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Andrew Walker Diary Volume 03

Andrew Walker

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Volume 3 from

July 22 1854 to Feb. 18 1858.

ANDREW WALKER DIARY

VOLUME III

JULY 22, 1854 to FEB. 18, 1858

KENNEBUNK

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(See last page in this book)

Diary, Volume, 3.

Private and Confidential.

Kennebunk, July, 22d. 1854,

If any person wishes to know why Andrew Walker kept a Diary their wishes can be gratified by turning to Vol. 1st. and reading the remarks under the date of April, 19th, 1852. The objects as there set forth still continue and probably will continue for an indefinite period of time.

July 23rd.

It is probable that curiosity would have drawn a large crowd to the protracted meeting of the "Second Adventist" Sunday if the day had been pleasant, but there was appearance of rain this morning and it has been showery all day.

July 24th.

W. L. Thompson is now building a barn on his lot of land near the house of D. L. Hatch, and expects to build his house this fall, or at least commence it. Workmen are now employed in building the cellar wall. This wall is a novelty in this vicinity. It is made of small stones taken from the bed of Mousum river and laid in lime mortar as bricks are laid. Two Irishmen from Lawrence, Mass. build the wall. They receive two dollars a day, each and their board.

July 25th.

During the last ten days the weather has been poor for hay-makers. Not much rain has fallen, but the sky has been overcast part of the time, with occasional showers of rain and southerly, foggy weather.

July 26th.

The Iron Safe for the Ocean Bank was hauled from depot to day and placed in the banking room. The weight of the safe is 5488 lbs and cost four hundred and fifty dollars. Inside of the safe there is a steel box, called a "Burglar's Box", as it is supposed to be proof against burglars. The box cannot be taken from the safe without destroying it. The price of safe includes the price of the box.

Why A. Walker kept a Diary.

W. L. Thompson's house, barn, and cellar wall.

Poor Hay Weather.

Ocean Bank Iron Safe & Box.

1854.

July 27th.

The whole amount of Taxes (except Highway Tax) assessed on the polls and estates of the inhabitants of this town for the year 1854, is as follows.

State Tax,	—	—	—	1470,81
County Tax,	—	—	—	1149,94
Town Tax,	—	—	—	4093,22
Whole amount,	—	—	—	\$6713,97

The rate of taxation this year is 61 cents on a \$100, or \$6,10 on a \$1000. The following is a list of persons in this town, who are taxed \$10. and upward, as taken from the collector's tax book.

Persons	William Lord Jr.	276,00	John A. Lord,	42,60
who	William Lord,	242,26	Lucy W. Titcomb	39,19
are	George Lord,	188,22	Emmons & Littlefield	39,04
Taxed	Ivory Lord,	180,90	William L. Thompson	39,88
\$10.	Horace Porter,	141,48	Jotham Blaisdel,	36,80
and	Joseph Titcomb,	138,49	John Hovey,	36,29
upward.	George O. Titcomb,	133,11	Ralph Curtis,	33,67
	Charles Williams,	119,06	Nathan Dane Jr.	32,17
	Manfred Company,	114,07	Isaac Turkish	31,13
	Nathl L. Thompson,	96,89	W. L. for Phelin Nason	30,10
	Daniel Curtis	93,10	Bradford Oaks	31,10
	John Osborn & Co	91,74	James Lord,	30,49
	Charles Thompson,	90,63	Timothy Varney	27,39
	Daniel Nason,	83,96	Benjamin Littlefield	26,77
	Joseph Dane,	82,89	Edwina C. Bourne,	26,11
	William B. Sewall	74,10	Samuel Mitchell	25,46
	Bourne & Kingsburg	72,70	Sargent O. Day,	21,21
	Barnabas Palmer,	69,32	Mehitable Nason,	23,48
	Edwina W. Morton,	65,66	Phineas Stevens,	22,96
	Noah Nason,	64,68	Palmer Walker,	22,31
	Thomas Lord,	58,07	Joseph Waterhouse	22,34
	Abigail Titcomb,	57,49	William B. Nason,	21,11
	George Wise,	56,20	Benjamin Smith	21,40
	Charles W. Williams	54,68	Littlefield, Lord & Co.	21,31
	Joseph Hatch est.	53,79	Edwina G. Wise,	21,74
	Joseph C. Hatch	50,72	Israel Taylor,	20,82
	Dolly C. Smith	49,93	Charles L. Dresser	20,12
	Franklin N. Thompson,	45,68	Charles Barry est.	20,89
	William B. Nason Jr.	43,70	Moses Moulting	20,39

1854.

Tobias Lord,	20,33	Paul Stevens,	13,16
Joshua Wakefield,	20,21	Ernst Parish,	13,38
George Taylor,	19,91	Charles Smith	13,32
D & R. Gillpatrick,	19,69	Nicholas Wakefield	13,20
Adam McLauchlin,	19,18	Ebenezer Sparnabee	13,07
Benjamin F. Titcomb	18,93	William Jacobs & Son	13,07
Alexander Wanner,	18,69	Leuther Stevens	12,71
James Kimball,	18,32	Daniel Shackley Jr.	12,68
G. Lord for Lucy A. Lord,	18,30	Abigail S. Hill,	12,66
James Cousins,	18,01	John Cousins	12,61
Porter Hall's est.	17,69	James Ross, —	12,12
Leth Emmons & Son,	17,11	John Day & Sons	12,40
Tobias Walker & Son,	17,49	Carver Smith,	12,34
James R. Kemich,	17,47	James Smith,	12,28
Andrew Walker,	17,16	Oliver North,	12,28
Samuel Smith	16,80	Waghbarn & Sprout,	12,20
William F. Lord,	16,79	N. R. Sargent & Son,	12,06
Rachel Low's est.	16,47	Henry Topping,	12,04
Henry Johnson	16,33	John Emery,	11,71
John Walker & Son	15,96	Daniel Frick,	11,70
William Tibbets	15,82	Jesse Towne,	11,11
Abner Wormwood & Son	15,81	Nathan Wells & Son	11,14
Israel Kimball	15,69	Theodore Thompson,	11,13
William Hackett,	15,64	Rufus Smith	11,43
Edwina W. Lord,	15,21	Berg & Wentworth & Son	11,37
Henry C. Hunt,	15,22	Thatcher Jones,	11,11
Dominicus Kimball & Son	14,84	Calvin Noble,	11,01
Shapleigh Webber	14,42	Dutch & Greelough	10,87
Phadiah L. Webber & Son	14,20	Stephen Day	10,41
William Ross & Son	14,02	James Mitchell	10,30

Lucy Sewall 10,21

July 28th.

In October 1851 the late Porter Hall bought at auction the new dwelling house, outbuildings and lot belonging to Samuel Clark, situated on Steven Street, for the sum of \$1125,00. He subsequently bought of Capt. William Lord an adjoining lot of land for \$200. He also finished the house and built fences at a cost of about \$475. So the establishment cost, (setting aside rent and interest) about \$2200. A few days since the place was sold to Capt. Tobias Lord for \$3000, leaving a profit of \$800. to Porter Hall's estate.

The late Porter Hall's residence sold to Tobias Lord.

1854,

July 29th.

Death Mrs. Ann B. wife of B. F. Goodwin died this day aged 42 years. Mrs. G. has been unwell for about six months, but her disease was not considered dangerous of merely some irregularity in her system, connected with her pregnancy. About eight weeks since her child was born, since which time she has continued to fail until her decease. When I went to board with her husband in May 1852, I was but slightly acquainted with Mrs. G.; but as my acquaintance with her increased, my esteem increased in the same ratio; for no one in the circle of my acquaintance had a kinder heart or more amiable disposition than Mrs. Goodwin.

July 30th.

By the request of Mr. Goodwin, I sat up last night with the remains of his wife, in order to remove the froth with which slowly oozed from the mouth and nose of the corpse. As I looked on the face of the dead, a passage from the diary of Walter Scott was recalled to mind:—"What is this world? a dream within a dream. As we grow older, each step is an awakening. The youth awakes as he thinks from child-extremity hour; the full-grown man despises the pursuits of youth from as visionary; the old man looks on manhood as a feverish dream. The grave the last sleep? No; it is the last and diary: final awakening."

July 31st.

Mrs. Goodwin was buried this P.M. As she had numerous funeral relatives and many friends, there was a large collection of people, much larger than is usual at a funeral held on a week day. Rev. Mr. Willcox officiated as she was a member of his society but not a member of any church.

August 1st.

Ocean Bank, Pennebunk. - This bank commenced operations the first day of August. Joseph Titcomb is President and Christopher Spittlefield, Cashier. Convenient Bank and pleasant rooms for the bank have been prepared in the store, recently owned and occupied by James Lord. From the known character of the men who have the management of this "fiscal agent," it is expected that its affairs will be conducted judiciously, affording an opportunity for the lender and lender to be mutually accommodated. (I sent a copy of the above to Saco for publication.)

1854

August 2d.

The Governor of this State, having appointed B. M. Chapman of Biddeford, H. H. Hobbs, of South Berwick and Horace Porter of this town to examine and count the gold and silver in the vault of Ocean Bank; they met this forenoon for that purpose and attended to their duties as by law requires. Mr. Porter told me that they as commissioners returned a certificate to the office of the Secretary of State that one half of the capital stock \$25000, had been paid in and was deposited in the bank. - This afternoon bills from the bank were issued for the first time.

August 3d.

On the 17th of July it was mentioned that two barrels of "Rouse gin" had been seized at the railroad depot and an official notice was given for all persons interested to appear at the office of E. B. Bourne on the 1st day of August, and show cause if they had any why the same should not be forfeited. As no one appeared at the appointed time and place to "show cause"; E. B. Bourne Esq. declared the same forfeited and gave Sheriff Kimball an order to destroy the same, and he acted accordingly.

August 4th.

Last February E. B. Bourne Junr of this town left home and went to New Orleans in a Pennebunk vessel. He remained there a few weeks and went to Liverpool. From there he went to London, Edinburgh, Paris and saw all the "lions" that he could in a short time. He returns home this week by one of the English steamers to Boston.

August 10th.

On the 19th of Sept. 1853, it was noted that W. B. Sewall and A. Walker had been appointed commissioners to examine the demands against the estate of the late Atteston C. Thompson. A dividend of 36 1/2 per cent on these demands has been declared and paid within a few days.

August 6th

A brother of Rev. Mr. Willcox officiated for him to day and he embraced the opportunity to have his infant daughter Hannah baptised as he termed it or as I was educated to say "sprinkled" when the rite was applied to an infant.

August 7th.

In 1844 or 1845 Benjamin Pitts and family moved to this town from Saco. He was soon after appointed Deputy Sheriff and chosen Constable, which offices he continued to fill until this spring. So long he moved to Portland.

1854.

August, 8th.

There has been no rain in this vicinity for a number of weeks. All vegetation is parched and withered. Farmers say that corn and beans is nearly ruined by the drought. Unless we have rain soon but very little corn will be raised and it is said that some is already ruined.

August, 9th.

A few days since Irving Wormwood of this town was married to Olive A. Tinnun of Pennebunkport. His mother says the he is in the seventeenth year of his age and she in her twentieth. Those who are acquainted with them, say that the total amount of property possessed by the newly married couple including their clothing will not exceed twenty five dollars.

August, 10th.

If we the boarders at B. F. Goodwin's feel the loss of our late landlady, surely the six children who looked up to her as mother must feel their loss to be irreparable; yet we see not many external manifestations of grief, but the pale countenance and occasional suppressed sigh indicate that more is felt than finds utterance.

August, 11th.

The choir of the Unitarian parish at Saco gave a concert of sacred and secular music at the Unitarian church in this village last evening. Tickets 11 cents. The object of the choir appeared to be to display their proficiency in music and to have a good time generally. The entrance fee was to pay expenses. All of the choir took tea and supper at B. F. Goodwin's. I heard one of them remark who appeared to be treasurer that the amount received was about the same as the amount expended.

August, 12th.

There was a Democratic caucus at the rooms of Mr. Joseph Sargent, this afternoon. Barnabas Palmer and Great Willson were chosen delegates to meet at Saco on the 17th inst. to nominate a candidate for Representative to Congress, and Rufus Smith, Joseph Waterhouse, Joseph Young and Samuel B. Jellison were selected as delegates to assemble in the Democratic county convention to be convened at Alfred on Friday the 18th inst. to nominate county officers.

The same Democratic town committee were chosen who have officiated a number of years, viz. A. Walker, J. Osborn & J. Sargent.

1854.

August, 13th.

Having been unwell for a number of days past, by an attack of neurology in my right foot; I was not able to attend church to day, being the first time I have not attended church on Sunday for many months.

August, 14th.

Pennebunk, Me. The property of the Mousum Manufacturing company, at Pennebunk, Me., including all the real and personal estate, also the great fall privilege on the same river about four miles from the village, has been recently sold to William Lova, Esq., of that place. The privilege is a very fine one, and Pennebunk village is one of the pleasantest in the State, and well located to carry on the manufacturing business. The capitalists in the place are largely engaged in commerce, and an opportunity offers now for them to invest in manufacturing business, which, no doubt if judiciously managed, will add very much to the prosperity of the place. — The above notice appeared in the Boston Journal on Saturday the 12th inst. The sale of the property had been kept secret from the inhabitants of the village. The above notice was the first intimation we possessed of the transaction. We do not know the sum for which the property was sold.

August, 11th.

On Sunday afternoon the house, barn and adjoining buildings of Deacon William Smith of Pennebunkport were entirely consumed by fire, having been struck by lightning about 3 o'clock. Loss about \$2000. No insurance. The flames consumed his entire crop of about 30 tons of hay and grain, the last year's stock of corn, a large hog, carriages, farming tools and a quantity of wood. The lightning also struck at several points in the vicinity, doing slight damage to a barn and killing an ox in the woods.

August 16th

A young man by the name of Horace Bousens, of this town, went to California soon after the "gold fever" broke out and has continued there until this summer. He arrived at the home of his mother (now Mrs. James Stevens) within a few days. I do not know the particulars of his adventures or prosperity but understands he would probably have been worth as much money and enjoyed himself better if he had never left the town of Pennebunk.

1814.

August, 17th.

Christopher Littlefield of Wells who has been chosen Littlefield cashier of the bank in this village, has moved his family from Wells, into a house belonging to Mr. Palmer on Ware to Ken. Street. I understand his salary is five hundred dollars a year.

August, 18th.

It is said there there has been recently organized in this village a branch of the new political party termed of "Know Nothings"; that this party or order have regular meetings in the hall of the Academy building and N. K. Nothings. Sargent is principal of the party. It is further stated that in this the number of members is not less than fifty nor more than seventy five. As it regards myself I know nothing of the party except by report.

August, 19th.

Mr. James Lord is making preparations for his removal from this town to Birmingham, Mass. He has prepared away nearly all the best of his household effects to for his contemplated new home. Some of the most bulky and moving, nearly all of the much worn furniture, he has disposed of at private sale.

August, 20th.

There was a temperance meeting in the Unitarian meeting Sunday house this evening at which Rev. Mr. Stevens of Bridgford delivered an address.

August, 21st.

A man who styles himself Professor Ames, from Virginia, arrives in town on the 19th inst. and has advertised to give a course of lectures on the art of improving the memory. He gives his first lecture this evening to which the public are invited.

August 22d.

In 1828 or 26 years since James Lord moved to this town from Effingham, N. H. In 1834, 1835 and 1837 he represented this town in the Legislature of this State. In October 1839, he married Mrs. Mary A. Bell, of Sherburne, Mass. and brought her to Pennelbunk, where they have continued to live until this day they left town for their future residence in Birmingham, Mass. During Mr. Lord's residence in this town he has been esteemed as an honest and honorable man and his wife as an accomplished woman. He is now about sixty years of age and has three children Charles, Agnes and Sargent. (Worth about \$11,000)

1814.

August, 23d.

Yesterday I obtained of the York County Mutual Fire Insurance, South Berwick, a policy of insurance against fire, in the sum of eight hundred dollars, for the term of three years, commencing on the 22d day of August 1814.

August 24th.

Professor Ames, or rather the wife of Professor Ames, gave her first lecture on the art of improving the memory, to a class of about sixty, in the vestry of the Unitarian church. She learnt the art from a Frenchman as she says. An alphabet of Primitives (as she terms them) has been adopted for the nine digits and capital as follows.

Primitives. — Se te ne me re le je he fe pe

Ze

she ghe ne be

Correlatives. — ce

che que phe

2d. — A, E, I, O, U, W, Y, h, have no value in figures.

3d. — X equals two articulations, viz: he, re or k, 3 = 70

4th — When two identical letters come together, one only is of value; thus, matter = me, te, re or 314.

5th — after an apostrophe s is null, thus John's cap = 6279.

6th — s, in the third person singular, is null, ex. time flies, 1381.

7th — The syllables, ing, ong, ung, eng, is ghe, or 2, thus: ringing = 077.

8th — tion or sion at the end of words, is she or 6, mission = 36.

9th — N. B. Translate all words by the sound of the word.

August, 25th.

The drought still continues. Mr. Sewall says that according to his meteorological diary there has not been a reverse a drought since the summer of 1841. The corn crop in this vicinity is said to be damaged from one third to two thirds, according to the location. The feed in the pastures is nearly all dried up except in low lands. Some farmers have already commenced feeding their cattle from the barn.

August 26th.

Professor Ames and wife finished last evening their course of three lectures on improving the memory. There was a class of about sixty attenders; but I do not think, more than one in ten will be benefited by their attendance as the system requires more practice than they will be willing to bestow on it. memory.

August, 27th.

There was a sprinkling of rain last evening but ^{not} enough to lay the dust. There was a large attendance at all the meetings to day as the day was pleasant and but little wind.

1814.

August 28th.

The annual camp Meeting of the Methodists on Saco road was to have commenced this day; but on account of the extreme drought and consequently a danger from fires on the camp ground, the meeting has been adjourned for one week, to Sept 4th.

August 29th.

Notices have been posted for a number of days past that a Rev. Mr. Beck from Portland would address the citizens of Kennebec at the Town hall last evening on the subject of temperance. From some cause, to me unknown, Mr. Beck did not come but sent a substitute, who was introduced as the Rev. Mr. Jackson, of Indiana. His temperance address proved to be a regular "Stump Speech" for people to cast their votes for Anson O. Merrill for Governor of this State and John M. Wood for representative to Congress from this district.

August, 30th.

Mrs. Joanna Sparabee, daughter of Ebenezer Sparabee died on the 28th inst from a hemorrhage of blood from the lungs aged 39 years. Mrs. Sparabee, has been known for many years as an uncommonly successful teacher of School children. I was not acquainted with her, but have understood that she was highly appreciated wherever she was known.

August, 31st.

Died in Berwick Aug. 30th, Rev Noah Hooper, a well known Baptist minister, aged about 80. For a number of years he has been troubled with a cancer in his lip. The cancer has been cut from his lip once, but in a short time manifested itself near the wound. About a year since it commenced to eat away the lower lip and by continued to eat, until not only the lip but nearly all the flesh on the chin was destroyed. As he had lost his front teeth, food had to be held in his mouth by the hands in order for him to chew it before swallowing.

Sept. 1st.

William L. Thompson has raised his future dwelling house and workmen are now putting in the door and window frames. The window frames are of a new pattern in this town, being what is termed double windows. In the ends of the house are to be projecting or bay windows.

1814.

Sept. 2d.

The Town Pump in the well near the Unitarian church has been taken up and a chain pump substituted in its place. A new railing around the well and a new watering trough have been made, so that now all things belonging to the well are new, handsome and convenient.

Sept. 3d.

Sometime during last night there was a shower which wet the ground about an inch in depth in the road. This is the first rain, except a slight sprinkling, that has fallen for about forty days. — Rev. Mr. Willcox delivered a sermon this forenoon on "Our Political Duties"; as he understood them. The substance of the discourse was that people should carry their religion in all affairs of life. The sermon on the whole was not liable to objection by me, except he denounced the "Dugitive Slave Act" as a flagrant and unjust law. Such a remark, I think he as a minister has no right to make in the pulpit, although it might be his private opinion.

Sept. 4th.

The adjourned camp-meeting of the Methodists on Saco road commenced to day. It is not expected that a large number will attend this season, as the adjournment of the meeting will have the tendency to disarrange the affairs of many persons who expected to attend.

Sept. 5th.

Last evening a new ship to be called the "Gulf Stream" was launched from the ship-yard of J. S. Titcomb at the Landing. A collation had been prepared in the loft of the steam saw-mill in the ship-yard, to which a large number were invited. After the repast was over some person invited Neal Dow (who had been delivering a temperance address at Kennebecport village) to make some remarks. To this invitation Mr. Dow assented and spoke for about ten minutes, mostly on the subject of temperance. In the address he earnestly requested voters who were present, to support at the election on the 11th inst. such candidates to the State Legislature as were in favor of the Maine Liquor law. In this remark Joseph Titcomb replied, after Mr. Dow had finished, that he was much in favor of temperance as Mr. Dow, but was not in favor of the Maine Liquor Law.

New
Town
Pump.

Sunday

Mr.
Willcox
political
sermon.Camp
meeting
commencedLaunch
of the
"Gulf
Stream"Remarks
by
Neal Dow
and
J. Titcomb.

1854.

Sept. 6th.

A street preacher who styles himself Rev. Mr. Bishop, and hails from the city of New York, delivered an address last evening at the corner of the streets near the house of B. F. Goodwin, on the part and present condition of the Jews. He thinks the Jews will be again restored to Palestine on the dissolution of the present Turkish empire, which Mr. Bishop thinks is near at hand. He appears to be well acquainted with Jewish history and is an interesting and instructive speaker. He does not appear to be a Jew himself, but wears a long beard like the ancient Jews.

Sept. 7th.

It is reported that the new, secret order of "Know Nothings" in this village now numbers about one hundred members. It is also reported that the order cannot agree on a nominee to be supported as a candidate for Representative to the State Legislature. It is said that John Bobb is anxious to have the nomination of "Know Nothings," but on a balloting, last evening Samuel Clark, one of the order, received two ballots to Bobb's one. The meeting is reported to have broken up in disorder.

Sept. 8th.

Yesterday afternoon and this afternoon I went to camp-meeting. There were twenty two tents erected, not so many by camp about one third as last year. I do not know the amount of success that attended the labors of the ministering brethren, but there appears to be the usual amount of excitement. There were but comparatively few people present who belonged to this village or the Port.

Sept. 9th.

Last night about eleven o'clock rain commenced falling and continued for about fifteen hours. W. B. Sewall says that by his rain gauge three inches have fallen. So the drought has now come to an end.

At a Democratic caucus held this afternoon for Joseph Titcomb was nominated as a candidate to be represented this town and Alfred in the Legislature of this State.

Sept. 10th.

Mr. Swann and Mr. Willcox, were both absent to day. Sunday There was no meeting in the Unitarian church. The Congregationalist had a man from Scarborough to preach to them. Mr. Bishop the Jewish missionary delivered an address in Bp. in the Baptist church at 5 1/2 o'clock, to a large audience on his favorite subject the Jews.

1854.

Sept. 11th.

The annual State election took place to day. Much interest was manifested and a larger number of ballots thrown than in 1853. The old parties of Whig and Democrat have apparently seen their best days. The two main questions now appear to be "Are you in favor of the Maine Liquor Law or not?" and "Are you in favor of the extension of slave territory or not?" As an adjunct to the last question, the test question with some is, "Are you in favor of carrying out, or rather of enforcing the law for the rendition of fugitive slaves?" Those who are in favor of the Liquor Law and against the rendition of slaves, together with the Free-Sail party and the "Know Nothings" have for the present at least formed an union, or as it is termed a "fusion" and voted for Anson P. Morrill. Those who are against the Liquor Law voted for Shepard Bang. The old line Whigs who are not in favor of these new issues as test questions voted for Isaac Reed, and the old line Democrats for Albion K. Davis.

State
Election

For Governor Anson P. Morrill	-	189
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For
Governor.

" Isaac Reed	-	88
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" Albion K Davis	-	79
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" Shepard Bang	-	40
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" John Bobb	-	4
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The four votes for Mr. Bobb were given in division, as he made himself quite active in electing for Mr. Morrill. The Democrats united with the Whigs on one of their Senators John N. Goodwin, on the County Treasurer, Isaac P. Yeaton, County Commissioner Louisa Bevan, Representative to Congress John W. Moore and town representative, Ivory Hall of Alfred. with the exception of the Know Nothing party who have a candidate of their own for town representative. The following was the vote for town representatives.

For
Town
Representative.

Ivory Hall of Alfred, Whig	198
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Joseph Titcomb of Ken. Democrat	141
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Samuel B. Jellison of Ken. "Know Nothing"	63	202.
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I do not know why the "Know Nothings" did not unite with the whigs in the election of Mr. Hall, but it is probable he is elected as he has a plurality of 157 which is a greater number than the Democrats of Alfred can overcome, unless some of the whigs at Alfred should vote for a different candidate which is not probable. Time will tell.

1814.

Sept. 12th.

Ivory The Selectmen of this town went to Alfred to day to Hall, compare votes for a Representative to the State Legislature. Repose and find that Ivory Hall has a plurality of fifty votes in the two towns and is consequently elected.

Sept. 13th.

I understand that on the 9th inst. during the high Obsewind and storm, the Observatory, near the village of town Pennebunkport, was blown over and destroyed. This at building was about eighty feet high and was built not R-Port four from forty years since, by private subscription, in blown order to afford an elevated position to observe vessels down, coming to, or leaving the Port. It will be much missed by sea-faring men at R-Port, also by mariners along the coast, for its elevated position had made it a noted landmark.

Sept. 14th.

Number At the election on the 11th inst., Sumner B. Jellison received 63 votes. This is supposed to be the number of "know Nothings" in this town since the withdrawal of about one "know Nothings" third of their number, when they broke up in disorder on the evening of the 6th inst.

Sept. 11th.

Profits (See Dec. 10. 1813) recently cast up the account of the income of our outfit of the vessel during her first voyage which ships was finished last June and they find the net profit of "Helios" the ship after paying all expenses, was \$20,100 or 32 per cent on the cost. The ship Luna, a smaller vessel, paid her owners \$14,000 beyond her expenses. I do not know the cost of the Luna, consequently, do not know the net per cent.

Sept. 16th.

W. L. Thompson told me that his profits during the last year from his parts of Ships "Golden Eagle" and "Helios" (1/16 in each) was \$2800.

Sept. 17th.

As the Congregational meeting-house has been rather Sunday crowded since Rev. Mr. Swans absence; I have attended at the Baptist church to hear Rev. Mr. Barrows. He appears to be a good hearted, well meaning man, but nature dis Barrows not interest him for one of her great men, although he will probably do some good in the world.

1814.

Sept. 18th.

Capt. (Militia) Levi B. Hillman died yesterday, aged 83. The late Joseph Porter brought him from Connecticut when he was a small boy and learnt him his own trade of Tinsmith, of which business he followed until recently. He was an active political partisan. In his younger years he was a Whig but about ten years since, it is said, he was disappointed, in not being nominated as Town Representative and since that time has been one of the leaders of the Abolition party in this vicinity. He was not a popular man, being what is termed "very set" in his opinions, but I never heard any one doubt, that he was strictly honest in his dealings, and we hope conscientious in his motives.

Sept. 19th.

James M. Stone, was born in that part of Pennebunkport, called Cape Porpoise in 1821 and remained at home during his childhood and youth. Having prepared himself for a teacher, he taught in district schools a number of years most of the time in R-Port, and then entered the Theological seminary ^{at Andover} with the intention of studying for the ministry. After remaining there a number of months, from some cause, to me unknown, he gave up the idea of being a minister and subsequently entered on a "private course" of study at Brown's University and remained there about twenty months. In Sept. 1843 he was elected Representative to the State Legislature for the town of R-Port, and consequently spent last winter in Augusta. Last May he came to this village and commenced studying law with E. C. Bourne Esq. On the eleventh instant he was again elected by a large plurality the Representative for Pennebunkport. As we have been fellow boarders during the past summer, I have had a good opportunity to become acquainted with him and the following is my estimate of the man. He is rather good looking in person, easy in manners, of pleasing address and calculated to produce a favorable impression on a stranger. He was elected last year as a whig, this year as a "fusionist". He is not of the "bull dog breed" that holds on to our opinions or preconceived ideas, but adapts himself to the times. He has remarked to me a number of times in the course of conversation "I think it best to start with the flood tide," "When the cars come along I think it best to jump on," and other remarks of a similar character. He does not appear to be a deep thinker or capable of originating an important plan-

1854

for the accomplishment of a public object, but well calculated to help put that plan in execution when designed by others. As he is ambitious and a favorite of the ladies, it is probable he will try to improve his pecuniary affairs, when he seeks a wife and I think it probable he will succeed. On the whole I do not know of any young man in the circle of my acquaintances who unassisted by wealth is more likely to succeed in elevating himself in society than James M. Stone.

Sept. 20th.

At the annual town meeting last spring \$3000. was raised for the repair of bridges. Of this sum nearly \$2000 has been expended already. To day A. M. Bryant as Town Commissioner commenced work on the bridge in the village, with the intention of taking down the stone abutment on the Eastern side of the river and relaying it with larger stones near the foundations and making other repairs. There is considerable opposition to taking down the abutment this season, as it is supposed to be strong enough to stand a number of years, another reason given is that the season is now too far advanced for so long a job, as the waters will be high in the river before the bridge is possible for carriages, also there is not more than one fourth part money enough in the treasury to finish the job; but Mr. Bryant apparently to show his power is determined to persevere.

Sept. 21st.

James Osborn has in former years been a large buyer of real estate in this vicinity, more recently he has engaged in commerce and now owns part of a number of ships. He tells me about within a few days that he did not wish to buy any more real estate as he found vessels much more profitable, "I have" said he "made more money during the past year, than I ever before made in one year, during my life."

Sept. 22d

Since the powerful rain on the 9th inst., the fields have in a great degree recovered from the effects of the severe drought, so that now there is quite good fall feed for cattle, but the rain was too late to help the corn, potatoes or garden vegetables.

Sept. 23d

A singular accident happened to day at the burial of Capt. James Hubbard. As the "bearers" were lowering the coffin in the grave Mr. William Loom, who was assisting lost the balance of his body and tumbled into the grave on to the coffin, but he was not hurt but little if any by the fall.

1854

Sept. 24th.

As Mr. Willcox has not yet returned, and a substitute not easily obtained for to day, there was no preaching the congregational church. Mr. Swan was sent for to attend the funeral of the late L. P. Hillman and consequently preached in his church to day. There was a full meeting at each of the open churches.

Sept. 25th.

Lorenzo Parsons started to day on his second tour to California. He expects to be absent from one to two years. His wife still remains in Pennesbuck.

Sept. 26th.

Last spring an appropriation of \$200. was made for the specific purpose of lowering the Job Emery hill (so called) near the Port. This hill is a heavy ledge of rocks, more difficult to blast than a solid ledge. W. M. Bryant, with a number of laborers commenced operations on the hill this morning.

Sept. 27th.

This morning Joseph Hatch of this town, who was at work in the ship yard of D. & S. Ward, of Pennesbuck, fell a distance of about sixteen feet and broke his neck; consequently died instantly. His age was 54. The fall was occasioned by the insecurity of a staging on which he and a number of other men were carrying a stick of timber.

Sept. 28th.

Yesterday the depot at the rail road was broken open and robbed of about \$25. Three young men, strangers, who were seen loitering around the depot at the time of the robbery were arrested in Wells and brought to this village, where they were examined before E. Willard Esq. on suspicion of being the robbers. After the examination a warrant was made out for their commitment to Alford goal to which they will be conveyed tomorrow morning.

Sept. 29th

Although the drought of last summer was prejudicial to the corn crop and many other vegetables, it was beneficial to the potatoes as the dryness of the soil did not engender rot, as has been common for a few years past in wet seasons.

Sept. 30th.

There was a town meeting to day in which I as town Treasurer \$600. was authorized to hire \$650.00 for the rebuilding of last seasons bridge, workmen being now at work on the same.

1854,

Oct. 1st.

A pleasant Sabbath. Rev. Mr. Willcox has returned from Sunday, his journey and preached to day in his own pulpit. There was no services in the Unitarian church as Mr. Swan was again absent.

Oct. 2d.

The drought of the past summer did not affect the apple supply, such in New England or middle States. There is an abundant supply of all kinds, with prices to correspond with quality.

Oct. 3d.

W. L. Thompson has a large number (for this place) of workmen employed in building his house. According to present appearances it will be the most showy house in town. The estimated cost of the establishment when finished is supposed to be more than Six Thousand Dollars.

Oct. 4th

The "Agricultural Exhibition and Fair" commenced at Biddeford this morning. The principal exhibition to day is the "Cattle Show", but it is probable there will not be many at cattle or much stock of any kind exhibited, as the was a rain nearly all of last night and to day the sky is lowering and the ground wet.

Oct. 5th

This forenoon I went to Biddeford and remained until 3 o'clock P.M. when I started for home. The "Fair" in Central Hall was attended by a large crowd of people for the ostensible purpose the natural and artificial productions displayed there on exhibition; but to me and probably to many others the greatest interest was felt in seeing and talking with the natural productions in the form of men and women from different parts of the country.

Oct. 6th

By invitation of Capt. Noah Nason, I went to his future dwelling house to see the furniture and fixtures which has this week arrived from Boston and is now arranged to his taste. Nason I do not know but think the expense of furnishing this house is greater than any other house in town. He did not name to me the cost of any article, excepting the large mirror in the parlor for which he paid \$45.00. He told me the whole cost of furnishing was about \$2000; but he could not tell the exact sum, as there were a number of small bills which he has not yet paid. It is probable that he will be married in a few days, but he says the day is not yet fixed.

1854,

Oct. 7th

In November 1852 quite a large number of persons in this vicinity united in a joint stock company for the purpose of buying goods (principally groceries) in Boston or elsewhere, at wholesale and retailing them to members of the company at cost and to outsiders at a small advance on actual cost, that is the first cost of the goods with the additional costs of freight, trucking, rent of store, clerk hire &c. Joseph B. Littlefield was clerk and principal originator of the company. For about one year the affairs of the "Union Store" were said to be in a prosperous condition. They sold quite a large quantity of goods and members of the company boasted that they could undersell the regular traders and still make money. About a year since it began to be reported that the "Union Store" had met with a number of losses and its affairs were in an embarrassed way. About nine months since J. B. Littlefield was taken sick and left the store. His brother Eliza was clerk for a number of months, but the affairs of the store continued to grow worse, the trade decrease until this afternoon the balance of goods on hand were sold at auction. It is supposed that each member of the company will lose part of his share (only \$1.00) but it is not yet known how much.

Oct. 8th.

Mr. Swan has not yet returned has not yet returned from his visit in Massachusetts and there was no meeting in Unitarian church. There was a large audience at the Congregational church.

Oct. 9th.

On the 20th of Sept. workmen commenced work on the bridge in the village. They finished the rock work on the 8th inst. and it is probable the job will be finished to day or tomorrow. A. M. Bryant told me that the whole expense will not much exceed \$2500.

Oct. 10th

This afternoon I took the afternoon train of cars and went to see my sister Lucy at Great Falls, N.H. Found the family in good health and spirits. The two oldest daughters are making preparations to start for Portland tomorrow.

Oct. 11th.

Went from Great Falls to Boston this forenoon and put up at my old location or stopping place "Franklin House".

Oct. 12th.

The traders say and the appearances indicate that business now in Boston is good for the season of the year although money is as the brokers say rather "tight".

1854.

Oct. 13th.

With the exception of pork, groceries are now quite high. Prices in Boston, Common molasses is worth 27cts a gallon, superfine of flour from 8½ to 9 dol. a Barrel, fancy flour from 9 to 9½ and groceries extra flour from 9½ to 11 dol. Butter from 18 to 28 alb, Cheese in from 9 to 11cts, Lard from 10½ to 11½cts, but Pork is lower than in Boston, it has been for a number of years. I bought mess Pork for \$14, clean Pork for \$16½ and extra clean Pork for \$17½ a barrel.

Oct. 14th.

When I was at Great Falls on the 10th inst., I did not expect to return that way; but the weather being rainy this afternoon, with the prospect of a long storm, and knowing that my sisters children were away from home and she would be lonely; I concluded to go to my sisters to night instead of returning to Kennebunk.

Oct. 15th.

A rainy day. Attended church with my brother-in-law Sunday and sister. Nothing of particular interest during the day, excepting in the evening Lucy and I had a long talk on matters and things particularly regarding to my present condition of bachelorship; she advised me strongly to get married as she thought I should by so doing enjoy myself much better than to remain single.

Oct. 16th.

Came from Great Falls to Kennebunk this forenoon. The annual meeting of the stockholders of Ocean Bank was held at the banking room on the 14th inst. The following persons were chosen directors for the ensuing year:—
Annual Joseph Titcomb (President) William Lora Jr, Noah Nason, meeting W. L. Thompson, Thomas Lora, Joseph Dore Jr of Kennebunk of V and B. F. Mason Kennebunkport. When the bank was stockholders organized on the 21st of last May, nine directors were chosen; but it being at times difficult to get a quorum of directors Ocean present, to do business, the number was reduced to seven.
Bank. It was voted to petition to the Legislature, that the capital of the Bank be increased to \$100,000, being double the present capital. The directors report that the affairs of the bank are in a prosperous condition.

Oct. 17th.

Yesterday Capt. William Lora set out four elm trees and two maple trees in front of the house which he has recently bought of Capt. Daniel Curtis.

1854.

Oct. 18th.

Capt. Noah Nason was married, at his own house on the 11th inst. to Miss Hannah Kilham. Rev Mr. Wilcox performed the ceremony, which was witnessed by only a brother of Capt. Nason and a sister of Miss Kilham as I understand. Capt. Nason told me last week that he should be married in this private manner in order to avoid giving offence to many persons who would expect to receive an invitation if he had a large wedding; but as it was out of the question to invite all of his and her relatives, he should no more than a legal number to be witnesses of the marriage.

Oct. 19th.

This morning when I awoke, the room looked uncommonly light and looking to the window, found the ground was nearly covered with snow. It had apparently been snowing sometime but it all disappeared before noon.

Oct. 20th.

The three young men who were arrested on the 28th ult. for breaking open the Depot in this town and stealing money, had their trial last week, found guilty and were sentenced four years in State Prison.

Oct. 21st.

Within a few days George Wise, Edward W. Morton, William Nason and others to me unknown, have bought of John and James Osborn a lot containing six acres of land adjoining the burying ground by the Unitarian church, for the sum of six hundred and fifty dollars. That part of the lot which is high and suitable for the purpose, is to be used for a burying ground, as the old burying ground near the meeting house is nearly all appropriated to families who have here many years. Workmen are now employed on the new ground, fitting it for the reception of future tenants.

Oct. 22nd.

Nothing of particular interest to day. The day being pleasant and the village ministers all at home, there was quite a large attendance at all the churches.

Oct. 23rd.

Capt. William Williams, an Englishman by birth, has moved from Biddeford, within a few days and occupies the house or rather one half of the house owned by Oliver Beattie.

Oct. 18th.

Capt.
Noah
Nason
married

First
Snow.

Depot
robbers,
sentenced

Lot
for a
new
grave
yard.

Sunday

Capt.
William
Williams

1859.

Oct. 24th.

There was another town meeting this afternoon, called by the Selectmen in order to see if the town will raise sufficient sums of money to finish the last Mousum bridge, also to pay the repairs on the Mousum village bridge and for the Poor House. Another Estimates were then handed in of the probable amount of money needed as follows:—

Meeting to raise money.
 Estimated expense of repairs on bridge in village \$75.
 Additional expense on Poor House ——— 450.
 Additional expense to finish last Mousum bridge 900.
 \$1925

The sum of money asked for was so large that nearly all persons present at the meeting were surprised. The repairs on the village bridge and poor house cost much more than was expected; but the estimated cost of last Mousum bridge appeared to amaze all the village people. After the chair of the Moderator (Joseph Waterhouse) it was voted that the meeting be adjourned until Thursday the second day of Nov. in order that people might have time to think what was best to be done.

Oct. 25th.

In May 1841 Sir John Franklin sailed from England on a voyage of exploration to the northern regions, with the expectation of being absent four years. In the fall of the same year he was heard from. Since that time nothing account has been heard from the expedition until October 21. On that day a despatch from Montreal furnishes the outlines of the message received by Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, from Dr. Ross who has been absent on the Arctic coast since June 1853. Dr. Ross states that from the Sir Esquimaux, he has obtained certain information of the fate of Sir John Franklin's expedition, who have been starved to death, after the loss of their ships, which were crushed in the ice, and while making their way south to the Great Fish River, near the outlet of which a party of whites died, leaving account of their sufferings in the mutilated corpses of some which have evidently furnished food to their unfortunate companions. No doubt is left of the truth of the report as the natives have in their possession various articles, such as silver spoons, forks & on one of which is engraved Sir John Franklin R. N. This tragedy occurred as long ago as the spring of 1850. (See Oct. 20, 1851)

1859.

Oct. 26th

The widow of the late David Little of this town, started this morning in company with her son George, for Fort Wayne, Indiana, where she expects to spend the remainder of her days, with her only child the above George Little who has lived at that place about ten years. — Eneline Hardy of this village accompanied Mr. Little to Fort Wayne, by invitation of Hugh Mc Bulloch formerly of this town, who married a sister of Miss Hardy, but she has been dead many years.

Oct. 27th.

My brother Palmer Walker, mentioned to me that about nine months since he thinks he experienced a slight paralytic shock in his right side from the effects of which he has never fully recovered. He says that he has mentioned the fact to no one except Dr. Trafton and myself, but he thought it best that I should know of it, in order to explain what was the matter with him provided he has another attack.

Oct. 28th.

George Wise removed the remains of his Father, Mother, Wife, Mother and Sister from the grave-yards near his dwelling house to the new grave-yard, north of the Unitarian church. These are the first remains interred in the yard.

Oct. 29th.

In the course of Mr. Willcox's sermon this afternoon, he remarked that in the seeds of some plants (perhaps all plants) there is a germ, perhaps not larger than a pin's head of the plant. If this germ is placed in the focus of a microscope of great power, a picture of the germ developed to the full form of the plant to which it belongs, will be exhibited on the canvas. To me this was a new and interesting fact.

Oct. 30th.

Mr. Samuel Mitchell died of consumption on the 28th and was buried this afternoon. His age was 49. Mr. Mitchell was born on the farm, on which the Rail-road Depot now stands; but the land in that vicinity was but of little value twenty years ago. Soon after his marriage in 1828 he moved to the village and hired the saw-mill. He built the house now owned and occupied by Joseph Dure Jr. In 1842 he moved back on his farm and became Depot Master, which office he continued to hold about eight years. He was an active business man and will be much missed in that part of the town.

✓ Mrs. D. Little started for Fort Wayne
 Ex^{rs} Hardy.

X P. Walker had a slight paralytic shock.

✓ Bodies removed to new grave-yard.

X Grows of plants.

✓ Death of Samuel Mitchell

Oct. 31st.

Henry G. Curtis, son of Ralph Curtis, sailed last December in the ship "Helios" for New Orleans. He there left the vessel and Curtis went on board of a Pennelbunk vessel commanded by Capt. John P. Perkins. The vessel went to Liverpool and took in a cargo of salt for St. Johns; but was under the necessity of putting in from Bristol, where she was detained about six weeks for repairs. The vessel arrived at St. Johns a few days since and H. G. Curtis arrived at home today.

Nov. 1st.

The "Millenites" or "Second Advent" people as they term themselves have as they say been expecting there would be a final consummation of all earthly things last night. On this side of the river at the Port there is a second advent meeting house to which almost the believers of that doctrine have resorted nearly every day people and evening during the last month. I understand the again principal leaders or speakers at these meetings are Capt. Elisha Mitchell, William Mitchell with his son William and in son-in-law Deor, Samuel Low, Benjamin Merrill and the others whose names I do not know. It is reported that some words of the speakers have ^{made} "confessions" in public of crimes of which not they ^{were} guilty which are a disgrace not only to themselves but coming to others, and of which the community did not know they were guilty. For instance it is reported that Capt. Mitchell confessed publicly that he had slept with other men's wives, and, and other men confessed themselves guilty of crimes to which their friends and neighbors were entirely ignorant. Perhaps all of the reports are not true; but there is not doubt, there has been some confessions made, that the confessor will in future wish he had kept to himself.

Nov. 2nd

The month of October was uncommonly pleasant. The pleasant last two weeks in particular were remarkably warm and weather pleasant. No warm was needed in sitting rooms or shops. Nearly every day the doors and windows were open the same as in summer.

Nov. 3rd.

The adjourned town meeting from the 24th of October took place yesterday. There were more than one hundred persons present. The moderator read the article in the warrant on raising money and asked what action ^{the town} would take on the subject. There was a pause of about five minutes—

Horace Porter arose and made a motion that the sum of Three Thousand Dollars be raised by a Tax for the required purposes. He then went on and made (I think) a powerful speech in favor of his motion. He pointed in glowing colors the past pecuniary condition of the town, how prudently its money affairs had been managed in times past, but now ^{\$2200.} to extraordinary appeared to be the order of the day, and inasmuch as the incurred expense must be paid at some time, he thought ^{be} the citizens of the town could pay it better this year than ^{by} next for he thought the signs of the times indicated that ^{tax} hard times were coming. Mr. Dane was in favor of a Tax ^{to} now but thought \$2200. was a sum large enough to be assessed at this time. To this amendment Mr. Porter agreed ^{pay} when the following vote was passed 70 in favor & 2 against. ^{expenses} of
 "Voted, that the sum of Twenty Two Hundred Dollars be raised by Tax to finish the Gut-Mousum bridge, also to pay the repairs ^{bridges} on the Mousum river bridge and for the poor house."

When the vote was announced William M. Bryant rose and said that he would never assist in assessing another Tax against the inhabitants of Pennelbunk. To this remark of Mr. Bryant, the response of "Amen," "Amen," "Amen" was heard in various parts of the house. Mr. B. further remarked that he should not have accepted the nomination of Selectman & Assessor last spring if he had not been urged by some of his friends at the Port.

Nov. 4th

There is considerable talk in the village about the proposed ^{the} additional Tax which was voted on the 2nd inst.; as it is a new ^{additional} thing in this town. Some think it cannot be legally assessed, ^{Tax.} but the law does not say any thing against it provided it be necessary.

Nov. 5th.

This is the first cold day for the season. The ice froze last ^{the} night one inch in thickness, in vessels exposed to the open air. ^{Sunday.} To day men have worn their overcoats and women their furs and winter clothing.

Nov. 6th

Mr. James Smith, of this town commenced the village ^{the} school for winter this day. He has for his services thirty ^{School} five dollars a month and boards himself. He comes from ^{in village} his home in the morning, takes his dinner in the village ^{commenced} and returns to his home at night.

1854.

Nov. 7th.

The prospect for ship-owners to make money, is uncommonly bright at this time. Freight have fallen off materially during the last three months. Freight in New Orleans are now in quoted at about one half the rate they could readily obtain New Orleans. For instance cotton is now quoted in the tariff of freight at $\frac{1}{16}$ of a penny to Liverpool. Last winter $\frac{1}{16}$ was readily obtained and some ships obtained higher rates. As a natural consequence ship-owners do not feel so buoyant as they did one year since.

Nov. 8th.

Joseph Tilton has this week set out about a dozen Elm trees on the lot of ground where he expects to build next season a dwelling house for his own occupancy. Capt. Williams set a number of Elm trees on his house lot, nearly opposite to Mr. Tilton's lot, a few days since.

Nov. 9th.

A number of years ago, nearly all of those persons who lived on the swell of land from the house of Mr. William Hill down to the house of Daniel L. Hatch, took a deep interest in promoting temperance in the village, particularly in making our effort to suppress the sale of spirituous liquors. John Osborn & Co. who were engaged in selling liquor, were highly incensed at the efforts made, as it made to them an alarming invasion on their business. John Osborn in derision of the people who lived on the swell of land called it "Zion's Hill". In this name the people of the village, by little and little assented, until that part of the village has become known by the name of "Zion's Hill."

Nov. 10th.

The weather for the last three days and nights has been quite cold. Last night the river above the dam froze over for the first time this season.

Nov. 11th.

Ralph Curtis sold to two sons of Brevel Wommerson two small houses, which Curtis bought of Parker, Tall. The houses were this week hauled to the Port for the occupancy of the owners.

Nov. 12th.

This has been an uncommonly rainy day. The rain commenced yesterday morning and has continued until the present time with no prospect of clearing off. But few persons attended church.

1854.

Nov. 13th.

In January 1811 (See Diary) it was predicted that Joseph Tilton, of this town would attain to high political standing. That he would eventually be President of the Senate of this State, Representative in Congress and finally Governor of the State of Maine. In Sept. 1811 he was elected one of the State Senators from this county, was re-elected in 1816 and on account of an amendment of the Constitution of this State held the office until Sept. 1812. In Sept. 1812 he was chosen Representative from the classes towns of Bennebank and Alfred. This comprises his political life so far. When he was a member of the Senate in 1811, the famous "Maine Law" was passed for the suppression of the sale of spirituous liquors. To this law Mr. Tilton was opposed and done all that he could to prevent its passage, and continued in opposition to it to this time. When he was chosen Representative in 1812 there was considerable opposition on account of his known opposition to the law. In 1813 Mr. Tilton was not nominated, as Alfred claimed the nomination. Last Sept. he was again voted for as Representative but defeated. The cause of his defeat was doubtless his opinion of the "Maine Law". Until some change takes place in the opinion of Mr. T. as it regards the law, or in the opinion of a large majority of the citizens of this State on the same subject, it is not probable he will again be elected to any State office. So his high political prospects, at least for the present, are blasted and he has experienced how hard it is to climb the slippery political ladder.

Nov. 14th.

The main shore line of the Union, including bays, sounds &c. is 12,609 miles, of which 6,861 miles are on the Atlantic, 2,281 on the Pacific, and 3,467 on the Gulf. Of the continental shore line 917 miles are on the Atlantic north, over 1,216 south of Virginia (inclusive), 1,764 are on the Gulf, 1,343 on the Pacific. The distance from New York to New Orleans is equal to that from London to Rome; from New York to Astoria by water, equal to that from Liverpool to Canton by the way of the Gulf of Good Hope. The total length of shore of navigable rivers is 49,065 miles. The frontier line of the Union on the British possessions is 3,303 miles; on Mexico 1,416 miles.

The average age of white persons who died in the United States in 1848 and '50 was 21.41 years; the average age of colored persons was 21.39 (See Bowlscompendium of U.S. Statistics)

1854.

Nov. 15th.

The first sale of lots in "Hope Cemetery" is called, took place this afternoon. The cemetery has been laid out in lots twenty feet square and ten feet square at a price of twenty dollars for the large lots and ten dollars for the small lots. The sale consisted in the choice of lots. The highest price bid was three dollars and the lowest price twenty five cents. Forty lots were sold this afternoon. It is expected that many persons who have relatives buried in other grave yards will have the bodies removed to this ground. In fact George Wise has already moved the bodies of his father, mother, brother, sister, and wife to this ground and erected a cenotaph to the memory of his son George L. Wise, who was lost at sea, during the last summer. - The money which the lots bring beyond the price of original purchase and necessary outlays in preparing the ground, fences &c is to be put in a fund for the repairs of the ground and beautifying the same. Workmen are now employed in setting out Elm trees. Thirty three trees have been set out at a cost of one dollar each, at the proprietors of the ground warrant them to live, or one dollar and fifty cents each if the present owner of the trees (Mr. Parsons) warrant them.

Nov. 16th.

On the 16th of November 1831, or nineteen years since I commenced trading in partnership with my brother Palmer Walker. We continued as partners until the 14th of March 1840 when we dissolved partnership. I bought his share of the goods and continued in trade at the old stand where we commenced trade and have continued on the same spot to this day.

Nov. 17th.

On Monday the 13th inst. the annual State election took place in Massachusetts. The new party called "Know Nothings" have swept over the state in unimpeded triumph. From East to West from North to South. It displayed the most thorough and effective organization which ever been formed in the state, and its discipline was perfected everywhere - on the sands of Cape Cod, on the hills of Berkshire and in the heart of the Commonwealth. As far as heard from there are 342 Know Nothings, 7 Whigs and 1 Democrat elected members of the house of Representatives.

1854.

Nov. 19th.

P. Walker, has this week erected a portico before his front door. He has taken out the plain glass sidelights at the door and put in green colored glass which I think is all of the kind in town. The expense of portico and alterations about \$1100.

Nov. 20th.

Nothing of particular importance in this vicinity occurred to my knowledge to distinguish this Sabbath from many thousands of its predecessors.

Nov. 21st.

The Assessors of this town commenced assessing on the polls and estates, the tax which was voted on the 2d inst. Mr. Wm. Bryant has altered his mind in regard to assessing another tax on the inhabitants of Kennebunk, inasmuch as he has gone to work with the other two assessors.

Nov. 22nd.

Henry F. Curtis, who returned from sea on the 31st of Oct. sailed to day for New Orleans, in the new ship Cleander B. Williams, master. As H. F. Curtis has concluded to go to sea for a living; he thought it best to continue constantly at the employment.

Nov. 23d.

A Frenchman by the name of Girard (pronounced Gero) commenced to day to instruct a class to learn the French language. His terms are six dollars for twenty four lessons of an hour and a half duration. The scholars who attended to day were, Joshua Swann and wife, Joseph Dove and wife, Edmund E. Bourne Jr and sister, Edmund W. Lord, James M. Stone, Ann W. Curtis, Charlotte Hatch, her sister Hannah and Frederick Hall.

Nov. 24th.

Mr. William Storer, who has lived in this town about ten years, moved his family this week to Portland where he expects to keep a boarding house. While in this village his principal business was working in "Journery".

Nov. 25th.

The Assessors have assessed the extra tax on the inhabitants of this town as follows: - on each poll forty cents, and on each hundred dollars twenty one cents or 2.10 on a \$1000. The tax was made on the valuation which was taken last spring. Those persons who have moved into town since that time have not been taxed.

P. Walker's portico.

Sunday.

Assessing at work on new tax.

H. F. Curtis at sea again.

Girard a French Teacher

W. Storer moved to Portland.

The extra tax assessed.

1854.

Nov. 26th.

A pleasant day and consequently more than an average number at the respective churches. This forenoon a Mr. Sunday, Southern Sabbath school agent delivered an address on the subject of his agency. This afternoon Mr. Willcox, preached an interesting and feeling discourse from these words "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a field."

Nov. 27th

22 ✓ Ivory Littlefield, depot-master, says that he weighed during last night twenty two tons of poultry, mostly turkeys, belonging to many persons and sent the same away by the western train of cars, this morning. A large part of this poultry was marked for Boston.

Nov. 28.

No. P. ✓ Mr. P. P. Berry moved his family from Waterbury to this village, this day. He has bought the house of H. H. moved Chadbourne for his future residence. For a number of years past he has employed men in manufacturing Portland-cement-stones and monuments for grave yards and it is probable he will continue the business in this village.

Nov. 29th

Prices ✓ nearly all the New England States. The prices of poultry of and a few other articles of provisions are as follows.
Provisions Turkey 10 to 11 ct, Geese 11 to 12 1/2 ct, Chickens 9 to 10 ct, Eggs 1/4 doz. Butter 21 ct lb. Cheese 10 to 12 1/2 ct, Flour from 9 1/4 to 12 1/4 Bbl, Pork 9 to 10 ct, Molasses 28 to 30 ct gall. With the exception of pork and molasses provisions are considerably high in price.

Nov. 30th.

✓ Last night there was a slight fall of snow but not enough to make sleighing. The river is not frozen over. ✓ Consequently the boys cannot skate. — By agreement among the ministers of the village there was a union meeting in the Baptist church and Rev. Mr. Smith the Methodist minister delivered a sermon from these words "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness". There was but a small number present. The house not more than two thirds full. I dined at my boarding-house and took tea with my sister Mrs Susan Curtis. I spent the evening at the house of Mr. Christopher Littlefield, who was formerly my old school-master. He boarded at my father's house as a school-teacher in 1829 or 21 years ago.

1854.

Dec. 1st.

Mr. B. Franklin Goodwin was married last evening to Mrs. Abigail Kelly, widow of the late Abiel Kelly. ✓
No. Goodwin died on the 24th of last July, consequently Mr. Goodwin was a widower 4 months and one day. I do not blame him for marrying so soon, as the condition of his family is such that he needs a wife very much. I do not know the ages of Mr. Goodwin and his present wife, but think she is five or six years older than he is. She is an uncommon tall woman, apparently taller than her husband. ✓
B. F. Goodwin married to his second wife.

Dec. 2nd.

When William L. Thompson commenced building his house last July he was in hopes to have it finished this winter, but his hopes were not gratified. The out-rides of house and barn are apparently finished and the inside of the house is ready for the plasterers, but the cold weather has come on so severely and the days are so short, that last week he discharged all of his workmen until next spring. ✓
W. L. Thompson house not finished.

Dec. 3d

There was no meeting in the Congregational church to day, Mr. Willcox being absent. I attended meeting at the Baptist church and heard Rev. Mr. Barrows. ✓
Sunday.

Dec. 4th

Last evening a severe snow storm commenced accompanied with a high wind. This morning the roads are drifted badly, but not so bad as to require much "breaking out". It is difficult to tell here in the village how much snow has fallen but not far from eight inches. ✓
Severe Snow Storm.

Dec. 5th

This has been the coldest day this season. There has been but little "stirring", as old people say. The cold has been so severe and the snow has blown so freely that it has been very uncomfortable to remain out of doors. ✓
Cold Dry.

Dec. 6th.

On the first of last June Capt. J. N. Thompson employed workmen in the alteration of the house which he bought of the estate of the late Dr. Ingersoll. The inside of the house has been entirely remodelled and finished in an elegant manner, and the outside repaired and painted. He has built a new barn and is to have an iron fence in front of the house. The estimated whole expense of alteration and additions about \$4500.00. He moved into the house this day. ✓
Capt. J. N. Thompson House.

1854.

Dec. 7th.

X Last evening I went to Portland in the "carr" and stopped at the "Busco House" last night. To day, I have been busy employed in buying goods of various kinds, until three o'clock P.M. when the carr left for the west. I arrived at my boarding house at 4 1/2 o'clock, having had favorable opportunity.

Dec. 8th

At ✓ Last evening attended the "sewing circle" at Capt. Tobias Lord's. There was quite a number present. As this was the Lord's first company which Capt. Lord had had since he moved into his house it is probable he made an extra effort to invite people to be present.

Dec. 9th.

Death of X Sally Ross, wife of the late Thomas Durrell of Pennebunkport, died at the insane asylum in Augusta on the 8th inst. She has been brought home and will be buried from her late home tomorrow. She has been insane at times for many years. I understand she has been at the asylum since last September but the Durrell family did not know that she was dangerously sick until they heard of her death.

Dec. 10th

✓ Rev. Mr. Willcox did not have a meeting in his church Sunday this P.M., as he attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Thomas Durrell of Pennebunkport.

Dec. 11th.

✓ Capt. Israel Durrell of Pennebunkport has sold Capt. to Joseph & George Titcomb, his part of the homestead estate of his late father. The Titcombs own part of the estate Durrell by heirship of their mother; they have now bought out all of the remaining heirs and own the entire estate which is said to be valuable; there being one hundred acres of water sold and timber, worth \$100 dollars an acre, besides the value of the farm. I do not know the sum, at which the farm homestead is appraised but have heard it estimated at \$20,000 for the whole real estate.

Dec. 12.

Annual ✓ The annual meeting of the "Pennebunk Fire Society" meeting took place this evening at B. G. Goodwin's. There were twenty of nine members present, but there are about fifty persons belonging to the society. At 7 o'clock they partook of an excellent dinner (at seventy five cents each) after which they transacted the annual business. N. P. Sargent is President, Ben Smith, Clerk.

1854.

Dec. 13th.

There was an exhibition this evening at the town Hall of "Ludden & Brown's Panorama of Uncle Tom's Cabin". The proprietors say the painting on canvas is 8 feet wide and 600 feet long; costing between \$10,000 and \$11,000. The painting consists of nearly all the prominent delineations in that popular novel.

Dec. 14th.

Yesterday and to day men in the employ of the "Maine Telegraph Company" have been employed in arranging the wire on the telegraphic posts which were erected a number of months since. The wires are connected with the stove formerly owned and occupied by the late Brock Hardy and his son George Hardy is to have charge of the telegraph office. He is now at Portland in order to learn the art of conveying the information which individuals may wish to send from this village and other duties of the office.

Dec. 15th.

By invitation of N. P. Sargent, I last evening spent about two hours at his house in order to see what is termed manifestations of "spiritual rappings" or table tipping. There were present N. P. Sargent and wife, Joseph Sargent and wife, George Leach and wife, Mrs. Samuel Rainball, Joseph Day and myself. In the middle of the floor was placed a pine table about three feet long and two feet wide. Around this table we sat and placed the palms of our hands flat on the same for the space of about eight minutes when a slight upward movement of the table was felt opposite to the side on which George Leach, "the medium" sat. Mrs. N. P. Sargent then asked "Is a spirit present?" the table on rather one side of the table "was lifted" from its legs about one inch three times. This I was told by Mrs. S. signifies "yes"; two tips or raps signifies "don't no" and one rap "no". Mrs. S. then asked "Is it a friend of mine?", and "no" was answered to all such one when the same question but "no" was answered to all until my turn came when the table tipped three times or "yes".

The spirit, or rather the table was then asked if he would spell out his name by one of us calling over the letters of the alphabet, answered "yes". Joseph Sargent then commenced calling the letters commencing with A. until he came to the letter H, when the table tipped, signifying that was the first letter of his name. Sargent commenced with A again until he came to E, when the table tipped again, signifying that was the second letter, and so on until the name of Henry S. Willis

Panorama
of
Uncle Tom's
cabin.

Telegraph
wires
put
up.

Spiritual
rappings
or
Table
tipping

1854.

was taken out. (as the company said, but it was not plain to me) I was then asked to question Willis and put my questions in such a manner that the answers would be "yes" or "no". I then asked of the table spirit Did you live in Keenebunk? "no" Did you live in Keenebunkport? "no" Did you live in Boston? "yes". I asked many other questions to some of which "no" and to others "yes" was answered, but to my test question concerning "spirits" not obtain a definite answer. I have not the least recollection of rappings even knowing a person by the name of Henry S. Willis. Again during the evening there was a manifestation that a friend of mine was present. I asked are you my Father? "no", Mother? "no", Brother? "no", Sister? "no", are you Edmund E. Smith? (an old school-mate of mine who a few days before he died told me he would return to me after death if possible and inform me of life beyond the grave) to this question, "yes" was answered. After a few preliminary questions, I asked the following test questions "How old was you when you died?" "How long have been dead?" "In what month of the year did you die?" "On what day of the month?" Each of the answers I noted down and compared them with the true time of his birth, death &c and found they did not agree in one particular. The result of my visit to the "spirits" is as follows: The rappings or movement of the table I can not explain but suppose it to be the operations of some law now unknown, probable it will come under the head of "Animal Magnetism"; but as it regards the spirits of departed people being present and causing the rappings of the table I have not the slightest belief.

Dec. 16th.

The "Sons of Temperance" held their annual "Seize" at their Hall last evening. The "Sons" brought their wives if they had one if not one of their sweethearts if they wished. There were many other persons invited who are not members of the order. After tea at (25 each) there were speeches from a number of persons among others, Rev. Mr. Willcox, Rev. Mr. Swan, Rev. Mr. Burrows, Mr. Smith the Methodist clergymen, Mrs. Robinson from the Port, James M. Stone, George W. Bourne and probably others.

Dec. 17th.

This being a pleasant day and good sleighing, quite a large number attended church. In the P.M. Mr. Willcox delivered an eloquent and practical discourse on the necessity of striving to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Dec. 18th.

To day George P. Titcomb and Edmund W. Morton were drawn for the first time, as Traverse jurors to attend the January term of the Supreme Court to be held at Alfred.

1854

Dec. 19th.

Wool now brings a higher price than was ever before given in this village. Dry horn wool and green pitch pine wool now is sold from the sleds as it is brought to market five dollars a cown gray bishes cut in cown wool lengths is worth \$3.50 a cown and other kinds of wool in proportion.

Dec. 20

There was a "Donation Party" this evening at the house of Rev. Mr. Burrows, the Baptist minister. I did not count the number present but think not far from forty of which two thirds at least were females. It is probable that all or nearly all present brought their well come with them, in something that necessary for the family. The larger part that was given was provisions but some, of which I was one, gave money for thought the "givee" knew what they needed better than the "giver", and money would buy the needed article any time.

Dec. 21st.

By invitation of members of the Methodist society in this village I attended this evening a Donation for Rev. E. Smith at Washington Hall. There was about one hundred and twenty five persons present, some of them being members of other societies in the village who were present by special invitation. Refreshments of bread butter, cake, tarts, nuts and apples were handed around to the company and then a glass dish was passed around for each one to give what he or she pleased. It was announced after the money had been counted that \$34.00 had been received by the Society for Mr. Smith. Short addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Willcox, Rev. Mr. Burrows, the pastor of the church and N. B. Sargent. The company separated at 9 o'clock and appeared to have had a good time generally.

Dec. 22nd

Givens, the French teacher who commenced teaching a class in that language on the 23rd ult. finishes his course of lessons last evening and left town this morning. He says that his father was an officer in the French army which marched to Moscow in 1812 and participated in all the horrors of the retreat; that he was a Brigadier general at the battle of Waterloo, and was left for dead on the field, but recovered from his wounds and lived many ten years. This son by his father's services received seven years education in a military academy and then joined the army. His father dying soon after, he left the army received his inheritance which he spent among harlots and in riotous living. He then came to this country for the first time about ten years ago.

but has visited France a number of times since. He has taught the French language in some of the first families in Boston for years. He has also taught in Bowdoin college and in nearly all the large towns in this State. From his French own account of himself and the account of those who knew him in Boston, he is a man of highly respectable connections well educated but sadly given to dissipation. Appearances indicate that poverty and he were intimate acquaintances when he came to Kennebunk, and their intimacy must be soon renewed unless he soon obtains business.

Dec. 23d.

The sledding is now over and has been quite good for about ten days. As a natural consequence there has been more than the usual amount of business done with those who live some distance from the village.

Dec. 24th.

A cold stormy day. In the afternoon Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Barrows the Baptist clergyman, but both of the congregations were doubtless so small that but few in either congregation were benefited by the exchange.

Dec. 25th.

George W. Wallingford, of this town, was this day united in marriage with Mrs. Mary E. Pettengill of Portland. When I came to Kennebunk in 1835 he was considered the greatest "beast" in town and paid attention to Mary Frost daughter of John Frost. After George and Mrs. Frost moved to Bangor the reported engagement was broken up and Miss Frost subsequently married a Mr. Carpenter of Boston, but Mr. Wallingford has remained a bachelor to this day.

Dec. 26th.

There was a festival last evening, Christmas night, at the house of Capt. N. L. Thompson, of the Thompson family particularly the young folks connected the young with the family. There was a "Christmas tree" in one of the rooms from the boughs of which nearly all the children had a present with their name attached to the same.

Dec. 27th.

There was by appointment a large gathering of "Odd Fellows" last evening in order to organize a lodge of Odd Fellows to be established at the village of Kennebunkport. I understood this new lodge is an advance on the lodge in this village, and is to be called an "Encampment"; but I am not acquainted

with the rules of the order. One of the members in this village told me the whole number of members belonging to the lodge in this village is seventy; but twenty of them will leave or rather have joined the "Encampment" to be located in R. Port. The lodge here have as they say a surplus on hand of between seven and eight hundred dollars and all of their affairs are in a prosperous condition.

Dec. 28th.

The first dispatch to the Telegraph office in this village was received from Boston yesterday. The wires at this office are connected with wires extending from Boston to Calais. The whole cost of the telegraphic establishment from the depot to the village is about \$300. I understand by W. Hardy is to pay the stockholders six per cent annually on the cost and he is to have the residue for his services. The charge for sending ten words or less, to any place connected with this office is twenty cents and one cent for each additional word. No extra charge for the address to which the communication is sent, or the name of the person or company who send.

Dec. 29th.

The following is a copy of a paper written by me, on the request of James M. Stone, and signed by both of us.

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,
Than our dreamt of in our philosophy."

In consequence of reports about town, that some remarkable manifestations of "Spiritual Rappings", or table tipplings, had been witnessed at a number of places, particularly at the house of Capt. Thomas Lord; we J. M. Stone and A. Walker, called by appointment at his house on the evening of the 23d inst, in order to witness the phenomenon.

There were present, Capt. Lord and wife, their adopted daughter Susan Lord, Miss Lydia Currier, William Littlefield and Miss Amanda Robinson. Capt. Lord and Miss Currier are said to be strong "mediums", but Miss Robinson is reported to be the strongest of any known medium in town. As nearly all the manifestations, or "raps" were made in connection with ourselves, we shall speak of them only.

In order to obtain the "raps", the mediums and others if they wished, placed the palms of their hands flat on the surface of a table. After waiting a few minutes a—

Spiritual
Rappings
at
the
house
of
Capt.
Thomas
Lord.

slight upward movement, of two legs of the table, opposite the mediums was manifested. Capt. Lord then asked "Is a spirit present?" The table made three upward movements which we were told signified "yes". One movement signifies, "no" and two movements, "Do not no". Each person then asked, "Is it a friend of mine?" to which questions "no" was answered until Walker's question, when three "raps" or "yes", was given. Walker then asked, "Is it my Father?" "no"; "Mother?" "no"; "Sister?" "no"; "Brother?" "no"; "Cousin?" "yes". Capt. L. then asked "Will you give us your name by one of us calling over the letters of the alphabet?" "yes". Capt. L. then commenced calling the letters until he came to S, when three raps were given. he then repeated the alphabet until he came to U, when "yes" was again given, signifying that U was the second letter of the given name, and so on until the name of Susan Fairfield, of Limerick was at rapped out.

I A. Walker, do not recollect, neither do I believe that I ever had a cousin by that name, either as a relative by blood or marriage. This phantom lady then yielded her place to one who reported herself to be the spirit of Thomas my mother. On my inquiries of this spirit, my test questions such as "How many children did you have?"

"How long have you been dead?" and other similar questions, no correct answers were obtained. Capt. Lord at this time felt grieved and remarked that he feared we should not witness the usual correct answers to questions asked. A short time after the table again signified that it would like to "talk"; as it is termed, with me again, and spelt out the name of Edward Smith, by the usual method. This young man was an old schoolmate and friend of mine, who about seventeen years since pledged to me his word, a few days before he died, that he would if permitted, return and inform me of life beyond the grave. I A. Walker, then asked Smith "Will you tell me your age at death?" "no", and other similar questions, to which "no" was invariably answered. I then asked, "Do you wish to communicate any thing to me?" "yes". I A. Walker then commenced calling the letters of the alphabet, and J. M. Stone wrote each letter, as the following sentences were distinctly "rapped" out.

"Believe the Bible, and you find it true.

Remember me and come to God and you shall find me."

By the request of Capt. Lord, J. M. Stone, wrote privately a certain word on a piece of paper and put the paper in my pocket. This word "Spamp" was distinctly rapped out, on calling over the letters of the alphabet by Capt. Lord, also the words "Knife" and "Good," at subsequent trials. As there was a manifestation that my mother wished to talk with me; I asked her, "Will you tell me your first name?" "yes", and "Lydia" her true name was given. "Will you tell me the number of your children?" "yes"; and six raps were given. "Will you tell me the number of your own children?" "yes"; and the table rapped four times which is the true number. My Father had two wives, by the first wife two children and my own mother four children, but my mother had care of the six. Again there was a manifestation that one of my friends was present who rapped out her name to be Frances Stone, said I, "Are you dead?" "no". "Do you wish to communicate with me?" "yes"; and "all well"; was her communication. Frances Stone is my brother's wife, they live at Kennebunkport.

Capt. Lord remarked that he should like for us to hear a singular and ludicrous sound produced by what he called "Hutchins". The mediums then placed their hands, as usual, on the table and in a few moments Capt. Lord asked, "Is Hutchins present?" "yes"; "Will you give us a specimen of whetting your saw?" "yes"; and singular as it may appear, the faint but distinct and peculiar sound of saw-whetting was heard to proceed from the table. "Now 'Hutchins' said Capt. Lord, we want ^{to hear} you saw off a board". Then the same faint but distinct and peculiar sound of a person thus employed was heard by all of us. "Now 'Hutchins' let us hear you nail up your board"; and still the same faint but distinct and peculiar sound of hammering was heard by all present.

As the spirits appeared to be more truthful and accommodating than they did when our interview or rather intercourse commenced; Capt. Lord remarked that a powerful influence which he called "Samson"; might be induced to give us a specimen of his strength although he was not always willing to accommodate.

Spiritual
Rappings
at
the
house
of
Capt.
Thomas
Lord.

1854.

his friends. All persons present who were supposed to possess any power as "mediums", then placed their hands on a work table with the leaves extended. Capt. Lord asked, "Is the spirit of Sampson present?" "yes". "Will you give us a specimen of your strength?" "yes". I A. Walker then by request, placed my hands on each side of the table and bore down with all my strength; but the "rapping" power of "Sampson" was too much for me. The table at once rocked or vibrated so powerfully that I was lifted from my feet by its motion. J. M. Stone tried the same experiment and was operated on in the same manner.

During a part of the "manifestations" a small work table was used, but part of the time a four feet mahogany dining table performed the "raps" through the mediums.

In order to be understood, we have used such words and expressions as "spirit" and "spiritual rappings", because they are commonly used, but we do not consider them proper terms.

We are aware we have been telling a tough story. A story which appears to be not only ridiculous but positively absurd. All we have to say is, as we have narrated, so it appeared to us. We do not believe this power or influence was through the agency of departed or living spirits, or any supernatural power. All we can say is, we believe the manifestations which we saw, were produced by the operation of some natural law or laws to us unknown.

Rennelbunk, Dec. 25th. 1854.

A. Walker.

James M. Stone.

Dec. 30th.

Daniel Shackley died aged 96. Died in this town on the 28th inst. Mr. Daniel Shackley, aged 96 years, being the oldest person in town. The family to which Mr. Shackley belonged have been remarkable for their longevity. His sister Mrs. Louis Winn, died in 1851, at the age of 95. His father + John, died of cancer at the age of 78, and his grand father Richard of Berwick lived to the age of 104.

1854.

Dec. 31st.

In my Rev. Mr. Swan in reviewing the events of the past year, particularly as it regards his own parish, noticed the number of deaths and gave a slight sketch of their lives and characters, not by name, but so distinctly that his congregation could easily distinguish the person to whom he referred. Rev. Mr. Willcox also delivered a suitable discourse for closing the year although his discourse made no allusions to individual deaths.

1855.

Rennelbunk, January 1st 1855.

James M. Stone left town this morning for Augusta where the Legislature meets on Wednesday the 3d inst. He wishes to consult with his political friends, before the time of meeting as he is one of the candidates for Speaker of the House. I do not know how good his prospects are for the office, but he evidently has strong hopes that he shall obtain it. — For some time past he has been paying his particular attention to Miss Lucy Titcomb, and on each Monday evening, it is reported he visits her at the house of her mother. I can testify as to the fact, that he is absent on Monday evenings and does not return until a late hour. It is not known whether they are "engaged" or not; but Madam Titcomb says, if they are not now engaged there is a strong probability that they will be in a short time.

With a prospect of high political preferment, and the still more pleasing prospect of marrying a young lady who is supposed to be the greatest heiress in town; it is not unusual that Mr. Stone should feel not only elated but manifest that feeling in his demeanor. If he should succeed in obtaining both the office and the wife, it is not probable that the realization of his hopes will afford him more happiness, at the time, than he now enjoys in the anticipation.

Jan. 2d.

Lemuel R. Dorrance, civil engineer of this town, has within a few days finished drawing a plan of the village of Rennelbunk, on which the river, roads and all buildings of importance are delineated in their true position. The plan is drawn with neatness and apparent accuracy and if preserved, will in future years be valuable as a reference to our present condition.

Plan of the village of Rennelbunk.

1811.

Jan. 3d.

Deaths The number of deaths in Pennebunk, as recorded in the Town Clerk's Office for the year 1814; males 22, females 24; total 46. Average age 43 1/2 years.

Jan. 4th

Whole number of intentions of marriages, entered in the Town Clerk's Office during the past year of 1814 was 33; this is 8 beyond the average number of marriages which has taken place in this town since the town was taken from Wells in 1821.

Jan. 5th.

James M. Stone has sent to me a paper from Augusta by which I see he has not succeeded in obtaining the office of Speaker of the House to which he aspired. He did not receive a single vote at the election. Sidney Perham of Woodstock was chosen to that office. Mr. Stone has already experienced that it is hard to ascend the slippery ladder of political preferment.

Jan. 6th.

Death of Mary T. Smith, wife of Daniel L. Hatch, died yesterday aged 42. Mrs. Hatch has been afflicted with chronic rheumatism for many years, but the final cause of her death was consumption.

Jan. 7th

A pleasant day and good sleighing, consequently a more than average number attended meeting to day.

Jan. 8th.

The following notice I wrote and sent a copy of it to be published in the "The Democrat."

Death of "Died in Pennebunk Jan. 6th, Madam Sally S. Wood at the advanced age of 91 years, 3 months. Mrs. Wood was the last person in town retaining the once popular but now obsolete title of "Madam." She was emphatically a lady of the old school, and continued to the close of her long life, not only the deportment, but the fashion of dress that prevailed when her standards of taste was formed about sixty years since. It is supposed that she was the first authoress in Maine. Many years ago she wrote a number of novels that were published, among which were "Dorval the Speculator," "Ferdinand & Almira," "Amelia, or the Influence of Virtue," and "Fables of the Night." She wrote other manuscripts which still remain unpublished."

1811.

Jan. 9th.

Samuel Butland, usually called "Sammy Butland" was buried yesterday aged 70. His mother "Sury" was never married, but she and "Sammy" were all in all to each other. They lived alone together for many years until her death about fifteen years since, since that time "Sammy" has lived entirely alone. "Old Sury" was weak in the attic and queen of sluts, "Sammy" was still weaker in his garret and if it be possible had a greater ^{attraction} to dirt than his mother, although the Sury was hard to beat in that respect. Still, Sammy appears to be happy and contented in his filthy hovel, which no efforts could induce him to leave for the cleaner house. He was very poor and subsisted mostly by charity, particularly during the winter; but Sammy had no enemies, he improved the little talent that was given him and his most intimate acquaintances say they believe "Sammy was a Christian."

Jan. 11th.

Within a few days there has been a run on Biddeford Bank. I understand that the bank has redeemed in specie more than \$3000 at its own counter; but the run has now subsided. It is unknown how the report originated that the affairs of the bank were in a bad condition; but it is supposed to originate at Sanford by some person connected with "Monson River Bank."

Jan. 11th.

Last May Francis Emmons, son of George B. Emmons of Boston, a young man about twenty years of age came from Boston to board Mr. A. G. Turner in this village. He has been partially insane for a number of years, but quiet and harmless in his demeanor. He stays at his boarding house nearly all of the time, merely coming to the post-office for letters and papers. It is said that he inherited his insanity from his mother who was a Buckminster of Boston.

Jan. 12th

Last evening the "Sewing Circle" of the Congregational Society met at the house of Capt. Noah Nason. As this was the first company Capt. Nason and wife have had since their marriage they took this opportunity to give an entertainment not only to the members of the Congregational Society who were fit to attend but to quite a large number of invited guests from other societies and a few from the Port. About one hundred were present and all things passed off pleasantly.

1855.

Jan. 13th

The cashier of Ocean Bank informs me that the present pressure in the money market at Boston and other cities has a tendency to return the bills of the country banks, much faster than when the money market is easier. This week \$10,000 of bills issued from the Ocean Bank were returned to its counter. These bills have to be redeemed by bills of other banks.

Jan. 14th.

An uncommonly cold, windy day. The sexton of the Congregational Sunday church from some cause to me unknown, did not build a fire to warm the church as usual; consequently when the people assembled the church was so cold it was concluded to it was better for the congregation to go in the forenoon to some of the churches that were warm, than to remain in the cold, and they acted accordingly.

Jan. 15th

Capt. Maling of Reverebankport, who marries Miss Olive Chubbourn, of this town, is now in Liverpool, and has written home for his wife and oldest child to take the steamer which leaves Boston this week and meet him at Liverpool where he wishes them to accompany him on a voyage, to India and for China. Mrs. Maling and child left home this day on their Indian long tour around the world.

Jan 16th

A few days since I inadvertently took a five dollar bill on the "Ship Builders Bank" at Newblom in this State. This bank closed its business last fall on account of the dishonesty of the cashier. As I did not wish to have uncurrent money on hand, I sold the bank bill to Edmund Parks, of South Berwick, for \$2.50.

Jan. 17th

The girls about town (I do not know on what authority) say, that James M. Stone "offered himself" to Lucy & L. Titcomb, the day before he started for Augusta and Titcomb that his "offer" was accepted. This report has not reported taken any one by surprise, for appearances have indicated that this result would take place.

Jan. 18th.

Capt. William Lown was this day drawn as a juror, to be present at the trial of a man by the name of Smith, who is supposed to have killed a man at South Berwick by the name of Brewster, sometime last summer.

1855.

Jan. 19th.

Yesterday and last night there was about ten inches of damp snow fell, this morning it commenced to rain quite powerfully and in a short time the traveling was about as traveling, bad I ever saw it. The "slush" this afternoon and evening is nearly six inches deep in the best places that a person can find. (No Western mail arrived until this evening.)

Jan 20th

Elbridge Leavitt, Rowland Munster and Frank Rogers, fire men were killed on the railroad yesterday, about four miles this side of Portland. From some cause the snow plow and engine were thrown from the track, and Mr. Leavitt was crushed beneath the engine, dying apparently instantly. Mr Rogers lived about fifteen minutes.

Jan. 21st.

The traveling has much improved, so that an average number attended church to day. Rev. Mr. Robinson, Methodist minister at Reverebankport exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Smith of this village.

Jan. 22.

The trial of Smith for the murder of Brewster was commenced at Alfred this day. G. P. Titcomb and W. Lown who were jurors from this town, were objected to by the counsel for the prisoner, for some cause to me unknown; but the probability is the true reason why they were set aside was, that they were too intelligent men to be influenced by the pleas of the lawyers.

Jan. 23d

Charles A. Lown, State Commissioner for Common Schools, visited the district schools in this village to day. He says that Lown during the past summer he has visited nearly all the schools in the Eastern part of the State and this winter expects to visit the Western part of the State for the same purpose.

Jan. 24th.

Philip Littlefield, of the upper part of this town, while unloading logs at the saw-mill in this village, slipped accidentally and a log rolled over his leg breaking it near the knee. He was moved to the house of his brother Stephen Littlefield where the bone was set by Dr. Pease.

Jan. 25

A writer in the Boston Journal whose signature is "a Strong man in Boston", quotes the notice of Mrs. Woods death, published in the Maine Democrat, and adds to it nearly a column of matter relating to her. It is here unknown who the writer,

Jan. 26th.

X The trial of William B. Smith for the murder of Charles Smith & Brewster, was commenced on the 22nd inst and finished yesterday. The jury after an absence of little more than an hour to be returned with a verdict of Guilty in 1st degree. The Court then hung, passed the sentence of law upon the prisoner, that he be hung by the neck until dead, and that he be taken to the State Prison situated in Thomastown and there kept until this sentence be executed.

Jan. 27th.

V Telegram H. Porter says that J. W. Hardy told him within a few days, that his profits by telegraphing are not so great as he anticipated. The average amount per day since the office was opened has been only twenty four cents. Mr. Porter says that the Hardy was anxious to be cashier of the Bank in this village; but upon Mr. Kingsbury told him that the pay from the telegraph office would be five or six hundred dollars a year.

Jan. 28th.

X Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged with Rev. Mr. Orr. This Mr. Orr Sunday, appears to have well written sermons, but they are delivered in such a dull, drooping manner that they are to me uninteresting.

Jan. 29th.

X Samuel E. C. Bourne says that the inventory of the late Samuel Mitchell's estate, has been made within a few days and that it amounts to nearly Twelve Thousand Dollars. He thinks that \$12,000, the property was appraised at a low valuation. The debts are not supposed to more than one or at the extent two thousand dollars.

Jan. 30

X Horace E. C. Bourne thinks that Horace Porter is worth at least Porter, Eighty Thousand Dollars and his income is Five Thousand supposed Dollars a year from many of the stocks which he owns paying valuations eight per centum.

Jan. 31st

V Warren Chase, who hails from Wisconsin, has been engaged to deliver three lectures in this village, on "Spiritualism". The first lecture was delivered last evening, in the Town Hall, to a large audience. As I wished to know what explanations would be given to the phenomena; I attended the lecture and the following according to my recollection was his views of the subject, not expressed in his words, but an epitome of his views, much condensed from the lecture.

Mr. Chase remarked at the commencement that for many years he had studied that class of phenomena, usually called Mesmerism, and for the last three years had been employed in lecturing on "Spiritualism" or Spiritual manifestations, and that he fully understood the subject at least as well as any person in the United States. He then made the broad assertion that he knew (without giving the reason why) that spiritual manifestations whether by "rappings", "tappings", "writing", "speaking" or other methods were made by the spirits of departed persons through the agency of "mediums". Spirits are subject to natural laws as well as mortals and they cannot transcend these laws more than mortals. Hence they act through the nervous fluid of the "medium" when they produce their manifestations, the same as the will of a person acts through the nervous fluid when he or she wishes to perform any object. In order to be a "medium" depends entirely on the physical organization. The intellectual or moral power has nothing at all to do with it. God gives his sunshine and rain equally on the good and bad even the same as he does his power of being "mediums". A person who is the most easily affected by sympathy is nearly always the strongest medium. There are as great diversity of spirits as of living persons. Hence if you ask of a spirit a ridiculous question some spirit will give you a ridiculous answer. The answer will always be given according to the disposition in which it is asked. If a spirit of great intellectual power converses through a medium he can only use the phrenological development of the medium and consequently appear not to possess an intellectual power superior to the medium. The spirit gives only the substance not the words; hence if the medium is an uneducated person the communication will probably misspell and grammatically inaccurate. He considers the discovery of the fact (as he terms it) that spirits do communicate with their friends on the earth as an era in the world's progress. The reason why the discovery was not before made is that the mass of mankind never before possessed a sufficient amount of knowledge to be prepared for the event. All or nearly all great discoveries have in times past, as now, been opposed by priests and learned men generally. He instances the opposition to Galileo by the priests and learned men of the time. The opposition to Christ by the Jewish priests and learned doctors. And other similar illustrations.

X
1st
Lecture
on
Spiritualism
by
Warren
Chase
of
Wisconsin

Feb. 1st.

✓
X The lecture last evening was principally on the different degrees of Spiritual Manifestations. The whole is commonly called Mesmerism, but among operators when a person is put into a magnetic state or sleep, this is by them termed Mesmerism. The second degree is termed Psychology. While in this state a person is completely under the will or power of the mind of the operator, both physically and mentally. Whatever he wills him to do, to taste, to smell, that he does and thinks it a reality. Thus the psychologic subject will eat a raw potato and think it an apple, an orange or whatever the operator wills. He will think he is a farmer, a mechanic, a professional man, a general, an emperor and act accordingly if the operator so wills him to be.

X
Lecture 2nd The third degree is termed Clairvoyance. While in this state a subject is still more, if possible, under the influence of the operator, inasmuch as wherever he wills him to go in his own mind, there the mind of the clairvoyant goes by whether he has been at the places while in his natural condition or not. and describes all that he sees with minute exactness. It is immaterial whether the place be the next room, house, street, a distant city, or a foreign country. All that is necessary is that the operator should have seen and remembered the places visited and in his own mind wills the clairvoyant to go with ^{him} and visit them.

The fourth degree is termed Independant Clairvoyance. While in this state, entirely independant of the operator, the clairvoyant, in mind, goes wherever he wishes and describes persons, places, and things with accuracy although he never saw or heard of them before. The spirits of departed friends appear to him and converse with him. While in this state of independant clairvoyance, or as it is sometimes called "Trance", the medium obtains nearly all the Spiritualist knows, or professes to know of the spirit land, of its appearance, condition and locality. There on by this means, he learns the condition, station, occupation and whatever relates to spirits in all respects.

Spirits and the places they occupy are material but not of such materialism as mortals. Theirs is more refined, ethereal, or materialism without attraction or weight. Hence they can move in any direction with equal ease and great velocity.

Feb. 2d.

The lecture last evening was on the religious influence of Spiritism and the effects it was designed to produce. The three dogmas of Spiritualism which he wished to establish were as follows.

1st. That spirits and places they occupy are material but not ponderable as was remarked at the close of the last lecture. When a person enters the spirit land, he carries with him his feelings whatever they were when he left the earth, and they are expressed or manifested with greater intensity than while on the earth because they are unincumbered with the flesh which now operates as a clog. Hence all who enter the spirit land with base feelings may be said to be in hell although there is no literal hell. The gradation of spirits is on an entirely different basis from the gradation of mortals. Many a mortal who while on earth was unknown out of his neighborhood, when in the spirit land occupies a far higher grade than the great men of earth. There are as great diversity of spirits as of mortals, but all will eventually progress in goodness and occupy a still higher sphere, but not all with equal rapidity. They do not talk as mortals, their thoughts are narrated on their countenances, so that they are known without being expressed.

2nd dogma was that spirits do communicate with mortals. There are says he at least 200,000 Spiritualists in the United States who know as positively that spirits do communicate with people on earth, as people who have been to London know that there is such a city. To those who have not been to London, it is merely a matter of belief, not positive knowledge.

3rd dogma was that spirits, of all grades soever when they enter the spirit world do eventually progress to higher spheres. The object for which man was placed on this earth was to develop his spiritual body or existence. Every person when they die will at once enter that sphere to which his moral development has entitled him. A man of large and a man of small mental capacity will not occupy the same grade, although they both developed the same phrenological proportions of their moral capacity. The reason of this is a man of small mental capacity receives the same amount of happiness as the man of larger any more than you can put a quart of water into a pint. The measure of happiness of each is full over the capacity of each of them will continue to enlarge in exact proportion to their moral education, or development of their spiritual body. (Such are the opinions of Warren Chase the Spiritualist)

1851.

Feb. 3d.

When Levi O. Hillman moved from Pennebunk to Roxbury Mass in 1813, he was worth (says H. Porter) about thirty five Hundred Dollars. He entered into partnership with his son-in-law Hanson, in the manufacturing of furniture, but his health becoming very poor late he returned to Pennebunk in May 1814 and died in September. L. O. Soon after he died the firm of Hillman & Hanson failed and it is Hillman's wish that Mr. Hillman's estate will lose about \$1700 by the failure. In addition to that loss, Mr. Hillman while in partnership, signed a note with Mr. Hanson for \$20000, consequently his estate is liable for that amount if it can be found. His personal estate has been priced at \$310,00 which is mostly in furniture. Mrs. Hillman will as a matter course inherit one third of the real estate in this village during her lifetime and it probable the judge of Probate will give her all the personal estate, and all, is but a small amount to a woman in her condition who has for many years past enjoyed life.

Feb. 4th

As the day was pleasant and the sleighing good, the meetings Sunday in the village were quite large. Part of the evening I spent in making a call at the house of Capt S. L.

Feb. 11th.

The lectures of Mr. Chase on Spiritualism have been the cause of much talk on the subject. There, but few if any in the village who openly confess that they believe the manifestations are produced by the agency of departed spirits. Those who most strongly advocate Spiritualism, say that the manifestations can be more easily explained by the hypothesis of its being the spirits of departed friends than by any other method. As far forth as my least knowledge of the subject extends, the following persons are supposed to be the strongest advocates of the new doctrine in this village, Barnabas Belcher, Nathaniel K. Sargent and wife, Samuel Kimball and wife, Thomas Linn and wife and Miss Bourcier, a sister of Mrs. Linn, Dr. C. G. Stevens, Ernest Willard & Joseph Sargent. There are many others who appear to be half inclined to believe the new doctrine, but are not willing to be known as believers. In one of the lectures that Mr. Chase delivered he remarked that he had enquired of many spirits if there was such a character as a Devil. The spirits have invariably answered "no" if there was such a character anywhere he was on the earth. Now says Mr. Chase "we know the Universalists have no Devil, the Unitarians have not much of a Devil even if there be any Devil, he cannot be found outside of the orthodox churches. This remark has incensed nearly all who attend orthodox churches.

1851

Feb. 6th

Among my old schoolmates in the district school to which I belonged in Pennebunkport, no one sustained a better character or was more exemplary in his conduct than Jacob Perkins. I do not recollect of his being reprimanded for any behavior whether in school or out, during many summers that we attended school together. Yet he became an intemperate man. When he was about eighteen years of age, he became a clerk to Joseph W. Hayes who then lived in Pennebunkport. He afterwards was a clerk to John J. Mayo in this village and still afterwards to Elijah Bettis at the Landing. Then he went to Bradford and became a clerk to a Mr. White and about this time contracted the habit of drinking ardent spirits. I do not know the particulars of his life from the time he went to Bradford, but have understood that after being a clerk a number of years, Mr. White sold out his stock in trade to him, but in a short time he failed in business. He then became discouraged and ~~became~~ drunk more than even before. Within a few years he went to sea. As he was a man of good natural talents and education he became master of a brig which sailed between Wells and the West Indies. Sometime last month he died while on his passage from the West Indies to Wells. Poor Jacob Perkins, no one anticipated thy unfortunate career.

Feb. 7th

Last Sunday was a raw and gusty day. Monday was an uncommonly cold day. Tuesday was still colder, the thermometer was 13 degrees below zero; but to day is the coldest of either. This morning the weather was so intensely cold that the mercury in thermometers in this village averaged 22 degrees below zero. The telegraph wires report an extraordinary degree of cold not only in New England but in Canada and the lower provinces of British America.

Feb. 8th.

Last Sunday Mr. Willcox announced from the desk that there would be an association of ministers at his house Tuesday and Wednesday of this week and a public lecture at the Congregational church on Tuesday evening, when an address might be expected from Rev. Mr. Wheeler of Saco. I do not know how large an association of ministers met at the appointed place, but I do know that a large fire was kept in the furnaces of the church all day on Tuesday in order to make the church comfortable for the expected lecture, but Mr. Wheeler did not come and there was no lecture.

1855.

Feb. 9th.

Jenny Grant formerly of Kennebunkport died in the
Jenny's house to day aged about 80. Jenny was never
married. There were apparently no vicissitudes in
her life. She was cradled in poverty, lived in poverty
and died in poverty. I have heard my father say, that
her father "Old Bill Grant" was a very poor man and
lived in the last log house in Kennebunkport.

Feb. 10th.

To day the weather is milder than it has been during
the past week. The cold during the week has been decidedly
colder than any week this winter.

Feb. 11th.

Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits to day with a Mr. Titcomb
who is settled over the Congregational society of Kennebunkport.
This Mr. Titcomb is apparently about forty years of age, but
a person should see only the top of his head they would judge
him to be at least sixty years of age, for his hair is
remarkably gray for his time of life.

Feb. 12th.

Rode to the Port this afternoon with Stephen Fairfield's
grand-father at the house of Oliver Walker and saw the old family
Bible, now in a good state of preservation, which belonged
to my grandfather's grandfather Walker of Kennebunkport. The
Bible was published in London in 1717. It contains a record
of his marriages and the birth of each of his children.

Feb. 13th.

Since the Legislature has been in session the inhabitants
of Biddeford petitioned for a city charter. Having ^{obtained} the
a charter, the voters had a meeting on the 10th inst. to
city, decide upon the acceptance of it. The vote was Yeas 697,
Nays 80. Now comes the tug for mayor and aldermen
and soon the new city will be inaugurated.

Feb. 14th.

The custom which has prevailed in this vicinity of sending
Sending Valentines on the 14th of February has become a nuisance.
valentines inasmuch as school children and others who cannot even
out of write their own names take this opportunity to send (by
date the assistance of some who can write) ridiculous pictures
by and other trash through the post office to the opposite sex.
adults. As a natural consequence all or nearly all adults have
abandoned the custom.

1855.

Feb. 15th.

During the past summer of 1854, Daniel W. Lora, of
Kennebunkport had a lawsuit with Daniel Blewett, of
Saco, concerning insurance on a vessel which was lost.
I do not know the cause of the lawsuit, but have understood
that Lora lost his case, the court deciding that Lora should
pay Blewett not far from \$80,000. Now it is reported that Lora
has put all his property into the hands of his clerk, Thomas or
Israel Stone of R. Port, in order that Blewett shall not receive
the sum which the court awarded him.

Feb. 16th.

A circular, of which the following is a copy has been printed
at Augusta and circulated throughout the State.

Republican State Convention.

At a convention of the Republican members of both branches
of the Legislature, held in Representatives' Hall on Tuesday
evening February 6th, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the people of this State without distinc-
tion of party former political parties, who are in favor
of a prohibitory Liquor Law, and opposed to the further
extension of Slavery, and the encroachments of the Slave
power, are invited to assemble at Augusta, on the 22d
of February instant, to consider the expediency of nomin-
ating a candidate for Governor to be supported at the
next State Election, choose a State Committee and transact
any other business necessary to further organize the
Republican party in the State. Augusta, Feb. 8, 1855.

George Lilly, Secretary.

No. 3, Lincoln, Chairman.

The above circular is signed by one hundred and thirty
six members of both branches of the Legislature.

Feb. 17th.

Took the afternoon train of cars and went from
Kennebunk to visit my sister in Great Falls, N. H.

Feb. 18th.

My brother-in-law Rev. Noah Hooper asked and received
his dismission last fall from the pastorate of the Baptist Church
at Great Falls. The church and society have settled as successor
to Mr. Hooper, Rev. Mr. Guern, recently of Harlem N. Y. and
formerly of England.

Feb. 19th.

Took the forenoon train of cars for Boston, where I arrived
about two o'clock, A. M.

Feb. 20th.

✓ For many years past while in Boston, I have stopped at nearly all the time at the Franklin House on Merchants Row; Quincy. During the past fall the "Franklin House" has been altered into a store and is now occupied by Manning Glover & Co. Yesterday I stopped at the Quincy House, opposite Brattle St. Church. The house accommodates about 300 persons and is now full of travelers and sojourners. Charge 12⁵ a day.

Feb. 21st.

✓ Although money is said to be "tight" in Boston, yet hard nearly all necessities of life are high. Flour and corn prices are particularly high. Flour is worth from nine to twelve in dollars a barrel and corn from 94 to 103 cents a bushel.

Boston Traders complain that trade is very dull. One trader told me that from the best information he could obtain; he did not think that more than 1000 shop-keepers in a hundred in the city of Boston had paid their expenses this winter.

Feb. 22nd

✓ There is an uncommon amount of poverty in Boston this winter. A person meets and sees on the wharfs and in big-places many squalid, ragged (they do not appear to be) patch clothes in cities) degraded looking mortals, who from soup appearances are homeless and friendless. It is bad enough to see the poor in the country, but city poverty appears to be worse. The city poor have a more woe-begone expression than their poor brothers and sisters in the country. There are now three "Soup Houses" in the city where about 400 gallons of soup are distributed gratuitously each day to the city poor. This soup cost the city (as the papers say) about ten cents a gallon.

Feb. 23rd

At ✓ Left Boston at 10 o'clock P.M. yesterday and arrived at Great Falls at 8 o'clock. Did not retire again to bed last night until nearly midnight; as I had sat up some private business to transact with a member of the family.

Feb. 24th.

✓ Home Come from Great Falls to Kennelbunk yesterday and again found matters and things had moved on in their usual routine.

Feb. 25th

✓ There was no meeting at the Unitarian Church this Sunday afternoon; as Rev. Mr. Swan went to the Landing to attend the funeral of Mrs. Caroline, wife of Melville C. Thompson.

Feb. 26th

During the past summer and fall J. Chase Jr. Civil Engineer was employed in traveling through the this County of York to obtain from actual measurement by instrumental survey a Topographical map of York County. — J. L. Smith, one of the publishers of the contemplated map is now in town, to obtain subscriptions. He says in his circular "Every road to be carefully surveyed by course and distance, and the locations noted, of all the public roads, Dwellings, Churches, Post Offices, Hotels, Stores, School Houses, Factories, Mills, Shops, Hills, Ponds, Marshes, Streams &c." The price of the map to be five dollars delivered in about one year.

Feb. 27th

Joseph Titcomb and John A. Lora are making preparations to build houses for their own occupation on "Lions Hill". The house of Mr. Titcomb is to stand between the house of E. W. and the house of W. L. Thompson and is estimated to cost about Twelve Thousand Dollars. The house of J. A. Lora is to be on the opposite side of the road near the dwelling of the late Joseph Hatch, and is expected to cost about Five Thousand dollars. The new house is intended to include out-buildings.

Feb. 28th

Last night I sat up with my brother-in-law, Ralph Curtis who is quite sick with diseased kidneys as the doctors suppose. He rested but little during the night. About once in fifteen minutes he attempted to make water, but the attempt was attended with excruciating pain and but little ^{water} passed. He is supposed to be dangerously sick.

March 1st.

This first day of spring is mild and pleasant. There is but little snow on the ground except by side of buildings and fences. Carriages run on wheels between here and the Port but from here to the Depot and back on runners.

March 2nd

A young man by the name of Kimball, who was married in this town about three months, was in my store and remarked to me "Walker you bachelors are the most happy class of folks after all". Said I "are you in earnest"? yes said he "The unmarried folks are the happiest" and the expression of his countenance indicates happiness that as far as he is concerned he believes what he says. He is a poor prospect for he and his wife in future years. It is to be hoped that his feelings on marriage are the exception, not the rule.

1851.

March 3d.

Yesterday I wrote a letter to my sister Lucy W. Hooper, of which the following is a copy. "Pennebunk, March 2d 1851. 2 o'clock P.M.

Sister Lucy, — You are doubtless aware that Mr. Curtis has been troubled for a number of years with a disease of the kidneys. About three weeks since he became more unwell than usual, but nothing serious was apprehended. Last Saturday his disease became excruciating, and although every thing was done that good nursing or doctors could suggest, no permanent alleviation of pain has been obtained. Last night he was supposed to be dying. He now lies in a senseless state, and it is not probable he can live but a few days at longest.

Andrew.

To day I wrote my sister another letter as follows.

"Pennebunk, March 3d 1851. 2 O.M.
Sister Lucy, — Mr. Curtis appears to be better to day than he was yesterday. He has so far recovered his senses, that he recognizes different persons and calls them by name but he cannot construct a sentence of more than two or three words. It was expected that his disease would terminate in mortification; but it has taken the form of dropsy and he may live sometime. In fact I should not be surprised if he partially recovered, although the family particularly Alice think him near the last gasp.

Andrew.

March 4th.

As this was a pleasant day quite a large number attended the different churches. Mr. Willcox gave notice that next Sunday afternoon he should deliver a discourse on the "Personality of the Devil."

March 15th.

The goods which I bought in Boston on the 20, 21 and 22 of February, were received by me this day. This season of the year the packets often make long trips to Boston.

March 6th.

Wrote a transcript of the following letter to my sister.

Pennebunk, March 6th 1851 2. O.M.

Sister Lucy, — Mr. Curtis is alive yet. During the last 24 hours he has not swallowed any thing. He lies in a state of lethargy, apparently unconscious of persons or events. He occasionally stretches and his arms as though he would grasp hold of Time, but after a few more struggles he must sink in the ocean of eternity.

Andrew.

1851.

March 7th.

Last August, Nancy, wife of Diamond Stevens was sent by this to town to the Insane Hospital at Augusta. She remained until Feb. 3d, when she was brought home, I think by her husband. I this day as Town Treasurer, received from the Treasurer of the Hospital a receipted bill of \$14.50, the same being the sum which I sent to Augusta to pay for her expenss while there.

March 8th.

Brekiel Wormwood was born in this town about 61 years since. He married a daughter of the late Capt. Jeremiah Paul and lived at the Port many years, as a trader and was connected with the coasting and fishing business. He raised a large family of children and accumulated from five to eight thousand dollars worth of property. About half a dozen years since his children having nearly all left his house by marriage or death, he and his wife left the Port and moved to Alfred where they connected themselves with the Shakers. As he has been and now is rather a shrewd man and acquainted with doing business, the Shakers have lately advanced him to be their principal business man, at least such is the report. He was in my store to day making purchases for the Community. He dresses in Shaker style and uses Shaker language that is saying "ye" for yes, "no" for no, "thee" for you. It is customary when a persons joins the Shakers, for to put their individual property with the common stock, but I have understood that Mr. Wormwood retains his property for his individual benefit. He may have recently given his property to the Community.

Pennebunk, March 9th 1851.

Sister Lucy, — Mr. Curtis died last night at half past ten o'clock, in the 70th year of his age. Last Monday he swallowed a little wine and water for the last time. From that time until his death, he was pillowed in an easy chair, apparently without senses and but slight muscular action. There was but little change from day to day, until a few hours before his decease, his breath became shorter and shorter; at last with a slight struggle, he obeyed the summons of Death and joined his innumerable multitude. "So Death is continually going his rounds, and sooner or later calls stops at every man's door." — As Mr. Curtis had a strong repugnance to burials soon after death, he will not be buried until Monday.

Andrew.

X

Express of
Nancy
Stevens
at
Augusta.

X

Brekiel
Wormwood
formerly
of
this
town,
now
a
Shaker.

X

Copy of a
Letter
to
Sister
Lucy,
informing
her
of
the
death
of
Ralph
Curtis.

1855.

March 10th.

In accordance to previous notice there was a meeting this afternoon of the stockholders of Queen Bank, in order to see if they would accept the act of the Legislature to increase the capital of said bank \$10,000, so that the whole capital should be \$100,000, and for the transaction of any other necessary business. The meeting was fully attended and it was unanimously voted to increase the capital, or rather to accept the act. I was also voted, that the additional capital be all paid in to the bank on the third day of April next and if any stockholder neglects to pay in the sum which he or she has subscribed to take, by the fifteenth of April, such person shall forfeit his or her right to the same. The president of the bank remarks that the directors had concluded to divide among the stockholders of the first \$10,000 the accrued profits of the bank to the first of April, except running expenses.

March 11th.

There was an uncommonly full attendance at Wilcox Mr. Wilcox church, this afternoon to his discourse on the "Personality of the Devil". His text was from Luke 10-18 "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven". He attempted to prove from Scripture that in nearly all passages where Devil is mentioned, the passage should have a personal, not figurative interpretation. He thinks there is but one Devil and where more than one Devil is mentioned, the original meaning is demon, a species of subordinate devils as I understood him to say.

March 12th

My brother in law, Ralph Burtis was buried this afternoon. A few years since while conversing with him on the locality of the burial grounds in the village, said to him "In which burial ground should you prefer to be buried?" After pausing a few moments he replied, "The first is Andrew, I do not wish to be buried at all". This reply was recalled to my mind, as we left his body beside his open grave. — Mr. Burtis was not a man of enlarged views, or much general information, but I think he was a strictly honest man. Whatever he promised, he was sure to perform, if possible, and he always required punctuality on the part of others. He was remarkably affectionate to his children, was an accommodating neighbor kind to the poor, and a good citizen.

1855.

March 13th.

Have been very busy this day in recording a lot of Town Orders which the collector of Taxes handed to me this morning. Then orders I have recorded in the Treasurers books and submitted to the town Auditors for their annual inspection.

March 14th.

The district school in the village which was commenced by Mr. James Smith on the 6th of last November, closed on Saturday the 10th instant. As I have not heard any report from Mr. Smith as a teacher it is probable he has given your satisfaction.

March 15th.

Dea. Joseph M. Hayes, of Saco, was buried yesterday at the age of 68 years 8 months. For at least forty years Dea. Hayes has been one of the standard bearers in the Congregational church. For many years he was deacon of the church at the village in Kennebunkport and after his removal to Saco he officiated in the same capacity to the church at Saco. His first wife ^{widely} Susan ~~Hays~~ of K-port and his second now living was Caroline L. daughter of the late James Blunk of this town.

March 16th.

Mrs. Martha A. Wenrell, only daughter of the late Dr. Burleigh Smart, of this town, died in Roxbury, Mass. yesterday, at the age of 30. When Dr. Smart died in April 1852, he left by will at least two thirds of his property to his daughter. In July 1852 she was married to Henry A. Wenrell, of Boston. Mrs. Wenrell left one child who will doubtless inherit her property.

March 17th.

There is much more excitement than usual, concerning the annual town meeting which takes place on the 19th inst. This excitement is occasioned by the reported great exertions which have been and are now being made by the new political party who act secretly, called "No Nothings", to eject all the old town officers and elect men of their own order. It is supposed there will be an uncommonly large attendance at the meeting.

March 18th

For three or three or four days past I have been troubled with an inflammation in my left eye, occasioned by a small ulcer on the ball. Did not attend church in consequence.

1815.

March 19th

A pleasant day and a good opportunity for voters to attend the annual town meeting which was called to order this day at 10 o'clock A.M. As was anticipated there has been not only an uncommonly large attendance, but the greatest number that was known, the polls in this town in the spring of the year. As each person cast his vote into the ballot box, his name was checked on the list of voters. The following were the two tickets voted and the results.

Annual

Town

Meeting

March

19th

1815.

Moderator.

Citizens

Henry Kingsbury 167

"No Nothings"

John Bobby 184

Geo. W. Wallingford 1

All that was accomplished in the forenoon, was the chair of Moderator, when an adjournment took place for dinner.

Town Clerk.

Andrew Walker 193

Geo. W. Wallingford 191.

Selectmen.

George O. Titcomb 197

Stephen Perkins 203.

Tobias Walker 189

Ben. J. Titcomb 200.

N. R. Sargent, 98

Seth C. Bryant 198.

Scattering 99

Whole number of ballots for Selectmen 400.

March 20th.

Met by adjournment this morning at 9 o'clock. The first business was to choose two Selectmen. The ballots were as follows.

Selectmen.

George O. Titcomb, 232

Benjamin J. Titcomb 223

Tobias Walker, 226

Seth C. Bryant 224

Whole number of ballots for Selectmen 449.

Town

Meeting

March

20th.

By agreement of parties, Horace Porter on the part of citizens and W. M. Bryant on the part of "No Nothings", cast a ballot each for the Selectmen as Assessors; hence on these two ballots Stephen Perkins, George O. Titcomb and Tobias Walker were chosen Assessors.

Town Treasurer.

Andrew Walker 181

Orin Ross 143

E. C. Bourne Jr 3

Whole number of ballots for Town Treasurer 328.

Town Agent.

Horace Porter 179

Edward C. Bourne 151

School Commissioner

Joseph Titcomb 154.

William M. Bryant 61.

1815.

March 21st.

Met by adjournment this morning at nine o'clock. The "No Nothings" as a party did not appear. There were not more than one third as many persons present, as there were yesterday.

Amount of money raised.

For the repair of Highways and Bridges	in lbm 1900, on cash
" " support of Schools	1600,
" " common and ordinary expenses of town	800,
" " reduction of town debt	650,
	<u>\$4950</u>

A new method was adopted for the collection of taxes, it was "Voted, That the Town Treasurer be collector of Taxes," "Voted, That on all taxes paid voluntarily into the office of the Town Treasurer, on or before Sept. 1st, there shall be a discount of six per cent; on all taxes between Sept. 1st and Dec. 1st a discount of three per cent."

"Voted, That the collector of Taxes receive one half of one per cent on all taxes paid voluntarily, on or before the first of December, and two per cent, on all other taxes by him collected."

March 22d.

The following "List of Stockholders of Ocean Bank, Pennebank, with Amount of Stock held by each year, 1. 1815," is from publisher report.

Geo. W. Bourne of Pen ^t	600.	John Murphy R-port.	500.	
Edw. W. Bourne do	500.	Mehitable Nason Pen ^t	1000.	
Geo. Ballender & Co. Boston	1000.	Noah Nason, do	4000.	Stock-
Joseph Dune, Pen ^t	1000.	Daniel Nason, do	1000.	holders
Joseph Dune Jr do	300.	Daniel Pennich do	100.	of
Nathan Dune Jr do	300.	Wm B. Sewall, do	200.	Ocean
Israel Durrell R-port	2000.	Robert Smith Jr, R-port.	1000.	Bank.
John Emery Pen ^t	1000.	Joseph Titcomb, Pen ^t	5000.	
Emmons & Littlefield do	400.	Geo. O. Titcomb, do	3000.	
Henry Kingsbury do	1000.	Abigail Titcomb, do	1500.	
William Lord Jr do	6000.	Lucy W. Titcomb, do	1500.	
Trory Lord, do	1000.	North L. Thompson, do	4300.	
Thomas Sporn, do	1000.	Wm L. Thompson, do	800.	
Geo. Sporn & Co. Boston	1000.	Charles Thompson, do	2000.	
George Sporn, Pen ^t	1000.	Nicholas Wakefield, do	300.	
William Sporn do	500.	Andrew Walker, do	500.	
Sarah L. Mason, R-port.	500.	Charles Williams, do	500.	
Beng. J. Mason, do	500.	D & S. Ward, R-port.	1000.	
Asaph Moody do	600.	Charles Ward, do	1000.	
Edw. W. Morton Pen ^t	200.	Sarah Wells, Wells.	400.	50.000

1811

March 23d.

Legislature - The Legislature of this State adjourned on Saturday the 17th instant. The session lasted seventy six days.

March 24th.

James M. Stone
unpopular
speech
in
the
Legislature
on
bodies
for
dissection

Towards the close of the recent session of the Legislature a "Resolve for the promotion of medical science" was introduced, discussed and finally voted down. It was a proposition to furnish bodies for the dissecting knives of surgeons and medical students. It provided that persons dying in poor houses and public institutions, who have no friends to claim their bodies within a few hours after death, should be given to surgeons for dissection. James M. Stone of Kennebunkport spoke in favor of the resolve and voted for it. The Three-Weekly Age reports the remarks of Mr. Stone. The following is an extract from his remarks. — "Mr. Stone of Kennebunkport said he had been disappointed in the opposition this bill had met with in the house. The amendments that had been offered were plainly intended to destroy the whole bill. He had been sorry to hear these appeals to the richly sentimentality of the people." — For whole speech see Maine Democrat of March 27th. — The house refused to pass the resolve yeas 41; nays 63.

X It is supposed that the position Mr. Stone took in favor of the above resolve will hurt his political standing in K. port. It is said that some of his old political friends are much incensed against him, on account of the above, and say he cannot be again elected Representative of Kennebunkport.

March, 25th.

Willecox
on
Spirit-
alism.

Mr. Willecox is apparently troubled in his own mind that there are so many persons in this village, and part of his congregation, who are at least partial believers in Spiritualism. This afternoon he delivered a discourse on "The tendency of Spiritualism to infidelity". He quoted many passages from the bible and contrasted them with passages from supposed standard works on Spiritualism; in order to prove his position. The congregation was large and attentive.

March 26th

200
maps
of
York
County

Mr. J. L. Smith, who for the last two or three weeks has been canvassing this town for subscribers to his contemplated new map of York County; finished his labor in this town a few days since. He told me he has obtained more than 200 names, but did not mention the exact number. Yes, Dave signed for 12 one of which he intends for each school district.

1811

March 27th.

People in the village have not yet done talking of the late election. The following are a few of the incidents which are subjects of conversation. — North's R. Sargent is said to have been chairman of the "No Nothing" party in this town and was anxious to have been nominated as one of the Selectmen, but was disappointed. This fact having become known, some of the citizens (probably in hopes to create a dissention in the N. N. party) went to Mr. Sargent and requested liberty to put his name as Selectman on the citizens ballot. As Mr. Sargent has the name of having an inordinate hankering for office, he consented to the proposal and his name was accordingly used but he failed of an election. For his consent to be run as Selectman by the citizens, his brother "No Nothing" denounced him in the strongest terms, calling him all the hard name they can remember such as traitor, Benedict Arnold and Judas Iscariot.

On Tuesday morning the second day of the election, Capt North's L. Thompson, who has an impulsive temperment, went to the ship-yard of Emmons & Littlefield, who are building a ship for him and requested them to discharge from the yard all workmen who were known to be "No Nothings". This request having become known, the natural consequence was the members of the party became indignant and a number of workmen threw down their tools and started at once for the folk. These men, it is said, women have remained at home, if Capt. Thompson had not made the request of Emmons & Littlefield.

When the Moderates and I counted the ballots for Selectmen on Tuesday, we found three instances where there appeared to have been double voting. In two of the ballots, a ballot of the same kind was written so closely and evenly, that it is not probable they were thrown into the ballot box by different persons, and one ballot had three other ballots stuck to it in the same manner. Whether they were thrown into the box in this manner intentionally or accidentally it was impossible for us to tell. We concluded to pin the three lots together and count them as three votes. The next day we counted the names checked on the list at this time of voting and found 418 persons had voted. The number of "No Nothings" in this town is supposed to be about 140, but local circumstances connected with the last-mourning room and bridge business of the town last year, seemed to increase the vote of the secret nomination above their own legitimate strength.

Incidents
of
the
late
town
meeting.

1844

March, 28th

At the annual town meeting in March 1844 an effort was made to improve the condition of the roads in this town by having commissioners instead of surveyors of highway. But the effort has not proved successful. People in general think that the commissioners did not perform their duties, as well some other men who might have been selected for the office. Whatever the cause of the failure might be, no one manifested any desire to repeat the experiment.

March, 29th.

A. Warren Mendum and S. A. Brayden, formerly of this town and recently of Boston, have returned to this village and bought out Joseph Getchell, tin plate worker, and they expect to continue the business, with which they are said to be well acquainted.

March 30th.

In 1847 Horah Goodwin and his son B. F. Goodwin bought the lot and house, fitted up as a tavern by the late Jot. Stone as a tavern at the corner of Main and Fletcher streets. In this house father and son moved their families soon after the purchase and have continued to live together until this day the father has removed his family back to his house that he formerly occupied on Fletcher street.

March 31st.

Yesterday and to day the weather has been milder and pleasant, the frost is coming out of the ground, some of the spring birds have arrived and winter is over and gone as the birds say.

April 1st.

A cold rainy day. The rain fell powerfully this forenoon that Mrs. Swan and Willcox concluded not to have any meeting in the afternoon. Mr. Barnum, the Baptist and Mr. Smith, the Methodist being unwell did not have any meeting all day, so there was no meeting in the village in the afternoon.

April 2nd

The steam saw and grist mill of D. S. Warren of Pennsbury was burnt on the night of the 31st instant. The fire was not discovered until near midnight and was so far advanced that nothing could be saved from the building. The tools of the carpenters were all in the upper loft, not one being saved a loss to them of about \$1000. The loss to the Messrs Warren will be about \$6000, on which there is only \$2000 insurance at an office in Exeter. As the night was favorable and the water near, no damage was done to the frame of a ship which was near the mill.

1844

April 3rd

There was divided among the stockholders of the Ocean Bank, six per cent, being the accrued profits, except running expenses, of the bank since it commenced business. The subscribers to \$100,000 additional capital to the bank, also this day paid in the stock subscribed by them. The capital of the bank is now \$100,000 and it is supposed that the stockholders have a sure investment for their capital, although it is not expected that they will receive a high rate of interest.

April 4th.

A few days since Samuel Clark, a trader in this village opened a box, not marked, that had been sent him by mistake and found in it two ten gallon kegs full of some kind of spirits liquor. The same evening the box was sent for by Samuel N. Jellison, who lives at the landing. Mr. Jellison was last September, the "Non-Resistant" temperance candidate for town representation.

April 15th.

Horace Porter says that his father and mother were natives of Connecticut. Soon after their marriage they moved to the State of New York where they lived a few years. While there one night in winter, during a severe snow storm, the house in which they lived caught fire and they with difficulty saved their lives and one bed. We were at that time, says Mr. Porter, so poor, that we had neither house, home, food or clothing and subsisted on charity for six months. In 1800 when I was 12 years of age my father moved to Pennsbury. The house and carriage with which we entered town was not worth more than fifteen dollars and the total value of my father's property was not more than one hundred dollars.

April 6th

Edmund C. Bourne junior of this town this day received his commission as judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Biddeford. There is no salary attached to the office and it is uncertain how much the fees may be. Some suppose the fees will not be more than \$200 others think they will amount to \$600. Mr. Bourne is about 28 years of age.

April 7th.

During the past week, workmen have been employed on the house which Capt. William Laver bought of Capt. Daniel Curtis. The chimney has been taken down and the house raised three feet. I understand that the house is to be modernized and fitted for two families.

April, 8th 1855.

Joseph G. Moody, now of Boston, came to Pennebush Moody this day and sold to John Bousens the house and store estate formerly occupied by him-said Moody, but belonging to his mother Mrs. Maria Moody, now of Portland. The lot is about 140 feet in front and extends back about 200 feet. Mr. Bousens has agreed to pay for the establishment sixteen hundred dollars. I have been Mrs. Moody's agent for the last ten years to collect the rents of the buildings, pay expenses, repairs &c. The house is not in good repair, but the store, which I occupy, is in better repair. The house is at least sixty years old and was built by a man by the name of Burbank. The store formerly stood opposite the house of Mrs. James Titcomb (the residence of the late Joseph Moody) and was hauled to the spot it now occupies about twenty eight years ago.

April, 9th

Mistake I have made a mistake in date by omitting Sunday in which was on the 8th inst. The remarks which I have made under April 8th should have been made this day.

April 10th

B. F. Benjamin F. Goodwin, this day opened his house as a tavern, by hanging out his sign. This evening he opened expects to treat the "Mass Band" and probably a few other persons with an supper.

April 11th.

Wark of cotton work yarn, stopped this day. I do not know how long it is expected the mill will remain idle; but factory people say the machinery is not in good repair and stopped, the yarn is extremely dull of sale, not from the quality of the article but from want of demand.

April, 12th.

Last Day Last day. Took the forenoon train of cars and went to Great Falls, to Great Falls where I spent the day with sister Lucy's family.

April 13th.

This morning, Mr. Hooper and his sister Mrs. Warr, sister to Lucy and I walked from Great Falls to South Berwick. We walked because the walking is better than riding in carriages. We (Lucy and I) called on the way to see an old acquaintance at S. Berwick who is quite sick. When we arrived at South Berwick we dined with our relative Mrs. Bartharine Jordan.

April, 14th

Yesterday afternoon I took the cars at Salmon Falls and came to Portland. Last evening, by invitation, called at the house of a Mr. Pingree, where I received a private proposal, which I at once rejected, and doubtless gave offence to the person from whom the proposal came.

April 15th

The sermon of Mr. Willcox this afternoon was on the subject "How far we should trust to reason and how far to revelation, Sunday in the examination of the Scriptures".

April 16th.

Dr. W. H. Haskell recently of the firm Lincoln & Haskell Dentists, Bridgford has issued a card that he expects to visit this town every Monday for the practice of dentistry. He came for the first time to day, accompanied by his wife's sister Miss Harrietta Carrington, who is a relative to the Walker family, her maternal grandmother and my mother having been sisters.

April 17th

The last two days have been warm and pleasant. The frost is nearly out of the ground, but the roads are extremely muddy, consequently the travelling bad.

April 18th

A few persons in the village who have high lands for gardens have this week commenced work in them. Yesterday I noticed for the first time, this season, persons engaged in plowing.

April 19th.

This week workmen have commenced framing house for Mr. Joseph Titcomb on "Zion's Hill". It is expected the house and out-buildings will cost about Twelve Thousand Dollars and be the most beautiful residence in town.

April 20th.

Robert W. Lora, son of Mr. William Lora returned to day after an absence of between five and six years. He at first went to California with a steam engine which he sold and set up, being a machinist, he afterwards went to the mines and subsequently to Oregon, but I do not know particulars.

April 21st.

Edmond Parks of South Berwick, has this week been canvassing this village for the sale of a "Business Directory of the State of Maine" for 1855 by a Mr. Adams of Boston. Price one dollar.

1855.

April, 22d.

As Rev. Mr. Willcox thinks there are many persons in this Sunday community, who do not reverence the Bible so highly as they should; he this day commenced a course of sermons on the Evidences of Christianity.

April, 23d.

Wm L. Workmen from Portland commenced plastering William L. Thompson's new house. They think the materials and labor house, for plastering will cost about two hundred dollars.

April 24th

Prices of provision are now extraordinary high. Flour is worth from \$11. to \$13. a barrel. Corn \$1.25 a bushell. Butter from 21 to 30 cents a pound. Cheese from 12 1/2 to 14 a pound. Beef from 10 to 14 cts. Veal from 6 to 8 cts. Pork (Mass) \$18 to \$19. a barrel, Clean Pork \$20 to \$21. Lard retails at 14 cents a pound. Eggs 14 cts. doz.

April 25th.

Mr. Davis Lora moved from Kennebunk to Hallowbrook twenty five years ago. This forenoon he returned back in order to receive a lot, or rather to take measures to claim a lot of military bounty land to which old soldiers are entitled. Mr. Lora was unwilling to remain in town all night, so he took the cars this afternoon for home.

April, 26th

Samuel Mr. Samuel Cleaves, of Kennebunkport, has been partially insane for a number of years; but of late he has been of more than usually troublesome. His two sons in law Samuel Smith of Port and William Walker went with him this day to the Insane Asylum, at Augusta, where they expect to leave him.

April 27th.

About twenty five years since Maria O. Austin of Portsmouth, N.H. Maria having met with an accident, by which the family to which she belonged considered themselves disgraced; she came to live at the village of Kennebunkport, where she in part supported herself known as a daughter, by her own industry and part by her relatives. About ten years since she removed to this village and has been supported in the same manner, as she was while at the Port; O. Davis but of late years her brother Rev. Daniel Austin of Portsmouth, formerly has allowed her the interest of \$2000 a year and she has not performed much labor. Her health has been quite poor for the last six months and it is not probable she will live many months. To day she and her daughter went to Portsmouth on a visit, probably for first time. They were known here by the surname of Davis.

1855.

April 28th.

In 1827 or '28 Daniel W. Lora, of Exeter, John Emery of this town and I think a man by the name of Crocker, of Mass. purchased a lot of land at Goff's mill (so called) in Kennebunkport, on which they built a large tannery at a cost of about \$14000. They carried on the business for a number of years but sunk money by the operation. In 1840, the tannery was sold to a Mr. Isaac Haseltine, of Boston, for \$2200. Mr. Haseltine bought the property for his brother-in-law, or Mr. Smith who carried on business a number of years; but he likewise sunk money and moved back to Massachusetts. In 1848, Mr. Haseltine sold the whole Kennebunk establishment to a Mr. Ferguson, of South Berwick for \$300. About two years since Mr. Ferguson died and the property fell into the hands of his brother, who is a tanner and lives at South Berwick. Within a few weeks Mr. Ferguson has sold the tannery with all its privileges and appurtenances to the Kennebunk Lark Company for about \$1200. Mr. Ferguson however retaining part of the fixtures belonging to the buildings, which fixtures he has this week moved away. Since the Lark Company built their Lark, they have paid Mr. Ferguson at different times about \$600. for damages to his yard for fowls and ^{goats} have now bought the yard in order to prevent paying further damages.

April 29th.

Attended church in forenoon. Soon after dinner I walked down to the old homestead for I wished to visit the graves of my parents and a number of old neighbors who are now sick. The first sick person on whom I called was Theodore Hutchings who will probably not live but a few weeks. The next was Stephen Perkins who has the liver complaint, and unless soon relieved will not probably live but a few months. I also called at the houses of Capt. Benjamin Merrill and Capt. Jacob Merrill, whose brother Israel Merrill has lately returned to Kennebunkport on a visit after an absence of seventeen years in Illinois.

April 30th

John Bousers this day commenced work, preparatory to repairs on an alteration on the house he bought of Joseph Moody's estate. He is to take down both chimneys, raise the house about eighteen inches, put on additions on the back side and make the house suitable for two families. He thinks the cost for repairs and improvements will be about \$1000; but others who has been experienced in repairing old buildings say it will cost more.

1855.

May 1st

The Poor. Stephen Cleaves has contracted with the Overseers of the Poor to support the Poor of this town for one year from this day, for reported sum of Five Hundred Dollars.

May, 2d.

I understand that the Portland, Saco and Portsmouth Railroad Company has contracted with Mr. Andrews of Bridge Biddeford, to build a stone bridge with two arches over the Mousam river near the depot for the sum of Twenty Four Thousand six hundred Dollars (\$24,600). The bridge is to be built the present season.

May, 3d.

About eighteen months since freight on cotton from New Orleans to Liverpool was $\frac{7}{8}$ from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a penny a pound, and about a year since freights began slightly to decline and now have continued to decline. At the last account from New York the freight on cotton was $\frac{1}{4}$ of a penny to Liverpool. Freight low. on other articles have declined in equal proportion not only in New Orleans but other cities in the United States and Europe.

May, 4th

At Saco. Yesterday afternoon I went to Saco with L. H. Kimball. We started from home at one o'clock, done our business and arrived back at 6 o'clock.

May, 5th.

Lorenzo Parsons, of this village, went to California, for Parsons the second time. Spent the winter in San Francisco and from arrived back home last evening. He went and came by California, what is called the Nicaragua route.

May, 6th

Sunday By an agreement among the ministers in the village services the afternoon services did not commence until three o'clock at 3 o'clock this arrangement will probably continue until fall P.M. when the days have become shorter.

May, 7th

Capt. In course of conversation Capt. William Lora remarked that his practice has been to take up with a fair offer method immediately, not to stop and calculate the cost, reason of the profit or think of the consequences. "I can't say he have doing no patience with that class of persons who think they business must do every thing by rule. Do the most important part and attend to the minor affairs afterwards.

1855.

May 8th

N. R. Sargent and Son have this day finished a new Hense, which they by agreement have built. The Hense is made in the modern style, being entirely closed when the door is shut; so that a coffin in the hense cannot be seen. It is painted black, has carved ornaments on the sides and cost when completed one hundred and seventy five dollars. It is to be paid for by subscription. The money is subscribed but not yet called for.

May 9th

In consequence of a notice in a Boston paper I wrote a letter of which the following is a copy and sent the same to Rev. John M. Daynall, No. 17, Fulton street, Brooklyn, N.Y.
"Rennebunk, May, 9th, 1855."

Rev. J. M. Daynall.

Respected Sir,

Having noticed in the Boston Journal your advertisement addressed "To Nervous Sufferers", and that you are anxious to make known the means of cure; I hereby take the liberty to ask the prescription used; as I have been troubled with the Neurology in one of my feet for about a year, part of the time it has been extremely painful.

Although we now are and probably shall continue to be strangers to each other; yet if I receive from you the "free" means of cure, surely I shall have cause to remember your name with pleasure, for your disinterested efforts to alleviate one of the afflictions of life.

Please direct to, Andrew Walker,
Rennebunk,

Maine.

May, 10th.

Capt. William Lora has moved the barn, which he bought of Capt. Daniel Curtis, a distance of about twenty feet, to within two feet of the house of Theodore Webber, so that the windows of the house on that side are nearly useless. The barn as now situated attracts considerable attention and nearly all think Capt. Lora has not done as he would be doing.

May, 11th.

I understand that John Bobbly is to receive a lot of groceries from Portland for retail in this village. Mr. Bobbly has the oversight of the Newryann Factory in this village.

1855.

May, 12th.

I this day received from Brooklyn N.Y. an answer to the letter which I wrote and sent on the 9th inst. The following is the "Prescription for General Nervous Debility".

Prescription for General Nervous Debility. Alcoholic Extract of the Ignatia Amara, sometimes called St. Ignatius Bean. 30 grains
Powdered Gum Arabic, — — — 10 "
Make into forty Pills, and take one an hour after breakfast, and one an hour before supper or at least an hour before retiring to rest. Half a Pill night and morning, will be found sufficient for very young, very aged, or very delicate persons. The Pills may be easily cut if laid on a damp cloth for a short time to soften them.

May, 13th.

Sunday. Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged this forenoon with Rev. Mr. Smith, the Methodist minister in the village. I think our quite probable nature gave Mr. Smith as good a heart as Mr. Willcox, but surely the last name, the best head.

May, 14th.

Mr. Daniel Perkins of Pennabunkport (son of the late Ephraim Perkins senior) died on the 12th inst. and was buried this P.M. at the age of 68 yrs. Mr. Perkins died unmarried. After the death of his father, he lived with his mother-in-law and sister Mary. When his mother-in-law died, he lived with his sister until her death about four years since, from that time he has lived alone and died in the house where he was born. — Mr. Perkins was singular in some of his views and eccentric in his habits. There was probably no man with in Pennabunkport of more general information than he, and it is said in some particular branches of learning, such as grammar, music & botany, his researches were far beyond any of his townsmen. He was undoubtedly a learned man but an avowed infidel, and it is said that he had collected so many facts and could produce so strong an argument in support of his infidelity, that no man at the Port could confute his argument, as he would not allow any fact based on the Bible, to have more weight than on any other historical work. As it regards his habits of body he was an extremely indolent man. He appeared to have a natural proclivity to laziness. In fact he was commonly known as "Lazy Daniel Perkins". With the exception of being a miller for a short time, about 25 years since, at the old tide grist-mill near

1855.

his house, I do not know that he has done any bodily labor. He appeared to look on labor with abhorance. He received a few thousand dollars by inheritance, and as he was economical in his expensis, it is probable he had enough to pay his way through the world. It is reported that he has often said if his property did not last through life; he would drown himself when his means of support was exhausted. Perhaps this report was not true. At least he did not commit suicide, although his property is reported to be nearly if not quite expended. Yet with all his faults, the moral of Daniel Perkins was above reproach. He was kind to the poor, a friend to his neighbors and for aught I know a respectable man. Repose in peace.

May, 15th.

Painters commenced work yesterday on the Unitarian church. It is to be thoroughly repainted on the outside at least, to have new glass in the windows of the upper story, if not the lower and whatever repairs and alterations may be deemed necessary.

May, 16th.

Soon after C. L. Dressen bought the goods belonging to the late Porter Hall's estate, in Sept. 1853, he employed George W. Wallingford to take charge of the store. Within a few weeks Mr. Wallingford has been dismissed and a relative of C. L. Dressen by the name of James Dresser has taken his place. Mr. W. received one dollar a day for his services. I do not know on what terms Mr. D. has taken his place.

May, 17th.

William Fairfield of this village, was clerk for a number of years to Mr. James Lora before he sold out to Nathan Dane just. Dane retained Fairfield in his employ until within a few days he has dismissed him and taken Frederick Hall in his place.

May, 18th.

William B. Sewall has taken down a close board fence which was in front of his house on the main road and put up a rail fence with three bars in its place. The reason for this alteration was to let in the sun on his hedge fence.

May, 19th.

John lobby has received from Porttown a small lot of groceries and put them in a small store in his possession near the house of Dr. Boss. As Mr. lobby is a leader of the "Know Nothings" here, it is expected he will be patronized by them.

1851.

May, 20th.

Parson Willcox exchanged pulpits with Parson Fox of Alfred. Sunday What Parson Fox says, is well enough, but he says it in such a dull monotonous tone that he is not an interesting preacher.

May, 21st

Last winter J. B. P. Titcomb contracted with Mark Pool to build a ship for them at a stipulated price per ton, the Titcomb Messrs Titcomb to find the materials. This ship Mr. Pool has suspended now nearly timbered out; but the shipping interest is now so depressed, they have agreed with Mr. Pool to suspend building work on the vessel at present, accordingly all workmen employed on the vessel were discharged on Saturday the 19th instant. Capt. Noah Nason says that ships last year which were worth \$60 or \$65 dollars a ton can now be bought at about one half that sum. He says Capt. William Lora has a new ship of 1000 tons all rigged, offered to him for \$34,000 that is \$30. a ton, as the owner was necessitated to sell, but Capt. Lora refused to buy, even at that price.

May 22nd

Mr. Stephen Perkins, of Kennebunkport, died on the 20th instant, at the age of 87, and was buried this afternoon. His death will be much lamented by his relatives, ~~and~~ regretted by his friends and townsmen generally, as he was Perkins a pleasant companion, an obliging neighbor and esteemed of citizens. He lived a bachelor until about eight years since Kennebunk when he married Miranda, widow of the late Adam Stone, of Kennebunk. Mr. Perkins died childless. On the 29th of April I called to see him. He was cheerful and had hopes that his health was improving, although those who were with him constantly saw that he was failing day by day. He continued to ride out on pleasant days until within a few days of his death and still thought he should, at least, partially recover until within a few hours of his death. I intended to have gone to have gone to his funeral, but understood it was not to be, until tomorrow, when undeceived it was too late to attend.

May 23d.

Went to day to see William L. Thompson's new house cost of which is now nearly plastered, with the "putty coat" as it is called. Mr. Thompson told me he thinks his residence with appurtenances when finished will cost about nine thousand dollars, that he house, expects to buy about \$1000 dollars worth of furniture in addition to what he now has; so the whole amount will be about \$10,000.

1851.

May, 24th.

During the last three days workmen have been employed in raising the frame for Joseph Titcomb's house on Zion's Hill. This frame is said to be one of the best put up in this town. Nearly all of the outside of the frame has been planed and the timbers buttered together evenly so that the covering boards (plainer to or thickness) may lay perfectly smooth. It is reported that the whole cost of frame when fully raised will be not far from \$1000.

May 25th.

This morning Mr. Evert Willard gave me an invitation to ride to Alfred with him, which invitation I accepted. We arrived at Alfred at 10 o'clock. Before dinner examined the new brick additions to the court house, which are now occupied by County offices. The old brick edifice nearly in front of the court house recently occupied as the county house, was ~~advised~~ ^{advised} to be sold at auction to day, but the sale has not taken place when we left. We took dinner at Mr. Herrick's tavern, with some dozen or twenty men from different parts of the County. When Mr. Willard has finished his business, he wished me to go with him to his old homestead where his brother Joseph now lives. Having partially examined the farm we took tea with the family after which we returned, where we arrived at 8 o'clock having had a long agreeable ride as the day has been pleasant and the air mild.

May 26th.

The joiners, masons and plasterers have this week finished work on the house which Capt. William Lora bought of Daniel Curtis. All that is now necessary to be done, is to paint and paper the inside of the house and to finish filling up and grading the ground around the house and barn. It is supposed the cost of alterations and repairs on the house and barn is from \$2500, to \$3000. This sum added to the \$1600, which Capt. Lora gave for the house makes the present cost at least \$4000 probably nearer \$4500.

May 27th.

A pleasant day and consequently the churches in the village were full attenders. Had a long talk with J. M. Stone, on religious affairs. He thinks he experienced religion while attending the academy at Andover, Mass.

May, 28th.

John A. Lora commenced framing his house this day. Mr. Benjamin Littlefield is master workman, he is assisted by his three sons and the workmen employed by the father and sons.

raisers
frame
for
J. Titcomb's
house.
reported
cost.

Went
to
Alfred
with
Evert
Willard.

cost
of
repairs
on
Curtis
house.

Sunday,

J. A. Lora's
house.

1855.

May 29th.

District School The district schools in the village commenced today. Mr. Staples, from Spinnerick, has charge of the larger common school and Miss Esther Webber of the smaller. Mr. Staples has \$40. a month and Miss Webber \$ they pay their own board.

May, 30th.

A few days since Mr. Joseph Brown was married to a Severn Mrs. Martha Noble. The night after the marriage, a lot of boys and young men met at their house, near the depot and discharged tin kettles, pans, cow-bells, sleigh-bells, tea-bells, bouch to shells, tin trumpets, brass kettles, guns, pistols and all other noisy things that they could collect which would make a din, the noise of the fire arms made a horrible din, which was heard for a long distance. Those who were not in the secret were alarmed by the noise. The newly married couple in particular, are reported to have been really frightened.

May 31st.

A When I went to Alfred on the 28th inst. with Mr. Willcox courtship he introduced me to his sister, who he afterwards told me of 33 years has been courted by one of their neighbors for thirty not yet three years. During this long period of time he has been finishing the habit of visiting her twice a week. She is now 56 years of age, he is a few years older.

June 1st.

Port of The plasterers from Portland, who commenced work on W. L. Thompson's house on the 23rd of April finished their plastering work this day. They say the cost for materials for house W. L. T.'s was about \$80, cost of labor of all kinds about \$240, including board whole cost of plastering house about \$320.

June 2d.

Large On account of the high price of provisions, particularly corn, flour and potatoes, there has been much more quantities planted this spring than usual. Nearly all persons planted who have land, have used the means to raise something for their own consumption and probably many have hoped to raise a surplus to sell. Not only in this vicinity, but in every State in the Union, it is represented great exertions have been made to induce mother earth to yield a bountiful supply. It does not appear possible that the present high prices of provisions can continue much longer.

1855.

June, 1st.

Last November Henry D. Curtis went to sea with Capt. L. B. Williams. They went to New Orleans, where the vessel took a freight to Liverpool, from that port they returned back H. D. to New Orleans about three weeks since. Curtis did not hear of his father's death until his arrival back to New Orleans, returned. He took a steam boat, or rather engaged a passage in a vessel for Boston, where he arrived a few days since and this day arrived home.

June 4th.

A conference or convocation of nearly all the Congregational ministers of this county, met at the church of Rev. Mr. Willcox. This I understand is an annual meeting for the mutual benefit of ministers and people connected with the different societies.

June 3th. (omitted)

Barnabas Palmer has attended the Unitarian meeting all day. I do not know how long it has been since he attended church but think at least five years. He told me this was the first time he ever heard Mr. Swan deliver a discourse. I do not know why Mr. Palmer attended church this day.

June 6th.

Benjamin F. Mason, of Pennebunkport, died yesterday at the age of 58. Mr. Mason was a valuable citizen of that town and much esteemed. He has been chairman of the Selectmen for the last twelve years, but declined an election last spring on account of his ill health. For a number of years he has been deacon of the Congregational church at the village and one of its most efficient members. He was until recently a whig in politics, took a deep interest in elections and was at one time a member of the Senate in this State. About a year since, it is reported he became a "Know Nothing" in politics and is said to have been the leader of that order in town.

June 7th.

The Congregational conference closed last evening. The meetings were quite fully attended as the roads were free from dust and the weather remarkably pleasant.

June 8th.

During the last week vegetation has grown wonderfully. The recent rains have given the grass and grain a fine start growing and the warm sun has altered the appearance of the foliage very much in this vicinity.

1855.

June 9th.

Grist Mill. The grist-mill in the village having become very rotten in its lower timbers and machinery near the water; workmen to be have been employed during the past week, in clearing away & repairing the decayed materials preparatory to rebuilding the lower part of mill and such machinery as may be necessary.

June 10th.

There was no meeting in the Congregational church today Sunday, as Mr. Willcox has a hoarseness, occasioned by a diseased throat, supposed to be a case of bronchitis.

June 11th.

Ballard, Bailey & Co's French Circus, as it is called, exhibited themselves in this village. A French woman who called her circus self "Madame Tournivie" and her daughter Josephine were in the principal equestrian performers. About thirty of the circus people and thirty horses were accommodated in the village with board and lodging at B. & Goodwin's tavern, about the same number of men and horses stopped elsewhere. A large number of people attended the circus, about five hundred this afternoon and supposed to be about eight hundred this evening.

June 12th.

J. A. Lord's John A. Lord commenced raising his house on house "Zion's Hill". The house is to be quite large but not so large as raised the house of Joseph Titcomb.

June 13th.

Bodies. Within a month past all, or nearly all the remains remains of bodies in the grave yard near the house of George W. Bourne to now have been removed to the new grave North of the Unitarian graveyard meeting house. Some of the bodies have been buried many years.

June 14th.

Edmund C. Bourne just formerly of this town now of E. C. Bourne Biddeford, was married this day to Miss Mary Mason, of married South Berwick. His father, mother in law, sister uncle and aunt Kingsbury attended the wedding at South Berwick.

June 15th.

The following extract from Blackwood's Magazine, on the length of human life is not without interest.

Man grows for 20 years, and lives 90 or 100 years.

Life.	Horse	"	"	8	"	"	"	40
	Ox	"	"	4	"	"	"	25
	Don	"	"	2	"	"	"	10 or 12
	cat	"	"	1 1/2	"	"	"	9 or 10

1855.

June 16th.

Pennebunk. The Democrats of Pennebunk are requested to meet at the rooms of Mr. Joseph Sargent, on Saturday, June 16th, at 7 o'clock, P. M., to choose three Delegates to attend the Democratic State Convention. — By order of Town Committee.

A notice, of which the above is a copy having been published in the "Maine Democrat", was read at the meeting, when the following business was transacted, as reported in the following certificate.

"At a meeting of the Democrats of Pennebunk, held on this sixteenth day of June 1855, (notice of the same having been duly given) the meeting was organized by choosing Joseph Titcomb, Chairman and Mabel Hutchinson, Secretary. The meeting then unanimously made choice of the following persons as delegates to the State Convention to be held at Augusta, on the 21st inst. Viz. Andrew Walker, Joseph Sargent and John Roberts. — Abram B. Waterhouse, was also chosen substitute. The delegates were authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur.

Pennebunk, June 16th 1855.

Joseph Titcomb, { Chairman
Mabel Hutchinson { Secretary."

June 17th.

Orson Willcox preached this forenoon from the words "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God". In this sermon he argued that Jesus was the Word, consequently he had existed from the beginning on eternity, thus he was God himself the Jehovah of the old Testament.

June 18th.

The following is extracted from the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the state of the Finances, for the year ending June 30th 1854.

Saco,	Collector,	\$378,82	pay for the year
"	Inspector,	100,00	" " " " Comptroller
"	do	386,00	" " " " section
"	Aid to the revenue	16,00	" " " " of
Pennebunk,	Collector	204,94	" " " " collectors
"	Deputy collector, Inspector	600,00	" " " " and
"	Inspectors	16,00	" " " " inspectors
York,	Collector	274,81	" " " " of
"	Deputy collector, inspector	200,00	" " " " Customs,
"	Inspector,	120,00	" " " " "

1851.

June 19th.

E. G. Wise I did not know until to day that Edward G. Wise had gone to Philadelphia, where it is said he has entered into partnership with his brother Michael who has lived in that city for many years. They keep a shirt-chandler's store.

June 20th.

Went started from home on our excursion to Augusta. We arrived at Portland at noon but did not leave our seats as the cars merely went to the depot to take a few passengers and then we continued on our journey. At nearly all the depots we passed there was an addition to our number of Delegates. We arrived at Augusta at 4 o'clock P.M. and with many others put up at the Augusta house.

June 21st.

The Democratic State Convention met, in accordance with the call of the State Committee at Winthrop Hall in Augusta, this day, at nine o'clock A.M. and was called to order by Lot M. Morrill, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee. N. S. Littlefield of Bridgton was chosen Chairman and S. A. Stinson and Crustus Redmon Secretaries.

State The State Committee, who constituted a committee on credentials, reported a list of Delegates, then retired. While this committee at were out, the Convention was addressed by Mr. Dunn of Poland, P. M. Foster of Anson; George F. Shepley of Portland; M. H. Smith of Warren; Ex-Governor Hubbard of Hallowell; and B. A. G. Fuller, of Augusta.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at two o'clock P.M. At the appointed hour the committee on credentials reported a list of 120 delegates. A committee of seven were nominated by the chair to receive, sort and count votes for a candidate for Governor. This committee were chosen and proceeded in the discharge of their duties, then made the following Report:-

Whole number of votes thrown	510
Necessary for a choice	255
Samuel Wells has	499
Shephard Bang "	6
Atwood Levensale "	3
Spot M. Morrill "	1
Wymon B. S. Moor "	1

and Samuel Wells (formerly Judge Wells) of Portland was declared the candidate of the Democratic Party for Governor.

1851.

The Committee on Resolutions through their Chairman J. H. Williams of Augusta, reported a series of Resolutions, which, with a single exception were unanimously adopted. The committee consisted of fourteen and agreed to the Resolution except Mr. Williams who dissented and made a verbal minority report. Upon this Resolution an animated discussion arose in which J. H. Williams and Lot M. Morrill opposed the passage of the Resolution in and B. A. G. Fuller; G. F. Shepley; J. Leland; E. H. Smart and Sewall of Oldtown supported it. This is a copy of the Resolution.

"Resolved, That the National Administration, by its faithful execution of the laws, by its adherence to the constitution, by its admirable foreign policy and by its resolute maintenance of the old landmarks of the Democratic party will command the respect and support of all true men."

While the discussion was at its height and there appeared to be a prospect that the Convention would break up in disorder, Mr. Swasey of Standish, moved to amend by adding the words "It being understood that this approval of the National Administration is expressive of no opinion in relation to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise". This amendment allayed the discussion and it was unanimously adopted, and, as so, amended the resolve was passed.

After a vote of thanks to the officers of the Convention, it was adjourned without day.

June 22nd.

I started this morning from Augusta on my return and came in the cars as far as Richmond, as I wished to see a friend who lives in that vicinity. Having found the friend and had an agreeable interview, returned back to Richmond with the expectation of taking the last train of cars for the West; but the train had left before I arrived, so put up at a tavern.

June 23d.

Came from Richmond to Bowdoinham where I took dinner with my cousin Mrs. Surt and tea with another cousin Mrs. Curington, then took the cars and came to Topsham with the expectation of paying a visit to my only uncle, Abel Merrill of that town. Found my uncle and his large family in good health.

June 24th.

Attended meeting this forenoon at the Baptist church and expected to attend church in the afternoon but owing to some misunderstanding did not attend. After tea visited the grave-yard where my maternal grand parents are buried.

1811

June 25th

From Left my uncle Merrill's this morning, walked to Brunswick; Topsham depot where I took the cars for Portland as I had some business to transact there. Having done the business in Brunswick season to take the 10 o'clock train for the West, arrived back to my boarding house at seven after six o'clock, having had a very pleasant and agreeable excursion down East.

June 26th.

My uncle Abel Merrill, of Topsham, is now about 80 years of age and his wife a few years younger. They have had fourteen children, John, Abel, Harding, Joseph, Nehemiah, Octavius, family, Phoebe, Constant, Henry, James, William, Susan, Caroline and Mary Jane. With the exception of ~~William~~ Abel, these sons and my daughters are now living the youngest William, being now uncle, 27 years of age. The son is a physician at Rockland; two are Abel in California, two at the Sandwich Islands, two are at sea, Merrilee lives at Bath, one at Natchez Miss. and one lives at home. One of the daughters is married and two live at home unmarried. Topsham. While I was at my uncle's two of his sons with their wives and families were at home on a visit. When I sat down to breakfast on Monday morning, there were ten at the first table and seven at the second, being seventeen in all, being of nearly all ages from three years of age to eighty.

June 27th

About half a dozen years since, Capt. Monroe Perkins of Capt. this town became partially insane so he was incapacitated from following from going to sea as a business. Since that time he has remained at home and worked as a painter. is Two or three weeks since his insanity has returned, so that now he is now worse than ever before. He has to be watched at all times to prevent his committing suicide. On the 24th inst. he nearly strangled himself with his wife's night gown, but was rescued from death when nearly at the last gasp.

June 28th.

In the course of conversation Barnabas Palmer remarked, that the condition of society was now such that it would not do for a young person to be too modest. He must take his position in society and maintain that position. No doubt many will try to frown him down, but he must persevere and carry his head as high as any; by and by he will be an acknowledged member in the position to which he has aspired.

1811.

June 29th

For two days past the weather has been uncommon warm but this day is the warmest yet. The thermometer at one o'clock was at 91 in the shade. As we have had a plenty of rain during the past month, vegetation of all kinds is growing rapidly with appearance of good crops this fall.

June 30th.

George Wise and Edward W. Morton, have within a few days had an iron fence put up around a lot, which they own in common in the new grave yard. The fence was manufactured in Boston and a workman was sent from that city to set it up. He told me the fence cost \$2,25 a running foot, including the cost of the stone posts on which it rests.

July 1st

A warm and pleasant day; consequently quite a large number attended church to day.

July 2d.

The Assessors this day delivered to me as Collector of Taxes the tax book for 1811. The whole amount (except highway tax) assessed on the polls and estates of the inhabitants of this town, the present year is as follows:-

State Tax -	-	-	1470, 81
County Tax -	-	-	1247, 67
Town Tax -	-	-	3401, 21
			<u>\$6123, 69</u>

The rate of taxation this year is 11 cents on a \$100, or \$1,10 on a \$1000. The following is a list of persons in this town who are taxed \$40, and upward.

William Lord	266,40	Joseph Dore	78,44	
William Lord junr	232,35	Daniel Nason	61,19	Persons
George Lord -	151,96	Emmons & Littlefield	61,74	wife
Ivory Lord -	151,96	Barnabas Palmer	61,31	and
Charles Williams	136,38	Edward W. Morton	59,19	taxes
Northaniel Thompson	133,96	William Williams Capt.	58,20	\$40,
Horace Porter	132,33	Thomas Lord	52,55	and
Joseph Titcomb	127,68	Abigail Titcomb	50,34	upward.
George P. Titcomb	113,55	William B. Seiwall	49,66	
Noah Nason	97,90	William D. Thompson	49,42	
Charles Thompson	81,76	Charles W. Williams	41,93	
Daniel Curtis	82,35	Franklin H. Thompson	48,38	
John Osborn & Co.	82,11	Joseph C. Hatch	43,97	
George Wise	79,41	Dolly Smith	41,69	
		Barnes & Kingsbury	41,46	

1811.

July 3d.

I wrote five notices of which the following is a copy and sent them to different parts of the town.

Taxes.

Notice to Pennebunk, July 3d, 1811. The tax bills for 1811 have been committed to me for collection. By a vote of the town, on all taxes paid voluntarily into the office of the Town Treasurer, on or before September first, there will be a discount of six per cent; - on all taxes so paid between September first and December first, a discount of three per cent.

Andrew Walker.

Treasurer & Collector.

Note. All tax payers are requested to call on the collector and ascertain the amount of their respective taxes.

July 4th

Democracy. There was a Democratic ~~county~~ convention this day at Alfred at which Luther S. Moore was chairman and at John Hancourt and G. J. Leavitt were chosen Secretaries.

Alfred Edwin R. Wiggins was nominated for County Attorney
James O. McIntire " " Clerk of the Court
Benjamin D. Parks " " County Treasurer.
Samuel Mildrum " " County Commissioner
Alexander Jenkins { were " Senators.
John Heron
John M. Goodwin }

There was also at the same time and place a Democratic mass convention of which Philip Eastman was President and William Emery, Secretary. Speeches were made by Samuel Wells, the nominee for Governor; Bion Broadbent; Samuel Anderson and Jos. M. Merrill or brothers of the present Governor. It is supposed there were at least one thousand persons from out of town besides the citizens.

Know Nothing. There was a "Know Nothing" or "Union" mass convention at Biddeford this day. Ex. Governor Kent of Bangor, Dr. Bennett of Hallowell and Amos Tuck, of Exeter N.H. with other speakers were expected to address the convention, but I have not heard any particulars of the convention, whether they were present or not.

In this village the ringing of bells and firing on mortar exploding fire crackers were the principal indications of the 4th of July. I remained at home all day.

1811.

July 1st.

Died in South Berwick July 1st Dr. Charles Trافتon, aged 68 years. Hardly a physician in this County was more extensively and favorably known than Dr. Trافتon and his death will be regretted by many outside of the family circle.

July 6th.

E. Z. C. Judson, better known as "Ned Bruntline" has been stopping at B. F. Goodwin's for two days past and last evening delivered a political address in the Town Hall to a large audience. He is the reported father of the "Know Nothing" party and his address was in behalf of the "Know Nothing" or as he termed it, Native American cause. I did not hear him but understand that he is a fluent speaker of good natural talent and much political information. He expects to deliver an address at the Post this evening in front of Park & Ricker's store.

"Ned Bruntline" is a stout built man about five feet nine six in height, has sandy hair, redish beard which wears uncut in the natural state, part of his beard is at least eight inches in length. He wears a blue frock coat buttoned up in front, with large gilt buttons, also gilt buttons on the cuffs of his coat. It is said that he always goes armed.

In the conversation with him he remarked that when he was a boy he ran away from his father in Philadelphia, enlisted in the navy, where he remained nine years. That he was in Florida during the war with the Seminole Indians. He says he was also engaged in the Saker expedition which undertook to revolutionize Cuba, but ended in a complete failure. He was a number of years ago a leader in what is termed the "Astor house riots" in New York for which conduct he was sent to the prison on Blackwell Island, for I think about two years. This last adventure he did not mention. From all the accounts of "Ned Bruntline" and his own conversation he is a man of good natural abilities, great knowledge of men and manners particularly in low life, but intensely destitute of moral principle. He says he is now in his 33 years.

July 7th

The district school in the village which commenced on the 29th of May under the care of Mr. Staples, closed on the third instant. He expected to keep the school about three months, but his health not being very good and perhaps homesick (having married a young wife last spring) he concluded not to remain any longer.

Death of
Dr. Trافتon
of
South Ber.

E. Z. C.
Judson
commonly
known
as
"Ned
Bruntline"

District
School
closed.

1855

July 8th

Sunday Rev. Mr. Willcox being quite unwell with the bronchial disease; there was no meeting in the Congregational church.

July 9th

H. Bell It is reported in the village that Henry Bell, formerly engaged of this town, now of New York, has become engaged to Miss Susan, daughter of Capt. William Lord. Henry Bell is now about twenty years of age, of uncommonly genteel appearance and accomplished manners. It is supposed that the engagement is satisfactory not only to parties engaged, but their connexions.

July 10th

For Since I received the tax-book on the 2d inst. I have been employed during my leisure time in making out Bills. tax bills, and have found it to be a longer job than I expected. There are 721 bills against residents of this town, 10 bills against non-residents, being 731 in all.

July 11th

Rev. Mr. Sitemb was this day installed over the Congregational society in the village of Bennebankport. As the weather was quite stormy this forenoon, it is not probable that many persons attended the installation.

July 12th

Grain The repairs on the Grist mill in the village have been so far completed, that the miller (Thomas Disher) commenced grinding this forenoon.

July 13th

I understand that a letter was received from the physician Samuel at the Insane hospital at Augusta, a few days since, to the relatives of Mr. Samuel Leary of Bennebankport, informing to come them that he refuses to eat but very little; consequently is home, failing rapidly. They have gone down to bring him home if able to come. He was carried to the asylum in April.

July 14th

Appearance pleasant. Rain and warm weather has followed each other so beautifully that even the most fault-finding farmers have not complained. Farmers say that there will be growing an uncommon large crops of grain, an average crop of grass, the potatoes and corn also look well at present, but the season is not far enough advanced, to ascertain with certainty that there will be a good crop of corn and potatoes. But little has been done at haying yet.

1855

July 15th

A brother of Rev. Mr. Willcox preached for him to day. He does not to me seem to have so much intellectual calibre or power as his brother, but his education appears to be equally good. His sermons are less argumentative and more flowery than the sermons of his brother Williams.

July 16th

A Mr. Tibbitts I think from Simsbury, commenced the school in this village, vacated by the absence of Mr. Staples.

July 17th

About the first of last April, ^{when} cars commenced running from Portland at 1 o'clock in the morning for Boston, and an extra train from Boston at 1 o'clock P.M. for Portland. To these extra trains, the coach proprietors (Bourne & Jeffords) at the Port refused to run their coaches, except passengers, who wished to be accommodated in either of the extra trains, could by speaking to the proprietors have their wishes gratified on paying double fare, that is \$1.00 for the accommodation. Some people at the Port, were so much opposed to this arrangement, that they have "put on" an opposition line of coaches, for the accommodation of those who wish to go in the morning or evening trains. The fare from the Port by the "opposition" is 10 cents to any train.

July 18th

After an absence of about ten days, West Brantford returned again to day. He says that when he went from here he did not expect to return, but his friends here were so anxious for him back that he consented to assist them. He has heard bills circulated ^{again} ~~again~~ he is to deliver within a week, political addresses at the Port, on this side of the river, in this village, at the depot, at the Tugboat meeting house in Lyndon and at Melb.

July 19th

The weather on the 17th inst. and to day has been hot. On the 17th Mr. Small's thermometer was 97 and to day at 98 above zero.

July 20th

Capt. Noah Nason has this season, had an iron and stone fence erected in front of his house and ground. This week he received from Boston wire gates made expressly for the fence. The whole expense of the fence including gates is \$

July 21st

The weather continues so damp, but little hay has been secured in barns yet. If the weather is suitable, farmers will commence haying in earnest, next week.

1871

July 22^d.

X Rev. Mr. Wilcox of this village was absent to day, his Sunday brother preacher for him. His sermons were to day as last Sunday abundant in words but deficient in thoughts.

July 23^d.

About a fortnight since the Selectmen received a petition from fourteen "legal voters" of this town requesting that a town meeting be called on this day for the following purposes.

- First, to choose a Moderator for said meeting.
- Second, To see if the town will raise money to purchase spirituous liquors for medical and mechanical purposes.
- Third, To act on any other business that may lawfully come before said meeting.

In accordance with the petition a town meeting was called and held this afternoon. Joseph Titcomb was chosen Moderator. The following votes were then passed. — — —
 "Voted, that Two Hundred Dollars be raised to purchase ~~liquors~~ spirituous liquors for medical and mechanical purposes."

Voted, that this meeting be now adjourned without day.

On the vote to raise the money there were 47 in favor and 39 against. On a motion to reconsider the vote there were 47 in favor of reconsidering and 11 against it. By a blunder or want of thought on the part of those in favor of raising the money no provision was made how the money should be raised; consequently the town meeting was of no effect. Not much feeling was manifested whether a "liquor agency" should or should not be established.

July 24th

✓ Last Saturday evening July 21st, there was a meeting of the inhabitants of the School District in this village; at which meeting a committee were raised to buy the old District Academy building, with a lot about 1000 feet in front and meeting of suitable depth for the use of the district. Capt. N. L. Thompson who owns the building and lot, says the district may have the same for \$1400, on a credit of six months. The Academy was built in the summer and fall of 1853 and cost including fixtures 2849, 91. In December 1870 the building and lot was sold to N. L. Thompson for \$1400, 00, the bell to the Baptist Society for \$100, the stores and sundry small articles for 39, 60 being in all \$1589, 60. After paying debts due from the proprietors of the Academy, a dividend of 47 cents on a dollar ^{was paid} to the original subscribers for the Academy and lot.

1871

July 21th

Spent evening "New Burnthins" deliver a political address at the town hall, in which he denounces the official acts of President Pierce and the measures of the Democrats, in the strongest terms. To night he is to deliver an address at the depot. The "Union Band" in an omnibus with music coming over colors flying passed my store a few moments since. They are to escort the orator to the depot and probably play before and after the address. Those who have heard him speak in public say he is a fluent and attractive speaker, that he tells some truths mixed up with many apparent truths that cannot be substantiated.

July 26th

Mr. Stephen Perkins, one of the Selectmen is anxious that an "Agency" for selling spirituous liquors should be established in this village. G. P. Titcomb is opposed to the "agency" and Tobias Walker appears to be undecided. The principle difficulty appears to be, how the money to purchase liquors is to be obtained. The Selectmen do not think it expedient to assess a tax for so small a sum as \$200, and they have doubts, if they can legally draw an order on the Town Treasury for the sum, as it may not be deemed a "necessary expense". They came to me and wished to know if I would draw an order for money to purchase liquors, when I knew there was no appropriation for that purpose and there would doubtless be a deficiency in the Treasury if its money was so appropriated. I told them it was not to be supposed that three intelligent Selectmen would draw an order for what they supposed an illegal purpose; hence if such an order was presented it would be paid provided there was money at the time in the Treasury.

July 27

✓ The "Know Nothings" in this town with "New Burnthins" at their head are making great exertions to gain converts to their belief. "New" spoke at "Mangrove ridge" in Wells last evening and this evening he is to deliver an address at the Taylor meeting house in Lyman. I do not know how much "New" receives for his services but understands each member of the "Union Band" receives one dollar for each night's attendance and they have accompanied him at most of his addresses in this vicinity. The expenses for horses, carriages and printing must be also large. Where the money comes from to pay all the bills is beyond my knowledge. There are but few of the order in this town who can afford to give much, hence they must be assisted from a distance.

1811.

July 28th.

The Selectmen have more difficulties in establishing the contemplated "Liquor Agency" than they anticipated. Having determined to draw on the Town Treasurer for the desired sum of \$200, the next question who shall be appointed Agent, was to be decided. After considerable talk, as to ^{who} was the most suitable man for the office; it was determined to offer the "Liquor Agency" to Benjamin Smith. The Selectmen wish the agent to keep a shop for the liquor, to keep the shop open, three or four hours a day (or week days) and to furnish liquor at other times when called on. To this proposition Mr. Smith said he should not comply for less than one dollar a day. The Selectmen consider this to be an unreasonably high demand, hence there is no immediate prospect of an agency being established.

July 29th.

Sunday There was not any meeting to day in the Congregational Church, Mr. Willcox being absent.

July 30th.

Poor The weather this season is unusually bad for hay making. For the last fortnight there has been a constant succession of damp days either of rain or fog. A great quantity of grass has been cut but most of it, still remains in the fields uncut.

July 31st.

A few days since while at the dinner table, we were conversing on "Mormonism". "New Brunline" who sat at my side remarked to me, "Don't you think the Mormon leaders know better than to believe the doctrine which they preach and practice?" "Certainly", said I, "the Mormon leaders ^{know nothing} leaders know better than to believe the doctrine which they preach and practice". - Last evening while sitting in the office at our board ing house, "Brunline" asked me if I would go to his room for a short time. I assented and went to his room, where I remained and talked with him, at least, three hours. He said that he wished to talk with me, for he wanted to know, if I really believed that he (Brunline) was not conscientious in his opposition to the Mormon ^{of this country} ~~bartholicks~~ and that ~~was really dangerous~~ that the liberty ^{of this country} was in danger from the plots of the Jesuits. I told him such was my belief, but if he spoke conscientiously on the subject my belief done him no harm, it was simply my opinion. He remarked that many persons misinterpreted his

1811.

his motives, that all persons who are in public life, should have their public acts scrutinized, but their private motives and character should be left alone. Said he why is there so much feeling against me? Because said I it is reported your morals are not good. It is said you was degraded from the navy, that you have been imprisoned on Blackwell's island that you always go armed. Said he I was not degraded from the navy, when the Florida was over & resigned my place as the place was too inactive for me, I was imprisoned on Blackwell's island for one year over a day because it was supposed I was a leader in the "Boston House riots", but it was false I was not a leader, neither did I take part in them part of the time I was present as a mere looker on. The persons who swore that I was a leader in the riots perjured themselves. I was persecuted by the bartholicks because in my paper "New Brunline" I wrote against the bartholicks. As to my going armed that is not so, except when I expect to be attacked. In the course of conversation he remarked that he lost \$26000 by the purchase of arms, ammunition and other expenses attending the Super expectations to Cuba. He also narrated many other incidents in his eventful life, but whether they were all true or not, are best known to himself.

August 1st.

The cost of repairs on the grist mill it is said will exceed ^{rent} one thousand dollars. Mr. Fisher, the miller is to pay \$325 of a year for rent, at least such is the reported sum. ^{grist mill}

August 2d.

This afternoon a two horse wagon with a number of barrels of spirituous liquors passed through this village from Portsmouth to Portland. The wagon was stopped here for a short time at the houses. One of the barrels being in a leaky condition the contents was discovered. There was an excitement immediately. Some persons advised that the driver of the wagon should be arrested and the liquor seized. Others advised the driver to depart immediately with his liquor and he was not long in following the advice, for in a few minutes he started off on a brisk trot for Portland. No one attempted to stop him.

Aug. 3d.

The Selectmen have appointed Samuel Spittlefield, agent for selling spirituous liquors. He is to keep his agency open from 1 to 4 o'clock ^{pm} each day except Sundays and is to receive at the rate of \$120. a year for his compensation.

1851.

Aug. 4th.

It is said that James M. Stone is anxious to represent the town of Pennabunkport, in the Legislature of this State as he has done for nearly two years past; but appearances are not at present favorable to his reelection. There are a number of objections. One objection is that he has now lived so long in this town that he is in fact a resident, another objection Stone is that he has already represented that town two years, which is as long as they usually elect the same representative, but the third and most important objection is the fact that Mr. Stone took last winter in favor of the bill of delivering the bodies of a certain class of dead paupers to surgeons for dissection. I understand Mr. Stone has delivered at least two addresses or explanations to citizens in different parts of R. Port, explanatory of his part in favor of the bill, and trying to exonerate himself, but I do not know how the Legislature will succeed. Soon after his return from Augusta last spring, he told me that he was anxious to be again elected a member of the house of representatives, for the leading men told him last winter, that he should be Speaker of the house next winter, if he was a member.

Aug. 5th.

Sunday. Mr. Willcox having partially recovered from his bronchial disease, preached to his congregation this day.

Aug. 6th

By an act of Congress passed last winter, many soldiers or other persons who served, I think, thirty days in the war of 1812 receive a bounty of ^{the U.S.} land and upwards in the war of 1812 receive a bounty of ^{land} warrants, wherever government has not sold and uncultivated. Many applications have been made for persons in this vicinity but Daniel Jacobs and John Trefethren are all that I know who have received "land warrants" as it is termed. The warrants of each of them authorize the holder to one hundred and sixty acres. The government price of land is 12 1/2 cents an acre. Mr. Trefethren has sold his land warrant to Edmund E. Bourne for the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars.

Aug. 7th.

A few weeks, since the friends of Ex. Governor Barker of New Hampshire presented him with a beautiful span of horses and an elegant carriage. To day Mr. Barker accompanied by two of his friends passed through this

1851.

93.

village on their way to Portland and took dinner at Mr. Goodwin's. It was not known by residents at boarding house where Mr. Barker was, until a few minutes before he left and would not have been known at all if Alexander Joss had not seen him and recognized him. Mr. Barker is from appearance about forty years of age, plain in his dress and nothing striking in his appearance.

Aug. 8th.

Herman L. Towne, aged about 16 years, son of Charles B. Towne, met with a sad accident this afternoon. He fell a distance of about twelve feet from an apple tree, near the house of Capt. Wm. Lord, and broke both of his arms near the wrists and put one of his elbows out of joint. Doctors Stevens and Ross set the injured limbs.

Aug. 9th.

John Cousins has nearly finished the addition and repairs on the house which he bought of Josiah Moody's estate. (He has expended on the premises since his purchase about \$1,700. so the whole cost of the establishment is now nearly \$2,300.) (He moved into the house this day.)

Aug. 10th.

It is now a little more than a year since Lorenzo Parsons commenced house-keeping in this village. Last fall he went to California and returned this spring. Within a few days he has broke up house keeping and with his wife gone to board with Mr. Goodwin for a few weeks. He expects to locate permanently in the State of New York.

Aug. 11th

Nearly all the farmers in this vicinity have now secured the grass crop. They say that generally speaking, the quantity is not so great as last year and the weather has been bad to cure the grass; but owing to the dampness of the season the full feed will be good, consequently not so much fodder will be needed as last season. The grain crop not only in this vicinity but throughout the U. States is reported to be extraordinarily good. The potatoes and corn look well as yet, but the season is not sufficiently advanced to be sure of these products.

Aug. 12th

There was no preaching at the Baptist church this P.M. as Rev. Mr. Burrows, attends the funeral of one of his parishioners, Mr. John Jones, at the Landing.

Sunday.

1855

Aug. 15th

The spirituous liquors for the Kennebunk agency arrives this day. The following is a copy of the bill for the liquors.

Boston, August, 8. 1855.

Town of Kennebunk,

Bought of Thompson & Warner.

✓ Spiritu- ous liquors for the agency in this town.	1 Bbl. N. E. Rum	42 1/2 gals 46 ct	19,55
	1 " Alcohol	44 " 80 "	35,20
	15 galls Brandy	4,00	60,00
	Pay for Brandy		1,25
	3 galls. Hennessy Brandy	1,00	15,00
	Demijohn for "		1,00
	20 galls. Holl Gin	1,50	30,00
	Pay for "		1,50
	1 galls. Santa Croix Rum	1,25	6,25
	Pay for "		,90
	3 galls. Old Jamaica Rum	2,50	7,50
	Demijohn for "		,75
	2 galls. Old Brown Sherry	2,50	15,00
	Demijohn for "		,75
	2 galls. Malaga Wine	2,00	4,00
	Demijohn for "		,75
	2 galls. Port Sherry	2,50	15,00
	Demijohn for "		,75
	2 galls. Sweet Malaga	1,00	2,00
	Demijohn for "		,75
	2 galls. Old Port Wine	2,50	15,00
	Demijohn for "		,75
	1 case blarrets		4,00
	1 Doz. London Porter		2,25
	Packing		37
			<u>\$210,77</u>

The Selectmen have given orders to the agent, S. Littlefield that he may retail the above liquors according to law for medical and mechanical purposes, at 33 1/3 per cent advance.

Aug. 14th

✓
Emeline and Mary Jane Merrill, daughters of uncle Abel Merrill of Topsham, came to my brothers, at noon yesterday. This morning I hired a horse and carriage and carried them down to the old homestead and from there to the village of Kennebunkport. We arrived back in time for them to take the first train of cars for the East.

1855

Aug. 15th

William B. Sewall asked me to go over to his house and witness a will. When I arrived at the house I was waited on to the library room where were Mr. Sewall and wife and Miss Lucy Sewall were present. A written instrument which Lucy Sewall said was her will was then brought forward and signed by her, then Mr. Sewall and his wife signed it. No other persons were present in the room.

Aug. 16th

About fifteen years since when Charles W. Broadbent, then of Kennebunkport was a member of the Legislature, he was the means by which Oliver No. Merrill then of that town became messenger to the Governor and his Council. He held this office two years and then became a clerk in one of the County registers office at Augusta for a number of years. For the last two or three years he has been a clerk in the Navy department in Washington. He came into my store to day but I did not know him, until he introduced himself. He says that he has leave of absence for a month. This time he has taken to visit his friends in Kennebunk and his wife's friends at Augusta.

Aug. 17th

The opposition line of conveyance between Kennebunkport and the depot has stopped running. I do not know the reason why, but suppose it was the want of funds or rather an unwillingness to invest funds in the business.

Aug. 18th

William L. Thompson has during the last few days been moving his furniture and other household effects into his new house. Last night his family slept in it for the first time.

Aug. 19th

Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with a minister by the name of Leach, who preaches to a Congregational Society in Wells.

Aug. 20th

The Baptist Society at the Port have recently had the roof of their meeting house tinued and the inside painted in fresco, with other embellishments. The whole expense is reported to have been between eight and nine hundred dollars. Capt. Daniel Curtis has given the Society an elegant Bible and gave the Society a Hymn Book, both for the Pulpit.

1811

Aug. 21st.

Sabbath The teachers and scholars connected with the School Unitarian Sabbath School, went in the cars, on a children's excursion to a grove near the junctions depot on a picnic. They have had a pleasant day and it is probable the scholars, at least, have a good time.

Aug. 22nd

Sister Lucy and her husband come from Great Falls with a horse and chair. They expect to return the day Lucy returns after tomorrow.

Aug. 23rd

My Father died May 11. 1842. By the conditions of his will, after making provision for his wife, expenses of funeral, just debts, and a legacy to his young daughter of the Lydia W. Swombly, he directed that his estate should be equally divided between his four children Susan W. Curtis, Palmer W. Walker, Lucy W. Hosper and Andrew Walker. The last and final division of the estate, took place this day, and each Mother of the heirs gave a receipt in full of all demands.

Aug. 24th.

The summer schools in this School District were closed this day. The department for large scholars was kept during the last six weeks by Mr. Tibbets of Weston or Halls, closed. The school for the smallest children was kept by Esther Welton. I have heard no complaint of either of them.

Aug. 25th

As the time draws near (Sept. 2nd) when six per cent discount will not be made on cash taxes for this year; many persons have already availed themselves of the discount by paying their taxes. During the past week 88 persons paid their taxes and it is probable a still greater number will pay the next week, for the statute time then expires.

Aug. 26th.

Rev. Mr. Willcox delivered an interesting discourse from the question of the jailor to Paul and Silas "What must I do to be saved?" As I understood Mr. Willcox, discourse he considered the scriptural method of salvation was on first submit yourself and possessions entirely into the hands of God. Second, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ"; for by his merits, his atonement alone, as a mediator between God and man, can man be saved or even hope for salvation.

1811

Aug. 27.

Within a few days William B. Sewall has given to the Congregational Society, a circular, spring clock with gilt frame and placed the same on the singers gallery of the church, opposite the pulpit.

Aug. 28th

Last evening my niece Lydia W. Swombly, was united in marriage to William Downing. The ceremony was performed by the Baptist clergyman Rev. Mr. Barrows, in the house hired by Mr. Downing for his residence. There were present at the wedding as guests, Palmer Walker and wife, Henry Swombly ~~Swombly~~ and a Miss Deering his intended bride, Oliver Currier, Jacob Downing, Alice and Ann Curtis and myself. After the ceremony, wedding cake and water were brought forward for the guests. The bridegroom and his bride remained in their hired house which is furnished for their reception.

Aug. 29th

Last spring, freights being very low in New Orleans, Capt. Claudius B. Williams, of this town, left his vessel at that Port in charge of a ship-keeper and returned home. Freights having recently advanced, Capt. W. started to day for New Orleans to take charge of his vessel. — It is supposed that he runs a great risk of being sick on his arrival as the yellow fever is now fearfully prevalent in that city.

Aug. 30th

Although James M. Stone has made great exertions to secure a nomination as Representative of Kennebunkport, his exertions have been of no avail. At a know Nothing caucus held in that town within a few days a Mr. Brown (a stranger nominated to me) was nominated for Representative. Those who are opposed to the "Know Nothing" order have nominated Anthony Sugrue.

Aug. 31st.

About a year since a Miss Langdon, an aged maiden lady of York, died leaving a will and from ten to fifteen thousands dollars worth of property. Miss Langdon was an aunt to the wife of Nicholas B. Bounges of this village and gave her by will about one fifth part of her property. Mrs. Bounges is also heir at law of about one fifth part of the estate. Some heirs not mentioned in the will are trying to break the will. Nicholas Bounges and wife have sold their claim to E. C. Bounges and Mr. Hatch of Portsmouth for \$1800.

1811.

Sept. 1st.

The time for "six per cent discount on all taxes paid voluntarily into the office of the Town Treasurer" expires to day, consequently many persons, particularly those who pay large taxes have availed themselves of the privilege. The amount of tax committed to me to collect was \$6123.69, the amount paid to this date inclusive is \$4113.14 being almost three fourths of the whole amount. The whole number of tax payers including non-residents is about 771 of this number about 421 have paid their taxes.

Sept. 2d.

Rev. George B. Ashman, secretary of the American Colonization Society, delivered an interesting address this evening at the Congregational church. In this address he gave a brief history of the origin, progress and present condition of the Society. He considered the society to be in a remarkable flourishing condition, that it has done and will continue to do an incalculable amount of good.

Sept. 3d.

The "Liquor Agency" appears to move on in a prosperous condition. The amount of cash received for liquors sold since it was established, to the first day of this month, is \$31,40.

Sept. 4th.

The Methodist camp Meeting on Saxe road commenced yesterday. As the weather is now delightfully pleasant it is probable it is probable a large number will attend.

Sept. 5th.

This afternoon I went to the camp-meeting and found a much larger number there than even before at one time. I did not count the tents but understood from those who knew, that there were fifty four. Although the number was so large, yet there was not to my knowledge at the least disturbance. The camp-meeting was first held in Kennebunk about fifteen years since. Six years ago, the Methodists took a lease of the camp-ground for ten years, at an annual rent of fifteen dollars. At that time they erected a small building on the ground the front of which is used for the pulpit to address the people. When the meeting closes the seats and other moveables are packed away in the building to preserve them from the weather, until the next year.

1811.

Sept. 6th.

About ten or twelve years since Nahum Garfield of Kennebunkport married a daughter of Stephen Seavy of that town. There was not at marriage, but little, if any congeniality of feeling and they have not assimilated by living together. Having had many "flour ups", they have concluded to live separately. She has gone home to her father's house with her three little girls and he remains on his place with his two boys. The articles which she brought with her when married, and articles of clothing used by herself and girls have been returned to her by L. H. Kimball, Deputy Sheriff of this town.

Sept. 7th.

Politics, politics, politics, has been the principal subject of discourse for the last month, and as the day of election (Sept 10th) approaches the political fires burn with greater and still greater intensity. There has been no election in this State since the "Harrison campaign" in 1840, in which so much interest has been felt and means taken to influence voters as in the election of this fall. In this town for at least three months the political party called "Know Nothings", led on by "Ned Burnett" and John Bobby have made untiring exertions for the increase of the party. "Burnett" (he was introduced into this town by John Bobby) has made Kennebunk his headquarters and has delivered political harangues two if not three times at the Port, on this side of the river, two if not three times in the village and once at least at each of the following places, Depot, Port Mansum, Dug's School District, and Pine School District. When not employed in this town Burnett has visited and lectured in nearly the towns in the lower part of this County. Bobby has also been untiring in his efforts both by day and night. He is the acknowledged leader of the "Know Nothings" in this town. His efforts are nearly all of appropriate, sly and subtle description, for such is his foot. Bobby has been nominated by the "Know Nothings" as their candidate for Representative and George P. Titcomb, was last evening nominated by the Democrats for the same office. It is probable Titcomb will receive many Whig votes. It is expected that a much larger vote will be thrown in this town on the 10th, than was ever before cast in one day, for leading politicians of all parties, are now wide awake.

1811.

Sept. 8th.

The Methodist camp-meeting, which commenced on Monday the 3d inst., closed early this morning with a Meeting "Love-feast". On the morning of the 6th inst. a ^{man} from Kingston N.H. came to the camp ground in his usual health, and united with his townsfolk in the religious services of the day. In the afternoon he was taken with fit and died during the night. The Kingston people immediately made arrangements for their departure and left with the dear man, by the first train of cars for the West. The weather has been remarkably favorable for the meeting during the week. On Sunday there was a heavy shower of rain, since that time, the weather has been mild and pleasant.

Sept. 9th

Sometime in July, a Methodist minister by the name of Bobb, arrived in this town and took the charge of the Methodist society in this village. He appears to me to be a fine man and much better adapted to build up a society of his order at this place than either of his predecessors. I do not know how large a congregation he has by day, but I have attended his third meeting a number of times, and each time have found the hall where the society meets, quite full particularly of females.

Sept. 10th.

"A long pull, a strong pull, but not, a pull all-together", was the political action to day.

The polls were opened this forenoon at ten o'clock and were kept open until half past four this afternoon. The following is the result. The whole number of ballots cast, was, Five Hundred and seventy two, being one hundred and twenty three more than was ever cast at any time in this town.

For Governor, Samuel Wells, - Democrat 197
 " " Anson B. Merrill, "Know Nothing" 319
 " " Isaac Reed, - Straight Whig 100 561

The following was the vote for town representative.

For George P. Titcomb, - Democrat of Pennabunk 261.
 " John Bobb, - "Know Nothing" of Pennabunk, 291.
 " Amos Lunt, Stephen Perkins, Joseph Dune Jr and George Kingsbury received one vote each.

up

1811.

The election to day was not on strict party organization. Those persons who are supposed to be in favor of the present stringent Liquor Law of Maine voted for Anson B. Merrill over those who are opposed to the law voted for Samuel Wells over Isaac Reed. As the Governor of this State must have a majority of the votes (if chosen by the people) it is hoped by those who are opposed to the "Maine Law" that Wells and Reed will have more votes than Merrill, and Wells or Reed may be chosen Governor by the Legislature.

Sept. 11th

Two of the Selectmen of Alfred came to Pennabunk this morning to compare votes for a representative to the Legislature; the following is the result.

In Alfred.

For George P. Titcomb, 168. For John Bobb 83.
 Scattering 6.

In Alfred Pennabunk.

" George P. Titcomb, - 261, " John Bobb, - 291
 Scattering 4

George P. Titcomb has a plurality of 11 votes and is elected.

Sept. 12th

The day of election, Sept. 10th, being remarkably pleasant, nearly all invalids were able to be brought to the polls. Among others who were brought was Amos ~~Bousens~~ Moadox who has been confined most of the time to his bed for the last ten or twelve years. It is not probable he has been to the village until to day since his confinement. He was not able to walk without assistance. Capt. John Hovey probably voted for the last time. He was able to walk from the door of the Town Hall to the ballot box without assistance, but he is extremely weak and feeble, his countenance indicates that death is near at hand. Last winter the Legislature of this State passed a law, that all foreigners should exhibit their naturalization papers to the Selectmen of the town in which they reside, three months at least before the September election. The Selectmen of this town thought the law unconstitutional, hence let any foreigner, who had been naturalized, vote, although he presented his naturalization papers for the first time on election day. Edmund C. Bourne long objected to this, and remarked that this was the first time that he even knew the Selectmen of a town to decide on the constitutionality of a law. Soon after six o'clock P.M. the results of the election in towns near the telegraphic stations began to arrive on the wire, and the office was kept open until about midnight. A large crowd of people were present to hear the news.

Votes
 in
 Pennabunk
 and
 Alfred
 for
 a
 representative

Incidents
 of
 the
 late
 election
 in
 this
 town.

Sept. 13th

The "Know Nothing" order in Kennebunkport has succeeded in electing their candidate, Warren Brown, to the Legislature represented by a plurality of fifteen votes. James M. Stone, owner that of chosen he had been the nominee there would have been no hope of in his election. This Warren Brown came from Massachusetts a few years ago and settled at Kennebunkport as a school-master, in which employment he has continued. The political contest in Kennebunkport, and in fact all over the State has been more exciting than usual and a greater number of votes have been thrown this year than even before in one year.

Sept. 14th.

By the election returns which have been received, it appears there has been a political revolution in this State. No one is chosen Governor by the people. The Democrats and Straight Whigs have as far as heaven from, all of the Senators and more than two thirds of the members in the house; consequently Gov. Merrill, the "intensified" liquor law, the "Know Nothing" party with its adjuncts are now on the wane.

Sept. 15th

A telegraphic dispatch was received at this office yesterday, announcing that Elizabeth G. Bourne of this town, died on the White Mountains on the 13th inst. I have obtained the best account of the event that I could, and sent a copy of the following, to the Free Democrat for publication.

Melancholy Occurrence, Death on the White Mountains.

Mr. George W. Bourne, his daughter Lucy Augusta, and niece Elizabeth G. only daughter of Edmund C. Bourne Esq. all of Kennebunk, left the Glen House at Mount Washington, at 2 1/2 o'clock P. M. on the 13th inst., to ascend the mountain on foot. When they had ascended about one half of the distance, Elizabeth began to manifest symptoms of exhaustion and Mr. Bourne thought they had better return, but the girls were anxious to proceed. They continued to move on in hopes of reaching the Summit House before dark; but the wind began to blow with terrific violence, about 6 o'clock they entered a dark cloud of mist but continued to proceed on as long as the path was visible, when no longer able to trace the path and from the entire exhaustion of Elizabeth, they were necessitated to lie down and remained without shelter all night.

Miss Elizabeth G. Bourne did not complain of any pain

on distress, but continued to fail until probably between nine and ten o'clock in the evening she ceased to breathe. A long and dismal night awaited Mr. Bourne and his daughters. When daylight appeared it was found they were within nineteen rods of the Summit House. Help was obtained from the house and efforts made to revive the body. It is supposed she died from congestion of the lungs or brain produced by extraordinary exertions. She was in the 23rd year of her age. — The body of Miss Bourne was brought from Mount Washington to her father's house this day.

Sept. 16th

There was not any meeting in the Congregational church this day, Mr. Willcox being absent, Josiah Stearns formerly of Wells, recently of New Hampshire preacher in the Baptist church.

Sept. 17th.

While at the late Camp-Meeting I heard a remark in religious exhortation which to me was odd, original and comical, although it may be a true remark.

In the Pitting tent a man who was apparently a fisherman was speaking of the value of religion. Said he in the course of his address — "My friends, I thank God for the happiness I receive from religion. He has an ocean of mercy and love for us all. Let us not keep near the shore, but launch out into this ocean and it may be we shall get a great supply. My friends I thank God for a religion with a know re in it!" —

Sept. 18th

It was expected that the funeral of Elizabeth G. Bourne, which would take place this afternoon, but the weather being quite damp and rainy, the funeral has been deferred until tomorrow.

Sept. 19th.

This morning I took the first train of cars from the East for Boston, where I arrived at half past 11 o'clock and consequently have nearly all day in the city for business.

Sept. 20th

This evening I attended a "Horticultural Exhibition" in "Music Hall". The hall of itself is a beautiful building and it was tastefully decorated with the choicest fruits, vegetables and flowers that Massachusetts could produce. The "Brigade Band" of Music performed during the evening. With these attractions and the additional attraction of many well dressed and polite people, the evening passed very agreeably.

Death of Elizabeth G. Bourne.

Sunday.

Religion with

"know re" in it.

Funeral deferred.

Went to Boston.

Horticultural Exhibition

Boston.

Sept. 21st.

I did not stay in Boston quite so long as usual, having finished my business; I took the last train of cars for the Great Falls and came to my sister Lucy's at Great Falls where I arrived at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Sept. 22d.

Took the first train of cars for the East and arrived at my boarding house at 11 1/2 o'clock, forenoon, found all things had moved on during my absence, as usual.

Sept. 23d.

Rev. Mr. Swann being absent, a foreigner by the name of Booth, came from the West to supply his desk. Rev. Mr. Willcox, officiated in his own pulpit.

Sept. 24th.

Capt. James Burnham, of Kennebunkport, sold his farm, about a year since and last week bought of B. Palmer a one story house on Dune street for the sum of eleven hundred and fifty dollars. Capt. Burnham is an old sea captain. He went to sea about forty years and has earned a great deal of money but was not fortunate for a number of years before he left off going to sea; and lost all or nearly all his property except the farm on which he lived. This farm he sold for four or five thousand dollars and wishes to come to this village, to spend the remainder of his days in comparative ease. He is from appearance over seventy years of age.

Sept. 25th.

I understand that Mr. Cobb, the Methodist preacher in this village, has an unusual religious interest or interest excitement manifested in his society. The interest began to be felt during the late camp-meeting. Since that time, it has continued to increase. Last Sunday evening, it is said that more persons went to the Methodist meeting at Washington Hall than could obtain seats. There have been a number of persons who suppose they have experienced religion and still a greater number, and what is termed "anxious".

Sept. 26th.

Soon after the burning of the "Factory" in this village in 1850 there were many vacant tenements. Since that time, there has been a gradual increase of inhabitants in the village. Although now that time there has been at least a dozen of new houses built here, yet it is very difficult to obtain a vacant tenement. I do not know of one in the village.

Sept. 27th.

Mr. John Cousins tells me, that he has expended on the house which he bought of Joseph Moody's estate about \$1800, this sum added to the \$1600 which he paid for the premises make the whole cost \$3400. Next year he expects to raise the barn in shed which will probably cost an additional \$100.

Sept. 28th.

News was received to day of a great battle in the Crimea, on the 8th of Sept. being twelve months since the allied armies landed at Sebastopol. Precisely at noon on the 8th the whole disposal force moved forward to the attack of the forts and city of Sebastopol and they succeeded after a desperate struggle, in obtaining the Southern side. The reported loss of allies in killed and wounded, is English 2000; French 11000; & Russian 11000.

Sept. 29th.

The month of September has been mild and pleasant but rather dry. The mild weather has ripened the corn; so there will be more than an average crop. In fact, all kinds of farm produce are remarkably abundant this year, even the potatoes have not rotted near so much as was expected.

Sept. 30th.

Although there is no thing in particular to call me to my old home in Kennebunkport, yet I feel a melancholy pleasure in occasionally visiting it. This morning I went down to the old grave-yard, where the larger part of our family are buried, and having spent a half an hour there, went to meeting house near by and attended the forenoon service. Took dinner in the "old home" of my childhood, then went to the Port and attended meeting in the Baptist church. The painting in fresco of the walls, particularly the pulpit, is far beyond any thing that I ever saw before. The same artists that painted the Unitarian house performed the work, but he has made great improvement since that time. After meeting, I went into the house of Capt. E. Perkins for a few minutes and then came home in season for tea.

Oct. 1st.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of Ocean Bank, was held this afternoon. The following persons were chosen directors for the ensuing year, Joseph Titcomb, William Savage, Joseph Dune gun, Noah Mason, Thomas Lord, Wm L. Thompson and Andrew Walker. A dividend of three per cent has been declared for the last six months and the bank has paid for its running expenses and fixtures such as safe &c amounting to \$1800.

Oct. 2nd.

John Gobly came from South Berwick to Pennabunk in 1844 and was employed as overseer of one of the rooms of the cotton factory. He continued in this employment until the mill was burnt in 1850. He then went to Portland (his family remaining here) and was employed in the dept of Atlantic and St. Lawrence railway for about one year, he then returned to Pennabunk and was placed in charge of the manufacture of Warp yarn in the small mill in this village, this mill being unprofitable to the owners it was stopped last spring. Mr. Gobly then by the assistance

Sketch of some person to me unknown, obtained from Portland a small stock of groceries, nuts, fruit, candy &c and commenced being a trader, which business he still continues.

Mr. Gobly is not a man of much education, but with more than average natural abilities of a peculiar kind, his greatest strength consists in sly, subtle management connecting means which he supposes will be of advantage to him.

He is very ambitious to be at the head and dictate in whatever he is engaged. If he can be chief cook, he is willing to be "bottle washer"; hence is an indefatigable worker in whatever he wishes to accomplish. It is not supposed, that he is often troubled with conscientious scruples, but with him, principles are like trees when they interfere with his prospects, he cuts them down. He has been and now is an active politician.

When he lived in South Berwick he was a Whig, but owing to some disaffection in not obtaining office while a Whig he became an Abolitionist, and continued with them until the Free Soil party made its appearance when he joined that party. About eighteen months since when the "Know Nothing" was originated in this State, Gobly was the first to take an interest in it and he originated the party in this town and has been since that time the acknowledged head. He went to Portland and was the means of "New Brunline" coming here as Brunline told me. For at least three months before the late election he was uniting in his exertions for the increase of the "Know Nothing" party and his nomination and election as Representative to the State Legislature, but failed in his efforts. It is evident he expected to be elected, for his little girl told her school mates a few days before election that her father was going to open the winter in August, her brother John was going to sea and she and her mother were going to visit their relatives in South Berwick.

Oct. 3rd.

Within a few weeks Nathaniel L. Thompson & Benjamin Smith have removed the bodies of their relatives from the grave yards near the meeting house to the new grave yards called "Mount Hope Cemetery."

Oct. 4th

Within twenty four hours there has been a powerful rain accompanied part of the time with a high wind. W. B. Sewall who has a weirain gauge says, that $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches have fallen. This rain was much needed as the streets and wells were quite low.

Oct. 5th.

The Baptist church and society in this village is at present in a languishing condition. Rev. Mr. Burrows who has been of the church recently, appears to be an uncommonly peaceable, inoffensive man and doubtless good man but not endowed with talents sufficient to interest a congregation. The congregation usually attending at the Baptist church has not of late averaged more than fifty persons. In fact the society has become so small that it cannot afford to hire a minister and Mr. Burrows told his congregation last Sunday, that he did not expect to be their pastor any longer. This week he has broke up housekeeping, packed part of his goods in boxes, and the more bulky part and expects to leave town with his wife and child tomorrow morning.

Oct. 6

Last Monday evening Oct. 1st I met for the first time with the directors of Ocean Bank. Joseph Titcomb was rechosen President and his salary was voted to be \$200 a year. The salary of the cashier was then voted to be \$600. a year payable quarterly. Mr. Littlefield the cashier here remarked that he did not know of any bank in the State with a capital of \$100,000, where the cashier did not receive \$800 a year and he thought he should have the last mentioned sum. The consideration of the question was deferred until this evening. Mr. Littlefield having retired to give the directors more liberty to express their opinions on the subject; it was fully agreed that \$700. was enough for this bank to pay its cashier. It is as much as any professional man in town receives. Mr. L. was here sent for and told of our opinion. He at once assented to it. When Mr. Littlefield was chosen cashier he agreed to take \$500. a year. A year since his salary was raised to \$600. and now he wants \$800. So we go. Human nature is always the same.

Bodies removed.

Powerful rain.

X
Rev. Mr. Burrows left the Baptist Church.

Meeting of Directors of Ocean Bank. Salary of President and Cashier.

X

Oct. 7th.

Professor Packard, of Bowdoin college preached for Mr. Sunday Willcox to day. He is apparently about sixty years of age, of pleasing, gentlemanly address and of popular manners. His Professor's sermons were not characterized by any particular originality or strength, but were expressed in the choicest language.

Oct. 8th

Mr. Oliver Bartlett, who formerly lived in this village and carried on the baking business, returns here a few days since and sold his real estate in this village, on which was a real small stone row used for a dwelling house, a bake-house and estate, barn. Nathan Dane was the purchaser for the sum of \$800.

Oct. 9th.

The York County agricultural fair, which was advertised to be held in Saco, last week, but was adjourned on account of the rain, is to be held at the same place to day and tomorrow at Saco. A large number of our citizens have gone to Saco this day.

Oct. 10th.

There have been a number of District School meetings in this village during the past six months. The object has been to obtain a new school house and lot. A part of the inhabitants are anxious to buy the academy and lot for the district, and another part are equally anxious to buy a new lot and build a new school house, and still another party want the old school house to be repaired. At a school meeting on the 21st of July, a committee was appointed to buy the academy and lot, and at a subsequent meeting it was voted (as I understand) that the Assessors be instructed to assess a tax on this district for the payment of the same. A few days afterward another warrant was issued for a school meeting to set aside or rescind the doings at the previous meetings. This meeting was held last evening. I understand there was nothing definite mentioned in the warrant to be done except to choose a chairman and nothing was done but to choose a chairman and adjourn. Some think the school meetings have been illegal and say they shall not pay a tax if it is assessed, others think or at least say that the meetings have been legal and consequently a tax can be collected.

Oct. 11th.

The potato crop is much better this year than usual. Some of the farmers in this vicinity have raised from two to four hundred bushels. The asking price is two shillings a bushel but some have been sold for 20 cents a bushel.

Oct. 12th

It was supposed during the summer, that corn and flour would be obtained this fall for much less price than it was worth last season; but it is not so. Owing to a foreign demand prices continue to rule high. Common flour cannot be obtained in this village for less than \$9.00. Fine flour \$10.00 and extra flour from \$11.00 to \$12.00 a barrel.

Oct. 13th

The Assessors of this town met to day in order to assess the inhabitants of School District in the village for payment of the academy and lot for as they were notified by the district clerk, so to do; but did not proceed to assess as they anticipated. The reason probably is, there is another petition and warrant for a school meeting to set aside the doings at the previous meetings during the summer and fall.

Oct. 14th

Professor Smith, or Smythe, as he spells his name of Bowdoin College, preached for Mr. Willcox to day. In the evening I went to the Methodist meeting at Washington Hall. The room was so full that all persons who came could not be accommodated with seats. The "revival" continues. I do not know how many have "experienced religion" as it is termed, but think it safe to say from 15 to 20 think they have. During the evening about eight of the "converts" spoke in meeting. They are all from fifteen to twenty five years of age. The most impressive period.

Oct. 11th

The brig Advance of 140 tons, set sail in May 1853, under the command of Dr. Kane, to make explorations in the Arctic regions, particularly to see if they could make any discovery of the late Sir John Franklin. The Advance was left in Boerssalaer Bay in latitude 79 degrees where the expedition passed two winters. The vessel was abandoned on the 17th of May last imbedded in ice fourteen feet thick, from which it was found impossible to extricate her; and Dr. Kane and his men accomplished the remarkable journey of 1300 miles on foot and in boats (the boats were clad in wooden runners) They arrived at Reppevick on the 6th of August without disaster and in excellent health and spirits. At this port they embarked in a Danish vessel bound to Denmark. This vessel put in to Lierby (Diser Island) where they met the rescue and Arctic which had been sent for their relief. They arrived in New York October 12th. The highest latitude attained by Dr. Kane was 82 deg. 30, Longitude 76 deg. This is the nearest land yet discovered.

Price of Flour.

Assessors met to assess tax on this School District.

Sunday Methodist meeting & converts

Return of Dr. Kane from the Arctic regions.

82 d. 30 min North.

Oct. 16th.

X Mr. Heber Gower of this town has been in California Heber five or six years. Since he left his family, three of his Gowers daughters and his two sons have died, leaving only his wife and one small daughter. To day Mrs. Gower has been sold at auction her household furniture, with the exception of bed clothing and other small articles that have been packed in trunks. It is unknown where she expects to locate herself but has some talk of moving to Philadelphia.

Oct. 17th

On the 12th inst. Augusta Perkins, wife of Capt. Robert Towne, of Pennabunkport, died aged 41 years, and on the 16th inst. Sally, wife of the late B. F. Mason, died aged 11 years. Mrs. Towne has been unwell during the summer, but nothing serious was apprehended until a few days before she died.

Mrs. Mason has been sick for many years, although not confined to her house. For a number of years past she has been afflicted with a cancer, and this is supposed to have been the direct cause of her death.

Oct. 18th

✓ The lots in the grave yard called "Mount Pleasant" on the Well road, having been all taken up; the proprietors of the yard have within a few days, bought of Mr. Nathaniel Road, Jeffords $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre of land joining the grave yard for the enlargement of enlarging it. They price at the rate of \$100. an acre.

Oct. 19th

X Mr. Hall Roberts made a short visit to Pennabunk to day. We took a walk and visited the grave of his late wife, the new grave yard, the academy building the scene of his Roberts former seven years labor, the new houses on "Rivers Hill" and in then he took dinner with me at my bounding house. After Pennabunk dinner we called on Mrs L. W. Downing, he then went to call on his late wife's mother Mrs Susan Curtis. At 3 o'clock P.M. he left town for his home in Concord, N. H.

Oct. 20th

✓ The crops in this vicinity are now nearly all harvested. The farmers say, with the exception of hay, there has been an uncommon large yield of produce this season. This is harvested very fortunate for on account of demand for foreign countries, our primitive farming products rule high, and there is no probability that prices will be much if any lower than they were last winter.

Oct. 21st.

Rev. Mr. Burr, of Alfred preached for Mr. Willcox. No one can object to the composition of Mr. Burr's sermons, but they are delivered in such a dull sleepy manner, that to me they are uninteresting and others who hear him in this village are of the same opinion.

Oct. 22d.

Another School meeting this evening. The object of this meeting was to rescind all the doings of the school meeting which have been held in the village since the annual meeting in the spring and the desired object was obtained by a vote of about 20 in favor of rescinding and 16 against it. Nearly one third of those present did not vote.

Oct. 23d.

Nearly all those persons in town who pay large taxes came voluntarily to the office of the collector and settled with him before the 20 day of last September, but a large number of small taxes remained unpaid, particularly from people at the Port. This morning at 8 o'clock, I left home for the Port, on a collecting tour and devoted the whole day to the business as I did not arrive home until 8 o'clock in the evening.

I collected taxes from forty persons, eleven of them were less than one dollar each, and the amount of the whole was but ninety dollars and eighty three cents, averaging 2.27 each. It was not my original intention to ask any person to pay his or her taxes, but to employ some person for that purpose; but curiosity induced me to go around among the small tax payers to see how they lived, how they looked in their houses and I was well repaid for my trouble without the additional inconvenience of the per centage for collecting.

Oct. 24th

In June 1853 Mrs. Rachel A. Sargent, of Hampton, N. H. came to this village and opened a school for young ladies. She continued her school until Nov. 1854, when not meeting with as much success as she wished, she closed her school and returned back to New Hampshire, leaving part of her goods here. Yesterday she returned for the residue of her goods. She says she has been teaching in the state of Illinois and expects to return back in a few days as she can secure better pay at the West than in New England. Mrs. Sargent is a smart, go-ahead woman, and well calculated to make her own way in the world.

X Sunday
Mr.
Burr.

✓ School
Meeting
again.

✓ At
the
Port
collecting
Taxes.

✓ Mrs.
Rachel
A. Sargent
a
School Teacher

1855.

Oct. 25th.

pent-stock The frame on pent-stock which was built about six years since by the Monsum Manufacturing Company, caved in, in part about a year since and has remained in that state until this week, workmen here being employed in digging out the dirt above the frame in order that it may be rebuilt or repaired.

Oct. 26th

James Mr. James Taylor who was at work in digging out the dirt and Taylor from the frame, fell and broke one of his ribs, hurt, and otherwise injured him. This is a very bad accident for Mr. Taylor, by a fall, as he is dependent on his daily labor for support.

Oct. 27th

Twice In day some person to me unknown, sent to me by the Stage driver which drives a coach from Newburyport to Sarco a small bundle of books among which is "Twice Married" a story of Connecticut life. Although the donor is unknown, yet the giver has my hearty thanks; for the book if not instructive is at least interesting and amusing.

Oct. 28th

Sunday A stormy Sunday, but few people attended church. Mr. Willcox has returned from his yearly vacation of four weeks and preaches again in his own pulpit.

Oct. 29th

It is an established rule for the Directors of Ocean Bank, to meet each Monday evening to hear the report of President on the present condition of the bank, to consult on any measures which may be deemed advisable, and give such advice or information on the pecuniary condition or ability of persons wishing to obtain money from the bank, as is supposed to be needed. The amount of discounts on outstanding funds due to the bank is now about \$170,000. The amount of specie in bank safe between seven and eight thousand dollars.

Oct. 30th

Still another school meeting in this district this evening. The principal objects for this meeting as stated in the warrant, another was to raise \$1100, to buy the Academy and lot for the use of District the district, on this side of the river, and \$1100 to buy a lot. School and build a school house on the Western side of the river. Meeting The opinion appears to be gaining ground, that the better way will be, to divide the district with the river for a boundary line. A committee were appointed to take the whole matter into consideration and this meeting was adjourned until the last Monday in March 1856.

1855.

Oct. 31st.

This afternoon I was at the new stone bridge, which the rail-road company are building across the Monsum river. The foundation is laid and walls built above high water mark. They are now building the arches and have hopes of completing them before the weather becomes too cold to work. The whole expense of the bridge is expected to be about \$25,000.

Nov. 1st.

True by the papers that the late Daniel Webster estate has been appraised and the following is the result. The net amount of assets in the hands of the executors is \$38,180.89 and the amount of claims is above \$150,000. The executors are now making a distribution among the creditors. They divide $2\frac{1}{4}$ per centum, there being a small balance left in the hands of the executors to pay expenses.

Nov. 2d

Capt. John Hovey, has during the past summer been more unwell than usual, his constitution appears to be breaking up. It is evident that he does not expect to live but a short time, as he has made his will and wishes to settle his accounts and does with all persons. This week he has been confined to his bed and there is not much if any probability that he will recover.

Nov. 3d

The proprietors of the old grave-yard joining the Unitarian meeting house, have sold the old fence at auction and are now building a new fence with stone posts, in front and on the side where the yard joins the lower of P. Pratt. That part of the fence which was between the old and new grave-yard has been taken away so the yards have now only one inclosure.

Nov. 4

Another rainy Sunday. The Methodist society had a quarterly meeting at their place of worship; the presiding elder Rev. Mr. Sanderson was present and is to continue here a number of days. In the evening more persons were present than could be provided with seats.

Nov. 5th

Last spring those who owned ships, or parts of ships, were thought to have very bad property on hand, as freights were so depressed that the freight money would not pay the expenses of sailing the ships; now freights are $\frac{1}{8}$ of penny in New Orleans to carry cotton to Liverpool. This rise is quite unexpected, as it was supposed vessels would be poor property for a number of years.

Stone
Bridge
across
Monsum
river.

The
late
Daniel
Webster,
estate.

Known
of
Capt.
John
Hovey.

New
fence
near
the old
grave-yard.

Sunday
Methodist
Quarterly
Meeting.

Low
times
for
Ship
Owners.

Nov. 6th

Mr. John Bousens has a team and a number of men employed at work on the lot of land adjoining his dwelling house. Part of the lot near the brook is very wet. He has plowed the land near the fence on the upper side and is removing it to the wet places, he expects to haul in sand to mix with the clay until it is in a suitable condition to cultivate.

Nov. 7th

Erna Perkins and Oliver Roatt are near neighbors and their lands join. Mr. Roatt has built a stone wall on the Western side of his lot which Mr. Perkins says is partly on his land and has prosecuted him for trespass. The court has appointed L. P. Dorrance to survey the land and make a plan of the same for its inspection. He has this week attended to his lawsuit appointment. The land is not worth probably more than \$1, at the extent, it cannot be appraised over ten dollars. The costs of the contention for the ownership of the land, will probably be from two to five hundred dollars.

Nov. 8th

Eight or ten years since, Mr. Joseph Parsons moved from Alfred to Kennebunkport, and bought the farm formerly owned by Edmund Hill. Last August he bought the homestead of the late Dr. Samuel Benson of this village, and having repaired the house and out-buildings, he this day has moved over his village, family and supposes that he is located for life.

Nov. 9th.

The State election in Massachusetts was held on Tuesday the 6th instant. It appears from the returns Election that the whole vote of the State (330 towns) for Governor is as follows. A plurality of votes elect.

Massachusetts	Gardner, -- Know Nothing	11,933
	Hockwell, -- Republican or Free Soil	36,867
	Beach, -- Democrat	31,077
	Walley, -- Whig	13,481
		137,358

Nov. 10th.

Capt. George Lora has bought a lot in the new grave yard. This lot he has inclosed with an iron fence and erected a marble shaft with a cross on the top of it, in the centre of the lot. He has removed the remains of his dead children to the lot, and expects when the time arrives to have it for a family burial-place.

Nov. 11th

Still another rainy Sunday. In the evening I went to the house of Dr. Stevens and had a long talk with the Doctor and his wife.

Nov. 12th

Miss Eliza Emery of this town, commenced a private school in the academy building. She has had seventeen scholars this day.

Nov. 13th.

The annual meeting of the Kennebunk Fire Society, was held at B. F. Goodwin's tavern this evening. Thirty one members took supper at a cost of seventy five cents each.

Nov. 14th.

Many years ago, there was a saw mill near the "Butt Mountain" bridge. This mill was owned by nearly the people in that vicinity who haul logs to saw. The mill dam was carried away in a freshet nearly twenty years ago and has not been rebuilt. Within a few weeks Joseph Dune and Oliver Perkins have bought out all or nearly all of the claims of the proprietors and are now building a dam, near the old spot. They are necessitated to build a dam this fall in order to hold possession of the right of flowage, which right will expire next spring if the dam is not finished before that time.

Nov. 15th

For a number of years past Mr. Nathaniel Littlefield has done nearly the trucking of goods between the depot and Port to this village. Within a few days he has sold his truck horses, team and other necessary appurtenances to Mr. James Littlefield, who expects to continue the business.

Nov. 16th.

Mr. Ebenezer Hodge (tin ware dealer) put his horse in the stable last evening in apparent health; this morning he found the horse dead. A subscription paper for the assistance of Mr. Hodge is now being circulated in this village.

Nov. 17th.

The weather this fall has been uncommonly mild and pleasant, until to day it is quite cold with appearances of a snow storm.

Nov. 18th

Last night about three inches of snow fell being the first snow this season. The storm did not last but a few hours, but the air is sharp and cold.

Nov. 19th.

"Died in Pennebunk, Nov. 19th Capt. John Hovey, aged 81 years.

Those who were in the habit of traveling between Portland and Portsmouth before modern railways had nearly ruined village taverns, will recollect the large bony frame and hale appearance of "old Captain Hovey", owner and boarder at the "Stage House" at Pennebunk. They will recollect his many stories of events which took many years ago, when he sailed in the employ of "Billy" Gray on voyages to Europe and India.

It was difficult for a modern sea captain to tell of an event which took place ^{recently}, which the old captain could not equal if not excel with some event which occurred formerly. He was captain to the last. About thirty years since, he left off "ploughing the ocean" and went to "ploughing the land". Although the oversight of his farm served to occupy his attention; it is not probable it added much if anything to his riches. He was prompt and honorable in his dealings and wished for others to be equally prompt and honorable with him.

I have often heard an old lady recently deceased, remark, that when Captain Hovey was about thirty years of age, no young man in this vicinity was so popular among the ladies as he; but he neglected marriage and consequently had a less number of near relatives at his death than at his birth. After being so long tossed on the ocean of life, we hope he has at last arrived at the haven of eternal rest."

I sent a copy of the above to be published in the Free Democrat. The old lady recently deceased, mentioned was my mother.

Nov. 20th

John A. Lora, has finished his new house and has moved his family into it this day. I do not know the exact cost of the whole establishment but have understood, not far from new house. Seven Thousand Dollars, not including furnishing.

Nov. 21st

Capt. John Hovey was buried this afternoon. I do not recollect of attending a funeral where there were so few of relatives present as at this, Two nieces, one cousin and a daughter of a nephew John Hovey Perkins.

Capt. Hovey was the son of Ebenezer Hovey and grandson of Rev. John Hovey, for many years pastor of the first church and at that time only church in Pennebunk, port.

Nov. 22d

Thanksgiving. There was a union meeting at the Unitarian church but the house was not more than one third filled. Took dinner at my boarding house and tea with my newly married niece Lydia W. J. Downing. In the evening by invitation, dog, spent an hour or two at the house of W. Hubbard to see the operation of a "spiritual circle" as called. There was a Ball in the evening. B. F. Goodwin furnished the hall, lights, music, supper and paid all expenses for \$24 a couple. There were about twenty couples.

Nov. 23d

The prices of produce this year is considered uncommonly high. In this market the following prices have been paid this week, Turkeys 12 1/2 to 14 cts; geese 12 1/2; Chickens 12 1/2 to a lb. Eggs 20 cents a dozen; Butter 21 1/2 to a lb; Cheese 12 1/2 to 14 cts a lb; Flour from 10 to 12 dol per barrel; Mess Pork 12 1/2 to 14 cts; Bleached Pork from 14 to 15 cts; Molasses 40 cents a gallon; Lard 11 1/2 to a lb; Brown Sugar from 9 to 10 cts.

Nov. 24th

Since "Ned Burntine" has this town he has established a weekly newspaper in Philadelphia called "Ned Burntine's own".

Mr. Williams, the postmaster informs me, that twenty eight copies of this paper are sent to subscribers in this town. These subscribers were probably obtained through the agency of John Bobby.

Nov. 25th.

A cold disagreeable day. There is about four inches of snow on the ground, but not good sleighing although nearly all of those who live at a distance from the village came to church with sleighs.

Nov. 26th

Andrew P. Merrill, Collector of Pennebunk port, shew me his Tax Book for 1811. He says the rate of taxation in that town is 84 cents on \$100, or 840 on \$1000. A few of the largest tax payers,

Daniel W. Lora, -	213,52	John Murphey, -	41,52
John S. Perkins, -	89,41	Mrs Mary E. Stone, -	40,74
Orlando Perkins, -	72,40	Robert Smith, -	40,13
Robert Smith Jr, -	72,40	Asaph Moody, -	38,13
Charles Perkins, -	68,83	Samuel H. Gould, -	35,88
Eliphalet Perkins, -	66,10	Robert Nowell, -	33,76
Acton Patterson, -	48,04	Charles E. Perkins, -	31,03
Thomas Nowell, -	47,28	Benjamin G. Mason Esq, -	27,51
Abner Stone, -	47,03	Allison Huff, -	30,23
Robert Towne, -	45,60	Horatio Moody, -	22,00
		Wm. G. Grant, -	18,81
		Mary E. Brown, -	18,27

Nov. 27th

D. W. Last June I think, when freights were very low and consequently commercial prospects poor, Daniel W. Lord bargained of Pennsburyport, bought at auction a large new ship on a lot at North or in the vicinity for \$40. a ton. Since the new ship demand for ships has increased, I understand Mrs Lord last June, has had an offer of \$20,000 for the ship more than she cost him, but did not accept of the offer.

Nov. 29th

✓ Engine House Since the annual meeting of the Fire Society on the 13th inst., a subscription has been circulated in the village to raise money to buy an engine house and lot on which to place the same. Capt. Thomas Lord as agent, has bought a lot of lot Oliver Stevens near A. Warrens brick store. He has also bought the shop formerly built and owned by D. L. Hatch as a joiners shop and moved it this day to the lot. Capt. Lord paid for the lot \$150., and for shop \$180. The cost of the building with the additional cost of hauling and alterations will fall far short of a new building.

Nov. 30th

✓ Port Stock The port-stock on plume, on the factory lot is now nearly if not entirely finished. The cost of repairs has finished been probably, at least Five Hundred Dollars.

Dec. 1st

✓ No. Snow The weather has become more moderate. The snow has disappeared with the exception of a little which remains on the shady side of buildings and fences.

Dec. 2d

X Sunday Mr. Storer preached for Mr. Willcox. In the evening he attended the Methodist meeting and made address. He appears to be a remarkably good man and was well liked both by Congregationalist and Methodist.

Dec. 3d

✓ Bake House The bake-house on the lot of land that Nathan Dunn bought of Oliver Bartlett, has been a nuisance to those who live in the immediate neighborhood. Horace Porter has bought the building of Dunn and has now men at work in preparing to move it to a lot of land near the blacksmith shop formerly occupied by the late Elisha Chadbourne.

Dec. 4th

✓ Sudden Death The widow of the Samuel Gillpatrick, while sitting in her chair, in usual health, fell to the floor dead. Her age was about 80.

Dec. 5th.

The large two story house formerly belonging to Abel Merrill next below our old homestead in Pennsburyport, has been sold, taken down and hauled to the Port. Mr. William Brooks was the buyer. He paid eighty dollars for the house and expects to build a new house from the materials, on this side of the river, near the house of Capt. Joshua Cowing.

Dec. 6th.

Went this morning on the Sarabee river to the Port and remained at the Port nearly all day, collecting taxes from all persons on my tax book, that I could find and who have the money to pay their taxes. I done as well as I expected, having collected tax of twenty four different persons.

Dec. 7th

The following persons are now regular boarders at B. G. Goodwins tavern. Squire Tier Wells, Lydia Wells, milliners; Oliver Emery, school-mistress; James M. Stone, student at law; William Hancock, bunnings builder; Shadrach Bragdon, Tin plate manufacturer and stove dealer and Andrew Walken, trader. As Mr. Warren has taken down his sign as a tavern keeper, Mr. G. keeps the only public house in town, consequently has all the transient custom that comes along.

Dec. 8th

✓ Joseph Titcomb has nearly if not entirely finished his new house, but does not expect to move in it before the first of January. This house is probably the most costly of any house in the County of York. No one but himself probably knows how much it cost; but it is supposed that he has now expended for his lot and house about \$12,000 and a further outlay of \$3,000 will be necessary for a barn, out buildings and other surroundings in order that all parts of the establishment shall correspond in elegance with the house.

Dec. 9th.

X Sunday Rev. Mr. Storer preached again for Mr. Willcox. In the evening there was a violent South East rain storm, accompanied by a high wind. No meetings in the evening.

Dec. 10th.

X The storm of last night has passed away and we have a mild pleasant day. People who have examined say that the frost is nearly all out of the ground and the travelling is bad, owing to the muddy condition of the roads.

Dec. 11th

No From present appearances there will not be any houses valuable of much value built in this village next season. I do not know of any persons who talk of building any thing, although next there doubtless will be much labor for the joiners now unemployed years off. There is every year much repairing of buildings.

Dec. 12th

James Mr. James Taylor, who was hurt by a fall Oct. 26th, was not so badly as was expected. He has so far recovered that he has commenced work again.

Dec. 13th

✓ The "Unitarian circle" as it is now called, formerly "Unitarian" called "Unitarian Sewing circle", met at the house of B. F. Goodwin this evening. There were probably about thirty females present, but not more than six males besides the B. F. Goodwin's. The company particularly the young ladies were were not only lively but almost jubilant. The company did not all disperse until after ten o'clock, when the male boarders gallanted the young ladies home.

Dec. 14th

✓ This day I made a final settlement of the estate of the late Joseph Moody of this town. Mr. Moody came to this town when a small boy and was a clerk for many years to Theodore Symon. He married a Miss Barrell of York, and lived in the house now occupied by Mrs. James Titcomb. He died July 20, 1839, aged 76. Soon after his death his widow moved to Portland and lives with her daughter Mrs. Voughten. The store now occupied by me our adjoining house also belonged to Mr. Moody. When this estate ^{was sold} to John Cousins, the late last of the new estate, belonging to the Moody family passed from their hands. Of the personal estate nothing remains but two fine beds and these I have purchased; hence not a vestige of the estate of the late Joseph Moody now remains in Pennebunk. — For at least fifty years the Moody family was among the aristocracy of this town, now the name and estate are alike matters of the past.

Dec. 11th

✓ Last evening I took the last train of cars for the East and arrived at Portland and put up at the Gayle House. This morning I commenced transacting business and kept busily employed until the cars started this P.M. for Boston. Arrived at home at four o'clock, P.M.

Dec. 16th.

Rev. Mr. Willcox has returned from his journey and officiated to day in his own pulpit. The day being rather unpleasant there was not a large attendance at any of the churches. The Methodist Sunday did not have any meeting in the evening on account of powerful rain.

Dec. 17th.

There have been built and registered at the Pennebunk Shipbuilding district, the past year, seven ships, two barks, one brig and one schooner, with an aggregate tonnage of 7641 ⁵/₈ tons, at Pennebunk.

Dec. 18th

Mr. B. F. Goodwin and wife had this evening a large company of mostly married people. Mrs. Goodwin says there were between forty and fifty persons present and twenty four received invitations who did not attend. This was doubtless the marriage party. The company appeared to enjoy themselves.

Dec. 19th

✓ The new ship "Regulus" Joshua Thompson, master sailed from this port, for New Orleans. This is J. Thompson first voyage as captain and the first voyage of his brother George Thompson as mate. My nephew H. F. Curtis sailed in the vessel, but I do not know in what capacity. J. L. Brayden, who has been boarding at B. F. Goodwin's for a number of months past, has gone in the ship as passenger to New Orleans.

Dec. 20th

✓ Sarah Bleaves, wife of Mr. William Spore, died last evening aged 54 years. She has not enjoyed good health for many years, but has not been confined to her house but a few weeks. It is probable Mrs. Spore was the greatest heiress who ever came here as a girl to live with her husband, who Her father a Mr. Bleaves of Biddeford, died before his daughter was married in 1820. It has been reported that Mr. Spore received with his wife \$20,000 and after the death of her mother he received \$10,000 more. Such have been the reports, but I do not know how true they were.

Dec. 21st.

The whole amount of ^{disbursements} on taxes this year is Three Hundred and eight Dollars and twenty two cents. (\$308.22).

Dec. 22nd

✓ I was this day drawn as a Traverse juror to attend the Supreme Court which sits at Alfred, on the first Tuesday of January next, being the first day of the month. Drawn as a juror.

Dec. 23rd.

Another unpleasant Sabbath. During the day the weather was remarkably warm for the season of the year and the ground thawed as to make the walking muddy.

Dec. 24th

The Brig Frederick W. Horn; Capt John W. Barker of this town, from Georgetown S.C. for Pennebunk was fallen in with on the 15th inst, lat. 37, 12 lon. 60 waterlogged and Capt. dismantled. The captain and crew were brought to Boston on Barker, the 23rd inst. Capt. Barker and his men had been on the wreck fifteen days without food or shelter, except the daily return allowance, to each man of one quarter pound of raw horse pork. They suffered intensely. Capt. Barker arrived home this evening. The vessel was loaded with ship-timber belonging to D.D.S. Warr of Pennebunkport. I understand the vessel and cargo were insured but the freight money was not insured.

Dec. 25th

As the age of this country advances, there appears to be more and more attention paid to this Christmas day. In villages and rural districts there is no particular religious observance paid to it; but children now look for Christmas presents much more than formerly.

Dec. 26th

Within the last twenty four hours there has been a storm of snow ending with a cold rain. This morning the weather is quite cold, so that the snow has become frozen so hard the boys skate on it. Although the snow is not more than four inches thick, the sleighs and sleds run easily.

Dec. 27th

Rev. Mr. Cobb, had a donation party at Washington Hall, this afternoon and evening. As I go to the Methodist meeting sometimes on Sunday evening I thought it was expedient for me to attend the party; accordingly spent an hour with the company assembled. There were present from 100 to 125 persons. The amount received in cash was between \$35 and 40 dollars; besides small articles not valued.

Dec. 28th

No. 6. X No. 6. Baynes and wife have invested, of the legacy received of Miss Longdon as follows; Ten shares of Western Railroad stock 1 share at \$4, 100 per share, 1 share of Boston and Maine Railroad at \$4, 25 cents a share.

Dec. 29th

This day I employed Mr Henry Sargent to take a Daguerrotype picture from the portraits, painted by Bodger, of my late Father and Mother. These pictures were taken by the request of my sister Lucy Walker Hooper who lives in Great Falls N.H. Mr. Sargent succeeded in obtaining good copies which are now inclosed in neat frames, which to be sent to Lucy. The pictures are an ornament and a memorial.

Dec. 30th

A severe snow storm to day. The storm was so severe there was no meeting in either of the churches in the village. In the forenoon a few persons went to the Unitarian church, but I do not know whether or not there were any religious service. There was not any meeting in the afternoon.

Dec. 31st.

The Deaths in Pennebunk, as recorded in the Town Clerk's office, for the year 1855; Males 9, females 29; total 38. Average age 45 1/2 years. Proportion to population 1 in 70.

The whole number of intentions of Marriages in 1855 as recorded in town books is 26, being about the average number 1856

Jan. 1st.

This morning at 8 o'clock Daniel Hillpatrick and I started for Alfred. As the sleighing was rather bad on account of the late snow we did not arrive at Alfred until 10 o'clock. Soon after stopping at the "Herrick House" we went to the Court room. One of the recently appointed judges Woodbury Davis soon was ushered into the Court room by the constables in waiting. Proclamation was made by the "Crier of the Court" as follows: "All persons having business to do before the honorable and Supreme judicial Court, now to be holden within and for the County of York, are requested to draw near and they shall be heard." The Clerk of the Court then called over the names of the jurors and 28 Inverse jurors answered to their names. Daniel Hillpatrick and one other juror were excused. Subsequently I wished to be excused but the judge refused to excuse me. After the Court was organized the judge commenced calling over the "Docket" on names of parties who have suits depending in the Court. This calling of names and answering by the lawyers occupied nearly all day.

X
Daguer-
types
of my
late
Father
&
Mother.

✓
Sunday,
Nov
Meetings.

✓
Deaths
and
Marriages

✓
Went
to
Alfred
as
a
juror.

Jan. 2d. 1816.

This morning the first case on the Docket for trial was *Lova vs Moor*. This case has been tried twice already. Once the jury did not agree and once exceptions were by one of the parties and a new trial granted.

George Evans, of Portland and Joseph Selama appeared as advocates for Moor, and Nathaniel Cliffor of Portland and Ichabod Jordan of Great Falls for Lova.

Jan. 3d.

Lova vs. Moore continued. It appears from evidence the alleged crime against Moor is, that a number of years ago, he hired two men to put a keg of gunpowder under the stove of Lova and then attaching a fuse to the powder, set fire to the fuse, by which means the stove and contents contained, valued at \$1000 were destroyed. This case was a civil action against Moor for recovery of property. No doubt exists in the minds of any person that the men set fire to stove; the question or rather ^{point} to be proved is whether the men were instigated by Moor to destroy the same.

Jan. 4th.

Lova vs. Moor, continued. The examination of witnesses was closed at 11 o'clock A.M. when Mr. Evans commenced his plea in favor of Moor. He spoke until 1 o'clock P.M. when the court adjourned until 2 o'clock when Mr. Evans continued his plea until 4 o'clock, being four hours in his argument. In a few minutes Mr. Cliffor commenced his plea for Mr. Lova. — Judge Davis perceiving that the this case would continue for the remainder of the week, told the jury to which I belonged that they were dismissed until Monday Jan. 7th at 10 o'clock A.M. I left the court room immediately and came to Kennebec with Joseph Davis where we arrived about 6 in the evening.

Jan. 5th.

Having been absent four days this week, I have been busy employed this day in attending to business which should have been done before this time.

Jan. 6th.

During last night there was a severe snow storm accompanied with a high wind and the storm has continued until noon of night. There was not any meetings in either of the churches, this being the second Sabbath in succession of there being no meeting. A very uncommon occurrence.

Jan. 7th.

Left home with Joseph Davis and arrived at Alfred at 11 o'clock A.M. — In the case of *Lova vs. Moor* the jury did not agree, there being eight for the conviction of Moor and four against conviction. There does not appear to be much doubt that Moor hired the men to blow up the building; but they were and still are worthless rascals, there is not any dependence to be placed on their words, although under oath.

Jan. 8th

There were a number of petty criminal trials to day. There were mostly prosecutions for selling spirituous liquors. There was one case of assault and battery, where a Mrs. Tuttle of Biddeford and her brother in law a Mr. Woodson of that town had a "set too" and called each other very immodest names.

Jan. 9th

The principal case tried to day, Joseph Hobson vs. Town of Hall's. Verdict in favor of Hall's. — An Irish woman came into the court room and made considerable disturbance. Some one asked her what she wanted, answer "My husband" What is your husband's name? — "Sure and I do not remember" replied she. Her husband was at length found.

Jan. 10th

A part of the forenoon was occupied in settling points of law between various parties. At 11 o'clock a case that was supposed would occupy the remainder of the week, was commenced before the second jury, "Hamm vs Hamm". The judge told the first jury to which I belonged that they were dismissed until Monday Jan. 14. at 2 o'clock P.M. In about half an hour I left Alfred for Kennebec with E. C. Bourne.

Jan. 11th

On the 9th instant while at Alfred, by the invitation of Mr. Washington Barne, a distant relative I spent a very pleasant evening at his house. He lives about three fourths of a mile from the village, on ^{what} appearances indicate to be a fine farm. The appearance of his family, their conversation with the books and papers around the sitting room, are all signs of thrift.

Jan. 12th

For at least two weeks the weather has been severely cold. I do not recollect of seeing the snow melt even at mid day where it was exposed to the sun, and not exposed to the wind.

Jan. 13th

Still another stormy Sunday and the most severe Sunday for the winter. About four o'clock this morning a snow storm commenced accompanied with a high wind.

The storm and wind has continued all day and now, in blocking the evening the roads are nearly impassable even to foot passengers. The bell of the Unitarian church was rung this forenoon and a few men went to the meeting house, but there was no religious services. This being the thirteenth consecutive Sabbath without a meeting.

Jan. 14th

The storm is over. The roads are all blocked up with snow and it is not probable they will all be broken out for some days. This forenoon persons were employed in shoveling paths around their houses and barns. But little has been done yet to open the roads. There was no mail to or from the Post this day. The mail from this village was carried on horse back about halfway to the depot, the horse was then let loose and the mail carrier took the mail bag on his shoulder and went on foot the remainder of the way. The cars were not detained so much as was expected. The train which was due at 11 o'clock from Boston arrived at this depot at 6 P.M. There appears to have been more snow with us than to the South and West of us.

Jan. 15th

Nearly all able-bodied men and oxen have been employed in breaking out roads. This last fall of snow has been measured in many places where it is supposed to lie level. No person thinks there is less than sixteen inches, but nearly all think there is about eighteen inches on a level. In many places there are drifts from six to eight feet high.

Jan. 16th

This forenoon at nine o'clock E. C. Bourne and I started for Alfred with his horse and sleigh. We made quite comfortably, the horse trotting part of the time until about four miles from home, when I took hold of the back of the sleigh and walked. The road over the plains was partially broken out, no sleds had passed and only one sleigh. Mr. Bourne's horse walked from the house of C. Bourne to the house of a Mr. Currier about a mile beyond Charles Hill's house, where we put up the horse, as the road from Mr. Bourne's to Alfred line, about one mile, was said to be very much

drifted and not broken at all. We accordingly started for Alfred on foot. The road was as represented, very much drifted and part of the way, the foot prints of only one person was visible. It is not probable the horse of Mr. Bourne could have been urged through the snow. When we arrived at Alfred line, the road was quite good, as it had been thoroughly broken out. We arrived at Alfred as the bell was calling the court together at 2 o'clock. Traveling so far in the snow and my leg weary and I was heartily glad when we arrived at the court room. The court had been called together each day and we found about two thirds of the Lawyers and jurors present, but there was no business for the jurors, as no case was ready for trial on account of absent witnesses.

Jan. 17th

There was a consultation between the judges and Lawyers this morning on the propriety of closing the court. It was finally concluded on account of the great difficulty of getting witnesses to Alfred, it was best to go home; the court was accordingly adjourned without day. — Mr. Bourne and I accordingly started for home. We found the road not quite so bad as it was yesterday, but still bad enough.

Jan. 18th

While at Alfred I tried to ascertain the amount of salary and fees of County Officers, the result follows; —

Clerk of the Courts, — — — fees — — —	1500 to 1700.	
Register of Deeds, — — — fees — — —	1200 " 1500.	Fees
Register of Probate, salary 625. and fees	650 " 675	received in
Judge of Probate, — — — salary — — —	400.	by
Sheriff — — — — — fees — — —	400 " 500	York, or
County Attorney, salary 250 and fees		County
Jailor, — — — — — fees — — —		Officers
County Treasurer, — — — salary — — —	350.	
County Commissioners, 2. a day and travel		

The Clerk of the Courts, Register of Deeds, Register of Probate, and County Treasurer have office rent, wood and lights furnished gratis. The best office in the County for the amount of service done, is said to be, Judge of Probate, the next best, Register of Probate. In the offices of the Clerk of the Courts and Register of Deeds, a great amount of labor has to be performed. They usually have a clerk part of the time, but it is said both of these officers work as many hours, any persons in the County of York,

1856.

Jan. 19th

Joseph Titcomb has been moving his furniture into his new house; he has now finished moving and taken up his abode in the new mansion.

Jan. 20th

This is the first pleasant Sabbath that we have had for a long time. The papers state that previous to this day, Sabbath, there has not been a Sunday for twenty consecutive Sundays in which it was pleasant all day.

Jan. 21st.

While at Alfred, a few days since, I went into the "Probate Office" and spent an hour in examining the records. I noticed the following inventories of estates:-

X Inventories of Estates in this vicinity	Abner Wornwood, of Kennebunk, -	\$7,833.82
	Charles Barry, " "	\$11,391.40
	Timothy Dratt, " "	\$3,836.07
	Daniel S. Perkins, " Kennebunkport, -	\$919.62
	William & Robert Symons, receivers of their Father's estate, #12,890.81	

In the Will of the late Dr. Drayton, of South Berwick, he gives his wife \$1000, payable in annual installments of \$1000 a year until all is paid. She has also a specific part of his house as long as she remains his widow, and all the furniture. To his son William and daughter Ann, he gives one hundred dollars each. To his son Charles, he gives the remainder of his property. he is also executor.

Jan. 22d.

X The following statement is going the rounds in the newspapers, I do not know on what authority.

English Language There are in the English language 20,000 nouns, 40 pronouns, 9200 adjectives, 8000 verbs, 2600 adverbs, 69 prepositions, 19 conjunctions, 68 interjections, and 2 articles - in all above 40,000 words. According to Webster's Dictionary, there are 100,000 words.

Jan. 23d.

✓ The "Old Fellows" of this town had a "Sevee" last evening at their hall. Preparation was made for two hundred persons; but owing to the badness of the traveling not more than 250 Sevee, took supper. Addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Swan, Rev. Mr. Cobb, George W. Bourne and others. About ten o'clock the "Sevee" was broken up, the tables and hall was immediately cleared for dancing. The dancers continued until 4 o'clock this morning before they all left. The musicians and most of the company were from Saco and Biddeford.

1856

Jan. 24th.

Although the roads are much better than they were soon after the late snow storm, still owing to the difficulty of turning out and the great number of "hummocks" or "patches" in the roads, it is very unpleasant traveling in sleighs.

Jan. 25th

It is not now supposed there will be any large houses or other buildings of importance erected in this village during next summer. The house carpenters are now nearly out of business, at present, and a poor prospect ahead.

Jan. 26th

Owing to the coldness of the weather and the great quantity of snow on the ground, there is but little out of door business done; consequently more common laborers are now out of employ than have been before for many months. About all the work that is done is to cut wood in the woods, and there is but little of that as the snow is so deep in the woods it is difficult to cut wood there.

Jan. 27th

Another pleasant Sabbath; quite a large number attended church. In the evening I went into the house of Dr. Stevens and found there quite a company: a Mr. Ross and his wife of Biddeford, relatives of Mrs. Stevens, and Mrs. Stevens youngest sister Caroline Marston, and her husband Mr. James. The last named couple were married on the 23d instant and are now on their bridal tour.

Jan. 28th

Among the nominations by the new Governor - Wells, I see that the following are made of persons who live in this county.

Thomas Spauld, of Biddeford, Sheriff.

Joshua Herrick, of Alfred, Register of Deeds.

Joseph Dune Jr, of Kennebunk, Bank Commissioner.

Jan. 29th

About twelve years since Thomas Mc Bulloch, of this town, left home and established himself in business in Fort Wayne, Indiana. In 1841 he returned to Kennebunk and married Abigail Chadbourne to whom he has been attached before leaving for the West. He came to Fort Wayne, where they have continued to live until the past fall, when they returned to their old home, and have concluded to remain here.

Jan. 30th.

Mrs. A few weeks since, a Mrs Wakefield of Pennebunkport, died leaving an infant daughter. The near relatives of the child have persuaded Mrs. Charles Thompson of this village, to adopt it as her own. Mrs. Wakefield was the daughter of Benjamin Perkins and granddaughter of the late Seth Burnham Esq. of Pennebunkport.

Jan. 31st.

✓ This has been an extremely cold month, without a "gummy" extreme thaw. There has not been a day in the month when the water ran off the eaves of buildings, except on a few days when the roofs of buildings were exposed to the direct rays of the sun, and not exposed to the wind. It is supposed that that this has been the most severe January for many years.

Feb. 1st

✓ Although there is not now so much talk about "spiritualism" as there was a year since; yet there are not far from twenty persons who profess to believe in the doctrine. They have one or two meetings every week. There is a public meeting once in two weeks at the house of Thomas Littlefield. The "communications" are now made principally through "talking mediums" who are Mrs. J. W. Sargent, Mrs. Benjamin Perkins, Mrs. Thomas Littlefield, Mrs. Ebenezer Huff and Mrs. Simon Kimball and probably others.

Feb. 2d

✓ Once in a fortnight, usually on Thursday evenings, most of the females who attend the Congregational meeting meet at the house of some member of the society and spend a few hours in labor for the benefit of some poor people principally children connected with the Sabbath School of the society. At these meetings, it is customary to pass around a bowl of apples only. The more formal and longer meetings of the society where supper is provided does not occur more than six or eight times a year.

Feb. 3d

Sunday A cold day but pleasant, but few persons attended church, particularly those living out of the village.

Feb. 4th

✓ There was a "flood of snow" last night which blew on the railroad track, so much; that the first train of cars from the West which was due at this depot at 11 o'clock A.M. did not arrive until nearly eight o'clock this evening.

Feb. 5th.

The Congress of U. S. met on the first Monday of last December being almost nine weeks since. Having attempted in vain to elect a Speaker by a majority of votes; on the 3d inst. a resolution was adopted that the plurality should elect. The following is the result of the 133 vote, being the first under the plurality rule.

~~William~~ P. Banks of Massachusetts, -- 103

William H. Seward, of South Carolina, 100

Mr. Bullen, -- -- -- 6

Mr. Campbell of Ohio, -- -- -- 4

Mr. Wells, -- -- -- 1

Northaniel P. Banks Jr was accordingly declared elected.

Feb. 6th

Notices are posted up in the village that all the personal property of the late John Hovey, will be sold at auction on Tuesday the twentieth instant. The real estate of J. Hovey is not to be sold until next Spring.

Feb. 7th.

The religious interest or excitement which was felt in the Methodist society in this village, has nearly, if not entirely abated. The meetings on the Sabbath, particularly Sabbath evenings are still numerously attended, but there is not interest, there has been manifested.

Feb. 8th

This has been a pleasant and comparatively warm day. This is the first day since last Christmas, when water has run off the eaves of buildings where they were exposed to the wind. The weather to day has not been warm enough for the snow to tread in the middle of the road.

Feb. 9th

News was received to day of the loss of the ship Horizon, of Pennebunk, William Stone, master from Liverpool to New Orleans. She ran ashore on the Irish coast and became a perfect wreck; crew saved. She was loaded with salt. The vessel was owned in this village and insured.

Feb. 10th

Nothing of particular interest occurred to day. Rev Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Titcomb of Pennebunkport. Mr. Titcomb is an uncommonly good looking minister, rather reserved in his manners and remarkably gray-headed for his time of life, about 45.

Feb. 11th.

✓ Mrs. Olive, wife of Capt. Claudius B. Williams, wife started to join her husband who is in New Orleans. She is going in a ship from Boston, and on her arrival New Orleans N.H. she expects to go with her husband to Europe.

Feb. 12th

A few days since, I wrote and posted up a notice of which the following is a copy.

Bancus

X "The Democrats of Pennebunk, are requested to meet at the rooms of Mr. Joseph Sargent, on Thursday the 12th inst. at 4 o'clock P.M.; to choose two Delegates to attend the Convention of the First Congressional District, to be held in Portland on the 14th inst., at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. Pennebunk, February 7th 1856."

By order of Town Committee.

X The following is a copy of the certificate given to the Delegates, for their right to a seat.

✓ "In accordance to previous notice, a meeting of the Democrats of Pennebunk, was held on the 12th of February 1856, and was organized by the choice of Joseph Waterhouse for Chairman, and Andrew Walker, Sec. It was then unanimously voted that Simon L. Whitten and Joseph Titcomb, be Delegates to a Convention of the First Congressional District to be held in Portland on the 14th instant.

It was also voted, that either Delegate here chosen, shall have power to fill any vacancy which may occur.

Joseph Waterhouse, Chairman

Andrew Walker, Secretary.

Feb. 13th

X Sale The personal property of the late John Hovey was at sold at auction, yesterday. With the exception of three Auction yoke of oxen and about eight tons of hay, a large proportion of property was old and but of little value kept, although as a whole it brought more than it was really worth. The reason was the day was favorable, the company large and bidding spirited. There was a large quantity of estate, old farming utensils and old Furniture which had been on hand for many years. The furniture in particular, formerly belonged to old Major William Jeffords, who has been dead at least thirty five years.

Feb. 14th

There were but very few "Valentines" passed through the Post Office; for the last two or three years so many scurrilous letters and immodest pictures have been sent to different individuals, on the 14th of February, the custom is now considered by respectable people as a nuisance.

Feb. 15th

The roads have now become so worn, that the sleighing goes and sledding is now quite good. Many of the "pitches" or "cradle holes" in the roads have been filled up; but it is still bad "turning out".

Feb. 16th

There is considerable wood hauled in to market now. Birch wood is worth from \$3.00 to 3.50 a cord, hard wood from \$4.00 to 4.75 a cord according to quality; There is not much if any hard pine wood sold in this village, it is hauled to the Port to be shipped to Boston.

Feb. 17th

Early this morning, it commenced snowing, and has continued to snow gently all day. It is supposed about eight inches have fallen and there is now (evening) a prospect storm, that the roads will be again blocked up for the wind has arisen and the light snow is flying merrily.

Feb. 18th

The roads are again impassable and the snow blows so much that it is useless to try to shove them out. The mail carrier from the Port came on foot with the mail bag on his shoulder. The morning trains of cars from Portland arrived at Pennebunk depot one hour behind their usual time, but soon after leaving the depot ran into a snow bank in the cut at the house of Below Stevens, and there they have remained all day. The company have a large number of laborers at work shoveling snow, but the snow blows on the track about as fast as they can shovel it off.

Feb. 19th

The following is a copy of dispatch posted in the Post Office, in this village.

Feb. 19. 2.15 P.M.

The E. R. R. train which left Boston yesterday morning is somewhere between Beverly and Newburyport. The three trains which left Boston yesterday on the B & Maine road are a little west of Exeter N.H., they have one hundred men shoveling snow and twenty men bringing wood and water.

for the engines—they hope to reach Exeter depot to day.
No train left Boston for Portsmouth, or Portsmouth for Boston
this morning.

J. W. H.

Feb. 20th

The following are the telegraphic dispatches for this day.

Dispatches to the
the
Telegraph office.
✓ E. No. No. train arrives at Newburyport at nine
o'clock this morning.

J. W. H.

Feb. 20th, 2 P. M.

B. & M. train is within half mile of So. New Market—
they have broken their plows & have but two engines to work
with—will have to dig the rest of the way.

✓ E. No. No. train is at Newburyport. The three engines which
left Kennebunk Depot yesterday, arrived at North
Berwick at eleven o'clock last night, and are now working
their way to the junction.

Feb. 21st.

Feb. 21st, 10.10 min. A. M.

✓ E. No. No. train will leave Newburyport for Portsmouth
at quarter past ten. B. & M. engines are still at So. New
Market. Mr. Russell in returning from So. Berwick,
has got one engine and some plows off the track in Wells.

Feb. 21st, 12.1 min.

✓ B. & M. train from Boston this morning, left Exeter at
twelve o'clock. Nothing more from E. No. No. train.

Feb. 21st, 8.11 min. P. M.

✓ The 7 1/2 & 2 1/2 clock trains on E. No. No. left Portsmouth at
ten minutes past eight. The 2 1/2 clock B. & M. train is
at S. B. junction waiting.

Arrival of the Mail.
✓ Soon after receiving the last telegraphic dispatch, B. & M.
Goodwin sent his man to the depot for the Western mail
bags, and he arrived back to the village with all the back
mails from Saturday night Feb. 16th, to this Thursday night
Feb. 21st; being the longest time between Western mails for
many years. People are very hungry for news.

Feb. 22nd.

Reading the news.
✓ Many persons in this vicinity have been employed
most of the day in reading newspapers in order to be posted
up in the affairs of the world.

Feb. 23rd.

Weather.
✓ The weather has become moderate. The weather yesterday
was mild and springlike. To day rather colder than yesterday
but not so severe as it has been.

Feb. 24th.

A pleasant day, good sleighing and a larger number than
usual attended church. Rev. Mr. Willcox took these words for
his text "And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred
and thirty years, and he died". In this sermon he gave a brief
history of Adam and Eve our first great progenitors and how
they were types of all succeeding generations.

Feb. 25th.

The following good advice is from the memoirs of Sidney
Smiths.—"When you meet with neglect, let it arouse you
to exertion, instead of mortifying your pride. Set about
lessening those defects which expose you to neglect and
improve those excellencies which command attention
and respect."

Feb. 26th.

Dancing appears to be the principal business that is brisk
in the village this winter. During the last two months there
has been a dancing school for children, kept by a Mr. Lee, of
Saco. Last evening, the same teacher commenced a school
for adults. There were about twenty two couples present, one
half of them are married people.

Feb. 27th.

The "heart of winter" appears to be broken. The weather
is quite milder and pleasant. The days are so long that nearly
every day the snow melts some in the middle of the day.

Feb. 28th.

Bapt. Joseph E. Hatch died this day at the age of 87
years. He was the son of the late Capt. Joseph Hatch of this
village, who died a few years since. The family to which
Capt J. E. Hatch belonged are an uncommonly temperate
family and promoters of temperance; but was an exception;
for many years he has been intemperate and no impor-
tunities of his relatives could induce him to alter his course.

Feb. 29th.

John H. Butts, of Kittery, came to town with B. & M.
Goodwin this week. He is a tall, broad shouldered young
man about 21 years of age. He wears his hair combed back
from his forehead towards the back of his head, giving him
rather a singular appearance. He appears to be a man
uncommon natural abilities, and good attainments
for one of his age. He appears to me, to have the elements
of a great man within him, if they are developed.

Sunday

Sermon

on

Adam's Eve,

X Sidney

Smiths

advice.

Dancing

school

for

adults.

Pleasant

weather.

Death

X of

Capt.

Joseph E.

Hatch.

John H.

Butts

of

Kittery.

March 1st

As the time for the annual town meeting approaches, there begins to be more talk on the subject. It is supposed that the "Know Nothing" party, will make another powerful effort to elect town officers of that party. I asked a member of the party if he thought there would be a rally of the "Know Nothings" in town this spring. "Yes," said he, "every member that was at the polls last spring, will be there this spring, if they are not dead or moved away".

March 2d

Another stormy Sunday. Mr. Willcox and Mr. Cobb, did not have any meeting and Mr. Swann had a meeting only stormy in the forenoon. The snow storm commenced last night and Sunday, continued until the middle of the afternoon. The winter being high, it is probable the snow (about six inches) is much drifted.

March 3d

Evening. The mail from Boston was about two hours behind its usual time, and the morning mail from Boston detained, has not yet arrived. Although there was not but a few inches of snow fallen; that few inches has blown in on the mail track in some places, three to four feet deep. The snow plow from attached to the engines cannot plow it off the track, because there is a hard wall of old snow on each side of the track, which is too hard to yield to the pressure of the new snow; hence the new snow has to be shoveled from the track in many places.

March 4th

The mail from the which was due yesterday at 11 1/2 o'clock, arrived. H. M. arrived this morning at 3 o'clock. People not only on the railroad, but on common roads, are tired of shoveling snow.

March 5th

There was musical entertainment to those who like it last night at the Town Hall. The principal performer was Mr. Harrison, who advertises himself as an "Improvisator", that is has the faculty of composing songs, at the impulse of the moment, upon any number of subjects, given him by the audience. Those who went to hear him say, he has a remarkable knack of singing, but not entertaining or instructing.

March 6th

The dancing school for juveniles, kept by Mr. Lee, of Saco, closed last evening. There has been quite a large number of attendees, all that "Mansum Hall" would accommodate. He is a popular teacher of his art.

March 7th

By the request of Joseph Dune senior, I examined the tax book committed to me by assessors to see what proportion the inhabitants of School District No. 1. (Village) paid of the whole amount of taxes. After a careful examination, I found the inhabitants of this district paid within a small fraction of two thirds of the whole sum. This district was this year assessed \$4074.91 and the whole town \$6123.69.

March 8th

The district schools in this village closed this day. The school for large scholars was kept by James Smith and for younger children by Esther Webber.

March 9th

This has been an uncommonly dry day for the time of year. More like January than March. The snow did not melt, even in the warmest places.

March 10th

There has not been but few colder nights during the past winter than last night. The winter froze so hard in my chamber, that it was with difficulty I broke the ice in my water pail, in order to get water to wash my hands and face. This morning at sunrise I understood the thermometers in the village varied from 17 to 21 degrees below zero, Mr. B. Sewall's thermometer being at 21 deg.

March 11th

The Biddeford city election, was held yesterday with the following result;

Vote for Mayor.

Citizen Candidates.

Know Nothing.

James Smith, -- 611 D. C. Somes, -- 728
over 2 scattering. Majority for Mr. Somes 111. -- Last year - whole number of votes 1341. Majority for Mr. Somes 201.

March 12th

As there is a large quantity of snow on the ground, it is expected there will be "freshet" this spring, and as the ice in the rivers is very thick, it is supposed that when the ice goes down stream, much damage will be done to bridges and buildings situated near the river.

March 13th

The Selectmen of this town met at my store this day and prepared the Warrant for the next annual Town Meeting which is to be held on the 24th instant. Stephen Perkins and Tobias Walker signed the warrant, J. P. Titcomb being at Augusta, Meeting.

March 14th

There is much talk on the subject of "breaking out" roads during the past winter. I have heard no one estimate the cost to the town at less than eight hundred dollars, and some even think the whole expense will not be less than twelve hundred dollars.

March 15th.

Tobias Walker and Stephen Perkins, Selectmen of this town (George O. Titcomb is in Augusta) met at my store this afternoon, to prepare a list of persons suitable for jurors. The following is the list of names we selected.

George W. Bourne,	Honace Porter,
Abel M. Bryant,	John Roberts,
William M. Bryant,	William Ross,
James Cousens,	Daniel Kernick,
John Colby,	Nathaniel K. Sargent,
William Cole,	Joseph Sargent,
Sargent P. Day,	Benjamin Smith,
Isaac Downing,	Jamin Smith,
Joshua Emery,	Rufus Smith,
George Emmons,	Samuel Smith,
Joseph A. Haley,	Oliver Stevens,
Daniel L. Hatch,	Israel Taylor,
Daniel Gillpatrick,	Samuel C. Talley,
Samuel B. Jellison,	Charles Thompson,
Thatcher Jones,	Theodore Thompson,
Henry Jordan,	William L. Thompson,
Henry Kingsbury,	George Taylor,
Thomas Lord,	George O. Titcomb,
William Lord,	Josh Titcomb,
William Lord Jr.,	Andrew Walker,
William D. Lord,	John Walker,
George Mendum,	Tobias Walker,
Elisha L. Mitchell,	George W. Wallingford,
Adam Mc Bulloch,	Joshua Wakefield,
Noah Nason,	Joseph Waterhouse,
James Osborn,	Shapleigh Webber,

Charles Williams.

Having finished the above job, of selecting jurors, the Selectmen examined their town books, to see if all was correct; then delivered up the books to the Auditors for their inspection.

March, 16th

As it has been a pleasant day and the traveling as good as usual; there was a large congregation at the Congregational church. Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with Mr. Titcomb of Kennebunkport.

March 17th.

As the time for town meeting approaches, there is more and more talk of town affairs and town officers. On the part of citizens there is nominated for Selectmen, George Emmons, George O. Titcomb and Joshua Wakefield. On the part of the "Know Nothings" Stephen Perkins, John Colby and Theodore Thompson. — It is probable the struggle between the the citizens and "Know Nothings" will be as severe as last year.

March 18th

The weather has become comparatively mild, so that in the middle of the day, the water runs in the streets, but the snow in the fields has not settled more than three or four inches. The people say they never knew so much snow on the ground at this time of year, as at present. On the main street in the village between the bridge and Union meetinghouse, two teams cannot pass each other not more than half the way, there being "turnout places" where one team has to stop until the other has passed along.

March 19th.

A few days before the city election in Biddeford on the 10th inst. E. C. Bourne's moved from Biddeford back to his father's house and has now gone to house keeping, in the house owned and occupied by Daniel L. Hatch. I do not know why he moved back; but I do know that William Bery of Biddeford was elected judge of the Municipal Court, the office which has been filled by Mr. Bourne. I do not know how much the said officer receives for his services.

March, 20th

Last April the warp yarn factory in this village was stopped and has remained idle until the present time. Within a few weeks, the machinery has been thoroughly overhauled; what was good or worth repairing has been repaired and that which was not worth repairing has been cut aside and new substituted. About ten days since the mill was set in operation and there is now six girls and two boys and two men at work in the mill. George Mendum has the oversight of the factory and George Phillips is principal manufacturer.

March 21st

✓ Murrings Since April 2^d 1844, when I was elected Town Clerk of this town, I have issued three hundred and thirty two certificates for marriages and recorded four hundred and five deaths.

March 22d

✓ The "old folks" dancing school closed this week. The teacher tells us there is "a time to dance", and many of the "old folks" and "young folks" in this village appeared to think just the past winter was the "time" for them to dance for the winter has been a dance of some kind at least on an average two evenings each week.

March 23d

✓ Sunday A pleasant day, a large number attended church. Mr. Wilcox this afternoon delivered an excellent discourse on the text "Search the Scriptures".

March 24th

✓ A pleasant day but bad traveling for the annual town meeting which was held this day. There was a large number attended, but not quite so much excitement as there was one year since. The following were the results of the balloting:-

Moderator.

Citizens

Know Nothings.

Joseph Titcomb, 203 John Bobb, 177

Clerk

Andrew Walker, 212 George W. Wallington, 169

Selectmen.

George O. Titcomb, - 229 Stephen Perkins, - 191

George Emmons, - 228 John Bobb, - 180

Joshua Wakefield, - 224 Theodore Thompson, 191

Assessors.

✓ By agreement of parties Horace Porter and Charles M. Swett cast one ballot each, that the above Selectmen be Assessors.

Treasurer

Andrew Walker, - 160 George W. Wallington, 40

Town Agent.

Horace Porter, - 196 Charles M. Swett, 24.

✓ Soon after 4 o'clock P.M. the meeting was adjourned until tomorrow at 9 A.M. In the forenoon on the vote for Selectmen there were 424 ballots (there were 12 scattering ballots) but in the afternoon not more than two thirds as many.

March 21st

The town meeting to day was not so fully attended as it was yesterday. The "Know Nothings" as a party did not show fight.

Amount of money raised.

For the support of School - - - 1600,

" " " the Poor other necessary town charges 1100,

" " engine company in the village - - - 75,

" " for breaking out roads the past winter - 800 3975

" " repairs of Highways & Bridges in labor on cash - - 1900,

It was voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are requested to close the "Liquor agency" in the best practical manner.

A short time before the business of the meeting was closed, Joshua Wakefield sent in a messenger declining to act as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor. Benjamin Smith was then chosen to fill the offices made vacant by the withdrawal of Mr. Wakefield. There was not to my knowledge any contention or excitement in the meeting this day, with the slight exception some persons murmured that Mr. Wakefield had not let the town know that he should not accept, at an earlier period in the meeting. At 3 o'clock the meeting was adjourned without day.

March 25th

The choice of town officers on the 24th inst. by such large majorities appears to have disheartened the "Know Nothing" party. Nearly all the leading men of the party appear to have given up all hope getting the power in their hands. The fact that John Bobb, the acknowledged leader, did not receive so many votes by clerks, as Mr. Perkins and Mr. Thompson, has taken the wind out of Bobb's sails completely. I understand he says that he shall never try for another town office. One year ago the "Know Nothing" party, not only in this town, but throughout the State were confident that they should eventually triumph and were extremely jubilant; now their prospects are dark and lowering and consequently the leaders in despondency.

March 27th

For a number of years past Benjamin Bragdon of this town, now about 21 years of age has been out of health. He has been able to go about from place to place, was low spirited and utterly refused to perform any labor or even make the attempt. It now appears he has nearly ruined himself by "masturbation". He is now an inmate of the Poorhouse. At the late town meeting the Selectmen were directed to expend a sum of money not exceeding \$100, in procuring medical aid for him.

1856.

March 28th

There has been more than usual excitement in the village. Last Sunday a ship arrived in Boston from Liverpool, with Irish passengers. On Wednesday the 26th, one of the passengers, a girl came to this place and stopped with James Berry, whose wife is her half sister. This morning the girl, being quite unwell a physician (Dr. Stevens) was sent for; he pronounced the disease small pox. Two of the Selectmen came to my store and after long deliberation it was concluded to let the patient remain where she now is, a house belonging to Michael and James Berry, being formerly a store occupied by Timothy Drost. A bargain was made with Dr. Stevens that he should attend on the girl for the sum of \$30.; that he should see that due precautions were used that the disease should not spread. That he should use disinfecting agents about the house, these agents however should be an extra bill for which the town will pay; that he should see what necessaries the inmates of the house needed, and see that they should be procured, in fact he is to have the supervision of the whole affair, as far as the house is concerned. The doctor was authorized to tell James Berry that he must remain within doors, but the town would pay him during his confinement as much wages as he could obtain elsewhere.

March 29th

Patrick Berry, offered his house and land at auction but no person gave a bid for it. He came to this town from Ireland about fifteen years since. Since that time he has been twice to Ireland and has moved from this village two or three times. Now he wishes to move away again.

March 30th.

There was preaching in the Baptist church to day. Rev. Mr. Worth of Fishkill N.Y. officiated. It is expected that he will remain here for the present. He is a man apparently about 60 years of age, rather gentlemanly in appearance. The first impression of him is that his abilities are about on an average with the preachers in the Baptist denomination.

March 31st

James Berry who was hired to remain to remain in the house with the girl who is sick with the small pox has gone off in the night. It is reported he has gone to Boston. He left home Saturday night.

1856.

April 1st.

At the meeting of the directors of Ocean Bank, last evening, it was voted to declare a dividend of four per cent for the half year ending at the commencement of this month. After paying the dividend there will remain a surplus of profits on hand of \$X

April 2d

Last evening there was a "Leap year Ball" in Munsom Hall which was conducted entirely by ladies. They have the sole management, at least ostensibly. They invited the gentlemen to go to the dance and invited them to come while at the ball. No gentleman was allowed to invite a lady to dance under the penalty of paying of one dollar for each offence. I understood there were forty couples present for which ample refreshments were provided. The ball broke up at four o'clock this morning.

April 3d

I this day bargained with William B. Sewall and Joseph Satecomb for the lot and store formerly owned by the late Knuch Hardy. The store is 22 feet wide and 40 long. The building is in good repair ~~excepting~~ with the exception of the blinds to the doors and windows, which have become decayed in places, it also needs painting. There is a good cellar under the whole building. I do not know the exact bigness of the lot as the deeds have been misplaced. I am to pay for the store and lot eight ~~thirty~~ five Hundred Dollars.

April 4th.

John Huff of this town, started on the 2d inst. for New York, to take passage on a steam ship for California. Mr. Huff is an uncle to Shards. Nathaniel and William Thomson of this village. He is now 58 years old and a bachelor. He has been a settler here for many years. Part of the time he has lived with his brother William in Pennabunkport, for a number of years he lived by himself in the Eastern part of this State and during the past winter he has lived with Capt. Shards Thomson. It is not considered probable he will ever return to Pennabunk.

April 5th.

Capt. William Lounsbury buried his third wife this afternoon. He was married in 1821 to Miss Jane J. Lounsbury; in 1830 to Miss Sarah Ann B. Little and 1832 to Miss Elizabeth Drost. His first or second wife died at sea with him and was buried in the ocean. They all died with consumption.

Ocean Bank dividend

Leap year ball.

Bargain for the Hardy store & lot.

John Huff.

Capt Wm Lounsbury's wives.

April 6th

✓ Sunday, Nothing of particular interest to day. The day has been pleasant, but the walking bad, on account of the melting snow.

April 7th.

✓ Rev. At the annual meeting of the Unitarian parish, the Mr. members were surprised to receive a letter from Mr. Swan, Swan, in which he gave them notice that his ministerial duties in this parish would cease in six months from this notice, time. — When he was settled, it was agreed that the parish or minister should give six months notice if they wish to dissolve the connection.

April 8th

X Why I heard the following remark, which to me appears to be reasonable. — "As a person becomes enfeebled by mind disease or becomes aged, the mind of that person does not partake of the infirmities of the body; but the organs to be through which the mind manifests itself having become infirm, the mind appears to be impaired, but it is not so in reality."

April 9th.

✓ Last fall, Mr. Francis Fisher of this village, went to the island of Cuba, to work at his trade — machinist. Last week he arrived back to Boston and sent for his wife to come to him, as he was quite sick. To day he and his wife came home. It is reported he has had the yellow fever. He is still very feeble.

April 10th

X No It was expected there would be a freshet this spring on account of the great quantity of snow which was on the ground; but there has not been a heavy rain since last fall and the snow has gradually melted away, so no danger is now anticipated from a freshet.

April 11th

✓ The snow has nearly disappeared from the open fields, but near the fences, there are many snow banks yet. The walking in the village is good, but on the roads outside of the village, the traveling is extremely bad. I have seen this week many men from Alexandria who came to the village on foot. They say it is very difficult to get a horse through the mud and slush. In some places the snow-banks in the road, are from two to three feet deep.

April 12th

I this day received from Mrs. Abigail Titcomb and Miss Lucy Sewall, a deed of three fourths of the Hardy store over lot. Mrs. Titcomb owned one half and Miss Sewall one fourth. The remaining one fourth is owned by the Maine Missionary Society, it have been given to them by the late Erelene Sewall deceased. Dr. Dwight the Treasurer of the Society, has written to Mr. Sewall, that when the Society meets in June next, it will doubtless authorize him to dispose of the property.

April 13th

I came to my sisters in Great Falls, by the last train of cars yesterday. This forenoon I attended meeting at the Congregational church and heard an uncommonly interesting discourse from a Rev. Mr. Foster of Lowell. In the afternoon attended meeting at the Baptist church.

April 14th

✓ Left Great Falls this morning at 8 o'clock 15 minutes for Boston, where I arrived at 9 o'clock A.M. Put up at the Quins House which is full to overflowing, there being at least two hundred persons stopping at the house.

April 15th.

✓ The prices for provisions are generally lower than they were one year since. Flour is at least two dollars less on a barrel than it was two months since. The probability is, that it will fall still more.

April 16th

✓ The hotels are now overrun with inmates. At the Quins House, many have been unable to get accommodations. Hotels all the beds, cot beds, sofas and every place where a person could be stowed away to sleep being occupied.

April 17th.

✓ News was received to day in Boston of the signing of a treaty of Peace between England, France, Russia and Turkey. I did not see any particular manifestations of rejoicing or displeasure.

April 18th.

✓ I left Boston yesterday at 1 P.M. and arrived at my boarding house at 9 1/2 o'clock P.M. — I brought with me from Boston to packages of goods from Calcutta. One was from John C. Lord to his mother Mrs. Sally K. Lord, the other was from Charles Pelly, to his mother, now Mrs. B. F. Goodwin.

April 19th.

For a number of years past George J. Barrett, who was a student at Brunswick College, has been in the habit of coming to Pennabunk, two or three times a year, with late publications of books, Harpers Magazines and other periodicals. On the 14th inst. he died suddenly in Bath aged 31 years. He was married last Christmas day to a Miss Jordan of Saco. His remains were brought to Saco for interment. He was highly esteemed by his friends and acquaintances.

April 20th

A cold rain storm commenced last night and has continued all day. This is the first rain storm of importance since last Christmas. But few people attended church.

April 21st.

George O. Titcomb says, that the friends of the late Maine Rufus liquor law in the Legislature were much mortified, that Choat Rufus Choate of Massachusetts, did have a glass of brandy and water of which he partook during his late speech before the late the Maine Legislature, against the removal of Woodbury Davis from the bench of the Supreme Court. Mr. Titcomb says, that he cannot testify that it was brandy and water but looked like it; the members who sat near Mr. Choate said it not only looked like brandy and water but smelt like it.

April 22d

The store which I bought recently is now occupied by George W. Hardy and the York Lodge of Freemasons. Mr. Hardy has the lower floor and cellar for which he is to pay me at the rate of forty seven and one half Dollars a year. The Freemasons have the chamber for which they are to pay me at the rate of thirty two and one half Dollars a year as long as they may remain.

April 23d

It is not expected there will be any new houses built in the village this season; but a number of our citizens will improve the opportunity to repair and alter their buildings, so it is probable the joiners will have a plenty of work to do.

April 24th.

The goods which I bought in Boston, left there by packet on the 18th instant; but on account of the late storm did not arrive at the Port until yesterday. To day they have been hauled to my store in good condition. They were brought by the Sch. Martha, Anne Bradford, master.

April 25th

The insurance policy on the Hardy store was taken from the Mutual Fire Insurance Company at Saco the 7th of February 1810 and will expire Febury 7th 1817. The amount insured is \$700. This policy has been transferred to me.

April 26th

At an adjourned parish meeting of the Unitarians, a letter was received from Rev. Joshua Swann, in which (as I understand) he has agreed to remain here for a longer period of time. The parish then voted to give him for his services One Thousand Dollars a year. This is higher than any salary ever paid in this village.

April 27th

A pleasant day and a large number attended at the different churches. Rev. Mrs. Wilbur exchanged with Rev. Mrs. Titcomb. Sunday After the afternoon services, I took a walk on the Saco road. In the road nearly opposite the house of Owen C. Burnham there is a new bank now one foot in depth. There is another new bank in a gully nearly opposite the house of Henry Jordan. I did not see snow in any other places.

April 28th.

I understood that some of the ladies of this village have by subscription purchased a silver goblet and two silver cups or tumblers, which were presented this evening to the "Sons of Temperance". The presentation took place in the Hall occupied by the "Sons". Miss Hannah Ann Hatch presented the gift with a short speech and George M. Bouwme responded.

April 29th.

The tavern stand owned by the late Capt. John Hovey, was sold at auction for sixteen hundred and thirty five Dollars to Capt. William Loring Jr. With the tavern was sold one barn and shed and about one and one fourth acre of land. Two large, old barns formerly occupied by the stage company were sold separately from the house. Capt Loring bought one for \$81. and youth Davis for the other for \$100. There were two small barns, mow, racks, and many small articles sold; so that the whole amount of the sale was about \$2000. The tavern and its adjuncts did not bring so much as was expected.

April 30th

Thomas Cousens has contracted with the Overseers of the Poor, to support the Poor of this town for one year from the first day of May 1816 to the first day May 1817 for the sum of One Hundred Dollars.

May, 1st, 1856.

The following is the list of Stockholders in Pecon Bank, with the amount of stock held by each, Jan. 1, 1856.

Bourne, George W. of Pennekamp.	600.	Nason, Nehitable, Ken.	1,000.
Bourne, Edmund.	500.	Nason, Susan S.	1,000.
Callender, Geo. S. Co. Boston.	1,000.	Nason, Noah	8,000.
Curtis, Daniel Ken.	400.	Nason, Daniel	3,000.
Dane, Joseph,	1,000.	Patterson, Acton K. port.	500.
Dane, Joseph Jr.	900.	Perkins, Albert	400.
Dane, Nathan Jr.	500.	Renaich, Dennis Ken.	100.
Dunnell, Israel	2,000.	Sewall, Wm. B.	200.
Dunnell, Lucretia W.	300.	Smith, Robert Jr.	2,000.
Emery, John	1,400.	Smart, Mary S.	800.
Blumell, Benjamin	300.	Stover, John, Sanford	1,000.
Gooch, Hannah Wells	4,000.	Titcomb, Joseph Ken.	7,000.
Gooch, John	1,100.	Titcomb, Geo. O.	6,000.
Hall, Maria P. Ken.	500.	Titcomb, Ben. S.	400.
Kingsbury, Henry	1,500.	Titcomb, Abigail	4,000.
Belburn, Elizabeth	400.	Titcomb, Lucy W.	4,000.
Pindall, Sarah Wells	200.	Thompson, N. L.	10,000.
Lord, William Jr. Ken.	9,000.	Thompson, Wm. L.	800.
Sporn, Thomas	3,100.	Thompson, Charles	3,000.
Sporn, Irving	1,000.	Wakefield, Nicholas	300.
Sporn, Geo. C. S. Co. Boston	1,000.	Walker, Andrew	1,000.
Lord, George Ken.	1,000.	Williams, Charles	1,900.
Sporn, William	500.	Wormwood, Susan S. K. port.	1,000.
Mason, Sarah L. Esq. K. port	500.	Wise, George Ken.	1,500.
Mason, Ben. S. Esq.	500.	Ward, Charles, Salem	2,000.
Moody, Asaph	1,000.	Wells, John Wells.	800.
Morton, Edmund W. Ken.	200.	Wells, Sarah	400.
Murphy, John K. port.	1,000.	Williams, Charles W. Ken.	1,600.
Maxwell, Bank Wells	300.	Wells, Martha Wells	200.
Merrill, Andrew K. K. port.	600.	Wells, William	200.
			\$100,000

May 2nd.

The girl who was sick with the small pox has recovered, also a small boy, son of James Berry. As was remarked March 31st James Berry ran away from his home; after being absent about a week he returned and since his return has had the varioloid. The house in which they were sick, has this week been, as usual, purified. The whole expense of the sickness will probably cost this town about one hundred dollars.

May, 3d.

The engine company, met this afternoon, dressed in their uniform, red jackets and leather caps, after working their "tub" to their satisfaction, they partook of a lunch in the room over the engine.

May, 4th

Rev. Mr. Bowman formerly of Pennekamp, assisted Rev. Mr. Willcox to day. Mrs. Jenkins and her daughter Lucy joined the congregational church. Mrs. Jenkins was sprinkled as the Baptists say, or baptised as the congregationalists say in her infancy. The rite was administered to Lucy by Mr. Willcox at the time of her joining the church.

May 5th.

I employed Horace Durnals to build post and beam fence around a lot of land, which I own, some hundred feet westward of Brown Street. I worked with him all day. This is the first day that I have worked out of doors for a number of years.

May, 6th

Within a few days the Auditors report of the Receipts and Expenditures by the town of Pennekamp for the year ending March 17th 1856, has been printed and circulated according to a vote of the town.

The whole amount of orders drawn for Accounts is — — — — — \$3818, 25

Which are for the following purposes.

Don Schools.	2,163, 47
Support of the Poor.	611, 75
Roads and Bridges.	223, 07
Abatement.	255, 88
Town Agency for sale of Liquors.	250, 51
Miscellaneous	353, 57
	\$3,818, 25

May 7th

According to the printed report of the Auditors, the amount of bills paid on last Mouson bridge built in 1854 was, — — — — — \$2343, 27.

An appropriation of at least \$100, 00 is needed to finish the abutment walls at the ends of the bridge and fill up with sand. This is considered an unnecessarily expensive bridge, considering the amount of travel likely to pass over it.

May, 8th.

Mr. Smith, of Colchester, Connecticut, who for the last year has been canvassing this County for his contemplated new map of York County; is now here to review the work of his map, previous to its being engraved, also to obtain views of residences to be engraved on the border of the map. He says the best way to get a persons good will, is to make for him think he is of importance, make him think that you think highly of him, that he can be of great service to you. This method (says Smith) when applied judiciously to different classes of people, never fail to obtain the goodwill of people and their assistance when it is needed.

May 9th.

Farmers are now busy; but the weather is still quite cold for the time of year. As there has been an abundance of rain recently; it is supposed the coming hay crop will be good.

May 10th

Sometime previous to the year 1840, Stephen Littlefield of this town was courting a girl in Wells by the name of Rankin. This girl was poor but an excellent girl, as all of her acquaintances remark. In 1840 or a few months previous to this date Stephen became acquainted with Larimer Holmes of Barnstead, N. H. who at that time was at work in the factory in this village. Miss Holmes was worth about \$600. Of this fact Stephen became acquainted. He dismissed Miss Rankin's wife, offered himself to Miss Holmes, was accepted; lived all or nearly all of her money for which he gave her his note and in a short time they were married. A short time afterwards, he obtained possession of the note and refused to let her have any money except in very small sums. As a natural consequence, she quarrelled with husband and they have continued to live very unhappily together. About ten years since she took her bed and has continued to lie on it in her bed until the present time, with the exception of getting up to have her bed made once or twice a day. When her husband was taken sick, it is reported she did not manifest any sympathy for him, on the contrary when he had a severe fit of coughing she would clasp her hands and exclaim "Victory is coming! Victory is coming!" He died to day, aged 43 years. He leaves two children—a son and daughter. Perhaps all of the above is not strictly correct, but such are the reports.

May, 11th.

A cold rain storm. Not a large attendance at the meeting Sunday

May, 12th.

Philip B Littlefield, brother of the late Stephen Littlefield, depositor in my hands for safe keeping the following notes and cash belonging to his late brother

1 Note against William L. Thompson, for -	100,00	Stephen Littlefield's estate
1 " " William L. Thompson, " -	100,00	depositor in my hands.
1 " " Charles Wakefield, - " -	41,00	
1 " " Oliver Stevens, - " -	29,00	
1 " " Jacob Joylon, - " -	18,00	
Cash in bills on Ocean Bank	10,00	
	<u>\$738,00</u>	

May 13th

Mr. Smith, the map man, having made an agreement with the following persons in this town to have views of their residences engraved on the plate for his contemplated map, employed Henry Sargent to take Daguerrotype views of them. He has this day taken pictures of the following houses, buildings belonging to William Lord Jr., Noah Nason, Joseph Titcomb, Charles Dresser, William L. Thompson, George W. Bourne and the hotel of B. J. Goodwin in connection with the brick store of Nathan Dove Jr. Mr. Smith asks twenty dollars for each picture, the owner of the house paying in addition the price of taking the Daguerrotype view, which is five dollars.

May 14th

A few days since I had a letter from an old friend now in Washington D.C., who requested me to send him the names of the Democrats and Straight Whigs in this town. This request I complied with, as far forth as I knew; but there are many in town, of whose particular stripe in politics I am not acquainted. — I do not know the object for which the above names were requested.

May 15th

The price of provisions are taken as a whole considerably lower than they were last year at this time. Flour is worth now in the village from \$8,00 to \$10,00 a barrel; corn from 74 to 78 cents a bushel; butter 20 cents a pound; lard 14 ct; pork 11 ct mess and 12 ct clear; Eggs 12 ct doz; Melons 38 to 40 ct each; Sugar brown 10 ct; Butter 12 ct lb; coffee 12 ct to 14 ct lb — The price of hay is now \$18, a ton during the past winter it was \$20, a ton.

May 16th

X John L. Warren, an eminent physician of Boston, dies on the 4th inst., in the 80 year of his age. The will of the old Doctor required that his body should remain twenty four hours, at the close of which time arsenic should be infused into the veins; will, at the end of the next twenty four hours the funeral ceremony of the shroud take place, and the body be deposited beneath St. Paul's Church, and twenty four hours thereafter was to be given for examination to the officers of the medical college. After this Doctor the flesh was to be taken from the bones, the bones cleaned, &c. &c. mixed and deposited in the college museum. The will is peremptory upon the exact fulfillment of this requirement and it has been ~~complied~~ with, as far as time has admitted. His youngest son requested, and has obtained the gift of his father's heart, which he would preserve. (Boston Courier, May 12, 1816)

May 17th

Present I understand that Capt. Wm. Lord Jr. has disposed of owning three fourths of the tavern stand, which he bought on the 29th of April. The present owners are Wm. Lord Jr., William Lord, Tavern George Lord and Mary Lord - one fourth to each. It may be stand, that an agreement was made previous to the sale that it it should be owned jointly and in common.

May 18th.

X Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanges pulpits with Mr. Titcomb of Sunday Kennebunkport. Mr. T. appears to be a reserved, genteel sort of a man; but not to me, an interesting preacher.

May 19th.

After Workmen commenced this morning to take down the Stage old stage stable recently sold to J. D. Dure Jr. This stable Stable was built probably fifty years ago and has now become much decayed except the timber which is considered to be nearly sound.

May 20th

Weather The weather has now become quite warm and pleasant. another The farmers and those who have gardens are now busily appearance at work. The appearance for the coming crop of grass is of the very good, but the weather in June determines the amount grass. of the crop of hay for the year.

May 21st.

Price The wages of farm laborers this year is from one of dollar to one dollar and twenty five cents a day, the laborer paying his own board. All persons wishing to labor can now obtain employment.

May 22nd

The present owners of the old tavern stand, have commenced repairs making repairs on the same. I understand they do not think on to make thorough repair, but do only what they consider tavern necessary.

May, 23rd

In the winter of 1814 and '15, a charter was obtained from the Legislature of this State, to establish an insurance office ✓ Charter in this town to be called the "Atlas Insurance Company". No of the action was taken on the acceptance of the charter until this the afternoon when an official meeting was held in the banking "Atlas rooms of the Ocean Bank. It was voted to accept the charter insurance and take such measures as may be necessary to proceed to business, company. The capital of the company is to be \$100,000, one fourth part of accepted. the capital is to be paid in, for the other three fourths, the names of the stockholders with collateral security is to be accepted. About \$10,000 was subscribed this afternoon.

May 24th

There has been so much varying weather this spring, farmers Dull are rather backward in planting, particularly those who have weather much low land. Nearly all have finished planting corn and in for a few instances the corn has commenced to show itself above ground, planting.

May, 25th

Rev. Mr. Cobb, of the Methodist church received into the ✓ church of which he is pastor about ten members. Five of them were Sunday baptism by immersion, the others were sprinkled.

May 26th.

The Assessors made out a list of persons in this town ✓ Persons who are liable to perform military duty. They enrolled three who are liable to human and thing two names. This roll was left in the office liable to of the town clerk. The number of names on the list, I sent to the "train" office of the Adjutant General, at Augusta, Maine.

May 27th

I was at the Port this afternoon. D & J. Ward are now ✓ Ship building three large ships in their yard. Emmons & Littlefield building on this side of the river are building two ships and J. & J. O. Titcomb at are building a small ship or brig of between 400 and 500 tons at Port the Landing. The present prospect for new ships is not good and full the business will be better. In the time of peace prepare Sailing. for war with the old maxims; so builders of new ships probably think, in the times of depression prepare for elation of business.

1856.

May 28th.

X I had a conversation with Miss M. L. L., who is one of the believers in "Spiritualism" and one of the principal "mediums". I asked her if she really believed what is called Spiritualism was produced by the agency of departed spirits. Yes, said she, it has been more than two years since I became acquainted with the influence and now I have not any doubt but departed spirits are the true cause. She then related to me, how she often felt in impress with what she called spiritual influence. Her modesty was not uncommon for her, to see and converse with spiritual persons who have been dead for years, while in the trance or spiritual state. She says that the spirits never predict future events; but they tell of the past or present condition of themselves or their living friends. Said she, the spirit of Dr. Truett, late of South Berwick, and the spirit of Dr. D. Smart and Dr. J. Fisher, have appeared to her and prescribed what kind of medicine it was necessary for persons who are out of health to take; but said she I never went to these persons and told them of the prescriptions; for I had no doubt, they would laugh at me.

May 29th

The following is a synopsis of the most important events in the history of the late Eastern war.

X Synopsis of the late Eastern War. March 27, 1854, was formerly declared by France and England against Russia. April 3, 1854, the first French troops under Gen. Canrobert arrived at Constantinople. Sept. 11, Buller's army landed at Eupatoria in the Crimea. Sept. 20, battle of the Almar; Oct. 17th first bombardment of Sebastopol; Oct. 21st battle of Balaklava; Nov. 13 (Sunday) battle of Inkermann; April 9, 1855 of the heaviest guns opened fire on Sebastopol; June 28th, Lord Raglan died; Sept. 5th first full bombardment of Sebastopol; Sept 8th fall of the place. The Allies lost 10,000 men; the Russians 21,641. During the last three weeks of the siege, the Russians lost 1000 a day. The siege lasted 349 days. Treaty of Peace signed in Paris March 30, 1856.

The cost of the war is estimated at six hundred millions of dollars on the part of the Allies, and a still greater sum on the other side. This is the direct cost, the indirect costs are incalculable. The loss of life is reckoned at 300,000 on the side of the Allies, and 350,000 on the side of the Russians. In all 650,000 men.

1856.

May 30.

The following extract from a late work - "My Mother on the recollections of maternal influence, finds a response in my feelings. — "The first human pair bade adieu to the sweetest abode that the earth ever knew; and in the gloomiest circumstances; and I imagine that one of their heavy thoughts as they cast their eyes behind them, was that it was their home they were leaving. True the world was all before them, where to choose; but in all that world, amidst these was not another home, nor would there have been though there had been another Eden. In that one feature of their exile, how many of their children have been like them! There is but one spot on earth that we can ever truly call our home. We may have many residences, and local attachments; but those peculiar and most cherished associations which pertain to the place of our birth and childhood cannot be transferred or reproduced elsewhere. That spot we always ~~are~~ quit with regret, whether to leave it desolate or to see it occupied by strangers."

May 31st

This has been an uncommonly cold day for the time of year. In all or nearly all the stores and shops, where they have conveniences for making a fire; a fire has not only been built, but enjoyed after it was built.

June 1st.

Mrs. Joanna Harscomb died suddenly this morning aged 89 years. Mrs. H. for many years has had a heavy burden in this world. She was very poor and it is said her character was bad in her younger years. For the last ten or fifteen years, she has mostly supported herself by begging, with a small assistance from the town, as she refused to go to the Poor House to stay but a short time. I really hope she will not find herself in a worse condition in the spiritual world than she experienced in the temporal world; if she does her lot is certainly a hard one; or to use the words of an old saying "To live hard, poor hard, then die and go to hell at last is damn hard."

June 2d

Alvin Stevens, who moved from this town to Haverhill about two years since has again returned. He was a dealer in groceries in this village, continued in the same business at Haverhill and has again opened a store here (formerly occupied by Sumner Kimball) for the sale of groceries.

June 3d.

✓ The probate court was held in this village yesterday. Probate it has been customary to hold the court while at Kennebunk, in court the hall attached to the old tavern stands; but that tavern being at now unoccupied and undergoing repairs, the court today was held at Kennebunk, in the town hall. There was an unusual amount of business transacted. Mr. Goodwin was overruled with carrying. Between forty and fifty were there at dinner besides his usual family.

June 4th.

Mutual ✓ During the last session of the Legislature a charter was obtained to establish a mutual fire insurance company in this village. A meeting was held to accept the charter company, and take other preliminary steps to establish the company.

June 5th.

✓ I understand that a short time before the late Capt. monument John Hovey died, he requested E. C. Bourne (executor to his will) in to the remains of his father Ebenezer Hovey and his grandfather Henry New John Hovey, with their wives, of Arundel now Kennebunkport and bring them to this town and have them reinterred near his own. He also requested Mr. Bourne to obtain a marble Hovey monument, in memory of them, to be erected near this graves family. Mr. Bourne has performed each of these requests. The monument is neat, tasteful and appropriate. On it are inscriptions in memory of John Hovey, Ebenezer Hovey and his wife and New John Hovey and his wife. It is said the monument cost about \$175.00.

June 6th

✓ Within the last fortnight, two whales have been Two harpooned and brought into the harbor at Cape Porpoise. Whales, and there about twenty barrels of oil were obtained from each whale. The vessel which towed the whales to the cape, was owned and manned by persons belonging down East.

June 7th

✗ The Democratic National Convention assembled at Cincinnati on Monday June 2d. to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President of the U.S. The whole number of Delegates was 296. The convention was not organized and ready to ballot for candidates for the Presidency until June 5th President. The first Ballot was as follows.

Buchanan 131, Pierce 122, Douglass 33, Cass 1.

There were thirteen balloting on the 11th of June but no person has 2/3 of the whole number, which by agreement is necessary for a nomination. On the 6th inst. the

Convention met and proceeded to ballot as follows.

Fifteenth Ballot—Buchanan 118, Douglass 118, Cass 4, Pierce 3 (Pierce was here withdrawn by New Hampshire) National Convention

Sixteenth Ballot—Buchanan 168, Douglass 121, (Douglass was here withdrawn by Illinois) in Cincinnati

Seventeenth Ballot—Buchanan 296, being the unanimous vote of the convention. "Buch. 8

Afternoon Session, Second Ballot, — John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky was nominated Vice-President, receiving the unanimous vote of the convention. Breck. 8

June 8th.

This being the first pleasant and warm Sabbath this season; the ladies appeared at church today arrayed in their summer costume. — In the evening Daniel Drayton who was master of the Sch. Pearl in 1848. This man was employed to obstruct 76 slaves in said vessel from Washington to Philadelphia but was captured while on his way north, carried back to Washington and was there imprisoned about two years. He told his story of the affair and invited people to buy his book which gave a more minute account of the whole affair. He is an uneducated and uninteresting man. Daniel Drayton.

June 9th.

✓ The summer term of the district school in the village commenced today, under the tuition of a Mr. Ross, of Uxbridge, Mass. I do not know anything of the antecedents of this of this man, otherwise than he is said to be an old teacher. Mr. Ross. Deacon.

June 10th

The following sketch of James Buchanan, — the nominee for President of the U.S., if from the Boston Courier. ✗ Sketch of James Buchanan was born in Franklin county, Pa., the 14th of April, 1791, elected to the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1814 and 1815, was sent to Congress in 1830, where he continued for ten years, made Minister to Russia by Gen. Jackson, returned home in 1834, elected to the United States Senate, where he remained until 1842. He was appointed Secretary of State by President Polk, which he held for four years; and soon after the accession of Mr. Pierce to the Presidency, made Minister to England, where he returned a few weeks since. — The nomination of Mr Buchanan appears to be satisfactory to all parts of the U States that has been heard from. It is universally conceded that he will "run" better in New England than any other man. Buchanan the nominee for the Presidency.

June 11th

Mrs. Dolly or Dorothy, wife of the late Benjamin Smith has been unwell for some time. Within a few weeks she has become quite feeble; so that now she is confined to her bed nearly all the time. To day I was called in as a witness to her will. W^m B. Sewall and Mrs. Sophia Gilpatrick were the other male witnesses. Mrs. Smith sat up in bed while she wrote her name. Although she is quite low, it is not probable she is very near her end. While I was there she remarked, "I am not so sick as they think I am".

June 12th

Joseph Dane jr., has put a small addition to the upper part of Eastern side of his house, in order to enlarge two of his rooms; and also put a "bay window" over his front door, with other alterations in the internal arrangements of his house. The whole expense is probably not far from five hundred dollars.

June 13th

The weather so far this season has been uncommonly foggy with considerable rain. From present appearances there will be a large crop of hay and potatoes; but there has not yet been warm weather enough to give corn a good start.

June 14th

Robert O. Berry, granite stone manufacturer, who moved to this village from Waterbury, about two years since, has within a few days moved to Alfred. He has bought the tavern stand to recently owned by Gen. Thomas and will keep a public house in addition to his usual business.

June 15th

The Baptist Society in the village having invited Rev. J. Worth of Dismerville N.H. to become their pastor; he has moved his family here and preached to day for the first time since his removal. His first appearance as a minister is favorable. He appears to be a good kind of a man, with an uncommon command of appropriate language conveying his ideas.

June 16th

Edmund C. Bourne has had for two or three weeks past workmen employed on his house. They have put on a new roof, higher than the old roof in order to make room for a more fashionable finish than ever has been made with on the old arrangement. He has also a cupola on the new roof, marble chimney pieces and other additions most of which appear to be more for ornament than use.

June 17th

The stock of Ocean Bank, is in demand at the present time, for to pledge as security for the payment of that part value (three fourths) of the stock of the Atlas Insurance Co. which is not to be paid in cash. N. L. Thompson offered me six per cent advance on the stock which I own in the bank.

June 18th

I wrote the following notice, and sent a copy of it to Saco for publication in the Democrat.

"Atlas (Marine and Fire) Insurance Company, Kennebec:-

At a meeting of the stockholders of said company on the 17th inst., it was organized by the choice of the following gentlemen for directors — William Lord jr., Noah Nason, Charles Thompson, Joseph Dane jr., William Williams, Israel Dunsell, George P. Titecomb, North L. Thompson, Ivory Lord of Kennebec, John Gilpatrick of Saco and Thomas Howell of Kennebecport.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors, William Lord jr. was chosen President, but declined, as his business will not permit his bestowing that attention to the office which it requires. Noah Nason was then chosen President and Christopher Littlefield, Secretary. The stock of the company has been subscribed and will be paid about the first of August, when the office will be prepared to issue policies."

June 19th

From present appearances there will be a very large crop of hay this season. We have had an abundance of rain.

June 20th

For two or three years past Joseph Dane senior, has had a pimple on the side of his face, which of late has become enlarged and taken the form of a cancer. During the last six months he has worn a bandage on it. Dr. Henry G. Clark came from Boston this day in order to cut it out. I understand that "Cather" was administered to Mr. Dane before the operation was commenced, and he was entirely unconscious during the time the Doctor was performing the operation.

June 21st

A hot day for the time of year. The thermometer in this village has ranged from 94 to 96 in the shade.

Miss Emery has closed her private school for the present. It is probable it will be reopened in the fall.

June 22nd

The weather has been as hot as it was yesterday. Sunday. There was not a large number at church.

June 23^d.

The political parties have now chosen their candidates for the ensuing Presidential canvass. On the part of the Democrats James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania for President and John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky for Vice President. The Republicans have nominated John C. Fremont for President and W^m L. Dayton, of New Jersey for Vice-President. The "Americans" have nominated William Gilmore of New York for President and Andrew J. Donelson, of Tennessee for Vice President. The old Whig party now called "Straight Whigs" have not made any nomination and probably will not as a large proportion of them have left the party and joined other parties. The Republican party was recently called "Free-Sailors"; the Democrats papers call them "Black Republicans"; because their principal subject in conversation and writing relates to the blacks or negroes. The "Americans" recently called "Know Nothings" or "Sovi" who have nominated Gilmore for President are supposed to be free slaves in their feelings or at least they do not wish to make that question any part of the Presidential canvass. That portion of the "American" party who wish to make the question of slavery part of the canvass have repudiated the nomination of Mr. Gilmore and nominated Nathaniel P. Banks of Mass. as their candidate. Mr. Banks has declined the nomination and it is now probable that a large proportion of their number will join the Republican ranks and vote for Fremont and Dayton.

June 24th.

George Emmons and William L. Thompson of this town recently bought thirty five hundred bushels of corn in Baltimore, for the reported sum of forty seven cents a bushel. The vessel with the corn arrives at the Port within a few days. The owners sell the corn at the Port for 64 cents a bushel and when hauled to this village at 67 cents a bushel.

June 25th.

Dolly C. wife of the late Benjamin Smith died on Sunday the 22nd inst. aged 69 years. When I witnessed her will on the 11th inst., I did not think that she was so near her end. She was buried this afternoon. All of her children were present at the funeral but Sarah-Mrs Thomas Hayes, was not able to go to the grave, as her health is very poor.

June 26th

Concurs.

The Democrats of Kennebunk are requested to meet at the rooms of Mr. Joseph Sargent, on Thursday, June 26th at 7 o'clock P.M. to choose three Delegates to attend the Democratic State Convention.

By order of Town Committee.

A notice of which the above is a copy, having been posted in three public and conspicuous places in the village, was this afternoon read at the caucus, when the business was transacted which is reported in a certificate of which the following is a copy.

"At a meeting of the Democrats of Kennebunk, held on the twenty sixth day of June 1856 (notice of the same having been duly given). The meeting was organized by choosing Barnabas Palmer, Chairman and Andrew Walker, Secretary. The meeting then unanimously made choice of the following persons as Delegates to the State Convention, to be held in Bangor on Tuesday July 1st inst: James Smith, George O. Titcomb and Barnabas Palmer. The Delegates were authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur in their board.

Barnabas Palmer
X (Mr. Palmer did sign his name Chairman.)

Andrew Walker, Secretary

June 27th.

The provisions of the late Dolly C. Smith's will are reported to be as follows: Her husband Benjamin Smith died without a will; consequently she inherited one third of the real estate during her lifetime and at her decease it was to be equally divided between the seven legal heirs of the estate. A few years since she bought out the claims of Mrs. C. W. Hatch, Mrs. D. C. Smart and Northern Dore for the share of her daughter Susan; hence she owned $\frac{1}{7}$ of the real estate. In her will she gave her son Benjamin this $\frac{1}{7}$ and \$900. to buy the remaining $\frac{1}{7}$, he owning $\frac{1}{7}$ by inheritance. The personal estate (except the above \$900) is to be equally divided between Benjamin, Henry, Mrs. Frances Gould and Mrs. Sarah Hayes. Mrs. Gould's share is given to her in trust during her lifetime, at her decease the share goes to Mrs. Gould; child by her first husband Lucy Loom. Mrs. Hayes share is given to her in the same manner and at her decease it goes to her child or children. Northern Dore does not receive any thing. J. M. Hayes (Sarah's husband) and Henry Smith are the executors of the will. It is supposed that Mrs. Smith left about \$20,000 in Real and Personal estate.

June 28th

The "Straight Whigs" had a caucus this afternoon for Whig to choose delegates to attend their State convention which delegates meet at Bangor on the same day of the Democratic caucus to July 1st. The delegates chosen, I understand, are Horace State Porter, Nathan Davenport, Samuel Clark & John Ferguson. These delegates have power to provide substitutes.

June 29th

Another hot Sunday. Between two and three o'clock this afternoon the thermometer in the village ranged from 98 to 101, Mr. Sewall's thermometer being at the highest figures.

June 30th

Benjamin Smith of this village who died about 1832 left a wife, two sons and six daughters. His eldest daughter - Elizabeth and Dolly married before his death, the other members of the family lived at home with him. Since that time each member of the family, some by marriage and some by death have left their own home, the mother Mrs. Dolly B. Smith having died on the 22d inst. Some former members of the family who came to funeral remained at their own home until this day when each went to their own home and the old house is now shut up.

July 1st

Workmen commenced this morning to prepare a room for the Freemasons in the third story of the brick store owned by Alexander Manners. It is expected the room or hall will be ready for their occupancy about the first of Sept. next.

July 2d.

This afternoon I attended the funeral of Capt. Benjamin Merrill, who was a neighbor to my father in Kennebunkport. On the ~~night~~ ^{evening} of June 30th, Capt. Merrill in company with Ober Bluff, went out a fishing in a wherry. Soon after midnight the wind arose and blew with great force. At about 2 o'clock in the morning of July 1st, a violent gust of wind blew the boat or wherry so far over, that the men fell into the sea. They regained but the wherry and succeeded in getting on board, but she was full of water and the sea continued to wash over them. Capt. Merrill lived about two hours after regaining the boat then died from exhaustion - He was buried this afternoon. I went to the funeral. There was quite a large number present. He was in the 71st year of his age. He has been 103 voyages to the West Indies & 26 to Europe.

July 3d.

The Assessors delivered to me the tax book for 1816. The whole amount committed to me for collection is as follows:-

State Tax, - - -	1470, 80
County Tax, - - -	1247, 67
Town Tax including overlappings, - - -	4044, 44
	<u>\$6,762, 92</u>

The rate of taxation this year is \$3 on a \$100. or \$30 on a \$1000. The following is a list of persons in this town who are taxed \$50. and upward.

William Lora Jr. - -	263, 31	George Misk, - -	81, 43
William Lora, - -	260, 89	Charles Thompson, - -	93, 86
Nathaniel L. Thompson, - -	160, 80	Joseph Dore, - -	80, 91
Joseph Titcomb, - -	171, 26	Daniel Nason, - -	79, 39
George Lora, - -	155, 91	Robert Smith, - -	72, 02
Wm. Lora, - -	155, 91	Edmund W. Morton, - -	71, 04
George P. Titcomb, - -	154, 41	Israel Durnell, - -	69, 32
Horace Porter, - -	147, 17	William Williams Jr. - -	64, 44
Joshua Nason, - -	130, 91	Barnabas Palmer, - -	61, 11
Charles Williams, - -	141, 10	Bourne & Kingsbury, - -	61, 08
John Brown & Co., - -	111, 17	William B. Sewall, - -	56, 92
Daniel Curtis, - -	107, 00	Thomas Lora - -	54, 16

William L. Thompson, \$3.18

July 4th

There was not any public demonstration of the nation's birth day, except the usual ringing of bells, displaying of flags and firing of guns and crackers by boys. After dinner I went to Harts beach and spent an hour or two quite pleasantly. There were a few carriages from the village on the beach but not more than a dozen persons in all while I was there, I returned to the village before the bells had done ringing for the close of the day.

July 5th.

At the Democratic State convention held in Bangor on the 1st inst., Samuel Wells was unanimously nominated for Governor and William P. Haynes of Biddeford and Joshua A. Spowell of East Machias were nominated for electors at large for President and Vice President of the U.S.

The "Straight Whig" convention which, at the same city on the same day, nominated George S. Patton of Bath for Governor and Nathan Cummings of Portland and Samuel Taylor of Fairfield, Electors at large.

July 6th.

A pleasant, cool day. A large number attended at the Sunday different churches. There was no meeting at "Washington Hall" the Methodist minister, Rev. Mr. Cobb being absent.

July 7th

Went to South Berwick to attend Probate Court, as a witness of the will of the late Dolly B. Smith. In the afternoon went with Ichabod Jordan to Great Falls and spent four or five hours with my sister Lucy. Left Great Falls 7 1/2 P.M. and Great Falls arrived at home at half past nine.

July 8th

The farmers in this vicinity have commenced haying. There the will be more grass cut than usual, but not so abundant such as was anticipated a few weeks since.

July 9th

There was a "Republican" State Convention at Portland yesterday. Hannibal Hamlin was nominated for Governor and Noah Smith of Keokuk and Sidney Perham of Woodstock, for Electors at large. The meeting is reported to have been large and enthusiastic.

July 10th

There was an address last evening at the Town hall by a negro from Boston. Those who attended to hear him, say, his remarks were better than they expected to hear, from a man of his supposed abilities.

July 11th

About 10 years ago John Frost came to Kennebunk to live. He married a daughter of the late Daniel Wise and continued to live here until 1833 or 34 when he moved to Bangor. After a few years he removed to Boston and still later formerly to New York where he died a few days since and his body has been brought here and buried this afternoon. While Mr. Frost resided in this town, he was a trader, part of the time in the store now occupied; he was also Town clerk and for two or three years while at Bangor and Boston he kept a boarding house. While in Boston his daughter Mary married a wealthy man by the name of Bispham and he is reported to have contributed to the support of Mr. Frost and family for a number of years past. He has an active impulsive temperment and in the heat of the moment was liable to say and act in a manner which he would regret when the excitement had passed away. He was 70 years old.

July 12th

I understand that a "Fremont Club" has been formed in this village. I do not know how large a club or who are its officers. My brother Palmer Walker has offered them the use of the rooms over his shop for their headquarters.

July 13th

Mr. Willcox this forenoon delivered a discourse from the 19 chapter of Matthew 8 verse. In this discourse Mr. Willcox insisted that God universally permitted many things, which in a more enlightened previous world not be tolerated. His remarks were confined to divorce, slavery and polygamy. Because God permitted Abraham to have slaves and keep concubines was no argument that slavery and concubinage was right now. So is he, the slaveholders at the South can bring from the Bible no stronger argument to prove that slavery is allowable, than the Mormons of Utah can bring arguments from the same source to prove the polygamy practiced by them is equally justifiable.

July 14th

Went to Portland on business. After tea took a walk with a friend through the Western part of the city to the wharf on the back bay near the York and Cumberland depot. As the weather was warm and pleasant we spent about two hours here very pleasantly.

July 15th

As I have considerable business to transact in Portland I did not leave the city until this afternoon at 2 o'clock and arrived at my boarding house at half past four.

July 16th

The repairs and alterations on the old tavern stand are more extensive than at first contemplated. They are not yet completed and it is supposed more money will be expended in repairs than the cost of the first purchase.

July 17th

The daughters of the Capt. Joseph Hatch, who live in his old dwelling house, have imbibed part of the modern spirit for improvements and commenced operations on their barn and house. Part of the barn is to be taken down and the remainder repaired. The house is to have some alterations but I do not know how extensive. As their house is now near many genteel residences it is probable they think they shall be "behind the times" if they do not make some improvements.

July 18th

I was informed by J. M. Hayes, of Saco, that Joseph Dane Jr., D. L. Smith Capt. Israel Durnell and myself were appointed appraisers of the estate of the late Dolly L. Smith.

July 19th

There was a school meeting of the inhabitants of this village district on the evening of July 12th in which they voted in substance as follows — To buy the old academy building and lot, provided School it can be bought for \$1350., to buy a lot of land of William Lorn on the Western side of the river and erect a school house on the same, in this fall. Samuel Clark, Edmund C. Bourne and Joseph Titcomb were chosen a committee to do the above business, also to take Village deeds (for the district) of the above mentioned lots to sell the present District school house and lot on the Western side of the river. The district voted to raise \$4000. for the accomplishment of the above purposes. Of this sum \$800 is to be assessed on this district this fall and the remaining \$3200 is to be paid in ten equal annual instalments with interest annually.

July 20th

Rev. Mr. Orr, of Alfred, preached for Mr. Willcox. His text in the forenoon was these words "As far forth as in you lies, live peaceably with all men." In this discourse he strove to inculcate the importance of not only individuals living in peace, but communities States and nations. He thought it far better to cultivate a spirit of forbearance and friendship, than to try to discover Peace, and magnify iniquities, on the other side.

July 21st

The farmers are now in the height of their hay harvest. The weather has not been so good to cure the hay as the farmers would like, being most of the time quite wet. The crop is about the average for the last ten years. The price of good hay taken from the field to market is \$12.00 a ton.

July 22nd

About thirty years since, Oliver Perkins of this town, while leading a cannon to fire a military salute, at the funeral of Gen. Frost at Sanford, lost the lower part of his arms, by the premature discharge of the cannon. They were subsequently amputated, one above and the other the elbow. He had iron or steel hooks affixed to his arm by which he was able to do many things. The State allowed him a pension of I think \$60. a year. He was taken yesterday with the palpitation of the heart to which he was subject and died last night at the age of 57 years.

July 23rd

In 1842 George L. Little was married to Elizabeth, youngest child of the late Hugh Mc Bullock. They moved to Fort Wayne Indiana, where they have continued to reside. As her health has been poor during the last year; physicians advised her to come north. She arrived at her brother's Adam Mc Bullock about three weeks since and for a few days appeared to be better in health, than usual; since that time she has been gradually sinking, and last night she died, aged 57 years. When I came to Kennebunk to live in 1838, Miss Mc Bullock was one of the first belles of the village and continued to be until her marriage; since that time I have known but little of her.

July 24th

Capt. Albert Williams returned to his father's house with his wife and three children which she has by a former husband, Albert I understand that he married his wife in Calcutta during his last voyage. She is said to be of English descent; but whether born in England or Calcutta, I do not know.

July 25th

There is more than usual inquiry for stock of Ocean Bank. Some has changed hands at \$106. or six per cent above par. The demand for the stock at this time is occasioned by persons who have subscribed for stock in the Atlas Insurance Company but have not any suitable stock to pledge as collateral security for the three fourths which is to remain unpaid, at least for the present.

July 26th

The subscribers for stock in the Atlas Insurance Co. have this day by agreement paid in one fourth part of the amount of stock subscribed by them. For the remaining three fourths, some satisfactory stocks are pledged, to be paid in cash when needed. The cash which is already paid, is to be invested in some safe stock which can be sold without delay if necessary. The office of the company is in the second story of the brick building owned by Nathan Dane, opposite to the room of the Ocean Bank.

July 27th

An extremely hot day. The thermometers about the village ranged from 98 to 104. Mr. Sewall's was at 100 this afternoon. There was about the usual number at church this forenoon, but the weather was so oppressive this afternoon there was not a large attendance. Rev. Mr. Gould of Bridgford ex-burgis pulpit with Mr. Willcox.

July 28th

Hot. During the last five days the weather has been extremely hot. On the 26th inst. men did not work in the ship-yard at the Landing on account of the heat. Yesterday the heat was most oppressive, but in each of the last five days the thermometers in the village were at, and some days over 90 degrees above zero.

July 29th

My nephew W. B. Curtis is sick and delirious. He has been unwell for two or three weeks; but not quite sick until within a few days. The doctors do not agree what the disease is. Dr. E. Smart thinks his liver is diseased and the labor he has done in haying this season has served to aggravate the disease to a high degree. Dr. P. Noon thinks the seat of the disorder is in the brain and spinal marrow, hence the delirium and violent nervous spasms to which he is part of the time subject.

July 30th

The joiners have finished work (except laying floors) in the new hall which is being made in the store of Alexander Warren. The Workmen are now employed in plastering the hall. It is supposed that it will be ready for to be occupied by the Greenmasons about the first of September.

July 31st

J. W. Billings having moved out of the village; a young man and his wife from Boston by the name of Barber have come to remain at least for the present, as a Barber. He has opened a shop over O. Stevens watch and clock shop.

Aug. 1st

Having some business in Portland, I went to that city in the A. Portland cars yesterday in the afternoon and returned home this morning. In the cars was Capt. J. N. Thompson, on his way to St. Stephens to take command of the ship Sea Eagle, now loading at that port with coal for Liverpool. Frederick P. Hall and John Colby for company. Capt. Thompson and we to go the voyage with him.

Aug. 2nd

My nephew William B. Curtis died this morning at 7 o'clock. For a week past he has apparently been in great distress nearly all the time; but did not appear to be conscious of his condition, although part of the time he knew the members of the family. For the last twenty four hours he did not appear to know any thing. His eyes were set, and as he rolled his body in anguish from side to side he uttered low moans.

Aug. 3rd

Nothing of particular interest to day. Mr. Cobb the Methodist preacher continues here the coming year. The religious excitement Sunday, which was manifested in the Methodist society during the past winter, has now passed away.

Aug. 4th

Wm B. Curtis was buried this afternoon. There was quite a large funeral for a week day. My sister Curtis family now consists only of herself and two daughters Alice and Ann. A letter was received a few days since from the now only son Henry B. Curtis. He was at the date of the letter in Liverpool Eng. and expects to sail in a few days for Montevideo, in South America, from thence the vessel is bound to the Chincha Islands, to load with Guano. The family have directed a letter to him at Montevideo, which they are in hopes will arrive at that Port before he leaves. If he does not receive the letter it is not probable he will return before next spring if so soon. The death of W. B. Curtis and the absence of his brother Henry, will occasion great disarrangement in the business department of the family. There is now no one to take care of the fields with the crops growing therein, houses and tenants are alike without an overseer. All at present is in confusion.

Aug. 5th

A "Greenmont Club" has been organized in this village, of which Henry Kingsbury is reported to be President and John A. Lord, Sec. I do not know the number of members. The Club has a reading room and place of meeting over O. Walker shop. On the 1st inst. a National flag with the names of "Greenmont & Dayton", at the bottom, of it was hoisted on a pole which is now erected on the building.

Aug. 6th

Lincoln Emerson, son of the late William Emerson of this town, who went to Europe about eighteen months since, has returned within a few days, and is now on a visit to mother Mrs. Mary Spaul. His object in going to Europe was to acquire a knowledge of the German and French languages, as he expects to be a teacher of these languages with other accomplishments in Boston.

Aug. 7th

During the last week the weather has been extremely foggy. Many farmers have not yet got done haying and there is a large quantity of hay now in cock in the fields. If this damp weather continues much longer the hay will be worthless.

Aug. 8th

Capt. J. Durnell, Jas. Dune & son, have appraised the estate of the late Dolly C. Smith. We appraised the Household at twenty seven (2700) hundred dollars. This does not include the field back of the barn place, on the stone near the house, as these now belong to B. Smith. The furniture and all the household effects (except plate) and piano we appraised at \$6000. The whole amount of the estate including Real and Personal estate and plate we appraised at between seventeen and eighteen thousand dollars (between 17000 & 18000). The personal estate was mostly in Bank shares and promissory notes.

Aug. 9th

The joiners employed to work on the old tavern stables, owned by the late Capt. John Hovey have finished work this day. It is probable that a greater sum of money has been expended in alterations and repairs than the cost of the original, or first purchase. The painters and paper hangers have not yet finished their work on the house.

Aug. 10th

There was no meeting to day in the Congregational church, as Rev. Mr. Willcox is absent from home and no person appeared to supply the desk.

Aug. 11th

For the last ten days the weather has foggy and part of the time raining. Yesterday the weather was considerably pleasant, so that some of the farmers work on their hay in the fields and although it was Sunday. To day the sun shines more clearly and the river is more "in shore" than yesterday; here all persons who have hay or grass still in the fields are busy at work. The hay which has been exposed to the damp weather is quite dark, and is not considered to "worth" at more than half price. Even the grass which still remains standing has deteriorated in goodness.

Aug. 12th

Capt. Tobias L. Mason, has hired a house owned by Tobias B. Palmer at the corner of Elm and Green Streets, and has commenced house keeping this day. He has obtained his articles for house keeping in this village. I have seen him on house furniture, feathers and sundry articles amounting to \$134.77. His brother-in-law Charles L. Dresser has also supplied Capt. Mason with many articles, which I do not keep for sale.

Aug. 13th

The building committee, - Sumner Clark, Paul Jenkins and Joseph Fitch, having issued proposals, or rather notices that they will receive proposals for building a school house on the western side of the river; there were a number of competitors for the job. The sealed proposals were opened by the committee this day, and the proposal of Charles D. Towne was accepted. I understand he is to build a two story building 47 feet long & 23 feet wide and 23 feet high for the sum of \$1740. For this sum he is to furnish materials and do the labor for the house including all bills, whatever, except the entry and upper story is not to be finished the seats, or desks are also not included, as it is expected to obtain iron seats from Boston. The building is to be finished, with the above exceptions, in December.

Aug. 14th

The "Republican" party in this vicinity, had a "Mass Meeting" at Saco, this afternoon, for the ratification of the nomination of "Freemont & Dayton", also to nominate a representative for Congress. Let. M. Merrill, of Augusta, and other speakers, were expected to address the people present, and probably were present. I do not think that many went from this town. The "Brown Bards" in this village were engaged to wait at a short distance from the village, on the Saco river, to escort the "Republicans", on their return from Saco this evening. As I stood in my store door all that I could count in the possession of carriages, was six chairs and four wagons.

Aug. 15th

A Mr. Willcox, who was at the "Republican" mass meeting in Biddeford yesterday; addressed all who wished to hear him at the Town Hall in this village this evening. There were about one hundred and twenty five present, including women and children.

Aug. 16th

A few days since, I wrote and posted a number of notices of which the following is a copy.

Forwards.

The Democrats of Kennebunk, are requested to meet at the rooms of Mr. Joseph Sargent, on Saturday the 16th inst. at 6 o'clock, P. M. to choose four Delegates, to attend the County Convention, on the 20th inst. also to transact any other business which may be necessary.

By order of Town Committee."

There were a larger number than usual at the caucus, some persons present were new comers. Among others, I noticed Joseph Titcomb, George O. Titcomb, Barnabas Palmer, A. Walker, Joseph Waterhouse, James Smith, Abel M. Bryant, L. H. Kimball, Alpheus Kimball, Edward Harey, Joseph Sargent, Moses Abbott, and Capt. Israel Durnell. Capt. Durnell is an old member of the party but I never before saw him at a caucus. Nath. Mason and Tobias Lane were new comers. After the caucus was over I made out a certificate of which the following is a copy.

"At a meeting of the Democrats of Kennebunk, held on the sixteenth day of Aug. 1856 (notice of the same having been duly given); the meeting was organized by choosing Barnabas Palmer, Chairman, and Andrew Walker, Secretary. The meeting then unanimously made choice of the following persons as Delegates to the County Convention, to be held on the 20th inst. — Adam McCalluck, James Cousens, John Cole and Abel M. Bryant. As substitutes, Alpheus Kimball, Cornelius McCalluck, James Smith, L. H. Kimball, Barnabas Palmer, Chairman.

Andrew Walker, Secretary."

Aug. 17th

About twenty years ago, one of Mr. John Emery's daughters married by the name of Mary, married a young man by the name of Cook. He at that time was a Methodist minister. In subsequent years he became a teacher in a Methodist high school. Within a few years, that denomination having established a college in one of the extreme Western States; Mr. Cook was offered and accepted the Presidency. This summer he and his family are on a visit to his father-in-law — West. Mr. Emery at the Seaboard. As Rev. Mr. Swan the Unitarian clergyman was absent to day; the Unitarian society employed Mr. Cook to preach for them.

Aug. 18th

In Saturday the 16th inst., the National flag, with "Br. & Bre." painted in large letters on a white ground, with "fostered on top of the flag and 'The Union, it must be preserved' across attached to its bottom; was suspended by a rope across the street. One end of the rope was fastened to a chimney of the house owned by the late O. Littlefield and the other end to a chimney on the house of John Cousens. To day another National flag with the words "Dillmore and the Constitution", is suspended from N. Dams brick store to Capt. Nath. Mason's elm trees.

Aug. 19th

Winter before last a Frenchman, whose name is pronounced "Gero", born at B. D. Goodwin's and taught the elements of the French language to a class of about a dozen persons. Since that time we knew nothing of him, until two or three days since he came into my store in a destitute condition. His clothes, short and particularly his shoes were much worn and rusty. He was stockless and moneyless. J. M. Stone and I with a few others to we unknown, contributed money enough to buy him a pair of shoes and pay his fare to Bath, to which he wished to go. He was not in the village more than two hours; and did not wish to be recognized by his pupils.

Aug. 20th

This day was appointed for a Democratic, Mass and delegates, at Alfred, John S. Wells, Harry Hibbard, Walter Harriman, John Appleton of Portland and James W. Broadwing. of Augusta are expected to be present and address the convention. The weather this morning is very stormy; so uncomfortable out of doors that it is not probable there will be many attenders at the convention at Alfred but delegates are not all of them. The members of the "Republican" party say that Providence does not appear to smile on the Democratic convention.

Aug. 21st

There is a Delegates convention of "Republican" party at Alfred to day, for the nomination of county officers. Although it was raining yesterday, it is still more rainy and muddy to day. If Providence did not smile on the Democratic convention yesterday; there is a deeper frown on the Republican convention to day; if the weather is any indication of Providence, E. C. Bourne and son, John Bally and Seth E. Bryant are all that has gone from this town to my knowledge.

Aug. 22nd

The present Congress of the U. S. have repealed the bill that members of Congress shall receive for compensation \$8,000 a day and mileage. The new act provides "That the compensation of each senator, representative and delegate in Congress shall be \$6,000 for each Congress, and mileage as now provided by law, for two sessions only." If any books (except public documents) shall hereafter be ordered to ever received by members of Congress; the price paid for the same shall be deducted from the compensation hereinafore provided for such member or members. Absentees to be deducted.

Aug. 23^d

At the Democratic Convention held at Alfred on the 20th inst the following persons were nominated for the offices designated:-

For Senators,

D Democratic
nom
for
County
Officers

John Kezan, of Parsonsfield,
Alexander Jenkins, of Eliot,
William Lewis Jr., of Kennebunk.

For Sheriff,

James Burbank, of Sanford.

For Judge of Probate,

Hiram H. Hobbs, of South Berwick.

For Register of Probate,

Joshua Herrick, of Alfred.

For County Treasurer,

Benjamin F. Parks, of South Berwick.

For County Commissioner,

John M. Goodwin, of Duxton.

At the Republican (or Black Republican as the Democrats call the party) Convention held on the 24th inst, the following persons were nominated, as follows.

R Republican
nom
for
County
Officers.

Nathan Dane, of Alfred,

Leith Seamon, of Saco.

Samuel W. Jones of Lebanon.

Nathaniel G. Marshall, of York.

Edmund C. Bourne of Kennebunk,

Francis Bacon, of Buxton,

John Brackett Jr. of Parsonsfield

James M. Deering of Saco,

For Senators.

For Sheriff.

For Judge of Probate.

For Register of Probate

For County Treasurer.

For County Commissioner.

Aug. 24th

Sunday

X

Rev.

Mr.

McIntire

his society employ wherever they choose and can get, to preach during Mr. Swan's absence. To day Rev. Mr. Mackintosh, officiated; but some of the Unitarians do not like him; for his doctrine is said to move like the Swedenborgian belief or "Spiritualism" than Unitarianism.

Aug. 25th

Nathan

Dane

declines

Senator, they were surprised and grieved as he had not to be manifested any proclivities to Republicanism in the present nomination meaning. I understand to day that he has declined the nomination, as it was made without his knowledge or consent.

Aug. 26th

The Methodist camp meeting commenced yesterday. From present appearances there will be a large number present, as the weather is pleasant and the travelling good. Meeting.

Aug. 27th

There was a delegates convention of the District Congressional Convention at District, held in Biddeford this day. Josiah S. Little, of Portland was unanimously nominated as the candidate of the convention for Representative to Congress from this district.

William Ross and Barnabas Balmer were the delegates from this town. J.S. Little.

Aug. 28th

I was at camp meeting two or three hours this afternoon. I did not count the tents, but understood, there are between seventy five and eighty; a greater number than was ever on the camp ground before at one time. The number of people was in proportion to the number of tents. In the opinion of some there were about 5000 people present, others did not think there were more than 3000. — I recollect of reading somewhere that, "It is best not to scrutinize too closely the motives which actuate all people who attend camp meetings". Doubtless many attend from religious motives and it is doubtless true that many attend from political motives (as the fall election in this State occurs so soon); but the greatest number yet seen can be seen, as appearances indicate.

Aug. 29th

It is now reported about town, that Nathan Dane did decline the nomination as Senator on the Republican ticket; but a committee of three, two from Saco and one in Alfred, Mr. Appleton, waited on Mr. Dane and persuaded him to accept the nomination. Nathan Dane again.

Although great exertions were made in this State last year by politicians; it is supposed that still greater exertions are made this year; because it is supposed the State election in September will have an effect on the Presidential election in November. Preparing

To use a common expression, "No stone is left unturned". The Democrats for and Republicans have each copied the list of voters in this town on an alphabet book, in order to collate the politics of each voter before town meeting and to check his name when he has voted, in order to know who has voted and who has not. By this means nearly all the voters in town are brought to the poll; if they do not come of their own free will. Town Meeting.

Aug. 30th

60. I have been extremely busy to day. Sixty persons have persons called at my store to pay their taxes; as the discount of six per cent on taxes of this year will expire by limitation on the taxes, first day of September.

Aug. 31st

Francis Williams, ^{Congregationalist} officiated in the Unitarian pulpit. The Unitarians as a people in this village are, on at least appear to be more liberal in their views than the other denominations; for I have no idea that the Congregationalists, Baptists or Methodists would employ a Unitarian to preach for them. Either of them would prefer to close their meeting houses.

Sept. 1st

This morning I wrote a number of notices of which the following is a copy and posted them up in the village -

Sept. 1st This is the last day in 1816 on which there is a discount of 6 per cent, will be made on taxes.

A. Walker, collector

There is on the tax book committed to me for collection the sum of \$6762.92. This sum is payable by about 800 persons. Of this number about 400 have paid their taxes; but rather more than

Sept. 2nd

In 1845, Mr. Parker Fall of this town moved to Charlestown, Mass. and established himself in business as a wool and coal dealer. It is said that he has prospered in his business. To day a young lady came into my store and introduced herself to me as Miss Mary Elizabeth Fall, of Charlestown. I was surprised, for I recollect that he had a number of little girls when he went away, but did not expect to see a young lady of about 20, beautiful and accomplished, as a development of one of the children.

Sept. 3rd

Joiners are now at work on the old Academy building, making repairs and alterations, preparatory for the district school, which is to be kept in that building this winter. When repairs the building is to be painted with two coats of white paint. I understand that new ^{iron} seats of the most approved form, are to be obtained from Boston, in place of the present wooden seats.

Sept. 4th

There is a great display of flags in our village at this time, a greater display, as strangers say, than can be seen in any other village of this size. There are four large national flags suspended across the streets. - One from the house of William Lowy to the house of Charles Dresser, to which is attached in large letters over the top "Union & the Constitution"; one from the store occupied by C. L. Dresser to a pole set in the ground on the opposite side of the street, on this flag are the words "Greenmont & Dayton" on the top and "Liberty & Union" at the bottom; the third is from the house of Benjamin Smith to the house opposite occupied by Capt. Israel Darnell and Christopher Littlefield, "Brave & Brave" is at the top of this flag and "The Union, it must be preserved", at the bottom; the fourth is from the store of Nathan Dore to the large elm trees before the house of Capt. Nath. Nelson. The letters on each of these flags are so large that they can be easily read by persons passing along the street beneath them. I should have before said that the flag across the room from Dore's store is marked "Fillmore & the Constitution". There is a smaller flag, on which are the words "Greenmont & Dayton", attached to a pole over the rooms of the Greenmont Club, also a flag of the same size, on a pole from the banner rooms of the Democratic party, this flag is marked "Buchanan & McKim". On the lower story of the building to which the last women flag is floating, N. K. Burroughs has the words of "Greenmont & Dayton" painted in large black letters on a white ground of cloth and nailed over his door and windows. It is to be hoped that all the patriotism in Kennebunk, will not vent itself in flags.

Sept. 5th

Men who have been political leaders in this town for many years, say that they do not think so great exertions were ever before made in one year, as have been and are now being made this year. The name of every known voter in town has been examined by both parties and his political views inquired of; if he was supposed to be firm in his views he has been marked accordingly, if he was considered doubtful or undecided, some one or more persons, who were supposed to have some influence on him, have been employed to go and see the voter and try to bring him over to Democracy or Republicanism. Thus many persons have been visited by both parties, I have heard from good authority.

Flags in this village which are flying by night and also Sunday included.

Great political exertions this year.

Sept. 6th

The nomination of candidates by the Democrats and
 Nominees Republicans for to represent this town and Alfred in the
 for Legislature of this State belongs to Alfred this year. The Dem-
 2 Rep. ocrats of Alfred, have nominated George O. Titcomb of this
 3 to town, as they think he will receive more votes in their town
 4 Leg^{as} than one of their own citizens. The Republicans of Alfred have
 5 nominated Sylvester Littlefield, of Alfred to be supported
 6 by the members of that party in both towns.

Sept. 7th

Sunday
 7 X As the Unitarian minister has not returned from his
 8 summer vacation yet; his parish invites Rev. Mr. Cobb, the
 9 Rev. Mr. Methodist minister in the village to preach to day in the Unitarian
 10 house. He accepted the invitation and his congregation went with him.

Sept. 8th

At the election in Sept. 1855, it was supposed there would
 not be so many votes thrown again in one day for many
 years; but the number was greater this year, being
 1590, last year it was 1561.

For Governor Samuel Wells, Democrat, - 192

" " Hannibal Hamlin, Republican, - 346

" " George D. Porter, Straight Whig, - 43

" " Joseph Titcomb, Democrat, - 69
 1590

Town

Meeting

Sept. 8

1856.

The following was the vote for town Representative.

For George O. Titcomb, Democrat, of Kennebunk, 244

" Sylvester Littlefield, Republican of Alfred, - 346

From information received this evening, it
 appears that G. O. Titcomb received in Alfred 141 votes
 and S. Littlefield 136; hence Mr. Littlefield is elected
 by a plurality of 97 votes.

For the last week, it has been supposed that the Republi-
 in this town would poll more votes than the Democrats,
 and that they would elect their Representative to the
 Legislature; but it was not supposed that they would or
 could throw so many. From the towns already heard
 from, it appears that the Republicans have gained
 largely on the Democrats and there is a strong probab-
 ility, that the persons voted for on the Republican ticket
 in this county are elected; and if they have gained
 in the same proportion in other counties Hannibal
 Hamlin and his coadjutors have been elected.

Sept. 9th

About seven years since, Benjamin Perkins hired
 the store formerly occupied by "Smith & Porter" and has continued
 to occupy the store until this day, he has moved out of it; as Ben^{per}
 the owner Horace Porter wishes to take down the large old- Perkins
 fashioned chimney and make other alterations and repairs.

Sept. 10th

Last week Benjamin Smith moved back to his old home
 made vacant by the death of his mother last June. I understand Bensm
 he now owns all of the homestead except one seventh which is Smith.
 owned by his sister Mrs. Frances Jones, of Kennebunkport.

Sept. 11th

The election on the 8th inst. revolutionized the political election
 the political parties in this State. The Republican candidate 8th inst.
 for Governor, Senators, or large proportion of the Representatives Democ^{ts}
 to the Legislature are elected. In this county all the persons defeated,
 on the Republican ballot are elected by about 10000 majority.

Sept. 12th

It has been reported in years past, that Edmund C. Bourse
 of this town was ^{elected} anxious to obtain the office of judge of Probate, E. C.
 but never could succeed until the election on the eighth, when Bourse
 he was elected to that office for four years from the first
 day of January next. The fees or salary is \$4000 a year. I was
 told at Alfred last winter, that the judge of Probate receives
 more money for the amount of labor performed, than any
 other officer in the county.

Sept. 13th

owing to the abundance of rain this fall, there is
 a great quantity of fall feed and more "second crop" of
 grass has been cut this year than has been cut during
 the last ten years, as the farmers say.

Sept. 14th

Mr. Swan has returned from his "summer vacation" and
 preaches to day in his church. Mr. Willcox I suppose has started
 on his, as he is absent to day, and there is no preaching in his pulpit.

Sept. 11th

The "Atlas Insurance Co." has met with its first loss. Atlas
 The Bark "Aquila" John M. Barker, master was lost at Sugar I. Co.
 while loading molasses. The vessel was driven ashore in first
 a violent gale and has been abandoned. Her freight loss.
 money amounting to \$4000 was insured at this office
 and will be a total loss.

Sept. 16th

Engine House There has been handed to me for to record in the Town Books, a deed of the lot for the Fire Engine house, with the list of subscribers to pay for the engine and engine house, with the cost of the same. The bill of costs for engine house and lot was \$492.82.

Sept. 17th

House I have recorded on the Town Records, a list of the subscribers for the new House and House House, which was built in the summer of 1814. The estimated cost of both was \$271.00, but House, the records do not show the real cost.

Sept. 18th

Y D Votes The August Age of the day, gives the vote of Hamlin for Governor 69, 429; Wells 44, 889; Patten 6, 619; being in all for 120, 977 votes. Only a few small places remain to be heard to Governor, from which will not materially alter the figures.

Sept. 19th

Y D The Assessors of this town have committed to me for Tax collection, a tax of \$838.01 including overlays, assessed on assess the polls and estates of the inhabitants of School District No. 1 in (Village). This tax was assessed in accordance of a vote passed S. Dist. July 19th 1816. — As I do not wish to collect this tax I have No. 1. deputed J. W. Sargent to collect for me.

Sept. 20th

Y D Capt. Washington Uley, of the British steamship "Sarah Sands" has returned on a visit to Kennebunk. During the last two years Capt. he has been employed by the English government in conveying Washington soldiers and munitions of war to and from the Crimea, and Uley the peace in Crimea and return of the English army from the Crimea; the "Sarah Sands" is hauled up for repairs in London and Capt. Uley has improved the opportunity to return home and see his wife and family who now reside in Liverpool.

Sept. 21st

X Sunday. A brother of Rev. Mr. Willcox, who is settled as a minister somewhere in Massachusetts, preached for him to day. His sermons are more "flowery", than the brother who preaches here, but not so solid.

Sept. 22nd

X For two or three years past, Green Perkins and Oliver Noatt have been at variance on account of a small strip of land, less than a foot in width, at the Western end of Mr. Noatt's house. Mr. Noatt wished to have a passage way to a door which he built on this end of the house and he has built a wall, partly on land, which Mr. Perkins says

belong to him, in order to have this passage way. After the wall was built, Mr. Perkins sued Mr. Noatt for trespass. The trial was commenced at Alfred on Friday the 19th inst. and was closed this afternoon. The jury brought in a verdict in favor of Mr. Perkins. There were twenty six witnesses on the trial from this village, besides the witnesses from out of town, the cost of surveying the lot by order of the court is about twenty five dollars. It is supposed that Mr. Noatt will have to pay for the whole expense of the lawsuit including his lawyers, at least three hundred dollars, others think a larger sum. Mr. Perkins will have to pay his lawyer (Mr. Bourne) at least twenty five dollars. The land in dispute may be worth to Mr. Noatt about fifteen dollars, to Mr. Perkins not more than five dollars.

Sept. 23rd

During the present term of the Supreme Court, which is now in session at Alfred, James M. Stone, has been admitted to the bar as a qualified member. Hence is no longer a student at law but a lawyer. I do not know where he expects to locate, but it is probable he will remain in this village.

Sept. 24th

This morning I took the first train for East, and went as far as Bowdoinham, where I arrived at about three o'clock East, in the afternoon.

Sept. 25th

Having transacted the business for which I came to Bowdoinham I left that town at 6 1/2 o'clock this morning for Portland, where I arrived at 8 1/2 o'clock. From that time until 2 P.M., spent most of the time in buying furniture for Mrs. Edmund Stone of this village, as she wished me to do. The articles which I bought were mahogany furniture to furnish a parlor and a chamber set of painted furniture. Arrived home to tea.

Sept. 26th

On the 6th of September 1811, I mentioned that Nahum Fairfield and his wife of Kennebunkport, had had a "flour up" and parted. After being separate a few weeks they came together again. On the first day of last May, they started with their children and what little property they had for the State of Iowa, where he has a brother; with the expectation of spending the remainder of their lives in the West. — To day I was surprised to see him enter my store. He tells me that he returned on the 6th of Sept. with the determination of living among farmers in his own native State, which he considers far superior to the Western States.

Sept. 27th

At X Went to the depot this afternoon with W. L. Thompson, to collect taxes from people in that neighborhood, some of whom are remiss in that duty of a good citizen.

Sept. 28th

Mr. Willcox being absent there was no meeting in the Sunday, Congregational church. I attended meeting at the Baptist church.

Sept. 29th

At ✓ Mr. Charles D. Towne, having collected nearly all the work materials for the new school house, which he has contracted on to build on the Western side of the river; has now a crew new of men at work framing the building. They expect to School raise the house in a few days and finish the outside House of the building before cold weather.

Sept. 30th

At a meeting last evening, of the directors of Ocean Bank, Thomas Spaul, Noah Nason and Andrew Walker were chosen a committee to examine the condition of Ocean Bank, and report at the annual meeting of the stockholders, which is to be held on the sixth of October next. We counted all the money on hand in bills, gold, silver and copper, we took or rather examined a list of all the notes and made as thorough an Ocean examination as we were capable; I then by the request of the Bank other members of the committee made a report of which the October following is a copy:-

this The undersigned having been appointed by the day Directors of Ocean Bank, Perrebank, to examine into the condition of the same, have attended to that duty and report the following, as a statement of its condition on the morning of October 1st 1816.

Capital stock, - - - - -	100,000, 00	Loan, - - - - -	200,631, 22
1 Circulation, - - - - -	71,041, 00	2 Bills & checks, - - - - -	299, 00
2 Deposits, - - - - -	31,930, 14	3 Specie in Suffolk Bank, - - - - -	3,000, 00
3 Profits & Loss, - - - - -	1,371, 00	4 In Fremont Bank, - - - - -	3,699, 31
4 Discount & Exchange, - - - - -	6,004, 29	5 Bank balances, - - - - -	186, 80
	\$214,314, 83	6 Specie in Bank, - - - - -	6138, 46
			\$214,314, 83

1 That is, there is this amount of Ocean Bank bills in circulation.

2 Deposits for safe keeping.

3 Amount of reserves profits on hand after the dividend last April.

4 Amount of profits since last April.

1 Amount loaned out to various persons.

2 Bills of other banks on hand.

3 Funds in Fremont bank to redeem bills.

4 That is, the bank has paid for expenses since last April.

October 1st

"The Freemasons" have furnished the hall prepared for them over A. Warren's store, and moved out their furniture and fixtures from the hall which I now own, and this day have given us the keys of the hall to me.

Oct. 2nd

This morning immediately after breakfast, I went to the Post, where I remained until evening, collecting taxes of persons who have not called on me for that purpose. I succeeded in getting taxes of thirty eight persons, besides calling on about a dozen who came not, or would not, pay me at present.

Oct. 3rd

The frame for the new School House on the Western side of the river has been raised this week. As the frame for the building is quite high and situated on rising land; it presents an imposing appearance, apparently larger than necessary.

Oct. 4th

The Dilmore flag which was suspended across the street from the store of Nathan Dave to the elm trees opposite has been taken down; as Capt. W. L. Thompson who owned the flag, wishes to put it on board of a vessel which is to sail in a few days from the Port.

Oct. 5th

Rev. Mr. Orr of Alpen officiated today in the pulpit of Mr. Willey Sunday

Oct. 6th

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of Ocean Bank, was held this afternoon. The old board of Directors was rechosen - William Spaul, Joseph Titcomb, Joseph Dave, Noah Nason, Thomas Spaul, William L. Thompson and Andrew Walker. At a meeting of the Directors this evening Joseph Titcomb was rechosen Secretary and Christopher Littlefield, Cashier.

Oct. 7th

There was a meeting this afternoon at the Town Hall, of those ladies in this vicinity, who wished to contribute money or clothing for the assistance of the destitute in the territory of Kansas. I have not heard the particulars; but understand a committee of ladies was appointed to solicit aid for the above object, and there is to be an adjourned meeting in a few days.

Oct. 8th

This morning I took the first train of cars for Boston and arrived in that city, at 2 o'clock P.M., and put up at the Pearl Street house. The city appears to be more than usually lively with business, for so late in the season.

Oct. 9th

✓ Attended a "Whig" meeting at Farnell Hall. Speeches were made by J. Thomas Stephenson, of Boston, George Lunt of Newburyport and Otis P. Loom of Salem. Although each of the speakers delivered good speeches; yet to me the most entertaining and talented address, was from Otis P. Loom. The hall was crowded with people and much enthusiasm was manifested.

Oct. 10th

✓ Prices of less than it was last year, near all articles of groceries are now higher in price than they were a year since. Common sweet Molasses is worth 41 to 42 cents a gallon; Brown Sugar from 9 to 11 cents a pound; Lower 14 to 15 cents by the Bbl. Coffee from 10 to 14 cents; Whale Oil from 88 to 90 cents, gall. New York overweight articles, Sole leather is worth from 25 to 29 cents a pound by the hundred. White Feathers from 15 to 60 cents by the hundred.

Oct. 11th

✗ At 1 o'clock P.M. left Boston for Newburyport, where my sister Lucy now resides, having moved there about three weeks since. Found her and the family very pleasantly situated at No. 33 Olive Street. Her husband has the charge of the second Baptist church in that city.

Oct. 12th

✗ Sunday ✓ Attended church with the family of Mr. Hosper. The church and society of which he is pastor is not large; but they have an elegant meeting-house and are in hope the congregation attending at the house will increase.

Oct. 13th

✓ Took a walk this morning to see the city. The house in which Mr. Hosper lives, is but a short distance from the "Dexter house", formerly owned and occupied by the poor farmer Timothy Dexter. The house is now passed into the hands of strangers and been modernized. All of the wooden images which Dexter had carried and placed in conspicuous situations on and near the house have now disappeared. A large wooden image of an eagle on top of the cupola is all of the carved work that remains. The "Old South Church" in which the remains of "George Whitefield" lie entombed, is now undergoing repairs. I understand that many persons visit the church to see his remains in the tomb. - Caleb Bushing, is a native of Newburyport and calls it his home. He has a large and elegant residence on High Street.

Oct. 14th

✗ I returned from Newburyport yesterday and found an invitation awaiting me, as one of the Directors of Ocean Bank to partake of supper, given to said Directors and other invited guests, by Nathaniel L. Thompson and George Loom. There were present at the supper of the directors Joseph Dore Jr., Noah Norton, Thomas Loom, William L. Thompson and myself. William Loom Jr. and Joseph Titcomb were out of town. William Loom, George Loom, Irving Loom, John A. Loom, Northon Dore Jr., Christopher Littlefield and Nath. L. Thompson.

Oct. 15th

George W. Hardy, this evening, delivered up to me the key of the Store which he has hired of me since last April. This store was built many years ago by his father and has been occupied nearly all the time, by the father, on the same until this day.

Oct. 16th

✓ This day, I commenced moving my goods from the store which I have occupied so many years to my own Store. Mr. Nathaniel Littlefield, with his team and son Daniel assisted. We moved five loads in the forenoon, in the afternoon Mr Littlefield and team were employed, by another man as he had engaged previously.

Oct. 17th

✗ Mr. Littlefield moved two more loads of goods from the old, to the new place of business. I could not finish the job to day, as all the goods were not packed up. Moving goods.

Oct. 18th

✗ A powerful rain this day, affording me an excellent opportunity to pack the remainder of my goods preparatory to moving them. Moving goods.

Oct. 19th

✗ This has been emphatically a day of rest to me. Sunday for the hard labor which I had performed for a number of days past, has nearly exhausted my bodily powers.

Oct. 20th

✓ Finished moving all my goods, and this evening delivered up the key of the store which I have vacated to John Cousens - the owner. On and from this day, I expect to remain in the store which is now my place of business new as long as I do business anywhere, unless the store should be burnt.

Oct. 21st

D & S. Ward, Ship-builders at Kennebunkport, have this day assigned their property to Edmund C. Bourne of this town and Anthony Luykes of Kennebunkport for the benefit of their creditors. The amount of their liabilities, as far as property worth as now ascertained, is supposed to be about \$35,000.

It is not supposed they will pay more than 50 cents on a dollar.

Oct. 22nd

Emmons & Littlefield, Shipbuilders, at the Point on this side of the river, this day assigned their property to Edmund C. Bourne assignee and Henry Kingsbury of this town for the benefit of their creditors. It is supposed that this firm will pay all demands against them; but they feared on account of the failure of D & S. Ward, some of their creditors might attach their property; hence they assigned their property to save costs and to take their own time to pay their debts.

Oct. 23rd

The failure of D & S. Ward, causes a good deal of excitement. Since they assigned their property, the streets at the village of Kennebunkport, have looked like towns meeting as one man expressed it. D & S. It is said they have sums of money in the country for timber for their ships. It is now thought they will not pay more than twenty five per cent of their liabilities. William Walker of R. port has a note against them of rather more than \$300, which he has sold to W. W. Goodwin for ten per cent.

Oct. 24th

Since I moved my goods, I have been extremely busy in arranging them in their proper places, and have not yet finished. The chamber used by the Freemasons is in good repair, affording me a fine opportunity to arrange my furniture in it; but the lower part of the store I expect to modernize next spring.

Oct. 25th

John Cousens has workmen employed on the store which I recently occupied, in finishing the chamber for a dwelling house. The lower part he will if he can let work to some person in its present condition. It is probable by this method the store will pay a greater rent, than if store, occupied by only one person.

Oct. 26th

A pleasant day and good walking; quite a large number attended the different churches in the village.

Oct. 27th

Although the Presidential election takes place on the 4th of next month; yet there is in this vicinity but little political interest manifested. Since the September election in this State, all parties have conceded the State to the Republicans; hence it is not probable the Democrats will at the November election, throw so many votes as in the gubernatorial election.

Oct. 28th

When Jonathan Fiske moved to this town in 1833, Josiah Smith came with him as clerk in the counting of the cotton factory. In 1835 Mr. Smith married Elizabeth daughter of Elisha Chadbourn. He continued to live in town part of the time as clerk, and part of the time as agent of the mill, until the building was destroyed by fire in 1850. In February 1851, William P. Haynes, agent of the Pease Manufacturing Company at Biddeford, gave Mr. Smith the offer of chief clerk of the corporation. This offer he accepted, and moved to Biddeford at the time mentioned.

This forenoon, a telegraphic dispatch was received that Mr. Smith died this morning after a sickness of only a few days. The cause of his death was bowel complaint. Wherever Mr. Smith was known he was highly esteemed. While at Kennebunk he was considered an honorable, intelligent and valuable member of the community, and since he has been in Biddeford the citizens of that place have had the same opinion of him as the inhabitants of Kennebunk.

For the last half dozen years that he lived in this village, he was one of my most intimate friends. Since he moved away, he has often called to see me and once I went to his house on Saturday and did not leave until the next Monday. This visit was by his special request. Farewell old friend.

Oct. 29th

Within the last half dozen years, William A. Low has built for himself a small house and barn, at the Landing. This afternoon while Mr. Low and wife were absent from home; the house and barn were burnt. The fire is supposed to have been caused by children setting fire to shavings. Whole loss of property about \$1800, insured \$1500 in Well, Mutual Insurance Co.

Oct. 30th

The funeral of Mr. Jaber Smith, took place this afternoon. The body was brought over from Biddeford and buried in the grave-yard near the Unitarian meeting-house, where the bodies of his Father, Mother and two of his own children lie. There was quite a large number came from Biddeford, besides his family and connexions. Among the followers to his grave were in William O. Haines, agent of the Pepperell corporation, by which Mr. Smith was employed, and Rev. Mr. Gould, village of whose church Mr. Smith was a member. His brother Rev. Joseph Smith, told me at the grave yard "Among the last words my brother said was 'I wish some one to give my respects to Andrew Walker and tell him that I wish to be remembered by him'. Yes, I shall remember Jaber Smith, as long as I remember any person. He was 41 years of age."

Oct. 31st

Benjamin Perkins has re-opened a store in the corner of the building under Washington Hall. The lower part of this building was formerly used as a store, but of late years, has not been used for that purpose.

Nov. 1st

During the last fortnight, Joseph Dore has been absent from home, attending to his duties as one of the Bank Commissioners. (I understand that he does not intend to return home to vote for Com. Presidential electors on the 4th inst.)

Nov. 2nd

Rev. Mr. Willcox, this afternoon delivered, as I thought quite an interesting discourse from these words, "Strive to enter in at the straight gate."

Nov. 3rd

Pokes & Picken at the Port, about a year since, had a schooner built for them, which they called "Pak Leaf." This vessel they used as a coaster between any Port where there was a demand. A few days since, she sailed from New York for Portland, Me., with a load of wheat. To day news was received that the vessel sunk while on the passage, but the crew were saved by an English steamer. The vessel itself was worth (as reported) between five and six thousand dollars, and is a total loss there being no insurance.

Nov. 4th

On this day, the President and Vice President were virtually chosen in these United States; although Electors of these offices were only chosen. In this town there was not great interest manifested, except by the Republican party, who appeared to make great exertions to get voters to the polls. The polls were open at ten o'clock A. M. and continued open until three o'clock P. M.

The whole number of ballots thrown by the Republican party was, — — — 312

The whole number of ballots thrown by the Democratic party was, — — — 169.

The whole number of ballots thrown by the Straight Whigs was, — — — 26

Some person threw one ballot with the names of Gilmore and Dugton on it. — — — 1
Hence the whole number of ballots is — — — 488 this is but 13 votes less than were thrown in September.

The day has not been pleasant although it did not storm. The travelling was quite good, but somewhat muddy.

Nov. 5th

The telegraph office in this village, was kept open from 7 o'clock last evening to 3 1/2 o'clock this morning, by the wishes of those who were anxious to know how the political battle of yesterday, will make glow the friends of Buchanan or Fremont. From returns already received, it appears that the Fremont or Republican electors have been chosen in all of the New England States and probably in the State of New York; but there is a strong probability that Buchanan has carried his own State, Pennsylvania. This last mentioned State, it is supposed will decide the battle in favor of Buchanan as he is sure to receive all or nearly all the Southern States and the State of Indiana.

Nov. 6th

The failure of D & S. Waver and Cramm & Littlefield business has made a fine harvest for the lawyers in this village. The pecuniary distresses of persons, appear to afford gain to lawyers, as bodily distresses afford gain to physicians.

Nov. 7th

The "Democratic" and "Republican" flags, which have been suspended across Main street since last August, have this day been taken down.

Election
of
President
and
Vice
President
of
these
U.S.

How
the
political
battle
has
gone
as
before.

Lawyers
for
Lawyers

Flags
down.

190.

1816.

Nov. 8th

Ship. When D & S. Worn assigned their property, there was in a frame of a ship of about 800 in their yard. This frame D & S was sold this day at auction, to a Boston man for the sum of \$1,100. It is expected that workmen will be employed on yard, here next week, and until she is finished.

Nov. 9th

Rev. Mr. Willcox being absent; his brother who preaches
somewhere in Massachusetts, came to Pennabunk last evening
to supply his brother's desk.

Nov. 11th

W. A. ✓ On the 29th of Oct., it was noted that Williams A. Low
Low had that day lost his house by fire. On the 8th inst., I
raised understandings that he had a new frame raised on the spot
a new where his house stood. Quite a large number of men
from ~~at~~ the landing, have assisted him to labor without
for pay, and others in this village have given him money,
house, or some materials for building.

Nov. 11th

Since my removal, my business has been about as good as it was at the old store. I have lost some of my business customers at that part of the village; but I have had more transient custom here. It appears to me that there is more business done at the lower part of the place than here, although some people will say this is a more genteel part. There are more mechanics in that part of the village and the grist-mill and Post Office being there naturally attracts people.

Nov. 12th

X. During the past summer, George P. Titcomb has not enjoyed good health. For about a month past, he has been confined to the house and works in pleasant days Titcomb around the house, except about a week, since he went with his brother Joseph to Boston, I suppose to consult with some physicians. He was absent but two or three days, and since his return, that is within two or three days, he has become deranged, not violent, but his thoughts will do not appear to be governed by his will. He thinks, ~~his mother~~ in and all the family have formed a conspiracy against him. Two men are with him constantly. There have been a number of instances of deranged intellect, in the Titcomb family, as I have been told.

1816

Nov. 13th

About 35 years ago, Samuel Swombly-Blacksmith, came from Somersworth N.H. to live in Benningport. Soon after his arrival in town he commenced business, was prosperous, married a wife, built a house and all things with him appeared to prosper. But as time passed by, he by degrees acquired a habit of drinking spirituous liquors. As years advanced this habit increased on him until he became a confirmed drunkard. He had three wives, but lost them all. The last one died about ~~three~~ ^{four} years since. Since that time he has lived about in different places wherever he could obtain work, for his property was spent years before his last wife died. About a year since, he came to this village ^{IX} sick and destitute, to live with a married daughter. He became more and more feeble until to day he died aged 61 years. He left one daughter by his first wife and four sons by his last.

Nov. 14th

The Fremont Club in this village, have this day taken down their sign which read 'Fremont Club' and their pole on which their flag was hoisted. So the Presidential campaign of 1856, may be considered closed. The Republican paper, recommends, that the Club be kept organized for the campaign of 1860, and that Fremont & Doughton be the Presidential candidates for that year.

Nov. 11th

Mr. Samuel Trowell was buried this afternoon, from the house of his son-in-law William Downing. The body was carried to the Port and interred by the side of his last wife - Sophia Stone.

Nov. 16th

Rev. Mr Leach of Wells, exchanges pulpits with Mr. Willcox. X Sunday
A pleasant day over your traveling. Nov. 17th

Nov. 17th

The "Teachers Institute" met in this village this A. M. There are present - Rev. Mr. Northub, of Frammingham Mass. ✓ as Lecturer, Mr. Russell of Mass. as Educationist, Mr. Duntun, of Boston, tender of Remembrance. The State Superintendant of Schools, Mr. Gray, is not present. The evening were held in the school room of the Academy building. There were but a small number of persons present, not so many as were expected.

Nov. 18th

Rev. Mr. Northup, delivered a lecture last evening in the Unitarian church on common schools. He strongly advocates, in that female are better instructors in primary schools than Unitarian males, that as far forth as possible there should be permanent schools, in teachers and where the population will admit, that all the schools should be graded. After the lecture was closed, Mrs. Russell the Elocutionist repeated one of Mrs. Hemans scenes from Spanish history.

Nov. 19th

Rev. Mr. Northup lectured last evening in the church of the second parish on the Common Schools of Massachusetts. Mrs. Russell also repeated Poe's "Raven". The audience was larger than last evening. The attendance during the day at the school room has been remarkably small. Mr. Northup says, the average attendance by day, at the church, they come here has been about two hundred, the average number here has not been more than thirty. There were seven tenders from Saco and Biddeford and about the same number from all other places in the county. There does not appear to have been sufficient notice given and this being "Thanksgiving week", nearly all persons are very busily employed at home. In consequence of the small number attending the Institute it will close to night.

Nov. 20th

The lecture last evening was in the Baptist church. After closing the lecture, Mrs. Russell repeated a piece written by Rev. John Pierpont, "Passing Away". The number has increased each evening and as more is known of the Institute, there appears to be more interest manifested. Those who have attended during the instruction by day, on the lectures in the evenings appear to be well satisfied, that the teachers are competent for their offices.

This is the day appointed by the Governor of this State for the annual Thanksgiving. There was a "Union Meeting" in the Baptist church, and an address by the Rev. Mr. North on "Education". In this address he attempted to prove (and to me did prove) that the cultivation of the intellectual powers alone, does not necessarily make people better; but that in connection with the intellect the morals should be also cultivated. — All persons present to my knowledge appeared to think the lecture first rate.

Nov. 21st

The following are the prices now ruling for the articles of provisions here mentioned — Flour from 8 to 9 1/2 cts. a bushel; Oats 12 1/2 cts. a bushel; Common Molasses 10 cts. a gallon; Brown Sugar 12 to 12 1/2 cts. a lb.; Sugar 16 cts.; Butter 25 cts.; Cheese 12 1/2 cts.; Eggs 20 cts. doz.; Chickens 12 cts. lb.; Turkeys 13 to 15 cts.; Apples are remarkable high common cooking apples are from 8 1/2 to 100 Bush, and good grafted apples are selling for \$4.00 a barrel.

Nov. 22nd

Mr. Samuel Lewis of Kennebunkport, was at this village a few days since. He told me that he moved to that town in 1801, and that he is now in the 80th year of his age. He says, that since he has lived in K-port he has made about Twenty five Hundred Coffins, a very large proportion of them being for people in that town, the small proportion being for persons in adjoining towns.

Nov. 23rd

A remarkably warm and pleasant day, but the walking is rather muddy. Attended church in the evening to hear Rev. Mr. North. He appears to be an excellent man, and is generally if not universally liked where he is known.

Nov. 24th

Mr. Jacob Russell, who now owns the "Hedge farm", formerly owned by Barnabas Palmer, has during the last two or three months built a two story brick dwelling house on the farm and sold his old house to Dr. Littlefield who this day has with a large team of oxen hauled it from the farm to a spot of land near the depot. The price paid for the house was one hundred dollars, which is considered cheap.

Nov. 25th

George O. Titcomb's mind still continues deranged. During the last few days, he has refused to talk or to eat. A few times, those who were with him have forced him to take a very small quantity of beef tea, or gruel. He lies on the bed nearly all the time in an apparently stupor state. A man from Boston who has been in the habit of taking care of the insane has been employed to take care of him with the assistance of others. I understand that two men are with him constantly as it is feared that he may harm himself or some other person. It is said he has attempted to take his mother by the throat.

Nov. 26th

It is a singular coincidence that the Shipbuilders in this vicinity should at this time be so afflicted. Builders D & S. Ward of Kennebunkport, have failed, Littlefield & in Emmons, of this town have assigned their property in order to prevent failing. G. P. Titcomb of the firm J & P. Titcomb of this town is insane. George W. Bourne of the firm of Bourne & Kingsbury of this town is now dangerously sick with the Typhoid fever.

Nov. 27th

The first and principal cause why Shipbuilders at what the Port have failed, is ruin to be because they do not have enough for building ships. Capt. William Loring now says, that large ships cannot now be built for less than \$17. a ton at least. The large ship "William Loring" which was built during the past summer cost \$60. a ton, as Capt. Loring says. Smaller vessels cost more in proportion to their tonnage than large vessels.

Nov. 28th

I have purposely omitted any remarks on the Presidential election, until all the States have been heard from. The news from California arrives to day. The following is the result of the Presidential contest.

For Buchanan		Electoral Votes	For Fremont		Electoral Votes
New Jersey	- - -	7	Maine	- - -	8
Pennsylvania	- - -	27	New Hampshire	- - -	1
Indiana	- - -	13	Vermont	- - -	1
Illinois	- - -	11	Massachusetts	- - -	13
Virginia	- - -	15	Rhode Island	- - -	4
Tennessee	- - -	12	Connecticut	- - -	6
Delaware	- - -	3	New York	- - -	31
Georgia	- - -	10	Ohio	- - -	23
Kentucky	- - -	12	Iowa	- - -	4
Louisiana	- - -	6	Michigan	- - -	6
Missouri	- - -	9	Wisconsin	- - -	1
Arkansas	- - -	4			114
Mississippi	- - -	7	For Fillmore		Electoral Votes
South Carolina	- - -	8	Maryland	- - 1 State	8
North Carolina	- - -	10	For Fremont	- - 11 States	114
Alabama	- - -	9	" Buchanan	19 States	174
Florida	- - -	3		States 31 Electoral	96 votes
Texas	- - -	4			
California	- - -	4			
		174			

Nov. 29th

To day at noon the snow commenced falling with the appearance of a tough snow storm, and now this evening there is about four inches on the ground. This is the first snow storm of the season except a "flirt" of snow a few days since.

Nov. 30th

The snow storm cleared off during the night, but the weather this day is cold and raw. There were but a comparatively small number attended church.

Dec. 1st

As I was passing along the street to day, I noticed for the first time, that Jas. M. Stone had put out his sign as a lawyer. I asked him how long his sign had been out; he told me two or three weeks. Report says that he has gone in company with Edward C. Bourne Jr in business the office occupied by E. C. Bourne who has been chosen judge as a Justice. Mr. Bourne senior will continue to transact business in the old office but on his "own hook".

Dec. 2nd

The old tavern stands over the river formerly owned by Capt. John Hovey, has not been occupied since it was repaired. The owners are in hopes to find an occupant next spring, but there is a poor prospect for business.

Dec. 3rd

For many years Benjamin Downing of Kennebunkport, has wandered about mostly in this vicinity in a partial deranged state of mind. He could not be contented but a few days in any place. His only home was the ash-house of R. Post in R. Post. A few days since while walking on the railroad track, he saw the cars coming and turned out as he supposed far enough; but the engine hit on the side and broke some of his ribs. He lived until yesterday. He was brought home this day and buried with his ancestors.

Dec. 4th

The regular boarders at B. F. Goodwin's this winter are Andrew Walker, James L. Stone, Nathan Dane Jr, John Dane Jr (clerk to N. Dane) Henry Sargent, Eliza Emery who is teaching a private school for young ladies and Lucretia and Lydia Webb dealers in fancy goods, bonnets and millinery. There is but little transient custom at this season of the year. The male boarders pay three dollars a week, exclusive of washing. I do not know how much the female pay.

Dec. 5th

On Monday the 4th inst., John Bobbly went down East and on the 2nd inst., Jas. M. Stone, started, as he said for Augusta, John Stone supposed at the time, that Mr. Bobbly was anxious to obtain some office, and that he had employed Mr. Stone to go to Augusta to assist him. The papers from Augusta to be tell the result. It appears that Mr. Bobbly was making election an effort to be chosen by the Electoral College (which met Monday Augusta on the 3rd inst.) its Messengers to convey the vote to go to the College to Washington; but he did not succeed in Washington's efforts. The whole number of electoral votes is eight, with which were as expected given unanimously for President Election for President and Dayton for Vice-President. The vote for votes, Messinger was, Wm. A. Wingate, of Bangor.

John Bobbly, of Kennebunk, - 3 consequently Mr Bobbly did not succeed in his efforts to obtain this office.

Dec. 6th

The Freemasons dedicated their new hall on Mr Warrens street last evening. Tickets were furnished each mason in mason order for him to invite such persons as he chose, R. L. dedicated Bangor gave me a ticket. There were about two hundred then present, nearly one half the number were females. There new about twenty Freemasons present from out of town, who Hall, performed the dedicatory ceremonies. After these ceremonies were concluded all present partook of a fine collation which had been prepared for the occasion.

Dec. 7th

A clear, cold day and good sleighing, although Sunday there is not more than three or four inches of snow on the ground. Quite a large number attended church.

Dec. 8th

Mr. George W. Bourne, who has been sick nearly two Death months with the Typhoid fever, died yesterday. This morning of I sent the following notice to the Democrat office.

George W. "Died in Kennebunk, Dec. 7th Mr. George W. Bourne, of Bourne, the firm of "Bourne & Kingsbury" ship-builders at Kennebunk Landing, aged 55 years. Mr. Bourne was extensively known and highly esteemed for his genial disposition, liberality of conduct and efforts to promote the welfare of his fellowmen.

He was probably the most active and efficient man in the Unitarian church and society, and has been Superintendent of the Sabbath School for about twenty years.

Dec. 9th

The Academy building, which was bought last summer for a district school house, has been repaired and painted on the outside and remodeled the inside with new desks, and seats from Boston, to accommodate ninety scholars. in

The district school commenced there yesterday, under the care of Mrs. Ross of Ipswich Mass., who taught the summer school here during the past season and gave good satisfaction.

Dec. 10th

I see by the Succ paper, that Jeremiah Fletcher of this town has forbid any one harboring or trusting his wife Sarah A Fletcher on his account, as she has left his bed and board without provocation on his part. This is his story, perhaps she could give a different coloring to the last part of the story; but I do not know any thing of the merits of the case; but I remember that many years ago, that his father and mother parted and he advertised her in the same manner as Jeremiah has done.

Dec. 11th

George W. Bourne was buried this afternoon, from the Unitarian church. A larger number attended the funeral, than I ever before in this town on a week day. The pews in the church were all filled and probably nearly one hundred stood up near the singers seats and eleven part of the isles. There were probably from five to six hundred in the house and there were probably a few out of doors. As Mr. Bourne was Superintendent of the Sunday school for many years, the Sunday school scholars were present and sat together, as he was a member of the "Sons of Temperance" they were also present dressed in their badges or rather hats on their badges. There were a few persons present from Succ and Portland, but the great bulk of the congregation were children, sons of temperance, relatives (of which there were many) and citizens of the town. Mr. Swann and Mrs. Nichols of Succ officiated at the funeral in the meeting house, and it was expected to have more ceremonies at the grave; but unfortunately about the time the procession was being formed, the clouds which had been lowering for some time, began to rain; hence the children did not go to the grave and probably many others who would have gone if the weather had been favorable. The Sons of Temperance marched in procession to the grave.

Dec. 12th

Henry Sargent, Daguerrotypist, who came to this village more than a year since, has engaged a horse team to move his saloon tomorrow from here to Pottery.

Dec. 13th

This morning I hired a horse and chaise and started on a tax-collecting tour. I first went to "Bole's corner" in Wells to collect taxes of persons in that neighborhood who own land in at Kennebunk; from there, I went on the lower road to the Port Wells where I arrived about noon. During the afternoon and part of the evening, I remained in that vicinity and did not arrive at my boarding house until 8 o'clock in the evening, having been gone from home twelve hours. I succeeded better than I expected having collected thirty taxes, some of them being "house cases".

Dec. 14th

A cold rain storm accompanied with a high wind Sunday, has prevailed all day. But few people attended church.

Dec. 15th

The wind blew very powerfully last night. The tin on blown one side of the roof of W. L. Thompson's barn was blown from W. L. S. the roof to the ground, leaving the boarding on that side of barn, the roof entirely bare.

Dec. 16th

The ground in this vicinity, is destitute of snow and there is but very little ice on the ground. I understand that the rain storm here on the 14th inst. was more, but a few miles from the sea coast, it is quite cold.

Dec. 17th

A man who calls himself "Major Ross," the "Soup Man" is in town to day with his soap. He has a "free lecture" as he termed it at the town hall last evening. In this lecture he gave a history of himself and of his soap. He says that he has handled soap for thirteen years and has visited twenty three of the United States. Until within a few years he has sold his soap by the cake at ten cents each. Now he sells ten cakes at a time in a small box for one dollar, and gives each buyer the right to select a scalar invoice from a long list of envelopes. On breaking this seal the holder is entitled to any price it may designate from the value of 25 cents to \$3000. As a matter of course, the small prices were very great in proportion to the large prices. In order to attract attention this "Major Ross"

was dressed in the style which prevailed among fashionable people about seventy five years ago. — breeches buckled at the knee, shoes with large silver buckles, a single breasted, wide non shirted coat, a long vest with lapels in front, ruffle bosom the shirt and corker hat. He sold a large quantity of soap (worth to four people) and it is supposed netted at least one hundred dollars after paying expenses. No prices of much value were known by any one while here.

Dec. 18th

This has been the coldest day this season. Mr. Sewall's thermometer this morning was at 10 degrees below zero, the mercury in some thermometers in the village was at 13 degrees below 0. The weather during the day has been extremely cold accompanied by a high wind.

Dec. 19th

There is considerable talk in this vicinity about the reported marriage of Mr. Jacob Russell who lives on the "Hedge farm" to Miss Sarah Mason. This Mr. Russell is a widower, about forty five years of age. He is rather rough in his appearance and manners, and somewhat in the habit of drinking spirituous liquors, sometimes so much that he cannot walk straight. Miss Mason is an uncommon handsome girl and in the nineteenth year of her age. If they are married the ceremony was performed in Boston or vicinity last week, as they came from Boston a few days since and stopped at Mr. Russell's house.

Dec. 20th

The weather has become milder. There is no snow on the ground which is frozen as hard as it can be. Wheels run very easily on the ground but horses are apt to have to be shod in order to draw heavy loads.

Dec. 21st

Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with the minister who preaches at the Congregational parish in Wells.

Dec. 22nd

I understand that the amount of D. & S. Wards liabilities is in round numbers \$76,000. They have made proposals through their assignees to pay their creditors fifteen cents on a dollar, if they will sign an acquittal of their demands. It is said that nearly all, have agreed to accept of the offered fifteen per cent.

Dec. 23rd

There are three district schools now in operation in this village. For large scholars, Mr. Kuss in the academy building in for small scholars, Miss Jellison who teaches in the new school house over the river and Miss Olive Kimball teaches in the old school house near the Unitarian meeting house.

Dec. 24th

By the last train of cars from the East on the 22nd inst. a Mr. Delano and his daughter of Peru, Maine, came to Mr. Goodwins. After tea, he hired a horse and wagon and went to Sumner Well. Yesterday morning a young man by the name of Sumner Baine came to Mr. Goodwins and was with the old man of and his daughter all day. In the evening he came into my store and requested a certificate of marriage for himself and the girl. I told him that I was not authorized to issue a certificate to persons living out of town, and told him he must get one in Well where he belonged. He accordingly went to Well, obtained the document, and on his return of engaged her. Mr. Willcox who came to Mr. Goodwins and married them between nine and ten o'clock last evening. This morning the father and bride returned to their home and the bridegroom to his home in Well. — It appears that the young man and girl returned from Massachusetts a few months since, where they had boarded in the same house together, and formed so intimate an acquaintance, that the result was manifest in the appearance of the girl, hence the anxiety in the father and daughter that the girl should be married.

Dec. 25th

This morning a respectable appearing young man and woman came to Mr. Goodwins, and in a short time afterwards he came into my store and wish to obtain a certificate for the marriage of himself Albert D. Walker of Alton, N. H. to a young lady of Durham N. H. I told him that I was sorry that I could not gratify him; but did not consider that I had any legal right to issue a certificate to him, as he was the young lady belonged out of this State. I then consulted the lawyers in the village and they said that my opinion was correct. He appeared to be very much disappointed, as he supposed there would not be any difficulty in obtaining a certificate any where. They went west in the afternoon train of cars. The appearance of the parties indicated that they had started from home for a run-away marriage.

Dec. 26th

Last fall Mahlon Hutchinson, James Wornum and Daniel Perkins, hired money of Ocean Bank, went East, bought a drove of cattle, went with them to Brighton Mass. where the cattle were sold. Henry Jordan and James Wornum were sureties at the bank on Mr. Hutchinson's note. Mr. H. did not pay his note at the bank on his return; but mortgaged to Mr. Jordan the goods which he has in a store (belonging to Mrs. Dutch) with his house, cow and sundry other articles for the security of Mr. Jordan. The next day he gave to Mr. Wornum a mortgage on the same goods for his security. This arrangement was by the agreement of the parties. I do not know why Mr. Jordan receives the first mortgage.

Dec. 27th

Since J. W. Hardy moved from the store I now occupy, the store owned by his father-in-law Horace Porter; they have done considerable business. Mr. Porter has been to Porters and Porters a number of times and bought large quantities of groceries, leathers and which they advertise to sell as low as any person. Mr. Porter appears to be as much interested in the business now as he was fifty thirty years ago, when he and the late Benjamin Smith were in company. Mr. Porter owns the goods and is the principal business man, Hardy acting as clerk.

Dec. 28th

A larger number attended church to day than I have before seen at one time for three months; the day being pleasant, the sleighing good, although there is not more than three or four inches of snow on the ground.

Dec. 29th

John Colby, trader and John B. Hodge, tin-plate-wencher and stone dealer failed this day. A firm in Porters with which Mr. Colby has been doing business were the first to attach his goods, the next attachment was by W. L. Thompson of this town. A store manufacturer at Great Falls, N. H. was the first to attach the property in the possession of Mr. Hodge. I do not know the amount of demands against Mr. Colby or Mr. Hodge.

Dec. 30th

During the past fall, the Baptist society with the help of some outsiders, have bought a chandelier and two pulpit lamps for the Baptist Church. The Congregational Society are now making an effort to get a larger chandelier and lamps for the Congregational church.

1816.

Dec. 31st

Leap Year in Kennebunk.

Leap year. The ladies in Kennebunk do not appear to have taken advantage of their leap year privilege, or they have found the marriageable men uncommonly obstinate. There has been a less number of marriages in Kennebunk, and during the past year, than in either of the last eighteen years. (19 couples married)

Deaths in this town. The number of deaths in Kennebunk, as recorded in the Town Clerk's office for the year 1816; males 17; females 21; total 38. Average age 40 years. Proportion to population 1 in 70.

1817.

Jan. 1st

The following poetry, I see floating around in the news papers. It embodies what all persons who have lived but a score of years, has already found out — a man must depend on his own exertions.

The Excellent Man.

The excellent man, "They gave me advice and counsel in store,
Praised me and honored me, more and more;
Said that I only should wait a while;
Offered their patronage, too, with a mile.

But with all their honor and approbation,
I should, long ago, have died of starvation,
Had there not come along an excellent man,
Who bravely to help me along began.

Good fellow! he got me the food I ate,
His kindness and care I shall never forget;
Yet I cannot embrace him — though other folks can,
For I myself am this excellent man."

Jan. 2nd

I have often heard it said, that an old man by the name of Luke Hanscomb, in the upper part of this town, was not favored like other men in all respects. He died on the 27th of last month at the age of 81 years. I asked one of his neighbors (Benjamin Smith) who after the death of Mr. Hanscomb, assisted in preparing his corpse for the grave; if the report was true. "Yes" said he, the lower part of Mr. H's belly was as smooth as a marble statue, and

1817

all the water that passed from him came from an opening at his navel. He did not void his water at such particular times like other men, but it vented out as it made; hence he always wore a bandage around him to absorb it. He was married about years since and his wife still lives, but as a matter of course they have no children.

Jan. 3rd

The Post office was moved this day from an old store owned by W. L. Thompson, to the store formerly occupied by me. The present location is more central and convenient than the former. It is probable Capt. Willson will continue to be Postmaster for the next four years.

Jan. 4th

A clear, cold day. There was not a large number at church, as there was a snow storm last night and the sleighing is not very good.

Jan. 1st

Edmund C. Bourne took his seat as judge of Probate this day for the first time. His first court is at Alfred. (It is said, he has for many years been trying to obtain this office and now his efforts are crowned with success.)

Jan. 6th

Burns & Jeffords of Kennebunkport have over to Mr. Nathaniel Littlefield of this town, their horses and carriages which they used in conveying passengers ^{daily} to and from Saco to Kennebunkport. Mr. Littlefield took possession yesterday.

Jan. 7th

The assignees of Burns & Littlefield are making an effort to compromise with their creditors. They offer fifty cents on a dollar. A larger part, probably two thirds, have agreed to sign the paper by which they assent to receive 50 per cent in full of all demands, the other third will sign nothing of the kind, and say if they cannot receive more than 50 per cent they will not have anything now, but trust to the future.

Jan. 8th

Capt. Noah Mason says, that he as President of the Atlas Insurance Co. receives \$300 a year for his services, and Christopher Littlefield as Secretary of the same company, receives the same pay as Capt. Mason, that is \$300 a year. Mr. L. now receives as Cashier of Ocean Bank \$700, and as Secretary of Insurance Co. \$300, consequently for both \$1000 a year.

Jan. 9th

✓ The House of Representatives of the U. S. is composed of U. S. representatives from each State, in the ratio of one to every House 93,423 of the population; adding one for fractions over one of half and allowing three votes for free slaves. The present number of members is 234; and there are 7 delegates, one each from Oregon, Minnesota, Utah, New Mexico, Washington, Nebraska, and Kansas Territories, who have a right to speak, but not to vote.

Jan. 10th

✓ Population of the United States and Territories in 1810 according to the Seventh Census.

Statistics Total, Free Population, - - - 20,087,846
Total, Slave Population, - - - 3,179,189
Total Population, - - - 23,267,431

✓ Population of the six New England States is - 2,726,919 or less than 1/8 of the whole population & less than 1/7 of electors 41 to 496

X The number of square miles in all the States, Territories and the Indian Territory is about 3,300,000.

X The number of square miles in Maine is 32,628 and in the remaining five New England States - 33,227

✓ The population of the U. S. at the close of the year 1817, may be computed in round numbers to be about 30,000,000.

Jan. 11th

✓ This forenoon there was a severe snow storm with incidents stormy of a long storm. There was not any meeting in the Congregational or Methodist places of worship. The Unitarians had a meeting in the forenoon only. The Baptist Church was quite full in the afternoon, as it was the only meeting in the village.

Jan. 12th

X At the annual Town meeting last March, the town voted that the town appropriate a sum of money not exceeding one hundred dollars, for medical advice for Benjamin Ben. Brigham. Last spring the town let him have about twenty dollars to expend in Boston in procuring such advice; but he returned when his money was expended without receiving any benefit. About three weeks since the town sent him to the Mass. General Hospital in Boston for to see if it could benefit him. To day they sent him home and say they cannot do anything for him, but think light work and exercises will be more likely to help him than anything else. His disease is caused by masturbation.

Jan. 13th

✓ About eighteen months since, Capt. Theodore Brown of this town, sailed from Boston in a Kennelbush ship for Liverpool, Eng., from there he went to Calcutta. On his return the ship was lost near the mouth of the river Hoogly. Capt. B. and his crew took passage on board of a Boston ship which arrived home last month. It is now reported that when Capt. B. left Liverpool he took a female with him as his mistress. While in Calcutta and at St. Helena on the voyage home, he tried to get rid of the woman, but was not permitted by the civil authorities to leave her. She came to Boston with him, bringing with her a young child, one of the results of their intercourse. While in Boston he conveyed her to a house of ill-fame; but she would not remain, came back to the vessel and refused to leave unless some security was given her for the support of herself and child. Capt. B. had no support to give, as he had not only spent all of his own personal property with him, but had appropriated a part of the ship's money to his own use.

X The woman told her story to some persons in Boston, who a few days since, sent an officer to this town and attached Capt. Brown's property; but he has previously returned home and put the property out of his hands. This affair has naturally raised somewhat of a breeze in Capt. B.'s family and occasioned much talk elsewhere.

X Perhaps the above is not correct in its details but such are the reports.

Jan. 14th

✓ There is not near so much money in circulation in this vicinity, this winter as there was last winter. This difference is probably occasioned, in part at least, by the failures last fall of D. & S. Warr and Cromons & Littlefield; as they were the means of circulating much money.

Jan. 15th

✓ I understand that William Cook and Stephen Perkins at the Landing, have contracted with William Loom of this town, and Daniel Cleaves of Saco, to build for them, a ship at the Landing during the coming season. This is all the vessel that I now know of, that is to be built in this vicinity.

Jan. 16th

The new school house on the Western side of the river, was dedicated last evening. Rev. Mr. Swann and Rev. Mr. Worth delivered addresses and Dr. Ross made a few remarks.

The house was as full as they could be comfortably seated; but a large proportion of them were children. It is a beautiful school and convenient school room with accommodations for eighty House scholars. The seats or rather chairs and desks were made in Boston. There are about twenty small chairs without desks for the special use of the smallest children.

Jan. 17th

The weather since January came in, has been quite weather cold even for January. I do not recollect of one day in which the snow has melted in the road, and but a few good days, on the sunny side of buildings. There is not much sleighing now on the ground but for the last three weeks we have had excellent sleighing.

Jan. 18th

This has been the coldest day this season. Mr. Sewall's lowest thermometer which is considered the standard, did not indicate so great a degree of cold, as some others in the village, the mercury being at 18 degrees below zero. The mercury, in other thermometers in the village varied from 11 to 22 degrees below.

Jan. 19th

A remarkable cold snow storm. The wind has blown the snow into drifts of all sizes. On many of the roads it must be impassable for teams. There was a mail from the East this morning, but no mail from the West to day.

Jan. 20th

The weather is now clear but intensely cold. Mr. Sewall's thermometer was this morning at 14 below zero and at noon 11. Some other thermometers indicated a still greater degree of cold.

Jan. 21st

The Western mail with the letters and papers of two days mail arrived last evening. The papers represent the storm to have been very severe; the roads badly drifted and a number of vessels lost in the vicinity of Boston.

Jan. 22nd

There is but very little business, the roads are in such a bad condition for traveling. I improved the opportunity of a leisure day, and wrote a long letter to my sister Lucy, who now lives in Newburyport, Mass.

Jan. 23rd

Within the last half dozen years, it has become the fashion in this vicinity and probably in all the New England States, to let the beard ^{grow} on the throat on the lower part of the chin. The fashion this winter, in this vicinity and probably elsewhere, is to let the beard grow on all parts of the face wherever nature intended it should grow. There are now in this village probably ^{twenty men} who do not use a razor at all, and in the town probably sixty men who do not shave. These men clip the beard on the upper lip so that it shall not fall below their lips, leaving the mouth exposed. The fashion is not confined to any class of persons.

Jan. 24th

We thought the weather yesterday was cold enough, Mr. Sewall's thermometer being in the morning at 18 and at noon 11 degrees below zero; but this morning the cold was greater than for a number of years being 30 below zero. Yesterday the cold was greater during the day than this day, the cold not being so great at noon as it was yesterday.

Jan. 25th

The weather has moderated a little, but it is still cold enough for all practical purposes. There was not any meeting in the Unitarian church in the afternoon, as Rev. Mr. Swann attended the funeral of Nicholas Wakefield, at the Landing.

Jan. 26th

In December 1854, Mr. Nicholas Wakefield and Miss Caroline Stone, both of this town, were united in marriage. It is said that before they were married, they mutually agreed the longest lived should inherit the estate of the deceased; no time being expected, he being 57 years of age and she about 50. He died on the 22 inst. According to the agreement he has left by will his property (between three and four thousand dollars) to his wife. It is said she had before marriage, between, or nearly two thousand dollars.

Jan. 27th

Some person contracted last fall with the fishermen at Cape Porpoise, to take all the fish they should take this winter at eighty cents for a hundred pounds, as they were landed from the boats without being cleaned. To day there were five large loads, between five and six tons hauled to the depot; on their way to Montreal to help feed the Catholics during the present time of Lent.

1857.

Jan. 28th

I understand that A. Warren Merdum of this town has been appointed Deputy Sheriff, in place of Joann H. Kimball. Merdum Mr. Kimball's time has expired and Mr. Merdum received the appointment, doubtless because he is a "Republican" and this party are now dominant in this State.

Jan. 29th

The "Atlas Insurance Company" in this village ^{commenced} about the first of last August, or six months since. The company so far has been unfortunate. To day news was received of the loss of the ship "Sea Eagle" about Williams, master at the Cape of Good Hope. The vessel was insured at the above office for \$10,000. Capt. Noah Nason, the President of the company, says the whole amount of premiums earned to this date, is about \$10,000 and the whole amount of losses already heard from is about \$15,000.

Jan. 30th

The Congregational society have procured by subscription a large chandelier for the body of the church, two lamps for the pulpit and two small lamps for the singers seat. They have been put in their places this week. It is said the whole expense of chandeliers and lamps was one hundred and thirty five dollars.

Jan. 31st

The weather during the past week has been quite mild. There was a little rain the first of the week and a little more to day; but not much of a "January thaw".

Feb. 1st

A mild, pleasant day, but the walking and riding Sunday, being rather bad; there was not a large attendance at church.

Feb. 2nd

By a law of this State, the charters of all the Banks expire by limitation this fall; consequently all Banks which wish to have their charters renewed must petition to the Legislature now in session. There was a meeting of the Stockholders of the Ocean Bank, this afternoon for the above mentioned purpose.

Feb. 3rd

A small School House ^{and} used for a juvenile school on the Western side of the river was sold at auction this afternoon to Samuel Clark for One Hundred and twenty five dollars. This house was built by this district about a dozen years ago and cost with the land three hundred dollars.

1857.

Feb. 4th

The ministers of the Congregational churches in this part of York County are having a meeting or conference yesterday and to day, at the church in this village. Last evening Rev. Mr. Wheeler, of Saco, had a public discourse in Rev. Mr. Willcox's church. There was a large attendance. The new chandeliers and lamps were lighted for the first time.

Feb. 5th

The bodily health of George P. Sitterb has improved; so that now he rides out occasionally with Mr. Chout, the man who is hired to take care of him. He eats and sleeps more regularly than he did at first; but he still refuses to talk with any one except Mr. Chout, and not but little with him.

Within a few days, the report has circulated in the village that George has been engaged for about a year to a Miss Lizzie Lane, of New York, or that vicinity. This Miss Lane is a niece of Rev. Mr. Willcox, and George former an acquaintance with her while she was on a visit here at Mr. Willcox's. She has been here for two or three weeks at her uncle's, and it is said has been at Mrs. Sitterb's a number of times; but it was not thought expedient for her to see him.

Feb. 6th

"Sewing Machines" which were invented about half a dozen years since, have now become quite common in nearly all parts of the U.S. There are two in this village, which have been introduced within the last six months. Abner Nideant has the first. He uses it for stitching the tops of thin shoes together. Simon Whitten, Tailor, uses his in his work. The cost of a sewing machine is about one hundred dollars, as Mr. Whitten says.

Feb. 7th

I this day insured my Store, in the Mutual Fire Insurance Company at Saco, for the period of seven years, ending Feb. 7, 1864. The amount insured is \$700, for which I paid a premium of 1 per cent—cash \$8.71 and a note for \$26.29 total \$35.00, and for policy \$1.00. The rate of insurance in the above office was formerly four per cent; but recently raised to five per cent.

Feb. 8th

The weather has been quite mild for nearly a week past. To day the horses "slumped" badly. There was not a large attendance at church, in the afternoon Rev. Mr. Willcox and Rev. Mr. North exchanged pulpits. I do not recollect that they have exchanged pulpits before this time.

conference
of
Cong.
ministers

Geo. P.
Sitterb
condition
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reported
engagement

Sewing
Machines

Insurance
on Store
for
7 years

Sunday.
W. & W.
exchanged

Feb. 7th

Mutual Insurance The Mutual Fire Insurance Co. in this village, which was established last summer, is in a prosperous condition. The Secretary, J. W. Wallingford told me, that the company have issued between ninety and one hundred policies.

Feb. 10th

Days East. This forenoon I started in the cars to go to Bowdoinham to transact some business. I arrived at that place at 3 o'clock P.M. and found the person at home, which I wished to see.

Feb. 11th

Back to Portland each day. This train did not arrive at B. Portland until about 12 o'clock; consequently I did not arrive in Portland until about three o'clock.

Feb. 12th

Home As I have some business to transact in Portland, yesterday I was under the necessity of remaining all night. Left Portland again this morning at fifteen minutes before 9 o'clock and arrived at my boarding house at 10 1/2 o'clock.

Feb. 13th

Days of Deputy Sheriff. A. Warren Merdum of this village, has received the appointment of Deputy Sheriff, and has entered on the duties of his office. Mr. L. H. Kimball the late deputy sheriff told me the amount of fees he received last year, was one hundred and sixty two dollars, of which sum he paid the Sheriff, twelve per cent, leaving him one hundred and forty three dols.

Feb. 14th

Death of Topsham. I received the news to day, that my uncle Abel Merrill of Topsham (see June 26th 1815) died yesterday at the age of 80 yrs. He was the last of the children of the late John Merrill, of Topsham. The children who lived to grow up were as follows: John, Joseph, Abel, Susanna and Mary.

By examining the family records, I find the following account of the Merrill family.

Abel Merrill. My maternal grandfather, John Merrill, was born in Arundel, now Kennebunkport, February 1733. In 17 he married Susanna Hokey, of Bittery and brought to his home in Arundel, where they continued to reside until about the year 1786, when he moved his family to Topsham, where he continued to reside until his death March 24th 1828 aged 95 years. His wife died of apoplexy, March 15th 1813, aged 74 years.

I have often heard my mother say, that her father was a justice of the Peace and wrote nearly all the deeds, wills &c in that vicinity, for many years. He was also extensively employed as a land surveyor. Old Governor Bowdoin, of Boston, who owned a large tract of land in that region; employed him many months at different times in surveying what is now the townships of Bowdoin and Bowdoinham, and in dividing the town in lots for settlers. For many years, he was in the habit of going to Boston to exhibit his annual doing as a surveyor, to Gov. Bowdoin. These journeys he commonly performed on horseback, but sometimes on foot. He retained his faculties in an uncommon degree in his old age. In person, he was over six feet in height, remarkably erect, but not stout. For many years before his death, he was hard of hearing. When he was old, he was so deaf that it was difficult that a person who was not in the habit of talking with him, could make him hear at all. When I was a small boy, he came on an annual visit to my father's house. He then wore a large, brown wig with a queue, when he went out of doors and at night a red cap with a tassel on the top.

John and Susanna Merrill's children.

Susanna, born Nov. 25. 1768, married Andrew Walker of Arundel, now Kennebunkport. She died of old age at the residence of my brother in Kennebunk, Oct. 23. 1813, aged 81.

Mary, born April 9th 1770, married Stephen Curvington, of Hambsmill. She died May 24. 1836, aged 66 years.

John, born Oct. 4. 1772, married a daughter of Judge of Wiscasset, with whom he studied law. After his marriage he practiced law in Wiscasset for a number of years, when his health began to fail. He returned with his family to Topsham where he died.

Joseph, born January 22. 1774, he died not many. He died of consumption.

Abel, born July 30. 1776, married Louis Haveling of Topsham. He died Feb. 14. 1817 aged 80 years 7 months. He spent his days on the old homestead, and ever like his father was a justice of the Peace and land surveyor for many years. He was also tall and remarkably erect but not large. He was genial in his disposition and a pleasant companion to young and old.

My mother and their children

1857.

Feb. 15th

A mild but not a pleasant day. There was not a Sunday-lunge number attended church as the walking is rather bad.

Feb. 16th

The newspapers have in the list of marriages, the following marriage, of a Revueburkman, although in C. Lora list he hails from Boston. "Married at St. Mary's, Blintons, married England, John B. Lora, master of Ship Josephus, of Boston U.S.A., to Miss Spierie Mitchell, of St. Leonards, on Sea, Sussex, England. This J. B. Lora, is a son, and only child of the late Capt. John Lora of this town.

Feb. 17th

Joshua Sears, a well known wealthy merchant, extensive grocer and capitalist died in Boston on the 7th inst., aged 61. Mr. Sears remained unmarried until Feb. 1814. His wife died Jan. 1st 1815, after giving birth to a son who was but a week of age at her death. An abstract of his will is already published. His property, as estimated is worth \$1,600,000, other estimates by outsiders, say it is worth \$1,800,000 at least. The will gives to each of his brothers \$25,000; to the children of a deceased brother \$25,000; to the town of Gornum (his native town) \$15,000 and a few small legacies to others. The balance of his property, amounting to about \$1,450,000 to his executor in trust, \$30,000 to be paid his son when he shall attain 21 years, and \$4000 additionally annually until he is 25 years old, and \$6000 until he is 30 and \$10,000 yearly after that during his life. In case of the death of the son before he is 21 years old, the property goes to the brothers of Mr. Sears. Should the son live to have issue, the property is to remain in trust until his children are of age.

Barnabas Palmer, of this town, names his only son - Joshua Sears Palmer; but I have not heard that he has any legacy left to him in the will of Mr. Sears.

Feb. 18th

Although I have made greater efforts to collect taxes than this year than last; yet I have not succeeded so well as collect last year, as money does not circulate as freely as last year.

Feb. 19th

During the last three days, the weather has been remarkably warm for the time of year. Yesterday the weather was so warm, that nearly all shopkeepers and mechanics opened the doors of their shops for the free admission of the air. To day the weather is more wintry; still not positively cold.

1857.

Feb. 20th

Last evening the Baptist society had a donation, tea party at "Mourning Hall." An entrance fee of 25 cents was required. It was estimated there were about two hundred present, about a fair average from each religious denomination in the village. As was not nearly the length of hall covered with provisions, mostly of a light quality. Tea and the various eatables were handed around, until all were, or appeared to be satisfied. After tea, addresses were made by C. B. Boone, N. K. Sargent, Rev. Mr. Willcox and Rev. Mr. Swan. The company appeared to enjoy themselves finely. To day I understood the whole amount received from entrance fees and from other sources, was about one hundred Dollars, after deducting attending expenses.

Feb. 21st

Last night there was a fall of four inches of snow which has made the sleighing quite good to day. For a number of days previous, persons in this vicinity were under the necessity of using wheel carriages, as there was but little snow in the road and that was mostly by the sides of the fences.

Feb. 22nd

A pleasant day and good sleighing; a large number attended church. Rev. Mr. Fitch exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Willcox.

Feb. 23rd

Mr. Alexander Joss has sold out his stock in trade to William Fairfild, who has taken possession of the store and goods this morning. During the last six months Mr. Joss has not done but little business, and it is not probable his whole stock in trade which he has sold amounts to more than two or at the extent three hundred dollars. The store is owned by Mr. Paul Jenkins and is the lower story of his shop.

Feb. 24th

The snow which came on the night of the 20th inst., has nearly all disappeared. This morning there were a few sleds in the village, but they must have gone home on bare ground nearly all the way.

Feb. 25th

Went to the Landing and Port to collect taxes; but met with poor success, as the people are nearly destitute of money in consequence of the failures last fall. The roads to day are very muddy, but the snow is not deep. Weather much as usual have last of month.

Tea party in Mourning Hall by Baptist Society.

Sleighing again.

Sunday.

Alexander Joss, sold to William Fairfild.

Snow gone.

bolley taxes at Port.

1857

Feb. 26th

Mr. John Bobby who failed last December, has made an arrangement with his creditors and reopened his store yesterday. The whole amount of his liabilities was about \$2000, mostly due in Portland. He valued the whole amount reposing his stock in trade, debts and other chattels at \$1100; but this is supposed to be above its true value. The firm in Portland which attached his property, receives the full amount of their debt, the other Portland creditors have agreed to settle with Mr. Bobby at forty cents on a dollar. I do not know how he settles with his Kennebunk creditors, Wm. B. Sewall and Stephen Perkins are his creditors.

Feb. 27th

Death Dr. C. P. Kane, the commander of the American expedition to search for the late Sir John Franklin in the Arctic regions, died in Havana, where he had gone for his health, on the 16th in the 31st year of his age. The remains of Dr. Kane have been brought from Havana, Arctic with a view to their interment in Philadelphia, where his father Judge Kane and family reside. Dr. Kane died unmarried.

Feb. 28th

Spanish The U. S. Congress has within a few days enacted, and that the Spanish and Mexican silver coins, shall be Mexican received at the United States Mint, for the space of two coin years, at their full nominal value, in exchange taken for the new cents, the coinage of which is authorized for cents by the act.

March 1stMarch 1st

Spring Spring has come in like a lion whether it goes out like a lamb or not. A cold, raw, uncomfortable day. Rev. Mr. Willcox being unwell; F. D. Williams officiates for him. His sermons indicate attainments, but not much native talent.

March 2nd

Small An exceedingly cold and windy day. Fortunately there is no snow on the ground or it would have been hurled into heaps. There has been but a few days the past winter when it was more uncomfortable to be out of doors than to day. A small house near B. Westminter burnt, owned by B. Hubbard took fire and was burnt with its contents. The house was not of much value except to the owner.

1857

March 3rd

Edmund C. Bourne - Judge of Probate, has changed the time of holding his court from the first Monday to the first Tuesday in each month. He has also changed in some months the location of the court; thus the court was held in this town in June, now it is March; consequently the Probate was held here to day, in the office of the Manufacturing Company at the Western end of the bridge. He invited about a dozen of the Lawyers who were present, to take dinner with him and they accepted the invitation.

March 4th

James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania was this day inaugurated as President and John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, as Vice-President of the United States.

In this village I have the pleasure of hoisting a flag on the pole near the town pump and Unitarian Meeting house. James B. Gray and Joseph Sargent assisted me in making arrangements for hoisting the flag.

March 5th

Capt. James Burnham, was speaking of an incident of his youthful days. It was customary, said he, when I was a boy, for old Parson Moody to visit our school in Amund now K-port, on Saturdays, and catechise the children, from the "Westminster Catechism". Parson Moody asked a little girl daughter of Samiel Huff, "What is the chief end of man?" The girl answered "I don't whether it is ^{his} head or his feet!" [This answer reminds me of a similar answer given many years later to a question from the same book. When I was a child Sally Moody daughter of the above Parson Moody taught school in the school district where we lived. It was her custom to arrange the children in a line as a closing exercise on Saturday and question ^{as} her as her father had done. The following question was asked of her youngest one of the children, "Can you tell me child who made you?" Her, replied, "Patience I s'pose". By Patience, he meant our old maid by the name of Patience Grant with whom he lived.

March 6th

Last November, the house occupied by Theodore Webber, near T. Webber the store recently occupied by me, was sold at auction to Mr. Warren House. Mr. Webber bought with D. Taylor and his daughter bought themselves.

March 7th

With the exception of corn and flour, provisions are uncommonly high in price. Flour is worth ~~is worth~~ now in this village, from \$7.50 to \$8.50 a bushel, which is about \$4.00 of our currency less than it was last year this time; corn is worth from 90 to 100 cents a bushel; mess pork at 12 1/2 cents a pound; clean pork at 14 cts; lard 16 cents to 16 1/2 cts; Molasses of common quality 10 cents a gallon; brown sugar 12 1/2 cts lb; crushed sugar 11 cents; cheese 12 1/2 to 14 cents; whale oil (not an article of provision however) from \$1.00 to 1 1/2 dollars; teas from 37 1/2 to 50 cents a pound for common; butter 25 cents a pound and more at other prices.

March 8th

Sunday A cold uncomfortable day for the time of year. There was not a full attendance at the church.

March 9th

The papers to day contain the Cabinet appointments of President Buchanan and their confirmation by the President United States Senate as follows:-

Secretary of State - Lewis Cass, of Michigan.
 Secretary of Treasury - Howell Cobb, of Georgia.
 Secretary of War - John B. Floyd, of Virginia.
 Secretary of Navy - Isaac Toucey, of Connecticut.
 Secretary of Interior - Jacob Thompson, of Mississippi.
 Postmaster General - Aaron V. Brown, of Tennessee.
 Attorney General - Judge Black, of Pennsylvania.

The following will be found of interest as a matter of reference.

President.	Inaugurated.	Age.
1-George Washington, - -	April, 30, 1789 - -	57.
do	March, 4, 1795, - -	61.
2-John Adams, - -	March, 4, 1797, - -	62.
3-Thomas Jefferson, - -	March 4, 1801 - -	58.
do	March, 4, 1805, - -	62.
4-James Madison, - -	March, 4, 1809, - -	58.
do	March, 4, 1813, - -	62.
5-James Monroe, - -	March, 4, 1817, - -	58.
do	March, 4, 1821, - -	62.
6-John Quincy Adams, - -	March, 4, 1825, - -	57.
7-Andrew Jackson, - -	March, 4, 1829, - -	62.
do	March, 4, 1833, - -	66.
8-Martin Van Buren, - -	March, 4, 1837, - -	54.
9-William H. Harrison, - -	March, 4, 1841, - -	68.
10-John Tyler, - -	1841, - -	51.

11-James K. Polk, - - - March, 4, 1845, - - 49.
 12-Zachary Taylor, - - - March, 4, 1849, - - 64.
 13-Millard Fillmore, - - - 1850, - - 50.
 14-Franklin Pierce, - - - March, 4, 1853, - - 49.
 15-James Buchanan, - - - March, 4, 1857, - - 65.

William H. Harrison died in office, was succeeded by the Vice President John Tyler. Zachary Taylor also died in office, and was succeeded by the Vice President Millard Fillmore.

March 10th

The annual town meeting is to be held on the 23rd inst. I have not heard but few persons speak of it, but this generally supposed, that the "Republican" party will make a "clean sweep" of the old board of town officers and fill their places with their own faith and practice.

March 11th

The weather so far in March has been quite cold, colder than during the same length of time in February. There has been two or three snow storms but they were not severe. It is now quite good sleighing.

March 12th

I have been quite busy for a number of days past, in preparing my account as Town Treasurer for the examination of the Auditors and finished the same; the result is as follows:-

The whole amount for which I have given the town credit during the past current year, is - -	\$7554, 37.	Town Treasurers account
The whole amount of cash paid out to this date is - - - - -	6737, 37.	prepared for Auditors.
Cash in Ocean Bank to pay County Treasurers, - -	623, 83.	
Cash in Town Treasury subject to order, - -	38, 02.	
Amount of uncollected taxes of 1846, - -	111, 11.	
	<u>\$7554, 37</u>	

March 13th

To day Mr. Elbridge J. Moody (recently returned, after a four years absence in California) came into my store and waited sometime before he made his business known. At last said he, "I understand that you are to be appointed collector of the customs in this District, and I have called to see if you will appoint or recommend me as your Deputy at the Custom House at the Port." I told him the information that he gave me was entirely new to me and I thought it must be a mistake, for I had not made the least effort to obtain the office and did not think any person had made an effort for me.

March 14th

Measures are being used by the Republican party to "stir up" an interest in political affairs. The following is a copy of a printed notice in large letters pasted up in the village and probably in all parts of the town.

Caucus.

All those who supported John C. Fremont, in the last campaign, and all who are in favor of the great principles of Americanism and Freedom, are invited to meet at the Town Hall, on Saturday Evening, March 14th, 1817, at 1-2 past 7 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating candidates for Town Officers.

Per order,

Rennebunk, March 10, 1817.

Caucus

of

Republican

party.

A person who was present at the caucus gave me the following account of it. He says there were about seventy persons present, chiefly members of the Republican party.

The nominations were as follows. Moderation Henry Kingsbury, Selectmen, Assessors and U.S. of Poor Edward W. Weston, Seth E. Bryant and Theodore Thompson. Town Clerk and Treasurers, George W. Wallingford, Town Agent, James M. Stone. Nearly all members of the party were in high spirits and say they shall have about one hundred majority over the Democratic candidates and they intend to finish all the town business in one day and leave off in good season.

March 14th

Sunday

Rev. Mr. Willcox this forenoon delivered a sermon from these words "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian". To me the sermon was uncommonly interesting.

March 16th

Benjamin

Perkins

moved

his

goods

Benjamin Perkins this day finished moving his goods from the store which he has occupied under Washington Hall, moved to the recently occupied by M. Hutchinson and formerly occupied by the late Porter Hall. Mr. Perkins pays \$8. a year rent.

March 17th

J. C.

Hodge

repaid

his

debts

John C. Hodge, has made an arrangement in his business, by paying as reported 50 cents on a dollar. It is said the amount of his indebtedness was about \$4000.

M. Hutchinson, J. C. Hodge and John Colby who failed last year not once but little in this village. Mr. Hutchinson and Colby were in Portland, Mr. Hodge's debts were principally for stores in Great Falls N. H.

March 18th

The following is a list of Stockholders in the Atlas Insurance Co. in this village, with the number of shares held by each person, January 1st 1817.

E. E. Bourne, of Rennebunk - 20.	Mehitable Nason, of Ken. - 12.
Gen. Gallender, of Boston, - 20.	Barnabas Palmer, " " - 10.
Israel Durnell, of Ken. - 22.	Oliver Perkins, of K-port - 5.
Northam Darnell, " " - 8.	Charles C. Perkins, " " - 10.
E. L. Dresser, " " - 5.	Acton P. Patterson, " " - 5.
Joseph Darnell, " " - 10.	Yost S. Perkins, " " - 10.
Grace Fairbairn, " " - 10.	Elizabeth Perkins, " " - 5.
Charles Goodwin, " K-port - 5.	Nich ^{as} E. Smart, " " - 5.
John Gilpatrick, " Soco - 40.	Mary C. Smart, " Ken - 10.
John Hill, " Ken. - 11.	Robert Smith, " " - 10.
Henry Kingsbury, " " - 10.	Robert Soule, " K-port - 5.
Thomas Lown, " " - 33.	Joseph Titcomb, " Ken. - 70.
Tobias Lown, " " - 5.	Abigail Titcomb, " " - 10.
Tracy Lown, " " - 30.	Wm L. Thompson, " " - 10.
George C. Lown, " Boston - 20.	N. L. Thompson, " " - 27.
William Lown, " Ken. - 10.	J. N. Thompson, " " - 20.
George Lown, " " - 20.	Charles Thompson, " " - 60.
William Lown, " " - 80.	Alexander Warren, " " - 10.
D. W. Lown, " K-port - 10.	William Williams, " " - 20.
John Murphy, " " - 13.	George Wise, " " - 20.
Thomas Howell, " " - 10.	Charles Williams, " " - 10.
Noah Nason, " Ken. - 70.	Stephen Warr, " K-port - 10.
Daniel Nason, " " - 50.	George P. Titcomb, " Ken. - 60.

(The Shares \$100, each, the original cost)

1000,
Shares.March 19th

For a number of years past, I have been in the habit of noting in the Town Records the names of the political party to which the representatives voted for in the class towns of Alfred and Rennebunk belong. The first note of the kind was made in 1814 and follows the statements (not official) of the votes for a representative in the class towns of Rennebunk and Alfred, as given Sept. 11. 1814; the note is as follows after telling the candidates names and residence "Mr Hall of Alfred is a Whig, Mr. Titcomb of Rennebunk is a Democrat and Mr. Jellison of Rennebunk belongs to a new political party called 'Know Nothings'."

Objections
to
notes
on
the
Town
Records.

over

1847.

After the September election in 1844, I made the following note, after naming the Representative candidates, their place of residence and the number of votes for each person. (See page 101)

"Mr. Titcomb, of Kennebunk, is a Democrat, Mr. Goble of Kennebunk, is a Know Nothing."

After the September election, in 1846 (See page 178) there is the following note concerning the Representative candidates.

The late Alfred is a Republican. "Republican" is a new party composed chiefly by the union of the Free-Soilers and "Know Nothings."

These remarks are not relished by some of those party persons who voted with the "Know Nothing" party. They say, about the name of the party was "American", and they were usually to call "Know Nothings" in derision, and the entry of the name on the town books is a stigma on the party. In reply, I tell all who ask me; the party was known in this vicinity by that name, and the newspapers almost universally call it by that name, hence, I consider it to be its true name. A number of men, who called to examine the records, told me they understood I had written in the records "Black-Republicans" and "True Democrats" or "True Democrats". In the Republican column on the 14th inst., E. C. Bourne, spoke of the remarks on the Town Records and thought I had done wrong to name the distinctive party names. Perhaps Mr. Bourne is not aware, that the Town Clerk is requested to name in the official returns which he makes to Augusta, the names of the distinct political parties, to the Representative elect. Surely there can be no harm in placing on the town records the same party names he is requested to send to Augusta.

March 20th

There was a powerful rain last night and the storm has continued nearly all day. It is said the roads are much gullied by the rain.

March 21st

It is reported that the late "Know Nothing" party, are making great exertions, and are determined if possible, to politically decapitate me, on the 23rd inst., particularly on account of my remarks in the Town Records.

March 22nd

There was not any services at Congregational church this day; Rev. Mr. Willcox being absent and did not obtain a substitute.

1847

March, 23rd

A pleasant day but muddy traveling, the mud not being deep. There was not so large a number at the annual town meeting as last year; but the proportion of Republicans was greater. I do not know that any efforts were made to get out voters except by that party. The balloting for Moderator and Town Clerk were as follows.

<u>Moderator.</u>	<u>Republicans</u>
Joseph Titcomb, - - - 117.	Henry Kingsbury, - 177.
<u>Town Clerk.</u>	

Andrew Walker, - - - 164. George W. Wallingford, - 204.

After the Moderator had announced the vote and declared that George W. Wallingford was elected Town Clerk, I advanced to the front of the desk in which Mr. Kingsbury and I were standing and made the following short speech -

"Gentlemen. In the spring of 1844, being now thirteen years since, the inhabitants of this town saw fit to elect me their town clerk, and each succeeding year until the present time they have continued the same honor. I say honor, because I deem it such. I thank you for these repeated instances of your favor, and I on my part have endeavored to perform the duties of the office as well as I knew how. Now that you have elected another man; we are pleased that he is so capable of performing the duties of the office. We know he is an excellent penman and know not but in other respects he is equally as good as in penmanship. We are all interested in having our Town Records kept correctly and neatly. I bid him welcome to the honor and the perquisites of the office. I then introduced the Town Clerk elect, into the desk, delivered him the record book and town papers present, then mentally bid adieu to the Town Clerkship probably forever. The next thing in order was the choice of Selectmen.

Benjamin Smith,
Israel Taylor,
James Bousens,

Edmund W. Morton,
Theodore Thompson,
Seth E. Bryant,

After the choice of Selectmen, the Democratic vote fell off still more, many of the Democratic voters leaving the meeting; consequently the Republican party had full sway during the remainder of the day, as the Democrats

Annual
Town
Meeting
March,
23rd
1847.

voters have "full swing" last year, when the "know nothing" party become discouraged and many of them left the meeting.

Town Meeting. Andrew Walker. Treasurer.

Honore Porter.

Geo. W. Wallingford.

Town Agent.

James M. Stone.

I did not remain in the meeting, until it adjourned without day, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

March 24th

The Auditors Report, for the year ending March, 14, 1817, was issued from the press on the 21st inst. The whole amount of orders drawn for accounts allowed is \$4186,92, which are for the following purposes—

For Schools,	1773,52
Support of the Poor, - - -	767,76
Roads and Bridges, - - -	190,38
Snow Tax, - - -	619,19
Abatement, - - -	486,02
Small Pox charges, - - -	136,41
Liquor Store and Agency, - -	218,87
Compensation of Officers, - -	142,71
Miscellaneous, - - -	212,02
	<u>\$4186,92</u>

Indebtedness of the Town.

Money loaned the last year, - - -	600,00
Due School District No. 1, - - -	208,82
" " " 3, - - -	7,56
" " " 1, - - -	147,78
" County tax - due April 1 st , - - -	623,83
	<u>\$1587,99</u>

Resources of the Town.

Deposited in Ocean Bank, - - -	623,83
Cash in Treasurer's & Collector's hands, - - -	38,02
Tax uncollected, - year 1816, - - -	155,11
Tax uncollected - year 1817, - - -	30,44
	<u>\$847,44</u>

March 21st

R. Curtis
state

Within a few days, Joseph Curtis Estate, sold to Abner Hill, all the land the estate owned on the Eastern side of the County depot road, near the house of Thomas Littlefield. There are A. Hill, supposed to be between 80 and 100 acres, and Mr. Hill is to pay for the same eighteen hundred dollars.

March, 26th

I this day transferred to the new Town Treasurer, the books and papers in my hands belonging to the town. The town safe was also moved from my store to G. W. Wallingford's office which is in Warren's brick ~~store~~ ^{house}, over Wm. Downings store. As I have had the safe in my keeping about two years and found it quite convenient to place in it my own books and papers, as well as those belonging to the town; I shall feel the loss of it for sometime.

March 27th

I this day employed Mr. Henry Goodwin to renovate the clapboards on my store, where it is necessary, to move the door in the side of the store about four feet further back, and make such alterations and repairs on the outside as I may think necessary. It is probable it will take him about three days to do the joiners work on the outside.

March 28th

About eighteen years since, Capt. A. Thomas Lord (having lost his only child) adopted a little girl by the name of Susan Meserve of Pennesbuckport. This girl continued to live with Capt. Lord's family, until her death which took place this morning. She was an uncommonly sweet tempered girl, as her countenance indicated and report confirmed. She did not have a strong constitution, being of a consumptive family, of which disease she died, aged 21 years.

March 29th

During the past winter, Rev. Mr. Worth of the Baptist Church, has delivered a course of lectures to the young, at the church on Sabbath evenings when the weather was suitable. The course consisted of about a dozen lectures, the last one being delivered this evening. All who attended the lectures were pleased with them, and the number who attended increased from the commencement to the close.

March 30th

The annual School Meeting in this village district, was held this evening. Benjamin Smith was re-chosen district agent. It was supposed that an effort would be made to choose John Bobb, agent; but for some cause to me unknown, he was not voted for. I was not present at the meeting, but understand that Mr. Ross who taught school in this district the past winter, was liked as a teacher, and his services were again required.

School
District
Meeting.

March 31st

It is natural that the Republican party in this town should feel and manifest pleasure, at the results of the party election on the 23rd instant. The headquarters of the party feel is now at the office of E. W. Wallingford, where the leaders of the party meet and congratulate each other on the victory they have won, and the probability that the party will retain the ascendency for many years.

April 1st

This morning William Hubbard and Cyrus Stevens have commenced painting my store on the outside. I think to have it painted white and give it two coats. It is said by men in the village, that the store has not been painted on the outside for at least thirty years.

April 2nd

About an inch of snow fell last night. To day the weather is cold for the time of year; too cold to paint on the outside of a building, as the painters say.

April 3rd

The Assessors of this town (E. W. Martin, S. C. Bryant and Thomas Thompson) are now in session to receive the valuation of estates where any change has taken place during the past year. It is probable the valuation of the town will not be as much as it was last year as many persons, particularly at the Port, have lost property by the failures of D & S. Warren and Commons & Littlefield. The owners of ships, have not during the past year, made but little if any money, as freights have been uncommonly low.

April 4th

A number of years ago, when George W. Bourne and wife E. C. were in Virginia, they became acquainted with a Mr. Foster and family of Hullowell, who were also at that time in Virginia. As they both came from the same State it was natural for them not only to become acquaintances, but friends. Soon after Mr. Bourne returned to Maine, Mr. Foster returned and lived but a short time afterwards. His widow died about a week since. To day a daughter of the late Mrs. Foster, named Jane Bourne Foster, aged 8 years, has been brought here and adopted by Edmund C. Bourne, as his own child. I understand that Mrs. Foster wished, for Mr. Bourne to adopt the child, as it did not have any home after the death of its mother.

April 5th

There was nothing in particular to distinguish this Sunday, Sabbath day, from the millions preceding it.

April 6th

Ocean Bank has declared, and this day paid a dividend of four per cent to its stockholders. The demand for money at the bank, is greater than the condition of the bank will supply.

April 7th

During the past winter money has been unusually hard to obtain, in this vicinity, and there is not much if any prospect that it will be more abundant this summer. I do not know of any building that is to be erected in this village this summer. B. Littlefield and his and other hands are to be employed in repairing at Port and for Capt. Hovey Perkins, and Kimball and Day are at work on a house for John Downing in the upper part of Kennebec Port.

April 8th

During the past week Rev. Isaac Kallach, a Baptist preacher at the Tremont Temple, Boston, has been on trial for the alleged charge of adultery, said to have been committed on the 1st of January last, at a public house in Cambridge. The lady was an old school mate of Mr. Kallach, now the wife of a Mr. Stein of Vermont. — The jury on the case did not agree, there being eight who thought him innocent and four who thought him guilty. The trial has attracted much attention in New England, particularly in Massachusetts and in this State, as he is a native of Maine and has lived here until within about two years. He is 25 years of age.

April 9th

Went to the landing this morning to get some material to build a pair of stairs in my store. Stephen Perkins and Mark Pool, are building a ship for William Loom of this town and Daniel Bleaves of Luce. This is all the vessel that will probably be built at the landing this season. The ship carpenters' wages are not so high this year as last, by at least twenty five per cent.

April 10th

There has been a cold rain storm all day, but little animation out of doors, except by the clements.

1817

April 11th

There was an adjourned School District meeting in this village last evening. The District voted to raise School one thousand dollars in addition to the sum (\$4000) raised last year for to finish the job of grading the grounds, meeting building fences, building the new school house and \$1000 making such improvements as may be necessary. This to be sum of \$1000 as well as the \$4000 is to be assessed in annual raises, payments for the period of ten years.

April 12th

Rev. Mr. Willcox exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Titcomb Sunday of Rensselaer.

April 13th

Mr. Henry Goodwin has this day taken down the front door of my store and put in its place, two doors which is the present fashion. Each door has two panes of glass 21 inches long and 12 1/2 inches wide. They were made by John Derynson and cost eight dollars. I have also had the old window shutters in front taken down and new shutters put in their place.

April 14th

It has rained very powerfully all day. There has not been more people out of doors to day than could walk in going out.

April 15th

There has not been so great a freshet in Mousum river since 1811, as there is at present. The dam at "Moses' mill" is called is washed away, the boom built by Dave & Perkins boom a short distance above their saw mill, near east Mousum carries bridge, broke last night and the logs come down and among former a jam against the piers of the bridge; the water dammed consequently rose very high and forced a passage through but through the sum at each end of the bridge. It is thought it will bridge, cost not far from \$1000 to repair the passage the water has made. The freshet did not do but trifling damage in village.

April 16th

Fast Day. There has been a union meeting of each of the religious societies (except the Methodist) at the Unitarian church and an address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Swan. The house was well filled. In the evening Rev. Mr. Worth delivered a temperance address in the Town Hall. As a foundation for remarks, he quoted Joel - 3-3 "They shall give, for wine, that they might drink".

1817

April 17th

Yesterday an Irishman by the name of John Muller, being considered dangerously sick; a Catholic priest was sent for to come and see him. He came ^{in the} ~~the~~ afternoon from Bindafora and it is said administered "extremes unction", as it is called. There was quite a large number of his relatives and friends present.

April 18th

During the last current year, J. Sears Palmer was Treasurer and collector of the city of Porttown. His father - B. Palmer of this village says that his son's fees during the year was about \$2500; but of this sum he paid for clerk hire about \$500. As the Republican party came into power this spring in Porttown, J. S. Palmer has had leave to retire to private life; a man by the name of Lora being chosen Treasurer and collector.

April 19th

Rev. Mr. Cobb, of the Methodist church and society, preached his farewell discourse to his society this day; as he has been here two years he must remove to some other church and society as is the custom among the Methodists.

April 20th

Mr. Oliver Noatt, aged 30, was yesterday married to Martha, daughter of the late Seth Kimball. The bride is said to be in her 15th year, being the youngest person that has been married in this town for a number of years. Mr. Noatt was married to a girl in Elliot about a half dozen years since; but she did not live more than a year after her marriage.

April 21st

Ship owners in this vicinity, do not feel so pleasantly as they did two or three years since, when their vessels were making them large dividends on the capital invested in them. During the past year freights have been uncommonly low and there is no immediate prospect of their rise. It is said, there are but few vessel owners here, which are earning more than enough to pay the expenses of sailing them and insurances; leaving nothing for depreciation or dividends. Capt. William Spoor remarked last evening in the Bank directors meeting, that he was George C. Spoor invested \$60,000 in vessels last fall; but it was, as things have turned, an unfortunate investment.

Extremes
unction
to
sick
Irishman

J. S.
Palmer
paid
as
Treasurer
&
collector
Porttown

Rev
Mr.
Cobb.

Mr. Noatt
&
his
bride
15.

Dull
times
for
Ship
owners.

April 22nd

Mr. Ross, who taught the district school in this district village last year, has moved his family from Ipswich, Mass. school, and has been employed to teach the village school this season. Miss Olive Kimball has been employed to teach the juvenile school in the old school house, near the common Unitarian church and Miss Abba Worth (daughter of Rev. Edmund Worth) the school, in the new school room on the western side of the river. These schools commenced (I think) on the 13th instant.

April 23rd

Dane & Joseph Dane of Dane & Perkins told me that the Perkins fresher on the 11th inst., damaged them by breaking their loss by burn, loss of logs and detention of men about three hundred fresh dollars, which is a smaller sum than was at first supposed.

April 24th

The season thus far is cold, and as the farmers say, is backward. The frost is out of the ground, except on shady sides of buildings and fences, there may be exceptions, reason I do not think any farmers in this vicinity have done any plowing in their fields yet. I noticed a few backward gardens in the village have been plowed, but that is all that has been done to them.

April 25th

There is not at present in this village a supply of houses rentable for rent equal to the demand. Mr. Ross, the schoolmaster, has found it difficult to obtain a house to live in. As a natural consequence, those who have tenements to let, obtain from twenty to twenty five per cent more for them, than they did three or four years since.

April 26th

Sunday Last Sabbath and to day, Rev. Mr. Willcox being unwell; Francis B. Williams has officiated for him. This Willcox F. B. Williams (son of C. W. Williams) has preached for a number of years, principally in Connecticut; but for the last year or two, has been at his father's house. I do not know the reason, his health appears to be good.

April 27th

This morning, C. F. Towne and J. Governor, joiners have commenced work to lath overhens the front floor of my store, and build a stairway from the first to the second floor. This stairway is to be of pine and built of Southern pine.

April 28th

Charlotte D., wife of Richard L. Doughty died on the 26th inst., and was buried this afternoon at the age of 47 years. I am at least eight years, her health has been poor; but for the last ^{four} years she has been confined to the house, suffering at times very much of chronic rheumatism. Her muscles were in some parts so contracted, that she was a pitiable object to behold. She was anxious to die. A few months since she made her will and gave the property which she received of Mrs. Longson of York, to her husband. The property is supposed to be worth about \$2500.

April 29th

I understand that Mr. Ezekiel Worrumborn formerly of this town, who went to live with the Shakers at Alfred, about a dozen years since, has within a few days left them and returned to his old place at the Port. It is said, he expects to remain at the Port about one year, in order to settle up his business, and try to assist some of his children who live at the Port and need his assistance.

April 30th

The old tavern stand lately owned by John Hovey deceased, still remains without an occupant. It has been advertised to let in the Boston papers, but I have not heard that any applicant has yet made his appearance.

May 1st

Also Stevens has contracted with the Overseers of the Poor, to support the Poor of this town, for one year from this day, for the sum of Five Hundred and Fifty Dollars.

May 2nd

John G. Downing, has bought the shop and lot formerly owned by the late Levi O. Hillard, and used as a tin shop. This building Mr. Downing is now altering into a dwelling house. I hear he paid \$200 for it.

May 3rd

Mr. Willcox preached this forenoon with apparent power. In the afternoon he was not able to officiate and there was not any meeting in his church in the afternoon.

May 4th

Rev. Mr. Cobb, the Methodist minister who has been preaching in this village for two years past, has moved to Mansfield and a Rev. Mr. Stinchfield from Bowdoinham has been appointed to supply his place.

May 5th

The coins authorized to be made by law are of Gold.
Double Eagle, of the value of twenty dollars, to weigh 516 grains.

Eagle	"	"	"	"	"	258	"
Half	"	"	"	"	"	129	"
Quarter	"	"	"	"	"	64½	"
Three Dollar pieces of gold.	"	"	"	"	"	87½	"
Gold Dollar,	"	"	"	"	"	25½	"

Weight The act of Congress in 1837 establishes the standard of gold at
and 900 thousandths fine.

standard The Silver Dollar is unit to weigh 412½ grains. This
of denomination has ceased to circulate, being at a premium;
and the weight of the lower silver coins having been reduced a
gold little over seven per cent.

and Half Dollars, each to weigh - 192 grains.

Silver Quarter " " " " 96 "

Coins Dimes " " " " 38½ "

Half Dimes " " " " 19¼ "

Three Cent Pieces " " " " 11⅞ "

The standard of Silver coin is 900 parts of Silver, 100 of copper.

The new cent pieces ordered to be coined under the act
of Congress of the recent session, have not yet appeared. They
are to consist of 88 parts of copper, and 12 of nickel, out
of every 100 parts, and to weigh 72 grains.

By standard, is meant the proportion of pure gold or
silver which it contains; the rest is alloy. Thus if we
suppose a coin to contain a 1000 parts of metal of which 900
parts are pure gold or silver, the remaining 100 being alloy, the
900 represents the standard or relative purity of the coin.

May 6th

Arabic "When you see an old man amiable, mild, equable, content
Proverb, and your humor, be sure that in his youth he was
just, generous and forbearing. In his end he does not
lament the past, nor dread the future"

May 7th

Mr. Towne and Goodwin have this day completed
Stairway the open stairway in my store and Mr. Towne has left
in of work to day. Mr. Goodwin will continue a few days
Store longer to do a few small jobs in the store. Now that
finished the stairway is finished it looks well. It is to be oiled
and varnished but not painted. It is the first stairway
made of Southern pine in town.

May 8th

This morning Mr. William Spoon commenced relaying
the sidewalk in front of his store occupied by some Turkish, Barber
Mr. Spoon and others, ^{think} that I should continue the brick walk Sidewalk.
in front of my store and I think I shall, but not immediately.

May 9th

About two years since, Nathan N. Wiggins and George M.
Wallingford of this town, bought a Nursery of trees in Salem, Mass.
and were allowed two years to remove them. Last year they
removed about one half the number, and this spring they have
removed the remainder. Mr. Wiggins says, there were about
five thousand trees in the nursery. Of this number, they have
brought by water about 3000 to this town and vicinity, the other
2000 has been sent to Portland, Camden and other eastern towns.
Mr. Wiggins says, they have sold nearly all the trees that were
in the nursery and have made money by the speculation, but
does not say how much.

May 10th

There was not any preaching in the Congregational church
to day, Mr. Willcox being unwell and absent in Massachusetts, Sunday
Attendees church in the forenoon at the Baptist and in the P.M. Mr.
at the Methodist and the new Methodist preachers. He appears
to be a fair preacher or rather a man of fair talents, but
I do not think so suitable a man to build up a society as Mr. Ball.

May 11th

It is reported about town that Rev. Wm. S. Willcox, has
received and accepted an invitation or call to remove
to Reading, Mass., and become pastor of the Congregational
church and society at that place. It is further reported
that he received an invitation last fall to go there, but
refused; now they again urge him to come and offer
him twelve hundred dollars a year and the free use of
the parsonage.

May 12th

John J. Downing has bought the shop and lot on Hillside
which it stands, owned and occupied by the late Levi P. Hillman
and has revised it about four feet, put on an exterior and
fitting it up for a dwelling house for himself.

May 13th

All those persons who have land to cultivate are
very busy at present. The season being rather backward. Season.
But little if any corn planted yet in this vicinity.

May 14th

John I do not know of a more busy place in this village, than
Derguson at the Sash, Blind and Door Factory of Mr. John Derguson. He has
Sash besides himself, four hands constantly employed and has as
Factory much work as he can attend. He supplies the demand, not
only in this village, but he has many customers from the
adjoining towns.

May 15th

There has been this spring, three or four droves of pigs
Disuse from Brighton, Mass. to this village and retailed to person
in this town and vicinity. These pigs were from the Western
the States where there is a disease among the hogs called the
Hogs. "Hog cholera". The pigs have brought this disease with them
from the West. About a dozen have died since they came here.

May 16th

Waiting I make but slow progress in the alterations and repairs
for on my store. During the past week I have been waiting
a for Mr. Gray to plaster overhairs on the lower floor. He
Mason has been at work this week for Judge Goodenow at Alpen.

May 17th

A cold, rain storm all day. But few people attended church
Rising fortuitous in the afternoon. Mr. Willcox officiated in his own
Sunday, pulpit. No reference was made to his expected removal.

May 18th

The expense of the telegraphic poles, wire &c., between this
village and the depot ~~was~~ about Four Hundred Dollars. J. W.
Telegraph Hardy has been operator in the office since its commencement.
born. The stock is owned in shares of ten dollars each, mostly if not
in all by commercial men in the village. The first year the wares
this were up, Mr. Hardy paid the stockholders six per cent on their
village stock. Since that time has not been willing to pay anything.
A few days since, the Directors had a meeting and voted,
that if Mr. Hardy would give the stockholders ten per cent
annually on the stock, then he might be operator, as at present;
if not, they would hire some other operator or cut the wires.

May 19th

James B. Gray, plastered the lower story of my store, which
plaster has not been plastered before. Robert Hardy was his tender.

May 20th

Rain A violent rain storm, accompanied with a high
Storm, wind all day. The ground is saturated with water, which
will prevent farming at present where the grounds are low.

May 21st

Mr. Joseph Dore was in my store and speaking of Ebenezer
Francis of Boston. He says Mr. Francis was born in Beverly
in 1775, consequently he is now 82 years of age. His father was
a mechanic, and gave to each of his four children, one hundred
pounds English currency. He married a Boston girl by the
name of Thordike with whom he received some property,
but not a great sum. He traded for many years in State
St. His principal merchandise was "series cutters". The
first important step towards his present great fortune,
was the purchase at auction of a large quantity of
Ice which had been wet in salt water. This ten
he spread on the floors of a new house which his father
in law Thordike was building at that time. This
ten sold at an enormous advance on the auction price.
For many years he has been a money lender,
note-shaver and dealer in real estate. Mr. Dore
says, that Mr. Francis has been a very hard man
all of his life. He is now supposed to be worth between
four and five millions of dollars. He has but two
children - daughters, living, and the children of a
discovered daughter. These daughters are married.
To each of his daughters and the family of his
discovered daughter, he gave full, \$100,000.

May 22nd

This spring there has been a number of persons in this
village and town, who have bought for the first time, what
is now much talked of and written about in the newspapers -
seeds of the Chinese Sugar cane. J. W. Wallingford bought
a lot of the seed in Boston and retails it at twelve and one
half cents an ounce.

May 23rd

Mr. Alexander Doss, who moved his family here about
three years since from Portland, and traded on a small
scale in groceries, has this day left Kennebunk and
returned to Portland. It is not probable he acquires
any property while here.

May 24th

A Rev. Mr. Chute (on a similar name) preached in Mr.
Willcox pulpit. I ~~understand~~ ^{am told} that he came here with
the understanding of being a candidate for the desk
to be soon vacated by Rev. Mr. Willcox.

Ebenezer
Francis
of
Boston.Chinese
Sugar
cane.Alex^{dr}
Doss,
back to
PortlandRev. Mr.
Chute.

1857

May 25th

Last Saturday evening How & Leeds, of Boston, attached the goods in the store of Charles L. Dresser, on a Charles L. demand of about \$8000. Mr. Dresser then notified his friends in this vicinity of the fact, and they also attached property to the amount of their respective claims. It is reported, that Capt. Thomas Lord has had a mortgage on Mr. Dresser's house for \$30000 for sometime. It is said, that Mr. Dresser owes in this village and vicinity about \$6000, it is not known how much he owes in Boston and other places.

May 26th

John B. Lord returns home to day, with his young wife, which he married a few months since in Liverpool or vicinity. He expects to remain at home this summer.

May 27th

During the last session of Congress, an act was passed New for the coinage and emission of new cents. Last week cents, the first impression of the cents were issued from the mint at Philadelphia. This week some persons from Boston, town, has brought a few of these cents to this village. They are about as large as a five dollar gold piece, but some thicker.

May 28th

It is reported that Capt. Alden Day, Capt. John P. Perkins and Capt. John C. Lord have been, at least, suspected of mismanagement in the vessels which they respectively were out commanders, and have been discharged by the owners of the vessels. Some hints are thrown out that spirituous liquors, has been the cause in part of the trouble.

May 29th

The appraisers (M. Ford, J. W. Wallingford, and A. W. Merriam) of C. L. of C. L. Dresser's goods, say they finished the appraisal yesterday and the whole amount of goods in the store goods they have appraised at \$4100, and consider they are worth apprais that sum. A number of persons from Boston, who trusted A Mr. Dresser for goods, have been here within a few days; \$4100, but I do not know how they were satisfied.

May 30th

The repairs which I commenced on my store last spring on store are now completed. I have not received the cart yet.

May 31st

A pleasant day and full meetings. Mr. Willcox expects to Sunday, remains here until the first of July.

1857

June 1st

As I expect to be absent after to day, for a period of about one week. I have been busily employed in making preparations for this contemplated absence.

June 2nd

I this day took the first train of cars for the east and went to Bowdoinham, where I arrived at about three o'clock P.M. As I went on particular and to ^{at least} me very important business; the journey will long be remembered.

June 3rd

This day at ten o'clock in the forenoon, I was united in marriage to Miss Harriet A., daughter of the late Capt. Nathaniel Burrington, of Bowdoinham. The marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. C. C. Bone, at the house of Mr. William Spunt, whose wife is an aunt to my wife. There were about twenty people present to - relatives and friends. After the ceremony the larger part of the guests partook of a "marriage feast," prepared by Mrs. Spunt. At half past twelve o'clock, I and my wife took the cars for Boston, where we arrived at 8 o'clock P.M. and put up at the Quiny House.

June 4th

The principal part of the day was occupied in visiting the most noted places and things in the city, as Harriet has not before seen them, this being her first visit to Boston. As a matter of course she was more interested in the "sights" than I; because to me they have become familiar from often seeing them.

June 5th

This forenoon I attended to my usual business in buying goods. In the afternoon my wife and I went to Mount Auburn where we spent at least three hours in rambling over its many paths and avenues. On our return we stopped at Cambridge and saw among other things the Library of Harvard University. To me the most interesting objects in the Library were two books one a large manuscript written volume, being composed by Thomas Aquinas and written before the art of printing was invented, (date unknown). The other book was printed in 1469, which was but a few years after printing was invented. The printed and written books, look very much alike.

June 6th

Harriet Harriet being unwell to day, we did not attend unwell, to any "right seeing". I transacted some private business.

June 7th

A rainy Sabbath. My wife did not attend church. Sunday, In the A. M. I attended meeting at the "Tremont Temple" and the Rev. Mr. Balloch, who has become so noted of late. He is an uncommonly handsome man and from appearances well calculated to exert a great influence over females. Mr. Balloch a fair specimen of his preaching; he has a strong imagination and faculty of generalizing, which serves to make his Tremont sermons and addresses more interesting than instructions. Temple. There was not a large number of people present; many being undoubtedly prevented from attending by the rain.

June 8th

This afternoon I and Harriet, to the 1 o'clock train of cars from for Newburyport, where we arrived in due time. I then Boston hired a coach and told the driver to leave us at the house of to Rev. Noah Hooper. We found the family at home. As they Newburyport were not acquainted with my wife; I introduced Harriet to them for the first time.

June 9th

As my wife has not entirely recovered her health and I came I wished for her to become acquainted with my sisters and to her family; we thought it best that Harriet should remain a few days in Newburyport, while I came home and made some preparations for her in our contemplated home. In consequence of this decision I came to Newburyport this P. M.

June 10th

Before I left home, I have agreed with Mr. L. Maynes to hire of him the house owned and occupied by him, during the life of his wife. Mr. Maynes has painted and papered two of the rooms in the house and have made an agreement with him for that he will pay for having the front chamber painted and house papered and I will pay for having the lower front room repapered.

June 11th

I have been hard at work in trying to put things back in their accustomed places in my store, from which they were taken to make room for alterations and painting inside. I have in part succeeded, but much yet remains undone, as a new arrangement is necessary for part of the goods.

June 12th

Since my return home from Boston, I have shaken hands with more people, both males and females, than I have joined hands with during the last six months. They all congratulate me on my marriage and express a wish that I may enjoy much happiness in my marital affairs.

June 13th

At half past ten o'clock this forenoon, I hired a horse and chaise of B. F. Goodwin, went to the depot, where by previous arrangement met my wife, who arrived from Newburyport while I was at the depot. I took Mrs. A. Walker in the chaise and brought her to this village which will probably be her home during life. We shall stop at Mr. Goodwin's hotel for a few days until we get our own hired house ready for our occupancy.

June 14th

Attended meeting at the Congregational church. A young man by the name of Bond officiated as pastor. I understood he preached last Sabbath for Mr. Willcox, and it is supposed the Cong. society will hire him to supply the desk, after Mr. Willcox leaves for Reading. As a matter of course, my wife was an object of curiosity to many of the congregation. It is probable she attracted more attention to day, than she ever will again in one day.

June 15th

We have been very busy all day in unboxing my wife's goods and arranging them in our hired house, but have not yet made much progress. The goods which she has from Bondwinham and which we bought for household purposes in Boston, have all arrived in good condition.

June 16th

Capt. John Shannon, an Englishman by birth, and Miss Susan H. Kilham of this village started this morning for Portsmouth, where they expect to be united in marriage. They have gone out of this State to be married, in order to avoid having their intentions of marriage posted in a public and conspicuous place for fourteen days, as the present law directs.

June 17th

Sometime last December, Daniel L. Hatch obtained of me, a certificate of his intentions of marriage with Miss Julia A. Thompson; but from some cause to me unknown, he was not married until eighth instant.

1857.

June 18th

Home This morning I and my wife took breakfast at Mr. Goodwin's house and then moved our personal baggage to our new home, leaving and for the first time, our lives commenced housekeeping.

June 19th

I left my father's house in the fall of 1831 to commence bound trading in Pennabunk. Since that time I have bounded with my brother, my sister, W. L. Thomson and B. F. Goodwin. All good bounding places; but I have not felt at either not of these places, the home feeling, which I experienced at my father's house. Now that I have a home of my own, I have hopes the old feeling will return.

June 20th

Hard I look forward to tomorrow with pleasure, as "a day of work, rest"; for since Monday morning my wife and I have been extremely busy in putting our hives house in order. We have accomplished the most laborious part, but many little things yet remain to be done.

June 21st

X Rev. Mr. Willcox officiated in his own pulpit to day. There Sunday was about the average number in attendance. My wife and I attended the Baptist church at the third service.

June 22nd

Appear- As the season thus far has been uncommonly wet and -ance favorable for the growth of grass; there is now an appearance of a large crop of hay the present season. Potatoes and grain growing are also in a promising state; but corn, owing to the crop, wet and coldness of the season, is not flourishing so finely as farmers wish.

June 23rd

Dull My business has been so broken up the past spring by the times repairs on my store and my absence from home; that I do not expect to do but little business. All traders here, say traders, that business has not been so dull before, for many years. In fact there is nothing in this vicinity to make it brisk.

June 24th

3. Common Stone About five years since Capt. Adwara Stone of this town lost his only child - a little boy about 4 years of age. This day his wife, only child - a little girl 3 years and 3 months of age died. Capt. Stone is now absent at sea, but his wife (formerly Phineas Pilbrow) children mourns the loss of the child exceedingly. I have often seen the little girl, who was the picture of health.

1857

June 25th

I was at the Port on business this forenoon. Business for the mechanics is better at the Port than in this village. There is not any building in the ship-yard of Commons & Littlefield this season; but there is a small vessel being built on this side of the river by "a union company" and in D & S. Ward's yard at two vessels are now in process of erection. A small one, by an after "union company" and a vessel by Capt. W. S. Jones & others of about 900 tons. This ship was built in order to use up the materials on hand, formerly belonging to D & S. Ward.

The house carpenters at the Port have also much more employ than here. Capt. Little and Capt. Harvey Perkins are having extensive alterations and repairs on their houses. Capt. Nowell is having a new house built near the long meeting house. There are in addition to the usual repairs which are in villages every summer.

June 26th

The child of Adwara and Phine Stone was buried this afternoon. The top of the coffin was not put on until after the funeral services were over; consequently the full length of the corpse was exposed to view. The body was dressed in the same manner, as if it was alive and reposing in port on its side for an "afternoon nap". This is the first instance in my knowledge, when a person in this village has been buried in their usual dress. I like the fashion and hope it will become common. First, because the dear look more natural in their accustomed dress. Secondly, the dress is always on hand. Thirdly, it is not so expensive; for the clothes left by a dead person are nearly valueless.

June 27th

There was a Democratic caucus this afternoon, to choose delegates to attend the State Convention to be held in Portland on the 30th inst.; and also to attend the County Convention to be held at Alfred on the 4th day of July next.

Barnabas Pulver was chosen chairman and Andrew Walker, Secretary. The delegates to Portland are James G. Cousins, Joseph Titcomb and James Osborn. The delegates to Alfred are George Commons, Alpheus Kimball, Charles Smith and John Roberts jr. The delegates chosen, who attend either of the conventions, have power to fill any vacancy in their own number that may occur. There was not a large number present.

June 28th

Sunday Rev. W.^m H. Willcox officiated to day for the last time Mr. as pastor of the Congregational church in this village. The subject Willcox of his sermon this afternoon was "The joys of Heaven". There was last a larger congregation than usual, the extra number being Sabbath mostly from the ^{Unitarian} Congregational society.

June 29th

Rev. W. H. Willcox, having last week sent his household furniture to Reading; this morning he and family bid Mr. adieu to Kennebunk and departed for his next place of residence. Willcox I wrote a copy of the following note and sent it to the left Maine Democrat for publication. — "Rev. William H. Willcox town has resigned his pastorate, and closed his labors in this Kennebunk. He has received and accepted a call to become day. pastor of a church in Reading, Mass."

June 30th

The present prices of country produce are as follows — Butter Prices, 20 cts. lb, Lard 14 to 15 cts, Cheese 12 to 14 cts, Eggs 14 cts. doz., Potatoes from country 75 to 92 cts. bush, Clear Pork 14 cts, Dried apples 12 1/2 to 14 cts, Beans Produce from 17 1/2 to 20 00 bush, Corn from 100 to 108 bush.

July 1st

Abel M. Bryant this day commenced carrying the mail A. M. to and from Portsmouth to Kennebunk three times a week, for Bryant the sum of Four Hundred and fifty dollars a year. Mr. Bryant mail did not buy out the horses and carriages of the late mail carrier carrier Mr. Farnell; so he for the present, at least, will continue to to run his coach from here to Portsmouth as usual, with the exception of starting earlier in the morning.

July 2nd

The Democratic State Convention, assembled in Portland on the 30th ult for the nomination of a suitable person for Governor. The whole number of delegates present was 651. State Whole number of votes, as by published report, — 1811

Convention. Manasseh H. Smith of Warren, has — 296 and was declared duly nominated. Speeches were made in the convention, by Shephard Cary, J. W. Bradbury, George F. Shepley & Co.

July 3rd

J. H. Bartlett, of this town, has had, within a few days, Bartlett, or son return home, after an absence of about seven years. Most of the time he has been in California. He has visited Oregon, Australia, China and other foreign countries. His father told me he did not know him, when he arrives home.

July 4th

A beautiful day in all respects. There was not any public demonstration of our nation's birth day in this village, except the usual display of flags and the ringing of bells at sunrise, noon and sunset.

July 5th

The editor of the "Christian Mirror" preacher for the Cong. church and society. The matter of his discourses were quite interesting and well arranged, but his manner in the pulpit is not pleasing.

July 6th

"The prayer of the patriarch, when he desired to behold the Divinity face to face, was denied; but he was able to catch a glimpse of Jehovah, after he had passed by; and it fares with our search for him in the wrestlings of the world. It is when the hour of conflict is over, that history comes to a right understanding of the strife, and is ready to exclaim; 'Lo! God is here and we knew it not. At the foot of every page in the annals of nations may be written, 'God reigns'. Events as they pass away proclaim their origin; and if you will but listen reverently, you may hear the receding centuries, as they roll into the dim distances of departed time, perpetually chanting 'Te Deum Laudamus', (Thee, Lord we praise) with all the choral voices of the countless congregation of the age"

The above, as I think, eloquent extract is from Bancroft's History Discourses.

July 7th

Agreeably to the call of the county committee, delegates chosen by the Democrats of the several towns of York County, assembled at Alfred on the 4th inst. The nominees for county officers to be chosen this year, was as follows:—

John Keran, of Carsonfield, —	Senators.	County
Mark F. Goodwin, of South Berwick, —		
Thomas R. Lane, of Biddeford, —	County Treasurer,	at
John N. Stinson of Alfred, —		
John M. Goodwin of Dayton, —	County Commissioner,	on
Timothy Shaw jr of Alfred, —		
	Register of Deeds,	the

After the business of the convention was over speeches were made by Caleb R. Ayer, J. W. Ambrose and J. C. Lane. The prospect of electing the above nominees this fall, is in my opinion but very small.

County
Committee
at
Alfred
on
the
4th inst.

July 8th

Not As the season thus far has been rather cool and wet, much farmers say the grass is not yet in a fit state to cut. In haying the village there has been considerable grass cut in front yet, yards and around buildings, but farmers have not commenced.

July 9th

✓ Last month Capt. Charles Williams, bought in the village of Frammingham, Centre, Mass., a reported fine residence with Charles eight acres of land for the sum of seven thousand dollars. Williams Last week he packed up his furniture and sent it to his new home. Last Monday - the 6th inst. he and his wife left town in their chaise and this morning the other members of his family left town in the cars. The wife of Capt. Williams has been out of health for a number of years and the family are in hope, Mass. that a residence in Frammingham may be beneficial to her. This is said to have been the principal cause of his leaving Kennebunk. He and his family were highly esteemed and respected in the village and their absence much regretted.

July 10th

✓ During the past session of the Legislature of this State, they repealed the law that inhabitants of this State could go to Maine the Town or City Clerk, for a certificate of intentions of marriage law another be married immediately if they wish. The law now is, that persons wishing to be married must have their intentions of marriage posted for fourteen days in some public and conspicuous place before marriage. To this law, nearly all persons object who wish to be married. The effect has been, many couples, not probable more than half, married, who belong in Maine, likes, have gone to New Hampshire or Massachusetts to be united in marriage. The reason is, because they can obtain a license as it is termed, and be married immediately. A fine thing for the Clerks and Clergymen out of the State, but a sad thing for Clerks and Clergymen here.

July 11th

Methodist About half a dozen years since, a small meeting house owned by the Methodist, was burnt on Saco road, about a mile from this village. Since that time efforts have been made to here establish a Methodist society in this village, in place of the from old society on Saco road. A few days since, the Methodist Saco minister who lived in the "personage" house, near where the road. meeting house stood, has moved over to this village, thus virtually abandoning the "Saco Road District."

July 12th

The Congregational church and society, have engaged the young man - Rev Mr. Pava, who preached here on the 13th of June, to supply the pulpit for the present. He officiated to day. Sunday.

July 13th

A remarkable large yoke of oxen, reported to belong to G. W. Chamberlain, of Carmel, Penobscot County, are on exhibition here to day. They are advertised to weigh over 6000 pounds, are well matched and handsome in all respects. Large Oxen.

They are thorough-bred Durham Short Horn, and six years old. The driver of the oxen says, he is on his way to a national exhibition of cattle and live stock, which is to be held in Kentucky in September.

July 14th

Mr. William Lown, by the noon mail, heard the sad news of the death of his son Daniel L. Lown, master of the ship "Gulf Stream" at the Chincha Islands. I do not know any particulars. He was 24 years of age. Death of D. L. Lown.

July 15th

The farmers in this vicinity commenced haying, in earnest, on the 13th inst. The crop of hay this season, is rather better than usual. No price has yet been offered. reason common

July 16th

I understand that Charles L. Dresser, has succeeded in making a settlement with his creditors who have not received L. D. their claims on his property. The unsecured creditors live in Boston and Portland. It is reported he has paid them forty cents per dollar on a dollar and they have released all demands against him, his store. It is thought the amount released to him, is about four thousand dollars. The key of the store was given up to him this day, the store will open to the public tomorrow.

July 17th

✓ Capt. Moses Maling returned home after an absence of ten or twelve months on a voyage to California. Sometime since, he bought of Mr. William Lown the Dighton place (or called) with the expectation of taking down the old Dighton house and erecting a residence for himself on the spot; but nothing more has been done. Capt. Maling.

July 18th

✓ Mr. Francis Fisher of this village, last spring went West and spent some time in the State of Minnesota with the expectation of making that State his future residence; but he has returned home, contented to remain in Kennebunk. Francis Fisher.

July 19th

A pleasant and warm day. Nothing of particular Sunday interest occurred in this vicinity to make the day remarkable.

July 20th

The remaining part of the real estate of the late John Last Hovey, which remained unsold, was sold at auction this P.M. With the exception of one lot of twenty acres (bought by N. B. Wells for \$11,000) the sales were small lots of land on the Western side of the river in the vicinity of the old towers staves. The name of Hovey Hovey has now become extinct in this village and I think estate in this town.

July 21st

The charters of all the Banks in this State will expire renewed by limitation this fall. During the last session of the Legislature of an act was passed in relation to Banks and Banking; by which Bank all Banks in good standing can have their charters extended by a vote to that effect by a majority of the stockholders, or rather a majority of the stock as represented by stockholders present at a meeting appointed for that purpose. There was a special meeting of the stockholders of Ocean Bank last evening and they voted unanimously to accept the renewal agreeable to the act of the Legislature.

July 22nd

New Potatoes have been brought to this village for sale within a few days. They were sold for three dollars a bushel, and being the highest price that I ever knew them to bring here. Green peas bring from six to eight shillings a bushel.

July 23rd

Rainbolt & Day-joiners during the last fortnight, have been building a new barn, for William Patten, on the lot Patten's of lower he bought of Horace Porter. It is said Mr. Patten intends at some future time, to build a house for his residence near the new barn and sell his old farm in Pennsburyport.

July 24th

The Methodist ministers in this village - Mr. Stinchfield, and some of the members of his society are anxious that the Society Methodist society should have a meeting house. A number of lots have been talked of, but the conclusion is that the "Dighton" house lot, owned by Capt. Moring is the most eligible. Capt. Moring offers the lot for \$100. and the old house for \$75, but there is one serious objection; the society are not able to buy even the lot. Unless members from other societies, or persons out of town assist them, a meeting-house will not be built at present.

July 25th

Since the 17th inst. the weather has been extremely bad for haymakers, being part of the time raining and nearly all the time foggy. There is a large quantity of grass cut, part in the swath and part cocked up, some of which is badly damaged.

July 26th

A fine pleasant day. Although it is "a day of rest" according to the Bible; I have no doubt, many people, probably more than half who have hay in their fields in this vicinity have concluded that haymaking to day was a "work of necessity" Day. consequently have attended to their hay rather than attend church.

July 27th

"We all 'turn the crank of the universe', while we hold it in our hands; but when we shall be enforced to let go - when our hands shall drop from it, be those hands the strongest and the steadiest - will the universe cease to move, as you think?"

July 28th

I understand the Unitarian society has employed Mr. William Chase (son in law of Christopher Littlefield) and wife to sing for the society for the sum of Two Dollars each Sabbath.

July 29th

Miss Emeline Hardy, of this village who went to Fort Wayne with Hugh Mculloch, about three years since, returned on the 25th inst. to visit her friends. She expects to return back to the Western country next fall.

July 30th

The joiners in the village and mechanics generally complain that there is not ^{so much} demand for work this season as usual. In fact there is a general stagnation of business in this vicinity, and the same complaint prevails throughout New England.

July 31st

This forenoon, my wife and I took the train of cars for the East and went to Portland, where we remained until the express or steamboat train started from Portland for Boston. I bought a few articles for the store; but our principal business was to buy a carpet, a dining set and a number of articles which were needed in the house. My wife was also anxious to see her sister Isabella, wife of Dr. W. H. Haskell; but her sister and brother-in-law started this morning for the country where they expect to remain a few weeks.

Back
hazy
weather

Sunday
of the
Universe

Wm Chase
& wife
to sing.

Emeline
Hardy.

Dull
times.

To
Portland
and
back.

1817.

Aug. 1st

✓ During a thunder shower this afternoon, the house of W. L. Thompson was struck by lightning. The lightning apparently struck the small part of the house first and then the house run to the barn which is connected with the house by a covered walk. The damage to the buildings is estimated at Fifty Dollars. No member of the family was hurt; but a hired girl who sat at one of the windows in the small part of the house was seriously frightened.

Aug. 2nd

✗ A pleasant day. A stranger to me, probably a student officiated in the pulpit of the Congregational church, Mr. Pons being absent on a visit to his relatives in Bangor.

Aug. 3rd

✓ A. M. I understand that A. M. Bryant has sold out his contract for carrying the mail to and from Portsmouth to Joseph Young. I do not know on what terms. It is supposed that Mr. Young and Mr. Farnell are in partnership.

Aug. 4th

✓ Death of Mrs. Charles Williams. The first of last month Capt. Charles Williams moved his family to Framingham Mass.; in hopes that a change of air might be beneficial to his wife's health; but a few days after her arrival at her new home, she was taken worse and continued to fail until the 24th inst. when she died. Her remains were brought here yesterday and to day her funeral was attended from the house of Capt. Williams father - C. W. Williams. I officiated as conductor of the funeral. Quite a large number of people were present. Mrs. Williams was 41 years of age.

Aug. 5th

✓ Capt. Wm. South. Capt. William South has recently returned from a trip to the South. He visited Washington for the first time. He says he was disappointed in the appearance of the city - it being looser and handsomer than expected. He called on President Buchanan and was highly pleased with the man.

Aug. 6th

✓ Price of Hay. There has not been much hay hauled into this market this season. What has been sold brought ten dollars a ton if in good condition; but the weather has been bad for curing hay.

Aug. 7th

✓ Charles Williams. The house which Capt. Charles Williams owns and occupied in this village is vacant. I understand he does not at present wish to sell or rent it to any one.

1817.

Aug. 8th

During the last three days the weather has been good for haying. A majority of people in this vicinity who have hay to cut, have finished haying; but many farmers at a distance from the village are not done yet.

Aug. 9th

Rev. Mr. Swan - the Unitarian clergyman having gone on a summer excursion to "Moosehead Lake"; there were no services in the Unitarian house; hence there was a larger number than usual at the other churches in the village.

Aug. 10th

On the 2nd of July, being now two weeks since, an old woman by the name of Deborah Rigby (commonly called Deb. Rigby) who lived at that part of the Landing called "the Heath," came to this village, "a begging" as she has been accustomed to do for many years. Having obtained as much as she could conveniently carry to her home, she was seen sitting on a rock, at the corner of the road near the house of George Wise. Since that time, although extensive search has been made, no one has seen her or her bundles. At least no one says she has been seen. It is supposed she is dead somewhere in "the Heath". She was between 80 and 90 years of age.

Aug. 11th

About 25 years ago, Mr. Badger, now an eminent portrait painter of Boston, came to this town and K-port where he remained a number of months, painting the portraits of several individuals. He was then called an excellent painter, now he is supposed to be as good if not the best artist in the city. C. C. Bourne of this town has engaged Mr. Badger to come to his house and paint, from a Daguerrotype picture, a portrait of his daughter Elizabeth who died on the White Mountains in Sept. 1811. Mr. Badger is now here and it is said will paint portraits of other persons after he has finished Miss Bourne's.

Aug. 12th

At a meeting of the members of the Methodist society in this village, I understand they voted to buy the Dighton house and lot for the sum of \$150. A committee was also raised to make preliminary arrangements for building a meeting house. It is contemplated to take down the old Dighton house this fall, and make as much progress this fall in building the house as they can.

✗ Given
hay
weather

✓ Sunday.
Mr.
Swan
absent.

✓ Disappear-
of
Deborah
Rigby.

✓ Mr.
Badger,
the
portrait
painter.

✓ Preliminary
steps,
for
Methodist
Meeting
House.

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Aug. 13th

✓ This has been a remarkable wet season, so far. The grass is now as green as it was last June. There is a large crop of hay, but the season being so wet, but a small part of it in this vicinity was cured in good condition. It is said many farmers have not yet done haying.

Aug. 14th

✓ There is not a large quantity of berries this season. When "huckleberries" were first brought to the village they sold at ten cents a quart. Now they sell readily at seven cents. When berries are not brought here for sale.

Aug. 11th

✓ Town Meeting. The Selectmen called a town meeting this day for a number of purposes. One of which was, to see what action the town would take to repair the damage done to "Cat Mountain Bridge", by the freshet last spring. The town voted to raise three hundred and fifty dollars by a tax to be assessed this summer for the above purpose, and chose L. R. Dorrance the agent to expend the above sum. There was not more than fifty persons at the meeting.

Aug. 16th

✗ No thing of particular interest, to my knowledge, took place in this vicinity to day. A remarkable young looking preacher officiated for Mr. Pond.

Aug. 17th

✓ Henry Tappan has sold out his houses, carriages and other conveyances for carrying the mail and passengers to and from the depot to a Mr. Warren of Waterborough. Mr. Warren has taken possession this morning. I do not know any particulars.

Aug. 18th

✓ repairs on Robert Smith's house. Mr. Robert Smith commenced yesterday to make repairs and alterations on his house. The house was formerly built and owned by the late Capt. Jeremiah Pond. He sold it to Capt. George Lora, who moved it to the spot it now occupies. Mr. Smith bought the house about three years since and will now probably modernize it; at least such is reported to be the wish of his wife.

Aug. 19th

✗ My sister Lucy, her husband and two youngest children came from Newburyport to day. They will probably remain here and at Portland until sometime next week. Their two oldest children - Lucy and Maryetta came on with them as far as Great Falls, where they are now visiting some of their old friends and schoolmates.

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Aug. 20th

I do not hear of any political action, or talk even, in this town. It is conceded that the "Republicans" will elect their candidates and it is supposed the Democrats will not make much efforts.

The Democrats and Republicans have held their County Conventions with the following results.

Democrats.

John Kears, of Parsonsfield.	For	Senators.
Mark F. Goodwin, of South Berwick.	For	Senators.
Thomas K. Lane, of Biddeford.	For	Register of Deeds.
Timothy Shaw Jr., of Alfred.	For	County Treasurer.
John M. Stinson, of Alfred.	For	County Commissioner.
John M. Goodwin, of Dayton.	For	County Commissioner.

Republicans.

Eth Seawman, of Saco.	For	Senators.
Nathan Dore, of Alfred.	For	Senators.
Samuel W. Jones, of Lebanon.	For	Register of Deeds.
Samuel C. Adams, of Newfield.	For	County Treasurer.
John Bracket 2 ^d , of Parsonsfield.	For	County Commissioner.
Colton Dean, of Liverick.	For	County Commissioner.

Aug. 21st

During the last two or three weeks, Mr. William Chase, of Wells, has been employed part of the time in giving instruction to young children in singing. Last evening and this evening there has been a juvenile concert of these children at the Town Hall. Fifteen cents were asked for admission each evening. To me, the appearance of the children, nearly all of the girls dressed in white, was the best part of the concert.

Aug. 22nd

G. O. Titcomb, has not fully recovered from the insanity with which he was attacked last fall. He had a Mr. Chout hired expressly to wait on him last winter, and he remained until spring. Since that time he has partially recovered and the family have taken care of him. On pleasant days he walks about his home and I have heard has been as far as the Landing, but not to the village. Mr. H. Kingsbury has this summer been with him to the White Mountains, or that vicinity, but it is supposed the excursion did not benefit him much. I have not seen him to speak with him since he was first attacked; but understood he does not appear to be willing to talk to any one particularly, if he or she is not a member of their own family.

1817.

Aug. 23rd

My wife being unwell, did not attend church to day. Sunday. Mr. Pond officiated and is to supply the desk of the Congregational church for the present. It appears to be the understanding, Mr. Pond. that the parish will invite him to this pastorate, if the parishioners are satisfied with him.

Aug. 24th

The Methodist camp-meeting commenced to day, on the old camp-ground. Although the weather during the summer Meeting. has been uncommonly wet and unpleasant; to day appears to indicate dry, pleasant weather.

Aug. 25th

Land. Last March Ralph Burtis Esq. sold to Alvah Hill a lot of (50 to 100 acres) land on the Eastern side of the road to the depot for the sum of Eighteen hundred Dollars. Within a few days the same Esq. has sold to Henry Jordan, a lot of about sixty acres of land on the Western side, about one half a mile from the depot, for Twelve hundred Dollars. 1800.
1200.
\$5000.

Aug. 26th

Land. Capt. Daniel Burtis of this town, has left at my store fifty (Quarto) Bibles and twelve of a smaller size. These bibles he is going to present to his nephews and nieces, grand-nephews and grand-nieces. He has them sent to me, in order that I should write their names in the bibles, before they were presented. I have complied with his request and written to be in each bible as follows—Presented to (Name inserted) by Daniel Burtis, of Kennebunk.

1817." In the list of names for which a bible is intended, there are 88 persons. The remaining 26 Bibles he expects to buy at some future time.

Aug. 27th

Since Camp-meeting commenced on the 24th inst., the weather has been remarkably clear and pleasant. Yesterday and to day great numbers have attended. I and my wife were on the camp ground this afternoon. The lowest number present that I heard from estimated was 5000, and some thought there were as many as 8000 persons present on the ground; being a larger number than ever before met on that spot. "Old Father Taylor" of Boston preached this afternoon, but it is not probable more than one person in ten heard his remarks distinctly. We returned home at 5 o'clock, having had a pleasant time.

1817

Aug. 28th

On the 8th inst., two large steamers left the small island of Valentia, on the coast of Ireland, with 2500 miles of "Atlantic Telegraph cable", for the purpose of submerging the same across the Atlantic to St. John's in Newfoundland. On the morning of the 11th inst., after having paid out success-fully 331 nautical miles of cable, and the last one hundred miles of it in water, over two miles in depth, and the greater part of this at a rate of rather more than five knots an hour, the cable parted at some distance from the stern of the steamer. This "cable" is but five eighths of an inch in diameter. The whole distance from Ireland to Newfoundland is 1640 nautical, or 1900 statute miles, and the greatest depth is 2070 fathoms or about 2 1/2 miles, according to a survey by the U. S. steamer "Arctic" in the summer of 1816.

Aug. 29th

Yesterday, particularly in the forenoon, was remarkably stormy. To day the rain has nearly ceased, but there has been all day a thick, heavy mist. The people on the camp-ground must have been very uncomfortable in some of the tents. It is said, many left the ground yesterday and the remainder have gone to day. — I understand the "Methodist Conference" have recently received a new lease of the "Camp-ground" for the period of ten years for which they are to pay thirty dollars a year. They have previously paid fifteen dollars a year.

Aug. 30th

Rev. Dr. Conar, of Bangor, who has had the charge of the theological school at that place for 25 years; preacher for his son at the Congregational church this day. According to my ideas of preaching, he is competent to give instructions.

Aug. 31st

The pleasant, dry weather which we had the first four days of last week, afforded the farmers an excellent opportunity to secure their grain in good condition. It is said the grain crop in this State will be about the usual quantity.

Sept. 1st

I do not recollect a summer, when all kinds of vegetation has been so green, as it has been in the summer which closed yesterday. The fields look to me as green as they did in the month of June. In this vicinity and probably elsewhere, a large quantity of "second-crop" grass has been cut and it is probable much more will be secured.

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Sept. 2nd

Mr. Calvin Hutchins, who bought my Father's old homestead, resold the same at auction this day. It was sold in three lots. The field adjoining the buildings with the same and orchard was sold to the Congregational Parish for Ten hundred and seventy five Dollars. There is about 11 acres in this field. The field between the house and meetinghouse containing 12 acres was sold to Samuel Fowler for twenty nine dollars an acre. The field and pasture (commonly called the "Marsh Place") was sold to Mr. Brown for four hundred and ten dollars. The crops standing in the field, and the hay, tools, oxen and other stock was sold on the premises after the sale of the real estate. Mr. Hutchins expects to move to Kansas in a few weeks; hence the public sale of the day. — I was at the auction this forenoon but did not remain until the sale closed. My principal object in going to the old homestead, was to bring away the desk used by Father in doing his business, two tables and a settle which belong to me. There is not now to my knowledge any relic of my Father's estate left in Kennebunkport.

Sept. 3rd

Mr. Charles (son of Capt. George) Loring formerly of this town, returned from ^{a tour in Europe} within a few days, after an absence of two years. Last evening he and his wife arrived here on a visit to his Father and other relatives. His Father says, Charles has visited all the principal places in England, France, Italy and Germany.

Sept. 4th

The whole amount of Town, County and State tax assessed in Kennebunk this year is about \$6000. The rate of taxation this year is 47 cents on a hundred dollars or 4.70 on a thousand. Mr. Wallingford the collector of taxes, informs me, that about two thirds of the whole amount of tax was paid in before the record day of Sept. (in order to get six per cent discount); but not more than one half the number of tax-payers.

Sept. 5th

Singular Disappearance.

On the 27th of July, a woman named Deborah Nigby, who lived but a short distance from Kennebunk landing, came to the village, as was her custom, to get food and other necessaries. Having ^{obtained} as much as she could conveniently carry, Deborah she started for home. Since that time nothing has been seen or heard of her; although careful inquiries and extensive —

1817.

searches have been made. As she was quite old and infirm, being between 80 and 90 years of age, it is supposed she mistook her way and wandered into a large tract of low heathy land, where she died.

I this day sent a copy of the above notice to the Free Democrat, for publication.

Sept. 6th

There was not any meeting to day of the Methodist society; Rev. Mr. Stimpfield, being absent. Attended a third service at the Baptist church and heard Rev. Mr. Worth.

Sept. 7th

The old Spanish coins of less denomination than one fourth of a dollar have, this summer, ceased to pass at their nominal value, passing only at decimal value — 12 1/2 cent pieces at 10 cents and 6 1/4 pieces at 5 cents. The terms "ninepence" and "fourpence half penny" will probably soon become obsolete in New England.

Sept. 8th

About ten days since ^X George P. Titcomb ^X was taken with the diarrhea, the disease gradually changing to bloody flux; he became worse and worse until at half past 12 o'clock last night he died, aged 32 years.

^X It is reported that from the time he was taken with the diarrhea, he became perfectly rational and continued until he died.

Sept. 9th

Oliver R. Merrill, formerly of Kennebunkport, now of Washington D. C. was in my store yesterday. He has been in that city about four years, and is a clerk in the Naval Department, with a salary of \$1400 a year.

Sept. 10th

G. P. Titcomb was buried this afternoon. Quite a large number attended the funeral; Rev. Mr. Titcomb officiating as minister. Miss Lane — the intended bride of Mr. T. was present at the funeral, dressed in deep mourning and rode to the grave in a carriage with the Titcomb family. ^X It is now said, that she had made preparations to be married last fall, and it was agreed that the marriage should take place at that time and then start on a tour to Europe.

Sept. 11th

The wife of Capt. Abraham Hill, gave birth to twins — two boys within a few days. These are the only twins, to my knowledge, born in the village for a number of years.

Sept. 12th

I this day wrote and sent a copy of the following notice to the Saco Democrat for publication.

Died

In Kennebunk, 8th inst., Mr. George P. Titcomb, of the firm of J. & G. P. Titcomb, ship-builders at Kennebunklanging, aged 32 years.

We know a laudatory notice of a deceased individual is not always a true estimate of his worth; or that an entire omission of such notice, except his simple name, age and date implies that he was but of little importance beyond the immediate circle of his own family. Still, we do not feel willing that Mr. Titcomb should pass away, without a slight memorial.

In the various relations of life, his character is without a stain. As a man of business, he has not left his superior in Kennebunk and it is supposed he has employed more men than any man, of his age, in that town. As a citizen he was respected by an extensive acquaintance and his death is regarded as a public loss; for he was a means of doing much good to the community in which he dwelt.

In the excited political contest in the fall of 1855, he was nominated by his townsmen, and chosen by the classes towns of Kennebunk and Alfred to represent them in the Legislature of this State, and was distinguished for his fidelity to the trust reposed in him.

Sept. 13th

Rev. Mr. Pond, who is at present supplying the desk of the Cong. society, having been absent last week; he exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Titcomb, of Kennebunkport. In the afternoon my wife and I attended at the Methodist society, and heard Rev. Mr. Sturtevant.

Sept. 14th

The annual State election took place this day. The Democrats did not have a caucus this year in Kennebunk; for the nomination of a representative this year was from Alfred. Last Saturday evening the 12th inst., the Republicans of this town held a caucus in the Town Hall. Quite a large number attended; for there was a rivalry between the Republicans who wanted Henry Kingsbury as their candidate and the "Know Nothings" who wanted James M. Stone. The result at the second ballot was as follows — for Kingsbury 57, Stone 38 all others 15, total 110. Mr. Kingsbury was accordingly declared to be nominated as candidate for representative to the State Legislature.

John Bobby was active in trying to secure the nomination of Mr. Stone; for it is said, he has a strong dislike to Mr. Kingsbury. Since the caucus, Mr. Bobby has ^{not} taken an active part in canvassing for Mr. Kingsbury. He simply cast his vote, but did not try to influence others. I thus particularly mention Mr. Bobby, because he is the acknowledged head of the late "Know Nothing" party.

The whole number of votes cast to day for Governor was
For Morrissch H. Smith, Democrat, - - - 160.
" Spot M. Mowell, - - - Republican, - - - 230.

The following was the vote for town representative,
For Silas Derby, Democrat, of Alfred, - - - 168.
" Henry Kingsbury, Republican, of Kennebunk, - - - 221.
" James M. Stone, of Kennebunk, (omit.)

There has not been in this vicinity any political excitement this fall. The whole number of votes cast being only 390 in this town, which is about two thirds the number cast last fall.

Sept. 15th

Two of the Selectmen from Alfred, came to Kennebunk this forenoon to compare votes for representative; the following is the result:—

In Kennebunk,

For Silas Derby - 168. For Henry Kingsbury - 221.

Scattering 8

In Alfred,

For Silas Derby - 122. For Henry Kingsbury - 144.

Scattering

Henry Kingsbury has a plurality of 71 votes and is elected.

Sept. 16th

This afternoon I hired a horse and chaise of Capt. Tobias Mason and I and my wife went to Saco; I to transact some business and she to have a ride and call on her old acquaintances — the family of Capt. Patterson.

Sept. 17th

I understand the Methodist society have bought a pair of the Dighton lot ^{house} for the sum of \$1500. They advertised and tried to sell at auction the old house, chimney and shed (without the rocks); but all they could get offered for the three was \$37, i.e., for the house \$22, for the chimney \$3, and for the shed \$11. They were bought in for the Society. The conditions of the sale were cash down and buildings to be removed within twenty days.

Sept. 18th

Prices of Domestic produce in this village,
 Butter 21st sh. per pound, cheese 11 to 12th sh. eggs 11th sh. doz, potatoes 10 to 60 sh. doz,
 Domestic squashes 1st a pound, pumpkins 6 to 10 sh each, cooking apples 10 cents each,
 pears, eating apples 10 to 100 sh. each, fresh beef 10 to 14 sh, lamb 8 to 10 sh, veal 6 to 8 sh. lb,
 chickens 12 sh to 14 sh, sweet potatoes from Boston 4 cents a pound.

Sept. 19th

The body of Deborah Rigby, who disappeared on the 27th of last July was found this morning by Andrew Robinson. The body was in a part of the 'heath' which had been but little explored, about one fourth of a mile from any house. Robinson by accident found the body while in pursuit of wood.

A coroner from Exeter was obtained who caused a jury of six to be summoned to make inquiries how said woman came to her death and report accordingly. I do not know the words of the jury's verdict; but understands they agree she came to her death by exposure, while in a feeble state of health and impaired mental powers.

Sept. 20th

Sunday. A cold and rainy Sabbath, but few people attended church.

Sept. 21st

Miss Lydia Durnell - a sister of Mrs. Titcomb and a member of her family died this afternoon aged 73 years. She was not well when George P. Titcomb was buried, still she went to his grave with the funeral procession. In a few days after the funeral, she was taken with the same disease - bloody flux - of which he died, and like his disease terminated fatally! Mrs. Titcomb's family consists of herself, George P. her daughter Lucy and sister Lydia, who was unmarried.

Sept. 22nd

Timothy Washburn - a large man while returning from Wells, on the evening of the 19th inst., fell into a culvert while walking on the railway and was very badly hurt. It is reported his spinal chord is broken or at least much affected. He is not expected to live but a few days.

Sept. 23rd

Joseph Titcomb is quite unwell with the same disease of which his brother George P. Titcomb, and his aunt Lydia Durnell died. He is not considered dangerous sick, but his friends are anxious about his health, on account of the other cases of the same disease and in the same family by blood, have died.

Sept. 24th

The times are hard and money extremely scarce. Trade as a matter of course very dull. Mr. Isaac Durbish says, that he has been a trader in this village, during the last thirty years, and he does not recollect of any season within this period when business has been so dull and scarce as now.

Sept. 25th

Joseph Dane Junr., this day requested me to step into his father's house for a few minutes. I accordingly did as he requested and found in his sitting room ~~and found~~ Mr. Joseph Dane and his son Joseph, Christopher Littlefield and Capt. Noah Nason. As soon as I entered the room Mr. Dane remarked - "I have sent for you gentlemen in order that you may be witnesses to my Will". He then signed the paper which he declared to be his Will over Mr. Littlefield, Capt. Nason and I, signed our names as witnesses.

The sore which Mr. Dane has on his face, he says is extremely painful; but he is out of doors on pleasant days and converses cheerfully with people as usual.

Sept. 26th

The weather during the last two or three days has been remarkably warm and pleasant. It is supposed that all vegetation which has not been damaged by frost, (the damage part is not of much value) is now out of the way of Jack Frost's cry.

Sept. 27th

Rev. Mr. Pava, exchanged pulpits with one of the Congregational ministers of Wells. There was not a large number attended church.

Sept. 28th

Miss Spence the affianced bride of the late George P. Titcomb, still remains in town. She dresses in the deepest mourning and appears to be much cast down; but if the Titcomb family should give her one thing of the property left by her intended husband, it is probable the money cheer up her spirits very much.

Sept. 29th

Workmen commenced yesterday morning making preparations to move the house bought by A. W. Mendum last November. This house was formerly owned by Theodor Welber. Mr. Mendum expects to move it on a lot near his father's house, on the Alfred road.

Hard Times, Money scarce.

X Joseph Dane signs his Will before three witnesses.

X Warm Days.

X Sunday.

X Miss Spence.

✓ A. W. Mendum moving house.

Sept. 30th

X According to the careful experiments of Mr. Marcus Bull, the relative value of equal bulks or cords of several American Heating woods, are expressed as follows—shellbark hickory being taken value as 100; pignut hickory 91; white oak 84; white ash 77; dogwood 71; scrub oak 69; white beech 61; black walnut 61; black birch 63; different yellow oak 60; hard maple 60; white elm 58; red cedar 56; kinds wild cherry 51; yellow pine 54; chestnut 52; yellow poplar 52; of butternut 51; white birch 48; white pine 42. Some woods are more, softer and lighter than others, the harder and heavier having their fibres more densely packed together. But the same species of wood may vary in density, according to the conditions of its growth. Those woods which grow in forests, or in rich, wet grounds, are less consolidated than such as stand exposed in the open fields, or grow slowly upon dry barren soils.

Oct. 1st

✓ A heavy frost last night and the night before has put a stop to the growing of all vegetables which are affected by heavy the frost; but it has not done but very little if any damage front. this year, as every thing is about ripe. There has been a large crop of hay, but secured in bad order; corn and all kinds of grain crops are as good as usual, perhaps some better than the average for the last ten years; potatoes are not abundant in quantity, and the rot has affected them somewhat; but there will be a fair crop; apples are scarce and high, it is said not more than one fourth as many as usual; of garden mums there is an average quantity and of beans are abundant & good.

Oct. 2nd

✓ Traders I understand that "Littlefield & Lord" and "R. & L. Mitchell" at Dept. traders at the depot, have sold out the stocks of goods in sold their stores, to a Mr. Shing, who has been trading at out. "Ross Corner" in the town of Shopleigh.

Oct. 3rd

S. E. X Susan E. Burvington, an unmarried sister to my wife Burvington came to Kennebunkport to day on a visit. It is probable she will remain a number of months.

Oct. 4th

X Sunday morning when Rev. Mr. Stinchfield was passing to church, I called him into my house and introduced Miss Burvington, then told him Miss B. would probably attend his meeting all the time.

Oct. 5th

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of Ocean Bank took place this afternoon. the following persons were re-elected Directors:—Joseph Titcomb, William Sporn jun^r, Thomas Lord, Noah Nason, William L. Thompson, Joseph Dorey, and Andrew Walker. At a subsequent meeting of the Directors Joseph Titcomb was rechosen President and Christopher Littlefield, Cashier.

A dividend of four per cent was declared, payable to the Stockholders on or after this day.

Oct. 6th

There is a notice posted in the Postoffice, that written proposals will be received until the 14th of this month, for building a meeting-house for the Methodist Society, in this village. The house to be finished next August. For plans and specifications, all persons interested, are requested to call at the store of William Fairfield, where the proposals are also to be left.

Oct. 7th

During the past summer there was not much sickness in this vicinity; but now more than usual. The most prevailing diseases are fevers and dysentery.

Oct. 8th

Dr. E. J. Stevens, having become nearly "worn out" by constant attendance on the sick, has been confined to his house and sick-room for about a week. To day he became nervous and imagined he was dying. He sent for Rev. Mr. Worth to come and pray with him and then he prayed for himself. There were quite a large number of persons in the room at the time; but they thought he was not dying and think he will probably recover.

Oct. 9th

Mr. Samuel Lewis—the old coffin maker, of Kennebunkport, died yesterday aged 81 years. About a year since, Mr. Lewis told me, that he moved to Kennebunkport in 1801, and from a recent examination of records or account books, ascertained, that he had made, since that time, about twenty five hundred coffins, and officiated as undertaker at about two thousand funerals. It is said he has a number of coffins on hand when he dies, and he was laid in a coffin manufactured by his own hands.

Death of Samuel Lewis

Oct. 10th

Pleasant weather. Since October came in, the weather has been warm and pleasant, affording an excellent opportunity to farmers to harvest their corn, potatoes and other vegetables.

Oct. 11th

Sunday. As my wife had not been at the Unitarian church, by her request we attended there this afternoon and heard Rev. Mr. Nichols, of Saco. A larger number attended church at the Unitarian house than at either of the churches in P.M. the village.

Oct. 12th

To ✓ This afternoon I took the 3 o'clock train for the West, and Newbury arrived at my sister's house in Newburyport at 7 o'clock, where I found the family all in good health and good spirits.

Oct. 13th

To ✓ At 8 o'clock this morning I took the cars for Boston, where I arrived 9 1/2 o'clock, at put at the Quiny house as usual.

Oct. 14th

✓ The Boston Banks suspended specie payment yesterday. There was not any excitement in the streets in consequence, that I could perceive. During the last two or three weeks business here has been excessively dull, as I am informed, and this dullness still continues. There is the usual crowd of people in the streets; but wholesale dealers and jobbers are nearly idle; consequently truckmen and hired cartmen have extremely hard times. This state of things is occasioned by the "tightness" in the money market.

Oct. 15th

✓ Prices difference in prices of the same articles, as there is now here nominal, in Boston. In groceries in particular, prices are nominal. Each man appears to be on his own hook, at a price which he can get - that is, if he is hard pressed for money.

Oct. 16th

✓ Prices of provisions. Nearly all kinds of provisions are lower than they were last fall and the prospect now is they will be lower still. There now being here this time pair \$1 a barrel for extra flour and for 2 bbls of very superior 7 1/2 cask; Porto Rico Molasses 29 1/4 cts gall.; crushed Sugar 10 cts pound; Cheese from 8 to 8 1/2 cts lb; common Tea 36 cts; I did not buy any Lard, Pork, Brown Sugar, Coffee or Oil as they have not yet fallen much in price but it is expected they will ^{fall} considerably more in a short time.

Oct. 17th

I left Boston this afternoon at 3 P.M. and arrived at my own home at 7 1/2; finding my small family in health and glad to see me. To me there is a very agreeable feeling in realizing that I have a home in reality, as well as in name.

Oct. 18th

Rev. Francis D. Williams has officiated as pastor at the Congregational church since Mr. Bond went away. There is not so large attendance at church since Mr. Willcox left. I do not think there are more than two thirds, or at the extent three fourths as many.

Oct. 19th

The "Merry & Hoke", Capt. Parks master arrived at the Port last night with the goods which I bought last week in Boston. This is uncommonly fortunate to obtain them so soon by water.

Oct. 20th

There has been a slight snow squall this afternoon being the first snow this season.

Oct. 21st

Since Monday at noon I have been quite busy in receiving and arranging my new goods which have been received at my store all in good condition.

Oct. 22nd

While in Boston I bought at auction ten barrels of Porto Rico Molasses at 31 cents a gallon. By the terms of sale I was entitled to four months credit on the molasses; but wishing to pay for it on delivery, I asked when settling the bill what discount they would make me for cash down; they replied at once six per cent. This offer I accepted. The molasses costing me 29 cents a gallon nett.

Oct. 23

Apples this fall are scarce and consequently high. Common cooking apples are worth 100 cents a bushel and gnarled fruit from 75 cents to \$1.00 a bush and not plenty at these rates.

Oct. 24th

Mr. Nathaniel Wells died this morning aged 84 years. He has been a hard working man all of his days and as far forth as I know an honest man. One of that class of persons who are called by politicians "the bone and muscle" of the land.

Oct. 25th

A north east rain storm commenced this morning with the appearances of being a long storm. The attendance at either of the churches in the village was small. Fires were lighter this morning in all meeting houses in this village.

✓ Home again.

✓ Sunday.

✓ Goods arrived.

✓ First Snow

✓ Goods in store.

✓ 10 Bbls. P. R. Molasses.

✓ Apples scarce and high.

✓ Nathaniel Wells died.

✓ Sunday Storm.

1857.

Oct. 26th

meeting house The Methodist society in this village have deferred building a meeting house for the present. I do not know the ostensible reason; but the real reason doubtless is the great difficulty of obtaining money at the present time. It is said that they will make an other effort next spring.

Oct. 27th

Doctor Stevens On the 8th inst., it was mentioned that Doctor Stevens was quite sick and he supposed himself to be dying. He has now so far recovered as to go out of doors.

Oct. 28th

Storm The north east storm which commenced on the 21st inst., still continues. When the storm commenced the weather was quite moderate, but within the last twenty four hours, it is colder for the time of year and part of the rain now falling is accompanied with sleet.

Oct. 29th

Nathan Dane Jr. was married this afternoon to Miss Caroline L. daughter of Mr. B. S. Goodwin. This is quite a young couple the groom being about 21 years of age, the bride was 16 years of age last June. Rev. Mr. Swan performed the ceremony at the house of the bride's father. The bride and couple have taken the cars this afternoon for Boston, where they expect to spend a few days. This marriage is considered by the relatives of the bride "a good match" for the groom is respectably connected, of good habits and character, and what some consider of more importance than either of the above, is the fact that he is quite rich (left him by his maternal grandfather) - worth about \$110,000. The bride according to my ideas is a pretty and excellent girl in all respects. Although she does not bring any dowry to her husband, I consider she is fully his equal.

Oct. 30th

Tea party There was a picnic tea party at the Town Hall last evening, to which a fee of twenty five cents was charged for admission. The object of the party was to raise funds to pay Lecturers to deliver addresses before a Lyceum the coming winter. It is supposed there were about 250 people present and not one half of the provisions were consumed.

Oct. 31st

Tea party The children had a tea party at the Town Hall last evening and eat the remainder of the pic-nic. I understand there were about 110 present who paid ten cents each for admission. It is said they had a "nice time".

1857

Nov. 1st

No Unitarian meeting this day, Rev. Mr. Swan being absent. The other meetings in the village were consequently more fully attended than usual.

Nov. 2nd

I bought a new stove for my store, the old one which I had in 1831 - when I commenced shop-keeping having become somewhat antiquated and cracked from long use.

Nov. 3rd

Money becomes more and still more hard to be obtained, each week. The banks are under the necessity of refusing to discount more paper than they can well help; because a large proportion of bank bills, after being issued from the bank go immediately to Boston and have to be redeemed by bill of other banks or by specie. Ocean Bank has now only between \$42 and \$43 thousand dollars of its bill in circulation, being a less number than even before since the bank went into operation.

Nov. 4th

It is supposed the coming winter will be remembered a long time by very poor people, as there doubtless will be much suffering, for the necessities of life. It is not supposed there will be a vessel built at the Spaulding or Port during the next six months, and consequently no employ for ship carpenters who are generally poor men. Spoken of all kinds is already difficult to be obtained.

Nov. 1st

The State Election took place in Massachusetts on Tuesday the 3rd inst. The return of the votes is as follows for Governor.

Banks, -	Republican, -	-	-	61,407
Gardner, -	Know Nothing, -	-	-	37,644
Beach, -	Democrat, -	-	-	30,902
Swan, -	Strict Republican, -	-	-	1,110

Mr. Banks having a plurality of 23,763 votes is of course elected.

Nov. 6th

Within a few days Mr. Henry Jordan has commenced to run a milk cart to the village to supply all who wish to buy. He has as many customers as he can supply.

Nov. 7th

Yesterday and to day the weather has been remarkably warm and pleasant. The stores have had their outside doors open to admit the warm air; still the air being damp, a little fire has been necessary.

1857.

Nov. 8th

Rev. Mr. Swan being still absent, there was not any Sunday preaching at the Unitarian church. F. D. Williams officiated as pastor in the pulpit of the Congregational church.

Nov. 9th

✓ About ten days since, a stranger applied at the livery stable, kept by Seth E. Bryant at the Post, for a horse and chaise to go to Biddeford. Bryant let him have a horse and chaise worth about \$250, and since that time has not been able to hear any thing of his horse, chaise or the stranger; although he has extensive inquiries and posted notices offering a reward for them. The loss is great to Bryant; for he is not a man of much property.

Nov. 10th

✓ Since Mr. Porter commenced trading about a year since, there has been a brisk competition between him and B. Perkins who trades in the store formerly occupied by H. Porter Hall. They both keep corn, flour and groceries as their principal articles, and both sell at a small profit. Mr. Porter has probably four or five times the amount of stock in trade; but Mr. Perkins replenishes often and I think sells about as many goods as Mr. Porter.

Nov. 11th

✓ Nathan Dane Jr and wife have commenced house-keeping in part of the house owned and occupied by D. L. Hatch. His clerk - Joseph Dane Jr continues to board at B. D. Goodwin's house - as Nathan's residence is too far from the store to be suitable for keeping a clerk, particularly in the winter time.

Nov. 12th

✓ No snow, which disappeared almost as soon as it came, there has been no snow yet. The ground is not frozen and the travelling for the time of year is not bad.

Nov. 13th

✓ There has been a larger number of deaths this fall than usual. The most recent deaths are, on the 30th ult. Sarah W. wife of Thomas L. Libby, of Portland and daughter of Capt Bradford. Deaths, (both aged 20 years; 6th inst., Mr. James Mitchell aged 73 years; 11th inst. Mr. Amos Maddox, aged 89 years - the oldest man in town, and this day Mrs. Betsey L. wife of Mr. George L. Dresser, aged 38 years.) Mrs. Dresser has been out of health for many years, but I do not know of what complaint.

1857

Nov. 14th

The body of Daniel C. Spora, who died at the Chincha islands last summer, was put in a coffin and the coffin placed in the hold of vessel loading with guano for New York. This vessel arrived at N. Y. a few days. George Spora went for body of his brother, and arrived here with it by the noon train this day. The body was carried directly to the grave yard and interred in the family lot. A few relatives and friends assembled at the grave and a prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Worth, Rev. Mr. Swan being absent.

Nov. 15th

No meeting in the Unitarian church as Rev. Mr. Swan is still absent. Rev. F. D. Williams officiated at Congregational church.

Nov. 16th

✓ Rev. ^{Bryant} John Worth the present pastor of the Baptist church in this village has become a popular man in this vicinity. He is a pleasant agreeable to all and his habits and character are such as to make him respected. He is a fluent speaker and writer but is not considered to be a great preacher but an uncommonly good pastor. The Baptist society under his ministrations are in a prosperous condition.

Nov. 17th

✓ The Congregational society, since Rev. Mr. Willcox ^{left} has been rather languishing. I do not think the average attendance during the last three months has been more than two thirds as many as it was during Mr. Willcox's pastorate while here. The committee to supply the pulpit - W. B. Sewall and Joseph Titcomb, have not, as yet, been able to secure the services of any man, that the church and society are willing to accept, as a settled minister over them.

Nov. 18th

✓ The Methodist society here does not appear to change but little; if there be any change I think it gradually becomes stronger. The present pastor - Rev. Mr. Stinchfield is liked as a preacher and appears to labor hard to advance the society from its present condition - being the smallest and least wealthy in the village.

Nov. 19th

✓ Thanksgiving Day. Union meeting in the Congregational church. Sermon by Rev. Mr. Stinchfield of the Methodist society. I and my wife and my wife's sister Susan Dunnington sat down to our first Thanksgiving dinner in our present relation at our own hired house. We remained at home all day.

Body of

Daniel C. Spora

Sunday

Baptist church

and Society

Cong. church

and Society

Methodist church

and Society

Thanksgiving

Nov. 20th

The present prices for the following articles are now asked. Prices are obtained in this village: Flour from 6,25 to 8,00 a Bbl; of corn 97 to 100 cts Bush.; Olean Pork 12 1/2 to 16 cts lb.; Common Molasses 30 to 33 cts gall; Porto Rico Molasses 40 cts; brown Sugar 9 to 11 cts; now, refined Sugars 12 to 13 cts; Lard 16 to 18 cts.; Butter 22 to 25 cts.; Cheese 9 to 11 cts.; Eggs 1 doz. Turkey 9 to 13 cts.; Geese 12 to 12 1/2 cts.; Chickens 9 to 10 cts; Common Apples 6 1/2 to 7 1/2 cts. Bush.; Grafters Apples 8 1/2 to 12 1/2 Bush.

Nov. 21st

Last night the ground froze so hard, that this morning loaded teams will pass over the roads without cutting through the frozen crust. To day the weather is quite cold, not thawing out of doors, except in sheltered places directly in the "eye of the sun".

Nov. 22nd

A Rev. Mr. Woodwell, from Vermont, preached at the Congregational church this day. He is a married man and about forty years of age. Rev. Mr. Swan has returned, so there has been preaching in each of the churches in the village.

Nov. 23rd

The prospect for business this coming winter is extremely poor. No prospect that there will be any ships, houses or other large jobs to be done for the next six months at least. Consequently many ship-carpenters and other mechanics out of employment. It is supposed there will be much suffering among the poorest class of people (except those supported by the town) before next spring.

Nov. 24th

On the 2nd of Sept. it was mentioned that Calvin Hutchins of H-port, who bought the old homestead here sold out and was going to Kansas. Since that time he has been to Kansas to buy a place before he moved his family; but on his arrival at that fairer territory, he did not like it well enough to move there. He came back, bought some real estate in Boston and this day moved his goods back again to Boston, from which city he moved to Kennebunkport on the 28th of Sept. 1813. I do not know any particulars, but suppose he is not worth so much property as he was when he left Boston for Kennebunkport.

Nov. 25th

Joseph Titcomb who has been confined to his house by sickness nearly all the fall, is far recovered as to be out of doors and attend to his business in the daytime; but he still is careful not to expose himself to dampness or over exertion.

Nov. 26th

Thanksgiving in Massachusetts and nineteen other States of the Union this day. There is no snow here. The air is cold and bracing. The ground is frozen hard.

Nov. 27th

I consider that I was peculiarly fortunate in not being elected Town Clerk and Town Collector this year. Because last March the Legislature of this State, altered the law as it relates to intentions of marriage. The present law requiring that publications be posted in public and conspicuous place for 14 days before a certificate for marriage shall be issued by the Town Clerk. The consequence is more than one half the parties wishing to be married go out of this State get a certificate and are married immediately; consequently the Town Clerks at home do not get any fee. The Town Collectors this year must have it very hard to collect taxes owing to the extreme scarcity of money.

Nov. 28th

On the 26th inst. there was a gathering of about seventy five persons, mostly members of the Baptist society at my brother's house. As the evening was pleasant and the walking good, a larger number attended than was expected.

Nov. 29th

The meetings at the several churches in the village were quite full to day as the weather and walking were suitable.

Nov. 30th

A remarkably large number of wild geese flew southward to day. A larger number than I ever before saw in one day and a greater number than I have seen for many years. Flocks have been in sight nearly all the time this forenoon, but they were not so numerous this afternoon. The weather all day has been rainy with the wind from the South.

Dec. 1st

The weather during the full month has been as a whole, mild and pleasant. There has not fallen here one inch of snow in all, although there has been two or three "flirts". The river is not frozen so hard as to bear boys.

Dec. 2nd

Asa Stevens, this day gave me a winter deer for a lot of lard, with the buildings thereon, situated on the eastern side of Mousum river, near the residence of Capt. Tobias Spora. If he at any time within five years from this date,

Thanksgiving in 20 States.

fortunate in not being chosen Clerk and Collector.

Party at P. Waltons

Sunday

Wild Geese.

Mild Fall.

Bought small House.

pay to me four hundred and seventy five dollars, with
 Bought interest on the same; I am to redeem the property back
 small to him as by agreement and bond to that effect. Mr.
 House Stevens was owing a number of individuals including
 of myself who were anxious for their several debts to be secured.
 am I accordingly took the aforesaid property and settled the demands
 Stevens, of Mrs. Lewis (\$1000) and Henry Topping (\$200) who were anxious
 to have their demands secured.

Dec. 3rd

The winter schools in the village commenced on the
 Winter 30th ult.; with the same teachers as had charge of the school
 30th ult. since last spring— Mr. Ross, Miss Kimball and Miss Worth.
 I have not heard any complaint, but believe each of them
 have heretofore given general satisfaction.

Dec. 4th

Mr. Andrew Emmons of this town, fell while getting
 out of the cars at Portsmouth, N.H. on the 26th ult., and his
 forebrain struck on the door-rail. He was taken up insensible
 by and carried to the house of his son-in-law—Mr. Paul B. Snow,
 accident where he died on the 28th inst. He was 81 years of age.

Dec. 1st

I understand that Robert and Symon Mitchell at the
 depot have had their property attached for debts, within
 Mitchell a few days. It is reported they owe from three to five thousand
 has dollars but I have not heard how much their property they
 property are considered to have on hand to pay their debts. When
 attached their father—Samuel Mitchell died about ^{three} years
 ago, he was supposed to have been worth from 10000 to \$10,000.

Dec. 6th

I went this evening to the vestry of the Unitarian church
 to hear a Mr. Pingree of Portland, lecture on Swedenborgianism
 Mr. or doctrines of the "New Church" as he calls it. The vestry was quite
 Pingree full, but the lecture to me was not interesting. He gave lectures
 at the same place on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Dec. 7th

The scarcity of money has caused and doubtless will cause
 many failures. Mr. Ivory Smith—a farmer at Alvirne, failed
 a few days since. It is reported he owes from thirty to thirty five
 and hundred dollars; a larger sum than his property is supposed to be
 Charles worth. Mr. Charles Wakefield, also a farmer in the Western
 Wakefield part of the town has failed for about \$1500; being more than
 he is supposed to be worth.

Dec. 8th

Robert W. Lord, son of Mr. William Lord, was married this
 afternoon to Mary, daughter of Samuel Mendum. This X
 marriage is an exception to the common rule, that children
 of rich parents generally marry into rich families. Mr. W. Lord
 is as rich as any man in the town, but Mr. Mendum is quite poor.

Dec. 9th

About ten days since, Israel Stone, Robert S. Smith and
 Capt. Joshua Perkins of Kennebunkport, left that town for the
 State of Illinois or Indiana. I understand Mr. Stone has been
 out West and bought a mill of some kind, Mr. Stone and Mr. Perkins
 are to be employed with Mr. Stone, at this mill, but I do not know
 in what capacity. They now expect to move their families next
 spring to this location, wherever it may be.

Dec. 10th

Mr. Henry C. Goodwin, son of the late Ivory Goodwin
 of Kennebunkport, died in Boston yesterday, aged 47 years.
 He served an apprenticeship with James K. Pernich of this town,
 when Mr. Pernich was a printer. He afterwards went to Boston
 and was connected for a number of years with the "Pine Branch"
 publisher in Boston. About ten years since he married a large,
 rich widow in Boston who was at least ten years his senior.
 Since his marriage he has not done any business, the property
 of his wife being ample to support them without labor. They
 have no family and do not keep house. They commonly spent
 their winters in Boston, but in the summer went to any place
 of residence they might choose, or travelled as fancy dictated.

Dec. 11th

On the 8th inst., Mr. Samuel L. Osborn of Wells (formerly
 of this town) being unwell, took an over dose of Morphia
 which occasioned his death in about half an hour. It
 is unknown whether he took so much (enough to kill at
 least four men) purposely or ignorantly. His remains
 were brought to the old Osborn house in this village where
 his funeral was attended this day. His age was 69 years.

Dec. 12th

Mrs. Anna, formerly wife of Grant of this town, Death
 more recently wife of Abiel Hall M.D. of Alfred, died yesterday
 aged 84 years. When Capt. John Low died about twenty five
 years ago, Mrs. Hall, being a widow and sister of Mrs. Low,
 came to live with her sister. She has continued to live in the
 same house, although Mrs. Low has been dead a number of years.

Dec. 13th

Sunday A pleasant day and good traveling, quite full meetings.

Dec. 14th

Capt. George Lord, remarked in the course of his conversation, that if all the vessels and parts of vessels, now owned in this town had been sold four years ago; the amount of sales would have been at least one hundred thousand dollars more than said vessels would bring if sold now, that is after being properly advertised. Such is his opinion of the depreciation of property in vessels.

Dec. 15th

Prices The prices for wood are low this winter. Common dry hewn wood is worth \$4.00 a cord, the best of dry oak wood \$4.50; green hard wood \$3.50; green birch \$2.50; hard pine wood from \$3.25 to \$3.50 all kinds being lower than for a number of years past.

Dec. 16th

O. Walker My brother Palmer Walker, his wife, daughter Susan W. wife, daughter and her two children Howard and Elizabeth took tea at my house. They were all social and appeared to enjoy their visit.

Dec. 17th

Robert W. Lord and wife have returned from their marriage tour and occupy the house owned by his sister Mrs. Sarah Barry. This house is all furnished and has remained unoccupied since Mrs. Barry left, when she went to take care of her mother during her last sickness, two or three years since. After her mother died Mrs. Barry remained with her father as he wished for a housekeeper.

Dec. 18th

E. C. Bourne, delivered the first lecture this season before the Lyceum last evening. His subject was the origin of Lyceum lectures and the benefits to be derived from them. I did not think the lecture was interesting although there were doubtless some parts of it instructive. As the evening was uncommonly dark, there was not a large attendance.

Dec. 19th

Mr. Ivory Smith, or rather his brothers Nathaniel, Ebenezer, Rufus, Samuel and Charles, also his brother in law B. F. Titcomb, have taken (as reported) a deed of the farm in his affairs possession and become responsible for his debts now due, which are said to be now about three thousand dollars; being about five hundred dollars for each.

Dec. 20th

Nothing in particular to distinguish this Sabbath from from others. In the evening I attended meeting at the hall occupied by the Methodist Church and society.

Dec. 21st

At a parish meeting of the Cong. Church and Society, held this afternoon, it was voted to invite Rev. Mr. Wardwell to remain with them for one year, with the understanding if they continue to be pleased with him, he is to remain for a still longer period as their pastor. It was further agreed the committee (Josh. Titcomb, Wm. N. Sewell and Chris. Littlefield) to supply the desk, might offer him seven hundred dollars for his services as a minister, during the ensuing year.

Dec. 22nd

Dr. C. M. Swett, delivered a lecture last evening before the Lyceum on the "Difference between a cultivated and an uncultivated mind." As Dr. Swett has but a common school education, the subject was not considered suitable for him. I think the lecture was mostly taken from some book to me unknown. His pronunciation of many words was not in accordance to dictionaries now extant.

Dec. 23

No sleighing yet and but few flirts of snow. The ground is entirely bare and frozen hard. The weather is not uncommonly cold for this season of the year.

Dec. 24th

Last evening I and my wife went in the cars to Portland where we arrived at about 8 o'clock. We stopped at the house of Dr. Haskell whose wife and mine are sisters. I remained in the city until this afternoon when I returned by the cars where I arrived at 4 1/2 o'clock.

Dec. 21st

Business is quite dull in Portland as elsewhere. An account of the great scarcity of money there have been many failures. The prices of many articles have fallen from twenty to thirty percent within the last six months. When I was in Portland last February I paid 29 cents for Solebutter; yesterday I bought a better article for 19 1/2 cents a pound. Linseed Oil was then worth 87 cents a gallon, now 60. In fact I think \$1000 would buy as many goods and as of good quality as \$600 would have bought one year since. This remark applies to a general assortment of merchandise.

Sunday

✓

Rev.

Mr.

Wardwell

to be

invited

to

remain.

✓

Dr.

Swett

before

the

Lyceum.

✓

No

snow

yet.

✓

At

Portland

✓

Business

in

Portland

fall

in

prices.

1817

Dec. 26th.

✓ The engine company in this village had a "Ball" last evening - Christmas, at Mousam Hall. I understand the Mousam hall was crowded with dancers and spectators, other persons Hall, being present than the firemen and their wives.

Dec. 27th

✓ Rev. Mr. Wardwell did not preach here this day but sent Sunday a young man to supply the desk. He is not a man of much natural abilities but well educated. Rev. Mr. Worth, of the Baptist church, last evening delivered a lecture in his pulpit by on the "Existence of God proved from the works of nature". Rev. Mr. I was present at the lecture and thought it was quite good. Worth. There were a large number present, house nearly full.

Dec. 28th

✓ Henry G. Bell, now of New York, but formerly of this town was united in marriage this day to Susan D. daughter of Capt. William Spooner. This attachment is of long standing, Henry and Susan being old schoolmates. He is married about 21 years of age and this is said to be her 21st birth day. He is said to be a partner in a shoe store in that city but is not supposed to have much property. As her Lord. father is wealthy, it is probable they will have a sufficient amount of property to support them through life, provided they are prudent and industrious.

Dec. 29th

✓ Abigail Emerson, formerly wife of Joseph Thomas Esq., more recently wife of Samuel Emerson M. D. died on the 27th inst. aged 84 years. She was born in Barnstable, Mass., but when quite young went to live with a Judge Davis of Portland. Here she formed an acquaintance with Joseph Thomas who was a student at law in the office of Judge Davis. In due time they were married and settled in this village, where Sketch of Emerson ag. 84 he practiced law until his death in 1834. It is said they lived very unhappily together, not only quarreling in words but sometimes in blows. From 1834 to 1844 she lived alone (being childless) when she was married to old doctor Emerson who was then over 80 years of age. He died in 1851 aged 87. Since that time she has nearly all the time lived alone, and as she was quite feeble became burdensome to her neighbors. About two months since she went to board with Alexander Gurnall, where she doubtless was well cared for. She was buried this afternoon, but no relative by blood follows her remains to her grave.

1817

Dec. 30th.

During the last year, perhaps two years, Mr. Joseph Dave senior has been troubled with a cancer on one side of his face near the ear. Dr. H. G. Clark of Boston has been his principal medical adviser; but the cancer has been more and more troublesome and painful. It has now spread over nearly all of one cheek and destroyed one ear. He has not been in the street during this month, and it is not supposed that he will ever leave his house while living.

Dec. 31st

As I have not been Town clerk, during the past year, I have not kept a record of the marriages and deaths; but think the number of deaths is above the average. Mr. Jenkins remarked to day, that he has made during the last year fifty coffins; but some of the coffins may have been for persons out of town. As the times have been hard, particularly during the last six months; it is probable the number of marriages have not been up to the average. The "good times" and "bad times" always effect the matrimonial market.

1818.

Jan. 1st.

On the night of the 30th ult. about two inches of snow fell here in the village, but the further the storm extended in the country, the greater is the quantity of snow. Yesterday the snow was so damp, wheel carriages only, were used, last night being cold the snow has frozen; so it is good sleighing to day, being the first sleighing this season.

Jan. 2nd

Capt. Daniel Curtis was in my store and says, he is now living at the Port, at least for the present. Since last Thanksgiving he has been boarding with Mr. Seth Storer in the upper part of Kennebunkport. Mr. Storer married a daughter of Jacob Curtis a brother of Capt. Daniel, and lives on the old farm of Jacob Curtis. It is probable Capt. Curtis feels as much at home at his present boarding house as anywhere, and as he is in the 80 year of his age; it is probable he will remain at Mr. Storer's as long as he lives.

Jan. 3rd

Rev. Mr. Wardwell has accepted the invitation of the Congregational Society in this village to supply the desk for one year and has entered on his term. He is generally acceptable but is not considered a great preacher.

X

Joseph
Dave
confirms
with
cancer.

Deaths
and
Marriages
during
the
last
year.

First
Sleighing

Capt.
Daniel
Curtis
goes
to
board
with
Seth
Storer.

Supply
Mr.
Wardwell

1818

Jan. 4th

Taking on of stock in Trade, which I have not done since Jan. 1. 1816. This is a long and minute job which is necessary to be performed, in Trade, but ~~which~~ I am always well pleased when it is accomplished.

Jan 1st

Rev. Mr. Swann delivered a Lecture last evening on the
 "Mythology of the Northmen or the Religion of our heathen
 ancestors". The lecture must have been a result of extensive
 research on the subject; but it was not interesting to a village
 audience before being too far removed from practical life.

Lyceum. I forgot to mention at the time, that a young man visiting here from Belfast, delivered a lecture before the Lyceum on the evening of the 28th ult. His subject was "Young America" and Mr. Webster was said to be a superior lecturer and well delivered. As I was busy at the time, did not attend the lecture.

Jan. 6th

✓ A cold snow storm, being the first snow storm this
Snow winter. The previous fall of snow being only "flurries." The
storm, weather being so uncomfortable out of doors, but very little stirring.

Jan. 7th.

✓ The storm has cleared off (about four inches of snow) but the cold
cold has become more intense. This morning, the mercury in the
Day, thermometer in the village was from 12 to 16 degrees below
zero. The snow being very light the sleighing is not good as the
snow does not prevent the runners coming to the ground.

Jan. 8th

X I understood the late Mrs. Emerson made a Will, although she had but very little property. To Lincoln and Ralph late Emersons, grandsons of her late husband, she gave thirty dollars Mrs. each. To her, Mr. Nichol the Unitarian minister at Saco she gave an old book-case, which he at one time spoke in favor, 'Will'; while visiting her. The residue of her property after paying her debts and funeral charges she gave to the Unitarian Society; but it is not supposed there will be any thing for the Society. She had a silver cup and pitcher, which she gave away before her decease, one to Mrs. Horace Porter the other to Mrs. Sophia Smith.

Jan. 9th

Yestern day over the day seven or team loads of frozen, fresh fish have been hauled from the barge to the Depot, to be sent to Portland and from thence to Montreal.

27日

Jan. 14th.

A fine, pleasant day and excellent sleighing. As a natural consequence quite a large number attended church.

Jan 1th.

A remarkable powerful rain storm all day. In the P.M. the roads were in a very bad state for traveling being "slushy" and slippery. No Lyceum lecture in the evening as a matter of course. No lecturer could have ~~been~~^{called} out a large audience.

Jan. 12th.

Since Ocean Bank has been in operation, many of its bills have been returned to the bank in a mutilated condition. These bills have been retained in the bank until the amount of the bills was sixteen thousand dollars. It was voted in a meeting of the Directors that these ¹⁷⁻⁰⁰ should be examined by a committee and afterwards destroyed. The committee (Thomas, Loom and Nath. Nixon) having performed their duty, the bills were destroyed by fire in the banking room, in a legal manner.

June 13th

Last evening the Methodist society in this village had a donation party in the Town Hall for the benefit of Mr. Stinchfield. A fee of 25 cents was paid for the entrance of each person, and various small articles were sold in the hall. This fee however entitled each person to partake of a "pic nic" supper which was spread on tables in the hall, & understood Seventy Dollars were received for Mr. Stinchfield. He also had what remained of the supper. It is said he will not need any more "cake" during the winter.

June 14th

Within three months an English journal - London Times has coined a new word in our language. Since the telegraphic wires have been in operation, the news which came over the wires were called in the papers, ~~were called~~ usually telegraphic news or reports. As this was rather a bungling way of describing the kind of news, the "Times" has coined the word "Telegram" and it has been adopted in nearly all the papers in this country and probably elsewhere ~~where~~ the English language is spoken.

Jan 11th.

Last evening my sister Curtis, Mrs Mrs. August, my wife
her sisters and myself took tea with ~~Wm~~ Downing and wife.
The company also spent the evening with the exception of myself,
who was at my store about an hour.

Jan. 16th.

Nathan Clifton, formerly of Newfield in this County, now of Porttarn, has been appointed by the President one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. The justices or judges are appointed for life or during good behavior. The annual salary is \$6,000. The U. S. Senate has confirmed the appointment of Mr. Clifton, by a vote of 26 to 23. He has received the news of his confirmation within a few days, and has gone to Washington. Mr. Clifton was sworn into office and took his seat Jan. 21st 1818.

Jan. 17th

A pleasant day as nearly all the Sundays have been during the last six months. As the walking is good a larger number than usual for this time of year attended at their respective churches to hear what each denomination considered the "Gospel".

Mr. Spurgeon, a popular pulpit orator of London, thus defines the gospel in a sermon recently published: "If any man should be in doubt on account of ignorance, let me as plainly as I can state the Gospel. I believe it to be what wrapped up in one word - Substitution. I have always considered with Luther and Calvin, that the sum and substance of the Gospel lies in that word Substitution, Christ to be standing in the stead of man. If I understand the Gospel, it is this: I deserve to be lost and ruined; the only reason why I should not be damned is this, that Christ was punished in my stead, and there is no need to execute sentence twice for sin. Christ took the cup in both his hands and

"At one tremendous draught of love
He drank damnation dry"

Jan. 18th

The Stockholders of the Atlas Insurance Company in this village had their annual meeting on the 16th instant. I understand the affairs of the company are not in a prosperous condition. Since the company has gone into operation, no dividends have been declared, as the state of the company would not permit it. I also understand it was voted not to take any more risks on vessels by the year and it is probable the affairs of the company will be closed at the end of another year.

Jan. 19th

E. W. Lord delivered a lecture last evening before the Lyceum. His subject was "Heroes and Heroisms". I think the lecture was good in all respects; but it appears to me, that a lecture to a village audience, should be on some subject more familiar, to all, in order to interest all.

Jan. 19th.

The following recipe for a composition for preserving boots is now going the rounds in the newspapers.

"Put a pound of tallow and a half pound of resin into a pot on the fire; when melted and mixed, warm the boots and apply the hot stuff with a painters brush, until the sole or upper leather will suck in any more. If it is desired that the boots should immediately take polish, dissolve an ounce of beeswax in an ounce of turpentine, to which add a teaspoonful of lamblack. A day or two after the boots have been treated with the tallow and resin, rub over them the wax in turpentine, but not before the fire. Thus the exterior will have a coat of wax alone, and shine like a mirror. Tallow or any other grease, becomes rancid and rots the stitching as well as the leather; but the resin gives it an antiseptic quality which preserves the whole."

Jan. 20th.

Mr. Benjamin Spittlefield has drawn a plan for the contemplated new Methodist church in this village.

I understand the frame for the house is engaged of Nathaniel Edmona and Abram Bourne of Newburyport, and other steps have been taken for the erection of the house the coming spring and summer.

Jan. 21st.

Business is extremely dull here this winter. No teams in from the country, except a few with cord wood and that meets with dull sale. No ship timber, house-timber, or any kind of lumber is in demand; consequently no sales. I do not recollect of any time since I have been doing business when money was so scarce and business so dull as this winter.

Jan. 22nd.

Rev. Mr. Wardwell has moved his family to this village and commenced housekeeping in the house owned and occupied by Capt. Charles Williams. This house has been vacant since Capt. Williams moved to Framingham.

Jan. 23rd

Since the rain storm on the 11th inst., there has been any snow and but very little ice on the ground in this vicinity. The weather has been remarkably mild for January. The roads have become quite smooth from the passing of teams and carriages.

Recipe
for
preserving
Boots.

Method
church
again.

Business
extremely
dull.

Rev. Mr.
Wardwell
house-
keeping.

Mild
weather,
no
sleighing

1818

Jan. 24th.

Nothing in particular occurred to day in this vicinity Sunday, to distinguish this day from thousands of its predecessors.

Jan. 29th.

The prices for wood are lower this winter than for many years. Dry hard wood is from 3,75 to 4,00 a cord; green hard wood from 3,00 to 3,50; hard pine wood about 3,00; white pine wood and slabs from 2,00 to 2,25; green birch wood from 2,25 to 2,50 a cord. The prices are a little lower than two months since.

Jan. 26th.

Last evening I Andrew Walker, delivered a lecture before the Lyceum on "Some of the natural and artificial distinctions of people in society". The evening being tolerably warm and the walking not bad; there was quite a large number attending, a larger number than I have before seen at a Lyceum lecture this winter. The company present were attentive and appeared to be satisfied with the lecture.

Immediately after I had closed, Capt. Thomas Lown advanced in front of the desk and remarked that there was a colored man present who would like to have the privilege of making a few remarks if the audience would remain in their seats a few minutes. No objection was made, but about half a dozen men left the Town Hall. The negro then went to the desk and spoke about twenty minutes, ending with a negro song. After the audience was dismissed there was some talk as to the propriety of Capt. Lown's introducing by a negro in the manner he did. E. C. Bourne said that he thought it was not proper as Capt. Lown had not been in favor of the Lyceum or contributed any thing for its support. To day Mr. Bourne and Capt. Lown ~~have~~ renewed their discussion with considerable acrimony. The general feeling is, that Capt. Lown did not with propriety introduce the negro to the Lyceum, although they have no objection to any thing that was said or sung by the negro.

Jan. 27th.

The house formerly occupied by the family of John Spow, recently by Mrs. Lown's sister - the late Anna Hall was vacated this day. The furniture of the house was given to Mrs. Hall's son by a previous marriage John Grant of Alfred, who has this day finished moving the furniture to Alfred. This house has been occupied for at least fifty years by what has been the aristocracy to Kennebunk. The Lown family is now extinct.

1818

Jan. 28th.

My wife, her sister Miss Burdington and I took tea and spent the evening with my sister Burtis and family yesterday. To me the company assembled around the table after dinner appeared complete; for during the eight years I boarded in the family I was accustomed to see Mr. Burtis and W. B. Burtis who are now dead. The present family consists of Mrs. Burtis and her three children now advanced to maturity - Abbie, Ann W. and Henry B. Burtis. The females of the family appear to be lovely and consequently not happy.

Jan. 29th.

The Baptist Society had a donation tea-party at the Town Hall last evening. It was conducted in a similar manner, to the party for the benefit of Mr. Stinchfield, held in the same place, on the 13th inst.; but there was a larger number present. I think there were about three hundred people present who appeared to enjoy themselves finely. After all had partaken of the refreshments provided for the occasion, addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Swann, Rev. Mr. Worth, E. C. Bourne, Palmer Walker, and Rev. Mr. Stinchfield closed with a prayer. I do not know the exact amount taken at the party; but understood a little over one hundred dollars.

Jan. 30th.

Yesterday one of the traders of this village came to me and said, that some person had recently been in the habit of entering his store, with a false key as he thinks, and taking some change from the money drawer and small quantities of groceries. Last night, said he, I put in my money drawer a Spanish Quarter of a dollar and an old American quarter of a dollar stamped on the face "Ambrosy J. P. Howe". This morning the money is gone from the drawer, now I wish you to notice if any person offers this marked money to you.

The same evening a young man, whose character has been above reproach, as far forth as I know, offered me in payment for goods, one old enigma of an American quarter of a dollar marked precisely as the trader describes.

As there was no one present I told the young man the circumstances connected with the money; he turned very pale and begged of me not to expose him. In pity to him, his wife and their relatives I did not expose him; but gave him the best advice, of which I was capable.

Jan. 31st.

✓ Another pleasant Sabbath, as nearly all of the Sabbaths have been during the last three months. In the evening I attended meeting at Washington Hall. My principal object in going to the Hall, is to hear the congregation sing, what hymns, some persons call "Pennyroyal hymns".

Feb. 1st.

Mild weather during the past month has been uncommon. There has not been more than six inches of snow this winter and but little sleighing, for rains have followed soon after the snow. The ground is now bare, but the wheeling is not good as the roads are "hubbly".

Feb. 2nd.

E. C. ✓ Edward C. Bourne Jr., delivered a lecture last evening before the Lyceum on "The city of Paris". He gave a brief sketch of the city and what he saw in it, during a short visit which he made to France a few years since.

Feb. 3rd.

X A few years ago, Mr. Ezekiel Wornwood and wife of this town, went to live with the Shaker Community in Alfred. It is said he did not enter in full communion with them, as he retained his property in his own hands. Still he dresses in the style of the Shakers and uses "yea" and "nay" as freely as the most strict of the sect. As he was a shrewd man, he has been employed most of the time as a salesman for their goods and buyers of such goods as they needed, which were not produced by themselves. His wife died about two years since and he died on the 24th ult., aged 72 years. They were buried in the Shaker grave yard of the Community. Mr. and Mrs. Wornwood have changed their religious views many times during their life; as they were of that class of persons who are blown about by every wind of doctrine.

Feb. 4th.

X Night before last there was about four inches of snow fell. Yesterday morning the snow storm turned into a rain storm, making the travelling "sloshy" and disagreeable. This morning the the half melted snow has become frozen; so that, the sleighs and sleds are again put in requisition.

Feb. 5th.

Samuel ✓ On the 31st ult., Mr. Samuel Littlefield Jr. aged 39, was married to Miss Laura Ann Fisher aged 17. both natives of this town. He has carried her to his home, where his father, mother and two maiden sisters dwell.

Feb. 6th.

Last evening there was an exhibition by the pupils in the "Academy Hall", under the direction of their teachers Mr. J. B. Nease. The exhibition consisted of dialogues and tableaux. The object of the exhibition was to obtain funds with which to procure apparatus for the use of the school. The tickets for admission were 25 cents, each.

I did not attend but understood the hall was crowded and the pupils performed well their parts. I have not heard how much money was received for tickets.

Feb. 7th.

There was not any meeting at the Baptist Church, as the Father of Rev. Mr. Worth - Mr. Edmund Worth died at his house yesterday, aged 83 years. This old gentleman and his wife have lived with their son Edmund (Rev. Mr. Worth) for a number of years. He formerly resided in West Newbury Mass. and his remains will tomorrow be carried there for interment.

Feb. 8th.

Mr. Jesse Tuglon, who has lived in this village for a number of years as a truckman, has recently bought a farm in Bridgton and this day moved his goods away from here. His family will probably leave tomorrow morning.

Feb. 9th.

E. C. ✓ Bourne, delivered a second lecture before the Lyceum last evening. His subject was, contrasting old times with the present times, particularly as far as this town was concerned. (That portion of the lecture on old times was mostly extracts from the County Records.) There was not a large number present. X

Feb. 10th.

The young man mentioned by me on the 30th ult. did not follow my advice. On the night of 8th inst., he with a false key entered the store of Samuel Clark and was caught in the store by Mr. Clark and a number of others, who came to assist him. The young man - J. D. was putting up, coffee, tea &c for his family's use. He was naturally frightened; but after Mr. Clark had talked with him some time, he released him and understood will not prosecute him. It is said that J. D. owns that he has been in the store a number of times and that he has also by false keys been in the stores of John Bobb and John Cousens, a number of times. It is supposed if he will repent and "sin no more", no action will be taken against him.

✓ Exhibition by pupils at Town Hall.

✓ Sunday Death of Mr. Worth's Father.

✓ Jesse Tuglon moved away.

✓ E. C. Bourne's second lecture.

X J. D. proved to be a thief.

Feb. 11th.

Yesterday it commenced raining and this morning the storm has cleared away, leaving about six inches of snow on the ground. To day the weather has been quite clear; as clear I think as any day this winter. In addition to the clear there has been a high wind, making it very uncomfortable. There is now snow enough to make excellent sledding.

Feb. 12th.

The Methodist church and society in this village have commenced operations on their contemplated meeting house this week. William Sow at the Landing is master workman. Joiners are now at work in the old Digton preparing materials for the house, church.

Feb. 13th.

News was received within a few days of the loss of the ship "Equity", mostly owned in this village. This vessel was insured for \$18,000, of which \$4,000 was in the Atlas Insurance Office. The owners of the vessel consider she is sold well; for she was old (built in 1847) and in the present depressed condition of vessels, it is not supposed she would have sold at auction for more than \$8,000; but it is not supposed the owners would have taken that sum for her.

Feb. 14th.

A cold and uncomfortable day for people to attend Sunday church; consequently not a large attendance. There was a contribution in the Congregational church this afternoon for means & lights, to purchase more and lights.

Feb. 15th.

I understand that Joseph Titcomb, is to have a ship built at the Landing this spring and summer. This is good news to be for many ship-carpenters in this vicinity who are generally built for men, dependant on ship-building for support. Mr. J. at has on hand quite a large quantity of Southern ship-timber Landing which has been in dock at the Port for a number of years. Teams are now employed in hauling this timber to the Landing.

Feb. 16th.

Rev. Mr. Packard - a Congregational minister of Biddeford delivered a lecture last evening before the Lyceum on "Oliver Cromwell". He thinks the moral greatness of Cromwell becomes more and more evident as time passes away.

Feb. 17th.

January 1st 1811, I commenced, writing my Diary, when and have continued the diary until the present time. How much longer I shall continue depends on circumstances.

Andrew Walker.

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