

ROOM
FORD
GENERAL

Helene A. Watson

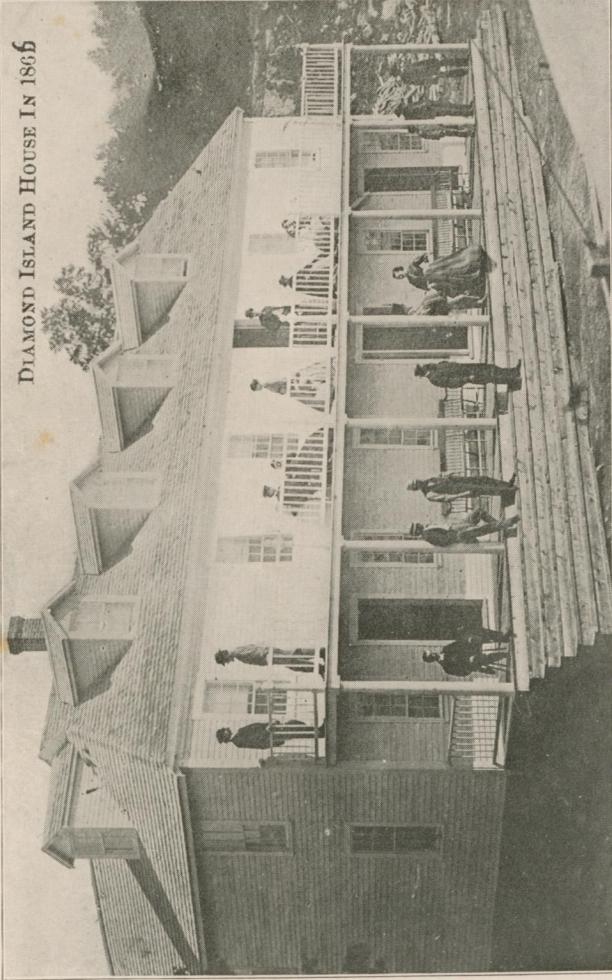
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DIAMOND ISLAND HOUSE IN 1865



DIAMOND ISLAND HOUSE IN THE 'SIXTIES

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE INCORPORATION OF

G I L F O R D

NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES AT THE
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION,
JUNE 17, 1912

Lakeport, N. H.

PRIVATE PRINT OF MARTIN A. HAYNES

1918

No. 58

EDITION ONE HUNDRED COPIES

This is one of the fifty copies presented
to the Town of Gilford, for the benefit of
the Town Library, by

MARTIN A. HAYNES.

FOREWORD

I HAVE an abiding affection for the old Town of Gilford. It is the liking of one who, as a young man with all the world to choose from, deliberately selected it as his permanent home, and has never for a moment had a thought that he made a mistake. I was a citizen of the town during the better part of my active life in business and in public affairs. It was an association of pleasant memories and without a sting. This little volume is a modest token of my unswerving love for the old town and its good people.

The celebration of its one hundredth anniversary was really an important, as well as interesting, event in the history of the town. It was worthy of a permanent record. There was much historical material in the several addresses which should be preserved and kept together, for future reference quite as much as present interest. They should have been gathered in a volume at the time. The town might well have done this and recouped itself for the expense by the sale of the books. This was not done, however, and the result is the addition of one volume to the list of "Haynes Private Prints."

The long delay in publication is unfortunate in that some of the addresses on that occasion have been irretrievably lost. The stenographer who took down ex-Governor Quinby's interesting talk is now unable to find her notes. And Wilbur Thompson has been too busy to furnish a copy of his reminiscences of Gilford people he has known, which would be especially interesting to future generations as showing what manner of men their ancestors were.

I print a limited edition of only one hundred copies. To be square with the town, I will divide with it on the old "fifty-fifty" basis. I

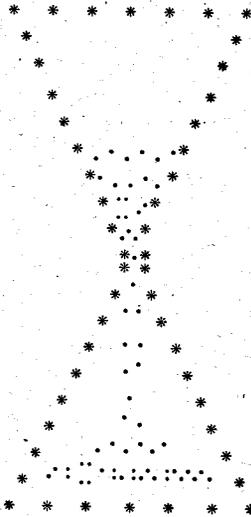
present it with fifty copies. There are no strings tied to them, and I merely suggest that it would please me if they could be sold at a reasonable price and the proceeds devoted to the purchase of books for the town library. Somebody, sometime, will jump at the chance to buy one of these books for ten dollars or more; but you will not get any such price—not just now, anyway. If you can't sell them, put them in a basket out front of the town hall, with a placard, "Take One!" If you can't get rid of them that way, make a bonfire. As for myself, I will get my reward when our descendants celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the town. Some of these books will be in existence and will be brought forth as "antiques" and ancient records. Then some one in the assemblage, in quest of information as to the ancient days and the ancient people, will pipe up the inquiry, "Say, what do you know about this old crank, away back in the Silurian age, who used to print books just for the fun of giving them away?"

M. A. H.

Lakeport, New Hampshire, January, 1918.

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1812

Program

1912

of the

One Hundredth Anniversary

of the

Town of Gilford

June 17, 1912

MORNING

Words of Welcome to the Children	Mrs. Rosa Sanders
Song, "Star Spangled Banner"	Children
Recitations	School No. 1
Song and Recitation	School No. 2
Drill and Song	School No. 3
Original Poem, "One Hundred Years Ago"	Mrs. Bernice Johnson
Song, "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean"	Children
Recitation, "Barbara Frietchie"	School No. 4
Recitation, "Legend of Character Building"	Marion Hunt, School No. 5
Recitation, "The Four-Leaf Clover"	Esther Wallace, School No. 5
Song, "America"	Children
Recitation	School No. 6
Recitation	Helen Bacon, School No. 8
Recitation	Myron Bennett, School No. 9
Recitation	Lena Barrett, School No. 10
Recitation	Gladys Emerson, School No. 10
Song, "Home, Sweet Home"	Children

AFTERNOON

Prayer

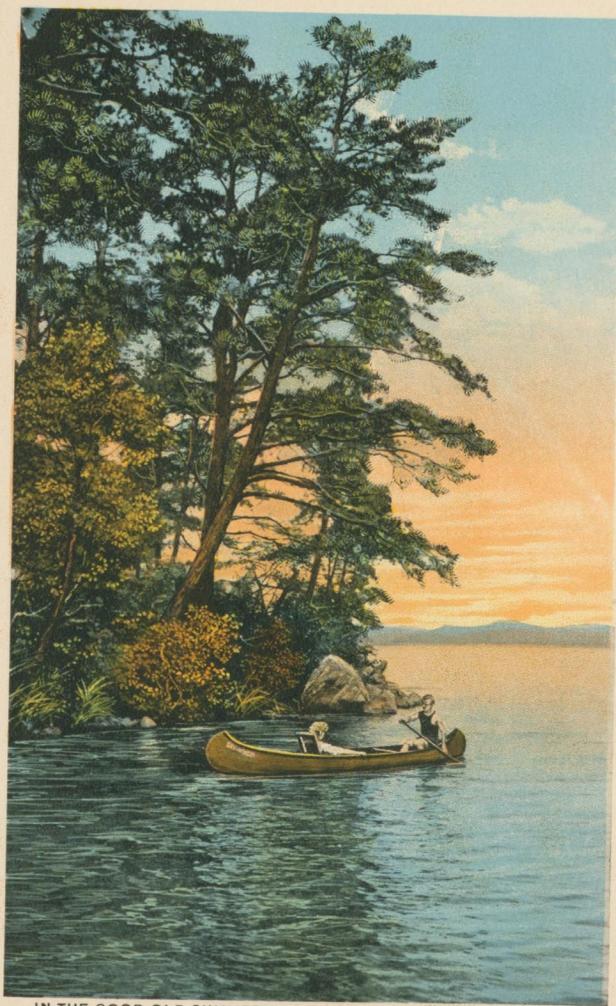
Words of Welcome	James R. Morrill, President of the Day
Music by the Band	
Oration	Hon. Stephen S. Jewett of Laconia
Historical Sketch of the Town of Gilford	Thomas E. Hunt
Remarks	Hon. Henry B. Quinby
Music by the Band	
"Gilford as I Remember it When a Boy"	Alvah F. Hunter, Abington, Mass.
"The People of Gilford"	G. Wilbur Thompson, Newton Centre, Mass.
"The Soldiers and Sailors of Gilford Who Served in the Civil War"	Hon. Martin A. Haynes
Other speakers will be present and give short addresses.	
Singing of "America" by the audience.	

EVENING

Exercises commence at 7.30

Music by the Orchestra

Recitation	Gertrude Smith
Song	Charles W. Hunt
Recitation	B. Faye Newell
Music by the Orchestra	
Recitation	Rosa Sanders
Recitation	M. Newell
Reminiscences by Citizens	



IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME ON LAKE WINNEPESAUKEE, N. H.

Proceedings

The following account of the proceedings and exercises at the one hundredth anniversary celebration of the incorporation of the township of Gilford is a composite, compiled mainly from the three very excellent newspaper reports given respectively by the *Laconia Democrat*, the *News and Critic* and the *Manchester Union*.

The various committees who by their earnest work made the event successful and enjoyable were:

Finance Committee—the board of selectmen: Frank B. Grant, Charles E. Sleeper, Ansel F. Gove.

President of the Day—James R. Morrill.

Secretary of the Day—Louis Collins.

Historical Committee—Thomas E. Hunt, Judge John B. Morrill, James R. Morrill.

Invitation Committee—Ansel F. Gove, Perry E. Hunt, George W. Morrill.

Reception Committee—Mr. and Mrs. L. M. James, Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Morrill.

Amusement Committee—Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Rowe, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sanborn, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Weeks, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Collins, J. N. Ames, M. M. Cole.

Music Committee—Henry G. Hoyt.

Program Committee—Thomas E. Hunt, Mrs. L. M. James, Mrs. Rosa M. Sanders, Fred R. Weeks, Julia M. Rand, Rev. F. Newell.

Antique Committee—F. B. Grant, Mrs. L. M. James, F. S. Parker, Mrs. O. M. Sanborn, Mrs. Carrie H. Gill, Mrs. Fred Tenney.

The preliminary anniversary exercises were held on Sunday, June 16, in the town hall. The intention was to have the religious services out-of-doors on the site of the first meeting house, on Gunstock hill, near the summer residence of Col. Pope of Boston, but the weather was unfavorable and the service was held in the town hall, with an appropriate sermon by Rev. John G. Munsey and a special program by the choirs of the Free Baptist and Methodist churches.

On the following day, Monday, the weather man proved that he was a member of the committee of arrangements, for he furnished an ideal June day for the occasion. The town presented an artistic appearance and the town hall was charmingly decorated, both inside and out. In front of the hall was flying a large American flag, the gift to the town of Frank W. Potter of Melrose, Mass., a native of Gilford. The flag was raised Monday morning by Mr. Potter, with the assistance of his son, George W. Potter. The business blocks and many of the private residences were decorated. The crowds were cared for by Deputy Marshal B. M. Hutchins and Officer Ernest Fielding of the Laconia police department.

A parade of the children of the public schools opened the morning's program, with Perry E. Hunt as marshal and music by the Laconia City Band. The ten schools of the town were in charge of their teachers, and the elder residents of the town followed in autos and carriages. After the parade, the line marched to the town hall, where an excellent program was presented, including songs and drills by the children, a welcome by Mrs. Rosa Sanders, and an original poem, "A Hundred Years Ago," by Mrs. Bernice Johnson. The musical and literary exercises were also supplemented by a program of sports in charge of Frank Collins, the winners of the various events being as follows:

100-Yard Dash—Won by Louis H. Harris, Morris Willard second.

Standing Broad Jump—Won by Robert Deware, Earl Sanborn second.

Running Broad Jump—Won by Robert Deware, Louis Harris second.

Three-mile Race—Won by Frank Collins, Robert Deware second, Earl Sanborn third.

Standing High Jump—Won by Robert Deware, Earl Sanborn second.

Running High Jump—Won by Robert Deware, Earl Sanborn second.

Potato Race—Won by Robert Deware, Morris Wallace, second.

At the noon hour dinner was served to the invited guests in the Grange hall, while a large number enjoyed a basket picnic on the

II
PROCEEDINGS

spacious grounds at the residence of Judge John B. Morrill. The hour proved most pleasant as those from out-of-town were exchanging greetings with old friends and family circles were holding informal reunions. An open air concert was given by the Laconia City Band for an hour commencing at one o'clock.

The afternoon exercises were held out-of-doors, as the attendance was so large that the hall could not accommodate half the crowd. The exercises opened with a prayer by Rev. John G. Munsey. The president of the day, James R. Morrill, gave a gracious welcome to the guests of the day, and introduced the orator of the day, Stephen S. Jewett of Laconia, a native of that part of the old town of Gilford which is now included in the city of Laconia, and a descendant of Samuel Jewett, who was the first settler in that part of Gilford on the east side of the Winnepesaukee, now in Laconia.

The historical address was by Thomas E. Hunt, giving the history of the town for the past century, and covered a wide range of historical information that has never heretofore been brought together, not even in the work of Rev. J. P. Watson, which appeared in the history of Belknap County, printed in 1885.

Former Governor Henry B. Quinby was then presented and gave a pleasing talk.

In response to toasts, Alvah F. Hunter of Abington, Mass., spoke of "Gilford as I Remember it as a Boy"; G. Wilbur Thompson of Newton Center, Mass., "The People of Gilford"; Martin A. Haynes of Lakeport, Past Department Commander of the G. A. R., "Soldiers and Sailors of Gilford in the Civil War." Prof. Jeremiah W. Sanborn of Gilmanton gave a short talk, as also did Hon. Charles D. Thyng of New Hampton and others of the invited guests.

The afternoon exercises closed with the singing of "America."

Interesting exercises were also held in the town hall in the evening, including singing, readings, and reminiscences by some of the older citizens. Mrs. Faye Newell rendered several solos in a pleasing manner, and Mr. F. Newell, a brother of Rev. M. E. Newell, brought the house down by his comic songs and acting. Helen Bacon gave a recitation, "My Doll's Funeral," in a charming manner, and Mrs. Rosa Sanders gave a reading, "How She Rang the Church Bell in the Storm."

Nobody knows just how many people took in the Centennial, but nearly nine hundred registered during the day, and of course many people from surrounding towns who enjoyed the occasion did not register. The town hall was packed at the morning exercises, and in the afternoon the building could not have held half the crowd. William Rowen, aged 85 years, the oldest man in town, was the first to sign the register. The oldest person present was Mrs. Hatch, who was 87 years of age, while the youngest present was the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Waldron, aged six weeks.

Each of the school children as they marched in the parade carried a small bouquet of flowers, which, as they returned to the town house, were placed in a black velvet shield around the large white figures "1812-1912." Each child from School District No. 3 carried clusters of locust blossoms from trees planted some sixty years ago by Rev. John Munsey on the occasion of his taking away a fair daughter of that district as his bride.

The collection of antiques was very large and of unusual interest. The use of the cottage house they occupied was donated by Judge John B. Morrill, as were the grounds at his home, where hundreds picnicked; and in a large field back of his barn the boys and married men matched themselves at a game of base ball, much to the amusement of a big audience. It was a source of deep regret to all that the Judge, then stricken with his fatal sickness, was unable to participate in the celebration.

The white bread used at dinner was the generous gift of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Copp, residents of Gilford, but doing a bakery business at Meredith. The children, after their arduous participation in the forenoon exercises, were served with a sumptuous repast provided by Mr. A. V. Lincoln, a resident of Charleston, Mass., but who has a summer residence at Belknap Point.

Lovett Brothers did a big business in pop corn; L. E. Roe's store was another busy place; George Lavigne hustled soft drinks and fruit; Mrs. Addie Parker, across the street, in the Grange dining room, put out the ice cream, using nearly seventeen gallons of the frozen goods. Martin Cole and Mr. and Mrs. L. M. James looked after the catering, and great credit is certainly due Mr. and

Mrs. Cole and their helpers, for they proved that the Grange could feed three hundred at the dinner hour and have enough left with which to serve supper to any one who wished it. The dining room was in charge of Fred Davis and the following assistants: Mrs. Margaret Downing, Mrs. Bertha Olson, Mabel Clement, Lena Heath, Marion Bartlett. L. M. James and H. W. Downing poured the coffee.

The committees worked hard to make the Centennial a success, and they succeeded. There were no words but words of praise from all, from the time they came until they left for their respective homes.

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HISTORICAL ADDRESS

BY THOMAS E. HUNT

Fellow Citizens and Natives of Gilford :

The historian Macauley has said, "A people that takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors, will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote descendants." We have assembled here today to briefly review the achievements of our ancestors, and by these exercises show our appreciation of the noble work done by them in the settlement of this town.

The early events connected with the town of Gilford are so very closely interwoven with those of Gilmanton that a brief allusion to the formation of that town may not be out of place here. Gilmanton was incorporated in 1727. It was named and originally spelled Gilmantown, from the fact that among the grantees of the charter issued by His Majesty King George, there were twenty-four persons of the name of Gilman. The charter was signed on the 20th of May, 1727, by His Majesty's Colonial Governor, John Wentworth. The principal requirements of the charter were: First, the settlement of seventy families within three years, each in a separate house, and each having cleared five acres fit for tillage, and having paid all assessments. Second, a meeting house should be erected within four years. Third, three shares should be appropriated for public use, viz: One for ministerial support, one for minister's residence and one for support of schools; provided, however, that no Indian war prevent the settlement, and in such event granting three years from the close of such war. The consideration of this deed or title was the quit-rent of one pound of flax annually forever, if demanded, and due the second Tuesday of March. Also all pine trees twenty-four inches in diameter were reserved, under the act of Parliament, for the construction of ships in the royal navy, which trees had been marked and registered by a surveyor appointed by the Crown.

No permanent settlement was made until 1761, when, on the evening of December 26, Benjamin Mudgett and wife, from the

town of Brentwood, arrived in Gilmanton, having come that day from Epsom, a distance of not less than twelve miles, on foot. Mrs. Mudgett was the first white woman to set foot on the soil of Gilmanton. The first settlement in the upper, or Gunstock Parish, was made by Samuel Jewett, who settled on the east side of the river at Meredith Bridge. The first to settle in Gilford as now constituted were Captain Samuel F. Gilman and James Ames.

The population of the Upper Parish had increased quite rapidly between the first settlement of Gilmanton and the formation of Gilford. The public business, which was all conducted at Gilmanton, had also increased to a considerable extent, so that its transaction by the citizens of the Upper Parish was quite inconvenient and burdensome, owing to the distance between the two sections. Consequently, the formation of a new town was sought. In 1811, at the annual election in Gilmanton, an article was inserted in the town warrant to see if the town would grant leave to the inhabitants of the Upper Parish to form a separate town, which was decided in the negative, but the town voted not to oppose the separation in the legislature. The records show that the parties could not agree on a dividing line, and a disinterested committee consisting of Nathan Taylor of Sanbornton, James McDuffee and Edward Wood were selected and reported a line which was finally agreed on. The following petition was presented to the legislature in 1811:

"To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June, instant:

"We the subscribers, inhabitants of the northerly part of the town of Gilmanton in said state, respectfully represent—

"That said town is so large in point of territory, and the inhabitants so numerous, that it is extremely inconvenient to transact the public business of said town;

"That the undersigned are obliged to travel from five to twenty miles to attend town meeting, which burden, to many, is very inconvenient and oppressive;

"That as the number of legal voters in the whole town exceeds seven hundred, and the territory is so extensive, it would add much

to the convenience of a large majority of the inhabitants to have the town divided into two distinct towns.

"We therefore respectfully pray that the tract of land hereinafter described may be disannexed from the town of Gilmanton, and that the same, with the inhabitants thereof, may be incorporated into a town, with town privileges, by the name of Gilford :

"The dividing line to begin on the easterly side of Winnepesaukee river on the northeasterly side of the eleventh range of hundred acre lots, in the second division in said town, running on said eleventh range southeasterly to the end of said range ; thence northeasterly on the Lower Parish line (so called) to the easterly corner of lot No. one in the twelfth range ; thence north about seventy-five degrees east, three miles and about ninety rods, to Alton line at the east end of lot No. seven in the first range of Masonian lots in said Gilmanton, (And that each lot of land that may be cut by said division line which is owned by any person in Gilmanton shall be considered belonging to the town in which said owner or owners belongs, but if said owners shall be non-residents then the land shall belong to the town in which it is situated.) Thence northerly on the dividing line between Alton and Gilmanton to Winnepesaukee Lake ; thence westerly by said lake to the river running from the same to a place called Great Wares ; thence southerly by Winnepesaukee River to the bounds first mentioned. Including all the islands in said lake and river belonging to said Gilmanton. Agreeable to a vote of the inhabitants of said Gilmanton on Monday, the 27th day of May last, and the reports of their committees, as may appear by said reports.

"We would farther represent that the above contemplated division line would be the most convenient for the inhabitants of said town generally of any that can be drawn ; and as the number of legal voters residing within the above named limits exceeds two hundred and twenty, the above described tract would make a very conveniently situated town :—And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

"Gilmanton, June 5, 1811.

[Signed by] "Moses Rowell and 146 others."

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

It appears that the petition was presented to the legislature of 1811 and the following action was taken :

"STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"In the Senate, June 19th, 1811.—Upon reading and considering the petition of the inhabitants of Gilmanton: *Voted*, that the petitioners be heard on their petition before the General Court, on the first Tuesday of their next session, and that they cause a copy of the petition and order of Court thereon to be posted up in three public places, in said Gilmanton, at least six weeks before the second Tuesday of March next; also that they cause the Town Clerk to be served with a copy of the same, the like term of time before the said second Tuesday in March; that any person or persons may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer should not be granted. Sent down for concurrence.

"PETER FARNUM, Assistant Clerk.

"In the House of Representatives the same day, read and concurred.

CLEMENT STORER, Speaker.

"A true copy, attest,

MOSES L. NEAL,

"Clerk of the House of Representatives."

Copy of an act creating the town of Gilford :

"STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve.

"An Act to incorporate the inhabitants of the northerly part [L. s.] of Gilmanton into a separate town with all the privileges and immunities of the other towns of the State.

"Whereas a petition signed by a number of the inhabitants of the town of Gilmanton, praying to be incorporated into a separate town, has been presented to the General Court of the State, and the prayer thereof appearing reasonable : therefore—

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, that all the land and inhabitants within the following limits, namely : Beginning at the easterly side of the Winnipisseogee river on the northeasterly side of the eleventh range of hundred acre lots in the second division in said town, thence running southeasterly on said range line to the east end of said range, thence northeasterly to the northeast corner of lot No. one on the

GILFORD CENTENNIAL

"In Senate, June 16th, 1812.—This bill having been read a third time, was enacted. JOSHUA DARLING, President.

"Same day by the Governor approved. WILLIAM PLUMMER.

"Recorded agreeable to the original.

"Attest, SAML SPARHAWK, Sect."

The honor of naming the town was given to Captain Lemuel B. Mason, who was among the early settlers of Gilford, coming from Durham. Capt. Mason was a Revolutionary soldier, having joined the continental army at Portsmouth when only sixteen years of age, and remained in constant service till the close of the war. He also took part in the war of 1812. When the division of Gilmanton took place, according to family tradition, corroborated by the testimony of the old inhabitants, he was invited to name the new town, which he called Guilford, from the battle of Guilford Court House, S. C., in which he was an active participant. But in the petition to form the new town the spelling (for some reason, whether purposely or otherwise the records do not show,) was changed to G-i-l-f-o-r-d. Capt. Mason settled on the farm now occupied by Matt Kimball.

The act of incorporation empowered Benjamin Weeks and Simon Hoit or either of them to call the first town meeting, which was called to meet July 9th, 1812 at the Northeasterly (or Gunstock) meeting house, to choose the necessary officers to serve until the annual March meeting. At this meeting Dudley Ladd was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Town Clerk, Jacob Randlett, Jacob Blaisdell and Thomas Saltmarsh Selectmen. Horatio G. Prescott, Lieut. Winthrop D. Eager and Capt. James Follett were licensed to keep tavern in said town.

On the 2d of November following, the presidential election was held. Dudley Ladd served as Moderator. Before proceeding to ballot for Electors and Representatives to Congress, a poll of the house was taken to see whether the Moderator and Selectmen should receive the votes out-of-doors or in the house, which was decided, 119 to 115, in favor of the votes being received in the house. The vote at this election was very close between the Federalists and Republicans, the vote for Congressmen standing 114 to 112 in favor of the Federalists. Daniel Webster was a candidate on the Feder-

alist ticket. Vote for Electors, John Langdon, Republican, 116; Oliver Peabody, Federalist, 114.

At the annual meeting for 1813, Eld. Richard Martin was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Town Clerk, Eld. Richard Martin Representative to the General Court, John Smith, Thomas Saltmarsh and John Gilman Selectmen.

1814, the officers were: Dudley Ladd Moderator, Wm. Blaisdell Clerk, Richard Martin Representative. It was voted that the citizens take their seats until called to vote. Thomas Saltmarsh was chosen Selectman, but declined to serve, and the town presented Mr. Saltmarsh a vote of thanks for his services as Selectman the past year—the one solitary instance mentioned in the records where a town official was ever publicly thanked for services rendered. Dudley Ladd, William Blaisdell and John Smith, Esq., were chosen Selectmen. Voted, to lay aside party spirit as it respects town officers: Major Jonathan Piper was licensed to sell spirituous liquors in less quantities than one gallon.

In 1815, Dudley Ladd was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, John S. Osgood and William Blaisdell Selectmen. Samuel Shaw was licensed to sell spirituous liquors in less quantities than one gallon.

In 1816, Dudley Ladd was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, John S. Osgood, John Evans and William Blaisdell Selectmen. Zadock Bowman and Daniel Kimball were licensed to sell spirituous liquors under the usual restrictions. At the presidential election this year, the vote was 118 to 67 in favor of the Republican ticket.

At the election in 1817, Thomas Saltmarsh was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, John Evans and Barnard Morrill Selectmen.

1818, Thomas Saltmarsh was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, John Evans and Barnard Morrill Selectmen.

1819, Lyman B. Walker, Esq., was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, John Evans and Barnard Morrill Selectmen.

1820, Dudley Ladd was chosen Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, John Evans Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, Barnard Morrill and John Evans Selectmen.

1821, Major Jonathan Piper was elected Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, John Evans Representative, John Evans, Barnard Morrill and Thomas Saltmarsh Selectmen.

1822, John Evans Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Dudley Ladd Representative, Thomas Saltmarsh, Barnard Morrill and John P. Smith Selectmen.

1823, John Evans Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Thomas Saltmarsh Representative, John Evans, John P. Smith and Joseph Sleeper Selectmen.

1824, John Evans Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Barnard Morrill Representative, John Evans, Joseph Sleeper and Jeremiah Rowe, Jr., Selectmen.

1825, John Evans Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Barnard Morrill Representative, John Evans, Dudley Ladd and Joseph Sanborn, Jr., Selectmen.

1826, John T. Coffin Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Barnard Morrill Representative, Samuel Leavitt, Levi R. Weeks and Francis W. Boynton Selectmen.

1827, John T. Coffin Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Barnard Morrill Representative, Samuel Leavitt, Levi R. Weeks and Francis W. Boynton Selectmen.

1828, George F. Marstin Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Lyman B. Walker Representative, Samuel Leavitt, Samuel G. Sanborn and Ephraim Mallard Selectmen.

1829, George F. Marstin Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Lyman B. Walker Representative, Samuel Leavitt, Benjamin Jewett 3d and Ephraim Mallard Selectmen.

1830, Joseph Fifield Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Nathaniel Davis Jr. Representative, Ephraim Mallard, Benjamin Jewett 3d and Samuel G. Sanborn Selectmen.

1831, Joseph Fifield Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Nathaniel Davis Jr. Representative, Peasley Hoyt, Samuel Leavitt and Benjamin G. Folsom Selectmen.

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1832, Joseph Fifield Moderator, Francis O. Sleeper Clerk, Ephraim Mallard Representative, Peasley Hoyt, Benjamin Folsom and Joseph Fifield Selectmen.

1833, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Francis O. Sleeper Clerk, Ephraim Mallard Representative, Peasley Hoyt, Joseph Fifield and John Evans Selectmen.

1834, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, William Blaisdell Clerk, Peasley Hoyt Representative, John Evans, Joseph Sleeper and Asa D. Eager Selectmen.

1835, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Charles Stark Clerk, Peasley Hoyt and William Blaisdell Representatives, Daniel Brown, Asa D. Eager and Dudley G. Thing Selectmen.

1836, Dixi Crosby Moderator, Charles Stark Clerk, William Blaisdell and Benjamin G. Folsom Representatives. On the first ballot for Selectmen, Joseph Sleeper was elected, and after balloting thirteen times for second Selectman, without a choice, voted to adjourn until the next day. At the adjourned meeting, Dudley G. Thing and Daniel Brown were elected Selectmen. At the presidential election this year, the warrant contained an article to create a new town at Meredith Bridge, on petition of Stephen Gale and several others, which, on motion of Dixi Crosby, was voted down.

1837, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Meshack Sanborn Clerk, Benjamin G. Folsom and Peaslee Hoyt Representatives, Joseph Sleeper, Caleb Marston and Eben S. Lawrence Selectmen.

1838, Daniel Weeks Moderator, Meshack Sanborn Clerk, Peaslee Hoyt and Joseph Sleeper Representatives, Caleb Marston, Eben S. Lawrence and John S. Hunt Selectmen.

1839, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Eben S. Lawrence and Samuel G. Sanborn Representatives, John S. Hunt, Benjamin G. Folsom and Franklin Davis Selectmen.

1840, Benjamin Boardman Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Eben S. Lawrence and Samuel G. Sanborn Representatives, Joseph Libby, Nathaniel M. Hoyt and Franklin Davis Selectmen. At the fall election this year it was voted to build a town house at Gilford Village, and Barnard Morrill, Joseph Thing and Enoch Hoyt were chosen a committee to build the same.

1841, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Benj. Boardman and Aaron Robinson Representatives, Joseph Libby, Nathaniel M. Hoyt and John Blaisdell Selectmen. This year a highway was laid out on the north of Lily Pond, leading from Joseph Hunt's, on the White Oaks (so called), to the blacksmith shop of Philip O. Blaisdell, but the records do not show any further action taken in the matter.

1842, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Nahum Brooks Clerk, Ephraim Mallard and Benjamin Boardman Representatives, John Blaisdell, Benjamin Jewett Jr. and Benjamin F. Weeks Selectmen.

1843, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Nahum Brooks Clerk, Ephraim Mallard and Joseph Sleeper Representatives, John Blaisdell, Benjamin F. Weeks and Benjamin Jewett Jr. Selectmen.

1844, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Dudley G. Thing and John Blaisdell Representatives, John Evans, Joseph P. Smith and Benjamin G. Folsom Selectmen.

1845, Ephraim Mallard Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, John Blaisdell Jr. and Dudley G. Thing Representatives, Joseph P. Smith, Benjamin G. Folsom and Eben S. Bartlett Selectmen.

1846, Dudley Smith Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Aaron Robinson and Dudley Smith Representatives, Eben Bartlett, John M. Potter and Henry H. Sleeper Selectmen.

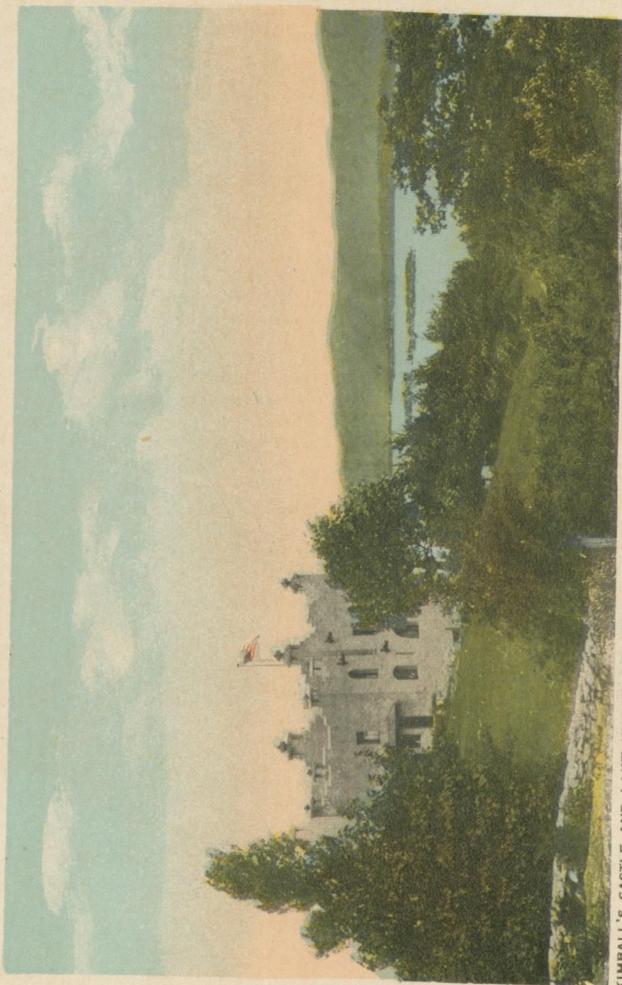
1847, Dudley Smith Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Dudley Smith and Joseph P. Smith Representatives, Henry H. Sleeper, John M. Potter and Morrill Thing Selectmen.

1848, Dudley Smith Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Joseph P. Smith and Benjamin F. Weeks Representatives, Henry H. Sleeper, John M. Potter and Morrill Thing Selectmen.

1849, James Bell Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Benjamin J. Cole and Enoch Hoyt Representatives, Eleazer Davis, John M. Potter and Benjamin M. Sanborn Selectmen.

1850, James Bell Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, Benjamin J. Cole and Benjamin F. Weeks Representatives, Eleazer Davis, Benj. M. Sanborn and William Weeks Selectmen. James Bell and Chas. Lane, Delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

1851, James Bell Moderator, Eben S. Hunt Clerk, John Tilton and Henry H. Sleeper Representatives, William Weeks, John D.



KIMBALL'S CASTLE AND LAKE WINNEPESAUKEE, N. H.

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Morrill and Daniel B. Eaton Selectmen. \$500. reward was offered by the town for the capture of the murderer or murderers of Edward S. Davis.

1852, James Bell Moderator, D. Sidney Frost Clerk, John Tilton and Henry H. Sleeper Representatives, William Weeks, John D. Morrill and Daniel B. Eaton Selectmen.

1853, James Bell Moderator, D. S. Frost Clerk, William Weeks and John D. Morrill Representatives, Daniel B. Eaton, James P. Morrison and Benjamin Wadley Selectmen.

1854, James Bell Moderator, D. S. Frost Clerk, John D. Morrill and Aaron Robinson Representatives, Benjamin Wadley, Jonathan T. Weeks and George Sleeper Selectmen. The Rev. D. S. Frost having resigned, George W. Weeks was appointed Town Clerk.

1855, James Bell Moderator, Dr. Charles C. Tebbetts Clerk, John Aldrich, Daniel B. Eaton and James P. Morrison Representatives, Daniel K. Smith, Levi G. Folsom and Harrison G. Bennett Selectmen.

1856, Dr. Francis B. Ayer Moderator, Charles C. Tebbetts Clerk, Daniel B. Eaton, John Aldrich and James P. Morrison Representatives, Levi G. Folsom, Harrison G. Bennett and George Sleeper Selectmen.

1857, Charles C. Clement Moderator, Heman Hunter Clerk, Winborn A. Sanborn, Benjamin Wadley and George Stevens Representatives, Harrison G. Bennett, Franklin Mansur and John Colby Selectmen.

1858, Charles C. Clement Moderator, Heman Hunter Clerk, Winborn Sanborn, Benjamin Wadley and George Stevens Representatives, Harrison G. Bennet, Franklin Mansur and John Colby Selectmen.

1859, Charles C. Clement Moderator, John J. Morrill, Thomas Ham and Woodbury Melcher Representatives, Franklin Mansur, Hiram Hunt and Thomas Weeks Selectmen.

1860, William Avery Moderator, Heman Hunter Clerk, Woodbury Melcher, Thomas Ham and John J. Morrill Representatives, Thomas Weeks, Josiah F. Robie and John G. Jewett Selectmen.

1861, William L. Avery Moderator, Heman Hunter Clerk, Abraham L. Morrison, Solomon Cole and Harrison G. Bennett Repre-

representatives, Josiah F. Robie, John G. Jewett and Richard H. Sanborn Selectmen.

1862, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, John G. Munsey Clerk, Abraham L. Morrison, Solomon Cole and Harrison G. Bennett Representatives, John G. Jewett, Richard H. Sanborn and Josiah F. Robie Selectmen.

1863, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, John G. Munsey Clerk, Josiah F. Robie, Thomas Weeks and Franklin Mansur Representatives, Richard H. Sanborn, Rufus G. Morrill and Joseph L. Odell Selectmen.

1864, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, John G. Munsey Clerk, Thomas Weeks, Josiah F. Robie and Franklin Mansur Representatives, Rufus G. Morrill, Joseph L. Odell and Enoch Flanders Selectmen.

1865, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, Morrill Thing, John O. Sanborn and Joseph L. Odell Representatives, Jos. L. Odell, Enoch Flanders and John Aldrich Selectmen.

1866, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, John O. Sanborn, Joseph L. Odell and Morrill Thing Representatives, James R. Morrill, Nelson Richardson and John Aldrich Selectmen.

1867, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, John G. Jewett, Samuel C. Clark and George Sleeper Representatives, John Aldrich, James R. Morrill and Daniel A. Tilton Selectmen.

1868, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, John G. Jewett, Samuel C. Clark and George Sleeper Representatives, James R. Morrill, Daniel A. Tilton and Stephen S. Ayer Selectmen.

1869, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, Stephen B. Cole, Enoch Flanders and Rufus G. Morrill Representatives, Daniel A. Tilton, Stephen S. Ayer and Thomas E. Hunt Selectmen.

1870, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Simon Rowe Clerk, Stephen B. Cole, Rufus G. Morrill and Enoch Flanders Representatives, Stephen S. Ayer, Sylvester S. Wiggin and Hazen P. Weeks Selectmen.

1871, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Martin V. B. Eaton Clerk, Daniel A. Tilton, Stephen S. Ayer and Hason Copp Representatives. Stephen S. Ayer, Hazen P. Weeks and Jonathan L. Moore Selectmen.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

1872, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Warren L. Thompson Clerk, Stephen S. Ayer, Daniel A. Tilton, Martin A. Haynes and Hason Copp Representatives, Jonathan L. Moore, Arthur Tucker and Simon Rowe Selectmen.

1873, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Warren L. Thompson Clerk, Martin A. Haynes, Gardner Cook, James R. Morrill and Richard H. Sanborn Representatives, Jonathan L. Moore, Arthur Tucker and Martin V. B. Eaton Selectmen.

1874, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Warren L. Thompson Clerk, Gardner Cook, Richard H. Sanborn, George F. Mallard and Lorain T. Weeks Representatives, Jonathan L. Moore, Nelson Richardson and Simon Rowe Selectmen. At the session of the legislature this year School District No. 4 was annexed to Laconia, and Arthur Tucker and Martin V. B. Eaton were elected Selectmen to fill the vacancies caused by the removal of Jonathan L. Moore and Nelson Richardson from town.

1875, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Warren L. Thompson Clerk, James R. Morrill and Arthur Tucker Representatives, Reuben C. Sanborn, Cyrus A. Sanborn and Martin V. B. Eaton Selectmen.

1876, Benjamin J. Cole Moderator, Samuel L. Goss Clerk, Arthur Tucker and William L. Johnson Representatives, Reuben C. Sanborn, Charles H. Sleeper and Thomas Weeks Selectmen, Orestes H. Key and Thomas Weeks Delegates to Constitutional Convention.

1877, Stephen S. Ayer Moderator, Samuel L. Goss Clerk, John S. Crane, Reuben C. Sanborn and William L. Johnson Representatives, Thomas Weeks, Charles H. Sleeper and Elbridge E. Webster Selectmen.

1878, Stephen S. Ayer Moderator, Samuel L. Goss Clerk, Orestes H. Key, Winborn A. Sanborn and Samuel C. Clark Representatives, Elbridge E. Webster, Thomas Weeks and Eleazer D. Weeks Selectmen. The first biennial election was held this year (Nov. 5) in Mount Belknap Hall, Lakeport. Stephen S. Ayer was chosen Moderator, Samuel L. Goss Clerk, Orestes H. Key, John P. Smith and Reuben C. Sanborn Representatives, Thomas Weeks, Eleazer D. Weeks and John P. Lane Selectmen.

Annual election 1879, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, George H. Smith Clerk, Thomas Weeks, Henry F. Rublee and Lyman B. Pulsi-

fer Selectmen. George H. Smith resigned as Town Clerk and Samuel L. Goss was appointed.

1880, Annual election, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Henry F. Rublee, George F. Morrill and Lyman B. Pulsifer Selectmen. At this meeting, voted to erect a soldiers' monument. Biennial election, 1880, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Charles H. Sleeper, Charles E. Buzzell and Hazen P. Weeks Reprs.

1881, Annual election, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Lyman B. Pulsifer, George W. Morrill and Charles H. Sleeper Selectmen.

1882, Annual election, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Frank M. Rollins, John Aldrich and George W. Morrill Selectmen. Biennial election, 1882, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Benjamin F. Drake and George W. Morrill Representatives.

1883, Annual election, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Frank M. Rollins, Stephen S. Ayer and Charles W. Rollins Selectmen.

1884, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Stephen S. Ayer, Charles W. Rollins and Fred L. Smith Selectmen. Biennial election, 1884, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Henry F. Rublee and Gust A. Copp Representatives.

1885, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Stephen S. Ayer, Benjamin F. Drake and Charles W. Rollins Selectmen.

1886, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Horace O. Bugbee Clerk, Stephen S. Ayer, Charles L. Pulcifer and Charles W. Rollins Selectmen. Biennial election 1886, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Henry B. Quinby and Joseph C. Morrill Representatives.

1887, Annual election, Martin A. Haynes Moderator, Ed L. Cheney Clerk, Orvis T. Muzzey, Charles L. Pulsifer and John B. Morrill Selectmen.

1888, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby was chosen Moderator, then voted to adjourn to March 20, on account of the great storm known as the "town meeting storm." At the adjourned meeting, E. L. Cheney was chosen Clerk and it was voted to adjourn to March 21st, when Charles L. Pulsifer, Orvis T. Muzzey and Charles W. Rollins were chosen Selectmen. Biennial election, 1888, Henry

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

B. Quinby Moderator, William H. Pepper and William H. Weeks Representatives, Benjamin F. Drake and John B. Morrill Delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

1889, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Leroy M. Gould Clerk, Charles L. Pulsifer, Stephen B. Cole and Enoch Flanders Selectmen.

1890, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Leroy M. Gould Clerk, Charles L. Pulsifer, Stephen B. Cole and Thomas E. Hunt Selectmen. Biennial election, 1890, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Albert M. Thing and Charles L. Pulsifer Representatives, and Edwin D. Ward (if entitled.)

1891, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Leroy M. Gould Clerk, Charles L. Pulsifer, Thomas L. Hunt and Daniel L. Davis Selectmen.

1892, Annual election, Charles H. Sleeper Moderator, Leroy M. Gould Clerk, Thomas E. Hunt, Daniel L. Davis and Libbeus E. Hayward Selectmen. Biennial election, 1892, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Thomas E. Hunt, George H. Robie and Augustus W. Smith Representatives.

1893, Annual election, Henry B. Quinby Moderator, Leroy M. Gould Clerk, Charles L. Pulsifer, Libbeus E. Hayward and John F. Fulton Selectmen.

New Town of Gilford.

April 19th, 1893, Charles H. Sleeper Moderator, George P. Munsey Clerk, Charles H. Sleeper, Charles W. Rollins and William H. Weeks Selectmen.

1894, Annual election, Thomas E. Hunt Moderator, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Charles H. Sleeper, Charles W. Rollins and William H. Weeks Selectmen. Biennial election, 1894, Thomas E. Hunt Moderator, John B. Morrill Representative.

1895, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, William H. Weeks and Charles W. Rollins Selectmen.

1896, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, George W. Rollins and William H. Weeks Selectmen. Biennial election, 1896, Martin M. Cole Moderator, Charles W. Rollins Representative.

1897, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, Charles W. Rollins and William H. Weeks Selectmen.

1898, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, Fred J. Potter and Leland M. James Selectmen. Biennial election 1898, Joseph H. Blaisdell Moderator, John B. Morrill Representative.

1899, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, Leland M. James and Fred J. Potter Selectmen.

1900, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, Fred J. Potter and Leland M. James Selectmen. Biennial election, 1900, Perry E. Hunt Moderator, Leland M. James Representative.

1901, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John B. Morrill, Leland M. James and Fred J. Potter Selectmen.

1902, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Fred J. Potter, Ansel F. Gove and Leon E. Morrill Selectmen. Biennial election, 1902, Perry E. Hunt Moderator, Fred J. Potter Representative, John B. Morrill Delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

1903, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Ansel F. Gove, Leon E. Morrill and John D. Colby Selectmen.

1904, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John D. Colby, Ansel F. Gove and Leon E. Morrill Selectmen. Biennial election, 1904, Perry E. Hunt Moderator, John D. Colby Representative.

1905, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, John D. Colby, Ansel F. Gove and Matt Kimball Selectmen.

1906, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Ansel F. Gove, Matt Kimball and Leon E. Morrill Selectmen. Biennial election, 1906, Perry E. Hunt Moderator, Matt Kimball Representative.

1907, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Leon E. Morrill, Oscar V. Rand and Ansel F. Gove Selectmen.

1908, Annual election, Herbert A. Jones Clerk, Oscar V. Rand, Charles E. Sleeper and Matt Kimball Selectmen. Biennial election, 1908, Thomas E. Hunt Moderator. John G. Wadley was elected Representative, but died before taking his seat, and Herbert A. Jones was chosen, at a special election, to fill the vacancy.

1909, Annual election, Louis E. Roe Clerk, Oscar V. Rand, Leon E. Morrill and Matt Kimball Selectmen.

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1910, Annual election, Louis E. Roe Clerk, Leon E. Morrill, Matt Kimball and Frank B. Grant Selectmen. Biennial election, 1910, Lewis E. Collins Moderator, Ansel F. Gove Representative.

1911, Annual election, Louis E. Rowe Clerk, Matt Kimball, Frank B. Grant and Charles E. Sleeper Selectmen.

1912, Annual election, Louis E. Roe Clerk, Charles E. Sleeper, Frank B. Grant and Ansel F. Gove Selectmen.

OF THE EARLY INHABITANTS

The two first to locate in the present town of Gilford were James Ames and Capt. Samuel F. Gilman. Ames settled on the Intervale, on the farm now occupied by Ansel B. Sawyer, and Capt. Gilman near Lily Pond, on the Frank Parker farm. They followed closely the settlement of Samuel Jewett at the terminus of the Province Road, in what is now the city of Laconia. Levi Lovett came about the same time and settled near Lily Pond, nearly opposite the house of Charles Davis. Soon after these, came Malachi Davis (1792), who settled on the farm now owned by the grandson, Hoyt Davis. Jacob Rundlett came this year and settled near the lake, in the vicinity of Governor's Island. Philbrick Rand came earlier (1790) and settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. Whitcomb. Jonas Flagg came in 1793 and settled at Lily Pond on the farm now owned by A. Z. Bennett.

Caleb Marston and Enoch Hunt came in 1793. Marston settled on the farm now owned by Carroll Follett, and Hunt settled near Captain Gilman, on the farm now occupied by Charles and Perry Hunt. Captain James Follett was one of the early settlers. He settled on Gunstock hill on the now unoccupied farm owned by his grandson Carroll Follett. Capt. Follett was brother-in-law to Rev. Richard Martin, and was the first collector of Gilford, as he had been for several years of the fourth collector's district of Gilmanton. Jeremiah Bartlett came about 1790 and settled at the base of Gunstock mountain on the farm now owned by Orin Copp and son.

The Bennett family was one of the first assessed, and Harrison Bennett, of this family, was prominent in town affairs within the memory of the present generation. Samuel Blaisdell came previous to 1789 and settled at Lily Pond. He was the first blacksmith to

settle in town, and was possessed of a large estate, which remained in the Blaisdell name for 123 years, or until the present year. Capt. Charles Beede came later and did blacksmithing at Gilford Village, but later moved to Meredith Bridge. Robert Carr early settled at the lake at the mouth of Miles Brook, at what is now Lake Shore Park, and conducted a semi-inn which was largely patronized by the farmers from northern New Hampshire and Vermont on their way to Portsmouth to dispose of their products.

Ezekiel Collins settled, about 1807, in the neighborhood of Saltmarsh Pond. The Eaton family were early in the east part of the town. Daniel B. Eaton, who was prominent at one time in town affairs, was of this family; also Martin, who was once in trade in the Roe store. John Evans, who was repeatedly Selectman and Representative, settled on the lake shore on the farm known as the George Sleeper place.

The Foster family first settled in the center of the Intervale, near where Elias Atwood now lives, and afterwards on the farm now owned by Wilbur Morrill, and later on the farm owned by George Johnson. Thomas Foster, the first here, came before 1806.

Lieut. John Gilman came in 1789 and settled on the farm now owned by Ansel Gove; and Samuel, Levi and Samuel settled near Gunstock Hill, and Antipas on Liberty Hill.

Simeon Hoyt settled on the Austin Weeks farm, on Liberty Hill, in 1783, and six years after built with Ebenezer Smith the Morrill mill, hereafter alluded to. Jabez James came in 1784 and settled on or near the farm now owned by Leland James. Mr. James was a Revolutionary soldier.

The Jewett family were among the early settlers. Samuel Jewett, already alluded to, was of this family. Jacob and Benjamin settled north of him and became large landholders. Benjamin, Jr., was the successor of Jonas Sleeper and was in business at Gilford Village for a long time. He was very efficient in town affairs as postmaster, justice and other positions of trust.

Elder John Knowles settled on the southerly part of Liberty Hill and became pastor of a church organized in that part of the town. His sons, John D. and Elbridge, became ministers, and another son, William, was for a time miller at Morrill's mill.

John Mooney came from New Durham and settled near Alton line on the farm now owned by John Rollins.

The Morrills were among the early settlers. Barnard Morrill was a prominent member of this family. He came from Brentwood and learned the tanning business of Jeremiah Thing on Liberty Hill. Afterwards, Mr. Morrill settled on the ministry lot and purchased the Hoyt and Smith mill, and in connection with the tanning business operated a saw- and gristmill. Others of this name settled in the upper part of the Miles River valley and east of Mount Belknap.

Jonathan Morrison settled on Liberty Hill. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and removed from Gilford to Tuftonborough.

Jacob Morse settled on the farm now owned by Charles W. Rollins. He had two sons, Abner and David, who became extensive landholders.

Dr. George W. Munsey was one of the early physicians. He was educated at Dummer's Academy, in Newbury, Mass., and was a teacher. He afterwards practiced medicine in Centre Harbor and Moultonborough, and was located at several different places in Gilford. He was a practitioner of no ordinary skill. He became interested in the Washingtonian movement, and often lectured on temperance, as a reformed man. He lived to be past eighty years old, and his wife, Hannah Barton, to her one hundredth year.

Joseph Potter settled, early, in the vicinity of Gilford Village, on the farm now owned by Fred J. Potter. Benjamin Rowe came from Brentwood in 1816 and settled south of Gilford Village, and worked at wool carding, brick making, and the making of farm implements.

The Sleeper family came early and have been prominent in town affairs. Esquire Nehemiah was one of the first justices. His son Joseph was a surveyor, and wrote most of the conveyances of his time. Charles H., grandson of Joseph, was also a civil engineer whose services were much sought. Jonas was a trader at Gilford Village and died of spotted fever in the epidemic of 1814-15. His son, Francis O., was a practicing physician at Laconia. A daughter, Sarah, was for more than fifty years a missionary in India.

The Smith family was one of prominence. Ebenezer and John, sons of Judge Ebenezer of Meredith, settled on the Intervale, Ebenezer on the farm now owned by O. V. Rand, and John on the farm owned by Joseph Sanders.

The Stevens family was early in Gilford. Paul Stevens was a shoemaker. He settled first in the south part of the town, and later near the residence of the late Daniel H. Rowe. Col. Ebenezer, a son, worked at blacksmithing at Gilford Village, and afterwards moved to Meredith Village, where he became prominent both in social and public affairs.

Jeremiah Thing settled on Liberty Hill and carried on tanning. He came from Brentwood before the beginning of the last century, and had two sons, Jeremiah Jr. and Morrill, who were also tanners. Jeremiah was in trade with Jewett & Chase, at the village, and later lived at New Hampton. Morrill carried on the tanning business at Gilford Village, and afterwards at the homestead.

Benjamin Thurston came about 1791 and settled on the farm now owned by Milton Ames. He had one son, Miles, and a grandson, Benjamin P., who succeeded to the estate.

The Thompson family was one of the early ones, and Jonathan settled near the Miles River. His son, Levi B., was in trade at Gilford Village, and afterwards at Brunswick, Me., where Dr. A. J. Thompson, his son, graduated. Dr. Thompson practiced at Laco-
nia, went into the army, and after practicing a while at Salem, Mass., died there.

David Watson settled, in 1798, on the farm now owned by Chas. Watson. The Rev. John and Charles were of this family. Both graduated at Bowdoin College and Union Seminary, and preached at different places. Both are now dead.

Benjamin Weeks, Esquire, came to this part of the town in 1786 and settled at the base of Gunstock Mountain. He was a leader in the affairs of the town for many years, as was his son, Captain Benjamin. Dr. Albert Weeks, who died in Barnstead some years since, was of this family, as were also Benj. F., George W. and Thomas.

The Whittier family were among the early settlers in town. Andrew Whittier located nearly opposite the residence of Frank Glidden. Jonathan settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. Marston. Timothy remained on the homestead. Andrew, Jr., lived nearer the village, and afterwards at his father-in-law's, Abel Hunt's, where he died.

MILLS AND MILLERS

In 1788, permission was given Simeon Hoit and Ebenezer Smith to erect a mill or mills on Gunstock Brook, lot No. 10, 13th range (now Gilford Village,) for the space of fifteen years, and to clear on each side of the brook two acres for the benefit of the mill yard; providing, however, that they give bonds not to cut timber or wood from the adjacent lots; and if the people of that part of the town wish to build a meeting house within fifteen years, that they have leave to saw free of expense; and when the time has expired, the mill may be removed, if the town does not purchase.

This mill was for a long time the only one in this whole region. The mill was not removed nor sold to the town. Being situated on a public lot, the whole lot was finally sold and the proceeds of the sale invested for the benefit of the ministry. The interest derived from the ministerial fund, which we receive yearly for the support of preaching, comes from the interest on the purchase money received from the sale of this lot. The mill, with the lot, was purchased by Barnard Morrill and was operated for a long time by him and afterwards by his son, John J. Morrill; the site is now the property of the only descendant of the family, Judge John B. Morrill.

Later, other mills were built on this stream. In 1835 Joseph Potter built a mill at the lower falls. It was operated a while by his son John M. Potter, and afterwards sold to Hason Copp, who occupied it as a saw and grist mill until he removed from town. He was succeeded by his son Gust A., who carried on the business until his death.

One Mingo (a colored man) built a mill for wool-carding and fulling on this stream, but the duration of his occupancy is not known. It was afterwards owned and occupied by Meshech Sanborn, Benjamin Gilman and Deacon Hunter.

Jonathan Whittier built a mill on this stream, about a mile above the village, which was used as a grist- and threshing mill. He also made wheels, carriages and furniture. He was succeeded by Jeremiah Hunt, who carried on the same line of business. This mill was in operation only a few years.

Besides these mills, Thomas Foster built one on the Miles River,

but after a few years it passed out of use. Colby's mill was built by Miles Leavitt, and has been twice carried away and twice rebuilt. It was first a grist mill, the next for sawing, and the one now in use is for sawing, but of more modern construction. On the same stream, below Colby's, Brown & Leavitt had a saw mill, but after being operated a few years it suspended operations.

THE SILK CULTURE ENTERPRISE

One of the early industries is deserving of especial mention—silk culture—concerning which I quote from Watson's history of Gilford: "About 1840 the mulberry tree was cultivated on the light soil in the Gunstock valley above Gilford Village, having been planted and introduced by Mr. Benjamin Rowe. The silkworm grub was obtained, and fed by the mulberry leaf, and a successful product of the silk cocoons was realized. These were sold unreeled and the manufacturing of the silk of commerce from these was done elsewhere. An enthusiasm in this new industry was for a time quite extensively shared by the people possessing light soils, which were pronounced to be especially adapted to the mulberry culture; but the enterprise, though not fruitless, was not extended, and for want of interested, enterprising operators, the scheme was not long prosecuted, and the silk-producing interest ceased."

SOME EMINENT PROFESSIONAL SONS

Gilford has contributed to the professions men of eminence that have honored the town.

"John P. Watson graduated from Bowdoin College and subsequently studied theology in New York city and in Bangor (Me.) Theological Seminary. He was ordained in New York city as a clergyman of the Congregational denomination, and began his pastoral duties first in Connecticut. Later he preached at Boston and other places in Massachusetts. He was a man of deep piety, beloved by his congregation, and always ready to give friendly counsel and help. He had a taste for historical research, and some years before his death he began the preparation of a history of Gilford and the surrounding towns, and had he lived to publish the result of his labors, he would have given to his native town a valuable production.

It shows careful and extended research, a high sense of historical impartiality, and excellent method of arrangement."

Dr. Charles W. Hunt graduated at Dartmouth Medical College in the class of 1856 and practiced medicine in Laconia until 1862, when he responded to the call of his country and was appointed Assistant-Surgeon of the Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers. He was with his regiment through the battles of Fredericksburg (where he acted as Surgeon,) Chancellorsville (where he was taken prisoner and was held within the rebel lines fourteen days,) and Gettysburg (where he was detailed as operating surgeon and was continuously at the amputating table three days and nights.) It was here he contracted congestive fever, from which he died at Point Lookout, Md., August 24, 1863. Capt. Asa W. Bartlett, historian of the Twelfth Regiment, pays the following deserved tribute to Dr. Hunt: "As a soldier and physician he was brave and faithful. I think it may be truthfully said of him that no soldier ever suffered because of his indifference or neglect. 'If need be, I am willing to die for my country,' he said, and his words were verified by his fearless devotion on the field of Chancellorsville, where, regardless of the shot and shell of the advancing foe, he stood manfully at his post of duty, and when the crumbling walls and kindling flames of the Chancellor house (then crowded with suffering humanity) added new terror and agony to the scene, his heroic efforts to rescue and save his wounded comrades, even after he was taken prisoner, deserved and received the highest praise of the commander, Col. Potter, who lay a helpless eye-witness of his noble deeds."

Dr. A. J. Thompson, who practiced medicine at Laconia, was a very skillful physician, and also served in the army, but I have no data at hand to enable me to present a more complete notice of his private practice or army record.

Dr. George H. Saltmarsh, the present mayor of Laconia, was born in Gilford, studied medicine, and is in practice at Lakeport, where he has become a very skillful practitioner.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

The ecclesiastical history of Gilford is of importance and interest. The first meeting house in the upper, or Gunstock, parish was built in 1792. "It was a stately edifice, two stories in height, steeple-

less, with two porches for entries to the end doors and for stairways to the galleries ; a broad door in front, leading to the broad aisle ; galleries on three sides, the east, west and south ; a sounding-board suspended over the high and narrow pulpit, and the singers' seats opposite, in the left ; square (and a few oblong) pews, above and below, built in panel-work, with rail and banisters ; with double rows of small and thickly-set windows, making a grand appearance, commanding admiration in the beholder, and wonder and pride to the townsman. Its timbers were massive and should have endured for ages, and yet it stood scarcely fifty years. It sat on the very summit of a hill, about six hundred feet above the lake level, and commanding one of the finest prospects and scenery of New England, and itself a conspicuous landmark and object of veneration and beauty in all this region. It was finally sold to Capt. Benjamin Weeks and others, and taken down."

It appears that the Baptist denomination largely predominated in the upper parish at this time. A church had been previously organized in Gilmanton, in 1777, and Samuel Weeks and Edward Locke were licensed to preach. Locke had become tinctured with Arminian sentiments and dissented from the Baptist faith. These two men, together with Elder Tozer Lord of Barrington, prepared the foundation for an extensive secession from the Baptist order, and laid the foundation of the order of Free-Will Baptists. Locke and Lord, together with John Shepherd, voluntarily shutting themselves up in an untenanted house of Esquire Piper, on Clough's hill, over the Gilmanton border, in Loudon, fasted and prayed for a week, as they said, and then wrote out their articles of faith, mutually ordained themselves, Locke and Lord as preaching elders and Shepherd as ruling elder. This new faith was advocated in various places, and when the Baptists sought a man to occupy the Gunstock field, and had united on Richard Martin of Lee, who had been ordained in 1795 and come to labor here the following year, they found he held like views. A project to form a Baptist church at the Gunstock meeting house, by a council called October 12, 1797, was therefore abandoned, and the next year a Free-Will Baptist church was organized there, and Richard Martin became its pastor and continued as such a little more than a quarter of a century, until

his death by apoplexy, October 17, 1824. The Baptist cause was thus checked, or superseded, and but little effort was made to sustain meetings at Gunstock parish until 1811, when a second Baptist church was formed and Elder Uriah Morrison was placed in care of it. It convened a part of the time at the church, but the greater part of the time at other places, until 1817, when Elder Morrison died.

For a few years after the death of Elder Martin, his church continued to occupy the Gunstock meeting house the major part of the time and was ministered to by various ministers from abroad. The other denominations claimed its use their share of the time, and there was no little contention for its occupancy, and complaint for too frequent occupancy by others. The Universalists demanded it a part of the time. William Blaisdell occupied it a part of the time in the interest of the Christians, or the Christian Baptists. The Congregationalists, also, claimed its use a fourth part of the time. Under the force of these existing circumstances and conditions, the parties successively relinquished their claims and located elsewhere. And so the old church was abandoned, and for several years it served only for a place to hold the town meetings, till the building of the new town hall, about 1840.

After the passing of the old meeting house, the growing need of a house of worship agitated the minds of the people interested in the welfare of the community. A meeting was called, and a committee consisting of Barnard Morrill, John P. Smith and Benjamin Rowe was chosen to consider the matter of building a meeting house. This committee, after visiting several churches, drew a plan of the house and proceeded to build, having sold the pews to defray the expense of building, which was \$1,100. The building was raised in July, 1833, and on the first day of January, 1835, was dedicated as a house of worship. The sermon on this occasion was preached by Rev. John D. Knowles. Rev. Abel Glidden and Rev. J. L. Sinclair were present. Rev. Sinclair was the first pastor. Then followed Revs. John Pinkham, Partridge, Perkins, Frost, Burlingame, Frost again, True, Sanborn, Park, Kimball, Rich, Emery, Hyatt, Phillips, Adams, Munsey, Hall, and others.

The Universalists built a church soon after the old Gunstock

house was abandoned, and it was occupied by them a few years, with Josiah Gilman and Robert Bartlett, in the order named, as pastors. After being unoccupied for several years, it came into the possession of the Methodist society, when it was thoroughly repaired, and has been occupied by them till the present time. The pastors have been Revs. A. R. Lunt, Knott, Morrison, Hardy, Berry, and others.

IN THE CIVIL WAR

The men of Gilford bore their full share in the hardships and dangers of the civil war. The following roll gives the names of the Gilford representatives in the various organizations :

First Regiment

Glidden, John A.

Second Regiment

Aldrich, George

Bean, Rufus L.

Sanborn, Benjamin

Ames, John G.*

Jewett, Charles E.

Thurston, Ichabod H.

Third Regiment

Batchelder, George W.

Bean, George W. M.

Fourth Regiment

Boynton, George F.

Hobbs, Charles P.

Lawrence, Jackson H.

Bryer, John A.

Jackson, Henry H.

Randall, Albert S.

Cotton, George E.

Jewett, Albert H. C.

Rogers, Nathaniel P.

Greenleaf, Richard G.

Jones, James A.

Thompson, James S.

Heath, Horace G.

Ladd, George W.

Tilton, George H.

Fifth Regiment

Bean, Benjamin M.

Flanders, Charles H.

Rowe, Lucian

Blaisdell, Lyman F.

Flanders, Samuel F.

Rowen, Patrick

Bond, Joseph Jr.

Pickering, Charles E.

Eighth Regiment

Bean, Loammi§

Jewett, Charles F.

Pickering, John C.

Carleton, George O.

Leavitt, Joseph A.

Rowe, Charles E.

Cook, William B.

Marsh, Lyman

Rowe, George W.

Edwards, Frank A.

Moulton, Joseph N.

Sanborn, Benjamin F.

Ninth Regiment

Avery, Alfred A.

Sanborn, Charles A.

Whiting, Edward

Garrett, Joseph

Swain, Rufus W.

Willey, Edward

*Died in Andersonville prison, March 8, 1864. §Killed at Labadieville, La., Oct. 27, 1862.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

Eleventh Regiment

Evans, John

Twelfth Regiment

Bartlett, Charles C.	Elliott, John R.	Milliken, Alma
Blaisdell, Samuel A.	Folsom, Nathaniel Jr.	Morrill, Frank
Busiel, Harrison M.	Fonda, Isaac	Munsey, Charles H.
Carter, Alfred L.	Fullerton, Charles H.	Munsey, Edwin
Chase, Charles W.	Gilman, Edward N.	Osgood, Nahum B.
Chesley, Levi W.	Gilman, Ward E.	Percival, Francis L. †
Clark, Benjamin B.	Goss, Samuel L.	Prescott, Abner H. †
Clark, Horace W.	Grant, Nahum B.*	Randall, Henry P.
Clay, John P.	Hale, Charles L.	Rowe, Charles C.
Clinton, William H.	Hatch, Benjamin F.	Rowe, Jarvis B.
Clogston, Henry L.	Hatch, Caleb M.	Sanborn, David S.
Cogswell, John L.	Hayford, Albert W.	Sanborn, C. Alphonso
Collins, John S.	Hicks, George W.	Smith, Henry J.
Cotton, Charles H.*	Hunt, Charles P.	Smith, Arthur StClair
Crosby, George	Hunt, Charles W.	Stevens, Paul
Dalton, Joseph E.	Hunt, Henry F.	Stevens, William W.
Davis, Charles A.	Hunt, Thomas E.	Swain, George A.
Davis, Charles O.	Jewett, Elbridge G.	Tebbetts, Edmund
Davis, Charles W.	Jewett, George W.	Thomas, William
Dearborn, George W.	Johnson, William L.	Thompson, Geo. W.
Dexter, Marshall C.	Jones, Ajalon D.	Tilton, Joseph H.
Dockham, Daniel	Knights, John	Twombly, Hiram S.
Dockham, John N.	Ladd, Jonathan P.	Veasey, John S.
Dolloff, Charles W.	Ladd, William	Wadley, John G.
Dow, John H.	Lane, George B.	Watson, George W.
Eaton, James L.	Lane, John P.	Welch, Eben S.
Edwards, David	Leavitt, Charles W.	Whipple, John L. P.
Edwards, George W.	Lougee, True W.	Whittier, Andrew H.*
Elkins, Freeman F.	McMurphy, Robt. W.	Whittier, Joseph P.
Elliott, Hiram*	Milliken, Abram H.	Wilkinson, Henry L.

*Killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863.

†Died of wounds, June 3, 1863.

‡Died of wounds, June 7, 1864.

GILFORD CENTENNIAL

Fifteenth Regiment

Aldrich, John	Davis, Charles P.	Morrill, Winfield
Blake, James W.	Davis, Nathan S.	Moulton, Joseph D.
Blake, John C.	Davis, Thomas S.	Pickering, Charles W.
Blake, Levi C.	Foss, Isaac L.	Swain, Charles F.
Badger, Aaron C.	Gilman, Ezekiel	Taylor, Alonzo
Badger, Edwin A.	Gilman, Frank G.	Wadleigh, Andrew P.
Blaisdell, Samuel L.	Gilman, Otis W.	Weeks, Noah M.*
Clinton, DeWitt	Maloon, Wesley	Wheeler, Orrin F.

Eighteenth Regiment

Davis, Lucian H.	Dow, George L.	Martin, George
Davis, John L.	Hogan, John	Sanborn, Orrin O.

First Regiment N. H. Heavy Artillery

Badger, Edwin A. †	Davis, Charles B.	Pickering, Moses
Baker, Brackett	Flanders, Samuel F.	Rollins, Charles F.
Bennett, True H.	Hill, Henry C.	Sanborn, Benj. F.
Clark, Frank D.	Hunt, Henry F. †	Sanborn, George E.
Copp, Gust A.	Lee, John S.	Smith, Winthrop H.
Cotton, Simon J.	Lindsey, Winslow M.	Whipple, Upham
Cummins, Daniel K.	Moulton, Oscar R.	Whiting, Levi F.

First Company N. H. Volunteer Heavy Artillery

Bennett, George W.	Corliss, Charles G.	Thing, George P. §
Buzzell, Andrew J.	Eastman, John S.	Weeks, George F.
Corliss, Denerson A.	Gilman, Erastus E.	Weeks, Hazen P.
Clogston, George E.	Hunter, Charles O.	Weeks, Orrin
Chester, Charles H.	Rowe, Daniel H.	

Second Company Heavy Artillery

Cotton, George E. ¶	Weeks, Cassius E.
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First Regiment N. H. Cavalry

Bean, Edwin H.	Lovett, Abel	Morrill, Frank
Webster, Elbridge E.		

*Killed at Port Hudson, La., June 3, 1863.

†See Fifteenth Regt.

‡See Twelfth Regt.

||See Eighth Regt.

¶See Fourth Regt.

§Also served in First Artillery U. S. A. Appointed Second Lieutenant February 23, 1866; First Lieutenant May 1, 1866; discharged September 10, 1870.

The following, taken from an article published in *The Granite Monthly* some years ago, written by the Rev. C. Howard Fisher, is a nature-lover's appreciative tribute to the surpassing beauties of Gilford :

*"Upon the heights of Mount Belknap,
'Tis now for joy, my hands I clap;
And oh ! what grandeur ! God in sight !
I stand and gaze in rapt delight.*

*"I look again, and, lo ! 't is he !
The God who made all these for me,—
The hills and mountains, brooks, and lakes ;
And gratitude my heart awakes.*

*"Yes, God in Nature I can see :
'T is thus he even speaks to me,
And through earth's species, lifts the mind
To higher thoughts of heavenly kind.*

"If a Wordsworth with his sweet interpretation of the spirit of the flowers ; could a Shelley grasp the grandeur of the scenery as viewed from off the Belknap range ; and if Ruskin with his gift of beautiful word painting could be brought within the picturesque borders of Gilford, they would catch an inspiration which would cause them to make this New Hampshire town renowned for that which is expressed in the words of the last referred to writer, where he says : 'All nature, with one voice, with one glory, is set to teach you to reverence the life revealed to you by the Father of Spirits.'

"That remorseless, ambitious, and tireless monster, Science, has hardly dared to disturb the tranquility of 'Nature's lovely gift' with which Gilford is so richly endowed. Gilford is one of the prettiest, coolest, sightliest, and most healthful summer resorts in New Hampshire. The heights of Liberty and Cotton hills on the south of the town afford a most delightful view of the scenery, which the shores and islands of Lake Winnepesaukee are noted for, while the placid waters of Lake Paugus, the mirror-like Round bay, the silvery surface of Winnisquam, and the rippling course of Sanbornton bay,

forming the Winnepesaukee river, when, as a swift, surging stream, it winds its way through the distant valleys, enchant the lover of the grand and beautiful.

"From these hills can also be seen Mt. Kearsarge, Moosilauke, Green mountains, the Ossipee and Sandwich ranges, while far away the Uncanoonucs can be plainly seen; all these sweep the horizon from the southwest to the northeast, while, as a mighty background to the north, there looms up a portion of the White Mountain range, with Mt. Washington capping the whole with majestic grandeur. From Meetinghouse hill, on the western side of the town, we are enchanted with another beautiful view of Lake Winnepesaukee well to the northeast. The view from Locke's hill has as complete a sweep of the lake as can be found along the shore, and a fine position of the mountains for a background."



Moonlight on Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H.

ORATION

BY STEPHEN S. JEWETT

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :

"The inaudible and noiseless foot of time" has passed the milestones of a century since the incorporation of the town of Gilford, and we have met today to celebrate the one hundredth birthday of the town. On the sixteenth day of June, in the year 1812, William Plumer, Governor of New Hampshire, affixed his signature and thus gave his official approval to an act of the legislature of the state, entitled "An Act to incorporate the inhabitants of the northerly part of Gilmanton into a separate township, with all the privileges and immunities of other towns in this state."

The history of the town of Gilford is so interwoven with that of the towns of Gilmanton and Meredith and the city of Laconia as to make its history also that of all the three towns and the city which I have named. While an extended history of Gilford has never been written, many interesting papers have been published, thereby preserving for future generations much valuable information relating to the town, which otherwise would have been irretrievably lost. But notwithstanding all that has been written, much of the history of the town "lies scattered in the old town documents, the family Bibles, the old deeds of property, the records of the courts, the memories of aged men, and the traditions handed down from the lips of the departed."

The time at my command will not permit me to go into an extended chronicle of the territory contained within the limits of the town; but I will briefly call your attention to the fact that the territory of Virginia, granted by the charter of King James in 1606, included the greater part of New Hampshire "and comprehended that part in which Gilford is situated." The northern part of the Virginia was subsequently committed to the Council of Plymouth, constituted November 3, 1620, "whose official business was the planting, ruling and governing of New England in America."

Captain John Mason, of London, England, made the first purchase from this Council, March 9, 1621. The tract purchased by him was known as Mariana, and was to extend from the Naumekeag to the Merrimack river, and from their mouths to their headwaters. August 10, 1622, Captain Mason and Sir Ferdinando Gorges, Governor of Plymouth, England, purchased another tract of land supposed to be contiguous to Mason's first purchase, which was named Laconia, and this was the first conveyance of Gilford territory.

Many conflicting claims grew out of the Mason and Gorges purchase. Mason died in 1638 and his claims to the territory passed to his heirs, the land claimed being known as the Masonian shares. Certain of the land was granted to the proprietors of Gilmanton. Massachusetts claimed jurisdiction over this land. Commissioners were appointed by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Company, in 1652, and they "were sent to establish bounds agreeable to their construction of their charter." The claim of the Massachusetts Bay Company appears to have been decided against them. On May 27th, 1652, the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony appointed a commission to settle the north line of the domain claimed by that colony, and Captain Simon Willard and Edward Johnson were entrusted with the work. They took with them, as surveyors, Jonathan Ince, a student at Harvard College in Cambridge, and Sergeant John Sherman of Watertown. They secured the services of Indian guides and ascended the Merrimack and Winnepesaukee rivers to the outlet of Lake Winnepesaukee, the point then called Aqueducton, and now known as Weirs, where they took observations and determined the latitude to be $43^{\circ} 40' 12''$.

They cut the initials of their names and that of John Endicott, Governor, on a large rock at the outlet of the lake. This rock was unidentified until the year 1846. In that year it was again located. Not many years ago the State of New Hampshire caused be erected over this rock a granite canopy, thus preserving for all time this notable landmark and boundary stone. Around this canopy has been constructed a substantial walkway, connected by an iron bridge with the shore of the lake at Weirs channel; and each year it is visited by hundreds of people who are interested in the history of the "Granite State."

Such is an epitome of the earliest recorded history of the territory of Gilford. Gilford was detached from the town of Gilmanton June 16, 1812, by the act of the legislature to which I have referred, and so the annals of Gilford must embrace the early records of Gilmanton and a large portion of the territory of the present city of Laconia.

Gilmanton, the mother town of Gilford, is now and always has been a grand old town. As originally granted, it was of great extent—eighteen miles in length from Northfield, Canterbury and Loudon to Lake Winnepesaukee, and in some places ten miles in width. Its area was 83,000 acres.

The township of Gilmanton was granted, May 20, 1727, to Nicholas Gilman and twenty-three others by the name of Gilman, together with 153 others. Not all of the proprietors became settlers in the town. Most of those who early became inhabitants of the town came from Exeter. These early settlers were imbued with stout hearts, strong wills and keen intellects. It is impossible for us to realize the toils and hardships of these early settlers who forced their way into the wilderness to make homes for themselves and their families.

Among the founders of the town of Gilmanton were many men of note. Seventeen were college graduates and twelve were ministers of the gospel. They brought with them the ideas of good citizenship, and they attracted the best class of settlers to the town. They early gave attention to the establishing of churches and the founding of schools. In those early days hostile Indians were a constant menace to the safety of the settlers and to a great extent hindered rapid settlement, and not until 1761, when the Indian wars were over, was any permanent settlement made.

Benjamin Mudgett and his wife arrived in Gilmanton on the twenty-second day of December, 1761. They suffered from the extreme cold of that winter season of the year, and nearly perished before they reached their destination. The last twelve miles of their journey was made on foot and on showshoes. Mrs. Mudgett was the first white woman to arrive in Gilmanton. Other families followed, so that in 1763 there were twenty families in the town. These early arrivals were principally in the southern portion of the town; not

many, if any at all, in the territory which afterwards became the town of Gilford. Dorathy Weed was the first child born in the town, the date of her birth being October 13, 1762.

The area of old Gilmanton has been greatly reduced, first by the incorporation of Gilford in 1812; again, in 1851, by more of its territory being annexed to Gilford; and still again, by the incorporation of Upper Gilmanton (now called Belmont), in 1859. Yet, notwithstanding other towns have outstripped it in population and commercial importance, it still is one of the important towns of the state, rich with the history of the early development of the "Granite State."

After the first permanent settlement had been made in the town of Gilmanton, its north-western section, bordering on the Winnepesaukee River, began to have settlers and developed quite rapidly, and this section bordering on the river and extending easterly for several miles became the territory embraced in the town of Gilford.

From the best information obtainable it appears that Samuel Jewett was the first settler of the territory of the town of Gilmanton in the neighborhood of the river, which, as I have stated, became a part of the town of Gilford, and which is now within the limits of the city of Laconia. He was a native of Hollis, New Hampshire, and was one of the "Minute Men" who marched from that town to Cambridge, Massachusetts, on the nineteenth day of April, 1775, to join with other patriots in the struggle for liberty, and who on that day, at Concord bridge, "fired the shot heard 'round the world." He also fought at the battle of Bunker Hill. He erected a log house not far from the river, its location being where the house now occupied by Hazen Weeks stands, on Union avenue in Laconia. A little later he erected a frame house near the same location, which house was later torn down and the timber used in the construction of the dwelling house on Gilford avenue now occupied by Samuel C. Jewett. After the Samuel Jewett house was demolished and its timber used as stated, John Jewett, a son of Samuel, built the dwelling house just spoken of as now occupied by Mr. Weeks.

Soon after Samuel Jewett came to Gilmanton, he was followed by his brother Jacob, and together the brothers began the clearing of land. The location of Jacob's house was on Gilford avenue in

Laconia. This house was built in the year 1780. It is now occupied by the Misses Issabelle and Abby H. Jewett, and is the oldest house now standing in the city of Laconia.

After the Jewetts, other settlers soon came into this part of the town of Gilmanon, prominent among whom were Daniel Avery and Samuel Ladd, and their energy, coupled with that of the Jewett brothers, started the village, which is now the city of Laconia, on the Gilmanon side of the river.

The population of the north-western part of the town, at this settlement at the river falls, increased quite rapidly, so that in the early part of the year 1812 certain of the inhabitants of Gilmanon petitioned the General Court to be set off into a separate town. That there was opposition to the proposed division is apparent from the records of the legislature, wherein it appears that in the forenoon of the tenth day of June, 1812, the legislature, while in joint convention, "made progress in the petition of the inhabitants of Gilmanon"; and again, in the afternoon of the same day, while in joint convention, they "proceeded to remainder of hearing on the petition for dividing Gilmanon into two towns"; and after the Senate had withdrawn from the convention, the record relates that: "On hearing and considering the petition of the inhabitants of Gilmanon, voted, that the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill." I regret that I have been unable to find any record of the names of the petitioners. On June 12, 1812, the bill having had three several readings, was passed to be enacted, and on June 16 the Senate record states that the bill was brought up, read a third time, enacted, and presented to and approved by Governor William Plumer.

Thus came into existence, by legislative action, the municipality of Gilford, whose centennial anniversary as an incorporated town is being celebrated today. Gilford, like Gilmanon, has lost much of its original territory, but it still remains one of the rugged communities of New Hampshire. In 1874, a considerable area was taken from it and annexed to the town of Laconia. This transfer covered that part of the village of Laconia lying on the easterly side of the Winnepesaukee river. The westerly part of the village of Lake Village was disannexed from the town of Laconia and annexed to Gilford by the legislature of 1876, so that the entire territory of the

village became a part of Gilford. No further change was made in the territory and lines of Gilford until 1893, when a considerable area was annexed to Laconia, and that town, with the annexed area, was incorporated as a city.

Gilford has a record of which every native of the town may well be proud. Its incorporation dates from a year replete with important events in the history of our country. A second war with Great Britain was impending. The inhabitants of Gilford were loyal to a man and ready to do their full part in repelling their country's invaders. All over New Hampshire the people were astir, and at the same session of the legislature at which the town was incorporated, many petitions were presented asking that suitable appropriations be made to provide arms and ammunition for use in case of declaration of war with Great Britain.

After its incorporation, the town had a steady growth. Its water power on the Winnepesaukee river and on several of the larger brooks was utilized for various manufacturing industries. Churches were organized and maintained. An academy was incorporated in 1820, which for many years stood high in the educational world and sent out from its doors many men and women who achieved distinction in various lines of human endeavor. Terms of court for Strafford County had been held on the Gilford side of the river in the village of Meredith Bridge (the early name of the village of Laconia) for some years prior to the establishment of Belknap County in the year 1840. When that county was established, Gilford became its shire town, and so continued until 1874, when a portion of the town in which the court house was located was annexed to Laconia, as before stated, and then that town became the shire town of the county. In the old days, the "town house," as now, was at Gilford Village, and before the town was divided—and the voting list was large—"election days" were indeed gala days in the little community of Gilford Village. Many interesting anecdotes could be told of the happenings on those days.

While Gilford has lost much of its territory, and for that reason many of its inhabitants, it has not retrograded. While within its present limits it has no populous centers and no streams of sufficient size to invite manufacturing industries, yet there are few towns in

New Hampshire which have greater opportunity for material advancement than Gilford, because the beauties of nature have been showered on it with lavish hand. Its hillsides and intervalles are well adapted for successful farming, and its close proximity to good markets makes it possible for the farmer to sell at good prices the surplus products of his farm.

Within recent years a railroad has been constructed along the entire northern border of the town, and by reason of easy access by railroad, scores of people have established summer homes within the limits of the town, particularly along the lake shore, which have added much to its valuation and materially increased its population during the summer season of the year. No town has greater attractions for the summer resident and tourist than Gilford, and the people of the town should work together unitedly to develop the natural resources and encourage more people to become permanent or summer residents in it.

In these days the subject of good roads is of vital interest to every community, and nothing can do more to bring about increased prosperity for Gilford than the maintenance of good roads. The natural attractions of the town are so many, that with good roads many more summer visitors can be brought to become owners of property and thus become permanently interested in the welfare of the town.

Every native of Gilford has a fervent love for it. A town which has within its limits grand old Mount Belknap, with Lake Winnepesaukee glistening at its feet, surely has natural attractions such as few sections of the country can lay claim to. The great Creator of the universe, when He fashioned this grand old mountain and spread out at its feet that expanse of water which we know as Winnepesaukee, surely must have gazed with satisfaction on the glory of His work, and the clear waters of the lake, reflecting His smile from that moment, became "The Smile of the Great Spirit." Winnepesaukee! Pride of New Hampshire, beloved by the people of the state as one of the beauty spots of creation!

*"Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow,
Such as creation's dawn beheld, so art thou now."*

An hundred years have passed since the inhabitants of old "Gunstock Parish" took upon themselves the responsibility of municipal government. They faithfully performed their task. They builded well, and we, their descendants, here today pay grateful tribute to those sturdy pioneers, who, in the early days of our republic, acted well their part in building the foundation upon which the superb structure of our government rests. In the hundred years which have passed since the incorporation of this town, our country has become a world power. The wisdom of the fathers when they founded our government with a cornerstone of liberty and equality of all men before the law, has been proven. In every time of peril our country has had among its defenders men from the territory of Gilford. The Revolutionary war rolls bear their names, as do the records of the war of 1812, the Mexican war, the Civil war and the Spanish war; and so long as history is recorded, these names will bear testimony of the loyalty, bravery and heroism of these men from this section of our state.

Many sons of Gilford have honored the town by distinguished services in almost every line of human endeavor. Family names which are familiar to every native of Gilford, in addition to those already mentioned, are: Morrill, Weeks, Hunt, Hoit, Walker, Grant, Carr, Sanborn, Robie, Melcher, Cole, Watson, Copp, Aldrich, Munsey, Thyng, Gilman, Dow, Blaisdell, Brown, Wadleigh, Hunter, Leavitt, Smith, Marston, Moody, Eaton, Saltmarsh, Collins, Bennett, Follett, Davis, Lamprey, Potter, Lougee, Thompson, Durgin, Ayer, Rollins, Colby, Whittier, Lane, Rand, Rowe, Pulsifer, Gove, Batchelder, Pickering, Lovell, Edwards, Osgood, Tucker, Plummer, Folsom, Morrison, Kimball, Bell, Sleeper, Hatch, Hill, Sawyer, Swain, Wilkinson, Ames, Bean, Thurston, Sanders.

The subject of town histories is engaging the attention of the people of many towns, and "Old Home Day" is each year being more generally observed. I sincerely wish that on this, its one hundredth birthday, some action may be taken toward the compiling of a complete history of this town. We remember with gratitude the efforts of the late Reverend J. P. Watson in bringing together material for such a history.

Men of Gilford have done much in the high and noble work of building up the State of New Hampshire. In the city of Boston,

today, is being celebrated the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill. In that battle, with other patriots fighting for the cause of American independence, was a soldier who afterwards became the first settler of the territory of Gilford. May patriotism in this country never grow less, and may the spirit of the forefathers, exhibited in the early days of this republic, always animate the hearts of every native of this town.

The town of Gilford—"Old Gunstock Parish"—stands on the threshold of its second century. Who can tell its future? May succeeding generations be as loyal as the past. Blood tells. History has a tendency to repeat itself. I believe the intelligence and character of its citizenship, for which it has become famous, will continue. And so, my friends, may we who "are children by the hearth-fire's blaze" of the old town, do our utmost for its continued prosperity and upbuilding.

RESPONSE

GILFORD AS I REMEMBER IT WHEN A BOY—1851-1862

BY ALVAH F. HUNTER

Mr. President, and People of Old Gilford:

My father, with his two small boys, moved to Gilford Village in 1851, he having traded his farm in Moultonborough for the mill property of uncle Benjamin Gilman, there in Gilford. At that time Gilford Village was a thriving place, with five active mills on Gunstock Brook, two general stores (later increased to three), two blacksmith shops and two custom boot and shoe shops in and near the village; there had formerly been a grist mill just in the edge of the village, but this had been abandoned and was becoming a ruin.

The five mills on Gunstock Brook were the important industries of the village between 1850 and 1860. The mill nearest the mountain, located about a mile above the village, was a shingle, grist and threshing mill owned by "Jonty" Whitcher, but passed into the hands of Jeremiah Hunt about '55; the second mill was the saw mill owned by John J. Morrill and located on Main street, right in the village; the third was the tannery, also owned and operated by Mr. Morrill, and was located at the foot of Tannery Hill and just north of the village; the fourth was the shingle, wool-carding and threshing mill owned and operated by my father, Deacon Heman Hunter, and was a quarter-mile down brook towards the lake; the fifth was Hazen Copp's lumber mill, located about a mile below the village on the road to the lake.

The mill ponds of these five mills made fine reservoirs for trout to winter in, and there was splendid trout fishing in Gunstock Brook and its three or four tributaries; of these last, probably Pine Hill Brook, which emptied into Gunstock just above father's mill, was the best. The saw mill pond, largest of the five and located right in the village, made a fine skating park in winter, and we boys made much of that sport. To the best of my recollection, the girls did

not go skating in those days, although now and again two or three girls might be seen riding on hand sleds drawn by one or another of their admirers.

Between 1850 and 1860 was a transition period in farming. Somewhat earlier than that the farms had been pretty nearly self-supporting, with very little dependence upon stores for anything other than W. I. goods, crockery, etc. Practically everything to eat, drink or wear was produced there on the farms. Cattle, sheep and hogs, also a horse or two, were kept on every farm, and each farmer grew his own potatoes, corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye; comparatively little of the two latter grains were grown, however.

The sheep furnished wool, which was carded and spun into yarn, part of which was woven into cloth from which were made clothes to wear, blankets and bed comforters for winter, stockings and mittens; also, "gallusses" (suspenders) were knitted from woolen yarn. Not so very long before, the wool had been carded with hand cards, which made "rolls" about ten inches long, for the spinning wheel; within a few years, however, machine cards had been devised which turned out rolls two and one-half feet long and more uniform in size, and the hand cards had gone to the attic.

Cotton cloth from the mills in Lowell (at that time largely operated by New Hampshire girls) had begun to come into use for making sheets, etc., also shirts for summer wear, taking the place of the linen cloths formerly made from home-grown flax. And calicoes for women's and children's dresses had now come into general use.

Besides wool, the sheep furnished mutton and lamb for the table. Every autumn the farmer killed one or two hogs, the meat of which was mostly salted, although sundry parts—as spareribs—were frozen and kept fresh during the winter. Hams were smoked, to appear later as boiled or fried ham. At our house the hams were smoked in the brick oven with corncob smoke, and they certainly had a delicious flavor. Fried salt pork was a standard dish, and the farmer's pork barrel was depended upon for the great meat supply.

On many farms, half a beef creature was provided for winter, in this way: Neighbor farmers would take turns in providing and killing a beeve, each of two neighbors taking a half, which would be

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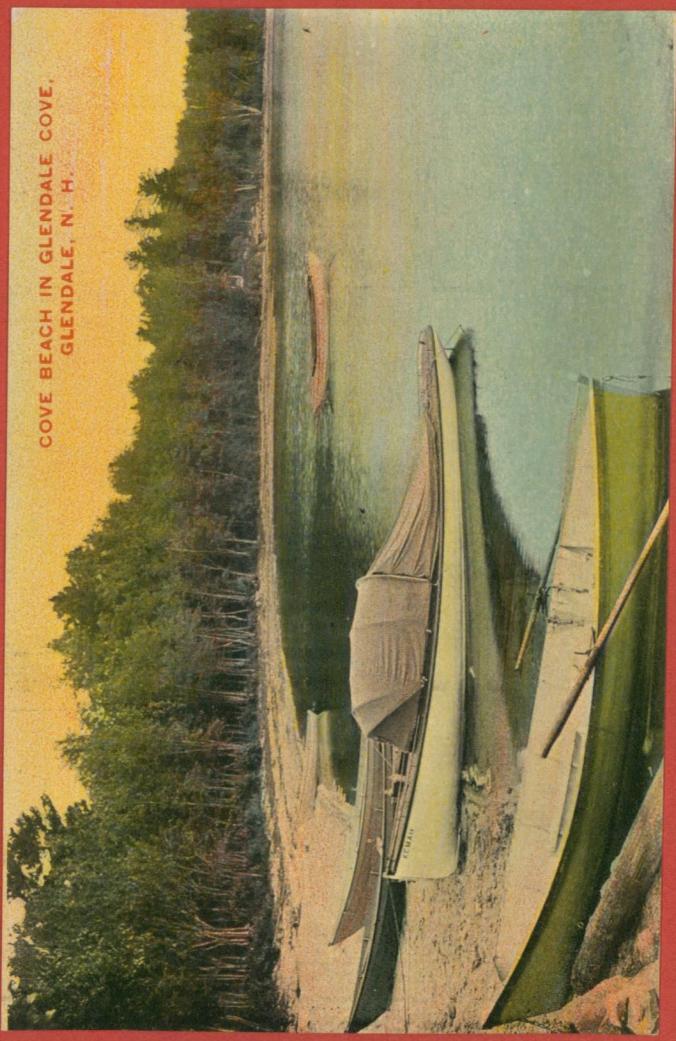
returned in kind the following autumn. Of this half of a beef, the round would be hung in the attic or some convenient outhouse, to freeze, and steaks were cut (or sawed) from it during the winter. Most of the beef, however, was salted; and boiled corned beef, with such home-grown vegetables as potatoes, cabbage, turnips, etc., made up a good half of the table supplies of the average farm house. And "mighty good forage" it was, too, when we came in, cold and hungry, to the midday meal. And it was usually flanked by a generous plate of doughnuts and an apple or mince pie. We had real appetites in those days!

Baked beans and brown bread on Sundays, both of them baked in the cavernous brick oven and the beans flavored with a generous square of salt pork, was practically universal, and now and then there would be baked beans and brown bread in the middle of the week, when especially strenuous work was going on; and these mid-week beans were usually followed by a baked Indian pudding with a sweetened cream sauce. Such substantial always braced a man for a hard afternoon's work.

The teaming, plowing, and similar work of those days was practically all done by ox teams, and the farmers vied with each other in the size and good appearance of their oxen. This generous rivalry extended to the towns also, and the "Best Town Team" at the county fair at Laconia was matter for keen competition for many years. Gilford won the first prize at least two years out of three, and it was a momentous occasion when the twenty or twenty-five yokes of splendid oxen, drawing a large and richly-decorated hay-rack loaded with thirty or forty joyous school girls, paraded before the judges and captured the coveted first prize. The girls were loaded into the hay rack at the village and rode right onto the fair grounds on the town team, thus gaining free admission to the fair, while we poor insignificant boys had to pay our hard-earned quarter-dollars to get in—money which we very much wanted to have to spend on various attractions within the inclosure.

In those days the growing of beef cattle for market was one method of earning money on the farm, and the steers could be paying their keep by their labor while growing to the five- or six-year-olds which were sold to be shipped to Brighton market. For several

COVE BEACH IN GLENDALE COVE,
GLENDALE, N. H.



years prior to the civil war Mr. John O. Sanborn of Laconia shipped many carloads of those fat cattle to Brighton each fall, and quite a few of these were grown in Gilford, the hill pastures of which made fine grazing ground in summer.

Grade schools were unknown in such a country village as Gilford, the one teacher in each school district teaching all the different branches, from a-b-c up to algebra and Latin, should any of the older scholars care to take those advanced studies. In the village district we used to have from sixty to seventy-five scholars in the winter term—which was the big term—and several of those were young men and women grown. I have a very vivid recollection of being both the youngest and smallest of a string of twenty-seven boys who were lined up in a row across the schoolroom floor and all soundly thrashed for flagrant disobedience of the teacher, who had told us *not* to jump into the snowdrifts during our recess, because it would use up fully a half-hour's time in brushing the snow off our clothes before we could return to the schoolroom. I had not been guilty of disobedience, inasmuch as one of the oldest boys—Scott Weeks—grasped me in his arms and jumped over the wall into the deep snow soon after we were out of doors, whereupon all the other boys joined in the fun with whoops and shouts.

The teacher, Mr. Harrison Sanborn, used to bring a pliant beech withe to the school house every morning, and he usually had occasion to use it during the day. On this day he began with the largest boys, who stood at the head of the line, and by the time he reached me, at the other end of the line, both the withe and his strength were used up. He gave my jacket a couple of feeble strokes with the worn-out stick and sent me to my seat, but I would much rather have taken a good threshing and be done with it, than to have stood there, in all the misery of anticipation, for fully half an hour!

At that time the town of Gilford was very much larger than it is today, the town boundary extending to the river in Meredith Bridge (now Laconia), Lake Village (now Lakeport), and the Weirs, hence including about half of the present city of Laconia; probably more than half of the population of the town, certainly more than half its taxable property, was in the portion of the town set off to Laconia.

The town house was situated in Gilford Village, and with some 800 or 900 voters in the town, the annual town meetings were very lively times. Huge barge-loads of voters from "The Bridge" and Lake Village, each barge drawn by four or six horses, would come tearing into the village on town meeting day mornings, and as W. I. rum was to be obtained at one of the village stores and not a few of the voters brought supplies with them, there was sure to be "something doin'" on those days.

My earliest recollection of such meetings is of going to the polls with my father in 1852, when I was six years old, and father voted for General Winfield Scott for president, but Franklin Pierce was the successful candidate. Four years later I had a small flagpole and proudly raised a flag with the names of Fremont and Dayton printed on it; that year James Buchanan was elected. In 1860 political excitement ran high. Meetings were held almost nightly and several great flags were hung out, at least two out of three of them displaying the names of Lincoln and Hamlin. One of the tallest of these flagpoles erected in the fall of 1860 is still standing and doing duty—the stately and handsome staff near the house of Judge Morrill. John J. Morrill—Judge Morrill's father—was an earnest Republican. He was probably the wealthiest and most influential man in Gilford and the largest employer of labor during those years, and the most active politician in that part of the town.

One prominent incident connected with politics was the firing of a salute with a real cannon, to celebrate, I think, the election of Franklin Pierce. The gun, accompanied by a multitude of enthusiastic men and boys, was hauled over from "The Bridge," and it was the intention to fire the salute from the summit of Gunstock Hill; but the wife of a farmer in that locality was sick and it was feared the racket would distress her overmuch, so the company moved down to the village, where 'Squire Hunt invited them to take possession of his field, with the remark that it was good Democratic land and they could fire as many times as they pleased out in that field. I stood at the window looking out upon the field, and trembled from fright as the booming of the gun shook the windows of our house, just across the street from the Hunt field.

Lumbering, which consisted of cutting and hauling logs in win-

ter and sawing them into boards, planks and dimension lumber in the spring, was an important industry—increasingly important after the great fire which swept over the Belknap mountains in the fall of 1854 or '55. This fire began away over on Piper mountain, swept over Belknap mountain and onto Gunstock, and was finally checked by digging a ditch straight up from near the Eben Bartlett house to the top of Gunstock and starting back-fires south of the ditch to burn up all combustible material between the ditch and the advancing wall of fire.

The standing timber was all killed by this great fire and the best of it was lumbered off in the next two winters, to save it. John J. Morrill bought a large tract of spruce on the side of Belknap mountain, put up a logging camp on a small flat half way up that mountain, and had a crew of men getting out the logs. My father was one of the men working up there, going off with the crew early Monday mornings and coming back Saturday nights. One memorable Friday afternoon my brother Charles and I got dismissed from school at recess and tramped up to the logging camp, spent the night and Saturday visiting the logging crew, and went home with them Saturday evening. During the day we searched for spruce gum among the prostrate trees, finding now and then a deposit which the fire had not reached, and we laid in a goodly store which kept our jaws working all the remainder of the winter.

While up there at the camp we heard the story of the bear that bit John Hatch in the middle of his back. Ben. Wadley was one of Mr. Morrill's crew, and he dearly loved to tease one or another of his mates. There was a long bunk on the back side of the bunkhouse, and the men slept on buffalo robes spread over the mass of spruce boughs which filled the long bunk. The men had been roused from their sleep, two or three nights before, by loud shouts for help, and when a lantern was lighted it was found that the yells were from John Hatch, who declared that he had been scared out of his wits by a bear chasing him and biting him right in the middle of his back! A little search revealed that the butt end of one of the spruce boughs had worked up through between two of the buffalo robes, and the sharp end had been sticking into John Hatch's back. Mr. Wadleigh, for many years after, greatly enjoyed telling the story of how a bear bit John Hatch in the back.

A new industry came into Gilford Village about 1855—an industry which gave employment to twenty-five or thirty men and added substantially to the business of the place: this business was shoemaking. The "parts" of shoes were cut out in factories located at Haverhill, Massachusetts, and elsewhere, and these various parts were shipped to the shop bosses in Gilford, tied in bundles, and enough parts to fill a case with shoes was sent in the case which was to contain the finished shoes. The vamps, quarters, linings, strips of "binding," etc., were given out to farmers' wives and daughters, and by them sewed together and bound, ready for the shoemaker to put the soles and heels onto and make the finished shoe. The soles were pegged on with wooden pegs, the heels were put on with small nails, and all the sewing together of the parts and binding was hand sewing.

The shoe-binding leather was of sheepskin, laid off in alternate stripes of black and creamy-white. The black side was sewed onto the outside of the shoe in such manner that when the binding was turned over the edge and sewed onto the lining, on the inside, that part of the binding coming against the outside leather was black and that against the lining was white. This part of the long-time-ago making of shoes is embalmed in Lucy Larcom's exquisite poem, "Hannah Binding Shoes."

* * * * *

Gilford was busy and prosperous in those years between 1851 and 1862. Then the civil war came on and broke up the industries. In the summer of '62 a considerable part of one company of the Twelfth New Hampshire Infantry was recruited here in the village, and almost all of the boys and young men that I had known, one or two to ten years older than myself, put on the blue uniform and marched away to the front. I was sixteen years old in the fall of 1862—too young to get into the army, although I had tried to slip in by enlisting in the Laconia company of the Twelfth and was in camp with that company for some weeks, first on the fair grounds there at Laconia, and then at Concord. Fate, in the person of Dr. Charles Hunt, was against me, and I was rejected at the final examination.

In November of that year I went down to Boston and shipped in the navy as a boy, and when I returned to Gilford, nearly three years later, I was no longer a boy, and Gilford Village had made quite some start upon the downhill road which it has pretty steadily followed ever since.

RESPONSE

*THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF GILFORD WHO SERVED
IN THE CIVIL WAR*

BY MARTIN A. HAYNES

Mr. President, and my old Fellow Townsmen of Gilford;

I attribute my invitation to take part in the exercises of this interesting anniversary largely to the fact that I was an oldtime resident of Gilford. My memories of the years when I was one of you are among the pleasantest of an eventful life, and it is through no wish or fault of mine that I now live just a few rods on the wrong side of the town line.

The sentiment I am called on to respond to is to the soldiers and sailors of Gilford in the rebellion. In the few minutes allotted to me today, I could not be expected to give even in briefest outline the story of the men of Gilford who fought in the civil war. To gather and compile these records would be the work of months or of years, and they would fill a volume. A few towns in this state have had this work done for them through individual enterprise. I recall at this time Claremont, Amherst and Pittsfield, whose soldier records have been preserved in separate printed volumes, to say nothing of chapters in numerous town histories published since the war. It would be a grand thing for old Gilford to gather and preserve in enduring form the story of her sons who went to battle for the Union; and it should be done soon, before they become only a memory and a tradition. You are fortunate in having as your historian today one of Gilford's own sons, who served with honor in the Twelfth Regiment of glorious memory, and whose historical sketch covers, as far as conditions will permit, the part of Gilford in the civil war.

I am a Gilford soldier only by adoption. I went to the war from Manchester. After we had won our fight, I cast about for the most desirable place where a young man, not over-ambitious for wealth or fame, could anchor for life. I came to Gilford, I saw, and I was conquered. I looked upon the most entrancing lake view that the

imagination could picture. I saw the mountains, with their picturesque peaks and spurs and declivities. And I may as well acknowledge that the trout streams, foaming and tumbling from the heights to the lake, looked good to me. It was my ideal. The people were in every way as pleasing as their surroundings, and I simply stayed right along. You took me in; in your goodness and confidence you bestowed honors upon me; and for nearly forty-five years we have been neighbors and friends, and for a good portion of that time, fellow townsmen.

When you first accepted me as a Gilfordite the civil war was only a matter of yesterday. Some of us young fellows who had got home alive had not had time to use up our old army clothes and furnishings. I slept many a night, in bivouac beside some mountain trout stream, or in some sheltered island nook—just where night overtook me—out there by the lake, bedded in the same blankets that had done me service in Virginia. Natt Shackford and Tom Barker, I remember, had a habit of touring the mountains on horseback, riding the same nags they brought home from the army. They had not yet got in close enough touch with modern civilization to even ride in a smoking car. But they had a baggage train of one wagon, that carried a complete camping outfit and the "wimmin folks." O, that was living! Joe Whittier was selling dry goods down at Lake Village and nursing the still unhealed wound where a rebel bullet ripped through his leg at Chancellorville. Why, at that time I could muster, right here, quite a little squad from my own Second Regiment, while today, so far as I have knowledge, there are but two of us left between Concord and Coos.

It must be kept in mind that at that time Gilford divided with the town of Laconia the populous villages of Lake Village and Laconia village. That was before the two readjustments of town lines which gave Laconia the town debt, and left Gilford almost without a peer for scenic beauty and civic worth, among all the rural communities in this or any other land. And at that time, in the late '60s, Gilford, from the Alton line to the Winnepesaukee, was fairly swarming with its returned veterans. The surviving representatives of the old Gilford families had come back—the Weekses, the Morrills, the Hunts, the Jewetts, the Copps, the Beans, the Frohocks,

and twenty others that we could name. These had been supplemented by scores of "foreigners," who, like myself, had been attracted to the locality. They were upon the farms, in the shops, in trade, some even in office—everywhere.

Did they make things lively? Read the files of a certain little newspaper that showed up, somehow or other, once-a-week down at Lake Village. I remember, because I was the editor. We had militia companies composed almost exclusively of civil war veterans. The Bell Rifles was a particularly efficient organization—in more ways than one. They needed not—nor did they wait for—any special invitation to make a twenty-gallon cask of sweet apple juice, just out of the press, look like a relic from the desert of Sahara. I know, because it was my juice they experimented with. In those early aboriginal days, when we got all the fun there was out of a political campaign, no torchlight parade was complete without its battalion of "Boys in Blue"—a hundred of them—swinging along with a military stride and precision that was the envy and despair of every other organization in the parade.

With the organization of Grand Army posts in this region, the Gilford veterans allied themselves with the order in such posts as suited their convenience and pleasure, but mostly with Post 36 at Lakeport and Post 37 at Laconia. At one time these two posts had a combined membership of about two hundred. Who that witnessed it could ever forget that procession at the dedication of the Gilford monument in the Bayside cemetery, composed largely of Grand Army men, and reaching from Depot Square to Black Brook? That was doubtless the greatest gathering of Gilford veterans ever seen together on any occasion.

But O, the pity of it, when, on Memorial Day now, we note the little squad of faltering old men, all that is left of the teeming ranks of long ago! What a pitiful few it is possible to get together, even for such an occasion as this, out of all that marching column of her bravest and her best that Gilford gave to the country in its hour of need! One by one they have been laid with their kindred, within the shadows of the everlasting hills and by the sparkling waters of Winnepesaukee. The day is now very, very near, when some one—I know not which of you comrades it will be, but some one—

will stand all alone, "The Last Leaf" so pathetically immortalized by the poetic genius of Oliver Wendell Holmes :

*"The mossy marbles rest
On the lips that he has pressed
In their bloom,
And the names he loved to hear
Have been carved for many a year
On the tomb."*

It is for every generation to solve its own problems. The men of the civil war solved theirs. First and paramount, over and above all other considerations, they saved the Union of the States. Every gun that was fired, every blow that was struck, every move that was made, was directed to this single end. Even the emancipation of the slaves—the grandest act of the grandest figure of the century, and one of the half-dozen truly colossal figures in all the centuries—was proclaimed to the world—whatever may have been in Lincoln's heart—as an act of military necessity; merely one of the incidents of war, such as killing men, and burning houses, and sinking ships, and ravaging and desolating the land.

The citizen soldiery also, in my judgment, brought home upon their victorious bayonets the salvation of our form of government. They had settled for a long time, it is to be devoutly hoped, that this western continent is to be the home of constitutional liberty, and is not to be broken up into warring and discordant nations with great armaments and standing armies—all the conditions that have contributed to the downfall of every republic in history when the imperious and ambitious "man on horseback" has jumped in at the psychological moment.

The old veterans of the civil war have a right to demand of the coming generations that they shall preserve what we saved. The last injunction of the men of '61 may well be: Do not let anarchists and socialists do what we kept better men than they from doing. Do not let Debs and Hayward and Ettor and all their kind, whether of high or of low degree, accomplish what we denied to Davis and Lee, backed by a million as good men as we were ourselves. The country was not worth saving, if it has not the moral force to throttle these human vermin and pests. Avoid as a pestilence the spirit

of unrest, of rampant lawlessness and disorder and defiance of constituted authority, which are undermining the very foundations of orderly government. Curb your impatience at the Constitutional restraints and restrictions which hold you back from swatting the other fellow like a fly any time you feel in a bad temper. With the bars down, it might be the other fellow who would take a notion to do the swatting. To be sure, Washington and Jefferson and Hamilton and Franklin lived more than a hundred years ago, but they had some pretty fair ideas of government which it might be wise for us not to entirely discard and repudiate while we are tearing down and remodeling and putting modern fixtures into the edifice they builded for us. Whatever mistakes you make—and you will make lots of them—will not trouble us. We will be out from under it. But it would be a comfort to us, before the last veteran waves good-bye to you as he passes out of sight over the divide, to believe that the spirit of the fathers will animate the sons, and that Abraham Lincoln's government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the face of the earth.

ADDRESS AND POEM

AS READ BY MRS. ROSA MORRILL SANDERS, AT THE TOWN HALL,
GILFORD, MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1912

To the Sons and Daughters of Gilford—Greeting:

The same genial sun in the heavens is now shining. The moon and the stars have once again given place to it. The same round earth is advancing, revolving as of yore; and the generations are upward and onward as in the days of our ancestors—one hundred years ago.

The God of Nature is here as of old. As if to honor this occasion, and to animate us. The balmy breezes of heaven are full of inspiration-giving discourses. The beautiful trees of this grand old town put on airs today, as if in an effort to pay tribute to this occasion; and as if, in the glow of the ancient beauty, they try to speak of the primeval days of our ancestors. Time has swept away many of their customs, and the woodsman's axe has devastated many of Gilford's forests, as we have seen. And Time, relentless Time, is now fast overwhelming the revered and half-forgotten kindnesses of our immediate ancestors—fathers and mothers. Yet some things are eternal. The same mountains and hills are preserved, as they are of nature's God. They still remain. Their sublime inspirations move us. We look about us, to the east, to the west, to the north, and to the south, and June, lovely June, has spread the landscape with its most beautiful colorings. The bleating flocks are playful, and the cattle upon the green hills are abundant, awaiting the pleasure and the profit of an industrious, God-serving yeomanry. The wicked wars are over, and peace—"the sweet peace of Jerusalem"—is here. Alas! how unlike it were the cloud-covered, crimson days of our ancient mothers.

Today this vast assemblage, as representatives of one hundred years, constitute a connecting link between the past and the great future. We, on this day, are here to bring back from oblivion, as best we may, impressive yet fast-fading reminiscences; to take note of the advancing generations; and to add at least a brief chapter to the common history of the town that gave us birth.

To record and enliven such a history, there are no better examples in all the events of the world than are to be found in the lives and characters of the old New England mothers. Try them, measure their faith if you please, as in the days of dearth and disappointment. Measure them as in the midst of war and blood, or in the tranquil years of peace and plenty. Stern in integrity, strong in endurance, firm in truth, and fervent in valor forever, they never faltered. God give us heroism like theirs, and faith like theirs, through all the events of advancing time.

Ye children fair thro'out this town,
Of the noblest stock in the world's renown ;
We've come to lay our trophies down
Here at thy feet.

Mothers of these little ones,
Fathers, husbands, brothers, sons,
Your love at heart, warm as it runs—
We gratefully greet.

We've come inspired of the fond old mothers ;
Their sainted care still o'er them hovers ;
Daring in deeds transcending others
'Mid life's relations.

To this we've come from the mountain side,
Far out from where wild waters glide,
From where old ocean turns her tide,
To memories dear.

From where Chocorua pours her rills,
From Tilton's favored wildwood hills,
From lakes, too, lifeblood of the mills—
We, Volunteers.

Down from the lakes, uncounted numbers ;
From mountains, mighty, full of wonders ;
From where Niagara's torrent thunders,
Vast of renown.

Far up from Massachusetts Bay,
From Grand Monadnock o'er the way,
All meet in Gilford on this day ;
They swell the throng.

Sons of old Gilford, daughters too,
 There's many a heart in faith for you,
 True faith to bring and honor due
 In measure double.

We tribute to dear mothers pay,
 Our fathers too, brave spirits, they
 Stand high on many a cloud today
 To greet their children on the way,
 While they are home returning.

There are the Jewetts and Morrills pure;
 Their fame, their faith, shall e'er endure;
 Your Weekses, Hunts and Munseys sure,
 All, all are here.

Your Sawyers, Folletts, Haynes and Plummers,
 Hunters and Rows of bygone summers,
 Bring memories dear.

Your Gliddens and your Potters meet us,
 Your Watsons, Smiths and Eatons meet us,
 Your Hoyts and Hatches here to greet us,
 We hail them nigh.

The Thompsons, Carrs, Browns, Rands, all true,
 Dows, Beans and Lampreys meet our view,
 The Grants and Goves and Jameses too,
 To Gilford come.

Uncounted spirits, sainted, fair,
 Linger above us in the air,
 With whisperings vague—yet vocal there—
 They're from on high.

Hail! hail those spirits here today
 Of the long-gone years and the good old way,
 Who in this town once held full sway—
 They are surely here.

For the sun never shone on a town more fair
 Than beautiful, peerless old Gilford.
 There's life in the kiss of her purified air,
 Old Gilford, prolific old Gilford.
 Her sons are all valiant, so noble and bright,
 Her beautiful daughters are just about right,

And her babies—God bless them!—are clean out of sight;
That crop never fails here in Gilford.
Our homes are alight with a halo of love,
In Gilford, contented, dear Gilford.
We bask in the smiles of the heavens above,
No cloud ever darkens bright Gilford.
Our grain waves as billows of gold in the sun,
The fruits of our orchards are equaled by none,
And our pumpkins, some of them, weigh most a ton—
We challenge the world here in Gilford.

Our girls are sweet models of maidenly grace,
In this modern Eden of Gilford.
They are perfect in figure, and lovely in face,
That's just what they are, here in Gilford.
Their smiles are bewitching and winning and sweet,
Their dresses are stylish, yet modest and neat,
A Trilby would envy their cute little feet,
In beautiful, peerless old Gilford.

When burdens of life I am called to lay down,
I hope I may die here in Gilford.
I never could ask a more glorious crown
Than one of the sod of fair Gilford.
And when the last trump wakes the land and the sea,
And the tombs of the earth set their prisoners free,
You may all go aloft if you choose, but for me—
I think—I'll just stay here in Gilford.

For mid pleasures and palaces though I may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like Home.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

COMPOSED BY MRS. BERNICE JOHNSON, AND READ AT THE TOWN
HALL, GILFORD, MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1912

We meet today to celebrate
The birthday of our town ;
A hundred years ago today,
Its name was written down.

Come, friends and neighbors, from afar,
We'll have a celebration.
Come, old Gilford's famous sons,
And give us an oration.

Let us cease all work today,
Lay down the spade and hoe ;
Old Gilford was made a town
A hundred years ago.

Let us look back a hundred years :
Our grandpas then were slow ;
They weren't in such a hurry then—
A hundred years ago.

Our wealthy neighbors used to ride
In a one-horse open shay ;
And everything was sure and safe,
And no one in the way.

Today they ride in autos, and
The farmer home must stay,
And woe betide the puppy or
The chicken in the way !

Keep your children in the house—
They're not safe out to play.
"Honk ! Honk !" they come like lightning—
Everything get out the way !

Our grandpas walked behind the plow,
And held the handles so.
They did their mowing all by hand,
A hundred years ago.

GILFORD CENTENNIAL

Our husbands ride in chariots now,
To harrow, plow, and mow.
What would the folks have thought of that
A hundred years ago?

Our grandmas set their milk in pans,
And skimmed it with a shell;
They did their churning up and down,
And did it very well.

We do not set our milk in pans,
But grind in a machine,
And turning lively at the crank,
Grind out the golden cream.

Our grandmas spun the fleecy wool,
And knit the family hose;
Wove many different kinds of cloth
And made it into clothes.

But now we have to sell our wool
For what the man will pay;
And to the dry goods store we go
And buy our clothes, today.

I sometimes wonder which is best,
The new or the old way;
And if our grandmas could come back,
I wonder what they'd say.

What would they in their day have said
Of a moving-picture show?
They'd have talked of spirits, shades, and ghosts,
A hundred years ago.

What would the old folks think,
If they could rise again,
And see the autos racing by,
And behold an aeroplane?

POEM

A FEW OF THE CHANGES FROM 1812 TO 1912

BY GEORGIA MORRILL

'Twas just one hundred years ago
My body left this world of woe
And sought repose in the quiet ground,
While my soul was left to wander 'round.
Some awful sights it has seen since then,
As it wandered 'round through the haunts of men.

When I lived, one hundred years ago,
People traveled very slow ;
But those old ancient days are past,
And the people now can't go too fast.
What would my ancient body say
To ride in the vehicles of today ?
My soul looks back with dire reproach,
As it thinks of the slow old lumbering coach.
And wouldn't it fret and fume and rage
To ride again in the oldtime stage !
In that old time 'twould have turned one's brain
To have taken a ride on the railway train
That went thundering, roaring through the land,
Drowning the noise of ye ancient band,
Going so swift by steam and fire,
With an iron horse that would never tire,
Breathing fire through his iron nose,
Puffing and snorting, away he goes.

Once my soul was in terrible plight
And nearly joined my body in fright.
The reason for which I will now reveal—
'Twas a man a-coming upon a wheel.
He was coming, head on, so very fast
That in just a second he's whizzing past.
What would my oldtime body say
To a wheel with a man on it, running away—
A wheel on which the old dames spun
Seven skeins of yarn ere their task was done ?

Then another freak came—may the Lord defend !
 'Twas a woman rigged out with a "Grecian bend."
 A camel's hump on her figure tall,
 While her head was decked with a "waterfall."

Oh, my soul just longs for the good old ways.
 To think of the doings of nowadays !
 The awful, awful inventions of men !
 Just think, they've invented a wooden hen !
 She sets on eggs—yes !—and then she will hatch
 Three hundred chicks in a single batch.
 But greater wonders yet appear
 Than any I've related here.
 For if my body was here today,
 It could talk with you hundreds of miles away ;
 It could hear distinctly every tone
 That came through the wonderful telephone.

'Twould make my grandad's senses reel
 To hear of the wonders I could reveal.
 The works of Satan ! That's what he'd say,
 Could he see the wonders of today.
 Sakes alive ! what would my old body say
 To see a machine that would cut down hay ?
 The rake, the spreader, and loader too ?
 I guess it would think it had nothing to do.
 Another marvel my soul does know :
 'Tis a cultivator, plow, and hoe—
 Three implements complete in one ;
 Set it a-going and the work is done.
 And just as sure as you are born,
 They are making paper from stalks of corn.
 How do you think my body would feel,
 To take a ride in an automobile
 Going about forty miles a minute ?
 Laws sakes ! hundred years ago I wasn't in it.
 A horseless wagon with rubber tire,
 Smelling worse than brimstone all on fire,
 Going so fast that the slightest hitch
 Would dump you headlong into the ditch !

And say,

I saw a machine that in one day
 Would pull from five acres all the stumps
 And carry them onto the firing dumps.

Everything's changed here under the sun,
And the wheels of progress are swifter run.
And I soon discovered what made the change—
The people were wiser, so started a Grange;
And a man called a granger then thought it better
To give farmers quicker ways for a letter,
And Uncle Sam thought the same, you see,
So they hustled and started the R. F. D.
And the daily weather report is a boon,
Better than that of "the man in the moon."

In that ancient day there was never a dream
Of soaring about in a flying machine.
'Twould have seemed impossible, foolish, absurd—
The idea of this monstrous wooden bird!
'Twould have put to flight the ancient kings
To see it spread its sweeping wings
And sail away to the distant sky.
O, who would have thought that men could fly?

I almost forgot in my daily walk
I had seen a machine that could sing and talk
And could play such music, to make you dance,
That it really put my soul in a trance.
No more, I'm sure, will it be perplexed
To know what new fangles they'll hatch up next.

I will cast aside my new-born fears
And go back to earth after one hundred years.
No more my soul will wander around,
But I'll seek repose in the quiet ground,
Knowing the good old days were best
For the soul's repose and the body's rest.