

DR. JAMES H. CROMBIE.

His father was Dr. James Crombie, who practised in Fran-
cestown and Temple, and died in Derry. Dr. James H. Crom-
bie studied medicine with his father and the late Dr. Amos
Twitchell, of Keene, attending lectures at Woodstock, Vt., and
Boston, Mass., and graduating at the medical department of
Dartmouth College, 1838. He commenced practice the same
year at Francestown, with his father, but removed to Derry, in
1850, where he now resides, having an extensive business. He
married Sarah Frances, daughter of Alexander Wilson, Esq.,
of Francestown, in 1844.

RESPONSE OF DR. CROMBIE.

NEW BOSTON PHYSICIANS, AT HOME AND ABROAD.—Their skill to heal and power to console have made them welcome visitors in chambers of sickness.

MR. PRESIDENT, —

I cheerfully respond to the sentiment just announced. Though I cannot claim the honor of being born in New Boston, yet my father did, and here his fathers' dust reposes, and here "my best friends and kindred" were born, and here many of them yet live. And so identified are all my associations and feelings with this town, that I find it difficult to realize that I was not born here. Born here or not, I love New Boston with all the affection of a dutiful son. And I thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me the privilege of enjoying and contributing something towards the interest of this hour. With so many familiar and loved faces, with so many cordial greetings, and such glorious memories as have been arrayed before us to-day, it may seem unkind to call up before you a succession of men with whom you associate all mortal diseases and nauseating remedies. And yet, the history of the physicians of this town is an important part of its whole history. Nor, I am constrained to believe, can it be denied that most of them had power to heal and to console. Many a chamber of sickness has been cheered by their presence, and many an aching heart has been comforted by their words of sympathy. Indeed, it is this skill to heal and power to console which always makes the honest, christian physician a most welcome visitor at the bedside of the sufferer. And no other physician is worthy the confidence of the sick. A physician without respect for divine truth, and reverence for God, with no sympathy for the sufferer, is unworthy the trust committed to him, however great his skill. Matthew Thornton was a christian physician, and is believed to be the first who practised in this town. He was born in

Ireland, 1714, the son of James Thornton, who emigrated to this country about 1717. Dr. Thornton commenced the practice of medicine in Londonderry, and "acquired a high and extensive reputation as a physician, and, in the course of several years of successful practice, became comparatively wealthy." He became a proprietor of New Boston, and purchased a farm east of that now owned by Mr. George W. Clark, where he remained some years, and greatly endeared himself to the people. It will be remembered that, in 1745, Dr. Thornton joined the expedition against Cape Breton, as a surgeon in the New Hampshire division of the army, consisting of five hundred men; and that at the commencement of the Revolutionary war he held the rank of a colonel in the militia. He was also commissioned justice of the peace under the administration of Benning Wentworth, and was appointed president of the Provincial Convention in 1775, and the following year was appointed to represent the State of New Hampshire in Congress, and signed the Declaration of Independence. He removed to Merrimack, and died June 24, 1803, aged eighty-nine years.

Dr. Thornton had great native wit, and loved a joke. Riding past an old man whose occupation was the making of gravestones, he said, "Well, Wyatt, do you not sometimes pray that people would die faster, that your business might increase?" The old man calmly replied, "I cannot say but I have done a thing of the kind in my life, but there is no need of doing it any longer, for there is a *fop* of a thing by the name of Thornton come to town, and he will kill off two while I can make gravestones for one!" Of course Thornton put spurs to his horse.

Mrs. Webster, of Boscawen, a granddaughter of Dr. Thornton, relates the following incidents: Daniel Webster once called her attention to a story he was about to tell to a party of ladies and gentlemen in the orchard at the Elm Farm, in Franklin. Said Mr. Webster, "When I was a little boy I was very feeble, hardly considered worth raising; but Judge Thornton came to my father's, on his way home from Thornton, where he had been to look after his farms, and in the morning the two walked into the orchard, sat down on those primitive rocks, to enjoy the pleasant prospect of Elm Farm and the

Merrimac River, and I lingered near to enjoy their conversation. At length my father asked Dr. Thornton what he could do for his boy, Daniel. Dr. Thornton professionally examined me, and then picked from the rock some moss, and said, 'Let his mother boil it in milk, and the lad drink freely of it.' It was done, and here I am, an able-bodied man, stout enough to wield a sledge-hammer. How much I am indebted to the honorable signer of the Declaration for my present health, God only knows!"

"Judge Thornton married Hannah Jackson, a beautiful young girl of eighteen years, whom he promised, when a child, to wait for and marry, as a reward for her taking some disagreeable medicine."

Dr. Jonathan Gove came here about the year 1770. He was an excellent physician, and highly esteemed. Dr. Gove was a nervous, energetic man, fond of fun, and enjoyed a joke. He was riding on the Sabbath, at the time the Sabbath law was in operation, on business not connected with his profession, and was stopped by a tything-man, and asked where he was riding on the Sabbath? His reply was, "Sir, I am a doctor, and that man is after me!" referring to a man who happened to be riding behind him. The result was, both went on unmolested. He was a Tory, yet was promoted to all the offices at the disposal of the town. He passed through a scene of great excitement relative to small-pox, and finally removed to Goffstown, where he died. His son John graduated at Dartmouth College in 1793, and became a lawyer. His son Frederick was the late Judge Gove.

Dr. McMillen was contemporary with Dr. Gove, and possessed some skill, and was followed by his son, Dr. Abraham McMillen, both dying in town.

Dr. Eastman studied with Dr. Gove, and succeeded him for a few years, and then removed to Hollis.

Dr. Lincoln succeeded Dr. Eastman; was a pleasant man but not very skilful; was an enterprising citizen, built a store and mills, but, becoming intemperate, met with reverses, and left town.

Dr. William Cutter, from Jaffrey, succeeded him. His wife was an Evans, of Peterboro'. He had something to do with

the digging up of the dead body of a child, and roused the indignation of the community. He returned to Jaffrey.

Dr. John Whipple was son of John Whipple, and was born April 29, 1776. He studied with Dr. Samuel Shepherd, of Brentwood, commenced practice in New Boston in 1800, and married, June 29, 1800, Hannah, daughter of Solomon Dodge. He was a successful practitioner, and a man of considerable business capacity.

Dr. Winthrop Brown, from Maine, came here in the year 1813 or 1814. He was one of three children at a birth. He stayed some four years, and had some practice.

Dr. Dalton succeeded Dr. Brown. He came to town in the year 1818 or 1819, from Newburyport, Mass. He was a large, tall, fine-looking man, and won the favor of all. He was the only child of a sea-captain, his father dying when he was young. He was a christian man.

Dr. Perkins succeeded Dr. Dalton. He married a daughter of John Cochran, Esq. He practised a few years, and abandoned the profession for the ministry, and is now preaching in Wisconsin.

Next came Dr. David Bradford. He was son of Rev. Moses Bradford, of Francestown; he practised successfully some two or three years, and then removed to Montague, Mass., where he now resides. Then came Dr. Francis Fitch, son of Dr. Fitch, of Greenfield. He practised satisfactorily to his employers for several years, when he removed to Amherst, where he continues a respectable practice. Dr. James Danforth is next in course. He is son of a very respectable lawyer in Tyngsboro', Josiah Danforth, formerly of Weare; he graduated at the medical college at Hanover, very acceptably, in 1838, and commenced the practice of medicine in 1841, in which he has continued successfully ever since. In 1843, he married Margaret, daughter of Mr. William Clark; she deceased some years since. Dr. Moses Atwood came next to town. He was son of Mr. David Atwood, of Lyndeboro'. He practised homeopathy, and was removed by death after a few months. Dr. Nelson P. Clark, who now practises in town, came last. He was born March 8, 1824. He is son of Samuel Clark, of Hubbardstown, Mass. He studied medicine at Concord, N. H., with George

Hains and Edward H. Parker, commencing practice in 1850, at Andover, N. H., and came to New Boston, 1857. January 15, 1859, he married Susan F., daughter of Mr. W. W. Knowlton, of Northwood, N. H., and has an increasing business.

We have now completed the list of physicians who have practised in this town. We now glance at those who have gone into other places.

Dr. James Crombie, whose history is familiar to many of this audience, studied medicine with Dr. Benjamin Jones, of Lyndeboro', whose daughter he subsequently married, and commenced practice in Temple, N. H., in 1798. In 1820, he removed from Temple to Francestown, where he continued to practice until 1850, when he removed to Derry. February, 1855, he died. Samuel Crombie, brother of the foregoing, studied medicine and practised in Waterford, Me., for a few years, and there died, a young man.

Dr. William Ferson was son of James Ferson, and grandson of the early James Ferson, and graduated at Dartmouth College, in 1797; he practised medicine in Gloucester, Mass., and died there. I saw a gentleman, a resident of Gloucester, yesterday, who told me that Dr. Ferson was a very successful practitioner in that place for several years; that he held many responsible offices in town, and was treasurer of the Gloucester Savings Bank, with a capital of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars; that he was considered a man of strict veracity, and highly respected. He died in 1853, aged seventy-nine.

Dr. Alexander McCollum practised medicine in Pittston, Maine, where he yet resides. Dr. Samuel Gregg studied medicine with Dr. Dalton, went to Medford, Mass., subsequently became a homeopathist, and removed to Boston, where he now enjoys an extensive practice. Dr. Jeremiah Cochran, son of John Cochran, Esq., studied medicine with Dr. Dalton, and removed to Sandusky, Ohio, where, after some years of successful practice, he died. His brother Charles succeeded him, and is now favorably known in the practice of medicine in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Horace Wason, son of James Wason, was born December, 4, 1817, and died November 13, 1847. He studied with Dr. Fitch, attended a course of lectures at Hanover, and graduated at Castleton, Vt. He commenced the

practice of medicine at Manchester, Mass., but soon abandoned the field, and died. He was a young man of much promise. Dr. Thomas Hamilton Cochran, son of John D. Cochran, took his degree of doctor of medicine at Hanover in 1840, commenced practice in New Ipswich, in September of the same year, and continued there until 1853, when he removed to West Rutland, Vermont, and in the winter of 1862-3, was appointed Assistant Surgeon United States Army, in the hospital of Louisville, Kentucky.

Dr. Daniel Marden, son of Solomon Marden, studied medicine with Dr. Danforth, graduated at Hanover, and commenced practice at Goshen, N. H., and is now practising in Peru, Vt.

We have good assurance that most if not "all these have obtained a good report," and have honored the place of their nativity. At home and abroad, their skill to heal and power to console have made them, not only welcome visitors in chambers of sickness, but blessings to those who have come within the range of their influence. And, in closing, permit me, Mr. President, to offer the following sentiment: —

New Boston — a venerable centenarian! — All honor to her; to her worthy matrons and her noble sires. Her daughters have cheered and made happy many a fireside; and her sons, like the sturdy oaks and majestic pines of their native forests, have nobly borne themselves against the winds and storms of life's conflict, successfully rising above what is base, and aspiring to what is ennobling.

In addition to the interesting sketches above given by Dr. Crombie, we subjoin the following: —

Nathaniel Peabody was the son of Francis Peabody, who, about 1779, settled on what is now the Town Farm. Nathaniel studied medicine, graduating at Hanover in 1800, and practised in Massachusetts, and died in New Jersey. He married Eliza Palmer, and left four children: Nathaniel, now in Boston; Elizabeth, who is unmarried, greatly distinguished as a teacher and authoress; Mary Taylor, who became the wife of the Hon. Horace Mann, late president of Antioch College, and has her residence in Concord, Mass.; and Sophia, who became the wife of Nathaniel Hawthorne, the celebrated poet.

Dr. Moses Atwood, it may be added to what Dr. Crombie has said, was born in Pelham, April 6, 1801, and died in New Boston, April 28, 1850. He married, for his first wife, Mary Lewis, of Francestown, November 24, 1835; and she died June 21, 1844. His second wife was Julia Ann Chickering, of Amherst, to whom he was married May 5, 1846.

Dr. Atwood studied medicine with Dr. Israel Herrick, of Lyndeborough, and Dr. Luther Farley, of Francestown.

He began the practice of medicine in North Lyndeborough, in 1827; thence he removed to Deering, and thence to Frances-town.

His practice was allopathic until 1841, when he studied homeopathy with Dr. Samuel Gregg, of Boston, and was the *first American* who practised homeopathy in New Hampshire, and the *tenth* in New England.

In 1837, he removed from Francestown to Concord, where, under excessive labor, his health became impaired, and he retired to the quiet village of New Boston, where he died, greatly lamented. As a physician he ranked high, and was not less esteemed for the many excellences of his character. He left a widow and one son; the son now lives in Francestown, and his widow is now the estimable wife of the Rev. Benjamin Clark, of Chelmsford, Mass.

Dr. E. G. Kelley is the only child of John Kelley, who at the time of his son's birth lived on the farm where Luther Colburn resides, but is now living in Newport. Dr. Kelley was born September 29, 1812; his mother's name was Betsey, daughter of Nehemiah Dodge, of New Boston. He studied medicine two years with Dr. Muzzy, then of Hanover, and one year at Philadelphia, where he graduated at Jefferson Medical College in March, 1838. Since which time he has lived and practised dentistry chiefly in the city of Newburyport, Mass., where he now resides, devoting himself to horticultural pursuits, his residence being known as the "Evergreens" of Lord Dexter notoriety. Dr. Kelley married Hannah P., daughter of the Hon. E. S. Rand, of Newburyport, October 21, 1840, and has four children: Emily R., born August 11, 1841; Edward A., born March 18, 1845, now a member of the second class in Dartmouth College; Mary H., born March 8, 1853; and George Wallace, born November 7, 1856.

Dr. Jonathan Gove was born in Lincoln, Mass. His parents were John Gove and Tabitha Livermore, their children being three sons and one daughter. Jonathan was born September 3, 1746; graduated at Harvard College, studied medicine in Groton Mass., and settled in New Boston. He married Mary Hubbard, of Groton, Mass., by whom he had five children: *John*, born February 17, 1771, and died in Chillicothe, Ohio; *Lucinda*, born May 25, 1772, and died May 7, 1775; *Frances*, born November 27, 1773, and became the wife of Capt. John Cochran, known in later years as Esquire John Cochran, of New Boston; *Mary B.*, born January 7, 1775, and became the wife of Thomas Stark; *George Brydges Rodney*, born December 20, 1781, married Hannah Woodbury, of Weare, and is now living in Fort Covington, New York.

After the death of his first wife, Dr. Gove married, for his second, Polly Dow, Jan. 6, 1791, by whom he had children as follows: *Clarissa*, born March 17, 1792, who became the wife of William McQuestion, of Bedford, and had three children, subsequently marrying, for her second husband, John Richards, of Goffstown, by whom she had three children; *Charles Frederick*, who was born May 13, 1793, married Mary K. Gay, of Nashua, and died leaving no children; *William Clark*, who was born July 8, 1796, married Sally Neal, by whom he had three children, himself dying when a young man; *Lucretia*, who became the wife of Dr. John Gilchrist, and died in Canada, leaving six children.

Dr. Gove removed to Goffstown in 1794, consequently all his children but the last two were born in New Boston. Dr. Gove died in 1818, and his widow in 1837.

Alexander McCollom was born Feb. 5, 1795. He fitted for the sophomore class in college, under Rev. E. P. Bradford, at Andover, Mass., and at Bangor, Me., under Professor Fowler. Here he commenced the study of medicine, under the instruction of the celebrated Dr. Hosea Rich, and subsequently under Dr. Chandler, of Belfast, and yet later under Dr. Manning, of Merrimac, N. H. He attended a course of lectures at Bowdoin College, Me., and graduated at Dartmouth College. He commenced the practice of medicine in Windsor, Me., subsequently removed to Palermo, and for nearly thirty years has resided at Pittston.

Dr. McCollom married, Oct. 19, 1830, Sarah Kimball, an adopted daughter and niece of the late Dr. Goodrich, of Merrimac, N. H. She was born Sept. 20, 1795.

Their children are: Mary G., born Sept. 21, 1831; Catherine E., born Feb. 28, 1833, and died an infant; Abel G., born Sept. 12, 1837. Of their two surviving children, Mary became the wife of Dr. Edward Mead, of Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 18, 1860, and in that city resides. Abel married Annie J. Davidson, of Wiscassett, Me., Aug. 4, 1861.

For a more extended notice of the McCollom family, the reader may consult Biographical and Genealogical Sketches.

Samuel Lynch is son of the late John Lynch, his mother being a Kelso, sister of our worthy townsman, Robert Kelso. He was born April 6, 1837; he graduated at the Mercantile Academy, at Boston, but subsequently read medicine in Norwich, Conn., and graduated from the University Medical College, in New York city, March 4, 1863. His residence is Saxonville, Mass.

M I L L S .

In the year 1631, Belknap says that Capt. Mason sent eight Danes over into New Hampshire, "to build mills, saw timber, and tend them." And the first saw-mill in this State was built by them on Mason's plantation, at Newishewannock, in 1634, near Portsmouth.

The first mills erected in New Boston, were on the middle branch of the Piscataquog, a little above the mills now owned by Daniel Gregg. The contract for these mills bears date Nov. 25, 1736, and the contractor was "Joseph Wright, of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, in New England, housewright." He was to build for the proprietors, "with all convenient speed, a dam for a saw and grist mill, of the following dimensions, viz., two cells to be laid across the river, in the said New Hampshire, each sixty-five feet long and twelve inches square; and if any cells are scarfed, each scarf not to be less than three feet, and eighteen cells up and down the river across the others, each a foot square and twenty-seven feet long, the dam to be raised eleven feet and a half high from the bottom of the cross cells, eighteen rafters each twenty-one feet long and nine inches square at least at the smallest end, which is to be framed into a plate at the head of the rafters, and eighteen rafters more to be framed into the heads of the rafters before mentioned, and fourteen feet in length and nine inches square each, eighteen studs of eleven feet each, eighteen more of eight foot long, eighteen more of five foot in length, each to be seven inches square; each end of the dam to be of stone four feet thick at the bottom and three feet thick at the top, one foot and half above the rolling-dam upon a level to a pitch-pine tree at the east side, and upon the west on a level to the hill; the wall of the dam to be double-boarded up and down, and sufficiently gravelled for

such a dam ; and upon the west side of said river to build the saw-mill to carry one saw, and to find two good saws and all other materials suitable for such a mill to be fitted for working, with a roof framed and fitted for boarding ; and to make a flume for a grist-mill on the east side of the river, in the rolling dam, suitable for a grist-mill ; all the timber for the above work to be of good sound white-oak, except the plates for the mill and the roof, the rolling-dam to be planked from the bottom with white-oak plank half-way up the rafters, the remainder may be done with pine, all the plank to be two inches thick ; the whole of the abovesaid work to be done well, substantial, and in workmanlike manner, to the satisfaction of said committee ; and the mill to be made suitable to saw twenty feet in length, and to build the said mill and dam on the middle branch of Piscataquaog river aforesaid, at the mill-lot laid out by Jeremiah Cummings, surveyor, by order of Mr. Gershom Keys, the whole work to be performed according to two draughts interchangeably signed by the said committee and the said Wright, and the above timber and work to be fitted and completed on or before the fifteenth day of July next, according to the rules of art."

The committee for the proprietors agree to pay Wright "the sum of three hundred pounds in bills of credit on the province of the Massachusetts Bay, or Colonys of Connecticut and Rhode Island, in manner following, viz., one hundred and fifty pounds thereof within fifty days next after the date of these presents, and the remaining sum of one hundred and fifty pounds when the said stuff and work shall be provided and finished in all respects as aforesaid."

Agreeably to this contract, the first payment was made Dec. 6, 1736, and, for aught that appears, the mills were completed as by contract, and in 1740 the proprietors report to the effect that the work had been executed. How long these mills were operated is not known ; but there is reason to believe that the proprietors conveyed their right in the mills and the mill-lot to Zachariah Emery, agreeably to the following vote, Feb. 19, 1741 : "Voted, that the mill and mill-lot, together with the dam, be disposed of by the committee to Mr. Zachariah Emery, on the best terms they can, or to any other person or persons, as they shall have opportunity."

This Mr. Emery had just completed "a good and sufficient cart bridge twelve feet wide, railed on each side, over the mill branch of the river, with good abutments on each side," and "cleared a wood on the southwest side, one rod in width, up to the road which Mr. Joseph Wright cleared to the saw-mill, for thirty pounds, in bills of credit." And nothing more is heard of the mills after this transaction of the proprietors. Yet it is well known that these were of great service to the first settlers for some years.

Walker's Mills were built in 1753. In the deed of the "Masonian Heirs," in 1751, "five hundred acres of land were reserved for the grantees, to be by them disposed of for encouragement for building and supporting mills in said township." And March 31, 1752, at a meeting of proprietors at the "Royal Exchange Tavern, Boston," it was voted that the "committee agree with some suitable person or persons to build a saw and grist mill in said township, and that they be empowered to give a deed of sale for what land they shall think proper for that purpose."

It appears that the committee agreed with Andrew Walker to erect mills; since Feb. 8, 1753, the proprietors voted, "That Andrew Walker, who has agreed with the committee to build the saw and grist mill in said town, have free liberty to flow the meadow swamp next to the mills above the land he is to have for building the mills, upon a branch of the same stream, for the term of seven years from this time, and after that, to flow it according to the law of the Province of New Hampshire."

A lot of land was given Walker around the place where he was to erect the mills, beside the five hundred acres reserved for that purpose by the "Masonian Heirs." Walker built his mills where now a saw-mill stands, owned by Bently and Dodge, on the Middle Branch, having given a bond of five hundred pounds for the faithful performance of his obligations, which were, to keep in good running order a saw and grain mill, and to use both for the convenience of the inhabitants of the township for moderate compensation. But Walker proved an uncomfortable man, and did not trouble himself to accommodate the settlers of New Boston for small compensation, when he could use his mills for other people with greater profit. Hence, serious complaints

were preferred against him, and the proprietors, November 28, 1758, instructed Thomas Cochran and John McAllister "To inform Andrew Walker (the Mill-Man) that great complaints are made from the inhabitants of his ill behavior and bad treatment to them, which will induce a prosecution of his obligation of five hundred pounds for his good performance towards the settlers, to be put in suit against him by the Committee, unless he conforms to the terms of his articles on which the Mill was founded, and the Mill lott was given him."

But Walker was not the man to mend his ways at once, and additional charges were preferred against him, so that the proprietors, August 31, 1759, discuss the question of "suing Andrew Walker (the Mill Man), unless he give further satisfaction, complaints having been made that his Mills are out of order, and that he exacts on the inhabitants for sawing boards, and very disobliging." Walker seems to have had things much in his own way, and the enterprising conquerors of the forests soon erected other mills, and ceased to pay tribute to Walker the "Mill Man."

These early mills were of great advantage to the settlers, and no town in New Hampshire has better water-privileges for the kind of mills here needed, and no town has had a greater number of them. Other towns were for many years debtors to them. Francestown, Lyndeborough, Antrim, and towns even more remote, in their early settlements depended upon these mills to grind their grain and saw their boards.

Deacon Thomas Cochran, soon after the erection of Walker's Mills, built a corn-mill on a small stream near his residence, which greatly accommodated the inhabitants at the centre and in the east part of the town. This mill lasted many years.

Capt. Ira Gage's Mill.* This was a saw and corn mill. It was built by Benjamin Dodge, and has been owned by George Melvin, Dr. Grovenoer, of Pelham, Dole Butler, Josiah Gage, and then by his son, Capt. Ira Gage, who sold one-half his right to David Butterfield, who has put in machinery for making boxes of various kinds, giving employment to several persons; also a planing-machine, and a lathe for turning metals.

* We are indebted to N. C. Crombie, Esq., for most of the facts interwoven in the following brief sketches.—EDITOR.

King's Mill. This was a saw and flouring mill, built by Deacon Jesse Christy, subsequently owned by Col. John and William Crombie. It was consumed by fire about 1808, and rebuilt by the Crombies. Subsequently it was owned by Henry Clark, then by Peter and Benjamin Hopkins, afterwards by Jesse Patterson, then by Jerry and Luke Smith, and now it is owned by Jonathan King, by whom it has been rebuilt and greatly improved. As a flouring-mill, it has no superior in this region. Mr. King has introduced some additional machinery for making pails, mackerel-kits, etc.

John McLaughlen's grain-mill was built near where the late Moses Peabody lived. It was for many years of vast benefit to the central part of the town, and ceased to be used about 1810. Deacon Robert White tended it for many years.

Campbell's Mill. This was built by Robert Campbell; being framed by Samuel Christy, the father of the present Mr. Jesse Christy. Thomas Campbell subsequently owned it, and now it belongs to his son, Daniel Campbell, Esq. It has always been used as a saw-mill, and a great amount of timber has here been sawed.

Samuel Marden's Mill was near where the late Mr. Jonathan Marden lived, by whom it was subsequently owned. It has now gone to decay.

Morgan's Mill was at first a saw and grain mill; now it is used only for lumber. It was built by Josiah Morgan and David Starrett, then it was owned by Zechariah Morgan, and rebuilt by Levi Starrett, and now it is owned by Zechariah Morgan.

Hadley's Mill, saw and grain, was built by Leslie Gregg; subsequently, it came into the possession of Lieut. William Dodge; afterwards, it was owned by Samuel Dodge, then successively by William Dodge, George Hardy, John Giddings, and Mr. Hadley.

Warren's Mill was built by Robert and Josiah Warren. The frame was raised March 27, 1805, the day on which Zebiah Warren (daughter of Robert), now the wife of Mr. Jesse Christy, was born. This mill was subsequently owned by John B. Warren, then by Samuel M. Christy and Dunlap, now by S. M. Christy.

Marden's Mill, saw and shingle, was built by Solomon Marden, and is now owned by his son, Samuel.

McLaughlen's Saw-mill was built by David McLaughlen, and was subsequently owned by Francis Marden, and then by Nathan Merrill.

Marden's Saw-mill, near Solomon Marden's, on the Piscataquog River, was built by Nathan and Francis Marden, afterwards owned by Porter Kimball, and was burned, and never rebuilt.

Thomas Parker's Saw-mill was built between Benjamin Colby and Alfred E. Cochran's. It was operated for a number of years, and suffered to go to decay.

William Christy's Saw-mill was built by him, between the last mill and Moses Wood's shop, on Meadow Brook. It was at length, about 1810, taken down and carried to Mount Vernon.

Hopkins's Mill was built by Major James McMillen; afterwards owned by John Crombie and David Dodge; then by N. C. Crombie; then by James Wilder, by whom it was rebuilt; then by Jerry Smith; then by James and John Christy; then by David A. McCollom, and now by Benjamin Hopkins. Clapboards and shingles are sawed here.

Wallace's Grain-mill was built by Dr. Luke Lincoln and William B. Dodge, afterwards owned by Abner Dodge, then by Deacon Isaac Peabody, then by William B. Dodge, and now by Robert Wallace, by whom it has been rebuilt, and in whose hands it has waxed old. A first-rate flouring-mill here is greatly needed, and must, in time, be had.

Smith's Saw and Shingle mill was built by Moses and Frances Peabody, in 1810, and is now owned by Sandy Smith.

White's Grain-mill was built by James Adams, afterwards owned by John White. It was built early in the history of the town, a little south of Mr. Benjamin Dodge's house, in the north part of the town, on the Middle Branch of the Piscataquog.

Deacon Thomas Smith's Saw-mill was built near White's Mill, on the same stream, by his father, and for many years did efficient service, though it, together with the grain-mill near by, is among the things that are past.

Elias Dickey's Saw-mill was built by James Willson and others, and rebuilt by Mr. Dickey. This, too, has passed away, the timber in its vicinity having disappeared, as in the case of others.

John Cochran's Saw-mill was built at the foot of Cochran's Hill, on the south, on a small stream, and has disappeared.

William Andrew's Saw-mill was built by "Honest" Peter Cochran, and came into the possession of his son, Deacon Abraham Cochran. After his death, it was owned by Greear and Dodge, and is now owned by Mr. Andrews.

Perry Richards' Saw-mill was built many years ago, and owned for a while by Mr. Parker, but is now owned by Mr. Richards, and is in active operation.

Capt. John Willson's Saw-mill was built by him, southeast of Dickey's Mill, on a small stream running into the Piscataquog, and continued not many years.

Gregg's Mill (saw, shingle, and lath) has always been owned by the Greggs. Joseph Gregg rebuilt it, and it is now owned by his son Daniel. This is on the Middle Branch.

* Piam Orne's Mill was in the southeast part of the town, and was used only for sawing lumber, and was owned by no one besides him after it came into his possession.

Woodbury's Saw-mill was built in the north part of the town, near John H. Gregg's Mill, by Leslie Gregg, about 1795, for Joshua Woodbury and others. It was rebuilt by Benjamin Woodbury and others, and has now disappeared.

John H. Gregg's Mill was built by Andrew Walker. James Carns subsequently owned a part or all of the mill; then it came into the hands of James Walker, son of Andrew, and James Buxton and David Tewksbury. In 1821, Simeon and Benjamin bought it, and, after several transitions, it became the property of N. N. Philbrick, in 1850, who sold to John H. Gregg, in 1855, the present owner.

David Willson built a saw-mill on Bogg Brook, in the east part of the town.

Capt. Ezra Dodge had a saw-mill in the north part of the town, near where Mr. Luffkin now lives, which was in time removed to Weare.

Luther Colburn's saw and shingle mill was built by Ephraim,

his father, on Middle Branch, in the west part of the town, and is in active operation. Luther Colburn is the present owner.

Frederick Bell built a saw and shingle mill, in the east part of the town, and which is now owned by John M. Holt.

James Barnard built a saw-mill, in the east part of town, which was afterwards owned by John Hazelton.

Mr. Odell's saw, shingle and lath mill, was built by Nathan Merrill, afterwards owned by Benjamin Hopkins, who sold to Mr. Odell.

Bailey's Saw-mill was built by Bailey and Sargent, in the north part of the town, and subsequently owned by Joseph Cochran, Esq., and yet later by John Brown.

A wire-mill was erected by Holmes, Kendal, and Crombie, near what is now King's Mill. This was operated for a while, but did not prove remunerative and was given up. Axes and hoes were also here manufactured.

This establishment, after a few years, was converted into a *carding and clothing* mill, by John Gage. Mr. Gage was succeeded by Dea. Marshall Adams, who continued the business until within a few years with good success.

Another carding-mill was connected with Frances Peabody's Mill, and a large business was done there.

The first carding-mill in town was connected with Leslie Gregg's Saw-mill, and was successfully operated for many years.

Another carding and clothing mill was built, near John McLaughlen's Mills, and operated many years by John Kelso; subsequently he prosecuted the business in the shop occupied by Mr. Flanders.

A mirror-frame factory was successfully operated by Sandy Smith, through Wisewell and Fuller, for a few years, succeeded by a peg factory, operated by S. Smith.

Morgan and Andrew's Bedstead Factory was operated for a while in the western part of the town, and was destroyed by fire; it was rebuilt by Levi Starrett, and is now used for manufacturing bobbins.

Andrew's Chair and Knob Factory was built by Dea. Issachar Andrews, for a clapboard mill, and is now owned by his son John W. Andrews, and is doing a good business under his management; connected with his establishment is a threshing-mill.

An axe factory has been successfully operated by G. D. Neville; his axes find a ready sale. A threshing-mill by the same is successfully operated.

A door factory was built in 1852, by Neil and Rodney McLain, giving employment to several men, and the business is highly remunerative.

Connected with this is a piano-forte frame factory, operated until recently by Farley and Pearsons, now by Farley. This gives constant employment to several men. The wood-work is all executed here, and the cases sent to Boston ready for the metallic parts.

A planing machine is here also owned and operated by N. C. Crombie, Esq.

CASUALTIES, SUICIDES, ETC.

James Smith, son of Thomas, the first settler in town, was found frozen to death on the road between his father's, in the northeast part of the town, and Parker's.

James Cochran, son of the first Dea. Thomas C., residing on Cochran Hill, was thrown from a vicious horse, near the dwelling of the present Dea. S. L. Cristy, and died from the injury in 1772, aged 40.

William Henry was killed by the falling of the limb of a tree, December 20, 1813, on the farm owned by Daniel Dodge; he was passed middle life, and left a large family.

A son of William Douglass was killed by being crushed between the hub of a cart-wheel and a gate-post, when in the employ of Samuel Wilson.

Capt. Matthew Fairfield was killed by the falling of a tree, February 11, 1813; then living where E. Parker resides.

A son of Rev. Solomon Moor, Witter Davidson, born May 6, 1773, when a lad, was killed by the falling of a tree.

Samuel Cooledge, son of John Crombie, Esq., was killed by the falling of a cart upon him, June 11, 1814, aged 4.

A young man by the name of Dole, was killed by lightning in the west part of the town, about 1822.

Samuel M. Livingston was killed by falling from the tannery of Samuel Trull, Esq., October 30, 1829, aged 49.

Nathan Merrill was found dead in the road. Tradition says that in the early settlement of the town an erratic, visionary sort of a man was found dead in so small a pool of water that foul play or suicide was suspected. A jury was called, on which was a broad-spoken son of Erin, who acted as chairman, and when inquired of by the justice for the result of their investigation, replied, "Yer Honor: we brought in a verdict of *felo-*

nious wilfull murther ! But jest to soften it down a little, we ca'd it *accidental.*”

Tradition says, that in the spring of the year, in the early settlement of the town, the body of a man was found near the Great Meadow, in the west part of the town; who he was or how he came by his death is not affirmed; his body was found near the camp where some cattle had been fed during the winter, which had been driven up from Londonderry, as was the custom for many years. The grass in the Meadows of New Boston was abundant and nutritious, and, as it could not be carried to Londonderry, farmers there sent their cattle to the Meadows with one or more to care for them during the winter.

Capt. John McLaughlen, who resided on Bradford's Hill, and carried on an extensive business in tanning, near the house of Sidney Hills, and packed much beef for the market, and built mills and kept a store, experiencing some reverses in fortune, was found drowned in a well in the east corner of his field. The late Luther Richards was on the jury of inquest, who, in speaking of the result of the investigation, said “As we could not say, as no one saw him, that he came by his death intentionally, we thought it would be most in harmony with the feelings of the community to say, *accidental*, and that was our verdict.”

In a little book in which the first Jacob Hooper kept a record of deaths in town from 1808 to 1828, the following is found: “The 29th of November, about seven and a half in the evening, we Sensibly felt the shock of an Earthquake, 1814.”

The wife of Capt. Gray hung herself, on the night of the installation of Rev. Solomon Moor, in the house now owned by Daniel Dodge. Gray had been a sea-captain, and foul play was suspected, as the knot in the rope around her neck was a genuine sailor knot. When asked why he did not cut her down when he first found her, replied, that “he put his hand to her mouth and her breath was cold; so he knew she was dead.”

In 1854, a young man sought to win the hand of a young lady, and being unsuccessful resolved to take her life, which he effected and then took his own with the same instrument, expressing a desire before he died to be buried in the same grave with her who had just fallen by his hand.

The following inscription on her tombstone, not only serves to preserve the historic fact, but to show to what wondrous heights of sublimity the muse will rise when so tragical an event transpires.

“ Sevilla, daughter of George and Sarah Jones, murdered by Henry N. Sargeant, January 13, 1854, æt. 17 years and 9 months.

Thus fell this lovely blooming daughter
By the revengeful hand — a malicious Henry
When on her way to school he met her
And with a six self-cocked pistol shot her.”

Charles Small was murdered, September 7, 1840, by one Thomas, of Amherst, near the McCollom tavern, on the road to Amherst.

Mr. Benjamin F. Blaisdell, of Goffstown, came to New Boston, and bought the farm, now owned by Mr. Shedd, and entered into mercantile connections. His family consisted of his wife, who was Clarissa J. Kimball of Goffstown, their four children, and his widowed mother. In the winter of 1849, Letitia Blaisdell, an adopted daughter of the late father of Mr. Blaisdell, who had been working at Manchester after his removal to New Boston, came to visit in his family. At her own request, the night after her arrival, she slept with her adopted mother. The next morning the old lady was taken sick in a strange way, soon became insensible and died the next morning, aged about 80. After the death of Mr. Blaisdell's mother, Letitia went to Wentworth, and spent about four weeks, and returned Feb. 16, 1849. The next day after her return a son, a child about two years and a half old, was taken sick, and after twelve hours of suffering died, the physicians affirming that in some way the child must have been poisoned, yet no suspicions rested on any person.

Soon after the burial of the child, Mr. Blaisdell and his wife were taken sick, while at tea with every symptom of poison, but by timely aid were relieved. Suspicions now began to rest on Letitia, and she soon confessed her guilt: that she had administered morphine both to the aged mother, and the little child; and the same in the tea which Mr. and Mrs. Blaisdell drank; and that she had provided herself with strychnine if the morphine failed; that she held a forged note against Mr.

Blaisdell, and intended to destroy the whole family. This was undertaken from no ill-will towards any member of the family, but evidently with the impression that if they were all out of the way she could take possession of the property. To this horrid crime she affirmed she had been impelled by the counsel and assistance of another person. She was arrested, tried, and condemned to be hung, but this sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life; yet in 1861, she was pardoned out by Gov. Goodwin, and she subsequently married a man, who had served a period in the same prison, but with no prospects of *rest* in this world.

In the early history of the town, like all new settlements, fires were not unfrequent, but during the present century the destruction of property by fire has been very small.

A store and dwelling-house, owned by Thomas Stark, son-in-law of Dr. Jonathan Gove, were consumed on the ground where now stands the large house, on Cochran Hill, erected by the late John D. Cochran. This was not far from 1800.

The barn of Dea. Adams was struck by lightning, and burned, in 1824.

The buildings of the late Dea. Solomon Dodge were burned October 30, 1829; and those of his brother Davis, within the same year, November 12.

The barn of Dea. S. L. Cristy was struck by lightning, and burned, October 18, 1852, his dwelling being saved by a sudden providential change in the direction of the wind.

The barn of the late Dea. Bennett was burned in the early part of the of the present century. It occurred in the night, and but few persons could be gathered to render assistance. The Rev. Mr. Bradford, then preaching as a candidate, and boarding in the family of Ninian Clark, Esq., first gave the alarm, and was first at the scene of destruction. To save the house, some smaller buildings and fences had to be removed, and Mr. Bradford rendered such essential service that he was often afterwards compared to Samson walking off with the gates of Gaza.

Mrs. Hannah Hines, daughter of the late Mr. Rollins, was shockingly burned on Saturday evening about nine o'clock, December 12, 1863, by her clothes taking fire at the open

door of her stove. She survived in great agony until the next morning, and died about seven o'clock, aged 33, leaving a daughter about three years old. In her intense agony, she was wonderfully sustained by a calm hope in Jesus Christ.

A man was killed, at the raising of a house of Andrew Beard, where James Buxton now lives.

In 1807, John, son of William Beard, died from the kick of a horse, in twenty-four hours after the injury was received, aged 14.

In 1858, a Mr. Sweetland was found frozen to death in the south part of the town, evidently the result of intoxication.

May 22, 1855, Mr. John Lynch, in the west part of the town, was found dead in his pasture, the contents of a musket having passed into his head, accidentally, as was believed by his friends.

July 22, 1830, Mr. Jonathan Gove Kelso died from excessive heat, while laboring at hay making.

The spotted fever prevailed in New Boston greatly in 1814, and, to a limited extent, in 1815.

Betsey Cochran hung herself, about March 31, 1828.

Mrs. Benjamin Dodge hung herself, about fifty years ago.

In 1854, Mr. Willson, son of Charles Willson, was run over by a horse and carriage, on a Sabbath day, while descending the hill from the Presbyterian meeting-house, and killed.

Two dwelling-houses, belonging to Dea. Peter McNeil, were consumed by fire, one in 1837 and the other in 1838.

Daniel T. Gregg's house and shop were burned March 17, 1837.

The barn of Ezra Morgan was struck by lightning and consumed, in 18—.

The barn of Mr. Nourse was consumed by fire in 1856.

Isaac Giddings, son of the late Joseph Giddings, was drowned in Boston April 11, 1836, aged 26; he fell between the boat and the landing.

Mr. Joseph Giddings died Feb. 17, 1835, and his mother the same day, of small-pox; seven others in the family were ill with the same disease, but recovered.

Luke Giddings was run over by a cart-wheel, and killed instantly, April 20, 1826, aged 46.

Absalom Dodge, in 1823, aged 15, was killed in the woods, accidentally.

About 1807, a child of Dea. Isaac Peabody was drowned near his mills, aged two or three years.

Harry Robinson, a colored man, was found dead in a field owned by Jacob Butler, in the summer of 1825. He had been dead some two or three days before found.

Ephraim Whiting was accidentally drowned Oct. 31, 1842, in Brookline, Mass.

In 1836, about the 29th of November, Elias Dickey, father of the late Elias Dickey, was found dead in Francestown in the road.

Samuel Twiss, father of Mrs. John Hill, was killed in Oct. 1799, by the falling of a tree. His wife died, aged 96 years 5 months, with faculties nearly unimpaired.

Jonathan Griffin was accidentally shot at Parker's, in Goffstown, about 1800.

Mrs. William Parker committed suicide, while laboring under insanity, in 1845.

Robert Livingston's house was burned, many years ago, when all were absent except their old negro, Scipio, who perished in the flames.

William Campbell's house was consumed by fire about 1820.

Robert Boyd's house, many years ago, was destroyed by fire.

The house of David Colburn, near the year 1810, was burned by fire.

About the year 1830, Ann Griffin, and the year 1835, Hannah Wilson, disappeared from the Poor Farm, and have never been heard from.

BILLS OF MORTALITY,

FROM 1808 TO 1828 AS KEPT BY MR. JACOB HOOPER—FROM 1830 TO 1863 BY
MR. JOSEPH GIDDINGS.

1808....19	1823....19	1838....16	1853....38
1809....13	1824....24	1839....40	1854....45
1810.... 3	1825....25	1840....26	1855....37
1811....13	1826....33	1841....34	1856....29
1812....14	1827....23	1842....18	1857....38
1813....19	1828.... 6	1843....35	1858....34
1814....54	From Jan. to June.	1844....19	1859 ...23
1815....25	1830....21	1845....20	1860....22
1816....17	1831....20	1846....34	1861....21
1817....13	1832....35	1847....24	1862....24
1818....23	1833....24	1848....25	1863....30
1819....29	1834....21	1849....28	
1820....11	1835....20	1850....21	Total...1340
1821....13	1836....25	1851....28	in a little more
1822....22	1837....20	1852....35	than 52 years.

GRAVEYARDS.

As early as 1756, measures were contemplated for laying out a graveyard, together with the locating a site for a meeting-house. But, although the two objects are repeatedly referred to afterwards as being inseparable, yet, when the meeting-house was located by the committee, July 24, 1763, no allusion is made to a burial-place, except to say that they have selected a place for the meeting-house near where a little child is buried. This child was, it is believed, a daughter of Capt. George Christy, and it is believed that this place, near the Presbyterian Church at the centre of the town, had been selected for this purpose before the appointment of the committee, and to select a place for a graveyard was not made a part of their business. We find no record respecting it earlier than March 26, 1771, when the town voted "that all the inhabitants in said town, excepting such as incline to bury at the Burying yard by John Smith's, work on the Graveyard by the meeting house two dayes, each man, or pay three shillings for each daye's neglect. Voted that William Clark have the charge of said work."

March 17, 1788, the town "voted to chuse 3 men on each side of the River to lay out the Graveyards and stake the Bounds, and vendue the fencing of them to the lowest Bidder, and also the clearing them.

"Voted that Capt. John McLaughlin, Wm. Clark Esq., and

John Cochran Esq., be the Committee for the South side of S^d Town.

“Voted that Dea. John Smith, Capt. Wm. Boyes and James Ferson Ju'r be a Committee on the North side of S^d Town.”

Agreeably to this vote, the committee for the south part of the town surveyed and laid out the ground as follows:—

“Beginning at the South West Corner at a Stake & Stones, then running East 4 Degrees North to a Stake and Stones, 13 Rods—then North 3 Degrees West to a Stake and Stones, 14 rods—then West 4 Degrees South to a Stake and Stones, 13 Rods—then South 4 Degrees East to the Bounds first mentioned.

William Clark Surveyor.

“A true Record attest,

Jon'a Gove, T. Clerk.”

Said committee “give notice that the fencing & clearing the Grave Yard (by the meeting-house) will be sold at public vendue on Monday the fifth day of May, 1788; that the clearing of said yard will be set up by itself, and to be faithfully done by the tenth day of June next—the clearing must be six feet outside the stakes. The Wall to be four feet high and in such proportion as to admit of a stick of Timber ten Inches broad on the top. And the purchaser is also to hew said stick of Timber in a triangular Form (of white Pine) and place it on the Top of said wall.

“The four sides of said Wall to be put up separately, one side at a time, and be completed by the first day of October.”

The clearing of the graveyard was struck off to David Caldwell for £1 4s. 6*d.*

The south side wall was struck off to John Cochran, Sen., for 5s. 6*d.* per rod.

East side of said yard to Noah Dodge, at 5s. per rod.

West side of said yard was struck off to Daniel Dane, at 6s. per rod.

North side of said yard to Robert Campbell, at 6s. per rod.

He who should build the south side wall was required “to build a Gate in the same.”

There is no record of the doings of the committee for the graveyard in the north part of the town, but it is believed that they, in like manner, laid out, cleared, and walled a lot. How

early that ground began to be used is not known, but tradition says the first persons buried there were children of Dea. John Smith. He had two children sick with dysentery, and he went to Chester for medicine, but before he could return one died, and the other soon followed.

Some of the oldest inscriptions to be found there are the following:—

Abraham Cochran died Jan. 15, 1776, in the 47th year of his age.

Dea. John Smith died Sept. 3, 1800, in the 74th year of his age.

“The sweet remembrance of the just
Will flourish tho’ they sleep in dust.”

Dea. Thomas Smith (son of the foregoing) died May 1, 1854, aged 89. He served as an elder in the Presbyterian Church forty-seven years. Esther, his wife, died Oct. 8, 1851, aged 77.

Paul Ferson died Oct. 17, 1798, aged 66.

Dea. James Ferson died Feb. 26, 1804, aged 86.

James Gregg died December 31, 1805, aged 63; his wife, Jane, died January 12, 1820, aged 82.

The oldest inscription, to be found in the centre graveyard, is at the grave of Alexander McCollom, who died in 1768.

March 1, 1773, the town “voted to get a Pall, and John McLaughlin to get it at the town’s cost.”

P O U N D S .

The first pound was built of logs, by Dea. Thomas Cochran, near his corn-mill, agreeably to the vote of the town in 1763.

The second was built near the old Presbyterian Church, agreeably to a vote of the town, March 4, 1793, of stone, and it is almost the only thing perpetuated from a period so remote to the present.

R O A D S .

The first settlers came into New Boston by way of Goffstown, and this is one reason why that part of the town adjoining Goffstown was first settled. The concentration of houses on

the Plains was not long encouraged, and settlements were pushed westward and southward, on the height of land on which is Jesse Beard's farm, and yet further to John Smith's, and thence towards Francestown, by the late Dea. Thomas Smith's, and southward to Wm. Bentley's, thence east to John Dodge's, and, crossing the South Branch, to Dea. Thomas Cochran's; also from Bentley's to Clark's Hill, and thence to Cochran Hill, and Alfred E. Cochran's, towards Amherst; also from Bentley's settlements were pushed south to centre of the town, over South Branch and Bradford's Hill, and thence towards Amherst, by Jacob Hooper's, and by way of Dea. Patterson's (Allen Leech's) to Rev. Solomon Moor's and Allen Moor's, and by way of Dea. White's, on Wason's Hill, by the McAllisters and where Robert Kelso now lives, into Amherst.

In 1765, a road was laid out from the line of Amherst, beginning near the present R. Kelso's land to Allen Moor's, and thence to Alexander McCollom's and to Dea. Thomas Cochran's. The same year, a road was laid out from Amherst, by way of Alfred E. Cochran's (then Peter) farm, Lot No. 10, between William Moor's (now Fuller), and John McMillen's (now Jonathan Marden's) to George Christy's; thence, over Cochran's Hill, to Francestown. . . But these roads, and nearly all laid out at this period, as may be seen by the transcripts, simply followed old paths which had been used for years. And it will be seen that, generally, the early roads went over the highest parts of the town. It was easy to build roads over the hills, and it was here that the settlements were to be found. The soil was best, and could be brought under cultivation quickest on the elevated parts; while they were more healthy than the lower parts, they afforded better views. It was worth much, when the primitive forests covered the land, to occupy such elevations as could overlook some of the surrounding settlements.

The roads were built by each man working a certain number of days, according to the vote of the town, until 1771, when it was "voted to make the Highways by Pole and Estate the present year;" and "to allow each man three shillings a day." It was also voted that "each Pole work four days on the Highways exclusive of his Estate, and that a pair of oxen be allowed as a man." When the labor should be expended seems to have

been left to the selectmen generally, though highway surveyors were chosen ; but some years, the town voted that the labor should be under the direction of a committee, and then the town was divided into districts, and highway surveyors were annually chosen, who were made responsible for the roads and the disposition of the labor.

LORENZO FAIRBANKS, ESQ.

He is son of Joel Fairbanks, and was born March 16, 1825. He fitted for college at Black River Academy, Ludlow, Vt., though he was for a time at Hancock Academy; also at Townsend Academy, Vt. He entered the sophomore class in Dartmouth College, in the fall of 1849, and graduated in 1852, immediately commencing the study of law, in the city of New York, spending the ensuing winter in Savannah and Charleston. He resumed his studies in 1853, in the office of Strong, Bidwell and Strong, Wall Street, New York, and was admitted to the bar the same year, and continued in practice there until 1856, when he removed to Iowa, but soon returned and established himself in business in Philadelphia, where he now resides. Mr. Fairbanks is the author of a work on book-keeping, which he published some years ago, which has been highly acceptable to that portion of the community for which it was written. In 1856, Mr. Fairbanks was married in New York city to Sarah E. Skelton, of Bradford, Mass., by whom he has had two children, one of whom, a child of much promise, died in 1863.

RESPONSE OF LORENZO FAIRBANKS, ESQ.

THE BURIAL-GROUND — GOD'S ACRE.

“ Here hath prayer arisen like dew, —
Here the earth is holy too;
Lightly press each grassy mound;
Surely this is hallowed ground.”

MR. PRESIDENT, —

We dwell to-day upon the history of a century, recounting the struggles, the joys, the hopes, the sorrows of those who have gone before us; and what more fitting occasion can there be for the expression of a sentiment like that which has just been uttered. It finds a response in every heart, and furnishes an impressive theme amid the festivities of the hour. The old burial-ground claims of us a solemn tribute of respect and veneration. It is a hallowed spot, — hallowed as the resting-place of those long since passed away, whose names and deeds live in tradition and history, and in the rude stone by the green graves, over which we still weave bright chaplets of affectionate remembrance. There have been gathered, one by one, our departed friends and kindred. Those silent mounds speak of sundered ties and stricken households, and bid us pause in solemn thought over cherished recollections, which, though mingled with sadness, grow brighter and brighter as years roll away.

“ Even they, the dead, — though dead, so dear, —
Fond memory, to her duty true,
Brings back their faded forms to view.
How lifelike through the mist of years
Each well-remembered face appears!
We see them as in times long past;
From each to each kind looks are cast;
We hear their words, their smiles behold,
They're round us as they were of old.”

Very few there are in this great assembly who have not followed thither the mortal remains of near and dear relatives and friends, consecrating anew with each baptism of tears, and each farewell prayer, this spot of earth to be held forever sacred, — sacred by the vacant places of every hearth-stone, by every association connected with the memory of the lamented dead, that sends a thrill of pain or pleasure through the heart. Who that wanders among these silent habitations of the dead is not stirred by emotions and inspirations which spring out from the noblest and holiest sentiments of our natures? There, in fond contemplation, we dwell amid the scenes of the past, and live again in the buoyant and happy hours of youth, bright with the pleasures of home and the society of those we loved and venerated. There as parents and children, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives, we gather around the tombs of the departed, and find a solace in the duties of affection, the faithful tribute, the silent tear, that tell of sorrows that time cannot heal. There the Christian, standing as it were upon the verge of that mysterious land to which we are all hastening, looks beyond the portals of the grave to a life of blessed immortality. There all may learn the great lesson of life in the universal record of man. Born and died, covers it all. God's Acre! The silent yet majestic monitor of the world! The loftiest monument, the humblest stone, the forgotten and unhonored grave, alike teach us that we, too, are mortal, and must sooner or later pass to that bourn whence no traveller returneth. Soft and reverential then be our tread, for holy is the earth; angel-whispers are on the breeze; the voice of God is heard from the tombs of the unnumbered dead, and bids us bow in humble adoration of that infinite Power before which all that is earthly vanishes, and is lost in the boundless ocean of eternity.

Regard for the dead and a desire to perpetuate their memory have in various forms been manifested in every age, in heathen as well as in Christian lands; and the progress of the sepulchral art is invested with peculiar interest and significance. In its successive developments we trace the progress of our race, and the prevailing ideas and religious sentiments of tribes and nations that have left behind no other record. The barrows of Europe and Asia, the tumuli of the heroic ages, alluded to by

classic writers, and the mounds and magnificent sepulchres of the Western hemisphere, containing untold treasures and the implements, weapons, and utensils of by-gone races, are the sole chroniclers of peoples who would otherwise be utterly lost in oblivion, and stand the only memorials of unrecorded greatness. The pyramids of Egypt — the culmination of mound-building — remain imperishable monuments of departed glory, and are counted among the wonders of the world. The catacombs, shrouded in mystery, and filled with the emblems of the thoughts, the actions, the life of those who have slumbered through unnumbered ages, afford inexhaustible fields for the researches of the philosopher and the investigation of the curious. The grandeur and glory of the ancient cities of the Old World are immortalized in the splendor of their subterranean receptacles of the dead, mortuary mansions, and palaces, elaborately carved and ornamented, that have defied the touch of time, when all else has changed or passed into oblivion. The proud mausoleums and monuments of later times — superb palaces where the lords and monarchs are carried in solemn procession with imposing ceremonies — attract the gaze of the traveller, and convey the profoundest lessons to mankind. In their calm and peaceful retreats we are led to exclaim, in the sublime apostrophe of Sir Walter Raleigh, — “Oh, eloquent, just, and mighty Death! whom none could advise, thou hast persuaded; what none hath dared, thou hast done; and whom all the world hath flattered, thou only hast cast out of the world and despised; thou hast drawn together all the far-fetched greatness, all the pride, cruelty, and ambition of man, and covered it all over with these two narrow words, *Hic jacet.*”

An almost instinctive idea that we are not wholly separated from the departed, a longing for immortality, the hope of a final resurrection, respect or affection for friends, and a desire to preserve the dignity of earthly greatness, have all contributed to carry this art to the highest degree of perfection, until we rejoice that death has been relieved of some of its terrors by the spirit of modern civilization, seeking to make our cemeteries attractive and picturesque, instead of repulsive, crowning them with the beauties of nature, and choice works of art, fit em-

blems of the analogies between the living and the dead and the hopes of a bright and glorious future.

“ See Truth, Love, and Mercy, in triumph descending,
 And Nature all glowing in Eden’s first bloom !
 On the cold cheek of Death smiles and roses are blending,
 And Beauty immortal awakes from the tomb.”

The beautiful cemeteries of the present day in Europe and our own country attest the spirit of the age, and exert an influence as wide-spread as it is beneficent. Such places as Père la Chaise, Mount Auburn, Greenwood, Laurel Hill, and Mount Vernon — combining the graces of nature with the beauties of art, on which is lavished all the wealth of cultivated taste and fond affection — are worthy of our highest admiration. It may be that vanity and a love of display have contributed much to their magnificence ; but whatever the spirit which seeks to make the Silent Land harmonize with our feelings and instincts, we honor it. We should cherish it as, in the main, tending to good ; as ennobling and dignifying mankind ; as fostering a love for the beautiful, and hence elevating public taste ; as promoting Christianity ; as an incentive to virtue, and the source of charity and fellowship among men ; as a consolation to the dying, that they will be remembered in pleasant places, hallowed and guarded by the watchful eye and pious care of devoted friends.

It is natural and rational for us to think well of cemeteries, and take a just pride in rendering them attractive and pleasant, as well as convenient for the purpose intended. Objects which so frequently appeal to our notice, and are so interwoven by association with our past lives, — places where repose the ashes of our friends and kindred, and where we also shall ultimately find rest, — certainly demand our fostering care, and should excite a laudable desire for their improvement. We cannot allow this occasion to pass without offering a few suggestions, with the hope of awakening, in some degree, a proper public sentiment on a subject of so much importance. We regret to say, we have cause to blush for the little care we have bestowed upon our principal burying-ground. It has, indeed, been suffered to fall into general neglect. It is contracted in space, and crowded to excess, where land is plenty and cheap. It is not

only almost entirely destitute of the adornings which elsewhere grace such places, even in our own immediate vicinity, but is wanting in common conveniences. There are no avenues or walks, but few shade-trees or plants, little or no shrubbery, hardly anything that may be called ornamental, while the whole is allowed to run to waste, and grow up with obnoxious weeds and unsightly things, marks of desolation, where beauty and loveliness should smile upon the lap of earth. The walls are dilapidated; tombstones are thrown down, scattered, and broken, or lean in all directions, sad evidences of a want of public spirit or private enterprise. Let it be so no longer; let us cast off the stigma and the reproach we justly deserve. Inspired by the memories that, on an occasion like this, come crowding upon us, by a true consideration of our interests as well as our pleasures, let us pledge ourselves to the work of reform. Stoical philosophy may answer the highest aspirations of some; parsimony may stifle the better instincts of others. We make no appeal to such. If they rest in unhonored graves, let it be no fault of ours. Our duty is plain and easy. No sacrifices are called for. We would create no public burden, nor urge any of the extravagant expenditures which can be borne only by the concentrated wealth of our large cities. We only need the development of the right spirit, and a little spared from our hoarded treasures will meet every required demand. Then shall we live with the satisfaction of having performed our duty to the dead, and with the happy assurance that when our wanderings are over, and our dust shall return to mingle with the dust of our kindred, that our providence has rendered the burial-ground the desired resting-place of all that the earth can retain.

We have already hinted at the general requisites of an appropriate place of burial. It may be well to sum them up and urge them upon your attention.

1st. *Ample Space and proper Location.*—There is no occasion, in a country town like this, for confining our cemeteries within narrow limits, nor of seeking desolate hill-sides. Land is cheap, and we can afford some of our broad and fertile acres for so worthy an object. It may be best to extend our present grounds by adding contiguous lands on the north, west, and south, al-

though they are not all that could be desired. At all events we must have more room, even if compelled to seek another locality. We are constantly disturbing graves which have hardly been forgotten by the present generation, and it is a sacrilege that ought, if nothing else will, arouse us to a sense of our duty.

2d. *Neat and permanent Enclosures.* — It is a disgrace to us to surround our graveyards with walls and fences that would damage our reputation if they enclosed our fields and common pastures. We are in favor of a substantial iron fence, even at a cost of five or ten thousand dollars. If that is beyond our means, we can at least begin the work, and leave its completion to succeeding generations as a monument to our enterprise. This would require the principal outlay of money.

3d. *Convenient Avenues and Walks.* — These are not only necessary, but, by a proper arrangement and construction, they add much to the beauty and symmetry of such a place. We have said that our present burial-ground is destitute of such conveniences. There is not even a carriage-way, and the setting of a monument imposes upon us the necessity of dragging it over graves which we have no right to disturb. In attending a funeral, we are obliged to leave our carriages, and follow the bier on foot. Can such things be and not mantle our cheeks with shame?

4th. *Pleasant Shade-trees.* — Trees were the mortal enemies of our ancestors, and we can pardon them for not appreciating the beauties of groves and ornamental arbors. We cannot excuse ourselves, if we neglect to adorn our cemeteries with what can be obtained so cheaply, and possess at the present day so many natural charms. Pleasant shade-trees are really the crowning glory of a rural cemetery.

5th. *Shrubbery, Plants, and Flowers.* — A cultivated taste inclines us to place a high value upon these, while they are the most natural and instructive emblems of a renewed life, and that pure and holy affection which leads the chastened mourner to hallow with their gentle influence the sacred repose of loved and cherished ones.

LETTERS.

Many letters were received from distinguished individuals, who had been invited to be present on our centennial occasion ; but we insert only a few from those who will not otherwise appear in this volume.

CONWAY, MASS., June 29, 1863.

GENTLEMEN, —

Your kind invitation in behalf of the “Old Folks at Home,” requesting my attendance at the centennial celebration, Saturday, the fourth day of July next, is at hand. I have delayed an answer until this late moment, in the hope of being able to accept it. With extreme regret, I now find that pressing duties will require me to forego the satisfaction of meeting with you, to celebrate the day which brings round one hundred years on the wheels of time.

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, increases each day of my life. I cannot imagine anything, gentlemen, which would be more delightful than to participate with the assembled inhabitants of my native town, in rescuing from oblivion her ancient history, her original settlement, her doings in the Revolution, in the war of 1812, and in this great Rebellion, — her contributions in money and men, who sacrifice everything for the old flag of our Union. I know the story will be one of which New Boston will be proud. I feel it to be an honor that, as one of her sons, I am entitled to your invitation. The recollections which suggest themselves, the localities, the streams, the woods, the green hills, the old church, the adjoining burying-ground (where sleep my own kith and kin), time nor distance can ever obliterate from my mind. With the sincerest good wishes for the success of your celebration,

I remain, yours, etc.,

W. C. CAMPBELL.

BOSTON, June 30, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL.

DEAR SIR: — Your note of the 24th instant, together with the circular of the Executive Committee, kindly requesting me to be present on the contemplated festival on the centennial anniversary of the place of my nativity, is received. It would give me much pleasure to again meet many of my former friends and acquaintances, to mingle with and witness the reminiscences of former days. But my professional engagements are such as will constrain me to forego the gratification it would give me to be present. Although I should find that many places and *faces* have much changed, yet many anecdotes and incidents of my boyhood would be revived. The trudging on the farm of my native hill I could never enjoy, when a boy; and to wait for the slow movement of an ox-team, or for a nibble at the end of a fish-line, I could never endure; yet I never found time to be idle. I cannot say that the early part of my professional life was congenial to my disposition; still I persevered in *puking* and *skinning* sick folks (perhaps with as much success as most of my professional fellows) for fourteen years, when I got tired of guessing and experimenting on the sick, “on general principles” (as a famous medical professor used to say), not knowing whether I was doing *good* or *harm*. Then during the winter of 1837 and 1838 I heard of the more *certain* way of selecting remedies for disease according to the law, “*similia similibus curantur*,” which I at once examined, and satisfied myself by experiment that disease could be most certainly cured by a very *small* quantity of a specific remedy, properly selected. That course of practice I have pursued since that time, with increasing satisfaction, although I had to endure the gibes and jeers of my former associates in the profession, for nearly a year, before there was a single genial physician in all New England with whom I could speak on the subject; now we have over two hundred like physicians in my adopted State. Of the native, or former resident physicians in New Boston, I cannot say much. When I was a pupil, I was much in the office of Doctor James Crombie, at Francestown, where he used to detain me, sometimes long, in relating stories and anecdotes, for which he was an adept. I

have thought that he sometimes benefited his patient quite as much by his story-telling as he did by his medicine. He also loved a repartee as well as he did to tell a story. I distinctly recollect the doctor telling a story of a good old lady (who was desirous of doing all the good she could) asking the doctor if he knew what a grand physic *oil-nut bark* was. "No," said the doctor, "is it? How do you take it?" "Why, doctor, just take some of the bark and steep it and drink it;—it makes one of the grandest physics in the world; but doctor" (she said), "when you scrape the bark you must always be careful to scrape it *down*, for if you scrape it *up* it will puke you *dreadfully*." "Well," said the doctor, "what will it do if you scrape round? It will go round and round in a fellow's belly and neither go up nor down, won't it?"

I do not know whether Doctor Hugh McMillen was a native of New Boston or not; at any rate he was a genius, possessing a high-toned intellect and shrewd observation. He obtained much of his medical knowledge while engaged in the study of ancient alchemy, over which he spent much time. I recollect of hearing the old gentleman make a remark, long before I had given any attention to medicine, but I have often thought of it since. The old doctor was sitting in a store smoking his pipe, when a physician from a neighboring town passed by, who had been called to visit some severe cases of typhoid fever. Some one of the by-standers asked if he was a very *skilful* physician. Doctor Hugh replied, with an ejaculating grunt, removing his pipe from his mouth long enough to say, "*Good in fevers?* Yes; so any other fool might be if he had wit enough to let them alone." This was long before the French professor had published his *expectant plan* of treatment.

Doctor John Whipple was a man of observation, and although empirical in his practice, yet he learned much from experience. His practice was what would now be called eclectic. He relied much upon specifics which he had learned by observation, and was what might be termed a successful practitioner.

I will propose for a sentiment, — *Progress and Development.*

I am not willing that science, art, and practical philosophy — should remain as they were one hundred years ago; our mis-

sion is to find out (if we can) the eternally fixed laws of nature, and investigate them for the *melioration* and *improvement* of our generation and race. For abide them, either for good or for evil, we must.

Most respectfully your friend,

SAMUEL GREGG.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL,
R. B. COCHRAN, Esq., and Associates. }

ROCKLAND, MAINE, June 23, 1863.

MESSRS. COGSWELL AND OTHERS, —

Yours of June 20th was received. I shall endeavor to be at New Boston on the 4th. I send you to-day, by express, a flag without a stripe erased or a star obscured; please accept it as a humble gift from one who sprung from the State that produced a Webster, a Mason, Woodbury, and others that have done their country service. The flag was made by those that bear the name of *Cochran*. Long may it wave o'er the land of the free and home of the brave. Excuse haste.

Yours truly,

W. S. COCHRAN.

To E. C. COGSWELL and others, }
Executive Committee. }

NEW YORK, June 22, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL.

DEAR SIR, — Your esteemed favor, inviting me to attend your forthcoming centennial celebration of the incorporation of the town of New Boston, came duly to hand.

I regret to say that my engagements are likely to be of such a character as to make it very inconvenient, if not impracticable, for me to leave town during the early part of July. I think, therefore, I shall be obliged to decline your very kind invitation.

Thanking your committee and yourself for your politeness, and wishing every success to your praiseworthy undertaking,

I am, very respectfully yours,

C. C. LANGDELL.

LEE CENTRE, ILLINOIS, June 18, 1863.

To E. C. COGSWELL AND OTHERS: —

Your circular, announcing a proposal to celebrate, on the 4th of July next, the centennial anniversary of the incorporation of New Boston, was duly received, and read with deep emotion. I need not say that I was immediately seized with a strong desire to accept the genial invitation of "the old Folks at Home," to appear among their sons and daughters, to revive recollections of the past at the old homestead. My residence in this remote region, once esteemed by us as the verge of sundown, has not abated my love and fond recollection of the place of my birth. To be addressed as one of the *young* folks, beguiles the somewhat saddening conviction which the bleached head and the honor and title of grandfather force upon me. I am refreshed by the suggestion that I am yet young. I exceedingly regret my inability to share in the festivities of the day. My heart, however, although in an absent body, will be in sympathy with the occasion. I sincerely hope that the gathering of the "General Assembly for high consultation" will be an occasion of great delight to all my townsmen so fortunate as to be present.

Very truly yours, etc.,

C. C. COCHRAN.

MILWAUKEE, June 18, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL: —

Dear Sir, — I have not, up to this time, answered your kind letter and invitation of May 11, for the reason that two or more of our family have intended to be at the centennial celebration on the 4th proximo. I write to you *now*, because unforeseen circumstances have arisen within the past few days and hours that may prevent the consummation of our strongest wishes.

I have written this day to our brother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Burr, the details of the sad combination of circumstances above alluded to, and I refer you to them for reasons that may prevent our attendance at the interesting celebration of the birth-year of our beloved native home.

It is possible that one of the "Bradford boys" will, on the

day of the celebration, be resting his weary, war-worn body under the green turf of the old hill-side graveyard where his boyhood footsteps so often trod.

I need not say to you, dear sir, how great will be the disappointment to us if none of us can be present with you on this occasion, that happens but once in a lifetime; and we ask your kind remembrances.

Most truly your friend,

JAMES B. BRADFORD.

MILWAUKEE, June 29, 1863.

MR. COGSWELL: —

Dear Sir, — Your letter of May 11, inviting me to your centennial celebration, came duly to hand.

I had intended, until recently, to be present on the occasion, but find now that it will not be in my power, and that I must forego the pleasure of meeting old friends, most of whom I may never have an opportunity to see again. Let me assure you, however, that with reference to New Boston, I can say in all sincerity, with the poet, —

“Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,
My heart, untravelled, fondly turns to thee.”

With an earnest wish that your celebration may be all, in interest and gratification, that you can desire,

I am yours truly,

E. P. BRADFORD.

BOSTON, July 3, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL: —

Dear Sir, — My thanks are due for your kind invitation to be present on the 4th instant, and mingle in the festivities of the two memorable events, which the citizens of New Boston design to commemorate connectedly. The closing up of the century, which has just passed, in the settlement of my native town, will be of thrilling interest to those now upon the stage, especially those who have reached their “threescore years and ten,” as they look back over the rise and progress of events as they have transpired during the last century. The two important eras will give scope to the flowing out of soul, and ex-

pression of high-toned patriotism, especially if the spirit of " '76 " pervades the hearts of the New Boston people.

It would prove a day of hilarity to all good people who may assemble around the festive board, on the occasion, *if* we were free from the deadly grasp and horrors of a civil war. Notwithstanding the dark cloud which broods over our mourning country, still we would not lose sight of the nation's first struggle, which so gloriously gained for us our independence and an elevated stand amongst the nations of the earth.

It would contribute much to my happiness to be a participant in the festivities of the day, not of the *outer*, but of the *inner* man. It would prove injurious to me to leave my business just at this time, which must plead my excuse for non-attendance on so pleasant an occasion.

In conclusion, permit me to offer the following sentiment: —

LOYALTY, without alloy, to the principles established by the Constitution of American Independence, that all men are born *free* and *equal*.

I am, dear sir, very cordially,

Your friend and humble servant,

WM. R. CLARKE.

EVERGREENS, NEWBURYPORT, MASS., June 15, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL: —

Dear Sir, — Your circular for the "hundredth anniversary" celebration on the coming 4th of July, was received months ago, but I have delayed replying till I could say, *I will come*. Unfortunately, I cannot yet so decide, but *hope* to be able to enjoy the day with old friends.

I well remember the orator for the occasion, Hon. C. B. Cochrane, as well as some of your committee, particularly Luther Colburn. My regards to all.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

E. G. KELLEY.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL, *Ch. Ex. Committee*.

MILFORD, June 23, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL: —

Dear Sir, — I thank you for your polite invitation to attend the centennial celebration of the *birthday* of New Boston. It would be highly gratifying to me to be present on the occasion, and participate with the people in their reflections on the past. But I am afflicted with lameness, which retards me on the track, except on the track of time. I can be with you only in spirit. My best wishes for you, and for your town.

Yours truly,

HUMPHREY MOORE.

AMHERST, July 4, 1863.

REV. E. C. COGSWELL: —

My Dear Sir, — On this day of glorious and precious memories, I am glad that your citizens have decided to commemorate the commencement of your civil history. The settlement of New Boston, and the period of its incorporation as a town, must furnish many pious and patriotic incidents, which may well be brought to mind in an hour like this, when the national life is imperilled. I have a very lively sympathy with every effort to recover the memorials of that heroic age, when these towns were planted. The descendants of those who emigrated from Londonderry to New Boston, can look back to a noble ancestry. I should be happy to join in the services which bring to mind their personal worth and valuable labors, but I cannot, with convenience, be absent from home. If you should prepare a memorial volume, or print any record of your proceedings, enter my name as a subscriber.

Thanking you for the courteous invitation with which I have been honored, I am

Yours, with sincere esteem,

J. G. DAVIS.