

COLLECTIONS,

HISTORICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS:

AND

MONTHLY LITERARY JOURNAL.

COMPREHENDING

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF INDIAN
 WARS; AND OF THE SUFFERINGS
 OF CAPTIVES.
 CIVIL, POLITICAL AND ECCLESIASTI-
 CAL HISTORY.
 TOPOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.
 MEMOIRS AND ANECDOTES OF EMIN-
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 ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS ON VA-
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POETRY,.....ORIGINAL AND SELECT-
 ED.
 ORIGINAL LETTERS; ANECDOTES,
 AND CURIOUS FRAGMENTS.
 AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS AND
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 STATISTICAL TABLES.
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 LITERARY NOTICES.
 OCCURRENCES AT HOME AND A-
 BROAD.
 CASUALTIES AND DEATHS.

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WARD

civilized life. Their roads were little better than foot-paths marked by spotted trees, and their fears were frequently alarmed by the approach of hostile Indians.—Some of them were so much alarmed on this account, that they thought it proper to remove for a while to a garrison in Monson (now a part of Amherst) for protection and safety. The nearest grist-mill was in Dunstable, a distance of 20 miles. When Shepard's mills were afterwards built in Milford, at a distance of 7 miles, to which they could carry their corn on horseback, or (in the winter) on hand-sleighs, they thought themselves happily accommodated.

INDIANS.]—This place appears to have been the hunting ground of the Indians, rather than the place of their fixed residence. Some traces of wigwams, and several of their implements made of stone, bones, &c. have been found.

TAVERNS, &c.]—There are two taverns, two retailing stores, and a post-office.

Sketch of the History, Geology, &c. of Gilmanton, in New-Hampshire.—By DR. WILLIAM PRESCOTT.

GILMANTON, post-town, Strafford county, is situated in lat. 43° 25' N., 17 miles from the State-House, Concord, 44 from Portsmouth, 78 from Boston, and 522 from Washington-City. It is 14 miles in length from S. E. to N. W. and 7 miles in breadth, comprising an area of 63,500 acres. It is bounded N. by Gilford, E. by Alton, S. E. by Barnstead, S. W. by Rockingham line, which divides it from Loudon, Canterbury and Northfield, and N. W. by Winnepisiogee river and bay, which separate it from Sanbornton. This town contained in 1775, 775 inhabitants; 2613 in 1790; 3752 in 1800; 4338 in 1810; 3527 in 1820. Gilford, formerly a part of Gilmanton, was set off in 1812, and now contains 1816 inhabitants.

RIVERS, &c.]—The north-west part of Gilmanton is washed by the Winnepisiogee bay and river, beside which it is intersected by several small streams which run N. W. into the Winnepisiogee, one of which affords valuable seats for mills. Two considerable streams which empty their waters into the Merrimack, have their sour-

ces in this town, viz. Suncook and Soucook rivers. The Suncook rises in a pond on Gilford line, which covers more than 50 acres near the summit of one of the Suncook mountains, elevated more than 900 feet above its base. The water from this pond falls into another at the foot of the mountain of one mile in length and half a mile in breadth; passing from this it falls into another, covering about 500 acres, where it is joined by several other streams, one of which from the N. E. issues from a pond called Small's pond which is partly in Alton, and nearly two miles in length. It then passes off through a thriving village in the S. E. part of the town called the Iron-Works village, where it is covered with many mills and other machinery. This river receives several other streams from this town, one of which issues from a pond in the S. W. corner of the town. The Soucook has its source in three considerable ponds in the S. part of the town lying within two or three miles of each other: the easterly is Loon pond, the westerly, Rocky pond, partly in Canterbury, and the middle one is called Shell-camp pond, about one mile from the Academy. This stream before it leaves this town affords water for several mills.

MILLS, &c.]—There are in Gilmanton 11 saw-mills, 14 grain-mills, four of which have two runs of stones, 4 fulling-mills, 3 carding machines, 1 cotton factory, 1 mill for grinding tanner's bark, 3 circular-saw clapboard machines, 1 trip hammer, and 1 iron foundry.

SOIL, &c.]—Gilmanton, generally speaking, is very hilly and rocky, and the north part extends upon Suncook mountains, from which proceed a chain of hills of various heights, extending S. which divides the head springs of the Suncook and Soucook rivers. One of these hills, which from its shape and insular situation, has been denominated Peaked hill, is situated about half a mile E. of the academy, and is 440 feet high, from its base. From the summit of this hill the following objects may be seen with the naked eye:

	Height.	Bearing.
Two peaks of the Unconoonock mountain in Goffstown,		S. 28 & 27° W.
Mount William in Weare,		S. 32 W.
Crotched Mount between Francestown and Greenfield,		S. 47 W.

	Height.	Bearings.	
State House in Concord,		S.	31° W.
Grand Monadnock between Jaffrey and Dublin,	3,263	S.	50½ W.
Kearsarge, between Sutton & Salisbury,	2,461		due W.
Ascutney, in Windsor, Vt.	3,320	N.	80½ W.
Cardigan in Orange,		N.	51 W.
Moosehillock in Coventry,	4,636	N.	19½ W.
White Face mount, N. of Sandwich,		N.	7 E.
White Mountains, mount Washington, being the highest,	6,213	N.	12 E.
Blue mount, or mount Major, being the highest peak of Suncook mountains			
Gilford,		N.	22 E.
Great Moose mount, between Brookfield and Middleton,		N.	79 E.
Prospect hill, W. of New-Durham ridge,		S.	73 E.

The soil will admit of two grand divisions, the plain and high land. A small portion of the town is plain land, the soil of which is a sandy loam covered in its natural state with White, Norway and Pitch pine, and produces when cultivated indifferent crops of grain, &c. The high lands have a deep, rich soil covered in its natural state with various kinds of hard wood, interspersed with evergreens, and when cultivated produce plentiful crops. The high hills are productive to their tops, affording some of the finest pasturage in the country.

HEALTH, MORTALITY, &c.]—Owing to the uneven surface of this town, it is entirely free from morasses and stagnant waters, by which means the air is salubrious and the climate healthy. The average annual number of deaths for the first ten years was 2 1-2; for the next ten years, 7 7-10; for the next ten, 23 4-10; for the next ten, 22 7-10; for the next nine years, 37 1-2. At which time (1812) Gilford was taken from Gilmanton. The number of deaths for the last ten years in the present limits of Gilmanton, amounts to 400; making the average number 40. In 1790, there were 42 deaths, a large number of which were caused by the dysentery. In 1805, the number of deaths was 55, of which 30 were caused by the dysentery. In the bills of mortality there are many whose ages were between 90 and 100, and some exceed that period.

SCHOOLS AND SOCIETIES.]—There are 24 school districts averaging about 45 scholars each, and 24 school-houses. There is also a flourishing Academy founded in

1794, and endowed with 5,500 dollars, and one fourth part of a township of land. Over the Academy and under the same roof is a spacious hall for the transaction of town and county business. Here the August term of the court of sessions (formerly court of common pleas) is held. There are two libraries in this town, "the Social Library of Gilmanton," incorporated in June 1801, containing 150 volumes; and "the Gilmanton Academy Social Library," incorporated June 1815, containing 160 volumes of well selected books.

TAVERNS, STORES, &c.]—There are in Gilmanton, 5 taverns and 12 trading stores. The principal village is near the centre of the town where there are 30 dwelling-houses, some of which are elegant, and 200 inhabitants, two taverns, four trading stores and an academy. The Iron-works village in the S. E. part of the town is a small, but recently a thriving village, rendered important by its valuable water privileges. It contains 3 saw mills, 3 grist mills, in which are 5 runs of stones, 3 carding machines, 2 clothing mills, and a clapboard machine, a tavern and 3 trading stores.

CHURCHES.]—The baptist church in this town was organized Nov. 16, 1773, consisting of Orlando Weed, Thomas Edgerley, Thomas Mudgett, John Fox and David Young, together with six females. This church was supplied by itinerant preachers until 1786, when elder Walter Powers was ordained its first pastor on the 14th of June. In 1806, he was by his own request dismissed from the pastoral charge of the church. In 1811, the church was divided, the members in the lower parish, constituted the first, and those in the upper parish, the second baptist church in Gilmanton. Since the division of the town in 1812, the second has been called the Gilmanton church.— Since 1811, the first church continued to decline until she lost her visibility. There having been a general revival of religion, another church was formed on the 10th of June, 1818, through the instrumentality of the Rev. Phineas Richardson, of the same order with the former, consisting of Daniel Clough, Stephen Clough, Joseph Haskins, Benjamin Kelley, John Swazey, David Young, and 10 females; 15 more were added the same year; in 1819, 9 were added—present number 43. Rev. Phineas Richardson, was ordained as an evangelist in Methuen, Mass. Nov. 12, 1817, and removed to Gilmanton in March, 1818.

The congregational church was founded on the 30th of Nov. 1774, and consisted of the Rev. Isaac Smith, Stephen Dudley, John Sanborn, Ebenczer Page, and Nathaniel Wilson. The Rev. Isaac Smith was ordained its first pastor the 30th of Nov. 1774, and died March 25, 1817, æt. 72, and in the 43d year of his ministry. The addition of 45 members to this church was the fruit of the general revival in 1818. Present number of communicants, 100.

Rev. Luke A. Spofford was ordained to the pastoral care of this church on the 9th of June, 1819.

There is a society of Friends, consisting of 63 members, which has been of many years standing.

The methodist connection has two classes in this town, one of which was established in 1807, and has 31 members; the second was established in 1812, and consists of 18 members. Total 49. Rev. James P. Harvey is the present preacher on this circuit (1821—2.)

There are in Gilmanton 4 freewill-baptist churches, two of which are without stated preaching. The third was founded in January 1810, by Joseph Young (ruling Elder,) Peter Clark, (teaching elder,) Nicholas Folsom, Jeremiah Sawyer, Wm. Weeks and 27 others. Elder Peter Clark, their present minister, was ordained on the 10th of January, 1810. In the same year (1810) 32 more were added; in 1814, 24 were added, and in 1816, 20 were added—all as the fruits of special revivals. Present number of communicants, 60. The fourth was founded on the 6th of November, 1816, by Elder John Knowles, Simeon Bean and 16 others. Elder John Knowles was ordained as an evangelist, May 30, 1811. Present number of communicants, 50. *

There are six meeting houses, one for congregationalists, one for regular baptists, one for the friends and three for the free-will baptists.

HISTORY.]—Gilmanton was granted May 20, 1727, to Nicholas Gilman, John Gilman, Peter Gilman, Daniel Gilman, Nicholas Gilman, jun. Andrew Gilman, Thomas Gilman, Nicholas Gilman, 3d, Samuel Gilman, Nathaniel Gilman, Joseph Gilman, John Gilman, jun. Edward Gilman, Samuel Gilman, 3d, John Gilman 3d, Trueworthy Gilman, Edward Gilman, jun. Jeremiah Gilman, Nathaniel Gilman, jun. Caleb Gilman, Robert Gilman, Nehemiah Gilman, Jonathan Gilman, Capt. John Gilman and

152 others. Its settlement was protracted by reason of the frequent depredations committed by the Indians during the frequent and almost continued wars that prevailed for a long time between the then British colonies and the French and Indians of Canada. But upon the reduction of Canada in 1760, this fear of the Indians subsided and Benjamin Mudgett and wife (being the first family) arrived in Gilmanton on the 27th day of Dec. 1761. The next day John Mudgett and wife arrived. On the 10th of Jan. 1762, they were joined by Orlando Weed and wife. Here they remained through the winter, their nearest neighbors being in Epsom. Several families moved in the next season; at the close of 1763 there were 20 families in town. Among those who arrived this year were Capt. afterward Gen. Joseph Badger and Rev. Wm. Parsons. Mrs. Hannah Mudgett was the first white woman that arrived in town, and slept in it one night before the arrival of any other. She is still living at an advanced age, with the full exercise of her mental faculties, and a pattern of piety and virtue. Dorothy Weed was the first child born in town, 13th Oct. 1762, and there were eleven daughters born successively before any son. The first son was Samuel Mudgett, born Feb. 15, 1764, son of Benjamin and Hannah Mudgett.*

Gen. Joseph Badger is entitled to a respectful notice in this place as being of essential service in fostering the first settlement of the town. He was many years town clerk, selectman, representative, &c. He was the first magistrate, being appointed justice of the peace 10th of March, 1768, by John Wentworth, and afterwards justice of the peace and quorum throughout the state, which office he held until his death. On the 6th of December, 1784, he was appointed judge of probate for the county of Strafford, which office he held until he resigned, at the age of 70. He was appointed Brigadier General June 7, 1780, by President Weare.

GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY.]—The mineralogy and geology of this town have been but imperfectly explored. A variety of stones and minerals abound, among which are the following:

*The circumstance of a Maj. Sinclair moving his wife from Barnstead into this town for the purpose of procuring for his expected son, the lot of land offered by the proprietors to the first male child that should be born in town, is to be remembered only to be execrated. This circumstance occasioned so much dispute that the proprietors awarded the land to neither.

Quartz: several varieties, as rock chrystal, abundant, some good specimens; blue quartz, rose red quartz, irised quartz, and granular quartz, are frequently found; milky quartz, greasy quartz and radiated quartz are abundant in all parts. Yellow and red ferruginous quartz in beautiful chrystals.

Hornstone—frequent; jasper and tripoli, or rotten stone, sometimes found; petrosilex, several specimens; feldspar abundant; beside being disseminated through several rocks, it occurs chrystallized in rhomboidal prisms in porphyritic granite, porphyritic sienite, &c. Mica, good specimens of different colours, and varieties, as laminated, lamellar, and prismatic mica, on quartz, feldspar, &c.

Common Schorl: radiating on quartz, and darting through it in all directions, and tourmaline, generally in contact with feldspar, are common in all parts of the town. Common garnets in duodecahedral chrystals with rhombic faces frequently occur, mostly in hornblende rocks: hornblende is common in loose fragments, of various sizes. Tremolite, actynolite and chlorite are sometimes found. Epidote and argilite in some places.

The compound rocks are by far the most abundant in this town. The following are the principal. Several varieties of granite; common granite suitable for building and door steps, is very abundant; porphyritic granite, met with in all parts of the town, very common; graphic granite and granitic aggregates are common. Mica slate (micaceous schistus) is, next to granite, the most abundant. Gneiss is found in one place where it is wrought to advantage into hearth stones. Sienite abounds in the north part of the town as it approaches Suncook mountains; these mountains are made up entirely of this rock. It is in part porphyritic. Porphyritic quartz and other porphyritic stones are common. Amygdaloid very common. Clay of a superior quality for bricks abounds in different parts of the town.

Sulphur occurs in a mine on the west bank of the middle branch of Suncook river. Also, efflorescing on rocks in various parts. Richard Jones and sons, while digging in the west bank of the middle branch of Suncook river, for the purpose of procuring materials for building a dam in 1820 and 1821, came upon a mine of yellow and white sulphuret of iron, (iron pyrites) some in beautiful cubic chrystals and some

in small amorphous masses; also sulphate of iron (native copperas) where the rocks and sand have all the appearance of having once been in a state of fusion, occasioned probably by the increase of heat which must necessarily take place in the conversion of the sulphuret into the sulphate of iron. Also arsenical sulphuret of iron in amorphous masses. A white powder has been found here, which agrees in its external appearance with the white oxide of lead, (white lead) and another not unlike pure phosphate of iron; likewise native sulphur lodged in the cavities of rocks. The rocks in this bed are mostly radiated, limpid, irised, and ferruginous quartz, beautifully chrySTALLIZED, with a small portion of micaceous schistus.

Red and yellow ochre are found in various parts. The rocks in various sections are tinged in various hues with the oxide of iron, sulphur, &c.

Iron ore has been found in many places, and works were erected in 1768 at the iron works village, so called, for the purpose of separating the iron from the ore. The ore was taken from Suncook pond in 20 feet of water, one mile and a half above the works. After several years, the works were abandoned by reason of the failure of ore and the difficulty of obtaining it. It is said that the ore has since considerably increased.

There are several mineral springs in this town, one of which is known to be medicinal, and has proved efficacious in bilious and cutaneous diseases, and promises to be serviceable in many other diseases. It is very sensibly diuretic, sometimes emetic, at others cathartic.

A SECOND LAMBERT.—Mr. Caleb Towle, of Centre-Harbor, a man 35 years of age, 5 feet and 8 inches high; temperate, and until a few years industrious; weighs 490 pounds, and measures 6 feet 4 inches round the body. He gained during the last year, 32 pounds; enjoys a good state of health, is cheerful, and able to visit his neighbors.

In Bavaria, Prince EUGENE BEAUHARNOIS, Prince of Eickstadt, and Duke of Liuchtenberg, aged 43. He was son of the Ex-Empress of France, Josephine, and married the Bavarian Princess Augusta Amelia, in 1806, but had no issue by her. He was Viceroy of Italy many years, and filled a large space in Napoleon's wars.

In Magdeburg, the celebrated French Revolutionary Statesman, CARNOT, 70, a member with Bonaparte of the French Consular Executive.

LONGEVITY.

In England, Mr. Humphrey Phillimore, 100.—In Irthington, Eng. June 13, Mr. Robert Bowman, 118. He was born in Oct. 1705, and recollected the rebellion of 1715. He was from his early youth, a hard working man—never used tea or coffee, and scarcely ever tasted of ale or spirits—took no medicine and was visited with no illness but twice in his life. His

principal food was bread, potatoes and hasty pudding—his drink, water or milk.—In Quebec, Laughlin Smith, Esq. 100.

In Wilmington, Del. Mrs. Elizabeth Deford, 95.—In New-York, Mrs. Jane Wendover, 92.—In Pennfield, N. Y. Mrs. Elizabeth Robb, 91.—In Somerset county, Md. Mrs. Elizabeth Parks, 115 yrs. 5 mo.—In Lenox, Mass. Mrs. Lewis, widow of Medad Lewis, 108.—In Templeton, Mass. Mrs. Sarah Haskell, 90.—In New-Salem, Mass. Wid. Rebecca Marvel, 95.—In Salem, Mass. Sept. 26, Mrs. Mary Henman, 105.

In New-Hampshire. In Weare, Aug. 30, Wid. Beulah Philbrick, 93, the oldest person in that town. In Amherst, Mr. Thomas Woolson, 93.—In Gilmanton, Wid. Sarah Moulton, 91.—In Strafford, Sept. 6, Mr. Perry Hixon, 99.—In Chesterfield, Sept. 10, Mr. Nathaniel Bacon, 96.—In Winchester, Sept. 14, Daniel Hawkins, Esq. 95.

THERMOMETRICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
FOR JULY, 1823.

<i>At Portsmouth, in lat. 43° 4'.</i>				<i>At Hopkinton in lat. 43° 11'.</i>					
Days.	Temperatures.			Winds and Weather.	Days.	Temperatures.			Observations.
	7 A. M.	1 P. M.	9 P. M.			S. rise.	1 P. M.	9 P. M.	
1	65	81	74	W. Fair	1	56	83	73	W. Fair
2	72	84	74	W. Fair; hazy	2	34	91	71	Same
3	64	62	56	E. Fair; high wind	3	67	72	53	NE. Fair
4	58	74	57	NE. to S. Fair	4	42	82	62	E. SE. Fair
5	65	88	77	W. Fair	5	54	92	76	SE. Fair; cloudy
6	65	64	60	E. Rain	6	65	67	62	NE. Rain; cloudy; fair
7	64	70	60	Cloudy	7	61	81	67	NE. SE. Hazy; fair
8	67	75	70	W. Showers, morn; fair	8	64	84	72	SE. SW. Same
9	72	86	70	W. Fair	9	67	89	76	W. NW. Fair
10	68	77	72	E. to S. Fair	10	62	89	76	W. Fair
11	63	81	69	Variable; showers; fair	11	67	93	68	W. SW. Thunder showers
12	75	86	76	W. Fair	12	64	88	71	W. S. Fair
13	75	80	65	Same	13	66	78	61	W. Fair
14	63	78	70	Same	14	64	76	67	W. Fair; flying clouds
15	66	65	63	S. Rain	15	62	66	62	SW. Cloudy; Rain
16	67	73	60	SE. Cloudy; rain	16	55	77	60	S. SE. NE. Cloudy; rain
17	63	78	64	SE. Fair	17	52	77	66	NE. NW. Fair
18	65	70	59	SE. Cloudy	18	62	79	63	W. SW. Cloudy
19	65	74	60	NW. Fair	19	58	71	57	NW. Fair
20	62	78	64	Same	20	42	76	59	NW. Fair; Flying clouds
21	62	67	57	SE. Fair; light clouds	21	50	75	59	NW. NE. Fair
22	61	73	60	Same	22	54	81	62	NE. SE. Fair
23	63	74	64	Same	23	57	85	67	SE. Fair
24	63	82	71	S. Hazy; fair	24	60	85	67	S. SW. Fair
25	70	78	65	S. Cloudy; rain	25	62	82	64	S. SW. Fair; cloudy; rain
26	65	72	63	SE. Rain; fair	26	60	74	64	NE. E. Rain; cloudy; fair
27	63	70	74	Same	27	65	84	69	E. S. SW. Same
28	71	81	68	NW. Fair	28	64	80	67	NW. Fair
29	72	73	68	Fair; showers	29	61	76	69	SW. Cloudy; rain; cloudy
30	65	71	63	SE. Rain	30	65	67	64	SE. E. Cloudy; thunder sh.
31	62	67	61	E. Cloudy	31	62	69	62	E. Cloudy L, L ₂