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An HISTORICAL

CALENDAR

of PORTSMOUTH



Published by the
Box Club of the North Church
Portsmouth, N. H.

Portsmouth

N.H.

1. Introduction
2. Methodology
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Conclusion

39

An HISTORICAL

CALENDAR

of PORTSMOUTH



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Page 17, read "1841" for "1741"

Page 32, read "make" for "made," line 19

Page 42, read "convoyed" for "conveyed," line 13

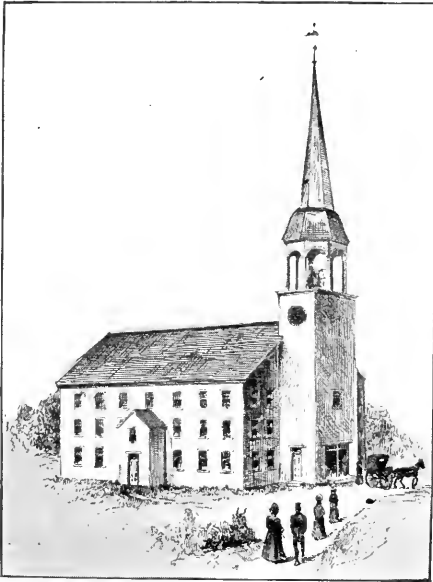
Page 44, read "house" for "home," line 10

JANUARY 1

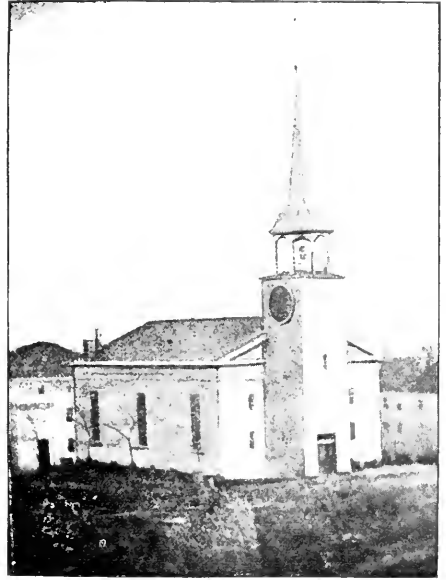
- 1680 The royal commission for the separation of the Province of New Hampshire from that of Massachusetts brought to Portsmouth.
- 1745 "The town clock was set going."
- 1821 Nathaniel Haven took charge of "The Oracle," and changed its name to "The Portsmouth Journal of Literature and Politics."
- 1828 The present Methodist Church was dedicated.
- 1878 The Children's Home occupied the present Aldrich house on Court street.
- 1881 The first book was issued from the Public Library from a small upper room of the Custom House.
- 1890 State Law for free text books in schools went into effect.

JANUARY 2

- 1711-1714 The new North Meeting-house, called the three-decker, was built ; it was remodeled in 1837 and torn down in 1854.



The North Meetinghouse of 1714.



The North as remodeled, 1837.

- 1895 The Superintendent of Schools was authorized to establish an experimental Kindergarten for the remainder of the year in the Haven Building ; there have been four schools of this grade since that time.

JANUARY 3

- 1687 Gov. Andros ordered New Hampshire records returned from Boston to Portsmouth.
- 1792 The first bank organized in the state was the New Hampshire Bank of this city ; it was incorporated on this day, with a charter running fifty years, which was not renewed in 1842. The present New Hampshire National Bank was incorporated as a State Bank, July 1, 1855.

1846 "The new School House on Portsmouth Plain is to be publicly opened at 3 o'clock. School Teachers, Committees, and Friends of Education generally are respectfully invited to attend."

JANUARY 4

1859 Second Advent Church organized: the building has been recently remodeled.

JANUARY 5

1726 When Gov. John Wentworth returned from a long business visit to Boston, "the people presented him with an address of congratulation and told him that his absence had seemed long, but the service he had done them filled their hearts with satisfaction."

1776 "The New Hampshire Congress drew up a Form of Gov't for N. H. during the unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain."

JANUARY 6

1811 During this year, the powder house on Islington Road was built; it has now been transferred to the Water Department for a toolhouse.

JANUARY 7

1840 Before this year, Mr. Andrew B. Sherburne had started the earliest milk route in this city: three men soon divided the business of the city.

JANUARY 8

1822 The bridges to New Castle were opened.

1829 Albert Loughton was born on Whidden Street.

1862 The Christian Church occupied its present house of Worship, which was re-dedicated on Feb. 4, 1891, after enlargement and improvement.

JANUARY 9

1766 "A grand mob compelled G. Meserve to surrender his commission," as stamp-master, at his house, 32 Vaughan St. where in later years, Jeremiah Mason and



The Meserve-Webster House.

Daniel Webster each began housekeeping.

1766 A new flagstaff was put up at Swing Bridge, (built in 1731,) and its name was changed to Liberty Bridge.

JANUARY 10

1807 After the fire, the parish of St. John's decided to erect a church where their former chapel had stood ; also to worship with the South Parish through the summer.

JANUARY 11

1810 The Cutts House, beyond Christian Shore, was built by Edward Cutts.

JANUARY 12

1712-1715 The house on Daniel St., known as the Warner house, was built for Mr. Archibald McPheadris. His daughter married Col. Warner, whose descendants—the Sherburnes—occupy the house.



The Warner House.

JANUARY 13

1652 The common lands of the town were granted, "each inhabitant is to have out Lotts of lands acording unto the order under wrighten." Forty-five inhabitants were named, varying from one to five acres to each.

1660 The selectmen ordered a penalty of five shillings for every tree cut which was not needed for building, fencing, or firewood.

1742 Gov. Benning Wentworth called an Assembly of thirteen towns. In his Address, he congratulated them on the settlement of the recent disputes with Massachusetts Bay, and said, "The separation is an event, which, if rightly improved, will be a lasting advantage, a means of replenishing your towns with people, of extending and enlarging your commerce."

JANUARY 14

1813 "The Ship Sagunto stranded on Smotinose Isle."

JANUARY 15

- 1684 The Assembly refusing to raise money for defences at the demand of Gov. Cranfield, he dissolved it.

JANUARY 16

- 1776 Gen. Washington asked the New Hampshire Convention for two regiments.

JANUARY 17

- 1744 "The Astrea, a 20 gun ship taken from the Spaniards at Porto Bello, the present war, accidentally took fire and was entirely consumed ; she was riding at anchor in the Pool—between the upper end of Great Island and the south part of the town."

JANUARY 18

- 1668 Died, John Pickering, the first of the name in Portsmouth.

- 1798 The frigate Crescent, built here under the superintendence of Col. James Hackett, sailed from our port and was sent as a present to the Dey of Algiers.

JANUARY 19

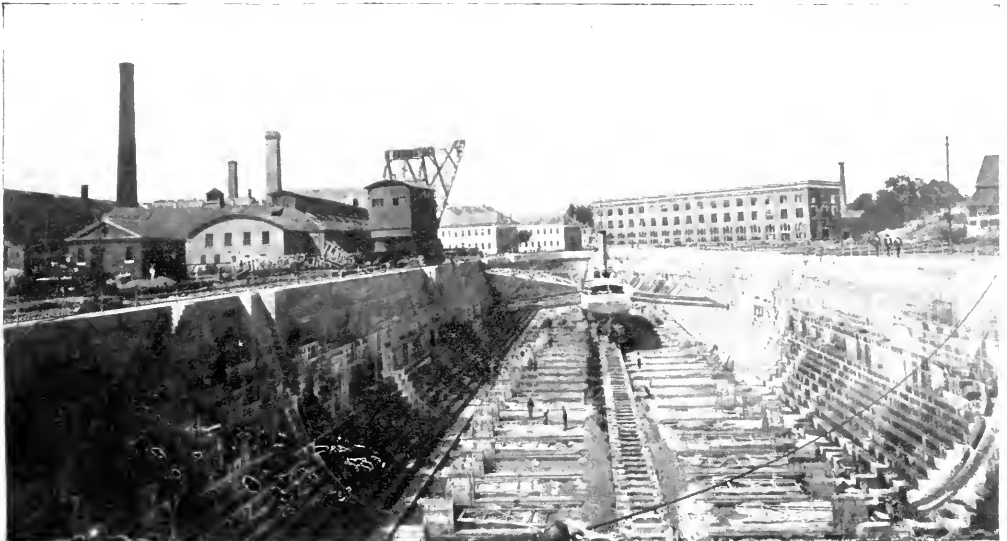
- 1847 Harmony Grove Cemetery was added to the Proprietors' Cemetery.

JANUARY 20

- 1817 During this year, a juvenile missionary society was formed in the North Church, and is still active under the name of the Rogers' Mission Circle.

JANUARY 21

- 1892 Senator Gallinger introduced a bill for the construction of a Dry Dock at Portsmouth. The inside length of the dock as completed is 750 feet ; width, 130 feet ; depth from coping to floor, thirty-nine feet. Contract price, \$1,070,000.



The Dry Dock at the Navy Yard.

JANUARY 22

- 1660 The town voted to distribute town lands among the inhabitants.
- 1680 Under royal appointment, the oath of office was taken by John Cutt as President, by William Vaughan, John Gilman, and Richard Waldron, as Counsellors.
- 1877 The Children's Home began with four children, at a small house on Mt. Vernon street.

JANUARY 23

- 1777 Gen. Washington again appealed to the New Hampshire Assembly for troops.
- 1832 The Freewill Baptist Church was organized.
- 1884 The Cottage Hospital first opened, at the Aldrich house on Court street.
- 1907 The old County Jail on Islington street was sold, the granite blocks to be used as a foundation of a new building on Vaughan street. The work was begun August 16, 1907.

JANUARY 24

- 1690 Twenty-two men, representing Dover, Exeter, Hampton, and Portsmouth, met here and prepared a simple constitution, but it was rejected by the towns.

JANUARY 25

- 1699 Mons'. Vincelotte of Quebec, the Canadian agent, came to this port to embark for France.
- 1778 The first Post Office in New Hampshire, under the United States Government, was on the site of the stone store on Market street, near Russell street. Eleazer Russell was Postmaster from 1778 to 1798.
- 1823 Mrs. Catherine Whipple, daughter of John Moffat and widow of General Whipple, died at the age of 100 years. Her remains were placed in the Langdon tomb at the North Cemetery.

JANUARY 26

- 1745 William Vaughan proposed to the legislatures of different states a plan for the capture of Louisburg.
- 1888 The Inasmuch Circle of King's Daughters was formed.

JANUARY 27

- 1779 Rev. Joseph Buckminster was installed over the North Church.
- 1903 The present Box Club (which is publishing this Calendar) was organized to help in building the new Parish House.

JANUARY 28

- 1808 The dedication of the Universalist Church that was burned in 1896.
- 1886 The great ice storm destroyed many shade trees.

1891 Lucius Harrison Thayer was ordained and installed over the North Church.



The Interior of the North Church.

JANUARY 29

1878 Music Hall was opened for the first time, with an address by the Hon. W. H. Y. Hackett, and the play, "Caste."

JANUARY 30

1746 John Tufton Mason sold out his estates in New Hampshire to eleven Portsmouth men and one Dover man.

JANUARY 31

1803 Market street was doubled in width after the fire of December, 1802.

1814 Exchange Block was erected on the site of the house of Nathaniel Adams.

FEBRUARY 1

1745 "Wm. Vaughan came express from Boston to bring the letter of Gov. Shirley with his plan for the capture of Cape Breton. The Assembly acceded to the proposition for raising 250 men, military stores, and transports."

FEBRUARY 2

1733 Rev. Wm. Shurtleff was installed over the South Church.

1864 During this year, the Meteor was built as a privateer to capture the Alabama. She arrived off Cherbourg twenty-four hours after the Alabama had been sunk by the Kearsarge.

FEBRUARY 3

1815 News of peace signed December 14, 1814, at Ghent, was received this day by courier from Salem, who traveled to Portsmouth in four hours. During the war of 1812–1815, there sailed from this harbor no fewer than sixteen private-armed vessels, that captured several hundred merchantmen.

FEBRUARY 4

1747 “Rev. Sam’l Langdon was ordained to the pastoral care of the North Church and Parish.” In 1749, he built the house next north of the Universalist Church; the estate has continued in the family, being now occupied by a great-grand-daughter of Dr. Langdon.

1888 The Life-Saving Station at Jaffrey’s Point was first manned.

FEBRUARY 5

1862 The Kearsarge sailed from the Portsmouth Navy Yard, under command of the late Capt. Chas. W. Pickering. Under Capt. Winslow, she destroyed the Alabama, June 19, 1864, after an hour’s action.

FEBRUARY 6

1684 “Rev. Joshua Moody was committed to gaol on Great Island, because he refused to administer the sacrament according to the Book of Common Prayer.” His excuse was that “the statutes of uniformity were not in force in this country and that he was not episcopally ordained.”

1887 Albert Loughton died in the Loughton house on Court street, where Aldrich was born in 1836.

FEBRUARY 7

1831 Copyright for a new edition of Dr. Belknap’s History of New Hampshire.

1843 Died, Joshua Peirce, a descendant of the first Joshua who came here in 1700. He bought the property at the corner of Market Square and High street, which has been in the same family ever since. The present block was built in 1804.

FEBRUARY 8

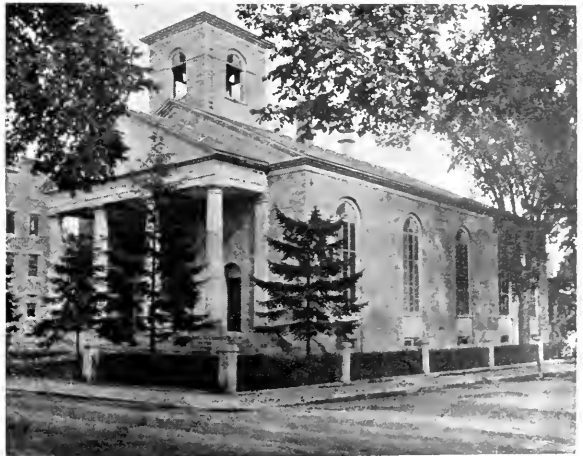
1826 The South Parish dedicated its new Stone Church on State street.

FEBRUARY 9

1847 The Franklin Schoolhouse built this year.

FEBRUARY 10

1884 Present Chapel of the Baptist Church on State St. dedicated.



The Unitarian Church

FEBRUARY 11

- 1791 The New Hampshire Medical Society established.
1846 The New Hampshire Lodge of I. O. O. F., No. 17, instituted.

FEBRUARY 12

- 1778 Major Samuel Langdon had charge of two teams from Portsmouth to Valley Forge, Penn., with clothing for the army which he delivered at Washington's headquarters.

FEBRUARY 13

- 1812-1816 The name of Mrs. Daniel Webster is found among the Managers of the Female Asylum during these years of her residence in Portsmouth.

FEBRUARY 14

- 1659 Rev. Joshua Moodey began his ministry here.
1776 Died, Matthew Livermore, Attorney General and Advocate for the King in the Admiralty Court.
1778 The Ranger received the first salute to the Stars and Stripes, from the French fleet, during her cruise up the English Channel.
1814 Daniel Webster was appointed on the committee on qualifications necessary to be a legal voter in parish affairs. Webster's signature appears among the names of North Church parishioners in 1814.

FEBRUARY 15

- 1734 Died, Wm. Pepperrell, father of Sir Wm. Pepperrell, who had lived at the Shoals and at Kittery Point. His house at the Point is well preserved.
1791 The Parish of St. John's Church was incorporated.
1857 Rev. Dr. Peabody preached the last sermon in the old Chapel on Court street, on the site of the present Unitarian Chapel. This building had been floated down the river from Durham in 1761, set up and arranged for use, occupied by Baptist organizations until 1828, when the Unitarians bought it for a Chapel.

FEBRUARY 16

- 1818 Charles W. Brewster, author and editor of the "Rambles About Portsmouth," began his work as a printer in the office of the Portsmouth *Oracle*, later the Portsmouth *Journal*. He was editor from 1825 to 1868.
1829 Howard Benevolent Society organized.
1883 Rev. H. E. Hovey took charge of St. John's Parish.

FEBRUARY 17.

- 1791 The New Hampshire Legislature voted £50 to Rev. Jeremy Belknap, for compiling and perfecting the history of the State.
1851 The present Free Will Baptist Society was reorganized; their house of worship on Pearl street was built in 1859 and was remodeled in 1866.

FEBRUARY 18

1727 The Canoe Bridge, at the head of Puddle Dock, on Washington street, was built "by sundry individuals." In 1786, it was rebuilt and presented to the town.

FEBRUARY 19

1846 During this year, the Portsmouth Steam Factory was built.

FEBRUARY 20

1901 The Rockingham County Light and Power Co., was chartered for general lighting and power purposes.

FEBRUARY 21

1659 The selectmen granted "to Mr. John Cutt full liberty to set up a sawmill and a corn mill on the creek leading up to the fresh marsh," at the dam west of the Creek.

FEBRUARY 22

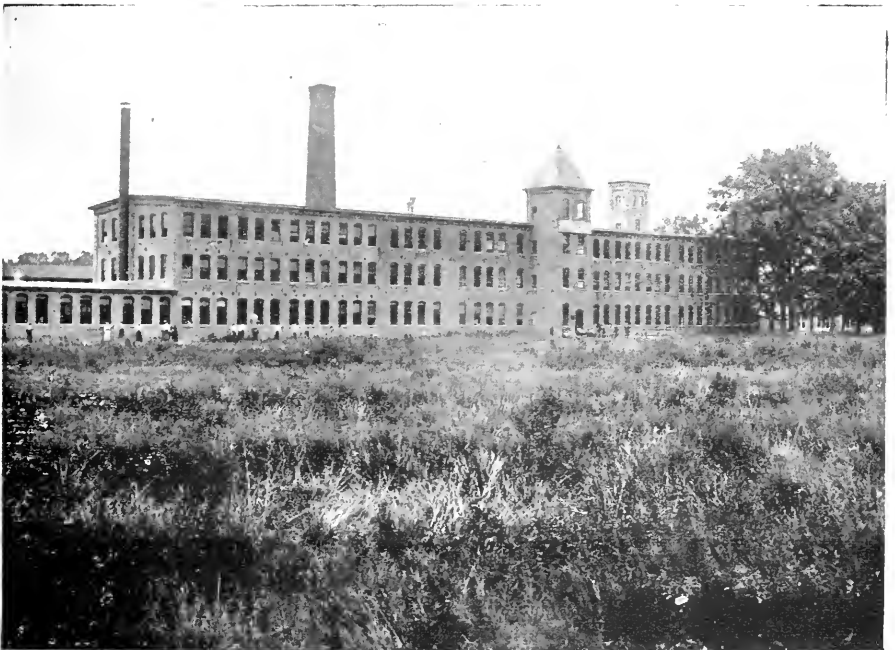
1832 The hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington celebrated publicly.

FEBRUARY 23

1760 During this year, Mark H. Wentworth built for his son Thomas, the house now known as the Gardner house, at the corner of Gardner and Mechanic streets. It is a fine example of Colonial architecture.

FEBRUARY 24

1893 The Morley Button Factory was begun in June and opened for work in October.



The Morley Button Factory

FEBRUARY 24

- 1806 Died, Col. Eliphalet Ladd, prominent in improvements to the city, especially connected with the installation of the Aqueduct.
1871 The North Chapel on Middle street was dedicated.

FEBRUARY 25

- 1745 Rev. Mr. Whitfield preached here.
1858 Firemen's Relief Association was organized.

FEBRUARY 26

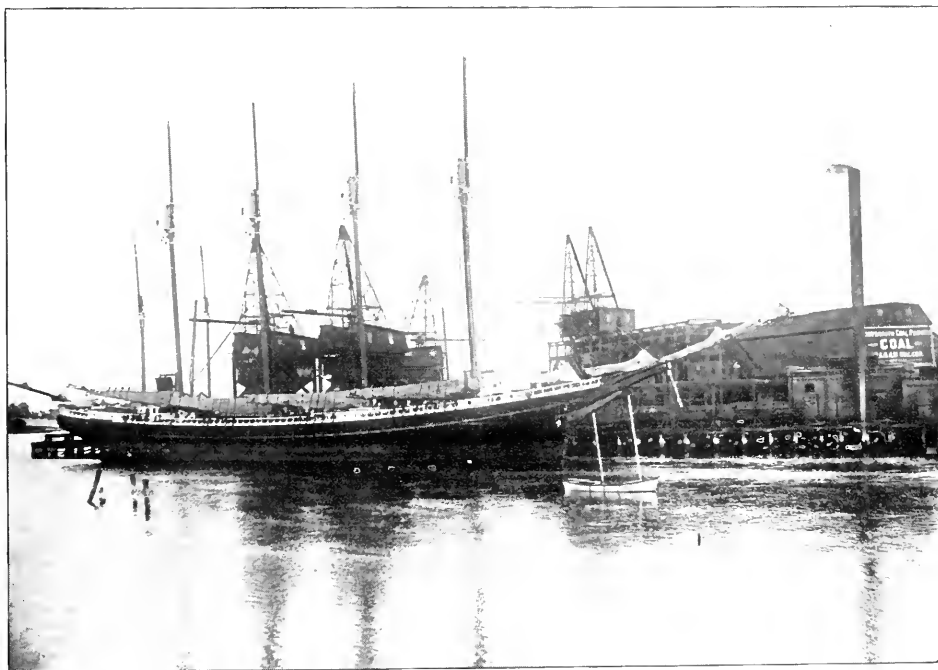
- 1693 The first Post Office in the Province was established here, by order of the General Assembly.

FEBRUARY 27

- 1860 The Cabot Street Schoolhouse was built this year on the site of the old brick schoolhouse.

FEBRUARY 28

- 1732 John Rindge, merchant of Portsmouth, took to London, to present to the King, a petition for the settlement of the New Hampshire boundary.
1831 The first coal shipped into this State was consigned to E. F. Sise, and brought by the packet schooner "Fawn," from Philadelphia.
1906 The tonnage of coal that passed in the year 1905 through the Boston & Maine section of the coal pockets, amounted to 358,918 tons.



The Coal Pockets.

MARCH 1

- 1640 In Rev. Ezra Stiles' Memoirs, written in 1778 in the church records, a book commenced by Rev. Mr. Moodey in 1761, he wrote: "There is an instrument in being which I have seen, which gives the Foundation of the Parish. It was brought about A. D. 1640 & signed by the most of the then inhabitants of Strawberry Bank."

MARCH 2

- 1695 The launch of the frigate Falkland of the Royal Navy was celebrated "in accord with the spirit of the times." This vessel was lost on the coast of Ireland, 1699. It was probably the first man-of-war built on this side of the Atlantic.

MARCH 3

- 1670 The selectmen granted "unto Samuel Wentworth upon his request, the court conferring him libertie to entertain strangers and to sell and brew beare, as the law allows." His house is on Manning street, near Liberty Bridge, and is the second oldest house in the city.
- 1772 The first session of the Superior Court of Rockingham County held here.
- 1806 Died, Rev. Samuel Haven, revered pastor of the South Parish for fifty-four years. His daughters left \$25,000 for Haven Park.

MARCH 4

- 1727 "The North Parish voted to free and exonerate from tax persons at or near the Plains, towards the support of the Gospel ministry or any parish charge at the Bank for the future, provided they have frequent preaching more for accommodation than at the Bank." This meeting-house at the Plains was given up in 1748, at the coming of Rev. Samuel Langdon to the North Parish.

MARCH 5

- 1740 The boundary between New Hampshire and Massachusetts was settled favorably for New Hampshire.
- 1876 Miss Sarah H. Foster published the first edition of the "Portsmouth Guide Book."

MARCH 6

- 1718 From this year on, the bell in the North Church steeple has been rung for the curfew at nine P. M. Before that, it had sounded from the church at the South End.
- 1789 The Federal Fire Society was organized and continues to meet annually.

MARCH 7

- 1748 "By a Legall townmeeting of ye Freeholders and Inhabiteence of gosport [Star Island, Shoals) dewly qualified to vote for Tidingmen, Collers of fish, Corders of wood. Addition to ye minister's sallary, Mr. John Tuecke, 100 lbs. old tenor."

MARCH 8

1868 "Rev. Charles Burroughs became a fellow-citizen with the saints."

MARCH 9

1662 Mason receives his first patent of land in New Hampshire.

1697 The last baptism recorded by Parson Moody was of Wm. Pepperrell, later made a Baronet for his services at Louisburg.

1818 Officers of the Athenæum chosen. The Library at first occupied a small room in the Custom House building on Daniel street. In 1823, the present building was bought from the New Hampshire Fire and Marine Insurance Co.

MARCH 10

1797 Died, Hon John Sherburne, who had held many State offices. He lived in the house at the northwest corner of Bow and Daniel streets, built in 1760.

1893 Died, Rev. A. P. Peabody, pastor of the Unitarian Church from 1833 to 1860.

MARCH 11

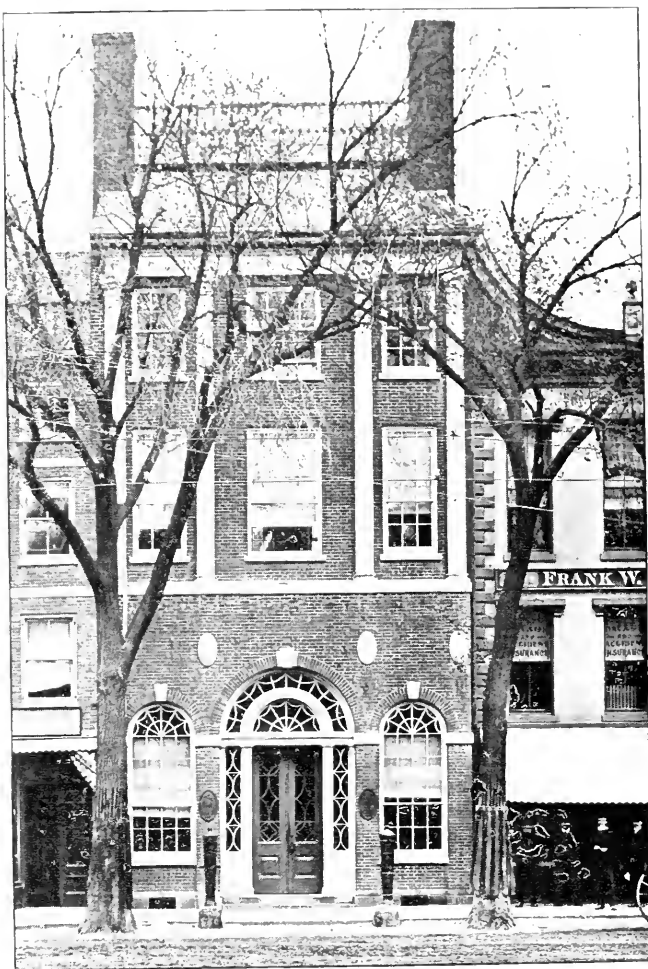
1661 The selectmen forbade Mr. George Walton to build at Fort Point, as that land had been appropriated for erecting

fortifications for the defence of the harbor. In 1666, the Governor and Council, under royal instruction, ordered a fort built there.

MARCH 12

1671 The Town meeting voted a "fine of five shillings if any shall smoake tobacco in the meetinghouse at any public meeting."

1888 The great blizzard.



The Athenæum.

MARCH 13

- 1673 "John Pickering surrendered to the town a highway of 2 rods broad, through his land, commonly called Pickering's Neck, with liberty to pass over his dam, both for horse and foot, to and from the Meetinghouse, and this to be forever for a public highway." This was Pleasant street.
- 1851 The ship Typhoon, Capt. Salter, built at Badger's Island, sailed from Portsmouth and arrived at Liverpool thirteen days later, a record trip across the Atlantic under sail alone.

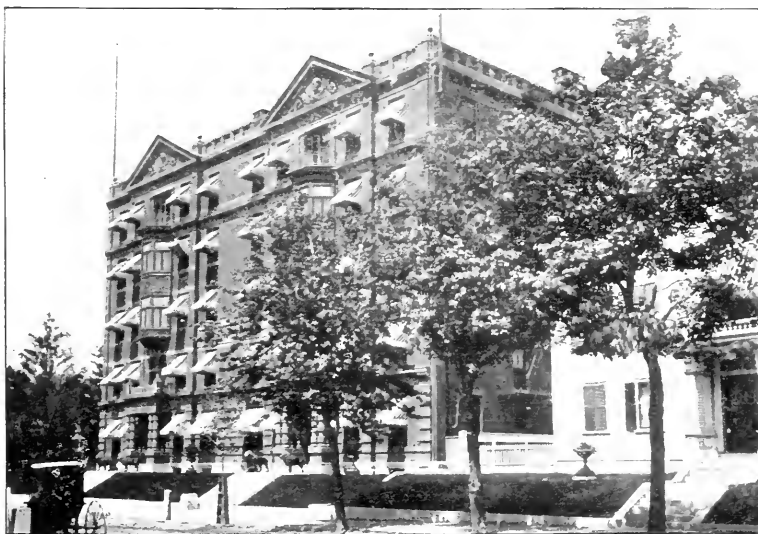
MARCH 14

- 1816 The Ladies' Humane Society, founded in this year, is still active in benevolent work.

MARCH 15

- 1760 Gov. Benning Wentworth married Martha Hilton.

- 1781 The house of Judge Woodbury Langdon was laid in ashes, and on this site, in 1785, he built the original part of the present Rockingham for a residence. In 1830, it was converted into a



The Rockingham.

public house, remodeled in 1870, badly damaged by fire in 1884, and rebuilt in 1885.

MARCH 16

- 1680 The first New Hampshire General Assembly was held in Portsmouth, for the four towns, Exeter, Dover, Hampton, and Portsmouth; it was opened with prayer and a sermon by Rev. Mr. Moodey.
- 1696 The town voted for its first public schoolmaster, Thomas Phipps. "This is the first record concerning schools."
- 1778 The town made arrangements for a hospital for inoculating persons with small pox.
- 1868 The *Daily Evening Times* first issued.



MARCH 17

- 1681 The Council appointed a Fast Day on account of the serious illness of President Cutt, "as also in respect of that awful portentous blazing star, usually foreboding sore calamity to the beholders thereof."
1761 The United Fire Society, No. 1, formed.

MARCH 18

- 1653 Twenty residents of the Isles of Shoals petition the General Court at Boston to be set apart as a separate township.
1897 The Society for the Care of the South Cemetery was incorporated.

MARCH 19

- 1771 Gov. John Wentworth made a division of the State into five counties, naming them for his friends, Rockingham, Strafford, Grafton, Hillsboro, and Cheshire.
1879 The History Club was organized.

MARCH 20

- 1881 During this year, the old Factory was remodeled into a Machine Shop. Bought and occupied by the Portsmouth Forge Co. in 1906.

MARCH 21

- 1778 "A tragic piece, called "The Babes in the Wood," was performed in the Old Assembly House."

MARCH 22

- 1852 The Y. M. C. A. was first established here.

MARCH 23

- 1715 Rev. John Emerson was installed over the South Parish.
1745 New Hampshire troops sailed from here for the Cape Breton expedition.

MARCH 24

- 1669 The first tavern license given to Henry Sherburne and his wife, at the corner of State and Water streets, where Mr. C. E. Walker's office now stands.
1767 The North Mill Bridge was built as a private enterprise by Peter Livius.

MARCH 25

- 1680 Deputy Walter Barefoote was rebuked by the President and Council because he had not consulted them before setting up his customs office.
1749 "A clock was presented to the town by Daniel Peirce, Esq., and several other gentlemen, which was placed in the steeple of the north meetinghouse."
1756 The town voted £40 for a fire-engine.
1762 The town voted for a second fire engine, not to cost over £60, and a house for it.
1801 The town hall over the Market was named Jefferson Hall.

MARCH 26

- 1669 Goodwife Walford recovered damages in court, against one who had called her a witch.
- 1722 The town voted "that the village be divided among the inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, according to their town rate in 1721."
- 1793 The town purchased a lot of land near the Parade for the purpose of erecting a market thereon.
They also voted to take shares in a bridge to be built across the Piscataqua from Newington to Durham.

MARCH 27

- 1804 At a town meeting, it was "voted that the selectmen be directed and empowered to purchase a new clock and dispose of the old one." This one cost \$600 and was in use until August, 1893, when the new, illuminated time piece took its place."

MARCH 28

- 1895 By an Act of Legislature, the Hospital became an independent institution, under the title of "Cottage Hospital."
- 1896 The old Universalist Church was burned.

MARCH 29

- 1771 The town voted thanks to the honorable Assembly for its having granted money to pay the salary of Rev. Dr. Wheelock, President of Dartmouth College.

MARCH 30

- 1745 The bell brought from Louisburg by some New Hampshire officers, was presented to the parish of St. John's, at Church Point, and hung in its belfry.

MARCH 31

- 1768 The Earl of Halifax Hotel, at the corner of Court and Atkinson streets, was



Church Point.

finished so far that St. John's Lodge of Masons voted to remove there.

APRIL 1

- 1671 "A great storm of driving snow came out of the N. W. and drove up in drifts about 6 feet deep, as appeared by those that measured the banks of snow."
- 1887 The Public Library was removed to Congress Hall.
- 1906 The City became owners on payment of \$9875 of the Public Library Building which had been built in 1809 as an Academy.
- 1907 The Rockingham County Light and Power Co. sold out their gas works to the Portsmouth Gas Co.

APRIL 2

- 1878 The Piscataqua Savings Bank began business, having been incorporated in 1877.

APRIL 3

- 1639 The special grant to Gorges included the islands of the Piscataqua.
- 1693 The town meeting arranged for the seating of the people at the services in the meetinghouse.
- 1821 "Voted that this parish receive from subscribers as a gift the stoves and funnels purchased by them by subscription and placed by them in the house for the purpose of warming the same." Previous to this time, there had been no provision for warming the building.

APRIL 4

- 1865 252 Portsmouth men are recorded as having served in the United States Navy during the Civil War.

APRIL 5

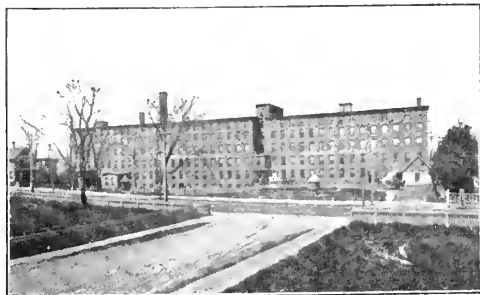
- 1708 Vote passed for the building of the first public schoolhouse in Portsmouth, near the present Haven School, which was built in 1845 and enlarged later. The Assembly ordered that a free Province school be established in Portsmouth for "righters, reeders, and Latiners." In consequence, a schoolhouse was erected "on ye south sd of ye mill dam."

APRIL 6

- 1878 The Shoe Factory was begun this year ; completed October 2, 1880, occupied November 3. It was enlarged in 1888, to the size of fifty-five by 350 feet.

APRIL 7

- 1800 The town voted to build a Market-house and Hall over it : the bricks were laid in thirty-nine days.



The Shoe Factory.

APRIL 8

- 1831 During this month, "a Catalogue of the First Female School, Portsmouth, N. H.," was issued by the school board. It was held in the room now used as the Central Office of the schools.

APRIL 9

- 1711 The town voted to build an almshouse on Prison Lane, (Chestnut street,) and Fetter Lane, where Music Hall now stands. "It was fit for occupation in 1716." In Rev. Dr. Burrough's address at the opening of the Brick Almshouse, December 15, 1834, he said that the 1711 house was probably the first workhouse erected in this or any other country.
- 1741 Died, William Ladd, one of the principal founders and many years President of the American Peace Society.

APRIL 10

- 1856 The first public appearance of Henry Clay Barnabee.
- 1865 A mob upset the office of the *States and Union*, at the northeast corner of Daniel and Penhallow streets.

APRIL 11

- 1655 The town meeting "generally acknowledged themselves willing that Mr. Brown should continue their minister, as he had been, if he were so pleased."

APRIL 12

- 1776 The Secretary of State sends a copy of a Declaration of obligation to oppose hostile fleets and armies.

APRIL 13

- 1873 The first service was held in the new Roman Catholic Church, and it was dedicated on April 18, 1874.
- 1884 The Mercantile Library Association presented its collection of books to the Public Library.

APRIL 14

- 1641 An arrangement made for the eastern boundary line.
- 1766 "An express, which came on purpose, arrived at noon, and brought the agreeable news of the repeal of the Stamp Act."
- 1865 Frank W. Miller bought two large lots, soon built his house on Lincoln Hill, and laid out many house lots; this was the first of the building in the southwest part of the city.

APRIL 15

- 1817 The keel of the Alabama was laid, but the vessel was not finished until 1864, when she was launched as the New Hampshire.

APRIL 16

- 1836 The old Brattle organ was this year brought to the Episcopal Chapel from Newburyport ; it was originally imported by Thomas Brattle, used in King's Chapel until it was sold to St. Paul's Church, Newburyport.

APRIL 17

- 1866 The United States Government purchased Seavey's Island to add to the Navy Yard.

- 1883 The present Rectory on State street was occupied by the family of the Rector of St. John's.



The Rectory of St. John's Parish.

APRIL 18

- 1664 "The town empowers the selectmen to repair the meeting-house, & to hang the bell, & to do whatever other finishing work thereunto belonging they shall see needful."

APRIL 19

- 1814 After the great fire, the town voted to apply to the Legislature for an act to prohibit the erection of any wooden building more than twelve feet high, in the neighborhood of State street, below Pleasant street.
- 1865 A funeral service in honor of Lincoln.
- 1894 Died, Marcellus Bufford, who had held many civic offices, and who was wise in historical matters.

APRIL 20

- 1761 The first stage coach, with two horses, driven by Bartholomew Stavers, (and probably the first in America,) began to run between Boston and Portsmouth. Fare, 13sh. 6p. Capacity, three passengers.
- 1775 Town meeting held "to consider what measures are most expedient to be taken at this alarming crisis."

APRIL 21

- 1716 "The General Assembly granted to Thomas Westbrook the right to keep the only public house at the Plains, if he should lay out six acres to accommodate the drawing up of the militia of the town.
- 1864 The first Box Club of the North Church, then called the North Parish Chapel Club, was formed. The purpose of the Club was to raise funds for furnishing a new Chapel; they earned more than \$2,000, which was used for furnishings in 1871; then the Club disbanded February 23.
- 1896 The present Universalist Church was dedicated.

APRIL 22

- 1779 The Ranger came into harbor with the schooner "Chance" and a brig, as prizes.
- 1846 Congress Block was built during this year, destroyed by fire in 1864, and rebuilt at once.

APRIL 23

- 1790 During this year, Islington street was opened from the Creek to the Plains.

APRIL 24

- 1755 The lot where the old County Court House stands, on Court street, was leased by the selectmen for an almshouse, "for 999 years at the rate of 15 shillings per year, if demanded; deeded to the town in 1836, by the North Church Wardens, for the sum of \$75."
- 1774 Portsmouth was the seat of government for New Hampshire until the Revolution; then the Assembly was held in Exeter until 1805, when it was removed to Concord.



The Universalist Church.

IV SPRINGTIME.

*"Through sunny vapors streams the sun,
And lights and shadows blend in one;
The fragrant rain through fragrance falls,
And grapevines bud on sheltering walls."*

—HARRIET McEWEN KIMBALL.

APRIL 26

- 1633 The town of "Straw Berry Banke" laid out by Neal and Wiggin.
1768 Gov. John Wentworth sent men to Wolfeboro to build him "a humble habitation."

APRIL 27

- 1861 The Commandant of the Station received orders to put the Navy Yard on a war footing.



The Navy Yard, from Portsmouth.

APRIL 28

- 1783 The articles of peace were proclaimed and services were held in the North Meetinghouse. There were also public dinners and a ball. The proclamation of peace was formally made by the President of New Hampshire, from the steps of the State House, which was on the ledge in the centre of the Parade.
1881 The City passed an ordinance to accept the Public Library, which had been started January 1.
1901 The Christian Science Society in Portsmouth was organized.

APRIL 29

- 1705 The town voted to assist Rev. Nathaniel Rogers to build a house on his own land, after the fire of October, 1704.

APRIL 30

- 1726 An Act of Incorporation of the "parish by the name of Rye" was passed, thus separating it from New Castle, with which it had been set apart from Portsmouth in 1693.
1891 Storer Post, No. 1, G. A. R., held a reception and colonial party on the frigate Constitution, which had been stationed here since her arrival at the Navy Yard in 1882.

MAY 1

- 1891 The present County Buildings on State and Penhallow streets were begun; the Jail was occupied in May, 1892, and the Court House at the October term of Court in 1892.
- 1905 The Y. M. C. A. Building on Congress street was dedicated.

MAY 2

- 1857 Sailed, the "Alice Ball," 898 tons, a model for nine other vessels. She was built by Tobey and Littlefield.

MAY 3

- 1645 The two islands now forming the Navy Yard, were granted "by Gorges to Thomas Fernald of Kittery for the sum of Two shillings and sixpence yearly, if demanded."

- 1697 The "Bedford," 32 guns, styled a galley, was launched. This war vessel was the second built at Portsmouth, and was added to the royal navy.

- 1699 The ordination of Rev. Nathaniel Rogers over the Church.

- 1705 Queen Anne sent to Lieut. Gov. Dudley a seal for the use of the New Hampshire government.



The Y. M. C. A. Building.

- ## MAY 4
- 1749 The "America," 44 guns, was launched. She was built at the north end, under the superintendence of Col. Nathaniel Meserve, for the British government, and was the third war vessel built at this port. Her model may be seen at the Athenæum.
- 1845 The great Market street fire; loss, \$150,000.

MAY 5

- 1634 John Mason wrote to his agent: "I have disbursed a great deal of money in your plantation and never received one penny, but hope if there were once a discoverie of the lakes, that I should in some reasonable time be reimbursed again."

MAY 6

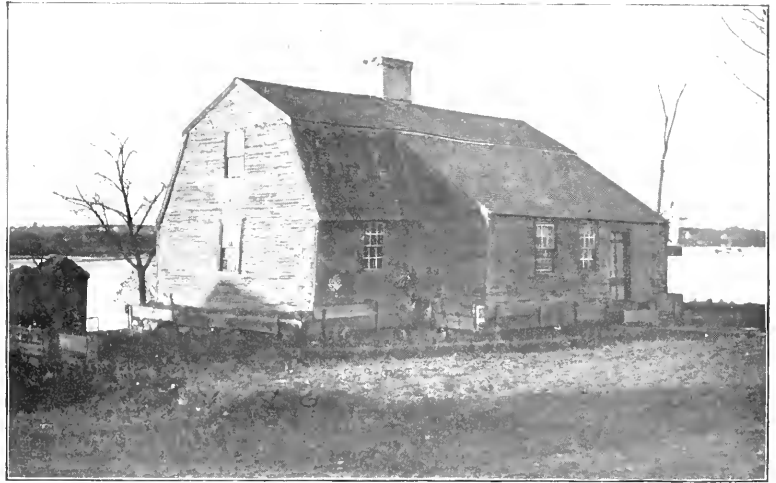
1680 John Cutt bequeathed £100 for a free school.

MAY 7

1697 It was "agreed with Mr. Tho. Phippes to be scoollmaster for the towen this year insewing**we ye selectt men Doe Ingage to Pay him by way of rate twenty pounds, and he shall and may Reseave from everey ffather or master** ye rate of 16s. for readers, writers and sypherers 20s, Latterners 24s."

1730 Before this year, the house on the river bank, probably the second oldest in New Castle, was built ; Boatswain Allen, one of John Paul Jones' men, lived here.

1759 "A severe thunderstorm struck the steeple of the south meeting-house."



The Boatswain Allen House.

MAY 8

1879 Franklin Block, originally built by Langley Boardman, was burned.

MAY 9

1879 Mr. Wilbur I. Trafton set up the first telephone line in Portsmouth.

MAY 10

1675 The date of the will of Richard Cutt ; ten dollars was left "to bie a piece of plate for the use of the church."

1777 The Continental Sloop "Ranger," 18 guns, launched from Badger's Island ; she was built by order of Congress under the superintendence of Col. James Hackett.

1880 The Rockingham Bicycle Club was organized.

MAY 11

1832 During this year, the Episcopal Chapel on State street was erected for St. John's Church, on land given for the purpose by John Fisher Sheafe, Esq., of New York.

MAY 12

- 1854 The steeple of the old North Church was pulled down across Market Square, when the old building gave place to the present one.
- 1898 Great excitement and alarm were created in the city by a rumor of the approach to the Lower Harbor of the Spanish ships-of-war.

MAY 13

- 1776 "This may certify that we by the request of Rev'd Dr. Haven, have examined the saltpetre made by him and have weighed off 308 lbs., which we judge sufficiently pure and dry."
- 1895 The Graffort Club was organized and named for Mrs. Bridget Graffort, who was a daughter of Richard Cutt, and who, in 1700, gave a lot of land to the town for school purposes, as well as the highway now called Daniel street.

MAY 14

- 1714 An Act passed the Assembly for the support of the ministry and public schools.

MAY 15

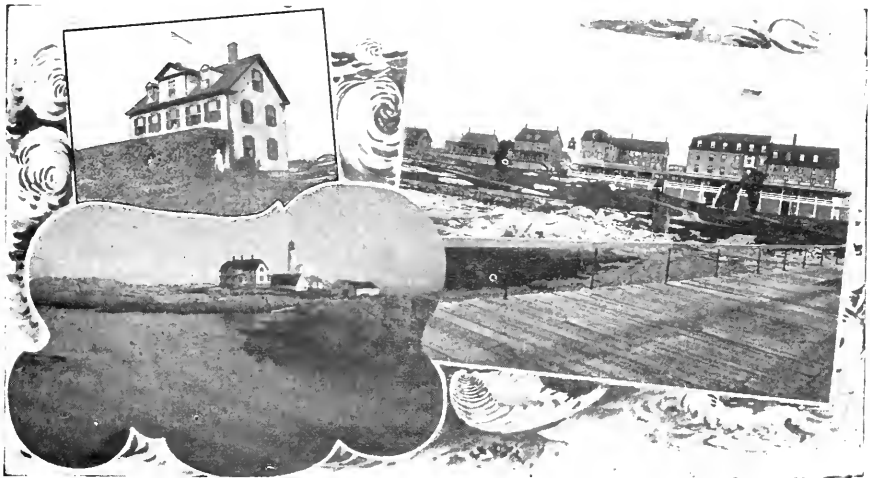
- 1792 Gov. John Langdon introduced the first Lombardy poplars.

MAY 16

- 1902 Choice of Haven Park for the location of the Porter statue, for which \$30,000 was received by the City from the estate of Mr. R. H. Eddy, of Boston.

MAY 17

- 1661 "Being places of great resort, the General Court incorporated the Isles of Shoals into a town called Appledore, investing it with the powers and privileges of other towns." In 1682, the islands were divided between Maine and New Hampshire; in 1737, Commissioners of the two Provinces confirmed this act, and in 1820 the Convention of the two States ratified the division.



THE ISLES OF SHOALS { Celia Thaxter's Cottage.
White Island Light.
The Oceanic Hotel.

- 1844 Receptions were tendered to Daniel Webster at Jefferson Hall in the afternoon, and at the Cameneum in the evening.

MAY 18

1736 "The public archives at the house of Mr. Richard Waldron, at the Plains, were mostly burned."

MAY 19

1780 "A famous Dark Day."

1898 Dedication of the Weeks Memorial Library Building, at Greenland.

MAY 20

1776 The Committee of Safety "met at Portsmouth and Tarried the 21st and 22nd, Viewed New Castle and directed a Battery to be Built at Jerry's Point."

1790 The Circuit Court held its first session for New Hampshire at Portsmouth.

MAY 21

1776 The "Raleigh," a frigate for Congress, 32 guns, was launched from Rindge's wharf at the north end; this was the first American man-of-war built at this port, and was completed in sixty days from the laying of the keel.

1812 Rev. Charles Burroughs was inducted as Rector of St. John's. He resigned in 1857.

1823 The two hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Portsmouth was "celebrated with great eclat." Mr. N. A. Haven, Jr., gave the address.

MAY 22

1766 A celebration for the Repeal of the Stamp Act.

MAY 23

1878 The Chase Home for Children was incorporated.

1885 The Gamewell Fire Alarm System was installed.

MAY 24

1631 During this year, "the Great House," at the southeast corner of Court and Water streets, was built—the first at Strawberry Bank.

1844 The Piscataqua Lodge, I. O. O. F., was instituted.

1853 The Woodbury Schoolhouse at Gravelly Ridge was built during this year.

MAY 25

1640 Twenty prominent citizens made a deed of fifty acres of land for a glebe, "for the advancement of the glory of God and for the support of the minister;" twelve in the centre of the city, the present North Church being at its northeast corner, and the other acres on the Plains road.

1686 President Dudley became President of New England: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Narragansett being included in one royal province.

1687 Gov. Andros orders the New Hampshire records to be sent, (for the second time,) from Portsmouth to Boston.

1876 Langdon Park was opened, with addresses by Charles Levi Woodbury, Ex-Gov. Goodwin, Rev. Alfred Elwyn, and others. Over 600 trees were given and planted by citizens, under the supervision of Frank W. Miller.

MAY 26

1906 The Telephone Exchange occupied its new quarters on Vaughan street.

MAY 27

1777 "Major Sam'l Langdon took charge of four teams loaded with gunpowder, to be delivered at Cambridge."

MAY 28

1643 Strawberry Bank established with definite limits.

1653 The name "Straw Berry Banke" changed to Portsmouth, by petition to the General Court at Boston. Capt. Mason had been Governor of Portsmouth, England.

1903 Portsmouth observed the quarter millennial of its change of name from Strawberry Bank, with able historical addresses by Frank W. Hackett and John H. Bartlett, at Music Hall.

1906 An ordinance passed the City Government, relating to parks and commons, and three commissioners were appointed.

MAY 29

1808 The new St. John's Episcopal Church on Chapel street opened for service.

MAY 30

1693 Great Island and part of Rye separated from Portsmouth, and became "a Towne Corporate by the name of New Castle," on the payment to the King or his successors or representatives, of "the quitt



St. John's Church.

rent of Owne Peppercorn on the five and twentieth day of October, yearly, forever." The grant was signed and executed by Lieutenant Governor Usher.

1868 The first public appearance of Storer Post, No. 1, G. A. R.; soldiers' and sailors' graves were decorated at the North and South Cemeteries for the first time.

MAY 31

1903 A service commemorating the naming of the city of Portsmouth was held at the North Church.

From the North Church Records of 1671 :
“He yt was appointed for Pastor preacht in ye morning out of Ezekiel 58 : ult. (‘The name of the city from that day shall be, the Lord is there.’)”

*“O lordly spire raised high above
The marts and homes of Portsmouth town,
Guard well the trust to thee bequeathed,
Her ancient NAME and fair renown.”*

—L. H. THAYER.

The vane on the present spire is the same that was placed on the old steeple in 1732. It was regilded and set up on the new steeple in 1855.

“It is well, too, that you have set yon steadfast finger pointing into the heavens, preaching, as every spire does preach, to busy throngs beneath it.”—*Rev. Lyman Whiting, November 1, 1855.*



JUNE 1

1784 Belknap's Preface to the first edition of his History of New Hampshire.

JUNE 2

1859 The first volume of "Rambles About Portsmouth" published.

JUNE 3

1678 Tything men appointed "to inspect the neighbor's families."

1771 The wardens voted that Richard Junkins be appointed to be in charge of the upper gallery, to keep boys and negroes in good order upon the Sabbath, giving him his tax for his services.

1793 Charles Pierce established the newspaper called the "Oracle of the Day," later the *Portsmouth Journal*.

1863 Rev. George M. Adams was installed over the North Church.

JUNE 4

1705 The town voted "a sum of £100 a year during the maintenance of an able minister among them and no longer."

1902 The organization of the Portsmouth Improvement Association was effected at a public meeting held in the City Rooms.

JUNE 5

- 1603 During this summer, Martin Pring is thought to have visited this river, which he called "the westernmost and best."

MY NATIVE RIVER.

*"Like an azure vein from the heart of the main,
Pulsing with joy for ever,
By verduous isles, with dimpled smiles,
Flozeth my native river.*

*Singing a song as it flows along,
Hushed by the Ice-King never ;
For he strives in vain to clasp a chain
O'er thy fetterless heart, brave river."* —ALBERT LAUGHTON.

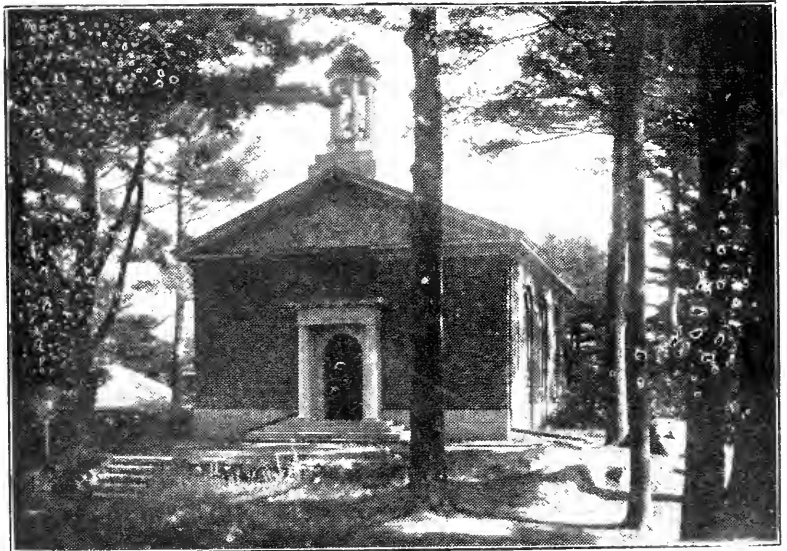
- 1671 The town records show that the Cotton Cemetery on South street was "set apart for a burying-place." It was enclosed in 1721.
- 1762 The Provincial Assembly begs the Governor not to allow a playhouse here.
- 1854 The "Sierra Nevada" sailed ; the largest vessel ever built on the river. It came from the Raynes shipyard.

JUNE 6

- 1808 The Portsmouth Marine and Fire Insurance Co. was incorporated.
- 1903 The Chapel of the New Jerusalem on Little Harbor Road, built by Mr. Arthur Carey on land of his estate, was opened for undenominational service, during the summer months.

JUNE 7

- 1778 Rev. Ezra Stiles, after a pastorate of about one year at the North Church, left to become President of Yale College.
- 1803 Amos Toppan began the first Sunday School in the town.



The Chapel on Little Harbor Road.

"There was no parcelling off into sects, sexes, or complexions." Two others were started in 1818.

JUNE 8

- 1861 The Second New Hampshire Regiment mustered into the service of the United States, at the old ropewalk grounds, south of the South Pond. Co. K., Capt. W. O. Sides, was composed mainly of Portsmouth men.
- 1905 A reception was given at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, in honor of Miss Helen Gould of New York.

JUNE 9

- 1814 During this summer, the British were supposed to be approaching this shore for purposes of plunder; Col. Walbach, then in charge of Fort Constitution, called on the citizens to aid the militia in constructing the tower, now known by his name.

JUNE 10

- 1773 Rev. Arthur Brown, long rector at Queen's Chapel, died at Cambridge. He was interred in the old church yard, Bow street.

- 1812 Died, Rev. Joseph Buckminster of the North



Walbach Tower, New Castle.

Church. "He was beloved by the people of his charge, and his catholic disposition procured him the esteem of Christians of all denominations," said Rev. Mr. Parker of the South Church.

JUNE 11

- 1776 The New Hampshire Assembly voted that "Samuel Cutt, Timothy Warner, and John Dudley, Esq., be a committee to make a draft of a Declaration of Independence of the United Colonies on Great Britain."
- 1826 First meeting of the Calvin Baptists in the old Assembly House on Vaughan street.

JUNE 12

- 1804 The Piscataqua Missionary Society was formed in the town; its objects were "the increase of Christian knowledge and evangelical piety: the promotion of the present well-being and the eternal salvation of man."

JUNE 13

- 1823 The New Hampshire Historical Society was incorporated and organized at Portsmouth; its headquarters are now at Concord.
- 1858 The sloop-of-war "Portsmouth," built at this Yard, reached Portsmouth harbor, after taking the bearer of the first treaty with Siam, to Bangkok, a cruise of 49,000 miles.

JUNE 14

- 1737 Middle street was opened.
- 1767 Ex-Governor Benning Wentworth wrote a note of welcome to Governor John Wentworth.
- 1814 Died, John Peirce, chief agent in erecting Piscataqua Bridge and in constructing the turnpike to Concord. He built the Peirce Mansion on Haymarket Square.

JUNE 15

- 1840 At about this time, Dr. Kimball put up the first icehouse in the town; he located it on Commercial alley.

JUNE 16

- 1806 "An unusual but splendid phenomenon, a total eclipse of the sun."
- 1809 The present Public Library building was erected for a private Academy.
- 1907 First meeting of the Thomas Bailey Aldrich Association.

JUNE 17

- 1745 Many New Hampshire troops engaged at Louisburg, at the time of the surrender; here Sir William Pepperrell gained his greatest honors.
- 1874 The first Wentworth Hotel at New Castle was opened; it was rebuilt and enlarged in 1879 and 1882, and again in 1896



The Wentworth Hotel, New Castle.

JUNE 18

- 1777 Capt. John Paul Jones was ordered to the command of the "Ranger," built at Badger's Island. He was allowed to select his own officers.
- 1802 The New Hampshire Bank was incorporated, with Gov. John Langdon as President. Its charter expired in 1842, and was not renewed.
- 1885 The City Government ordered a drinking-fountain and trough to be erected on Market Square.

JUNE 19

- 1666 "At a general towne meeting, for the better carrying on of the fortifications at Fort Point, it was voted, that every dweller and liver in the towne above sixteen years of age, shall and doe here promise to worke at the same one whole weeke betwixt this and the last day of October next ensuing."

JUNE 20

- 1817 The Athenæum was incorporated.
- 1861 The Second New Hampshire Regiment left Portsmouth for the seat of war.

JUNE 21

- 1720 Capt. John Pickering "gave the South Parish, ground for a meetinghouse on the highest part of his neck." The meetinghouse built in 1731 was taken down in 1863. On its site the South Ward Room building was erected, occupied in part as a school room and for meetings of the People's Church.
- 1814 An alarm was created by a false report that the British were landing at Rye Beach.
- 1832 The Portsmouth Whaling Co. was incorporated, Ichabod Goodwin, President.

JUNE 22

- 1830 Died, Elijah Hall, constitutional counsellor, also Lieutenant under Capt. Paul Jones. He lived several years in the Stoodley house on Daniel street, long used for a tavern.
- 1907 The old Dry Dock was burned at Revere Beach, having been towed from this harbor on May 18.

JUNE 23

- 1907 As this was the nearest Sunday to St. John's Day, the hundredth anniversary of the laying the cornerstone of St. John's Church was celebrated; the rector read the address delivered in 1807 by Thomas Thompson, Grand Master of the Masons.

JUNE 24

- 1736 St. John's Lodge, No. 1, A. F. and A. M., was constituted.
- 1807 Cornerstone of the present St. John's Church laid, with Masonic, military, civic, and religious ceremonies.
- 1880 The cornerstone of Christ Church was laid.

JUNE 25

- 1726 The date of the earliest inscription found in the churchyard of St. John.
- 1774 "27 chests of tea, subject to the duty, were landed and stored in the custom house before the inhabitants had knowledge of it."
- 1776 When New Hampshire formed the temporary government, the lack of an executive branch of government was obviated by the appointment of a Committee of Safety, numbering from six to sixteen.
- 1796 "Mr. Blanchard, the famous aeronaut, sent up a balloon, which ascended very majestically."
- 1871 The Sagamore Cemetery was added to the Proprietors, and Harmony Grove.

JUNE 26

- 1696 An Indian Massacre at the Plains and at Sagamore Creek. The savages burned five houses and nine barns, and killed fourteen people, while several others were made prisoners and taken away but were recaptured by Captain Shackford when he routed the Indians at Breakfast Hill.
- 1788 The town celebrated the adoption of the Constitution of the United States by New Hampshire. As this was the ninth state to pass the vote, it secured the adoption by the whole country. A great trades procession, a collation with toasts, salutes of cannon, and illuminations, helped made the day one of public rejoicing.
- 1812 The private armed schooner "Fox," schooner "Nancy," and sloop "First Consul," were commissioned by President Madison, with authority to take any British vessel on the high seas.
- 1823 The Portsmouth Savings Bank was incorporated, the first Savings Bank chartered in New Hampshire, and the eleventh organized in the United States. The first deposit was received August 20, 1823.

JUNE 27

- 1774 At a town meeting, it was voted that "a guard should keep the imported tea secure." The tea was reshipped to Halifax.
- 1783 The town voted to sell all the land on Spring Hill where the old market was, reserving such streets or water privileges as they deemed necessary to the use of the town.
- 1783 John Greenleaf advertised in the *Boston Chronicle* that his stagecoach "sets off from Mr. John Stavers' tavern in Ports. every Tuesday morning for Boston. Fare \$6 each passenger."

JUNE 28

- 1749 The ordination of Rev. Job. Strong over the South Parish; the sermon was preached by Rev. Jonathan Edwards.
- 1850 The original Portsmouth Gas Company was incorporated.
- 1899 The first street car ran through Portsmouth.

JUNE 29

1835 Celia Thaxter was born at Portsmouth, N. H., on Daniel street, near Penhal-
low street. Most of her life was spent at the Isles of Shoals. "Her 'parlor,'
as it was called, was a *milieu* quite as interesting as any of the 'salons' of the
past. She saw as much as any wom-
an of the
time of large
numbers of
people, and
she was able
to give them
the best kind
of social en-
joyment—
music, pic-
tures, poe-
try, and con-
versation;



The Living Room of Celia Thaxter's Cottage, Appledore Island.

the latter sometimes poor and sometimes good, according to the drift which swept through the beautiful room."—*Mrs. Fields.*

*"The quiet room, the flowers, the perfumed calm,
The slender crystal vase, where all aflame
The scarlet poppies stand erect and tall,
Color that burns as if no frost could tame,
The shaded lamplight glowing over all,
The summer night a dream of warmth and balm."*

—CELIA THAXTER.

JUNE 30

- 1706 The Greenland parishioners formed a new parish, dismission from the Ports-
mouth parish having been granted, on account of the long distance and danger
from Indians while traveling to and from Portsmouth.
- 1793 "The bell at the South Parish, having been broken by striking it with a ham-
mer, according to the direction of the selectmen, instead of tolling it for
funerals: the town authorized the selectmen to pay the wardens of that parish,
a sum of money equal to the expense of procuring and hanging a bell in the
belfry of the meetinghouse of that parish, of the same weight as the present
bell, deducting the net proceeds of the sale of the same."

JULY 1

- 1623 The colony of Plymouth sent Capt. Standish here for provisions and the settlers here supplied him. Mason provided most liberally for his steward and tenants.
- 1800 The commerce of Portsmouth employed twenty-eight ships, forty-seven brigs, two schooners, two sloops, and one bark, besides twenty coasting vessels and a still greater number occupied in fishing.
- 1845 The Concord and Portsmouth Railroad was chartered and opened in 1852.
- 1887 The Free Postal Delivery service began.
- 1906 The Fitz-John Porter statue in Haven Park dedicated, the address by Gen. Webb. The statue was the gift of Mr. R. H. Eddy, of Boston.

JULY 2

- 1852 "Flags were at half-mast, bells tolled, and seventy-five minute guns fired in respect to the memory of Henry Clay."



- 1863 Wounded at Gettysburg, died July 4, Henry L. Richards,

The Fitz-John Porter Statue.

one of the Second United States Sharpshooters. Richards Avenue was then named in his honor, as he and Dr. Robert O. Treadwell had planted the trees by the roadside in 1861.

JULY 3

- 1802 "Juft received at the Portsmouth Book Store, and for sale, The Life of Buonaparte—to which is added an account of his remarkable Replies, Speeches and traits of Character, with anecdotes of his different Campaigns. Translated from the French."
- 1811 The Mechanics Fire Society was formed: it continues to hold its annual meeting and supper.
- 1829 The South Parish Charity Fund was incorporated.
- 1847 The burning of the old stagecoach, as described by T. B. Aldrich in "The Story of a Bad Boy."
- 1883 Christ Church was dedicated.

JULY 4

- 1697 Parson Moodey died. Dr. Cotton Mather preached his funeral sermon from Acts VI: 15. Mr. Moodey was a Harvard graduate, and in 1684, was offered the Presidency of the College, but declined.
- 1777 The first United States flag was hoisted on the "Ranger." Tradition says that this was made by women of the neighborhood from their silk gowns and then presented to Capt. John Paul Jones.
- 1782 Capt. John Paul Jones fired salutes from the ship "America," and illuminated it, while it was still on the stocks.
- 1788 The first Fourth of July oration delivered in Portsmouth, was given by the poet, Jonathan Sewall.
- 1802 The Federalists celebrated at the South Church and the Democrats at the North.
- 1809 The Republicans had a dinner at Jefferson Hall, the Federalists at Piscataqua Bridge.
- 1824 A new flagpole was raised at Liberty Bridge.
- 1853 The first return of the Sons and Daughters of Portsmouth, started by B. P. Shillaber—the first "Old Home Week."
- 1873 The second return, with a large High School Reunion.
- 1882 Died, Ex-Governor Ichabod Goodwin. He had been a successful merchant, a useful citizen, and a patriotic Governor during the early months of the Civil War. He bought in 1832 his house opposite Goodwin Park, which was built in 1811.
- 1883 The third return.
- 1888 The Soldiers' Monument, at Goodwin Park, was unveiled.
- 1899 A new flagpole was raised at Liberty Bridge.

JULY 5

- 1745 "By express from Boston, we have the agreeable news of the surrender of Louisburg confirmed."
- 1770 "The Trustees of Dartmouth College met at Governor John Wentworth's, and concluded to place it at Hanover."
- 1847 President Polk was received here with public honors.

JULY 6

- 1662 "Voted that whoever shall kill a wolf within the bounds of this town and shall bring some of the next neighbors, where such wolf is killed to testify it was done in this town's bounds, and shall naye the head of such wolf killed, upon the meetinghouse, he shall have five pounds for his paynes."
- 1778 The names of fifty-three streets and lanes were adopted by the Board of Selectmen on recommendation of a committee, one of which was General Whipple. Several of these streets were renamed on December 19, 1838.
- 1849 The charter of the City of Portsmouth approved by Gov. Samuel Dinsmoor, adopted August 21, 1849, city officials elected March 26, 1850.

JULY 7

- 1777 General Washington wrote to the New Hampshire Convention about looking out for the arrival of General Howe in New England, after he was driven from New Jersey.
- 1805 The Universalist Church was organized.
- 1866 The Portsmouth and Dover Railroad was chartered: opened February 1, 1872.
- 1877 The Old Ladies' Home on Deer street was chartered; in May, 1876, this house had been purchased, which was built before the Revolution, and in 1782, was used by Mrs. Richard Shortridge as a boarding house and patronized by some of the French officers during their visit.

JULY 8

- 1776 By acclamation, the name of King street was changed to Congress street.
- 1790 "The Grand Lodge of Masons organized at Stavers' Hotel on Court street.

JULY 9

- 1798 Congress ordered "an enumeration." In 1800, Portsmouth had 5339 people, and ranked twelfth in the list of cities and towns in this country. Albany was tenth with 5349, Hartford eleventh with 5347.
- 1846 The "Portsmouth," built at this Navy Yard, hoisted the first United States flag seen in San Francisco Harbor.
- 1898 The U. S. S. St. Louis arrived with 702 Spanish prisoners, including Admiral Cervera; they were landed on Seavey's Island.

JULY 10

- 1807 Died, Samuel Hale: a soldier in the siege of Louisburg in 1745; later, the master of the Latin Grammar School for thirty years.
- 1855 The Portsmouth Mercantile Library Association was incorporated; it was instituted in 1852.

JULY 11

- 1684 The Agent of the Council presented complaints against Cranfield to the King.
- 1699 "This Province is so well seated for trade, and your harbor here on Piscataqua River so very good, that a fort to secure it would invite people to settle among you, and as you grow in number, so will your trade advance and flourish and you will be useful to England, which you ought to covet above all things, not only as it is your duty, but as it will be for your glory and interest."—[*From a speech of Governor Bellmont to the Council and Assembly of New Hampshire.*]
- 1702 Queen Anne appointed Joseph Dudley Governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.
- 1790 The first Methodist sermon was preached here by Jesse Lee, and the Church was organized in 1808 at 12 Washington street.

JULY 12

1716 A framed bill of lading for furniture hanging in the Warner House reads :
"shipped by the Grace of God in good Order and well conditioned upon the
good ship Olive Branch, riding at anchor in the port of Bristoll, by God's
Grace bound for New England,

for acct Mr. Archibald MacPhædris,

Robert Browning."

1817 President Monroe was received here with public honors, and visited Colonel Storer in the house at the corner of Congress and Middle streets. General Miller, the hero of Lundy's Lane, accompanied the President.



The East Room in the Warner House.

1871 The Portsmouth Trust and Guarantee Company was incorporated.

1877 Sam Walter Foss was awarded a Haven medal at the High School. He also read his class poem at the graduation exercises.

JULY 13

1807 The inhabitants of the town met at the State House to pass resolutions approving of the action government had taken, in resisting attacks like that of the "Leopard" on the "Chesapeake."

1817 President Monroe attended St. John's Church, also the North Church.

JULY 14

1669 "The inhabitants of this town subscribed £60 for a new building at Harvard College, which sum they engaged to pay annually for seven years."

1817 President Monroe attended a concert, at which "Major Samuel Larkin sang 'Yankee Doodle' in inimitable style."

1863 The first presentation of Haven Medals in the High School. The legacy for these was left in 1843.

1874 The cable steamer "Ambassador" came into the harbor, met the "Faraday," and the next day completed the line between Rye and Newfoundland.

JULY 15

- 1605 Samuel De Champlain is said to have discovered the Shoals, and what is now Odiorne's Point, which he named "Cape of the Isles."
- 1775 "Seven deputies were chosen to meet the deputies of the other towns in the Province, to elect a delegate to the General Congress, which is to meet at Philadelphia, in September."
- 1795 A public meeting was held to protest against Jay's Treaty. The call read: "If you regard yourselves, your children, and above all, the honor of your country, assemble at the sound of the bells."
- 1898 The cruiser "Harvard" brought a second instalment of 963 Spanish prisoners.

JULY 16

- 1713 The General Assembly received articles of pacifications with the Indians. The parish of Newington was made separate from Dover and Portsmouth.

JULY 17

- 1694 Madam Ursula Cutt was killed by the Indians at the Pulpit Farm, now owned by the heirs of Mark H. Wentworth. The house was built in 1681.
- 1777 The General Court divided the whole militia of the State, into two brigades, giving the command of the first to William Whipple, and of the second, to John Stark. General Whipple was sent against Burgoyne.

JULY 18

- 1776 "The Declaration of Independence of the United States was published by beat of drum in all the towns of N. H."

JULY 19

- 1821 The Proprietors of New Castle Bridge were incorporated.
- 1871 The North Church celebrated the second centennial of its formation. Rev. G. M. Adams delivered the historical address.

JULY 20

- 1686 "The Selectmen gave a warrant to the Constable to warn John Kelley, Peter Harvie, John Reed, Miss Stocker before the Selectmen, to give account of their being in town & for Harvie's entertaining strangers without liberty."
- 1901 The Country Club was incorporated.

JULY 21

- 1671 "The Church Covenant that those who first imbodyed did on yt day publiqly and solemnly enter into."
- 1694 Four women slain by Indians on the Eliot Shore, near Boiling Rock, and opposite the spring that is covered at high tides.

*"Upgushing through the pebbly strand,
Here flows a fairy crystal stream ;
Its waters sharking o'er the sand,
Like threads of liquid silver seem."* —B. B. SHILLABER.

JULY 22

- 1782 The old jail on Islington street was built.
- 1798 An epidemic of yellow fever brought from Martinique by the ship "Mentor."
- 1831 The Proprietors Cemetery at the corner of South and Sagamore Roads was opened this year.
- 1905 A successful explosion of thirty-five tons of dynamite in 400 holes drilled in the rim of rock around the excavation of Henderson's Point. Water was thrown seventy-five feet high, and debris to the height of 170 feet, but no excessive jar was noticeable.



Henderson's Point During the Explosion.

JULY 23

- 1825 The Commercial Bank was incorporated : the predecessor of the Mechanics and Traders Bank of December, 1844, and of the present National Mechanics and Traders Bank.

JULY 24

- 1671 "The Selectmen agree with John Pickering to build a cage 12 ft. sq. with stocks within it & a pillory on the top, a convenient space from the west end of the meeting-house."

JULY 25

- 1904 During six weeks of each summer, the old High School Building on Daniel street, has been used since July, 1904, as a Manual Training School, the Graffort Club raising the money for the purpose, from the citizens at large.

JULY 26

- 1780 General Washington wrote a letter of thanks for help from New Hampshire.
- 1864 The "Poets of Portsmouth," compiled by Aurin M. Payson and Albert Loughton, was issued this year.

JULY 27

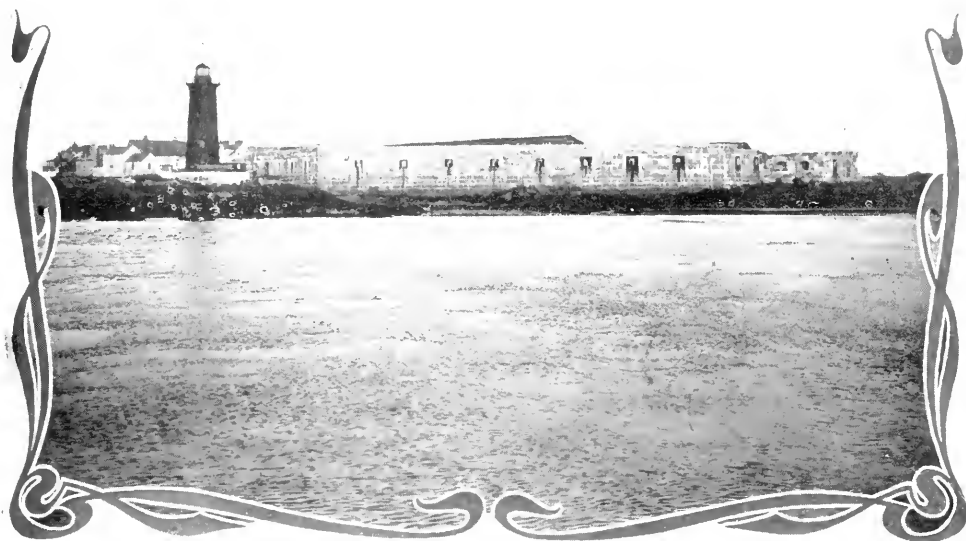
- 1614 During this summer, Capt. John Smith visited the Shoals and wrote about "the sweet air and the silent streams of a calm sea" as well as the rich fisheries. In the 17th century, Edward Johnson said, "It is a great place for fishing for our English nation."

JULY 28

- 1832 The first stationary steam engine in our State was put into the foundry at the east end of Daniel street.

JULY 29

- 1771 The Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse, near Fort Constitution, was built this year by Governor John Wentworth: it was ceded by New Hampshire to the United States in 1789, and remodeled in 1854.



Fort Constitution and Portsmouth Light.

- 1793 The Universalist Society was incorporated.

JULY 30

- 1686 The principal men of Portsmouth protest against the removal of the New Hampshire records to Boston.

- 1746 Date of the deed from Mason heirs to the Masonian Proprietors.

JULY 31

- 1635 Included in the inventory of goods at Piscataway were the following: "For Religious Use: 1 great Bible, 12 service books, 1 pewter flagon, 1 communion cup and cover of silver."

- 1833 Died, Langley Boardman, Constitutional Counsellor, who built the Boardman-Marvin house on Middle street.

AUGUST 1

- 1762 The Friendly Fire Society was established.
- 1840 A part of the seawall of a stone wharf that was building at the Navy Yard fell in ; this accident led to the appointment of a Civil Engineer for the Yard.
- 1884 The North Atlantic Squadron, at the mouth of the harbor, received the relief ships that brought home Lieutenant Greeley and his five fellow-survivors of the Arctic Expedition.
- 1907 The boyhood home of T. B. Aldrich, at No. 45 Court street, was purchased by the Aldrich Memorial Association. A fire-proof building is in process of construction in the rear of the house for the safekeeping of his collection of books, manuscripts and autograph letters.

AUGUST 2

- 1800 Dr. Jedediah Morse said of Star Island at the Shoals, "All the trees and the bushes even, have been consumed, leaving only naked rocks where formerly was the finest pasturage for cows."



T. B. Aldrich's Boyhood Home.

- 1852 The first issue of the *Morning Chronicle* by Miller and Gray, as an independent paper.

AUGUST 3

- 1904 The Portsmouth Savings Bank occupied its new building on Market Square.

AUGUST 4

- 1884 Parade of the officers and men of the Relief Expedition with a large escort, and municipal reception of Lieutenant Greeley and five other survivors. In the afternoon, exercises were held in Music Hall, when speeches were made by Commodore Schley, Secretary Chandler, General B. F. Butler, and others.

AUGUST 5

- 1886 The last vessel built in Portsmouth was the Lizzie J. Call ; Wm. Fernald, builder.

AUGUST 6

- 1817 The Brick Vestry on Fleet street was dedicated for the use of the North Church. Gov. John Langdon gave nearly \$1,000 for the vestry, and later, a legacy of \$1,000 to the North Church.

AUGUST 7

- 1623 During this summer, the Laconia Co. sent settlers "to found a plantation on the Piscataqua River, to cultivate the vine, discover mines, carry on the fishing, and trade with the natives. These colonists built the Manor House at Odiorne's Point, where the Colonial Dames of New Hampshire have recently set a memorial stone.
- 1902 The contract awarded for the removal of Henderson's Point at the cost of \$749,000.



Henderson's Point Before the Excavation.

AUGUST 8

- 1885 A military funeral service, in honor of Ex-President Grant.
- 1887 York Harbor and Beach Railroad sent its first train to Long Beach.
- 1905 Arrived in port, the government yachts, Dolphin and Mayflower, conveyed by the Galveston, with the peace plenipotentiaries of Japan and Russia on board. In the afternoon, the State and Municipal officials gave a reception to the envoys of Russia and Japan at the County Court House. They were quartered at the Wentworth Hotel.

AUGUST 9

- 1800 For seventeen years from 1783 Langdon's (now Badger's) Island was used by the United States for building ships.
- 1878 Died, Hon. W. H. Y. Hackett: for fifty years he lived in the same house, occupied the same law office and the same pew in the Unitarian Church, and served as Director of the same bank. He was President of the State Senate in 1862.

AUGUST 10

- 1622 The territory of New Hampshire and Maine granted to Mason and Gorges.
1826 The Calvin Baptist Church was organized.

AUGUST 11

- 1766 Mr. John Wentworth received his commission as Governor of New Hampshire, and surveyor of the woods in North America. His father, Mark H. Wentworth, built the mansion on Pleasant street for this son to occupy on his arrival from England in 1767.

AUGUST 12

- 1873 President U. S. Grant in Portsmouth.
1897 The White Squadron in the lower harbor for a few days.



The Governor Wentworth House.

AUGUST 13

- 1793 The town passed resolutions approving the President's proclamation of neutrality during the French and English wars.
1821 Copyright given to Wibird Penhallow, who issued the first Portsmouth Directory.
1891 The Board of Aldermen voted to accept the legislative Act of March 20, 1891, to entitle Portsmouth to issue water bonds to pay the purchase money for the Portsmouth Aqueduct. \$325,000 water bonds were issued, dated January 1, 1892.

AUGUST 14

- 1870 Admiral David G. Farragut died at the Navy Yard.

AUGUST 15

- 1635 Richard Mather writes of a terrible storm at the Shoals, where his vessel lost three great anchors and cables.
1799 The "Congress" of 36 guns launched. It was built by Col. James Hackett; in 1836 it was broken up at Norfolk.
1871 Died, Miss Mary C. Rogers, who gave the land for the North Chapel on Middle street.
1907 A long parade of Veteran Firemen with the old hand-tubs.

AUGUST 16

- 1782 A squadron of five French vessels anchored in our harbor for three months.
- 1789 Mr. Chase, father of Salmon P. Chase, concluded a term of two years as teacher of the boys in the Latin Grammar School.
- 1841 The fifty gun frigate "Congress" was launched at the Navy Yard. She was burned in Hampton Roads in 1862.
- 1855 Rev. A. J. Patterson began his pastorate of eleven years in the Universalist Church.

AUGUST 17

- 1789 The Custom Home was established here by Congress. Before that, dues had been collected by the Province.
- 1870 The funeral of Admiral David G. Farragut was held at St. John's Church.

AUGUST 18

- 1719 "At a church meeting Lawfully warned, it was unanimously voted that we give our consent to ye reading of ye holy Scripture in the public worship; yt is a chapter in ye forenoon and a chapter in ye afternoon service."



The Interior of St. John's Church.

- 1856 The new Customs Building was authorized by an Act of Congress.

AUGUST 19

- 1635 King Charles I confirmed the New Hampshire grants to Capt. John Mason.
- 1762 During this year, Benjamin Franklin put up the lightning rod on the Warner house, probably the first in New Hampshire.

AUGUST 20

- 1808 The selectmen appropriated "a lot of land near the south schoolhouse to the use of the United States, on which they are to erect a building to be occupied as a gunhouse."
- 1815 The town introduced the district system of schools, and for the first time, placed boys and girls on the same footing in the schools.

AUGUST 21

- 1817 The United States Government bought the new building at the corner of Daniel and Penhallow streets, still inscribed "Custom House"; from 1860 to 1867 it was rented, then sold.
- 1821 The Moodey Bible given to the North Church. Rev. Joshua Moodey's name is inscribed on the flyleaf in his handwriting in 1687.

AUGUST 22

- 1901 Music Hall, after being enlarged and remodeled, was opened with the play, "Two Little Vagrants."

AUGUST 23

- 1817 "To-day, a steamboat went from Portsmouth to Piscataqua Bridge, the first which ever passed up Piscataqua River."—[*Wm. Fogg's Journal.*]

AUGUST 24

- 1775 Governor John Wentworth left for Boston in the "Scarboro."
- 1887 The charter of the Portsmouth Gas Company was amended to allow electric lighting.

AUGUST 25

- 1664 The Jackson house, the oldest now in Portsmouth, was built during this year, and is still owned by descendants of Richard Jackson, the builder. This view was photographed from Northwest street, in the rear of the house.



The Jackson House.

- 1777 An enumeration of the people of New Hampshire ordered by the Provincial Congress.

AUGUST 26

- 1732 During this year, Queen's Chapel was built on the corner of Bow and Chapel streets, the site being the gift of Mr. Hope, of London. The cost of the building was \$2,000.
- 1894 Celia Thaxter died at the Shoals. On November 15, 1888, she moved into the house, at 47 State street, and from that time on, she spent her winters there.

TO CELIA THAXTER.

*"When I go down to Appledore
I shall climb up a stony street
To find a hospitable door
In an old garden, quaint and sweet."* —E. R.

*"I but crave
The sad, caressing murmur of the wave
That breaks in tender music on the shore."* —CELIA THAXTER.

AUGUST 27

- 1657 "The town empowered the selectmen to build a new meetinghouse at the crotch of the roads southward of the mill-dam," (at the intersection of South and Marcy streets.)



The Celia Thaxter Cottage, Appledore Island.

- 1868 O s g o o d Lodge, No. 48, I. O. O. F., was instituted.

AUGUST 28

- 1669 It was "granted to Mr. Ffryer the town's right to twentie foote square of land neere the meetinghouse to sett up a house and keep wood in to accommodate himself and family in winter when he comes to meeting." The building was called "the noon house."
- 1862 The Cantata of "Esther" sung in the North Church.

AUGUST 29

- 1905 At four in the afternoon, bells were rung and whistles were blown, because peace had been arranged between Russia and Japan, at the Conference Building at the Navy Yard.



The Conference Building.

AUGUST 30

- 1732 As Queen's Chapel had been named in honor of Queen Caroline, consort of George II, she later presented several pieces of plate. The marks indicate that they were made in London in 1741

AUGUST 31

- 1767 From a census taken by the Provincial Government in 1767, it appears that there were 187 slaves in Portsmouth at that time.
- 1814 During this year, the privateers brought in so much calico that it became a drug in the market. Captain William Rice gave a party, at which he offered each lady as many dress patterns as she could carry home.

SEPTEMBER 1

- 1808 The Portsmouth Academy was organized for school purposes. Daniel Webster served on the Board of Trustees from 1810 to 1816. The building was erected in 1809, from designs by Bullfinch. It was used as an academy until 1868, when it was given up to the city for public schools. In 1896, it was occupied for the Library and purchased by the City, April 2, 1906. Rev. Elias Smith, of the Christian Church, began here the publication of "Gospel Liberty," the first religious paper issued in this country, or perhaps in the world, and still published in Dayton, Ohio.
- 1889 The study of Drawing was introduced into the schools.
- 1900 Central Office of the Schools opened in the old State street school building.

SEPTEMBER 2

- 1755 "A haymarket with convenient scales for weighing, was erected" on the Square at the Junction of Court and Middle streets, hence the name, "Haymarket Square."

SEPTEMBER 3

- 1861 Third Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, Colonel John H. Jackson of Portsmouth, marched from Concord.
- 1868 George Marsh made his will, leaving money for building Christ Church. He had lived many years in the present rectory on State street.

SEPTEMBER 4

- 1758 "Voted that all stoves found in the meetinghouse half an hour after the congregation is dismissed, the owner of every such stove shall forfeit and pay 10 shillings, old tenor, to the sexton of this house."
- 1851 Died, Levi Woodbury. He had served his state and country as Governor, Senator, Secretary of the Navy and of the Treasury, and Judge of the United States Supreme Court. He purchased the house on Woodbury avenue, which had been built in 1809.
- 1856 The High School Building on Daniel street, (now disused,) was dedicated.

SEPTEMBER 5

- 1873 The union of the Girls and the Boys High Schools, into a single school.
- 1905 The Treaty of Portsmouth signed by the Russian and Japanese plenipotentiaries. A Thanksgiving service was held by the Russians at Christ Church.
- 1907 A bronze tablet, commemorative of the signing of the peace in 1905, unveiled at Christ Church.



The Russian-Japanese Envoys in Session.

SEPTEMBER 6

- 1807 Daniel Webster came to Portsmouth and lived here until 1816.
- 1814 At a town meeting held on the receipt of news of the destruction of public property at Washington, a new committee of defence of twelve, including Daniel Webster and Jeremiah Mason, was appointed; the expense incurred was \$9,360. 4581 militia assembled in Portsmouth, over 1000 being quartered in the old ropewalk.
- 1871 A Firemen's Muster, with sixty-six companies in the procession.
- 1886 The first Superintendent of Schools, Charles H. Morss, took office, under the law of 1885.

SEPTEMBER 7

- 1864 The "Franklin" launched from the Navy Yard. She was the flagship of Admiral Farragut in 1867 and 1868.
- 1874 The study of vocal music was introduced into the schools.

SEPTEMBER 8

- 1774 The ship "Fox" brought thirty chests of tea; the consignee refused to accept it, and it was shipped to Halifax.
- 1890 The new Farragut and Whipple Schools were first occupied.
- 1906 The present Parochial School was opened: the first one began at 50 State street in 1868.

SEPTEMBER 9

- 1713 The town church was divided into North and South Parishes.
- 1765 George Meserve resigned as Stampmaster.
- 1828 There was "a powerful revival of religion" in the North Church, which led to the addition of more than one hundred members to the church, and it became so large that forty members were granted dismissal and formed the Pleasant Street Church, and worshipped in their new brick building, corner of Livermore street, until 1836, when the church was dissolved and the members of it united again with the old church.
- 1898 Admiral Cervera in Portsmouth.

SEPTEMBER 10

- 1812 The schooner "Fox" sailed from Portsmouth, and in seven cruises captured seventy-four British prisoners, for whom the United States paid \$3,650 as bounty. One of her prizes sold for \$400,000. In the Revolutionary War, seventy-eight privateers were commissioned from New Hampshire; in the war of 1812, sixteen.
- 1822 The Portsmouth Bridge was opened for passengers, and the ferry from Rindge's wharf to Rice's landing discontinued.
- 1885 The Portsmouth Athletic Club was organized.

SEPTEMBER 11

- 1776 "It was enacted by the Council and Assembly that this Colony assume and take the name and style of the State of New Hampshire."
1843 The Order of Odd Fellows established in New Hampshire.
1905 School opened for the first session in the new High School Building on Islington street, on the site of the George W. Haven mansion.

SEPTEMBER 12

1765 "Effigies of a stampmaster hung up all day at the hay engine" (now called Haymarket Square), "carried thro the town by a mob, and then burnt."



The High School Building.

1898 1667 Spanish prisoners left in the steamer "City of Rome," for Spain.

SEPTEMBER 13

1869 "Christian Shore received its name from the fact that among the families living on the land the other side of Strawberry Bank Creek were some strict adherents of Puritan principles."—[*Rambles About Portsmouth.*]

SEPTEMBER 14

1808 "The Rev. Nathan Parker was ordained over the South Church and Parish in this town." He served twenty-five years.

SEPTEMBER 15

1699 The Provincial Assembly voted to build the first prison in Portsmouth, near Market Square.
1902 The Glebe Building received its present name, it being situate on lot No. 1 on the plan of the Glebe land when leased to Richard Wibird in 1707 at fifteen shillings per year.

SEPTEMBER 16

1782 During the visit of the French officers in this city, Lafayette came all the way from Providence to see them and spent several days in their company at the William Pitt Tavern on Court street.

SEPTEMBER 17

1900 The North Atlantic Squadron arrived in the lower harbor for the celebration.

SEPTEMBER 18

1819 Died, John Langdon, in the Langdon house on Pleasant street, built by him in 1784. He was chosen President of New Hampshire, and five times Governor of the State. He also served as purchasing agent for Congress during the Revolution, President of the New Hampshire currency convention, Speaker, Senator, and Delegate to the Constitutional Convention of the United States. Mr. Langdon had the honor of presiding in the Senate when Washington was elected President, and of announcing the election to Congress.

1900 Tablets were presented to the battle-ships "Kearsarge" and "Alabama" by the State.



The Governor Langdon House.

SEPTEMBER 19

1881 The bells of the city were tolled at midnight on account of the death of President Garfield.

1900 The Kearsarge-Alabama Celebration continued, with general decorations and a parade.

1901 A Memorial Service at Music Hall at the time of the funeral of President William McKinley. The banks and other places of business were closed.

SEPTEMBER 20

1860 During this month, the present Custom House was occupied.

1897 The frigate "Constitution," after fifteen years at the Navy Yard, was sent to Boston.

SEPTEMBER 21

1784 Died, Hon. Hunking Wentworth, brother to Ex-Governor Benning Wentworth, Chairman of the Portsmouth Committee of Safety from the time of its appointment until his death. The building west of the North Church was his home.

1824 General Lafayette visited Portsmouth. A reception was held in Franklin Hall, which had been built in 1819.

SEPTEMBER 22

- 1779 Died, Hon. Theodore Atkinson, prominent in civic affairs. He left £200 to St. John's Church, the income to be expended for bread to be distributed every Sunday, to the poor of the parish. This bequest is still in force.
- 1862 The Tenth New Hampshire Regiment marched from Concord. Company G, Captain George W. Towle, was composed mainly of Portsmouth men.

SEPTEMBER 23

- 1884 The *Portsmouth Herald*, formerly the *Penny Post*, established as an evening paper.

SEPTEMBER 24

- 1711 "The town voted to build a new meetinghouse on the corner of the Glebe land, which should be the stated meetinghouse of the town."
- 1828 The Baptist Church on Middle and State streets dedicated.
- 1874 Miss A. C. Morgan opened her private school.

SEPTEMBER 25

- 1662 Ordered at a town meeting that "a cage be made or some other meanes invented by the Selectmen to punish such as sleepe or take tobacco on the Lord's day out of the meeting, in time of the publique exercise."

SEPTEMBER 26

- 1758 A petition for a charter for a college was sent to Governor Benning Wentworth by the Convention of Congregational Ministers.

SEPTEMBER 27

- 1775 "The N. H. Committee of Safety ordered Captain Titus Salter to take command of the batteries on Pierce's & Sevey's Islands."
- 1861 Fourth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, Company B, Captain George F. Towle, of Portsmouth, marched from Concord.

SEPTEMBER 28

- 1762 Town meetings were held in the North meetinghouse previous to this year, then the parish voted not to permit further public use of the building. The doors were locked but the selectmen's warning had been issued, and the citizens considering the meeting duly warned made forcible entrance and transacted their business.
- 1770 Rev. George Whitefield preached in the North Church.

SEPTEMBER 29

- 1760 "Voted that the Wardens are desired to confer with the Selectmen to allow Mr. Hooker for ringing the bell of this house for nine o'clock."

SEPTEMBER 30

- 1731 During this year, the South Parish built a new church on Meetinghouse Hill, the land being the gift of John Pickering.

OCTOBER 1

- 1775 The British ship, "Prince George," was driven by a storm into the lower harbor.
- 1800 The island known as Fernald's, was purchased by the United States Government for \$5,500, for a Navy Yard.
- 1862 Rev. James DeNormandie was ordained and installed over the South Church. He resigned in 1883.
- 1895 The present Cottage Hospital was first used.

OCTOBER 2

- 1775 Captain Pickering boarded the "Prince George" in the lower harbor, took it and brought it up as a prize. Of its 1894 barrels of flour, fifty were kept in Portsmouth, the rest sent to the army at Cambridge.
- 1802 The Society of Associated Mechanics and Manufacturers was instituted; incorporated June 11, 1803; established an Apprentices' Library in 1823. The Society was dissolved in 1896.
- 1847 The roof of the Portsmouth Steam Factory blew off, and struck in its fall a barn on the Rice estate on Islington street.

OCTOBER 3

- 1723 Died, Rev. Nathaniel Rogers: his grave and monument are at the Point of Graves; he was pastor of the North Church for twenty-four years.
- 1886 Died, Mrs. Annie B. Wilson, who had been a very useful member of the Board of Instruction and an active worker for the establishment of the Public Library.

OCTOBER 4

- 1812 Captain Isaac Hull took the first command of the Navy Yard.
- 1870 During this month, the Spalding School was opened.

OCTOBER 5

- 1761 In this year, the beautiful marble font at St. John's Church was presented by the daughters of John Tufton Mason, to the "English Church at Portsmouth, in the province commonly called New Hampshire."
- 1840 There were seven banks in operation in this city. The New Hampshire chartered in 1792, the New Hampshire Union in 1802, the Rockingham in 1813, the Portsmouth in 1821, the Portsmouth Savings in 1823, the Piscataqua in 1824, and the Commercial in 1825.

OCTOBER 6

- 1808 Daniel Webster was admitted as a member of the Humane Fire Society, which had been established in February, 1796.
- 1862 The Thirteenth New Hampshire Regiment marched from Concord, Company K, Captain Matthew T. Betton, composed mainly of Portsmouth men.

OCTOBER 7

- 1731 "The Assembly sent Mr. John Rindge to petition the King to settle the line between this province & Mass."
- 1756 The *New Hampshire Gazette* was first published at the corner of Washington and Howard streets. It is the oldest newspaper in America, and is still published in this city.

OCTOBER 8

- 1767 The paving of Market street was begun, "from the Parade to Spring Hill."



OCTOBER 9

- 1774 Rev. Dr. Langdon left the North Church to become President of Harvard College. A memorial tablet has been placed in the North Church by his great granddaughter.
- 1856 President Pierce left the harbor for Annapolis, Md.; this was the first sea voyage ever taken in a man-of-war by a President of the United States.
- 1890 Presentation of flags to the schools of Portsmouth by Storer Post, No. 1, G. A. R.

THE Printer to the PUBLIC.

UPON the Encouragement given by a Number of Subscribers agreeable to printed Proposals, I now publish the first *WEEKLY GAZETTE*, for the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE; depending upon the Favour of all Gentlemen who are Friends to *Learning, Religion and Liberty* to countenance my Undertaking, as this is the beginning of Printing in this Province, so that I may go on cheerfully, and continue this Paper in a useful and entertaining Manner.

Fondness of News may be carried to an extreme; but every Lover of Mankind must feel a strong *Desire* to know what passes in the World, as well as within his own private Sphere; and particularly to be acquainted with the Affairs of his own Nation and Country—Especially at such a Time as this, when the *British* Nation is engaged in a just and necessary War with a powerful Enemy, the *French*, a War in which these *American* Colonies are most nearly interested, the Event of which must be of the utmost Importance both to us and all the *British* Dominions, every true Englishman must be anxious to know from Time to Time the State of our Affairs, at Home and in the Colonies.

I shall therefore take Pains to furnish my Readers with the most material News which can be collected from every Part of the World, particularly from *Great-Britain*, and its Dependencies: And great Care will be taken that no Facts of Importance shall be published but such as are well attested, and these shall be as particular as may be necessary.

But besides the common News, whenever there shall be Room, and as there may be Occasion, this Paper will contain Extracts from the best Authors on Points of the most useful Knowledge, moral, religious or political Essays, and other such Speculations as may have a Tendency to improve the Mind, afford any Help to Trade, Manufactures, Husbandry, and other useful Arts, and promote the public Welfare in any Respect.

As the Press always claims Liberty in free Countries, it is presumed that none will be offended if this Paper discovers that Spirit of Freedom which so remarkably prevails in the *English* Nation: But as Liberty ought not to be abused, no Encouragement will be given by the Publisher to any Thing which is apparently designed to foment Divisions in Church or State, nor to any Thing profane, obscene, or tending to encourage Immorality, nor to such Writings as are produced by private Pique, and filled with personal Reflections and insolent scurrilous Language. It is a great Abuse of good Sense as well as good Manners to employ those Means which may be serviceable to the best Purposes, in the Service of Vice or any thing Indecent, or which may give just Occasion of Offence to any persons of true Taste and Judgment. And therefore proper Caution will be always used to avoid all reasonable Grounds of Complaint on that Score.

The First Page of the First New Hampshire Gazette.

OCTOBER 10

- 1755 "The St. John's Lodge of Masons met at Bro. John Stavers' (the first Earl of Halifax Inn, on State street) and they dined upon an elegant dinner."
- 1774 "The town voted to give £200 for the relief of the industrious poor of the towns of Boston and Charlestown, under the oppression that they now suffer from the port of Boston being blocked up, by an act of the British Parliament."
- 1816 Died, Tobias Lear, for sixteen years Private Secretary to Washington. The house in which he was born is still standing on Hunking street.

OCTOBER 11

- 1807 The hours of attendance in the public schools were from April 1 to October 1, eight o'clock A. M. to twelve, and from two to six P. M. From October 1 to April 1, nine A. M. to twelve, and from two P. M. to sunset.

OCTOBER 12

- 1802 Elder Smith called the first meeting of the Christian Church during this month, at Jefferson Hall; and on January 1, 1803, the church was organized; they worshipped in the North Schoolhouse, the Temple, the Pleasant street Brick Church, the Chapel on Hanover Street, before settling in their present house of worship.

OCTOBER 13

- 1715 George Vaughan made Lieutenant Governor of New Hampshire.

OCTOBER 14

- 1770 Ex-Governor Benning Wentworth died. He was governor for twenty-five years, "a longer term than any other governor in America ever held his commission."

OCTOBER 15

- 1884 Rev. Alfred Gooding was installed over the South Church.
1885 The formal opening of the frame Cottage Hospital occurred.

OCTOBER 16

- 1777 Gen. Wm. Whipple of Portsmouth was one of the commissioners who signed the articles of capitulation at the surrender of Burgoyne.
1818 "The town voted \$1,000 to establish a school for boys and another for girls on the Lancasterian plan."



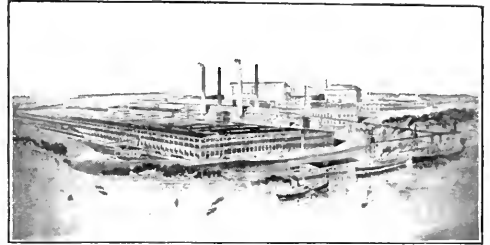
The Cottage Hospital.

OCTOBER 17

- 1763 The South Church "voted the use of Dr. Watts' version of the Psalms, instead of the New England; also that said Psalms should be sung without being read line by line."
- 1860 Rev. William L. Gage was installed pastor over the North Church.
- 1891 The Golden Rule Circle of King's Daughters was formed.
- 1906 The Publishers' Paper Co. made their first paper in the new plant at Freeman's Point. Salt water was used in making this paper.

OCTOBER 18

- 1759 Public rejoicings on account of the reduction of Quebec.
- 1852 The lot for the Catholic Church on Summer street was bought and the church erected at once.



The Paper Mill

- 1809 Died, Colonel Joshua Wentworth, Constitutional Counsellor, Senator, Navy Agent. He built the house on Hanover street, opposite Fleet street.

OCTOBER 20

- 1836 The town paid the North Church wardens \$75 for the old Almshouse lot, and built the present building on Court street; it was in use for a Court House until 1891.
- 1860 The Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII of England, passed through Portsmouth.
- 1891 The County Court House on State street was first used for the court term.

OCTOBER 21

- 1775 Many families, fearing an attack from British vessels, removed into the country and remained there until spring.
- 1890 The Woman's Exchange was inaugurated in Portsmouth, the late Mrs. James P. Bartlett being one of its most active supporters.

OCTOBER 22

- 1645 "The Pascataqua residents combine for good government and having no directions from the King."
- 1811 The Mechanics Fire Society was instituted.

OCTOBER 23

- 1778 The murder of a Frenchman at the Creek at the time of the visit of the French fleet, "gave the name of Frenchman's Lane to the quiet country path at the Creek."

OCTOBER 24

- 1833 Andrew P. Peabody was ordained and installed over the South Church. He resigned September 1, 1860, to become a Harvard Professor.

OCTOBER 25

- 1838 The Portsmouth Seaman's Friend Society was organized ; in 1858 it was incorporated ; it now owns and operates a building on Market street.

OCTOBER 26

- 1781 "Three quarters after four o'clock, Received the agreeable Intelligence of the UNCONDITIONAL Surrender of the proud Cornwallis with his whole Army to the ILLUSTRIOUS WASHINGTON, on the 19th Instant."
- 1881 The Centennial of the Piscataqua Association of Congregational ministers was held in the North Church.

OCTOBER 27

- 1791 By the sale of some of the Glebe land, the North Parish obtained money to build a parsonage, the house at 28 Pleasant street.

OCTOBER 28

- 1795 "For Philadelphia and back to this Port again. The Schooner Sea Flower will fail with all convenient speed. For Freight or Passage apply to the subscribers at their Boot and Shoe Manufactory No. 1 High street, Portsmouth. Leigh & Bowles."

OCTOBER 29

- 1852 Public honors were paid to the memory of Daniel Webster, on the day of his funeral.
- 1907 Edward Payson Weston walked through the city from Portland bound for Chicago, trying to excel his record walk made forty years ago ; this he accomplished on November 27th.

OCTOBER 30

- 1831 The Whaleback Lighthouse, at the northeast of the harbor, was established this year ; in 1872, it was rebuilt and the fog signal added.

OCTOBER 31

- 1765 The *New Hampshire Gazette* appeared in mourning on account of the Stamp Act.
- 1783 The first Constitution of New Hampshire was established.
- 1786 "The proprietors of the social library dissolved their society, sold their books at auction, and divided the proceeds." This library had been started in 1750, under what was called the tontine system.
- 1789 General Washington arrived in Portsmouth, and was received at the State House on the Parade.

NOVEMBER 1

- 1765 A funeral over the Goddess of Liberty, on account of the Stamp Act.
- 1777 The "Ranger," Captain Paul Jones, sailed for France, with dispatches announcing the surrender of Burgoyne.
- 1789 President George Washington attended service at St. John's Church in the morning and at the North Church in the afternoon.
- 1855 Rev. Lyman Whiting was installed over the North Church, and the present building was dedicated.
- 1883 The Children's Home was transferred to the Chase house, at the corner of Court and Washington streets. This house was the gift of Mr. George B. Chase, of Boston.

NOVEMBER 2

- 1761 A separation of persons from other churches into an independent congregation: Mr. Drown was ordained to this work. He died January 17, 1770.
- 1789 President Washington visited the Wentworth mansion at Little Harbor.
- 1890 Lucius H. Thayer began his service at the North Church.

NOVEMBER 3

- 1789 President Washington called on Madam Lear, mother of his private secretary, at the house on Hunking street. He attended a ball at the Assembly in the evening.

NOVEMBER 4

- 1789 President Washington paid his official visit to President Sullivan and the Council of New Hampshire, at the William Pitt tavern, formerly called the Earl of Halifax Tavern.
- 1902 Ground was broken for the Y. M. C. A. Building. In the evening a reception was held at Franklin Hall, at which Lieutenant R. P. Hobson was the guest of honor.

NOVEMBER 5

- 1727 "Earthquake, preceded by considerable noise like distant thunder." The pewter on the dressers rattled and in some instances was thrown down.
- 1771 A mob "took possession of the cargo of the brigantine "Revolution," the Collector having seized her for not entering the molasses & securing the duties."
- 1782 The "America" was launched from Badger's Island, with the flags of the United States and of France displayed; she was then presented by Captain Paul Jones to the Chevalier de Martigne, as Congress had voted the vessel to the French, because one of their fleet had been accidentally lost in Boston harbor. Her model may be seen at Independence Hall, Philadelphia. "She was an honor to Piscataqua shipwrights and to our coast oak."
- [*John Elwyn.*]

NOVEMBER 5

1813 The Rockingham Bank was chartered; it and its successors were in continuous existence until 1906,—ninety-three years.

1905 Annual celebration of Pope night.

Semi-centennial of the Dedication of the present North Church building was celebrated, with an address by Rev. Lyman Whiting, who was installed on that occasion, fifty years earlier; reminiscences were also given by Mrs. Helen C. Knight, Mr. Lewis W. Brewster, and Mr. Charles A. Hazlett.

NOVEMBER 6

1745 The North Parish called Mr. Samuel Langdon to assist Rev. Mr. Fitch, agreeing that he should continue his school and succeed Mr. Fitch later.

NOVEMBER 7

1782 The "Auguste," an eighty-gun ship belonging to the King of France, lying in the lower harbor, was much disabled by a heavy thunder storm.

NOVEMBER 8

1809 Rev. Hosea Ballou installed as pastor over the Universalist Church.

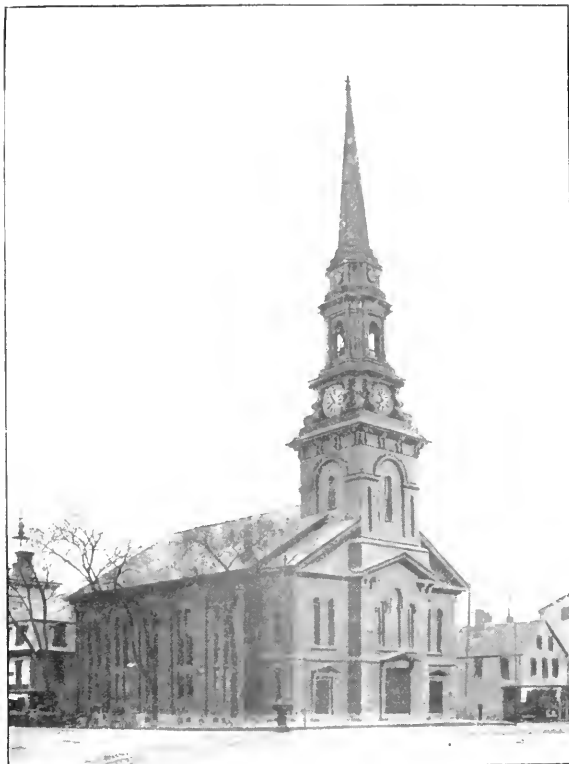
NOVEMBER 9

1840 First steam cars came into a station near the powder-house.

1880 The house on the corner of State and Sumner was purchased by the North Church for a parsonage.

1907 Major Zinn of the Engineer Corps proposed to the Portsmouth Navigation Co., a conference of parties interested in the deepening of Pepperrell's Cove, and the removal of a ledge.

The "Vinegar Bible" in the St. John's Church is now preserved in a carved rosewood case with a glass cover, so that the word vinegar, a misprint for vineyard, may be seen plainly. The Bible was printed in 1717.

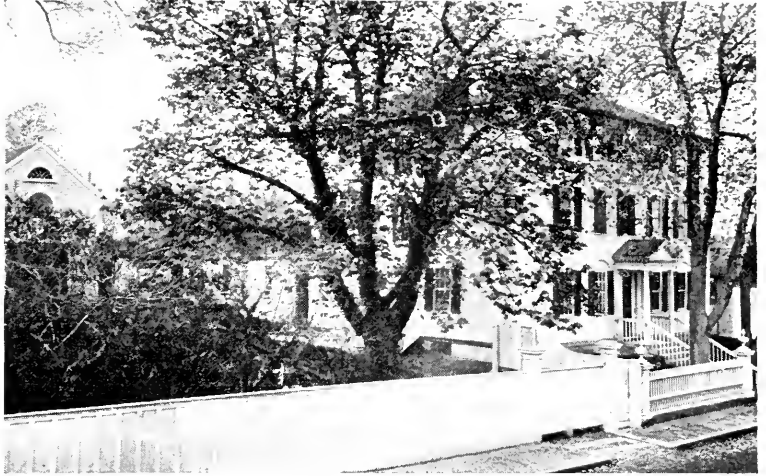


The North Congregational Church

NOVEMBER 10

1725 Died, General William Whipple : State Counsellor in the Revolution, General in the Army, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. He had lived in the Moffatt-Whipple house on Market street, the first three-story house erected in New Hampshire, in 1763.

1759 Rev. Samuel Langdon preached a sermon in honor of the seventy-sixth birthday of the King, and congratulated him on the conquest of Quebec.



The Whipple-Ladd House.

1773 The first Universalist sermon was

delivered in Portsmouth by Rev. John Murray, the father of Universalism.

1864 The new City Rooms, remodeled from Jefferson Hall, were opened for the use of the City Government. The market below was abolished in 1875.

1872 The Portsmouth Fire Department sent a steamer, hose carriage, and thirty-four men to help Boston in the great fire.

NOVEMBER 11

1769 Marriage of Frances Atkinson, after ten days of widowhood, to her cousin, Governor John Wentworth, in Queen's Chapel.

1836 Thomas Bailey Aldrich was born in the Loughton house on Court street, next east of Pleasant street. When a few weeks old, he was removed to 45 Court street, the home of his boyhood.

PISCATAQUA RIVER.

*“Thou singest by the gleaming isles,
By woods and fields of corn ;
Thou singest, and the heaven smiles
Upon my birthday morn.
But I, within a city,—I,
So full of vague unrest,—
Would almost give my life to lie
An hour upon thy breast.”*

—T. B. ALDRICH.

1848 The contract for the old Dry Dock was made ; it was completed in 1851.

NOVEMBER 12

- 1765 Died, Thomas Wibird, Esq. "He gave 110 oz of silver, sufficient to make two large flagons, to the North Church."
- 1779 A petition was sent to the Legislature by twenty slaves, held in Portsmouth, asking for a law to give them freedom. This was not accomplished.
- 1857 The present Unitarian Chapel was dedicated.
- 1885 The Granite State Fire Insurance Co. commenced writing policies. Incorporated July 17, 1885.
- 1906 Died, Mrs. Helen C. Knight, born in 1814. For sixty years she had lived in Portsmouth, and it was truly said of her that she was, at the time of her death, the oldest and most distinguished member of the North Church.

NOVEMBER 13

- 1862 The Seventeenth New Hampshire Regiment mustered in, with many Portsmouth men in Company B.

NOVEMBER 14

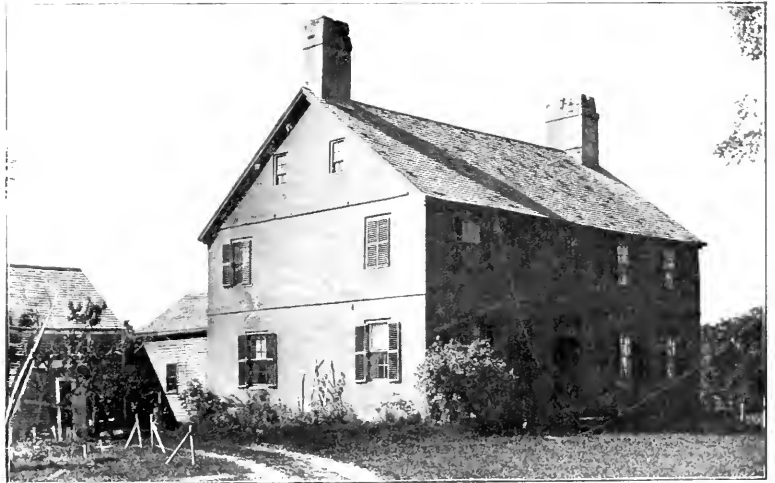
- 1797 During this month, Louis Philippe and his brothers spent a week as guests at the Martine farm on the Sagamore Creek.

NOVEMBER 15

- 1638 The oldest house in New Hampshire is the Weeks house in Greenland, now occupied by the same family in the seventh generation ; it was in Portsmouth at the time it was built, and was probably intended for a garrison house.

NOVEMBER 16

- 1828 The Unitarian Sunday School, after ten years in a small room on Wentworth street, gathered for the first time in the old building on the site of their present Chapel on Court



The Weeks House in Greenland.

- street. They had purchased it from the Baptists, and it had been commonly called "Parson Walton's Meetinghouse."
- 1842 Rev. Rufus Clark was installed over the North Church.

NOVEMBER 17

- 1808 During this year, the house at the southeast corner of State and Summer streets was built by Jeremiah Mason. He was a very distinguished United States Senator from New Hampshire in 1813; Webster said of him, "As a lawyer, as a jurist, no man in the Union equaled him and but one approached him."

NOVEMBER 18

- 1755 "The most severe and tremendous earthquake which was ever felt, took place just after midnight." (This was at the time of the destruction of Lisbon, Portugal.)

NOVEMBER 19

- 1883 Standard Time adopted here.
1879 Rev. William A. McGinley was installed over the North Church.
1902 During this day and the next, the 100th Anniversary of the Episcopal Diocese was celebrated at St. John's Church.

NOVEMBER 20

- 1891 Presentation of portraits of General William Whipple and Admiral David G. Farragut by Storer Post, No. 1, G. A. R., to the City of Portsmouth, the portraits being placed in the school buildings respectively named for these heroes.

NOVEMBER 21

- 1842 The Portland, Saco, and Portsmouth Railroad was opened.
1851 The Roman Catholic Parish was organized: the first baptism of this church in Portsmouth had occurred in 1807; the first mass was celebrated in 1836 in the Peduzzi building, and then once a month until 1851.

NOVEMBER 22

- 1746 Rev. Jabez Fitch died after a ministry of twenty-two years at the North Church. "He took pains to collect many historical facts which he did not publish, but the historian of the Province reaped the fruits of his labors by examining his manuscript."
1824 Copyright given Nathaniel Adams for his "Annals of Portsmouth."
1853 Died, William C. Harris, on whose monument "his grateful pupils" have inscribed "A Faithful Teacher."

NOVEMBER 23

- 1863 The Sixteenth New Hampshire Regiment marched from Concord. Company K, Captain Joseph H. Thacher, was made up chiefly of Portsmouth officers and privates.

NOVEMBER 24

1799 The Peirce Mansion was built during this year by John Peirce, and was considered on the outskirts of the town. Ownership has continued in the same family.

1890 The North Church was reopened, after many repairs and improvements. A concert by some Boston artists and the organist, Mr. McIntire, gave an opportunity for hearing the new organ.



The Peirce Mansion.

NOVEMBER 25

1794 The Piscataqua Bridge was passable, and the tolls were first taken.

NOVEMBER 26

1635 John Mason's will signed. He was never in New Hampshire himself.

NOVEMBER 27

1797 A petition was sent to the Legislature for the incorporation of the Portsmouth Aqueduct Company to bring water from Fountain Head to Portsmouth. This is one of the oldest aqueducts in the United States.

1871 The Roman Catholic Church was destroyed by fire; the cornerstone of the new one was laid November 5, 1872.

NOVEMBER 28

1837 During this year, the old North three-decker Church was remodeled at a cost of \$5,828.29.

NOVEMBER 29

1850 The Sagamore Bridge was opened this year.

NOVEMBER 30

1815 The Ladd-Richter house on Middle street was built by Mr. Samuel Larkin, from the proceeds of his commissions for sales of privateer prizes.

DECEMBER 1

- 1777 Baron Von Steuben, afterwards Inspector General of Continental armies, arrived in the French gunship, as a passenger, and remained here until Dec. 12, when he went to Valley Forge.

DECEMBER 2

- 1726 Died, Judge Samuel Penhallow, a historian of the Indian Wars. His wife was a daughter of President John Cutt.

DECEMBER 3

- 1744 Died, Joseph Sherburne, of the Plains family; the farm is in the possession of Mr. Andrew Sherburne, a direct descendant of the first owners.
- 1795 In this month, the Portsmouth Pier Co. was incorporated; they purchased the Henry Sherburne estate, at the end of State street, and extended the wharf 345 feet; the building on the south side was divided into fourteen stores.

DECEMBER 4

- 1784 Died, Wyseman Claggett, Solicitor of New Hampshire, eccentric, witty and learned. He lived in the Leavitt house on Congress street, next to the Cutters.
- 1880 The Kearsarge Mill, formerly the Portsmouth Steam Factory, was burned.
- 1899 The John Langdon Club of the North Church was organized.

DECEMBER 5

- 1896 The Public Library was located in the present building, designed by Charles Bulfinch in 1809.

DECEMBER 6

1682

**ANNE, Ye WIFE
OF GEORG
JAFFREY, ESQR.
AGED 18 YEARS
DECD. DECMBr. Ye 6
1682.**

The above inscription is from the oldest legible stone at the Point of Graves Cemetery. This was perhaps the earliest public burial place of the town.



The Public Library Building, formerly the Academy.

DECEMBER 7

- 1717 John Wentworth was made Lieutenant Governor by the King, in place of George Vaughan. The commission is signed by Joseph Addison, then Secretary of State ; it was published in New Hampshire on this day.
- 1905 The Portsmouth District Nursing Association was organized for a trial of six months, and put on a permanent basis July 1, 1906.

DECEMBER 8

- 1820 Died, Dr. Ammi Ruhamah Cutter. He was surgeon on the Cape Breton expedition in 1758 and a successful physician in Portsmouth from 1758 to the end of his life.
- 1871 The Rogers house on Congress street was sold after being for 116 years in that family. It was raised, and stores were placed under it.

DECEMBER 9

- 1832 During this year, George Raynes bought the Meserve shipyard.
- 1870 John Elwyn wrote in his privately printed book, "Some Piscataway Things and a Good Deal Else," in reference to the claims of the "Bay Puritans that told the world there were no kind of Englishmen in New England till the Plymouth Pilgrims. Wonderful, though, that one of the Gorge's Indians spoke to them in English when they got here, and Christopher Levett in twenty-three stayed awhile on Witch (Sagamore) Creek, below where my hut is, and says nothing of ours being a new plantation ; and the Spaniard, Herrera, tells of a English cruiser of three hundred tons a hundred years before the Pilgrims, of her coming to Porto Rico by the banks of Newfoundland."

DECEMBER 10

- 1683 Governor Cranfield and his Council order that Parson Moodey shall administer communion by the English liturgy.
- 1780 General Washington orders that supplies of salt meat and rum shall be collected at Portsmouth, to be sent as needed to the army.
- 1808 Incorporation of the Female Asylum, formed in 1804 to aid orphan children of Portsmouth. On May 6, 1844, it was decided to use the funds to aid in a sewing school, where ordinary instruction was to be given to "poor female children." Since 1856, the fund has paid a large part of the salary of the teacher of sewing in the public schools.

DECEMBER 11

- 1719 "The Aurora Borealis or northern lights first noticed in New England. The appearance was very remarkable and struck the minds of the beholders with surprise. The coruscations were distinctly heard and the northern hemisphere seemed to be on fire."
- 1783 "A general Thanksgiving by the Proclamation of Congress."

DECEMBER 12

- 1741 Benning Wentworth arrived from England, where he had been made Governor of New Hampshire. The people welcomed his return. In 1750, he built the mansion at Little Harbor, where he later married his housekeeper, Martha Hilton.

DECEMBER 13

- 1769 A charter was granted to Dartmouth College by Gov. John Wentworth.

- 1774 Paul Revere rode from Boston and delivered a letter of warning from the Boston patriots to Captain Samuel Cutt of Market street, Portsmouth.



The Wentworth Mansion at Little Harbor.

The letter led to the attack on Fort William and Mary, at Newcastle.

- 1896 A commemorative service was held in the North Church on its two hundred twenty-fifth year.

DECEMBER 14

- 1774 General Sullivan and Major John Langdon, with a party of patriots, went to Fort William and Mary, took the powder there stored, and carried it to Durham; it was later used at Bunker Hill. This was the first overt act against the British government.
- 1901 During this month, the old Brattle organ, made in 1709, from St. John's Chapel, was on exhibition in Boston, at a display of musical instruments.

DECEMBER 15

- 1773 The people of Portsmouth voted against the tea tax, at a gathering in the North meetinghouse.
- 1774 A council was held at the State House, on the Parade, as to the rumor of redcoats coming to Fort William and Mary.
- 1834 The present Almshouse building was publicly opened with an address by the Rev. Charles Burroughs.
- 1890 The Piscataqua Navigation Company was organized. The present fleet consists of ten barges and three steamers.

DECEMBER 16

- 1847 St. Andrew's Lodge of Masons, No. 56, was organized.
1892 The Warwick Club was organized.

DECEMBER 17

- 1803 "A company was formed to make salt of sea water by evaporation; they erected works at great expense in Kittery. After expending large sums of money, the plan proved abortive."

DECEMBER 18

- 1855 From 1800 to 1850, 479 vessels were built in the district of Portsmouth. From 1850 to 1855, inclusive, forty-five ships were built in Portsmouth.

DECEMBER 19

- 1797 The Portsmouth Aqueduct Company charter was granted.
1838 The selectmen renamed twenty-one streets and lanes.
1864 The Second New Hampshire Regiment was mustered out of service.

DECEMBER 20

- 1825 Lafayette Road was laid out in 1825. Before this, the way to Rye was over Portsmouth Plains.

DECEMBER 21

- 1824 The Piscataqua Bank, the predecessor of the First National Bank, was chartered and has continued in business for eighty-three years, under three cashiers and four presidents. The First National Bank was organized March 9, 1863, under the Act of February 25, 1863, and commenced business May 1, 1863, being the first bank to deposit its bonds for circulation in Washington. It occupies the building erected for banking purposes in 1803.

- 1864 The Second New Hampshire Regiment returned to New Hampshire.

DECEMBER 22

- 1813 A great fire, with a loss of about 244 buildings, covering about fifteen acres, destroyed the section from the site of the Stone Church to the river, all on State street and parts of Court and Daniel streets.



The Bank Building of 1803.

Estimated loss was nearly \$300,000. The principal cities of the country sent donations amounting to \$77,273.

DECEMBER 23

1775 General Washington wrote to the New Hampshire Convention, asking them to collect blankets for the army at Cambridge.

1906 Dedication of the new Parish House of the North Church. Mr. L. W. Brewster and Mr. E. P. Kimball spoke of the older chapels, and an article written in 1872, about the building of the present chapel, by Mrs. Helen C. Knight, was read.

DECEMBER 24

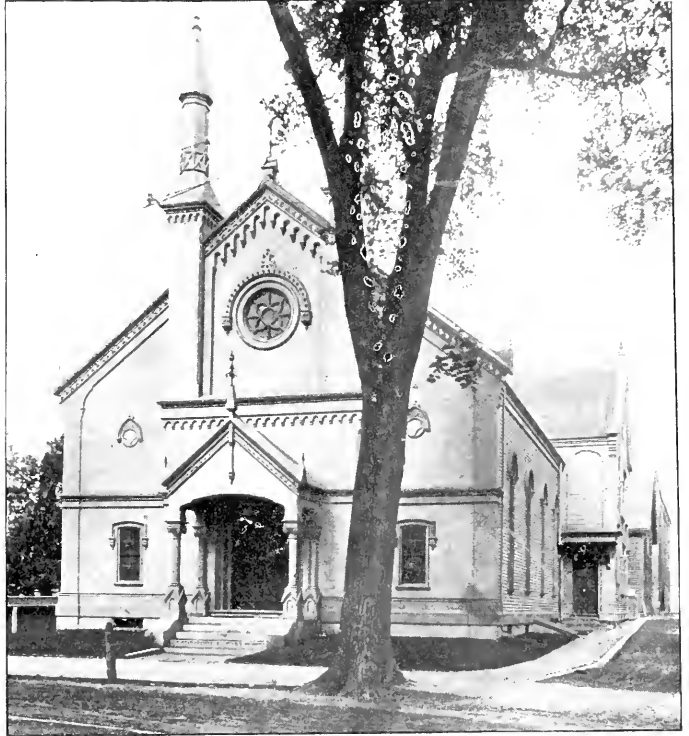
1806 St. John's Church was burned, as well as thirteen other buildings.

DECEMBER 25

1802 A great fire spread through Market Square, Market, Daniel, Ladd, and Bow streets. 132 buildings were burned.

1858 The Unitarian Church was reoccupied after being lengthened and improved.

1861 The Sixth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, Company K, largely of Portsmouth men, Captain A. J. Sides, marched from Keene.



The North Chapel and Parish House.

DECEMBER 26

1638 The year of the building of the first house of worship, "a parsonage with a chappell attached," north of the site of the Universalist Church.

1802 Jefferson Hall with its Market was burned except the walls; it was rebuilt in 1804.

1869 The Creek Mission Sunday School was organized by members of the North Church. It was first held in Mr. Cartledge's hosiery building; in 1876, the City granted the use of the Spalding School; in 1890, the new chapel was dedicated, the land being donated.

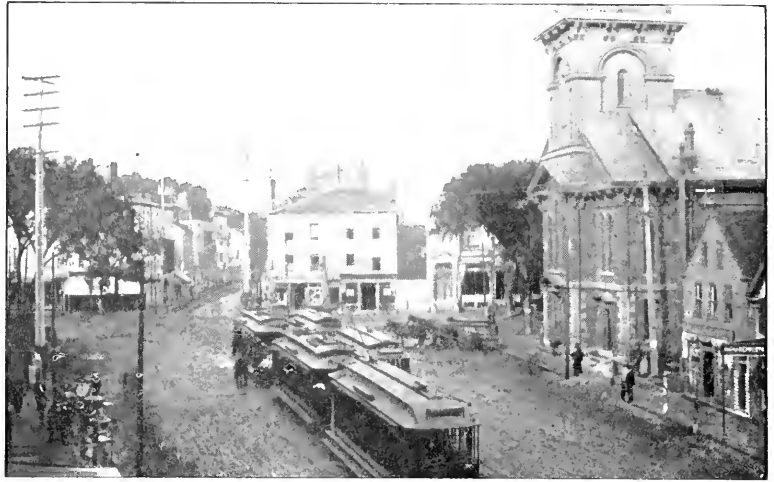
1907 Rev. Edward Robie has been pastor of the Congregational Church at Greenland since February 25, 1872.

DECEMBER 27

1758 The State House was built on the Parade by order of the General Assembly ; it was removed in 1837.

DECEMBER 28

1774 Governor John Wentworth wrote to Lord Dartmouth : "With the greatest concern, I perceive the unlimited influence that the popular leaders in Boston obtain in this Province, and in consequence thereof, are arming and exercising men as for immediate use."



The Parade.

1805 An Act passed the General Court of New Hampshire, providing for the division of towns into school districts.

DECEMBER 29

1779 The Purcell house—now known as the Lord house, next the Rockingham—was used as a boarding house, and had John Paul Jones for a guest this year.

DECEMBER 30

1840 The first steam cars came to the location of the present station.

1864 The first steam fire engine reached the city.

1869 Frank Jones gave \$500, the amount of his salary as mayor for that year, for the establishment of a Public Library in Portsmouth.

DECEMBER 31

1799 A commemorative service for the death of George Washington, on December 14, was held at St. John's Church : there was a long procession and a eulogy was pronounced by Jonathan M. Sewall, Esq.

1816 James T. Fields, the famous author and publisher, was born at 12 Gates street, in Portsmouth. He died in Boston, April 24, 1881.

*"How sweet and gracious, even in common speech,
Is that fine sense which we call Courtesy!"*

—JAMES T. FIELDS.

