

Of the two score or more that signed the call for that meeting all are dead¹ save Judge Sylvester Dana, while of those that spoke that evening Joseph B. Walker alone survives.

The summer of 1863 was the perilous period of the Civil War, and Concord was not alone in apprehensions as to the future of the republic. Party lines had at this time become rigidly defined, adding bitterness to local affairs and imparting a harshness to social intercourse. Feelings occasioned by the conduct of the administration at Washington disturbed even church relations during that gloomy season.

Concord was the meeting place for all shades of opinion, and as such it became the scene of two political mass conventions during that eventful year 1863. The Republicans chose the 17th of June as the date of their great meeting, while the Democrats took the 4th of July as the day in all the year most fitting their purposes. At the first convention the crowd in attendance completely overflowed the state house park, where a platform had been built, from which such distinguished public men as Benjamin F. Butler and Montgomery Blair addressed the assemblage. The day passed off pleasantly, being voted a success by half the people throughout the state and a failure by not quite the other half, so marked were the personal politics of the epoch. But by far the more important meeting historically was that organized by the Democrats. Great preparations had been made to ensure success; special trains were run, hospitality of the olden time was generously promised, while the oratory was to be delivered by Daniel W. Voorhees, Governor Joel Parker of New Jersey, Samuel S. Cox, Horatio Seymour, and ex-President Pierce, whose voice had not been heard on war questions since that evening in April, 1861, when he spoke from the balcony of the Eagle hotel.

To this demonstration not only New Hampshire but the whole North and even the South gave attention, for it was to be a field day of political policy as well as prophesy. For at Concord, in the heart of one of the staunchest Union states, was to be discussed the gravest of public questions by the most illustrious of Democrats. Private purses contributed to make the day a successful one, and never, perhaps, had Concord been more gaily dressed than on that 4th of July. Decorations were plentifully displayed, public and private buildings were bright with flags and bunting, while the state house was almost concealed behind a mass of holiday attire.

Over the main entrance to the capitol was an arch decorated with shields and miniature flags, while overhead the facade was gracefully festooned with streamers drooping from the cornices to the pavement.

¹ 1903.

Over the eastern gateway to the capitol grounds, through which the speakers and music were to pass, was erected a triumphal arch, with the silver lettered motto, "Constitutional Liberty." Above was a large eagle holding a profusion of radiating flags, while depending from the arch were folds of rich damask drapery, embroidered with spangles of silver. The supporting columns represented knights clad in armor, designated "Scott" and "McClellan." On the supports of the arch were mottoes, very significant, as it subsequently turned out, such as, "The People will save the Republic," "Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Iowa have set us an example; we will profit by it."

The American House, the old headquarters of the Democracy, was appropriately decorated, its pillars and columns being neatly draped with folds of red, white, and blue. On the Main street front was the motto, "Liberty and Independence, July 4, 1776." On the Park street side of the building hung a portrait of Daniel Webster, encircled with the words "I still live."

Many stores and blocks, as well as private residences, were profusely and handsomely adorned with flags, mottoes, and transparencies. Among the more attractive were the stores in the Athenian building, and the residences of Oliver L. Sanborn, J. Stephens Abbot, John F. Brown, Ira A. Eastman, and William P. Foster.

The day proved to be bright, the attendance large, and the meeting successful. Some of the orators, unable to be present, sent letters to be read by the presiding officer, but Mr. Voorhees and Governor Parker addressed the crowd, while ex-President Pierce delivered a carefully prepared oration. This oration, celebrated as the "Mausoleum of Hearts" speech, concluded as follows:

Then, all efforts, whether of war or peace, having failed, my reply is, you will take care of yourselves; with or without arms, with or without leaders, we will, at least, in the effort to defend our rights as a free people, build up a great mausoleum of hearts, to which men who yearn for liberty will in after years, with bowed heads and reverently, resort as Christian pilgrims to the sacred shrines of the Holy Land.

Scarcely had the meeting ended when gladsome tidings burst upon the community, rendering the words of the recent orators flippant and idle, and reinforcing as never before the loyal courage of the North. Swiftly over the wires came the glorious despatch telling of Lee's defeat at Gettysburg and Grant's triumph at Vicksburg. The city went wild with joy, for Concord then realized that the war was not a failure and that the Union still lived.

The state house had been built nearly half a century, yet during that period no material changes had been made in its interior; con-

sequently the conveniences and accommodations satisfactory in 1816 were suffered to continue until the increase in legislative membership and the rapidly growing business of the state government began to demand a remedy. At the time the state house was built the number of representatives did not much exceed two hundred, but in 1864 the membership had risen to about three hundred and twenty-five. Besides this it must be borne in mind that the routine business of the departments had grown gradually during these years, until the legislative halls and state offices became wretchedly ill adapted for public business. As one views the old state house in ancient prints, the real inconveniences of the building do not appear, but they existed, causing comment and criticism. The citizens of Concord were not ignorant of these facts, but they had never considered the state house as their property, notwithstanding their ancestors had cheerfully complied with the conditions that made Concord the capital. Moreover, the time for public expenditure on matters not imperative was surely not in that dark period of debt created by the Rebellion, when every community was striving its utmost to meet the burdensome taxes imposed by war. During several sessions rumors and murmurs had been heard respecting the contracted accommodations and unsanitary condition of the state house, but nothing definite took place until 1863, when the legislature passed a resolution setting forth the needs of an enlarged state house. An important feature of the resolution was this clause: "The benefits and advantages to be derived from the location of the capitol at Concord are such that it is just and reasonable that the city of Concord should contribute materially toward the enlargement of the capitol building, . . . that this resolution be furnished to the proper officers of the city of Concord with the request that the city take suitable and seasonable action, . . . and that any city or town having the necessary railroad facilities desirous of having the state house situated therein may make propositions to that effect." As the June session of 1864 drew near, the excitement among Concord people increased, for the realization of what might happen dawned upon them. The Concord delegation in the legislature of 1864 was composed of good men, but aside from William E. Chandler and Henry P. Rolfe, they had no especial capacity for the business before them. The whole town was thoroughly moved in this contest, more particularly the central wards, because upon them would fall the heaviest loss or the largest gain according to the outcome. Meanwhile, not a Concord man or woman or any friend of Concord could look upon the threatening state house question with feelings other than those of uneasiness and apprehension.

Although Concord was doing its utmost to support the war, and while taxation was pressing upon the people as never before, the question of contributing money with which to remodel the capitol was favorably received, but when Concord realized that the question was by no means the simple one of making repairs, but meant the moving of the capitol itself, public feeling was deeply stirred. Long before the meeting of the legislature of 1864, every one throughout the state had discussed the project, and it had become clear that in any event the state treasury was to be spared any depletion owing to the rivalries between two cities, both desirous to be the capital.

The city government voted on May 23d to appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars to carry out the purpose expressed in the legislative act of 1863, this sum to be raised by the seven wards then comprising the city, and to be expended as the legislature should direct. It was also voted to lay out a new street south of the state house. The citizens held numerous meetings to discuss the ways and means. A committee comprising twenty prominent men was chosen, and in their hands was left the entire management of the matter. Richard Bradley, long a town leader, but now an old man, moved his hearers at one of the citizens' meetings by narrating the story of the town's growth since his boyhood, which was contemporaneous with the erection of the state house in 1816; how he had watched the sparsely settled village street become a compact place of stores and shops, how he had seen the small population increase to many thousands, and how he had lived to see his native town become distinguished and flourishing, and he attributed much of all this prosperity, he said, to the state house and its associations. Mr. Bradley infused courage and spirit into the question and its bearings, and urged his fellow-citizens to leave undone nothing that could possibly avert the threatened loss. In the meantime, Manchester came forward with a vote of her city council, offering the sum of five hundred thousand dollars provided the capitol should be removed thither.

At length the legislature assembled. Joseph A. Gilmore was governor and William E. Chandler speaker, both citizens of Concord. It now began to be discovered that the merits of the case were to play a minor part, and that the question of location, centralness, railroad accessibility, and sound business reasons was to be subordinated to the sordid competition of money. It was no longer a request on the part of New Hampshire calling on Concord to remodel and enlarge the state house, for Concord had already met that request by voting a hundred thousand dollars for that purpose, but the question had become, through the enticement of Manchester, a very different one.

Unfortunately, the whole matter was fast assuming the conditions of an auction. Unpleasant and uncalled for as such a situation was, Concord had to meet it and, if possible, to overcome it.

An energetic and influential committee, comprising Onslow Stearns, Nathaniel White, Asa Fowler, John Kimball, Richard Bradley, Joseph B. Walker, Nathaniel G. Upham, Moses T. Willard, Shadrach Seavey, George Hutchins, John L. Tallant, and others, had the interests of Concord in charge and they performed well their difficult work. The counsel for Concord were Ira Perley and John H. George, who between them embodied the knowledge and the practice of the law in a perfection unsurpassed among their contemporaries. In due time the counsel submitted to the legislature the carefully prepared agreements and specifications on the part of Concord.

Judge Perley and Colonel George never for a moment lost sight of the merits of the question, but reiterated constantly the advantages of Concord respecting location, population, social and business conditions, and the absence of large controlling corporations; and they dwelt particularly upon the contributions of early Concord to secure the capitol, and upon the greater contributions of later Concord for railroad facilities whereby Concord should be made accessible from all parts of the state. Attention was also directed to the public institutions assembled at the capital, and especial emphasis was laid on the fact that no section of the state had ever found fault with Concord, or had suffered any inconveniences because of its possession of the state house, and the counsel closed with a protest against turning a grave state question into a contemptible matter of bargain and sale. The specifications further pointed out that Manchester was alone in asking for the removal, that Manchester was built by Massachusetts money and was likely to be controlled by it, that it contained one predominant industry representing many million dollars, and that that industry was likely to demand special legislation; that its future growth combined with the removal of the state house, would destroy all balance of political power; that the bid of five hundred thousand dollars was a dangerous fact as bearing on special and local legislation which might be asked for by way of reimbursement; that the bid did not mean that the entire sum should be used in erecting a new capitol, but only such part of it as a joint committee of Manchester and the legislature might determine; and finally that the geographical situation of Manchester was nineteen miles from the state line on the south, sixty-five miles on the west, and one hundred and fifty miles from Coös.

The specifications were comprehensive and clear. No member could misunderstand their meaning. The sentiment among the rep-

representatives was undoubtedly favorable to keeping the capitol where it was; not one in three of the members felt that it ought to be moved. Had the question been merely a choice between Concord and Manchester, the former city would have won handsomely, but no such bare question presented itself. The truth was that the question resolved itself into an attempt to see how much Concord would give in order to retain its ancient honors. The architect to whom the preparation of plans had been given was Gridley J. F. Bryant of Boston, who exhibited three plans differing materially in design, construction, and cost. After careful consideration the plan known as number two was adopted. But to carry out the details of the plan involved far more than the one hundred thousand dollars voted by Concord,—in fact, one hundred and fifty thousand was the estimate. Whereupon a citizens' meeting was immediately held, which voted to raise the additional amount and charge it on the property situated within the so-called gas precinct, which in 1864 embraced Wards four, five, and six, and a part of Ward seven. Although this action was wholly a personal one, the exigencies of the case demanded promptness and decision, in order that the legislature might be assured of Concord's willingness to accept plan number two. In case the city government did not ratify this action, a bond was signed by a hundred leading citizens, each pledging himself to pay such additional sum over and above his taxes as might be necessary to raise the fifty thousand dollars, each to pay in proportion to the taxes assessed upon him in the year 1864.

Those who recall the surroundings of the old state house at that time will remember the condition of the yard on the south line, where only a stout stone wall separated it from private property which was for the most part unsightly and undesirable. At the corner near Main street were the ruins of Sanborn's block,—destroyed by fire a few months before,—while westerly to State street were stables, sheds, work-shops, and back yards, with one or two respectable dwelling-houses. The effect of a street cut through this property, giving to the capitol a wide street boundary on every side, was recognized, and official action had already been taken to carry out the improvement. This act was a popular one, considered in connection with the greater question of the capitol, and the city councils had promptly responded to the sentiment of the people by voting to lay out the thoroughfare now known as Capitol street. The novelty of the state house contest attracted as much attention among the public as the grave questions arising out of the Rebellion, and several weeks were spent in private and public discussions and in bringing to bear every possible influence calculated to have weight with the legislature.

At last, on June 29th, the two houses met in committee of the whole to listen to the speeches of counsel. For Manchester appeared Lewis W. Clark of that city and William H. Burns of Lancaster, a distinguished lawyer and a prominent Democrat, while for Concord were Ira Perley and John H. George. The arguments occupied several hours, and were listened to with the deepest interest. The committee then rose. From this time on the "state house question" was frequently before the house, and many were the speeches made by the advocates of the rival cities. Conspicuous among those speaking in favor of Concord were William E. Chandler, Asa P. Cate of Northfield, Samuel M. Wheeler of Dover; Samuel H. Quincy of Rumney; Frank J. Eastman of Littleton; Levi W. Barton of Newport; Malachi F. Dodge of Londonderry; Josiah A. Hurd of Plaistow; Henry P. Rolfe of Concord; and David T. Parker of Farmington; while favoring Manchester were James O. Adams, Stephen G. Clark, and William Little, all of that city. One of the most telling speeches was that made by Mr. Quincy. "The whole question," said he, "has been covered with matters of detail, when the real question is, Where shall the state capitol be? Settle that point and the matter of cupola, committee rooms, and halls will be adjusted. If the public good demands no change, then the Manchester proposition ought not to be accepted though she should erect a building of such wondrous beauty that Americans from the two oceans should make yearly pilgrimages to gaze upon it. Let us not degenerate the high office of legislators by receiving the ministrations of selfishness and cupidity. Certainly we should not change without the most cogent and convincing reasons."

Concord was fortunate in having in the speaker's chair so able and clear-headed a son as William E. Chandler, whose speech before the committee was strong and unanswerable. Comparing Concord's offer with that of Manchester, he said: "Has this latter city offered more than this? If she should offer to build precisely the same building as Concord, and pay one hundred thousand dollars into the treasury for public purposes, you would not listen to the proposal. The moment you require more than is sufficient, you are putting your capitol up at auction and setting an example of extravagance." The speeches were of remarkable excellence, and nothing was uttered calculated to wound or prejudice. In the arguments of Judge Perley and Colonel George the friends of Concord found exceeding pleasure and satisfaction, and to their efforts much of the subsequent victory was attributable. As the session wore on the weight of public opinion steadily settled on Concord, for outside of Manchester, there were but few towns that considered a change as

needed or advisable, and had the question been free from the glittering and illusive inducement of half a million dollars offered by that city, the final vote would have been overwhelmingly one way. As it was, the act to continue the capitol at Concord passed to its third reading in the house by 179 to 98, while in the senate the vote was nearly unanimous.

The act contained several clauses respecting the plan, the making up of committees and other details, and ended as follows: "That on or before August fifteenth, 1864, the new highway [Capitol street] fifty-two feet wide, on the southerly side of the State House yard shall be opened for public travel, and provided also that on or before the said fifteenth day of August the city of Concord shall furnish satisfactory security to the committee that said city will, before the first day of June, 1865, construct and complete in all respects, ready for use, and without expense to the state, a State Capitol upon the plan provided for, constructed and finished for use upon the site of the present State House. Said city of Concord shall furnish said building completed without expense to the state of New Hampshire, upon the understanding and condition that said city shall not at any time hereafter apply to said state to refund the money expended therefor or any part thereof."

The committee on the part of Concord consisted at first of Asa Fowler, Onslow Stearns, Joseph B. Walker, John Kimball, and John L. Tallant, but business reasons rendering it inconvenient for those citizens to serve, another committee was substituted. This committee comprised Nathaniel G. Upham, Moses T. Willard, Shadrach Seavey, George Hutchins, and John L. Tallant.

The expenses put upon Concord were as heavy as they were inequitable, and added to the outlay incurred on account of the Rebellion imposed a burden upon the citizens grossly out of proportion to the taxable wealth of the city, which in 1864 was not five million dollars. However, no one held back; all cheerfully pressed forward to keep Concord as the capital of the state.

The first condition entailed by the recent act was the opening of the new street at the specified time in August, and there were not wanting enemies of Concord who fervently hoped that the street obstacle could not be overcome. But everybody went to work: lands and buildings were bought or condemned, teams of horses and oxen, and workmen with derricks, spades, and pickaxes, fell with vigor upon the site. Prominent citizens lent their help; the work went on by torchlight; even the Sabbath was made secular by shouts and noises never heard before in Concord on that day. At the extreme westerly end of the new thoroughfare stood a dwelling whose owner was loth

to sell, and threatened injunction; the situation was dangerous, inasmuch as the law might defeat the whole capitol question by retarding the opening of the street, but Mayor Benjamin T. Gale and his stout advisers, recognizing what was at stake, moved the obstructing house on Sunday when no court was sitting. The buildings were soon out of the way, and nothing remained but filling in and grading. All that Sabbath day and night relays of workmen plied their tools. Not a moment was given to rest, the excitement was intense, crowds watched the progress of the work. The highway must be open on or before August 15th, said the act, and with the ringing of church bells, the blowing of factory and railroad whistles, and the roaring of cannon, the street was formally opened to the public at 9 o'clock in the morning of Monday, the fateful 15th. The other conditions were performed according to the direction of the commissioners, and in due season the new state house was enlarged, finished, and furnished by the people of Concord. The outlay had been large, for, including the street, the cost was nearly two hundred thousand dollars, every dollar of which bore interest at six per centum; so that when the last state house bond was paid in 1896, the total cost to Concord was a hundred and fifty thousand dollars more than the first estimates, or not far from three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The repairs on the capitol were not completed in time for the annual session of 1865, so the mayor prepared the city hall building for state purposes. The city hall itself was transformed into a representatives' hall, the speaker, clerks, and reporters having seats at the east side of the room, while at the west a raised platform covered with settees did service for a public gallery. The body of the hall was the floor of the house. The senate held its sessions in the county court-room above, the secretary of state and the adjutant-general had quarters in the rooms of the city government, while the governor and his council occupied the old public library on the upper floor.

In accordance with the prevailing custom, Concord followed the example of other cities throughout the land with ceremonies appropriate to the death of Abraham Lincoln. The commemorative exercises were inaugurated and carried out in unison by state and city, and attracted a large attendance from all parts of New Hampshire. Never before had the people of Concord beheld so great a display of draperies and habiliments of mourning as the streets presented during the week of that touching service. Nearly every house had its black streamers, and public edifices, business blocks, shops, factories, and schoolhouses, were draped during that solemn period. Thursday, June 1st, 1865, was the day appointed for the memorial observances,

and a fairer and sweeter day never came from the skies. Adjutant-General Natt Head was chief marshal. No procession ever moved through Concord streets composed so variedly as this one. The Governor's Horse Guards, Henry O. Kent commanding, led the way. Then followed soldiers lately returned from war, bearing their scorched and tattered battle-flags, then came the heavy artillery with rumbling guns and caissons, escorting the somber catafalque. Heavily draped with festoons and great rosettes, with fold upon fold of crape drooping from the canopy to the sides, the catafalque, strewn with wreaths and flowers, presented a spectacle as impressive as it was affecting. Drawn by six white horses, the funeral car symbolized the veritable bier of the martyred dead, and at its approach men uncovered in profoundest reverence.

Following the funeral car marched battalions of veterans, and after them came the Strafford Guards of Dover, the Granite State Guards of Nashua, the Amoskeag Veterans, Governor Gilmore and staff, the orator of the day, United States Senator James W. Patterson, carriages with public officials, the judges, the Free Masons, the Odd Fellows, the city government, St. Patrick's society, a company of Dartmouth students, boys of St. Paul's School, students of the Commercial college, the Concord Lancers and the Lincoln Cadets, school children, and a long line composed of every trade and calling. To the strains of the dead march, played in turn by many bands, the great procession wound slowly through the principal streets, the march consuming two hours. In the state house park a spacious platform canopied with flags held the governor and invited guests, while on rows of raised seats sat the school children wearing the emblem of mourning on their arms.

Silently the vast audience pressed closely round the platform, remaining until the close. The governor presided, assisted by a vice-president from each county. The exercises opened with a dirge by Hall's band; then a chant by the school children, led by Benjamin B. Davis and John H. Morey. President Smith of Dartmouth offered prayer; then followed a requiem by the band. The oration was delivered by Senator Patterson, and the services closed with the singing of America and a benediction by Dr. Burroughs of Portsmouth.

In August, 1869, Concord was honored by a visit from President Grant. The coming of this distinguished man was of an informal nature, for few knew of it; consequently no preparation had been made to welcome him. The president, his wife, daughter and son, Jesse, with Governor Boutwell and Mr. Hoar, members of his cabinet, and General Horace Porter, private secretary, comprised the party. The president was on his way to the White Mountains and

had no intention of breaking the journey at Concord, but yielding to the persuasion of his friend, Governor Stearns, he consented to remain over night in the capital city. A few hours' notice, however, gave time to assemble a large crowd in Railroad square, which cheered heartily on the arrival of the train soon after noon. Escort was performed by the Mt. Horeb commandery, attended by the old Brigade band, the president riding in a barouche drawn by four horses, and accompanied by Governor Stearns, ex-Governor Harriman, and Colonel Mason W. Tappan, of the governor's staff.

The procession went directly to the state house, the president on the arm of the governor, passing through the open ranks of the Templars, and proceeded to a platform that had been built over the steps. The grounds were soon filled with spectators, who gazed with almost reverence at the hero of the Rebellion, then so fresh in the public mind. Governor Stearns welcomed General Grant and introduced state and city officials. Mayor Lyman D. Stevens addressed the guest as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT :—I am charged with the agreeable duty of asking in behalf of the government and people of this city your acceptance of its hospitalities, and extending to you a most cordial welcome to the capital of the state. Our rural city may not possess features of striking interest, but it is not without its attractions, and it will be found the abode of an intelligent, industrious, and thrifty population.

In the one hundred and forty-four years since its history began Concord has always made prompt responses to calls of patriotism, and she never failed or faltered in giving its full measure of devotion to the principles of free government and the maintenance of the Union. We should, therefore, be untrue to ourselves if we do not hail with highest gratification the presence of the chief magistrate of the nation, endeared to us in war and peace as the foremost defender of the home and our inalienable rights.

Permit me, sir, to repeat the assurance of the most hearty welcome, and to express the hope that your brief visit may not be without pleasure to yourself.

One of the marked characteristics of General Grant was his extreme reticence about public speaking. Simple acknowledgment was generally the extent of his utterances on occasions like this, so the surprise was great when the general indulged in a long speech, as he measured speeches, and replied to the mayor's welcome :

MR. MAYOR :—I am heartily glad to visit the Granite state and its capital. This is the first time I have ever been able to come within your borders. I regret that I cannot make a longer stay and view your beautiful scenery. I thank you for your kind words of welcome.

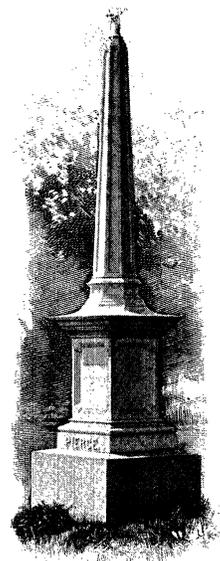
For an hour or more the people filed past the president and shook his hand, after which the party repaired to the residence of the gov-

ernor, where later in the day a few officials and citizens dined with the distinguished visitors.

During the evening people gathered before the Stearns mansion, where the Brigade band gave a serenade, and in response to calls the president came upon the balcony and bowed repeatedly. Before the president left Concord he was treated to an extensive drive about the city by Nathaniel White, whose love for horses was equal to that of his companion. In the morning the presidential party departed for the White Mountains on a special train.

Ex-President Pierce, after a long illness, passed away at his home on South Main street Friday, October 8th, 1869. Fitting honors were paid to his memory by the authorities at Washington, and in other places throughout the country. In Concord feeling allusions were made in the churches, for the community was saddened by his decease. The obsequies occurred on Monday. Business was suspended, the public schools closed, and the state house and other buildings were black with crape. The morning trains brought friends from all parts of New England and beyond. At 11 o'clock, after prayers at Mr. Pierce's late residence, the cortege moved to the state house amidst the tolling of bells and the solemn chimes ringing out the affecting Dead March in Saul. At the main gateway the body was met by the Rev. Drs. Eames of St. Paul's, Edson of Lowell, and Lambert of Charlestown, who preceded it into Doric hall, which had been converted into a deeply draped chamber of mourning. The body rested on a sable-covered bier, placed in the center of the hall and surrounded by a profusion of wreaths and beautiful flowers. For two hours the streams of mourning citizens never ceased; every class paid its tribute of silent respect to all that was mortal of the fourteenth president of the United States. As the hour for the church service drew near, the capitol was cleared of spectators, the doors were closed for a moment, then the bearers again took up their burden and the procession passed down the steps and along the walk to St. Paul's. Not a vacant place was seen in the church; the nave and aisles were occupied, and many remained standing throughout the services. The officiating clergymen were Drs. Eames, Lambert, Edson, Henry A. Coit, and Joseph H. Coit. Dr. Henry A. Coit read the one hundred and eighty-fourth hymn, which had always been a favorite with the ex-president, prayers were recited by Dr. Eames, and the benediction pronounced.

Again the bells tolled and from the chimes floated the dead march



Franklin Pierce Monument.

as the body was borne from the chancel and placed in the hearse. The long procession moved slowly up State street to the old burying-ground, where the last rites were said over the grave in the Minot cemetery. The pall bearers were Onslow Stearns, Jonathan E. Sargent, Ira Perley, Ira A. Eastman, Asa Fowler, Lyman D. Stevens, J. Stephens Abbot, and Benjamin Grover, and the carriers were William L. Foster, James F. Briggs, Anson S. Marshall, William M. Chase, Arthur Fletcher, Daniel Barnard, John H. George, Sylvester Dana, Mason W. Tappan, John Y. Mugridge, and John M. Shirley.

In August, 1872, Concord welcomed as a guest a distinguished son of New Hampshire, then in nomination for the presidency of the United States, Horace Greeley. It was in the midst of that exciting campaign that Mr. Greeley arrived under the escort of Governor Weston and Waterman Smith of Manchester. Railroad square was filled with spectators who mingled their cheers with the firing of cannon as the train rolled into the station. A committee of reception, consisting of A. W. Ladd, Thompson Rowell, John H. Pearson, E. S. Nutter, Timothy Haynes, Daniel F. Secomb, William M. Chase, Elijah Knight, John Y. Mugridge, E. P. Prescott, James R. Hill, Anson S. Marshall, George S. Dennett, and John McNeil, met the distinguished gentleman and escorted him to a carriage in waiting. The procession, under the marshalship of Josiah B. Sanborn, with Mr. Greeley, Mason W. Tappan, Mayor John Kimball, and Waterman Smith in the first carriage, followed by a score or more of barouches, moved through Main, Franklin, State, and Pleasant streets to the state house, where Odlin's band played "Hail to the Chief." Calling the assemblage to order, Colonel Tappan made a speech complimentary to the state and its honored son, and then introduced the great editor. Mr. Greeley's remarks were congratulatory in tenor, with no allusion to current politics, and were greeted with shouts of approval by the people. A short reception followed, and after dining at the Eagle Mr. Greeley departed for Bradford on a visit to his old friend, Colonel Tappan.

President Hayes, Vice-President Wheeler, Secretary of State Evarts, Postmaster-General Key, and Attorney-General Devens arrived in Concord on Wednesday, August 22d, 1877. The visit of the distinguished party having been announced, appropriate preparations were made for their reception. Concord had taken on a holiday appearance, decorations and flags were displayed from residences and business blocks, and special trains brought to the city many spectators.

Governor Prescott and Mayor Pillsbury, with the citizens' committee, met the presidential train at the station. The mayor then welcomed the president and his friends, and escorted them to the

carriages. In the first barouche, drawn by four black horses and driven by William K. Norton, were seated the president, the vice-president, the governor, and the mayor.

The procession, under the marshalship of General Joab N. Patterson and aids, was composed of Brown's Cornet band of Penacook, Pillsbury Light Guard, captain, W. A. Happney, State Capitol Drum Corps, E. E. Sturtevant post, W. I. Brown post, Concord Brass band, citizens in carriage, and the fire department, led by James N. Lauder, chief engineer. After marching through Main and State streets the procession ended in front of the Eagle, where dinner was served. During the afternoon the president and his associates passed the time in driving and sight-seeing. Later, the party, including Mrs. Hayes and ladies, repaired to the residence of ex-Governor Stearns, where tea was served, after which they attended the grand reception tendered by the city at the opera house. The receiving party consisted of the president and Mrs. Hayes, the vice-president, members of the cabinet, Governor Prescott and Mrs. Prescott, the mayor and Mrs. Pillsbury, ex-Governor Stearns and Mrs. Stearns, the Misses Wadleigh (daughters of Senator Wadleigh), and Messrs Webb and Burchard Hayes, sons of the president. The good nature of the president and Mrs. Hayes was impressed on all, for none passed without pleasant recognition. The reception continued two hours, and during that time forty-two hundred ladies and gentlemen shook hands with the president. The reception closed with speeches which delighted the audience, particularly those made by Postmaster-General Key and Secretary Evarts.

The Centennial of the Nation, July 4th, 1876, furnished Concord with a celebration such as the people had never seen. Half a century had passed since the selectmen of 1826 had for the last time spent public money in celebrating the birthday of the nation, therefore everyone felt that the event should be made a grand holiday. Accordingly, in May, a call was issued, inviting citizens to a meeting in city hall, where the project might be discussed. Inspiring remarks were made by Dr. Bouton, Asa McFarland, Moses Humphrey, Colonel E. S. Nutter, Major A. B. Thompson, and others. It is interesting to know that the first two gentlemen who spoke that evening took part in the famous celebration of fifty years before. The city government voted one thousand dollars and public subscription raised much more. Preparations went on with promising activity. Young and old entered into the spirit of the occasion. Everybody pushed along the work. Even the people of Loudon, Chichester, Bow, and other towns made preparations for the Concord celebration. It was seasonably made known that the observance of this Fourth

should begin at daybreak, and end only with the hour of midnight. Morning, noon, afternoon, and evening were to be wholly devoted to various parts of the elaborate plan of entertainment and exhibition. No sooner, therefore, had the final strokes of twelve rung out on the silent night of the third than the whole town was awake and ready for fun.

Fire-crackers, shot-guns, revolvers, rifles, fireworks, drum corps, May-horns, singers, promenaders, and masqueraders performed their allotted parts. Never before in Concord had the possibilities of tumult and chaos been so comprehensively tested, or exercised so lavishly as on that memorable morning. As if by secret signal flashes of gun-powder, reports of firearms, and deafening din arose instantly from every street, lane, and alley, from one end of the city to the other.

All were forced to acknowledge that the unpatriotic silence of half a century had been superbly avenged. At 5 o'clock the Calithumpian parade was formed in Railroad square. Soon were assembled that motley and mirthful throng which proved one of the most popular features of the day. Several hundreds were there, the grotesque and comical; some on horses, some on foot, some in vehicles defying description or classification. Premiums offered by business men had greatly stimulated the sense of the ludicrous, for in that droll and farcical procession were many leading citizens who, masked or unmasked, entered heartily into the hilarity of the occasion. It was a remarkable masquerade, such as few had ever beheld, and such as those that saw it have never forgotten. An hour later the conglomerate army began to unreel itself into Main street. Stretching in picturesque irregularity, with ridiculous attempts at order, the quaint and diversified line extended more than a mile in length. Main street, State, Thompson, and Main again was the route taken, with a countermarch on Thompson in honor of Margaret Evans, a native of Concord, who, more than one hundred years of age, was seated at her window, and witnessed the humorous exhibition.

After parading two hours the grotesque array halted in front of the state house park, and listened to an oration peculiarly adapted to the occasion delivered with rare humor and emphasis by Howard A. Dodge, a merchant of the town. Notwithstanding celebrations elsewhere, many visitors came in by rail and private conveyances, so that the streets suggested an old-fashioned election day. Early in the morning and throughout the day, church bells were rung and St. Paul's chimes pealed merrily with patriotic airs. A platform in the state house park was filled with school children who gave a concert, after which followed an oration by ex-Governor Walter Harriman and a prayer by the Reverend William V. Garner.

The most important feature of the celebration, however, was the parade in the afternoon. In organizing and arranging it, money and labor had been expended most liberally; each detail received attention, for everybody felt bound to do his utmost to make the grand procession a success. Few persons up to that afternoon had any idea of the extent and diversity of Concord's business houses and workshops, or of its trades, callings, and industries, until they beheld that splendid panorama illustrating the city's wealth and resources. Two miles long was the pageant, portraying in impressive and attractive manner the industrial and material progress of the people.

At 3 o'clock the first division moved up Main street, and the several divisions falling in, the procession was formed in this order:

Colonel John H. George, Chief Marshal, and aids.
 Concord Brass Band.
 Merrimack Guards, 46 men, Captain True Sanborn.
 Chief and Assistant Engineers of the Fire Department.
 Kearsarge S. F. E. Co., Captain Lovejoy.
 Eagle Hose, Captain Morse.
 Alert Hose, Captain Chesley.
 Good Will Hose, Captain Colby.
 Hook and Ladder, City of Concord, Captain S. W. Shattuck.
 Cataract Engine Co., West Concord, Captain Crowley.
 Old Fort Engine Co., East Concord, Captain Potter.
 Carriages containing Mayor Pillsbury, city officials, ex-mayors, and invited guests.
 Officers of the day and committee of arrangements.
 Tableaux car, representing Goddess of Liberty, Army and Navy, Indian and Continental Soldier.

SECOND DIVISION.

Colonel William E. Stevens, Marshal, and aids.
 Suncook Band.
 Concord Lodge, No. 8, Knights of Pythias, 45 men, D. B. Newhall, Chancellor Commander.
 School children filling seven carriages.
 Car and type, case and printing-press in operation, from Republican Press Association.

THIRD DIVISION.

Captain R. P. Staniels, Marshal, and aids.
 Concord Drum Corps.
 St. Patrick's Benevolent Society, 70 men.
 Tableaux car representing Ireland and America.
 Ancient Order of Hibernians, 28 men.
 French Canadian Society, 42 men.
 Tableau car, Early America.

FOURTH DIVISION.

E. S. Nutter, Esq., Marshal, and aids.
 Centennial Drum Corps.
 Cheney & Co.'s Express, 3 loaded wagons.
 Gust Walker, 1 wagon, hardware and agricultural implements.
 Antique Carriage.
 Deacon Benjamin Farnum of West Concord, wagon with farm products.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Captain D. A. Macurdy, Marshal, and aids.
 Uniformed Patriarchs, I. O. O. F., 40 men, Captain D. D. Stanyan. C. F. Hildreth, General Patriarch, and J. W. Saul, R. W. Grand Junior Warden, were present in the procession.
 Brown's Band of Fisherville.
 White Mountain Lodge, I. O. O. F., 52 men, C. S. Morrison, N. G. Rumford Lodge, I. O. O. F., 40 men, John H. Sanborn, N. G. Past Grand Officers, and Grand Master, G. A. Cummings, in carriages.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Captain John T. Batchelder, marshal, and aids.
 Cavalcade of 37 butchers in white frocks.
 Four-horse carriage containing 14 veteran butchers.
 Juvenile butchers in carriage.
 The grocery trade representatives as follows: J. F. Hoyt, Batchelder & Co., Brown & Foote, Fisherville, Woodworth, Dodge & Co., Amos Blanchard, one team each; E. D. Clough & Co., three teams; Cummings & Larkin, two teams; C. C. Webster, one team; J. C. Linehan, Fisherville, one four-horse team; D. A. Macurdy, Murphy & Reen, Carter Brothers, and H. C. Sturtevant, one team each.
 J. C. Norris & Son, bakers, two teams.
 South End Bakery, one team.
 E. B. Hutchinason, builder, three teams, thirty workmen, and exhibition of work.
 Miller & Sanborn, builders, two teams, fifteen workmen, exhibition of work.
 Ordway & Ferrin, masons, one team.
 F. G. Proctor, milk team.
 Critchett & Sons, soap, one team.
 W. H. Keniston, tinware, one team.
 Farnum & Blanchard, stone team, with block of cut stone, drawn by seven yokes of oxen.
 Norman G. Carr, jeweler, one wagon, with spectacles and watch sign.
 Humphrey, Dodge & Co., hardware and cutlery, one team.
 James Moore & Sons, one wagon, hardware and agricultural implements.
 Prescott Organ Co., two wagons, with employees and organs.
 Ford & Kimball, one wagon loaded with car wheels.
 D. C. Allen & Co., one wagon, with belt, saw, and planer.
 Augustus Bean & Co., one team, with adjustable bed planer.

Henry W. Clapp, one wagon, sewer grating and trap.
 H. Thompson, one wagon, Corinthian monuments.
 Porter Blanchard's Sons, one wagon loaded with churns and decorated with flags and mottoes.
 F. D. Batchelder, one wagon, with pictures and frames.
 Geo. T. Comins, one team, bedsteads.
 Vogler Brothers, one team, chamber sets.
 H. H. Amsden & Sons, Fisherville, one team, pine furniture.
 Concord Axle Works, D. Arthur Brown & Co., Fisherville, one team, axles and hubs.
 Moses Humphrey, West Concord, one team, mackerel kits.
 Penacook Mills, Fisherville, one team, cotton in all stages from raw to cloth.
 H. H. Brown & Sons, Fisherville, cotton mill, display of cotton.
 Boyce, one team, excelsior.
 Geo. L. Theobald, one wagon, building mover's implements.

TRADES.

G. S. Locke, ice, one team.
 Car representing the engineer department of the Northern Railroad, on which was a stationary engine and lathe in operation.
 Abbot-Downing Co., Concord, mail coach drawn by six horses, driven by the veteran whip, Peter Hines. Riding were employees. On back of the coach was the following card: "Veterans of the Abbot-Downing Co., total years of service, 614."
 Concord Harness Co., Messrs. J. R. Hill & Co., representing the different working departments of the establishment in six large teams. First, the cutting department, with the motto, "There's nothing like leather," and signs of the firm, representing the leather being cut from the side of the proper length and width for the different kinds of harness, and we are of the opinion that the motto is correct, as this is one of the most imposing displays of any of the different trades.
 The second team, drawn by two horses, showed the fitting department. On the sign was a picture of a fine horse named with motto, "Perseverance always wins." There were six men in the team, working upon different parts of harness. The third team contained nine men, representing the stitching department, with motto on the sign, "We'll stick to our awl." The fourth team contained the collar department, represented by four men making "The Concord Collars." Motto, "In 1776 our 4-fathers collar-ed the British Lion. In 1876 we collar horses," the lion and horses being in character. The fifth team contained the salesroom, in which were fine single and double harness, gold, silver, nickel, and Japan metal, with the picture on the sign of the poorest and most used-up looking horse we ever saw. Over it the letters "C. O. D.," and underneath, "Old Trust ruined our friend," representing that giving of time has ruined many. The sixth, the store and retail department, containing a large load of trunks, valises, ladies' and gents' traveling bags, halters, whips, with a large elephant on the end of the sign, with words, "One who carries his own (trunk)."

Concord Carriage Manufacturing Co., six teams, one having men at work in the various departments of the trade.

Page Belting Co., one team, displaying hides of tanned leather and roll of belting, and another boxes of goods. Motto, "There's nothing like leather."

One car, Wm. B. Durgin, silversmith, decorated with red, white, and blue bunting, flags and mottoes, with silver and gold in various forms—bricks, bullion, and rolled metal ready for cutting. In the center of the team was the large rolling mill with the costly dies used in turning out the fancy patterns. This is the finest and most expensive machine used in the works. In the rear of the car the various stages in the manufacture of tableware were illustrated by several of the employees. Here also was noticed the process of electroplating, gilding, and burnishing in operation. A pair of highly polished brass scales were flanked on each side by pretty tables, at one of which the articles were being ornamented by an engraver. Below was the motto, "Engraved on our memory is the event we celebrate to-day."

The procession excited genuine admiration, and the material history of Concord presented on that memorable centennial was a lasting inspiration to all that beheld it. One of the beautiful spectacular scenes along the route was in front of St. John's church, where hundreds of children, beautifully attired and carefully drilled, sang sweet songs of patriotism as the procession passed by. Lovely tableaux, representing historic scenes in the nation's life, were also given by the children. The only dark spot on so bright a scene was the treachery of the skies. As evening deepened rain began to interfere with the fine display of fireworks in Railroad square, so that the exhibition was only partly carried out.

When night finally closed over the smoky streets the weary citizens could congratulate one another on having observed the hundredth anniversary of the nation's birth in a manner commensurate with its importance and in keeping with the traditions of their fathers.

Those having official charge of that holiday have now every one passed away, but they were leaders in their day, and although well advanced in years, they comprehended the duties of the occasion and spared no efforts to perform them. George A. Pillsbury was president, and the vice-presidents were: John S. Brown, Ward one; John L. Tallant, Ward two; Daniel Holden, Ward three; Asa McFarland, Ward four; William Kent, Ward five; Hiram Tebbetts, Ward six; Jeremiah S. Noyes, Ward seven.

Among public gatherings in Concord the dedication of the Webster statue was noteworthy for the interest it attracted and for the distinguished men it brought to the city. The beginnings leading to

the erection of this statue may be attributed to an address delivered before the Webster club of Concord by Colonel John H. George. The Webster club was a social organization composed of professional and business men, who, when the centenary of Daniel Webster's birth drew near, resolved to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies. The meeting took place in White's opera house, January 18th, 1882. In the course of his address Colonel George laid special emphasis on the fact that the state of Webster's nativity had no statue of its greatest son. Prominent among New Hampshire men dwelling without the state was Benjamin Pierce Cheney of Boston, and to him those words of the orator came with forceful suggestion. Mr. Cheney forthwith determined that New Hampshire should be no longer without a statue of Daniel Webster; accordingly a commission for a bronze statue was at once given to a well-known sculptor, but the death of the sculptor compelled Mr. Cheney to make another choice, and it was not until February, 1885, that Mr. Cheney by deed of trust appointed George W. Nesmith of Franklin, and John M. Hill and John H. George of Concord as trustees to carry out his intention. Happily, the generous donor of this statue was permitted to see his gift appropriately dedicated, and to receive the thanks of a grateful people. The sculptor was Thomas Ball, of Florence, Italy. During the session of 1885 the legislature, in view of the coming event, appointed a joint committee, with General Gilman Marston as chairman, to arrange for the dedication of the statue on June 17th, 1886.

Several days prior to the dedication the base had been set in place and the statue mounted and concealed with heavy canvas. The base was cut by the Granite Railway company, under the supervision of Superintendent Joseph H. Pearce. The location of the statue had been left by the legislature to Governor Currier and his council, who appointed Councilor Benjamin A. Kimball to select and prepare a site for the statue.

Special trains were run on the 17th, bringing to Concord one of the largest and most representative crowds ever attracted to the city. Unfortunately the skies were unpropitious, and the day did not end without rain, but the morning continued clear, offering the fullest opportunity for the procession, which formed under the chief marshalship of General A. D. Ayling.

It so happened that it was the week when the National Guard of New Hampshire was holding its annual encampment, consequently the presence of the entire brigade added largely to the interest of the occasion.

After parading the streets the procession halted at the main gateway of the state house, where through the opened ranks of the Man-

chester Cadets and the Amoskeag Veterans the governor and invited guests proceeded to seats on a great platform covering the steps and extending far into the park.

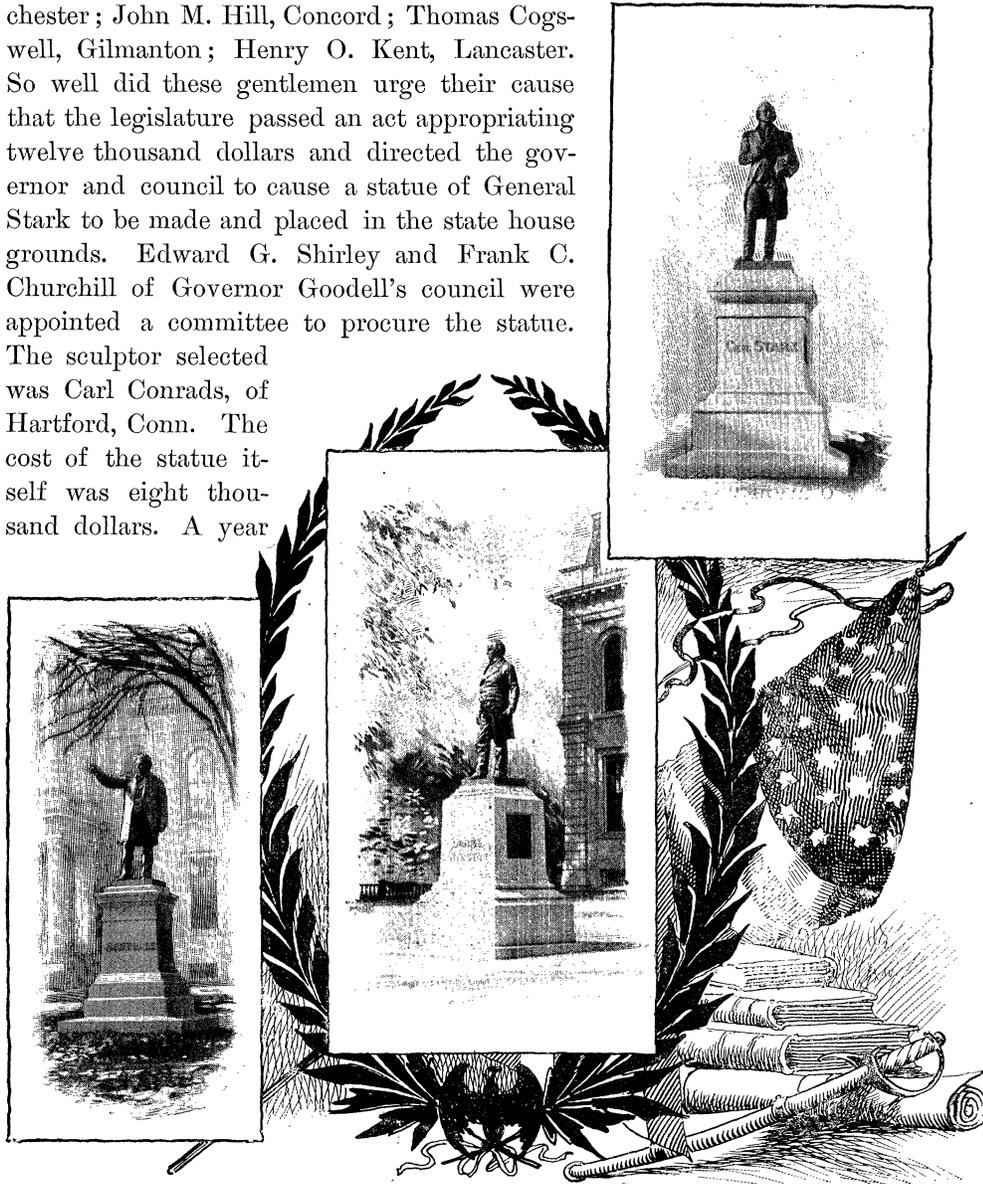
At 2 o'clock General Marston opened the exercises and announced as officers of the day George W. Nesmith, president, Gilman Marston and Harry Bingham, vice-presidents, Henry O. Kent and George W. Stone, secretaries. The audience uncovered while the Rt. Rev. William W. Niles, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of New Hampshire, offered prayer. The venerable president of the day, Judge Nesmith, a lifelong and intimate friend of Daniel Webster, then delivered a short address. At its conclusion the statue was gracefully unveiled by Miss Annie B. George. Mr. Cheney then formally presented the statue to the state, the governor accepting it with a brief response.

The oration was delivered by Dr. Bartlett, president of Dartmouth, and following it were speeches by distinguished guests. Among the speakers were Governors Robinson of Massachusetts, Hill of New York, Robie of Maine, and Pingree of Vermont. John A. Bingham of Ohio closed the speaking in an address remarkable for eloquence and felicity. An original poem by William C. Shepard was read, and the open-air exercises ended with the singing of *Integer Vitæ* by the Handel society of Dartmouth college.

The governor subsequently entertained the state guests at a banquet at the Eagle, where letters of regret were read but no formal speeches were made. In another part of the city the Dartmouth alumni convened to dine and to listen to speeches. This feature was one of the pleasantest of the day, and has remained among the cherished annals of the college. Under the marshalship of Albert S. Batchellor, the alumni marched from the state house to the large skating-rink on Pleasant street, on the lot now occupied by the Church of the Sacred Heart, where dinner was served. Within the skating-rink that afternoon were heard speeches and oratory of the highest order, one of the most inspiring being that of James W. Patterson, who spoke in response to the toast, "To the Pericles of later Dartmouth."

The Webster statue did not long remain the only memorial to New Hampshire's famous sons, for measures were soon taken towards the erection of a memorial to General John Stark. The germ of this movement, like that of the Webster statue, may be traced to words uttered by a public speaker, who criticised New Hampshire for not having a monument commemorative of the great services of the hero of Bennington. The man who uttered that criticism was Professor John Taylor, of Andover seminary, in the course of a sermon deliv-

ered in the South church in the early summer of 1889. It so happened that on the following day the New Hampshire Society of Sons of the Revolution was formed, and a committee was appointed to lay the matter of a Stark statue before the legislature then in session. The committee was as follows: Charles R. Morrison, Concord; Joshua G. Hall, Dover; James A. Edgerly, Somersworth; William W. Bailey, Nashua; George C. Gilmore, Manchester; John M. Hill, Concord; Thomas Cogswell, Gilmanton; Henry O. Kent, Lancaster. So well did these gentlemen urge their cause that the legislature passed an act appropriating twelve thousand dollars and directed the governor and council to cause a statue of General Stark to be made and placed in the state house grounds. Edward G. Shirley and Frank C. Churchill of Governor Goodell's council were appointed a committee to procure the statue. The sculptor selected was Carl Conrads, of Hartford, Conn. The cost of the statue itself was eight thousand dollars. A year



Statues of Hale, Webster, and Stark in State House Park.

later, the work having been completed, arrangements for the dedication were made.

Invitations were sent to the Amoskeag Veterans, the Grand Army officers of the Department of New Hampshire, the Sons of the Revolution, the New Hampshire Historical society, and to many distinguished persons.

Among those invited were Mrs. Tenney, Mrs. Campbell, and Mrs. Graves, granddaughters of John Stark. The president of the day was ex-Governor Moody Currier, with Harry Bingham and Oliver E. Branch as vice-presidents; Edward B. S. Sanborn and Parsons B. Cogswell were secretaries. Charles C. Danforth was chief marshal, assisted by Andrew Bunton, W. H. D. Cochrane, Chauncey Greene, and Cornelius E. Clifford.

Thursday, October 23d, 1890, was clear but cold, causing discomfort to those participating in the ceremonies, yet many citizens and strangers were present. At half-past eleven the procession started from the Eagle hotel, marched down Main street a short distance, then countermarching to the state house passed into the grounds. After music by the band followed by prayer, Governor Goodell presented Moody Currier, the president of the day. At the conclusion of his remarks Miss Shirley of Goffstown unveiled the statue. The oration was then delivered by James W. Patterson, and the exercises closed with an original poem by Allan Eastman Cross of Manchester, a student at the Andover seminary.

In April, 1890, a communication from William E. Chandler was received by David A. Taggart, acting governor, and the council, informing them that he would present to the state a bronze statue of John P. Hale. It was not, however, until the administration of Governor Tuttle that the statue was completed and arrangements made for its dedication. Wednesday, August 3d, 1892, was the day appointed for the unveiling.

Councilor George A. Ramsdell, chairman of the day, called the assemblage to order, and Dr. Alonzo H. Quint offered prayer. The unveiling was performed by Master John P. H. Chandler, son of the donor, and grandson of the statesman commemorated. Senator Chandler then formally presented the statue to the state, response being made by Governor Tuttle. After music by the Third Regiment band the oration was delivered by Colonel Daniel Hall of Dover.

Following the oration interesting addresses and reminiscences were given by Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania, George S. Boutwell of Massachusetts, Frederick Douglass of Washington, Augustus Woodbury, D. D., Amos Hadley, Alonzo H. Quint, D. D., and John

W. Hutchinson, one of the last of the famous family of that name, whose stirring songs of a generation before were well remembered.

During the legislature of 1889, which was the last of the old-time summer sessions, Benjamin Harrison, president of the United States, visited Concord. Taking advantage of his presence in New England the legislature extended to him an invitation to visit the capital on Thursday, August 15th. Preparations were made by the state and city to give to the event the character of a holiday. The president arrived from Manchester during the forenoon, attended by his private secretary, Elijah Halford, and the committee of the legislature. As usual on such days Railroad square was crowded with spectators. Major-General Ayling, representing the governor, and Stillman Humphrey, mayor of Concord, welcomed the president to the capital city. A salute of twenty-one guns was fired as the party proceeded to their carriages. The procession then marched through Main street directly to the state house, where the president and his escort walked through a double line of the Grand Army, the police, and the firemen to the main entrance of the capitol. There Governor Goodell received him and presented the council, and Mayor Humphrey introduced the members of the city government. The governor, with the president on his arm, entered the representatives' hall, where the joint convention was assembled, and introduced him to that body. Standing near the speaker's desk the president spoke for a few moments and shook hands with the members as they filed past.

The presidential party then repaired to the platform erected over the steps of the capitol, where the governor introduced the president, who spoke as follows: "Friends and fellow-citizens: That man is dull indeed who does not gain instruction and inspiration from such a gathering of the people as the one before me. When the pressure of public affairs is upon the president at Washington, he turns to the people, who have only the desire that the government may be honestly and capably administered, and that public officials shall be faithful to their trusts and energetic in despatching their business. From that source one cannot fail to find rest and courage and inspiration. I thank you most cordially for this generous and hearty welcome, and I will not further detain you in this un auspicious weather."

The famous President Pierce apartments at the Eagle had been specially decorated for the reception of the president, and there lunch was served. As an historic incident of the repast a pitcher used by President Monroe when he visited Concord in the early years of the century was placed at the side of President Harrison by the proprietor of the hotel, John A. White.

The engagements of General Harrison precluded a longer visit, so as soon as lunch was ended the escort, consisting of Company C, Third regiment, conducted the president to the train in waiting and at 2 o'clock he was speeding on his way towards Massachusetts.

In accordance with public sentiment this resolution was passed by the city councils on the 13th of January, 1891: "That a sum not to exceed twenty thousand dollars, be and hereby is appropriated for a Soldiers' Memorial, to commemorate the patriotism of the men of Concord who served their country on land or sea, in the several wars, to establish, defend, and maintain the unity of the Republic." The committee on the memorial was composed of the mayor, three aldermen, three councilmen, three citizens, and three

veteran soldiers as follows:—
 Mayor Henry W. Clapp; aldermen, George B. Johnson, Henry McFarland, William J. Fernald; councilmen, Leonard W. Bean, John H. Couch, Fred E. Cloudman; citizens, Giles Wheeler, Parsons B. Cogswell, Henry W. Stevens; veteran soldiers, John C. Linehan, Jas. K. Ewer, Harvey H. Farnum.
 In selecting the site, the committee sought the advice of Frederick Law Olmstead, a



Soldiers' Memorial Arch.

distinguished landscape architect, who, after examining White park, the City Hall green, and other places, finally recommended the site at the center gateway to the state house park. The legislature had passed an act granting permission to the city to erect the memorial on the land of the state. Plans for the work submitted by Peabody & Stearns of Boston were approved and bids called for. The accepted bid was that of Ola Anderson, John Swenson, and L. O. Barker. The contract was sixteen thousand and seven hundred dollars. The corner-stone of the arch was laid without ceremony on the 14th of May, 1892, and on the 17th of June the capstone was put in place. The committee, having appointed the 4th of July as the day of dedication, made appropriate arrangements for the occasion. It was estimated that the number of people present at the exercises was fully ten thousand.

The chief marshal, Solon A. Carter, with General Ayling as chief of staff, managed the procession with military precision, leading it through Main, Franklin, State, Capitol, Green, Pleasant, State,

Thorndike, and Main streets to the place of dedication. In front of the arch a wide platform had been built, upon which the officials and invited guests assembled. Mayor Clapp called the assemblage to order, the Third Regiment band rendered Keller's "National Hymn," Dr. Daniel C. Roberts offered prayer, and Parsons B. Cogswell, in behalf of the committee, presented the memorial to the city. The mayor responded, and amidst applause and strains of music the beautiful arch was unveiled. Joseph R. Hawley, United States senator from Connecticut, delivered the oration, after which the day's ceremonies closed with a banquet in Phenix hall.

The movement for holding a legislative reunion at Concord was started early in the year 1896 by Joseph W. Robinson, and, gathering strength through assiduous committee work, it finally culminated in a successful meeting of two days' duration known as the First Legislative Reunion. Tuesday, June 30th, and Wednesday, July 1st, were the days appointed. By Monday evening animated groups of men in the Eagle hotel, and in the vicinity of the state house, vividly recalled memories of the old June sessions. The following morning several hundred past and present members of the legislature had assembled to remain until the afternoon of Wednesday. Phenix hall was the meeting place, and as early as 11 o'clock on Tuesday the floor and galleries were filled with members and spectators. Ex-Governor Cheney, president of the reunion, greeted the audience with felicitous words. Prayer was offered by the Reverend S. H. McCollester of Marlborough. Henry Robinson, mayor of Concord, welcomed the visitors to the capital city, the Third Regiment band played a merry medley, and Governor Cheney presented the orator of the occasion, the Reverend William J. Tucker, president of Dartmouth college.

Following the oration was the banquet at the opera house, which continued until late in the afternoon. James O. Lyford, as toastmaster, directed the speech-making. Among the speakers were ex-Lieutenant Governor Haile, George A. Marden, Albert E. Pillsbury, and William E. Barrett of Massachusetts, ex-Governor Woodbury of Vermont, Rear Admiral Belknap, Senators Chandler and Gallinger, John G. Sinclair, Henry E. Burnham, and Samuel B. Page. After the banquet a reception was given in Doric hall by Governor and Mrs. Busiel. The festivities of the day ended with a grand ball at the opera house. Wednesday was devoted to renewing acquaintances, reciting reminiscences, and social intercourse. The only formal proceeding was the reunion of ex-members of the house and later of the ex-members of the senate in Phenix hall, where brief speeches were made expressive of the pleasures of the

occasion. At a business meeting a permanent organization was formed, with Samuel B. Page of Woodsville as president. On the afternoon of Wednesday the last words were said, good-bys exchanged, and New Hampshire's First Legislative Reunion passed into the annals of Concord. It is not without local interest to recall the fact that the oldest ex-member attending the festivities was ex-Mayor Moses Humphrey of Concord, who proudly asserted his seniority by virtue of fourscore years and three.

On the last day of August, 1899, Concord added to her annals a holiday unlike any before. It was the celebration of Concord's first "Old Home Week." That the occasion was one arousing deep interest was shown by the elaborate preparations made by the citizens. The idea of a festival which should call back to New Hampshire her sons and daughters originated in the mind of Governor Frank W. Rollins, and was first publicly announced at a banquet of the Sons of New Hampshire held in Boston several months before. The popularity of the governor's suggestion became at once apparent, and the project was favorably received. In Concord particularly much enthusiasm was shown, and the meetings for organizing committees were largely attended. The week beginning August 26th and ending September 1st was the appointed time for the festival throughout the state, different towns selecting such a day as might be most convenient. The Concord committee, as it fortunately turned out, chose Thursday, August 31st, as Concord's day, and work at once began. Committees selected with a view to every phase of a popular holiday were untiring in their labors; contributions of money were generously made; and all went forward under systematic and effective management.

The opening feature of the celebration was the reception and concert held in Phenix hall on Wednesday evening. Here had gathered a throng of citizens with whom mingled many long absent sons and daughters, who had assembled to indulge in social intercourse and to listen to addresses of welcome and reminiscence. The music committee offered a choice programme, including the Third Regiment band, singing of "The Star Spangled Banner," by Mrs. Frank E. Brown, duets, and ending with "Auld Lang Syne," led by Ben B. Davis, the audience joining in the chorus. The speaking began with a congratulatory address by Joseph B. Walker, followed by Moses Humphrey, John Kimball, Lyman D. Stevens, Sylvester Dana, and the Very Reverend John E. Barry, V. G., Concord's first resident Catholic priest, who took occasion to remind his hearers that he had lived among them for more than a third of a century.

Benign were the skies and delightful the temperature on Thurs-

day, the day of the celebration. The good old custom of bell ringing announced from every church steeple in the city the advent of the unique gala day. From that moment until the last rocket of the pyrotechnic display late in the evening, amusements, contests, pageants, speech-making, concerts, parades, receptions, open-air theaters, followed one another with perplexing rapidity. Never had Concord done more to meet every form of taste and preference than on "Old Home Day." The business blocks along Main street were beautifully dressed with festoons of bright bunting, and the electric wire poles were transformed into Venetian masts hung with banners, so that the street presented a brilliancy the like of which Concord had never beheld. The state house was lavishly draped with flags and streamers, while the soldiers' arch and the elms and maples in the park were wrapped with the brightest of colors. The United States building was beautiful in holiday attire, as were also the city hall and police station, while the railroad station was ingeniously bedecked with exquisite and costly designs. Everywhere throughout the city were seen tasteful decorations, and along the route of the procession there opened a beautiful vista of foliage and flags.

The first feature of the day's varied programme was the bicycle parade at 10 o'clock. Hundreds of wheels decorated for the contest, with not a few rigged out in comical designs, rolled into Main street and began their run to the North end and return.

During this performance the spectators increased, crowding the sidewalks and encroaching into the street, so eager was every one to secure a place from which to see the grand parade which was shortly to follow. Promptly at half-past eleven the Third Regiment band sounded the opening notes, and the procession began its march. Chief Marshal George S. Locke and staff, preceded by a platoon of police, led the way, and close behind rode Governor Rollins, escorted by his staff and the brigade and regimental commanders of the National Guard. Constant applause and the waving of handkerchiefs proved the popularity of the state's chief magistrate in the city of his birth as he rode gracefully at the head of the line. Drawn out for more than a mile and a half, the procession traversed State street, then passing through West street to Main, formed in platoon front, and marched up Main street to the state house, where the parade was dismissed. The pageant was not only suggestive of material Concord by embracing artisans of all callings and the trades as well, but it portrayed business, social and official Concord with a completeness such as the people had never before beheld except in the procession of the 4th of July, 1876.

Fifteen hundred men and seven hundred horses took part in the

parade. They were divided into three divisions, each led by a marshal and his aids. The first division comprised the governor and his staff, the military of the city, the Grand Army posts, invited guests, the mail carriers, and the employees of W. B. Durgin & Son's silver works, numbering a hundred men. The second division was led by Assistant Marshal John F. Morse. In that division were: Grand Canton Wildey, Uniformed Ranks Knights of Pythias, Ancient Order of Hibernians, French Canadian society, Sons of St. George, the Concord Fire Department, visiting firemen, and veteran firemen dragging their old-fashioned machine. But it was the workmen from the Boston & Maine shops that formed one of the prominent features of the day and afforded the public an opportunity to see how important an addition had been recently made to material and industrial Concord. It was, indeed, an impressive picture to behold the well-drilled ranks from the Boston & Maine shops representing the various crafts as they marched under their respected leaders, all in working clothes and bearing in their hands the tools of their calling.

The third division, under Assistant Marshal Frank E. Brown, was composed of floats representing the trades and business houses, with store teams, tally-ho coaches, business exhibits, private equipages, horsemen, decorated carriages, and many other interesting features.

The committee had arranged three separate entertainments for the afternoon of Old Home Day,—three attractions wholly different in character yet occurring at the same hours. At the driving park were the athletic sports and contests, and thither an excitement-loving crowd made its way soon after midday.

By 2 o'clock Phenix hall held an audience of ladies and gentlemen drawn thither to listen to the speaking. The governor and invited guests having arrived, the meeting was called to order by Joseph B. Walker, president of the day, who introduced Charles R. Corning as chairman of the meeting. Among the speakers of the afternoon were Governor Rollins, Mayor Martin, Senator Chandler, President Tucker of Dartmouth, Professor Bradley, Rev. Mr. Berle and Napoleon B. Bryant. The oration was delivered by James O. Lyford. Among the guests attracted to Concord by Old Home sentiment was Edna Dean Proctor, who had responded to the governor's invitation by writing an appropriate poem. Miss Proctor happening to be in the audience kindly consented to recite her poem and so added interest to the exercises. John W. Hutchinson, the last of the famous family of singers, on being recognized, came to the platform and sang several of his old-time anti-slavery songs.

At the close of the speaking the governor held a public reception in Doric hall, at the state house. From 5 o'clock to the hour set for

the display of fireworks, state house park and Main street presented a lively picture of a well-pleased throng of men, women, and children, some listening to the grand concert by the consolidated bands, some promenading, while others lounged on the grass and the state house steps, seeking a well earned rest.

That entertainment might be furnished for those not caring for athletic sports and the speaking, the committee had built an open-air theater on the Stickney lot, where Grant and Flynn's company of comedians delighted a large audience during the entire afternoon.

When evening came Bridge street was crowded with people wending their way to

the interval lot, where the exhibition of fireworks took place. This was a popular and successful part of the celebration, and formed a brilliant close to the delightful holiday. Never had Concord beheld so rich a festival of fire as on that night, and never before had the people seen so enchanting a spectacle, for special pieces had been prepared illustrative of the day, and when the



The Perkins Statue.

final piece was set off disclosing the picture of the old home farmhouse and its well-sweep beautifully traced in lines of flame, Concord's first Old Home Day came to a close.

On Friday, April 25th, 1902, occurred the unveiling of the Perkins statue. The foundations of the memorial had been completed during the previous autumn, and, before winter came, the statue had been set in place and the whole work covered with a temporary

structure. The sculptor was Daniel C. French, a son of New Hampshire. The subject of this superb memorial, George H. Perkins, was one of the most distinguished naval officers in the Civil War, and who, although a native of Hopkinton, passed his youth in Concord and maintained a lifelong interest in the city. To his widow and to his only child, Mrs. Larz Anderson, Concord is indebted for this splendid addition to its statuary. The day of dedication had been fittingly chosen, for April 25th, 1862, was the day Perkins led Farragut's ships past the forts below New Orleans. The arrangements for the dedicatory ceremonies were carefully planned and executed. A low platform, upon which hundreds of chairs were placed, extended up and down State street in front of the statue, while on each side of the memorial similar platforms were built to accommodate the musicians, the G. A. R., and St. Paul's choir. The day was perfect.

At half-past eleven the procession of invited guests, led by Governor Jordan and Mrs. Perkins, marched from the state house to the platform. Among the distinguished guests were many naval officers, at the head of whom walked another son of the Granite state, Rear Admiral John G. Walker, who was present as the representative of the secretary of the navy. Another naval guest was Commander Cowles, representing the president of the United States. Along the sidewalk on State street stood a company of marines from the navy yard at Portsmouth, who, with the two Concord companies of the National Guard, and a detail from the battery at Manchester, formed the military feature of the occasion.

When all had been seated the ceremonies opened with a prayer by Dr. Daniel C. Roberts. Rear Admiral Belknap, on behalf of Mrs. Perkins and her daughter, then presented the beautiful work of art to the state of New Hampshire. With eloquent words the governor accepted the trust. When the governor had concluded Hamilton Perkins, a brother of the commodore, escorted Mrs. Anderson to the base of the statue where she performed the act of unveiling. Immediately there arose cheers and hand-clapping mingled with music of Nevers's band and the fanfare of trumpets, while booming from Franklin street hill came a commodore's salute of eleven guns, fired by a section of the Manchester battery. A detachment of sailors having gathered up the flags draping the memorial, the statue stood for the first time revealed to the public. President Tucker of Dartmouth college then delivered the oration, and with the benediction of the Right Reverend William W. Niles, the interesting and impressive exercises ended.