CHAPTER IX.

THE TOWN OF CONCORD.—POST-REVOLUTIONARY EVENTS.—CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.—REVISED STATE CONSTITUTION.—TOWN AFFAIRS AND PROGRESS.

1784–1800.

As the new constitution was to go into full effect on the second day of June, 1784, a president of the state, senators, and members of the house of representatives were elected by the people in March. In Concord, Timothy Walker, who had been the first and the last to serve the parish as representative under the old constitution, was elected as the first to serve the town in the same capacity under the new. Of the ninety-eight votes cast for president, fifty-six were for Woodbury Langdon, and forty-two for Josiah Bartlett.[1] But neither of these candidates was chosen to the chief magistracy, the venerable Meshech Weare being the choice of a large majority in the state. Only seven of the twelve senators having been elected by the people, the legislature made choice of Timothy Walker as one of the remaining five, and Peter Green[2] was chosen by the town to succeed him in the lower house.

The members elect of the two branches of the legislature convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June. Their oaths of office were taken and subscribed before Josiah Bartlett, senior member of the old council, acting for President Weare of that body,[3] detained by illness incident to the burden of years and the weight of public cares long borne. Thursday, the 3d of June, was the day on which popular interest in the inauguration of the government under the new constitution was especially manifested. "The occasion," it has been written, "was of great interest and importance, and attended with imposing ceremonies. A procession was formed, composed of members of the legislature, and civil authorities of the state, together with other persons of office and dignity; also, of ministers of the gospel of various denominations, and a large body of citizens, who marched at the sound of music to the meeting-house. The Reverend Samuel McClintock, of Greenland, preached on the occasion, and a public dinner was given at the expense of the State."[4]

This "Election Day" was typical of a holiday, which was, with

[1] Town Records, 216-17.
[2] *Ibid*, 219.
[3] Journals of House and Senate, 1784.
[4] Bouton's Concord, 288.

changes, to celebrate for many a year the June organization of the legislative department of the state government, and especially the official induction of the chief executive. It was peculiarly a Concord day, and one anticipated with much preparation for fitly receiving the official guests, as well as throngs of visitants sure to be in town to witness and enjoy the enlivening holiday observance. Special interest in the day extended into all the country round about the capital, and "going to 'lection," in the popular abbreviation, was a favorite recreative feature of the people's life.

But the town was, and for some years would be, without a settled minister of the gospel. In October, 1782, a few weeks after the death of Mr. Walker, a committee of three was appointed "to supply the pulpit."[1] In March, 1783, two were added to the committee. Later in the same year, certain arrearages of the late minister's salary were "discharged" by leasing to his son Timothy, "for the term of nine hundred ninety-nine years, three acres of bog-meadow which" had been "laid out to the parsonage right for emendation." This question of salary arrearage had often been before the parish meetings, and ineffectual attempts had been made to effect a settlement. In March, 1782, "all former committees, chosen to settle with the Rev. Timothy Walker," were dismissed, and one was appointed "to request" him "to sue those persons who" were "delinquent in paying his salary from the year 1749 to the year 1765."[2] The singular request was not complied with, and the town finally adjusted the matter by a lease of a portion of its parsonage land, as just mentioned. Another committee was selected, in March, 1785, for supplying the pulpit, and "one half the money raised to defray the expenses of the town" was appropriated to that purpose.[3] The services of Mr. Daniel Story were temporarily employed; but it is said that his Arminianism did not quite suit the orthodox views of his hearers. At any rate, in June, the committee was enlarged, and instructed to "procure a candidate on probation the first opportunity."[4] At length, Mr. Jonathan Wilkins, a native of Marlborough, Massachusetts, and a graduate of Dartmouth college, in 1779, was engaged to preach as a candidate; and on the 17th of December, 1786, he received from the church a unanimous call to settle. The next day the call was seconded by the town, with the offer of a salary of one hundred pounds, the use of the parsonage, and two hundred pounds "towards a settlement." But Mr. Wilkins declined the invitation, "in conformity,"—as he said in his answer,—"to what appears duty and interest, which are inseparably connected." Though declining the

[1] Town Records, 207.
[2] *Ibid*, 202.
[3] *Ibid*, 221.
[4] *Ibid*, 222-3.

pastorate on what he deemed an inadequate salary, he became a permanent resident of Concord, useful and prominent in its church and civil affairs.[1]

Nearly three years later, on the first day of September, 1788,—just six years after the death of Mr. Walker,—Israel Evans, a native of Pennsylvania, a graduate of Princeton, and an army chaplain during the Revolution, who had been preaching in Concord, as a candidate, received the call of church and town "to settle in the work of the ministry,"[2] with an annual salary of ninety pounds, the use of the parsonage, and "two hundred pounds—in materials for building a house—as a settlement."[2] This vote was modified at an adjourned meeting in October, so as to make the salary fifteen dollars more "in lieu of the settlement."[2] Mr. Evans did not "approve of everything in the call,"[3] and did not accept until the 17th of March, 1789,[3] and was regularly installed on the first Wednesday of July, of that year.[4]

In those days, financial stress, more or less severe, was felt throughout the country. During the last years of the Revolution, silver and gold had circulated largely, but had gradually, since peace, been returned to the countries from which necessary and unnecessary commodities[5] were imported; while no general system of impost[5] had been adopted, whereby some part of this money might have been retained.[5] This scarcity of money was a grievance which legislation, in New Hampshire or elsewhere, failed to remedy; and which also bred a morbid desire for inordinate issues of paper currency. In some localities, even in conservative New Hampshire, this desire manifested itself not only in misguided urgency as to its specific object, but also in clamorous opposition to laws obliging the payment of debts, and to courts and lawyers, as instrumental in enforcing those laws. The unhealthy sentiment ran into a high fever of excitement in 1786. It was determined to bring direct pressure upon the legislature. Thus, it was planned as an impressive stroke of policy, to hold a paper-money convention at Concord, during the early days of the June legislative session; it being hoped that the personal presence of the convention might materially help to ensure for its petition the favor of the legislature. But a practical joke upset the fond hope. For when, at the commencement of the legislative session, only five delegates to the proposed convention were in town, sixteen members of the house, of a waggish turn, among whom were several young lawyers, bethought themselves to pretend that they, too, had been chosen as delegates from their towns. They

[1] Bouton's Concord, 291-5; also, see note at close of chapter.
[2] Town Records, 243-4.
[3] *Ibid*, 251.
[4] *Ibid*, 253-4.
[5] Belknap, 395.

succeeded in persuading the five to go into convention with them at once; urging that it was of the utmost importance to present a petition to the legislature as early as possible. Thereupon, a convention of the real and pretended delegates was organized, with one of the former for president, and one of the latter for clerk. The proceedings and debates were conducted with much apparent solemnity.[1] A petition was framed, complaining, in most extravagant terms, of their grievances, and praying for a loan of three millions of dollars, secured by real estate—the paper thus issued to be legal tender for all debts; also praying for the abolition of inferior courts, and for a reduction of the number of lawyers to two only in a county.[1] The members of the convention then marched in procession to the house of representatives,—some of whom, including the speaker, had been let into the secret,—and, with great formality, presented their petition, which was suffered to lie on the table, and afterwards to be withdrawn.[1] The convention quickly dissolved; and when other real delegates arrived they were exceedingly mortified on finding their purpose, for that time, thwarted.

But the cause of fiat money, though having the laugh against it, continued to find more or less support in various quarters. County conventions were held, from two of which, and also from several towns, petitions were presented to the legislature at its September session held in Exeter. "To still the clamor," says Belknap,[2] "and collect the real sense of the people on the subject of paper currency, the assembly formed a plan for the emission of fifty thousand pounds, to be let at four per cent. on land security, to be a tender in payment of state taxes, and for the fees and salaries of public officers. This plan"—adopted on the 14th of September—"was immediately printed, and sent to the several towns; and the people were desired to give their opinions in town-meetings for and against it, and to make return of their votes to the assembly at the next session." This way of proceeding did not coincide with the radical views of the party, and an attempt was made to coerce the legislature by mob violence. This, however, signally failed.

The financial craze, with its violent craving for impracticable measures of relief, soon after subsided. This result was forwarded by the refusal of the people to consent to the plan for emitting a paper currency, submitted by the general court in September, a few days before the riot at Exeter. The sense of the citizens of Concord upon the subject was emphatically expressed in town-meeting on the 30th of October, 1786, when it was voted "not to make paper money on any plan whatever."[3]

[1] Belknap, 399; also, see Life of William Plumer.
[2] History of New Hampshire, 400.
[3] Town Records, 228; also, see note at close of chapter.

The financial troubles in the land, fraught with peril even to the stability of state governments, helped to hasten the popular conviction that the thirteen articles of confederation, adopted in 1778, afforded an utterly inadequate fundamental law for the thirteen independent states. A new constitution was felt to be requisite for securing, among other advantages, public and private credit as one of the blessings of liberty, by delegating to the congress of the Union certain exclusive rights, such as to coin money and emit bills of credit. Hence, in 1787, was framed the Constitution of the United States. With giant conflict of opinion, and with much of concession and compromise, the great instrument of Union had been adopted by the convention of delegates from the United States of America, over whose deliberations George Washington presided. Now it had to pass the ordeal of the conventions of the several states, the approval of nine of which was requisite to give it effect. On the 14th of December the general court passed a resolution calling upon the people of New Hampshire to choose delegates to meet in convention at Exeter, on the 13th of February, 1788, "to take under consideration the proceedings of the late Federal Convention, and investigate, discuss, and decide upon the same."[1] Concord chose Captain Benjamin Emery "to sit in convention at Exeter."[2]

This convention, having met at the time and place appointed and having selected General John Sullivan, at that time chief magistrate of the state, for its president, occupied ten days in discussing the proposed constitution. There were two parties, the one for adoption being led upon the floor by Samuel Livermore of Holderness; the one against, by Joshua Atherton of Amherst—both men of distinguished ability and much personal influence. The opposition manifested such strength that the friends of ratification deemed it fortunate that an adjournment till June was effected, the convention then to meet at Concord. Here, accordingly, it met in second session on the 18th of June. "The convention," as it is recorded by another, "excited an interest with which the proceedings of no other deliberative body in this State have ever been regarded. The galleries of the church where it assembled were thronged with spectators, and its members were surrounded, not only by large numbers of their own constituents, but by individuals from distant states, engaged, some of them, in watching their deliberations, and some of them, no doubt, in efforts to influence the result."[3] The session continued three days. Fifteen amendments were recommended on the report of a committee of fifteen, of which John Langdon, recently elected president of the state, was chairman. An attempt to ratify, with the pro-

[1] Town Records, 238.
[2] *Ibid*, 239.
[3] Barstow's New Hampshire, 279-80.

viso that the constitution should not be operative in New Hampshire without the amendments, was defeated; and on the afternoon of the 21st of June, 1788, the constitution, as it came from the "Convention of Delegates from the United States of America, held at Philadelphia, on the seventeenth of September, 1787," was adopted by a vote of fifty-seven to forty-seven. Captain Benjamin Emery, the Concord delegate, voted in the negative; but this action found, according to tradition, its offset in that of Judge Walker, a strong friend of ratification, who, anticipating a close vote, invited to dinner one or more delegates of the opposite opinion, and by prolonging his liberal entertainment beyond the hour of voting, helped to lessen the negative strength.[1] Indeed, a great historic act had been done in the old North church at Concord; for, as announced in the triumphant voice of Sullivan from the chair, amid acclaims of joy from floor and gallery, New Hampshire had felicitously won the fadeless honor of being the ninth state to ratify the constitution, and thus to give it practical effect as the sure bond of "more perfect union," and the life of the nation's future government. The news from Concord, speeding over the country, by courier and other means, relieved the anxious hearts of Washington, Hamilton, Madison, and their like, and was welcomed by the people with the heartiest demonstrations of joy.[2]

During these, as well as previous and subsequent events, there existed, as evidenced by the town records, considerable educational interest in the public mind. Thus, in 1779, in the very stress of the Revolution, the expense of hiring a schoolmaster was allowed with other accounts for "the year past."[3] When no special appropriation was made, sometimes, as in 1781, certain lands belonging to the school right were ordered to be "leased out";[4] while, the same year, it was suggested, in the warrant for a special meeting, that "the parish excuse those persons who have kept constant schools in Concord from paying taxes the current year."[5] In March, 1785, it was voted "that a public school be kept in Concord the ensuing year."[6] Probably this school was wholly or partially supported from the general appropriation made "to defray the expenses of the town."[7] The next year forty pounds were specially appropriated for "a town school"[8] and, in 1789, the same amount was voted, "to be divided into several parts or districts, as usual."[9] From this time the annual appropriation was steadily increased, at short intervals, and within thirty years reached twelve hundred dollars, and the sum raised for

[1] Bouton's Concord, 303.
[2] See Centennial Observance of Ratification Day, 1888, in note at close of chapter.
[3] Town Records, 175.
[4] *Ibid*, 190.
[5] *Ibid*, 195-6.
[6] *Ibid*, 220.
[7] *Ibid*, 221.
[8] *Ibid*, 224.
[9] *Ibid*, 250.

the support of the school rose from less than two thirds of that raised for the supply of the pulpit to more than twice as much.

The "house lot belonging to the school-right," located on the south side of the road running westerly by the Bradley estate, was, in 1790, exchanged for an acre and four fifths of land owned by Lieutenant Robert Davis, and situated southerly of the burying-ground and adjoining it.[1] During the same year a schoolhouse was located on Main street, at a short distance easterly of the church. This was effected by the vote "that the pest-house be moved into the town street near the meeting-house for the use of a schoolhouse." The structure thus utilized had been erected in July, 1775, at an expense of forty pounds, when pestilence had suddenly entered the parish, amid the alarms of war. For the smallpox had been contracted by Dr. Philip Carrigain, on professional service in a neighboring town, and by him communicated to John, the son of Nathaniel West, a neighbor.[2] It was on Saturday that the discovery of the real nature of the disease was made, creating intense alarm in the community. On Sabbath morning "the inhabitants assembled en masse and commenced the erection of a pest-house in a grove west of the residence of Captain Benjamin Emery,"[2] and before night "the timber for a convenient" structure, "to consist of four rooms, had been felled, hewed, framed, and raised," and "the boards for covering and the brick for the chimney" had been "drawn to the ground."[3] To this house forthwith finished, the West family was removed, six or seven of the members of which were attacked, but all of whom recovered save the father. The doctor and his family of five remained in their own house, which was fenced off from all communication, and where inoculation was tried, and no death occurred. It was certainly a singular frugality of the citizens of Concord which has thus associated the story of a pest-house with that of a schoolhouse in a narrative of educational progress.

It is interesting to note the variety of personal preference expressed by the voters of Concord at the first election of presidential electors under the new Constitution of the United States, held on the 15th of December, 1788. All were Federalists in that they were in favor of George Washington for president, but they were of many minds as to the men who should directly express the people's choice in the electoral college. Hence, their two hundred and ninety-one[4] votes were distributed among twenty-three candidates, though but five electors were to be chosen. There was no choice by the people of the state; but of the candidates subsequently elected by the legislature, two, Ebenezer Thompson and John Parker, received not

[1] Town Records, 259-60.
[2] See note at close of chapter.
[3] Bouton's Concord, 282.
[4] Town Records, 246.

a vote in Concord; of three, John Pickering received forty-five—the highest number cast for any one—John Sullivan, forty-one, and Benjamin Bellows, two. Votes were given for three citizens of Concord; ten for Timothy Walker, five for Peter Green, and one for John Bradley.[1]

A somewhat similar division occurred in voting for electors at Washington's second election in 1792. It may be permissible to add here, that, at four successive elections for the presidency of the state, previous to the adoption of the national constitution, John Langdon had been Concord's favorite candidate; having in 1785 received one hundred and five of one hundred and thirteen votes cast. During the next three years, when Langdon and Sullivan were rival candidates, Concord steadily gave heavy majorities for the former; though, in two of them, the latter won the presidency. But while both of those excellent, patriotic men had their earnest personal following, no essential political differences then existed to make clearly defined political parties.

The establishment of Printing in Concord has, for its date, the first year of the federal government under the administration of Washington. George Hough, a native of Connecticut, where he learned the printer's trade, and whence he had removed to Windsor, Vermont, and had there engaged for some time in publishing a newspaper, came to Concord, and, on the 8th of September, 1789, set up his printing-press in a small building situated on the west side of Main street, upon ground afterwards to be included in the front part of the state house yard.[2] There he did the first printing done in New Hampshire north of Exeter; issuing, in October, Doddsley's Christian Economy. On the 6th of January was given to the public the first number of the first newspaper published in Concord, entitled *The Concord Herald and New Hampshire Intelligencer*—a small weekly of four pages, each fourteen inches by nine,[3] but bearing "marks of the care and correct taste of Mr. Hough, who became known throughout the state as a workman that 'needed not to be ashamed.'"[4] The publication of this paper was continued somewhat more than fifteen years—or until October, 1805—but not without a change of name; the title becoming, in 1794, the *Courier of New Hampshire*. The place of issuance had earlier been changed to the "Kinsman house," some rods south of the site of the subsequent "Eagle Coffee House," or the later "Eagle Hotel."

On the 29th of October, 1792, Elijah Russell began the publica-

[1] Town Records, 246.
[2] John Farmer's Letter; Proceedings of N. H. Press Association, January, 1882, 1883, *p.* 31.
[3] Bouton's Concord, 310.
[4] Asa McFarland in paper read before N. H. Printers' Association, January, 1873; Proceedings, *p.* 34.

tion of the *Mirrour*, printed on a sheet of fourteen inches by eight, and issued from an office near Hannaford's tavern at the North End. The terms of subscription as announced were: "Five shillings per annum; one shilling only to be paid yearly in money, on receiving the first paper of every year, and the remainder, in country produce, at the market cash price, any time in the course of the year. Of those who cannot pay one shilling in cash, produce will be received for the whole, at the end of the year." These terms of subscription, taken as a specimen of those exacted in the earliest period of Concord journalism, though vastly easier for subscribers than publishers, did not secure large or promptly paying lists of the former; for the newspaper appetite was yet but imperfectly formed in the mass of population, and expenditure for its gratification was scantily and tardily made. Hence, one finds John Lathrop, a post-rider, who carried the papers on his northerly route from Concord, urging, in the fall of 1791, subscribers "to pay up" by the beginning of next year, and persuasively suggesting that though he was ever willing to gratify his customers with a reasonable pay day, yet that, when "the earth yields her increase in abundance," it seemed to him a "happy presage" of punctuality among those who had "kindly become his debtors." "Cash, wheat, rye, or flax will be received," adds the post-rider; and, "for the convenience of every one," he appoints "places at which the pay may be delivered." Delinquency still withstanding his accommodating offers, he puts forth the suggestive warning: "Delays are dangerous. Money, we all know, is always scarce. But when a grain debt is not paid in the season of it, the creditor says *money*. That will be disagreeable to the debtor; and the post, while produce is plenty, puts off the harsh expression."

The *Mirrour* existed till 1799; its conductor publishing meanwhile, for six months of the year 1797, a literary and miscellaneous weekly, called *The Star*, and printed "in a small octavo of sixteen pages." After the discontinuance of the *Mirrour* and *The Star*, Mr. Russell, in 1801, commenced the publication of the *Republican Gazette*, as the organ of the political party supporting the administration of Jefferson. This paper lived two years, or until 1803; Hough's *Courier*, till 1805.

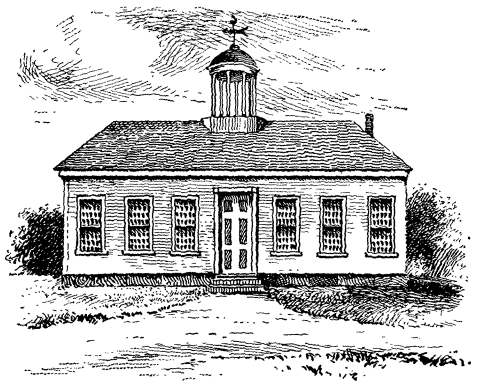
When the first printing press was set up in Concord, and the first newspaper form worked off upon it, the population of the town, according to the first census of the United States, taken in 1790, was seventeen hundred and forty-seven—showing an increase of seven hundred twenty-five in fifteen years. A rudimentary postal system existed, under which inter-communication was somewhat expedited. Concord was a point whence and whither "post-riders" on horseback

passed through the country on various lines, carrying letters, newspapers, and packages of light transmission. Samuel Bean rode once a week from Boston to Concord and back, on a route lying through Andover, Haverhill, Atkinson, Kingston, Exeter, Epping, Nottingham, Deerfield, and Pembroke, and on return through Londonderry.[1] About the same time and somewhat later, John Lathrop—already spoken of—also rode post from Concord through Boscawen and intermediate towns to Hanover, and thence up along the Connecticut river to Haverhill, returning by way of Plymouth and New-Chester, otherwise Hill.[1] Lathrop, if not Bean, may have been a post-rider under the law passed by the state legislature of 1791, establishing "four routes for posts to be thereafter appointed to ride in and through the interior of the State."[2] Two of these routes proceeded from Concord, passing through the principal towns westward to Keene, and northward to Haverhill.[3] Under this state law one person was appointed in each of the towns of Portsmouth, Dover, Exeter, Concord, Amherst, Keene, Charlestown, Hanover, Haverhill, and Plymouth, "to take charge of all matters conveyed by the posts";[4] receiving as compensation twopence, advanced on the postage of every private letter or package passing through the respective offices.[4] "The postage, which on single letters was sixpence for every forty miles, and fourpence for any number of miles under forty, was granted exclusively to the post-riders."[5] New Hampshire assumed this temporary authority in postal matters for the reason, it seems, that the post-office department of the general government was not yet in complete working order; though there had been a postmaster-general since 1789 in the person of Samuel Osgood, and that of his successor, Timothy Pickering. Probably, George Hough was appointed under the state law to take charge, in Concord, of what was conveyed by the posts. Certainly, in June, 1792,—the last year of Washington's first presidential term,—he received appointment as the regular postmaster of the town, with commission signed by Timothy Pickering, second postmaster-general of the United States.[6] The first location of the post-office thus established was doubtless in the building before mentioned, where Mr. Hough was printing Concord's first newspaper.

Seven months after the issue of the first newspaper in Concord, another step of judicious progress was taken in proceeding to the erection of a public building to answer, primarily, the purpose of a state house, and secondarily, that of a town house. The New Hampshire legislature was then a migratory body, yet there were encour-

[1] Bouton's Concord, 310.
[2] Barstow's New Hampshire, 289.
[3] Bouton's Concord, 310.
[4] *Ibid*, 311.
[5] Barstow's New Hampshire, 290.
[6] Bouton's Concord, 588.

aging indications that Concord would ultimately become the permanent place of session and the capital of the state. Hence, the town resolved to take action, and, accordingly, on the 30th of August, 1790, voted "one hundred pounds for building a house for the accommodation of the General Court."[1] For the encouragement of this undertaking, fourteen prominent citizens[2] had subscribed five hundred and fifty-five dollars, "in labor and materials." The building was ordered to be "set on land[3] of Mr. William Stickney, near Deacon David Hall's." This land was given by the owner on condition that if the town should neglect or refuse to keep a public building on it for three years it should revert to him or his heirs.[4] With Captain Reuben Kimball as building agent, a house was forthwith erected upon a sloping elevation, westward of the main street, and nearer to it than later structures that took its place. It was one-storied, eighty feet long, forty feet wide, and of fifteen-feet post. Its eastern front running lengthwise of the street, had its door without porch in the center, flanked on either side by three large windows, and opening inside upon "a spacious entry." On the north side of this passage was finished a room for the house of representatives; on the south side, one for the senate. These rooms not occupying the entire width of the building, space was left along the rear or westerly side for small committee rooms. To complete the inside arrangement, a stairway led from the entry to a small gallery overlooking the two legislative rooms. Outside, from the center of the roof rose a low cupola, surmounted by a vane; both being the handiwork of Ephraim Potter, the sailor, as well as the versatile mechanic, who had already made of wood some of the first clocks used in Concord, and had exercised his ingenuity upon the belfry and spire of the "Old North Church" at the time of its renovation.



Old Town House, 1790.

The town-meeting, which, on the 30th of August,[5] had ordered the erection of the building, was the last ever held in the meeting-house; for on the 13th of the following December,[6] the next meeting convened in the "Town House,"—as the yet unfinished structure was

[1] Town Records, 262.
[2] See list in note at close of chapter; also, Bouton's Concord, 305-6.
[3] Part of the lot where later was to stand the building known as the City Hall and Court House.
[4] Bouton's Concord, 306.
[5] Town Records, 261-2.
[6] *Ibid*, 262.

called,—being the first of the long line of Concord town-meetings which were to be held there for more than sixty years. There, too, the state legislature, migratory till 1808,—permanent afterwards,—was to find convenient quarters, to be exchanged in 1819 for a more commodious capitol. Though early so far completed as to answer the purposes of erection, the town house was not "finished" till 1796, upon an additional appropriation of sixty pounds.[1]

On the 7th of September, 1791, commenced the sessions of a convention for revising the state constitution. These were held in the meeting-house where, seven years before, that constitution had been adopted; and where, too, three years ago, the constitution of the United States had, by ratification, been made the fundamental law of the American Union. To this convention the people had chosen many of their ablest men; one of whom was Timothy Walker, of Concord. The work of the convention, which required four sessions,—the longest continuing sixteen days,—was completed on the 6th of September, 1792, when it was ascertained that, upon a second appeal to the people, the amended constitution had been approved. The work as completed proved so satisfactory to the people that for nearly sixty years they allowed no attempt to amend.[2] The amended constitution went into full operation in June, 1793, when the legislature elected under it met in Concord, and Josiah Bartlett, President of the state for the two preceding years, was inducted into the chief magistracy as Governor, being the first to wear that title in New Hampshire since the days of the Province.

Hitherto, the Merrimack within the limits of Concord could be crossed by ferries only. In 1795 some of the public-spirited citizens of the thriving town bestirred themselves to substitute bridges. In January the legislature, in answer to a petition, granted to Peter Green and others the exclusive right to build and support a bridge between Butters's—formerly Merrill's—ferry and Concord south line, and prescribed the tolls for reimbursing the proprietors for expense incurred in building and supporting the bridge. Its stock was divided into a hundred shares, and was largely taken by residents of Concord.[3] On the 9th of March, 1795, Paul Rolfe—son of Colonel Benjamin Rolfe—was chosen clerk of the proprietors, and Captain Reuben Kimball, Major Enoch Gerrish, and Captain David Kimball were selected as "directors or overseers." This bridge, named "The Concord," was erected on the site always thus to be occupied by itself and similar structures, and, for nearly a hundred years, to bear

[1] Town Records, 296.

[2] How Concord voted upon the amendments does not clearly appear from the Town Records, *pp.* 272, 274.

[3] Bouton's Concord, 326.

the same name.[1] It was completed on the 29th of October, 1795, at an actual cost of thirteen thousand dollars, upon an estimate of ten thousand.[2] On that day it was opened for public use, with considerable display of popular interest. A procession, headed by Major William Duncan, assisted by Captain David Davis, "with music and a guard of four men,"[2] passed over the bridge in the following order, as set forth in the records of the proprietors: (1) The building committee; (2) The treasurer and clerk; (3) The Rev. Israel Evans, with Mr. Wood and Mr. Parker, ministers of Boscawen and Canterbury; (4) The proprietors; (5) The workmen, with the master workman at their head; (6) The spectators in regular order. The proprietors' dinner was served at William Stickney's tavern near the town house. Thus, "in conviviality and mirth," as the ancient record has it, was spent the opening day of the first bridge to span the Merrimack in the town of Concord, and near the site of the first regularly established ferry in the plantation of Penacook.

On the 28th of December, 1795, two months after the completion of Concord bridge, another legislative act incorporated Timothy Walker, Benjamin Emery, William Partridge, Jonathan Eastman, Joshua Thompson, and others, their associates, to be known as the "Proprietors of Federal Bridge," for the purpose "of building a bridge over the river Merrimack, at or near a place called Tucker's Ferry in Concord." This ferry had formerly been called "Eastman's," for Captain Ebenezer Eastman, its first proprietor. It was on the principal thoroughfare between "the Fort," or East Concord, and "the Street," or main settlement. The charter required the completion of the bridge within three years, and the payment of four hundred and fifty dollars to the proprietor of Tucker's ferry. At the first meeting of the corporation, held at the inn of Ebenezer Eastman, in East Concord, on the 18th of January, 1796, Captain Benjamin Emery was chosen moderator, and Stephen Ambrose clerk. The stock, as in the case of the other bridge, was divided into one hundred shares, and mostly subscribed for by citizens of the town.[3] All the requisitions of the charter having been duly complied with, the bridge was opened for use at a location somewhat above, or westward of, that of succeeding structures bearing its name.

This bridge building in Concord was closely connected with the inception of the turnpike system in New Hampshire. The legislature on the 16th of June, 1796, passed an act incorporating the "New-Hampshire Turnpike," being the first of fifty-three corporations of the kind in the state. Among the corporators named in the

[1] By resolution of city council, Jan. 17, 1893, changed to "The Pembroke."
[2] Bouton's Concord, 327.
[3] *Ibid*, 328.

act was Peter Green, one of those to whom had been granted "the exclusive right to build and support" the Concord bridge. The turnpike charter was enacted in answer to the prayer of a petition, setting forth "that the communication between the seacoast and the interior parts of the State might be made much more easy, convenient, and less expensive" than hitherto, "by a direct road from Concord to the Piscataqua bridge"; but that "the expensiveness" of such an undertaking would render it difficult of accomplishment, "otherwise than by an incorporated company," to be "indemnified by a toll for the sums that should be expended" by it.[1] This turnpike was promptly completed, running thirty-six miles, through the towns of Durham, Lee, Barrington, Nottingham, Northwood, Epsom, Chichester, Pembroke, and Concord, and between the Piscataqua and Merrimack rivers. It led well on towards Portsmouth, whose "progress and prosperity" were then thought by many usually sagacious observers to be "more assured than those of Boston."[2] The southern terminus of the road was at the Piscataqua bridge, which spanned the river, with half a mile of planking, between Durham and Newington, and was esteemed a marvel of bridge building. At the Merrimack, in Concord, the turnpike had two termini: one, at Federal bridge, being that of the main line; the other, at Concord bridge, being that of a branch diverging from the main line on the Dark Plains and running southwesterly to the river.

Here, to promote convenience and succinctness of narration, a few facts out of chronologic order will be added as to bridges and turnpikes. About 1806, the Londonderry turnpike, one of the charter grantees of which was William Austin Kent, was opened. It had its northern terminus in Concord, at or near the subsequent junction of West and Main streets. It extended to Massachusetts line, at or near Andover bridge.[3] Its course in Concord lay along the thoroughfare afterwards to be known as Turnpike street. Within thirty years after the first turnpike was chartered, the popular demand for free roads became urgent; and in 1824 the town authorized the selectmen to purchase "that part of the New Hampshire Turnpike—including the Branch—which" lay "in Concord, for a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars."[4] Subsequently, likewise, the part of the Londonderry pike lying in Concord became one of its free highways. But not, until they had existed more than half a century, did the two bridges become the property of the town, and thus free from tolls. The proprietors' franchise in each was at last acquired by the town, through the payment of fifteen hundred dollars. This occurred in the case of Federal bridge in 1850, when that structure, in rebuild-

[1] McClintock's New Hampshire, 456.
[2] *Ibid*, 457.
[3] Afterwards Lawrence.
[4] Bouton's Concord, 371.

ing, found location where a bridge of that name has ever since stood. Eight years later, Concord bridge also became free.[1]

While seeking corporate privileges for business enterprises promotive of material advantage, public and private, the leading minds of the community sought also, by similar organization, to supply good reading, and to encourage musical culture, for the enlightenment, elevation, and refinement of the people. Thus, in 1798, a legislative act was procured, incorporating Timothy Walker, John Bradley, Jonathan Eastman, and their associates, by the name of "The Proprietors of the Concord Library," and authorizing them to raise money by subscription, donation, and otherwise, and to hold property for the benefit of the library to the amount of one thousand dollars. This first public library in Concord, though neither a town institution nor largely endowed, contained a fair collection of valuable books, and "proved highly useful for about twenty-five years."[2] Thus, too, in 1799, a musical society was incorporated, and its organization effected, with Timothy Walker for president, John Odlin clerk, Timothy Chandler, Richard Ayer, and Jonathan Eastman for trustees. For years this society efficiently contributed to improvement in the art and science "of sacred music," its efforts being materially aided by the funded gift of five hundred dollars, made by Deacon Joseph Hall.[3]

Before the organization of this society Concord's third minister had, through the exercise of musical talent, been introduced to the favor of the people, and from the desk of the singing-school had gone to the pulpit of the town. Asa McFarland, a native of Worcester, Massachusetts, who was graduated at Dartmouth college in 1793, and was employed there the four subsequent years as preceptor of Moore's Charity School and as a tutor, had been wont to spend some of his vacations in Concord as a teacher of vocal music.[4] In 1797 the Reverend Israel Evans resigned the pulpit and was regularly dismissed after eight years' service. The "ecclesiastical council, composed of the elders and delegates of the neighboring churches," in dissolving "the pastoral relations between Mr. Evans and the church and people" of Concord, recommended him "to the churches and to the work of the ministry wherever God in his providence" might "open a door."[5] He never resumed pastoral service, but continued to reside in Concord till his death in the month of March, 1807, in the sixtieth year of his age. To mark his grave in the Old Burying Ground was set the first monument of marble erected there.[6]

[1] Sixth City Report, 24.
[2] Bouton's Concord, 329.
[3] *Ibid*, 532.
[4] *Ibid*, 532, 582.
[5] Town Records, 308.
[6] Other facts in the life and career of Mr. Evans have their place in the special chapter of ecclesiastical history.

Soon after the retirement of the second minister, Mr. McFarland had been employed to preach as a candidate; and in December, 1797, received a unanimous call from the church "to settle in the ministry in the town."[1] With this action the town concurred on the 28th of the same month, in a vote giving "Mr. Asa McFarland three hundred and fifty dollars salary yearly, and the use of all the improved land belonging to the parsonage right, and liberty to cut wood and timber on the out lands, as much as he" might "want for his own use during his carrying on the work of the ministry in the town."[2] To this vote twenty-two individuals entered their dissent; most of whom, however, afterwards cheerfully contributed their annual tax to the salary.[3]

Mr. McFarland, having accepted the call, was, at the age of nearly twenty-nine years, duly ordained on the 7th of March, 1798. This service was superintended by a committee, consisting of Captain Richard Ayer, James Walker, Jonathan Eastman, Jacob Carter, and John Batchelder, "with power to make provision at the expense of the town for the council and delegates" that might attend from ten churches invited to participate.[4] On that ordination day Concord was the center of attraction for the people of towns around it, even to the distance of twenty miles, and the main street was thronged with sleighs bringing spectators and participants. Around and near the meeting-house were displayed refreshments for sale—not exclusive of "spirituous liquors." With music, a procession, comprising with others the ordaining council, passed from the town house to the meeting-house, where the sermon for the occasion was preached by the Reverend John Smith, the learned professor of ancient languages in Dartmouth college. The usual bountiful "ordination dinner" was served, probably at "William Stickney's tavern"; where, as tradition positively asserts, "a splendid ball in the evening" wound up the exercises of the day.[5]

While the people of the town were intent upon pursuits of peace, two alarms of war had come, testing their readiness to aid their country. When, in 1794, a dangerous rebellion arose in Pennsylvania against a direct tax laid upon distillers of whiskey, and a fierce Indian war was raging in the West, the call for troops made by the general government in preparation for the worst was promptly met in New Hampshire. At a special town-meeting held in Concord on the 8th of December, it was voted "to give, in addition to the continental pay for" the "town's quota of minute-men, so much as" should "make each one's pay eight dollars per month; and that one

[1] Bouton's Concord, 320; Town Records, 313.
[2] Town Records, 313.
[3] Bouton's Concord, 320.
[4] Town Records, 316.
[5] Bouton's Concord, 321.

month's pay be advanced to each man when" he should "be called to march."[1] The call to march never came, for the "Whiskey Rebellion" was suppressed, and the Indian war was ended by forces already in the field. Again, in 1797, when, during the warlike embroilment with France, provision was made for raising eighty thousand men, with Washington at their head, the military spirit of the country was again aroused. Concord duly heeded the call. Forty of the most respectable citizens enrolled themselves as continental minute-men, while a company of volunteers from Concord and adjoining towns was organized with Nathaniel Green, of Boscawen, for captain; Moses Sweat, of Concord, first lieutenant; and Israel W. Kelly,[2] of Salisbury, second lieutenant. Benjamin Gale, of Concord, also served as commissary. The town voted on the 28th of December, 1797, that the men enlisting should "have ten dollars with what the Congress" gave; "and if called into service" should "have one month's pay in advance"; and further, that the selectmen should "give those persons that" enlisted "a handsome treat at the expense of the town."[3] How effective a stimulus to enlistment this last offer proved to be is not a matter of record. The company, however, after a short rendezvous at "Mother Osgood's tavern," marched to Oxford, Massachusetts, and there awaited further orders. But American naval prowess, the accession of Napoleon Bonaparte to power in France, and the wise policy of President Adams wrought peace, so that no active service was required of the troops called out for the anticipated struggle, locally called "The Oxford War."[4]

In course of these years strong party spirit was generated from the foreign relations of the United States. Indeed, ever since the adoption of the constitution two parties had existed; the one strictly construing that instrument, and insisting more strenuously upon state sovereignty than upon a strong central government; the other construing more liberally the fundamental law, and laying less stress upon "state rights" than upon a strong government of the Union. The former were called Republicans, the latter, Federalists. Washington was a Federalist, and, from the popular faith in him, was twice elected president without party opposition. But during his second term a fierce partisan spirit was aroused at his determination to maintain neutrality in the war between France and England, especially as evinced in his earnest support of the Jay treaty with England, in 1795, by which peace, much needed by the United States, was preserved with that country. This measure, the expediency of which time was ere long to vindicate, was opposed by the Republicans, sympathizing strongly with France, and favored by the Federalists,

[1] Town Records, 286.
[2] Afterwards a resident of East Concord.
[3] Town Records, 313.
[4] Bouton's Concord, 323.

with sympathies less decidedly set in that direction. Washington declined a third term, and, in 1796, after a warm contest, the Federalists elected John Adams to the presidency, but by only three electoral votes over Thomas Jefferson, the candidate of the Republicans, who under the unamended constitution became vice-president. The Federalists were dominant in New Hampshire and in Concord; though in the latter Timothy Walker several times received more than twice as many votes as John Taylor Gilman, the successful Federal candidate for governor. Thus, in the spring of 1796, the vote in Concord stood one hundred and forty-four for Walker and fifty-three for Gilman. Both these gentlemen, however, were chosen in November of that year to the electoral college of New Hampshire, whose vote was cast for John Adams. The same party complexion was retained in town and state during the Adams administration, and even to a later period; though in the nation at large the Federal party, by incurring popular odium through the enactment of the "alien and sedition laws," and by partially breaking with the president in his policy of maintaining peace with France, came to defeat in the year 1800. But neither then nor for some years later did "partisan politics become permeated by enduring heat; and only few men, not the mass as now, had formed the habit of diligently following up current political events."[1]

In 1785 a committee, consisting of Benjamin Emery, Joseph Hall, John Bradley, Reuben Kimball, and Joseph Farnum, was appointed "to lay out the Main street in Concord;"[2] but the work was not completed, and the final report, with plan annexed, accepted by the town till 1798.[3] The width of the thoroughfare in the original allotment was ten rods; but the settlers had advanced two rods on each side, leaving the public highway only six rods wide. In some cases even this width had been infringed upon by a few feet or inches; and the duty of the committee had been to note the infringements, and to define accurately the course and width of the road by permanent metes and bounds. This duty was done along a distance of nearly a mile and a half from Butters' tavern or "corner" northward to "Judge Walker's barn." This was "the Street;" and by this name "the whole village was also known in town and out of it."[4] It was, however, as yet only "the Centre road"[5]—as occasionally designated in the records—and without sidewalks, so that pedestrians sometimes found inconvenience, especially in winter. The town sought to obviate this difficulty somewhat by voting "that

[1] Asa McFarland in paper read before the N. H. Printers' Association, Jan. 17, 1872.
[2] Town Records, 222.
[3] *Ibid*, 320; also see Plan of Main Street in note at close of chapter.
[4] Dr. Bouton's third Semi-Centennial Discourse, June 17, 1875, *p*. 8.
[5] Town Records, 320.

those persons who drive sleighs on Sunday be desired to keep on the east side of the street."[1] The Rev. Dr. McFarland, during the greater part of his ministry, was wont, at the first sleighing of each year, to promulgate the rule from the pulpit in these words: "Persons who drive sleighs will please keep to the right, and let those who are afoot have the middle of the road." And the stout, fearless Captain Richard Ayer, once at least, practically enforced the rule. Following one day in the steps of a number of women on their way to meeting, he saw them compelled to turn aside into the snow, by a loaded two-horse sleigh from out of town. The captain, indignant at the neglect to heed his timely call to "turn out," sprang forward, and with a blow of a heavy staff or club which he carried brought one of the horses to its knees, while he exclaimed to the astounded driver: "There, turn out when you meet people on their way to meeting, or I will knock you down."[2]

Before the year 1800 this "centre road" had become a lively thoroughfare of business travel. Over it passed numerous sleds or sleighs in winter, or wagons in summer, drawn by oxen or horses, bearing the varied produce of the north country to seaport marts, or returning homeward, laden with merchandise. On all days of the week,[3] and sometimes in long trains, this travel was seen streaming along "the street." In its necessary tarryings such well-supplied taverns[4] as those of Benjamin Hannaford and William Stickney, Benjamin Gale and Samuel Butters furnished fit "entertainment for man and beast."

And here digressive mention may be made of another road in Concord, across the river, and beyond Oak Hill, much frequented by similar travel, and provided with John Hoyt's famous inn. For twenty-five years was that inn a public favorite. Its spacious oven allowed easy entrance to a boy twelve years old, and more than inside room enough in which to turn around. Its capacious barn, stored with hay of "natural mowing," often stalled over night thirty-three yokes of oxen at a "pistareen"[5] the yoke. Its solid table d'hote supplied fresh meats from the host's own flock and herd, for hearty but frugal guests, who used to bring along "their own bread and cheese."

Having returned from "Hoyt's" through "the Fort," or village of East Concord,—where already Ebenezer Eastman had his tavern, and Stephen Ambrose his store,—one could count along the "main Street," in the first and second ranges of "home-lots"—as laid out

[1] Town Records, 313.
[2] Bouton's Concord, 322.
[3] Dr. Bouton's Commemorative Discourse, March 23, 1865, *p.* 29.
[4] See special chapter on Taverns, etc.
[5] About twenty cents.

in 1726—seventy or eighty dwellings. These were wooden structures, rarely, if ever, exceeding two stories. They were topped with the gable, gambrelled, hipped, or pent roof, and were occasionally painted in red or yellow. Along with them, stood the taverns and sundry business establishments, consisting mainly of stores devoted to general or special trade, and shops for mechanical industries. The village was one of wood, for brick did not come into use as building material until later years.

Commercial enterprise, in which, at a period antedating the Revolution, Andrew McMillan, Timothy Walker, Jr., John Stevens, and Gordon Hutchins were pioneers, was destined never to slacken. In the last decade of the eighteenth century there were upon the list of Concord's merchants the names of William Duncan, Robert Harris, William Manley, David Wait, William Austin Kent, Jonathan Herbert, and Jacob Abbot, general dealers; and of John Thorndike, and the brothers Philip and Oliver Carrigain, apothecaries, all duly licensed by the selectmen "to be retailers of wines and foreign distilled liquors."[1] Though trade was not conducted on a large scale, yet it met the demands of an increasing patronage from within and without the town, and was fairly remunerative. Two traders, William Duncan and Robert Harris, seem to have been especially well-to-do, both from present income and past accumulation. They had both brought with them considerable means; and each rode in his chaise, on and after coming to town.[2] Prior to 1800 that vehicle signified wealth, and the use of it was a luxury in which not more than two or three others in Concord indulged; even ordinary wagons were few, and people generally rode on horseback or went afoot. Moreover, the Duncan and Harris families, which were united by marriage, lived in a style "reckoned genteel and fashionable,"[3] and helped to introduce new social customs, as well as to modify those of the "old families," such as the Ayers, Bradleys, Kimballs, Stickneys, and Walkers.[3]

Another of those early merchants came into business with scanty means, but erelong found himself a winning competitor, and rising into prominence in the civil and social life of his adopted town. This was William Austin Kent, a native of Charlestown, Mass., who came to Concord in 1789, at the age of twenty-four years. The fact that his sister Huldah had become the wife of the Reverend Israel Evans suggested the step. Having served seven years as an apprentice, and three more as a journeyman, in tin-plate working, he at length found himself able, by money and credit, to purchase a set of tools, a few boxes of tin, a barrel of sugar, a barrel of molasses, a keg of tobacco,

[1] Town Records (Appendix), 534-5. [2] Bouton's Concord, 513. [3] *Ibid*, 335.

a bag of coffee, and a chest of tea. With this mechanical and mercantile outfit, he journeyed from Boston to Concord, by the tedious conveyance of a farmer's team; and having reached his destination, he set up his modest establishment.[1] The venture proved successful. Within three years Charlotte Mellen became his wife and the light of his home—a home destined to be a noted center of "refined and generous hospitality," and which Daniel Webster was to declare, sixty years later, to have been "one of the first in all the neighborhood in which" he "met intelligent and cultivated society."[2]

And now, besides Kent, the mechanic as well as merchant, other enterprising men were plying all along the street their various industries. Of these were David George, the hatter; Benjamin Hannaford, the carpenter as well as taverner; Richard Ayer and Ebenezer Duston, the tanners; Daniel Gale, the blacksmith; Elijah Russell and George Hough, the printers; Timothy Chandler and the brothers Levi and Abel Hutchins, the clock-makers. The first of the last three, a grandson of the proprietor, Captain John Chandler, was a skilful artisan in brass clock-making, while the last two, sons of Colonel Gordon Hutchins, carried on the same business near their dwelling-house, from the ashes of which the Phenix hotel was afterwards to arise. Many years before, the Reverend Timothy Walker had brought from England the first clock set up in Concord, and, subsequently, Ephraim Potter, who had settled with his brother Richard and nephew Anthony, in East Concord, near Turtle pond, made serviceable wooden timekeepers. But the enterprise of brass clock manufacture, the first of its kind in New Hampshire, was undertaken by Levi Hutchins at a date prior to the year 1786, when his brother Abel came into partnership. The business thus established was to be prosperously conducted by them for more than twenty years, and Levi could say, in his old age, with just satisfaction: "Our names may now be seen on the faces of many time-keepers, standing in the corners of sitting-rooms in houses situated in all the New England states; and probably there are eight-day clocks, or timepieces, of our manufacture in all the original states of the Union."[3]

Along with these busy workers in the various departments of business were to be found those who wrought capably in the professions of law and medicine. Not far north of the Hutchins establishment stood the office of Peter Green, Concord's first lawyer; and a little farther on, his residence, somewhat noted for social refinement in those days. The proprietor, living down the imputation of Toryism, which had caused him some trouble in the Revolutionary time, be-

[1] Bouton's Concord, 594.
[2] Letter written to a son, George Kent, in 1853, cited in Bouton's Concord, 594.
[3] Autobiography of Levi Hutchins, 121.

came an influential and honored citizen, and having practised successfully his profession thirty-one years, died in 1798 at the age of fifty-two. Samuel,[1] his younger brother, succeeded him, having, in 1793, commenced professional life, which, at the bar and on the bench, was to continue for more than forty years. Two other talented brothers, Edward St. Loe and Arthur Livermore, had somewhat earlier engaged in legal practice here, the former of whom, by marriage with Mehetabel, a daughter of Robert Harris, became the father of Harriet Livermore, born in 1788, and celebrated for romantic pilgrimage and sojourn in the Holy Land.

Now, too, Dr. Philip Carrigain still dwelt at the North End. This genial and popular physician had, for a generation, been pursuing the practice of medicine, and was to continue so to do until his death in 1806, at the age of sixty years. Now, also, another physician could have been seen riding away on horseback from his home opposite the town house, for the fulfilment of duty on a wide circuit of practice. For Peter Green[2] had removed hither, in 1772, from his native Lancaster, in Massachusetts. With the liberal training of Harvard, and the due preparatory study of medicine, he entered upon a prosperous career, characterized by high professional ideals, and destined to continue for more than half a century, until it should close with a life of fourscore years and three.[3]

Thus the mile-and-a-half of Concord's main thoroughfare was, in the last years of 1700, a scene of activity in the various departments of human effort that mark a prosperous, enlightened community. It was the center, the vertebrate column, as it were, of progressive, elevating influences for the whole town, with its increasing population of two thousand souls.[4]

In 1799, a new element of brotherhood and benevolence came into the social life of the town. Free Masonry had received its first organization in New Hampshire as early as 1736, when St. John's Lodge was established at Portsmouth. From that time to 1789, only two other lodges were formed in the state,—St. Patrick's at Portsmouth, and Rising Sun, at Keene. Early in July, 1789, deputies from St. John's and Rising Sun lodges organized the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, with General John Sullivan, president of the state, for the first grand master. On the 23d of February, 1799, upon a warrant granted by the Grand Lodge, on petition of seven, for founding a lodge in Concord, a meeting was held in furtherance of the object, in "Union hall" at the inn of Benjamin Gale, one of the grantees. At the same place, on the sixth of the following May,

[1] See special chapter, Bench and Bar.
[2] See special chapter, Medical Profession.
[3] Bouton's Concord, 668.
[4] The census of 1800 gave two thousand and fifty-two.

Blazing Star Lodge was duly consecrated in appropriate services, conducted by Nathaniel Adams, of Portsmouth, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. Of the seven petitioners, Benjamin Gale and Moses Sweatt were residents of Concord.

Thus introduced, Masonry, in its various forms and grades, was destined here to abide. Within the next century, the number of lodges was to be trebled; a Royal Arch Chapter, a Council of Royal and Select Masters, and a Commandery of Knights-Templars were to be established and maintained, with eligible halls of assembly,—the one on the site of Concord's first store, the other at Penacook. Moreover, Concord was to become a central rendezvous for the mystic Brotherhood, where the "Grand" Masonic bodies, comprising all the local bodies in the state, would convene in Annual Communication, Convocation, Assembly, and Conclave.

But now the eighteenth century was about to lapse into the nineteenth, when, on the 14th of December, 1799, George Washington expired; and at the tidings of his death, a bereaved nation wept. When the news reached Concord, men from all parts of the town had met in large numbers to raise the frame of the ambitious Carrigain house[1] at the North End; but they straightway suspended their "work and went home in sorrow."[2] The national Congress was moved to recommend to the people of the United States to assemble on the 22d of February, 1800, "to testify their grief by public prayers," or other suitable services. The recommendation thus to celebrate Washington's Birthday by funeral observance, met with general compliance, in which Concord participated. The people, old and young, marched to the meeting-house, where solemn services were held. William Kent,[3] who, a boy of seven, had trudged in the procession, and who was to outlive all other participants in the event, feelingly said eighty years later: "The solemnity of the occasion, the deep mourning dress of the pulpit and galleries, in connection with the sad countenances of the people, are vivid in my memory to this day."

The Philip Carrigain House.

[1] In 1900 the residence of Dr. William G. Carter.
[2] Recollections of Asa McFarland, 23 (note).
[3] Son of William Austin Kent.

NOTES.

Deacon Wilkins. This gentleman married, in 1787, Sarah, granddaughter of Deacon Joseph Hall, an original settler of Penacook, who lived at the Eleven Lots. Mr. Wilkins had a farm on or near the ancient Hall premises, and lived in a house standing till a recent date, at the crotch of the roads, west side, near the Countess Rumford house. He was deacon of the North Church from 1811 to 1830, when he died at the age of seventy-five years. *Bouton's Concord, 295.*

Scarcity of Money. Money was so extremely scarce at that time, that John Bradley, elected representative, had great difficulty in getting enough to take him to Exeter; but Judge Walker supplied him with means to pay his board while attending the legislature, and he was the only one of fourteen boarders who paid their landlord in full. Sometimes representatives offered the whole of their State scrip received for services, in payment for board, but the landlords preferred their private securities. On one occasion, a dozen of them returning home, and passing through Concord, took lodging at the house of John Bradley over night, without a dollar amongst them.

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE OF RATIFICATION DAY.

It being deemed desirable that the New Hampshire Historical Society should celebrate, on the 21st of June, 1888, the centennial anniversary of the Ratification of the Constitution of the United States by New Hampshire, the matter of making preliminary arrangements therefor was, on the 24th of April, referred to the committee on orator and the standing committee, to act conjointly, and to report to the next adjourned annual meeting of the society, to be held on the 9th of May. On that day, the aforesaid committees, by Samuel C. Eastman, made a report recommending the appointment of a committee to ascertain, by circular, the feasibility of providing a banquet, and defraying other necessary expenses for the occasion, and such feasibility being ascertained, to make the necessary arrangements for the proper observance of the day. Whereupon, a committee of three, with authority to add others, was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Samuel C. Eastman, Amos Hadley, and Joseph C. A. Hill. This committee subsequently added Messrs. Benjamin A. Kimball, Joseph B. Walker, Isaac W. Hammond, and Charles R. Corning.

Hon. James W. Patterson, of Hanover, had previously accepted an invitation to deliver the oration, and Mr. Allen Eastman Cross, of Manchester, to read a poem.

It was ascertained by circular issued to the resident members, that a sufficient number would attend the banquet, and a sufficient sum would be subscribed to meet the necessary expenses and render the occasion a success. Invitations were sent to the governors of the thirteen original states, to the President of the United States and members of the cabinet, to many other persons of distinction, and to historical societies. Other arrangements were made for the day's exercises, including an elaborate banquet, with Dooling, of Boston, as caterer, and for after-dinner speeches by men distinguished in public and private life, in politics and letters.

The regular sixty-sixth annual meeting of the society occurring on the 13th of June was adjourned to the morning of Tuesday, the 21st. At that time the society met, and having transacted the usual business of an annual meeting, adjourned to meet again at noon, in White's Opera House, to listen to the oration and poem. A fair-sized audience, comprising citizens of Concord and strangers, was in attendance. The president of the society, Hon. J. Everett Sargent, introduced the exercises with brief remarks. The oration was then delivered, and the poem read. These exercises completed, the members of the society, with invited guests, repaired to Chase's hall, where the banquet of two hundred covers was laid. The participants of the elegant, well-served repast sat at five tables. Among the guests were: His Excellency Governor Charles H. Sawyer; President Samuel C. Bartlett, of Dartmouth college; Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, Hon. Robert S. Rantoul, Hon. Charles Levi Woodbury, Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, Captain A. A. Folsom, Colonel Albert H. Hoyt, Hon. Nathaniel F. Safford, William B. Trask, Charles Carleton Coffin, of Boston; Hon. George B. Loring, of Salem, Mass.; Hon. Frank B. Sanborn, of Concord, Mass.; Rev. Henry A. Hazen, of Billerica, Mass.; Hon. E. H. Elwell, of Portland, Me.; Hampton L. Carson, F. A. Stone, of Philadelphia; Captain Woolmer Williams, of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of London, Eng. The resident members of the society and other citizens from Concord, Manchester, and other places were present in goodly numbers, and numerous ladies graced the occasion with their presence.

In course of the banquet, a telegram from Washington announced that the United States senate had, on motion of Hon. Henry W. Blair, adjourned in honor of the event celebrated. After dinner, President Sargent, at four o'clock, called to order, and introduced Hon. Samuel C. Eastman, of Concord, as toastmaster. Speaking ensued for more than two hours, to which the following gentlemen, in response to appropriate sentiments, contributed: Governor

Sawyer, President Bartlett, Rev. Edward Everett Hale, Hampton L. Carson, Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, Hon. Frank B. Sanborn, and Hon. George B. Loring.

With "America" effectively sung under the leadership of Mr. B. B. Davis, the first centennial observance of Ratification Day came to a close.

Dr. Carrigain's House. Dr. Carrigain lived at the North End, on the east side of Main street, and where now (1900) is the residence of Mr. Charles S. Parker. Mr. West lived on the opposite side of the street.

Benjamin Emery's Residence. This was afterwards the homestead of Captain Ebenezer S. Towle, at the northwest angle of State and Franklin streets, and where, in 1900, was to stand the residence of Mr. John H. Stewart. At an early period, Captain Emery removed to this location from the Carrigain place, where he formerly resided.

Subscription for Town and State House. The following were subscribers, pledging themselves to pay in labor or materials the sums annexed to their names, for accommodating the general court with a convenient house—which was also to serve as a town house: Timothy Walker and Peter Green, each, $100; Benjamin Emery, Thomas Stickney, and Benjamin Hannaford, each, $40; John Bradley, Robert Davis, Joshua Abbot, John Kimball, and Joseph Hall, each, $30; John West, $25; Enoch Coffin, George Hough, and James Walker, each, $20.

Plan of Main Street, 1798.

The following plan, with its key, is from *Bouton's Concord, pp. 296–297:*

MAIN STREET,

AS LAID DOWN ON ENGRAVED MAP, AND DESCRIBED ON THE ORIGINAL PLAN IN TOWN RECORDS.

East side—beginning at the north end:

Judge Walker's barn—the north side of it 184 rods from the Great Elm.

Mr. Herbert's store*—77 rods from the Great Elm; two feet six inches on the road—about thirty-two feet front.

Maj. Daniel Livermore's house†—57 rods from the Great Elm; about nine inches on the road—forty feet front.

The Great Elm—opposite Capt. Ayer's tan-yard.

Mr. Aaron Abbot's—99¼ rods from the corner—seven feet on the road—twenty-four feet front.

Barber's shop—87½ rods from the corner—eight feet on the road—fourteen feet front.

Mr. Wilkins's house—85½rods from the corner—eight feet on the road—twenty feet front.

Mr. Hough's printing office—68½ rods from the corner—three feet four inches on the road—twenty-four feet front.

* Mr. Jonathan Herbert's store still standing, occupied as a dwelling-house.

† Formerly the residence of Dr. Bouton; on the site of John C. Thorne's dwelling in 1900.

Esq. Green's house—67 rods from the corner—six feet three inches on the road—twenty feet front.

Mr. Green's office—eighteen inches on the road—fourteen feet front.

Mr. Hutchins's shop—62 rods from the corner—two feet three inches on the road—twenty-two feet front.

Mr. Thorndike's store—10 rods from the corner—fourteen and a half feet on the road—twenty-eight feet front.

Mr. Dustin's bark-house—three rods from the corner to the south side—seven and a half feet on the road—twenty feet front.

Brick drove into the ground one rod and one link westerly of the north-west corner of Mr. Dustin's shop.

Mr. Butters's corner stone—four and a half feet west of willow tree.

WEST SIDE—north end:

Stone—twenty-six feet from the north-east corner of Jacob Abbot, Esq.'s, house, and 123 rods from the Great Elm.

Mr. Gale's house—50 rods from the corner; 70½ feet front; north side 10½ feet on the road; south-east end, five feet seven inches on the road.

Mr. Wait's store—44 rods from corner—seven feet six inches on the road—twenty feet front.

Mr. Manley's store—30 rods from the corner—six feet four inches on road—thirty-six feet front.

Corner, north of Capt. Chandler's.

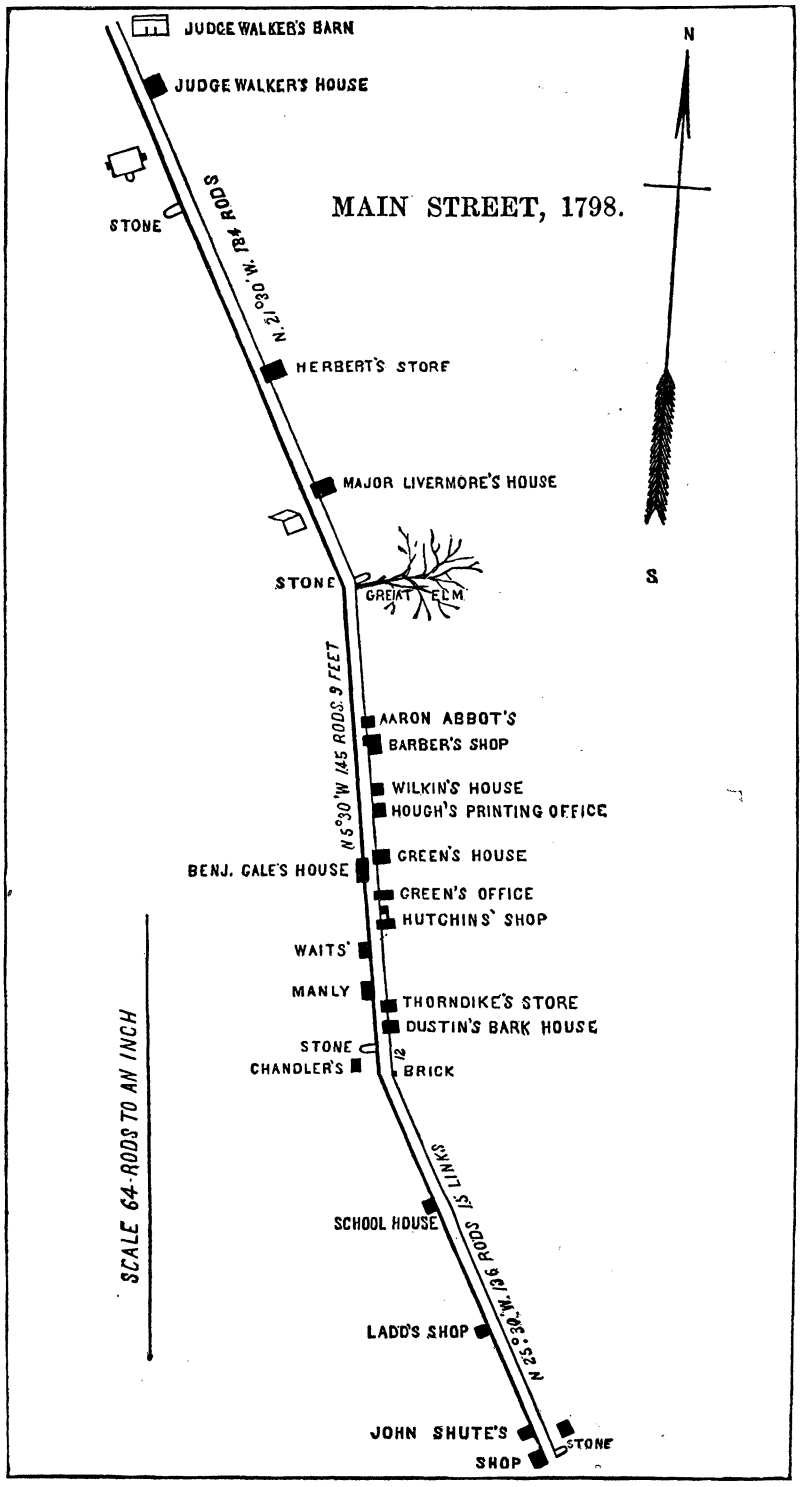
Birch pole—2 rods and six feet from an oak stump in Mr. Jos. Abbot's land.

School-house—85 rods from stone at Shute's corner.

Mr. Ladd's shop—41 rods from stone at Shute's corner.

South-east corner of Mr. Shute's house, six and a half feet on the road.

Mr. Shute's shop on the road twenty-two feet.


JUDGE WALKER'S BARN
JUDGE WALKER'S HOUSE
STONE
N. 21° 30' W. 78 RODS
MAIN STREET, 1798.
N
S
HERBERT'S STORE
MAJOR LIVERMORE'S HOUSE
STONE
GREAT ELM
N. 5° 30' W. 145 RODS. 9 FEET
AARON ABBOT'S
BARBER'S SHOP
WILKIN'S HOUSE
HOUGH'S PRINTING OFFICE
GREEN'S HOUSE
BENJ. GALE'S HOUSE
GREEN'S OFFICE
HUTCHINS' SHOP
WAITS'
MANLY
THORNDIKE'S STORE
DUSTIN'S BARK HOUSE
STONE
CHANDLER'S
12
BRICK
SCALE 64 RODS TO AN INCH
SCHOOL HOUSE
N. 25° 30' W. 96 RODS 15 LINKS
LADD'S SHOP
JOHN SHUTE'S SHOP
STONE