

City Chronology

COMPRISING EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF KEENE FROM 1874 TO 1904.

BY FRANK H. WHITCOMB.

(The events are separated by leaders (.....). Dates by months and days are given wherever practicable, and apply only to the events with which they appear.)

1874.

March 10, city government adopted; May 5, city government organized; Horatio Colony, first mayor.....Keene Public Library established.Invalids' Home incorporated.....New Baptist church built.....Voting population: Ward 1, 440; ward 2, 254; ward 3, 414; ward 4, 298; ward 5, 294.....June 13, death of Henry C. Handerson, postmaster..... Patent issued to Francis A. Perry, master mechanic of Cheshire Railroad Company, for an improved spark-arrester and consumer for locomotives and portable engines.....Gratuity of \$160,000 voted to the Manchester & Keene Railroad Corporation.....Aug. 16, murder of Allen A. Craig..... Sept. 5, Mrs. Lydia M. Handerson appointed postmaster.....Cheshire Chair Company, which commenced business in January, 1869, and removed to the Hope mills (now Beaver mills) in 1872, enlarged its plant and established a branch store in Philadelphia, Penn.....Mechanical fire alarm attached to bell in city hall building at an expense of \$100.

1875.

Horatio Colony, mayor.....Keene Humane Society organized..... Citizens National bank established.....Jan. 3, Kendall C. Scott, formerly editor of the Peterboro Transcript, died.....Keene Public Library formally surrendered to the city Feb. 2, and first books issued July 10.....February, big load of four-foot wood photographed by J. A. French, eleven and one-fourth cords.....March 2, brilliant meteor observed at 11.30 o'clock p. m.April 12, J. S. Taft & Co.'s pottery, Water street, destroyed by fire..... May 1, death of Thomas M. Edwards, lawyer and ex-congressman, aged seventy-nine years, four months.....May 11, \$50,000 appropriated by Union school district for a new high school building.....May 20, new Baptist church dedicated.....July 3, grounds of the Keene Driving Park Association opened to the public.....June 5, a five years old son of Frank Harmon fatally burned in the Bouvier house on Howard street; Peter Bouvier's son, aged four years, died the day following, the children having set the fire with matches.....June 14, eight freight cars loaded with

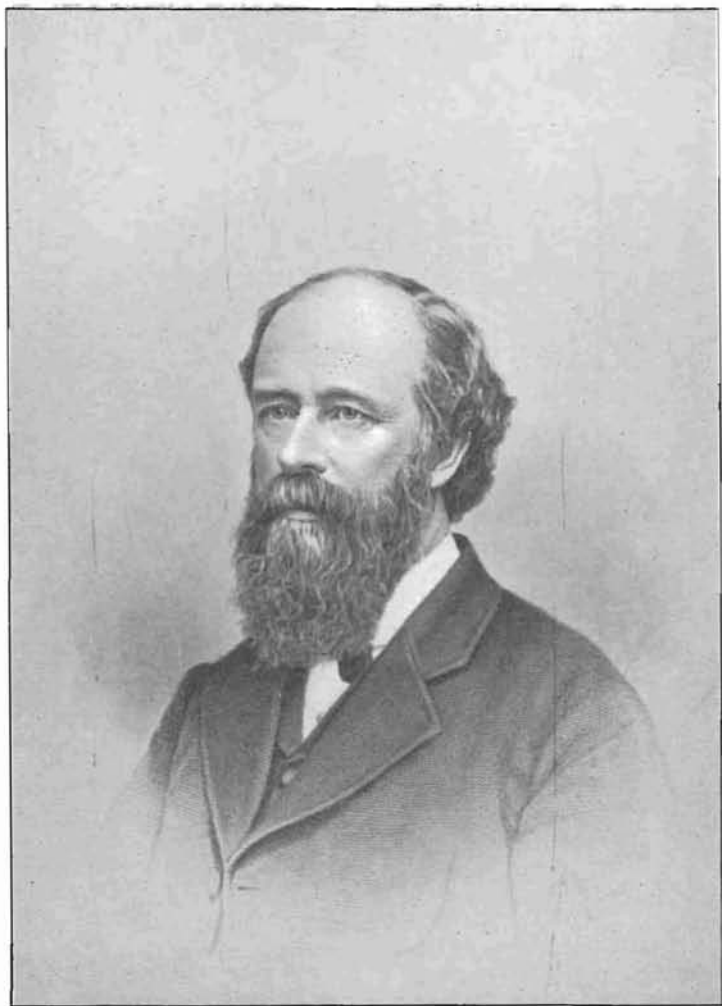
corn came into Keene from Troy, eleven miles in fourteen minutes, an engine caught the cars beyond the Cheshire tannery on grade.....June 20, high school kept in city hall; work of demolishing the old academy building commenced.....Citizens National bank commenced business Nov. 1.....Nov. 20, Woodbury's furniture shop on Beaver brook and adjoining shop destroyed by fire.....Nov. 21, Sally Ann Parker, widow of Elijah Parker, died in her ninety-fourth year, the oldest person but one in town; she was a daughter of Parson Hall and the last of a once distinguished family in this part of the state.....Dec. 16, death of Lydia M. Handerson; Thomas E. Hatch appointed acting postmaster.....Dec. 27, fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the church connected with the Keene Congregational Society (Unitarian.)

1876.

Edward Farrar, mayor.....March 16, twenty-fifth anniversary of the institution of Beaver Brook Lodge, I. O. O. F.; new hall in Ball's block dedicated.....April 19, death of Samuel Woodward, aged seventy-three.....May 10, death of William P. Wheeler in Brooklyn, N. Y., aged sixty-three.....Asa Smith appointed postmaster.....May 23, death of Charles Lamson, aged seventy-seven.....May 24, mysterious death of Alvin C. Foster.....May 31, Frank H. Starkweather, city clerk, died, aged twenty-six years.....June 18, Templar burial service read at the Second Congregational church over remains of John A. Duren, aged forty-four years.....July 3, Charles, son of Nelson N. Sawyer, fatally injured while firing a cannon at Holyoke, Mass.....July 4, celebration of the 100th anniversary of American independence, Rev. William Orne White, orator of the day.....July 22, death of ex-Gov. William Haile, aged sixty-nine.....July 28, John O. Smith, fireman on the Cheshire railroad, instantly killed at the bridge over the Ashuelot river, west of Keene station.....Aug. 14, police force strengthened by organizing fifty returned soldiers for special service, to prevent Manchester & Keene railroad riot.....Sept. 4, fiftieth anniversary reception tendered to Capt. Samuel Towne and wife at Second Congregational church.....Oct. 1, Rev. William O. White, for twenty-five years pastor of the Keene Congregational (Unitarian) Society, granted a leave of absence for a European tour.....Woodland cemetery enlarged.....Dec. 4, new high school building dedicated; James Powell, principal.....Memorial window placed in St. James' church in memory of the late Hon. William P. Wheeler, LL. D.

1877.

Edward Farrar, mayor.....Feb. 26, death of Miss Julia Hall, in Boston.....March 19, in Chicago, Ill., death of Lucian Tilton, chief engineer in the construction of the Cheshire railroad.....Patent granted to John A. Wright for impervious oil cabinet.....March 28, Dorcas Balch, aged seventy-eight years, fatally burned.....Franklin W. Hooper elected principal of high school.....April 23, death of Lewis Campbell, aged seventy-five years, formerly register of deeds.....May, death of George W. Perry, formerly master mechanic of the Cheshire railroad.....Keene



CHARLES S. FAULKNER.

Public Library removed from Colony's block to Warren's block.....May, Blake & Mason published a city directory.....June 6, a seven years old son of John Dee drowned in the Ashuelot river.....July 6, Henry Ames and Henry Lawler killed while preparing to move the Dr. Twitchell house on Main street.....July, Lamson block erected.....Aug. 27, formation of Keene Light Guard decided upon.....November, iron bridge over the Ashuelot river on Island street constructed.....Thursday, Nov. 22, St. James' church consecrated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Niles.....Dec. 3, monarch elm on James Donnelly's premises felled; height, eighty-five feet; girth one foot from the ground, twenty and one-half feet; twenty-eight feet from ground 190 grains or yearly growths were counted.

1878.

Reuben Stewart, mayor.....Jan. 7, Unity Lodge, No. 40, I. O. O. F. instituted.....Jan. 4, Taft's pottery destroyed by fire.....April 1, Keene High School Alumni Association formed.....April 17, Keene Light Guard battalion organized.....Population, ward 1, 1,592; ward 2, 991; ward 3, 1,473; ward 4, 1,133; ward 5, 1,299; total 6,488.....May 2, Warren J. Mason killed in the passenger depot by being knocked off a freight train by the arch.....July 22, Louis Carpenter drowned in Beaver brook reservoir.....Nov. 3, Rev. William O. White resigned pastorate of twenty-seven years and preached his farewell sermon.....Dec. 1, last spike of the Manchester & Keene railroad driven by Hon. Samuel W. Hale.....Dec. 2, first passenger car passed over Manchester & Keene railroad.....J. B. Elliot & Sons built a mowing machine factory at South Keene.....Feb. 13, thirtieth anniversary of Deluge Engine Company held at city hall.

1879.

Reuben Stewart, mayor.....Feb. 6, death of George W. Tilden, aged fifty-nine, and Joseph R. Beal elected cashier of the Keene National bank.....Eugene C. Ramsdell resigned leadership of Keene Brass band and Theodore Allen appointed leader.....March 11, women have the first opportunity to vote in school district affairs; Mrs. Abby Bickford elected a member of the board of education.....March 18, Samuel Ham, who was run over by a Connecticut River railroad train, died.....May, Greenlawn Cemetery Company organized; Caleb T. Buffum, president.....May 22, death of Hon. Francis A. Faulkner, aged fifty-four years.....June 27, Taft's pottery warehouse on Main street struck by lightning and destroyed by fire, loss \$20,000.....Bell telephones placed in business and private houses.....Street letter boxes erected.....July 28, Hon. Charles S. Faulkner died, aged sixty years.....Sept. 15, Michael Foley, aged nine years, killed on Cheshire tracks near the freight depot.....Prescott, the artist, painted a portrait of Gov. Samuel Dinsmoor for the state of New Hampshire and a portrait of Gen. James Wilson for citizens of Keene to be placed in the city hall. The latter was presented Nov. 13, at city hall, by Gen. S. G. Griffin for the donors, and Gen. Wilson responded.....Mechanical fire alarm striker attached to bell on city hall.

1880.

Horatio Kimball, mayor.....John H. Donovan, while operating a Cheshire railroad snowplow, on Jan. 1, was killed by a blow on the head.Jan. 27, death of Dauphin W. Buckminster, register of probate since 1871.....Feb. 2, death of Mrs. Eleanor McCrae, nearly ninety-four years of age and the oldest person in the city; her husband, a veteran of the war of 1812, died three years before, aged ninety.....February, Henry O. Coolidge appointed register of probate.....Keene Commandery, No. 90, U. O. G. C., organized.....Feb. 13, John Sedgwick Post, No. 4, G. A. R., revived; Col. John W. Babbitt, commander; post first organized Feb. 3, 1868, dormant since Sept. 5, 1872.....Hale & Sturtevant manufactured from 250 to 300 suits of furniture per week at Ashuelot mills.....Keene Brass band uniformed as the Second Regiment band by the state..... March, Josiah Parsons Cooke died in Boston; he was son of Noah Cooke, who died at his house on West street in 1829 at the age of eighty years, and brother of Noah R. Cooke, who died at the old homestead on West street, in 1872.....March 11, death of Dea. Elisha Rand, aged eighty-five years, a native of Hopkinton, Mass., but nearly a life long resident of Keene, one of the founders of the Second Congregational church and society.....March 24, Clarke's block destroyed by fire..... March 25, paint shop of Keene Chair Company at South Keene, destroyed by fire.....March 26, the First Congregational society gave a supper to the firemen, as a thank offering and in appreciation of the gallant services rendered by the fire department on Wednesday night, March 24.....April 29, one of the familiar landmarks of West street, "the old Cooke house," opposite the head of School street, taken down.May 7, Madam Elliot, widow of John Elliot, died in the ninety-fourth year of her age, at the house on Main street where she had lived for sixty-five years.....May 20, Frank M. Chapin ordained to the ministry as a missionary to North China, in the Second Congregational church.....City councils passed a new fire precinct ordinance.....In May, Gideon E. Lee, Fred W. Dodge and George R. Spencer were tried for murder of Alvin C. Foster and acquitted. A negro named Hamilton had previously been arrested for the crime but was not tried.....May 28, Stephen Preston Ruggles, the well known inventor, died at Lisbon and his remains were brought to Keene for burial; he invented the Ruggles printing press, the first of machine presses, and the raised alphabet for the blind; was a writer on the subject of mechanical education.....June 2, stockholders of Cheshire railroad voted to accept lease of the Monadnock road agreed upon by the directors.....Population, Ward 1, 1,732; ward 2, 1,091; ward 3, 1,479; ward 4, 1,165; ward 5, 1,322; total, 6,789; increase since 1870 of 818. (Population since the first census was taken: 1775, 756; 1790, 1,314; 1800, 1,645; 1810, 1,646; 1820, 1,895; 1830, 2,374; 1840, 2,611; 1850, 3,392; 1860, 4,320; 1870, 5,971; 1880, 6,789; 1890, 7,446; 1900, 9,165).....July 1, new council rooms completed in city hall building.....July 26, M. A. Bailey, of Middletown, Conn., elected principal of the high school.....Aug. 12, Deluge engine house removed from St. James street to Vernon street lot.....City hall remodeled, stage

and gallery added.....Aug. 25, death of William P. Abbott, aged sixty-nine years.....September, J. H. Stillman & Co. commenced the manufacture of misses' and ladies' boots and shoes in the Ashuelot shoe factory on Leverett street.....September, Manchester & Keene railroad finished.....Nov. 9, Hope steam mills property sold to Barrett Ripley for \$50,000.....Nov. 5, there lay dead in Keene four old people, Mr. Ashley Mason, Mr. Carlton Parker, Mr. Louis Howe and Mrs. Louisa Holman, each leaving a partner in life and all of them having celebrated their golden weddings.....November, Clarke's brick block completed.....November 22, death of Elijah Holbrook, aged seventy-two years, formerly proprietor of the Cheshire House.....December, Burdett chair factory built."Liberty Hall" opened in Clarke's block, Dec. 28, by K. L. G. battalion.

1881.

Ira W. Russell, mayor.....Jan. 2, Nelson A. Bartlett killed near the "Gulf bridge," aged twenty-six years.....Jan. 6, Mrs. Lizzie M. Converse elected librarian of the Keene Public Library.....Jan. 13, the new city hall opened to the public.....Beaver mills incorporated.....Ashuelot shoe factory, Leverett street, totally destroyed by fire on the evening of Feb. 22; \$1000 reward offered by the New Hampshire Fire Underwriters' Association for the conviction of the incendiary.....April, Keene Public Library removed to the north store in the city hall building.....J. Mason Reed removed his box factory business from Westport to Beaver mills..... May 29, Gen. James Wilson died, aged eighty-four years.....June 22, settees placed in Central park.....John J. Allen, Jr., appointed special justice of the police court.....Buckley H. Stone, a pensioner of the war of 1812, died June 24, aged eighty-four years.....July, High School Cadets supplied with guns.....July 7, license granted J. W. Peck & Co., to erect telephone poles and wires in the streets and highways of the city..... Appropriation made for the purchase of an Amoskeag steam fire engineVulcanized Can Company commenced the manufacture of cans and packages.....Joseph B. Abbott appointed special police justice.....A private hospital opened on Water street, by Drs. Twitchell and Bridgman..... Keene telephone exchange located in Nims' block.....July 21, severe thunder storm, lightning struck A. B. Skinner's house on Roxbury street and water main in street was torn for a distance of six or eight hundred feet.....Sept. 1, old Lamson tannery buildings removed, nearly 100 years old.....Aug. 24, Daniel R. Calef, ticket agent and manager of the Western Union Telegraph office, died, aged forty-four years, and Charles H. Cutter appointed manager of the Western Union office.....Aug. 24, George F. Starkweather died, aged sixty-six years.....September, new exit for city hall constructed.....Sept. 5, dark day, impossible to read at noon without a light.....Cheshire County Telephone Company formed, telephone lines to South Keene and Marlboro completed.....Passenger and postal cars built by the Cheshire Railroad Company in the Keene shops.Keyes' block (built in 1833) enlarged.....Nov. 12, John A. Thayer, jeweller, died, aged sixty-three years.....Charles K. Colony opened the first silo for preserving ensilage constructed hereabouts, Nov. 22, in the

presence of some thirty farmers.....Dec. 1, S. S. Wilkinson & Co. removed their harness business to the new factory in rear of Lamson block.....Mr. C. H. Cutter removed to Lincoln, Neb., and Fred H. Gove took charge of the Western Union Telegraph office.....Keene Gas Light Company erected new works at a cost of \$7,000, changed the method of making gas and reduced the price to \$3.00 a thousand feet.....A large walnut tree cut down near Asa Cole's, having 125 clearly defined rings.....Dec. 8, death of Dr. Thomas B. Kittredge, at the age of seventy-nine years, one of the founders of St. James' parish.....Dec. 16, new schoolhouse on Park avenue dedicated by District No. 10, the bell being a present to the district from John Symonds and a strip of additional land the gift of several gentlemen.

1882.

Ira W. Russell, mayor.....Jan. 8, Rev. J. A. Leach resigned pastorate of Second Congregational church. Had been installed Sept. 16, 1869.....Jan. 17, death of Dr. Ira F. Prouty.....March, City Physician Bridgman vaccinated 550 citizens.....March 21, death of Peter B. Hayward, at the age of sixty-two years.....Vulcanized Can Company removed to brick shop on Mechanic street.....April 7, Henry C. Maxham, a well known Pullman car conductor and son-in-law of Master Mechanic Francis A. Perry, fell from his train and was killed, while nearing Danbury, N. H., aged thirty-five years.....April, W. A. Barrett and L. P. Alden opened a new brick yard in rear of the Robinson place, on Main street.....William W. Towne, for twelve years in Knowlton & Stone's hardware store and later of the firm of Towne & Jackson, died April 23, aged thirty-seven years.....June, Ashuelot mills enlarged and the manufacture of hard wood furniture commenced.....June 17, old building north of Lamson block torn down to be replaced by a three-story brick building for the use of the Keene Five Cents Savings bank and Messrs. Woodbury & Howard.July 22, three Indian skeletons unearthed at H. M. Darling's on upper Court street and taken in charge by the Keene Natural History Society.....Aug. 24, Col. George E. Waring presented plan for system of sewers to cost \$85,000 and it was adopted.....The Victor Wringer Company commenced manufacture of wringers on Mechanic street.....Aug. 21, dwelling house of George M. Gowen on Madison street burned to the ground, his three years old daughter perishing in the flames.....L. W. Holmes resigned the office of city solicitor, to remove to Washington, D. C., and John T. Abbott was chosen to fill the vacancy.....Aug. 28, Wesley L. Kirk, aged seventeen years, drowned while bathing in the Ashuelot river.....Sept. 24, a freshet, highest for fifteen years, submerged Main street near the pottery, Winchester street below the bridge, Surry road, Water, Church, Island, Pearl, Ralston and Emerald streets.....Cheshire railroad constructed a coal dump, the platform storing 4,000 tons.....Sept. 30, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Foster celebrated their golden wedding.....November, execution issued against the city in the Manchester & Keene railroad suit, for \$160,588.30; the city issued bonds at 4% to the amount of \$160,000.....Samuel W. Hale elected governor of New Hampshire.....Dec. 24, death of Horatio A. Nelson, a Montreal millionaire, said to have been born here in 1816.

1883.

Horatio Kimball, mayor.....Jan. 2, the judgment in the Manchester & Keene railroad suit paid, amounting to \$162,809.76.....Jan. 3, death of Nelson Morse in his seventy-third year.....Jan. 14, Calista, widow of Hon. Henry Coolidge, died in her ninety-second year.....March 30, Woodbury's principal mill and machinery destroyed by fire and work of rebuilding commenced.....May, connections made with the new Waring sewer.....Bell placed in tower of Second Congregational church.....June 4, Dea. John Clark died at the age of eighty-two years.....Pargetized Can Company and the Vulcanized Can Company formed the Impervious Package Company.....June 23, John J. Allen, register of deeds, resigned after a twenty years' term of service and Charles C. Buffum was appointed to the office.....J. S. Taft & Co. put in a new kiln for finishing decorated pottery and placed Wallace L. King, the artist, in charge of this department.....Sept. 13, Misses Laura B. and Kate L. Tilden opened a school for young ladies, at their home on West street.....Aug. 20, Cheshire House block on Roxbury street destroyed by fire.....Aug. 25, Amoskeag steamer, No. 1, given its first trial on Central square; cost of engine, \$3,626.27.....Aug. 23, an independent steamer company organized, the members to serve without pay.....Aug. 18, death of Salmon Wright, formerly for many years steward of the Eagle Hotel, aged seventy-three years.....Sept. 11, Waring sewer system completed and accepted by the city.....Oct. 5, death of John E. Colony, aged fifty-two years.....Cheshire House three-story brick block built.....Nov. 18, seventy-fifth meridian time adopted and regulators changed to the new standard, about sixteen minutes slower than the previous Boston time.....Sale of railroad bonds, \$162,416; sewerage bonds, \$71,617; cost of sewers to date, \$80,000.Keene Guaranty Savings bank established.

1884.

Horatio Kimball, mayor.....Jan. 1, Cheshire County Telephone Company passed into the hands of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company; A. M. Nims, local manager.....Feb. 23, Ashuelot mills burned, loss \$75,000.....March 24, death of John J. Holbrook, aged thirty-nine years.....April 27, death of Theodore J. French, for seventeen years a merchant in Keene.....May, old Cheshire county jail (erected in 1833) torn down; glass factory lot purchased and contract made for building new jail with Foster Brothers for about \$25,000.....June 9, death of Seloman Edwards, caused by falling from a derrick at the Humphrey machine shop.....June 16, a large elm tree on the Page place, Washington street, an old landmark for more than a hundred years, cut down.....June 20, death of John J. Allen, Jr., editor of the Sentinel 1853-4, aged sixty-six years.....July 9, the "old town brook" discontinued as a public sewer and 150 property owners ordered to connect with the sewerage system.....July 18, death of Henry Colony, aged sixty-one years.Aug. 7, Shaw Brothers shoe business and factory to be erected exempted from taxation for a term of years; Keene Improvement Company formed; capital stock \$15,000; new shoe factory built by Foster

Brothers for \$12,500, on Dunbar street.....Sept. 7, death of Charles C. Webster, the oldest member of the Cheshire county bar, aged seventy-four years.....November, G. H. Tilden & Co. manufactured shoe boxes for use at the new shoe factory; the old Twitchell house used for the purpose.....Dec. 18, death of Dea. Simeon Ballou, aged seventy-three years.Dec. 26, death of Annie J. Brown, aged sixteen years, at Ingalls railroad crossing on West street.

1885.

Alfred T. Batchelder, mayor.....Charles H. Hersey first elected city auditor.....Jan. 21, new jail completed, Jonas C. Rice, jailor.....February, steamer house finished and accepted by the city.....Feb. 10, death of George Kingsbury, aged sixty-six years.....City fireproof vault built.....March 4, death of Dr. Algernon S. Carpenter, aged seventy years.....March 28, death of John Symonds, aged sixty-eight years, his bequest to the city estimated at from thirty to forty thousand dollars.....March 21, the Cheshire Tanning Company organized, capital stock \$100,000.....Nov. 16, district fire alarm telegraph adopted.....May 3, death of Councilman Charles R. Nims, aged thirty-three years.....Keene National bank building raised and rooms fitted up for the telephone exchange.....May 18, death of Edwin G. Metcalf, aged eighty years.....June 8, schoolhouse lot on Elliot street purchased for \$2,000 and Main street lot sold; \$8,000 appropriated for construction of Elliot school building.....June 14, death of Albert Kingsbury, aged seventy-three years.....July 15, Cheshire locomotives all changed to coal burners.....July 20, Barnum's elephant Albert shot by the Keene Light Guard battalion on the banks of the Ashuelot.....August, 1,450 feet of 12-inch tile drain pipe laid from the tannery district to Ashuelot river at an expense of \$1,400.....Aug. 22, Main street schoolhouse demolished in widening Appian way; damages paid by the city to Union school district amounting to \$1,300.....Ashuelot Railroad Company built an engine house on Main street.....Sept. 7, death of David Woodward, aged eighty-six years.....Monadnock Agricultural works manufactured disc harrows, and other agricultural implements near the driving park on Main street.....Oct. 9, Wheeler & Faulkner's law office building on Roxbury street taken down; Cheshire Provident Institution enlarged its brick block on the east side for a larger postoffice.....Samuel Wadsworth made a circuit-breaking clock to strike the bells upon the new Stevens fire alarm system, the system comprising four miles of wire, five alarm boxes, etc., cost \$600; Frank G. Pratt appointed superintendent of fire alarm telegraph.....Nov. 8, death of Francis E. Newcomb, aged sixty-five years.....Nov. 12, Keene Horse Thief Detecting Society formed.....Dec. 17, death of Benjamin D. Hutchins, aged sixty-five years.....Storm signals displayed by the telephone company.....Dec. 31, death of Councilman Harrison R. Ward, aged forty-nine years, the second member of the city government to die while holding office.

1886.

Alfred T. Batchelder, mayor.....Jan. 10, Baptist church debt paid and appropriate services held.....Feb. 2, Dea. Daniel Darling and wife

celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....March, board of education prepared check list for use at school district meeting, the voters in Union district numbering about 4,000 names.....By the will of Susan F. Eastburn the city of Keene was left a bequest of \$300, in trust for the poor; Mrs. Eastburn was the youngest daughter of David Simmons and a native of Keene; her brother David had also left the city \$1,000 in trust for the poor and infirm.....New Keene Light Guard armory dedicated, the citizens donating \$820.....March 4, committee appointed to investigate sources of water supply.....First Congregational society purchased the D. C. Howard place on Marlboro street for a parsonage.....March 17, death of Lewis Lane, aged seventy-two years.Ashuelot National bank block remodeled and a third story added..... March 29, first school meeting of new town district held at West Keene schoolhouse.....Cheshire National bank building remodeled.....April 1, Cheshire County fair grounds conveyed to the city by George A. Wheelock for a public park.....April 6, severe gale of wind lasting nearly all day; roofs of two shops at Beaver mills and roof of Nims, Whitney & Co.'s engine house blown off; John Humphrey's barn twisted upon its foundations; large elm blown over.....Daniel Coffey fell from the Island street bridge and was drowned, April 13.....Electric fire alarm striker bought for city hall bell.....Keene Manufacturing Company commenced to make skates in the South Keene shops.....May, North Lincoln street laid out to prevent team work being carried on through the cemetery.....Elliot school building erected.....Keene Bicycle Club established.June, postoffice opened to the public on Sundays.....June 3, concrete sidewalks ordered on east side of Court street and on the north side of West street, the first laid by the city.....June 11, Rural Improvement Society organized.....Woodward pond, area 108 acres, purchased for an additional water supply; octagon reservoir on Beech hill constructed; more land secured around Woodward pond.....Concrete walk ordered on the east side of Main street.....June 17, license granted to the Thompson-Houston Electric Company to put up poles and wires for electric lighting.June 19, Jailer Rice resigned; Charles A. Chapin appointed to fill the vacancy.....Aug. 14, death of Jonathan Parker, aged seventy-three years.Aug. 18, death of City Clerk Samuel Nims, aged forty-eight years.Aug. 19, electric lights of the open arc pattern installed in Tilden & Co.'s, Whitcombs', Mason & Wheeler's, Bullard & Foster's, C. N. Chandler & Co.'s, Fisher & Jackson's and the Cheshire House.....Aug. 28, first electric street light installed on Roxbury street beyond the postoffice.Aug. 30, parochial school opened with about 300 scholars.....September, Miss Mary B. Dinsmoor purchased the belt of wood and timber land adjoining Maple avenue to be preserved for the use of the public.Sept. 10, Milton Blake assumed the office of city clerk.....Sept. 13, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cross celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....Oct. 7, George H. Tilden presented a portrait of David Simmons to the city, which was hung in city hall.....I. J. Dunn erected a chair factory; the city exempted it from taxation for a term of ten years and the citizens made up a gratuity of \$500 to secure the establishing

of the plant.....Oct. 26, death of Alvah E. Metcalf, aged seventy-two.
St. James' parish purchased the Calef house on Court street for a
 rectory.....Nov. 1, Ormond E. Colony assumed the duties of postmaster.
Nov. 3, death of David Seward, aged seventy years.....Nov. 3, Mr.
 and Mrs. Dauphin W. Wilson celebrated their golden wedding.....Keene
 Gas Light Company purchased the Thompson-Houston electric lighting
 apparatus and furnished street and commercial lights; a new boiler
 house and building erected at the gas works for an electric light
 station.

1887.

Asa Smith, mayor.....March 20, death of Clark N. Chandler, aged
 forty years.....Dunn & Salisbury's chair factory and Elliot school building
 completed.....Roaring brook water shut off and repairs made; it took
 thirty-eight minutes for water to come from the upper reservoir to the
 Beech hill reservoir, a distance of 15,000 feet.....June 18, death of Farnum
 F. Lane, aged seventy-one years.....July 8, death of Dea. Isaac Rand,
 aged seventy-six years.....July 9, death of Marvin T. Tottingham, aged
 sixty-two years.....July 27, Samuel A. Gerould celebrated his ninety-fourth
 anniversary; he was six years old at the death of Washington and had
 seen the administration of every president of the United States, the first
 railroad, steamboat, cotton gin, spinning jenny, telegraph, telephone and
 electric light.....August, a large elm tree near the Episcopal church pol-
 larded to save its life, the top being dead.....New street numbers attached
 to buildings by Engineer Wadsworth at an expense of about \$400.....
 Aug. 29, death of Joseph H. Wellington, aged sixty-one years.....Storm
 water sewer from the Square through Roxbury street to Beaver brook
 constructed at an expense of \$2,830.....Col. Cyrus Frost, aged ninety
 years, passed away, the last survivor of those who were present at the
 establishment of Social Friends Lodge, in 1825, by Gen. James Wilson.
Sept. 20, death of Lanmon Nims, aged seventy-six years.....Sept. 21,
 death of Samuel Allen Gerould, aged ninety-four years.....Sept. 24, death
 of George W. Ball, aged sixty-seven years.....Sept. 29, death of Francis
 French, aged sixty-nine years.....Oct. 7, fifty citizens presented to the city
 an oil portrait of the late Dr. Amos Twitchell to be hung in the city hall.
Dec. 10, death of Allen Giffin, aged eighty-five years.

1888.

Asa Smith, mayor.....Jan. 1, postal delivery introduced, with three
 postal carriers, covering a distance of twenty-five miles per day each,
 having twenty-seven hundred names of persons receiving mail; more than
 one-half of the postoffice boxes given up by the public; total pieces
 handled during the month, 36,142.....Jan. 9, death of Cyrus Piper, at
 Northampton, Mass.....Jan. 20, death of Barrett Ripley, aged sixty years.
Jan. 11, Mount Huggins Hotel destroyed by fire.....Feb. 2, Rev. Ed-
 ward A. Renouf presented \$500 as a fireman's relief fund to the city.....
 Feb. 11, death of Hon. Edward Farrar, clerk of court, aged sixty-five
 years.....Keene Board of Trade organized; Alfred T. Batchelder first

president.....Fireman's Relief Association formed, John A. Batchelder, president.....Feb. 28, Lewis W. Holmes appointed clerk of court.....March 2, United Order of Pilgrim Fathers established in Keene; James S. Taft, governor of Monadnock Colony, No. 107.....March 4, death of James B. Elliot, aged seventy-three years.....March 4, Lewis W. Holmes appointed justice of the police court.....Monday, March 12, great blizzard lasting three days; drifts from twelve to fifteen feet high.....March 27, Cheshire Grange, No. 131, organized; Solomon F. Merrill, master.....Over 47,000 pieces of matter handled by the city letter carriers during the month.....April 27, new creamery opened by Curtis G. Britton on his farm.May 21, all hotels closed by the proprietors on account of an attempt to rigidly enforce the liquor laws; accommodations for 150 guests arranged at private houses by the Keene Temperance Union; over 200 transients fed at the restaurants on May 22.....June 1, Daniel H. Sawyer, superintendent of water works and sewers, resigned and Paul F. Babbidge elected to fill the vacancy.....June 7, City park set aside for public use, George A. Wheelock elected first park commissioner.....August, Charles H. Douglass of Suffield, Conn., elected principal of high school.....Aug. 10, death of John A. Draper, aged eighty-four years.....Aug. 11, Samuel Bergeron, a brakeman on the Cheshire railroad, killed near the woodsend on Railroad street, being run over by the tender of an engine.....County commissioners built a pond in the jail lot and connected the same with the city water main.....Aug. 13, hotels reopened.....Aug. 22, two handsome chairs manufactured by L. J. Colony shipped to the White House, for Mrs. Grover Cleveland.....Nov. 3, death of George Tilden, aged eighty-six years.....Cheshire railroad trains equipped with steam heating apparatus,Nov. 6, Abel Blake cast his eighteenth ballot for president, having cast his first vote for James Monroe, in 1847.....Cash registers introduced in the stores.....Charles M. Norwood established his box business at the Beaver mills.....Ellis Brothers erected a model commercial greenhouse at their Winchester street farm.....Dec. 1, death of Edward R. Gilmore, aged sixty-eight years.....New harness manufactory completed for Wilkinson & McGregor, on the Lamson estate.

1889.

Herbert B. Viall, mayor.....Jan. 2, the New Hampshire Sentinel, having, from the day of its first issue in 1799, maintained the most prominent of its original features, changed from the folio to the quarto form.Jan. 19, Faulkner & Colony Manufacturing Company, organized in 1815, incorporated; capital stock \$100,000.....Feb. 27, first overhead cash system in the city installed in W. P. Chamberlain's store.....March 20, Ancient Order of United Workmen established in Keene; George G. Dort, past master workman.....March 11, death of Lieutenant Henry E. Hubbard, aged fifty-three.....March 26, \$15,000 fire at Beaver mills.....New jet pump put in at the mouth of Butler court main sewer.....April 1, Hon. John T. Abbott appointed minister to the republic of Colombia.April 18, George A. Wheelock presented two lots of land, one of twelve acres, to be called the Children's Wood, adjoining City park on

Beech hill, and one of seventeen acres adjoining Wheelock park, to the city of Keene, to be forever kept as forest tracts and a part of said parks.....April 28, Rev. W. H. Eaton, D. D., resigned a pastoral engagement of seventeen years.....April 30, centennial of the inauguration of Washington celebrated at St. James' Episcopal and the Second Congregational churches.....May 8, Greenlawn cemetery conveyed to the city..... May 15, Engineer Wadsworth engaged to survey the principal streets with a view to establishing the grade for the roadway of each street.....June 15, a new daily paper, called the Daily Tribune, Webster P. Huntington, editor and proprietor, made its appearance.....June 20, West Keene cemetery enlarged.....July 12, death of Jehiel Wilson, aged eighty-nine years, the inventor of pail turning.....First granite pavement laid on Roxbury street.....July 15, Frank E. Joy commissioned postmaster at South Keene.....Aug. 5, death of Ephraim Foster, aged eighty-six years.Rev. Charles B. Elder called to the pastorate of the Unitarian church and Rev. Samuel A. Severance to the pastorate of the Baptist church..... Aug. 7, reunion of the Sixth New Hampshire Volunteers.....Aug. 9, death of Horace Hamblet, aged seventy-two years.....Epworth League formed at the Methodist Episcopal church.....Keene Improvement Society commenced extensive grading and planting on the borders of Main street..... Aug. 21, twenty-fifth anniversary of the first service held in St. James' Episcopal church.....September, South Keene postoffice established Sept. 25, John Shaw, 2d, sold the shoe manufacturing business to C. B. Lancaster & Co.....Oct. 3, death of Eugene S. Ellis, aged seventy-nine years.....Oct. 6, Rev. C. B. Elder began his pastorate at the Unitarian church.....Oct. 15, Bethany Mission opened by Mr. F. L. Sprague..... Patent granted to John A. Wright upon his invention for heating water for cattle to drink in cold weather.....Fifty cases of diphtheria reported in October, forty-two of which were in houses not connected with the Waring system of sewers, and of which twelve were fatal.....Nov. 18, Unitarian Club organized, George B. Twitchell, M. D., first president..... Triumph Wringer Company built a shop on Myrtle street.....Clipper Machine Works organized; capital stock \$20,000.....Curtis G. Britton opened a new creamery on Eastern avenue.....Twenty-seven cases of diphtheria reported in November, three of which were fatal.....Dec. 9, frogs peeping in the meadows.....Dec. 13, thirty-second anniversary of the Ladies' Home Circle of the First Congregational church celebrated.

1890.

Herbert B. Viall, mayor.....Jan. 1, New England Observer purchased by and consolidated with the New Hampshire Sentinel.....Free text books furnished for the pupils in the public schools.....Jan. 6, two freight trains collided on the Cheshire railroad, near the Surry summit; Engineer S. W. Slate and Fireman C. W. Gibson instantly killed.....Feb. 8, death of George B. Buffum, aged sixty-one years.....Second steam fire engine purchased.....Ashuelot Railroad Company consolidated with the Connecticut River railroad.....March, Triumph Wringer Company's new manufactory on Myrtle street completed.....Charles Bridgman retired after



RESIDENCE OF GEN. JUSTUS PERRY. IN WHAT IS NOW COOLIDGE PARK.

Residence of Gen. Justus Perry. In what is now Coolidge Park.

an active and successful business career of fifty years, being the oldest merchant in the city, and was succeeded by his son, Charles H. Bridgman.....May 7, Coolidge park and fund presented to the city by Henry O. Coolidge.....June 25, old Buffum building taken down, and old military equipments which belonged to the famous Keene Light Infantry found.Large buttonwood tree on the corner of Main and Winchester streets cut down, ninety years old.....July 9, death of Seth Wadsworth, aged seventy-nine years.....Population by census 7,446, being increase of 657 since 1880.....July 28, death of Rufus Carter, aged eighty years.....July 30, death of Charles Batchelder, aged seventy-five years.....Aug. 11, death of Daniel Buss, aged seventy-five years.....Sept. 8, last issue of the Keene Daily Tribune.....Sept. 17, new macadamizing plant erected above Sullivan street.....Horatian tower erected on Beech hill, by Horace L. Goodnow; altitude 1,084.....Sept. 18, stockholders of the Cheshire Railroad Company voted to ratify agreement for consolidation with the Fitchburg Railroad Company.....All dogs in the city ordered muzzled..... Building erected by the state for a fish hatching station, at City park..... Sept. 29, death of Samuel Woods, aged eighty-three years.....Oct. 1, Cheshire railroad consolidated with the Fitchburg railroad..... Rustic portals erected over the drives into the Ladies' Wildwood park, by Frank F. Field, the artist.....Oct. 3, Abel Blake observed the ninety-fifth anniversary of his birth.....Oct. 6, death of Moses Ellis, aged fifty-seven years.....Oct. 8, Amos A. Parker, of Fitzwilliam, aged ninety-nine that day, called upon his friends in Keene.....Oct. 20, Keene Evening Sentinel established.....Oct. 22, Monadnock Colony, Pilgrim Fathers, entertained Plymouth Colony of Fitchburg, Mass.....Oct. 19, death of Mrs. John Symonds, aged sixty-eight years.....Oct. 29, death of Dea. Daniel Darling, aged eighty-three years.....November, ground broken for the Keene Granite and Terra Cotta factory, on Water street.....Nov. 14, George H. McCurdy died from exposure in Tenant swamp, aged thirty-six.....Nov. 16, death of Col. Nehemiah Hart, aged eighty years.....Nov. 24, death of Milton Blake, 2d, aged sixty-one years.....December, pavilion erected in Wheelock park.....Dec. 2, death of Jason Williams, aged eighty-eight years.....December, Mr. and Mrs. Warren C. Towne celebrated their fiftieth marriage anniversary.....Dec. 19, Fred E. Barrett appointed postmaster.

1891.

Horatio Kimball, mayor.....Jan. 22, seventy-second anniversary of the birth of ex-Mayor Reuben Stewart celebrated, and he was presented with a gold watch.....St. Bernard's Catholic church realized the sum of \$3,000 from a fair.....Incandescent lighting plant installed at the Beaver mills.Jan. 26, death of Joseph Holt, aged sixty-six years.....Feb. 12, citizens wrote congratulatory letters to Rev. William Orne White, on the seventieth anniversary of his birth.....Feb. 22, death of Horatio Justus Perry, at Lisbon, Portugal; born in Keene, Jan. 23, 1824; son of Justus Perry and Mary Edwards.....March 12, death of Charles Bridgman, aged seventy-five years.....March 29, death of Joshua D. Colony, aged eighty-six years.....Store fronts upon the south wing of the Cheshire House extended.

.....April 6, twenty-fifth anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic celebrated; address by Gen. John W. Sturtevant.....April 16, Ladies' Wildwood park accepted by the city.....April 20, death of William Bassett, aged seventy-two years.....April 22, Nims' block removed.....May 20, Lane's brick block commenced.....May 29, earthquake shock felt about 7.00 p. m.....April 26, death of Lewis J. Colony, aged fifty-eight years.June 4, stone crusher started at quarry plant.....June 7, vested choir of St. James' church assisted in the services for the first time.....June 13, first macadam laid, about 1,300 feet on Court street, at an expense of \$4,236, or about \$1.10 per square yard.....June 15, Clipper mowing machine works burned at South Keene; loss \$20,000.....July 15, fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Spalter observed..... C. B. Lancaster Shoe Company organized; capital \$30,000; exemption granted and the easterly portion of Dunbar street discontinued; shoe factory enlarged.....Aug. 10, death of James Boyce, aged sixty-one years.Roxbury street storm water sewer laid at an expense of \$3,000, to Beaver brook.....Aug. 21, death of Sheriff Ralph J. Holt, aged seventy-eight years.....Oct. 16, death of ex-Gov. S. W. Hale, aged sixty-nine years.Read Manufacturing Company made furniture at South Keene.....St. Bernard's Roman Catholic church erected on Main street.....Oct. 21, Beedle's orchestra organized.....Ten miles of iron water pipe laid to replace cement lined pipes and to extend system in fifty-nine streets, at a cost of \$39,494.38.....Dec. 12, death of Chief Engineer Henry H. Haines, at the scene of a fire in Elliot's block, his age being forty-seven years..... D. R. & F. A. Cole began business at their new grist mill in South Keene.Fred B. Pierce & Co. began to manufacture brush handles at the Beaver mills.

1892.

Frederic A. Faulkner, mayor.....Jan. 16, death of Joseph B. Abbott, aged fifty-six years.....Epidemic of grip, a single physician visiting thirty patients in one day.....Jan. 30, death of Ebenezer S. Stearns, run over by an engine near the Fitchburg freight house.....Dan and Earl Hill removed their pail ear manufacturing business from Swanzey to the mill at Willson pond, West Keene.....Feb. 16, new factory of Lancaster Shoe Company dedicated by a dance.....Feb. 26, installation of Rev. A. W. Hand, at the Baptist church.....March 17, death of Dauphin W. Wilson, aged eighty-one years.....March 25, Union school district appropriated \$8,000 for the erection of the Tilden schoolhouse on School street..... Officers of the night watch appeared in uniforms.....March 29, death of Stephen L. Randall, aged sixty-one years.....April 7, Elliot manor house presented to the city for a hospital, by John Henry Elliot.....April 14, the Keene Congregational (Unitarian) Society purchased the Dr. G. H. Bridgman property, on Washington street.....April 22, death of Alderman James H. Wilson, aged fifty-four years.....May 19, management of Elliot City Hospital placed in charge of a board of trustees.....May 28, special election, Francis A. Perry elected alderman by the voters of ward 1..... May 28, Deluge hose house, on Vernon street, sold to Nims, Whitney & Co.....Fraternal societies and individuals raised money to fit up memorial

rooms in the city hospital.....Piles driven to a depth of seventy-five feet on Vernon street and no bottom found, at site of new fire station..... Aug. 2, Hon. Amos A. Parker, of Fitzwilliam, then in his 101st year, visited friends in Keene.....Aug. 17, more than \$1,000 contributed by citizens to open the Elliot City Hospital.....West street macadamized.....Sept. 20, Warren W. Stone and wife celebrated their golden wedding.....New storm water sewer built in Water street, from Main street to Beaver brook.....Elm street extended from Mechanic street to Vernon street..... Park street extended through to Ashuelot street and dead end in water main abolished.....Sept. 21, Elliot City Hospital dedicated with appropriate exercises.....Oct. 17, Union school district appropriated the further sum of \$3,600 to finish the Tilden school.....Oct. 21, 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus celebrated in the public schools, which also contributed an exhibit for the Chicago exposition.....Oct. 28, death of Daniel Ellis, of Main street, aged seventy-three years.....November, Wilson street opened from Commercial street to Winchester street.Aldermen directed Engineer Wadsworth to set stone bounds at the points where the town line crosses the highways.....Nov. 20, St. Bernard's church dedicated, with impressive services.....Nov. 29, death of Augustus T. Wilder, aged seventy-four years.....Police signal light installed at the lower side of Central square, to be operated from the central telephone station.....Dec. 2, death of Hadley P. Muchmore, aged seventy-three years.....Dec. 12, death of Gen. John W. Sturtevant, aged fifty-two years.

1893.

Frederic A. Faulkner, mayor.....Jan. 18, fire at Impervious Package Company's works.....Jan. 18, John W. Doyle, aged twenty-four years, lost his life in Warren's block, by injuries from smoke or fire.....Jan. 20, death of Oren Woods, aged eighty-four years.....Jan. 26, death of Caroline H. Ingersoll, aged sixty-six years.....March 3, death of Chester L. Kingsbury, aged forty-six years.....April 11, death of Isaac Stratton, aged eighty-five years.....May 22, boiler explosion at Beaver mills; Lewis W. Starkey, John F. Drolette and Herbert G. Holton killed and five boilers wrecked.....June, West street widened fifteen inches on the north side from Central square to Colorado street.....Aug. 7, severe hail storm, in Keene and vicinity, breaking windows and destroying garden crops.....Aug. 10, corner stone of the Young Men's Christian Association building laid, services being held in St. James' church.....Aug. 21, death of Lewis Holmes, aged seventy years.....Oct. 11, Sentinel published in its new building on Main street.....Oct. 11, death of Daniel H. Holbrook, aged eighty-seven years.....Nov. 19, death of Josiah Kingsbury, aged eighty-six years..... Nov. 25, Beaver mills pail shop and sawmill burned; loss \$15,000..... Dec. 7, death of Elias Joslin, aged eighty-five years.

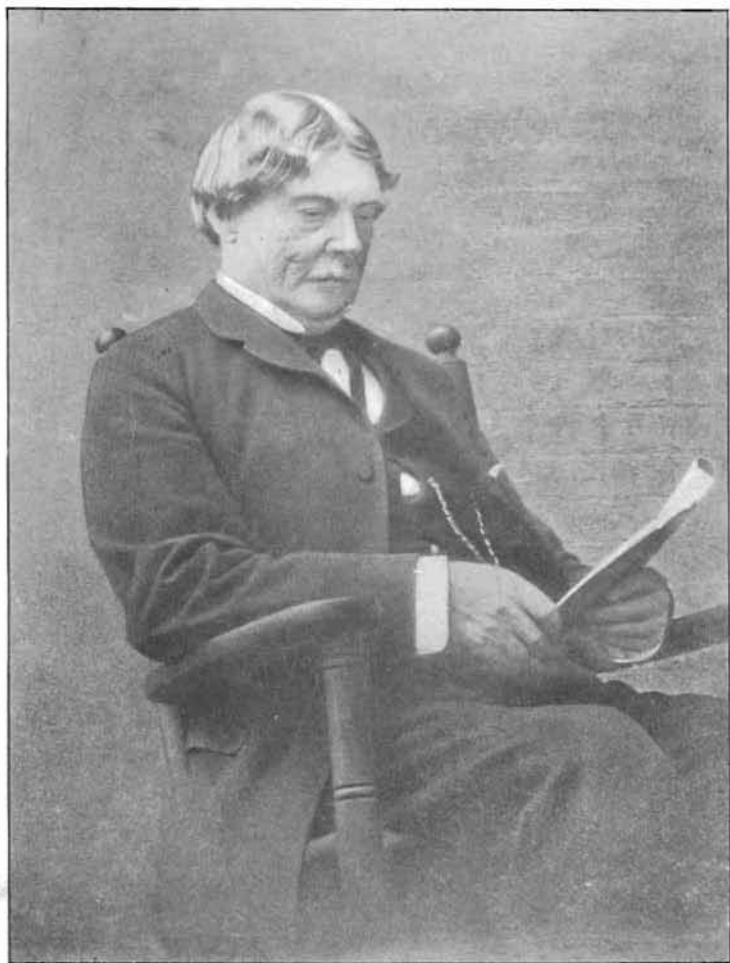
1894.

Frederic A. Faulkner, mayor.....Jan. 1, death of ex-Mayor Reuben Stewart, in Concord, Mass.....Jan. 9, death of Obed Dort, aged eighty-nine years.....Jan. 10, John T. Abbott appointed judge of probate.....

Jan. 22, Keene Board of Trade organized; Clement J. Woodward, president.....Work of taking down the Unitarian church building, on Main street, begun; clock removed.....Sunday, Jan. 28, the last public services held in the Unitarian church edifice, which had been dedicated April 28, 1830, and had stood on the corner of Main and Church streets for more than sixty-three years.....Jan. 31, section of Unitarian steeple, bell deck, clock tower, etc., pulled down.....Feb. 21, first report of the trustees of the Elliot City Hospital appeared.....March 15, dumping ground for rubbish established at the lower end of Main street.....April 18, Rev. Wm. G. Poor installed pastor of the First Congregational church.....May 7, steam road roller purchased.....Cheshire Beef Company, Messrs. Coughlin & Hovey, formed and Farnum's mill, on Emerald street, built over for its use.....Charles H. Fairfield constructed a pond, on Beech hill, for the purposes of his ice business.....Col. George Hagar, of Colusa, Cal., sent a contribution of \$500 toward building the new Unitarian church.....June 4, new hall of the Y. M. C. A. building, on West street, used for the first time.....Thaddeus W. Harris, Ph. D., elected superintendent of schools.June 7, councils voted to sell Neptune hose house, situated on St. James street.....Court street macadamized.....June 25, Wilkins Toy works sold to Harry T. Kingsbury.....Standard Oil Company constructed a storage station on Water street.....Indurated Paper Company incorporated and the works of the New Hampshire Molded Granite and Terra Cotta Company, on Water street, purchased.....July 11, corner stone of new Unitarian church laid with appropriate ceremonies.....July 12, impressive services performed by Hugh de Payens Commandery, at the burial of Thomas E. Hatch, its first eminent commander.....July 19, death of Arad Fletcher, aged seventy-one years.....Aug. 11, death of Atwell C. Ellis, aged seventy-two years.....Aug. 22, death of Cyrus Woodward, aged eighty-one years.Aug. 29, G. E. Holbrook & Co. began to erect a large wholesale house on St. James street.....New highway opened for travel under the railroad tracks at South Keene; grade crossing abolished.....Sept. 28, Y. M. C. A. building dedicated.....Nov. 12, death of William Tenney, aged eighty years.....Goodnow & Whitcomb engaged in the furniture business.....Nov. 18, death of Charles F. Wilson, aged eighty-two years.December, Holbrook Grocery Company incorporated; capital stock \$40,000.....Dec. 12, Red Men took possession of their rooms in the Gurnsey building, the northerly part of which was erected the same year.Lane's "E. F. L." building erected.....Dec. 19, death of ex-Mayor Horatio Kimball, aged seventy-three years.....Dec. 22, death of Abel Blake, aged ninety-nine years.

1895.

George W. McDuffee, mayor.....Jan. 1, Charles Brooks, S. Tennis Bergeron and Alwich Brooks killed by a passenger train on the Fitchburg railroad at the Water street crossing.....Electric lights of the city operated from the new station of the Keene Gas and Electric Lighting Company, at Spragueville.....Jan. 7, Charles F. Ballou severely injured by the falling of the elevator thirty feet, at the Keene Furniture Company's brick shop.....



JOHN HENRY ELLIOT.

Jan. 3, Col. Fred A. Barker nominated by President Cleveland to be postmaster at Keene.....Jan. 6, death of Joseph R. Beals, aged sixty years.....Jan. 24, new Unitarian church, on the corner of Washington and Taylor streets, dedicated in the presence of more than 800 people.....Jan. 27, death of Daniel Ellis, aged seventy years.....Jan. 31, Beaver Brook Lodge of Odd Fellows dedicated their new quarters in Lane's new building.....Feb. 20, Mr. and Mrs. George S. Raymond observed their golden wedding.....March 4, William Senneff, riding on freight car, struck an arch in the passenger station, was dragged between the station platform and rails, escaping death, and dropped unconscious on Main street.Henry W. Lane, Amherst '95, became the American college champion, according to the measurements and tests adopted by the American Association for the Advancement of Physical Education.....March 4, Keene National bank began business in its new quarters in the "E. F. L." building.....\$2,500 damages awarded Elisha F. Lane for land taken in widening Church street.....March 19, Mrs. Roena Shelley celebrated her ninety-ninth birthday anniversary.....April 4, councils accepted from Mrs. Dauphin W. Nims the gift of an oil portrait of David Nims, the first town clerk, to be placed in the library building.....April 7, death of Benjamin F. Foster, aged eighty-three years.....April 9, the water in the Fairfield reservoir escaped, doing considerable damageApril 9, water rose to an unusual height in the Ashuelot and Beaver brook valleys, old residents agreeing that there had not been such a flood for twenty-four years, and by the night of the 14th, Beaver brook was higher than ever remembered before by almost a foot, and the Ashuelot reached the high water mark.April 13, Keyes' corner sold to Charles L. Russell.....April 14, Rev. J. R. Power resigned the pastorate over St. Bernard's church.....May 2, councils provided for writing a history of Keene.....Municipal street sprinkling adopted.....May 9, death of Luther Fairbrother, aged seventy-two years.....May 14, Union school district voted to purchase the Wheeler property, on Washington street, for the Washington school lot.....June 7, death of Elbridge G. Whitcomb, aged seventy-seven years.....June 14, death of ex-Postmaster Ormond E. Colony, aged fifty-four years.....June 16, death of John Henry Elliot, aged eighty-two years.....June 30, telephone exchange moved from the Tierney building (formerly Keene National bank building) to Lane's new block, changing 138 circuits without discontinuing the service for more than a few minutes.....July, water works office enlarged.....July 4, celebration and first L. A. W. state meet, under the auspices of the Monadnock Cycle Club, took place.....July 14, Rev. Gabriel DeBevoise resigned a pastorate of nine years over the Second Congregational church.....July 29, Edward Gustine, Clark F. Rowell and Sheriff Hoface Perry went to Albany, N. Y., to identify Mark Shinburn, the notorious bank robber.....Aug. 14, death of Amos Bancroft, aged seventy-three years.....Aug. 26, death of Col. George D. Dort, aged eighty-three years.....Aug. 27, one hundred Sir Knights of Hugh de Payens Commandery attended the twenty-sixth triennial conclave of the Grand Encampment of the United States, at Boston.....Oct. 3, councils abolished the board of hospital trustees.....Oct. 13, death of Laton Martin, aged

eighty-six years.....Oct. 25, death of Joseph M. Hyland, aged sixty-four years.....Nov. 28, Dr. George B. Twitchell received a loving cup, a bag of gold and a written testimonial from friends.....Dec. 17, at their first annual meeting, the Ashuelot Congregational Club celebrated Forefathers' Day.....Cost of macadam laid in 1891, per square yard, \$1.09; 1892, 96.25 cents; 1893, 80.6 cents; 1894, 73.75 cents; 1895, 58 cents..... Gurnsey building completed.

1896.

George W. McDuffee, mayor.....Jan. 7, Cheshire National bank removed to banking rooms of the Cheshire Provident Institution, until repairs upon the Cheshire bank building were completed.....The national banks of the city asked to assist in replenishing the gold reserve of the United States treasury.....Jan. 21, ecclesiastical council held for the dismissal of Rev. Gabriel DeBevoise, and the installation of Rev. Archibald McCord, as pastor of the Second Congregational church.....Jan. 22, Gov. Busiel entertained at the fourth annual banquet of the Cheshire County Fish and Game League.....Jan. 24, Ashuelot Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, organized, with twelve charter members, Mrs. Margaret L. Griffin, regent.....Jan. 28, the Methodist society celebrated its release from debt with appropriate exercises.....Feb. 6, a hurricane lifted roofs, blew down chimneys, trees, etc.....Feb. 21, death of Julius N. Morse, aged fifty-five years.....Feb. 29, death of Henry O. Coolidge, aged sixty-six years.....March 19, Roena Shelley celebrated her 100th anniversary.....March 24, Union School district voted to build a schoolhouse on Greenlawn and Page streets, and appropriated \$12,000.....April 18, death of James C. Whittle, aged seventy-two years.....April 16, city councils accepted \$1,000 for the erection of the Allen Ingersoll fountain in Central park.....New office opened near the public library in the city hall building for the tax collector and assessors.....April, two-thirds of the employees in the woolen mills of the county idle, affected, the manufacturers said, by the Wilson-Gorman tariff law.....April 24, Union School district voted to enlarge the Washington school lot by the purchase of the Wheeler property on Washington street, at an expense of \$3,000.....April 23, Keene Military band organized.....May 10, death of Dr. Henry H. Darling, aged seventy-two years.....May 11, Cheshire National bank returned to its new banking rooms in the Cheshire bank building.....The W. L. Mason Company organized, capital \$60,000.....June 4, councils granted location for the tracks of the Keene Electric Railway Company.....June 3, Mr. and Mrs. Alba C. Davis celebrated their golden wedding.....June 12, Mayor McDuffee vetoed the bill providing for the use of the trolley system by the electric road.....June 10, large fire at Keene Furniture Company's finishing shop; \$50,000 worth of property destroyed.....July 4, souvenir spoon presented to Mrs. Luther Sturtevant, one of the surviving daughters of Revolutionary soldiers, by the national society, through the local chapter.....July 19, Rev. Octavius Applegate, Jr., began his ministry as rector of St. James' Episcopal church.....Aug. 2, death of John A. Drummer, aged seventy-nine years.....Elliot City Hospital

incorporated.....Aug. 6, city councils relinquished the city's interest in the Elliot City Hospital to the new corporation.....Aug. 13, death of Sylvester Blodgett, aged seventy-four years.....Aug. 24, death of William G. Hall, aged seventy-six years.....Oct. 4, death of Edwin M. Bullard, aged forty-seven years.....Oct. 20, death of Charles H. Perry, aged sixty-six years.....Nov. 26, death of John W. Howes, aged sixty-two years.....Dec. 1, Washington schoolhouse completed.....Dec. 13, Rev. A. W. Hand resigned pastorate of the Baptist church.....Bicycle factory to be constructed in Keene and \$40,000 subscribed for stock in the new enterprise.....Dec. 17, the Frank T. Fowler Manufacturing Company organized.....Dec. 28, death of Nathan G. Woodbury, aged seventy-three years.....Granite dam at Faulkner & Colony's mill pond constructed.

1897.

Francis A. Perry, mayor.....The board of railroad commissioners, after a hearing, decided that it had no power to order a union passenger station constructed.....Jan. 14, death of Clark R. Caswell, aged sixty-one years.....G. E. & A. I. Fuller established a new industry at Beaver mills, for the manufacture of tacks and wire nails.....Jan. 15, Keene Savings bank established; first deposit book issued March 15.....March 1, Keene Electric Railway Company granted the right to use electricity applied by the overhead trolley system as the motive power of its road.....March 1, death of Stephen Randall, aged eighty-eight years.....March 5, Engineer Fred W. Towne presented with a gold watch and chain by the Deluge Hose Company.....March 15, an elegant sword presented to Captain Paul F. Babbidge, by Company H, Second regiment, N. H. N. G.....March 24, New Hampshire chiefs of police entertained at the Cheshire House by City Marshal W. H. Philbrick.....March 30, death of Dr. George B. Twitchell, aged seventy-six years; all bells of the city tolled.....April 3, death of Azro B. Skinner, in Winchendon, aged fifty-eight years.....April 6, Union school district voted to purchase a lot on which to place the old Washington street schoolhouse.....April 13, the A. B. Skinner Company incorporated.....April 14, Mrs. Daniel Allen celebrated the ninety-seventh anniversary of her birth, being, next to Mrs. Roena Shelley, then in her 102d year, the oldest person in town.....April 21, Ashuelot Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, placed a tablet upon the house of Mrs. R. S. Perkins, on Main street, where the soldiers met, April 21, 1775, to start for Lexington.....April 21, death of Daniel C. Howard, aged sixty-two years.....May 14, dam at Willson pond, West Keene, goes out, freeing thirty acres of water; bridge and abutments washed away.....May 19, Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Gurnsey celebrated their golden wedding.....May 26, probably 2,000 citizens used the bicycle, and rules for wheelmen were carefully laid down by the local enthusiasts.....June 2, death of Josiah T. Colony, aged fifty-six years.....June 10, lowlands overflowed, and business interfered with.....June 19, councils voted to exempt the proposed Trinity bicycle factory from taxation.....June 26, Colonial Club's second annual field day, at Wheelock park, address by Gen. S. G. Griffin.....July 17, freight wreck at West

Keene, Engineer Milan H. Curtis instantly killed, aged forty-eight.....
 From 11 a. m., Monday, July 12, to Wednesday morning at 10.30, five and fifty-six one-hundredths inches of water fell; great damage to hay and other crops, and business interfered with in many ways.....July 21, Good Roads Association formed by L. A. W. members.....July 25, George Foster, of Boston, died suddenly while making a call at the house of Dr. Ira J. Prouty.....July 27, death of George S. Hale, at Schooner Head, Me., aged seventy-one years; remains buried in Keene.....Aug. 1, national banks of the city received deposits bearing interest at the rate of 2½% per annum.....Aug. 10, cloudburst and violent wind, uprooting large trees; iron rods an inch in diameter fractured; a handsome elm tree seventy-five feet high thrown over upon F. G. Dort's house on Summer street.....Aug. 11, death of Leonard Wright, aged sixty-five years.....
 Portion of town brook which runs through C. A. Jones's land on Church street replaced with a twenty-four inch iron pipe.....Aug. 18, death of Eli Dort, aged eighty-one years.....Sept. 9, death of John Lahiff, aged ninety-four years.....Sept. 10, cycle path ordered by the board of mayor and aldermen from Albert Wright's on Court street to the Four Corners.....
 Sept. 20, Bliss Business College established, in Cheshire House block, Roxbury street, with forty-four pupils.....Sept. 21, licenses granted to the Keene Gas Light Company and the Keene Electric Railway Company for mutual rights in a pole line on west side of Main street.....October, Charles Giffin bought all the Washington street mills of the Woodbury estate.....Oct. 23, death of Joseph G. Warren, aged seventy-seven years.....Oct. 28, Mr. and Mrs. Seth C. Hall celebrated their golden wedding at their home on Arch street.....Nov. 6, marriage of Emmons Ball and Miss Emogene Humphrey, at San Jose, Costa Rica; the marriage ceremony of the church of England not being recognized, it was performed by the governor of the province.....Nov. 11, Trinity cycle factory formally dedicated under the auspices of the Monadnock Cycle Club and the Good Roads Association.....Electric power supplied for manufacturing and other purposes by the Keene Gas Light and Electric Power Company.....Nov. 16, Mr. and Mrs. Artemas Baker celebrated their golden wedding.....New hospital ambulance turned over to the trustees.....December, Rev. George L. Thompson, formerly of Stafford, Conn., accepted a call to become the pastor of the Universalist society and was installed on Dec. 23.....Dec. 2, councils accepted eighty acres of land adjoining the Beech hill reservoir and Woodland cemetery, for park purposes, from George A. Wheelock, the donor of Wheelock park and the Children's Wood.

1898.

George H. Eames, mayor.....Jan. 4, Royal H. Porter elected vice president of the Cheshire National bank, and voluntarily retired from the office of cashier, having held that position since Oct. 1, 1855, when the Cheshire bank, which was organized in 1804, was still a state bank; Walter R. Porter elected cashier.....Jan. 23, death of Col. Fred A. Barker, postmaster since 1895, aged sixty-two years.....Jean P. Howes made an

automatic fire alarm register for the fire station.....Feb. 14, death of Solomon F. Merrill, aged seventy-seven years.....Feb. 21, the nomination of Gen. Jerry P. Wellman to be postmaster of Keene sent to the senate by President McKinley.....Young Men's Christian Association canvassers secured subscriptions amounting to \$20,000, for the purpose of raising its debt.....Feb. 16, J. Fred Whitcomb, Jr., and Frank N. Barker started for the Klondike; Mr. Whitcomb was accidentally shot, May 25, and buried with full Masonic rites, at Windy Arm, Tagish lake, Alaska, aged twenty-five years.....March 4, death of John B. Fisher, aged sixty-five.....March 4, Ladies' Exchange, Colony's block, suffered total destruction by fire, and the stock in trade of other merchants was injured.....March 17, city councils accepted the resignation of City Clerk Jerry P. Wellman, and Frank H. Whitcomb was elected to fill the vacancy.....April 1, Postmaster Wellman entered upon his duties, with Walter B. Richardson as head clerk.....May 3, death of John L. Britton, aged ninety-three years.....May 5, city councils granted Superintendent Babbidge a leave of absence and elected John A. Denison acting superintendent of water works, sewers and drains.....May 7, Company L, First New Hampshire Volunteers, 100 men, under Captain Paul F. Babbidge, left for the Spanish-American war.....May 8, death of Oscar G. Nims, aged fifty-two years.....June 6, city councils accepted the Henry Colony house on West street, with alterations to make it convenient for a library building, from Edward C. Thayer.....Citizens raised money by subscription for immediate use of the soldiers of Company L, at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Ga.....June 10, death of John A. Batchelder, aged sixty-seven years.....South Keene mills leased to William C. H. Badger of Boston.....June 25, high wind and storm; James S. Taft's house damaged by the breaking off of a big elm tree.....July 1, Cheshire County Savings bank established.....July 4, death of Edward C. Thayer, aged seventy years; and death of Edward Gustin, aged seventy-eight years.....The old Beaver street tannery demolished to make room for dwelling houses.....July 31, in Chattanooga, Tenn., death of Sergeant Darwin M. Aldrich, Co. L, First New Hampshire Volunteers, aged twenty-six years.....Aug. 2, first commercial incandescent lights installed in Nims Brothers' market on West street.....Aug. 23, death of Charles E. Joslin, aged fifty years.....A Bundy time recorder placed in the postoffice.....Sept. 2, large barns on the A. J. Williams place, Winchester street, destroyed during a severe thunder storm.....Sept. 13, 5,000 people greeted the return of Company L, First New Hampshire Volunteers, with fireworks, bonfires and a hot supper at the K. L. G. armory.....Sept. 28, east line of Main street, between Church and Roxbury streets, straightened and concrete walks renewed and enlarged.....Sept. 30, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scripture celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary, aged ninety-one and eighty-nine years respectively.....Oct. 8, death of William R. Bradbury, of Company L, at the hospital in Concord; aged twenty years.....Oct. 9, death of Jerry F. McCarthy, struck by an engine, near the Fitchburg repair shops, aged twenty-four.....Frog pond near the Symonds place, on West street, filled in and drain constructed.....Oct. 15, death of Chauncey B. Billings, aged

eighty-nine years.....Oct. 18, 160th anniversary of the formation of the First Congregational church.....John P. Rust fitted up the old Indurated Paper Company's factory for a pail shop.....Nov. 6, body of Ira E. Chase, aged sixty, found on the west bank of the Ashuelot river, near the shooting range, death being the result of exposure.....Cycle path from Pearl street to Maple avenue was constructed and William H. Woodward deeded to the city the rounding corner at Maple and Park avenues.....Nov. 14, Ladies' Charitable Society held its eighty-third annual meeting.Nov. 9, death of Rufus L. Parker, aged seventy-three years.....Nov. 17, city councils voted to purchase a portable stone crusher.....Nov. 27, extraordinary snow storm rages all day.....Stone watering trough placed at the foot of Beech hill, on Roxbury street.....Nov. 28, citizens held a peace jubilee on the acceptance by Spain of the terms of peace laid down by President McKinley.....Dec. 5 and 6, great snow storm and hurricane, with much damage to trees and buildings.....Dec. 14, death of Mrs. Roena Shelley, aged one hundred and two years, eight months and twenty-five days.....Charles H. Fairfield completed his ice pond, on upper Elm street.....Dec. 15, curfew petition rejected by the city councils.....Dec. 15, death of Jotham A. French, aged sixty-four years.....Dec. 17, Van C. Emerson expired from disease of the heart, at the head of Central square, aged fifty-three years.....Dec. 24, death of Hosea Foster, aged eighty-nine years.

1899.

George H. Eames, mayor.....Jan. 2, severely cold, 42° below zero at West Keene.....Jan. 5, death of Jonas Parker, aged eighty-three years, and of Jonathan G. Tyler, aged eighty-one years.....Feb. 4, death of William W. Parker, aged seventy-four years.....Feb. 13, heavy snow storm, blocking railroads throughout New England, worst blizzard in Keene since 1888.....Feb. 28, Thayer library building dedicated; a gift of \$5,000 received from Mrs. Thayer and Miss Chapin, the income to be used for the purchase of books.....March 1, death of ex-Mayor George W. McDuffee, aged fifty-eight years.....March 10, Rev. Octavius Applegate, Jr., resigned as rector of St. James' church.....Rev. Archibald McCord resigned pastorate of Second Congregational church, to take effect Oct. 1.....March 20, Cheshire Chair Company's storehouse burned; loss about \$15,000.....March 17, Rev. William G. Poor resigned as pastor of the First Congregational church.....March 22, New Hampshire Sentinel appeared as an illustrated centennial number, and the Sentinel Printing Company issued an exact reproduction of the first paper, issued March 23, 1799.....March 26, death of Samuel A. Gerould, Jr., aged seventy-eight years.....Beedle's Military band organized.....March 21, Reuben Hyland completed fifty years of continuous railway service.....April 6, death of Edwin C. Aldrich, aged seventy-nine years.....May 7, Rev. Alfred H. Wheeler takes charge of St. James' parish and conducts the services.....May 12, Sunday street sprinkling authorized to be done before the hour of morning services.....May 16, death of Elisha Ayer, aged seventy-eight years.....May 28, death of Frederick L. Pitcher, aged sixty years.....Rev. Edward A. Renouf, D. D.,

presented a large set of coins to the Keene High school.....Portrait of David Nims turned over to the trustees of the public library by the city.....May 31, Mrs. Louis Castor (aged thirty-seven) shot down by her husband, the first murder in Keene in over twenty years.....June 1, councils offered a reward for the apprehension of Louis Castor.....June 8, Louis Castor surrendered himself voluntarily to Sheriff Tuttle after meeting his brother and Rev. A. H. Wheeler.....June 15, control of the public library placed in the hands of the trustees.....June 21, Miss Myra F. Southworth appointed librarian of the Keene Public Library.....July 3, three incendiary fires occurred during the night.....July 6, corner stone of St. James' parish house laid with an appropriate ceremony.....July 20, contract executed between the city and the Keene Gas Light Company for fifty-two arc and 100 incandescent electric lights, for a term of six years.....August, underground conduits constructed by the New England Telephone Company.....Diamond Match shop opened in the Beaver mills.....Aug. 11, death of Deidamia Allen, aged ninety-nine years, three months and twenty-seven days, a pensioner of the war of 1812.....Aug. 17, city councils adopted an ordinance under the new plumbing law, and appointed Paul F. Babbidge the first inspector of plumbing.....Beaver brook cleared out and considerable gain made in grade, at an expense of about \$700.....Sept. 3, death of Timothy Kelleber, aged sixty-seven years, caused by being overcome by smoke during a fire in his house which occurred on Aug. 31.....Dynamo and water motor set up in high school building and connected with a complete working model of an electric railway and with incandescent lamps, by Principal Ray.....Sept. 8, Col. Henry E. Clark's farm buildings destroyed by fire caused by lightning; loss about \$10,000.Sept. 22, Rev. Howard Billman called to the pulpit of the Second Congregational church.....Sept. 24, Beaver mills dryhouse, with a large quantity of staves and pails, destroyed by fire.....Sept. 25, Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Hayward celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....Sept. 26, seventeen blasts blown on Beaver mills whistle in honor of the arrival of Admiral Dewey in New York harbor aboard the flagship Olympia, followed by the ringing of the courthouse and church bells, etc., which continued one hour.....Oct. 10, fifty-fifth session of the Grand Encampment and the state Rebekah assembly, and on Oct. 11, the fifty-sixth annual session of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, I. O. O. F., held in Keene.....Nov. 23, St. James' parish house dedicated with religious and social exercises.....Hon. John T. Abbott resigned as judge of probate.....Dec. 5, Rev. Edward Payson Drew installed pastor of the First Congregational church.....Dec. 7, city councils adopted an ordinance providing for a highway commission.....Dec. 8, John E. Allen nominated by Governor Rollins as judge of probate for Cheshire county.....Dec. 25, death of Amos B. Heywood, aged seventy-five years.

1900.

Austin A. Ellis, mayor.....Jan. 10, water supply limited, and Button steam fire engine used to pump water from the Ashuelot river into the Court street main.....Jan. 24, death of Jehiel Harlow, aged eighty years.

.....Mrs. Susan King Perkins presented a memorial altar to St. James' church for the new parish house, and it was consecrated on Feb. 2..... Feb. 3, Deluge Hose Company presented First Assistant Engineer Edward P. Carrigan with a gold watch and chain.....Feb. 13, water ten and one-half inches higher than known since 1869; two inches of rain and melting snow and ice raised the Ashuelot river and tributaries above high water mark, meadows adjacent being overflowed and fences covered, and stages compelled to take roundabout routes.....Feb. 15, board of mayor and aldermen accepted resignation of Alderman Samuel Patrick and ordered the selectmen of ward 2 to issue a warrant for a meeting of the inhabitants of that ward to fill the vacancy.....March 20, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Hall celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.....March 31, Mr. and Mrs. Willard J. Sawyer celebrated their golden wedding.....April 18, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Brooks celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....April 19, Dennis Donovan, aged ten years, fell from a frail raft and perished in deep water on the meadows near his home on Butler court.....May 2, Eric J. Beliveau, aged nine years, drowned in Giffin & Dana's mill pond.....May 3, Union school district voted to enlarge the Lincoln school lot by the purchase of sixty square rods of land for \$600, from Silas Hardy.....May 10, Union district voted to build a new Lincoln school building at an expense of \$13,000.....May 13, twenty-fifth anniversary of the dedication of the Baptist church of Keene (the third which the Baptists had occupied) appropriately observed at the morning service.....May 22, hearing held on the petition for the widening of West street to preserve the Cooke elm; Mrs. Mary Pratt Cooke Nash waived her right to claim land damage.....May 23, Mr. and Mrs. Simeon Gould celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding.....May 30, Ashuelot Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, rededicated the second burial place of the early settlers of Keene, a part of the Henry O. Spaulding farm, in West Keene, and erected a boulder, with appropriate ceremonies.June 8, Social Friends Lodge, A. F. & A. M., celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary, and Rev. Josiah L. Seward, D. D., delivered a brief historical address.....June 27, anxiety felt for Rev. and Mrs. Frank M. Chapin of Keene, for twenty years past missionaries in China, on account of the Boxer uprising.....Waring system of sewers ordered constructed through several streets to Leverett street, at a cost of about \$1,700..... June 20, death of Sylvester Spaulding, aged seventy-six years.....July 1, Boston & Maine railroad assumed the management of the Fitchburg railroad.....Trinity Cycle Company commenced the manufacture of automobiles.....July 9, city councils appropriated \$1,700 for a new boiler and for repairs to renew the disabled Button steam fire engine.....July 21, Cheshire Chair Company's storehouse again destroyed by fire, loss \$10,000.....Aug. 17, death of Leston E. Mason, aged forty-seven years..... Sept. 7, death of Charles K. Colony, aged seventy-nine years.....Sept. 8, Keene Electric railway completed and first car arrived over the road..... West street bridge built in 1837 by Aaron Wilson and Oren Dickinson for the sum of \$1,288, dismantled to give place to an iron structure.....

Samuel Wadsworth placed the height of Monadnock mountain at an altitude of 3,166 feet.....October, Joseph Chase presented the city with a quitclaim deed of his interest in that part of his farm called the North cemetery.....Nov. 21, new iron bridge on West street given a severe test with a loaded electric car and the passage over blocks of wood of the fifteen-ton road roller.....Dec. 12, Gurnsey Brothers & Co. move into the new bakery building on Church street.....Dec. 22, death of Asa Cole, aged ninety-six years.....New mill of the Faulkner & Colony Manufacturing Company completed, having a capacity of over 4,000 spindles.....City paid the Wrought Iron Bridge Company the sum of \$9,946.14, for the South Keene and West street bridges.....Population of Keene: Ward 1, 2,488; ward 2, 1,896; ward 3, 1,926; ward 4, 1,384; ward 5, 1,471; total, 9,165.

1901.

Francis A. Perry, mayor.....Opening of the twentieth century observed in Keene by appropriate exercises. At midnight a national salute was fired and services held in the several churches and in Masonic hall..... Harry T. Kingsbury designed and built a new automobile, propelled by a naphtha motor, at the Wilkins Toy Company's works.....Jan. 2, the South Keene Company sold the Hale mills to the Fred B. Pierce Company.....Bronze tablet placed in the Unitarian church to accompany the memorial window previously erected, in memory of the seventy-one founders of that society.....Jan. 17, Steamobile Company of America voted an exemption from taxation.....Patrick Dee resigned his position as road-master in charge of the Ashuelot division of the Boston & Maine railroad after forty-five years of active service.....A severe epidemic of scarlet fever, which commenced late in January, continued three months, prostrated business, interfered with the work of the schools, necessitated the closing of churches, schools, the library and city hall; one hundred and eighty-one cases were reported to the board of health, of which number twenty-two died; quarantine expenses incurred aggregated about \$4,200.....Feb. 8, death of Rev. Stephen G. Abbott, aged eighty-one years.....Feb. 10, death of Simeon Gould, aged seventy-eight years.....Feb. 11, death of William H. Brooks, aged seventy-two years, and of John G. Lesure, aged fifty-five years.....Feb. 11, small pox appeared in Keene, but was confined by police patrol and rigid quarantine measures to two cases; two cases of small pox and three of varioloid only were reported during the year.Feb. 21, death of Gordis D. Harris, aged seventy-six years.....Feb. 21, Gardner C. Hill, M. D., appointed city agent for vaccination with power to appoint assistants and an order passed by the city government that they proceed in the matter according to law.....Feb. 27, death of Luther P. Alden, aged seventy-four years.....Feb. 28, death of Simon Carr, aged eighty-three years.....March 12, death of Alexander H. Grimes, aged seventy-one years.....March 17, churches reopened for services by permission of the board of health.....March 21, over 180 signers petitioned for the removal of the Cooke elm standing in West street.....March 26, \$1,600 additional appropriated by Union school district for the purpose of

completing the Lincoln school building; old Lincoln schoolhouse ordered sold at public auction by a committee.....March 30, Capt. S. Fletcher Dutton of Keene appointed by the president to the office of captain in the regular army as assistant quartermaster of subsistence.....March 31, city hall lot enclosed by a fence to confirm title to land.....April 8, high school reopened, and April 15, grammar grades reopened in the high school building.....April 8, death of Charles Scripture, aged ninety-four years.....April 11, trustees of Keene Public Library accepted a gift of books from Messrs. Robert S. and Richard W. Hale of Boston, in memory of their father, the late Hon. Geo. S. Hale of Keene and Boston.....April 14, Rev. M. C. Pendexter, of Grace Methodist Episcopal church, closed a pastorate of five years, and Rev. Jesse M. Durrell appointed to the charge.....Rev. George L. Thompson, for three and one-half years a resident of Keene, resigned as pastor of the Universalist church to take effect May 1.....April 22, after a public hearing the mayor and aldermen voted to give the petitioners for the removal of the Cooke elm leave to withdraw.....April 29, death of Dr. George R. Dinsmoor, aged fifty-nine years, eleven months.....May 1, death of ex-Mayor Asa Smith, aged seventy-seven years.....May 2, Roller Bearing & Equipment Company granted an exemption from taxation.....May 7, Francis C. Faulkner appointed railroad commissioner by Governor Jordan.....May 14, sixth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Federation of Women's Clubs held in the Unitarian church.....May 16, Fred B. Pierce Company granted an exemption from taxation.....Stone drinking fountain accepted by the city to be placed on Court street, the gift of Mrs. Edward C. Thayer.....May 29, funeral of William S. Briggs, at the Unitarian church, his death having occurred at Montpelier, Vt., on May 27, at the age of eighty-three years and eight months.....June 14, death of Caleb T. Buffum, aged eighty-one years.....June 15, formal opening of the new Wilkins laundry on Proctor court, attended by over 500 people.....June 20, Alderman Daniel C. Cahalane resigns.....July 3, mayor and alderman allow \$1,200 to the board of health for extra services during the scarlet fever epidemic.....July 4, monument erected by Francis O. Nims, over the grave of Keene's first town clerk, David Nims, in Washington street cemetery.....July 17, Elvin P. Priest fatally burned by explosion of gasoline at Steamobile works.....July 23, Alderman Oscar H. Fay elected, and he took his seat on the 29th.....July 28, Holbrook Grocery Company's wholesale warehouse damaged by fire; loss about \$45,000.....August, Register of Deeds Buffum began the reindexing of the Cheshire county real estate records.....Aug. 22, city councils voted to purchase lands in Roxbury of Charles Giffin, Edward Cota, Patrick Donahue, and George A. Hall, adjoining Woodward pond, and a lot on Beech hill of Mrs. Charles H. Fairfield, for the sum of \$3,825.....Sept. 5, Rev. Edward A. Renouf, D. D., presented to the city the police benevolent fund of \$500, which was accepted.....City councils ordered a new steel bridge to be placed over Beaver brook to connect Woodland and Greenlawn cemeteries.....Sept. 17, Mayor Perry requested the suspension of business and that services be held on Thursday, Sept. 19, in memory of the late President William McKinley.....Sept. 19, the city councils adjourned till the next

evening in honor of the memory of President McKinley.....Sept. 20, councils voted to purchase an acre and forty-eight rods of land lying between Woodland and Greenlawn cemeteries of the heirs of Pierre Couillard, for \$250.....Oct. 9, field day of two Vermont and two New Hampshire commanderies of Knights Templar, in Keene, with Mt. Horeb Commandery of Concord as guests of Hugh de Payens Commandery of Keene.....Oct. 8, 9, and 10, sixteenth annual convention of the Christian Endeavorers of New Hampshire held in Keene.....Oct. 22, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Davis celebrated their golden wedding.....November, Swedish Lutheran church organized.....Nov. 5, Holbrook Grocery Company presented a set of dishes to the firemen of Keene.....Nov. 15, Music hall in Lane's new block, corner of Church and Main streets, opened to the public by the Keene Chorus Club, seating capacity of the hall about 500.....Nov. 21, death of Edward Joslin, aged ninety-one years, seven months.....Nov. 25, death of William L. Davis, aged seventy-eight years.....Nov. 29, Henry R. Parker's mill and wood yard burned, loss about \$700.....Dec. 3, heaviest snow storm since 1888.....Dec. 5, death of Lafayette Weeks, aged seventy-seven years.....Dec. 19, Mrs. Harriet Webster Towne fatally burned at her home, aged ninety-four years.....Sixty buildings erected in Keene during the year.

1902.

Francis A. Perry, mayor.....Jan. 14, death of Gen. Simon G. Griffin, aged seventy-seven years.....Jan. 23, Rev. John E. Smith resigned pastorate of the Baptist church after nearly five years of service.....Jan. 29, death of Clark F. Rowell, aged sixty-seven years.....Feb. 10, John P. Rust's pail factory burned; loss \$30,000.....Feb. 26, after a public hearing Union school district lines were defined and additional territory was added on the easterly side.....March 1, Fairfield dam gave way; loss \$500; about ten feet of water stood above the embankment where Court street crosses the Kate Tyler ravine.....March 3, culvert at the Kate Tyler ravine was carried away, and afterwards repaired at an expense of \$1,069.17.....March 24, Baptist society voted to extend a call to Rev. Joseph Walther, of Holden, Mass., to become its pastor; Mr. Walther accepted the call and began his labors on Sunday, May 4.....April 10, trustees of the Elliot City Hospital accepted a memorial gift of \$12,000 from the heirs of the late Edward Joslin, for the erection of a home for nurses.....April 21, Ashuelot Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, unveiled a large granite boulder at the corner of Main and Baker streets, to mark the road taken by the patriots on April 21, 1775, in response to the Lexington alarm.....April 28, death of David Knight, aged eighty-nine years.....May 1, death of Arba T. Stearns aged seventy-seven years.....May 6, 7, 8, ninety-third annual meeting of the general association of Congregational and Presbyterian churches of New Hampshire held in Keene.....May 15, Cheshire Tannery property sold to John P. Rust.....May 18, Young Men's Christian Association observed the eighteenth anniversary of the founding of the local branch.....New creamery built on the Holbrook farm, near the entrance to Goose pond on the

old Surry road.....May 26, 27, 28, first convention of the Keene Chorus Club held in city hall.....June 5, city councils authorized the issue of \$25,000 in bonds for Echo lake water works extension via South Keene; bonds sold for \$25,978; masonry dam built on Munsell lot, 135 feet long and nineteen feet above the bed of Roaring brook to contain 2,500,000 gallons of water.....June 8, firemen of Keene held appropriate memorial services and decorated the graves of those who died in service since the department was organized on its present basis.....June 16, fire at Beaver mills, loss on finished pails and packages about \$3,000.....June 18, ladder truck No. 2 added to the apparatus of the Hook and Ladder Company; cost, \$1,250.....June 19, city councils voted to print the History of the Town of Keene.....July 1, free mail delivery service established for South Keene and Swanzey Factory; house numbering system extended to meet requirements.....July 12, incendiary fire destroyed Giffin's mills; loss \$15,000; George E. Hopkins confessed to setting the fire.....Sept. 4, city councils accepted the private fire alarm system used by firemen.....Sept. 16, death of Leonard J. Tuttle, aged seventy-one years.....Sept. 19, Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a bronze tablet at the Thayer Library building to the memory of the soldiers of the American Revolution from Keene; impressive services held and tablet formally accepted by the city.....Oct. 16, councils voted to grade River street to receive the sewer extension ordered through River and Woodburn streets.....Nov. 14, 200 business men and citizens held a banquet at the Cheshire House in honor of the completion of J. P. Rust's new brick pail factory on Water street; business men passed resolutions in the interest of a permanent board of trade.....H. W. Hubbard removed to his new brick machine shop on Emerald street.....Nov. 25, Boys' Club of the Methodist Episcopal church formally opened its room in the parsonage on Elm street.....Nov. 28, water turned into the city mains from the new intercepting reservoir and pipe line via South Keene; new addition to the Echo lake system constructed at a cost of \$26,300.....Dec. 4, city councils voted to purchase eleven acres of French land and 160 acres of the Cota farm in Roxbury, bordering on Roaring brook, extending a mile down the brook from land already owned by the city, at an expense of \$1,620; total land owned by the city in Roxbury about 1,082 acres.Public library, city hall and fire station heated with wood from the city's lands in Roxbury, on account of the coal strike.

1903.

James S. Taft, mayor.....Jan. 8, farm buildings of Elmer T. Morse burned on Winchester street, with eight cows, a horse and three pigs; loss estimated at \$3,000.....Jan. 17, strike at the C. B. Lancaster shoe factory.....Jan. 23, shoe factory closed.....Jan. 23, Mayor Taft offered a reward of \$1,000 for the apprehension of the person who had recently been setting fires in Keene.....Jan. 23, Rev. Howard Billman resigned as acting pastor of the Second Congregational church to take effect on April 1.....Feb. 3, Keene Commercial Club organized; Fred B. Pierce, president; constitution and by-laws adopted.....Feb. 4, death of Franklin

L. Howe, aged sixty-six years.....Feb. 7, Josephine, infant daughter of William Gilbo, suffocated by a fire on Douglass street.....Feb. 9, Keene Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, organized at the house of Charles G. Shedd on Marlboro street.....Early in February local coal dealers began booking orders for anthracite coal for the first time since early in previous December.....Feb. 16, twenty-five special police officers commissioned by the mayor and aldermen on account of the shoemakers' strike.....Feb. 17, shoe factory reopened as a free shop.....Water main ordered extended through Eastern avenue at an expense of \$3,200..... March 5, city councils voted to exempt Charles L. Russell & Sons from taxation on a proposed two-story brick manufactory, etc., not exceeding a valuation of \$50,000.....March 8, death of John L. Davis, aged ninety-three years.....March 11, death of George Burnap, aged eighty-four years.....March 14, death of Col. Edwin O. Upham, aged forty-three years.....March 20, death of J. Mason Reed, aged seventy-six years..... March 23, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Collins celebrated their golden wedding..... March 26, death of Francis C. Faulkner, aged fifty years.....Union school district authorized a committee to see what arrangements could be made to secure the Coolidge lot, next north of the city hall, or some other suitable lot for a new high school building.....March 29, body of an infant found in the Vigneau ravine on upper Court street.....March 30, death of William Rice, aged eighty-one years.....April 4, Carrie E. Read elected librarian of the Keene Public Library.....April 13, a son of Elmore W. Jennison lost his life in Woodland cemetery pond.....Thirty representatives of several clubs and societies met at the council rooms and appointed committees to prepare for the joint celebration of the 4th of July and the 150th anniversary of the founding of the town of Keene..... April 16, street sprinkling tax reduced to \$2.....April 17, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Keene Light Guard battalion observed at the Cheshire House; Mr. W. H. Prentiss gave a historical sketch of the battalion.....Rev. Jesse M. Durrell of Keene appointed to the Dover district as presiding elder and the Rev. Joseph E. Robins assigned to the pastorate of Grace Methodist Episcopal church in Keene.May 2, Elliot City Hospital realized \$738.75 through the generosity of Denman Thompson from the presentation of "The Old Homestead" at the city hall.....May 9, death of Barzilla Richardson, aged seventy years.May 10, death of John D. Dunbar, aged eighty years.....May 12, liquor license law adopted in Keene by a plurality of eighty votes..... May 13, city councils voted to require license holders to pay the maximum amounts provided by the license law for liquor licenses issued in Keene till 1907.....May 25, aldermen voted to widen and straighten lower Main street.....May 25, shoe strike officially declared off.....June 4, city councils voted to appropriate \$2,000 for new stage, scenery and repairs of city hall, and added three and seven-tenths miles to the frontage now covered by the street sprinkling service, making a total of fourteen and seven-tenths miles frontage to be sprinkled.....June 11, death of Eugene A. Whipple, aged seventy years.....June 14, firemen's memorial Sunday observed by the fire department at St. Bernard's

church.....June 15, Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Johnson celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....June 16, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Bill observed their golden wedding.....June 22, forty-six scholars received diplomas at city hall, the largest class which had completed the high school course.....License commissioners restricted territory within which liquor licenses would be granted.....June 24, Second Congregational church voted to extend a call to Rev. Willis A. Hadley of Southbridge, Mass., to become its pastor; Mr. Hadley commenced his labors Sept. 6.June 29, Keene Chapter, No. 1, Sons of the American Revolution, received its charter and observed the occasion at the armory with a reception, speaking and a social gathering.....July 3, electric railway opened its Swanzey line to the public.....July 4, Independence day and the 150th anniversary of the town of Keene celebrated together.....July 11, death of Alfred T. Batchelder, aged fifty-nine years.....July 13, board of education voted to establish two kindergarten schools, one at the Tilden and one at the Elliot building.....July 21, some twenty-five veterans of Company A, Second New Hampshire Volunteers, celebrated the forty-second anniversary of the battle of Bull Run.....July 25, fire occurred in the water works cellar under the city hall; loss \$200.....July 26, fire broke out in the centre of Clarke's block, at the close of the First church services; loss about \$5,000.....July 30, death of Francis Davis, aged seventy-nine years.....Aug. 24, death of John Humphrey, aged sixty-eight years.....Sept. 8, Edward Joslin Home for Nurses opened for public inspection.....Sept. 9, city hall opened to the public, with electric lights, new stage and scenery.....Sept 12, death of Mary E. Wilson Sherwood of New York, in her seventy-seventh year.....Sept. 23, Gov. N. J. Bachelder, members of his staff and invited guests entertained at the Country Club grounds.....Sept. 29, death of Dallas M. Pollard, aged fifty-nine years.....Oct. 1, Rev. Willis A. Hadley installed pastor of the Second Congregational church.....Oct. 3, Mr. and Mrs. Francis E. Keyes observed their golden wedding.....Oct. 24, second fire occurred in Clarke's block.....Oct. 27, 28, Unitarians of New Hampshire held state convention in the Unitarian church on Washington street.....Oct. 29, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Lettenmayer celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.....Nov. 1, Miss Read retired from the public library and Miss Maud E. Bloomingdale of Syracuse, N. Y., assumed the duties of librarian.....A section of macadam on lower Main street surfaced with screened branch gravel.....New bridge over the branch completed and the electric road removed its rails from the branch stone bridge.....Nov. 8, Mr. and Mrs. David B. Stearns celebrated their golden wedding.....Nov. 9, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Leet given a reception at the Methodist parsonage on the fifty-fifth anniversary of their marriage.....Dec. 1, 2, 3, state board of agriculture and Dairymen's Association held a series of meetings in city hall.

1904.

James S. Taft, mayor.....Jan. 1, death of Dea. George P. Drown, aged seventy-five years.....Jan. 4, trial of Malachi Barnes, accused of murder of Asahel Dunton at Sullivan, opened; trial ended Jan. 6; he was convicted

and sentenced to state's prison for life.....Jan. 5, Charles H. Hersey elected for the twentieth municipal term as auditor.....Jan. 10, missionary rally held at First Congregational church in honor of Charles A. Stanley, a graduate of Oberlin Theological seminary, who was to be sent as a missionary to China, under the auspices of the First church.....Jan. 15, Ladies' Minstrels gave an entertainment at city hall, for the benefit of the Hospital Aid Society; net proceeds \$460.....Box manufacturers of Keene opened a selling agency in New York city.....Jan. 21, board of highway commissioners abolished and authority relating to highways vested in the board of mayor and aldermen.....Spiral stairway for fire escape from First Congregational church completed; fire escape attached to Warren's block, it being occupied in part by four schools of Union school district.....The W. P. Chamberlain Company purchased Gerould's block on Central square and two houses fronting on Winter street, for the purpose of reconstructing the block for its own use.....Feb. 4, Australian ballot system adopted for future municipal elections.....William H. H. Beal, connected with the clothing trade here for thirty years, retired from business.....Feb. 7, death of Roswell T. Wood, aged eighty-one years.....Feb. 11, death of Walter J. Wheeler, aged seventy years.....Feb. 18, death of John Carpenter while on his way home at noon, aged seventy years.....Feb. 18, city councils appointed a committee to investigate the city's title to the Coolidge lot, adjoining the city hall lot on the north; to formulate a plan pertaining to the title, use and disposition of the lot; Ashuelot National bank, residuary devisee under the last will of Henry O. Coolidge, notified the city on March 17, that it had entered by its attorney upon the tract, conveyed by Mr. Coolidge upon conditions, for breach of those conditions, and that it required possession; and on the same date the city denied the right of the bank to make such claim and refused to give up possession of the property; the suit being brought in a friendly spirit to determine the city's title.....Frost six feet deep in the city streets, causing much trouble with water and sewer pipes.....Feb. 20, death of George Tufts, aged seventy-four years.....Feb. 21, death of Ira D. Lewis, aged fifty-three years.....Feb. 23, death of James O'Leary, for thirty years identified with the volunteer fire department, aged fifty-five years.....Feb. 24, death of John E. Stowell, aged fifty-four years.....Feb. 26, Union school district, established March 14, 1865, enlarged by annexing the suburban, or city district; two houses on Winchester road in Swanzy annexed, for school purposes only.....March 5, death of Dr. Aaron R. Gleason, aged sixty-nine years.....George F. Stone of Keene and John H. Smith of Milford succeeded Nichols & Wardwell in the grocery business.....March 9, death of Nathaniel A. Barlow, aged seventy-eight years.....March 11, Thomas J. O'Connor run over by a locomotive and instantly killed near the passenger station, aged forty-six years.....Owing to consolidation of school districts a uniform rate was assessed throughout the city for the first time since the formation of the High School Associated district in 1853.