached in Bedford, and my recollection of him is not very distinct. His person and his manner in the desk, were commanding and impressive; his voice and elocution, graceful; and so far as I can recollect, his sentiments evangelical, though not very distinguishing." There are some still living among us, who think their attention was first turned to religion, under his ministry.

Sept. 5, 1804. Rev. David McGregor was ordained to the pastoral charge of the church and congregation in this town. As such things were then part of the town business, we find in the town records the call, and Mr. McGregor's answer, with other arrangements connected with such an occasion. Rev. Dr. Morrison with whom Mr. McGregor pursued his theological studies, preached the ordination sermon, from 1 Tim. vi, 20. Previously to this interesting event, there had been an effort to revive the state of things, and prepare the way for the settlement of the ministry. We find in the session book, the following entry:—"At a meeting of church members, at the meeting-house in Bedford, on Lord's day evening, Sept. 25, 1803, according to public notice previously given, it was unanimously agreed, that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, be administered in this place as soon as convenient; and taking into consideration the state of the session, agreed unanimously, that a church-meeting be holden in this place, on Monday, 3d day of October next, at one o'clock,

afternoon, to elect such, and so many persons, as shall then be agreed on, to be ordained as elders of this church."

"Monday, Oct. 3, met according to agreement, and voted, that, David McQuesten, John Craig, John Houston, Samuel Barr, Phineas Aikin and William Moor, be appointed to serve as elders, in addition to those now in office; and it was agreed, that the elders in office procure a minister, either by applying to Rev. Mr. Morrison, Londonderry, or to the Presbytery for the purpose of ordaining the elders elect, and dispensing the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Application having been made to Rev. Mr. Morrison, Friday, 28th October current, was appointed as a Fast in this church, and David McQuesten, John Craig, John Houston, Phineas Aiken and William Moor, were set apart and ordained in due form, as ruling elders of the church in this town, by the Rev. Mr. Morrison."

After Mr. McGregor's settlement, the religious aspect of things began to change, sensibly for the better. The church, as a body, became more regular and consistent: affairs were conducted with a greater regard to system; additions were yearly made to their number, and the cause of benevolence and piety advanced with a steady progress.

Session-book, Feb. 16, 1806. "*Voted*, that elder John Holbrook attend as a delegate at New Boston, for the purpose of ordaining Mr. Ephraim P. Bradford to the charge of the church and congregation in that place."

Feb. 24, 1806. "*Voted*, that the town be divided into districts for ministerial visitation."

Sept. 8, 1817. Stephen Thurston, John French, John Orr Houston, Richard Dole and Moody Martin Stevens, having been duly elected to the office of ruling elders, were set apart and ordained in due form, as ruling elders, in the church in Bedford, by Rev. David McGregor.

In 1818, there was more than ordinary attention to religion, and on Sabbath, May 31st of that year, fourteen persons were admitted to the church.

April 17, 1825. Mr. McGregor presented to the session, the following communication:—

"Bedford, April 16, 1825.

"To the Session of the Church in Bedford.

"GENTLEMEN, I hereby apprise you of my desire of an immediate dismissal from my pastoral charge in this place. My reasons for this desire, are, first, that my bodily infirmi-

ties render me incapable of fully discharging the requisite ministerial duties of so large a parish; and second, that nearly two-fifths of those subject to taxation for my support, have expressed their willingness, that a dissolution of our relation as pastor and people, should take place."

Accordingly, at the meeting of the Londonderry Presbytery, held at Nottingham-West, now Hudson, on the last Wednesday in April, 1825, the pastoral relation subsisting between Mr. McGregor and the church, was by mutual consent dissolved.

Mr. McGregor was born in Londonderry. He was grand nephew of Rev. David McGregor, and great grandson of Rev. James McGregor, the first minister of Londonderry. After completing his collegiate course at Dartmouth College, in 1799, he devoted himself for some time to the instruction of youth. Among other places, he taught at Cambridge, Mass., with great credit and success. About this time he was united in marriage, to Miss Butterfield, of Groton, Mass., who was soon removed by death. After his settlement at Bedford, he was married to Annis, daughter of Hon. John Orr, and this connexion was soon sundered by death. His third wife, who still survives him, was Miss Rebecca Merrill, of Falmouth, Maine. He had no children. Mr. McGregor, in the early part of his ministry, was absent from his people some months, on a missionary tour in the Northern section of the state, and was one of the first missionaries sent out by the New Hampshire Domestic Missionary Society. The writer of this notice heard Rev. Mr. Fairbanks of Littleton, N. H., say, that Mr. McGregor's labors were blest, and that he had met with individuals in that part of the state, who retained a pleasant remembrance of his preaching. An account of his tour was published in a religious journal of the day. While engaged on his missions, the following incident occurred. In that part of the country, there was at that time a prejudice, to some extent, against the use of notes in preaching. On one occasion, Mr. McGregor engaged in a controversy on the subject, with a preacher not remarkable for his learning. He affirmed that it was anti-scriptural to use written notes, in the desk, citing as proof of his position, the passage, — "'Take neither purse nor scrip,'" and taking "scrip" evidently to mean anything written. Mr. McGregor applied this construction to the "scrip" into which David put the stones when he slew

Goliah ; thus showing the absurdity of confounding the difference between a manuscript and a bag or wallet.

Another anecdote is related of him while on this missionary tour. In the wild and thinly settled country near the White Mountains, he arrived on a summer evening, after a toilsome day's journey over a mountainous road, at a rude cabin in the bosom of a dark forest, and was so fatigued, that he immediately retired to bed, knowing nothing of the inmates of the house. After a season of sleep, he was aroused by footsteps in the house, and by an undertone conversation between persons in an adjoining room. He listened, caught here and there a word, and began to suspect that he had fallen into bad hands, who were plotting against his life. Putting himself in the best attitude of defence in his power, he lay awake the rest of the night. Morning dawned, and found him safe. On rising, he soon discovered that he was with a very poor but pious family, and that the undertone talk and footsteps, which had excited his suspicions, arose from their joy at seeing a missionary, and from the preparations they had made in the night to give him in the morning the best reception their poverty would admit. Several of Mr. McGregor's sermons were published, one of which was occasioned by the sudden death of Mrs. Isaac Riddle, who was killed by a fall from a horse, April 6th, 1804. Text on the occasion, 1st Samuel, xx. 3. Mr. McGregor made himself very useful after his dismissal, as an instructor of youth. He encouraged many to get an education, who owe to his benevolent interest in their welfare, much of their subsequent success in life. He was a man of fine social qualities, and often made himself very interesting by his powers of conversation. In 1831 he removed to Falmouth, Maine, where he engaged in promoting the interests of learning and religion. He died there very suddenly, October 18th, 1845, aged 74.

July 5th, 1826, Rev. Thomas Savage was installed pastor of the church and congregation in this place, by Londonderry Presbytery. Sermon on the occasion by Rev. Dr. Whiton, of Antrim, from Luke ix., 60, — "But go thou and preach the kingdom of God." Mr. Savage was ordained to the work of the ministry without pastoral charge, by the Presbytery of Mississippi, August, 1822, and preached two years at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Several changes and improvements took place in Bedford

about this time, that were favorable to the interests of religion. The Sabbath-school had been attended with rather a divided interest, in two or three school-houses; it now began to be held during intermissions, at the meeting-house, and with very happy effects. A stated prayer-meeting commenced October 11th, 1827, which has continued to be observed, on Thursday, from that time to the present. On Thanksgiving day, 1829, Dr. Justin Edwards delivered a discourse on Temperance, which awakened great attention and proved the commencement of a great Temperance reformation. A Temperance Society was immediately formed, which exerted a good influence and was succeeded by another, excluding all alcoholic drinks.

The year 1831 was memorable for revivals throughout the land. This church partook largely of the influence, and in September, of that year, ninety-one united with the church, of whom many have died, some have fallen from their profession, and a goodly number live to be ornaments in the church, and blessings to the world. At subsequent periods, also, there have been seasons of religious interest, which have resulted in additions to the church. The church at present is in a diminished state, owing to deaths, removals, and a long season of religious dearth, in which few additions have been made by profession. Of those who were once members of this church, numbers have gone to do good, it is hoped, in Wisconsin, Michigan, and other parts of the country. In the work of foreign missions, in the ministry at home, and in Western fields, among the Indians of our own country, and the sable children of Africa, laborers have gone forth from this church, who, we trust, will meet their reward in heaven.

Rev. Thomas Savage was born in Boston, Sept. 2d, 1793. Completed his collegiate course at Harvard College, 1813. Pursued the study of theology for some time at Cambridge, and finished his preparation under the care of the Mississippi Presbytery, 1822. He was married at St. Francisville, Louisiana, to Miss Lucy Woodruff, by whom he had the following children,—Julia Ann, born at Baton Rouge, Louisiana; James, Lucretia, and Frances born in Bedford. Mrs. Savage was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, August 10, 1790, and died May 16, 1847. A sermon on the occasion of her death, was delivered by Rev. Mr. Allen. October 12th, 1848, he was married to Miss Sarah Webster, of Haverhill, N. H. Mr. Savage is lineally descended from Maj. Thomas

Savage, who came over to this country, in 1635, and married Faith, daughter of the celebrated Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, so well known in the early history of New England. As Bedford was one of the townships granted to soldiers who served in the Narraganset war, it may be interesting to notice that Maj. Savage commanded the forces of Massachusetts in the early part of that war. In Gookin's account, is the following curious certificate, signed by him, bearing testimony to the good conduct of the praying Indians, who joined him as allies :

"These do certify, that I, Thomas Savage, of Boston, being Commander of the English forces at Mount Hope, in the beginning of the war between the English and Indians, about July, 1675, and afterwards, in March, 1676, at Menumene and Hadley, in both which expeditions, some of the Christian Indians belonging to Natick, were in the army ; as at Mount Hope were about 40 men, and at Menumene, 6. I do testify, on their behalf, that they carried themselves well, and approved themselves courageous soldiers, and faithful to the English interest. Dated at Boston, the 20th day of Dec'r, 1677. THOMAS SAVAGE."

In the Proprietors' records, previous to the incorporation of the town, is found the name of a son of Maj. Savage, Perez, who probably inherited a right from his father, and in the town records, down to a late period, is seen the name of Habijah Savage, on the non-resident tax list, who was a grandson of Maj. Savage, and great grandfather of the present minister of Bedford. In the possession of Hon. James Savage of Boston, there is a printed sermon, (the only copy, probably extant,) preached by Rev. Samuel Willard, second minister of the Old South Church, Boston. The title runs thus, — "The righteous man's death, a presage of evil ; a funeral sermon upon Maj. Thomas Savage, from Isaiah, lvii., 1 : 1681."

With regard to the paternal descent of the present pastor, it may be remarked, that all his ancestors, from the one who came over, were born in Boston, for several generations, and were members of the Old South Church, and were engaged in military or mercantile pursuits. The first ministers in the line, are the present pastor, and Rev. William T. Savage, Franklin, N. H. Ezekiel Savage, Esq., father of Rev.

Thomas Savage, was for many years a civil magistrate in Salem, Massachusetts, well known in Essex county. He died in Salem, June, 1837. The mother of Rev. Thomas Savage was a daughter of Col. Joseph Vose, of Milton, who commanded a regiment in the Revolutionary war, and had a horse shot under him in one of the actions connected with the capture of Burgoyne. The saddle-blanket, is still preserved in the family, with the perforation made by the ball. Miss Lucy Woodruff, first wife of Rev. T. Savage, was descended from the Griswold family, in Connecticut. His present wife is daughter of the late Benj. Webster, of Haverhill, N. H., whose father, William, was brother of the late Judge Webster, of Salisbury, N. H., who was father of the Hon. Daniel Webster. They came originally from Hampton, N. H. Julia A., daughter of Rev. Thomas Savage, married S. N. Robb, Esq., and now resides near Rodney, Mississippi.

Of Ezekiel Savage, Esq., it should be added he was born in Boston, October 17, 1760; received degree at Harvard College, 1778. While he was a member of College, it was removed to Concord, Mass., the College buildings being occupied by our troops. The writer has heard him say, that while at College at Cambridge, he one day went to Winter Hill to see our troops that were posted there, and that while on the hill, a cannon ball fired from Boston, then in possession of the British, came so near as to throw up the dirt upon him. In early life he prepared for the ministry, and preached a short time, but want of health obliged him to abandon it. He studied divinity with Rev. Mr. Smith, of Weymouth, Mass., one of whose daughters married the first President Adams, and was mother of John Q. Adams.

CHURCH.

THE following is a list of those who have served as elders in the church, with the date of their election. It seems from the town records, that, formerly, elders were chosen in town meeting. A number are mentioned as being thus chosen, who never served.

1757.
James Little,
James Gilmoor,
Benjamin Smith,
William Moor,
James Moor.

1786.
Silas Dole,
James Wallace,
John Orr.

1803.
David McQuesten,

John Craig,
John Houston,
Phineas Aiken,
William Moor.

1804.
John Holbrook.*

1817.
Stephen Thurston,
John French,
John Orr Houston,
Richard Dole,
Moody M. Stevens.

1832.
Thomas Atwood,
Samuel McQuesten,
Daniel L. French.

1836.
Daniel Mack.

1847.
James French,
Phineas French.

The following is a corrected list of Members of the church. With regard to non-resident members, the rule adopted is this:—The names of those who have been absent but a short time have been retained, and the names of those who may be still living, and appear not to have removed their relation, but have been long absent, and reside at a great distance, are omitted. The list is alphabetically arranged, male and female.

MALES.

David Atwood,
John D. Armstrong,
John Barr,
William Bursiel,
Thomas Bursiel,
Daniel Barnard,
Nathan Cutler,
Stephen French,
Leonard C. French,
William French,
Phineas C. French,
John U. French,
Frederic French,
Solomon Gage,
Isaac Gage, jr.,

Samuel Gardner,
Abijah Hodgman,
Robert Houston,
John Houston,
Nathan Kendall,
Oliver Kendall,
Nehemiah Kittridge,
Solomon Manning,
Joseph Manning,
James Morrison,
Samuel B. Needham,
Gardner Nevens,
Blanchard Nichols,
Benjamin Nichols,
Willard Parker,

Adam N. Patten,
William Patten,
Gawn Riddle.
Chandler Spofford,
John T. Spofford,
Brooks Shattuck,!
David Stevens,
Moody A. Stevens,
William B. Stevens,
John Shepard,
Joshua Vose,
Joshua Vose, jr.,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Robert Walker.
Benj. F. Wallace.

* From the third Church, Cambridge, now Brighton, Mass.

FEMALES.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Margaret Adams, | Annis Gage, | Esther Nevins, |
| Sally Adams, | Mary Gault, | Comfort Nichols, |
| Elizabeth Aiken, | Nancy Gardner, | Phebe A. Noyes, |
| Martha P. Anderson, | Dolly A. Gage, | Sarah A. Paige, |
| Anna Armstrong, | Sally J. Gage, | Mary Patten, |
| Mary Atwood, | Anna Goffe, | Achsah Patten, |
| Mary Atwood, 2d. | Jane Goffe, | Clarissa Patten, |
| Clarissa Barr, | Mary E. Goffe, | Hannah Patten, |
| Rhoda Barr, | Ann J. Goodwin, | Jane Parker, |
| Anna Baldwin, | Sally Harnden, | Anna Parker, |
| Margaret Chandler, | Mary Harris, | Harriet E. Putnam, |
| Elizabeth Cada, | Hepzebah Harris, | Dolly Riddle, |
| Susan J. Clark, | Abigail Hodgman, | Rebecca Riddle, |
| Mary J. Conant, | Maria Hodgman, | Sarah Savage, |
| Elizabeth Cutler, | Submit Holbrook, | Lueretia Savage, |
| Submit Darrah, | Nancy Houston, | Dolly Sanborn, |
| Cynthia Darrah, | Lettice M. Houston, | Mary Shattuck, |
| Charlotte Dole, | Elizabeth Kendall, | Lucy Shepard, |
| Nancy Dow, | Betsey R. Kendall, | Margaret Stevens, |
| Mary Dowse, | Sophia Mack, | Sally F. Stevens, |
| Hannah French, | Mary A. Mack, | Mary J. Stevens, |
| Nancy French, | Susan C. Merrill, | Abigail Stevens, |
| Rhoda French, | Letitia Merrill, | Eunice Stevens, |
| Harriet N. French, | Jane McPherson, | Mary Sprague, |
| Annis C. C. French, | Fanny McLaughlin, | Mary Vose, |
| Sally D. French, | Margaret McQuesten, | Maria Vose, |
| Lucy French, | Hannah Moore, | Mary Walker, |
| Isabella French, | Sybil Moore, | Sarah Walker, |
| Almira N. French, | Margaret A. Moor, | Rebecca Wallace, |
| Sarah R. French, | Hannah Morrison, | Polly Wallace, |
| Sarah French, | Eliza A. Morrison, | Fanny W. Wallace, |
| Sophronia French, | Jerusha McLaughlin, | Olive Wallace, |
| Dolly French, | Sarah E. Mullet, | Margaret A. Wallace, |
| Nancy Flint, | Jane Moore, | Eliza B. G. Woodbury, |
| Dolly Gage, | Abigail Needham, | |

During the last twenty-five years, there have been added to this church, by letter and profession, 332 members. By death, dismission to neighboring churches, and emigration to the West, united with absence of any special interest in religion, the number is greatly diminished. Notwithstanding the endeavor to make the list of members correct, there may still be some errors in names.

With regard to the religious character of the people of this town, it may be remarked, that from the first they have been distinguished for their attachment to the house of God. The first settlers of the town, were under the necessity of attending public worship at Londonderry. They performed the journey on foot, and generally carried one or two children with them,—a distance of twelve miles. They passed

Merrimac River in a canoe, or on a raft. They did not always walk, though, as appears by the following incident. Mr. James Walker, one of the brothers that first settled the town, was remarkable for his attachment to the horse, and always kept the very best in his stable. One Sabbath morning, while a young man, he mounted a beautiful black horse, and started for meeting. He crossed the river at Goffe's Falls, and there found Col. John Goffe and wife, also about to start for meeting, in Londonderry, it being the fashion in those days to ride two on a horse. Col. Goffe's daughter Esther, was then a little girl; she was crying to go to meeting with her parents, but they had no way to carry her. Mr. Walker saw the difficulty, and said to Mrs. Goffe, "Set her on behind me, and I will carry her to meeting." They soon had her ready, and as the Colonel handed her up behind Walker, he said, "She is a little girl, now, but she may be your wife, yet." And in fact, it turned out to be so. That little girl was grandmother of James Walker, Esq., of Piscataquog Village.

The following circumstance is related illustrative of the general regard for the sanctuary. Rev. Mr. Houston and his neighbor, Gawn Riddle, joined,—their farms bordering on each other. One Saturday they met, and had some sharp and unneighborly talk together, about their fences and cattle. Some townsmen were present, and heard their altercation. On the next day, (Sabbath,) Mr. Riddle, was punctually at meeting. Some of his neighbors, who had heard the contest on the day before, looked astonished, and said, "Mr. Riddle, we thought you would not be at meeting to-day, to hear your neighbor Houston preach, after having such a quarrel with him." Said Mr. Riddle, "I'd have ye to know, if I did quarrel with my neighbor Houston, yesterday, I did not quarrel with the gospel."

The church has from time to time sent forth laborers in the vineyard of the Lord. The following are the names of those who have gone to preach the gospel.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rev. Joseph Goffe,* Millbury, Mass. | Rev. C. W. Wallace, Manchester. |
| " John Walker, Vermont. | " Daniel L. French, Nelson. |
| " Silas Aiken, Vermont, | " Lemuel Spofford, Wisconsin. |
| " Isaac Orr,* Never settled. | " Ebenezer Chase. |

* Deceased.

The following are the names of members of this church who have married ministers.

Mrs. Philomela Garret, previously second wife of Samuel Newell, late missionary in India.

Mrs. Jane Harris Dunbarton.

Mrs. Dolly Bryant, South Africa.

" Mary J. Smith, Greenfield, N. H. " Nancy French.*

" Ann Worcester, Cherokee Miss.*

" Polly French, Nelson,

" Mary Moor, Milford, N. H.

" Sally Chapin, Greensborough, Vt.

" Harriet M. G. Wood, Concord, N. H. Mrs. Mary Miltimore.

Mrs. Sarah Eaton, now of Wilton, and Mrs. Hannah Beckwith, New York, — natives of the town, but not members of this church, also married ministers.

1832. A Universalist Society was formed, consisting of forty male members. They have had preaching occasionally. Rev. Mr. Beckwith, now in the State of New York, and Rev. Mr. Hodsden, of Maine, continued longest in town. There was a church organized, consisting of about twelve members.

1835. A Baptist Church was formed in the town, consisting at the time, (June,) of thirty-two members. Rev. Horace Eaton was ordained pastor of the Church, October, 1842, and continued till 1844. Officers of the Church when constituted, Ralph, and Ebenezer Holbrook, Deacons; Thomas G. Holbrook, Clerk. The brick meeting-house at the centre, formerly occupied by the Universalist Society, was sold by a vote of the Society, at auction, April 20th, 1846, for \$700 to five individuals of the Baptist Society, viz.: Isaac Darrah, and the brothers Ralph, Ebenezer, Thomas G., and Abiel Holbrook.

MEETING-HOUSES.

Old Presbyterian Meeting-House.—At the first settlement of the town, immediately after the old burying-ground was located, a long time before any portion of the town had been taken off to enlarge the town of Merrimac, the inhabitants were anxious to have a meeting-house. Without a suitable place of worship, the privileges of religion cannot well be enjoyed. This they early felt; it became a frequent

* Deceased,

subject of discussion; and it was unanimously agreed to build the house on a rise of land north of the old grave-yard, which took the name of meeting-house hill, and is so called to this day. Between this time, 1737, and 1750, the town of Merrimac had been incorporated, 1745, and a large tract of land had been taken off, on the southern part of Bedford, to enlarge the town of Merrimac. On this account, the inhabitants of Bedford were under the necessity of changing their location for a place of worship, to one more central.

At a meeting held at Matthew Patten's barn, Jan. 24th, 1750, it was, "*Voted*, — To build a meeting-house, either at the east or west side of the Bell hill, so called, on the 9th or 10th range, provided John Bell and John McLaughlin would give 2 acres of land, accommodated also with a road-land." J. Bell lived on lot No. 9, at the west end of Bell hill; [J. Bell, the father, it is said, lived on the east end, where the ruins of an old cellar are still seen.] J. McLaughlin lived at east end of said hill, on lot No. 10, and the old road lay near where the brick school-house now stands, on lot No. 10, and ran up on the brow of the west end of said hill.

Not being able to agree on which of the two places the house should be built, at a town-meeting, called April 15th, 1752, "*Voted*, — That Capt. Andrew Todd, Capt. John Mitchell, and Lieut. Robert Cochran, all of Londonderry, be a committee to locate the spot, at the east or west end of Bell hill, on lot No. 9 or 10."

At an adjourned meeting, held Thursday, May 7th, 1752, the above Committee made their report, as follows: —

"To the Proprietors, freeholders, and inhabitants, of Bedford: Gentlemen, — That, whereas you were pleased to choose us, the Subscribers, a Committee to judge in regard of two places to set your meeting-house on, (*viz.* :) at the east or west end of Mr. Bell's hill; and our Judgment is this, That we look upon the east end of said hill, at or near where the Stake stood, to be the most convenient place; and for this or these reasons, — Because it is a little more convenient for the present inhabitants, who have borne the burden and heat of the day; and we look upon the west end of the hill to be but a piece of poor, dry, barren ground, and exceedingly much exposed to the west and north-west winds, very hard to be suffered here in this, our cold climate. And, Gentlemen, this is our joint judgment in regard of these

two places, and hope you will be as unanimous about the place, as we have been, which is from, Gentlemen, your hearty and sincere friends,

ANDREW TODD,
JOHN MITCHELL,
ROBERT COCHRAN."

(Directed,) "To Mr. Samuel Patten, Moderator of a meeting to be holden the seventh day of May next, by adjournment, at Bedford. To be communicated."

At this meeting, the old building committee were dismissed and a new one appointed, but nothing was accomplished till 1754, when this committee also was dismissed, and a new one appointed. At a meeting held at William Holmes' barn, on Monday, April 15, 1754, a new location was contemplated, on land of Noah Thayer. In the meantime, the last committee had got a house-frame hewed, and drawn to the west side of the Bell hill, near where Joseph Bell's cider-mill used to stand, on lot No. 9. Here the frame lay, until a meeting was called at John Bell's Barn, 22d September, 1755, when it was "*Voted*, unanimously, That all votes and conclusions that have been voted and concluded, concerning fixing a place to build a meeting-house on, in this town, be, and hereby are, null and void."

These particulars are given, to show that the people encountered the usual difficulties in deciding on a building-spot. They even put an article into the town-warrant, at the above meeting to refer the subject to a Committee from the General Court, but it was decided in the negative. At the above meeting, "*Voted*, unanimously, That the meeting-house be built on a piece of land which William Moor bought from Noah Thayer for the town, for that purpose, and being part of Nos. 13 and 14, in the 10th range, in said Bedford."

The following is a copy of the Deed from Noah Thayer to William Moor.

"Consideration of £1. 6s. Lawful money, in behalf of Bedford town. A certain piece of land in Bedford, containing $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres and sixteen rods, by measure, lying in the 13th and 14th lots, in 10th range, said piece of land being 13 rods in length, and 12 rods in breadth, each line being strait. Said piece being 9 rods on 13th lot, and 4 rods on 14th lot,

which makes the length of said piece of land, including the highway, of 3 rods from the said lot, to the 9th range, between said 13th and 14th lots; said piece of land being intended for the use of the said town of Bedford, for a meeting-house for the worship of God in that place, and other public use in said town, to be and be held.

(Dated,) "13th September, 1755.

"*Lib. 52, Fol. 348.*"

This effort was successful. The meeting-house was raised on the spot last designated, where it now stands, on the 14th and 15th October, 1755. A man by the name of Warren, hewed the frame. The first day they raised the house up to the plates, and put on all the beams but two; the second day finished raising. It was 40 by 50 feet, and two stories high. The meeting-house was finished very gradually, as will appear by the following votes, which are given here, as matter of curiosity, and as furnishing a striking contrast with the modern, railroad despatch in doing business.

March 13th, 1757. "Voted, — That Capt. Moses Barron, Robert Walker, and Samuel Patten, be a committee for boarding and shingling the meeting-house." S. Patten declined, and William Moor was put in his place. John Bell, jr., and John Wallace, were a committee to provide glass and sashes; Hugh Riddle was employed to underpin and do the stone-work.

June 6, 1760. "Voted, — Benjamin Smith, Gawn Riddle, and James Little, be a committee to seat the meeting-house with long seats." For a number of years the people sat on long seats, — males probably on one side of the house, and females on the other. "Seating the house," as the phrase was, was an annual custom in some parts of Massachusetts and Connecticut. The members of the Congregation were seated every year, according to age, rank or property. The chief seat was the first pew at the right hand, entering at the front door.

Jan. 16, 1764. "Voted, — To build a pulpit, and that Matthew Patten, John Wallace, and John Bell, be a committee to build it." Thomas Warren made the pulpit in 1766.

March, 1767. "Voted, — That the same committee who built the pulpit, paint it, and paint it the same color the Rev. Mr. McGregor's pulpit is, in Londonderry."

It appears that Glass and Oil for the meeting-house, had been obtained sometime in 1766, but not wishing to use it then, it had been lent out to the various inhabitants of the town, by Matthew Little. The following may seem too minute for insertion here, but as a transcript of the times and showing the estimation put upon glass in those times, when it was scarce and costly, it may not be without interest.

June, 1768. "The meeting-house glass lent out; Matthew Little's account of the same. David Moore had from Matthew Little, six squares of the meeting-house glass; Daniel Moor had 4 squares of the same, Dea. Gillmore had of the same, 24 squares. *November 20, 1768,* The Rev. Mr. John Houston, had 24 squares of the same; Hugh Campbell had 12 squares of the same; Dea. Smith is to pay Whitfield Gillmore 6 squares of the same; James Wallace had 15 squares of the same; John Bell had 9 squares of the same; Joseph Scobey, one quart of oil.

"A true record:

"Attest, WILLIAM WHITE, *Town Clerk.*"

At a meeting held April, 1784, it was voted to let out and sell the wall pew-ground, to any inhabitant of Bedford only, and that the money arising from the same, be expended in finishing the meeting-house, and if there should not be enough, the same be expended in supplying the pulpit. One condition of the sale was that the purchaser should not be allowed to sell it to any person, unless an inhabitant of Bedford.

In about twenty years, the house was completed; for we find, September 27, 1785, the meeting-house being finished according to vote, they vendued off to the highest bidder, all but the minister-pew, and his name was put on that. Samuel Vose, Vendue-master, and Josiah Gillis, Clerk of the meeting. Maj. John Dunlap was the workman who finished the pews. There were 27 pews sold on the pew-ground, the highest selling at \$36, and the lowest at \$23,50, on the lower floor. In the gallery, 16 pews; highest price, \$13, lowest, \$5,50. Some additional improvements were made from time to time, such as green velvet for the pulpit cushion, in 1792; and in 1802, a pew for the singers in the front gallery. In 1813, some of the long seats for the aged, were made into body pews.

In 1838, the old meeting-house was remodelled, the lower part being appropriated for a Town-house, and the upper part for a School-room and Selectmen's room. The estimated expense was \$530,32. The house was turned round, and moved back twenty-five or thirty feet. The whole work was not completed till August 1839, when it was voted to let the lower part for public worship, and the upper part for a school-room.

New Presbyterian Meeting-House. — As some readers may be ready to think the following details too minute, it should be remembered that though not of so much interest now, yet to those who live a hundred years hence, they may be matter of curiosity, and even of value ; especially if the meeting-house be permitted to stand till that time. The first public intimation about a new meeting-house, we have as follows.

“NOTICE is hereby given, that the inhabitants of Bedford are requested to meet at the old meeting-house in said Bedford, on Tuesday, 29th day of August, current, at 4 o'clock, P. M. : — To see what method they will take, to pay the expenses of installing Rev. Thos. Savage : — To devise some way to collect the subscription money for Rev. Thos. Savage : — And to see if they are desirous of building a new meeting-house.

PETER P. WOODBURY.

“*Bedford, 22d August, 1826.*”

There was, however, no decided action on the subject of a new house ; it remained a subject of occasional discussion, but nothing was done till the 19th April, 1831, at which date the following measure was adopted.

“We the subscribers do associate and agree for the purpose of building a meeting-house. The condition of this paper is to obtain subscribers for fifty shares in said house ; and when said shares are taken, Doct. P. P. Woodbury will call a meeting of the subscribers, for the purpose of locating the spot for said house ; which location is to be made by a majority of the share-holders, each share to count one vote, and of choosing a building committee, to carry the plan into effect ; each share to be assessed and paid as the money is wanted, as in their wisdom they shall direct when assembled. And we, the undersigned, do agree, for the above pur-

pose, to take the number of shares set against our names, respectively.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Peter P. Woodbury, | Daniel Gordon, | Isaac Riddle, |
| William Patten, | Cyrus W. Wallace, | Daniel Mack, |
| James Walker, | Samuel McQuesten, | Richard Dole, |
| Stephen Thurston, | Josiah Walker, | John G. Moor, |
| Isaac Gage, | Willard Parker, | Samuel Patten, |
| James French, | David Atwood, | Leonard C. French, |
| Daniel L. French, | John Houston, jr. | Hugh Riddle, |
| John Houston, | Isaac Atwood, jr. | Rufus Houston, |
| John W. Barnes, | William Riddle, jr. | William Riddle, |
| John D. Riddle, | Nathan Cutler, | Joshua Vose, |
| Samuel Chandler, | Aaron Gage, | William P. Riddle, |
| John Armstrong, | William Chandler, | David Stevens, jr. |
| Stephen French, jr. | Eleazer Dole, | Moody M. Stevens, |
| John French, | William Moor, jr. | Rufus Merrill, |
| Moses Noyes, | John Patten, | Isaac Gage, jr., |
| Gardner Nevens, | John Holbrook, | Ebenezer French, |
| Phineas Aiken, | F. A. Mitchell, | Solomon Woods, |
| Nehemiah Kittredge, | John Craig, | Benjamin Nichols. |
| John P. Houston, | Jesse Hartwell, | |

These subscribed for one share each, making fifty-six.

(A true copy,) "SAMUEL CHANDLER, *Clerk.*"

The above subscribers held a meeting at Capt. Isaac Riddle's hall, May 9th, 1831. Dea. John Holbrook, Chairman, Samuel Chandler, Clerk. A committee was chosen, consisting of Doct. P. P. Woodbury, Mr. James Walker, Ebenezer French, John French, and Capt. John Patten, to ascertain on what terms a suitable spot could be obtained, on which to erect the meeting-house; which committee reported, that "an acre of land, east of Capt. William Riddle's, at the Oak trees, may be had without any expense; that an acre of land on the hill north of the road, and west of the burying-ground, can be had for one hundred dollars; that an acre east of the burying-ground, and between that and Isaac Riddle's store, can be had for one hundred dollars; or, that an acre can be had north of the school-house, (near the Baptist meeting-house,) for one hundred and fifty dollars." These four described places were numbered from 1 to 4, and voted for by ballot; No. 1, that north of the school-house; No. 2, between, the store and burying-ground; No. 3, on the middle hill; No. 4, east of Capt. William Riddle's. The vote was as follows:—No. 1, had three votes; No. 2. thirty votes; No. 3, two votes, and No. 4, four votes.

May 28, 1831. The shareholders formed themselves into a regular society, adopted a constitution and by-laws, and

organized by the choice of officers, agreeably to an act of the Legislature of the State, passed July 3d, 1827. A superintending building committee was chosen, consisting of Capt. William Patten, Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Col. William Moor, Capt. John Patten, and John G. Moor, with which committee it was left discretionary to make any alteration as to the size of the house, basement-story, and general construction, as they may think best, and to finish the work at their discretion. In the meantime, the society, rejecting all other locations, voted to build the contemplated house on the Houston hill; the title to the land being more satisfactory. The committee made a contract with Thomas Kennedy, of Goffstown, N. H., to build a meeting-house, 71 feet in length, by 51 in width, to be finished according to a plan exhibited; the said Kennedy to do all the work, outside and in, to find all the materials for the same, finishing of the windows, glass, doors, painting, the belfry, plastering and brick-work, shingling, boarding, and the qualities of stock, &c.

"The undertaker agrees to do everything, whether expressed in the agreement or not, that ought to be done, and in a workmanlike manner; and to have the work completed in September, 1832. For the above work, the Committee agree to pay \$3700. (Signed,)

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| P. P. WOODBURY, | } <i>Building</i> |
| WM. PATTEN, | |
| JOHN G. MOOR, | |
| | } <i>Committee.</i> |

THOMAS KENNEDY, *Undertaker.*

A true copy, SAMUEL CHANDLER, *Clerk.*"

The basement-story underpinning was done by Benjamin Riddle, for \$418. The finishing of basement-story was done by J. Langley, at an expense of \$321. The frame was raised on the spot where the house now stands, June 20, 1832. Rev. Mr. Savage offered prayer, Dr. Woodbury made an address on the occasion. The house was raised without the use of intoxicating liquors, and the whole work was accomplished without a single accident, even to the bruising of a finger. The house was solemnly dedicated to the worship of God, on Christmas day, Dec. 25, 1832. The pastor of the church preached on the occasion, from Haggai, ii, 9. Rev. Mr. Aiken, of Amherst, and Rev. Mr. Adams, fo

Londonderry, took part in the exercises. The day was pleasant, and a numerous audience attended.*

January 14, 1833. The pews were disposed of by sale, one pew being reserved for the minister, to be by him selected. The pews were sold to the highest bidder for their choice. An appraisal had been previously made, and whatever was bid over and above, was added to the appraisal, as the price of the pew. It had also been agreed that if the pews should sell for more than enough to pay for the house, the surplus should be appropriated for the purchase of a bell for said house; and if there should still be money remaining, it should go for building a parsonage. At this public sale, 85 pews were sold, and money enough raised beyond the estimated expense of the building, to purchase a bell. The remaining pews being disposed of, except two or three reserved, the aggregate result thus stood:

Whole number of pews, 91.

Of these 88 were sold for, - - - - - \$5200,00

Amount sold exceeding appraisal, - - - - - 527,00

Whole Amount received, - - - - - \$5727,00

The house was warmed originally by a furnace. This was taken out about ten years since, and its place supplied by stoves.

Brick Meeting-house. — Built, 1835, and finished, 1836. Dedicated, July 1st, 1836; Sermon by Rev. Mr. Hodsden. The dimensions of this house are as follows: 40 feet wide, 50 feet long, one story high. The mason-work was by James McPherson; stone-work by George Fletcher, and wood-work by Thomas Kennedy and Joseph Little, both of Goffstown. This house was built by the Universalist Society at the cost of \$2000. In 1846, it was sold to the Baptist Society, who occasionally occupy it as a place of worship.

Piscataquog Meeting-house. — James Parker, Esq., Gen. William P. Riddle, and Mr. Jonathan Palmer, superintended the building of this house, the frame of which was raised in May, 1820. The timber for the frame was hewn, framed and raised by Dea. Heath of Sutton. A Mr. Kimball, of

* See Appendix.

Hopkinton, finished the house, outside and in. It was dedicated to the worship of God, and a sermon delivered by Rev. E. P. Bradford, Nov. 15, 1820, at which time there was good sleighing. No minister has ever been settled here as pastor, but in former years there was a stated supply for months at a time, and to the present day, there is occasionally a third service on the Sabbath.

March 29, 1842. The upper part was modelled into an Academy, the lower part being still retained for public worship. It is a neat edifice, of good architectural proportions, and besides its important uses, adds much to the beauty of the village.

GRAVEYARDS, SCHOOLS, BRIDGES, POUNDS, REMARKABLE EVENTS, ETC.

G R A V E Y A R D S .

The Old Graveyard, at the south-east part of the town, was made use of to deposit the dead, from the first settlement in 1737. Here were laid the first settlers of the town, with their children ; here sleep the forefathers and their families.

April 14, 1752. At a town-meeting held in Matthew Patten's barn, it was "*Voted*, To fence the burying-ground, and that it be fenced 10 rods square, with stone wall; the wall to be 5 feet high." John Orr, John Moor, and Hugh Riddle, were the committee to see the work done. "They shall employ the inhabitants of the town to do the work ; a man to have fifteen shillings a day, and oxen ten shillings, old tenor. Each laborer to begin work at 8 o'clock, A. M., in the months of August, September, and October." It was voted at the same time to pay for a moor cloth, or pall. 80 pounds were appropriated for building the wall, and the ground was to be cleared at the expense of the town. The oldest inscriptions now found in the yard, are Ann Burns, July, 1745 ; John, father of Hon. Matthew Patten, April, 1746 ; Catherine Bell, 1746 ; also, John Goffe, father of Col. Goffe, and John Bell, 1746. At the period of 1760, there had been numerous interments. It is now, (1850,) occasionally used as a burying-place. Though in an unfrequented part of the town, it is an interesting spot, and with certain improvements, might be made a place of solemn resort and profitable meditation. Here, within sound of the railroad whistle, the forefathers sleep. Here we stand, where tears were shed a hundred years ago for departed friends. Here is still the old stone horse-block, where mothers and wives and sisters mounted, having followed in procession some loved one to the grave. Here are the gravestones of the first minister, and the elders, who often consulted together for the welfare of the church.

The Central Graveyard, has been in use 50 years. The first body buried in this yard, was that of a son of Isaac Riddle, Esq., Oct. 8, 1799. Mr. Riddle gave half an acre of land for the purpose. In 1847, half an acre more of land was obtained, and a stone wall built on the north, south, and west sides, and on the east side, a stone and wooden fence, with iron posts. It is a solemn, interesting spot, and had it been laid out at first with a view to walks and alleys, it would have added much to its attractions as a cemetery. As it is it well repays the visitor. The inscriptions are often impressive to a stranger. To notice one : —

IN MEMORY OF
MR. ROBERT BURNS,
MEMBER OF JUNIOR CLASS,
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE,
WHO DIED FEB. 22, 1810,
AGED 25.

The name being the same with the Scottish poet, his being a member of College, and his early death, all create an interest, and the interest is increased, when it is known that he was a young man of great promise, and at the time of his death, was instructing a district school in town, to help pay his way in College. One other epitaph may be given ; very appropriate, probably a selection. It is on a young lady who died of consumption, aged 20.

“ A marble marks thy couch of lowly sleep,
And living statues there are seen to weep,
Affliction's semblance bends not o'er thy tomb,
Affliction's self deplores thy youthful doom.”

West Parish Graveyard. — The land was given by Jesse Worcester, Esq. The first burial there, was Hannah, an infant child of Mr. Benjamin Sprague, June 9, 1789. The oldest gravestone to be seen, is that of Mr. David French, father of Dea. John French, June 13, 1790.

South Graveyard. — The land for this yard was given by Maj. Stephen Dole. The first burial in it was a child of Silas Martin. The oldest inscription found there is William Gerrish, February 20, 1793, and Judith Gerrish, October 10, 1794.

Piscataquog-Village Graveyard. — William Parker, Esq., gave half an acre of land for this purpose. The first interment was that of a child of James Griffin, 1814; the second was that of Edward, son of Wm. Parker, Esq., April 8th, 1815.

These are all the public burial-places in the town. A Roman Catholic cemetery, for Manchester, has lately been laid out, a little west of Piscataquog-village, on land lately owned by A. J. Dow, and formerly belonging to the Parker estate. On the Beard place, (so called,) now owned by Gen. Riddle, are a few graves, belonging to the Lincoln family. In 1836, a human skeleton was dug up, by Mr. Willard Parker, at the fork of the road, near his house. On the place occupied by Mr. Ames, west of the Catholic Cemetery, are two or three graves.

SCHOOLS.

THE subject of common school education very early engaged the attention of the people of this town. On recurring to the town books we find the following record: — “March 28, 1753. *Voted*, to have a school kept six months, the ensuing year in the town.” The next year the town voted to have a school kept eight months during the year. The division of the time in different parts of the town is curious: — “*Voted*, to have the school kept this year in the following manner, beginning at the south-westerly corner of the town, and to continue there one month, and then to be kept at the north-easterly corner one month, and so alternately, one month in each of the aforementioned places, in rotation as before mentioned, until the whole eight months be completed.”

June 28, 1755. “*Voted*, not to have a school this year.” What was the occasion of such a vote, the only one of the kind on record, cannot now be known. The schools were then kept in private dwelling houses, and children had to go a great distance. The first school house erected in the town, stood on an eminence about a quarter of a mile north of the place now owned by Mr. Samuel Patten, then belonging to John Orr, Esq. It is said some of the material of the old building forms part of the barn of Mr. Calvin Snow. Among the names of the early school teachers, that of O’Neil, is handed down as memorable. Many a luckless urchin smarted under the effects of his discipline. Among those who have

been distinguished as teachers in this town, should be mentioned the name of Ann Orr. For about half a century she taught in various districts of this and other towns, with acceptance and success. As a teacher of children, she was almost without an equal, and she will long be remembered by a multitude who enjoyed her instructions.

The following anecdote was related of Miss Orr, at the Centennial Celebration, by the President of the day :— “ I once had,” she said, “ a lad in my school, who troubled me very much. He would not get his lesson, though he appeared not to be idle. I kept my eye on him a day or two ; I had an article he wanted ; I said to him, James, if you will get me a perfect lesson you shall have that article. At the time of recitation I had a perfect lesson. Now, James, I see you have a good mind, as good, if not better than any in school, I shall always expect, and I intend to have, perfect lessons ever after this ; and it was so, I had no more trouble with James.”

The following poetical tribute to Miss Orr, is from one of her scholars. It is an extract from a poem, too long for a place in this volume :—

“ Near half a century flitted by,
The summer’s sweetness, winter’s sigh
Still found her at her chosen post,
To educate the youthful host.
Her labor’s o’er, but memory still
Will feel a deep and touching thrill,
As back it passes to those days
When we indulg’d in jocund plays.”

Miss Orr was an extraordinary character ; what she lacked in the graces of refinement, she made up in strength and vigor of thought and action. In conversation, she was always sensible and animated. At times she was masculine in her bearing ; but her active usefulness with many excellent qualities, made ample amends for the want of that softness that belongs to the female character.

There are now fifteen school districts in the town — of which one extends into Merrimac, another into Amherst.

Piscataquog Academy was incorporated in 1847 ; it has a Board of Officers and Trustees ; it is situated in a pleasant village, and has been useful and prosperous. The gentlemen who have taken charge of it successively, are Dr. Leonard French, D. C., Fitchburg, Mass. ; Hiram Wason,

Esq., D. C., Charles Warren, H. U., Benj. F. Wallace, Esq., D. C., Bedford; Mr. Amos Abbot, once missionary in India. This academy went into operation in 1842; Messrs. Walker, Bowman, Stark and Riddle, of the village, were among the founders.

Select schools have been sustained in other parts of the town; at the centre, Miss Adeline Willey taught with success; she married Mr. Charles Aiken, of this town, and now resides in Wisconsin. Rev. J. C. Bryant, A. C., formerly pastor of the church in Littleton, Mass., now missionary in South Africa, taught at the centre with success. Mr. J. W. Pilsbury, D. C., now residing at Milford, N. H., and Rev. Mr. Turner, then from the Seminary at Andover, now minister in Iowa, instructed select schools at the centre of the town. At the west part of the town, Rev. Mr. Wilder missionary in India, and Rev. Mr. Kendall, now Professor of Jackson College, Illinois, from the seminary at Andover, taught select schools. To these should be added the names of Dodge, and Rev. A. W. Burnham, once teachers of note in this town.

BRIDGES.

At a town meeting, held June 11, 1759, "*Voted*, Robert Walker, Hugh Riddle, and John Moor, be a committee to build a Bridge across Piscataquog river," which was built near where the bridge now stands.

Jan. 22, 1770. Maj. John Goffe was employed by the town to build the second bridge over Piscataquog river. It was raised July 16, 1770, and they finished laying the plank, Dec. 12, 1770. It was built near the former. While raising the bridge, six men were thrown off, of whom Mr. Holmes, Mr. Dugal, and Joseph Moor, were seriously injured, the latter so much so, that he died in thirty hours.

Nov. 1785. "*Voted*, John Patten, Adam Dickey, Joseph Patten, Lieut. John Orr, Ens. John Riddle, be a committee to repair or rebuild the Piscataquog Bridge, and build it near the same height as the present one, or as they may see proper."

Nov. 1795. Chose a committee consisting of Benj Barron, Lieut. John Riddle, Lieut. John Patten, John Orr, Esq., and Mr. James Darrah, to build a new bridge. This committee

was to sell the work to the lowest bidder, and the construction was to conform to a plan exhibited; the bridge to be finished by June 1, 1796. It does not appear from the minutes of the meeting who built the bridge; but at a meeting held March 23, 1796, John Orr, Mr. Joseph Patten, and Maj. Stephen Dole, were a committee appointed to inspect the timber and workmanship of the rebuilding of Piscataquog Bridge. They reported to the town at the next meeting after the bridge was finished, Aug. 29, 1796; and the town accepted the report of the committee, which recommended to allow David Riddle \$2,00 for extra work and timber on said bridge, from which it seems that David Riddle must have been the builder in 1796.

March 26, 1812. Isaac Riddle, Samuel Chandler, and William Moor, were appointed a committee to build Piscataquog Bridge, the north abutment to be of split stone, (the south abutment being built of stone the year before,) with a middle pier built of wood, with good and substantial railing, stringers and plank. Wm. Riddle, Esq., was the builder of this bridge, which was completed in the summer of 1813 or '14.

Oct. 17, 1828. A committee was chosen, consisting of Capt. Wm. Patten, Col. Wm. P. Riddle, and Jonas B. Bowman, Esq., to rebuild Piscataquog Bridge. This committee were authorized to draw money not exceeding \$300, if necessary. Builder, John P. Houston, in 1829.

Oct. 4, 1842, a committee was chosen consisting of Fred. G. Stark, James Walker, and Wm. P. Riddle, to reconstruct and rebuild Piscataquog Bridge. This is the bridge now in use, the abutments on both sides the river were widened, a lattice, similar to the granite bridge, made, and the whole finished as a bridge ought to be in such a thoroughfare of travel. It was completed in 1843.

In connection with this subject, the following vote is important:—

March 10, 1835. “*Voted,* That any highway district, that will build their bridges with stone abutments, and cover the water courses with good substantial stone arches, so that the town will not hereafter be called upon to furnish timber and plank, for the repair of such bridges, such district shall receive from the town treasurer, the amount of money such bridge would cost the town for timber and plank for the term of twenty years. And for the better security of the town,

the stone work of such bridge or bridges shall be done to the satisfaction of the Selectmen, for the time being, or of such committee as the town may choose for that purpose. And as the splitting and preparing stone for such bridges will require some stone-tools and iron work, it is further provided, that the Selectmen may advance a part of the money, at their discretion, to enable such district to prosecute the work to its completion. The better to enable the several districts to judge whether they will be able to build their bridges of stone, the Selectmen are hereby ordered, while taking the invoice, the present year, to estimate the yearly expense to the town in timber and plank for the several bridges in town."

By the good effect of this vote, the town is not obliged, except in a few instances, to supply timber and plank for small bridges; stone arches and stone stringers having been thrown over most of the streams in Bedford.

POUNDS.

THESE mementoes of ancient times are still seen in our country towns, but they are falling into disuse compared with former years.

At the first town-meeting, Jan. 8, 1750, to accept the charter, it was "*Voted*, to build a Pound near Samuel Patten's." This Pound was built of logs, and stood about eight rods south-west of Samuel Patten's house, on the second piece of land cleared in town. The last trace of this rude receptacle of strays, are probably not within the recollection of any now living.

April 28, 1786. "*Voted*, to build a new Pound, of stone, on the south-west corner of the Common, by the meeting-house, 32 feet square, and 7 feet high. Building committee, James Wallace, John Riddle, and John Houston, Jr. The committee to employ such men as will answer to build said Pound, and they be paid by order on the Treasurer."

March 28, 1809. "The Selectmen shall be a committee to fix the place and vendue the building of a new pound." The location selected, was where it is now standing, north of the Riddle mills, near the stone school-house.

MILLS.

BEFORE any mills were erected in Bedford, the inhabitants were under the necessity of going to Dunstable to get their grain ground, at Chamberlain's Mill, at the "harbor," south of Nashua Village. After this, Chamberlain erected mills at Merrimac, near the mouth of Souhegan river, and here the Bedford people were better accommodated.

About 1745, Col. John Goffe, who used to live at Derryfield, opposite Goffe's falls, moved to Bedford, on the farm formerly the residence of Theodore Goffe, Esq., and more recently owned by Jonas B. Bowman, Esq. There he built a grain mill, near the mouth of Crosby's brook, which mill was resorted to by the people of Goffstown and New-Boston. In a few years he built a saw-mill, near the grain-mill; soon after this, John Wallace built a saw-mill on the same stream, near where the road now passes from Bedford centre to the village. Elisha Lincoln built a saw-mill, east of the Gordon-house, on the same stream. Some time after, this mill was taken down by Josiah Gordon, and re-erected about one hundred rods north, near where David Atwood's turning and shingle mill now stands. Mr. Boies built a saw and grain-mill near the school-house, in district No. 6, on the same stream. At the head of the meadows, Samuel Vose built a mill. The brothers, Cyrus W. and Frederic Wallace, built a turning-mill near where John Wallace had his saw-mill. David Atwood has at the present time, 1850, a turning and shingle-mill in operation.

These mills are on the same stream of water, and there are individuals in town who have known seven running and doing business at the same time. On the same stream and at the mouth of Crosby's brook, Richard Dole built a fulling-mill, and manufactured and dressed woollen cloth in great quantities. Within a few years, this mill (not by an 'excelsior' process,) has been turned into a cider-mill, where, by *water* power one hundred bushels of apples can be ground in one hour, and converted into *cider*. On this stream, Jonas B. Bowman, Esq., built a grain and saw-mill of expensive and superior workmanship, which was consumed by fire in 1844. At the same place was a bark-mill, connected with a tannery, owned by Mr. Wm. Goffe, which was burned at the same time. On the same stream and near the same place, Theodore Goffe, Esq., and Bernice Pritchard had a mill.

On Piscataquog River, the first mill was built by one Davidson, brother-in-law to Robert Walker, which was swept away. About the year 1775, Mr. John Little built a grain and a saw-mill. Dea. Benjamin Smith built a grain-mill near his house, in the south part of the town, about the year 1778; this mill was in operation in 1818. Col. Daniel Moor built a saw and grain-mill, on the stream near his house, about the year 1770. These mills were taken down by Robert Wallace, about 1805.

Sarah Riddle, who afterwards married Dea. James Wallace, was employed to tend the grain-mill, by Col. Daniel Moor. His direction to Sarah was, never to take toll from a widow's grist, or a man who brought his grain on his back. "But," said she, "I always felt vexed when two bushels of grain came in one bag."

Mr. Thomas Atwood built a grain and saw-mill, with circular saws, &c., in 1833, near the one erected by Col. Moor; this mill is now owned by Capt. Hale.

About the year 1780, John Orr, Esq., built a saw-mill on his farm about one hundred rods above Smith's grain-mill, on the same stream. John Riddle built a grain and saw-mill on the same stream, near where they now stand, the grain-mill having lately been turned into a shingle and turning mill. These mills have lately been purchased by Mr. Damon, of Amherst, and put into good repair, and are now in successful operation.

Mr. Farley has a mill for turning, boring and sawing, in the wheelwright business, on a branch of the same stream, above.

The "James Gilmore Mill," not now in being, was located on the same stream, one mile above the one last mentioned, not far from this were the "Chubuck Mills," so called.

James Darrah built a saw and grain-mill near his house, south-east corner of the town, on a stream of water coming out of Sebbins' pond, and near where it empties into Merrimac River. These mills are now in successful operation.

William Moor built a saw and grain-mill on the same stream as above, one hundred rods north, now owned and carried on by Daniel Ferguson.

Josiah Walker built a saw-mill on his farm, near Merrimac River, now in operation. Wm. Patten built a saw-mill two hundred rods above the one just mentioned, which has since been removed.

In another part of the town, Dea. Phineas Aiken built a saw-mill on the stream running through his farm. It is now in existence and is owned by the brothers John and Franklin Shepard, who have two saw-mills and a shingle-mill in successful operation. On the same stream, Sewell Stratton built a saw-mill in 1845, about one mile and a half above Shepard's Mills, which is doing well.

There was formerly a saw-mill near where M. M. Stevens now lives, that once did considerable business.

FATAL CASUALTIES,—REMARKABLE CASES OF PRESERVATION, ETC.

July 16, 1770. Joseph Moor was killed at the raising of Piscataquog Bridge.

May 5th, 1775. John Patterson was killed at the raising of Lieut. J. Little's barn. At another time, his brother, Robert Patterson, had been at the raising of M. Patten's barn, and on the same day was drowned in the Merrimac. Several individuals, at different times have been drowned in this river; in one instance a party were crossing in a boat in the evening, opposite the Goffe place, the boat was upset, and Mrs. Griffin and two men were drowned; Mrs. Griffin was a daughter of Maj. John Goffe.

Many casualties, no doubt, have occurred from time to time since the settlement of the town, that have gone into oblivion. For instance, we find the following entry in Matthew Patten's Journal.

June 2, 1766. "John Frain was found in the eddy below Patterson's brook, and I was notified as a Selectman to go see him buried."

About 1776 or 7, Luke Eagan, who, at the time was keeping school in Bedford, at or near Capt. Thos. Chandler's, was returning one Sabbath evening in the winter, from Londonderry, where he had been to spend the Sabbath with Rev. Mr. Davidson, and after crossing the river, was misled into a wood-path, and was found dead next morning not far from John G. Moor's, probably overcome by cold. This man had been well educated in the Roman Catholic Church, and had taken priest's orders, but having become a Protestant, he was excommunicated. He had served a short time in the

Revolutionary war. On the Monday morning after his death, the scholars assembled as usual, and about 10 o'clock, A. M. his body was discovered by some men passing that way.

About the year 1791 or 2, at a training at the centre, Joseph Bell had his ankle shattered by firing a cannon, which made him lame for life.

There have been, in this town, some cases of successful surgery worthy of record.

March 26, 1822. Dr. P. P. Woodbury was called to the son of Capt. Rufus Merrill, two years old, who was suffocated, apparently, from some foreign substance in the trachea or throat. A probang was passed into the stomach through the œsophagus or swallow, but to no good effect. The child had frequent fits of suffocation, and would lay perfectly senseless. The Doctor performed the operation of tracheotomy. An incision being made into the windpipe, a white bean of the largest size was extracted, perfectly dry; it had been in the trachea two hours. During the operation the child was senseless, had no need of being held, and was to all appearance dead, exhibiting no motion whatever. In less than three minutes the child was playing with a watch. Not twenty drops of blood was lost in the operation; the child recovered, and the wound healed, without any untoward symptoms.

July 24, 1824. Doctor Woodbury was called to visit Miss Edie McIntire, who had been taking away rye in the sheaf, on the beam of a barn. By some misstep, she fell the distance of seven or eight feet, and struck directly on the sharp point of a stake, erect in a cart below, from which situation one man was not able to extricate her. So completely was the girl transfixed with the stake, that it was necessary to break it off at its insertion in the cart-body, and it was carried with the girl upon it, some distance from the barn before it was taken from her. The stake first struck on the fleshy part of the ischium and passed laterally into the lower bowels about two inches, thence through the rectum to the left, up the body in an oblique direction, and out at the left breast about three inches from the nipple. It fractured three ribs in its passage, the stake passing through the body twenty-seven inches. It was five inches in circumference at largest end. It came out of the breast six or seven inches, so that she could take hold of it with both hands while the stake was in her. It was made of a young hemlock, and the bark with the knots was just stripped off. The stake is now

deposited in the Medical Institution at Dartmouth College. Edie was a grown girl, large size, aged fifteen.

"On my arrival," says Dr. Woodbury, "I found her on a bed with her common clothes on, — her friends thought her dying; I was requested not to do much for her for fear she would die with more pain; her pulse was scarcely perceptible. Her breathing short and hurried, with a cold sweat on her skin; she had an extremely ghastly countenance; did not incline to say much; submitted to what was done for her without any apparent concern or sensation. She said she had no pain — made no complaint — but was very faint. There was but a trifling hemorrhage from the wounds. After the application of simple dressings to the wounds, I endeavored to excite the system. She soon began to breathe better — her pulse began to be more perceptible, and her skin grew more moist and warm; I now left her for the night. Without more particulars, suffice it to say, she recovered. In her first attempts to walk, her body inclined a little to the left, but she soon became erect. Six weeks from the time of the accident, she was able to attend school sixty rods from home. During confinement I bled her five times. She subsisted seventeen days wholly on water, in which Indian meal had been boiled. The next year I saw the girl robust and hearty, living at the house of Mr. Thomas Shepard, where she was when the accident happened."

A man by the name of Trull was drowned in the Merri-mac, what year is not known; also, a son of Dea. Jonathan Rand.

April, 1826. Mr. John W. Moore, fell from a building on which he was at work, at his brother's, Capt. Robert Moore, and died in a few hours. This Providence was the more remarkable, as it was just one month from the death of his wife.

In the winter of 1829, Jonathan Campbell was found frozen to death, in a pasture not far from the Chubbuck place.

1830. Alexander McCoy was killed at the village by a boy in a passion.

June 15, 1837. A great hail storm, about 3 o'clock, P. M., passed over the place, doing great damage to window-glass, crops, &c. The funeral procession of Gen. Riddle's wife was passing from the village to the centre burying ground, and the horses were almost unmanageable. The hail-stones were very large. Some of them were seen on the ground next day.

Sept. 1839. Two sons of Dwelly Mitchell, aged fourteen and sixteen years, with another boy, went out in a skiff one Sabbath morning on the Merrimac, the boat was upset, and the two brothers were drowned, the bodies were found a few days after, near the place.

In *March*, 1845, a dreadful murder was committed at Manchester, in the evening, on the body of Jonas Parker, which awakened the deepest interest in this town, because Parker had lived here some years, and was well known among us.

Oct. 1849. A young man by the name of Jewett was killed by falling from a chestnut tree. The tree was in Amherst, the funeral was attended at his father's in this town.

Nov. 5, 1849. David Houston went to Manchester one Monday morning, — was seen during the day — started, as was supposed, to come home towards evening, and it was presumed he had fallen into the Merrimac or Piscataquog river. His body was found near Hudson, June 22, 1850.

April, 1850. Otis Hardy, of the village, in a fit of delirium tremens, committed suicide by cutting his throat. He left a wife and children.

July, 1850. Bradford Leach, aged twenty-five, was drowned in the Piscataquog river, near the village.

EXTRACTS,
FROM HON. MATTHEW PATTEN'S JOURNAL.

"*March* 29, 1755. Was chosen town-clerk. Voted to give me six pounds, old tenor, for what I should record for the town this year, and they were to find me paper to write the minutes of the town on."

"*October* 17, 1755. About 4 o'clock in the morning, there was an exceeding great earthquake, reported by those that observed, to be seven different shocks. They were all in about an hour, or less. The first was exceeding hard, and of some minutes continuance; the others not much more than a second or two, except the last, which was a hard shock, but short, but not so hard as the first. On the 19th, there was another shock of an earthquake, a little before sunset. On the 22d, about 9 o'clock in the evening, there was a smart shock of an earthquake, about as hard as the shock on the 19th, but not so long continuance."

"*October* 29, 1755. Snow fell, ankle-deep."

"*July 18, 1756.* John Smith of New Boston, informed me that a bear had bit my heifer, (that he had in keeping,) so she could not live. I got Mr. McNeil, of New Boston, to butcher her for me."

"*September 13 & 14, 1756.* A great frost, so as to kill all the corn-leaves."

"*November 27, 1756.* Went to Londonderry, to know when the Gen. Court set; found it to be next Tuesday. On the 30th set out for Portsmouth; went as far as Mr. Murphy's, in Londonderry, and received an account that the Gen. Court had adjourned till Tuesday, 14th December, next."

"*September 4, 1757.* Mr. Houston lectured in the forenoon on the 1st chapter of John, and preached in the afternoon, it being the first sermon ever preached in our meeting-house. 11th, Mr. Houston lectured in the forenoon on the 12th, 13th, and 14th v. of the first chapter of John, and preached in the afternoon, from Amos, fourth chapter and 12th verse."

"*January 22, 1758.* Mr. Houston lectured on part of the 3d chapter of John's gospel. There were but 15 persons at meeting, by reason of the snow, which was deep, and poor paths."

"*June 8 & 9, 1759.* Fished at Namaskeag Falls and got 120 shad, and I gave Robert McMurphy 10 of them; and I got 4 shad and a small salmon, for my part, from the setting-place. Wm. Peters fished for me by the halves."

"*July 15, 1760.* I joined with Sam'l Patterson, to fish for salmon, and caught 2; one weighed 12½ lbs., and the other 18 lbs. The small one I had, and the large one he had. 16th, We raised the bridge over Piscataquog river, and set our net that night, and by morning we had a 9 and a 6 pound salmon; the large one I had, and the small one Patterson had."

"*March 12, 1761.* This morning about 2 o'clock, a considerable smart shock of an earthquake, which wakened me out of sleep."

"*March 4, 1762.* I attended a meeting of the towns of Amherst and Bedford, at Bedford meeting-house, to choose a representative; I was chosen moderator by a unanimous choice, and Col. Goffe was chosen representative by 46 votes, and Capt. Barron had 13."

"*April 1, 1764.* Snow fell near 3 inches deep."

"*June 7, 1771.* Attended the funeral of Capt. Barron, and was one of the under bearers."

"*July 3, 1771.* I went to Derryfield meeting-house, and heard Mr. Ward of Plymouth preach."

"*November 27, 1779.* I have 2 bushels of corn a day for writing."

"*May 19, 1780.* Was a thunder-shower in the morning, and was followed by an uncommon darkness; such as is not remembered. It was so dark that one could not know a man but at a small distance, and were obliged to keep a light in the chimney to see to go about, and the night was so extraordinary dark until 1 o'clock, that a person could not see his hand when held up, nor even a white sheet of paper. Day and night cloudy. Cause unknown. The works of the Lord are great and marvellous, and past finding out until he graciously pleases to reveal them."

Matthew Patten was occasionally called, at that early day, to go great distances, to survey land and lay out towns. At one time he went for that purpose to Piermont. Although our extracts from his journal are already somewhat copious, yet his entries on that journey, will be read with interest as presenting a curious contrast, with the facilities and appliances of travel at this day, and also fixing the date of some transactions connected with the early history of that township.

"*September 25, 1765.* I set out for Coos, to help to lay out the town of Piermont, and arrived at Pennykook, and lodged at Mrs. Osgood's. 26th, — I bo't some pork and other things I wanted, to carry me through the woods, and I arrived at Baker town, and lodged at Call's. 27th, — I arrived at Lieut. Brown's, in Plymouth, and lodged there. 28th, — It rained all the forepart of the day; in the afternoon, I arrived at Jotham Cummings' the uppermost house in Plymouth, and lodged there. 29th, — Was Sabbath-day, and I had a sore on the sole of my right foot, that I was lame with, and lay by. 30th, — I set out, and got a little more than 3 miles beyond Baker River Falls in the new road, and camped; and Col. Greely, Esqrs. Webster and Bartlett, and one Page, came to me and camped with me."

"*October 1.* I arrived at Coos, about 1 or 2 o'cl'k, P. M.; lodged at Mr. Atkinson's, in Haverhill. 2d, — I went to surveying in Piermont. 21st, — I finished laying out what was proposed to be laid out. 22d, — We got our things, and some provision to last us home; got to Mr. Ladd's the last

house on our way, in Coos. 23d, — Set off early in the morning, and arrived at Captain Brainerd's camp, in Rumney. 24th, — We came a mile on this side Smith's River. 25th, — We arrived at Pennykook, and lodged at Mrs. Osgood's; Lieut. Martin's expenses, and mine, there, were £5. 26th, — I came home in the evening."

Mr. Patten's daughter, lately deceased, stated that while he was camped out, one night, in or near Piermont, there came along a poor family, going from Massachusetts to settle in Piermont. They staid the night in the camp, and during the night, the woman, who had been exhausted and well-nigh famished, with the tedious journey, seemed to be near dying. The husband waked up Mr. Patten, and begged he would let them have something to sustain her. They arose, got some nourishing food prepared, and she revived. Some years after, Mr. Patten was passing that way, and as he came opposite a comfortable dwelling and good farm, a lady at the door called to him by name. Surprised, he stopped, and it proved to be the family he had assisted in distress. Providence had smiled upon them, and they wished to express their gratitude.

The writer was at Piermont a short time since, and saw an old inhabitant of the town, who told him, that a good plan of the township, drafted by Mr. Patten, was still preserved with the town records. There was no settlement in the town till 1768, as appears by "Historical Sketches of the Coos County," by Rev. Grant Powers.

NOTICES OF CHANGES IN THE OCCUPANCY OF FARMS IN THE PAST AND PRESENT TIMES.

William Holmes lived on the Reed place, north of Stephen French, Jr. James Linn lived where Stephen French, Jr., now lives. Dea. James Wallace married Linn's daughter, and Linn afterwards lived and died at James Wallace's. Dea. James Wallace first lived in a log-house, at the foot of the meeting-house hill, near where Chandler Spofford now lives; he afterwards built, lived and died in a house that was destroyed by fire on the spot where Phineas French's brick house now stands.

Rev. John Houston, when first married, lived with John McLaughlin, about seventy rods south-east of Calvin Snow's,

on the south side of the McLaughlin farm, now owned by Rodney McLaughlin, a grandson. In a few months, Mr. Houston built and moved into a part of the house Mr. Spofford now inhabits; he afterwards built, lived and died in a house in which his grandson, John Houston, now lives.

Rufus Merrill lived where Daniel Barnard now lives. Widow Alfred Foster lived where Joseph Marshall now lives.

Oliver L. Kendall, Thomas Kendall, and Nathan Kendall, built the houses they now occupy.

Isaac Riddle, Esq., built and lived on the place now owned by his son, Isaac, of Manchester, and at present occupied by Joseph Flint. David Gillis, blacksmith, lived where John Conner now lives. Widow Wm. Barnes lived where Orin Mudge now lives. John Houston (son of the first minister) lived where Dr. P. P. Woodbury now lives. Simeon Chubbuck, grandfather of Fanny Forrester, now Mrs. Judson, lived on what is known as the Chubbuck place, south of the Bancroft pasture, so called. Ensign Chubbuck lived on the "Globe," about sixty rods north of Dr. Woodbury's; he kept a public house for entertainment, called "The Globe Tavern."

Robert Lincoln lived where Leonard and Riddle French now live; John Lincoln lived on the same farm. The house stood about fifty rods south-east of the present building; it was burnt down. Phares Shirley lived where Wm. Bursiel now lives. It was taken off the Gordon farm. John McLaughlin settled on the Gordon farm. Samuel Gordon bought of McLaughlin, and sold to his brother, John Gordon, at an early period of the settlement. John lived and died on said farm; it is now owned by Adam Gordon and P. P. Woodbury, son and son-in-law of Josiah Gordon, Esq. William Barnett lived on the south side of the Gordon farm, on the hill. Francis Barnett, brother of the above, lived on the Beard farm, now owned by Gen. Wm. P. Riddle. Samuel Terrill lived on the hill where Moses Marshall now lives. Samuel Bowman lived where Henry McGrath now lives. Amos Gardner lived near, the house now down. John Wallace lived where Thomas Bursiel now lives; the old house was moved to Piscataquog village by a grandson, Frederick Wallace. Dr. Paul Tenney lived where Bradbury Rowe now lives, recently occupied by Dr. P. P. Woodbury. Elisha Lincoln built and lived where John Parker lived, the place more particularly known as the Gen. Montgomery

place ; this house is not standing. Christopher Rice lived where David Atwood and David G. Atwood now live.

John Wilson lived where widow Samuel Moor now lives. Dea. Wm. Boies lived where Ebenezer Holbrook lives.

One Monday morning, it is said, Boies saw one of his neighbors, by the side of the road, sitting on a log. Says Boies, "What are you doing here, man, so early?" He replied, "I was thinking what Mr. Houston was preaching about yesterday, and I could na make the preaching come together." Boies replied, "Trouble yoursel na about that, man,—a' ye have to do, man, is to fear God and keep his commandments." And his neighbor used to say, "This was the best preaching for me I ever heard ; always, when perplexed about texts of Scripture and preaching, this advice of Boies put the matter at rest."

Lieut. Samuel Vose and brother James, grandsons of Proprietor, lived where Brooks Wortley, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Plummer, now live.

John Moor lived where Robert Moor, a grandson, now lives. Wm. Kennedy lived on the south part of said farm ; houses not now standing. Andrew Walker lived where Joseph H. Stevens now lives. Joseph Cochran lived where Joseph and Calvin Butterfield now live. Cochran was killed by the fall of a tree, directly opposite John Mullet's house. Cochran had two daughters ; Samuel Moor married one, and Mr. Dunlap, of Goffstown, married the other. John Mullet, blacksmith, has lived where he now lives. John and Hugh Riddle, with Robert Adams, lived where Capt. McAllister now lives. Riddle's house was about seventy rods west of the present building. John Riddle had one daughter, Mary, who lived on the Isaac Atwood place, in a house by herself ; she was never married, and died about 1813. Patrick Larkin lived where Wm. McDole Pherson now lives ; Larkin married Robert Adam's daughter, Elizabeth. When Larkin asked Adams for his daughter, Adams said he did not know as he had any particular objection against him, but he did not like the Roman Catholic religion. Larkin's parents were Catholics, and Adams was a Scotch Presbyterian. Larkin obviated the objection by the shrewd remark, "If a man happened to be born in a stable, would that make him a horse?"

Thomas Boies lived where John and Thomas Barr now live. Fergus Kennedy lived on the same place, about eight rods directly east of Wm. McDole Pherson's. Boies married

Kennedy's daughter; and Samuel Barr, father of Thomas and John, married Boies's daughter.

Jesse Richardson built and lives where he now does. James McPherson built and lives where he now does. John McKenny lived where Joshua Vose, father and son, now live. Maj. John Dunlap lived where Robert Dunlap, a son, now lives. John McPherson lived where Michael Boynton now lives. Whitefield Gilmore lived where Silvanus Johnson now lives.

Until after the Revolutionary war, there was but one settlement between Whitefield Gilmore's and the New Boston line. John Barnes, a brother of Asa, lived on land now owned by Leonard C. French, north-east of the Dea. Craig farm. Samuel Eaton lived where Timothy Townsend now lives. Nathaniel Baldwin lived where Phineas C. French now lives. Elijah Buxton lived where David Witherspoon now lives, known as the "Tinker farm."

Robert Patten lived where Wm. Tolford, a son-in-law, now lives. Patten's settlement was the first in that part of the town after the Revolution. David and William McClary lived where James McDole now lives. Samuel Morrison, and then Robert Gilchrist, lived where Moses Gage now lives. John Armstrong, where George Webber now lives. Dea. John Craig, where Joseph Tinker now lives. Samuel Gilchrist, where Ralph, Thomas and Abiel Holbrook, now live. Alexander Patten, where Benj. Stevens now lives. Alexander Caldwell, where David White now lives. John Pratt, where David Stevens now lives; known as the "Bryant farm." Ezra Baldwin, where Sewell Stratton now lives.

Jesse Worcester,* (father of J. E. Worcester, the philologist and geographer,) lived where Benj. Nichols now lives. David French, where David Wright now lives, place of the late

* "There Worcester, (that noble name,)

From whom a bright descendant came,

He lived just over "Joppa hill,"

And, as you cross a rippling rill,

You rise a summit; there's the spot,

(Where Nichols now has cast his lot,)

Where Joseph E., in boyhood's days,

Indulged in many prattling plays;

Not dreaming, ere his locks were gray,—

Our Anglo-Saxon he should sway."

[Extract from MSS. poem already alluded to.

Ebenezer French. Coburn French built and lived where he now does. John Craig lived where Franklin Wright now lives.

John Bell lived near Bedford Centre, about sixty rods south-west of the Rev. Thomas Savage, (at his first settlement,) afterwards, he built, lived and died on the brow of the west end of the "Bell hill," so called. George Whitford now lives on the Bell place. Samuel and Jonathan Currier, brothers, lived where Frederick Hodgman now lives; Samuel on the south, and Jonathan on the north side of the farm. At an early period, Alexander Orr lived on the same farm; Orr married Jane McConihe, of Merrimac, and John Gault, a Revolutionary soldier, married Orr's daughter Molly, and Daniel McLaughlin married Fanny, a daughter of Gault, and Mr. Chase, of Hillsborough, married another daughter. On the same farm, at the north side, lived James Underwood, first on the list of lawyers, a connection of the Litchfield family of that name.

James Houston, brother of Rev. John Houston, and Samuel, blacksmith, son of James, lived where Benj. Dowse now lives. Samuel was totally blind the latter part of his life, rather fond of conversation, loved to tell of a quaint reply that he once heard given to the enquiry, "What is the difference between the Presbyterian and Congregationalist?" "O, the difference is this. 'The Congregationalist goes home and eats a regular dinner between services, but the Presbyterian postpones his till after meeting.'" This Dowse place was where Mr. McGregor, when a youth, passing through town from Londonderry to Chestnut hills, took refuge from the pursuit of a tremendous black snake that chased him, with head erect, something like a mile. It is said that a snake of immense proportions used to be seen in these woods.

Matthew Patten, one of the first settlers, lived on the plains, on the second piece of land that was cleared in town; he afterwards built and lived where Samuel Gardner now lives. On the same farm, the late David Patten, Esq., a son of Matthew, lived and died. Adam Patten built and lived where he now does. Rev. Thomas Savage resides in the brick cottage, built for him by Capt. William Patten.

Fergus Kennedy lived where Nathan Cutler now lives. At an early period, Hugh Campbell lived on this farm. Old and young Drs. Cutler, lived on this place. John Smith,

name of celebrity, Englishman, deerskin breeches-maker, lived here for many years. Hugh Campbell soon after built and lived in the field between the old school-house and James McQuaid's. The school-house stood at the foot of the hill, by the large stone, as you go from the farm of the late John Orr, to the centre of the town. Campbell married Molly Smith, daughter of Dea. Benjamin Smith.

Robert Walker, one of the first settlers of the town, lived on the Jesse Walker place. At an early period of the settlement, Robert Walker and Samuel Patten exchanged places; the descendants of Walker still live on the same farm, and the descendants of Patten also live on the same farm. Joseph Houston lived where John O. Houston recently lived. Daniel Vose, where Adam Campbell now lives. Daniel Campbell, where he now lives, with Thomas Campbell, father and son.

Gawn Riddle lived where John Goffe, son-in-law of the late William Riddle, Esq., now lives. The old house stood at the foot of the hill opposite the saw-mill. John Riddle, a son of Gawn, lived where Isaac Cutler now lives. David Riddle, another son of Gawn, lived on the "White place," where John D. Riddle, a son of David, now lives; the original house was a few rods west of the present dwelling. Isaac, another son of Gawn, lived east, at the centre of the town, on the place now owned by Isaac Riddle, a son. Richard McAllister, where the late William Riddle lived, now owned by his daughter, Laura; the old house stood a few rods west.

James Gardner built and lived where he now does. Ezekiel Gardner lived where Senter Farley now lives, formerly occupied by Gregg Campbell. Robert Morrill lived about seventy-five rods south of Tenny Campbell's. Garnet Rowel lived where Solomon Manning now lives. William Campbell, who first introduced the hop-plant into town at an early period, lived on the same farm. Seth Page lived where John Seavy now lives. Joshua Bailey, where Samuel Needham now lives. Dea. John Aiken, where the late Dea. Phineas Aiken lived and died. Individuals now living, remember, when working at Dea. Phineas Aiken's, while his mother was living, that in the absence of the person who took the head, she would ask a blessing at table.

Dea. Matthew Miller, and afterwards, Silas Shepard, lived where Ephraim Hardy now lives. John Morrison, where Barney Cain formerly lived; house now unoccupied. Tho's

Shepard, where he now lives. William Flint, where he now lives. James Campbell, where Nathaniel Flint now lives. Edward Lyon, where Eber Pike now lives. Henry Parkhurst, where Simon Jenness now lives. James Mann, father of Eleanor, where Rufus Parkhurst now lives. Asa Barnes, one of the original proprietors, where the late Nathan Barnes lived, and where Gardner Nevens, a son-in-law of Nathan, now lives. Capt. Nathan Barnes built and lived where Dea. John French now lives; the place once owned by Capt. Perry. Nathan Barnes, Nehemiah Kittredge, Ned Lyon, James Campbell, and others, hauled clay from the south part of the town, and burned brick on the farm of Dea. John French. Kittredge said they went over stones in the road, as high as the hub of the wheel.

John Rand, Esq., lived where Seth Campbell now lives, and where John O. Houston once lived. Ezekiel Gardner lived where James Campbell now lives. Mrs McQuaid lived at the foot of the Joppa hill. Adam Butterfield, Widow Robert Adams, Page Campbell, Isaac Campbell, and Robert Campbell, where they now do. The progenitors of the Campbell family came to this town from New Salem, or that vicinity. John Richardson lived where the late David Stevens lived and died. Stephen Nichols, where John Shepard now lives. Cornelius Barnes, between the grave yard, at the west part of the town, and Nehemiah Kittredge's; house now torn down; he was a brother to Asa. Nehemiah Kittredge lived where his son Nehemiah, and Mr. Gage, now live. Nehemiah, jr., built and removed to the new house. Benjamin Sprague, where Leonard C. French, 2d, now lives. Moses Dennis where Parker Butterfield lives. David Sprague where David, a son, and William Hobart, blacksmith, now live. The Sprague family came from Billerica.

Matthew Patterson lived where Moses Swett, first, second; and third, lived. Ebenezer Swett, where Frederic, his son, now lives. Daniel Robbins built and lived where he now does. Nathan Butler, where he now lives. Sanford and Alfred Roby where they now live. Benjamin Barron, where Daniel Swett now lives. John Gardner where David Cady now lives. Robert Giffin and Charles Black, with one other, lived on or near the farm now owned by Shearburn Dearborn. Black was drowned on his way from Amherst, in Baboosack brook.

John McIntosh lived where Isaac Gage, jr., now lives.

David and William McClary lived where M. M. Stevens now lives. Thomas Bennett, and afterwards Hugh McConike, where Thomas Gage lives.

To the east, Solomon Gage lived where Amos Harris now lives. Daniel Muzzey where Solomon Gage now lives. Barney Cain, or McCain, where Dwelly Mitchell lives. Adam Dickey, where Isaac Gage lives. Robert Matthews, where George Hodgman lives, and Willard Parker lived before him. Thomas Wallace, where the late George O. Wallace lived. Joseph Wallace where Thomas Moore now lives. John Parker, where John Kinson lives. Wm. Caldwell, where George W. Gage now lives. John Parker where Parker Hodgman lives. Archibald Lawson, about sixty rods south-east of Parker Hodgman's. He was from Braintree, Massachusetts, and kept Bachelor's Hall many years. Mr. Amos Harris ploughed up here, a sickle of very old construction. Jonathan Dowse built and lived where Mr. Thompson now lives. John McAfee lived where James Morrison now lives.

The late Samuel Morrison lived and died in the house which he built a few rods north of his brother James. Hugh Orr, brother of the late John Orr, lived where Brooks Shattuck now lives, formerly the place of Capt. William Chandler, now of Nashua. Samuel Patterson, where Widow Stephen Goffe now lives. Nathaniel Patterson, on the same farm, a few rods south of the Isaac Atwood place, where Benjamin Hall lives. The house, when occupied by Peggy Patterson and her brother, was burnt down. The inmates, it is said, were far from living harmoniously. Dea. John Houston, a neighbor, and most pacific man, as the flames were doing their work, remarked, "we see, a house divided against itself cannot stand." James Patterson lived where Robert Houston now lives. Thomas Townsend, where Isaac Dow now lives, on the west side of the road. Thomas Matthews, where the late Dea. William Moor lived, at present occupied by Joseph C. Moor. Col Daniel Moor, where Stephen Dole Esq., and afterwards Joseph Colby, Esq., lived ; at present occupied by Daniel Jacquith. Samuel Gerrish, where Robert Moor now lives. Robert Wallace, where Lemuel N. Wright now lives. Thomas Atwood where Henry Hale now lives. Joseph Scobey, where the late Col. William Moor lived, and at present, Mr. Jones. The name of Scobey, though long extinct in town, is still found among the inscriptions in the old graveyard.

The late Daniel Moor, son of Col. William Moor, where Daniel Parker now lives. William Burns lived where William Moor now does, on the Richard Gregg place. John Burns, where George M. Way now lives. Eleazer Dole, where Thomas Hackett now lives. Thomas Wells, on the brick-yard; the house occupied only while making brick. James Smith, brother of Adam Smith, where the late Hugh Riddle lived, and at present, his son-in-law, Willard Parker. Waldron, tanner, lived where Phineas C. French now lives. Dea. Benjamin Smith, where John D. Armstrong lives. James McQuigg, where the late Matthew McAfee lived, and where his son Samuel now lives. Hon. John Orr, where Samuel Pattten now lives. James McQuaid, where Gawn Riddle now lives. The house was on the east side of the brook, on a knoll. George Orr, where the late Ann Orr, his daughter, lived and died.

At the Village Piscataquog, William Parker first built and lived near where the tavern house now stands. He afterwards built, lived, and died on the west side of the road, on the hill, where Lewis F. Harris, a son-in-law, now lives. The corner-store is the second one on the same place. Samuel Abbot, a celebrated scythe-maker, lived on the rise of ground, where the widow of the late Robert Parker, now lives. Abbot afterwards lived in Antrim and Frances-town, where he manufactured scythes for Peter and Mark Woodbury.

Samuel Moor lived in the mill-yard, a few rods west of the present mills, now owned by Widow David Hamlet. Thomas Parker built and lived where Gen. William P. Riddle now lives. Jonathan Palmer, son-in-law of Mr. Parker, a merchant, built, lived, and died, where Israel Fuller now lives. His funeral, July, 1825, was the second attended in this town by the present pastor; Capt. Nathan Barnes, being the first.

James Parker, Esq., built, lived, and died, where James Walker now lives. Jotham Gillis lived a few rods south of Dr. H. C. Parker's; he kept a house of entertainment. Daniel Mack, Daniel Parker, Frederick G. Stark, Widow David Hamlet, Jonas B. Bowman, Benjamin F. Wallace, and Noyes Poor, built the houses they still occupy. Mace Moulton built and lived where Samuel Brown now lives. Doct. William Wallace lived in the house opposite Daniel Mack, now occupied by Mr. Barnes. David Riddle built and lived,

where Widow Lund now lives. John Moor lived where Ephraim and James Harvill now live. Robert Gilmoor, where Dea. Samuel McQuesten lives. Matthew Little, where Adam Gilmoor lives. Capt. Thomas McLaughlin, where Dea. Richard Dole lived, and at present Mr. Noyes. Col. John Goffe, on the Goffe farm, now owned by Jonas and Byron Bowman. Thomas Newman, where William Rundlet lives. Samuel Patterson, father of Samuel, who lived and died at the Stephen Goffe place, lived where Capt. Thomas Chandler now lives. He first built on the north line, a few rods south of Dea. Richard Dole's clothing-mill. He afterwards built on the east side of the road from Chandler's, where James Martin, the first deputy from Bedford, in the Revolutionary war, lived. Col. White, of Massachusetts, owned the land; he met Patterson in Boston, directly after he landed, from Ireland, and agreed with him to settle his land. Patterson had a number of sons. Zechariah Chandler descended from one of the original proprietors, lived where Sarah Chandler, a daughter, now lives. William McDougal lived where Samuel Chandler now lives; his house stood where Samuel Chandler's garden is now; his barn stood on the opposite side of the brook, where William Patten now lives. McDougal kept Bachelor's Hall, did his own cooking, for two persons beside himself, and on the day of his death, he had bread enough baked to last the family till after his funeral; he dropped dead, from his chair. A. Kidder lived a little east of the School house

Primas Chandler built the house he still occupies. Robert and James Walker, brothers, built, cleared, and lived, on the land where Josiah Walker, grandson of James, still lives. These two were the first settlers of Bedford. James Walker lived where William Walker now lives, and where Dea. Stephen Thurston once lived. Dea. Thurston's first wife was a sister of Rev. Dr. Parish, of Byfield, Massachusetts, and mother of Philomela, second wife of the missionary Newell, in India. Samuel Fugard lived where John G. Moor now does. Ephraim Bushnell, where Russell Moor lives. James Thompson on the knoll, a few rods north of John Patten. Moses Barron, where John Patten lives; and here was born the first white, male child in town. Thomas Harris, where Orvil Giles lives. William Moor, where Thomas Wortley, a son-in-law, lives. John Vickery, where Daniel Ferguson lives; known as the Samuel Smith place. Amos Martin, where Isaac McAllister lives. Hugh and

Joseph Moor, where Joseph Moor lives. Bernice Pritchard built where he now lives. James Darrah, where Isaac, his son, now lives. James Darrah, jr., lately deceased, where his son, James, now lives.

Most towns in this State were more or less settled from Massachusetts and Connecticut. For instance, Francestown was settled principally from Dedham, Wilton from Andover, Lyndeborough from Danvers. Of this town, the English population originated in different sections of Massachusetts. Some came from Billerica, as the Kittredge, Sprague, and Dowse families; some from towns south of Boston, Plymouth, Abington, and Norton, as the Lincoln, Gardner, Chubbuck, Atwood, and Shepard families, and some from Roxbury, Brighton, and neighborhood, as the Chandler and Holbrook families. Some names once known in this town, have now become extinct, as any one may see, by visiting the old graveyard, where he will find such names as McDuffee, Scobey, Peebles, Caldwell, and others.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

PHYSICIANS WHO HAVE PRACTISED IN BEDFORD.

Dr. Nathan Cutler came to Bedford from Dunstable, Mass., in 1777, and moved back to the same place in 1782.

Dr. John Quin came to Bedford in 1782, from Halifax, Vt. He was a relation of Dr. Cutler and had a family. After staying a year or two he removed to Massachusetts.

Dr. Nathan Cutler, son of the former, came to Bedford in 1789; he married Elizabeth Swett, and died May, 1809.

Dr. Wm. Wallace came to Bedford in 1805; his native place was Milford, N. H. He died 1821. His widow, sister of Rev. E. L. Parker, of Londonderry, survived him many years.

Dr. Baird came to Bedford in 1811; left in 1813, and went to Nelson; he resided, while in town, with Thomas Wallace.

Dr. Page came in 1810, and resided in Bedford but a few months.

Dr. Fred. A. Mitchell came in 1813; he was born in Peterborough. He married Lucy, daughter of Dea. Phineas Aiken, and now resides in Bennington, N. H. He left the practice in 1815, but lived in town till 1835.

Dr. P. P. Woodbury came to Bedford in 1815; he was born in Francestown, N. H.; still resides in town, and is in successful practice. [See Genealogy.]

Dr. Silas Walker came to Bedford in 1827; born in Goffstown; died in 1843.

Dr. Houston came to Bedford in 1824; resided at Piscataquog; stayed one year, and then went to Western New York.

Dr. Levi B. Johnson came to Bedford in 1825; stayed two years; he boarded at the village.

Dr. Robert Riddle, son of Hugh Riddle, began to practice at Hooksett; came back to his father's in 1825; practiced medicine till his death, which occurred in 1828. [See Genealogy.]

Dr. Henry Clinton Parker, son of James Parker, Esq., studied medicine in Philadelphia; began to practice at the village in 1838; still continues in the profession. [See Genealogy.]

Dr. Leonard French, son of Leonard C. French, studied medicine with Dr. Crosby; began to practice in 1845; stayed one year in town, and removed to Ashby, where he now resides. [See Genealogy.]

Dr. John D. Walker, son of Dr. Silas Walker, studied medicine with his father, and began to practice in 1840 or 41, and still continues in town.

Dr. John Harvill came to Bedford in 1849; began to practice at the village, and after one year went to California.

LAWYERS.

The first lawyer that settled in Bedford was James Underwood, son of Judge Underwood, of Litchfield. He had a house a little north of Frederic Hodgman's. It is said he became deranged.

James Parker, Esq. came from Litchfield to Bedford, and opened an office in Piscataquog village in the Spring of 1805, and continued in the practice of law till his death, which occurred March 26, 1822.

Isaac McGaw, Esq., son of Jacob McGaw, Esq., of Merrimac, came to Bedford, opened an office in Piscataquog village, April, 1810, and continued the practice of law till June 1st, 1819. He then left Bedford, married, and settled in Windham, N. H. He now resides with a married daughter in Merrimac.

Jonas B. Bowman, Esq., came to Bedford, March 26, 1818; went into partnership with James Parker, Esq., and continued with him in the practice of law till the death of his partner, when he took the office, and has been in the practice of law to the present time, having had the last few years an office in Manchester.

James McWilkins, Esq., came to Bedford, Oct. 20, 1819, opened an office in Wm. P. Riddle's store, and continued here in the practice of law till June 3, 1840, when he moved to Manchester.

John Porter, Jr. came to Bedford from Londonderry, and went into J. B. Bowman's office in company, Oct. 5, 1835; went to Manchester in 1839.

SACRED MUSIC.

SOME account of the commencement and progress of the science of Music in town.

The first instruction in music was by John Orr, Esq., about the year 1780. There were no books at that time, and the instruction was altogether by rote.

The next teacher was Ezekiel Gardner. He undertook to give his scholars some idea of time, though no book was then used, except a few tunes pricked off by himself, with the Bass and Air only, to aid him somewhat in his labor. One of these books is now in the possession of Thomas Chandler, bearing date 1782.

Mr. Josiah Chandler, from Andover, Mass., came to town, who had some knowledge of Music, and first taught Thomas and Samuel Chandler at the age of some ten or twelve years; their father bought them one of the old Billing's Collection, which is supposed to have been the first singing book in town.

A Mr. Sherwin, from Tyngsborough, next taught. He introduced the Worcester Collection, and taught by rule. It is believed these were the first books to any extent in town. John Orr, Ezekiel Gardner, John Pratt, and many others attended his school, in the year about 1786.

Mr. Goss, from Billerica, was in town about 1790, and taught one winter. John Pratt occasionally instructed.

Dea. James Wallace, up to about 1790, *Deaconed* or *lined* the Psalm and set the tune, the congregation joining in the exercise. About 1790, the singers took their station in the gallery, and the Deacon's services were dispensed with in that part of the exercise. At the time above alluded to, Ezekiel Gardner was chosen leader of the singers by the town, joined by Phineas Aiken, John Pratt, Thomas and Samuel Chandler, Hugh Moor, David McAfee, Margaret Orr, Susannah, Annis, and Jane Aiken. About the same time a Bass Viol was introduced into the Meeting-house, which caused much dissatisfaction to many of the congregation. Some

were so much disaffected in consequence of such proceedings as to leave the house ; ere long, however, such feelings were dispelled, and the innocent Bass Viol remained to cheer and assist such as were performing an important part in public worship.

There was not much done in the way of instruction for several years. About the year 1800, John Pratt was chosen leader by the town, and some other persons joined the Choir. Richard, William, and Jane Dole, Joseph Colby, Daniel, William, and John Moor.

In 1803 or 4, Thomas Chandler began to assist the young people in town in obtaining some knowledge of Music. His first efforts were in his own neighborhood. He subsequently taught at the centre of the town, and in other places.

About 1808 or 10, Samuel Chandler and Richard Dole were chosen leaders by the town. The following persons were among the singers of that day, John, Silas, and Nancy Aiken, William, Jane and Margaret Patten, Asenath and Sally Chandler, Nancy and Jane Moor, William P. Riddle, Daniel Gordon, William Chandler, Thomas Shepherd, Alfred Foster and James French.

Soon after this, Capt. William Patten commenced the labor of teaching, devoting several Winters to the business in various parts of the town ; thereby keeping alive a spirit of social, joyous, and friendly feeling, which should always subsist (in order to success) among a singing community.

About 1820, Mr. Richardson, from Lyndeborough, we think, taught one Winter at Isaac Riddle's Hall, soon after the close of which, Daniel L. French was chosen leader by the Choir, and continued as such to 1835 or 6. Many young persons came forward after Mr. Richardson's school had closed and joined those already in the seats ; among the number was Mary J. Chandler, Louisa Dole, Polly, Susannah, and Jane Riddle. At a subsequent period others were added, viz. :—Sarah A. Aiken, Margaret A. and Nancy French, Charles and David Aiken, John and William Craig, Eleazer Dole, Blanchard Nichols, and Isaac Darrah ; Alfred Foster played the Bass Viol some ten years, or until shortly before his decease, which was in 1827, being an efficient member of the Choir for many years.

Mr. French, as leader, saw the necessity of keeping up and improving, as far as practicable, the singing in town, consequently he devoted much time in the Winter to further its

advancement, the result of which was an increase in numbers, with some distinguished singers.

Several other persons have taught in town since Mr. French left. We will name such as occur to our mind at this moment: Rev. Henry Little, Ohio; Rev. James Aiken, Gloucester; Mr. Hutchinson, of the far famed "Hutchinson family;" Mr. Heath, David Stevens, James McFerson and Robert W. French.

When Mr. French left town for the purpose of preparing himself for the ministry, he was succeeded by David Stevens, 2d, as leader of the Choir, which place he held till 1848, when he too left town. During Mr. Stevens' lead, quite a number were added, to wit: — Elijah C., Martha and Augusta Stevens; Harriet N. and Mary Ann French; William, Leonard, Susan J. and Sarah F. French, Sally Riddle, Mary J. Fisher, Ann E. Riddle, Julia and Lucretia Savage, Solomon G., Mary Jane, Harriet and Cordelia Stevens, Elizabeth and Louisa Gordon, Maria and Sarah Parker, Hugh R. French, John U. French and James F. Moor, Jerusha and Susan Spofford, Lemuel and John Spofford, Alfred McAfee, Margaret Ann Moor, Sewel Stratton, and Stillman Shepard.

At a meeting of the singers, in 1849, James McFerson was chosen Leader. The Winter following a constitution was framed and presented, when most of the Choir become members by subscribing thereto.

The persons bearing the following names belong to the Choir, and usually sit in the singer's seats at church: Mrs. Jane McFerson, Mrs. Betsy Kendall, Laura A. Riddle, Margaret A. and Lavinia J. Patten, Mary Ann Shepherd, John O. and David B. French, Henry and George B. Chandler, James T. Kendall, Calvin R. and Emeline Butterfield, Frederick F. French, George Shattuck, Dudley H., Solomon and Lucy Manning, and Achsah Houston, Mrs. Jane Barr, Lydia J. Butterfield, Jane Nichols, Lucy Ann Whitford, Martha Goffe, Julia Barr, Greenleaf Walker and Alfred McAfee.

It is believed that the services of the Choir in this town have generally been very acceptable. Neighboring ministers when they exchange, often speak of the excellence of the singing.

In connection with the *Vocal* department, we will here take occasion to remark, that in the year 1828 there was an *Instrumental* Musical Society formed in town, regulated by a Constitution, which required the members to meet every

month for rehearsal and musical exercises. The following names appear upon the record as members thereof, Leonard Walker, Daniel L. French, Adam Chandler, Joseph Lombard, Chandler Spofford, William G. Campbell, Dioclesian Melvin, John Craig, Jr., John Parker, Frederic Wallace, Jesse Walker, John D. Walker, John W. Barnes, Joseph Atwood, Greenleaf Walker and Andrew Walker. The *instruments* used were Clarionetts, Bugle, French Horn, Octave Flute, Cymballs, Bass Horn, Bassoon, Trombone, and Drums; thus forming the best drilled, and most efficient Band to be found in this region. They had many calls upon public occasions to go into neighboring towns where such exercises formed an important part.

At the present time (Dec. 1850,) there is a singing school taught at the Town-Hall, by Mr. Willard, of Manchester, consisting of young scholars, under very encouraging circumstances. They are beginners, and their names are as follows: —

Willard C. Parker, Orlando Hall, Sylvester Shephard, Geo. Shepard, Hugh Barnard, Henry Barnard, George Woodbury, Charles Woodbury, George Whitford, Edwin Whitford, Ellen French, Celia French, Martha Woodbury, Mary Ann Manning, Emily Alexander, Margaret Goffe, Lucy Manning, Sarah Manning, Margaret Parker, Mrs. Jane Armstrong.

S. Greenleaf Stevens has the direction of the school as to management and arrangement.

To the above number fifteen more should be added, making a school, at present, of thirty-five.

H O P S .

ABOUT the year 1800, Mr. Wm. Campbell of Wilmington, Mass., emigrated to Bedford, and settled on a farm adjoining Dea. Phineas Aiken. The farm is now owned and occupied by Mr. Solomon Manning. Campbell set out and cultivated the first hop-yard in town, and the first probably in the State. He brought the roots from Wilmington. The article at that time being high, he realized fifty cents per pound. The raising of hops became very profitable, and almost every farmer was induced to enter in the growing of this production, until Bedford became the largest hop-growing town in

New-England, and continued so, until about 1836, when the plant was so extensively cultivated throughout the country, the price declined, and nearly every farmer in town abandoned the cultivation. Some probably, about this time, were also dissuaded, from scruples as to its bearing on the cause of temperance. The average sale of hops from 1806 to 1850 has been about $13\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound.

It appears from the Inspection books of Gen. Wm. P. Riddle, there were raised in the town of Bedford in 1833, 97,320 pounds of hops, the average sale of which in Boston, for that year, was $16\frac{1}{2}$ per pound, making an amount of \$15,571 20 cents. It may be asked, have the farmers of Bedford realized so large a sum of money, for any other crop, during a single year of the last century. Still such is the uncer tainty of the article, that taking one year with another, it may be questioned whether there are not other articles more safe for the grower.

FISH, WILD GAME, ETC.

FISH, in former years, was a great source of supply to the wants of the inhabitants. It was an old saying, "We hope meat will last till fish comes, and fish will last till meat comes." Hunting, also, afforded some supplies at an early period. Such entries as the following are not uncommon in the Patten diary.

"1757, Jan. 5. Went a hunting. 6th. Hunted in company with Wm. McDowell, Samuel Cochran, John Little and Thomas McLaughlin, and got a deer a-piece. 8th. Bought two hind quarters of venison from Samuel Richards, 44 lbs weight, at 1s. 6d. per pound, amounting to £3 6s., old tenor. 11th. Went a hunting, and helped to kill a yearling buck, with Thomas Kennedy. 12th. Killed a doe fawn and yearling buck." The same year we find, "June 7th. Shared, at the setting place, three salmon and part of another."

Some now living have seen 50 or 60 salmon taken at a haul. It was a kind arrangement of Providence that in the pressing wants of the early settlement, there should be such a supply of fish and game.

The first noted place of fishing in this part of the country, was at Cohos brook, the outlet of Massabesec pond into

Merrimac river. The place next in importance was Amoskeag falls. Vast quantities of river fish, of various kinds, were taken at these places, annually, until the river was obstructed by mill-dams and canal-locks. Hundreds of people resorted hither in the fishing season to catch and buy fish, such as alewives, lamprey-eels, shad and salmon. The alewives were generally taken by a scoop-net, the eels by an eel-pot of wicker-work, set generally in the falls. Shad and salmon were taken by the scoop-net and seine, the net being put in the falls and swift water, and the seine drawn in the river. The first enactments of the Legislature, respecting the taking of fish, were for Cohos brook. Regulations were made that a pass or vacant space should be left for the fish to go through the dam. The Hill seine was drawn near the mouth of the Piscataquog. The Parker seine was drawn on the same ground. The Griffin seine was drawn at the head of Smith's falls, on the east side of the river; and the Patten seine was drawn on the west side of the river, at the head of Smith's falls. These two last seines fished on the same place, but drew in on opposite shores. The Nutt seine drew on the opposite side, against Crosby's brook, at the head of Smith's falls, against Patterson rock. At this seine, 1762, at one haul of the net, 2500 shad were taken. About the same time, at the Carthaginian seine, drawn on the east side of Carthaginian island, and opposite Thomas Chandler, Esq., 1500 shad were taken at one haul of the net. There was also Caratunk seine at the head, and Sky seine at the foot, of Walker's falls, on the west side. Quantities of fish were taken by fly-nets during the Summer and after. Shad and salmon were scooped up by the scoop-net. This was carried on at the head of the above named island. It would seem incredible what quantities of fish once filled these waters. The smaller kind were used to manure the land, as is now the case in Connecticut, along the Sound. In one instance, a man diving into the river to disentangle the net, caught a shad in his hand as he rose.

There were regular fishing companies; twelve men would work a seine, at an expense of about \$120 for twine, lead, ropes, cord, &c., with boats and oars. Sometimes shares were sold as high as twenty or thirty dollars a share; generally, they were worth from five to twelve dollars. The fishing season commenced at the opening of the apple-tree blossoms. Fishermen observe the phenomena of nature.

POPULATION OF BEDFORD.

| | | |
|-------|--|-----|
| 1767. | Unmarried men from 16 to 60 years, - - - - | 30 |
| | Married men from 16 to 60, - - - - - | 43 |
| | Boys from 16 and under, - - - - - | 93 |
| | Men 60 and above, - - - - - | 13 |
| | Females unmarried, - - - - - | 117 |
| | Females married, - - - - - | 51 |
| | Slaves, (male, 6, female, 3,) - - - - - | 9 |
| | Widows, - - - - - | 6 |

Total, 362

1775. We have the following return, dated, "Bedford, Oct. 27, 1775.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Males under 16, - - - - - | 109 |
| Males from 16 to 50 not in army, - - - - - | 93 |
| Males above 50, - - - - - | 28 |
| Persons gone to the war, - - - - - | 14 |
| Females in all, - - - - - | 241 |
| Negroes and slaves for life, - - - - - | 10 |

Total, 495

" Hillsborough, ss., Oct. 27, 1775.

"Then personally appeared John Bell, and made solemn oath to his fidelity and impartiality in numbering the souls in Bedford, and making return of the several ages and sexes, as in the columns above thereof.

" Sworn before, MATT. PATTEN, J. P."

"There are 37 guns lacking to equip the inhabitants of Bedford. There are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. powder in Bedford, according to information, and no town stock of ammunition.

JOHN BELL."

| | |
|------|---|
| 1783 | Population, 762; Framed Houses, 93. |
| 1800 | " 1182. |
| 1810 | " 1296. |
| 1820 | " 1375. |
| 1830 | " 1554. |
| 1840 | " 1543. |
| 1850 | " 1913; Dwelling Houses, 312; Families, 344; Farmers, 267; Laborers, 161; Shoemakers, 10; |

Blacksmiths, 5; Brickmakers, 33; Machinists, 10; Carpenters, 8; Physicians, 2; Clergyman, 1; Lawyer, 1; Teacher, 1; Scholars attending school this year, 589; Value of real estate owned, \$594,600."—*Census for 1850.*

BILLS OF MORTALITY FOR THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

| | | | | | |
|------|---|----|---------|----|------|
| 1825 | Proportion of adults and children not given, Total, | | | | 19 |
| 1826 | Children, | 7 | Adults, | 11 | " 18 |
| 1827 | " | 6 | " | 9 | " 15 |
| 1828 | " | 7 | " | 18 | " 25 |
| 1829 | " | 6 | " | 11 | " 17 |
| 1830 | " | 3 | " | 13 | " 16 |
| 1831 | " | 14 | " | 7 | " 21 |
| 1832 | " | 8 | " | 13 | " 21 |
| 1833 | " | 4 | " | 17 | " 21 |
| 1834 | " | 9 | " | 7 | " 16 |
| 1835 | " | 2 | " | 10 | " 12 |
| 1836 | " | 7 | " | 10 | " 17 |
| 1837 | " | 6 | " | 20 | " 26 |
| 1838 | " | 3 | " | 18 | " 21 |
| 1839 | " | 2 | " | 22 | " 24 |
| 1840 | " | 6 | " | 10 | " 16 |
| 1841 | " | 11 | " | 16 | " 27 |
| 1842 | " | 5 | " | 12 | " 17 |
| 1843 | " | 4 | " | 12 | " 16 |
| 1844 | " | 3 | " | 16 | " 19 |
| 1845 | " | 7 | " | 15 | " 22 |
| 1846 | " | 8 | " | 14 | " 22 |
| 1847 | " | 3 | " | 13 | " 16 |
| 1848 | Proportion of children and adults not given, | | | | " 25 |
| 1849 | Children, | 26 | Adults, | 37 | " 63 |
| 1850 | " | 7 | " | 24 | " 31 |

LONGEVITY.

Mrs. Margaret Aiken lived to be 97. She had been a professor of religion more than 70 years. She had twelve children baptized in the old meeting-house.

Mrs. Sarah Coburn lived to be 96. She had heard Whitefield preach in Dracut.

Dea. Benj. Smith, one of the first elders, came with his wife, then a girl, from the north of Ireland, 1738,—he being 19, and she 21. They were married in Londonderry soon after their arrival; after which, they came to this town, and lived together in the married state seventy-two years.

Mrs. Rundlet died in 1845, at the age of 95.

1837.—There were seven persons died, whose united ages would be 550 years, viz.: Dea. John Craig, 74; Mrs. Sarah Moor, 81; Mr. Josiah Tinker, 76; Mrs. Hannah Merrill, 81; Mrs. Ann M. Riddle, 72; Mr. John Wallace, 90; Dea. Stephen Thurston, 76.

1839.—There were seven persons died, whose united ages would be 588 years, viz.: Mr. Joseph Patten, 80; Mr. John Moor, 93; Mr. Benj. Sprague, 87; Mrs. Hannah Patten, 77; Mr. David Stevens, 86; Mr. David Riddle, 84; Mrs. Benj. Sprague, 81.

MARRIAGES.

LIST of Marriages, by Rev. Thomas Savage, during his ministry; in which one or both the parties belonged to Bedford.

1825. Stephen Goffe and Mary Cutler.

1826. John Goffe and Jane Riddle.

Rufus Kendrick and Hannah Chandler.

Eleazer Dole and Jane D. Riddle.

Stephen Kendrick and Asenath Chandler.

Joshua Vose and Mary Houston.

John McGaw and Nancy Goffe.

1827. Silas Parkhurst and Miss Perry.

Henry Wood and Harriet McGaw.

Mr. Morrison and Miss Sprague.

Andrew Savage and Miss Smith.

Stephen Nichols and Jane Rider.

Freeman Nichols and Mary J. Gillis.

1828. George Webber and Huldah Boardman.
 Daniel Moor and Mary McQuesten.
 Thomas Holbrook and Asenath Riddle.
 David P. Smith and Mary J. Downs.
 William Riddle and Anna Riddle.
 John P. Houston and Eunice Atwood.
1829. James Walker and Betsey Parker.
 Daniel Barnard and Martha Riddle.
 Hiram Dunlap and Dolly Ferson.
 Samuel Corning and Clarissa Darrah.
 George Hodgman and Mary Parker.
 Ira Spaulding and Eliza J. Atwood.
 John Swan and Jane Campbell.
 Caleb Kendrick and Sally Chandler.
 Matthew Parker and Ismena Darrah.
 Adam Chandler and Sarah McAllister.
1830. Ephraim Abbott and Isabella A. Wallace.
 Benjamin F. Riddle and Abigail D. Colley.
 Paul T. Campbell and Mary Seavey.
 Adam N. Patten and Clarissa Hodgman.
 John Craig and Mary Kittredge.
 Josiah Thissel and Abigail Flint.
 Elijah Atwood and Submit Walker.
 Nehemiah Kittredge and Betsey Tinker.
 Franklin Moore and Annis Chandler.
1831. Zaccheus Patten and Achsah McAllister.
 Humphrey Moore and Mary J. French.
 Benjamin F. Ellis and Jane Houston.
 Eben W. Goffe and Hannah P. French.
 Lancey Weston and Elizabeth Moore.
 Rodney McLaughlin and Abigail Hodgman.
 Reuben Moore and Margaret T. Riddle.
 Samuel Melvin and Nancy Swett.
1832. Samuel Colley and Lydia Atwood.
 Frederick Wallace and Margaret A. French.
 John H. McConihe and Martha G. Muzzey.
 Asa D. Pollard and Hannah Wallace.
 Josiah Kittredge and Sarah W. French.
 William Gardner and Sophronia Martin.

1832. Calvin Clement and Mary J. B. Smith.
Robert French and Harriet Parker.
Daniel Langmaid and Lucy Tucker.
Samuel Campbell and Rebecca Kingsbury.
Joseph C. Moor and Martha McQuesten.
James French and Nancy French.
William Miltimore and Mary Orr.
John Stevens and Eliza Barnes.
James Gardner and Nancy Bursiel.
John Parker and Eliza Goffe.
1833. Mr. Boutwell and Nancy J. Barnes.
John F. Shaw and Emily Clogston.
Moses E. Stevens and Sarah A. Parker.
Isaac Currier and Dolly C. Gage.
Daniel Vose and Fanny Chase.
Rowell Seavey and Eliza Butterfield.
Horace White and Eliza McL. Moore.
Albert Atwood and Ann J. D. Colley.
1834. Francis B. Merriam and Mary W. Sawyer.
Jonathan Ireland and Hannah W. Thurston.
Adam Gilmore and Lucinda Silver.
Abijah Hodgman, and Mary Barnard.
William Manning and Mary A. Walker.
James Parker and Elizabeth I. Gage.
John Smith and Sophia P. Darrah.
David Quimby and Lucinda Hardy.
Senter Farley and Louisa Flint.
Warren Fletcher and Susannah Barnes.
1835. William B. Tuttle and Mary W. Barnes.
James Varnum and Eliza McQuesten.
Ephraim C. Hardy and Mary F. Quimby.
John Butterfield and Betsey Campbell.
Albert Riddle and Sarah Wheeler.
Thomas W. Gillis and Betsey C. French.
William McCain and Sarah V. Peabody.
Daniel Roby and Achsah P. Smith.
Robert Boyd and Susannah Riddle.
1836. Henry Rankin and Caroline Fry.
Phineas French and Betsey Foster.
William A. Hobart and Lucinda Cady.
William Cady and Hannah Butler.

1836. John Boynton and Sarah Woods.
Benjamin Hall and Sarah M. Atwood.
Phineas Colby and Nancy Darrah.
John M. Wallace and Maria W. Darrah.
William Moore and Mary A. Kendall.
Isaac C. Cutler and Rebecca M. Harvill.
Mr. Peabody and Elvira Atwood.
1837. Eleazer Dole and Charlotte Walker.
Jonathan D. Hutchinson and Nancy J. McConihe.
James Parker and Jane W. Darrah.
Charity L. Dunn and Abigail Parker.
Stephen Prince and Rebecca M. Houston.
William A. Burke and Catherine French.
William S. Anderson and Harriet Atwood.
Leonard Kittredge and Miriam W. Hurd.
Hiram Quimby and Louisa Winslow.
Hiram Mace and Rosannah B. Cady.
1838. John Adams and Catherine Chandler.
George Campbell and Harriet Hardy.
Moses E. Emerson and Margaret Gilmore.
John D. Armstrong and Sarah D. Atwood.
Lewis F. Rider and Susan H. Atwood.
Isaac Campbell and Mary A. Payne.
Nathaniel Flint and Sarah A. Parkhurst.
1839. Edward Barr and Jane G. Atwood.
John McCallister and Merab French.
Elijah P. Parkhurst and Sarah J. Gage.
Oliver L. Kendall and Betsey R. Gage.
Thomas Howe and Catherine Bullock.
Henry C. Boswith and Lucy C. Barnes.
Frederick A. Hodgman and Maria Houston.
Richard Hadley and Mary Giddings.
1840. Samuel N. Southworth and Mary Darrah.
Samuel Patten and Keziah Parker.
William P. Moore and Betsey J. Richardson.
Ira Barr and Nancy Barr.
Mark Glines and Harriet A. Wood.
Timothy Townsend and Nancy Stevens.
John R. Moore and Hannah Gardner.
Samuel Hathaway and Susannah Gilmore.
Thomas Bursiel and Olive Atwood.

1841. William Bursiel and Nancy Gardner.
Daniel Moor and Sarah Stevens.
William R. French and Sally D. Riddle.
Nathan B. Taplin and Lydia L. Hardy.
Richard Dole and Sarah A. Ferson.
Mr. Hendry and Rachel Moore.
Josiah H. Folsom and Lucy F. Darrah.
Thomas G. Worthley and Rebecca Moore.
1842. Nathan H. Richardson and Ann M. Parker.
Adam Butterfield and Hannah Campbell.
Thomas Pierce and Asenath R. McPherson.
David M. Howe and Sarah B. Stratton.
Thomas Hardy and Roxana P. Haseltine,
David Clarke and Susan J. French.
Ephraim White and Margaret A. Moore.
1843. Thomas J. Lovett, and Elizabeth A. Dowse.
Samuel S. S. Hill and Mary D. S. Gilmore.
1844. John N. Barr and Mary Annis French.
Daniel K. Marshall and Maria Butterfield.
Daniel W. Fling and Asenath Patten.
1845. William Goffe and Betsey D. Riddle.
Rufus Merrill and Susan Spofford.
James Darrah and Cynthia Wallace.
Levi Putnam and Harriet E. Stevens.
Thomas U. Gage and Dolly A. French.
George Stark and Elizabeth A. Parker.
Levi Dodge and Emily E. Mullet.
Thomas G. Holbrook and Submit Atwood.
Charles H. Goddard, and Elizabeth S. Shepard.
1846. Daniel K. Mack and Mary A. French.
Robert Mears and Lucretia C. Mitchell.
Darius F. Robinson and Sarah A. Holbrook.
John U. French and Sarah R. Parker.
Robert Sloan and Mary H. Page.
Charles French and Frances A. Nichols.
E. S. Goodwin and Ann J. Nevens.
Jesse Anderson and Mary J. Sanborn.
1847. Rodney McLaughlin and Jerusha Spofford.
Rodolphus C. Briggs and Sarah C. Houston.

1848. Noble Prime and Sarah Harvill.
Calvin R. Butterfield and Sarah H. Legro.
Jonas Paige and Sarah A. Adams.
1849. David Stevens and Sarah F. French.
William Clement and Nancy J. Swett.
Willard Gardner and Martha A. Cheever.
Hartwell Nichols and Mary Manning.
Joseph Manning and Miriam N. Hall.
Ebenezer B. Merrill and Letitia A. Gage.
1850. John D. Armstrong and Jane M. Wells.
Elijah C. Stevens and Julia A. Barr.
John Adams and Lavina Patten.
William Moore, jr., and Caroline A. Gage.
Alfred McAfee and Nancy P. B. Shepard.

In addition to the above, between fifty and sixty marriages have been solemnized by the present pastor, in which both the parties belonged out of town. Other marriages, in town, by other clergymen, are not here recorded; and it is possible there may be, now and then, a slight error in names and dates of those that are recorded. A large number of the natives of this town, have at different times, emigrated to the West. In Michigan and Wisconsin, they are numerous; especially at Beloit, in the latter State.

GRADUATES OF COLLEGES.

The following are the names of those who have enjoyed collegiate education, with the College, and year of graduation. H. U. signifies Harvard University; W. C., William's College; D. C., Dartmouth College; B. U., Brown University; M. C., Middlebury College; Y. C., Yale College; U. C., Union College, Schenectady. (*) signifies deceased.

| | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| Joseph Goffe,* | D. C., | 1791. |
| John Vose,* | " | 1795. |
| Benjamin Orr,* | " | 1798. |
| Thomas Rand, Clergyman, | B. U., | 1804. |
| Joseph Bell, Member of the Bar, Boston, | D. C., | 1807. |
| John Walker, Clergyman, Weston, Vt., | " | 1808. |
| William Gordon,* | " | 1811. |
| Joseph E. Worcester, Author, Cambridge, | Y. C., | 1811. |

| | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| William Orr,* | D. C., | 1816. |
| Adam Gordon, Mem. of the Bar, New Haven, | " | 1817. |
| John Aiken, Treas. Manufact'ng Co. Andover, | " | 1818. |
| Isaac Orr,* | Y. C., | 1819. |
| Robert Riddle,* | " | 1819. |
| Freeman Riddle,* | " | 1819. |
| Robert Orr,* | " | 1820. |
| James McGaw, Mem. of the Bar, N. Y. City, | D. C., | 1820. |
| Isaac O. Barnes, Clerk U. S. Court, Boston, | M. C., | 1820. |
| Adams Moor, Physician, Littleton, | D. C., | 1822. |
| Gilman Parker,* | " | 1824. |
| Silas Aiken, Clergyman, Rutland, Vt., | " | 1825. |
| Cornelius Walker, Teacher, Boston, | " | 1828. |
| David Aiken, Mem. of Bar, Greenfield, Mass. | " | 1830. |
| Samuel Chandler,* | U. C., | 1834. |
| John Chandler,* | D. C., | 1836. |
| Peter T. Woodbury, Member Bar, N. Y. City, | " | 1839. |
| Selwyn B. Bowman,* | " | 1840. |
| Wm. R. Woodbury, Mem. Bar, Sheboygan, Wis, | " | 1843. |
| Leonard French, Physician, Ashby, Mass., | " | 1843. |
| Lemuel C. Spofford, Clergy., Fon du lac, Wis, | " | 1843. |
| James W. Savage, Mem. of Bar, N. Y. City, | H. U., | 1847. |
| William Stark, Student at Law, Troy, N. Y., | W. C., | 1850. |

TOWN OFFICERS.

1750. John Goffe, *Moderator*. John McLaughlin, *Town Clerk*. Samuel Patten, Robert Walker, Thomas Chandler, *Selectmen*. Fergus Kennedy, *Constable*.

1751. Moses Barron, *Mod*. John McLaughlin, *Clerk*. Samuel Patten, Moses Barron, Robert Walker, *Selectmen*. Gawn Riddle, *Con*.

1752. Moses Barron, *Mod*. Matthew Patten, *Clerk*. Moses Barron, John McQuig, Matthew Little, *Selectmen*. Robert Walker, *Treas*. Hugh Riddle, *Con*.

1753. Samuel Patten, *Mod*. Matthew Patten, *Clerk*. James Little, Samuel Patten, James Orr, *Selectmen*. Robert Walker, *Treas*. William Moor, *Con*.

1754. Samuel Patten, *Mod*. Matthew Patten, *Clerk*. Hugh Riddle, Thomas Wallace, James Walker, *Selectmen*. Robert Walker, *Treas*. Matthew Little, *Con*.

1755. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* John Moor, Hugh Riddle, William Moor, *Selectmen.* Moses Barron, *Treas.* Robert Gilmore, *Con.*

1756. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* William Thornton, Gawn Riddle, Matthew Little, *Selectmen.* Moses Barron, *Treas.* Robert Walker, *Con.*

1757. William Thornton, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, William Thornton, Robert Walker, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Gawn Riddle, *Con.*

1758. Matthew Little, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* James Little, Daniel Moor, Robert Gilmore, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Francis Barnet, *Con.*

1759. Matthew Little, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Matthew Patten, William Holmes, John McQuig, *Selectmen.* Samuel Patten, *Treas.* Thomas Wallace, *Con.*

1760. John Bell, Jr., *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Francis Barnet, John Bell, Jr., Benjamin Smith, *Selectmen.* William Holmes, *Treas.* James Little, *Con.*

1761. John Moor, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Matthew Little, Joseph —, William Holmes, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* Samuel Patten, *Con.*

1762. James Caldwell, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* James Caldwell, John Goffe, James Lyon, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* William Holmes, *Con.* Col. John Goffe, *Representative.*

1763. John Shepard, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* James Caldwell, James Aiken, John Bell, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* Richard McAlister, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1764. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, John Wallace *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* John Moor, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1765. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Matthew Patten, Moses Barron, James Patterson, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* John McLaughlin, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1766. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, Daniel Moore, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* John Bell, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1767. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, Thomas Boies, *Selectmen.* James Little, *Treas.* Joseph Seobey, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1768. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.*

Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, James Vose, *Selectmen*. James Little, *Treas.* James Caldwell, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1769. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, Samuel Vose, *Selectmen*. James Little, *Treas.* Thomas Boies, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1770. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, Thomas McLaughlin, *Selectmen*. James Little, *Treas.* Samuel Vose, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1771. Moses Barron, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Moses Barron, Matthew Patten, John Aiken, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* David McClary, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1772. James Martin, *Mod.* Matthew Patten, *Clerk.* Matthew Patten, Robert Walker, Hugh Orr, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* Matthew McAfee, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1773. John Moor, *Mod.* John Bell, *Clerk.* John Bell, John Little, Adam Dickey, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* James Walker, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1774. John Little, *Mod.* John Bell, *Clerk.* Adam Dickey, John Little, James Aiken, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* John Wallace, *Con.* John Goffe, *Rep.*

1775. John Little, *Mod.* John Bell, *Clerk.* Adam Dickey, John Bell, Whitfield Gilmore, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* James Walker, *Con.* Paul Dudley, *Rep.*

1776. Samuel Patten, *Mod.* John Bell, *Clerk.* John Goffe, Daniel Moor, John Orr, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* John McKinney, *Con.* Paul Dudley, *Rep.*

1777. Samuel Vose, *Mod.* William White, *Clerk.* Hugh Orr, Thomas McLaughlin, John Goffe, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* Thomas Cairns, *Con.* Paul Dudley, *Rep.*

1778. James Martin, *Mod.* William White, *Clerk.* John Orr, James Boies, James Vose, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* John Goffe, *Con.* Paul Dudley, *Rep.*

1779. James Martin, *Mod.* William White, *Clerk.* Thomas Boies, William White, James Vose, *Selectmen*. Matthew Little, *Treas.* Thomas McLaughlin, John Aiken, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1780. James Martin, *Mod.* William White, *Clerk.* Thomas Boies, James Vose, William White, *Selectmen*.

James Aiken, *Treas.* Adam Dickey, Joseph Houston, *Cons.* Samuel Patten, *Rep.*

1781. Hugh Orr, *Mod.* William White, *Clerk.* William White, James Smith, Hugh Orr, *Selectmen.* John Orr, *Treas.* James Vose, James Aiken, *Cons.* Samuel Patten, *Rep.*

1782. James Martin, *Mod.* Thomas McLaughlin, *Clerk.* Thomas McLaughlin, Stephen Dole, Samuel Vose, *Selectmen.* John Orr, *Treas.* James Martin, James Smith, *Cons.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1783. John Orr, *Mod.* John Rand, *Clerk.* John Rand, John Wallace, John Dunlap, *Selectmen.* John Orr, *Treas.* Robert Alexander, Whitefield Gilmore, *Cons.* Matthew Thornton, *Rep.*

1784. James Martin, *Mod.* John Rand, *Clerk.* Zachariah Chandler, James Vose, Adam Dickey, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* John Moor, John Orr, *Cons.* James Martin, *Rep.*

1785. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* Josiah Gillis, *Clerk.* Zachariah Chandler, Stephen Dole, Josiah Gillis, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* John Gardner, John Dunlap, *Cons.* James Martin, *Rep.*

1786. Samuel Vose, *Mod.* Josiah Gillis, *Clerk.* Josiah Gillis, James Wallace, Stephen Dole, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* James Moor, Robert Matthews, *Cons.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1787. John Orr, *Mod.* Josiah Gillis, *Clerk.* Josiah Gillis, John Orr, Jesse Worcester, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Daniel Moor, Asa Barren, *Cons.* Zachariah Chandler, *Rep.*

1788. Samuel Vose, *Mod.* William Moor, *Clerk.* William Moor, jr., Stephen Dole, Jesse Worcester, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Stephen French, George Orr, *Cons.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1789. John Bell, *Mod.* William Moor, *Clerk.* William Moor, Adam Dickey, Stephen Dole, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* John McAllister, Adam Smith, *Cons.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1790. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* William Moor, *Clerk.* William Moor, Stephen Dole, Adam Dickey, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* John Gordon, John McIntosh, *Cons.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1791. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* William McAfee, *Clerk.* Robert Gilchrist, David Riddle, Stephen Dole, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* William Burns, *Con.* James Martin, *Rep.*

1792. Samuel Vose, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, David Riddle, Robert Gilchrist, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Benjamin Barron, *Con.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1793. John Bell, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, David Riddle, Robert Gilchrist, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Benj. Barron, John Patten, *Cons.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1794. Samuel Vose, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Riddle, John Patten, Samuel Barr, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Josiah Gordon, *Con.* Stephen Dole, *Rep.*

1795. John Orr, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, David Riddle, Samuel Barr, *Selectmen.* Matthew Patten, *Treas.* Josiah Gordon, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1796. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, Samuel Barr, David Riddle, *Selectmen.* John Orr, *Treas.* William Riddle, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1797. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* William McAfee, Phinehas Aiken, John Burns, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* William Riddle, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1798. William Moor, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* Phinehas Aiken, William Moor, William Riddle, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* Thomas Wallace, *Con.* Isaac Riddle, *Rep.*

1799. Stephen Dole, *Mod.* William McAfee, *Clerk.* William McAfee, William Riddle, Samuel Chandler, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle *Treas.* Nathan Barnes, *Con.* Isaac Riddle, *Rep.*

1800. John Orr, *Mod.* William McAfee, *Clerk.* William McAfee, William Riddle, Samuel Chandler, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* John Riddle, *Con.* David Patten, *Rep.*

1801. John Orr, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* Phinehas Aiken, William Riddle, John Craig, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* Josiah Gordon, *Con.* David Patten, *Rep.*

1802. John Orr, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* Phinehas Aiken, John Craig, Josiah Gordon, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* William Riddle, *Con.* David Patten, *Rep.*

1803. John Orr, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* Phinehas Aiken, Josiah Wallace, Nathan Barnes, *Selectmen.* Isaac Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Phinehas Aiken, *Rep.*

1804. John Orr, *Mod.* Phinehas Aiken, *Clerk.* Phinehas Aiken, Nathan Barnes, Samuel Chandler, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Phinehas Aiken, *Rep.*

1805. William Moor, *Mod.* Samuel Chandler, *Clerk.* Samuel Chandler, Nathan Barnes, David Stevens, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1806. William Moor, *Mod.* Samuel Chandler, *Clerk.* Samuel Chandler, John Holbrook, David Stevens, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1807. John Orr, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, David Stevens, John Holbrook, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1808. John Orr, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, John Holbrook, Moody M. Stevens, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1809. Nathan Barnes, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, Moody M. Stevens, Richard Dole, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1810. John Orr, *Mod.* David Patten, *Clerk.* David Patten, Richard Dole, Moody M. Stevens, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1811. Samuel Chandler, *Mod.* Moody M. Stevens, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Joseph Colley, jr., James Darrah, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1812. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Moody M. Stevens, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Joseph Colley, jr., James Darrah, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* John Orr, *Rep.*

1813. William Riddle, *Mod.* Moody M. Stevens, *Clerk.* David Patten, Moody M. Stevens, Joseph Colley, jr., *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Isaac Riddle, *Rep.*

1814. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Moody M. Stevens, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Joseph Colley, jr., David Patten, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Phinehas Aiken, *Rep.*

1815. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Moody M. Stevens, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Samuel Chandler, William Moor, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1816. Isaac Riddle, *Mod.* William Moor, *Clerk.* William Moor, William Moor, jr., Josiah Gordon, *Selectmen.* Samuel Chandler, *Treas.* Joseph Patten, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1817. Joseph Colley, jr., *Mod.* William Moor, *Clerk.* William Moor, William Moor, jr., Josiah Gordon, *Selectmen.* Samuel Chandler, *Treas.* Solomon Gage, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1818. Joseph Colley, jr., *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* William Moor, jr., James Parker, John McAllister, *Selectmen.* Samuel Chandler, *Treas.* John McIntire, *Con.* Samuel Chandler, *Rep.*

1819. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* William Moor, jr., John McAllister, Joseph Colley, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* Josiah Gordon, *Rep.*

1820. Joseph Colley, jr., *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Ebenezer French, William Patten, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* Josiah Gordon, *Rep.*

1821. John Holbrook, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Ebenezer French, William Patten, *Selectmen.* Samuel Chandler, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* Thomas Chandler, *Rep.*

1822. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Ebenezer French, Gawn Riddle, John Patten, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* Thomas Aiken, *Rep.*

1823. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Gawn Riddle, John Patten, Samuel Chandler, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* William Moor, *Rep.*

1824. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Gawn Riddle, Joseph Colley, Leonard C. French, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* William Moor, *Rep.*

1825. Richard Dole, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Gawn Riddle, Joseph Colley, Leonard C. French, *Selectmen.* Wil-

liam Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1826. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Alfred Foster, *Clerk.* Joseph Colley, Leonard C. French, Robert Riddle, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1827. John Patten, *Mod.* Samuel Chandler, *Clerk.* Samuel Chandler, Robert Riddle, Gawn Riddle, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Patrick McLaughlin, *Con.* Ebenezer French, *Rep.*

1828. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Samuel Chandler, *Clerk.* Samuel Chandler, William Moor, jr., Gawn Riddle, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Thomas Rundlet, *Con.* Joseph Colley, *Rep.*

1829. Moody M. Stevens, *Mod.* Leonard Walker, *Clerk.* William Moor, Gardner Nevens, Leonard Walker, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Charles Aiken, Leonard C. French, John Patten, Willard Parker, *Cons.* Joseph Colley, *Rep.*

1830. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Leonard Walker, *Clerk.* Leonard Walker, Gardner Nevens, Gawn Riddle, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Isaac Riddle, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1831. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Isaac Riddle, *Clerk.* Leonard C. French, Samuel Chandler, Daniel Moor, *Selectmen.* William Riddle, *Treas.* Rufus Merrill, *Con.* William Riddle, *Rep.*

1832. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Isaac Riddle, *Clerk.* Samuel Chandler, Daniel Moor, jr., Daniel Gordon, *Selectmen.* Leonard C. French, *Treas.* Rufus Merrill, *Con.* William Moor, *Rep.*

1833. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Leonard Walker, *Clerk.* William Moor, Mace Moulton, John Barr, *Selectmen.* Gawn Riddle, *Treas.* Frederick Wallace, *Con.* William Moor, *Rep.*

1834. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Leonard Walker, *Clerk.* Mace Moulton, John Barr, Leonard C. French, *Selectmen.* Gawn Riddle, *Treas.* Frederick Wallace, *Con.* James McK. Wilkins, *Rep.*

1835. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Daniel Moor, jr., *Clerk.* William Moor, jr., Isaac Riddle, Gardner Nevens, *Selectmen.* Leonard C. French, *Treas.* Samuel Morrison, *Con.* Joseph Colley, *Rep.*

1836. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Frederick Wallace, *Clerk.*

John Barr, Leonard C. French, 2d, Adam Chandler, *Selectmen*. Thomas Chandler, *Treas.* Stephen Goffe, *Con.* James McK. Wilkins, *Rep.*

1837. Joseph Colley, *Mod.* Frederick Wallace, *Clerk.* Daniel Moor, jr., Adam Chandler, Thomas G. Holbrook, *Selectmen*. Thomas Chandler, *Treas.* John Craig, jr., *Con.* James McK. Wilkins, *Rep.*

1838. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Daniel Gordon, *Clerk.* Daniel Moor, jr., William Patten, William McD. Ferson, *Selectmen*. John McAllister, *Treas.* Chandler Spofford, John Craig, John Patten, *Cons.* Jonas B. Bowman, *Rep.*

1839. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Daniel Gordon, *Clerk.* Daniel Moor, jr., William McD. Ferson, Rodney McLaughlin, *Selectmen*. John McAllister, *Treas.* John Patten, Chandler Spofford, Samuel Morrison, *Cons.* Jonas B. Bowman, *Rep.*

1840. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Daniel Gordon, *Clerk.* John Patten, Moody M. Stevens, Joshua Vose, *Selectmen*. Leonard C. French, *Treas.* Chandler Spofford, Joseph Colley, *Cons.* John French, *Rep.*

1841. F. G. Stark, *Mod.* Daniel Gordon, *Clerk.* Moody M. Stevens, Joshua Vose, Adam Chandler, *Selectmen*. Leonard C. French, *Treas.* Chandler Spofford, *Con.* Thomas Chandler, *Rep.*

1842. F. G. Stark, *Mod.* John Parker, *Clerk.* Adam Chandler, John Barr, Rufus Merrill, *Selectmen*. Peter P. Woodbury, *Treas.* John D. Riddle, *Con.* Thomas Chandler, *Rep.*

1843. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Daniel Gordon, *Clerk.* Rufus Morrill, Gardner Nevens, Rodney McLaughlin, *Selectmen*. Leonard C. French, *Treas.* John D. Riddle, *Con.* William Patten, *Rep.*

1844. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Andrew J. Dow, *Clerk.* Leonard C. French, 2d, Adam Chandler, Thomas W. Moor, *Selectmen*. John Barr, *Treas.* Daniel Barnard, *Con.* Leonard C. French, *Rep.*

1845. Jonas B. Bowman, *Mod.* Andrew J. Dow, *Clerk.* Leonard C. French, 2d, Moody M. Stevens, John D. Riddle, *Selectmen*. Leonard C. French, *Treas.* Chandler Spofford, Frederick G. Stark, *Cons.* Leonard C. French, *Rep.*

1846. William P. Riddle, *Mod.* Andrew J. Dow, *Clerk.* Leonard C. French, 2d, David Hamblet, Solomon Manning, *Selectmen*. Leonard C. French, *Treas.* John Goffe, *Con.* Leonard C. French, *Rep.*

1847. William P. Riddle, *Mod.* Andrew J. Dow, *Clerk.* John D. Riddle, Rodney McLaughlin, John D. Armstrong, *Selectmen.* Leonard C. French, *Treas.* William Moor, R. V. Greeley, *Cons.* Gardner Nevens, William P. Riddle, *Reps.*

1848. William P. Riddle, *Mod.* Benj. F. Wallace, *Clerk.* William French, Rodney McLaughlin, Alfred McAfee, *Selectmen.* Leonard C. French, *Treas.* William Moor, *Con.* Gardner Nevens, William P. Riddle, *Reps.*

1849. Henry Hale, *Mod.* Benj. F. Wallace, *Clerk.* John Patten, William Moor, James Walker, *Selectmen.* Peter P. Woodbury, *Treas.* George W. Riddle, *Con.* Adam N. Patten, Chandler Spofford, *Reps.*

1850. Adam Chandler, *Mod.* Matthew Barr, Andrew J. Dow, *Clerks.* Adam Chandler, William French, Thomas G. Holbrook, *Selectmen.* Peter P. Woodbury, *Treas.* Charles F. Shepard, *Con.* Leonard C. French, 2d, Andrew J. Dow, *Reps.*

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND OF THE QUORUM OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD.

1800.

David Patten Justice of the Peace, December 2.

1801.

John Orr, Justice of the Peace and Quorum, December 30.

1805.

William Moor, Justice of the Peace, September 10.

1808.

Thomas Chandler, Justice of the Peace, December 12.

1812.

James Parker, Justice of the Peace, December 8.

1817.

John Orr, *of the Quorum.*
David Patten, *Peace.*
Isaac Riddle,

Thomas Chandler,
James Parker.

1818.

John Orr, *Quorum.*
Thomas Chandler, *Peace.*
William Moor,

David Patten,
James Parker,
Isaac Riddle.

1819.

John Orr,
Thomas Chandler,
William Moor,

Quorum.
Peace.

David Patten,
James Parker,
Isaac Riddle.

1820.

John Orr,
William Moor,
David Patten,

Quorum.
Peace.

James Parker,
Isaac Riddle,
William Wallace.

1821.

John Orr,
William Moor,
David Patten,

Quorum.
Peace.

James Parker,
Isaac Riddle,
William Wallace.

1822.

John Orr,
William Moor,
David Patten,

Quorum.
Peace.

James Parker,
Peter P. Woodbury,
William Wallace.

1823.

John Orr,
William Moor,
David Patten,

Quorum.
Peace.

Peter P. Woodbury,
William Wallace.

1824.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury.

Quorum.
Peace.

William Wallace,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman.

1825.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
William Wallace,

Quorum.
Peace.

James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Nathan Barnes,
Joseph Colley.

1826.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,

Quorum.
Peace.

James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley.

1827.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,

Quorum.
Peace.

James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle.

1828.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,

Quorum.
Peace.

Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle.

1829.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,

Quorum.
Peace.

Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle.

1830.

William Moor,
David Patten,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,

Quorum.
Peace.

Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle.

1831.

William Moor,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman.

Quorum.
Peace.

Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Theodore A. Goffe.

1832.

William Moor,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,

Quorum.
Peace.

Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Theodore A. Goffe.

1833.

William Moor,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.
Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Theodore A. Goffe,
Mace Moulton.

1834.

William Moor,
John Holbrook,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.
Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Thomas Rundlet,
Isaac Riddle.

1835.

William Moor,
John Holbrook,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
James McK. Wilkins,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.
Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Thomas Rundlet,
Isaac Riddle.

1836.

William Moor,
John Holbrook,
James McK. Wilkins,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.

Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Thomas Rundlet,
Isaac Riddle.

1837.

William Moor,
James McK. Wilkins,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.

Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Thomas Rundlet,
Isaac Riddle.

1838.

William Moor,
James McK. Wilkins,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,
William Riddle,

Quorum.

Peace.

William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Thomas Rundlet,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr.

1839.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*

William Moor,
James McK. Wilkins,
Thomas Rundlet,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,

Quorum.

Peace.

Joseph Colley,
William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr.

1840.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*

William Moor,
James McK. Wilkins,
Thomas Rundlet,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Quorum.

Peace.

William P. Riddle,
William Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Mace Moulton,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr,
John Porter,
Silas Walker.

1841.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*

William Moor,
Thomas Rundlet,
Peter P. Woodbury,
Theodore A. Goffe,

Quorum.

Peace.

William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr,
Silas Walker,

1841, (*continued.*)

Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
Joseph Colley,

Adam Chandler,
David Hamblet.

1842.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
William Moor, *Quorum.*

Thomas Rundlet,
Peter P. Woodbury, *Peace.*
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle.

Gardner Nevens,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr,
Silas Walker,
Adam Chandler,
David Hamblet,
Moses Gage.

1843.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
William Moor, *Quorum.*

Thomas Rundlet,
Peter P. Woodbury, *Peace.*
Theodore A. Goffe,
Adam Chandler,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,

William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr,
Silas Walker,
David Hamblet,
Moses Gage,
Daniel Gordon.

1844.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Thomas Rundlet, *Quorum.*

Peter P. Woodbury,
Mace Moulton, *Peace.*
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,

Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
John Barr,
Silas Walker,
Adam Chandler,
David Hamblet,
Moses Gage,
Daniel Gordon,
Leonard C. French, 2d.

1845.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*

Thomas Rundlet, *Peace.*
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,

Isaac Riddle,
John Parker,
Silas Walker,
Adam Chandler,
Moses Gage,
Daniel Gordon,
Leonard C. French, 2d.
Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker.

1846.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*

Thomas Rundlet, *Peace.*
Theodore A. Goffe,
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,

Gardner Nevens,
John Parker,
Adam Chandler,
Moses Gage,
Daniel Gordon,
Leonard C. French, 2d.
Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker.

1847.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*
Thomas Rundlet,
Theodore A. Goffe, *Peace.*
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,

John Parker,
Adam Chandler,
Moses Gage,
Leonard C. French, 2d,
Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker,
John D. Riddle,
Chandler Spofford.

1848.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*
Thomas Rundlet,
Theodore A. Goffe, *Peace.*
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
John Parker,
Adam Chandler,

Moses Gage,
Leonard C. French, 2d.
Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker,
John D. Riddle,
Chandler Spofford,
Leonard French,
Daniel Gordon,
John Barr,
Reuben V. Greely,
Henry Hale.

1849.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*
Thomas Rundlet,
Adam Chandler,
Theodore A. Goffe, *Peace.*
Samuel Chandler,
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
John Parker,
Moses Gage,
Leonard C. French, 2d,

Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker,
John D. Riddle,
Chandler Spofford,
Leonard French,
Daniel Gordon,
John Barr,
Reuben V. Greely,
Henry Hale,
Isaac Riddle,
Andrew J. Dow,
James Walker.

1850.

Frederick G. Stark, *Throughout
the State.*
Peter P. Woodbury, *Quorum.*
Thomas Rundlet,
Adam Chandler,
Israel Fuller,
Theodore A. Goffe, *Peace.*
Jonas B. Bowman,
William P. Riddle,
Gardner Nevens,
John Parker,

Moses Gage,
Leonard C. French, 2d.
Robert Dunlap,
John D. Walker,
John D. Riddle,
Chandler Spofford,
John Barr,
Reuben V. Greely,
Henry Hale,
Andrew J. Dow,
James Walker.

CORONERS.

1805.

1817.

1823.

Roger Vose, Dec. 21. Jonathan Palmer, June 19. Daniel Mack, June 21.

MILITARY STATISTICS.

Persons who have held commissions in the Militia in the Town of Bedford. From Roster in the Adjutant General's Office, Concord.

Stephen Dole, *Colonel*. James Aiken, *Captain*. Phineas Aikin, *Lieutenant*. James Gilmore, *Ensign*. William Dole, *Capt*. Nathan Barnes, *Capt*. Andrew Aiken, *Capt. of Cavalry*. James Moor, *Lieut*. — Dunlap, *Major*. — Bois, *Capt*. William Moor, *Capt*. James McLaughlin, *Ens*. John McAllister, *Capt*. Thomas Chandler, *Capt*. Joseph Colley, *Capt*. Thomas Barr, *Capt. of Artillery*, 1815 to 1817.

William Moore, appointed Captain, August 8, 1812; promoted Adjutant, July 4, 1816; promoted Colonel, June 20, 1818; resigned, March 9, 1820.

Moody M. Stevens, ap. Lieut. June 20, 1814; res. July 26, 1816.

Leonard C. French, ap. Ens. June 20, 1814; pro. Capt. July 26, 1816; res. June 23, 1818.

Enoch Dole, ap. Lieut. July 26, 1816; pro. Capt. June 23, 1818; res. Feb. 10, 1819.

Jesse Parker, ap. Ens. July 26, 1816; pro. Lieut. June 23, 1818; pro. Capt. Feb. 10, 1819; res. April 9, 1821.

William Chandler, ap. Ensign, June 23, 1818; pro. Lieut. Feb. 10, 1819; pro. Capt. April 9, 1821; res. April 9, 1824.

Robert Moor, ap. Ens. Feb. 10, 1819; pro. Lieut. April 9, 1821; pro. Capt. April 9, 1824; res. Jan. 31, 1825.

David Stevens, ap. Ens. Aug. 27, 1821; pro. Lieut. April 9, 1824; res. Jan. 31, 1825.

Samuel Campbell, ap. Ens. April 9, 1824; pro. Capt. Feb. 2, 1825; res. March 24, 1828.

Benjamin Nichols, ap. Lieut. Feb. 2, 1825; pro. Capt. March 1, 1828; discharged, April 17, 1830.

Joseph C. Moor, ap. Ens. Feb. 2, 1825; pro. Lieut. March 1, 1828; pro. Capt. April 17, 1830; res. Feb. 8, 1832.

Samuel G. Colley, ap. Ens. Sept. 5, 1829; pro. Lieut. April 17, 1830; pro. Capt. Feb. 20, 1832; res. April 8, 1834.

David Sprague, ap. Ens. April 17, 1830; pro. Lieut. Feb. 20, 1832; res. April 8, 1834.

William Goff, ap. Capt. April 9, 1834; res. Aug. 28, 1834.

Rufus Merrill, ap. Capt. Aug. 28, 1834 ; res. Feb. 5, 1838.
 Nathaniel Moore, ap. Lieut. Aug. 28, 1834 ; pro. Capt. Feb. 6, 1838 ; res. June 5, 1839.

William A. Rundlett, ap. Ens. Aug. 28, 1834 ; pro. Lieut. May 22, 1838 ; res. March 14, 1839.

William R. French, ap. Ens. May 23, 1838 ; pro. Capt. June 11, 1839 ; res. March 11, 1842.

Frederick Hodgman, ap. Lieut. June 11, 1839 ; pro. Capt. March 11, 1842 ; res. July 7, 1843.

William McAllister, ap. Ens. June 11, 1839 ; pro. Lieut. March 11, 1842 ; July 7, 1843.

Benjamin Hall, ap. Ensign March 11, 1842 ; pro. Capt. July 7, 1843 ; res. March 20, 1844.

Charles A. Moore, ap. Ens. July 7, 1843 ; res. May 27, 1844.

Philip C. Flanders, ap. Capt. Oct. 13, 1845 ; removed by address, June Session, 1846.

F. F. French, ap. Ens. Oct. 13, 1845 ; res. April 20, 1847.

Thomas G. Worthley, ap. Lieut. Oct. 13, 1845 ; pro. Capt. April 20, 1847 ; res. April 6, 1848.

Joseph H. Flint, ap. Ensign, April 20, 1847 ; pro. Lieut. Aug. 24, 1847 ; pro. Capt. Sept. 4, 1848 ; res. May 1, 1849.

James H. Moore, ap. Ens. Aug. 24, 1847 ; resigned Aug. 7, 1848.

Robert C. Moore, ap. Ens. Sept. 4, 1848 ; res. May 22, 1849.

William Moore, 2d, ap. Lieut. Sept. 4, 1848, pro. Capt. May 1, 1849 ; now in commission.

William P. Gage, ap. Lieut. May 22, 1849 ; now in commission.

Rufus K. Darrah, ap. Ens. May 22, 1849 ; now in commission.

George W. Goffe, ap. Ens. Aug. 24, 1849 ; now in commission.

In the year 1814, a company of exempts was formed in Bedford, numbering about 60 men, which was composed of men forty years of age, and upwards, who were not liable to do military duty according to law, but armed and equipped themselves at their own expense, for the protection of their country, which was then engaged in hostilities with England, and held themselves ready to march at a moment's warning. Their first officers were the following.

Isaac Riddle, *Capt.* John Holbrook, *Lieut.* Samuel Chandler, *2d Lieut.* William Riddle, *Ensign.*

It will be perceived, that during the war of 1812, there were more than 200 men armed and equipped in the town of Bedford, who held themselves in readiness to march in defence of their country. At the time the British invaded Portsmouth, the company of exempts under Capt. Isaac Riddle, the Infantry under Capt. William Moore, and the Grenadiers, under Capt. William P. Riddle, met at the centre of the town, and drilled every day for two weeks, expecting hourly to have orders to march to meet the enemy at Portsmouth.

In the year 1815, the Infantry Company, embodying in its limits all of the town of Bedford, was composed of about 150 men. The field officers of the 9th Regiment, deeming it too large for the purpose for which it was intended, created a volunteer company by the name of the *Bedford Grenadiers*, numbering 48, rank and file. For military tactics, and strict discipline, it stood the highest in the 9th Regiment, and was considered one of the first companies in the State. It was organized before the close of the war of 1812. The uniforms were of American manufacture. Coats were made of home-spun cloth, colored blue, trimmed with yellow silk braid and bright buttons. Pants were made of white cotton Jean or drilling, manufactured from No. 16 cotton yarn, and wove by the Misses Pattens, of this town. Vests of the same. Gaiters made from black velvet. Black wool hats, furnished with a brass front-piece, impressed with the American Eagle. The plumes were of white, with a red top made from geese feathers, by Mrs. Theodore Goffe of this town.

In the year 1821, the company procured a new uniform, similar in style to the first one, but of a richer material, substituting English manufacture for American.

The company continued to hold its rank as one of the best companies of the State, until it was disbanded, in the year 1834.

Its officers were the following.

William P. Riddle, ap. 1st Capt. Dec. 20, 1815; pro. Maj. May 19, 1820; pro. Lieut. Col. June 23, 1821; pro. Col. June 15, 1824; pro. Brig. Gen. June 24, 1831; pro. Maj. Gen. June 25, 1833; res. June 8, 1835.

Isaac McGaw, ap. Lieut. Dec. 20, 1815; res. Feb. 10, 1818.

Wm. Patten, ap. Ens. Dec. 20, 1815; pro. Lieut. Feb. 10, 1818; pro. Capt. Aug. 28, 1820; res. April 9, 1821.

Alfred Foster, ap. Ens. Feb. 10, 1819; pro. Lieut. Aug. 28, 1820; pro. Capt. April 9, 1821; pro. Maj. June 18, 1825. Died in office.

John Patten, ap. Ens. Aug. 28, 1820; pro. Lieut. April 9, 1821; pro. Capt. Aug. 12, 1825; res. Dec. 19, 1827.

Daniel Gordon, ap. Ens. April 9, 1821; pro. Lieut. Aug. 12, 1825; pro. Capt. Dec. 22, 1827; res. Nov. 22, 1829.

Rufus Merrill, ap. Ens. Aug. 12, 1825; pro. Lieut. Dec. 22, 1827; pro. Capt. Dec. 2, 1829; res. April 16, 1832.

John P. Houston, ap. Ens. Dec. 22, 1827; pro. Lieut. Dec. 2, 1829; pro. Capt. April 18, 1832; res. April 16, 1833.

James French, ap. Ens. Dec. 22, 1829; res. April 16, 1832.

Samuel Patten, ap. Lieut. April 18, 1832; pro. Capt. April 17, 1833; res. April 26, 1834.

Samuel Morrison, ap. Ens. April 18, 1832; pro. Lieut. April 17, 1833; res. April 26, 1834.

R. McLaughlin, ap. Ens. April 17, 1833; res. July 22, 1834.

In the year 1842, a volunteer company was formed, under the style of the *Bedford Highlanders*. Their uniforms consisted of coats made from green and Highland plaid, with a plaid scarf; pants of white, trimmed with black velvet; hats of black velvet, with black plumes.

Its first officers were the following:

Charles F. Shepard, ap. Capt. April 11, 1842; res. Oct. 13, 1845.

Joshua Vose, Jr., ap. Lieut. April 11, 1842; ap. Capt. Oct. 13, 1845; res. April 20, 1847.

Timothy F. Moore, ap. Ens. May 24, 1844; pro. Lieut. Oct. 13, 1845; pro. Capt. April 20, 1847; res. Dec. 9, 1847.

Alfred McAfee, ap. Ens. Oct. 13, 1845; pro. Lieut. April 20, 1847; pro. Capt. Dec. 9, 1847. (Disbanded.)

William Moore, 2d, ap. Ens. April 20, 1847; pro. Lieut. Dec. 9, 1847. (Disbanded.)

Wm. McDole Ferson, ap. Ens. Dec. 9, 1847. (Disbanded.)

Field and Staff Officers.

Silas Walker, ap. Surgeon, Sept. 17, 1824; res. Sept. 2, 1826.

Robert Riddle, ap. Surgeon's Mate, Sept. 2, 1826. Died in office.

H. C. Parker, ap. Paymaster, Aug. 25, 1831 ; res. Sept. 6, 1831 ; ap. Surgeon, Dec. 11, 1838 ; res. March 4, 1831.

Isaac Riddle, ap. Adjutant, July 23, 1824 ; pro. Maj. June 24, 1831 ; res. June 12, 1833.

Lewis F. Harris, ap. Quartermaster, July 23, 1824 ; res. Oct. 22, 1828.

A. J. Dow, ap. Adjutant, July 20, 1837 ; res. Aug. 14, 1840.

Leonard Rundlett, ap. Quartermaster, July 20, 1837 ; pro. Brigade Inspector, Sept. 9, 1839 ; res. 1840.

L. B. Bowman, ap. Paymaster, Aug. 16, 1838 ; pro. Adjutant, Aug. 14, 1840 ; res. 1841.

Geo. W. Riddle, ap. Quartermaster, Aug. 21, 1848 ; now in commission.

SKETCH OF PISCATAQUOG VILLAGE.

— “The Saugus Sachem had come to woo
The Bashaba's daughter Weetamo.

* * * * *
From the Crystal Hills to the far south-east,
The River Sagamores come to the feast.

* * * * *
Bird of the air, and beast of the field,
All which the woods and waters yield,
On dishes of birch and hemlock piled,
Garnished and graced that banquet wild.

* * * * *
Pike and perch from the Suncook taken,
Nuts from the trees of the Black Hills shaken,
Cranberries picked in the Squamscot bog,
And grapes from the vines of Piscataquog.”

[BRIDAL OF PENNACOOK, *Whittier*.

PISCATAQUOG VILLAGE lies in the north-east part of the town of Bedford, and now comprises two school districts, Nos. 5 and 14, and about 100 dwelling houses and 700 inhabitants. It was so called from the river of that name, which here empties into the Merrimac. The Piscataquog river rises in Francestown, near the Crotched Mountains, and after a meandering course in a south-east direction, having received the waters of Pleasant and Scoby's ponds in Francestown, and, passing through a corner of Lyndeborough and thence north-east through New Boston, it unites with its main branch, coming from Weare and Deering in Goffstown; and thence, by a south-easterly course through Goffstown and a corner of Bedford, it flows into the Merrimac. It is quite a rapid river, and affords many valuable water privileges, some of which have been improved for saw and grist-mills, and other machinery. In the town of New Boston, on this stream and its branches, in 1820, there were more saw-mills than in any other town in the state. It was noted, in the primitive state of its forests, for its beautiful pine timber and excellent masts, hence the origin of the Mast-road and the Mast-landing, or rolling place, near the mouth of this river.

These masts, it will be remembered, were mostly reserved, especially the best, for the king's special use in the royal navy; hence, the town officer found in our old records, under the King, "Deer-Keeper," whose duty was to prevent the unnecessary slaughter of deer, and preserve the King's timber from common use.

The name of the Piscataquog is of Indian origin, and is said to signify, the place of many deer. When the town was first laid out and allotted to the proprietors, Lot No. 1 on Piscataquog, containing 25 acres, now occupied by James Walker, was drawn to Gov. Belcher. No. 2, now belonging to the Amoskeag Land and Water Power Company, was drawn to James Davenport. Between these two lots and the range line at the head of the home lots extending west from nearly where the road now is, west and south of Piscataquog river, including the mill privilege and the most thickly settled part of the village, was Lot No. 123 of the third division, containing probably a hundred acres or more. The records do not state to whom it was drawn. Next, south of that, extending from the range line to the river, was lot No. 73, drawn to "Maddam Livingston." Home-Lot No. 1, on the Merrimac river, south of the last named, was drawn to Jacob Griggs; No. 2, to John Plympton; No. 3, to Habijah Savadge, Esq.; No. 4, to Thomas Simpkins; No. 5, to Samuel Hollis; No. 6, to James Yeats; No. 7, to Israel Hubbard; which will probably be the extent of the village, south. The island in the mouth of Piscataquog was drawn in the third division to Samuel Bass, as a meadow-lot, and hence probably called Bass Island. At a meeting of the proprietors of the township, in January, 1839, they voted to raise £20 for "rectifying the way from Souhegan river to Piscataquog river," and Robert Walker was appointed a committee to see the money expended. It seems the way was not "rectified," for in January, 1740, they voted to "chuse" a committee to mark out the highway between Souhegan and Piscataquog. At a meeting in June of the same year, they voted to raise as much more, (viz.,) 3s. 4d., making altogether 6s. 8d. on each right in town for that end, and that Mr. Robert Walker do said work, and those who are delinquents to be proceeded against according to law. It is probable that this road was marked out and prepared for a cart-road, as far as Piscataquog river, at this time. The manner of crossing rivers, at this time, was by fording them,

which was undoubtedly the case here, for in 1757 we find Thomas Hall petitioning for a road across Piscataquog. The town however, when the petition was laid before them, refused to lay out the road, and he (the said Hall) sued the town at the next quarter sessions, and obtained judgment against them for costs and damage, a part of which they voted to pay, and a part they voted not to pay; but a settlement was obtained at last. The result seemed to be that they immediately set about building a bridge, which was accomplished in the years 1759 and 1760. This was the first bridge built across the Piscataquog at this place, and probably the first on this river.

In 1756, the road generally designated as the mast-road, was known by that name. How long before it had received that appellation, no records appear; but in 1756, a road was laid out from the mast-road, "beginning at the westerly end of the river range of home lots, (probably very near where the road by the Academy building crosses the range line above the McCoy house, so called,) and runs on the said lots till it comes where the line of said lots turns down the hill to the north-west of Lieut. Moor's house, (supposed to be a little north of James Harvell's house) and thence on the top of the hill to the west of the swamp, around the same, along between Robert Gilmore's house and barn, to the north-west corner of No. 7 home-lot on the river, from thence south on the heads or westerly ends of the river home-lots to the north-west corner of Samuel Patten's river home-lot, or No. 20, joining on said lot: said road to be four rods wide."

In 1768, we find the following transcript of a road or highway laid out by Moses Barron and James Vose on the 16th day of April. "Beginning at the line of Bedford and Goffstown where the mast-road that was last improved crosses said line, thence, as said mast-road was formerly improved to the hill next to the mast-rolling place on Piscataquog river, thence on the north side of a swampy place in said mast-road to the said rolling-place, thence down on the south side of said Piscataquog river to the mouth of said river, where it empties into the river "Merrymac;" thence down said Merrymac about twenty-five rods, or so far as to take in the head of the eddy in the river next to the mouth of said Piscataquog: the whole way of said road to be four rods wide from the top of the upper bank. And also another piece of a highway, beginning at the highway at the west-

erly end of the first range of house-lots, and at the north end of the road already laid out on the said end of said lots, from thence starting up the ridge until it comes to the old mast-road above laid out."

In 1770, it became necessary to rebuild the bridge over Piscataquog river; accordingly, in January of that year, it was voted to raise thirty pounds lawful money for that purpose, and that Major John Goffe be the man to build the bridge. The first mill, it appears, was built by Mr. Davidson, which was swept away, and in 1775 rebuilt by John Little.

In 1779, it seems that Samuel Moor owned the mills on the Piscataquog where the mills now stand. How long before this they were built, is uncertain, and also by whom. At the same time, the ferry across the Merrimac, just above the rail-road bridge, was called Merrill's Ferry, as appears by the following record of laying out a road.

"June 21st, 1779. The town voted to lay out a road from John McKenney's, by Thomas Boies', James Stile's, &c., to Moor's Mill and Merrill's Ferry."

In 1781, the Piscataquog bridge became dangerous or unsafe for travel, and Major John Goffe, Samuel Vose, and James Wallace, were appointed a committee to examine and make what repairs were necessary, which they did, and the bridge was not again rebuilt until 1785, when the building of it was struck off at vendue, on the 24th of January, to Samuel Goffe. It appears that the bridge was required to be built anew about every ten or twelve years. It was last rebuilt in 1843.

At this time, there were but three houses within the limits of the present village of Piscataquog, and one mill; and here the historian may well pause and look around to find the elements of its subsequent prosperity as a business and commercial place. A vast amount of white and hard pine, and white oak suitable for ship-building, the facilities of rafting at the mouth of the river, and the increasing population in the surrounding country, crowned with the recent return of peace, permanently secured by the independence of our country, were the elements of its prosperity — but inactive and valueless, until acted on by a motive power.

About this time, viz., in 1785, William Parker, in the language of his biographer, moved from Litchfield into Bed-

ford, and built a small house near where the school-house in District No. 5. now stands, and worked at shoe-making. [See Biography.] To his energy, enterprise, and perseverance, we are indebted for the foundation of this flourishing village; yet, as we shall hereafter see, others, emulous to equal him in prosperity, as they were perhaps equal in enterprise, took up, in his declining years, and carried out the great plan of prosperity which he had begun.

The manufacturing operations at Manchester, likewise, have had a great influence in building up the Village, especially that part on the north side of the Piscataquog river, which now comprises one half of the whole number of dwelling-houses, is the most compact, and bids fair to increase more rapidly than the other part.

There are now in the village two stores, two taverns, one mill, carried by water power, for grinding meal and plaster and manufacturing lumber, and one steam-mill, two school-houses, and one Academy and meeting-house under the same roof. Its proximity to the growing city of Manchester, with which it is connected by the granite bridge, built in 1840 by an incorporated company, and made free by a vote of the town of Bedford and city of Manchester in 1848, renders it a desirable resort and pleasant retreat from the busy din of that city of spindles, and will afford some of the most pleasant country residences in the vicinity. The New Hampshire Central Railroad, intended to connect the Vermont Roads, by way of Claremont, Bradford and Henniker, with the Lawrence Road, passes through the heart of the village, and by a bridge across the Merrimac, connects at present with the Concord, affording hereby increased facilities for communication with all parts of the county.

But let us return to our narrative.

The business of the place continued to increase, and in 1811 Wm. P. Riddle opened a store in the building opposite his present residence and, in company with William Parker, purchased the mills then owned by a Mr. Dow, and commenced the lumber trade in good earnest, sending down a vast amount of wood and lumber every year. The following year, 1812, boating on the Merrimac river was first extended up to this place, which for a number of years was the head of navigation on the Merrimac. During this year, Isaac Riddle, then a successful merchant at the centre of the town,

and Caleb Stark of Dumbarton, alike at that time friends of internal improvements, conceived the design, in connection with the recent improvement of the river by locks, and the Middlesex Canal, of navigating the river by boats. Accordingly they built a boat at Bedford centre, and drew it a distance of three miles and a half to the Merrimac river, with forty yoke of oxen, and there launched it amid the shouts of the multitude assembled to witness the novel scene, and named it the Experiment.

It was loaded and navigated down the river, and through the Middlesex Canal, to Boston, where its arrival was hailed with cheers, the firing of cannon, and the following announcement in the Boston Centinel.

"Arrived from Bedford, N. H., Canal-Boat Experiment, Isaac Riddle Captain, via Merrimac river and Middlesex canal."

This introduced a new era into the trade of the place, by increasing the facilities of transportation, and reduction of freight on heavy articles. Previous to the commencement of boating, freight was eighteen dollars per ton; but after boats began to run, it was at first reduced to ten, and afterwards to four dollars per ton.

In 1816, finding his business so much increased, William P. Riddle built the large store and boating-house at Piscataquog bridge; and in order to facilitate his increasing boating business, in 1818 he built the locks at the mouth of Piscataquog, and at one time it was seriously contemplated to unite the waters of the Merrimac and the Connecticut by a canal up the valley of the Piscataquog. William Parker, Isaac Riddle, and Isaac Riddle and sons, were the principal ones engaged in boating until the death of the former; after which, up to the time when the railroad was built, boating was mostly carried on by Wm. P. Riddle.

In 1817, the firm of Isaac Riddle & Sons was formed for mercantile, boating and manufacturing purposes, carrying on a very extensive business in various places, viz., Bedford centre, Piscataquog village, Souhegan village, Merrimac and Boston. The business of this firm in this place, amounted in some years to \$30,000, supplying by way of boating and trade, in conjunction with the other stores, the towns of Goffstown, Weare, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Warner, Sutton, New London, Fishersfield, now Newbury; and probably more

lumber has been boated and rafted from this landing, than upon all the rivers above Nashua.

In 1820, the year after the toleration-act, so called, was passed by the Legislature, the inhabitants of the village took measures to erect a meeting-house, which they did by a joint-stock company, dividing the stock into shares, the principal part of which was owned by James Parker, Esq., and the heirs of the late William Parker. The building-committee were James Parker, Jonathan Palmer, and William P. Riddle, Esqs. The house was planned and the architecture designed by Thomas Kennedy of Goffstown, and to the present day is considered one of the most beautiful specimens of architecture in the country; the building of the house was let by contract to Isaac Heath, of Hooksett. Preaching was obtained several months at a time, for a number of years, by subscription. The Rev. Mr. Long and Rev. Mr. Miltimore at different times supplied the pulpit very acceptably to their hearers; at present it is frequently occupied for a third service, Sabbath-school and other religious exercises.

During this year, the bridge across Piscataquog was rebuilt, under the superintendence of W. P. Riddle.

The other traders in the place at different times have been, Thomas Parker, Riddle & Aiken, Charles Redfield, Ozias Silsbee, I. Riddle & Whittle, Wm. P. Riddle, Parker & Palmer, Kendrick & McGaw, Jonathan Palmer, James Walker, Abbot & Melvin, Aaron Gage, Kidder & Rundlett, Moor & French, Wm. French, French & Barr, Wm. & J. N. French, F. G. Stark, James Walker, R. V. Greely, James Wilson, A. W. Dickey.

In 1843, the meeting-house was purchased by an association of gentlemen, the upper part remodeled, and converted into convenient rooms for an Academy, which has very ably sustained itself without funds, under the instruction of Hiram Wason, who continued in it about a year; and Benjamin F. Wallace, under whose instruction it has been, since March, 1845, with the exception of about a year, while under the care of the Rev. Amos Abbott. A good apparatus has been furnished the Academy by the liberality of the ladies and gentlemen of the village. An act of incorporation was granted by the Legislature in 1848. The present board of directors (1850) consists of Hon. Frederick G. Stark, Esq., Jonas B. Bowman, Esq., Gen. William P. Riddle, and James Walker, Esq.

This place has been probably the greatest depository of hops, for inspection, and boating, of any place in this State, — Gen. Riddle having inspected and forwarded to market, either by purchase or on freight, four or five hundred thousand pounds in a year. A great number of sleepers have also been furnished to various rail-roads in the country from this place, and even sleepers have been exported by some of the business men of this place to Cuba, in the West Indies.

Next to Mr. Moor, a Mr. Dow owned the mills in this place; they were afterwards owned by Thomas Parker, Buzzell & Wm. Parker, Wm. Parker & Isaac Riddle, until they were again carried off by a freshet. They were rebuilt by Kendall & Gage, and sold to David Hamblett, who carried on a large business in grain, meal, plaster, and manufacturing lumber, until his death, in 1848; and there is still a good amount of business done there.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

COL. JOHN GOFFE.

COL. JOHN GOFFE was a man of some consequence in his day. He was born in 1701, probably in Boston, and was the only son of John Goffe, Esq.,* who with his family came to Londonderry at an early period. The father was a man of property, as we learn by his will, a copy of which is still in existence. He died in 1748, and was buried in the old graveyard, in Bedford. He bequeathed to his daughter Mary, £50, 10s., old tenor, and one cow. To his grandson Benjamin Litchfield, he gave one hundred acres of land in the township of Londonderry — “it being one hundred acres grant in the charter of said Londonderry.” He also gave to his grandson, John Kidder, all his right, title, and interest to a fourth division in Londonderry. To a number of grand daughters he gave forty shillings each, and the remainder of his property he left to his son John, and his grand children, the heirs of his daughter Mary Woods. His son John was appointed executor.

The subject of this brief memoir settled at the mouth of Cohos brook, the outlet of Massabessic pond, at the Merrimac river, about three miles below the city of Manchester, at what is called Moore's Village. His occupation in early life was hunting, which in the new state of the country was no doubt delightful and profitable. He is designated in some old deeds, as “Hunter John.” This mode of life with which he was familiar from early years, and which at that time was common among the hardy youth of New-England, qualified him for the service in which he was afterwards engaged. It brought him in frequent contact with Indians, and gave him a knowledge of their language, manners and customs, besides making him an excellent marksman. In

* The name of John Goffe appears on the records of Dr. Increase Mather's Church, Boston, as early as 1676.

1746 he was Captain of a company of militia, and was sent to protect the frontier against the incursions of the Indians. While on this expedition he wrote the following letter to Gov. B. Wentworth —

“ 5 May, 1746.

“ May it please your Excellency :— I got to Pennycook on Saturday early in the morning, and notwithstanding I sent, the Monday after I left the Bank, yet my bread was not baked ; but there was about 250 lb. weight which supplied 20 men, which I sent to Canterbury as soon as I got them — and I kept the Baker and several soldiers to baking all Sabbath day, and proposed to march on Monday, as soon as possible ; but about midnight, two men came down from Contookook and brought the unhappy news of two men being killed ; and the two men that came down told me that they saw the two men lie in their blood and one man more that was missing. And hearing I was here, desired me to assist in making search, so that I am with all expedition going up the Contookook, and will do what I can to see the enemy. I shall take all possible care for the protection of the frontier and destruction of the enemy. The Indians are all about our frontiers. I think there was never more need of soldiers than now. It is enough to make one’s blood cold in one’s veins, to see our fellow creatures killed and taken upon every quarter ; and if we cannot catch them here, I hope the General Court will give encouragement to go and give them the same play at home. The white man that is killed is one Thomas Cook, and the other is Mr. Stevens the minister’s negro. These are found, and one Jones, a soldier, is not found. They have but few soldiers in the Fort ; have not as yet sought much for him. I am going with all possible expedition — and am

Your Excellency’s most humble and
most dutiful subject and servant,

JOHN GOFFE.

Pennycook, about 2 o’clock in the morning, May 5, 1746.”

In 1757, according to the annals of Portsmouth, Col. Goffe joined the army at Albany, under Gen. Webb, Colonel of the regiment raised by New Hampshire, of which he was Lieut. Colonel. This was in the “Seven Year’s War” so called, waged by the French and Indians on one side, and the English and Continental troops on the other. In 1761 he was at

Ticonderoga, as we learn from a letter written by him to his only son, Lieut. John Goffe. He was stationed at Fort Wm. Henry, which surrendered to the French; eighty out of two hundred of the New Hampshire regiment were murdered by the Indians, as they marched out of the Fort, unarmed, after they had capitulated. Primus Chandler's father lost his life here. Thomas Campbell, William Caldwell, and Josiah Warren, of New Boston, barely escaped with their lives.

He was appointed Colonel by Gov. Wentworth, and held his commission, as such, till the Revolutionary War. In the Register of New Hampshire, for 1768, we find him Colonel of the ninth regiment of militia.

At the time of the American Revolution, Col. Goffe was too old to take an active part as a soldier, but the country was not deprived of the benefit of that long experience in arms which he had acquired. His only son, already mentioned, an inhabitant of Bedford, was a soldier in the army, and held a Major's commission.

The following is a letter from Col. Goffe, to his son Major Goffe: —

“ *Portsmouth, Sept. 24, 1777.*

“ **SIR:** — Col. Bellows goes off to-day to head as many volunteers as will push off to reinforce Gen. Gates. Our army are now in possession of Ticonderoga. In order to cut off Burgoyne's retreat, who was on the 17th of this month, within four miles of Stillwater, with his main body, as we are assured by Gen. Stark's letter of that date, pressing the State to exert every nerve, and to march at least half the militia of this State. And now is the time to cut off their whole army. And if we do but all go without hesitation, I verily believe it will put an end to the war. And if you could go yourself, for a fortnight or three weeks, I believe it would encourage many.

Every man and officer will have pay, as the last militia had. But it must be done without loss of time. And if your brother-in-law, Samuel Moor, would be forward in this affair, it would be to his everlasting honor. Pray show yourselves friends to the country this once.

I am your loving father,

JOHN GOFFE.

To Maj. John Goffe.

Pray let Capt. Moor see this after you have read it.”

Col Goffe was not only a military officer, but for years a civil officer. He was called to perform such duties as the following.

Record of a marriage by John Goffe, Esq.

[*Copy of the Certificate.*]

"Province of New Hampshire.

"To either of the ordained ministers of the Gospel of said Province, or either of the Justices for said Province:—You are hereby empowered to join together in holy matrimony, James Martin and Sarah Parker, unless some legal impediment appear to you to the contrary.

"Given at Portsmouth, Jan. 12, 1761.

B. WENTWORTH."

On the back of the certificate is the following.

"Joined together in holy matrimony, the within-named John Martin and Sarah Parker.

"April 6, 1761.

JOHN GOFFE, J. of Peace."

In 1771, the towns in New Hampshire were divided into five counties, and consequently a general reorganization of the courts took place. Col Goffe was appointed Judge of Probate for Hillsborough County, which office he retained till 1776, when a general change took place among the officers of the courts. This was probably the last office he held. He removed to Bedford sometime previous to the Revolution, and represented Bedford and Amherst in General Court.

Col. Goffe was one of the most important men of this vicinity, often elected to offices of trust by his fellow citizens, and enjoying also the confidence of the Colonial Government. He was a religious man. While the country was new, and the towns around destitute of a stated ministry, he was accustomed to conduct divine service, on the Sabbath, in his own house. It is said, he sang and prayed, and read a selected discourse, to the edification of his audience. Some, who are now living, attended these meetings. Not only the people of Bedford, but of Goffstown, and probably Merrimac and Litchfield, resorted thither for public worship.

MAJOR JOHN GOFFE.

SON of the preceding Col. John Goffe, on arriving at age, was set up in business in Bedford, by his father, who built the first saw-mill and grain-mill in the town on a small stream (Crosby's brook) about three miles below Manchester city, on the opposite side of the river. He was commissioned a Coroner by Gov. Benning Wentworth, in 1762. He also held a commission of Lieutenant in the 1st company, 9th regiment of militia, as early as 1761, and perhaps earlier. In 1764, Gov. Wentworth gave him a Captain's commission, and in 1768 he was promoted to the rank of Major.

He served in the Revolution, as did several of his sons, two of whom lost their lives in that struggle. Stephen was lost at sea, and William was killed in an engagement. We have before us several letters of Stephen and William Goffe to their parents. Stephen's last is dated Boston, Sept. 4, 1777, in which he says: "I am going out in a brig from Boston for a five months' cruise." We believe he was never afterwards heard from. The last letter received from William, was to his brother John, dated "Fort Miller, (N. Y.) July 16th, 1777," in which he says, he writes to let him know that he had lost his captain in battle, two sergeants, and eight privates. "I do not expect to come home very soon, for we have battles almost every day."

In the old grave-yard in Bedford, there rest, side by side, the mortal remains of John Goffe, Esq., Col. John Goffe, and Maj. John Goffe. At the right hand side of each, repose the ashes of their wives.

"Goffstown," and "Goffe's Falls," so named for Col. Goffe, will hand down the name to posterity.

Of "Goffe's Falls," now the name of a depot on the Boston and Concord Railroad, there is a tradition or two among the old people in the neighborhood, which it may be well to relate, though for the authenticity we cannot be responsible.

It is said that one Bushnell, a hunter and early settler at Cohos brook, was one day out hunting in the immediate vicinage of Goffe's Falls, near a projecting rock, from which he discovered pieces of pure lead hanging like icicles or stylactites. He took his hatchet from his belt and severed them from their hold, and placed them in his pouch. At that instant, a deer rose from its ambush near by, when he

hastily fired at it, wounding but not killing it. The deer dashed into the river, and Bushnell after him, with all possible speed.

Failing to secure his game, he returned to where he supposed he found the lead, but could discover no trace of it. He went home and told his story to Col. Goffe, who helped him run his lead into bullets.

Ever afterwards he was unable to find the exact spot, although he spent much time in hunting for it. We cannot explain the mystery of the story, but tell it to others as it was told to us.

Another incident is told of this Bushnell, in connexion with the early settlement at Goffe's Falls.

He had acquired the ill-will of an Indian, who determined upon his destruction. Bushnell was a single man, and boarded out. His sleeping apartment was on the first floor of the house, of which the Indian was aware. One night Bushnell was absent, and the lady of the house occupied the bed. In the night she was aroused from her slumber by a hand passing over her. She demanded, "Who is this?" when an Indian replied, "Never fear! Misssus, me no hurt you!"

It is supposed the incidental absence of Bushnell was all that saved his life.

REV. JOSEPH GOFFE.

THE following extracts from the auto-biography of this individual, will not be deemed, it is hoped, too lengthy, considering the interest with which they will be read in his native town.

"I WAS born in Bedford, N. H., near the western bank of the Merrimac river, on the 6th day of August, 1766. My father's name was John Goffe, and my mother's maiden name was Jemima Holden, from Groton, Mass. They were married Sept. 17th, 1749, and settled in Bedford on a new farm, on which they lived and died in a good old age. My parents were respectable and pious people, — members of the Presbyterian Church, and of the good old Puritan stamp, who always maintained religious worship in the family, and brought up their family with a moral and religious strictness

which is rarely to be found at the present day. They had a family of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, of which I was the *sixth* son, and *eighth* child in succession; and though their worldly circumstances were not affluent, but comfortable, they afforded their children all the opportunity for learning, the state of the times and the newness of the country would then permit.

"My father was a farmer by profession, but bore military commissions under George II. and III., and served in their wars with the Indians and French in Canada. He was usually called *Major* John Goffe, and was the *only* son of Col. John Goffe of Derryfield, (now Manchester,) N. H. My grandfather was a man of some eminence in his day as a military man, and commanded a regiment when Canada was surrendered to the British and Colonial arms. Besides his military commission, he held a variety of civil offices in the state, such as Judge of Probate, Justice of the Peace,—often a member of the state Legislature, and was an intimate friend of Gov. Wentworth and Col. Atkinson, and other public men of that day. But what is infinitely more for his honor, he was a man of distinguished *piety*, and did much for the promotion of religion in the new settlement around him. I can remember him well. He was rather above the middle stature, not corpulent, but of a commanding presence and aspect. His memory is perpetuated in the name of the large and respectable town of Goffstown, N. H., of which he was a large, and one of the original proprietors.

"There is one thing further respecting our family which I would just mention as a matter of curiosity, if nothing more, and that is their *longevity*, so far back as I can remember. My grandfather, when he died, was 87 years old, my grandmother, 96, my father, 85, my mother, 91, two aunts on my father's side, between 93 and 100, and I have now brothers and sisters living far advanced in life.

"I was brought up on my father's farm, which was of considerable extent, where I worked on the farm, in the mills, and did considerable at lumbering and rafting on the Merrimac river, until I was more than 21 years of age. Thus early inured to labor and fatigue, I obtained a firmness and solidity of constitution, which but few of my brethren in the ministry, and especially at the present day, ever enjoyed. This enabled me to go through my studies with ease, and to labor in the ministry nearly double as much as

was customary at that day. For nearly thirty years, I was very rarely absent from the pulpit on the Sabbath.

“My advantages for an early education were very limited. I enjoyed no more than two or three months in a year in a common school, and that of a low character, kept chiefly by foreigners, in which nothing was taught but reading and spelling, writing and arithmetic, and I believe nothing more was known by the masters themselves. At that time, and in that place, it was generally thought that no *native American* was capable of teaching a common English school. Suitable books of instruction were very few and scarce, and Grammar, Geography, and other studies now common in schools, were then rarely heard of. I had, however, such a thirst after knowledge, that I improved every opportunity and means to obtain it, and while my playmates, on a rainy day, and on other occasions, were spending their time in idleness and folly, I was poring over such books as I could obtain, and particularly mathematical books, of which I was fond. Thus, by what I obtained at school, and what I picked up by myself, by the time I was 17 or 18 years old, I was thought qualified to keep a common English school, and actually engaged in this business for two or three of the succeeding winters. I then began to think in earnest of obtaining, if possible, a college education, and set about acquiring the means to defray the expense. My parents, having then a large family to maintain, could do but little to assist me, but through their kind indulgence and help, and the blessing of God, I soon obtained means sufficient, as I thought, to justify a beginning. Accordingly, in Nov., 1787, being then a little more than 21 years old, and there being then no Academies or High-schools in the country, to which I could go to pursue the necessary preparatory studies, I went to Windham, and put myself under the care and instruction of the Rev. Simeon Williams, the minister of that town, who was in the habit of taking students and preparing them to enter college. With him I studied the Latin and Greek languages, and such other things as were necessary, for about seventeen months, or until May, 1789, when, with his recommendation, I went to Dartmouth College, where I was examined by the proper authorities, and received, as in good standing, into the Sophomore class, on the 15th of that month. I then applied myself with satisfactory diligence to the several classics then

in use, until the Commencement, August 21st, 1791, when I graduated A. B., with a class of nearly fifty students, the largest class that then had ever been in that college. Thus, in three years and about nine months after I commenced my preparatory studies, I was honored with my first degree at the age of 25.

"The officers of the College while I was there, were John Wheelock, President; Bezaleel Woodward, Professor of Natural Philosophy and Mathematics; John Smith, Professor of Languages, and Moses Fisk, Tutor.

"It was my great object and aim, from the beginning, to qualify myself to become a preacher of the gospel. Of this I never lost sight, and of course, made all my studies subservient to it. To this great work I was strongly inclined, though I then had but faint conceptions of the arduousness of the labors, and the amazing responsibilities of the office at which I aspired.

"Having progressed thus far as to pass through College, my next step was to apply myself to the study of the Bible, of which I had some knowledge, and of systematic theology, of which I knew nothing. At that day there were no public Divinity schools or Theological Institutions, as at present, to which students might resort to finish their preparations for the pulpit. The custom then was for young men to study with some noted Divine, who was in the habit of instructing candidates for the ministry in Systematic Divinity, Pastoral Theology, and the various duties of the sacred office. Accordingly, immediately after leaving College, I put myself under the guidance and instruction of the late Dr. Burton of Thetford, Vt., with whom I lived and studied about three months. He first taught me the great outlines of Divine truth in a connected and systematic order, and gave me such other instruction respecting the study of the Bible, and the work of the ministry, as has been of great advantage to me to the present day. The assistance I received from him was good and great, and I shall ever hold his name in grateful remembrance.

"The following winter I spent in teaching school, and in aiding a young man in his preparation for College. By the way, I was the *first*, and he the *second*, that had ever obtained a public education from our native town. Being desirous of continuing my studies, as preparatory to the ministry, and to obtain the best instruction time and circumstances would

permit, in May, 1792, I went to New Haven, Ct., and put myself under the guidance and instruction of Dr. Jonathan Edwards, late President of Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., who was then a pastor of a church in that city. With him I studied about six months, and enjoyed his accurate and luminous instruction, when I measurably filled up his extensive system of Divinity, the outlines of which I had previously traced with Dr. Burton. These two eminent divines were the only earthly instructors in the doctrines and precepts of the gospel I ever enjoyed. With them I laid the foundation of all the knowledge of Divinity I ever possessed, and though their systems were different in some points, I never could follow either of them in all particulars; yet, to both of them, I still feel under the greatest obligations. They taught me to read and think for myself, which I have ever done, and which has led me, in some non-essential points, to differ from them both.

“Dr. E. Griffin, late President of Williams College, was my fellow student with Dr. Edwards. We boarded, studied, wrote, slept and recited together, and at last were examined together by the Association of the Western District of the County of New Haven, on the 30th day of Oct., 1792. Dr. Edwards, and the late Dr. Trumbull, the historian of Connecticut, were the prominent members of that Association.

“Having thus finished my preparatory studies, and obtained a license to preach the gospel, agreeably to the usages of Congregational Churches, I returned to my father's, in Bedford, where I tarried a few days. A peculiar train of minute circumstances and events had been in operation for years, the tendency and meaning of which I did not then understand, but which I afterwards learned were designed by the Supreme Ruler of the world to fix my location, and bring me to the scene of my future labors and connexions in life. The events which then transpired in close dependence on each other, experimentally taught me that God, in his Providence, orders and governs the world, and that his hand and agency extend to the most minute concerns of men — that he fixes the bounds of our habitation, and that not a sparrow or a hair falls to the ground without him — a truth I have never lost sight of to this day. Under this secret but controlling direction, I returned from my father's in N. H., to Oakham, in the County of Worcester, Mass., where I had kept a school

the preceding winter, and there I delivered my first sermon in the pulpit, and in the presence of my old friend Rev. Daniel Tomlinson, on the 18th of Nov., 1792. My text was 1 Cor. i. 23,—“For we preach Christ crucified,”—which was a kind of preface or motto to my whole subsequent ministry. It has been my great aim and endeavor to preach a crucified Saviour as the only hope of a sinful world; and how well I have done it, the great and final day will declare.

“While at Oakham, where I tarried a few days, I received an invitation to preach at Sutton, North Parish, (now Millbury,) where I preached my first sermon on the second day of December following; and here has been the place of my ministerial labors, and of my residence, ever since; and though invited to preach in several places, as a candidate for settlement, I could never consent; and the church and people here, knowing the peculiar circumstances in Providence which first brought me here, were strongly desirous that I should continue and settle among them, and therefore would not consent that I should leave them. From all that had transpired, I was fully convinced that this was the place where I should live and labor for God. It seems that he had a great work for me to do, and I must stay and do it. Owing, however, to peculiar circumstances and the state of the times, and especially to an unhappy controversy between the church and parish on one part, and Rev. Eben. Chaplin, my immediate predecessor, on the other, they delayed giving me a formal call for settlement until Jan., 1794; and for the same reason, I delayed giving them an answer for several months after. The day for my ordination was appointed on the 10th of Sept., 1794. I was then solemnly set apart by a respectable Ecclesiastical Council to the work of the gospel ministry.

“That was an important era of my life. It witnessed the attainment of the great object at which I had been aiming from the beginning, and now I had nothing before me but to go to work for God, and to fulfil the ministry I had received, which I have done with much weakness, imperfection and fear; but, through the divine assistance and blessing, not without some desirable success.”

The manuscript next goes on to give an account of his labors among his people; his manner of preaching; the revivals under his ministry, and his manner of conducting them; his dismissal, &c. He then says:—

"Thus, after preaching to this people as a candidate and pastor for the space of thirty-eight years, and after witnessing *seven* distinct seasons of special revival, and after receiving nearly 400 members into the church, I was released from the stated labors of the ministry at the age of 64 years, and retired, under comfortable worldly circumstances, into the more private walks of life, consoled with the reflection that I left the church and parish in the highest state of increase, both in numbers and wealth, that I had ever known them. The church, when I was dismissed, contained 215 members, a large portion of them males.

"After about a year's rest and retirement, my health was so far restored, that I thought I could and ought to do something more in the vineyard of the Lord. Accordingly, I spent a part of the three succeeding years in my native state, New Hampshire, chiefly as a missionary and supply in the Counties of Hillsborough and Sullivan, where I trust I labored not altogether in vain. Several were hopefully converted, and added to the church, in the places where I exercised my ministry. I was in New Hampshire during the summers of 1832 and '33, when what were called *protracted meetings* were held in various towns and churches in that region, eight or ten of which I attended, and assisted in carrying them on."

Remarks are here made upon protracted meetings, multiplying meetings in times of revival, sudden conversions, and other things connected with his ministry. He then remarks:

"One event of my life has afforded me no small satisfaction in the reflection, which is, that I was, as I believe, the first person who brought into *public notice* the great and glorious plan of instituting the present Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions. I was a member of the General Association of Massachusetts, which met at Bradford, I think in the year 1810, and was made Chairman of the Committee of Overtures. My old friend, the late venerable Dr. Spring of Newburyport, aided by the Professors at Andover, and several others, had formed and matured the grand design of instituting such a Board, with a view of the conversion of the world to Christ. The good Dr. Spring desired me to put some notice of this on my Minutes, which I did, and laid it before the Association as an article for their consideration and action. The Association adopted the plan, and proceeded to choose the first Board of Commissioners, in which I assisted by my voice and vote."

DEA. JOHN HOLBROOK.

HE was born in Roxbury, and served several years in the Revolutionary War with his brother, Ebenezer, who was taken by the enemy and died in captivity. When he became prisoner, he gave John his watch, which is still owned and kept by John Holbrook, of Madison, Maine, and is a good time-keeper. John afterwards settled in what is now Brighton. He joined what was then the third Congregational Church, Cambridge, under Rev. John Foster, D. D., and was elected to the office of Deacon in that church. He once attended an ordination, as delegate from that church, in the western part of Massachusetts. On his way, he called on Rev. Dr. Abiel Holmes, of the first Church, who was to preach the sermon, and kindly offered to assist him on his way. The Doctor concluded to ride with Dr. Foster, but would be glad to have the Deacon take his baggage, and in putting it in, he repeatedly charged Dea. Holbrook, "Be sure you take care of the trunk, for it contains the cloak and the parchment."

In 1803, Dea. H. removed to Bedford, and in 1804, was added to the session of this church. In 1832, he was chosen one of the electors of President and Vice President of the United States. His death occurred suddenly, Sabbath Dec. 12, 1835. Having attended meeting, and listened to the exercises of the day with great attention, and even found the last hymn, he died, just after leaving the house of God, in his sleigh, with his wife; being a most solemn providence, and loud call to the congregation. The text selected at his funeral, was Hebrews, xi., 21, — "By faith, Jacob, when he was a dying, worshipped, leaning on the top of his staff."

HON. JOHN ORR.

At the age of five years, he lost both his parents, within a week of each other. The family were kept together one year under the care of Annis, then nineteen. They were then put out to different families, under the direction of their guardian, Dea. Robert Walker. John he took into his own family till he was fourteen. The Deacon adhered to the good old system of family discipline, and from him, John, (as

he used to say himself, in advanced age,) received just the training he needed. "There was in me," said he, "by nature, a reckless daring, an obstinacy and self-will, which would not have borne the least indulgence." Several anecdotes, related by the companions of his childhood, show the seeds of that integrity, reflection, and sound judgment, which in after life, distinguished him in the halls of legislation, mingled with that firmness, perseverance, and dauntless bravery, which placed him in the front rank of volunteers, on the field of Bennington.

After leaving the service of Dea. Walker, he spent a few years as a hired laborer, with friends in Londonderry and Bedford. About the age of nineteen, he went with some other young men, into the State of Maine, and engaged in the business of a carpenter. There he considered himself in after life, to have been in imminent danger. "The workmen in this business," said he, "were accustomed to receive from their employers, a portion of ardent spirits at certain hours of the day. At first, I took it only to avoid singularity; but I soon found my appetite increased, and would catch myself looking up at the sun, to see if eleven o'clock was drawing near. I was convinced that I was in danger of becoming a drunkard. I had not the wisdom or courage to break off altogether, but I determined I would have no set time for my drams. If I had not taken this resolution, no doubt I should have filled a drunkard's grave before this time."

About the age of twenty-one, he returned to Bedford, and in company with his brother Hugh, commenced the cultivation of the farm left them by their father; being the same now owned and occupied by Samuel Patten. At the age of twenty-three, he bought out his brother's share of the farm, married Jane, daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Smith, built a saw and grist-mill, and engaged with great ardor in the business of improving his farm. But his business was soon interrupted by the commencement of the Revolutionary struggle. He took a very warm and decided stand in support of the liberties of his country.

He joined a company of volunteers, who in the year 1777, under the command of Gen. Stark, marched to oppose the further progress of Burgoyne's army, then stationed at Stillwater. He received a Lieutenant's commission under Capt. McConnell, in Col. Stickney's regiment, and left with his company for Bennington. The following sketch was drawn

up by himself, at the request of his son Isaac, giving a description of the commencement of the battle at Bennington, and his sufferings after being wounded in the knee, which made him a cripple, and left a running sore, for life.

“On the 16th August, 1777, I was called to engage a detachment of the British, which had been sent out from Stillwater, for the purpose of securing the military stores deposited at Bennington. They had been checked in their march on the 14th, about six miles from Bennington, by the appearance of Stark’s Brigade, where they cast up two breast-works, nearly half a mile apart. On the morning of the 16th, Col. Nichols, with a detachment of the volunteers, was ordered by a circuitous route, to attack the main breastwork, as soon as another detachment should attack in the rear. I was in a detachment of 200, to attack the minor breastwork, as soon as we should hear Nichols’ guns. We marched from the main body, about half a mile, and then arranged ourselves in front of the breast-work about fifty or sixty rods distant, with trees and corn intervening, which prevented our seeing each other.

“About 4 o’clock, P. M., Nichols began, and the cracking of muskets was such, that imagination could see men falling by dozens. We arose and with shouts marched rapidly to the attack. In the meantime, I remembered the fate of Col. Hale, who, about two months before, was overtaken in his retreat from Ticonderoga, by the enemy, skulked in the beginning of the action, lost his standard, and was degraded. Resolving that no one should have cause to impeach me with cowardice, I marched on with the appearance of a brave soldier. When we had passed through the wood and corn-field, we came in sight of the enemy, at about fifteen rods distance. They commenced firing with muskets, at an alarming rate, so that it seemed wonderful that any of the attacking party should escape. At that time, an expression of the Prince of Orange came into my mind, ‘every bullet has its billet,’ and I soon found one commissioned to lay me low. After having lain fifteen or twenty minutes, one of our sergeants came and offered to take me off the ground, I told him he was unable, for I could not help myself. He said he would not leave me there, for the enemy might come and kill me. He therefore called a soldier to his assistance. They took hold of me by my arms, and attempted to carry me off; but

the balls flew directly at us, so that I charged them to lay me down instantly, each take a hand, and stoop so low, that the flax would conceal them, and drag me on my back, into the cornfield, where I should be out of sight of the enemy. This order they obeyed, and took me to the road, where many of the wounded were collected. I was then carried to the General's quarters, where I lodged that night without rest.

"In the morning, Robert Smith came and asked a German surgeon to examine and dress my wound. He complied, and put a bandage on it; but took no pains to reduce the fractured bones. Smith took him aside, and asked him what he thought of my case. He said 'it would have been as well if my head had been cut off, for I must die.' This opinion was not told me, until I recovered. For more than a month, I lay under the care of our regimental doctor, suffering pains which I need not attempt to describe, continually losing flesh and strength. It was the opinion of some that I could not recover, but I had a considerable flow of spirits, and was sometimes merry, so that some of my attendants thought I was deranged.

"After the departure of the Brigade, I employed a private surgeon, who had more skill, to attend me, and sometime in November, I began to feel better, and my stomach regained its proper tone for food, but the Doctor appointed my diet of light food; this became disagreeable, for I hankered especially for hearty meat. One day I longed for pork and beans, and the desire increased and continued till evening. I did what I could by reasoning, to suppress this appetite, but in vain, and I considered myself in a situation similar to that of the Israelites in the wilderness, when their soul loathed the light food. And I feared that God had given me up to my heart's lust, to wander in councils of my own; but in the evening I found relief, without any visible cause, which made me inexpressibly happy. February 4th, 1778, I set out on a bed in a sleigh, and arrived on the 14th, at my house, in health. I was unable to step without crutches till October following. During all this time of pain and weakness, I felt no great anxiety about the things of time, but as soon as I was able to walk without crutches, I returned to my habits of industry, and by the blessing of God on my endeavors, I have obtained a competence of the good things of time, and enjoyed as much happiness as generally falls to the lot of humanity in

this world of changes. May the giver of all good inspire me with gratitude and prepare me for a better world; for the time of my departure is at hand. JOHN ORR."

Mr. Orr was an honor to his native town. After having filled various important offices in the town and state, he departed this life, in January, 1823, aged seventy-five, full of years and honors. His memory is held in great veneration. The following inscription appears on his gravestone in the old graveyard. "As an officer of the church, distinguished for a discriminating judgment, uncommon decision, candor and meekness. He lived and died in an unshaken, practical adherence to the faith once delivered to the Saints." His influence was always on the side of virtue and religion; he was active in every good enterprise; his voice was often heard in the religious conference, and many now living, remember well the interest he gave to these occasions. In the language of one who knew him well, "He was one of nature's nobility," and to him may be applied the following from the great poet:—

"He was a noble gentleman;
The general voice
Sounds him for courtesy, behaviour, truth,
And every fair demeanour, an example.
Titles of honor add not to his fame,
Who was himself an honor to the title."

HON. BENJAMIN ORR.

SON of Hon. John Orr. The following sketch is from the pen of Jacob McGaw, Esq., Bangor.

Mr. Orr was born at Bedford, Dec. 1st, 1772, and in his boyhood, expressed a desire for a public education. To have gratified this wish, would have been very pleasing to his father, but as he had seven other sons, and as his property was not large enough to do equally well for all of them, he deemed it unjust to allow Benjamin the boon he had requested. Instead of pursuing the course to which his inclination and judgment both pointed, he was apprenticed to a housewright. He served his master with fidelity some two or three years, but circumstances occurred at that time, which

induced Mr. Orr to endeavor to be released from his apprenticeship. A bargain was concluded by which Mr. Orr stipulated to pay his master a sum of money, so soon as he could earn it, instead of his unfinished term. The payment was honorably made, from the proceeds of his labors in the art to which he had been apprenticed.

Mr. Orr's thirst for a thorough literary education was so intense, as to produce the resolution that nothing short of providential interposition should prevent him from obtaining it. Animated by the hope of final success, he labored with such diligence and skill, that he was not only able to pay the money due to his former master, but also to commence a course of study, preparatory to a collegiate course. His studies, his mechanical labors, and school-teaching, were made subservient to this ultimate object, and allowed him no time for recreation. His pleasures consisted in anticipation of the future. After Mr. Orr became his own master, he first labored in the upper part of New Hampshire. There he became an occasional scholar, under Mr. Paul Langdon, an eminent teacher, who was preceptor of an academy at Fryeburg, Maine. It was poverty, alone, that made him an *occasional* scholar. But even the suspension of his studies, did not cause him to swerve from the one grand object that was always in his view, viz., eminence. It is said that some of the grandest specimens of architectural beauty existing in Maine, were produced, in part, at least, by his labor at that time.

Thus he labored and studied, enjoying the respect of all who knew him, and the admiring friendship of the few with whom at that early period of his life, he was intimate. The strength of attachment and respect of a few, who like him were poor and struggling for knowledge, was surprisingly great, and never ceased or abated, but with their earthly existence.

In August, 1796, he had *fitted himself*, with such aid as his other avocations permitted him to receive from his able preceptor, Mr. Langdon, to be admitted to two years advanced standing in Dartmouth College. He struggled through his first year in College, depending on his own resources, entirely. Near the close of this year, disease, induced perhaps from too severe application of all his powers to study, seized upon him, with such intensity as to give, for a time, but little hope of his recovery. In this extremity, when death was expected to

do its work very soon upon the sick man, the Hon. John Orr, father of Benjamin, was notified of his son's condition. All the tender feelings of a fond father were instantly aroused, and with his utmost speed, the father hastened, once more to see, if possible, his first-born child, and to give his parting blessing. But Infinite Wisdom and Benevolence had important labor for the suffering scholar yet to perform, and therefore he lived. So soon as the feeble but returning health of the son would permit, he returned, after an absence of nearly ten years, to his father's house, there to enjoy the fulness of his father's love, and all the fondness and kind attentions of his brothers and sisters. Here the affectionate care of darling sisters ministered to his convalescence, and his health was restored after months of confinement, so as to enable him to return to College.

At this time a new era commenced with fewer obstacles to be overcome, than had heretofore obstructed the attainment of his darling object. His father saw with what indomitable eagerness he had pressed onward in pursuit of education, and that providential interpositions had at length arrested his progress, when he had arrived in full view of the goal. Parental feelings could not permit the cup of happiness and of honor to be dashed from the lips of his son, at the moment when its attainment seemed to be certain, after such long and painful struggles had been exerted and endured. The means of making such loans as would enable Mr. Orr to complete his collegiate course, were in his father's power, were offered, and gratefully accepted. In August, 1798, he received the degree of A. B., and quitted college with honorable standing as a scholar, notwithstanding the very numerous and great hindrances that were constantly occurring.

Mr. Orr, immediately after commencement, entered the office of the late Gov. Samuel Dinsmore, as a student at law, and pursued his studies under the direction of Gov. Dinsmore, from one to two years. He then entertained the belief that Maine, at that time a province of Massachusetts, presented higher attractions to the ambition of a young lawyer, than New Hampshire did. He proceeded to Hallowell, in Maine, and there placed himself under the tuition of the Hon. Samuel S. Wilde, then an eminent counsellor-at-law, but now a venerable and learned Judge of the Supreme Judicial Court, in Massachusetts. In the Summer or Autumn of 1801, Mr. Orr was admitted to practice law in the Court of Common Pleas,

and in 1804 or 1805, was admitted to practice in the Supreme Judicial Court. His residence was principally in Brunswick, but during a few years, in Topsham. These towns are only separated by Androscoggin River, but lie in different counties, Cumberland and Lincoln.

Mr. Orr's location presented to him the opportunity of practising his profession in both the counties before mentioned. In each of these counties, at that time, were lawyers holding very eminent standing in their profession. Among them were the late Chief Justice Parker, of Massachusetts, and the late Chief Justice Mellen, of Maine. Such men as Mr. Orr soon proved himself to be, could not long be in practice at the same courts with these gentlemen, without opportunity of hazarding a trial of his inexperienced strength with them or some of them. His clients never repined that their counsellor and advocate was of fewer years at the bar, than the counsellors of their adversaries. Within a short period after Mr. Orr's admission to practice in the Supreme Judicial Court, he stood in the first class of lawyers in both counties.

When Maine became one of the United States, in 1820, Mr. Orr's eminent standing had become so generally known, that he was called to go into every county in the state, to advocate one side of the most important cases to be heard in the S. J. Court. From this period, until the time of his death, in 1828, he followed the circuit of the S. J. Court through the State, as regularly as did the Judges themselves. No man in the State pretended to hold rank above Mr. Orr; few, if any, thought themselves his equal.

Chancery powers were very late in being introduced into the State Courts, although United States Courts were early clothed with equity powers. When a circuit of the United States Court was first holden in this young State, a bill in equity of great importance was filed in that Court, and Mr. Orr was called to oppose the Hon. Jeremiah Mason, who was brought from his native State, New Hampshire, and who had long stood "Higher than any of the people, from his shoulders and upward." His success was complete and triumphant. In this department of law, he was without a rival in the State. On this occasion, he was highly complimented by Mr. Mason, in presence of a number of persons, at his own house, in Portsmouth. Mr. Orr's powers were principally devoted to the profession which he so much adorned. But when he could render good service in promoting the cause of

science or virtue, he readily yielded himself to the advancement of those objects. Therefore, when called to serve, first as an overseer, next as a trustee, and finally as Treasurer of Bowdoin College, he cheerfully devoted himself to the performance of very important duties and services connected with the several offices thus devolved upon him during twenty of the last years of his life. His good name and valuable services are still cherished and kindly remembered by the old and tried friends of that institution.

About the year 1813, conflicts existed relative to lands in Maine, of immense interest and value, between proprietors whose patents overlapped each other, and including many hundred settlers and their farms. Men who had settled and paid for their lands to one set of proprietors, were repeatedly sued by other proprietors, and in many instances driven from their farms and homes, and all that they held dear, without having any means of adequate redress. Tumultuous and riotous proceedings ensued. Legislative aid was invoked, and finally, by general consent, Mr. Orr, and Hon. Judge Bailey were selected to adjust the adverse claims, and, by general rules, to settle troubles that nearly produced an intestine insurrection. The whole matters were happily and satisfactorily closed.

Mr. Orr's political opinions were in harmony with those of Washington, and the men who formed, and administered for the first twelve years, the institutions of the United States. In other words he was a Federalist of the old school. In 1816, he yielded to the importunity of his friends, and suffered himself to be a candidate for Representative to Congress, to which office he was elected, and served through one Congress with ability. But political life interfered with his professional pursuits, and after the brief period of two years, was wholly abandoned.

A single remark may be made, in regard to Mr. Orr's domestic life. His wife was a lady of fine manners and well fitted to preside in a family where hospitality and generous friendship were extended to the utmost limit, towards every individual who became a guest in their house.

REV. ISAAC ORR.

THIS gentleman, distinguished for his literary and scientific attainments, and for his numerous philosophical letters and essays, was half-brother of Hon. Benj. Orr, by a second marriage, and grandson of Rev. John Houston. He became early impressed with the importance of religion, and united with the church, in this town, in his seventeenth year. He had been learning a trade, but soon turned his attentions to study, with the view of preparing for the ministry. His College life gave promises of future usefulness. Rev. R. R. Gurley, of Washington city, one of his classmates, says:—"He was my earliest, most respected, and most faithful collegiate friend. We occupied the same room for a long time, and a gentleman of higher and more original talent, more sterling integrity, more truthfulness and disinterestedness of character, is seldom ever seen. In all branches he was a good, and in mathematical and philosophical learning, a profound scholar. He had in these latter branches no superior and few equals in College." We copy this from a sermon on his death by Rev. A. R. Baker, Medford, Mass., from which we take the following extract:—"His instructor, Prof. Emerson, of Andover Theological Seminary, says,—'I always felt sure that a difficult problem, which had passed unsolved from one to another of his fellow students in the recitation-room, would be stopped by him, for he was always prepared.'"

After leaving College, he became associate instructor in the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb in Hartford, Conn., where he remained till 1824, when he resigned his office, and took charge of a similar institution in Canajaharie, N. Y. There he married Miss Mary Morris, an amiable lady, and soon returned to Bedford, N. H., where he pursued and completed his preparations for the ministry, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Londonderry in 1827. It was during this brief residence in his native town, that the pastor of the church first became acquainted with Mr. Orr, and was deeply impressed with his high intellectual and moral worth. During this period he preached occasionally, but no where for any length of time, except Tyngsborough, Mass., and Amherst, N. H., in the former of which places he also instructed in the Academy; but his impaired health did not allow him to assume a pastoral charge.

His wife died soon after the birth of her youngest child, and about this time he accepted the office of City Missionary in Washington, D. C. His second wife was Matilda, daughter of Dr. Samuel Kidder, of Medford, Mass. It was while engaged at Washington, that he became deeply interested in the African race, and was appointed Agent of the American Colonization Society, and afterwards Secretary of the African Education Society, and Editor of its public journal.

Subsequently, he was employed as a reporter of the U. S. Senate for the National Intelligencer, and in this capacity wrote those letters in the New York Commercial Advertiser, under the signature of "Hampden," and those in the Boston Courier, under the signature of "Timoleon," which were widely circulated, and are still resorted to, as political documents of great permanent value. Prostrated by a disease which, it was believed, too severe application to study produced, and which had been undermining his constitution for many years, he returned in the spring of 1842 to New England; resided a year in Medford, and then went to Amherst, Mass., where his disease, which was consumption, gathered strength, and terminated his life on the 28th of April, 1844, in the 51st year of his age.

Mr. Orr was a man of extraordinary powers of mind. His mental constitution was wonderfully adapted to the most abstruse subjects in philosophy and mathematics. The compiler of this brief sketch well remembers his last visit at Bedford.

He was most interesting and affectionate to all his friends, and at the same time, with those who could enter into his thoughts, he poured forth the most profound and lofty speculations. During that visit, his favorite topic was the theory of creation. He believed that God had always been actively benevolent, that there had been no period in the infinity of duration, but what there had been some objects on which to spend his beneficence; hence, he carried the existence of matter back to an indefinite period in external ages, and without making it coexistent with God, gave to it a sort of indefinite past duration.

Mr. Orr's correspondence was with some of the most gifted minds in the country, as Prof. Fisher, previous to his lamented death, Dr. Bowditch and others, to whom he communicated his views respecting the formation of the universe.

His publications were numerous, and were given to the

public principally through journals and newspapers of the day. In the Washington Mirror of 1835-6, he published twelve articles on various mathematical and philosophical subjects, signed "O;" also, in the same periodical, "Strictures on Dr. Newman's Theory of Gravitation." In the Boston Courier, and U. S. Telegraph of 1836, he published a number of philosophical questions and essays; ten essays on infinites and other mathematical and philosophical subjects, signed "O," in the Boston Courier in 1839; and several articles in Prof. Silliman's Journal of Science and Art.

Mr. Orr, amid these profound speculations, was not deficient in poetry, as his *Ennui*, published in New Haven, in 1818, his *Christmas Eve*, in Hartford, 1820, *Farewell to Georgetown*, in the American Spectator, 1830, and the *Student's Family*, in the U. S. Telegraph, 1833, abundantly testify.

With other subjects, he was also conversant. He left a MSS. Commentary on the Prophecy of Daniel, another on the book of Revelation, also, a Political manual, incomplete.

The enquiry may be made, Was Mr. Orr's knowledge entirely theoretical, or did he reduce it to practice? In reply, it may be said, that the application of the air-tight principle to the common stove originated with him, and to him we are indebted in part for all the subsequent improvements in warming our houses and economy in the consumption of fuel.

But more than all, Mr. Orr was a religious man. His life was pure, and his aims were elevated. His departure from life was most triumphant. "He had lain in great weakness and distress many days," to quote the sermon already alluded to, "and when he was dying said, 'Come Lord Jesus, come quickly. Glory, glory to his sovereign grace, in that I will rejoice—O, I will rejoice—it is my only hope—it is the hope of the world. God is merciful; he is good. O, salvation is all of grace, *free grace*. All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come, but I hope, if it be God's will, I may go to-day—on God's holy Sabbath. I know not how I could employ myself among fallen spirits, for I could not help singing Glory to God. I want to be with Christ. I want to see his glory. Glory, glory to God in the highest.'"

Some of his last words were addressed to his wife, who

gave expression to the sentiment in some verses, of which the following is the first.

“O keep me not, dearest, keep me not here,
Visions of glory are circling me near,
Angels are watching and waiting for me,
My spirit is struggling, and longs to be free.
My home, O, 'tis pleasant — I soon shall be there,
All pure and all holy — untortured by sorrow, by sin, or by care.”

The impression has formerly been, that men of philosophical and mathematical genius are not generally Christians. But is this true? Newton was a Christian. Locke was a Christian; and so was our own Bowditch. His dying scene was beautiful. “On the morning of his death,” says his pastor, “when his sight was very dim, and his voice almost gone, he called his children around his bedside, and arranging them in the order of age, pointed to and addressed each by name, and said, ‘You see I can distinguish you all, and I now give you my parting blessing. The time is come. Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.’ These were his last words. After this, he was heard to whisper, in a scarcely audible tone, the words ‘pretty, pleasant, beautiful.’ But it cannot be known whether he was thinking of his own situation as pleasant, in being thus surrounded at such a time by those he loved, or whether he had caught a joyful glimpse of the spiritual world.”

WILLIAM PARKER, ESQ.

THIS gentleman, a native of Litchfield, [See Genealogy,] moved to this town in 1785. He had been in the Revolutionary service, and was stationed one winter in Charlestown, on Winter-Hill. He built a small house, which stood near the school-house No. 5; worked first at shoe-making, and there his oldest son and second child was born. While engaged there, he used to walk out about twilight at evening, and seat himself on the side-hill, near the present mansion-house, and there he would contemplate the future prospect. It was then all woods, there being only one house at the Mills, and one where Dea. McQuesten lives, and another, east of James Harvel's, on the interval. While sitting there, he had a view

of the travel from Concord to Boston, and also down the Mast-road, turning off each way to Concord and Boston. Some little lumber lay on the Landing, on a little spot cleared off to roll in masts. Here it occurred to him that some day, ere long, it would become a place of business. The land was owned by old Mr. Samuel Moor. He thought, if he was able, he would purchase an acre, so as to command the four corners where he built his tavern-house, where his stable stood, where his store stood, and where his house now stands. Accordingly, he applied to Moor, to know what he would take for an acre of land, and let him select it any where he chose. Mr. Moor would sell on this condition, one acre for \$100 and a pair of calf-skin boots. Parker wanted the land, but he was poor, and did not know how to raise the money. He went to one Amos Martin, and offered him one half in common, if he would take hold and help him buy the acre. Martin at first agreed to do so, but on reflection, thought the land too high, and backed out. Not so with Parker. He persevered, closed the bargain, took his deed, and paid promptly, according to his agreement. He moved the little house he had built near the school-house, to the spot where the tavern now stands, added a little to it, and resumed the business of shoe-making, which he now united with a little store of spirits and tobacco.

As his business increased, he took an apprentice; laid up money; was soon able to purchase, in his way, about 6 or 8000 of boards, at \$4 per 1000; rafted and sent them to Newburyport; sold for \$8; made a handsome profit; laid out the money in the purchase of more boards, which he sent off with equal success. And here was the starting point in his lumber trade, that brought him so much property. In this way he added to his acres, and added to his trade, and a very few years found him in possession of a store of goods.

He soon became popular, as an honest trader, and this multiplied his customers. All this time his tavern was open to travellers, and being in a central place, he had as much company as he could accommodate; and money was coming in from all quarters.

He always paid punctually; and in this way he raised his credit in Boston, so that he could get trusted for any quantity of goods. "I have known," says his son-in-law, "his creditors, when settling up his bill where he purchased his West India goods, to hand him at the close \$50," — no doubt in order to retain his custom.

In 1796 or 1797 he built his large tavern-house, and added to his store,—his business all the time increasing. He established his brother-in-law, Wm. Parker, in trade in West Goffstown—he was known as “Farmer Bill.” That being a good place to get lumber in exchange for goods, they soon became wealthy.

HON. MATTHEW PATTEN.

WE are already so well acquainted with this early settler, by the frequent allusions to him, and frequent extracts from his Journal, that no more than a brief notice here is necessary; indeed, for the first fifty years, his history is a part of the history of the town.

He was born in Ireland, May 19, 1719; emigrated to this country in 1728; came to Souhegan East in 1738; was second Judge of Probate in this county, and first after the Revolution; he was appointed to that office in 1776; he represented the towns of Bedford and Merrimac in 1776 and 1777; was Counsellor in 1778. He was appointed Justice of Peace about 1751, and continued in that office until his death, which occurred Aug. 27, 1795. He died in a field in the south part of the town. The men were mowing, and he went to carry them their dinner. He went and sat down under a tree, where he was found dead in a short time.

DAVID PATTEN, ESQ.

SON of Hon. Matthew Patten, was, for many years, a useful and esteemed citizen. The following tribute to his worth is extracted from the town records.

“David Patten, Esq., son of Hon. Matthew Patten, was born in this town, Feb. 18, 1761. He was very useful for many years as a land-surveyor, and was always ready to give accurate information respecting boundary lines; and such was the confidence reposed in him, that his opinion settled the question. He was also in some part of his life a respect-

able schoolmaster, both in and out of town, and always, took an interest in common schools. The last year of his life, he was afflicted with paralysis. He lived universally esteemed, and died, Aug. 26, 1836, leaving a good name, as a worthy man and useful citizen. DANIEL GORDON, *Town Clerk*.

"*March 11th, 1844.*"

Mr. Patten was never married. He lived on the homestead with his maiden sisters, one of whom still survives.

JOHN RAND, ESQ.

THIS gentleman, for many years an inhabitant of this town, was the first minister of Lyndeborough. He came to this town immediately from Derryfield in 1778. His ministry in Lyndeborough was short, [See Genealogy.] What year he was settled there, we are not certain. He must have been there as early as 1756, as appears by the following letter of dismission, found among his papers.

"To the Church of Christ at Lyndeborough, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Mr. John Rand, the Church in Middleton send, Greeting :

"Rev. and Beloved :— Pursuant to the Request of our Brother and Sister, Mr. Nathaniel Putnam and Mrs. Abigail Putnam, we hereby certify that they, our said Brother and Sister, have been Regularly admitted to the holy communion with us. And that, whilst with us, have led a conversation becoming their Profession. And being, by the disposal of God's Providence, who sets bounds to all men's habitations, Removed from us into your neighborhood, we do hereby Recommend them to your holy Fellowship and communion. Praying that grace, mercy and peace may be multiply'd unto you and them, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"SAMUEL NICHOLS, *Mod.*"

There is no date to this, but on the back is endorsed :—
"Rec'd Sept. 7, 1756."

Some trouble seems to have arisen before Mr. Rand had been long at Lyndeborough. We have a letter dated 1761, from Hon. Benj. Lynde of Salem, one of the proprietors of

the township, and from whom it was named, (it having been previously called New Canada.) The letter is written to Mr. Rand, and thus closes : —

“Let me therefore beg of you to come into some measure for an accommodation ; and if the council, which they are to have shortly, doth not please you, join with them in a mutual council, or in some five discreet persons, who shall settle and adjust all matters between you, that so peace may be again restored to your unhappy, divided place.

“Hoping that God, who is the God of peace, will incline your and your people’s hearts to such measures as may put an end to these unhappy quarrels, I remain

“Your friend and humble servant,

“BENJ. LYNDE.”

After Mr. Rand removed to this vicinity, he seldom preached. He engaged in civil affairs, being Justice of the Peace, Town Clerk, &c. He was evidently a man of considerable reading and general information, but seemed to be unsuccessful in worldly accumulation, verifying the Scriptural adage, “Nor riches to men of understanding.”

He was for a time much embarrassed in his worldly circumstances. Among his papers is a document, guaranteeing to him entire exemption from any molestation on account of debts ; and the first signature is of that distinguished man, afterwards first President of the American Congress. This singular paper thus closes : —

“And that it shall and may be lawful for the said John Rand to plead and give in evidence this our present writing and safe conduct, in full Bar and Discharge of the Debt or Debts of such Person or Persons, by whom he, the said Rand shall be thus arrested, sued or molested, as aforesaid.

“In witness whereof we, the said creditors of the said John Rand, have hereunto set our hands and seals this twenty-first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy. JOHN HANCOCK.”

But how happened it, the enquiry may be, that a man up here in the woods, as it then was, should be associated thus with an individual of such celebrity ? The enquiry is easily answered. Mr. Rand was Librarian at Harvard College from 1753 to 1755, the very years that John Hancock and John

Adams were undergraduates at Cambridge. Thus they were placed in interesting relations to each other, and no doubt cherished a mutual regard. Rand, by some means, became Hancock's debtor. How strange the vicissitudes of this world!

At one end of the old burying-yard in this town, without a stone to mark the exact spot, there repose the remains of a man who was conversant, in their youth, with Hancock and Adams, afterwards the master spirits of the American Revolution; and it is to the praise of Hancock, that, after the lapse of thirty years, he came to the relief of Rand in adversity, and threw the protection of his name around the early friend of his college career.

John Rand, a grandson of his, has been for some years an artist of note in London.

ISAAC RIDDLE, ESQ.

THIS gentleman, for many years an active public-spirited citizen of this town, was extensively engaged in the lumber trade, and one of the first proprietors of navigation on Merrimac river. He superintended the building of the locks and canals belonging to the "Union Lock and Canal Company." In connexion with Maj. Caleb Stark, he built and owned the first canal-boat that ever floated on the waters of the Merrimac. It was named the Experiment, was built at Bedford Centre, and drawn three miles, on wheels, to the Basswood Landing, so called by forty yoke of oxen, at which place it was launched in presence of the town's people, who met on the occasion to witness the novelty of the day. It was loaded and went to Boston, and the following notice is taken from the Boston Centinel of 1812:—

"Arrived from Bedford, N. H., Canal-Boat Experiment, Isaac Riddle, Captain, via. Merrimac River and Middlesex Canal."

Upon her arrival at Boston, she was received by many cheers and the firing of canon. From this, commenced a large and extensive inland navigation on the Merrimac, until 1845, when interrupted by rail-roads.

He built factories at Souhegan, afterwards called Riddle's

Village, where, in company with his sons, Wm. P., James and Isaac, under the name of I. Riddle & Sons, he carried on an extensive manufacture of Cotton, Nails and Wool, until the establishment was destroyed by fire, in 1829.

He filled many offices, having been civil magistrate and representative of the town. After his third marriage, he resided in Quincy, Mass., where he died, [See Genealogy.] His remains were removed to Bedford, and buried in the family tomb.

HON. JOHN VOSE.

THE following sketch is from the Rev. Wm. Cogswell, D. D. :—

“Hon. John Vose, son of Lieut. Samuel Vose, was born in Bedford, N. H., July 10, 1766. He took degree at Dartmouth College, 1795,—one of the best scholars of his class, though it contained such men as Heman Allen, Abijah Bigelow, Luther Jewett, members of Congress; Judah Dana, U. S. Senator, Judge Nichols Emery, and Drs. Samuel Worcester and Thomas Snell. His Commencement exercise was a ‘Philosophical Oration on Thunder-Storms.’ He excelled in mathematics and philosophy. After leaving College, he immediately became Preceptor of the Academy at Atkinson, N. H. For twenty-one years, he had charge of that Institution, which is one of the oldest, and has been one of the most respectable in the State. In 1820, he removed to Pembroke, and became Principal of the Academy in that place, where he continued eleven years. In 1831, he returned to Atkinson, where he spent the remainder of his days.

“In 1801, Mr. Vose was appointed Justice of Peace, of the Quorum of 1815, and was continued in office till his death. He was Senator in the General Court, from the third senatorial district, in 1816. He was for many years Deacon of the church in Atkinson, and at his death, was President of the Board of Trustees of the Academy in that place. He was President of the Merrimac County Temperance Society, from its formation until he left the County, in 1831; and, for many years, was one of the Vice-Presidents of the ‘American Sunday School Union.’ All these trusts, he fulfilled with great propriety, faithfulness and acceptance.

"Mr. Vose published an Oration, delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society, of Dartmouth College, in 1805, and an Oration on the 4th of July, delivered at Bedford, N. H., in 1809; also, an Oration before the Rockingham Agricultural Society, at Derry, in 1813. He published, in 1827, a 'System of Astronomy,' containing 252 pages of octavo size; and also, in 1832, a 'Compendium of Astronomy,' for Common-Schools, of 12mo. form. These are not merely compilations, but original and valuable works.

"Mr. Vose was devout, modest and exemplary, consistent in all his deportment, as a man and a Christian. His last illness was a gradual decline, and he died, much lamented, April 3d, 1840, at the age of 74, in the peace and hope of the gospel. He has left a wife and five children. At his funeral, a very appropriate discourse was delivered by Rev. John Kelley, of Hampstead, from Acts viii. 2: 'And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.'"

JOHN WALLACE, ESQ.

REMOVED to Bedford, from Londonderry, in 1756, having previously obtained a lot of land in this town, and commenced a settlement on the farm now occupied by Thomas Bursiel. He was a man of firmness and decision, having been called to sustain many important offices in town. Previous to the Revolution, he held a commission under the crown. The instrument is still in possession of the family, and a copy of it is here given for the curiosity of the reader. It is in good penmanship, and bears the great seal of State.

"Province of New Hampshire.

"GEORGE THE THIRD, By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

[L. S.] To John Wallace of Bedford, within our Province aforesaid, Yeoman, Greeting:

"Know you that We, reposing special Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Skill and Integrity, Have, by and with the Advice of our Trusty and well-beloved John Wentworth, Esq., our Captain-General, Governor and Commander-

in-Chief in and over our said Province of New Hampshire, thought fit to constitute and appoint, and by these presents Do constitute and appoint you, the said John Wallace, a Coroner within the said Province. To have and to hold the said office of Coroner, together with all Privileges, Fees, Perquisites and Advantages, to the same belonging, or in any wise appertaining, during our Pleasure. In Testimony whereof, We have caused the public Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness our aforesaid Governor and Commander-in-Chief the 29th day of March, in the ninth year of our Reign, Annoque Domini, 1769.

J. WENTWORTH.

“By his Excellency’s Command,

T. ATKINSON, Jr., *Sec.*”

“*Province of New Hampshire*, 12th Dec. 1770.

“Then the above-named John Wallace personally appeared and took oath and subscribed the respective Oaths appointed by Act of Parliament, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy ; also, the Oaths of Office.

“Before us,

THEODORE ATKINSON, } *Comm’rs.*
JONATHAN WARNER, }

But although Mr. Wallace held an important office under the King, he was among the foremost in sustaining the rights and liberties of the people during the Revolutionary struggle. Such was the excitement in the public mind at that trying period, that in some instances, the people, taking the matter into their own hands, administered what is now called “Lynch-Law,” to those whom they suspected of being inimical to the cause of the Colonies and favorable to the King.

It is related of Mr. Wallace, (the anecdote shows his influence at the time,) that one of these lawless assemblages being collected at a house on Amherst plain, a house then occupied by the Hon. J. K. Smith, for the purpose of examining suspicious persons, a gentleman of the legal profession was placed upon the hogshead for interrogation, and proving somewhat obstinate, was about to suffer violence, when John Wallace, though a strong Whig, kindly interposed, and, by his influence, saved the person’s life.

AUNT SPRAGUE.

THERE is a plain and unpretending head-stone in the burying-ground at Stevens' Corner, in the west part of this town, which marks the resting-place of Mrs. *Hannah Sprague*, wife of Benjamin Sprague. She was the daughter of Thomas Barnes, and grand-daughter of John Barnes, of Hingham, Mass., one of the original grantees of Bedford. She was born in Merrimac. She came to this town with her husband, who was a native of Billerica, Mass. They were among the first settlers here.

They lived for a great many years upon the farm now owned by Leonard C. French, Esq.; indeed, Mr. Sprague first cleared the woods from off this lot. All his numerous family were born here. Their children have all removed from amongst us. Many of them are, with their respected parents, numbered with the dead. One son, Dr. *Alden Sprague*, lately died at Little-Rock, Arkansas, where he had resided for a long time, and was highly respected as an able and excellent physician, and an honest and honorable man. The mother was a superior, an extraordinary woman. Nobody, who lived in the "West Parish," or near "Chestnut-hills," forty years ago, can have forgotten her.

The writer of this notice, whose memory of events extends over something more than half a century, and whose lot it has been to have known personally as many men and women as perhaps almost any individual of his age, cannot now call to mind so rare a specimen of active benevolence, of devotion to the welfare of others, of self-sacrificing and unremitting efforts in the cause of humanity, as was daily exhibited in the life of that amiable and excellent woman and relative, whom everybody delighted to call *Aunt Sprague*.

It is all but impossible to present to the mind of one of this generation the actual condition of those who dwelt in the neighborhood of this woman fifty or sixty years since. The settlers were then in the midst of a forest. There were no roads, no bridges, no carriages. Families lived miles apart. And yet sickness and death often came among them. In the event of any sudden illness or serious accident, even within the memory of him who pens these lines, it was exceedingly difficult to procure the aid of a physician. We could, indeed, get Dr. Goodrich of Merrimac, or Dr. McMul-

len of New Boston, or even Dr. Gove of Goffstown, if a horse and a rider who knew the way to their respective residences, could be found, to send for one of these worthy gentlemen. But what was to come of the suffering party, while the messenger was riding from ten to a dozen miles, through the woods, and hunting, first for the doctor, and then for the doctor's horse; and while the doctor himself was returning through this long and devious track? With ordinary good luck, in the most favorable times, when the streams were not so much swollen as to prevent the fording, when no trees had been blown down and across the paths to hinder us, when we found the doctor, and caught his horse readily, it required more time, and more personal labor and exposure, to get these services, than it would now, by the aid of the magnetic telegraph and steam power, to procure the best skill of the profession from the city of Boston, a distance of fifty miles or more.

But what became of the patient during these dreadful delays? Why, they sent for *Aunt Sprague*. And she *always* came. No matter what was the weather, or what the time, — wet or dry, hot or cold, winter or summer, in snow or rain, in sunshine or storm, early or late, night or day, she came. Everybody sent for her, and she always came. She has crossed the dark forest, between her residence and Chestnut-hills, hundreds of times, on foot, upon such errands of mercy. Once she went, at great peril, after a very heavy fall of snow. It was in the night, when she heard of the distress and suffering of a neighboring woman. Nothing could restrain her from making an effort to afford the aid so much and so speedily required. Taking a lantern, and putting on her snow-shoes, she was enabled, with the aid of her husband, to reach the bedside of her friend, and probably to be the means of saving her life. Her manner was so bland, so soft, so quiet, that one felt her soothing influence the moment she entered the door of the sick-room. She knew so well what to say, and when and how to say it, that she at once gained your confidence, and you submitted to all she prescribed. Nobody could reconcile you to your condition, as a patient, half so well as she could. From the hand of no other would you as readily receive the nauseating and sickening, though urgently necessary, apothecary's draught. And *she* would remain with you after the doctor had left you. She would raise your aching head, cool your excited and

feverish brow, and watching over you with the vigilance of a mother, she would minister to every want, never leaving you until she could perceive undoubted symptoms of returning health. And this service she rendered, and these duties she performed, over and over and over again, for everybody in the vicinity where her lot was cast, for no other earthly compensation or reward, except the gratification of relieving the suffering of her friends, and of doing good in her day and generation. She died at a very advanced age, over eighty, very suddenly, having suffered herself very little from ill health.

GENEALOGIES OF OLD BEDFORD FAMILIES.

ABBOTT. *George Abbott*, ancestor of a numerous progeny, emigrated, as tradition says, from Yorkshire, England, about 1640, and was among the first settlers in Andover, in 1643, and a proprietor. In 1647, he married Hannah Chandler, daughter of Wm. and Annis Chandler, by whom he had eleven children.

John, son of George, married Sarah Barker, by whom he had nine children.

Ephraim, son of John, married Sarah Hunt, and had eleven children.

Ephraim, son of Ephraim, Amherst, N. H., married Mary Abbott, and afterwards Hannah Kneeland, and had seven children.

Ephraim, (Dea..) son of the last named, born at Andover, Mass., 1752, married Dorothy Stiles, and had children, Sarah, Dorothy, Samuel, and Ephraim. After residing in Deering, Greenfield, and Mt. Vernon, he removed to Bedford, about 1799. He died in 1828, aged 86.

Sarah, daughter of Dea. Ephraim, married Dea. Jonathan Rand. She was born 1787; died 1848.

Dorothy, daughter of Dea. Ephraim, born 1772, married David Abbott, Windham, N. H. She died in 1822.

Ephraim, son of Dea. Ephraim, born, 1780.

Samuel, son of Dea. Ephraim, born 1777, settled in Middleborough, Mass., 1803, afterwards in Chester, and removed to Bedford, 1827. He now resides in Antrim, having been in the ministry fifty years. He married Sarah Rand, and had nine children, as follows. Samuel, born 1799, died 1800; Ephraim, born 1801; Sally G., born 1804; Mille R., born 1807, died 1848; Hepzibah, N., born 1809, died 1841; Samuel W., born 1812; Dorothy S., born 1813; John R., born 1817; S. Gano, born 1819, now in the ministry.

[*Note.*—All the children, and nearly all the grandchildren of Rev. John Rand, and also those of Dea. Ephraim Abbott, have become hopefully pious.]

ADAMS. *Rev. John Adams* was minister in Durham, N. H., and also practised Medicine. Graduated Harvard College. 1745, died 1792. He was at one time, instrumental in saving the life of James Sullivan, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts, at Saco, when attacked with bilious colic. He moved to Washington Plantation, Newfield, Maine, about the close of the Revolutionary War. He practised medicine and preached, till he died, June 4, 1792, aged 66. His wife, Hannah Chesley, survived him until March, 1814, when she died, aged 75.

John, son of the above, born in Durham, April 20, 1765.

John, son of second John, born in Newfield, Maine, Nov. 11, 1792. Married Mary, daughter of Joshua Small, Esq., of Limington, Maine, June 6, 1821. She died of spotted fever, Oct. 19, 1821. He married Sept. 26, 1822, Sarah Dutch, by whom he had Margaret Ilsley, born Nov. 25, 1825, and Sarah Dutch, born Nov. 11, 1729. His second wife died March 12, 1830, aged 32. He married Catharine, daughter of Samuel Chandler, Esq., of Bedford, Jan 11, 1838, by whom he had Samuel Chandler, born June 16, 1840. He moved to Bedford, Feb. 9, 1841. Catharine, his wife, died Feb. 21, 1849, aged 40. April 23, 1850, he married Lavina, daughter of Joseph Patten, Esq., Bedford.

AIKEN. *Edward Aiken*, with his wife, Barbara, came from the North of Ireland, and settled in Londonderry, at an early period, where they spent the residue of their lives, and died at an advanced age; Barbara, in August, 1744, and Edward in Nov. 1847, and were buried in the old graveyard in Derry, leaving their only child, Nathaniel, who was born, probably in Ireland, May 14, 1696.

Nathaniel, son of Edward, married Margaret Cockran, of Londonderry, Dec. 1, 1726. He died in July, 1782, aged 86, and Margaret, his wife, in 1788, sixty-two years after marriage. They had issue, — Edward, born Sept. 3, 1729, died 1808; John, born Nov. 18, 1728; Ellen, born Nov. 1, 1732; Nathaniel, born May 31, 1732; Jane, born 1734; Christian, born May 1, 1736; James, born Oct. 4, 1738; Ninian, born March 3, 1741; William, born Feb. 20, 1743; Susannah, born Feb. 23, 1745; Thomas, born Feb. 27, 1747; Margaret, born Sept. 3, 1750.

John, second son of Nathaniel, was married in 1758, to Annis Orr, eldest daughter of John and Margaret Orr, born in the North of Ireland, March 28, 1734, whence she removed with her parents, at an early age, to Bedford. They had issue, — John, born Feb. 15, 1759, died Feb. 20, 1811; Phineas, born Dec. 16, 1761, died April, 1836; Margaret, born May 16, 1764, died March, 1840; Susannah, born Feb. 2, 1766; Annis, born March 20, 1769, died, June, 1839; Sarah, born April 28, 1771; Mary, born June 16, 1773; Jane, born Feb. 12, 1776. John and Annis Aiken, the parents, remained in Londonderry, some eight or ten years after marriage, when they removed, with their [four eldest children, to Bedford. John died April 7, 1793, aged 64, and Annis died Sept. 1813, aged 79. He became an elder, probably in Londonderry.

John, eldest son of John and Annis, was married Dec. 25, 1781, to Mary McAfee, of Bedford, who was born May 16, 1763. They resided in Bedford at the time of their marriage, and for about ten years after, when they removed to Merri-mac, where they spent the residue of their days. They had numerous issue, and died, John, Feb. 20, 1811, aged 52, and Mary, April 12, 1828, aged 64.

Phineas, second son of John and Annis, was married Dec. 8, 1789, to Elizabeth Patterson, of Amherst, and had issue, — Nancy P., born Sept. 16, 1790; Lucy, born July 15, 1792, died Nov. 23, 1831; Betsey, born Sept. 28, 1794, died Oct. 21, 1843; John, born Jan. 30, 1797; Silas, born May 14, 1799; Charles, born March 2, 1802; David, born June 7, 1804; Sarah Annis, born Dec. 31, 1806; Phineas, born April 22, 1809, died Sept. 10, 1813. Phineas, the father, was an elder in the church, and resided in Bedford, from early childhood, till his death, which occurred April 18, 1836. His widow still survives. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Nancy P., daughter of Phineas and Elizabeth Aiken, was married Nov. 22, 1809, to Jonathan Aiken, of Goffstown, N. H. Their children were, — James, born Nov. 10, 1810; David, born April 10, 1812, died Sept. 1818; Elizabeth, born March 12, 1814; John C., born March 12, 1816; Charles, March 13, 1818; Jonathan, Oct. 12, 1819; Nancy, Sept. 14, 1821; Henry M., born Sept. 10, 1823; Jane, born April 12, 1826; Silas, June 12, 1829, died 1849; Walter H., September 28, 1831; George Edward, born January 1, 1834.

Of the children of Jonathan and Nancy P., James married Caroline G. Clark, Brattleborough, Vt.; Elizabeth married H. D. Pinkerton, Derry, N. H., and has had four children, one having died; John C. married Sarah A. King, and has one child; Charles married Cordelia B. Hyde, and has had five children; Jonathan married Harriet C. Merrill, and has one child; Nancy married Isaac N. Metcalf, and has two children; Jane married John P. Tenny, and has three children. Jonathan, the father, died in Indiana, Aug. 28, 1839.

Lucy, daughter of Phineas, and Elizabeth, was married in 1816, to Fred. A. Mitchell, M. D., of Bedford; they had children, — Phineas, born April 7, 1817, died April, 1826; Charles F., born Nov. 16, 1818; Elizabeth A., born July 29, 1821; John Orr, born Dec. 6, 1824; Martha T., born Oct. 16, 1826; George H., born May 12, 1828; Henry A., born Oct. 8, 1830. Lucy, the mother, died Nov. 23, 1831.

Charles F., son of Dr. Mitchell, married Lucy A. Swan, of Peterborough, N. H., January 13, 1848, and has one child. Charles F. died 1850.

Betsey, third daughter of Phineas and Elizabeth, was married, Sept 30, 1818, to Isaac Riddle, Bedford. Their children were, Ann Elizabeth, born Feb. 18, 1820, died Jan., 1850; Isaac N., born Aug. 12, 1822; Jane A., born July 6, 1825; John A., born Sept 8, 1826; Silas A., born July 22, 1831. Betsey, the mother, died at Bedford, Oct. 21, 1843, aged 49.

Jane A., daughter of Isaac and Betsey Riddle, was married, Oct. 18, 1849, to B. F. White, of Manchester, N. H.

John, son of Phineas and Elizabeth Aiken, was married Nov. 14, 1826, to Harriet Russell Adams, of Hanover. They had children, — Charles Augustus, born Oct. 30, 1827; Harriet Adams, born Feb. 25, 1829; John, born April 28, 1830, died July, 1831. Harriet, the mother, died at Columbia, S. C., July 30, 1830, aged 35. John next married, May 28, 1832, Mary Means Appleton, of Amherst. Their children are, William A., born April 18, 1833; John F., born Oct. 31, 1835. Mary E., born Feb. 5, 1838; Alfred L., born May 13, 1840; Jane A., born Jan 5, 1845. The family of J. Aiken, Esq., reside at Lowell, Mass. Harriet A., the eldest daughter, was married June 1, 1848, to Rev. William H. Lord, Montpelier, Vt., and has one child.

Silas, son of Phineas and Elizabeth Aiken, was married March 24, 1829, to Mary Osgood, Salem. Mass. They had children, — Edward, born April 10, 1830; Mary Elizabeth,

born July 9, 1832; Susan Endicott, June 19, 1835. Mary, the mother, died Feb. 8, 1836, aged 32. Silas next married, May 24, 1837, Sophia Parsons, of Amherst, Mass., daughter of Rev. David Parsons, D. D. Their children have been, Henry Homer, born Jan. 26, 1843, died Sept. 1, 1846; Harriet Sophia, born Jan. 12, 1848. Silas was pastor of the Congregational Church in Amherst, N. H., from March, 1829, to March, 1837; of the Park St. Church, Boston, from March, 1837, to July, 1848, and at the present time of the church in Rutland, Vt.

Charles, son of Phineas and Elizabeth, was married, June 1839, to Adaline Willey, of Campton, N. H. Their children have been, Charles Edward, born July, 1840; Adaline E., born March, 1842; William Henry, Oct., 1844; George Franklin, born March, 1848; a daughter, born Jan. 1850. In addition, they had, in 1846 and '47, two children, who severally died on the day of their birth. The family reside in Wisconsin.

David, son of Phineas and Elizabeth, was married Oct. 24, 1844, to Lydia W. Root, Greenfield, Mass., who died, Nov. 13, 1845. He next married, Nov. 28, 1848, Mary E. Adams, of Amherst, Mass. They reside at Greenfield, Mass.

Sarah Annis, daughter of Phineas and Elizabeth, was married, Oct. 20, 1829, to William P. Black, of Manchester, Vt. They have had children, — Harriet A., born Feb. 15, 1831, died April 1837; James P., born Aug. 26, 1833; Sarah E., born Feb. 19, 1837; Charles E., born Feb. 13, 1840; William A., born Dec. 30, 1842; Helen M. born Nov. 6, 1848. They reside at Manchester, Vt.

Margaret, daughter of John and Annis, was married, 1787, to Josiah Chandler, then of Goffstown, N. H. About the year 1799, they removed to Pomfret, Vt. They had seven children. They lived and died in Pomfret, Josiah in 1837, his wife in 1840.

Susannah, second daughter of John and Annis, was married in 1790, to Jonathan Barron, of Merrimac. They removed soon after marriage, to Rockingham, Vt., where they resided till after the birth of their youngest child. They then removed to Nunda, Livingston Co., N. Y., where they now reside. They have had eight children.

Annis, third daughter of John and Annis, was married, in 1811, to Abner Campbell, of Londonderry, N. H. She died without children, June, 1839, aged 70.

Sarah, fourth daughter of John and Annis, was married,

1791, to Samuel Gilchrist, of Goffstown. They had nine children, of whom Sophronia was married to Mark Burnham, Hamilton, U. C., and Margaret A., to Dr. Daniel Little, Goffstown. Samuel, the father, died Aug. 31, 1818. His widow married, April 28, 1822, Capt. John Smith, Goffstown, for her second husband, with whom she still lives.

Mary, daughter of John and Annis, was married, 1814, to William Reed, of Litchfield N. H. They had one son, Phineas, who is married.

Jane, youngest daughter of John and Annis, was married Nov. 17, 1817, to James Aiken of Goffstown. He died without children, May 7, 1809. Jane next married, April 11, 1831, Rev. Walter Harris, of Dunbarton, N. H., who died Dec. 25, 1843, leaving her, the second time, a widow.

AIKEN. *James*, was born in 1745. He came from Londonderry, N. H., to Bedford, about 1760. His parents came from Ireland, were of Scotch descent, and settled in Londonderry. His mother became a widow, and married Robert Riddle, who removed to Colrain, Mass. He was a tanner by trade, and settled on the farm of Robert Riddle, now owned by Capt. John McAllister. He was Captain of the Militia Company in Bedford, and drafted the soldiers from this town who served in the Revolutionary war. He married Margaret Waugh, Nov. 17, 1762. He died of a cancer in his neck, May 13, 1787, aged 42. He left a good estate. Margaret, his wife, was daughter of Robert Waugh, who left Ireland, July 22, 1737, and landed at Boston, Nov. 1, 1727. She was born Sept. 23, 1741. After the death of her husband, she lived upon the homestead, and brought up the family. The children were: Ann, Margaret C., Robert, Sarah, Andrew, Ruhannah, James, Peggy, Hannah, Achsah, Olive. Mrs. Aiken was a woman of great perseverance, possessed an amiable character, and was highly esteemed. For many years, she was a member of the Presbyterian Church. She died, Sept. 1, 1838, aged 97. She was buried in the family tomb of Isaac Riddle, Esq.

Ann, eldest child of James and Margaret Aiken, was born in 1764; married Isaac Riddle, Esq., June 5, 1788; died April 6, 1804.

Margaret C., born June 10, 1766; died Jan. 24, 1768.

Robert, born Sept 28, 1767; died Feb. 22, 1786.

Sarah, born March 28, 1769; she married John Gilchrist, of Goffstown, Aug. 24, 1790.

Andrew, born Dec. 26, 1770. Settled upon the farm adjoining that of his father, now owned by Wm. McPherson. In 1797, he married Martha, daughter of Wm. McAllister. They removed to Newport, N. H., where they now reside.

Ruhannah, born Sept. 12, 1772; died Oct. 8, 1778.

James, born Oct. 3, 1774; married Mary Kennedy, and was drowned in Merrimac river, June 12, 1823, aged 49. He left two sons, Benjamin F., and Robert, who reside in Goffstown.

Peggy, born June 3, 1776; married Thomas Parker, Sept. 10, 1795, and settled at Piscataquog Village; afterwards removed to Candia, and died in 1825, aged 49.

Hannah, born March 27, 1778; married Wm. Parker, Esq., of Goffstown, Dec. 17, 1800, and died Sept. 30, 1818, aged 40.

Jane, born Sept. 4, 1780; married Capt. John McAllister, March 13, 1800. They reside on the homestead.

Achsah, born March 27, 1782; died July 26, 1806, aged 26.

Olive, born Sept. 19, 1785; died Feb. 15, 1806, aged 21.

ATWOOD. *John Atwood* emigrated with two brothers, from England to this country, and settled in Plymouth, Mass. He married and had children, — Zaccheus Waite, Isaac, Hannah and Lydia. He enlisted as a soldier, in the French and Indian War, and was killed in 1754.

Isaac, son of John, was born in Plymouth, June 28, 1747. He came to Bedford, about 1778. He was married in 1770, to Hannah Chubbuck, and had nine children, — Isaac, Hannah, Lydia, David, John, Submit W., Thomas, Stephen and Zaccheus. He married for his second wife, Lydia Whitmarsh, of Abington, Mass., in 1800, with whom he lived till his death, in 1836.

Isaac, son of Isaac, born in Plymouth, June 11, 1772, was married to Betsey Chandler, Dec. 27, 1799. Had nine children, — Elijah, Hannah, Eliza, James, Eunice, Lydia, George Orr, Sarah, Harriet, and Philomela.

Hannah, daughter of Isaac, Sen'r, born Nov. 11, 1774, married Samuel Smith, Feb. 15, 1793.

Lydia, born Nov. 12, 1776, married Alexander Patten.

David, born March 24, 1779, married Mary Bell, Sept. 21, 1702. They had children, — Hannah, Joseph, Mary, Olive, John, Daniel Gordon, David, Jane, Clarinda, and Isaac Brooks. Of these, Hannah, born Dec. 11, 1802, still lives in Bedford. Joseph, born Feb 13, 1804, married Esther M. Weston, Nashua, Feb. 11, 1834. In 1841, he removed to the State of New York, and thence, in 1849, to Peoria Co., Ill., where he now resides. Mary, born July 27, 1805, still lives in Bedford. Olive, born Feb. 8, 1807, married Thomas Bursiel, Jan. 14, 1841. John, born Dec. 23, 1808, married Clarissa Treadway, Hamilton, N. Y., Sept. 4, 1832 ; he resided in Hamilton, till 1848, when he removed to Albany, where he now resides. Daniel G. born April 12, 1812, married Margaret A. Barr, of Bedford, May 2, 1837, and had five children, Eliza M., Caroline, Julia Ann, Daniel Webster, and Clara ; he still lives in Bedford. David, born Dec. 15, 1815, married Mary Ann Poe, Madison, Wis., Aug. 23, 1849, where he now lives. Jane G., born, Aug. 21, 1819, married Edward Barr, Bedford, where she now lives. Clarinda, born July 12, 1822, died Jan. 22, 1838. Isaac B., born April 19, 1824, died May 28, 1837.

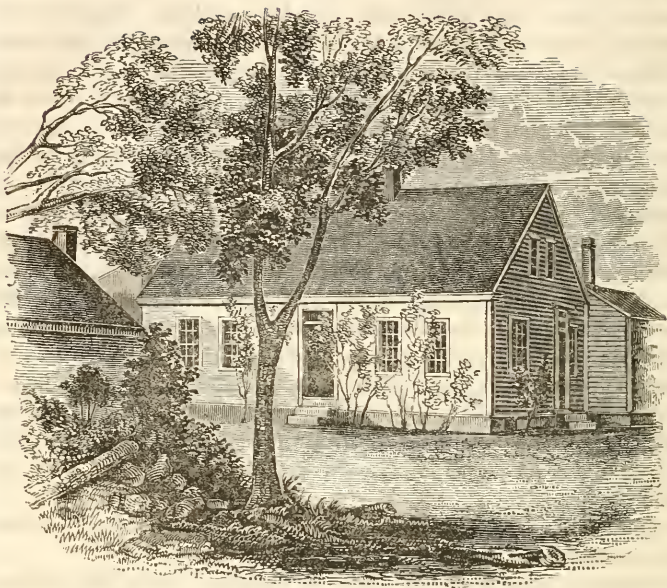
John, son of Isaac, Sen'r, born July, 1781, died Feb. 27, 1804, unmarried.

Submit W., daughter of Isaac, Sen'r, born July 5, 1783, married James Darrah, Sept. 16, 1802.

Thomas, born July 22, 1785, married, in 1808, Miss Susan Holmes, of Londonderry, and had eleven children, — Albert, Elvira, Susan, Harriet, Sarah, Thomas, Martha, Jane, Charles, Catharine, Hannah, Frances, and Ann Elizabeth. He removed to Nunda, New York, in 1840, where he now resides.

Stephen, born May 19, 1790, married Emily S. Lamb, of Shrewsbury, Mass., and had six children. He now resides in Nashua.

Zaccheus, born, August 31, 1792, lives in Bedford, unmarried.



[Dwelling-House of the late Nathan Barnes, Esq., now owned by Gardner Nevins, Esq.]

BARNES. *Thomas*, son of Rowland, came from Hingham, Norfolk County, England, to Hingham, Mass., in 1637. His son married Anne Canterbury. John, their son, married Elizabeth Vinton. From them sprung nearly all of the name in New England. Thomas, son of John and Elizabeth Vinton, came to New Hampshire, and commenced a farm in what is now Merrimac. He married Rachel Barrett for his first wife, and Susannah Cummings for the second. His children were Asa, Thomas, Sarah, Lydia, Hannah, Betsy, John and Cornelius, all by his first wife. Asa settled in this town, on the land now owned by Gardner Nevins, Esq., and married Esther Richardson. Their children were Asa, Nathan, Polly, Anna, Cornelius, Thomas and Josiah. Nathan married Anna Remick, of Newburyport, Mass., and by her had children, — Clarissa, Isaac, Esther Richardson, Enoch,

Mary West, David Patten, Nancy Jane, Sarah Ann, and Henry Winslow. They have all removed from Bedford, except Esther, who married Gardner Nevins, Esq., and now resides on the land granted to John Barnes, one of the original grantees of the town. Of the other children of Nathan Barnes, Clarissa married Isaac Parker French, and now resides in Danvers, Mass. Isaac O. married Hannah Trask Woodbury, and resides in Boston. He was for some time Naval Officer of the Customs for the District of Boston and Charlestown, Mass., and afterwards, for several years, U. S. Marshal for Massachusetts. Enoch married Susan Rebecca Ayer, and resides in Mississippi. Mary married William Bradford Tuttle, and resided in Baltimore County until her death, in 1843. David Patten married Sarah Weston, and resides in St. Louis, Mo. Nancy Jane married Rodney G. Boutwell, and Sarah Ann married John Richardson; they both live in Lyndeborough, N. H. Henry Winslow married Sarah Lamb, and resides in Wisconsin. Nathan Barnes died, July 9th, 1825; Anne, his widow, died Nov. 30th, 1848.

A member of this family, while making a rapid excursion in England, in the summer of 1850, had the pleasure of visiting Hingham, Norfolk County, for a day or two, where he gathered what was to be learned of the early history of his ancestors in the old country. Upon leaving Hingham, he was kindly presented with the following certificate, which is published verbatim, as prepared by the very venerable and excellent magistrate whose signature it bears.

"Extracts from apparently the oldest Register Book of the Parish of Hingham, in the County of Norfolk, England, commencing in the year 1600."

"Marriages Anno do: 1610.

"ROWLAND BARNES and Alice Coop wer married ye 21st day of October.

"Baptiseings Anno do: 1612.

"Ellen daughter of Rowland Barnes was bapt. the 14th of Februarye.

"Buirials Anno do: 1615.

"Alice the wife of Rowland Barnes was buried the sixt. of Julye.

"Baptisings Anno do : 1617.

"THOMAS, the son of Rowland Barnes was baptised the
"second of November.

"Baptiseings Anno do : 1622.

"Grace the daughter of Peter Barnes, was baptised the
"28th day of April.

"Baptiseings An. do : 1634.

"None.

"Burials in the same year.

"ROWLAND BARNES was buried the eleventh day of Julye.

"I attest that the above are true extracts and true copies.

"PH : JAS : CASE, Notary Public,

"82d year of his age."

"Hingham, 25th August, 1850."

There is no person of the name of Barnes now living in Hingham, although the name is a very common one in London and other parts of England. After the most minute and faithful examination of the church records, made by the above aged magistrate, assisted by his accomplished daughter-in-law, Mrs. Gilman, no other notice or memoranda could be found, which seemed to refer to this family. It is, however, exceedingly gratifying to recover even this account, meagre as it is, from authentic records, so very ancient and so liable to have been destroyed.

The writer of this brief family sketch attended divine service in the old village church, standing in the midst of the burying-ground in Hingham. It is very ancient — evidently the work of the middle ages — built of stone, and so large, that, with its extensive nave and choir, it seems almost worthy the name of a cathedral. It has resisted the storms and the tempests of centuries, and is now, in its exterior, in a perfect state of preservation. Some very fine pieces of statuary, in the inside, were marred and broken by the army of Cromwell, during the civil war and Revolution, in which he was the successful leader. Indeed this beautiful church was converted into a stable for horses, by the Protector, as was the Old South, in Boston, by the army of George III., during our Revolution.

Thousands of our New England people trace their origin to this same Hingham, in Norfolk. Among the families well known with us, the *Lincolns*, the *Cushings*, and the *Gilmans*, are from this place. Our late respected Governor, John Taylor Gilman, was of the Hingham stock. He has two near relatives, who still reside near the old church. Samuel H. L. N. Gilman, Esq., and his brother, Col. Gilman, of the British army. Both of them bear a strong family resemblance to our late Governor, and they are both of them highly educated and true English gentlemen, of whose relationship the Governor might well have been proud in his best days.

BARR. *James Barr*, born 1704, in Ballymony, County of Antrim, Ireland; married Ann McPherson, and emigrated to America in 1740, with three uncles of the name of Barr, — John, Samuel and Gabriel. James settled in Londonderry, and had five children, — John, Sarah, James, Samuel and Molly. They removed to Goffstown.

Samuel, son of James, born 1754; married Margaret Boies, and settled in Henniker, whence he removed to Bedford. They had children, — James, Thomas, Ann, John, Samuel, William and Robert.

Thomas, son of Samuel, born 1784; married Abigail Palmer, and had eight children, — Edward, Margaret, Ann, Elbridge, George, Caroline, Thomas and Robert Palmer.

John, son of Samuel, born 1789; married Nancy Dunlap for his first wife, Sophia Richardson for his second, and Clarissa Eaton for his third, by which wives he had eleven children, — Nancy, John, Matthew, Samuel, Maria, Julia, Ann, David, James Rufus, Clinton and Mary.

Edward, son of Thomas, born Sept. 14, 1813; married Jane G. Atwood, and had four children, — Emeline, Olive Jane, Harriet Griffin and Lewis Cass.

JOHN BARR, one of the uncles that came over with James, was in the Siege of Londonderry — a soldier under King William — and endured all the sufferings and distress of that memorable time. The following circumstance is related of him: —

After the Siege, he started for home, overcome with weakness and faintness. In the evening he came to a house, went

in, and requested to stay all night. The woman of the house said she could not entertain him. "But," says he, "I have got in, and unless you are stronger than I, I shall stay." He noticed two fowls roasting by the fire. The woman became very pleasant, and full of conversation. She said she wanted to make a rope, and asked if he could assist. He said he could. She got her flax and crank, and they went to work. He twisted and stepped back toward the door. She held the flax and rope. When he got to the door, he asked if it was not long enough. She said no, and he stepped out of the door; at which she threw the rope out and shut the door, fastened it, and put his gun and pack out of the window. Well, thought he, I am outwitted; but he travelled on, and seeing an old deserted mill, he thought he would turn in there for the night, and he concluded the safest place to sleep would be in the hopper. He had not been there long, before he saw a light approaching the mill, and soon there entered a man and woman, with two cooked fowls and a silver tankard of beer. The man and woman being very familiar, the soldier thought he would like to see what was going on, and raising his head for this purpose, the hopper fell, and came down with a crash. The two persons fled, leaving the fowls and tankard of beer. Our hero got up, made a good supper of the fowls, put the remainder in his pouch, and with morning departed on his journey. The tankard he brought to Londonderry, N. H.

BARRON. *Moses Barron*, removed from Chelmsford to Bedford, about 1740, and settled on the place now owned by Capt. John Patten. By reference to the early records of the town, we find he occupied a prominent place in society. He was a large land-owner, possessing about 3000 acres in Bedford, Merrimac and Amherst. He died in 1770. His estate was the first settled by the Probate Court. He had two wives, by whom he had sixteen children, whose descendants are scattered through different States of the Union. Silas Barron, third child by his first wife, was the first male child born in town. He removed to the then Province of Maine, his occupation being that of surveyor of land. He never married, and died about 1816, aged 76.

BELL. *John Bell*, born in Ireland; came to Bedford, about 1736. In 1739, he was followed by his wife, with four children,—John, Joseph, Mary and Susanna. They lived some time in a log-house, in what is now called the “Old Orchard,” and then moved to the “Thirds,” so called, near where Rodney McLaughlin now resides. His gravestone is seen in the old graveyard.

John, son of the above, born in Ireland, 1732; came with his mother to this town when seven years old. He married Jane Carr, who soon died, without children. He then married Sarah Bell, of Londonderry, and had eleven children,—Joseph, John, Rachel, Susanna and Mary, the rest dying in infancy.

Joseph, son of first John, left town and settled in Halifax, Mass.

Mary, daughter of first John, married Gawn Riddle.

Susanna, daughter of first John, was lame, and lived single.

Joseph, son of second John, born April 17, 1757; married Mary Houston, June 4th, 1776, and had nine children,—Sarah, John, Mary, Isaac, Susanna, Joseph, David, James and Jacob.

John, son of second John, married Mary Logan, and died early. They had one child, which was drowned.

Rachel and *Susanna*, daughters of second John, died young and unmarried.

Mary, daughter of second John, married Daniel Gould, and had three children,—John B., Lavina and Daniel G.

Sarah, daughter of second Joseph, born April 4, 1777, and married Daniel Platts, May 11th, 1787, and had three children,—Susanna, Joseph and Daniel Dodge. Susanna and Daniel D. died young, and Joseph is not supposed to be living. Dec 26th, 1815, she married Oliver Townsend, and had one son, Timothy, and is now a widow, residing with her son, in Bedford.

John, son of second Joseph, born Feb. 23, 1779; married Peggy Brown of Antrim, 1801, where he still resides.

Mary, daughter of second Joseph, born April 12, 1781; married David Atwood, Sept. 21, 1802, with whom she still lives.

Isaac, born April 9th, 1783; married Susanna Hutchinson, Feb. 3, 1804, and after living in this town a few years, moved to Fishersfield, N. H., and died in 1829.

Susanna, born Sept. 25th, 1785; died in infancy.

Joseph, born March 21st, 1787. Graduated at Dartmouth College, 1807. Studied law and settled in Haverhill, N. H. About 1821, he married Catharine, daughter of Hon. Mills Olcott, of Hanover. In 1840 he removed to Boston, where he now resides. He is an eminent lawyer, and has been President of the Massachusetts Senate.

David, born Oct. 16, 1789; married Polly Houston, Dec., 1808, and settled in Hillsborough. He died in Bedford, Nov. 27th, 1832.

James, born Jan. 15, 1792; married Mary Barnett, of Amherst, N. H., Sept. 21, 1813, and settled in Amherst; whence he removed, 1831, to Haverhill, N. H., where he now resides. For his second wife, he married Rebecca Weston of Amherst, 1826.

Jacob, born April 30, 1795; married Laura, daughter of Dr. Ezra Bartlett, Haverhill, N. H., where he now resides.

BOYNTON. *William Boynton*, one of the first settlers of Buxton, Me., by trade a blacksmith. There is now in possession of his great-grandson, in Bedford, a steel trap made by him, very ancient, with his mark on the jaws, W. B., which has been handed down through former generations.

William, son of the above, lived in Buxton.

William, son of second William, born in Buxton; married Betsey Whitney, of Standish, Me., and moved to Bromfield, in that State.

William, son of third William, born in Buxton, May 14, 1797. He married, May 17, 1820, Jane, daughter of Capt. Andrew Glendinin, of St. Davids, New Brunswick; her father was born in Londonderry, N. H. William and Jane had eight children, — William J., born at St. Davids, N. B., March 8, 1821; Charlotte A., born at Bow, N. H., June 24, 1824; Mary J., born at Bow, N. H., May 10, 1829; Melissa M., born at Bow, N. H., Jan. 10, 1832; Henry P., born at Bow, N. H., Dec. 1, 1833; Andrew A., born at Merrimac, N. H., Jan. 13, 1839; Robert and Stephen, (twins) born at Merrimac, N. H., July 14, 1841. The twins died Sept. 16, 1841; Wm. J. died April 11, 1843; his wife, Jane, died Oct. 23, 1849, aged 50. Sept. 10, 1850, he married Hannah, widow of Thomas Gamble, of Manchester, N. H., and daughter of Enoch Goodwin. She was born at Londonderry, Nov. 19, 1810.

BURNS. *John Burns* came to America, from Londonderry, Ireland, in 1740. He landed first in Boston, where he resided a few years, and married. Immediately after his marriage, he moved to Bedford, and settled on the farm now owned by George W. Way, where he lived and died, March 26, 1788, aged 77. His wife died soon after their removal to Bedford, July 9, 1745, aged 21, leaving no children. She was buried in the old graveyard, and her gravestone bears the oldest inscription in the yard. For his second wife, he married Anna McQuesten, of Litchfield, N. H., by whom he had three sons and five daughters. She died a short time after her husband, and no inscription records her birth, age or death. Burns was the individual who accompanied James McQuaid to Concord, (Suncook) after corn, at the first settlement of the town, when McQuaid was killed by the Indians. [See page 105.] Burns was not wounded; but his shirt, with seven bullet-holes, testified to his danger.

Robert, son of John, married Molly Smith, and settled in Merrimac.

Margaret, daughter of John, married John McGilvray, Merrimac, and lived and died there.

William, son of John, married Molly Miller, and lived in Bedford a few years, on the Gregg place, then moved to Pomfret, Vt.

Ann, daughter of John, married Elijah Buxton, Merrimac.

Jane and *Sarah*, (twins,) daughters of John. Jane married Wm. Beard, of New Boston; Sarah married James Campbell, of Windham, N. H.

Elizabeth, daughter of John, married James Campbell, of Bedford.

John, son of John, married Elizabeth Moore, and lived in Bedford. He was born Sept. 20, 1759, and died Nov. 30, 1846. Had twelve children, six sons and six daughters. John could say, what few can, — "I had a twin brother and twin sisters, twin children, twin grand-children and twin great-grand-children, twin nieces and twin grand-nieces, and twin grand-nephews; a twin brother-in-law, a twin son-in-law, and am a twin myself."

Esther, daughter of second John, married Benj. Darling, of Shelby, N. Y.

Mary, daughter of second John, married Henry Hale, Merrimac.

Jane and *Sarah*, (twins,) daughters of second John. *Jane* married *Elijah Coan*, of *Shelby, N. Y.*; *Sarah* married *Benj. Darling*, of *N. Y.*, as his second wife, after the death of her sister *Esther*.

Martha, daughter of second John, married *John Kenny*, *New Boston*.

Robert, son of second John, married *Margaret McClary*, *Windham*.

Ann, daughter of second John, married *Daniel McClyde*, *Windham*.

Wyseman C., son of second John, died young.

William, son of second John, died young.

Lucy M., daughter of second John, married *Robert F. Chase*, and lived in *Derry*.

David, son of second John, died young.

Wyseman C., 2d, son of second John, married *Eliza Harris*, *Windham*, and settled in *Bedford*. Had six children,—*Mary E.*, (died young,) *Caleb Pearson*, *Abby J.*, *Thomas Savage*, *Wm. Harris*, *Lucy Ann*.

CHANDLER. *William Chandler*, came to this country from *England*, about the year 1637, and settled in *Roxbury*. He brought with him four small children, *Thomas*, *Hannah*, *John* and *William*. *Sarah* was born after they came here. He died of consumption, *Jan. 19, 1641*. This is supposed to be the origin of the name in this country.

Zachariah, one of the grantees of *Bedford*, then *Narragansett*, No. 5, is supposed to be a descendent of *Thomas*. He signs his name on the record, in the right of his wife's father, *Thomas Bishop*. His son *Thomas*, was among the first settlers of the town, and married *Hannah*, daughter of *Col. John Goffe*, by whom he had four children, three daughters and one son. He then died. His widow afterwards married *Capt. John Bradford*, as his second wife, and settled in *Amherst*, now *Milford*. He was grandfather to the late *Rev. Ephraim P. Bradford*, of *New Boston*. She lived to be ninety three or four years of age. She had four or five children by her second husband. The eldest daughter by the first husband, *Peggy*, married *Dea. Richard Ward*. *Hannah* married *Col. Stephen Peabody*, and *Sally* married *Enos Bradford*; they all settled in *Amherst*, now *Mount Vernon*. *Dea. Ward*

left a large family. They removed, about 1793, to Andover, Vt., and scattered over the country; some into Maine. Of the Peabody family, two, Thomas and John, were doctors. One of the females, Rebecca, was a surgeon doctress, married to Gen. Perley Davis, and settled in Montpelier, Vt. Some of the family settled in Cambridge, on the river Lamoille. Enos Bradford had two daughters and one son, all dead, and family extinct.

Zachariah, only son and youngest child, of Zachariah, was born May 28, 1751. During most of his minority, he resided with his relatives in Roxbury. At a suitable age, he came to reside on, and take the care of his patrimonial estate in Bedford, and before he was twenty-one married Sarah Patten, second daughter of Capt. Samuel Patten, by whom he had two sons and one daughter. He died April 20, 1830, aged almost seventy-nine. Sarah, died Nov. 30, 1842, aged ninety-three years, eight and a half months; She died suddenly, in the full enjoyment of her mental faculties.

Thomas, the oldest son, was born Aug. 10, 1772, and in the fall of 1793, married Susannah, daughter of Matthew McAfee, of Bedford, and settled on the farm he now lives on, and has had four children.

Asenath, daughter of Thomas, married Stephen Kendrick, of Nashville, and has had four children; Franklin, left in March, 1849, for California. Susan, Asenath, and Sarah remain at home.

Sally, daughter of Thomas, married Caleb Kendrick, both dead; left one son, Caleb Chandler Kendrick, now in the Sophomore class, Dartmouth College.

Hannah married Rufus Kendrick, merchant, of Boston, and had four children, two sons and two daughters,—Thomas and Byron, Frances and Mary Augusta. Frances married a Mr. Freeman, merchant, of Boston. Hannah, the mother, died 1850.

Adam, only son of Thomas, was married to Sally McAlaster. They have had three sons and one daughter. The two oldest sons, Henry and Byron, are minors, at home. The youngest, John, is now, Oct. 1850, in the Freshman class in Dartmouth College. The daughter, Sally, died, Feb. 1842, aged two years and eight months.

Samuel, the second son of Zachariah, was born May 28, 1774, and married Margaret Orr, oldest daughter of Hon. John Orr, Nov. 1800. He has always lived on the homestead, part of the original grant of Bedford. He has had seven

children, one of whom died in infancy. Three daughters and three sons lived to mature age.

Mary Jane married, in 1825, Rev. Cyrus Downs, and settled in Canajoharie, N. Y. He died in Feb. 1827. She then married Rev. David P. Smith, in July, 1828, who was settled in Greenfield in this state, and died Oct. 1st, 1850.

Annis married Franklin Moore, Esq., Sept. 2, 1830, and moved to Detroit, Michigan.

Catharine married John Adams, of Newfield, Maine, Dec. 1837. They moved to Bedford, Feb. 1841. She died Feb. 21, 1849, aged forty, leaving one son, now ten years old.

Samuel, jr., was born July 5, 1811; entered Dartmouth College, Sept. 1830. In 1833, he took up his connection, and went to Union College, Schenectady. His appointment for commencement, in 1834, was an English Oration, which he was unable to perform, by reason of sickness. He was taken with a lung fever, in May, 1834, and came home the first of June. In September, he went with his brother and sister to Detroit, in the hope of a better climate, which was delusive. He gradually declined, until March 21, 1835, when he died at Detroit, where his remains now are.

Zacharias, was born Dec. 10, 1813. In September, 1833, he removed to Detroit, Michigan, where he still resides. He married, Dec. 10, 1843, Letitia Grace, daughter of George Douglas, Esq., of New York City. They have only one child living.

John Orr, was born January 1, 1816; entered Dartmouth College, Sept. 1832; graduated in 1836, and entered the Andover Theological Seminary, at the fall term of the same year. He returned home in the Spring of 1837, out of health with weakness of the lungs, and went in September, the same year, to Detroit. Still declining, he left, in November, for Cuba, by way of the Mississippi River, and New Orleans. He stopped a short time at Havana; thence went to Matanzas; thence to Limonare, about twelve miles from the city, where for a short time, he seemed to revive. But his disorder was too firmly seated to be removed. In the fall of 1838, he began to decline rapidly, and died in January, 1839. Dying in a Catholic country, he was denied Christian burial, and his remains were buried on the plantation. They were disinterred, and removed to Bedford, in the winter of 1842, and kindly offered a resting-place in the tomb of Dr. Woodbury, where they still remain.

Sarah, the only daughter of second *Zachariah*, still owns and occupies the house and garden of her father.

The following document is annexed as illustrative of the history of the times:

“*Boston*, Nov. 11, 1740.

“Received of Mr. *Zechariah Chandler*, one hundred and ten pounds, in full, for a Negro Boy, sold and delivered him for my master, *John Jones*.

£110.

WM. MERCHANT, JUN’R.

[Another Family.]

CHANDLER. *Elijah Chandler*, born in *Duxbury*, Mass., married *Eunice Washburn*, of *Kingston*, and removed in 1785, to *Plymouth*. In 1793, he came to *Londonderry*, and in 1802, to *Bedford*, where he settled on the farm now occupied by *Brooks Shattuck*. Dea. *Chandler* died 1831, aged 85, and his wife a short time after, aged 86. They had children, — *Abigail*, *Deborah*, *Elijah*, *Betsey*, *William*, *Eunice* and *Sally*.

Deborah, daughter of *Elijah*, married *George Rider*, who is supposed to have been lost at sea. They had a large family. She was again married, to *Isaac Atwood*.

Betsey married *Isaac Atwood*, and had 9 children.

William, married *Sophia Shepard*; for his second wife, *Rebecca Cobb*. In 1838, he removed to *Nashua*, with a large family, who have been generally employed in the cotton mills. One of them, *Bradford*, a fine lad of 17, lost his life, instantaneously, by a heavy weight falling from an upper loft directly upon his head.

DARRAH. *Robert Darrah* born in the north of Ireland, came to this country about 1738, settled in *Litchfield*, married *Miss J. McKean*, and had children, — *Elizabeth*, *Robert*, *John*, *James*, *Polly*, *Peggy*, *Jane* and *Naomi*. His wife dying, he married *Miss Blood*, and had children, *David* and *Samuel*.

James, son of *Robert*, born in *Litchfield*, 1754, settled in *Bedford*, married *Miss S. Kidder*, and had children, — *Sarah*, *Jane*, *James*, *John*, *Robert*, *Isaac*, *Sarah*, *Polly*, and *Thomas M.*

James, son of *James*, married *Submit*, daughter of *Isaac Atwood*. [See *Atwood*.]

Isaac, son of first James, born in Merrimac, 1786, settled in Bedford, married Miss R. Watts, and had children, — Isaac W., Martha W., Mary A., Sarah S., John S., Rufus T., Wingate M., Calista J., and Juliet.

John, son of first James, born in Merrimac, 1782, settled in Hollis, Maine, married Miss E. Lane, and had children, — James, Sarah K., William, John, Eliza, Joseph G., and Daniel. John, the father, was drowned in Saco River, Maine, in May, 1821.

Robert K., son of first James, was born in Bedford, July 28, 1784, married Polly, daughter of second James Walker, and had children, — Abner C., Jane W., James W., Albert, and Benjamin F.

The daughters of first James, married, one of them, Job Bailey of Merrimac, another, Adam Smith of Merrimac, and the other, Daniel Watts of Londonderry, and all had children.

James, second, had ten daughters, all married, and all now living, except one, — Sarah, Clarissa, Esther, Nancy, Ismena, Mary, Lucy F., Lucinda, Adaline and Pelilah. He had two sons, of whom James lives on the homestead, having for his second wife, Cynthia, daughter of the late George O. Wallace. John, the other, is married, and lives at the west.

Martha W., daughter of Isaac, married Edson Warriner, and has had children, — Clarene, Ella, and Emma, who died.

Mary Ann, daughter of Isaac, married Stephen Webster, and had one child, Herman. Both the sisters reside in Concord, N. H.

Albert C., son of Robert K., born Dec. 22, 1810, married Sarah K. McAfee, and had children, George and Albert.

Jane W., daughter of Robert K., married James Parker, Merrimac.

DOLE, or McDOLE. *Stephen Dole*, born, as supposed, in Scotland, came to this country at an early period.

Richard, son of the above, born in Newbury, or Rowley, married Susannah Noyes, by whom he had five children, Elizabeth, Stephen, Jane, Silas and Enoch.

Col. Stephen, son of Richard, married Abigail Illsley, in 1773. He was a ship-carpenter. In 1777, he moved from Newbury to Londonderry, and after living there two years, removed to Bedford. He had nine children, — Richard, born

1774, William, 1778, Jane, Joseph G., Enoch, Anna, Friend, Betsey and Sally ; dates of their birth, not remembered.

Richard, son of Col. Stephen, married Betsey Johnson in 1798. They had children,—Louisa, Eleazer, Abigail, Joseph, Richard and William. For a number of years, he carried on the wool-carding and cloth-dressing business, near his residence on the river road, but the multiplication of cotton and woolen mills, has for some time superseded the necessity of these minor operations. The whole family have lately removed to Wisconsin, and now reside at Beloit, on Rock River.

William, *Enoch*, and *Friend*, sons of Col. Stephen, have removed to the West.

Jane, daughter of Col. Stephen, married Joseph Colley, Esq.

Anna, daughter of Col. Stephen, married James Riddle, and after his death, William Riddle.

Betsey, daughter of Col. Stephen, married Mr. Chamberlain of Merrimac.

Sally, daughter of Col. Stephen, married Matthew Riddle. Of these families, some have died, most of them have removed to the West, and a very few of the younger branches remain in Bedford.

Silas, son of first *Richard*, and brother of Col. Stephen, after some 20 years residence here, removed, in 1804, with his family, to Danville, Vt., where some of his descendants still live. His children were, Judith, Moses, Susan, Samuel G., Mary, Stephen, Abigail, Eleazer J., and Betsey.

[For more about the ancestors of this family, see Coffin's history of Newbury.]

FERGUSON. *John Ferguson* emigrated from Scotland to this country, in 1725, and settled in Pelham, N. H. He was one of the early settlers of the town, by occupation a farmer, and was a large land-holder. Had three sons,—William, David and John. The two first settled in New York.

John, son of the above, settled in Pelham, on the estate of his father ; married Jane Moore, of Londonderry, and had seven children.

John, son of the above, born Aug. 11, 1757 ; married Ann

Gage, of Pelham ; settled on the homestead ; had ten children, — Jane, John, Nancy, Nathaniel, Jonathan, Sarah, Daniel, George, Franklin and James. April, 1775, he entered the Revolutionary army ; was at the Battle of Bunker Hill, not eighteen years old ; also, at the Battle of Bennington, and was subsequently stationed at Peekskill and Fishkill, on the Hudson. He continued to reside at Pelham, where he was a prominent and enterprising citizen, and commanded a company of cavalry. He lived a short time at Dunbarton, and in 1830 moved to Bedford, where he lived till his death, in 1846. His age was 88.

John, son of the above, married Peggy Mills, of Dunbarton, and moved to Bedford in 1828, where he lived till his death, leaving one son, Thomas Mills.

Sarah, married William P. Riddle.

Daniel, born 1797 ; married Susan Morse, Bolton, Mass. ; moved to Bedford, 1830 ; has four children, — Susan Jane, Nancy, Mary and John.

FRENCH. *William French* came to New England as early as 1635 ; admitted freeman, 1636, and settled in Cambridge, whence he went to Billerica with the first settlers ; was a Lieutenant ; appointed to solemnize marriage, and was the first representative in 1660, and again in 1663.

William, descendant of the above, removed from Billerica to Hollis, N. H., about the time of the Revolutionary war ; afterwards to Bedford, N. H., where he died.

Jonathan, son of William, settled and died in Billerica, Mass.

William, son of William, removed from Hollis to Bedford, and died there ; none of his family in Bedford.

Nehemiah, son of William, and brother of the last, first settled in Hollis, afterwards removed to Lyndeborough, N. H., thence to Vermont, and there died.

Ephraim, son of William, settled and died in Amherst.

Mehitabel, daughter of William, married Job Bailey, of Wilton, N. H., and there died.

Betsy, daughter of William, married Daniel Bailey, of Hollis, and died there ; her sister (not named) married a Mr. Carlton, of Billerica, and there died.

Benjamin, son of William, tanner by trade, first settled in

Dracut, Mass., afterwards removed to Milford, N. H., where he died.

Joseph, son of William, settled and died in Hollis.

Stephen, son of William, tanner by trade, married Dolly Coburn, of Dracut, Mass., and removed to Bedford about 1773. They had children, eight sons and six daughters.

Ebenezer, son of Stephen and Dolly French, born April 28, 1774; selectman and representative; married Rhoda Coburn, of Dracut; born April 16, 1780. Mr. F. was a farmer; settled in the west part of Bedford, and died Nov. 20, 1846, aged 72. They had children, viz.:

Ebenezer C., son of Ebenezer, born Dec. 22, 1798; settled on a part of the old homestead, west part of Bedford; married Sarah, daughter of Dea. John Holbrook, Bedford; she was born 1798. They had children, — Alfred, physician in Manchester, born Jan. 16, 1823, and Sarah E., born Feb. 11, 1826, who married Stephen G. Allen, merchant of Boston, where she resides. Mrs. F. died Sept., 1834. He married Lydia Eaton, Goffstown, born July 5, 1799. They had children, — Abigail E., June 30, 1838; Clarissa R., Sept. 29, 1839; Lydia M., Oct. 14, 1842.

Matilda C., daughter of Ebenezer, born Aug. 25, 1800; married Ebenezer Holbrook, Bedford, where they now reside. Mr. Holbrook was born May 23, 1796. They had children, — David G., Nov. 18, 1819; Maria G., March 10, 1822; John, June 13, 1829.

Leonard C., 2d., son of Ebenezer, born April 19, 1803; farmer, selectman, representative, and justice of the peace; married Annis C. Campbell, New Boston, June 1, 1831; born July 9, 1809. They had children, — Clinton, Oct. 24, 1832; Almira F., May 1, 1835; William C., Dec. 18, 1838; Robert C., Jan. 2, 1845.

Phineas C., 2d., son of Ebenezer, born Aug. 19, 1805; farmer; married Sophronia Robie, Goffstown; born June 17, 1809. They had children, — Achsah W., July 29, 1836; Martin, Feb. 7, 1841; Mary E., March 15, 1844; Louisa, March 29, 1847; Sarah E., May 12, 1849.

William, son of Ebenezer, born Dec. 29, 1807; merchant; married Isabella, daughter of Robert Wallace, New Boston; settled at Piscataquog; selectman. They had children, — Josephine and Ella W.

Merab, daughter of Ebenezer, born Sept. 27, 1811; married John McAllister, Jr., Bedford, and had John Gilman.

John U., son of Ebenezer, born Feb. 24, 1817; married Sarah R. Parker, Bedford; born Oct. 6, 1826. They had children, — Anna M., July 5, 1847; Willard P., Feb. 25, 1849.

Mary A., daughter of Ebenezer, born Oct. 4, 1824; married John N. Barr, Bedford, and had John Henry. They reside in Nashville.

Rhoda, daughter of Ebenezer, born Sept. 24, 1822; married Eldridge Barr, and had Ada Lizzy Oct. 5, 1849.

Adaline, daughter of Ebenezer, born Feb. 2, 1826; married Thomas U. Gage, Bedford.

Stephen, son of Stephen and Dolly, tanner, born Nov. 7, 1775, died Sept. 4, 1850; married Hannah Swett, 1800, of Bedford; born May 15, 1777. They had children.

Hannah P., born April 20, 1801; married Ebenezer Goffe, of Millbury, [See Goffe] Mass.; settled there and died, leaving children.

Dolly C., daughter of second Stephen, born Oct. 4, 1803; died, unmarried, July, 1826.

Sarah W., daughter of second Stephen, born Dec. 4, 1804; married Josiah Kittredge, M. D., of Nashua, where she died, leaving children.

Stephen, son of second Stephen, born Aug. 26, 1806; married Sarah S., daughter of Dr. Samuel Foster, of Candia, N. H.; born June 5, 1812; lived in Nashua when married. They have, — Benj. F., born March 12, 1833; Ellen B., Jan. 13, 1835; Elia N., Nov. 28, 1836; Mary C., Oct. 30, 1838; died 1841; Sarah E., Sept. 6, 1840; Robert H., Dec. 2, 1842; James E., Dec. 15, 1844; Harriet A., April 19, 1848.

Mary J., daughter of second Stephen, born July 12, 1808; married Humphrey Moore, D. D., Milford, N. H., where they now reside.

Phineas, son of second Stephen, deacon, born May 23, 1810; Feb. 16, 1836, married Betsy Foster, of Nashua; born July 6, 1811; died May 14, 1839. They had children, — Horace, Feb. 16, 1837; Charles F., May 6, 1839. He married, as his second wife, Lydia G. Hardy, Concord, Sept. 3, 1840; born June 2, 1813; died April 9, 1850, leaving children, — Austin G., Aug. 30, 1845; Hannah E., March 19, 1847; Lydia F., Nov. 17, 1849.

Betsy, daughter of second Stephen, born April 27, 1812; married Thomas Gillis, Agent Nashua Man. Co., where she now resides, having children.

James, son of second Stephen, born March 21, 1814; died, 1826.

Moses, son of second Stephen, born Sept. 19, 1817; married Sarah Gregg; settled in Nashua; now resides at Milford.

Dolly, daughter of first Stephen, born Nov. 9, 1778; married Gawn Riddle, [See Riddle] by whom she had children.

Asenath, married Thomas Holbrook, died 1845.

Nancy, married Gregg Campbell, died Jan. 31, 1837.

Albert, married Sarah Wheeler, Merrimac, Nov. 26, 1835. They have children, and reside in Amherst.

William, son of first Stephen, born March 20, 1780; married Nancy Riddle, [See Riddle] born Jan. 5, 1781; settled in Prospect, Me.; died 1847, leaving children, — James R., Sarah Ann, William R., John, Dolly, Robert, Mary, Nancy.

Sarah W., daughter of first Stephen, born April 10, 1782; married Wm. McD. Ferson, Bedford, and had children, — Dolly, James, Stephen, Sarah Ann, Nancy Jane, William, John, Louisa, Caroline, Asenath.

Leonard C., son of first Stephen, born Feb. 10, 1785; selectman, treasurer, representative; married, Jan. 26, 1808, Nancy Hutchinson, Merrimac; born April 20, 1787. They had children, — viz.

Margaret Ann, daughter of Leonard C., born April 17, 1809; married Frederic Wallace, Bedford, Jan. 30, 1832, and had children, — Nancy, Margaret Ann, Frederic C., Selwin and Nancy Ann, resides in Manchester. Mr. W. died, 1849.

Nancy, daughter of Leonard C., born June 4, 1811; married, Sept. 13, 1832, J. R. French, of Prospect, Me., since minister in Peterborough, N. H. They had children, — Lucius T., born in Bedford, George W., Gilmanton, Austin B., James and Wm. H., Peterborough. Mrs. F. died 1848.

William R., son of Leonard C., born June 29, 1814; June 10, 1841, married Sally D. Riddle. They have had children, — James, William and George; William, born and died in Milford; Maitland R., born in Bedford.

Leonard, son of Leonard C., born Nov. 11, 1817; graduated at Dartmouth College, 1843; studied medicine; married Sarah M. Melville, Nelson, N. H., May 28, 1846; settled in Ashby, Mass. They have one child, Leonard M. Mrs. French died in 1849.

Susan Jane, daughter of Leonard C., born Oct. 8, 1820; Dec. 20, 1842, married David J. Clark, Esq., Stratham, now residing in Manchester, in the profession of law. They have one child, Susan Elizabeth.

Sarah F., daughter of Leonard C., born Nov. 18, 1823 ; Jan. 16, 1849, married David Stevens, Jr., Bedford ; settled in Nashua. They had one child, Edward J., Jan. 7, 1850.

Frederic F., son of Leonard C., born Jan. 20, 1827.

Freeman R., son of Leonard C., born Aug. 4, 1831.

Betsy, daughter of first Stephen, born April 28, 1789 ; Feb. 12, 1807, married Wm. Bursiel, Bedford, by whom she had children, — Mary N., born Feb. 13, 1808 ; Thomas, Oct. 18, 1809 ; Dolly F., Jan. 7, 1812 ; Nancy, Sept. 13, 1814 ; William, Feb. 22, 1816 ; Leonard, May 14, 1818 ; Eliphalet, July 28, 1820 ; James, Aug. 13, 1822 ; Eliza J., Nov. 15, 1824 ; Abby C., July 4, 1828.

Phineas C., son of first Stephen, born Dec. 14, 1791 ; settled in Bedford ; married Hannah Cutler, born March 13, 1792, died 1845. They had children, — Elizabeth, born Dec., 1814, died 1845 ; Alfred, March, 1816, died 1845 ; Frederic, May, 1818, died ; Charles, March, 1821, died 1849 ; Mary E., Feb., 1824, died ; Dolly C., Oct., 1827 ; Nancy J., Dec. 1829 ; Frederic B., Dec., 1831 ; Humphrey M., Feb., 1834. April 8, 1847, he married, as his second wife, Mary Patten, of Pepperell, Mass.

James, son of first Stephen, born Nov. 22, 1794 ; tanner ; settled in Bedford ; unmarried.

Daniel, son of first Stephen, born Jan 28, 1796, married Polly Riddle, Bedford, 1820. He settled on the homestead, was elected elder, afterwards studied for the ministry, and settled in Nelson, N. H., where he still remains. They had children.

Hugh R., son of Daniel, born Sept. 17, 1821, married Mary J., daughter of Thomas Shepard, of Bedford, in October, 1842. She was born Nov. 9, 1820. They have, George M., born Jan. 16, 1846.

Jane E., daughter of Daniel, married Mr. Heald, and resides in Ohio.

Silas and *Edward P.*, are sons of Daniel.

Robert W., son of first Stephen, born October 31, 1801, married Harriet Parker of Merrimac, in 1832. She was born June 23, 1802. They now reside in Merrimac, and have children, — Harriet A., born Feb. 1, 1833 ; Elmira, Oct. 11, 1834 ; Antoinette, Oct. 22, 1836 ; Miron W., July 20, 1838 ; Edmund P., July 24, 1840 ; Allen L., May 14, 1842 ; Laurietta and Marietta, twins, March 19, 1845 ; Charles A., March 9, 1847.

David, son of William French, who came from Billerica to Hollis, was brother of first Stephen, moved from Hollis to Bedford, Feb., 1782, married Lydia, daughter of Josiah Parker, of Hollis, and was a soldier of the Revolution. He died June 13, 1790, and his wife, April 8, 1793, aged thirty-five. They had children as follows.

David, born Aug. 13, 1778, died in Amherst, aged 18.

Josiah, born Feb 13, 1780, married Judith Marstin, of Tewksbury, Mass., settled in Rumney, N. H., and had children, — Betsey Parker, Clinton, Parmelia, Samuel, Emeline, John and Charles.

John, born Dec. 31, 1781, married Ama, daughter of Joseph Nevens of Hollis, March 22, 1810. He was an elder in the church, and representative; also, 1850, member of the Convention for revising the Constitution of the State. He had children, — Ama, born April 18, 1811, died Aug. 20, 1827; Almira, born Feb. 22, 1813, died March 9, 1835; Lucy, April 14, 1815; Harriet N., Feb. 16, 1817; Catharine, April 28, 1819; Mary Ann, Feb. 22, 1821; John Orr, March 20, 1823, died Oct. 5, 1826; David, born May 25, 1825, died Oct. 25, 1826; John, Oct. 15, 1827; David B., Jan. 27, 1830; Ama N., Aug. 18, 1832. Ama, wife of Dea. John, died Oct. 28, 1838, in her 50th year. For his second wife, he married Sally McIntire, of Goffstown, Aug. 28, 1844; she was daughter of Lieut. Robert Campbell, of New Boston, a Revolutionary soldier.

Catharine, daughter of Dea. John, married William A. Burke, of Lowell, June 6, 1837. They have two children, Catharine, and William French.

Mary Ann, daughter of Dea. John, married Dan K. Mack, of Bedford, Jan. 20, 1846, has one child, Harriet Ann.

Lydia, daughter of David, of Hollis, born May 24, 1784, married Lester Holt, of Lyme, N. H., and had children, David, Lydia, Hannah, Parker, Alma, Mary, Charles, Newton, Harvey, Freeman and Olive.

Hannah, daughter of David, of Hollis, born Feb. 28, 1786, married Israel H. Goodridge, Esq., of Lyndeborough, and had two sons, Israel and James.

Isaac, son of David, died 1790.

Isaac P., son of David, of Hollis, born Oct 8, 1790, married Clarissa, daughter of Capt. Nathan Barnes. They now reside in Danvers, Mass. They have three sons, David, a clergyman, George, a merchant, and Charles, a physician.

GAGE. *Aaron Gage* came from Bradford, Mass., to Merrimac, in 1773.

Aaron, son of the above, married Martha Stevens of Andover, and had ten children, all living to maturity. He was a deacon in Dr. Burnap's church.

Benjamin, son of second Aaron, married Miss Nichols, and after her death, Annis Moore; had children by both wives, who are living in different parts of the country, one only, Mrs. Oliver Kendall, remaining in Bedford. Benjamin died in 1838.

Hannah, daughter of second Aaron, married Dea. William Moore; she is now a widow, living in Merrimac.

Aaron, son of second Aaron, is living, single, in Merrimac.

Solomon, son of second Aaron, married Dolly Chase, of Litchfield, Dec. 29, 1807, and have had thirteen children. Mrs. Gage is daughter of the late Lieut. Joseph Chase, of Litchfield, and grand-daughter of Francis Chase, the first Baptist immersed in New Hampshire.

Isaac, married Miss Ingalls, of Merrimac, and after her death, Jane Patten of Bedford. Two of the first wife's children survive, and four of the second.

Of the other children of second Aaron, Mrs. Muzzy and Mary, only, are now living.

GOFFE. *John Goffe* came over from England, with two brothers, 1662, or '63. In what relation he stood to William, the regicide, or whether any, is matter of doubt. The name is found very early in the annals of Salem, and it is probable there was an affinity, between them, though the degree, it is impossible at this distance of time, accurately to determine.

John, son of John, removed from Boston to Londonderry, early in the last century, and died in 1748. His wife's name was Hannah Parish.

John, son of second John, born in 1701, married Hannah Griggs. He died, Oct. 20, 1781.

John, (Major) son of third John, married Jemima Holden, Groton, Mass., in 1749.

Samuel, son of fourth John, Maj. Goffe, settled in Goffstown, and lived there a number of years; then moved to Homer, N. Y., where he died, aged 93.

Hannah, daughter of Maj. Goffe, married Richard Hawes, and settled in Maine; lived there a number of years, and had three children. She returned to Bedford, and died in Nashua, at the age of 87.

John, son of Maj. Goffe, settled in Derryfield, Manchester, and lived there some years; then moved to New York, where he died at the age of 92.

Susannah, daughter of Maj. Goffe, married John Griffin; lived in Manchester, and was drowned in the Merrimac river, at the age of 28.

Stephen, son of the Major, engaged in privateering at the time of the Revolution; never after heard of.

William, son of the Major, entered the Revolutionary service, and was killed at the battle of Stillwater.

Joseph, son of the Major, was a minister of the gospel; he settled in Millbury, Mass., where he died, aged 79.

Theodore, son of the Major, settled in Bedford, on his father's farm, and is now living, in his 82d year.

Polly, daughter of the Major, married a Mr. Wallace, and settled in Bedford; afterwards in Antrim, where she is now living, in her 80th year.

Esther, daughter of the Major, married Samuel Grigg, and settled in Homer, N. Y., where she died at the age of 67.

John, son of Theodore, married Jane Riddle, and settled in Bedford. They have had children, — Martha J., George W., Nancy M., Eliza A., Margaret R., and Ann E.

Gilbert, son of Theodore, went to the State of Alabama, where he died, unmarried, at the age of 23.

Stephen, son of Theodore, married Mary Cutler, and had children, — Gilbert, Theodore, Mary Frances, Nathan and Stephen. He died July, 1836, aged 33.

Nancy, daughter of Theodore, married John A. McGaw, and had children, Harriet, Hannah, Thornton, Helen and Frances Eliza. They now live in New York City.

Eliza, daughter of Theodore, married John Parker, and settled in Bedford. [See Parker family.]

William, son of Theodore, married Clarissa Labaree, and had children, Harriet F., Charles H., and John L. He married a second wife, Betsey Riddle and had children, — Mary, A. and Louis K. They reside in the state of Wisconsin.

Nathan, son of Theodore, is a physician in Louisiana.

Joseph, son of Maj. Goffe, married Elizabeth Waters, of Sutton, Mass., Dec. 20, 1796, and had children, — Ebenezer W.,

born April 23, 1799; Maria, Feb. 1, 1802, died Feb. 13, 1837; Joseph, Sept. 29, 1804; Eliza, Feb. 21, 1808; Philena, April 8, 1801. Joseph, the father, died April 24, 1846; his wife died Jan. 26, 1839, aged 68.

Ebenezer W., son of Joseph, married Hannah P. French, of Bedford, N. H., by whom he had children, — Elizabeth W. and Hannah F. His wife died Dec. 13, 1847.

Joseph, son of Joseph, graduated at Amherst College, 1826; married Almira C. Hepburn, of Vt., 1840; had two children, — Mary E. and Josephine M. He died in Montgomery, Ala., Aug. 13, 1847.

Philena, daughter of first Joseph, married Silas Goddard, of Millbury, Mass., May, 1837. Had one child, — Mary E., born July 19, 1840, died May 24, 1848.

GORDON. *Nathaniel Gordon*, born in the County of Tyrone, Ireland, a farmer by occupation, of Scotch Presbyterian descent, intended to settle in Virginia, where there was an elder brother, but the vessel in which he sailed was obliged to put into Boston. He married, in Ireland, Sarah Martin, and had four children, — John, Samuel, Elizabeth and Hannah. He settled in Shirley, Mass., 1742, and died in Peterborough, N. H., about 1789, aged 83.

John, son of Nathaniel, married, 1762, Mary Campbell, of Townsend, Mass.; came to Bedford, about 1774, and purchased of his brother, Samuel, a fifty acre lot, which is part of the Gordon farm, so called. He had fourteen children, — Josiah, Elizabeth, Nathaniel, Anna, Mary, Samuel, (Daniel and James died in infancy,) Sally, James, William, Robert, Rebecca W. and Daniel.

Josiah, son of John, married, May, 1792, Jane, the youngest daughter of Dea. Robert Walker; had four children, — Adam, Hannah, (died in infancy,) Eliza and Jane.

Adam, son of Josiah, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1817; studied law at Cambridge; settled in Pensacola; removed to Key West, Florida; he married, Oct., 1825, Eliza, daughter of Joseph W. Page, by whom he had nine children, three of whom (Joseph W., Martha J. and Ann E.) died in infancy; Josiah, in California; George, in Yale College; and Eliza J., Charles C., Oliver E. and Florian W., now reside with their parents, at New Haven, Conn.

Eliza B., daughter of Josiah and Jane, married P. P. Woodbury, M. D., of Bedford, Oct 25, 1832, and had four children. [See Woodbury.]

Jane, daughter of Josiah, now lives on the homestead.

Elizabeth, eldest daughter of John and Mary, married Jonathan Bailey, and had six children,—Daniel, Sarah, Eliza, John G., Gilman, Sophronia and Jno., all dead but Eliza. Lived and died at Charlestown, Mass.

Nathaniel, son of John and Mary, married Mille Rand. [See Rand.] Died 1827. Had five children,—Alfred, Sarah, Nancy, Emily and Mary.

Alfred, son of Nathaniel, married Mary Jones, and went to Illinois.

Sarah, daughter of Nathaniel, married Enos Reed, of East Cambridge, Mass., and had seven children.

Nancy, married Robert Walker; settled and died at Illinois; had four children. [See Walker.]

Mary married John Nichols, and settled in Illinois. Had nine children.

Emily, married Mr. Prentiss; had one child, and died at Billerica, 1841.

Anna, daughter of John and Mary, married Robert Rand, and had ten children. He died in the war of 1812. She married, as her second husband, Joseph Bailey, of Hillsborough, by whom she had two children,—Josiah G. and Ann Rebecca.

Mary, daughter of John and Mary, married Oliver Newell, and had four children,—Nancy, John, James and Oliver. He died in the West Indies, 1802; she died, 1848.

Samuel, son of John and Mary, married Isabella McPherson, had children, removed to Hillsborough, thence to Stockbridge, Oneida County, N. Y.

James, son of John and Mary, married Elizabeth West, Belfast, Me.; had two daughters, viz., Mary and Sophronia; lives in Boston.

Sally, daughter of John and Mary, married Cotton Eaton, of Goffstown, and had twelve children; moved to Maine.

William, son of John and Mary, graduated at Dartmouth College, 1811; entered the practice of law at Charlestown, Mass., where he died, 1835, of inflammation of the lungs, in consequence of an injury from a passing carriage, while handing a letter to a stage-driver.

Robert, son of John and Mary, married Elizabeth Carlisle,

of Brighton ; had two sons, — Robert and George ; died 1824. His son Robert, in California, graduated at College, 1844 ; George graduated at West Point, 1845 ; was in the Mexican War, under Gen. Scott ; was in all his battles, and was wounded while escorting a train to Vera Cruz.

Rebecca, daughter of John and Mary, married Wm. Reed, of Boston ; had five sons and two daughters.

Daniel, youngest son of John and Mary, married Louisa Dole, Feb., 1825, and had five children, — Elizabeth D., Mary J., Louisa D., John B. and Richard D. The family removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, 1845.

Samuel, son of Nathaniel that came over, and brother of John, married Eleanor Mitchel, of Shirley, Mass., who was born in Limerick County, Ireland, and came to this country at the age of six. They had thirteen children, — Samuel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Hannah, Nathaniel, Eleanor, Jane, Mary, Nehemiah, John and Nancy. Two died in infancy.

Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel, married John Bell, and died in childbed.

Hannah, daughter of Samuel, married Ephraim Smith, a Revolutionary soldier, and had children.

HALL. The earliest record of the name in New England is 1634, when John Hall, of Lynn, was admitted freeman ; Robert, of Boston, blacksmith, was a member of the church at that time ; six others were admitted prior to 1650. The Halls became residents of Billerica after 1750, and in 1826 were extinct in that town.

Samuel, probably grandson of Samuel, who in 1638 was member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, was of Billerica, and married Hannah Kittredge, Jan. 25, 1727. Record shows he had a son, born March 28, 1747, who died Oct. 31, 1749. His wife, Hannah, died July 21, 1750. He married again, April 24, 1751, Hannah Saunders, of Tewksbury.

Thomas, supposed to be son of Samuel, was of Billerica ; married, April 15, 1761, Lydia Keyes, by whom he had two sons and four daughters ; he died May 10, 1772 ; his widow married Samson Crosby, moved to Milford, N. H., had one daughter, and died 1836, aged 94.

Nathan, son of Thomas, born Aug. 6, 1767 ; about 1790,

married Ruth, daughter of Peres and Abigail Waterman Oakham, Mass., who by her father was a lineal descendant from the Plymouth pilgrim of that name. Nathan was a blacksmith; he used to relate that when apprenticed to the trade, he has many a time gone in from the shop, and eaten for supper brown bread and milk, by count, just fourteen spoonsful, then returned and worked till 9 o'clock. He died Oct. 23, 1812; his wife died Jan. 12, 1815.

Benjamin, son of Nathan, born in Milford, N. H., Sept. 17, 1812; youngest of the family. There were nine children, four sons and five daughters, all married and living in New Hampshire, in 1837, but at this date, (1850) three are dead. Benjamin, married Sarah M., daughter of Isaac Atwood, Bedford, April 13, 1836, and had children, — Benj. Orland, Aug. 15, 1837; Sarah E., May 21, 1839; Philo E., Feb. 22, 1848; Clara E., July 8, 1850, and died 21st same month. Mr. Hall became a permanent resident of this town Nov., 1848, and is now on the farm owned, cleared and occupied by Isaac Atwood and father for seventy-one years. He is the only man of the name in the town.

HOGG. *Joseph Hogg*, born in Ireland, settled in Londonderry, N. H., married, and had children, — Thomas, James, William, Hugh, Agnes, Mary and Sarah.

William, son of the above, born in Londonderry, Oct. 10, 1770; came to this town, and married Rachel, daughter of Samuel Moore; had his name changed to Moore; he had children, — Hugh, Joseph, Stephen, Polly, Achsah, Louisa, Margaret, Rebecca, Sarah J. and Rachel.

Hugh, son of the above, married and lived in Merrimac.

Joseph, son of William, born Sept. 7, 1792, married Miss Richardson, and had children, — William P. R., Hugh G., Charles W., Louisa, Lydia M. and Margaret E. Stephen married Miss Hardy, and lived in Piscataquog Village. The daughters are some of them married and settled near, and some remain on the homestead.

HOLBROOK. *John Holbrook*, of Roxbury, Mass., died 1735, aged 72.

Ralph, son of the above, married Dorothy Williams, and had five children, — John, Ebenezer, Polly, Elizabeth and Dolly.

John, son of Ralph, entered the army of the Revolution, with his brother Ebenezer, while young; 1783, married Sarah Griggs, Brookline, and had children, — Polly, John, Ralph, Ebenezer, Sarah, Thomas G., Abiel and Joseph; in 1803, he moved to Bedford, where the two youngest children were born.

Ralph, son of John, married Lucy Dodge, of New Boston, in 1824, and had children, — Sarah Annis, born Feb. 22, 1825; Mary W., July 7, 1827; Lucy Ann, Sept. 17, 1829; Lydia D., Feb. 26, 1832; Griggs H., June 16, 1835; Ralph, Jan. 14, 1838; Levi, Feb. 4, 1841, died May 7, 1845.

Ebenezer, son of John, married, March, 1819, Matilda, daughter of Ebenezer French, and had children, — David, Nov., 1819; Maria, March, 1822; John, June, 1829.

Sarah, daughter of John, married Ebenezer C., son of Ebenezer French, and had children, — Alfred and Elizabeth.

Thomas G., son of John, married Asenath, daughter of Gawn Riddle, Dec., 1826, and had children, — George, April, 1830; James, Aug., 1832; Albert, March, 1837; Silas, Nov. 1839.

Abiel, son of John, married Lucy Sanderson, Jan., 1833, and had children, — Joseph G., March 2, 1834; Susan, March 12, 1838, and Horace, Feb. 3, 1841.

Joseph, son of John, died, from an injury received in a stage, in Watertown, Mass., 1833, aged 26, unmarried.

Polly and *John*, the two oldest of John, were married and live at a distance.

[NOTE.] In the possession of Ralph, of this town, is a silver tankard, with the inscription of his grandfather of the same name.

JENNESS. *Francis Jenness* came from England in 1660; had a son Richard, who was father of Nathaniel.

John, son of Nathaniel, had a son Nathaniel, who was father of Thomas.

Thomas, was born in Rye, N. H., 1774; married Sally Paige, and had children, — Fanny, Jonathan, Joseph, James, Simon, Polly and Abigail.

Simon, son of the above, born in Rye, Aug. 30, 1811; married Messilvia Fox, and settled in Bedford, 1839. They had children, — Albert M., Simon B. and Messilvia Ann. First wife died 1843. Married Eliza Paige, as his second wife, Oct. 13, 1844, by whom he had one child, — Maria F.

MACK. Of the ancestry of the Mack family, nothing is known prior to *John Mack*, who married Sibella, daughter of Sir John Brown, emigrated to America from Londonderry, Ireland, previous to 1736, and settled in Londonderry, N. H. He died in 1753, his wife in 1770. His children were, — William, Jeanette, John, Robert, Martha, Elizabeth, Andrew and Daniel.

Andrew, married Elizabeth Clark, and resided in Londonderry. His children were, — Jane, Laetitia, Elizabeth, John, Sibella, Robert and Daniel.

Daniel, settled in Bedford in 1812, and followed the occupation of a blacksmith. He married Sophia Kendrick, of Amherst. In 1836, he was elected an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, and has been twice chosen a Delegate from Londonderry Presbytery to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. His children are, — Daniel Kendrick, Rufus Kendrick, (died 1844,) Sophia, Neal, (died 1827,) and Bella, (died 1841.)

Daniel Kendrick, married Mary Ann, daughter of Dea. John French, of Bedford, and resides with his father. Has one child, — Harriet Ann.

MANNING. *William Manning* came over with three sons, previous to 1639, as appears by the records of Cambridge, where he settled and spent his life.

William, son of the above, lived in Cambridge, was chosen counsellor in 1673, and held other offices for several successive years.

William, son of second William, born 1677, in Cambridge, married and settled in Billerica about 1700. He had children, — William, Jacob, Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah, Rachel, Martha and Hannah.

Jacob, son of the above, born in Billerica, March 27, 1701,

married Martha Beard, settled in Billerica, and had children, — Isaac, Thomas, David, Jacob, Daniel, Mary, Martha and Esther.

Jacob, son of the above Jacob, settled in Billerica, married Hannah Butterfield, by whom he had children, — Jacob, Asa, Martha and Esther. He was at Concord, April 19, 1775, but on account of distance, did not arrive till the British had retreated. He was afterwards killed by falling from a load of hay.

Jacob, son of the last, born in Billerica, Dec. 16, 1771, settled in Chelmsford, married Lucy Andrews, by whom he had children, — Jacob, Solomon and Lucy. He removed to Lyndeborough, N. H., with his family, where, in 1812, he died, of spotted fever, after an illness of a few hours.

Solomon, son of last Jacob, born in Chelmsford, May 16, 1799, settled in Bedford, married Mary Fletcher, by whom he had children, — Joseph, Jacob W., Dudley H., Solomon, Mary, Lucy A., Sarah J. and Harriet A.

Joseph, son of Solomon, born in Tyngsborough, April 23, 1824, married Miriam N. Hall, and settled in Reading, Mass.

Mary, daughter of Solomon, born in Bedford, April 27, 1828, married Hartwell Nichols, of Reading, Mass., where they reside.

This name is very numerous throughout the New England States and other sections of the country, and in England even more so than in this country, as appears from the "British Records," published by order of Parliament, which state that the name occurs in twenty-two Counties in England as early as 1272; so that, in a period of more than five and a half centuries, by ordinary increase, there are more than could be traced in a lifetime.

McAFFEE. *Matthew McAfee*, born in Rochester, N. H.; came to Londonderry, N. H., 1720; married Nancy Aiken, who died, leaving one child; again married, Susanah Morrison, to whom were born William and Samuel; 1760, settled in Bedford, when they had children, — Mary, John, James, David, Matthew and Susan.

William, son of the above, born 1758; married Elizabeth Boies, born 1762, whose parents came from Ireland and mar-

ried in this country. William and Elizabeth McAfee had children, — Samuel, Anne, John, Mary, Susan and David.

Samuel, son of William, born 1783; married Catharine, daughter of John Holmes, Londonderry, born 1792; had children, — Alfred, William, Adam, John, Jane, Catharine, Samuel, Ira and Achsah.

McLAUGHLIN. *John McLaughlin* and *Mary*, his wife, came from Ireland about 1735; settled in Bedford, occupying a house a little north of the Gordon house; he was first Town Clerk of Bedford, and had children, — John, Thomas, Isabella, Rosanna and Mary. Capt. Thomas married Margaret Ayers, of Derry; he served as Ensign in Canada in 1754, as Lieutenant at Bunker-Hill, and was knocked down by earth thrown up by a ball at Charlestown neck, on the retreat of the Americans. He moved to Maine in 1802 or 1803, where he died, aged 84. He has descendants in Maine and Massachusetts. A grandson in Boston, Ephraim B. McLaughlin, adopted the name of "Mason" for himself and family in 1842.

John, son of the above, born in Ireland, 1720, and married Jennet Taggart, by whom he had children, — Isabella, James, Patrick, Martha, John, Mary and Daniel, whose descendants now chiefly reside in Maine.

Patrick, son of the above, born 1767, married Deborah Martin in 1793, by whom he had children, — Polly, Daniel, John and Hannah, Rodney, Nancy, and two who died in infancy. Patrick died 1832, aged 67; Deborah, his wife, died 1832, aged 61.

Polly, daughter of Patrick, died 1815, aged 21.

Daniel, son of Patrick, born 1798, married Fanny Gault, by whom he had six children, — John G., Deborah, Nancy J., Dolly Frances, George and Patrick Henry. Dolly F. died 1847; the rest of the family remain in town.

John, son of Patrick, born 1800, removed to Maine, and resides in Bangor.

Hannah, born 1802, married Charles Rollins, Haverhill, Mass., and had children, — Rodney and James.

Rodney, born 1804, married Abigail Hodgman, 1831, by whom he had seven children, — Adijah H., Nancy, Sarah Annis, Rodney, Sumner, Clarissa, Charles Edward and an

infant. Abigail, his wife, died 1846, aged 35. Rodney married again, Jerusha C. Spofford, by whom he had two children, who died in infancy.

Nancy, daughter of Patrick, died 1831, aged 23.

McQUESTEN. *William McQuesten* emigrated from the north of Ireland, to New England, about 1730, and married Margaret Arburkle. He remained a few years at Malden or Medford, Mass.,—probably the latter,—removed to and settled in Litchfield, N. H., when his son William was quite a small boy, precise date not known. He had three sons, William, Simon and John, and five daughters, all married, one of whom was the maternal grand-parent of Com. David Porter; another sustained the same relation to Mr. Robert Burns, a native of Bedford, whose early death occurred in this town, 1810, while a member of Dartmouth College.

William, son of the above, born in Medford, Mass., married Margaret Nahor, of Litchfield, and had eleven children.

David, eldest son of the last William, born in Litchfield, 1757, married Margaret Fisher, of Londonderry, N. H., settled in Bedford, 1795, and had eight children,—William, Samuel, Sally B., David, Margaret N., Eliza, Calvin and Mary P. All lived to adult age, and five are living at this date.

Samuel, second son of David, born in Litchfield, 1789, married Lucinda S. Foster, by whom he had three sons,—Samuel Foster, John Knox and David.

This family have been warmly attached, from early time, to the doctrine and discipline of the Presbyterian Church, as an evidence of which the office of Ruling Elder has been borne by some representative in each of the four generations above traced, from the Scotch-Irish emigrant, 1730, to the present time.

MARTIN. *Nathaniel Martin* came from Goffstown to Bedford, and married Marcy Goffe, daughter of Col. John Goffe, by whom he had nine children, six sons and three daughters,—Ichabod, Timothy, Nathaniel, Robert, Moses, Jesse, Hannah and Deborah, the other name not given. The

family mostly removed to Maine, where their descendants now reside. Jesse is a minister of the gospel at Vassalborough, of the Methodist persuasion. Deborah married Patrick McLaughlin.

James, not of the above family, married Sarah Parker, sister of Dr. Parker, of Litchfield, moved to Bedford, and settled on the farm now occupied by Capt. Thomas Chandler, where he had five children, two sons and three daughters, — James, Jeremiah, Sally, Lydia and Polly. He died about 1792. Sally married Theophilus Griffin, of Manchester, and now resides in Nashua. The rest of the family removed to Wolfborough.

MOORE. *John Moore* came to this country from Ireland, with his wife Janet, and son William, and settled in Londonderry. They suffered great hardships coming over; his wife was a great reader of Flavel's Works, and on this account was sometimes called Jenny Flavel.

William, son of John, whose name stands on the first board of elders, was born in Antrim County, Ireland, in 1718. He came to this country, and lived in Londonderry, where he married Molly Jack, also from Ireland, and in 1745, came to Bedford, and settled on what is now the town farm. He had seven children, — John, Jenny, Nancy, James, Betsy, Molly and William, all of whom reached the ages ranging from 80 to 93.

John, son of William, married Betsy Miller, by whom he had ten children, of whom only one survives, (widow Jane Parker, of this town.)

Jenny, married Alexander Jameson, settled in Antrim, had six children, and removed to New York.

Nancy, married Thomas English, lived in Antrim, had six children, none of whom are living.

James, born 1754, married Sally Carson, had eleven children, two of whom are living, William, in New York, and Annis, widow of the late Benj. S. Gage, in Woburn, Mass.

Betsy, married J. Wellman, of Lyndeborough, had two children, none living.

Molly, married Wm. Gibson, and settled in Lyman, had ten children, of whom two are living.

William, born 1760, married Isabella McClary, by whom

he had ten children, — James and Nancy, who are dead ; William, supposed to be lost at sea ; Jesse, of Beloit, Wisconsin, and Adams, of Littleton, N. H., are physicians of some note ; the rest of the family in the West. Dea. Wm. Moore was for many years an elder in the church, and was a soldier of the Revolution when very young. He died in 1844.

James, son of Deacon William, married Sally, daughter of the late Elijah Chandler, by whom he had ten children, of whom only four are living. The others fell victims to consumption, with the exception of William C., who went South for his health, and was lost in a gale in the Gulf of Mexico.

Daniel, (Col.) brother of the first Deacon William, and son of John, born in Londonderry, Feb. 11, 1730, married Nancy Cox, 1751, at which time they settled in Bedford, on the Capt. Colly Farm, now owned by Daniel Jaquith, in the south part of the town. They had children, — John, Daniel, Elizabeth, Nancy, Eleanor, Ann and William.

John, son of the above, born in Bedford, Aug. 28, 1752, married Annis Wallace, by whom he had children, — James, Daniel, Sally, John W., Ann, Robert, Jenny, Thomas W. and Abel G.

Daniel, son of Col. Daniel, born in Bedford, Feb. 20, 1755, was killed at the raising of a barn, at the west part of the town, on the Morrill place, so called, July 3, 1776.

William, son of Col. Daniel, born in Bedford, Sept. 12, 1773, married Martha Holmes, of Londonderry, by whom he had children, — Susan, Daniel, Nancy E., Joseph E., John H., Timothy F., Elizabeth, Nathaniel H., William, Martha Jane, Margaret M., Robert C. and David McG.

Daniel, son of Col. William, born in Bedford, Feb. 23, 1801, married Mary S. McQuesten, of Litchfield, April 1, 1828, by whom he had children, — William C., James C., Martha Jane, Daniel L., George B. and Joseph H. His wife died Feb. 29, 1840. He married, as his second wife, Sarah Stevens, of New Boston, April 1, 1841, by whom he had one child, Ervin Jay.

Joseph C., son of Col. William, born April 7, 1805, married Martha McQuesten, by whom he had children, — Mary, Susan Jane, Martha Ann, Abel F. and David R.

Nancy C., daughter of Col. William, born in Bedford, Feb. 19, 1803, married Thomas W. Moore, and had children, —

William, Martha Jane, Annis Jane, Thomas, Olive J. and Margaret Ann.

Timothy F., son of Col. William, born June 16, 1809, married Clarissa Emery, of Newbury, N. H., and had children, — James W., Sarah J., Charlotte Ann, Quincy and Harvey.

Elizabeth, daughter of Col. William, born Dec. 29, 1810, married Lancey Weston, Sept., 1831, and resided some years in Antrim: now in Michigan.

Nathaniel H., son of Col. William, born Dec. 24, 1812, married Jane Smith, May 9, 1837. Jane died, 1847.

William, son of Col. William, born May 20, 1815, married Mary Kendall, by whom he had children, — Martha Jane, Marion and Sarah Elizabeth.

Margaret M., daughter of Col. William, born May 20, 1820, married Ephraim White, and had children, — Moses and George. George died, 1851.

Robert C., son of Col. William, born May 20, 1823, married Jane Sweetser, of Hooksett.

The following curious document, belonging to the papers of Col. Moore's family, may properly have a place here.

“Know all men by these Presents, that I, Robert Griffin of Bedford, in the County of Hillsborough and Province of New Hampshire, Yeoman, In consideration of the sum of Thirteen Pounds and six pence, Lawful money, Paid by Capt. Daniel Moore of the aforesaid Town, County and Province, The Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have bargained, Sold and by these Presents do Bargain, Sell and Convey, unto him, the said Daniel Moore, a certain Negro Boy Slave, Named Bristo, about Twenty-three months old; also a cow about three years old of a red and white color. To have and to hold the Said Negro Slave and Cow, unto him the said Daniel Moore, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, for ever. And the said Robert Griffin do hereby Covenant with the said Daniel Moore, that I have good right to sell and convey the Said Negro Slave and Cow, in manner aforesaid, and that, until the delivery hereof, I am the lawful owner of the Same. And that I, my Heirs, Executors, administrators and assigns, Shall and will forever Warrant the same to the said Daniel Moore, his Executors, administrators and assigns.

“In witness whereof, I, the Said Robert Griffin, have here-

unto set my Hand and Seal, the first day of Nov., in the Fourteenth year of his Majesty's (King George the Third's) Reign, And in the year of our Lord, A. D. 1773. Signed, Sealed and delivered.

ROBERT GRIFFIN, [L. s.]

"In presence of

"SAMUEL MARSHALL,

"JOHN MORRISON."

MOORE. *Samuel*, married daughter of Col. J. Goffe, and had children,—Nathaniel, Samuel, Joseph and Rachel.

Samuel, son of Samuel, married Betsy French, and had children.

Russell, son of Samuel, born in Manchester, Feb. 16, 1801, married and had children,—Samuel, Charlotte and Ira. He moved to Bedford, April 1, 1839.

MOORE. *James*, (not connected with the preceding — family given on another page by another name,) married Betsy Giles. He was born in Londonderry, and had children,—John G., Joseph, Ebenezer G., Moody, Freeman, James and Thankful.

John G., son of James, born in Londonderry, Nov. 27, 1790, married Fanny, daughter of James G. Dow, of Dorchester, N. H., and had children,—James, born 1821; Sarah D. 1827; John, 1828; Elizabeth A., 1831; Laura, 1833; Gilman D., 1838; Henry C., 1841.

ORR. *John Orr* came from the north of Ireland, with his brother Daniel, and sister Jennet, in 1726. They first resided in Londonderry. The brothers were married, John to Margaret Kamel, and Daniel to Eleanor Orr. Jennet married a Dinsmoor, and settled in what is now Windham, where the descendants still live. John and his wife died suddenly, of fever, within four days of each other, May, 1754, leaving several children, of whom one or two were born in Ireland; one son was drowned in childhood, as already noticed on another page.

Daniel, as above, had four children,—John, Jennet, Martha and George. George married Margaret Wallace, by whom he had children,—Jane, Eleanor, Ann and Margaret; Jane married Ebenezer Fisher of Londonderry, and Eleanor married Samuel Sawyer. The others lived and died single.

Annis, daughter of John, married Dea. John Aiken.

Mary, second daughter of John, married Joseph Houston, of Bedford.

Margaret, youngest daughter of John, married Jacob McGaw, Esq., of Merrimac.

Hugh, oldest son of John, married Sarah Reed, of Londonderry, and settled on part of the paternal farm. He sold to his brother, and went to Hancock or Antrim; then went to Rockingham, Vt., thence to Homer, N. Y., where he died. His family, supposed to consist of six daughters and three sons, are scattered over the western country.

John, youngest son of John, bought out his brother Hugh, and lived on the homestead; married Jane, daughter of Dea. Benj. Smith, by whom he had five sons and three daughters. His wife died Sept. 5, 1786. He married, as his second wife, Sarah, daughter of Rev. John Houston, May, 1788, by whom he had four daughters and three sons. [See Biographical notice.]

Benjamin, son of second John, born Dec. 1, 1772; 1805, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. Richard Toppan, who had moved from Newburyport to Topsham, 1799. She was of the fourth generation in descent from John Robinson, of Leyden memory. They had eleven children, of whom two sons received a Collegiate education, viz., John, who graduated at Bowdoin College, 1834, studied divinity at Bangor, and is now settled in the ministry at Alfred, Me.; Henry, graduated at Bowdoin College, 1846, and is settled as a lawyer in Brunswick. [See Biographical notice.]

Margaret, daughter of second John, born Sept 1, 1774, married Samuel Chandler, Nov., 1800.

James, son of second John, born May 12, 1776, went to sea, settled in Newburn, S. C., little or nothing known of him for forty years.

Adam, son of second John, born April 20, 1778; apprenticed to Hon. Benj. Russell, in the printing business, Boston; went to Tobago, West Indies, 1798; Attorney for Plantations and Master in Chancery in the King's Court; died there, Jan., 1820; never married.

Mary, daughter of second John, married Rev. Wm. Miltimore, and now lives in Litchfield.

Annis, daughter of second John, born Sept. 22, 1782; in the fall of 1805, married Rev. David McGregor, and died the year following, leaving no issue.

Hugh, son of second John, born Sept. 28, 1784; in the

fall of 1805, he went to his brother in Tobago, where he died, after a residence of six months.

John, son of second John, born Aug. 21, 1786; married Ann McAfee, of Bedford, and moved to Elba, N. Y., about 1810, where he still lives; had two sons, (one died in infancy,) and five daughters; settled in New York and farther west.

Jane, daughter of second John and his wife Sarah, born May, 1789; married John P. Wallace, Merrimac; removed to Greensborough, Vt., where they still live. They had three sons that lived to maturity; one died on his way to Texas; the second is a successful teacher; the younger is preparing for College.

William, son of second John and Sarah, born 1790; graduated at Dartmouth College, 1815; studied law in Troy, N. Y.; settled in New Orleans, where he died, 1828; never married.

Isaac, son of second John and Sarah, born June, 1792; graduated at Yale College; [See Biographical notice;] married Mary Morris, by whom he had three sons, of whom one is living in Detroit, the other two dead; again married, Matilda Kidder, by whom he had two sons, of whom one is living.

Sarah, daughter of second John and Sarah, born 1794; married Rev. Wm. Chapin, as his second wife, and lives in Greensborough, Vt.; they have two children, son and daughter. Mr. Chapin died 1850.

Robert, son of second John and Sarah, born Dec. 23, 1797; graduated at Yale College, 1820; studied law with his brother, Benjamin, Brunswick, Me.; settled in Topsham, where he died in 1829.

Ann, daughter of second John and Sarah, born 1799; July, 1825, married Rev. Samuel A. Worcester; went with him to the Cherokee Mission, Georgia, and with part of the tribe, removed west to Arkansas; settled at Park hill, New-Echota, where she died, leaving a number of children. At the time of the trouble with the Indians in Georgia, her husband was unjustly imprisoned, on which occasion she manifested great fortitude and resolution.

Elizabeth, daughter of second John and Sarah, born July 1, 1801; died in Saugus, Mass., where she was attending school, under the care of Rev. Joseph Emerson, 1822.

PARKER. *Josiah Parker* came from England, to this country, some time prior to 1700.

Thomas, son of *Josiah*, born Dec. 7, 1700; graduated at Harvard College, 1718; settled in the ministry at Dracut, 1721; died March 18, 1765. He had children,—*Thomas*, *John*, *William*, *Matthew* and *Jonathan*.

John, son of *Thomas*, the clergyman, married, and had children,—*Lydia*, who married *Thomas Whittle*; *Nabby*, who married *William Parker*; *Polly*, who married *John Boies*, and went to Maine; *Sally*, who married *James Martin*; *Lucy*, who married *John Tufts*; *John*, who married *Letty Moor*; *William*, who married *Hannah Aiken*, as his first wife, and *Widow McGaw*, as his second.

William, son of *Thomas*, the clergyman, (killed in the mill-yard,) married *Mehitabel Baldwin*, Boston, and had children,—*Betsy*, who married *John Barber*, Boston; *Polly*, who married *Jonas Varnum*, Dracut; *William*, who married *Nabby Parker*, Litchfield; *John*, who went to sea and was lost.

William, son of the above, born Jan. 21, 1755, died July, 1819; married *Nabby Parker*, born Oct. 25, 1765, died June, 1846. They had children,—*Susan*, born Oct. 21, 1783, married *Jonathan Palmer*, died 1844; *Daniel*, born Sept. 20, 1786, married *Polly McAfee*; *William*, born April 28, 1789, married *Susan Whittle*; *Betsy*, born Sept. 23, 1791, married *James Parker, Esq.*, for her first husband; *Isaac*, born June 23, 1794, married *Jane Poor*; *Robert*, born May 13, 1797, married, as his second wife, *Mille Rand*, died 1844; *Gilman*, born July 7, 1800, married *Ann Hills*, died 1846; *John*, born May 7, 1803, married *Eliza Goffe*; *Mary*, born May 11, 1806, married *L. F. Harris*; *Edward*, born March 22, 1809, died April 8, 1815.

James, son of *Matthew* of Litchfield, born 1774, died March 26, 1822, married *Betsy Parker*, and had children,—*Henry C.*, born Jan. 22, 1813, and *Jannet M.*, born May 2, 1821, died April 16, 1822. Mrs. P. married *James Walker*, and had two children,—*James P.* and *Charles H.* *James P.*, at the age of 22, is about to enter College, and *Charles K.*, aged 20, is an engineer on the Montreal Rail-Road.

PARKER. *Ebenezer*, born in Chelmsford, Mass.; removed to Merrimac, N. H., married *Keziah*, daughter of *Benj. Hassell*. *Keziah's* oldest sister was the first white child born in Merrimac. He died in Merrimac, April 18, 1804, aged 51, and his wife, Feb. 24, 1816, aged 68. They had children,—*John*, *Benjamin*, *Jesse*, *Joseph*, *Rachel*, *Betsy* and

Willard. Of Rachel's children, two became ministers, viz., David and Cyrus Mills, the former of which is settled in Peoria, the latter, Missionary in Ceylon. Willard, son of Ebenezer, settled in Bedford, married Anna, daughter of Hugh Riddle, and had children, — Ann M., John O. Sarah R., Margaret P. and William C. Ann M. married Nathan Richardson; John O. married Annis Cochran, New Boston; Sarah R. married John U. French. Jesse, son of Ebenezer, married Jane Moore, and had children, — Jesse, Jane, Thomas, Keziah and Ebenezer. Jesse, the father, died 1824; Ebenezer, youngest son, died 1834, aged 14.

PATTEN. *John Patten* came, with his family, to this country in 1728, and to this town in 1738; he died 1746, and his widow, Oct., 1764.

Samuel, son of John, born in Ireland, 1713, married Mary Bell, Dec. 5, 1746, by whom he had ten children.

Mary, born Dec. 1, 1747, married Tho's Townsend, 1794.

Sarah, born March 17, 1749, married Zech. Chandler.

Elizabeth, born Nov. 12, 1750, married John O'Neil, by whom she had six children, — John, Samuel, Edmund, James, Ann and William.

Samuel, born Aug. 10, 1752, married Deborah Moore, by whom he had ten children, — John, born Feb. 6, 1778; Jenny, Nov. 26, 1779; Joseph, Nov. 8, 1781; Peggy, Nov. 9, 1783; Deborah, Nov. 19, 1785; Sarah, May 6, 1788; Mary, April 28, 1790; Olive, April 16, 1792; Alice, July 30, 1795; Samuel, Dec. 12, 1797.

Margaret, born Aug. 18, 1754, died May, 1799.

John, born June 23, 1756, married Hannah, daughter of John Wallace, by whom he had five children, — John, born April 14, 1788; Nancy, Jan. 25, 1790; Hannah, March 25, 1792; Samuel, Feb. 22, 1794; Zacheus, Sept. 28, 1796.

Joseph, son of Samuel, born Jan. 3, 1758, married Mary Dickey, by whom he had ten children, — William, born April 11, 1791; Deborah, Aug. 19, 1792, died April 29, 1793; Jane, Feb. 14, 1794; Achsah, Jan. 3, 1796; Irena, May 17, 1797; Margaret, March 5, 1799; Vina, Dec. 14, 1800; Samuel, March 30, 1803; Adam N., June 19, 1805; Ann, Sept. 7, 1808.

William, son of Joseph, married Hannah, daughter of

John Patten. They brought up, as adopted daughter, Mary, daughter of John W. Moor, born Nov. 14, 1814, died Jan., 1841.

Jane, daughter of Joseph, married Mr. Isaac Gage, as his second wife.

Achsah, daughter of Joseph, married Capt. John Patten.

Margaret, daughter of Joseph, married Joseph H. Stevens.

Vina, daughter of Joseph, married John Adams, 1850.

Samuel, son of Joseph, married Keziah, daughter of Jesse Parker, by whom she had three children, — Edwin H., born March 15, 1841; John A., Sept. 20, 1843; Samuel H., March 14, 1849.

Adam N., son of Joseph, married Clarissa, daughter of Abijah Hodgman, born Aug. 4, 1806, by whom he had four children, — Joseph, born Jan. 6, 1833, died Feb., 1834; Samuel J., April 7, 1836; William M., Oct. 22, 1841; Abigail A., Nov. 23, 1846.

Ann, daughter of Joseph, married Jona. Knight, died 1843.

John, son of John, married Achsah, daughter of Joseph Patten, by whom he had ten children, — Asenath, born Nov. 24, 1818; Wm. B., Nov. 7, 1821; Margaret A., Dec. 7, 1823; Alfred F., Feb. 13, 1827; Lavina J., Nov. 24, 1828; Clarissa J., Sept. 3, 1831, died June 14, 1832; Samuel J., April 21, 1833; Mary J., Jan. 17, 1837; Sarah E., Jan. 20, 1840; Charles H., Oct. 1, 1844. John, the father, was killed by the fall of a tree, Jan. 31, 1851.

Nancy, daughter of John, married Capt. Jo. Moore, by whom she had three children, — Maria, (dead,) John P. and Henry C.

Jane, daughter of first Samuel, born Feb. 11, 1760, married Daniel Gould, by whom she had one child, who died June, 1794.

Matthew, son of first Samuel, born July 19, 1762, died June 16, 1763.

Ann, daughter of first Samuel, born June 12, 1764, married James Miller, by whom she had one child, Achsah P.

Matthew, (Hon.) son of John Patten that came over. [See Biographical sketch.] He married Elizabeth, daughter of John McMurphy, of Londonderry, by whom he had eleven children, — Susannah, married Thomas Taggart, of Col-raine; John, died of small pox in Canada, in Revolutionary war; Matthew, died in infancy; James, went to Ohio, was under St. Clair in the Indian War, and prisoner among the Indians four years; Betsy, married Hugh Talford, of Ches-

ter; Robert, married Jane Shirley, of Goffstown; David, unmarried; Mary, or Aunt Polly, as she was called, was a woman of uncommon memory of facts and dates, and is alluded to in the course of this History, unmarried; Alexander, married Lydia Atwood, of this town; Jane, unmarried; Sarah, unmarried — the only one surviving, (1850.)

PRICHARD. This is among the early names of New England. There was *Hugh Prichard*, of Roxbury, 1642.

Benjamin, born in Boxford, Mass., 1769. He moved to New Ipswich, N. H., was married Oct. 4, 1791, and had children, — Alanson, Bernice, Martha, Benjamin and Silva.

Bernice, son of Benjamin, born in New Ipswich, moved to Bedford, and had children, — Martha A., Asenath, Eunice and Clara.

RAND. This name is of French origin. It was formerly spelt Randé, and pronounced Ronda. Of the ancestry of this family, little is known farther back than *Rev. John Rand*, born in Charlestown, Mass., where all of the name, so far as known, originated. He was born Jan. 24, 1727, took degree at Harvard College, in 1747. He settled in Lyndeborough, N. H., as first Congregational minister of that town, about 1761, and soon after married Sarah, daughter of Col. John Goffe, of Derryfield, now Manchester. He removed to Derryfield, in 1765, and never preached statedly afterwards, but received a commission of Justice of Peace, under George the third, and removed to Bedford, in 1778, where he died, in October, 1805, aged 77. His wife survived him about three years. They were buried in the old graveyard, in the east part of the town. They had seven children, three born in Lyndeborough, and four in Derryfield. John and Jonathan, twins, born June 24, 1762; Mille, Feb. 5, 1764; Robert, May 13, 1767; Sarah, Jan. 20, 1774; Nehemiah and Thomas, twins, May 22, 1776. John, one of the twins, died in Oct., 1780; the others lived to be settled in life. Mille and Robert married into the family of Mr. John Gordon, of Bedford. Jonathan and Sarah married into the family of Dea. Ephraim Abbot, of Amherst, now Mt. Vernon. [See Abbot family.] Nehemiah and Thomas married in New Boston. Jonathan resided principally in Bedford. He died

June, 1848, aged 86. Mille resided in Washington, N. H., and died in 1833, aged 69, a few years after the death of her husband. Robert settled first in Bedford, then removed to Washington, N. H., and then to Orange, Vt. He died at Swanton, Vt., while connected with the army, during the last war with Great Britain, in 1814, aged 47. Sarah, wife of Rev. Samuel Abbot, still lives at the age of 76. Nehemiah settled first in Bedford, then removed to Plattsburg, N. Y., then returned to New Boston, where he now resides with his children, having buried his wife. Thomas settled in West Springfield, Mass., 1803, where he and his wife now reside; having been in the gospel ministry, 51 years.

Dea. Jonathan Rand, of Bedford, had eight children, — Mille, born April 29, 1795, married Robert Parker, of Bedford; Esther P., born Dec. 30, 1796; Jonathan, born Jan. 11, 1799, drowned in Merrimac River, June 6, 1810; John, born Jan. 27, 1801, distinguished as an artist; Ephraim, born Dec. 17, 1803, married Catharine Gray, Augusta, Me.; Sarah, born Feb. 3, 1806, died Feb. 8, 1832; Dorothy, born May 15, 1809, died May 16, 1811; Philinda, P., born July 9, 1811, died April 6, 1832.

RIDDLE. This name was originally spelt, Riddel. Three brothers, Gawn, sometimes spelt Gaen, Hugh, and Robert, came to this country about the year 1737, from Colrairie, County Derry, north of Ireland, being descended from Scotch ancestors. They first settled in Londonderry, N. H. About the year 1758, they removed to Bedford. Robert and Hugh settled on land adjoining each other, in the north part of the town, and subsequently removed to Colrairie, Mass., where some of their descendants still reside. Among them is the present Secretary of the American Education Society, who retains the original spelling of the name. Another, Rev. D. H. Riddle, D. D., this year moderator of the New School Assembly, Detroit, Michigan.

Gawn, was born in 1700, and died Dec. 29, 1779, aged 79. He settled about half a mile west of the town-house, at the centre of the town, near a small mill-brook. An old well still remains at the spot. He married Mary, daughter of John Bell, who came over from Ireland in the same vessel, when about fourteen years of age. She died in Bedford, Jan. 7,

1813, aged 92. They had six children, who all settled in Bedford:—John, David, Susannah, Hugh, Isaac and William.

John, son of Gawn, born 1754, died Nov 18, 1813, aged 59. He settled near the place now known as Riddle's Mill. By occupation, he was a millwright, and built most of the mills that were in operation in this section of the country at that time. He owned the farm where he resided, and was a very industrious, hard-working man. In 1775, he married Mary McAfee, from whom descended nine children,—Gawn, Molly, Nancy, Sukey, James, Anna, John, Matthew, and William. For his second wife, he married Sarah Hartshorn, by whom he had Gilman and Eliza.

Gawn, son of John, born Jan. 28, 1777, died July, 1837, aged 60. He lived on the homestead place, and held several offices in the town. He married Dolly French, by whom he had Asenath, Albert, and Nancy. She now resides with her son Albert in Amherst. Asenath married Thomas G. Holbrook, and died of consumption in the year 1845. Albert married Miss Wheeler of Merrimac, and after living some time on the homestead, removed to Amherst, where he now resides. Nancy married Gregg Campbell, and died Jan. 31, 1837, aged 33.

Molly, daughter of John, born Dec. 17, 1779. In 1804, she married a Mr. Black, and settled in Prospect, Maine.

Nancy, daughter of John, born Jan. 5, 1781. In 1806, she married William French, and settled in Prospect, Me.

Susannah, daughter of John, was born in 1784. In 1807 she married Daniel Moore, Bedford.

James, son of John, born Jan. 9, 1786, lived on the homestead, was enterprising and energetic, but was unfortunate in losing the use of his limbs by rheumatism, while in the prime of life. He died on town-meeting day, in March, 1827. In 1815, he married Anna, daughter of Col. Stephen Dole. She was born Oct. 16, 1790, died Oct. 11, 1849, aged 59. She had children,—Betsey D., and Sally D. Betsey D. married William, son of Theodore Goffe, and is now settled at the West. Sally D., born March 20, 1820, married Wm. R., son of Capt. Leonard C. French, in 1841, and now resides in Bedford.

Anna, daughter of John, born May, 1789, married James Staples and settled in Prospect, Maine.

John, of the family of John, died at the age of 21.

Matthew, eighth of the family of John, married Sally, daughter of Col. Stephen Dole, and settled in Terre Haute, Indiana.

William, ninth of the family of John, died in 1845.

Gilman, tenth of the family of John, born July, 1811, married Mary J. Eveleth; in 1836. For his second wife, he married Emeline Henry, of Goffstown, in 1841, and now resides in Manchester.

Eliza S., eleventh of the family of John, born in 1813, married, and resides in Belfast, Maine.

David, second son of Gawn, who came over, was born in 1756, and died in 1839, aged 83. He settled near his father's farm; was noted for his originality. In his political principles, he was strongly democratic, differing in that respect from the rest of his brothers. He was a soldier of the Revolution, and received a pension. In 1798, at the age of 42, he married Molly, daughter of Maj. Dunlap, by whom he had John D., Hugh, Martha, and Gilman and Mary, twins, who died.

John D., born March 20, 1802, married Sally, daughter of Lieut. James Gilmore, born Jan. 25, 1805, by whom he had Martha Ann, Margaret, Sarah Jane, David, dead, Mary and Charles.

Hugh, son of David, was born April 8, 1803. When young, he left Bedford, and went to Baltimore, where he was extensively engaged in constructing the public works of that city. In 1837, he built the Baltimore Custom House, and was largely connected in building the first railroads terminating in that place. In 1849, he left Baltimore, in company with others, for California, by the overland route. On this expedition he lost his life, whether killed by some prowling Indian or hostile white, rests in uncertainty. The following is an extract from a letter of Dr. Jesse Moore, formerly of this town, dated Feb. 19, 1850: "After I had crossed the mountain, while riding on the plains, I saw a flag waving in the distance, and curiosity prompted me to go and see why it was placed there. Beneath its folds, I found a lone grave, at the head of which was a board, with this inscription cut upon it, — 'Hugh Riddle, formerly of Bedford, N. H., aged about 40.' Little did I think of finding the grave of one of my own native townsmen, on the plains of the Pacific." He was esteemed for the generosity and nobleness of his character.

Martha, of this family, born Dec. 16, 1806, married Dan'l Barnard, in 1828, and resides in Bedford.

Susannah, of the family of Gawn, who came over, born in 1759, died Nov. 5, 1841, aged 82. She married Solomon Hutchinson, and settled in the town of Merrimac; after-

wards removed to Maine. They had Samuel, David, Solomon, Eliza, Sally, Susannah, Roxiana, Nancy, Hannah, and Mary, of whom we have no account, except Nancy, born in 1787, and married Capt. L. C. French, in 1808. Resides in Bedford.

Hugh, son of Gawn, who came over, married Ann Maria, daughter of Rev. John Houston. He was a Revolutionary soldier, entering the army at the age of 17. He died, Aug. 1833. His wife died April 20, 1837, at the age of 72. They had Gawn, Robert, Polly, Sally, Susannah, and Jane.

Gawn married Betsey, daughter of Lieut. James Moore, and settled near his father. For his second wife, he married Rebecca, daughter of Robert Walker, son of the first settler. They had Hugh, Elizabeth, Ann, and Edward.

Robert, second son of Hugh, was a graduate of Yale College, studied medicine, and settled in Bedford. He was considered a skilful physician, and was fast rising in notice, when he died in the prime of life, in 1828, leaving many to mourn his loss.

Anna, of this family, born March 3, 1794, married Willard Parker in 1820, and resides on the homestead.

Polly, of this family, born Feb. 12, 1796, married Daniel L. French, in 1820. He left the pursuits of agriculture, and pursued a theological education at Gilmanton, and was ordained pastor of the church at Nelson, N. H., where he resides.

Sally, of this family, born Nov. 7, 1799, married Col. Daniel C. Gould, in 1842. He was formerly a merchant at Henniker, now resident at Manchester.

Susan, of this family, born Oct. 10, 1801, married Dea. Robert Boyd, of Londonderry. She died in 1849.

Jane, of this family, born September 11, 1804, married Eleazer, son of Dea. Richard Dole, in 1825; died of consumption, March 1834.

Isaac, fifth of the family of Gawn, who came over, born June 10, 1762, settled in the centre village, Bedford, in 1798, and married Ann, daughter of Capt. James and Margaret Aiken, who was born Nov. 12, 1764. Her death, April 6, 1804, was very sudden, occasioned by a fall from her horse, at her own door. She was just going on horseback to visit her brother, William Riddle, who had broken his leg in the saw-mill. Her neck was dislocated, and she died in an hour, at the age of forty, deeply lamented. They had William P.,

James, Isaac, Gilman, and David. In 1806, he married Margaret, daughter of Jacob McGaw, of Merrimac, born May 25, 1776, died Dec. 19, 1816. She was an accomplished lady, and a member of the church in Bedford. They had Jacob McGaw, Rebecca, and Margaret Ann. In 1820, he married Mrs. Mary Vinal, of Quincy, Mass., for his third wife. She was daughter of Enoch Lincoln, and sister of Capt. Lincoln, one of the party that destroyed the tea in Boston harbor, in 1776. She was born, Jan. 27, 1760, and died April 5, 1837. She was a woman highly esteemed for her social and religious worth. About the time of his marriage to Mrs. Vinal, Mr. Riddle removed from Bedford to Quincy. He built a spacious mansion at Quincy Point, and there spent the remainder of his life. He died suddenly, from the effects of a slight wound received at the time his factory was burnt at Souhegan; the wound terminating in mortification. His remains were brought from Quincy, and deposited in the family tomb at Bedford, being the first laid there. Mrs. Riddle died at Quincy, April 5, 1837, and was entombed there with her first husband.

William P., son of the above, born April 6, 1789, settled at Piscataquog Village, and commenced trade in 1811. In 1824, he married Sarah, daughter of Capt John Ferguson. She was born June 4, 1794, died June 14, 1837. They had the following children, — Margaret Aiken, born Sept. 9, 1824, died Oct. 5, 1828; George Washington, Nov. 9, 1826; William Quincy, June 8, 1828; Daniel Willshire, born May 13, 1830, died Sept. 15, 1831; Sarah Maria, May 24, 1832; Daniel Willshire, July 12, 1833; Carroll, Aug. 2, 1834.

James, second son of Isaac, born June 26, 1791, settled in Merrimac-Souhegan, known also as Riddle's Village. In 1810 he married Charlotte, sister of John Farmer, Esq., the distinguished antiquarian. She was born July 20, 1792, and died at Quincy, 1825, where she was on a visit. She was an amiable, beautiful woman. She had children, — Charlotte, Margaret and Mary Ann. In 1828, he married Laura, daughter of Mr. Solomon Barker, of Pelham, born Jan 11, 1802, died March 4, 1831. In 1833 he married again, Eliza Hunt, born May 6, 1807, who survives him, and resides in Nashville, N. H. She had Eliza Frances. Mr. James Riddle died Nov. 24, 1840, aged 49. His remains rest in the family tomb at Bedford, with his wives. Of this branch, Charlotte M., born Feb. 20, 1817, married Nathan Parker,

Esq., 1837, and now resides in Manchester ; Mary Ann Lincoln, born Aug. 9, 1823 ; Eliza Frances, born Sept. 4, 1832.

Isaac, son of Isaac, the son of Gawn, who came over, born July 25, 1793, married Betsy, daughter of Dea. Aiken, Sept. 30, 1818. They had children, as follows, — Ann Elizabeth, born Feb. 18, 1820, died Jan. 26, 1850 ; Isaac Newton, born Aug. 12, 1832 ; Jane Aiken, July 6, 1825, married B. F. White ; John Aiken, Sept. 8, 1826 ; Silas Aiken, July 22, 1831. Mrs. Riddle died Oct. 21, 1843. For his second wife, he married Mrs. Ursula S. Aubin, of Newburyport, born Feb. 11, 1815. She had one daughter, Frances Ellen, born Nov. 28, 1839.

Gilman, fourth of the family of the first Isaac, born Nov. 28, 1795, died Oct. 8, 1799.

David, fifth of this family, born Aug. 27, 1797. He entered Dartmouth College, 1814, but was obliged to leave on account of his slender health. In 1826, he married Mary, daughter of Jedediah Lincoln, born Sept. 28, 1798, by whom he had children, — Mary E., born April 16, 1827 ; Gilman, born Oct. 18, 1828, died Sept. 11, 1835 ; Charles L., born Dec. 7, 1830 ; Adeline, April 11, 1833. David died in Merrimac, after which the family removed to Hingham, where they now reside. In 1815, Mr. R., on account of his health, made a voyage to Europe, under the care of Capt. McGregor, in the brig Randolph, of Boston. His disease was caused by a tape-worm, which, during his sea-sickness on the voyage, was discharged, being something like 100 feet in length ; after which he enjoyed good health, and engaged in business in Merrimac.

Jacob McGaw, sixth of the family of Isaac, born Dec. 30, 1806, educated at the Military Academy, Norwich, Vt., then under charge of Capt. Partridge. At the age of eighteen, he went to sea ; was a mariner by profession. He was lost at sea on his fifth voyage, Sept. 21, 1835. The circumstances were remarkable. He was first mate of the new brig Washington, of Boston, on her first voyage to Cadiz with a cargo of staves, twelve hours out of Boston, about ten miles south of Nantucket Shoals, off Cape Cod, about 10 at night, after all hands had turned in, she was struck by a flaw of wind and capsized bottom up, when all on board, twelve in number, perished, except the man at the helm, Haskins by name, of Portland, who succeeded in getting on the keel of the brig, and was taken off next day by the inward-bound ship "Jacob Perkins."

Margaret Ann, seventh of this family, born July 7, 1809. In 1830, she married Gen. Joseph C. Stevens, merchant in Bangor, Me.

Rebecca, eighth of this family, born Aug. 13, 1811, died of spotted fever, Aug. 9, 1812.

William, sixth of the family of Gawn who came over, born July 5, 1765, lived on the homestead, and inherited his father's estate. In 1791, he married Janet, daughter of Alexander Gilchrist, of Goffstown. She was born July 12, 1768, and died Nov. 9, 1838. They had children, — Polly, William, Martha, Freeman, Jane, Marinda, Benjamin F. and Margaret T. William, the father, died July, 1838, leaving a character behind him distinguished for public and private virtues. He held many important offices of trust in the town. For many years he was town treasurer, and held the commission of civil magistrate.

Polly, first of the family of William, born June 22, 1792, married Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Jan 8, 1813, died April 20, 1819.

William, second of the family of William, born Feb. 8, 1794. In 1828, he married Mrs. Anna, widow of James Riddle, (family of John Riddle.) He died of dropsy, Dec. 26, 1849. He had children, — Laura, born April 17, 1831, and James W., born March 12, 1833, died Aug. 31, 1849.

Martha, third of the family of William Riddle, Esq., born April 18, 1796, married Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Aug. 18, 1819, died Aug. 19, 1832.

Freeman, fourth of this family, born March 13, 1798, graduated at Yale College, 1816, studied and practised medicine, settled in Upper Canada, and there died, of consumption, Jan. 21, 1826.

Jane, fifth of this family, born Sept. 3, 1800, married John Goffe, Jan. 31, 1826, and resides on the old homestead.

Marinda, sixth of this family, born April 6, 1802, lived at home till 1838, then went to St. Clair, Michigan, where she died Oct. 24, 1840.

Benj. F., seventh of this family, born May 20, 1804, lived on the farm till 1840, when he removed to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he now resides. In 1830, he married Abigail D., daughter of Capt. Joseph Colley, and had children, — Mary, Joseph, Benj. F., Abby, Jane and Freeman.

Margaret T., eighth of this branch, born June 22, 1806. She married Reuben, son of Capt. Joseph Moor, of Manchester, in 1831, and settled in St. Clair, Michigan, where they now reside.

Note.—At the head of this Genealogy, in naming the three brothers that first came over, it should be John instead of Robert. John and Hugh occupied the McAllister place. Rbt. was son of Hugh. John had a daughter, Mary or Molly, who lived and died in this town. Not known what became of John.

SPOFFORD. *John Spofford* came from Yorkshire, England, (where the name and family have been traced back to 1265,) with the Rev. Ezekiel Rogers, and settled in Rowley, Mass., 1638, and was one of the first settlers of that ancient town. He married in this country, Elizabeth, family name not known. Their children were, — Elizabeth, born Dec., 1646; John, born Oct. 24, 1648, married Sarah Wheeler; Thomas, born Nov. 4, 1650; Samuel, Jan. 31, 1652, ancestor of the Andover Spoffords; Hannah, April 1, 1654; Mary, Sept. 1, 1656; Sarah, Jan. 15, 1658, died Feb. 16, 1660; Sarah, born March 24, 1662; Francis, Sept. 24, 1665.

John, son of first John, married Sarah Wheeler, by whom he had children, — John, born June 12, 1678, married Dorcas Hopkinson; Mary, born May 4, 1680; David, Nov. 23, 1681; Jonathan, May 28, 1684; Martha, May 16, 1686; Ebenezer, June 15, 1690; Nathaniel, Sept. 10, 1691; Sarah, Dec. 20, 1693.

John, son of second John, married Dorcas Hopkinson, and had children, — Francis, born Feb. 19, 1702, went to Connecticut, had many connections; John, born March 19, 1704, went to Charlestown, N. H.; Abner, born Aug. 21, 1705, Deacon in Second Church, Rowley, Mass., died 1777; Sarah, born Feb. 21, 1707; Daniel, born April, 1721, Deacon in Second Church, Rowley, and Colonel in militia; Dorcas; Eliphalet, born 1725.

Abner, son of third John, married Sarah Coleman, and had children, — Rachel, born Sept. 23, 1735; Eliza, Aug. 12, 1739, settled in Jeffrey; Sarah, March 4, 1741; John, Feb. 20, 1742; Huldah, Nov. 11, 1744; Abraham, Feb. 3, 1748; Pnebe, Jan. 6, 1751; Isaac, April 10, 1752, physician in Beverly, Mass.; Jacob, Feb. 26, 1754, married Mary Tenney.

Jacob, youngest son of Abner, married as above, and had children, — Mary, born Feb. 18, 1778, married Jeremiah Kimball, Ipswich; Hannah, Oct. 27, 1779; Sarah, Aug. 18, 1781; Huldah, July 30, 1783, died 1810; Elizabeth, June

3, 1785, died 1786 ; Chandler, May 28, 1788, married Betsey W. Cobb, who is a descendant, by mother, from Elder Brewster, of the May Flower ; Elizabeth, Feb. 13, 1789, died 1832 ; Austin, Jan. 23, 1791, died 1796 ; Sophia, Nov. 12, 1793, died 1832 ; John, Sept. 18, 1795 ; Austin, Dec. 23, 1798, died 1837 ; Uriah, Dec. 13, 1800.

Chandler, son of Jacob, married Miss Cobb, Derry, came to Bedford, 1820 ; children, — Jerusha, born May 29, 1813 ; Susan, Aug. 9, 1814 ; Lemuel Chandler, May 31, 1816, graduate Dartmouth College, 1843 ; John Tenny, April 29, 1821, (settled in Manchester, and married Miss French, Candia, John's wife died, and he married Miss Eaton, of Candia, 1850.) William Henry, April 2, 1828.

SHEPARD. *Thomas Shepard* was in this country at a very early period. Nov. 19, 1658, he married Hannah Ensign, of Scituate, and resided part of the time at Milton, Mass., where he died Sept. 26, 1719.

Jacob, son of the above, married Mercy Chickering, Charlestown, Mass., Nov. 22, 1699. About 1704, he purchased a farm in what is now Foxborough, Mass., at that time within the limits of Dorchester, probably, as his children's births are there recorded. The farm was near a pond, still known by the name of "Shepard's pond."

Thomas, son of Jacob, married Content White, of Taunton, June 5, 1735. He lived in Norton, Mass., where he died Oct. 19, 1774.

George, son of the last Thomas, born in Norton, Jan. 12, 1757, married Eunice Makepeace, of Boston, 1761. They had children, — Thomas, born Feb. 7, 1782 ; Nancy, Jan. 8, 1784, died 1818 ; Sophia, June 14, 1786, died 1816 ; George, Sept. 12, 1790 ; Charles, May 8, 1799 ; Otis, April 12, 1793 ; Mary, Aug. 7, 1802 ; Silas, March 29, 1805.

Thomas, son of George and Eunice, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Holmes, Derry, N. H., May 16, 1811. She was born May 11, 1750. They had children, — John H., born March 11, 1812 ; Charles F., Oct. 17, 1813 ; George, Jan. 20, 1816, died 1845 ; James S., Sept. 24, 1818 ; Mary J., Nov. 9, 1820 ; Nancy P., Aug. 15, 1828 ; Thomas, Aug. 5, 1826 ; William M. Oct. 15, 1828.

John H., son of Thomas and Elizabeth, married Lucy, daughter of Wm. Pierson, Tewksbury, Mass., Dec. 21, 1841,

and had one child, John P., Nov. 21, 1844. She died April 9, 1845. He married Sarah A., sister of his first wife, Oct. 9, 1845, by whom he had children, — William P., June 21, 1847; Lucy A., May 21, 1849.

Charles F., son of Thomas and Elizabeth, married Louisa A., daughter of Capt. Ebenezer Perry, of Amherst, N. H., Feb. 20, 1838. They had children, — Charlotte A. P., born Dec. 27, 1838, died 1849; Nancy J., born June 11, 1842, died 1842; George F., born April 20, 1845.

James F., son of Thomas and Elizabeth, married Gratia A., daughter of Abraham Moore, of Hancock, N. H., July 14, 1842. They had children, — Gratia E., born Jan., 1845, died 1845; Martha A., born Feb., 1847, died 1848; James A., born Nov., 1848.

Mary J., daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth, married Hugh R., son of Rev. Daniel French, Oct. 27, 1842, and has one child, George M., born Jan. 6, 1846.

Thomas S., son of Thomas and Elizabeth, married M. A., daughter of Abraham More, Hancock, N. H., Aug. 6, 1845, and had one child, born April, 1850, died 1850. His wife died Oct. 4, 1850, at the age of 25.

Nancy, daughter of George and Eunice, married William Parker, Litchfield, N. H., 1805. Had children, — George, born 1806, Mary Ann, James and Elizabeth.

Sophia, daughter of George and Eunice, married William, son of Elijah Chandler, Nov. 27, 1808. Had children, — Caleb, born 1809; William B., 1811; Sarah, 1814; Sophia, 1816.

George, son of George and Eunice, married Miss Quig, New York, 1818, where he resides and has a family.

Otis, son of George and Eunice, married Susan, daughter of Joseph Nevens, Hollis, N. H., 1818, and had children, — Alfred B., born April 10, 1819; Charles A., July 31, 1824; Frances M., Dec. 24, 1821; Alexander, March 6, 1826.

Charles, son of George and Eunice, married Betsy Wright, of Chelmsford, Mass., Nov., 1824. They had children, — Charles, born Oct. 10, 1826; Sylvester, May 17, 1831; George W., Feb. 8, 1833. Mrs. S. died, 1850.

Mary, daughter of George and Eunice, married Amiel, son of Moses Noyes, Amherst, N. H., August, 1824, and had children, — Lucy J., Mary A., Sarah E., Albert, Alfred, Adeline, Alvira and Nancy.

Silas, son of George and Eunice, married Lydia, daughter of Moses Noyes, Amherst, N. H., and had two children, — Sarah and Lucy F.

SMITH. *Deacon Benj. Smith* came to this country from the north of Ireland, in 1738, and settled first in Londonderry. Catharine McCurdy, afterwards his wife, was born in the County of Antrim, in the Parish of Billy, and in infancy, with her parents, fled from persecution into the Highlands of Scotland, and her first dialect was the Erse of the Highlands, which she could always converse in. Returned to Ireland, and, with her family, emigrated to America in the same vessel with Benjamin Smith, and their first acquaintance was on board the vessel. They were married in early life in Londonderry. He was about 21, she a year or two older. They soon removed to Bedford, and were among the first settlers. They died at an advanced age, without a reproach to their character, he in October, 1812, aged about 92, she in December, 1814, aged about 96. At the funeral of her husband, Mrs. Smith bid a farewell to her pretty prentice boy, for such he was when she first knew him. They had seven children, four sons and three daughters.

Robert, the oldest son, married a Miss Sarah Tucker, of Pennsylvania, and settled first in Londonderry. Removed from there to New York, and lastly to Pennsylvania, where he died, leaving a posterity, which we cannot trace.

James married Miss Elizabeth Mack, of Londonderry, and removed to Marietta, Ohio, where he died, leaving descendants that are unknown here.

John, married Miss Margaret Dinsmore, of Windham, and settled in New Chester, now Hill. They had four or five sons, and three daughters. Three sons, Daniel, John and James went west, place unknown. Robert, his youngest son, still lives in Hill. Two daughters died at mature age, unmarried; and one daughter married a Mr. McMurphy, settled first in New Chester, and afterwards moved west.

Elizabeth, oldest daughter of Dea. Benjamin, married Joshua Tolford, and settled in Alexandria, N. H. Their family removed to the north-west part of New York.

Mary S., second daughter of Dea. Benjamin, married Hugh Campbell, and resided some time in Bedford; removed from

there to New Chester, and from there to the State of New York. Some of the family now reside in the neighborhood of Sandusky, Ohio.

Jane, youngest daughter of Dea. Benjamin, married the Hon. John Orr. She died in 1786, leaving eight children, that lived to mature age, and are noticed as descendants of John Orr.

Adam, the youngest child of Dea. Benjamin, married Miss Ann McAllister, and settled on the home farm. They had nine children; two died in infancy, and seven lived to mature age. Margaret, the oldest, married David Houston, and settled laterly in Illinois, where he died, in May, 1845. Three daughters and two sons died of consumption. Adam, Jr., left two sons. Catharine married David P. Foster, now settled in Lawrence, Mass., and has three children, all living.

STEVENS. *Abial*, born in Andover, Mass., came to Bedford, 1780, married Dorothy Martin, by whom he had four children, — David, Dolly, Martha and Polly.

David, son of Abial, married Judith Spofford, of Andover, daughter of Thomas Spofford and Ruxby Moody of Rowley, his wife.

Dolly, daughter of Abial, married Joshua Wilson, of Andover, by whom she had eleven sons and one daughter.

Martha, daughter of Abial, married Dea. Aaron Gage, of Merrimac, by whom she had ten children, — Hannah, (widow of late Dea. Wm. Moore,) Aaron, Benjamin, Naomi, Solomon, Isaac, Sarah, Mary, Martha and Fanny.

Polly, daughter of Abial, married Daniel Kimball, of Andover, and had a large family.

David, son of Abial, was a soldier of the Revolution; was at Bunker Hill and Ticonderoga; came to Bedford with his father, and owned and lived on the farm where Dea. Moody M. now lives. He died Dec. 23, 1819, aged 64. He had nine children, — Greenleaf, Moody Martin, John, David, Solomon, Judith, Dolly, Polly and Jeremiah.

Moody M., son of David, the only one of the children living, married Eunice, daughter of Elijah Chandler, by whom he had nine children, — Abigail, Caroline Elizabeth, (who married Nathan Parker,) Elijah Chandler, William Bradford, (physician at Asylum for the Insane, Concord, who married

Eliza A. Morrison,) Eunice, David, Martha G. and Harriet A. The two last, with their mother, have recently been called home, as is hoped, to their rest in heaven; the mother, at the age of 64, and the two daughters, one 23, the other 22.

John, son of David, who was the son of Abial, married Betsy Foster, who lived but a short time, leaving one child. He then married Abigail Stevens, and settled in Goffstown, where he became a Deacon in the Congregational Church. They had four children, one only surviving.

David, son of David, married Betsy Rider, grand-daughter of Elijah Chandler, by whom he had eight children, — George, David, Mary Jane, Harriet, Greenleaf, Moody Adoniram, Cordelia and John Newton. The parents are dead, and of the children, Cordelia is dead.

STEVENS. *Benjamin*, born in England, 1721, came to this country and settled in Hampstead, N. H., married Miss A. Johnson, and had children, — Timothy, Jonathan, Eunice, Benjamin, Abigail, David, Phebe and Mary.

Benjamin, son of the above, born in Goffstown, June 30, 1750, married Miss A. Hadley, by whom he had children, — Martha, Joseph, Anna, Abigail and Benjamin.

Benjamin, son of the above, born in Goffstown, May 21, 1787, married Miss A. Dickerman, by whom he had children, — Benjamin, Joseph H., Persis, Alfred, Daniel L., Benj. F. and Martha.

Joseph H., of the last Benjamin, born in Goffstown, April 6, 1812, married Margaret Patten, by whom he has one child, Mary J. Anderson.

SWETT. *Moses*, born in Newburyport, came to Bedford about 1786, married Hannah Plummer, of Newburyport, and had children, — Jonathan, Moses, Ebenezer, Hannah, Betsy, Mary and Lydia.

Moses, son of the above, born 1776, married Nancy Goodin, of Portland, and had children, — Polly, Jane, Edmund, Daniel, Nancy and Moses. Moses, the father, died in 1848.

Polly, daughter of second Moses, married Phares Gardner, and moved to Merrimac, where they had children.

Jane, daughter of second Moses, married David Melville, of Amherst; had no children.

Edmund, son of second Moses, married Betsy Lovejoy, of Amherst, and moved to Middlesex, Mass.; no children.

Daniel, son of second Moses, married Nancy Bryant, of Deering, March, 1820, and had children, — Daniel, born at Boston, Aug. 30, 1821, married and moved to Lowell; David M., born June 8, 1823; Nancy Jane, born June 26, 1825, married Wm. Clement, Hooksett; Caroline, born Aug. 18, 1827; Hannah F., born June 23, 1829; Emeline, born Nov. 15, 1831; Melvinah, born March 5, 1835, died June 7, 1843; Charles Franklin, born May 9, 1840.

Nancy, daughter of second Moses, married Samuel Melville, of Hooksett; no children.

Moses, son of second Moses, married Lucy Lovejoy, of Amherst, May, 1823, and had children, — William, George, Edward and Samuel.

Hannah, daughter of first Moses, married Stephen French.

Betsy, daughter of first Moses, married Dr. Nathan Cutler.

Ebenezer, son of first Moses, still living, with his children, in this town.

VOSE. *Robert*, came from Lancashire, England, about 1638, with a company which set down in Dorchester. In 1640, he purchased a farm in that part of Dorchester, now Milton, containing 140 acres. He lived to a good old age, and left two sons, Edward and Thomas. Edward remained on his father's farm, and from him descended all the Voses that have lived there ever since, till Col. Joseph's death, in 1816. Col. Elijah Vose and his brother Joseph each commanded a regiment in the Revolution.*

Thomas, son of Robert, settled in Milton as a farmer, and was a man of note in his day.

Henry, son of Thomas, settled in a new part of the town, at the lower end of Brush-hill, (so called,) where he died, leaving a number of sons.

Robert, son of Henry, settled on the homestead.

Samuel, son of Robert, moved to Bedford, married Phebe Vickery, and had children, — Thomas, Samuel, Robert, Francis, John, Roger, Mercy and Phebe. Samuel first settled on

* Col. Joseph Vose, mentioned above as belonging to another branch of this family, was the maternal grandfather of the present minister of Bedford. Some of his descendants still live, on the original farm of the first settler, in Milton.

the river-road, near the Merrimac line. It is said he found a pear-tree near Sebbins'-pond, which he transplanted to what is known as the Vose farm.

John, son of Samuel, distinguished as an instructor.

Roger, son of Samuel, married, and had children, — Samuel, John, Phebe, Rachel, Jesse, Mary, Otis, Nancy, Alfred and Cynthia. The family moved to Spencer, New York.

James, (Lieut.) brother of Samuel, who came with him from Milton, Mass., to this town, married, and had children, of whom is Joshua, who lives in this town.

WALKER. *Andrew*, came from the north of Ireland to this country, lived first in Billerica, then in Tewksbury, where he died. He had nine children, of whom the two oldest, Robert and James, were born in Ireland. His children were, — Robert, James, Alexander, Margaret, Mary, Sarah, Nancy, Hannah and Jane.

Robert, son of Andrew, married Rebecca Barnes, of Londonderry, by whom he had seven children, — Sarah, Hannah, John, Andrew, Susannah, Jane and Robert. Sarah died in Bedford, aged 17 years; Hannah died in childhood, on a visit at Londonderry; John died unmarried, in 1775, 23 years old; Andrew married Elizabeth Gault; Susannah married William Waugh; Jane married Josiah Gordon; Robert married Submit Chubbuck. Robert, the father, was born in 1708, died in 1777, in the 69th year of his age.

Andrew, son of Robert, had nine children; his sons were, — John, Robert, Andrew, Benjamin and Cornelius, four of whom were married; two of his daughters were married, and are now dead. He died in 1830 aged 75.

Jane, daughter of Robert, had three children, — Adam, Eliza and Jane. She died 1848, in her 90th year.

Susannah, is still living, at the age of 92.

Robert, youngest son of Robert, had twelve children. John, the oldest, and Nathan, the third, are now residing in Vermont. Robert died in Illinois, whither he had repaired with his family. Jesse died in Bedford in 1849. No children survive but John and Nathan. John's family consists of five sons and three daughters. One son is married, and lives in Claremont; another is clerk in a store in that town, and a third is in Lowell. Two of his daughters are married, and

live in Michigan; the others are at home. Robert, the father, is now living, at an advanced age. He married twice, but had no children by the second wife. His first wife was great-aunt of Emily Chubbuck, known as Fanny Forrester, now Mrs. Judson, of Burmah, whose parents came to this town from Abington, Mass., and removed to the State of New York some years since.

James, son of Andrew, who came over, was three or four years old when he arrived in this country. He, with his brother Robert, first settled the town. He cleared up his farm, set out an orchard, some of the trees of which are now standing, entertained travellers, and after his circumstances became easy, built a framed house, one of the first built in the town. His brother Robert was a great hunter. James was a great horseman, and had a great fondness for this noble animal. In one instance, a man, who like too many now-a-days, had very confused ideas of the distinction between mine and thine, stole from him a fine mare. He pursued the thief by a peculiar mark [figure of a pipe] on one of the shoes, made purposely by the blacksmith, and overtook him beyond Boston, where he recovered his mare. Having resided on his farm (now Josiah Walker's) till 1783, he moved to a small fifty acre lot in Goffstown, where he lived with his wife and daughter Charlotte, and his black servant Cato, till he died, in 1786 or 7. He married Esther, daughter of Col. John Goffe, by whom he had seven children, as follows.

Silas, who married Hannah Griffin, of Derryfield. They had ten children, — William, Sally, Agnes, James, John and Silas, (twins,) Hannah, Susan, Samuel, Cotton and Esther.

James, who married Mary Wallace, of Bedford. They had eight children, — Josiah, Sally, Reuben, Polly, James, Rebecca, Stephen and Leonard.

Sally, who married Joseph Moor, killed at the raising of Piscataquog bridge.

Esther, who married Abraham Moor, and went to Maine. They had twelve children, — Sally, Deborah, Esther, Olive, Peggy, Samuel, Mary, Joseph, Nancy, John and Achsah.

Jennet, who married James Wallace, and lived in Antrim. They had seven children, — Betsy, John, James, Sally, Ira, Benj. F. and Achsah.

Mary, who married Wm. Caldwell. They had eight children, — Samuel Brooks Tabey, Charlotte, Mary, John Baker, Samuel, Phebe, Maria and Eliza, (twins.)

Charlotte, who married Dea. James Nesmith, of Antrim ; no children.

Alexander, son of Andrew, who came over, married a Caldwell.

Margaret, daughter of Andrew, married Nathaniel Davidson.

Mary, daughter of Andrew, married Robert Davidson.

Sarah, daughter of Andrew, died single.

Nancy, daughter of Andrew, married James Carr, of Goffstown.

Jane, daughter of Andrew, married William Barnet, of Bedford.

Hannah, daughter of Andrew, married Francis Barnet, of Bedford.

At what time Andrew, the common ancestor, died, is not certain. There is now in the possession of James Walker, Esq., a power of attorney, dated 1739, given by Capt. James Walker to his father, Andrew, then living in Tewksbury, Mass.

Robert, son of second Andrew, married Mary, daughter of Dea. James Wallace, by whom he had children — Greenleaf, born 1805 ; Elvira, 1807 ; Andrew, 1809 ; Mary A., 1811, died 1836 ; Josiah G., born 1813, died 1818 ; Robert, born 1815 ; Sally, born 1817, died 1818. Robert, the father, died in 1818.

Mary A., daughter of the above, married Wm. Manning, 1830, by whom she had children, — Daniel W., born 1834 ; Mary A., 1836.

Andrew, son of the above, married Mary E. Eastman, by whom he had children, — Helen F., born 1840 ; Charles A., 1844.

Robert, son of the above, married Sophia R. Lund, by whom he had children, — Abby Sophia, born 1843 ; Ada Lucretia, 1849.

Josiah, son of second James, married, Nov. 4, 1806, Nancy, daughter of James Plat, of Londonderry, by whom he had children, — Ellinda, (died young,) Charlotte, Josiah, William, Mary P., James P., Caroline, (died young,) Susan, (died young,) Edwin R., Harriet F. and Andrew. Josiah, the father, was born July 13, 1781, on his grandfather's farm, in the first framed house built in town. Feb. 13, 1806, he purchased said farm of Josiah Wallace, who bought out the heirs of Capt. James Walker, and on this farm he now resides.

From his house, a few rods toward the river, in front of where the old house used to stand, there is a willow-tree, of very large growth, that old Capt. James Walker cut in Haverhill, Mass., for a horse-switch, and rode home with it in his hand, and stuck it down front of the house, where it took root and grew, and is now alive. Near that stands an elm, which he planted a century ago. It measures 12 feet round the trunk, and the branches extend 88 feet in diameter, or 264 feet in circumference.

Charlotte, daughter of Josiah, married Eleazer Dole, and had children.

William, son of Josiah, born Nov. 5, 1812, married Sarah Richardson, Litchfield, Feb. 25, 1841, and had children, — Lauretta F., Henry H., Munroe, Sarah E. and Helen M.

Mary P., daughter of Josiah, is married, and lives in Manchester.

James P., son of Josiah, born Oct. 20, 1817, married Olivia A. Elliott, of Bath, N. H., and had children, — Caroline, Louisa and Mary Ella.

WALLACE. *John*, came over from Ireland in 1719, and was one of the grantees of Londonderry, or Nutfield. In 1721, he married Annis Barnet, — first couple married in Londonderry. His family resided in Colrairie, north of Ireland, as appears from a certificate of character given to his brother Thomas, who came over in 1726, and settled in the south part of Bedford. John appears to have been among the most active settlers of Londonderry. In 1729, he was selectman, and continued to serve till 1732, and was reelected in 1737. This year he was chosen town clerk, and continued in this office till 1742. In 1745, he was elected to represent the town in the General Assembly at Portsmouth. He had children, — James, born July 17, 1722; Rebecca, Feb. 16, 1724; William, Feb. 5, 1726; John, April 12, 1727; Thomas, Aug. 10, 1730; Janet, Jan. 28, 1733; Ann, June 16, 1736; Samuel, Jan. 23, 1738; Sarah, Nov. 8, 1741.

James, son of John and Annis, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Wallace. He perished in the snow, on a cold winter's night, a short distance from his own door. He had been out through the day with his team. He did not arrive that

night. The next morning they found him dead. They had children, — Ann, born Oct. 19, 1750; Jenny, Oct. 18, 1753.

Rebecca, daughter of John and Annis, unmarried.

William, son of John and Annis, married Hannah, sister of Matthew Thornton, and had children, — John, born June 13, 1737; William, Dec. 26, 1758; Catharine, Dec. 6, 1760; James, March 31, 1763; Hannah, Jan. 26, 1765; Matthew, Nov. 1, 1770.

John, son of John and Annis, married Sarah Woodburn, and removed to Bedford, Feb., 1756, and had children, — Annis, born Jan. 5, 1757; Mary, Oct. 8, 1758; James, Aug. 8, 1760; Hannah, May 20, 1762; John, May 12, 1764; Thomas, June 5, 1768; Josiah, 1769; Sarah, June 13, 1771; Rebecca, Dec. 14, 1773; of whom Rebecca is the only one now living.

Thomas, son of John and Annis, died in infancy.

Jennet, daughter of John and Annis, married Matthew Dickey, Londonderry, and had children, — John, Ebenezer, James and Samuel.

Ann, daughter of John and Annis, married Wm. Clark, and moved to New Boston. They had children, — Robert, John, Ninian and Rebecca.

Samuel, son of John and Annis, married Letitia Clark, and had children, — Annis, Letitia, Rebecca and Sally.

Sarah, daughter of John and Annis, married Wm. Vance; no children.

Annis, daughter of John who came to Bedford, married John Moore. [See Moore.]

Mary, daughter of John, married James Walker. [See Walker.]

James, son of John, married Jennet Walker, moved to Antrim when a wilderness, attacked by a bear, saved himself by ascending a tree, was active as a town officer, and died lamented, in 1848, at the age of 89. He was, when 17, enrolled as a soldier, and was under Stark at Bennington. He had children, — Betsy, John, James, Sarah W., Ira, Benj. F. and Achsah.

Betsy, daughter of James, married Francis Reed. They have children, — Samantha, Caroline, Laura, Betsy, Louisa and George W. They live in Manchester. The oldest daughter married, and moved to New Orleans; her husband dying, she returned with one child, Betsy.

John, son of James, married Sally Page, and lives in Antrim. They have children, — John M., Miles N. and Emeline.

James, son of James, married Naomi Cochran, and had children, — Sarah J., Andrew C., James M., Charles W., Betsy Ann, Harriet M., Luther C., Sarah J., married, and soon after died, leaving no children. The family live in Manchester.

Sarah W., daughter of James, married James A. Gregg, had one daughter, which, with the mother, died of spotted fever, in 1812.

Ira, son of James, at the age of sixteen, was a volunteer in the War of 1812, and died while stationed at Kittery, Maine.

Benjamin. F., married Ann Jane Shattuck, and had children, — Sumner, born June 30, 1832; George F., Oct., 1833, died 1836; Marion C., born May 28, 1835; Henry C., dead; Elizabeth S., born Nov. 8, 1838; Achsah C.; Edwin A., born Aug. 8, 1844. Ann J., wife of Benj. F., died Aug 16, 1847. Nov. 26, 1848, he married Mary S. Butler.

Achsah, daughter of James, died in 1829, unmarried.

Hannah, daughter of John who came to Bedford, married John Patten. [See Patten.]

John, son of John, married Tryphena Abbot, lived in Antrim, moved thence to Westmorland, thence to Putney, Vt., where they died. They had children, — John W., who died young; Polly, who married David Carpenter; Hannah, who married a Wilbur; Cyrus, who died young; Mosely and Freeman, died young; and Margaret, unmarried.

Thomas, son of John, married Mercy Frye, and had children, — Wiseman, Sophia, Cyrus W., Hannah, Frederic and Alfred.

Josiah, son of John, married Polly Goffe, and had children, — Roxana, born Sept. 25, 1791, who married Moses Davis, and lives in Concord; Theodore G., born Jan. 31, 1795, who was in the war of 1812, and lives in Antrim; Bartlett, born Aug. 6, 1797, who married Lucy Little, and lives in Antrim; Samuel G., born Sept. 1, 1799, who married, and lives in Michigan; Elvira, born Sept. 31, 1802, who married Judge Richardson, Ohio; Nancy, born May 1, 1806, who married John Scoby, and lives in Ohio; John W., born July 15, 1802, who married Ann Brackett; Mary Esther, born Nov. 14, 1809, who married Judge Woodbury, and lives in Antrim; Joseph, born Feb. 11, 1813, died March, 1815.

Sarah, daughter of John, lived in Bedford, unmarried, and died Feb. 16, 1850.

Rebecca, daughter of John, now lives in Manchester, Goff's Falls, unmarried.

Thomas, brother of John who came over, moved to Bedford in 1753, as appears from the tax-list. He sustained important offices, as the town records show. He had lived in Londonderry, and there married Jean ———. They had children, — Jeannet, born Dec. 11, 1733; James, Nov. 11, 1735; Joseph, Oct. 11, 1737; William, Nov. 26, 1739; Margaret, Dec. 2, 1741; Ann, Nov. 24, 1744; John, Dec. 15, 1746. Thomas died in 1776, aged 74.

The following is a certificate of character.

"The bearer hereof, Thomas Wallace, has lived in this congregation, from his infancy to the date hereof, and has always behaved soberly and honestly, and is now free from all public scandal known to this session, is certified by

"ROBERT HIGGINBOTHAM.

"*Coleraine, May 9, 1726.*"

James, son of Thomas, married Molly Linn, and had children, — Anna, born Jan. 9, 1772; Betsy, Sept. 14, 1774; Mary, Jan. 15, 1777; Thomas, April 25, 1779; James, July 15, 1785; Sarah Orr, July 25, 1788.

Joseph, son of Thomas, married Mary Scoby, and had children, — Thomas, born Oct. 2, 1770; Jane, June 2, 1772; Mary Ann, May 17, 1774; John, April 20, 1776; Joseph, April 19, 1778; Susanna, April 2, 1780; Martha, Sept. 11, 1783.

Margaret, daughter of Thomas, married George Orr. [See Orr.]

Ann, daughter of Thomas, (unmarried,) died in 1825, aged 81.

John, son of Thomas, married Isabella Witherspoon, and had children, — Robert, born July 25, 1779; Samuel, March 22, 1781; Andy, Nov. 21, 1782; Janet, Oct. 1, 1704, Isaac, Aug. 17, 1786; Polly, Thomas and George O.



Dr. P. P. Woodbury's Residence.

WOODBURY. *John*, one of the original settlers of Beverly, Mass. He came from Somersetshire, England, and arrived in New England in 1624, under direction of the Dorchester Company, established at Cape Ann about that time. He came to Salem in 1626, and was an original member of the first church in Salem. He was made freeman in 1635, and in 1635 was chosen Deputy to the General Court. In 1635, he received a grant of 200 acres of land on Bass river. He died in 1640. The grant runs as follows.

"4th of the 11th month, (Jan.) 1635. That Capt. (William) Trask, Jno. Woodbury, Mr. Conant, Peter Palfrey and John Balch, are to have five farms, each 200 acres a peise, to forme in all a thousand acres of land together, lyeing and being at the head of Bass river, 124 poles in breadth, and soe

runin northerly to the river by the great pond side and soe in breadth, making up the full quantity of a thousand acres, these being laid out and surveyed by us,

JOHN WOODBURY,
JOHN BALCH."

Palfrey never settled on his grant. He removed to Reading, where he died, July 15, 1663.

Humphrey, son of the above, born in 1609, came over with his father, was admitted to the church in 1648, and was a member of the first church in Beverly at its formation, chosen deacon in 1668, and was living in 1681.

Peter, son of *Humphrey*, born in 1640, made freeman in 1668, elected representative in 1689, filled the office of deacon, and died July 5, 1704, aged 64.

Josiah, son of *Peter*, born in Beverly, June 15, 1602, and lived in the second or upper parish.

Peter, son of *Josiah*, born March 28, 1738, at Beverly; married there, and in 1773, removed to Mt. Vernon, then a part of Amherst, N. H. The last twenty years of his life he spent at Antrim, with his youngest son, Mark Woodbury, Esq., where he died, March, 1819, aged 85.

Peter, son of the above *Peter*, was born at Beverly, Mass., in 1767, removed to New Hampshire with his father, settled at Francestown, where he engaged in mercantile and agricultural pursuits. He was about fifteen years representative, and two years senator, in the State Legislature, and was a Justice of the Peace and of the Quorum about forty years. He married Mary, daughter of James Woodbury, who removed from Beverly to Mt. Vernon, N. H., in 1782. James was a subaltern in Col. Rob. Roger's regiment of Rangers, and was near Wolfe when he fell at the storming of Quebec. The sword he used in that service is now in the possession of a descendant. He had nine children, all of them daughters, and died at Francestown, March, 1823, aged 86.

Peter P., was son of the above, and born at Francestown, Aug. 8, 1791. He married, in 1818, Mary Riddle, daughter of Wm. Riddle, Esq. She died in April, 1819. Aug. 24, he married Martha, sister of the above, by whom he had six children, — Peter Trask, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1839, now attorney at law, New York City; William Riddle, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1843, attorney at Sheboygan, Wisconsin; Adonijah Howe, died Feb., 1828, of Hydro-

ceptralus, aged four years; Mary Jane, died May, 1841, of scrofula, aged fifteen; Levi Jackson, now in the study of medicine; Freeman Perkins, in mercantile business in New York City. Martha, Dr. Woodbury's second wife, died in 1832. Oct., 1832, he married Eliza Bailey, daughter of Josiah Gordon, Esq., Bedford, N. H., by whom he had,— Josiah Gordon, now preparing for College; Martha Riddle, George Edwin, Charles Howe, now under the paternal roof.

The brothers and sisters of Dr. Woodbury are,— Hon. Levi Woodbury, L. L. D., now associate Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court; Rev. James Trask Woodbury, Acton, Mass., formerly attorney at law; Jesse Woodbury, Esq., living on the homestead at Francestown, N. H.; George Washington Woodbury, M. D., Yazoo County, Miss.; Mrs. Mary Howe, widow of the late Luke Howe, M. D., Jaffrey, N. H.; Mrs. Anstris B. Eastman, wife of Hon. Nehemiah Eastman, of Farmington, N. H., formerly member of Congress; Mrs. Martha W. Grimes, Quincy, Mass., widow of the late Thomas Grimes, merchant, Windsor, Vt.; Mrs. Hannah T. Barnes, wife of Isaac O. Barnes, Esq., of Boston, Clerk U. S. Court for Mass.; Mrs. Harriet Dodge, wife of Perley Dodge, Esq., Clerk to Superior Court, and attorney at law, Amherst, N. H.; Mrs. Adeline Bunnell, wife of Edwin F. Bunnell, of Boston, merchant.

Dr. Woodbury was prepared for College, in part, under the instruction of the Hon. John Vose, the distinguished Preceptor of Atkinson Academy, N. H., and James Morrison, Esq., (late Mayor of Savannah, Ga.,) at Francestown Academy. In 1812, he commenced the study of medicine with Adonijah Howe, M. D., his brother-in-law, at Jaffrey, N. H. The next year, he put himself under the care of Nathan Smith, M. D., at Hanover, N. H., Dartmouth College. In a few months, Dr. Smith removed to New Haven, Conn., Yale College, and Dr. Woodbury accompanied him, and attended the first course of medical lectures given at Yale College, of six months continuance. The medical professors were, Nathan Smith, Eli Ives, Benj. Silliman and Jonathan Knight. He returned to New Hampshire in 1818, and put himself under the care of Hon. Jonathan Gove, of Goffstown, where he closed his medical studies, after attending a second course of lectures at Dartmouth College in the fall of 1814. He commenced the practice of his profession in partnership with his preceptor, Dr. Gove, at Goffstown, Jan. 9, 1815. Here he continued to practice medicine till July 3, 1815, when he

removed to Bedford. He has been President of the New Hampshire Medical Society, and a Delegate from that Society to attend the examination of candidates for M. D. at Dartmouth College. In 1845, he received the degree of M. D. from that College. He has been President of the Southern District New Hampshire Medical Society, and President of the Hillsborough County Agricultural Society.

Boston, 15th Nov., 1850.

MY DEAR SIR:—

You ask me what information I can furnish as to the origin of the Woodbury family of New England. In reply, I have to state that, during the past summer, I had the pleasure, in company with your nephew, *Charles Levi Woodbury, Esq.*, of this city, of spending a few days in the County of Devonshire, England, the place from which your remote ancestors undoubtedly emigrated. The name of *Woodbury* is now very rare in England. It is not to be found at all in that great omnium gatherum of names, the London Post-Office Directory, nor in any other catalogue of names in the English metropolis, that I saw. In the city of Exeter, we found two families, one, that of *Thomas Woodbury, Esq.*, and the other that of his son. Thomas, now somewhat advanced in life, is a very intelligent and well educated man. He has been for many years the editor and proprietor of a leading newspaper in Exeter. He is now living much at his ease; as is his son, who has already earned a competency of the good things of this world, and is amusing himself with agricultural pursuits and experiments. He was busy, when we met him, in managing an immense collection of hives of bees, whose industry he was endeavoring to turn to better account. Independent of all tradition and records, the strong family resemblance to the Woodburys on this side of the Atlantic, in these gentlemen, left no doubt that you are all of the same origin. Thomas Woodbury was born in Uffculme, Devon. He, however, knew of no family except his own and his father's now living in that town, or in the county. There were, he said, some of the same name in Dorsetshire and Somersetshire.

Six miles south-east of Exeter, is the *town of Woodbury*. We found here a small village, in the centre of which was an

old gray stone church, perfectly preserved, which has stood in its present position for at least three or four centuries. This church, or rather the right of presentation to it, is under the control of the cathedral in Exeter. It has no rector. The curate, Rev. John L. Fulford, was, unluckily for us, absent. We could not, therefore, have access to the records of which he has the sole custody. The person who conducted us to and through the church, upon being asked as to the Puseyism of Woodbury, declared that the *people* were all *low* church, while the curates of this place and the neighborhood were said to be of the *high* church party.

Tablets and ancient monuments to the memory of the dead, abounded in the interior of the church. In a small chapel, in one corner, were full length marble figures representing Lord Chief Justice Pollexfen, of the Common Pleas, and his lady. In the burying-ground around, were names familiar to New England men. All but the name, which you would expect to find first of all, *Woodbury*. Of this last, there were none. Nor are there any of that name now living in the town, although all agreed that the town was undoubtedly named from some of its former residents.

The landlord of the snug little inn, the "*White Hart*," where we stopped for refreshment, seemed to sympathize with my young friend and companion in his disappointment, in not finding more satisfactory evidence of the former residence of his ancestors in the place which bore their name, and endeavored to console him in some way, and finally, by offering a bottle of genuine Devonshire cider, which he insisted we should carry away. The bottle was accepted, and, with its contents, is now safely deposited in the cellar of one of your relatives. I hope the Bedford temperance society will grant you a dispensation, so that you may have the pleasure of tasting this beverage of your ancestors.

Woodbury is not only a township in Devonshire, but it is one of the ancient divisions of that County, called a "Hundred." It lies between the river Ex and the British Channel. In the easterly part of it, is "*Woodbury Common*," a large tract of land, very high, and covered with heather, in full bloom, when we saw it. From this Common, we had a fine view of the *Dartmoor Hills*, towering up in the west; and, looking in an easterly direction, we could see, in full view, a long section of the British Channel. Adjoining this Common, is the town of Budleigh, the birth-place of *Sir Walter Ral-*

eigh. The house, in which this famous but unlucky knight was born, is still standing. *Budleigh* is the name which the people of Beverly, Mass., so much desired should have been substituted for that by which their town is now called. This is further evidence of the Devonshire origin of your family.

I remain, as ever, faithfully yours,

ISAAC O. BARNES.

Dr. P. P. Woodbury, Bedford, N. H.

APPENDIX.

PAGE 123. The taking of Montreal is thus noticed by Russell, in his "History of Modern Europe."

"In the meantime, Gen. Amherst was diligently employed in taking measures for the utter subversion of the French power in that part of the new world.

"He conveyed instructions to Gen. Murray, directing him to advance by water to Montreal, with all the troops that could be spared from the garrison of Quebec; and Col. Haviland, by like orders, sailed with a detachment from Crown Point, and took possession of Isle Aux Noix, which he found abandoned by the enemy, and thence proceeded directly for Montreal: while the commander-in-chief, with his own division, consisting of about 10,000 regulars and provincials, left the frontiers of New York, and advanced to Oswego. There he was joined by 1000 Indians of the Six Nations, under Sir Wm. Johnson.

"Amherst embarked on Lake Ontario, with his whole army; and after taking the fort of Isle Royale, which in a manner commanded the source of the river St. Lawrence, he arrived, by a tedious and dangerous voyage, at Montreal, on the same day that Gen. Murray landed near that place from Quebec. The two generals met with no opposition in disembarking their troops, and, by a happy concurrence of circumstances, Col. Haviland, with the detachment under his command, arrived next day.

"The junction of these three bodies, composed of the flower of the British forces in North America, and the masterly dispositions made by the commanders, convinced Vaudreuil that all resistance would be ineffectual. He, therefore, demanded a capitulation, which was granted, Sept. 8, on terms

more favorable than he had reason to expect in such circumstances.

“Montreal, Detroit, Michilemackenac, and every other place possessed by the French, with the government of Canada, was surrendered to his Britanic Majesty. But it was stipulated that the troops should be transported to Old France ; and the Canadians were secured in their property, and in the free exercise of their religion.”

PAGE 130. As there may be a desire to see the names of all the Signers of the Association Test, the list is here given, in the order in which they stand on the paper.

John Wallace, Jr.,
James Caldwell,
Wm. Caldwell,
James Matthews,
John Harrison,
John Aiken,
Adam Dickey,
Matthew Patten,
John Goffe,
Daniel Moor,
John Moor, Jr.,
Thomas Matthews,
Robert Griffin,
John Burns,
Robert Burns,
Wm. Burns,
John Brien,
Wm. Moor,
James Houston,
John McKinney,
Asa Barnes,
Samuel Terrill, Jr.,
Wm. Kenndy,
Robert Morrell,
Andrew Walker,
Nathaniel Patterson,
Robert Matthews,
James Vose,
George Comeray,

Hugh Campbell,
James McAllister,
John McLaughlin,
John Gardner,
Amaziah Pollard,
James Steel,
James Aiken,
Whitfield Gilmore,
James Smith,
John Orr,
Barnabas Cain,
John Moor,
James Wallace,
James Mardin,
John Goffe, Jr.,
John Riddle,
Samuel Patten,
John Boies,
James Lyon,
John Bell,
John Wallace,
Robert Walker,
James Walker,
Patrick Larkin,
John Vickary,
Wm. McCleary,
Joseph Bell,
Samuel Fugard,
Thomas V. Vose,

James Carnes,
Samuel Patten,
Hugh Orr,
John McIntosh,
Jacob McQuaid,
James Westly,
John Little,
Thomas Gault,
Thomas Boies,
Samuel Vose,
William White,
Joseph Wallace,
Lt. John Moor,
Joseph Houston,
Daniel Moor,
James Gilman,
William Moor,
David McClary,
James Patterson,
Matthew McDuffie,
Thomas McLaughlin,
Benjamin Smith,
Zechariah Chandler,
Richard McAllister,
John Smith,
James Little,
Stephen French.

PAGE 154. Extract from Rev. Mr. McGregor's sermon on the death of Mrs. Riddle. The occasion of it is thus stated :

“Sermon delivered at the funeral of Mrs. Ann Riddle, whose death was occasioned by her horse falling with her to

the ground, at her own door; she survived the fatal injury she had received in consequence of the fall, scarcely an hour, when death came, cut asunder the slender thread of life, and closed the melancholy scene."

The text is: — "Truly as the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death."

After an introduction and remarks on the text, the sermon proceeds.

"Last Thursday, at Mr. Bell's funeral, you will doubtless remember that I endeavored to enforce the duty of watchfulness, in the way of habitual and actual preparation for death, from these words, 'Watch, therefore, for ye know not the hour your Lord doth come.' Mrs. Riddle was then present; but could she have supposed that she had not twenty-two hours to live? could she have supposed it more than any other person, who was there present that day? Was not her health as firm, and had she not as good grounds, to all appearance, to presume on a few years of time, as any person has, who is here this day? Yet, how short the transition from life to death! And how applicable were the words of our text that day, to her situation! For one moment gave the cruel wound, one hour sealed her eyes in death, and she shall not awake from this sleep of a temporal death, until the heavens are no more.

"But O! the dismal scene of that distressing hour, which numbered her with the dead! All motionless she lay for a time, while every possible exertion was made for her relief and restoration. At length, she opened her eyes, which seemed to yield a faint ray of hope to her surrounding family and friends. She then lifted her hands in devotion; and after having, in broken accents, supplicated mercy, and committed her soul to her God, her strength failed; she stretched herself upon the bed, and breathed her last, without a struggle and without a groan."

Towards the close of the sermon, the mourners are thus noticed.

"I shall now close the discourse, by an address to the relations and friends of the deceased. And to you, dear Sir, the husband of the deceased, I would observe, that your prospects, last Friday morning, were very different from your prospects and expectations that day fifteen years before. Fifteen years ago, last Friday morning, you doubtless beheld

the partner of your joys, with raptures of delight, as the mother of your first-born ; and it was then you doubtless began to flatter yourself, with the pleasing prospect of a rising family ; but O ! Sir, little did you think on that joyful occasion, that you should behold the darling of your bosom, exactly at the close of fifteen years from that time, lying a lifeless corpse, by such a sudden, surprising and unexpected stroke of divine providence.

“The companion of your bosom is gone. She whose tender care and watchfulness over your children seemed to protect them from harm, she whose prudence, industry and skill secured your interest, she who was always generous without profusion, and always friendly without affected fondness ; she who was benevolent and hospitable, without ostentation, who could rationally rejoice with those who rejoiced, and feelingly weep with those who wept ; And finally she, whose greatest pride was to make you comfortable and happy, is no more. She sleeps in death ; and though dead, yet she, as a silent monitor, informs you, there is but a step between you and death.”

After addressing the children, the parents of the deceased are thus exhorted.

“To you, the parents of the deceased, I may say, with peculiar application, there is but a step between you and death. You are now both advanced in years, you doubtless begin to feel your journey in your bones. Last week, one of you was called upon to lay a brother, and this day, the other, a daughter in the grave. You see, then, that aged and middle-aged are laid in the dust ; according to the course of nature, your step towards death, is almost accomplished ; be ye therefore also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.”

PAGE 158. There was a Thomas Savage in Virginia as early as 1624, as appears by the Census of the Colony, taken that year, probably the first American Census. This ancient and valuable record is thus alluded to by the “Washington Republic.”

“We have seen no work, which will be more interesting to the historian and antiquary, none which throws so much light upon the customs and condition of the country, at so

early a period. Those skilful in genealogy, or interested in foreign inheritances, will no doubt examine the work with pleasure. We find many curious terms appropriated to the period. Among the arms are 'snappances,' (flint locks) 'matchlocks,' and 'petronels,' The armor consists of 'coats of mail,' 'head-pieces,' 'buffle-coats,' 'steele-coats' and 'cors-lets.' We observe the muster of 'ancient (ensign) Thomas Savage,' &c. The aggregate population of Virginia was in 1624, according to this Census, about 6000."

The following is a brief extract from Dr. Willard's sermon, alluded to on page 156.

"And now God calls us again to further occasion of deep consideration by the awful hand of his in the sudden and unexpected departure of this precious one from us, and that at such a time as this. I know he was gathered to his people in a good old age and full of days. He lived long enough for himself; but he died too soon for us."

PAGE 170. The following is the close of the sermon delivered at the Dedication of the Presbyterian meeting-house, Dec. 25, 1832.

"Very soon after the settlement became an incorporated town, a house was built for the worship of God; and there, for nearly eighty years, the fathers and the mothers have worshipped through successive generations, down to the present time.

"God has favored the town with a good degree of temporal blessings. No wasting sickness has thinned its population. The earth has annually rewarded the industrious with its fruits. A spirit of harmony has generally prevailed, and to a happy extent, the love of order and sobriety. Its sons have gone forth to almost all parts of our land, they have filled the various learned professions, and some of them have been and still are, the honored instruments of winning souls to Christ.

"God has granted seasons of spiritual prosperity. This vine which was early planted, he has visited and watered; and the last year, especially, will be remembered, I trust, in eternity by many, as the happy year of their espousals to Christ.

"The present, beloved friends, may well be with you a time of tender recollection and of bright anticipation. You

have been permitted to erect a new and commodious edifice for the worship of God. No adverse event has interrupted the progress of the work — no accident has occurred to cause a moment's gloom ; and by the help of God, it is now brought to a happy completion.

"On this auspicious day, (Christmas,) a day on which multitudes, in all parts of the Christian world, have repaired to their places of worship, to pour forth their gratitude for spiritual mercies ; a day that commemorates the first dawn of that light, which is now spreading throughout the world, we come with our humble offering, we come to dedicate this temple to God.

"To Him, then, and to his service, we now devote this building. We dedicate this altar to the cause of truth and righteousness. Here, may the messages of mercy come warm from the heart. Here, may a holy unction descend, from Sabbath to Sabbath, on those who shall minister in this sacred place.

"To Him we consecrate these pews, now filled with attentive hearers. Ever sacred may they be to the worship of God, sacred henceforth to meditation, prayer and holy resolve. We dedicate yonder seats, devoted to the singing of his praise ; these walls, this house, we dedicate to Father, Son and blessed Spirit.

"Holy, ever holy, be this, as was the place, where Jacob wrestled with the angel of the covenant.

"Here may the God of the fathers manifest himself the God of the children, and the children's children, until time shall lay his hand on this now goodly edifice, and this house, like all things else on earth, shall be mouldering to decay.

"And when the Lord shall write up his people, may it be found that multitudes were born here to glory.

"Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sake, I will now say, Peace be within thee.'

"And while we dedicate this temple to God, let us remember that he hath said, 'The heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house that ye build unto me, and where is the place of my rest ? For all these things hath mine hand made, and all these things have been, saith the Lord ; but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and that trembleth at my word.'

Let us give ourselves to God, let us each become a temple for the residence of his holy spirit."

PAGE 181. Under the head of Casualties, it should be stated that three men have been killed in this town by the fall of a tree. Mr. Cochran, many years ago, in the north part of the town; Mr. Phineas Campbell, in 1845, and Capt. John Patten, Jan. 31, 1851.

PAGE 187, fifth line from top. "Martin's expenses and mine, there, were £5," probably the old tenor currency. The Spanish dollar, in sterling currency, was less than 6 shillings; in old tenor, 25 shillings; in lawful money, 6 shillings. On the subject of currency, we find the following in "Ames' Almanac" for 1760.

"The old tenor bills which pass in Rhode Island and New Hampshire, are precarious as to the value in gold and silver. New Hampshire lawful money is fixed at sterling bills at the rate of 4s. 6d. a dollar."

In the same almanac, Ames give the origin of the term "Sterling," as applied to money.

"The Germans, because of their easterly dwelling from the English, were called 'Esterlings.' Some of whom dwelling in England, first of all stamped a pure coin, which, from them, was called 'Esterling' money; and now leaving out the initial letter E., it is called Sterling money."

Nathaniel Ames, whose almanacs were so celebrated one hundred years ago, was a man of considerable note in his day. In his "Almanac for 1758," there is a singular prediction, which, in a work of this kind, it may not be improper to transcribe.

"The curious have observed that the progress of humane literature (like the sun) is from the east to the west. Thus has it travelled through Asia and Europe, and now is arrived at the eastern shore of America. As the celestial light of the gospel was directed here by the finger of God, it will doubtless finally drive the long night of heathenish darkness from America. So arts and sciences will change the face of nature in their tour from hence over the Apalachian moun-

tains to the Western ocean ; and as they march through the vast desert, the residence of wild beasts will be broken up, and their obscene howl cease forever. The rocks will disclose their hidden gems, and the inestimable treasures of gold and silver be broken up. Huge mountains of iron ore are already discovered, and vast stores are reserved for future generations. This metal, more useful than gold or silver, will employ millions of hands, not only to form the martial sword and peaceful share, alternately ; but an infinity of utensils, improved in the exercise of art and handicraft among men. Nature, through all her works, has stamped authority on this law, namely, 'That all fit matter shall be improved to its best purposes.' Shall not then those vast quarries, that teem with mechanic stone, those for structure, be piled into great cities ; and those for sculpture, into statues to perpetuate the honor of renowned heroes ; even those who shall now save their country.

"O! ye unborn inhabitants of America! should this page escape its destined conflagration, and these alphabetical letters remain legible; when your eyes behold the sun, after he has rolled the seasons round for 2 or 3 centuries more, you will know that in Anno Domini 1758 we dream'd of your times."

NATHANIEL AMES."

PAGE 190, fourth line from bottom. Ezra Baldwin was a great hypochondriac, and as such persons often are, was noted for whimsical oddities. Our MSS. Poem, from which we have more than once borrowed, gives him a niche among its worthies.

"They used to say the Gout and Spleen
 Oft in his company were seen ;
 The only way his friends could do,
 To break it up and bring him to,
 Was to get him to take a ride,
 Then, leave the road great way one side,
 And over the hillocks, stone-heaps steer,
 Till he began to cry 'O dear,'
 This made his anger wildly rise,
 And as he echoed forth his cries,
 He quite forgot his hypo hours,
 Which all absorb'd his mental powers.
 This remedy, being often tried,
 Bid Hypo stand, as one defied."

PAGE 306. The Goffe family is supposed by some to be collaterally descended from Wm. Goffe, one of the Judges who condemned King Charles 1st. It should, however, be said that Goffe was a more common name at that period than at present. The name of John Goffe is found on the records of Dr. Increase Mather's church, in Boston, as early as 1670, and it was not till 1660 that Maj. Gen. Wm. Goffe arrived at Boston, in his flight from England, in company with Whalley and Dixwell.

It may here be remarked, as their names have been introduced, that these regicides were received kindly by Gov. Endicott, and resided at Cambridge till Feb., 1661, when the intelligence reached them that they were not included in the act of indemnity.

They then removed to New Haven, Ct., and were concealed by the principal inhabitants. They afterwards resided for some time on West Rock, (a high bluff near New Haven,) and in the neighboring towns.

But in 1664, they removed to Hadley, Mass., and remained concealed fifteen or sixteen years in the house of Rev. Mr. Russell. When the Indians attacked the town in 1675, and threw the inhabitants, assembled for public worship, into great confusion; Goffe, who was entirely unknown to them, white with age, his flowing gray locks, with a commanding aspect, and clothed in an unusual dress, suddenly presented himself among them, and encouraging them by his exhortations, placed himself at their head, and by his military skill secured them the victory.

The battle had scarcely terminated, when the mysterious stranger disappeared; and the people, alike ignorant of the place whence he came, and of his retreat, regarded him as an angel sent for their deliverance.

There is a story told of Goffe, that while at Boston, some years after, on a visit, he met with an old friend, who did not recognize him. The Englishman, being somewhat of a braggard, declared there was not a man in America that could wield the sword with him. Goffe seized a broomstick, and in a few minutes disarmed the hero, by knocking his sword out of his hand. The Englishman immediately replied, "You are Whalley, Goffe, or the Devil."

PAGE 320. Of Miss Ann Orr, who has been repeatedly alluded to, as a successful teacher for half a century, it should be added, she was born Sept. 21, 1782, and died, Nov., 1849. Towards the close of her useful life, her scholars, in various parts of the country, united in making her a valuable present, as a token of their high regard.

ERRATA.

PAGE 98, seventeen lines from top of page, instead of "*blended trees*," read "*blended hues*."

Page 98, twenty-two lines from top, instead of *narrow*, read *wide*, as *Latifolia* imports. It should however be said, that the leaf is narrow, compared with most leaves, but wide, compared with *Kalmia Angustifolia*, another species of the laurel, a poisonous bush, commonly called "kill-lamb."

Page 198, between paragraphs on Dr. Wallace and Dr. Beard, insert, "Dr. Paul Tenney came to Bedford in 1810, and remained till 1815."

Page 208, twelve lines from top, instead of "*Dea. Stephen Thurston*," read "*Dea. John Houston*."

Page 212, in the marriages for 1842, should be inserted "*Hugh R. French and Mary J. Shepard*."

Page 264, eight lines from bottom, for *external*, read *eternal*.

Page 271, four lines from bottom, for *canon*, read *cannon*.

Page 289, eleven lines from bottom, for *Jumes*, read *James*.

Page 302, eighteen lines from bottom, for *Elia*, read *Celia*.





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DATE DUE

A fine of **Two Cents** will be charged for each day the book is kept overtime.

[illegible]

