

middle of December to the last of February. Sometimes it commences in November and lasts till the middle of March. It has been known to continue till the first of April. The usual time of planting is from the 1st to the 20th of May, but good crops have been raised after the 1st of June. Cattle are turned out to pasture about the 20th of May.

NO. 2.

BIOGRAPHY.

The following brief biographical sketches relate to individuals of every class and condition in life, whose names are either particularly prominent in the annals of the town, or who are remembered as distinguished for peculiar characteristics or positions in society. Some things are related of individuals which, perhaps, family friends might prefer should be left out; but, in such cases, the facts are stated for general instruction and entertainment, and never designed to disparage the individual. In this difficult part of my work I have been studious to avoid all partiality. The sketches which have been furnished me are inserted as written, subject only to such correction and abridgement as was judged necessary. The sketches, it will be seen, relate only to persons deceased. Their names are arranged in the chronological order of their death. More might have been added, but it must not be inferred from the omission of a particular name that his merits are less appreciated.

It should further be noted by the reader, that, for special reasons, it was judged best, in many instances, to give a biographical sketch in other portions of the History; for example, under the head of ministers, lawyers, physicians and graduates; and, also, in the body of the work, at the time of an individual's death—to all which reference may be had by the index of names.

CAPT. EBENEZER EASTMAN.

In addition to the many interesting facts respecting Capt. Ebenezer Eastman, which the preceding history furnishes—the part he took in the first settlement of the town—the services he rendered, and the offices of trust and honor which he held—it may be stated that, having considerable property, and coming as he did at the earliest period of the settlement, with six sons, the oldest of whom was 15 years of age, and able to work, Capt. Eastman became in a few years the *strong man* of the town. In 1731 his house and home lot were in better order, and more land under cultivation than any other in the settlement. From his youth he had been inured to hardship and to bold and daring enterprises. When 9 years of age (1698) his father's house and buildings, in Haverhill, were destroyed by Indians. At the age of 19 he joined the regiment of Col. Wainwright in the expe-

dition against Port Royal. In 1711, when the British fleet, under Admiral Sir Hovenden Walker, destined against Canada, arrived in Boston, the land forces that were to accompany the expedition were organized with great dispatch, and Eastman, then about 21 years of age, had command of a company of infantry, which embarked with others in one of the transports. In going up the river St. Lawrence they encountered a violent north-east storm, in which eight or nine of the transports were wrecked and about one thousand men lost.* Jonathan Eastman, Esq., great-grandson of Ebenezer, relates as a tradition derived from his ancestor, "That, as night came on, the orders were that all the transports should follow the admiral's ship, which had a large light hoisted at mast-head for a signal. Capt. Eastman had been somewhat acquainted with the navigation of the river, having sailed up and down before. In the night the light of the admiral's ship was not to be seen, and that was at the time when the fleet was doubling a very dangerous and rocky point or cape. When the admiral's ship had fairly doubled the point and got into line, the light appeared in such a position as to draw the line of shipping directly on to that dangerous point. Aware of the danger, Capt. Eastman went to the commander, informed him of the peril, and begged him to alter the course of the vessel; but, being then under the influence of liquor, this the captain positively refused to do, saying that 'he would follow his admiral if he went to h—l.' 'Well,' said Capt. Eastman, 'I have no notion of going there, and if you won't alter the course of the vessel I will.' 'If you do,' replied the captain, 'your head shall be a button for a halter next morning.' Informing his company of their danger, and relying on their support, Capt. Eastman ordered the captain below, and the helmsman to change his course. Thus they escaped the wreck which befel other vessels of the fleet, and by which so many lives were lost. The next morning the humbled captain on his knees acknowledged his deliverer and begged his friendship. On the following day Admiral Walker came on board, and, on seeing Capt. Eastman, abruptly said: 'Capt. Eastman, where were you when the fleet was cast away?' 'Following my admiral,' replied he. 'Following your admiral!' he exclaimed; 'you Yankees are a pack of praying devils — you saved yourselves, but sent my men to h—l.'"

Capt. Eastman, March 4, 1710, married Sarah Peaslee, of Haverhill, daughter of Col. Nathaniel Peaslee, the ancestor of Gen. Charles H. Peaslee. On settling in Penacook his "house-lot" was number nine, second range, on Main street, which was about where the house of Mr. J. H. Pearson now stands. But in the second survey, in 1727, Mr. Eastman had lot number sixteen, containing four and a half acres, on "Mill Brook range," east side of the river, where he finally settled, and had a garrison around his house.

Among many traditionary anecdotes it is related, that soon after settling in Penacook, he made a journey to Haverhill on horse-back, and purchased a barrel of molasses, which he intended by some

* See Holmes's Am. Annals, 1711, vol. i.

means to convey home with him. He contrived what was called a car, that was formed with two shafts, one end of which was fastened to the horse and the other to the drag on the ground. Lashing the barrel of molasses on his car with ropes, he proceeded on his journey homeward along the path through the wilderness. He got along very well until he came to Soucook river. After crossing, the hill was very steep, and, in ascending, the horse with his drag would stop to rest a few moments. Having nearly reached the top of the hill, on starting, the rigging gave way and down went the barrel full speed, and was dashed in pieces against a tree — the molasses overspreading and *sweetening* the ground in all directions. The captain, summoning all the patience he had at command, exclaimed, "Oh dear! my wife will comb my head — yes, and harrow it too!" It was truly a hard case.

As an illustration of the force and energy of his character in carrying on his farming operations — In 1729 Capt. Eastman took a lease of the farm laid off to Judge Sewall, containing five hundred acres, with the island, for a period of thirty years. He was to pay, as rent, ten shillings in good bills of credit, or silver money, the first year; twenty shillings the second year, and so to advance ten shillings every year till it should reach fifteen pounds, which sum afterward should be annually paid. As conditions of the lease Capt. Eastman was required and agreed to improve the land, by good cultivation, "to the value of £100; to build a timber house and barn, which should be worth another £100; to leave on the farm £100 worth of good fences, of stone or timber;" "to plant five hundred apple trees in a regular manner for an orchard, and, also, to set out one hundred more of fruit trees, as cherry, pear, quince, apple and plum trees."*

Capt. Eastman went to Cape Breton twice — the first time, March 1, 1745, in command of a company, and was present at the reduction and surrender of Louisburg, June 16. He returned November 10, 1745. Early the next year he went "again, and returned home July 9, 1746."†

At the time of the massacre in Penacook, August 11, 1746, Capt. Eastman and family were in a garrison, on the east side of the river. Subsequently he erected, on or near the spot, a large two story house; but before the house was finished Mr. Eastman died, (July 28, 1748,) aged 59.

DR. EZRA CARTER.

Dr. Carter, of whom we have already related many things in our History, was a native of South Hampton, in this State. He studied

*"BOSTON, May 14, 1730.

Received of Mr. Obadiah Ayre, ten shillings in behalf of Mr. Ebenezer Eastman, for rent of Pennycook lands. I say received per S. SEWALL."

See original lease, now in the archives of the N. H. Historical Society, dated May 9, 1729, and signed "Ebenezer Eastman, (seal); Abijah Browne, (seal), Jos. Mason, (seal), witnesses." The farm was soon after sold to Joseph Gerrish and Henry Rolfe, of Newbury, to whom the annual rent was afterwards paid.

† Rev. Mr. Walker's Journal.

medicine with Dr. Ordway, of Salisbury, and came to this town about 1740. In 1742 he married Ruth, only daughter of Capt. Ebenezer Eastman, who, at the time of her marriage, was but 13 years of age. According to family tradition their first child was born before she was 14 years old. After marriage Ruth retained her love for childish sports; and, on one occasion, the doctor, on returning home, found his wife playing with other children on the hay-mow. Connected with Capt. Eastman's family, being respectably educated and a good penman, Dr. Carter soon became prominent in town affairs, as well as distinguished as a physician. In March, 1747, he was first chosen town clerk, in place of Benjamin Rolfe, Esq. The same year he was authorized to present a petition to the General Assembly of New-Hampshire for means of defence against the Indians; and as long as he lived he continued to hold important offices in the town, as moderator, town clerk and selectman. He held a commission as justice of the peace, and hence sometimes, in the records, he has the title of *esquire*. When matters of complaint were brought before him by his fellow citizens his first endeavor was to induce an amicable settlement, offering, if they did so, to give in his fees: thus he acquired the name of *peace-maker*. Dr. Carter was of a kind and benevolent temper, of quick wit and pleasantry in conversation, and a general favorite among all classes of people. His practice as a physician extended into neighboring towns.

Among the anecdotes related of him are the following: Having occasion to go in haste from Concord to old Salisbury, on Saturday, and to spend the Sabbath, he found it convenient to borrow a pair of boots of his neighbor, Dea. George Abbot. Attending public worship next day, he was unexpectedly called on by the clergyman, who knew him, (in the absence of the deacon, whose duty it was,) to give out the lines of the hymn to be sung. At first he said he was "considerably *flustered*, and could n't tell A from B;" but, recovering himself, he read the hymns and led the singing to general satisfaction. On returning the boots he said, "Dea. Abbot, here are your boots; but I never will borrow them again, *for a minister will smell a deacon's boots all over the meeting-house.*"

On a certain occasion Dr. Carter was called to visit a sick family in Bow. The family were a long time sick. The doctor was their constant attendant; and, on their recovery, the poor man felt new troubles coming upon him. "How, doctor," said the unhappy man, "am I to pay you for all your kindness, your attention and medicine? You see here a large family, destitute of every thing save the bare necessities of life." "I have been faithful to you," replied the doctor, "and am I not entitled to a reward?" "You are, doctor, oh, you are!" said the trembling wife, "but do wait a little; we can't pay you now." "I can inform you, my good friends," said the inexorable physician, "that I am *knowing* to your having property enough to satisfy my demands; and, moreover, that I shall *have it* before leaving the house." The poor family were thunder-struck; they knew that no friendly feelings subsisted between the proprietors of

Rumford and Bow, but had always heard the doctor applauded as a man of benevolence and mercy. They knew not what to do. At this moment, away scampered a flock of kittens across the room, which the doctor seeing, caught one of them and put it in his pocket. "I told you I should have my pay," said the doctor; "I have got it. Good bye, and God bless you!" Many anecdotes of this kind are related of him, and one of the last acts of his life was equally noble. Just before his decease he looked over his accounts, filled out receipts against all poor persons who were indebted to him, with directions that his executors should deliver them to those concerned immediately after his death. This was accordingly done.*

Fond of social entertainments himself, and, according to the custom of those times, receiving from the families which he visited all the civilities due to a respected physician, it is more a subject of regret than of wonder that his convivial habits were unfavorable to long life. He died in the meridian of manhood, September 17, 1767, aged 48. On a plain, old-fashioned grave-stone, erected on the brow of the ascent, after you enter the burying-ground, on the south side, his name is engraved — EZRA CARTER, Esq.

BENJAMIN ROLFE, ESQ.

Benjamin Rolfe, whose name appears in the early records of the town more frequently than that of any other person, was a son of Henry Rolfe, Esq., of Newbury, who was one of the original proprietors of Penacook. Benjamin was born in 1710; was graduated at Harvard College, in 1727; was chosen "clerk of the proprietors and grantees of Penny Cook," in 1731, and continued in the office till 1770. He was also town clerk of Rumford. In 1737 he was chosen clerk of the commissioners appointed to determine the boundary line between Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, which met at Hampton. In 1745 he held the commission of colonel in the Province. He was the first one chosen to represent the District of Rumford in the General Assembly of New-Hampshire; and, during his life-time, he held every important and responsible office in town in the gift of his fellow citizens to bestow. Though he was not, strictly speaking, a lawyer, yet he acted as an adviser, and discharged the various duties of a magistrate in civil affairs. Intimately associated with the Rev. Timothy Walker in all that concerned the interests of the town during the long controversy with the proprietors of Bow, he enjoyed the full confidence of that reverend gentleman; and to him, more than to any other man, except Mr. Walker, is the successful issue of that conflict to be ascribed. Of sound judgment; prudent, upright, capable—minutely acquainted with all the affairs of the town—he ever sought, in the use of all honorable means, to advance its interests. By inheritance, and by his own industry and prudent management, Col. Rolfe acquired a large property in lands. He lived a bachelor until he was about 60 years of age, when he married Sarah, the eldest daughter of Rev. Mr. Walker, whose age

* Moore's Annals.

was 30.* Before his marriage he lived in a one story house, but afterwards built and lived in the house still standing at the "Eleven lots," and known as the "Rolfe place," or the residence of the late Countess of Rumford. There was born, August 4, 1770, their only son and child, Paul Rolfe, who inherited the whole of his father's estates. Col. Rolfe died December 21, 1771, in the 62d year of his age. Sometime in the year 1773 his widow married Benjamin Thompson, afterwards distinguished as Count Rumford.† Mrs. Thompson died January 19, 1792, aged 52 years. No grave-stones mark the spot where either Col. Rolfe or Mrs. Thompson lie buried.

Col. Rolfe was accounted the richest man in Concord at the time of his decease. He left no will, but an inventory of his estate was taken in due form April 1, 1772, by Capt. John Chandler and Joseph Hall, Jr. Timothy Walker, Jr., Esq., administered on the estate. From the inventory of his estate, in the office of probate at Exeter, the following minutes were taken :

"Real estate,	£2352	10	0
Live stock,	40	5	0
One negro,	55	0	0
Cash at interest,	1533	0	0
[<i>Et cætera</i> ,	101	15	4]
Total amount, lawful money,	£4082	10	4"

In the latter part of Col. Rolfe's life warm discussions would sometimes rise in the meetings of the proprietors, between the Colonel and Philip Eastman. A meeting was held in the afternoon of the day on which the Colonel died. On returning home, Mr. Eastman said to his wife, "Well, Abiah, I have been to a meeting of the proprietors to-day and have not had one word of dispute with Col. Rolfe!" On expressing her gratification, he said, "There was a good reason for it, for he died this morning."

REV. TIMOTHY WALKER.

More than any other single person, Rev. Mr. Walker is entitled to the appellation of father of the town. After his settlement, in 1730, he first lived in a log-house which stood on the brow of Horse-shoe pond hill, but, in 1733 and 1734, built the two-story gambrel-roof house,‡ in which he afterwards resided till his death. This house,

*No record of the *time* of this marriage is to be found.

† See Biographical Notice of Count Rumford, and of Sarah, his daughter.

‡ THE WALKER HOUSE.

This house is the oldest two-story dwelling-house between Haverhill, Mass., and Canada. It was erected by Rev. Mr. Walker on the house lot drawn to the first minister, in the year 1733-4, the town having generously voted [see p. 142] him "fifty pounds for building a dwelling-house in Pennycook." Its dimensions were forty by twenty feet, two stories in height, with an ell adjoining on the east, of one story, both parts being covered by a gambrel-roof. The chimneys were very large, and of stone. One of them, which remained, as originally built, until 1847, was found upon its removal to be about five feet square, and constructed of flat, ledge stones, laid in clay mortar and plastered on the inside with a composition of clay and chopped straw. Only the ell part was entirely finished at first, and contained but three rooms on the first floor. The front part remained in

with some modern improvements, overshadowed by the stately elm trees which Mr. Walker set out in 1756, is well represented by the fine engraving which is here subjoined.



A few aged people who still remember Mr. Walker, say that he was full middling stature and size; not corpulent, but portly in form, and of dignified manners. His eyes were blue and complexion light. Naturally, his temper was quick, but well restrained and governed. If at any time he was betrayed into hasty expressions or acts, he was prompt to acknowledge the fault, and ask the forgiveness of any one injured. He was exact and precise in all his domestic arrangements and business transactions, keeping a *memoranda* for every day

an unfinished state until 1757, when, with the assistance of Lieut. Webster, of Bradford, a joiner of high repute in those days, it was also completed. The wood-work being near to completion, it appears, from a letter dated the 9th of September, 1757, addressed by Rev. Mr. Walker to his son Timothy, then teaching school at Bradford, Mass., that a grave question arose as to the propriety "of painting ye outside." The decision arrived at is not now known, but, either at that time, or a few years subsequent, it was painted a light yellow, which continued to be its uniform color for at least seventy years. The interior was finished in a style similar to that found in the better class of houses of that period. Most of the partitions were of wooden panel work; the front hall was dadoed with paneling, and the front stairs were in three short flights, conducting to broad landings, and guarded by a moulded rail, supported upon curious wrought balusters. The rooms were painted various colors; the north parlor

in a year, in a little book done up in the form of an almanack. Though not talkative, he was agreeable in social intercourse, and occasionally facetious. According to the custom of the times he wore a large, powdered wig, and a three cornered cocked-hat, short clothes, and shoes with large buckles. He was held in high respect by all his parishioners. After service on the Sabbath, both morning and afternoon, the whole congregation stood until Mr. Walker went out — he respectfully bowing to those on each side as he passed down the broad-aisle.

Mr. Walker served the town, as a wise counsellor, in relation to every matter of public interest; and, in connection with Benjamin Rolfe, Esq., who married his eldest daughter, drew up the first petitions for help against the Indians, addressed to the government both of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, and also many of the papers used in the long controversy with the proprietors of Bow. As fully related in the History, he thrice visited England, as agent for the town in that vexatious litigation, and through his judicious and persevering efforts, and his personal influence with his counsel, Mr. Murray — afterwards lord chief justice Mansfield — secured forever the rights of the proprietors of Rumford.

As a preacher, Mr. Walker was instructive and practical, dwelling more on the duties than on the doctrines of religion. He was calm and moderate in his delivery; his sermons — of which a considerable number still exist — were mostly written out in full, on sheets of paper folded in the 18mo. form, and would occupy about thirty minutes. Sometimes we find extracts of considerable length from favorite authors, such as Tillotson, Foster, Poole and Brackett. His style was good for that period, perspicuous and didactic, with but few illustrations, but well supported with quotations from Scripture.

In his theological views Mr. Walker was "Orthodox," according to existing standards. He received the Westminster Assembly's Catechism, which was then also used in the families and schools of the town. In distinction, however, from those preachers who in his day were called "New Lights," he was accused of being an *Armi-*

and south parlor chamber being green, the south parlor blue, the north parlor chamber and the old people's bed-room white, and the kitchen red. Thus constructed and finished, it remained without alteration, with the exception of an enlargement of the ell, until 1848, when it was modified in some particulars, and thoroughly repaired by its present proprietor. In 1739 it was appointed a garrison house, and fortified, "at the town's cost," by the erection about it of a wall of timbers lying in contact one upon another, and held in position by tenon-ends let into grooved posts set into the ground. [See pp. 153-4.] Eight families besides Mr. Walker's were assigned to it, and occupied it more or less of the time until the close of the second French war. When, in 1782, the Legislature met in Concord for the first time, and held its sessions in the hall over Judge Walker's store, which was near by, the President of the State, with his Council, occupied the north parlor of this house, while the south parlor served as a general committee room, and the room above it as the office of the Treasurer of State. It was the residence of Rev. Mr. Walker until his death; and his son, the late Judge Walker, lived in it during almost the entire period of his life. It is now owned and occupied by Joseph B. Walker, Esq., a great grandson of Rev. Mr. Walker.

nian, but called himself a "moderate Calvinist." He was highly conservative, as it regarded innovations and new measures. Hence, in the period of the great Reformation, under the preaching of Rev. George Whitefield and others, Mr. Walker was among those ministers who did not favor the excitement which was generally awakened. In January, 1743, he preached and published a sermon to his people, entitled, "*The way to try all pretended Apostles*," from the text Rev. 2: 2. In this sermon he dwelt at length on the evils produced by itinerant preachers; especially the divisions which they caused in established churches and societies. Hence he warned his people not to go after them, or hear them preach. "Nothing," he says, "I am well satisfied, has so much contributed to the evils that do so cloud the present day, and look with such a direful aspect upon us, as the indulging an *unmortified itch after novelties*, and *having the persons of strangers*, whom we know nothing of, *in admiration*, and setting them up above the *place of instruments*. If, therefore, you would not become accessory to the guilt of those who are endeavoring the subversion of our religious Constitution, keep out of the way of temptation as much as may be; ponder well the first step that leads to a compliance with these errors."

At this time all of Mr. Walker's hearers were of one way of thinking in religious matters; and his object was to keep them together, and make them steadfast in the "religion and church order which was very dear to our forefathers." Conscious of the power he had over his people, he not only charged them not to go after or to hear these pretended Apostles preach, "but," said he, "if any of you think yourselves unable to manage a controversy with them, invite them to accompany you to my house, and I will gladly undertake this, or any other service I am capable of, for the benefit of your souls."

In 1771 Mr. Walker felt himself called on to give his people another warning against innovations, and what he counted disturbers of the peace and order of the churches. A Baptist elder, Hezekiah Smith, of Haverhill, had preached in the vicinity, and awakened much interest in his peculiar views. To counteract this influence, Mr. Walker preached a discourse, May 12, 1771, entitled, "*Those who have the form of Godliness, but deny the power thereof, described and cautioned against*." The text was 2 Tim. 3: 5. The sermon was "published at the desire of many of the hearers." It is dedicated "to the church and congregation under the author's pastoral care, having been composed and delivered solely for your benefit, without the most distant view of its farther publication, is now respectfully inscribed by him who esteems it his highest honor and greatest happiness to serve your best interest. TIMOTHY WALKER."*

During his ministry of fifty-two years there is no regular record of church proceedings after 1736; but in his *memoranda* there are entries made of those who owned the covenant, were admitted to

* See Rev. Mr. Bouton's Centennial Discourses, pp. 29 and 78.

communion, baptized, married and died, together with notices of private affairs, the weather, journeys, &c.*

From the memoranda kept by Mr. Walker it appears that he did not confine his labors to his own people, but performed what may be called missionary labors in destitute places. In 1766 he visited the Pigwacket country, which included Conway and Fryeburg, which towns were originally settled in part from Concord, about the years 1764 and 1765; there he preached and baptized their children.

During his long ministry Mr. Walker enjoyed remarkable health. Tradition says that he was able to preach every Sabbath, except the one previous to his death. Probably this is not quite correct; for in the warrant for a town-meeting, March 3, 1778, four years before his death, we find the following article: "To see if the parish will vote to hire preaching, if the Rev. Mr. Walker remains unable." The article was not acted on, and Mr. Walker resumed and continued to perform the duties of his office till near his death. A short time (two or three weeks) before this occurred, he set out to attend a funeral of a Mrs. Simonds, in the south part of the town, at what was called the Iron Works, but on his way, as was supposed, he became bewildered, or had a slight paralytic shock. It seems that,

* The following are a few specimens:

1749. *May 7.* Abigail, second wife of Jacob Shute, ad. full com. She was Widow Evans, mother of Jno.

July 2. Sampson Colby and wife ad. full com.

August 29. Bot chair.

October 10. Preached to Convention at Dover.

January 7, 1749. Ben. Eastman and family moved up here.

March, 1749. Pd. Sam. Little for making clock-case.

1748. *October 27.* Mr. W. attended ye funeral of his aged mother-in-law.

1750. *April 8.* Ben. Eastman and wife admitted into ye church.

June 24. Sarah Abbot ad. to full com.

October 7. Received Jonathan Straw and wife into our church.

1757. *January 27.* Richard Herbert married to Hannah Hall.

October 16. Both owned ye covenant.

November 20. Jona. bap.

1766. *Sunday, 28th September.* Preached at Mr. Swan's, in Pigwacket. Arr'd 25; lodg'd at Capt. W.'s.

Monday, 29. Visited and lodged at Mr. Moses Day's. Bap. Judith, his daughter.

October 5. Preach'd at Pigwacket. Bap. Susanna, daught. of — Holt; Barnard, son of Timothy Walker, jun., [not *Judge* Timothy Walker;] Susanna, daught. of Sam. Osgood; Ann, daughter of Leonard Harriman; Robert, son of David Page; William, son of Jno. Evans; Sarah, daught. of David Evans; Wm., son of Wm. Eaton; Moses, son of Jas. Osgood; Wm., son of Ben. Osgood. 11 bap. at Pigwacket.

In his memorandum of 1780 — the last one entire which can be found — are the following interesting notices:

January 7. Philip [Abbot, his hired man,] went with a *team* to Portsmouth.

January 15. Teams that had been detained below a fortnight by the deep or drifted snow, arrived.

January 23. Preached all day — very cold — the coldest Sunday yt has been for years.

March 12. Preached. Read ye letter from Pembroke chh. to assist in ordaining Mr. Colby. The church chose Col. Thomas Stickney and Tim'y Walker, jun., Esq., delegates.

April 17. Nathaniel Eastman's house was burnt.

April 26. A Continental Fast. Preached.

May 19. A remarkable *dark day*, although the clouds appeared thin.

June 30. Heard that ye French fleet had got possession of Halifax. N. B. Agreed with ye post-rider for half a year's newspaper, beginning ye 23th of June and to end ye 21st of December.

August 8. Finished winter-rye harvest — had about 47 shocks.

October 20. The town was assembled to raise men to resist the enemy at Cowas [Coös?]

October 21. Finished making cyder — having made thirteen barrels of cyder, and upwards of five barrels water-cyder.

October 27. A remarkable eclipse of the sun.

November 23. The post arrived — brought the good news of the arrival of ye French fleet off Georgia.

December 9. A Continental annual Thanksgiving.

in fording a stream, he dismounted from his horse, and, taking the bridle in his hand, attempted to lead him, while he walked on logs laid across it; but the horse refused to go, and got away. Failing to attend the funeral, his absence created alarm, and word was sent to his family. Immediately his son Timothy, with others, went in search, and found Mr. Walker lying on the ground, his clothes wet, and he much exhausted. They helped him mount his horse, but he rode home with difficulty. The next Sabbath he was prevailed on by his family not to preach. About two weeks after this, on Saturday afternoon, he visited his aged relative, Mr. Isaac Walker, who had long been sick, and who lived in a house near where Abiel, his grandson, now lives, and conversed and prayed with him. On leaving, Mr. Walker bade his aged friend farewell, saying, "I do not expect to see you again."

For convenience, in his old age, Rev. Mr. Walker slept in the north front room of his house, and his hired man, Philip Abbot, was near by, to assist him whenever necessary. On Sabbath morning, September 1, he woke early and said, "Come, Mr. Abbot, build a fire, for I am tired of lying." A fire being made, Mr. W. rose, partly dressed himself, and with his loose gown of green baize on, sat down in his armed chair, as usual, before the fire to tie his shoes and complete his dress. Abbot perceived that he slipped forward in his chair, and quickly going to him, he found him nearly helpless. He was laid back on his bed, the family called, and a physician sent for, but in a very short time Mr. Walker expired.

The people from the West Parish were on their way to meeting before they heard of his death. It was so sudden and unexpected that they could hardly credit the report; but supposed it must be Mr. Isaac Walker, who had long been sick, and who also died the same day. Gathering, however, at the meeting-house, the report of their aged minister's death was confirmed, and the day was to them all a day of sadness.*

On the plain slate slab which stands at the head of his grave in the old burying-ground, is the following inscription :

THIS STONE,
Erected by the Town of Concord,
IN MEMORY OF
THE REV. TIMOTHY WALKER,
Late Pastor of the Church in said Town,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
Sept. 1, A. D. 1782,
In the 78 year of his age,
And 52 of his ministry.

ANECDOTES OF REV. MR. WALKER.

Tradition has handed down a number of anecdotes of Rev. Mr. Walker, of which the following may be worthy of a place in our history.

* See funeral services, &c., p. 284.

In time of peace Indians frequently called at his house, where they were hospitably entertained. On one occasion a number of the warriors, with their guns, encamped near his house. Mr. Walker being absent, his wife was under great apprehensions of injury. The Indians, perceiving this, said, "*minister's wife afraid.*" Upon this one of them delivered her all the guns, and said they would call for them the next day. This they did, and treated her with great civility.*

One Sabbath afternoon Mr. W. preached from the text: Ecclesiastes 5 : 4, 5, "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it," &c. In the discourse he showed that all the vows which we make should be paid. An Indian was present, and listened very attentively. After meeting, the Indian came to him and said, "I vow I will go home with you." "Very well," said Mr. W., "you may go home with me." "I vow," says the Indian, "I will have some supper." "Yes," was the reply, "you may have some supper." "I vow," says the Indian, again, "I will stay all night." By this time Mr. W. saw the joke, and instantly replied, "I vow you shall go away in the morning."

Mr. W.'s dignified deportment and manners were such as to command universal respect. The noted Ephraim Colby, who worked much for him, used to say, that "Parson Walker was the only man the Almighty ever made that he was afraid of."

Going out to work one day with his hired man, John Evans, with a team and cart, they had to pass a very wet and muddy place. In passing it, John sat on the cart tongue, or neap, while Mr. W. was in the cart. When about mid-way of the muddy place, John slyly pulled out the pin which held the cart down, and dropped it, to make Mr. W. think it worked out accidentally; up went the cart, and out went Mr. Walker into the mud and water. He got up, and said, "John, this is a bad accident, but drive on, and I'll go back." A few days after, Mr. Walker having been absent from home, he went late in the afternoon into the field where John was at work. When it was time to go home, Mr. W. told John that *he* would drive the team, and accordingly took his seat on the cart tongue, while John was in the cart. At about the middle and deepest part of the muddy place, Mr. Walker pulled out the pin, and down went John into the mud and water, and was thoroughly soused. When he got up, Mr. W., holding up the pin, says to him, "John! John! here is the pin: "*I did'nt throw it away!*" A hearty laugh ended the joke.†

Mr. Walker was a patriot. Having encouraged his parishioners to join Gen. Stark's regiment, to oppose Burgoyne, he waited the issue with great solicitude. When the late Capt. Jonathan Eastman returned from Bennington, bringing intelligence of the victory, Mr. Walker came running out to meet him, eagerly inquiring, "What news, friend Eastman, what news?" The captain related the joyful

* Moore's Annals.

† A confused tradition relates this story of Mr. Walker's negro, Prince, but it belongs to John Evans, as Mr. Timothy Walker affirms.

tidings, and the old patriot exclaimed, "Blessed be God! the country is saved—I can now die in peace!"

Having one day hired a number of men to mow for him, they came, but seemed to hesitate on account of appearances of unfavorable weather. However, Mr. Walker directed them to go on to the island and begin their work. Perceiving from the hill that they still hesitated and were looking about, he went over to them and inquired, "What is the matter?" They said they were observing the clouds. "Clouds, clouds," said Mr. Walker, "what have you to do with the clouds? I hired you to cut my grass—He who made the clouds will take care of them!"

As a specimen of his prudence and good sense, it is related that the Rev. Elijah Fletcher, of Hopkinton, once requested an exchange with him on the Sabbath, and that he would preach upon the subject of *witchcraft*, which at that time was making trouble among some of Mr. F.'s parishioners. Mr. W. accordingly prepared a sermon for the occasion, and preached. He told the people "that the most they had to fear from witches was *from talking about them*; that if they would cease to talk about them, and let them alone, they would soon disappear!" The hint had its desired effect.

A ludicrous story used to be told by the late Col. John Carter. Before the meeting-house was finished there was, opposite to the pulpit, an elevated seat for the singers, where boys also sometimes took a seat. Dogs in those days attended meeting, but to keep them in due order was the business of "the dog-whipper." A huge dog had planted his fore paws on the top of the singers' seat, near where young John Carter was sitting, and thus stood looking over on the congregation. In the absence of the dog-whipper, John undertook to administer discipline. Looking carefully about, and supposing that no one saw him, he quickly seized the dog by the hind legs and threw him over, much to the astonishment and disturbance of the congregation. Nothing was said at the time, but soon after Parson W. called at the house of old Mr. Carter, and after conversing freely for some time with the father—John being present—turned to the latter and said in a low tone of voice, "*John, I did'nt blame you at all for pitching that dog over the seat, a few Sabbaths ago!*"

Mr. Walker left a will, dated August 10, 1782, by which he made the following distribution of his property to his children:

To Mrs. Sarah Thompson, [wife of Count Rumford,]	£10
To Sarah Thompson, his granddaughter, to be paid at her marriage, or at the age of eighteen,	140
	— £150
To Mrs. Mary Goss, [wife of Dr. Eben'r Flanders Goss,]	150
To Mrs. Judith Rolfe, [wife of Nathaniel Rolfe,]	150
(Both to be paid in one year after his decease.)	

All the real and personal estate remaining, to his son, Timothy Walker, who was appointed executor of the will.

JOHN STEVENS.

John Stevens, or, as he was usually called, "Merchant Stevens," came to Concord from Charlestown, Mass., and first went into trade

with Col. Andrew McMillan. When he brought his wife into town he rode about the village with her, and said, "Select the house or spot which you like best and I will buy it." She pointed out the house built by Stephen Farrington — David G. Fuller's — as the handsomest in Concord. Stevens bought it, with the adjacent field. He traded in the store on the corner of Pleasant street, building an addition to it, and fitting up the upper story as a hall for the House of Representatives, which met there several times in after years.

Being suspected of toryism he was arrested, as related, in 1777,* and cast into Exeter jail. There he refused to take the oath of allegiance to his country, because, he said, he was as good a friend to his country as any, and felt that he had been insulted and abused. He accused Capt. Benjamin Emery of setting a trap for him, by calling on him in the night and persuading him to sell *tea* and *pewter plate* — which were interdicted articles — on pretence that he wanted them for one of his daughters who was about to be married. The Legislature ordered his discharge from jail, but required him to keep within the limits of Concord for one year. He did so. The next Legislature gave him a full discharge, and, as a sort of compensation for what he had suffered, conferred on him a commission of justice of the peace. Stevens bore a bitter revenge towards Capt. Emery, and challenged him to fight. Stevens was small and slender, but quick and full of nerve. Emery was heavy and clumsy. They agreed to meet at Mother Osgood's tavern. Stevens, dressed in light clothes and coat off, was on the spot beforehand. As soon as Capt. Emery entered the front yard Stevens sprung upon him with such violence as to knock him over, and then leaped on him; but, being much stronger, Emery soon got him under. The bystanders then interposed and ended the fight.

Stevens never forgave the town for accusing and confining him as a *tory*. Some time before he died he said to his wife — "Wife, I am a justice of the peace, and I wish you to make oath, before me, that when I am dead you will see that I am buried between those two apple-trees in the garden — pointing them out — that no citizen of Concord shall follow me to the grave;—no minister be present;—that you will pay one crown apiece to the four men who bear out my body and bury it." His wife demurred from taking the oath, but promised to do as he wished. He was buried accordingly. His bearers were Zenas Wheeler, Job Page, Daniel Page, and — ——. Mr. William Manley, who was an Englishman by birth, and who was a trader in town, and one other foreigner, it is said, followed his corpse to the grave.† Several years afterwards, when the house owned by Col. Wm. Kent, (since by Col. Paul Wentworth,) was moved on to the spot where it stands, in digging a vault for a privy the bones of Stevens were dug up, put in a box and reinterred in the back part of the same lot, where they remain unknown to this day.

* See pages 272-3. † Tradition by Benj. Gale.

The following notice of his death appeared in the "*Mirror*," December 25, 1792 :

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Died, on Tuesday morning, the 25th instant, after a short sickness, John Stevens, Esq., of this town, in the 45th year of his age. He was a gentleman of good education, and possessed a general knowledge of manners and mankind; the first he obtained by a liberal education at the University of Cambridge; the last, by leisure observations; which, as he lived in affluent circumstances, he had uncommon opportunities to make, both in Europe and America.

We tender the tear of sympathy to a distressed wife and family, the one, by this unfortunate stroke of Providence, bereaved of an endearing consort; the other, of an affectionate father. He was a firm and faithful friend.

By his particular desire he was interred on his own land, by four men, whom he appointed himself while living, and ordered them a generous reward for their service. These four men were the only persons present at the interment.

JACOB SHUTE.

Jacob Shute was the ancestor of the Shute family in Concord. There is a tradition in the family that his *father* was a French Protestant, or Huguenot, who formerly resided in Paris; but, on revocation of the edict of Nantz, fled to Ireland to escape persecution. Jacob was born about 1702, and was apprenticed by his father to a stocking-weaver in Dublin. Disliking the trade, at about the age of seventeen he left, in company with one Dawen, and took secret passage in the hold of a ship for this country. They remained concealed until driven out by hunger. Arriving at Newburyport the captain demanded pay for their passage, but as they had nothing it was necessary to sell themselves — that is, their service — for a time, in order to meet the demand. They were both bought by Capt. Ebenezer Eastman, of Haverhill, and served him till twenty-one years of age. Before he bought them, Eastman asked Dawen "if he would be a good boy and work well, provided he would pay his passage?" Dawen said, "Yes; the Lord bless him!" He then asked Shute; he said, "No—he would n't do any thing." On trial, however, Shute proved an industrious, faithful hand, while Dawen was indolent and deceitful.* Shute, as more fully related in another place, drove Eastman's team from Haverhill to Penacook, in the fall of 1727; the first that ever came into town. Here Mr. Shute settled. He married Sarah, George, of Haverhill, who had a daughter Sarah, born there, and John and Elizabeth, born in Penacook. His wife Sarah died in January, 1745, and, as appears from Rev. Mr. Walker's journal, was buried January 16. May 7, 1749, Mr. Walker says: "Abigail, second wife of Jacob Shute, admitted to full communion. She was widow Evans, mother of John." By his second wife he had two daughters, both of whom died young. Mr. Shute died February 16, 1794, aged 94 years.

COL. ANDREW McMILLAN.

Col. Andrew McMillan, whose name often occurs in the town records previous to 1775, was an intelligent, enterprising business

* Dawen settled in Pembroke, and lived and died there.

man, and a worthy citizen. He came to this country from Ireland, about the year 1754; received a *lieutenant's* commission, dated Lake George, June 26, 1758, from Gen. James Abercromby, "in the independent company of rangers," of which Jonathan Burbank was captain, and is said to have been with Rogers in the expedition against St. Francois, in 1759. He married Hannah Osgood, of Rumford, daughter of the widow James Osgood, November 12, 1761. The same year he commenced trade in the store that now stands on the north-east corner of Main and Pleasant streets, which was then a small one-story shop, standing as it now does, partly on the street. Here he continued to trade for several years; one year in partnership with Timothy Walker, Jun., and afterwards with John Stevens, who added a second story to it. In 1767 or 1768 he and Gen. Stark received each a grant of land from the Provincial Government, in consideration of their services in the old French war, located in the town of Conway and vicinity. In August, 1774, he removed to Conway, to take possession of his extensive landed property, where two of his wife's brothers† a few years before had preceded him. Here, in the cultivation of one of the most valuable farms on Saco river, (where his only remaining son, Gilbert McMillan, Esq., now resides,) he passed the remainder of his life, — repeatedly representing the town in the State Legislature, and faithfully discharging his duty as a citizen and a magistrate. He died November 6, 1800, aged 70 years. His wife died in 1827, aged 84.*

"MOTHER OSGOOD."

In this connection we must pay a compliment to our worthy hostess, the widow Hannah Osgood, relict of Mr. James Osgood, as one of the distinguished personages of the times. Mr. Osgood's house,

* FLORENCE MCCAULLY.

Florence was a colored free man, a soldier in Capt. Joshua Abbot's company; and as he had a strong attachment to Col. McMillan, it is but just in this connection to give him the meed of praise which is his due. When he came to Concord, or from whence, is unknown. He probably lived with Col. McMillan some time before he joined the army. He could not write; but just before he left Concord for the Continental service, he made a will in due form, and, in case of his decease, gave "a suit of clothes" to the Colonel, as a token of gratitude for past favors.

Florence survived his Continental campaign, and for many years was a faithful servant in Col. McMillan's family, where his devotion to its interests was in striking contrast with the less praiseworthy habits of the "boy Cæsar" — before mentioned as Col. McMillan's slave, (pp. 249-51.) — producing a state of feeling between them not always the most friendly. The following anecdote is characteristic both of the cunning trickery of the one, and honest simplicity of the other. "Old Florence," as he was called, was very proud of his skill as a marksman — that he pretended to have acquired from Gen. Stark himself. The Colonel had a valuable bay colt that he was rearing with great care. Cæsar, in passing the stable at twilight, saw through the open window this colt, in a position in which his tail only was distinctly visible. He told Florence to run for his gun, as "there was something in the stable that looked like a fox." The report of Florence's gun that soon followed, convinced Cæsar that he had carried the joke too far — that his master's favorite horse was probably killed. The Colonel was absent, and would not return for several days. The result of the conference between the parties in the stable was, that as the colt appeared to be mortally wounded, the only safety for Florence was in flight, and that Cæsar, the innocent party, should remain and make the necessary explanation to the family and the Colonel on his return, which he did so successfully as to throw, of course, all the blame on Florence. But such was Florence's attachment to the family that he could not stay away, and in a few weeks returned, when Cæsar, fearing the effect of Florence's account of the affair, thought it most prudent for him now to decamp, and he never after was known as heretofore, a constant inmate of the family, but wandered wherever he could get employ.

† James and Benjamin Osgood, of Concord.

when he kept tavern, in 1746, stood on the spot where Dea. Hosea Fessenden's house now stands,* (the remains of the old cellar being still visible.) Here the widow kept tavern a while after her husband's death. She afterwards built the house immediately north of Dea. Fessenden's, known as the old "Wiggin house," and but recently standing as a relic of olden times. There she kept tavern for several years. At a later period she occupied as a tavern, a house that stood where the "Merchants' Exchange" is erected, and which was the scene of much good cheer in those days of "punch" and "flip." The widow was highly respected in her vocation. She kept a good table, and maintained order in her house. Hearty in the American cause, she rejoiced in the victory of our arms. When the news of the capture of Gen. Burgoyne reached town, she partook so largely of the general joy, as to join in the shouts of her fellow-citizens, "Hurrah!" "Hurrah!" When very earnest in giving orders to persons in her employ, she would emphatically repeat, "Lord, help you!" "*Lord, help you!*"†

REV. ISRAEL EVANS.

Mr. Evans was a native of Pennsylvania, and a graduate of Princeton College, New-Jersey, in 1772. His father and grandfather were settled ministers in this country, and his great-grandfather was a minister in Wales. He was ordained at Philadelphia, in 1776, as a chaplain in the United States army. From 1777 till the close of the war he was chaplain to the New-Hampshire brigade, at first under the command of Gen. Enoch Poor. His connection with this brigade was the means of his introduction to this place. The Rev. Joseph Eckley, of Boston, who preached the sermon at the installation of Mr. Evans, and who was his classmate in college, thus spoke of him to the people: "In consequence of the long acquaintance I have had with your pastor elect, I have the pleasure to congratulate you that we this day settle a gentleman with you who, added to the natural gifts and improvements of his mind, has afforded every reasonable evidence of his being a sincere friend of our common Lord." As Mr. Evans was stationed at different posts with the army during the war, he became acquainted with the principal officers, and was known to most of the soldiers. Several sermons which he preached and published while in the army, were distinguished for their patriotic spirit, and acquired for him an honorable reputation through the country. Of these, one was addressed "To the officers and soldiers of the Western army, after their return from an expedition against the five nations of hostile Indians." Another was "delivered near York, in Virginia, on the memorable occasion of the surrender of the British army to the allied forces of America and France," and was dedicated "To the honorable Major General, the Marquis de la Fayette, whose disinterested services in the cause of America prove him to be the friend of mankind, and whose well known amiable virtues render all

* This house was burnt in August, 1854. † Tradition, by Mr. Benjamin Gale.

panegyric needless." Another was delivered in New-York, December 11, 1783, on the day set apart by Congress "as a day of public thanksgiving for the blessings of independence, liberty and peace." He also delivered an oration on the occasion of the death of Gen. Poor, in September, 1780. In 1791 he preached the Election sermon, which was printed. These performances were at the time eminently popular. They were written in a flowing, redundant, martial style, full of patriotic ardor, and suited to the state of public opinion.*

With the feelings and habits acquired in a seven years' service in the United States army, Mr. Evans entered upon the duties of a pastor among this quiet, industrious and unostentatious people. His manners were a perfect contrast to those of his predecessor. His sentiments and style of preaching were also different. After continuing his labors about eight years, Mr. Evans announced his "intention of resigning to the town their pulpit, and of finishing the work of the ministry in this place on the 1st of July," 1797. The proposal was accepted. An ecclesiastical council was called by Mr. Evans and the church, to dissolve the pastoral connection, "if it should be thought expedient." The council, "after solemn prayer for direction and assistance," dissolved the pastoral connection between Mr. Evans and the church; and, "as no charges had been exhibited against his ministerial or Christian character, they recommended him to the churches and to the work of the ministry, wherever God in his providence might open a door."

Mr. Evans bought of Stephen Kimball the house where Hon. Samuel Morril now lives, in which he resided till his death, March 9, 1807, in the 60th year of his age. Mr. Evans was a gentleman of fine personal appearance, of dignified and martial manners. On all public occasions he wore his tri-cornered hat. Was fond of a good horse, good music, and good living. Out of the pulpit he was less serious and devout than is usually expected of ministers, but a ready, fluent and earnest preacher.† An excellent portrait of him is still preserved. When Gen. LaFayette visited Concord, in 1825, he was shown this portrait, and, on seeing it, immediately exclaimed—"It is our worthy chaplain."

Mr. Evans married Miss Huldah Kent, sister of the late Col. Wm. A. Kent, of Charlestown, Mass., who survived him many years. After his death she purchased the Farrington house, still standing nearly opposite her brother's, where she lived with her venerable mother, Mrs. Mary Kent, who died December 5, 1827, aged 90 years.

She afterwards built the house on the corner of State and Pleasant streets, now occupied by Col. Wm. Kent. In the latter years of her life she drew a pension from the government, by virtue of her hus-

* These discourses, bound together, were carefully preserved by Mrs. Evans during her lifetime. See specimens of them in the author's Centennial Discourses, 1830, pp. 82-83.

† Tradition affirms that his preaching was sometimes attended with violent action, so as "to make the dust fly from the old pulpit cushion;" and there was, moreover, a suspicion that he was more *spirited* than spiritual. Old Lieut. Richard Herbert, in his characteristic way, would sometimes say, after meeting—"I wonder what Parson Evans eat for his dinner!"

band's office as chaplain, and lived retired and cheerful, in elegant simplicity, highly esteemed by all who knew her. She died October 19, 1846, aged 84.

Madam Evans used to relate that, after their marriage, she rode in a chaise, with her husband, to visit her friends in Charlestown, Mass., it requiring then two days to make the journey. On returning they were belated, so that in approaching Concord, on the Bow road, by what is now called Rogers's Mills, it was so dark that Mr. Evans could not see his horse. She got out of the chaise, threw a white handkerchief over her bonnet, and thus walked in the road before the horse, to enable him to see where to drive. They had no children.

By his will, after giving legacies, amounting to about two hundred dollars, to a sister in Philadelphia, her daughter and grandchildren, and making suitable provision for his widow, he gave the balance of his property "to the trustees of Dartmouth College, for the support of a Professor at said College, to be called and known in his office as the EVANS Professor of Oratory and the Belles Letters."*

It is related of Mr. Evans that on one occasion, just before the army was going into battle, he prayed—"O, Lord of hosts, lead forth thy servants of the American army to battle, and give them the victory! or, if this be not according to thy sovereign will, then we pray thee—*stand neutral, and let flesh and blood decide the issue!*"

He retained his military spirit even in death. In his last sickness his successor, Rev. Mr. McFarland, visited, and in praying with him, asked, "that when he should be called from this to the eternal world he might sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." Mr. Evans, who was a great friend and ardent admirer of Washington, said, "*and with Washington, too!*" He could not bear the thought of being separated from Washington in the eternal world.

EPHRAIM COLBY.

The name of Ephraim, or, as commonly called, *Eph Colby*, is noted in traditionary history as a *wrestler* and *fighter*. His parentage is not exactly known. He appears to have been an ensign in Capt. Abbot's company, 1774, in the war of the Revolution, and spent most of his days in Concord. He was rather short, but a stout, broad-shouldered fellow, and was the "bully" of all the region, far and near. He served some time in town as a constable. He was sure to be present at all public gatherings, and gloried in such occasions as raisings and military musters. When a large building was to be raised it was customary to send an invitation to the strong and stout men of neighboring towns;—such as the Heads and Knoxes of Pembroke, the Chamberlains of Loudon, Lyfords and Cloughs of Canterbury, and Jackmans and Flanders of Boscawen. When the raising was completed they had a wrestling match; and after all

* See copy of Will, on file in library of N. H. Historical Society.

others who chose had entered the lists, and tried their strength, then Colby would step forward and defy them all. Being all well stimulated and warmed up with rum, that was free as water at such times, it was not uncommon to end the wrestling sport with a serious fight. Colby at such times was insolent and provoking. No one liked to engage him alone, and yet they could not well brook his insults. At the raising of Major Livermore's house, 1785, Colby got into a quarrel with the Elliots, from the Borough—Joseph and his two sons, Barnard and John. The two latter attacked him together. John sprung upon him like a cat, clasping him round the waist, while Barnard seized him behind. In the wrestle they all fell together, when John Elliot bit Colby's nose half off. Pained and infuriated by the bite on his nose, Colby rose, shook John off and dashed him on the ground; then, seizing Barnard by his neck and bottom of his pants, tossed him head first into West's brook; and turning, kicked the old man off the ground. This fight is well remembered by Benjamin Gale and Richard Herbert, and was related as above by the late Isaac Shute.

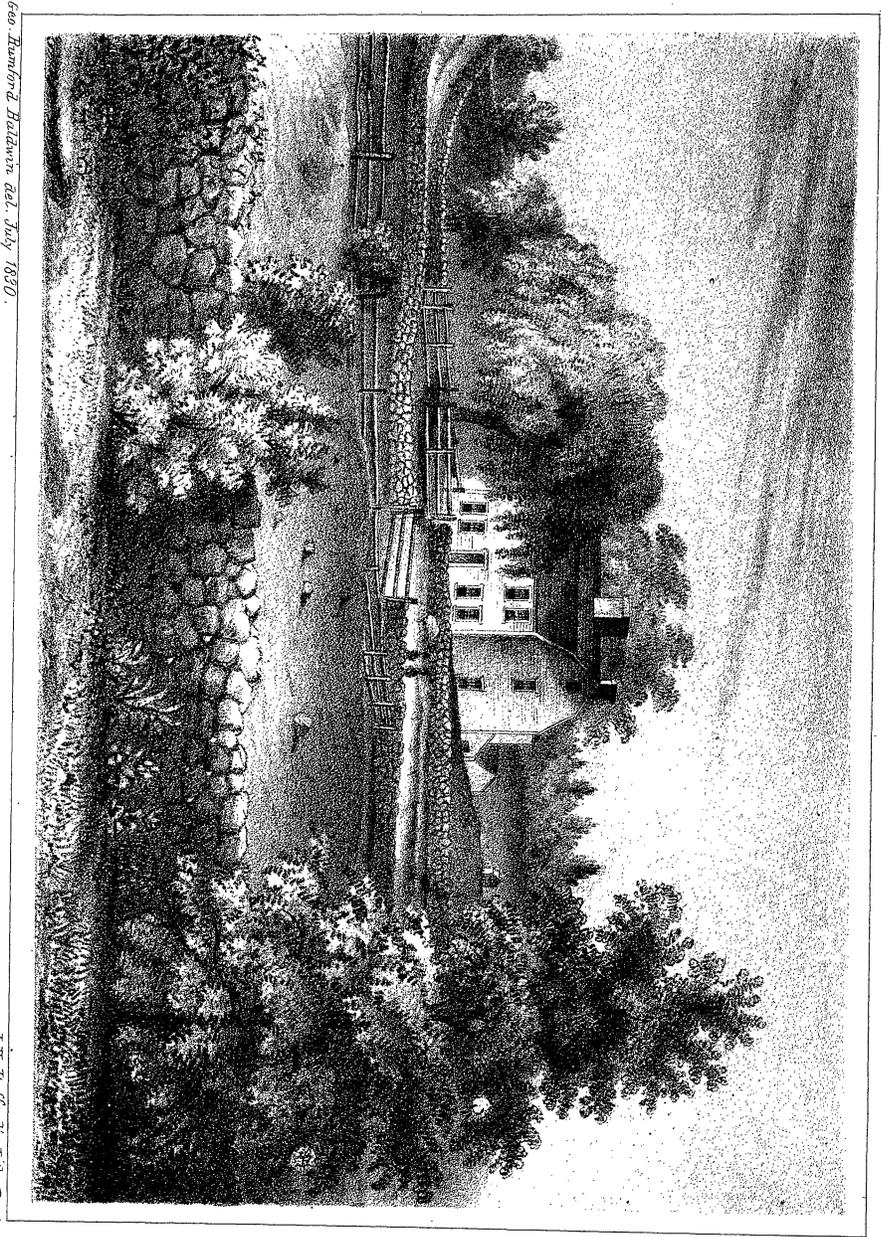
At another time Colby had a fight in Pembroke with one of the Heads—a powerful man, yet not equal to the former in muscular strength. Enduring Colby's insolence for some time, Head's friends at last persuaded him to show resentment. Picking up a good sized stone, that he could cover with his hand, Head watched his chance, and struck Colby such a tremendous blow on the face as to fracture his jaw-bone. This laid him up for about six weeks, and pretty nearly cured Colby of his fighting propensities.

Colby worked a number of years for the Walker family. He said that "Parson Walker was the only man the Almighty ever made that he was afraid of." He was employed to set out many of the older growth of elm trees that are now the ornament of our Main village. Marrying late in life, he moved to Rumford, Me., where, living unhappily with his family, he became poor, and received assistance in his last days from the late Capt. Joseph Walker. The time of his death is unknown.

SIR BENJAMIN THOMPSON, OR COUNT RUMFORD.

Mr. Thompson's connection with Concord, and the circumstances in which he left it, have already been related.* His subsequent fortunes are the most remarkable that ever attended any person whose name is recorded in our history. Driven by unreasonable suspicions from his home, his wife and infant child; forsaking his native country for a foreign service, he became the associate of princes, the honored favorite of kings, and the commander of armies. As the promoter and founder of public institutions of learning and beneficence, his genius shone resplendent among the *litterati* and philosophers of Europe. His name, invested with the honors which royalty

* See pp. 263-4. For the beautiful view of the place where he was born, in Woburn, Mass., and the portrait of his daughter, Sarah, the Countess of Rumford, I am indebted to the generosity of James F. Baldwin, Esq., of Boston.



650 *Huntingford, Berkshire, July 1830.*

EASTERLY VIEW OF THE HOUSE IN WHICH COUNT RUMFORD WAS BORN, IN WOBURN, MASS. MARCH 26TH 1753.

J. H. Bufford's Lith. Boston

alone can confer, is transmitted to posterity as that of the "Friend of mankind."

The events in the life of Count Rumford, after he left Concord, are so numerous as not to admit of recital, in detail, in the brief space allotted to this notice.* Suffice it to say, that in January, 1776, he was entrusted by Gen. Gage with dispatches to Lord Germaine, in England, then Secretary of State for the department of the colonies. In 1780 he was appointed under secretary in that department. Towards the close of the Revolutionary War he obtained the commission of lieutenant-colonel, and was sent to New-York in command of a regiment. In 1784 the King conferred on him the honor of knighthood. Subsequently he went to Germany, and at Strasbourg was introduced to Prince Maximilian, and then to His Serene Highness the Elector Palatine, reigning duke of Bavaria. From the Elector he received all the honors that could be conferred, and, among others, that of *Count "of the holy Roman Empire,"* to which Mr. Thompson added the title, *Rumford*, in remembrance of his former residence. Under the patronage of the Elector, Charles Theodore, he introduced great improvements in the condition and discipline of the army. At Munich, in 1790, he suppressed the system of mendicity which widely prevailed, and provided houses of public industry, in which beggars were supported and required to labor. Two thousand and six hundred of this class were put in in a single week, and the industrial establishment for them, which at first was supported by voluntary contributions, came to yield to the State a net income of one hundred thousand florins.† In grateful remembrance of his services and benefactions, a monument is erected in Munich to his honor. Inscribed beneath his bust is the following :

" To him
Who rooted out the greatest of public evils,
Idleness and Mendicity;
Relieved and instructed the Poor,
And founded many institutions for the education of our Youth.
Go, wanderer,
And strive to equal him
In Genius and Activity; and us,
In Gratitude."

On the other front is inscribed —

" Stay, Wanderer!
At the creative fiat of Charles Theodore,
RUMFORD, the Friend of Mankind,
By Genius, Taste and Love inspired,
Changed this once desert place
Into what thou now beholdest."

* See memoir by Jared Sparks; Moore's Annals of Concord, and an eulogy by Cuvier, 1814, in the Boston Weekly Messenger, vol. v.

† Cuvier's Eulogy.

He became almost the object of idolatrous regard by the poor. At one time, when dangerously ill, they formed processions, and went to the church to pray for his recovery. When sick at Naples they devoted an hour each evening to join in supplications for his restoration to health. About 1794* he sent to this country for his daughter, who met him in England, accompanied him to Munich, and for several years afterwards shared his fortunes. For his services in Bavaria the Elector settled on him a pension for life of nearly two thousand dollars, one half of which descended to his daughter, as Countess of Rumford, during her life. Returning to England, he assisted in putting in operation the society known as the Royal Institution, in London, about 1799. He afterwards located himself at Paris, married the widow of the celebrated chemist, Lavoisier, and with her resided at Auteuil, on the estate of her former husband, where he died of fever, August 21, 1814, in the 62d year of his age.

He bequeathed the annual sum of one thousand dollars to Harvard College, with other reversions, now aggregating about \$30,000, to found the Rumford Professorship. To the "American Academy" he previously presented funds which now amount, it is said, to \$24,500.

The personal appearance of Count Rumford, in early manhood, is described "as a model of manly beauty; his stature nearly six feet; figure erect, limbs finely formed, eyes bright blue, features chiseled in the Roman mould, and hair dark auburn." There is a tradition that after he became affianced to Mrs. Rolfe, (who was by some years his senior,) seated in his carriage and dressed in the brilliant scarlet attire of those times, he drove out from Boston to present his intended bride to his mother; but was completely *non-plused* by her exclamation on first meeting him, "Why, Ben., my child! how could you spend your whole winter's wages in this way?" His distinguished military promotions, it is said, were primarily owing to his splendid appearance when mounted on horseback. Among the qualities that most characterized him were *order* and *method*, which he termed the "only possible instrument of true happiness, and almost a subordinate divinity in this lower world." In the eulogy pronounced before the Institute of France, January 9, 1815, Cuvier says, "In his own person he was in every respect the model of perfect order. His wants, his pleasures and his labors were calculated as rigidly as his experiments. He drank nothing but water, ate meat roasted only, and allowed nothing superfluous, not even a step nor a word." "His veneration for the Deity was never diminished. In all his works he has constantly taken occasion to express his religious feelings, and to point out to the admiration of others the innumerable precautions which Providence has taken for the preservation of his creatures."

SARAH, COUNTESS OF RUMFORD.

In connection with the foregoing notice of her honored father we place the portrait of the daughter, engraved on steel, with a brief

*Perhaps as early as 1792.



SARAH COUNTESS OF RUMFORD

sketch of her eventful life. She was born in the family mansion — the Rolfe house — October 18, 1774.* A portion of her early life was spent with her paternal grandmother, at Woburn. After the death of her mother, in 1792, she went to Europe, at her father's invitation, and was introduced into the polite and fashionable circles of Bavaria, of Paris and of London. Between the death of her father and her own decease she visited this country two or three times; but her principal residence was at Brompton, near London, in a house which she inherited from her father. A portion of her time she spent in Paris, where she had funds invested. In 1845 she returned to the spot where she was born, to live and — to die. Here she remained in great retirement, having, as her only companion and the solace of her declining years, a young lady† whom she adopted when a child, at Brompton. Occasionally the countess attended public worship at the North Church, and visited her family relatives and friends, but spent most of her time in adorning the grounds about her house and fitting things to her taste. By her habits of strict economy the property she inherited, together with her pension of about \$1,000, had accumulated to a very considerable sum at the time of her decease — all which she disposed of by will, partly to family connections, but mostly for charitable objects.

1. To the Rolfe and Rumford Asylum, in Concord, \$15,000
which she founded — with all her real estate, appraised at 5,000
2. To the New-Hampshire Asylum for the Insane, 15,000
3. To the Concord Female Charitable Society, 2,000
4. To the Boston Children's Friend Society, 2,000
5. For the Fatherless and Widows' Society, Boston, 2,000

She left a legacy of \$10,000 to Joseph Amédée LeFebre, a son of her natural brother, Capt. LeFebre, of the French army, on condition that he would assume the name of Joseph Amédée *Rumford*. The executor of her will was James F. Baldwin, Esq., of Boston, who was a neighbor and personal friend of the countess in youth, and her financial agent in later years. The paintings which she inherited from her father, consisting of a portrait of the Elector of Bavaria, and Prince Maximilian, afterwards King of Bavaria; also, of several ladies of the court, and several of Count Rumford, representing him at different periods of life — were given to Joseph B. Walker, Esq., to descend at his decease to his son, Charles Rumford Walker.

A beautiful marble monument is erected to her memory in the old burying-ground, near the Walker family.

JOHN BRADLEY.

Hon. John Bradley was justly esteemed one of the most upright, useful and honored citizens of the town. His name is conspicuous in town affairs, on almost every page of the preceding history, from the age of twenty-one till his death, in 1815; and it may hereafter be the pride of his descendants to collect into a summary all the re-

* On the monument it says October 10.

† Miss Emma Gannell, now the wife of Mr. John Burgum, of Concord, who was a native of Birmingham, England.

corded acts of his public life — while the virtues which shone in his private character, and in domestic relations, will ever be worthy of their imitation.

At the period of the tragic event of his father's death, August 11, 1746, he was under three years of age, but he remembered, in after life, that his mother, overwhelmed with grief, took him down to the place where the dead body of his father lay in blood, with the others slain — the sight of which produced an impression of horror which he never entirely lost. He was baptized by Rev. Mr. Walker, six days after his birth. Under the care of his mother, a woman of superior gifts and excellent qualities, he was often reminded of his father, and the scenes through which others of the family had passed in conflict with the Indians; at the same time the principles of patriotism, of morals and religion, were instilled into his youthful heart. Living with his widowed mother, in the house of his grandfather, Abraham, he inherited, by his grandfather's will,* the house and homestead, together with the negro slave, Pompey, with whom John, in childhood, had been a particular favorite. In the war of the Revolution Mr. Bradley took a noble stand on the side of his country. In 1775 he received from the Committee of Safety of the Colony of New-Hampshire, signed by Matthew Thorn-

* The following is a copy of the Will, which possesses unusual interest.

In the name of God, Amen. This Eighth Day of July, Anno Domini 1754, and in the 28th Year of his Majesties Reign, I, Abraham Bradley, of a Place called Rumford, in the Province of New-Hampshire, in New-England, Yeoman, being Sick and Weak in Body, tho' of Perfect Memory and Sound understanding, (Thanks be given to Almighty God,) therefore calling to mind the Mortality of my Body, and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do therefore make and Ordain this, my last Will and Testament; That is to say, principally and first of all, I recommend my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God, who gave it me, and my Body to the Earth, to be decently interred, at the Discretion of my Executor hereafter named, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again, together with Remission of all my Sins, by the Power of Almighty God, thro' the Merits of Christ my Redeemer; and as touching such Wordly Estate, wherewith it hath pleased God in this Life to Bless me, I give, devise and dispose thereof in manner and form following, viz.:

Imprimis. I will and Ordain that all those debts which in Duty, Right or Conscience, which I owe to any Person or Persons whatsoever, together with my Funeral Expenses and Charges, and also the Charges of settling my Estate, be well and truly paid by my Executor hereafter named, out of my Stock of Cattle, Horses, Sheep and Swine.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth, my dear and well beloved Wife, the free Use and Improvement of my dwelling-House and Barn, and all the Lands which I have in said Rumford already laid out and not otherwise disposed of by me, to be by her freely possessed and enjoyed during her natural Life, and at her decease it is my Will and Pleasure that the said Houseing and Lands (excepting half an Acre, which I reserve for the Use of my Negro) shall descend to my Two Grand-children hereafter mentioned, in manner and form following, viz.: The Six Acre Lot of Interval, belonging to the Original Right of Nathan Blodgett, shall descend to my Grand-daughter, Susanna Bradley, her Heirs and Assigns, provided the said Susanna, when she arrives at the Age of Twenty-One Years, shall give to her Sisters, Margaret and Anna, in equal shares, two Thirds of the value of said Six Acre Lot, in her Share of her Father's Estate at Exeter, in said Province, and that my dwelling-House and Barn, and the rest of the Lands which I have given the Improvement of to my Wife (excepting the half Acre reserved for my Negro) shall descend to my Grandson, John Bradley, his Heirs and Assigns, He paying to his Sister Mehitable the Sum of Five Pounds in Bills of Credit of the New Tenor on said Province, when he come to the Age of Twenty-One Years. I also give my said Wife the Use of my Negro, Pompey, during her natural Life, together with my Stock of Cattle, Horses, Sheep and Swine not otherwise disposed of, and Utensils for Husbandry, and Household Goods and Provisions, and it is my Will and Pleasure that at her decease the said Stock of Cattle, of all Sorts, and Household Goods shall be equally divided betwixt my Daughters; and the Utensils of Husbandry, of all Sorts, shall be for my Grandson, John Bradley.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my dear and well beloved Son, Jeremiah, (besides the Farm I have already given him) One Third part of all my undivided Lands, which is his full Portion of my Estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my dear and well beloved Daughter four Acres of Land in

ton, chairman, a commission of first lieutenant in the company for the continental service, of which Benjamin Emery was captain.*

Besides representing the town in the State Legislature several years, he was elected to the State Senate five years in succession, viz., from 1804 to 1808 inclusive. He early became an extensive land owner in the Province of Maine, and in adjacent parts of New-Hampshire, and encouraged the settlement of towns in the Pigwacket country. Three of his own sons, Robert, John and Samuel A., settled at Fryeburg. Under his patronage the late Abiel Chandler — the magnificent donor of Dartmouth College — commenced his career, † Mr. Bradley giving bonds to Harvard College for the payment of his bills. His house was the abode of hospitality. Enterprising and successful in his affairs, he was able to give his children a respectable education; and two of them, Samuel A. and Moses Hazen, were graduates of Dartmouth College.

In the war of 1812 and 1815, a volunteer company of exempts from military duty was formed, of which Mr. Bradley, then at the age of seventy-one years, was one. This company voted to provide themselves with forty-eight rounds of ball cartridges, suited to the bore of the guns which they carried. Lead being very scarce, Mr. Bradley applied from house to house in the village, to procure a sufficient quantity of lead for his bullets; not succeeding, he said, "One thing I can do: in my pantry are the old pewter-platters that belonged to my grandmother — I will melt them up for balls;" — and he did so.

About this time a Mr. Gerrish, of Boscawen, who had the reputa-

said Rumford, lying on an Island in Horse Shoe Pond, laid out to the Original Right of John Ayer. Also One Cow.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my dear and well beloved Daughters, Abigail Richards, Apphia Farrington, Abiah Eastman, Martha Bradley, Mehitable Eastman and Elizabeth Folsom, One Third Part of all my undivided Lands in said Rumford, (excepting twelve Acres of said Third Part, which I reserve for paying my Son, Farrington,) be equally divided betwixt them. I also give them my Stock of Cattle, of all kinds, not otherwise disposed of, and Household Goods, to be equally divided betwixt them at their Mother's decease, which, with what I have already given them, is their full Share and Portion of my Estate.

Item. I give and bequeath my said Negro, Pompey, after my Wife's decease, to my said Grandson, John Bradley; also all my Utensils of Husbandry.

Item. I give unto my Negro, Pompey, the Use and Improvement of One half Acre of Land by my dwelling-House, taking in my Nursery for part of it, during his natural Life; at his decease to revert to my said Grandson, John Bradley, his Heirs and Assigns, and I will and Order my Son, Timothy, to take Especial Care that my said Negro be not wronged by my aforesaid Grandson in any Ways; and if he should wrong him I give him Power to do him Justice.

Lastly. I give and bequeath unto my dear and well beloved Son, Timothy, all the Remainder of my Estate not herein otherwise disposed of, whether in Possession, Reversion or Remainder, which, with what I have already given him, is in full of his Portion of my Estate. I also hereby Constitute, Ordain and Appoint him, my said Son, Sole Executor of this, my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking, disannulling and disallowing all former Wills, Testaments and Executors by me heretofore named or made, hereby Ratifying this, and no other, to be my last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and Year first written. Signed, Sealed, Published and Declared by the said Abraham Bradley to be his last Will.

Before us:

AMOS ABBOT,
SAMUEL DAVIS,
BENJA. ROLFE.

ABRAHAM ^{His} Bradley. [L. S.]
Mark.

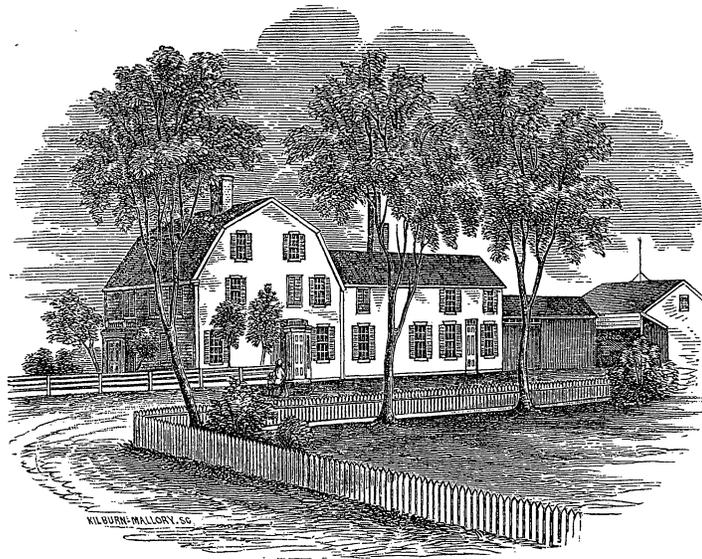
* The commission is preserved in the family of his son, Richard Bradley, Esq. Mr. Bradley went to Winter Hill the ensuing season.

† See biography of Abiel Chandler.

tion of affording "aid and comfort to the enemy" by furnishing beef cattle for the Canada market, called on Mr. Bradley and inquired — "Esq. Bradley, have you any beef cattle to sell?" "I have cattle in good order," was the reply. "I should like, then, to look at them, for I want to buy some for market." "What market?" inquired Mr. Bradley. "Well," said Mr. G., "I don't know as that concerns you — but the money is in my pocket, and if you will sell I am willing to pay a good price." Looking searchingly at him, Esq. B. said, "If you wish for my cattle to drive to Canada to feed the enemy in time of war, you have not money enough to buy them!" Upon which Mr. G. went his way, and purchased of those less scrupulous.

Mr. Bradley was tall and slender, but of great muscular power. At one time he and the late Jonathan Eastman owned Sewall's Island, where they had a barn. Going to the barn early one spring, he discovered a *wild cat* in it. The animal secreted itself behind a pile of boards. Not having a gun, Mr. Bradley, with a pair of leather mittens on his hands, seized the creature by the nape of the neck and small of its back, and choked it to death.

Though not a member of the church, Mr. B. was a firm and liberal supporter of religious institutions, a constant attendant on public worship, and of exemplary life. He passed the evening of his days in retirement and honor, in the old family mansion, greatly respected by his fellow-citizens, and died July 6, 1815, in the 72d year of his age, leaving his house and homestead to his youngest son, Richard.



"The Gambrel Roof," as the Bradley mansion is sometimes called, is well represented by the above cut. It was built by Hon.