

A road was laid out in 1840 from the Factory Village across the farms to the old Suncook road near Matthew Gault's. When the Londonderry turnpike was laid out as a free road in 1836, Hooksett bridge was reserved by the corporation, which the town of Hooksett purchased in 1853 for \$1,640, which was burned with the railroad bridge Sept. 30, 1857, and a new one built at a cost of \$6,000, which was carried off by a freshet and ice, March 20, 1859, and a new one built by the town at an expense of about \$8,000.

CHAPTER X.

HISTORY OF MILLS.

Before giving a history of the building of mills I propose to give a description of the early mills, and of the modern improvements.

The early saw-mills were built with flutter or undershot water-wheels, with heavy rims, and at least three feet and a half high, and about four feet wide, with a wrought-iron crank, from sixteen to eighteen inches long. The water was brought on in a tangent of about forty-five degrees. The gate hoisted perpendicularly. The saw-frame ran in rabbets in the fender posts, secured by wooden knees called "hook pins." The pitman, to connect the crank to the saw-frame, was all of wood. The saws were of iron, so that when the breast was worn hollow they would heat the saw and strike the back on an anvil, and straighten it. The saw was strained by a key or wedge. The carriage ran on pieces of plank, called "nogs," about two feet apart, set perpendicularly in timbers, the corners cut out to receive the carriage. Only one carriage side was cogged. Reel dogs were used at both ends, so that the dogs were drawn every run. To feed, a roller went across the mill, in front of the saw, resting on wooden bearings on the plates, and

a head hanging down, from which there was a pole some ten feet long, with a pawl or hand on the end, to work the rag-wheel. They had no apparatus for raising the hand, but always had to be there, to take it up and lay it on a pin.

They had no negro-, or gig-wheel, but ran the carriage back with their feet; and to have it go back easier, would have the mill incline a foot and a half, or two feet, in the length. I have seen all of this in operation in my day.

About 1808 there came along a millwright by the name of Oliver Hawkins, who introduced wider and lower wheels, with the floats fastened to arms. He used short cranks, and had the water brought on nearly perpendicular, and after striking the wheel, the water was brought round in a curve. The gate was drawn horizontally on the bottom of the flume. He introduced cogging both carriage sides, and running upon a continued track in the centre of each side.

Some mills were built by Joseph Wilson, of Hudson, with the rolling gate, and other improvements, perhaps earlier than Hawkins'. The first change of water-wheel from the flutter, was the spiral vent, invented by Clark Wilson, of Swanzy, in 1830. It was a reacting wheel, with iron buckets and wooden rim.

The first balance wheel I ever saw in a saw-mill, was at Osgood's, at Methuen, Mass., in 1827. It was a heavy wooden wheel, five feet in diameter, with a cast-iron segment, for counter-balance. It was put in by James Butterfield. It waded so heavily in the water that it did no good.

In 1838 the Exeter manufacturing company built two saw-mills, and sent to Hallowell for their irons, and had iron balance-wheels.

The first slides for saw-frames, so far as I know, were in the Locks and Canal Co.'s mill at Lowell, in 1832, V slides on the saw-frame running in grooves in the posts. It was nearly impossible to keep them tight on the frame, and there were other difficulties. The next was V slides on the posts and grooves in the saw-frame. The Exeter mills, before spoken of, had square slides on the inside of the posts, and composition boxes on the saw-frame. In 1839, larger

square slides on the inside of the posts, with wooden bearings on the frame, were introduced. About 1845, round slides in front of the posts, and soon after the present form of square ones in front of the posts were introduced.

So far as I am aware the first belted saw-mill was built for Ralph Bricket, of Hampstead, in 1836, in connection with a shingle-mill, to split the stuff. It had no counter-balance, and was not substantial enough to do great business. The first iron segments on the carriage running on an iron track, so far as I know, were in a mill built by the Amesbury Flannel Manufacturing Co. at the Tewksbury mills. The track was round on the top. This was in 1839. The first steam saw-mill in this region was built by Webster & Page, at South Kingston.

The clapboards and shingles were all riven. The earliest clapboard machine was introduced a little previous to 1820, and the log hung upon centres, and passed over the saw, and was so adjusted as to saw the requisite depth for the width of the clapboard. It was self-setting, and had sappers attached to the saw to straighten the edges. The shingle machine was a later invention. The first of either of these machines in Chester was by John Clarke, in 1833.

The early grist-mills were driven by undershot water-wheels, about fifteen feet high and four feet wide, the water brought on at an angle of about twenty-five degrees. The gears used were wooden — face or crown gears. The runner was hung on a stiff horn, sometimes a tripod, so that the spindle had to be exactly perpendicular to the face of both bed, stone and runner. The tub-wheel was invented by a Mr. Hitchcock, the first part of the century. It was at first a small and deep wheel, with the runner attached to the top gudgeon. They soon, however, made larger wheels, usually six to eight feet in diameter, fifteen inches deep, and geared. These wheels were mostly used from 1810 to 1835, for grain mills. The spiral vent, and other reacting wheels, and then centre-discharge, and various combinations of direct and reaction wheels, superseded them. In the early mills, wrought-iron gudgeons or

bearings were used. The earliest cast-iron wing-gudgeon saw was put into N. Clark's mill, Sandown, by Joseph Wilson, in 1812, though they were probably used earlier. The cap or flange-gudgeon was invented by Butler Wilson, a son of the above, at a later date.

As the cloth was of home manufacture, fulling- or clothing-mills were common. The fulling-mill or stock was driven by an undershot wheel about ten feet high, with two wooden ovals or cams set opposite to each other on the shaft, to force the feet or mallets alternately against the cloth, and they fell back by their own gravity. When the ovals were too flat, or the motion too quick, the mallet would not fall back as fast as the cam, and they would meet with a heavy concussion. Cranks, with smaller wheels, were introduced about 1810.

The raising the nap on cloth was done by a small card, by hand. Mr. Haynes got up a machine for raising the nap on cotton and linen cloth, called "fustian." It consisted of a main cylinder on wooden bearings, two or two and a half feet in diameter, covered with teasels, and the cloth passing over rollers above and below. Instead of getting motion by attaching it to his water-wheel, he had a rope attached to the shaft of the machine, and passing over a sheave at the beams of his mill, with a heavy weight at the other end of the rope. This was wound up until the weight was raised to the beam, and then the machine would run until the weight had run down; then it must be wound up again.

The shearing of fulled cloth was done with hand shears. The blades of these were about seven inches wide, and about thirty inches long. The cloth was laid across a cushion about as wide as the length of the blades of the shears. The bottom blade lay flat upon it, and weighted down with fifty or sixty pounds of lead; the other blade connected by a large bow or spring, and standing at an angle of about forty-five degrees. A strap was attached to the bottom blade, and to a wooden handle or lever made to bear against the top blade, by means of which the shears

were sprung. In shearing, the shears were sprung with one hand, and, weighing in all nearly one hundred pounds, moved evenly across the cloth, and then lifted and moved back again. It required a great deal of skill, and was very laborious work. These shears were exclusively used until 1812 to 1814, when Hovey's vibrating shears were introduced, in which by turning a crank the shears were sprung, and the cloth-beams moved, also a brush to raise the nap. About the year 1825, spiral blades were introduced.

The dyeing of fulled cloth for every-day wear was mostly with butternut, or oilnut, bark; for handsome, black or London brown, dyed with camwood darkened, and much later indigo blue was introduced. There was, for men's summer wear, a cotton and linen cloth made, called fustian, which was dyed with fustic, darkened, and a nap raised and the cloth pressed.

At a general meeting of the proprietors of "Checher," held at Hampton the 11th day of January, 1720-1,

"Voted, To Coll^o Packer, Coll^o Wiar, Caleb Towle, and Sam^l Ingalls, the whole Priviledge upon the upper Falls of the great Brook forever, to build a Saw mill or mills on, and also ten acres of Land Gratis, on Each Side s^d falls for the s^d mills Conveniency, with Condition That the s^d mills shall be fitt to Cutt boards in a Twelvemonth from this Time; and that they Shall Saw at halves the Proprs. Loggs, So much as they Shall have occasion for Building. And those proprs. that Shall have Occasion to buy boards shall be Supplied with So many as they Shall have occasion for, at the Rate of thirty shillings per Thousand at the mill. And if the making a pond or ponds for s^d mill damnifies any of the proprs., the society shall make good the damages."

At a meeting at Hampton, March 16, 1720-1,

"Voted, That the four persons to whom the Stream is granted, Shall give each a bond of Fifty pounds to the Committee, to perform the Conditions of s^d Grant, and if any of them Refuse to do it, the Committee is Impowered to admitt others."

At a meeting of the committee, September 29, 1721,

“Voted, That the proprietors of the upper Falls on the great Brook have the privilege of the Lower falls also, for their Further Encouragement, to build a mill according to a vote of the Society, at a publick meeting held Jan. 11th, 1720-1, and in consideration of which Additional Privilege they are to build a Grist mill as Soon as the Town will need it.”

James Basford at one time owned most of the mill. In 1731 he sold Ebenezer Dearborn one-fourth of the “old sawmill.” In 1732 he sold to William Wilson one-eighth of the “old sawmill.” In 1734 he had some difficulty with the proprietors about the mill, and they voted to have a reference.

In 1735 Ebenezer Dearborn deeded to his sons Ebenezer, Jr., Benjamin, Thomas and Michael, one-fourth of the “old sawmill.”

In 1743, in consideration of £22 bills of credit, Ebenezer Dearborn, Ebenezer Dearborn, Jr., Thomas Dearborn and Michael Dearborn convey to Thomas Wells four-sixths of the “old sawmill.”

We know little more about the mill or its owners until about 1780, when Hugh Tolford, Jacob Wells, Capt. Clough, Moses Haselton, John Haselton and Benjamin Haselton rebuilt it. It was rebuilt once after that, and again in 1848, and is now owned by Edwin Haselton and Parker Morse.

Jonathan Blunt had a saw-mill previous to 1730. He owned home lot No. 12, and it was probably on that, near the Blake tan-yard.

AIKEN'S GRIST-MILL.

At a meeting, March 7, 1730, it was

“Voted, that there be encouragement given for building a Grist mill on the middle falls of the Grate Brook, that is to John Aiken's, and fourteen or fifteen acres of land to the Eastward of s^d falls, as convenient as can be had of common land, provided s^d Aiken build a sufficient Grist mill by this time twelvemonth, and keep s^d mill in good Repair from time to time, and at all times hereafter.”

Mr. Aiken built the mill on his lot, No. 145. This was probably the first grist-mill in town.

William Graham, who married Mr. Aiken's daughter Margaret, purchased the mill and land adjoining in 1745.

In 1750, Graham purchased at the Long Meadows, and Mr. Aiken died, and gave by will his three home lots to his sons John and James. As the mill was on one of those lots, it had probably been re-deeded. John Aiken, Jr., lived where John Haselton now lives, and I think owned the mill. It was on that lot.

HASELTON'S GRIST-MILL.

The privilege of the "Lower falls on the Great brook" was granted to the proprietors of the upper falls, Sept. 29, 1721, but they probably never availed themselves of the grant.

May 5, 1746, it is recorded, "William Crafford having built a grist-mill upon the Great brook in Chester at the Lower falls so called, the fifth day of May, 1746, doth Record his son Robert miller of said Grist mill." Henry Lunt owned the mill in 1753, died in 1761. Samuel Currier owned it in 1770.

In 1779 Samuel Currier, of Hampstead, conveyed to Richard Haselton thirty acres of land with the grist-mill, the land bounded on Crawford's and Mark Carr's. In 1780 he bought a pair of millstones of Francis Chase, of Newtown, for one hundred and fifty pounds; so he probably rebuilt at that time. The mill was once carried off by a freshet; Peter Haselton thinks about 1793. It was once burnt. It descended to Thomas Haselton, then to his son Amos Haselton. He put in a machine for sawing clapboards from the logs in 1839. In 1853 the mill was entirely rebuilt, using the timber of the old Long Meadow meeting-house. Machinery for making pails was put in in 1857; planer and box machine in 1858. Water being short a steam engine was put in in 1860; a second pail-lathe in 1862. In 1866 about thirty-two thousand pails were

made, and fish-kits to the value of six thousand four hundred dollars, and about one hundred and fifteen thousand feet of boards made into boxes.

CARR'S, MORSE'S, NOW COUCH'S MILLS.

Previous to 1741 John Karr had built a saw-mill and grist-mill where Couch's mills now are, for in his inventory for that year there are two mills set down to him.

In 1743 there was an effort to have a new road to Londonderry to go by "Karr's mills." In the return of the road, March 21, 1754, it "Began at a stake near the Bridge Between Capt. Morse's saw-mill and grist-mill." In Capt. Morse's will, proved May 25, 1763, he gave his sons, Josiah and Oliver, the mills in equal shares. Oliver had the homestead farm, and died in 1770. The dam was carried away by a freshet, and at the time Josiah got wet, took cold, and died in 1794, and the mills went down. Oliver Morse's widow married Taylor Little and had a daughter Hannah, who married Isaac Dinsmore, who bought the place and rebuilt the saw-mill about 1806 and again about 1830. It was some time owned by Henry Abbot, who in 1834 put in a shingle-mill, the second in town. He sold to Col. Couch, who put in a run of stones below the road with the shingle-mill.

THE MCDUFFEE MILLS,—NEAR SCHOOL-HOUSE NO. 4, IN AUBURN.

In the inventory of 1741, James Campbell (who lived at the Pearly Chase place at Walnut hill) is set down as having a mill, and Daniel McDuffee (who lived at the Daniel Kimball place in Derry) had also a mill. The return of the bridle road from where Gilman Morse now lives, through the south woods, March 25, 1740, ended at Campbell's saw-mill. This had been the road to the Long Meadows. In the return of the road, March 5, 1747, it runs by the west end of Hugh McDuffee's corn-mill. Hugh McDuffee owned the corn-mill during his life, and Archibald and Mansfield McDuffee the saw-mill.

James McDuffee is taxed in 1801 for two mills, which is the last tax on them. They soon went down. John McDuffee, son of Hugh, fell through the place for turning the runner and broke his neck. The saw-mill stood just above the present road leading to Derry, the corn-mill several rods below.

NUTT'S, CRAIGE'S, CROSETT'S AND BROWN'S MILL, — AT THE
AUBURN STEAM-MILL.

It is uncertain when or by whom the first mill was built. There were two men by the name of Nutt who lived at the Pierce and Brown place and might have had a share in it. The first title which I have seen is Thomas Shirley sold to James Wilson one quarter of a saw-mill, commonly called "Nutt's mill standing on Cohas brook," in 1750, and Andrew Craige, Jr., sells to Andrew Craige one-half of lot No. 93, 2d P., 2d D. (on which the mill stood), and one-fourth of the saw-mill, in 1764. Andrew Craige bought one hundred and sixty acres, a part of No. 87 and one-half of No. 93 (a part of the Nutt place), and sold to James and Benjamin Crosett. They sold half the land and one-half the saw-mill to Robert Fulton. James and Benjamin Crosett sold to Benjamin and Samuel Pierce and William Brown two hundred and seventy-four acres in 1771, and it is understood that they had the mill, but it eventually went down. The mill stood on the Long Meadow brook some seventy or eighty rods above the steam-mill.

In 1802 Lt. William Brown and his son John built a new mill down the stream near the steam-mill. It was afterwards owned by Stephen H. Reid, Alanson Tucker, Esq. (who new geared it in 1836), and John B. Adams.

In 1846 a company was formed, consisting of John B. Adams, John C. Pillsbury, George H. Taylor and Nathaniel Brown, who built a steam saw-mill, including circular saws for various purposes, at an expense of about five thousand dollars.

In 1855 it was sold to the Land and Water Power Com-

pany of Manchester, and since owned by William Vincent and Robert Thompson, and is now, 1868, out of use.

SHACKFORD'S CORN-MILL.

When the first mill was built is uncertain. In 1776 John Shackford conveyed to John Shackford, Jr., miller, one-half of his home farm; so the mill was built previous to that time. John, Jr., died in 1779, and his son Samuel inherited it and held it during his life-time. The gears were rebuilt in 1836 and 1837, and a run of stones added. Samuel's son, Jonathan, sold to James Locke.

THE WORTHEN SAW-MILL.

Josiah Forsaith says that his grandfather, Dea. Matthew Forsaith, purchased the privilege of Dolly Worthen, and built the first mill. She was the widow of David Worthen, who died November 19, 1766, and she married Jacob Chase about 1776. The mill was probably built before 1770. There was a new mill raised in 1785.

In 1790, Matthew Forsaith, Josiah Forsaith, Michael Worthen and Benjamin Currier are taxed one-sixth each, and Gideon Currier one-third. Capt. Shackford subsequently was an owner, and Cyrus Eaton, George Weeks, Daniel Clay and Alfred Dearborn. Samuel M. Edwards is now, 1868, the principal owner, and has put in a circular saw for sawing boards.

BENJAMIN HILLS' MILL.

Previous to 1741 Benjamin Hills had built a saw-mill on the North brook on his farm. He sold one-eighth part of it in 1748 to Thomas Craig. Whether there were other owners, and how long it stood, is not known.

June 3, 1784, Benjamin Hills, 3d, and others, raised a mill farther up the same stream. In 1791, Stephen Hills, Benjamin Hills, 3d, and Joseph Long were taxed one-third each. In 1792, Eliphalet Hills was taxed for one-sixth.

There was a mill kept up until 1816, when Benjamin Hills, Edward S. Hills and Joseph Long were taxed for one-third each.

FRENCH'S CORN-MILL.

October 6, 1785, Benjamin French raised a corn-mill on the same stream still farther up, nearly opposite where his grandson, David French, now lives. Mr. French died Jan. 18, 1797. The mill was taxed to his widow several years, and then to Sherburn Dearborn, who married her, down to 1820. Capt. Benjamin Currier and Gideon Currier once had a corn-mill on the same stream, opposite where Benaiah Spofford now lives.

ISAAC HILLS' WIND-MILL.

May 16, 1789, Isaac Hills, Esq., raised a wind-mill. He fitted it with the usual oblique vanes, and could do some business with it. But he conceived a plan of what he called an "air-mill." He had an octagon tower with large windows or doors in the several sides, to open on opposite sides, according to the direction of the wind. The wind was to pass through, and operate on a large float-wheel in the inside. He first made a working model, and told to Mr. David Clark how it operated. Mr. Clark shrewdly enquired whether he put any corn in; to which he replied in the negative. Mr. Clark said that that would make quite a difference, which he found to be true, as it never proved effective. The building was standing long within my recollection, and its foundation is yet to be seen.

ISAAC HILLS' CORN-MILL.

In 1805, Isaac Hills, Esq., built a corn-mill on the stream below the Blake tan-yard.

EBENEZER BASFORD'S MILLS.

Ebenezer Basford built a corn-mill with light stones to

operate by wind or by hand at pleasure. There was afterward a water-mill back northeast of the house.

THE LOCKE MILLS.

The first Locke mill was on Exeter river, up near where Charles Moore, Sen., formerly lived, not far from the road from Wilbur's. It was probably built as early as 1780. It was owned by Capt William Locke, Robert Wilson, Esq., Lt. William Moore, John Basford, and I think that Dominicus Prescott once owned a share. It was burned, by Mr. Basford's leaving fire, March 27, 1796.

In 1810 John Locke and Benjamin True, Jr., built a saw-mill further down the river, some eighty rods above True's house. About 1820 Mr. Locke built a corn-mill on the opposite side of the stream. In 1847 it was rebuilt by John and True T. Locke, and a shingle-mill added. It was afterwards sold to John Wason, and was burnt in 1857.

THE KNOWLES MILL.

In 1802 Nathan Knowles built three-eighths, Joseph Brown a quarter, Nathan Knowles, Sen., Dominicus Prescott, one-eighth each. New gears were built in 1838, and it was burnt in 1847.

Charles Stevens built a new one in 1859.

TOWLE AND SANBORN'S MILL.

James Towle and Rufus Sanborn built a belted saw-mill on the North brook in 1848.

MCMURPHY'S OR WEBSTER'S MILL.

It seems by the following document, that there was an idea that there was iron ore somewhere in the vicinity, and that iron works might be erected on the Cohas.

There was an act passed in 1719, the preamble of which sets forth that there is very good iron mine or ore in New

Hampshire; that the working of it was likely to prove of great advantage, and that sundry gentlemen have already advanced stock for setting up several furnaces, &c., and the act forbids carrying any ore out of the province under a penalty of ten pounds per ton. The British Parliament would encourage the manufacture of iron in the Colonies to be sent to Great Britain to be manufactured.

By a statute of 23 of Geo. II., it is provided that after 1750 no subsidy, or custom, should be paid on any bar-iron imported from the Colonies into the port of London. The act also prohibits the erection of any mill for rolling or slitting iron, or any plating forge to work with a tilt-hammer, or any furnace for making steel, under the penalty of two hundred pounds; that every such mill or furnace should be deemed a nuisance, and the Governor and Lieut.-Governor were required to cause them to be abated.

So, though they might have made iron there, it would have been unlawful to have slit it into shoe shapes or nail rods, or converted it into steel; and the Governor would have been bound to have abated it as a nuisance.

May 16, 1739, there was a vote passed making a grant to John McMurphy, of land and a mill privilege, at "Massabesic river," below the great pond, and a committee consisting of Mr. John Calfe *Insin* Jacob Sargent and Samuel Emerson, were appointed to finish this matter. The following is the report and agreement of this committee:

"The said Committee for and in behalf of the said Proprietors, and as far as in them Lies, Pursuant to a Vote of the said Proprietors Passed at the said meeting in may afforsaid, do by these Presents give, grant, Enfooff and Confirm unto the Said John macmurphy, his heirs and assigns, for ever, free Liberty to Erect, Set up, and maintain a Grist mill at massabesick River, at any place he shall find most convenient below the Greate Pond, Provided, and on this Condition, that the Said macmurphy, his Heirs or assigns, Shall Erect the said mill at the Place afforsaid, and fitt and compleat the Same so far as to grind Corn for the use of those that Shall bring it to the said mill to be ground, for the Custemary Toll, within two years from the deate hereof,— and the Said macmurphy Performe as is Expressed

in the third article; and on failure of performing the Said mill as afforsaid, then the Priveledge to be forfeited, and to Return to the Said Proprietors, and their Successors forever: and it is further agreed between the said Parties, and the Said Committee do hereby on the behalf of the said Proprietors Expresly limit and Provide, that the Said John macmurphy, his heirs or assigns, shall not build, Erect, and Place the Said grist mill on the Stream or River afforsaid so as to hinder, or be any Prejudice to the placing, Building and Erecting Iron works, a Sawmill, or mills, in Case the Stream will be sufficient for that Purpose, and the Same can be done without any Prejudice to the Said Grist mill; and if the Said Proprietors Shall at any time Hereafter see meeat, or think Proper that the Said Iron works, Saw mill, or mills, or any of them, Should be built and Placed on the Said River at the place affors^d, or near theirunto, and Should Resolve to have the same done, but that neither the said works, Sawmill, or mills, nor any other building, shall hereafter be Erected on the Said Stream so as to be any Prejudice, Inturruption or Inconvenience to the Going, maintaining and Support of the Said Grist mill: and further, in Case the Said Proprietors shall at any time hereafter Resolve to Build Iron Works in Case a s'ficiency of oare or Iron mine can be found conveniently, a Sawmill, or mills, or any of them, the Said macmurphy and his heirs Shall have the Liberty, and the Same is hereby granted to him and them, to Erect, build, and maintain the Said Iron Works, Sawmills, or mills, So Long as he and they Shall see Cause; and Whenever he or they shall see Cause to Resign the said Priveledge, the Same shall Returne to the Said Proprietors, and their Successors, and the building and Labour of the said macmurphy or his heirs, that he or they shall have done before such Resignation shall Happen, Shall be Valued by the Selectmen of the town of Chester affors^d for the time then being, and Whatsoever Sum the Said Selectmen shall Value the said buildings and Labour at, the Said Proprietors shall Pay or Cause to be Paid, to the said macmurphy, his heirs or assigns, on demand, after such Valuation Shall be made.

“Secondly, the Said committee, Pursuant to the said Vote, do hereby Give and Grant to the Said macmurphy, his heirs and assigns, fifty acres of Land at the falls of the said River, to be Laid out on both sides the said River, Equally to the out Lett of the said Pond, as near and as convenient for the accomodation of the said Grist mill, and other mills,

or mill, or Iron works, as aforesaid, as the Said Land can be laid; the same being Given and Granted by the said Proprietors to the said macmurphy and his heirs, for his Incouragement towards Building the Said Grist mill; and in Consideration of the Grate Expence and Charge which he must necessarily be at to accomplish the same within the time Limeted herein, and the Said committee are to Proceed and Lay out the said fifty acres of Land in manner afors^d, as soon as the Same can be Conveniently done, and to make a Returne theirot by meets and Bounds, and Record the Same on the Said Proprietors' Book of Records, or Cause the same to be done as Soone as Laid out. Moreover the Said Comittee Shall Lay out to the Said macmurphy and his heirs, at his or their Request, a Small Quantity of Land at the Discretion of the Said Comittee, as shall be Efectuall to Prevent any Person or Persons from Iregularly and Clandestinely or unfairly drawing out the Water from the Said Pond, to the Deturment of the said mill or mills, or Works, as aforesaid; and further, that the said macmurphy, his heirs or assigns, shall have at all times hereafter free and full liberty to flow and Raise the Watter in the Said Pond, as he or they shall have need or occasion for the Carrying on the work and buisentess of the Said Grist mill, or Saw mill, or mills, or Iron Works, as aforesaid.

“Thirdly, that the Said macmurphy, in building the Said mill, or mills, or any of the Works theirunto belonging, Shall not Stop or Impede the course of the Fish up the said River, but shall and will leave, and Contrive, and make sufficient passage for that Purpose. Moreover, it is further agreed by and Between the Said Parties that the Said macmurphy, his heirs and assigns, shall and will at all times after the said Grist mill is fitted and Completed for Grinding, as aforesaid, Grind for the Proprietors and Inhabitants of Chester aforesaid, and their Successors, before and in Preference of their Grist, to the Grist of any other Person or Persons Whatever, for three days in a week forever (Viz.), Every tuesday, Wednesday & thursday, forever, and the Comittee appoynted and chosen by the Proprietors of Chester aforesaid, to Lay out the aforesaid Fifty acres of Land at the falls of the afores^d River, on both sides, to the out Lett of the aforesaid pond, and the Small Quantity of Land to Prevent the Iregular and Clandestine or Unfaire drawing out the Water from the afforsaid Pond, to the damiage of the afforsaid mill, or mills, or Iron

Works, is mr. John Calfe, Ensign Jacob Sargent & Samuel Emerson, of Chester afforsaid, allways Reserving a Liberty and Priveledge to the Proprietors and Inhabitents of the town of Chester afforsaid, to pass and Repass without Interruption too and from the afforsaid massabeecek River to Catch and take at the falls of said River, below the afforsaid Pond, for nesecery famely Support, Such Fish as may be obtained."

The small quantity of land to prevent the unfair drawing of water was laid out at the beach and valley, near where the Island Pond House now stands, to prevent making another outlet through the Long Pond.

In 1750 John McMurphy sold the mills and land to Alexander McMurphy. The mill stood on the southeast side of the stream, several rods above the present road and above the present mill-pond, and had a low head of water without flowing Massabesic; and at a meeting of the proprietors, October 18, 1763, it was

"Voted, not to support the flowing more than was natural."

"Voted, that the privilege of grinding for the proprietors of Chester three days in a week at macmurphy's mill at Massabeecek shall cease, and it shall become a common privilege for grinding as other mills are, upon condition that the said macmurphy and his heirs shall forever keep, maintain and support a Grist mill there, upon his and their own charge."

When a saw-mill was first built, or the Haselton mill below, is not known, and the traditions are vague and contradictory. If Potter be right, in his History of Manchester, that Alewife Falls, mentioned in the return of a road laid out December 10, 1751, page 680, were at the Haselton mill, then that mill was built before that, and probably McMurphy had none. But if Samuel Gamble be right, that Alewife Falls were just below McMurphy's, and that the waste water mentioned in the return was the natural stream, and that there was a canal to carry the water to the saw-mill, then McMurphy had dug a canal and built a saw-mill before that date, and the Haselton mill is probably of a later date. (See History of Roads.)

November 18; 1778, Alexander McMurphy sold for £1800, additional lot No. 66, No. 23, 2d P., 2d D., and the McMurphy grant, to John Sheldon, together with the *saw-mill* and grist-mill. So there was a saw-mill there then.

March 11, 1782, Sheldon conveyed to John Webster, for five hundred and seventy pounds in silver, at six shillings and eight pence per ounce, the McMurphy grant, including the house and mills. Webster dug a new and better canal.

His son, Israel Webster, next owned the mills. About 1810 he sold to James Patterson a privilege above the McMurphy mill, who built a saw-mill, and flowed Massabesic, and flooded Blanchard's mills, so that it entirely stopped them. The water for a long time was above the base of the great stone by the road, at the head of the pond. Blanchard commenced an action, but the legal remedy was slow, and four young men (Esquire Blanchard's neighbors), having previously reconnoitered the premises, went one night and cut away the dam, which was a very hazardous performance.

Patterson once owned the saw-mill below, but not the grist-mill, and he failed, and the premises went back under a mortgage. Mr. Webster's sons sold, and the mills are now occupied by Gilman Clough. Nothing definite has been learned about the Haselton mill.

THE DEARBORN SAW-MILL, FORMERLY CALLED THE "NEW MILL."

In 1751, Thomas Dearborn sold to six other persons, among whom were Theophilus Sargent, Winthrop Sargent, Sylvanus Smith, Ebenezer Dearborn and Thomas Wells, Jr., three-quarters of an acre and a half of land for a mill privilege at the south corner of lot No. 57, second part of the second division. The corner of the lot stood just below the north abutment of the bridge. They proceeded to erect a saw-mill. Thomas Dearborn built one quarter, the others an eighth each. We can hardly appreciate the

energy and enterprise of these men. There was no road nearer than the main road at Emerson's Corner, two miles distant,—Joseph Basford had a settlement where Wells C. Underhill now lives. The lumber, if drawn in the summer, must be done over a rocky path through the woods, on one pair of wheels. None of them lived less than five miles from the mill and must have gone that distance to do all of the work. They built a small house for their accommodation just north of where the Borough road now goes. In 1772, William White, administrator of Sylvanus Smith's estate, sold James Graham "one-eighth of Dearborn's saw-mill." The owners have been continually changing, but the "turns" have been kept along uninterruptedly, it is believed, ever since.

Several years previous to 1810 nothing was done with the mill on account of a difficulty about flowing; but in consequence of a vast amount of timber being blown down by the wind, "Cold Friday," Jan. 19, 1810, new gears were put in by Abner Blasdel, millwright, on the Hawkins model. The frame was rebuilt in 1821, and an entire new mill, with stone foundation, built in 1843, and a shingle-mill added in 1860.

One-half of Lieut. Ebenezer Dearborn's share has remained in the family of his son Stephen until the present time. The other half remained with Ebenezer and Jonathan while they lived. Among the owners have been James Wason, Jr., Stephen Lufkin, Joseph Carr, Joseph Hill, B. P. Chase, Jonathan Emery, W. H. Underhill, Joseph Chase, Jr., Jacob Chase, Noah Weeks and others.

HALL'S MILL, NOW HARWOOD'S.

In 1771 Caleb Hall bought of John S. Dearborn a part of lot No. 57, second part of second division, and erected a grist-mill. He went to the Catamount mountain in Allentown, for the stones, and worse-gritted stones could hardly be found. The runner, with the date on it, is the door-step at the shoe-shop, at Clarke's building in Auburn village.

It was a great undertaking to go up through Chester woods and get them. They put up at what was then called the "Red House," and afterwards Simeon Carr's. John Aiken Jr., was the mill-wright. The mill was rebuilt about 1803, and about that time conveyed to his son, Moses Hall; and afterwards re-conveyed to Caleb Hall; and in the settlement of his estate, given to Elijah Hall.

In 1823 or '24, Capt. David Hall, Elijah Hall and Isaac Hall built a saw-mill; John Locke was mill-wright. The grist-mill was rebuilt about the same time. The mills passed into the hands of Rodney Allen, who rebuilt; then to Noah Clark; and were burnt about 1845.

In 1853, Rament Preston purchased and built a grist-mill, and he and his brothers, Nehemiah and Paschal, built a saw-mill. The part belonging to Rament Preston was afterwards purchased by Nathan K. Harwood.

In 1797, Samuel Haynes, a young man from Greenland, purchased of Caleb Hall a privilege a few rods below the grist-mill, and erected a fulling-mill and carried on cloth-dressing. In 1802 or '3, he sold to Moses Hall, who did something at cutting nails there. Mr. Haynes then purchased the place now owned by Alfred Sanborn, and built the house and a fulling-mill, and carried on the business until 1807, when he sold to Charles S. Bagley; and in 1809 Bagley sold to Moses Chase. Mr. Chase in 1810 put in a carding machine, the third probably in the State. He sold the clothing department to Samuel D. Wason in 1812, and he, in 1814, sold to William Coult. Moses Chase sold the carding department to B. P. Chase, and in 1816 he sold it to William Coult, who put in another carding machine, and in 1820 it was burned. It was rebuilt, and new machinery was put in, and sold to Jonas B. Bowman, who removed the machinery and took down the building. In 1865 Joseph Dunlap of Goffstown, a large lumber and wood dealer, built a new saw-mill, with a circular saw, on the privilege.

CALFE AND BLANCHARD'S MILLS.

At an adjourned meeting of the proprietors, Dec. 11, 1735,

“Voted, The land which the Lotlayers Laid out at the Request of John Calfe for an amendment to two home Lotts and a half held by him, which Transcript was Read at the Last Proprietors' meeting, and Put to Vote for Confirmation and Past in the Negative, was Reconsidered and Read at this meeting, and Put to Vote and Past in the Effermetive.

“William Haley, Ithemer Berry, Enoch Colby, Silvanus Smith, moses Tiler, decents against the foregoing Vote.”

This tract, containing eighty acres, lay from just above the bridge crossing the mill-pond, above Auburn village, up to the bend in the brook near Campbell's bridge.

At the same meeting it was “Voted that mr. John Calfe have Liberty to build a fulling mill at massabeeck brook between the two Ponds, agreeable to his own Proposals.”

The fulling-mill was accordingly soon built, and stood nearly opposite Nathan Griffin's barn.

At a meeting of the proprietors, June 20, 1759,

“Voted and Granted to Robert Calfe, Liberty to Erect and build a Saw mill upon the Supposed Priveledge Granted to his father, John Calfe, To Set up a fulling mill Between the two ponds at massabeeck, and forEver to Injoy the Same with the Lands Left on Each Side of Said River for that use; he, the Said Calfe, Procuring and allowing Soficient Highways Towards Penicook, as may be needfull Through his Lands; and he Paying to the Proprietors forty Pounds old tenor for the Same upon their Demand Within one year from this time, and Support all Damages by flowing.”

The saw-mill was probably soon built. There was certainly a fulling-mill and saw-mill there in 1771. The dam flowed all of the meadow around the “Little Massabesic,” and up towards Clarke's mill, on the Oswego brook.

Thomas Anderson, having purchased lot No. 107, and the meadows in it, which were flowed, in May, 1772, commenced an action against Robert Calfe, and in May, 1773,

there was a verdict for the defendant. The plaintiff appealed to the Superior Court, and September, 1773, the verdict for defendant, for costs, was £7 15s. 3d.

Dec. 11, 1764, Jesse McFarland sold to Thomas Shirley fifteen acres at the north end of No. 123, the west side of the brook, and reserved the privilege of building half a mill. The mill probably was not built.

Oct. 15, 1770, Robert Kennedy sold to Samuel Shirley (son of Thomas) fifteen acres, the west side of the brook, and fifteen acres on the east side, with the buildings. Samuel Shirley soon built a corn-mill on the east side. He also bought a part, or all, of lot No. 115, in which "Little Massabesic" and the meadows around it lie, and took a more summary process than Mr. Anderson had done to abate Calfe's flowage. He procured a party of men, who were probably well stimulated, and proceeded to cut away Calfe's dam. Mr. Calfe prosecuted them for a riot, and Shirley became frightened, and to get out of it sold to Col. John Webster. Col. Webster sold to Joseph Blanchard, who had married Mr. Calfe's only daughter; and Blanchard deeded one-half to Calfe in 1777. The Calfe dam was not rebuilt; the fulling-mill was removed to the Shirley privilege and the business was carried on there by Calfe and Blanchard. Mr. Blanchard built a small house and removed there. Mr. Calfe died in 1788, and Mr. Blanchard carried on the clothing business until 1796, when the shop was burned. Esq. Blanchard said that there was no fulling-mill between there and Canada; and that they had cloth brought two hundred miles to be dressed. A saw-mill was probably built on the west side of the stream, soon after Blanchard purchased it.

In 1794, William J. and John Folsom came to Chester and set up the manufacture of cut nails, which was carried on by them until 1806, and by Joseph Blanchard, Esq., until 1816. The nails were cut by water and headed by hand. Esq. Blanchard, from August, 1815, to October, 1816, cut and carried to the state prison, to be headed by the convicts, to the amount of \$2,240.28. John Melvin

had a blacksmith shop with tilt-hammer and started making scythes; but his foreman proving unskillful he soon abandoned it. Mr. Folsom and Mr. Melvin, having taken a large contract on the Londonderry turnpike and the bridge across the pond, left the mills in the fall of 1805.

In 1825, Samuel D. Wason purchased the mills and rebuilt the saw-mill, and in doing some of the work in the old nail-shop it took fire, and the shop and grist-mill were burned. In 1826, Col. Wason built a new grist-mill with two runs of stones. It was said by William Graham, Esq., who had the title of the mills from Col. Wason and settled the bills, that he paid for seven barrels of New England rum used that summer by Wason's family and help. In 1830 Graham put in an iron cob-cracker, the first in town.

In 1835, Jay T. Underhill and Flagg T. Underhill purchased, and built an edge-tool shop with two spiral-vent water-wheels (the first of the kind in this region), one to drive a tilt-hammer and the other to do the grinding and polishing. The tool business was carried on here by different individuals,—J. T. Underhill, F. T. Underhill, John S. Brown, Nathaniel Brown and W. W. Leighton, under different firms until 1856, when J. S. Brown sold to John Clarke, W. W. Leighton and Jacob Lufkin, and the tool business was carried on by Leighton and Lufkin; then by Leighton alone. In 1863, the saw-mill was rebuilt. In 1865, the concern was sold to George G. Griffin, and the edge-tool business ceased there.

CLARK'S SAW-MILL.

This mill was built in 1796, by Deacon William Wilson, Samuel Crombie, and Caleb Hall. It was partially burned twice, and about 1806 sold to John Clark, who repaired it, and about 1814 built a grist-mill. In 1832 the saw-mill was rebuilt. In 1833 a clapboard- and shingle-mill were put into the old grist-mill—the first in Chester. In 1838 a new grist-mill was built. The same year the Oswego dam went away, and carried away a part of the dam and

the shingle-mill. In 1866, George P. Clark put in a new water-wheel, and a circular saw for cutting boards.

OSWEGO MILL.

A saw-mill was first built by Robert Wilson, Esq. I have heard my grandfather tell of working on it, I think the year he came to Chester, in 1771. The mill stood a few rods above the present mill. There was probably a considerable period that there was no mill there.

In 1799 James Shirley is taxed for a mill, and also in 1800, and Samuel Shirley for one-fourth and Alexander Shirley for three-fourths of a mill. So probably James built a saw-mill in 1798, and the others a corn-mill in 1799. These mills were a few rods below the present mill. The Shirleys sold to Edward and Stark Ray, in August, 1806.

The one hundred and fifty acres sold by the proprietors to the Rev. Moses Hale, called the "Boston lot," with a heavy growth of timber, went with the mills, and they intended to do a large business lumbering, but the embargo, non-intercourse and war so depressed business, that after manufacturing lumber, drawing it to Martin's Ferry, and rafting it to Newburyport, they sold it for eight dollars per thousand.

About 1819, Edward Ray, who had acquired the whole title, sold to John Clark, and he soon after to John H. Reid, who held it about ten years and sold it to Butterfield Carken, and he to James Davis.

In 1835 Jay T. Underhill purchased, and commenced a dam. A stock company, "The Oswego Mill Company," was formed, a stone dam erected to flow Tower Hill pond (partly for a reservoir for the Blanchard mills), and a saw-mill was built.

In June, 1838, a portion of the dam went away, undermining and carrying away the mill. The privilege was sold to David and Franklin Howe, who built the dam about two-thirds its original height, and built a saw-mill and shingle-mill, with planing-machine, &c. It is now owned by Mr. E. P. Offut.

THE WHITE-HALL MILL.

The first mill at White Hall, in Hooksett, was built by Major John Tolford, but the precise time is not known. What should induce him to build there is a mystery. The land flowed is a very little lower than the head of Isle Hooksett brook, which passes through Lakin's pond to Head's saw-mill, and the first season the water ran that way, giving him no head. He then built a dam at that end of his pond.

In 1801 Hugh Tolford rebuilt it, and in 1803 or '04 sold to John S. Wheeler, and he soon sold to Captain Daniel Sawyer.

In 1834 Captain Sawyer built a grist-mill and shingle-mill.

HEAD'S SAW-MILL.

The Browns early built a mill below the road, on Isle Hooksett brook. In 1790 Nathaniel Head, Esq., owned three-quarters, and Dr. James Brown one-quarter.

About 1802 Nathaniel Head, Esq., built above the road, and owned the whole mill.

In 1816 or '17 the present canal and wheel-pit were excavated, and a mill built.

THE FACTORY MILL IN HOOKSETT.

The first saw-mill at the falls was built by Thomas Cochran, of Bow, in 1787, which was carried away by a freshet. Cochran died in 1791, and it was sold to Rufus Harriman, and he sold to William Reside and Isaac Rowel, who built two mills, which they owned in 1803. William Reside was drowned in the falls.

William Otterson bought, and sold to the Hooksett Manufacturing Company in 1823, and they rebuilt, and built a grist-mill. The Hooksett Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1823, and was composed of Messrs. John Bell, Samuel Bell, Isaac Hill and Richard H. Ayer, who erected a cotton-mill, forty by eighty feet, three stories;

exclusive of basement and attic, and run at first by tub-wheels.

In 1831 they blasted a canal through the ledge, put in breast-wheels, and reãrranged the machinery. It was eventually merged with the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company.

About 1789 Nathaniel Martin and Laban Harriman built a saw-mill above where the Mammoth road crosses Bushnel's or Lousy brook. There was a saw-mill afterwards built lower down on the same stream, at what was called the "Smoke House," and was once owned by George Manter.

About 1790 there was a saw-mill built on the same stream, above the road, near Martin's Ferry, by a man by the name of Thompson, for John Stark, a son of General Stark.

BENJAMIN HALL, son of Obededom, of Candia, built a mill on the stream from Beech-Hill pond, just above Chester turnpike. He owned it when Chester turnpike was built, in 1805, and several years after. It passed into the hands of James Sargent, and went down. About 1822 or '23 it was rebuilt by a Mr. Greer, and, I believe, afterwards burnt.

Lieut. Joseph Whittier built a saw-mill on Dalton's brook, which empties into the river above Martin's Ferry, about 1810.

THE MURRAY SAW-MILL.

The precise time when this mill was built, or who built it, is not known. The earliest tradition I have about it is that Captain John Wason, born in 1764, told that when he was a lad or young man, the owners met to take down the old mill. After they had completed the job, they tried to see who could lift the crank, weighing one hundred and sixty or one hundred and seventy pounds, the highest, at arm's end. He said that Benjamin Eaton could easily throw it over his head, and that Major Jesse Eaton was the next strongest, but could only get the crank about as high

as his breast. The story has been told that Mr. Eaton threw it over his head with his teeth, but that is rather apocryphal. The present mill was built in 1830.

HOOK'S MILL.

Israel Hook, or Hawke, owned lot No. 116, 2d P., 2d D., as early as 1796, and it was taxed to him until 1807. He probably built a saw-mill and grist-mill that year, and put his son James T. Hook there, as he was taxed for two mills in 1808. Phineas Hook owned an interest in the property. He sold to Samuel Sargeant and Jesse Eaton.

James T. Hook exchanged places with Samuel Hook in 1818. The mills were then owned by him and his son-in-law, Sebastian Spofford. The mills were burnt in 1825, and rebuilt. Abraham Hook and H. G. Smith, the present owners, have a circular saw, for sawing boards.

MOSES PRESTON'S MILL.

Moses Preston built a saw-mill in 1799, on the stream leading through the spruce swamp to Dearborn's saw-mill. It stood on additional lot No. 75, near the southwest end, and near Chester turnpike. It was owned by John Melvin and Samuel Underhill, Jr., in 1808, afterwards by Lt. Jacob Elliot, then by Daniel French, Esq.

Lieut. Joseph Hill built a saw-mill on the Long Meadow brook, about half a mile below the main road, in 1801.

Lieut. Josiah Underhill built a corn-mill on the small branch of the Long Meadow brook on his farm, in 1812. In 1832, his son, Jesse J. Underhill, converted it into an edge-tool shop, with tilt-hammer, grinding, polishing, &c. It was burnt in 1841, and rebuilt.

Deacon E. H. Kelly built a saw-mill in 1812; rebuilt by his son Ephraim Kelly in 1833.

CHESTER STEAM-MILL.

In 1847 a stock company was formed, and a steam saw-mill and grist-mill, with two runs of stones, were built on

the old Lt. Dearborn place, near the Derry road, at an expense of about fourteen thousand dollars. It proved an unprofitable speculation, and after disposing of some portions, the residue was sold to the Amesbury Manufacturing Company, and removed.

PORTER AND HEATH'S STEAM-MILL.

In 1849, Porter and Heath, of Haverhill, Mass., purchased additional lot No. 30, which had a heavy growth of timber on it, also some other land, and erected a saw-mill with a single saw, and also a gang, and light stones for grinding corn, at an expense of nine thousand five hundred dollars. After working up the timber at little or no profit, the mill was sold and carried to Alton Bay.

MILLS IN CANDIA.

The first mill in Candia was built by William Turner, at the Village, and was a saw-mill, and stood where the grist-mill now stands, above the road. In 1756, Jona. Blunt sold to Winthrop Sargent "one-eighth of a sawmill on lot No. 35, 3 D., which he bought of William Turner." When the road was laid out in 1758, it went "at the tail of the sawmill." Joseph Bean built the first grist-mill there, the date not known.

Mr. Elihu B. Cheney carried on cloth-dressing there many years. Asa Ordway purchased a carding-machine and put it into a mill which stood above, back of the church, where there was a saw-mill. Mr. Ordway died in 1812, and Mr. Cheney bought the machine and ran it. Charles S. Bagley, of Goffstown, put up a mill below, and sold to Freeman Parker in 1821, who finished it and put in machinery, and did carding and cloth-dressing till 1846, when he sold, and a saw-mill was put in.

EASTMAN AND BEAN'S MILLS.

February, 1756, William Eastman, of Kingstown, deeded to Samuel Eastman, of Kingstown, one quarter of lot No.

78, 3d D., on which a mill was built. In 1760 a road was laid out from the "reserve at Eastman's mill" northeast to the road from Dudley's. In 1760, Samuel Eastman and Samuel Eastman, Jr., had their rates abated on account of having their house and goods burnt. The house stood thirty or forty rods south of the mill. The road they probably traveled to get there was from Chester by Lane's, and the first road into Candia, laid out in 1749, and following upon or near the gore between the old hundreds and third division. David Bean purchased the mill, and probably a house, both of which were destroyed by fire running in the woods. He rebuilt, and the property descended to his son, Dea. Abraham Bean, who built at the Island, the present location, in 1812, and the saw-mill is yet standing.

HALL'S, OR NORTH ROAD MILL.

Obededom Hall was the first settler in the northwest part of Candia, about 1764, and soon after built a saw-mill on No. 42, 3d D., which has been kept up, and owned by the Halls, Browns, and others.

MAPLE-FALLS MILL.

This mill stands on the reserve between fifth and sixth ranges of lots in the third division, on the Oswego brook. Aaron Brown, Benj. Cass, Samuel Morrill, Theo. Clough, Benj. Rowe, Benj. Hubbard, David Brown and Samuel Cass have been proprietors. Date not known.

GENESEE MILL.

This mill is on the stream from Moose meadow to Tower Hill pond, and built by Benj. Hubbard, John Camet, Stephen Fifield and Capt. Jona. Brown. Date not known.

PATTEN'S MILL.

There was early a saw-mill built on No. 128, 3d D., on the North Branch stream. The precise time when, and the owners, are unknown, but it has always been owned by a

company of the neighbors. This is said to be the fifth mill on this privilege. It was built in 1833.

KNOWLES'S OR CASS'S MILL.

Ezekiel Knowles was the first settler, and built a corn-mill on No. 116, 3d D., in 1777. It was afterwards rebuilt by the Knowles family in 1805, and purchased by Col. Samuel Cass. He new-geared in 1830, and his son, J. Q. Cass, again in 1853.

EMERSON'S MILL.

A saw-mill was built before the Revolution by the Emersons, on the stream below Knowles's, and rebuilt some twelve rods lower down the stream in 1805 or '6, and another one built below the new road by Abraham Emerson and Coffin Moore, with a circular saw, about 1855.

MILLS IN RAYMOND.

FREETOWN MILL.

The Old-Hundred-Acre lots were laid out in 1728, and the 22d and 23d lots bound on the mill-pond, and 31st, 32d, 33d and 34th bound on the "highway that leads to the mill y^t stands on Lampereel River." There was therefore a mill, and a road made from it, previous to that time. In July, 1736, Ephraim Gilman, of Exeter, sold to James Campbell, of Chester, one half of all his undivided land in Chester, reserving "The mill and mill-pond At Freetown;" and in 1769, Nicholas Gilman, who had in 1732 bought Edward Gilman's right, sold land at Freetown to Daniel Robie, and to J. Dudley at the same time. It is probable that the Gilmans, and perhaps the Dudleys, of Exeter, built the mill and made the road. The mill stood a few rods higher up the stream than the present mill, and the dam was high enough to flow up by the Center to where Horatio Page lives, and the waste water ran a few rods north of the mill, where there was a mill just below the road, which was called the "Outlet mill" in the return of the road in 1759.

THE BRANCH MILL.

The road from Chester by the "Branch" to the old Exeter road was laid out in 1748, and it crossed the "N. Branch of Exeter river below the sawmill;" so there was a mill there previous to that time, but it is unknown who built it or owned it for many years after. It is said that William Todd and perhaps Jethro Batchelder and Stephen Marden were owners. There was a mill there until about 1801, when it was carried away by a freshet.

DUDLEY'S MILL.

Samuel Dudley came from Exeter and settled on No. 87, old hundreds, where Judge John Dudley afterwards lived and built a saw-mill. In 1759 a road was laid out at the request of him and others, from Freetown by the Center, to the "river below Dudley's mill." There has probably been a mill there since that time, and now a very dilapidated frame yet stands. Joseph Dudley, a nephew of the Judge, came from Exeter and built a mill on Lamprey river, near where Elias True's mill now is, on No. 89, old hundreds.

JONES'S MILLS.

June 14, 1760, for the convenience of Ephraim Robinson, Charles Rundlet and John Leavitt, there was a road laid out "Beginning at the outlet of the pond above Jones' mill" which "crossed the brook between the two mills;" so there were two mills there at that time. John Leavitt lived where they now, 1868, are building a large house. These were probably Exeter men, and the other two might never have lived in Raymond. I have learned nothing of Jones who gave name to the pond and mill. Clement Dollof lived a little lower down the stream and once owned some share of the mills. He perished in a snow storm February 1, 1794. One of the mills possibly might have been where the Hodgkins mill now is. Now, 1868, preparation is being made by blasting to lower the pond, and

by raising it four feet to create a power and do an extensive lumber business, making boxes, shooks, etc., owned by Moses Nutter and others.

There was a mill on the Lamprey river, below Freetown, called Wallace mill, burnt in 1765 and the rates abated.

John Fullonton and Jonathan Dearborn built a mill on the Patuckaway, on No. 2, old hundreds, called "Stingy Mill" because the liquor fell short at the raising.

Jonas Clay deeded to Cornet John Lane No. 112, old hundreds, with one whole saw-mill and half of another.

Daniel Lane and others had a saw-mill on the Branch brook when the road was laid out in 1772.

Joshua Hall once had a saw-mill on his lot, No. 129, and George S. Smith and Henry H. Lane built a circular saw-mill on the same site in 1868.

CHAPTER XI.

PAUPERISM, RATES OR TAXES, AND MAIL AND STAGE FACILITIES.

I do not propose to give any detailed history of pauperism in Chester, but to state a few cases as specimens of what the town was compelled to do. By an act passed May, 1719, it was enacted "That if any person come to sojourn in any town in the province and be there received and entertained by the space of three months, and not having been warned by the constable to leave the place, and the names of such persons, with the time of their abode there, and when such warning was given, returned to the quarter sessions; such person shall be reputed an inhabitant of such town, and the town be liable to maintain such person. It is also enacted, that any person so warned out, and neglecting for fourteen days to remove, may by warrant from the next Justice of the Peace be sent from constable to

constable unto the town where he properly belongs, or had his last residence, at his own charge, if able to pay the same, or otherwise at the charge of the town sending him." In 1772 Robert Patten is paid for carrying Peter Lurvie's wife and three children to Coös; but whether by legal process or not does not appear. There is also a charge "to going to Moses Underhill's in order to find out y^e Names of y^e People that come into y^e long meadows, which was fourteen in Number, and Drawing y^e warrants, and committing it to y^e Constable, to warn them out of town." Sixteen were warned out by John Patten, and one carried out of town. The pauper laws of one state have never been recognized by the courts of other states, so that Chester could not go into Massachusetts or Vermont to find a residence for paupers. Such was the case of Mrs. Smith, mentioned hereafter.

There is on file a letter dated Dec., 1808, to the clerk of the court, enquiring if from 1782 to 1785 one Hannah Seaver was warned out. Answered in the negative. In the town account for 1809 is a charge, "Paid the town of Enfield for the maintenance, Doctor's bill, and funeral charges of Hannah Seaver, \$40.37." This did not prove a very protracted case.

In 1789, Aquila Worthen, of Amesbury, in consideration of certain provisions for house-room, and specific articles for the maintenance of himself and wife, Rebecca Worthen, deeded to his son Stephen a place in Chester, now Auburn. Aquila Worthen lived in Chester one year, and probably was not warned out, and his wife, Rebecca, became a pauper in 1798, and was supported by the town at a heavy expense until her death in 1819, at the age of ninety-four years.

Joshua Currier, a young man from Sandown, resided in Chester as a hired man, two years. In 1791 he was taxed, and the tax abated on account of minority. In 1792 he was taxed, and probably paid. He was either *non compos* or deranged, and became a pauper, and a lawsuit was had with Sandown, and in 1796 an execution was paid, of

\$50.67; and to Alpheus Ferrin for boarding fifteen weeks and four days, \$15.57; and he was supported at an expense of about a dollar per week until 1816; when he strayed off, and it was supposed that he died in the woods in the north part of Hooksett, or Allenstown.

I give the following case in detail as a matter of curiosity, and to show the general fortune of Chester in pauper cases.

State of New Hampshire, } To Capt. Simon Towle, Constable
Rockingham, ss. } for the town of Chester,

[L. s.]

GREETING:—

[L. s.] Sir, You are hereby required, in the name of the
[L. s.] State, forthwith to warn Jeremiah Griffin, Sarah
[L. s.] Griffin, his wife, and Rachael Griffin, Lydia Griffin and
Nathaniel Griffin, their children, (if they may be found
within your precinct) forthwith to depart out of the town
of Chester, that they may be no further cost or charge to
said town.

Hereof fail not, and make return of this warrant with
your doings thereon to the Clerk of the Session of the
Peace of said County within sixty days of the date. Given
under our hands and seals, this twentieth day of July, 1789.

Isaac Blasdel, }
William White, } Selectmen of Chester.
Stephen Chase, }

State of New Hampshire, } Pursuant to the within pre-
Rockingham. } cept, I have executed the within warrant according to law.

Simon Towle, Constable.

Chester, August 24, 1789.

Chester Paupers, rec'd on file Aug. 26, 1789.

Attest, N. Emery, Clerk.

Copy Examined by N. Emery, Clerk.

Griffin and his family became paupers, and it was held
that Constable Towle's return was bad, not stating the facts
of what he had done, and the town was held chargeable for
their maintenance; and in the town accounts for 1792, '3,
and '4, are charges for their maintenance.

James Calfe, a son of John Calfe, made a settlement near
the school-house at Auburn Village, and had one or more

children born there. He soon removed to Massachusetts, and a daughter Elizabeth married a man by the name of Smith. She became a widow, and removed to Rochester, N. H., and purchased a tenement, and became poor. At the February term of the Superior Court, 1823, Rochester commenced a suit for the support of Mrs. Smith, who had not been in Chester for fifty or sixty years. Chester proved that Mrs. Smith's property in Rochester was sufficient to give her a residence there, and Chester for once recovered their case.

There are a large number of notices served upon Chester, on file, claiming support of paupers. In 1799, Hanover claims for the support of Mary Wormwood. She and William Wormwood were supported for a long period. In 1818 Londonderry claimed for the support of Sally Aiken. Samuel Aiken, 4th, of Chester, (Peter's son) married Sally Coffin, of Londonderry, who had inherited a considerable property. Between them they soon spent it, and Aiken abandoned his family, and they became paupers. Londonderry commenced an action for their maintenance, which was contested, but was decided against Chester, and in 1820 an execution for \$193.49 was paid, and \$104.00 for further support. She and two or three children were supported several years. In 1817 Weare claimed for the support of Joshua Willet's children; Chichester claimed for the support of his wife. In 1835 Deering claimed for the support of Joshua Willet. They were supported a long time.

Previous to the purchase of the farm and almshouse in 1822, it was customary to vendue the board of such of the paupers as were in town to the lowest bidder. They frequently fell into poor hands. As a specimen I give some of the conditions of sale, names of paupers, prices and purchasers in 1814, Joseph Blanchard, William Graham and Josiah Worthen, selectmen :

“The purchaser to take them from their present residence, supply them with necessary meats and drinks, washing and lodging; the selectmen to furnish clothing.

If any die, are to be paid in proportions ; the purchaser to find them rum, tobacco and snuff, if needful.

<i>“ Paupers’ Names.</i>		<i>Purchasers.</i>
Nanny McDuffee,	\$40 00	to Elizabeth Shirley.
Rebecca Worthen,	51 70	James Hoit.
Ruth Badger,	47 00	Joseph Hills.
Mrs. Hodgkins,	56 50	Jeremiah Rand.
Joshua Currier,	19 50	Joseph Brown.
Thomas Bennet,*	56 00	Joseph Brown.
Nancy Allen,	16 50	Jesse J. Underhill.
Daniel Allen and wife,		not sold, supplied.
Ruth Hills,	29 12	Nathaniel Head.
Rachael Sanborn’s lame boy,	43 24	Mrs. Sanborn.
Solomon Seavey,	42 51	his daughter Joanna.”

At the annual town meeting in Candia, 1824,

“ Voted, That the services and keeping of the paupers, twenty-four in number as per list presented by the Selectmen, should be let by auction for the term of one year from the 20th of March, instant ; that they should be well used, and kept as well clothed as they now are ; and that one or more of the Selectmen should visit them as often as once in each month ; the purchaser to pay all bills incurred on their account, whether in health or sickness, or death, for the above term of time.”

They were struck off at \$131.50.

In the warrant for holding the annual meeting, March 13, 1821, was an article, “ To see if the town will make any alteration in the mode of supporting their poor, by building or purchasing a work-house, and buying land to set those to work who are able to labor ; or take any other measure that shall be thought best when met.” It was

“ Voted, John Folsom, Esq., Capt. William Graham and Capt. Samuel Aiken be a committee to report on the subject matter of said 14th article at the next annual town meeting.”

At the annual meeting, March 12, 1822, the committee made a very elaborate and able report, drawn up by Mr.

* Thomas Bennet was *non compos*, and was brought from some place unknown and left in Chester in the night, and was a pauper ten or twelve years.

Folsom, stating replies they had received from Londonderry and Exeter as to the result of their experience. The committee recommended to the town to purchase a farm, establish a house of industry, and keep their poor all together in one place.

At a meeting holden April 2, 1822,

“Voted, That the town purchase a suitable farm and appropriate the same to the residence, support and employment of the poor of said town.”

They appropriated any funds in the hands of the treasurer; to raise by tax twenty-one hundred dollars by seven annual installments; and to raise by loan what is necessary.

“Voted, That the Selectmen (John Folsom, Josiah Chase and Lemuel W. Blake) be a committee to purchase a farm.”

The selectmen purchased of Peter Shirley the farm where James Shirley, sen., first settled, and paid \$2,200. They made an addition to the house and repaired it. The stock, tools, furniture, &c., cost \$1,226.29. Cost of the establishment, \$3,426.29.

RATES OR TAXES.

The public expenses were at first borne by the original proprietors or grantees, and as they were mostly non-residents they soon sold their rights, or parts of rights, to actual settlers, or other non-residents, who then became proprietors and chargeable with the expense. Some items have been given in the Proprietary History. The proprietors were sometimes slack in their payments which caused great embarrassment.

In April, 1731, there was an act passed, the preâmbles of which recites, “That, Whereas the several towns of Chester, Nottingham and Rochester labor under many inconveniences in carrying on public affairs and especially in the maintenance and support of the gospel ministry among them, by reason of the great numbers of the proprietors of land within said townships living out of the Province, by which means the constables or collectors of the aforesaid

towns are unable to collect the rates due from their respective proprietors living out of the province as aforesaid." It was enacted that the lands within any of those towns might be extended on for rates and cost, to continue in force three years. There were continually votes being passed and committees raised for selling the rights of delinquents, but as there came to be inhabitants who were not proprietors the rates were levied on both; but in what manner I have seen nothing to indicate. An act passed in 1703 provides "that the justices, yearly at their December session, shall appoint one freeholder in each town to go through the town in which he belongs, unto every inhabitant, and take an account of such person's ratable estate, and shall deliver it to the selectmen between December and March each year, and such person shall have power to appoint one or more assistants." At a town-meeting held the last Thursday of March, 1741, John Tolford and James Varnum were chosen "Invoice men to take the Invoice of the heads and Estates of the Whole town," which was taken. That document is in the Secretary's office and in the excellent hand-writing of Mr. Varnum. The town had never before been rated to the province and this inventory was for fixing the proportion. There are D houses and S houses. In some of the inventories the distinction is made of two-story houses and one-story houses, which is probably meant here.

The following is the inventory; interesting, as showing the taxable persons and property then in town:

An Invoice Taken of y^e mens Estates whose names are here mentioned Between the month of December and March, which is in y^e year 1741.

Pr. James Varnum, }
 John Tolford, } Invois men.

Chester, Febuary 27th, 1741.

INVOICE TABLE.

NAMES.	Heds.	D. House.	S. House.	Mills.	Lands.	Oxen.	Cows.	Horses.	3 olds.	2 olds.	1 olds.	Colts.	Swine.
Mark Karr.....	1		1										
William White.....	1		1		6		2	1	2	1	4	1	
Jacob Sargent, Jr.....	1												
William Leach.....	1		1		4	2	1	1					
John Orr.....	1				4		1			1	1		
Daniel mac farland.....	1		1				1		1				
Ebenezer Gial.....					5								
Nathan Hale.....					1								
John Clement.....					1								
James mac fascn.....	1		1				1						
Adam Dickey.....	1		1		1				1				
James Shirley, Jun.....	1				3	2				1	2		
Michal Derbon.....	1							1					
Edward Crage.....	1												
James Quainton.....	1		1		8	2	2	1		1			
James Shirley.....	1		1		3		1						
James Willson.....	1		1		5		3	1					
John Dickey.....	1		1		4		2	1	1				
John Underhill.....	1		1				1	1					
Thomas Richardson.....	1		1				1						
Bradbury Karr.....	1		1				1			2			
Jonathan Sanders.....	1		1										
Nathan Webster.....	1		1		3	2	1						
Stephen Webster.....	1		1		1		1			2			
Daniel Webster.....	1	1			7		1	1	1	2			
James Varnum.....	1		1		5			1					
Wid. Elisabeth Underhill.....			1		6		1						
Wid. Elisabeth Rowell.....					6		1						
David Crage.....	1						1	1					
Samuel Aken.....	1		1		3	2	2	1					
John Basford.....	1		1		6		1	1					
Timothy Ingals.....	1												
Moses Richardson.....	1												
Thomas Wasson.....	1		1		2	2	2	1					
John Wadwell.....	1		1		5		1		1	1	1		
William Turner.....	1												
Robert Gillcrees.....	1		1		14	2	4	1		2	2		
John Mills, Jun.....	1		1		6		3	1			3		
Robert Mills.....	1		1		5		2	1		2			
Martha Forsith.....	1						1						
John Carswell.....	1		1		6		1		3				
Joseph Taylor.....	1	1			11	2	2	1					
John Robie.....		1			2		1				2		
Samll. Robie.....	1		1		5		2			2	1	1	
Samll. Powell.....	1												
William Powell.....	1	1			3		2	2					
Titus Wells.....	1	1			2		2	1					
Robert Graham.....	1	1			13		1	1		2			
Robert Graham, jun.....	1	1			3	2	1					1	
William Graham.....	1												
Patrick Melvin.....	1		1		6		3	1	2				
John Allen.....	1		1		2		1	1					
Thomas Worthen.....	1	1			9		2	1					
Eliphaz Sanborn.....	1		1		3		1	1					
Ithamer Berry.....	2	1					2	1		5	2		
Joseph Clark.....	1		1		2		1						

INVOICE TABLE—concluded.

NAMES.	Heads.	D. House.	S. House.	Mills.	Lands.	Oxen.	Cows.	Horses.	3 olds.	2 olds.	1 old.	Colts.	Swine.
Moses Hills.....	1	1	..	..	15	..	2	1	1	..	3	..	..
John Karr.....	2	1	..	2	23	2	5	1	2	2	4	..	1
Thomas Glinn.....	1	1	..	..	18	2	3	1	1	..	1	..	1
Henry Hall.....	1	1	..	..	12	..	3	1	..	2	4	..	..
John Webster.....	1	1	..	..	9	..	2	1	2	2	2	..	..
John Aken.....	1	1	..	1	9	..	2	1	1	2	2	..	..
Robert Willson.....	1	1	..	..	12	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	..
Francis Towle.....	1	1	..	..	8	2	3	1	..	2	..	..	..
Hugh Willson.....	1	1	..	..	15	..	3	1	..	2	2	..	..
James Willson.....	1	1	..	..	11	2	1	1	..	2	1	1	..
William Craford.....	2	..	1	..	8	..	2	1	..	2	..	1	..
Samll. Hills.....	1	1	..	..	9	..	2	1	..	..	2	..	1
Benja. Derbon.....	1	1	..	..	6	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Andrew Crage.....	1	..	1	..	15	2	3	1	..	2	3	..	..
Winthrop Sargent.....	1	..	1	..	9	2	2	1	..	1	1	..	..
William Karr.....	1	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
John Karr, Jun.....	1	..	1	..	6	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Samuel Brown.....	2	..	1	..	5	..	3	1	..	..	1	..	..
Thomas Derbon.....	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	1	2	..	..
Paul Mac fason.....	1	1	..	..	8	2	1	1	..	2	1	..	..
John Moore.....	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	2	3	..	..
Charles Moore.....	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Nathanal Wood.....	1	..	1	..	5	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Jonas Clay.....	1	..	1	..	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Jonas Clay, Jun.....	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
James Bassford.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..

The following from an old act in regard to making taxes, I insert as a curiosity: From "the Generall Lawes and Libaties of the Province, of New Hampshire made by the Generall Assembly in Portsm^o, the 16th of March, 1679-80, and approved by the Presid^t and Council.

"MAKING RATES.

"That there may be a just and equall way of Raising means for defraying y^e publique charge, boath in church and civill affairs, whereof every p^rson doth or may receive y^e benefit; these persons and estates shall be asseasted or rated as followeth: viz., to a single rate of a penny in the pound, every male person above the age of 16 years is valued at 12^l.; and all land within fence, meddow or marsh, mowable, shall be at 5s. per acre; all pasture lands without fence rate free; all oxen 4 years old and upward, 3s.; steers, cows and heiffers of three years old at 4s.; steers and heiffers of 2 years old at 5s.; yearlings 10s.; horses and mares of 3 years old and upward, at 20s.; sheep above one year old at 5s.; swine above one year old at 10s.; and all other estates whatsoever, in y^e hands of whome it is at y^e time when that shall be taken, shall be rated by some equall proportion by y^e selectmen of each town wth grate care y^t p^ticulars be not wronged; and all ships, ketches, boates, barques and all other vessells w^hsoever shall be rateable, as also all dwelling houses, ware houses, wharffs, mills and all handycrafts men as carpenters, masons, joiners, shoemakers, taylors, tanners, curriers, butchers, bakers, or any other

artificers, victuallers, merch^{ts} and innkeepers shall be rated by estymatyon."

This was probably the law for a long period, as I have examined a reprint of the laws from 1706 to 1770, also all the acts in the Secretary's office during that period, without finding anything on the subject.

The following is one page of an inventory, found among the papers of Deacon John Hills. There is no date, but it must have been as early as 1745, for Moses Tyler sold to Andrew McFarland that year. There is, on the back side, a footing, probably of the whole inventory. There are two taxed for faculties, — some trade, or other extra mode of making money. Mills, or a trade, were taxed as faculties in Hampton in 1732:

INVENTORY.

NAMES.	Heads.	Lands.	Oxen.	Cows.	Horses.	Houses.	Two-year-olds.	Yearlings.	Swine.	Faculties.	Young horses.
Nathaniel Wood	1	6	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	..
Jonas Clay	1	8	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Jona. Saunders	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Henry Ambrose	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
James Varnum	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Benj. Dearborn	1	10	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Robert Runnels	1	8	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
William Healey	2	10	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	1	..
King Calfe	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Benj. Batchelder	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
James Basford	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ithamar Berry	1	12	..	2	1	1	4	..	2	..	..
John Allen	1	3	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	..
Titus Wells	1	3	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	..
Thomas Hill	1	2	..	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..
Eliphaz Sanborn	1	4	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
John Underhill	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Page Bachelder	1	4	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..
Peter Clifford	1	3	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Joseph Clark	1	3	..	2	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Jona. Hall	1	4	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Moses Tyler	1	2	..	2	2	1	..	1	1	..	..
James Calfe	1	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Nathl. Hall	1	4	2	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Capt. Tilton	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Ebenezer Dearborn	1	20	2	3	1	1	1	3	3	..	..
Peter Dearborn	1	16	2	3	..	1	..	..	3	..	..
Widow Rowel	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Widow Underhill	..	6	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
David Craige	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nathan Webster, Jr.	..	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nathan Colby	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	80	649	66	100	53	55	59	69	51	..	6

The following table shows the proportion of province rates in 1709, to raise £1720:

Portsmouth	£377 10s.	Hampton	£505 13s.
Dover	361 9	New Castle	150 00
Exeter	325 8		

In order to show the relative progress of the several old towns in the province, I give the proportion of province rates to each £1000:

TABLE SHOWING THE PROPORTION OF PROVINCE RATES.

TOWNS.	1723.			1728.			1732.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Portsmouth	171	10	0	187	16	4	142	16	3
Dover	171	12	2	217	15	5	103	13	5
Exeter	128	12	8	127	18	9	114	3	6
Hampton	74	18	9	94	4	5	94	12	6
Hampton Falls	74	18	9	88	4	3	90	16	8
New Castle	81	5	8	24	19	4	21	3	2
Kingstown	44	10	5	45	6	0	54	3	0
Newington	38	19	0	36	14	8	25	1	4
Stratham	49	6	0	60	14	11	57	4	7
Gosport	19	5	0	16	0	4	-	-	-
Londonderry	-	-	-	68	3	10	52	13	0
Rye	-	-	-	29	7	1	32	16	0
Greenland	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	15	10
Oyster River	-	-	-	-	-	-	97	16	3
Somersworth	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	15	6

TABLE II.

TOWNS.	1742.		1753.		1762.	
	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
Portsmouth	140	00	95	00	91	14
Hampton	70	00	34	12	55	07
Dover	86	00	70	08	29	12
Exeter	89	00	47	00	35	12
Londonderry	54	10	51	12	49	16
Chester	18	00	33	17	36	11
Kingston	36	10	40	00	22	09
Derryfield	-	-	5	05	4	19
Rumford	13	00	-	-	-	-
Bow	-	-	24	00	-	-

FOOTINGS OF THE INVENTORY IN CHESTER IN 1753.

Polls	241	Three-year-olds	87
Houses	179	Two-year-olds	121
Tillage	452	One-year-olds	170
Mowing	1098	Three-year-old colts	15
Pasture	670	Two-year-old colts	12
Horses	58	One-year-old colts	11
Oxen	302	Male slave	1
Cows	389	Orcharding	51

An act was passed July 3, 1766, providing that the Province rates might be paid in the following articles of produce at the following prices, new tenor:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Bar iron per cwt	5	00	00	Well tanned sole leather per pound	4	00	
Hemp per pound	3	00		Tallow per pound	2	6	
Indian corn, bush.	10	00		Winter and Spring codfish per quintal	4	00	00
Rye "	10	00		Pitch per barrel	3	00	00
Peas "	1	1	00	Tar per barrel	2	00	00
Winter wheat "	1	5	00	Turpentine per barrel	4	00	00
Barley "	10	00		W. P. joists per M.	4	00	00
Pork per pound	1	00		W. P. boards per M.	5	00	00
Beef "		9		W. O. two-inch plank per M.	25	00	00
Flax "	3	00					
Bees-wax "	5	00					
Bayberry wax "	3	00					

CENSUS OF 1767.

TOWNS.	MALES.				FEMALES.				Total.	
	Unmarried 16 to 60.	Married 16 to 60.	Under 16.	Over 60.	Unmarried.	Married.	Male Slaves.	Fem. Slaves.		Widows.
Chester.....	116	168	196	24	295	153	7	2	34	916
Candia.....	27	68	99	..	100	68	..	..	1	363
Raymond.....	21	78	132	3	134	81	..	..	6	362
Derryfield.....	29	31	50	7	81	38	..	..	5	230

INVENTORY OF 1777.

	Chester.	Candia.	Raymond.		Chester.	Candia.	Raymond.
Polls	339	143	131	Three-years old	257	116	87
Orchard	162	127½	71½	Two-years old	331	164	138
Arable	603	205	311	One-year old	317	137	118
Mowing	1751	449	445	Rents of mills	£95 00	£29	£64
Pasture	2749	852	1033	Stock in trade	280	125	100
Horses	141	51	49	Money	3907	683	52
Three-years Colts..	36	10	5				
Two-years Colts....	22	24	6				
One-year Colt	17	11	5				
Oxen	243	115	76				
Cows	600	241	229				

State tax, 1783, which must have been lawful money, as the Continental was worthless:—

Constable Joseph True to pay	£	s.	d.
	643	5	9
Robert Witherspoon	361	12	10
Joseph Brown, Jr.	80	00	00

PROPORTION FOR STATE TAX.

TOWNS.	1773.	1789.	1803.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Chester	22 8 -	16 2 10	11 19 -
Candia	8 6 -	8 2 4	6 4 7
Raymond	7 13 -	6 4 8	4 2 1
Concord	13 14 -	12 7 4	10 8 2
Exeter	24 4 -	15 10 2	8 8 6
Londonderry	35 15 -	20 15 3	15 2 1
Portsmouth	58 2 -	- - -	27 8 5
Derryfield	3 12 -	2 10 4	2 2 -

T A B L E
SHOWING THE RELATIVE RATE OF TAXATION IN SEVERAL TOWNS, BY GIVING THE AMOUNT OF A POLL TAX.

TOWNS.	1790.	1795.	1800.	1805.	1810.	1815.	1820.	1825.	1830.	1835.	1840.	1845.	1850.	1855.	1860.	1865.	1867.
Chester.....	\$0.53	\$0.79	\$0.78	0.92	\$1.21	\$1.76	\$1.76	\$1.69	\$1.44	\$2.00	\$1.68	\$1.97	\$1.72	\$1.51	\$3.13	\$4.80	\$4.45
Auburn .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.78	1.72	1.80	4.64	6.48
Candia	81	82	82	1.02	93	1.70	1.68	1.73	1.58	1.60	1.59	1.56	1.68	1.64	1.52	4.80	..
Raymond.....	..	..	..	..	1.10	1.63	1.60	1.89	2.25	1.98	1.78	2.00	1.97	2.14	1.75	5.58	4.86
Londonderry.....	..	..	..	..	..	1.88	2.34	1.88	1.81	2.21	1.31	1.49	1.05	1.04	1.31	4.32	4.50
Derry .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.25	1.41	1.62	1.69	1.70	1.42	1.75	4.85	4.42
Hampton.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.55	1.67	1.55	1.68	5.10	..
Concord	62	36	74	86	99	2.40	2.03	2.22	1.33	79	96	1.41	1.38	2.30	*7.44	..	..
Nottingham	97	97	70	2.11	1.24	2.00	1.30	1.30	1.33	1.73	2.01	2.22	2.27	1.03	1.54	5.46	5.67
																	3.60

* The taxes for 1865, '66 and '67 include highway. The central part of Concord, called the city precinct, pays additional, on account of lighting and State-House. In 1865 a poll was \$8.40; in 1867, \$7.29.

The earliest tax-list which we have is for 1785, which is not inserted on account of its length.

TABLE

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF INHABITANTS, NUMBER OF POLLS AND PROPORTION OF STATE TAXES IN SEVERAL TOWNS IN 1820; ALSO THE PROPORTION IN 1829, POPULATION IN 1860, VALUATION AND PROPORTION IN 1864.

TOWNS.	Inhabitants 1820.	Polls 1820.	Proportion 1820.	Proportion 1829.	Population 1860.	Valuation 1864.	Proportion 1864.
Chester.....	2,262	415	\$9.03	\$7.40	1,276	\$389,234	\$2.99
Auburn*.....	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	886	296,858	2.29
Candia.....	1,273	240	5.54	4.90	1,575	427,803	3.29
Raymond.....	961	177	3.62	3.43	1,269	320,676	2.47
Londonderry.....	3,127	515	13.27	5.17	1,717	627,501	4.83
Derry†.....	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	7.54	1,990	678,645	5.22
Manchester.....	761	133	2.48	2.69	20,108	10,176,142	78.38
Concord.....	2,338	498	13.48	13.73	10,889	5,036,014	38.84
Exeter.....	2,114	457	9.90	9.46	3,309	1,661,274	12.79
Hampton.....	1,098	187	4.58	4.67	1,230	548,991	4.22
Hampton Falls...	572	100	3.40	3.27	621	393,121	3.02
Kingston.....	847	170	3.67	3.67	1,216	435,713	3.36
Portsmouth.....	7,327	1,190	54.36	42.41	9,335	6,442,062	49.67

* Incorporated June, 1845. † Incorporated July, 1827.

These statistics are given to show the absolute and relative progress of these towns.

In 1732, Portsmouth had 479 polls; Exeter had 333; Hampton had 224. In 1727, Hampton Falls had 224 polls; and Kingston had 120.

Up to 1833, in making taxes a specific value was put upon animals of each grade, irrespective of their real value, and also on acres of land. At that time there was an act passed requiring all property to be appraised at its cash value.

STAGE AND MAIL FACILITIES.

Besides occasional private conveyance for letters, there were sometimes persons who periodically traveled on horseback and carried letters and newspapers. My grandfather took a Newburyport paper, during the Revolutionary war, which was probably brought by a "Post-rider."

The Committee of Safety, Dec. 2, 1779, appointed Peter Robinson for the term of six months, to ride from the post-office in Portsmouth, to set out from thence Saturday morning, and ride to Peterborough in this State, and send a man weekly to Charlestown, No. 4; and carry and return all public letters and dispatches free of charge, for which service he shall receive from the State the sum of three hundred pounds lawful money. [N. H. Hist. Col., Vol. 7, p. 211.]

There was probably no regular mail or stage through Chester before 1793 or 1794. In the New Hampshire Register for 1794 there is the following list of deputy postmasters: Jeremy Libbey, Portsmouth; J. W. Gilman, Exeter; George Hough, Concord; Samuel McClure, Hanover; and Samuel Crosby, Charlestown. There might have been others, however, in the State. Tappan Robie, Esq., of Gorham, Maine, says that his uncle, Edmund Webster, was appointed postmaster about 1793; that he was clerk in his uncle's store, and acted as assistant in the post-office; and the office supplied Chester, Sandown, Hampstead, Candia and Raymond, and *perhaps Londonderry*. He recollects that Ozias Silsby, of Chester, rode post and carried a mail from Portsmouth to Amherst. [He went to Peterborough.] The mail was carried on horseback. This supplied Chester with a mail. Chase, in the history of Haverhill, p. 453, says:

"At this period (about 1791) newspapers and letters were carried through the country by persons who rode on horseback, called '*Post-riders*.' Samuel Bean was post-rider from Boston to Concord, N. H. His route was through Andover, Haverhill, Atkinson, Kingstown, Exeter,

Epping, Nottingham, Deerfield and Pembroke, to Concord ; returning, passed through Londonderry and Haverhill. He performed the route once a week.

“The first stage from Haverhill to Boston was started about this time. It was a two-horse coach, by a Mr. Gage. He performed the route only ‘when he had custom.’ It took twelve hours to perform the journey. An advertisement in a Boston paper under date of April 9, 1793, informs the public that the ‘Haverhill Stage Coach is complete, with genteel curtains and cushions, and an able pair of horses ready for service.’ It was to set out from Chadwick’s Ferry, in Bradford, on Tuesday the 16th, at six o’clock precisely, arrive at Mr. Abbot’s, in Andover, before eight, and at Mr. Peabody’s in Boston, before one. The proprietor gave notice that he intends in a short time that the stage shall perform this route twice a week. Fare, 3d. per mile. In November, 1793, a stage commenced running twice a week from this place [Haverhill] to Concord N. H., connecting with the Boston stage. It was owned by parties in this town, Chester, and Concord. The mail, however, continued to be carried on horseback for several years after the establishment of a regular line of stages.”

Mr. Robie says that the first stage was owned by Rogers and Kendall. Mr. Chase further says, p. 454 :

“At the celebration attending the opening of the Andover and Haverhill Railroad to Bradford, Oct., 1837, Hon. Leverit Saltonstall, late of Salem, said he well recollected the first setting up of the first stage-coach between Boston and Haverhill, some forty or fifty years before, by Judge Blodgett, of Haverhill. It started very early in the morning from Haverhill, in order to have time to perform the distance, and arrive comfortably in Boston before dark. The boys followed it through the villages, and the women put their heads out of the windows gazing upon the wonder ; and the welkin rang with the shout of ‘*The Stage! The Stage!*’ A stage was afterwards established to run between Haverhill and Concord, N. H. This was considered a most extraordinary event ; and one of the leaders had a bell of a size nearly equal to that of the bell of an academy, suspended to his neck, the sound of which could be heard a great distance, to give the intelligence that *the stage was coming!*”

I have heard it said that Mr. Benjamin Brown drove through Chester the first trip. A negro subsequently

drove. It is said that Matthew Templeton and others assembled at Dea. John Graham's to see the stage. Mr. Templeton was probably dressed in an uncouth manner, and had a large dent in his forehead, where his skull was broken, which caused some of the passengers to laugh. Mr. Templeton cautioned them against laughing, as they were all going to the d——l together, with a *nager* to drive them.

The earliest I recollect of a stage it passed over Chester turnpike twice a week each way, and was driven by a man by the name of Hall, and was owned by Kendall. This was in 1806. Some time after it was removed to the Londonderry turnpike. There were several changes each way, and at length there was one put on each route, when it was thought both must fail. There could not be business to support two stages. Thomas Pearson, of Haverhill, for a long time drove through Chester, and Nathaniel Walker, of Plymouth, through Londonderry. *Father Gibbs* for a long time rode post on Silsby's route, from Exeter to Peterborough. He rode horseback, carried a mail, and carried Portsmouth, Exeter and Amherst papers, and did express business generally.

Edmond Webster died May 12, 1801, and Dr. John Wingate, who married Sarah Webster, was appointed postmaster. He lived in the Webster house, and held the office till 1807, when he removed from town, and Daniel French, Esq., was appointed April 25, 1807, who held the office until near the close of his life, when he resigned, and his son, H. F. French, was appointed.

About 1826 a post-office was established at what is now Auburn village, called the "West Chester" office. David Currier, Esq., then David Currier, 3d, procured the establishment of the office, and was appointed postmaster. The office was first served with a mail from Anderson's tavern, on Chester turnpike. Afterwards a mail was carried from Kingston, serving Hawke, Sandown and West Chester, to Hooksett. Afterwards, about 1827, the Haverhill and Concord stage ran on the old road. About 1837 there was a

post-office established at Walnut Hill called "East Chester," and Robert Shirley appointed postmaster. After the building up of Manchester, about 1843, a stage was run, and carried a mail through West Chester, Candia, Deerfield, &c., to New Market, until 1863, when the mail was put on the cars, and the stage stopped, and Auburn had a daily mail.

There are no postmasters given in the New Hampshire Register for Candia or Raymond, before 1818. Probably those offices were established in 1817. Moses Fitts, Frederic Fitts, 1821, and Benjamin Pillsbury from 1822 to 1833, are named as postmasters in Candia. Joseph Blake is named as postmaster in Raymond from 1818 to 1835. According to the best information I have been able to obtain, there was a "post-rider" who carried a mail on horseback from Exeter or Portsmouth, to Concord, passing through Brentwood, Poplin, Raymond, Candia, South Deerfield and Allenstown, once a week each way. He also carried newspapers. There was for a season a post office at Anderson's, called "Candia Turnpike," and also one on Candia north road.

About 1830 there was a joint stock company formed, and a stage run from Dover to Lowell, passing Raymond and Chester, which carried a mail. About 1734 Stephen Osgood, of Raymond, having purchased a large share of the stock, put on a stage from Pittsfield to Chester, connecting at Chester with the Lowell stage, which would supply Candia with a mail. These stages I think ran three times a week until the Boston and Maine railroad took the travel, in 1838 or 1839. After the Manchester and Lawrence railroad went into operation, a stage was run from Chester to Derry depot, which carried a daily mail, and the Haverhill stage ran into Manchester, and finally ceased. For a long time after stages ran and mails were established, newspapers were carried by a post-rider. About 1808 or '9 one James Tallant, of Concord, rode post from Concord to Chester, and perhaps farther, and carried the "New Hampshire Patriot" and "Concord Gazette" in his saddle-bags

but whether both papers could agree to be in one end, I do not know. After Tallant, my brothers, Moses and John, had papers come by stage, and carried them on horseback through Candia, Deerfield, &c., to Exeter; and my father, B. P. Chase, carried them through the Long Meadows to the *Neck*.

CHAPTER XII.

LITERARY AND PROFESSIONAL. — HISTORY OF SCHOOLS. — EARLY STATUTES IN RELATION TO SCHOOLS.

Nov. 11, 1647.

“It being one chief point of that old deluder, Satan, to keep men from the knowledge of the Scriptures, as in former times by keeping them in an unknown tongue; so in these latter times, by persuading from the use of tongues, that so at least the true sense and meaning of the original might be clouded by false glosses of saint-seeming deceivers; that learning may not be buried in the grave of our fathers, in the church and commonwealth, the Lord assisting our endeavors:—

“It is therefore ordered, that every township in the jurisdiction, after the Lord hath increased them to the number of fifty householders, shall then forthwith appoint one within their town to teach all children as shall resort to him, to write and read, whose wages shall be paid either by the parents or masters of such children; or by the inhabitants in general, by way of supply, as the major part of those that ordered the prudentials of the town shall appoint; provided those that send their children be not oppressed by paying much more than they can have them taught for in other towns.

And it is further ordered, that where any town shall increase to the number of one hundred families, or householders, they shall set up a Grammar school, the master thereof being able to instruct youth so far as they may be fitted for the University: provided, that if any town neglect the performance hereof above one year, that every such town shall pay £5 to the next school, till they shall perform this order.”