

Woodbury

## LANGDON PARK,

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

EXTENDING

*From South Street to South Millpond.*

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Land Donated by the late Hon. John Langdon Elwyn.

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An Account of Building the Park,

AND THE

OPENING EXERCISES, MAY 25, 1876.

ORATION BY REV. JAMES DENORMANDIE, &amp;C.

PORTSMOUTH:  
CHARLES W. GARDNER, PRINTER,  
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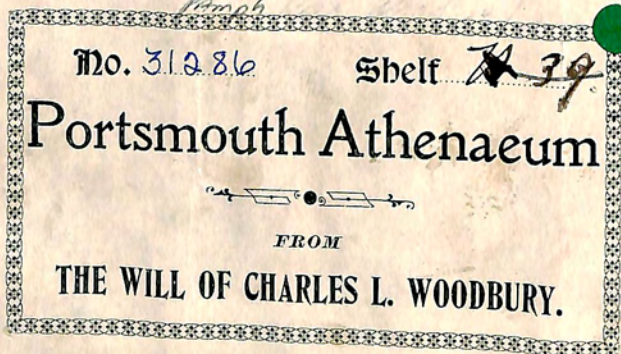
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# LANGDON PARK.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

ORGANIZED JUNE 15, 1867.

ALBERT L. JONES,  
HENRY M. CLARK,  
ALFRED M. HOYT,  
FRANK W. MILLER,  
T. SALTER TREDICK.

RE-ORGANIZED MAY 1, 1876.

FRANK W. MILLER, Chairman.  
HENRY M. CLARK, Treasurer.  
T. SALTER TREDICK, Secretary.  
ALFRED M. HOYT,  
JOS. HILLER FOSTER,  
MOSES H. GOODRICH, Mayor, ex-officio.

## A PARK FOR PORTSMOUTH.

Portsmouth is justly noted as a beautiful city; but while nature has done much for us in this direction, art has contributed little or nothing to aid or improve our advantages. The hand of God direct, and not that of man, has given us most of our adornments. Beautiful for situation, truly, is old Strawberry Bank; but in none of the old and rich towns within our knowledge, have the principal citizens during the long reach of two or more centuries, so completely ignored and disregarded the claims or expectations which the public generally seem to entertain from those who possess large estates, in the way of providing public grounds, buildings, institutions, &c., as here.

With the exception of the sites for the old Parade, now Market Square; for old Jefferson Hall, now known as the City Offices; for the Plains, now and always known as such, and now, alas! as always, lying stark and bare, a mere sandy waste, where should long ago have been waving trees and shady bowers;—with these slight exceptions, and perhaps a few other minor gifts, this public has received but little direct and special benefit from the many eminent residents who have amassed fortunes or controlled ample revenues here, down to the recent time of Mrs. Mary Cutts' liberal bequest of \$20,000 or thereabouts for the improvement of Richards Avenue, which is now being well expended for this purpose, and Mr. Elwyn's valuable though rather limited gift of the beautiful land which is just now being improved as Langdon Park.

The late John Elwyn was, all through his long life, a lover of children and young people, as well as a great admirer of nature; and cherished, and often expressed, a desire to provide or promote a public mall or promenade for his favorite city. His mother, Elizabeth Langdon Elwyn, also entertained designs somewhat similar, as is shown by her correspondence, published herewith; and her father, Governor John Langdon, who built, and lived and died in the elegant mansion now the residence of Mrs. Charles Burroughs, on Pleasant Street, at one time designed to build a residence on the opposite shore of the South Millpond, nearly on the site of the new park; and the double row of fine elms there, which now "upward fling their arms to the sky so blue," were set to shade his walk from the proposed bridge to the house he never built.

All these three generations of owners thought and talked of a bridge across the South pond, as the public generally have been thus talking for perhaps a century or more; and it passeth all understanding, why our people should al-



low two such rare and beautiful natural tide-water ponds as we were blessed with, to be filled up and become mere sinks of pollution, while other more appreciative communities pay thousands of dollars for artificial ponds in no way comparable to these for health or beauty or business uses.

The people,—some of the citizens, of Portsmouth, went so far, on several occasions, as to have surveys and plans made, of a park around the South pond, with a marginal road along the water, and a bridge across. One of these (of the pond and Langdon lands) was drawn by Mr. Benjamin Akerman in 1811, and others (of the Park, &c.,) by Mr. Alfred M. Hoyt in 1851 and 1867. Mr. Thos. P. Moses, also, about thirty years ago made a crayon sketch of an extensive and beautiful park, with a bridge arched high over the water, and boats sailing beneath, &c.; and considerably later, we think in 1873 or 74, he wrote for the Portsmouth Journal a glowing account of an imaginary park to be located at the same point in 1973—which vision now bids fair to be realized in part at least. And now Mr. A. C. Hoyt has drawn one more, with a footbridge across from the Court house to the park, and a marginal road around the pond, from Edward street westerly to Richards Avenue, and thence easterly to Johnson's Court, at the old ropewalk, with street openings at the Universalist church on Pleasant street, at the Court House, at Rogers street, and Richards Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. The city government and other parties interested are also discussing other similar propositions—the carrying out of any of which would of course include putting the pond in proper condition, and removing anything objectionable therein.

Well, after all the long talk, in 1867, Messrs. F. W. Miller and H. M. Clark learned from Mr. A. M. Hoyt that Mr. Elwyn was still in favor of the mall and bridge project, and ready to give land for the purpose to responsible trustees, but not to the City control. These three invited as associates, Messrs. A. L. Jones and T. S. Tredick, and to them Mr. Elwyn confided this trust:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, John Elwyn, of Portsmouth, in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire, in consideration of the need of Public Grounds in Portsmouth, do hereby lease and let to Albert L. Jones, Henry M. Clark, Alfred M. Hoyt, Frank W. Miller and T. Salter Tredick, a certain tract of Land situated in said Portsmouth, and bounded as follows; namely:

Beginning on South Street at a stone fence which separates a pasture from a field called the "Middle Field," and running Northerly by said fence, following the general direction thereof, but on a straight line, to the South Mill Pond. On the Eastern side of this field, with a perpendicular width of two hundred feet, running from the Mill Pond, which is the Northern boundary of this field, Southerly on a line parallel to the first-named line, holding a width of two hundred feet to South Street; thence running Southwest-erly on South street a distance sufficient

to give a perpendicular width of two hundred feet, to the bound first mentioned; the same containing about Five Acres more or less.

To have and to hold, to them and their successors forever, but in trust nevertheless, for the following uses and purposes.

FIRST, To lay out, improve and put in order the said land as a Mall, in such way and at such times as their judgment shall decide, and the means at their disposal will allow.

SECONDLY, To keep it open for the use of the public, under such rules and regulations as said Trustees may judge most expedient for the preservation of the property and for the maintenance of good order therein.

THIRDLY, To make such by-laws and rules for their own government and to elect and appoint such and so many officers as they may deem necessary or expedient.

And we, the said Albert L. Jones, Hen-

ry M. Clark, Alfred M. Hoyt, Frank W. Miller and T. Salter Tredick, do hereby accept said trust, and do covenant to and with the said John Elwyn, that we will cause the said grounds to be put in proper order for the use of the public, as soon as can properly be done with the means which may be put at our disposal therefor.

That we will prohibit the erection of any building thereon, excepting such as may be necessary for the economical putting and keeping in order said grounds or may beautify and adorn said Mall, and render it more useful for the purposes for which it is leased. That we will make such rules and regulations as may be deemed by us expedient for the beneficial use thereof.

And we the said Trustees agree that we will pay all taxes and burdens on the said premises, whether on the part of the City of Portsmouth, the State of New Hampshire or the United States, and all taxes and burdens of every sort.

And it is hereby agreed and covenanted by and between the said Trustees and the said John Elwyn, that if the said Trustees and their successors shall neglect to per-

form and execute the covenants and agreements hereinbefore contained, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, then this lease or deed shall be null and void, and the said John Elwyn and his heirs may enter into and re-possess the said premises, in the same manner, and as fully as if this lease or deed had never been given.

JOHN ELWYN,  
A. L. JONES,  
HENRY M. CLARK,  
FRANK W. MILLER,  
ALFRED M. HOYT,  
T. SALTER TREDICK.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of J. Hamilton Shapley and W. H. Rollins.

*State of New Hampshire, Rockingham ss.*

Then personally John Elwyn, Albert L. Jones, Henry M. Clark, Frank W. Miller and Alfred M. Hoyt, and on the seventeenth day of said June personally appeared T. Salter Tredick, and each acknowledged the foregoing deed by him signed to be his free act and deed. Before me,

WILLIAM H. ROLLINS,  
*Justice of the Peace.*

In accordance with this gift, and with a view to avail and utilize the same, the above named trustees soon after procured a plan of the pond, with the proposed park or "grounds," and a marginal road around the pond, to be drawn by Mr. A. M. Hoyt, and a paper for subscriptions was prepared, and signed by the trustees, as follows:

"Hon. John Elwyn having given in trust to a Board of Trustees, a lot of land (of five acres) on the South side of the South Mill Pond, as a nucleus for a Mall and Common, it is proposed by the Sons and Daughters of Portsmouth to purchase the South Pond, and the land adjoining the same, to the amount of about forty acres, for the purpose of laying out and beautifying a Common that shall be at once a source of health and an ornament to the good old City of Portsmouth, and a pleasure and pride to her numerous Sons and Daughters, at home and abroad.

"The Board of Trustees being desirous of commencing at once on the work of

laying out the grounds, call upon all who are able and willing, to help them in securing a fund for prosecuting the work."

This was circulated only among a few prominent and interested citizens, who agreed to contribute about six thousand dollars for the object, and the project was well received and favored by nearly everybody. The death of both Messrs. A. L. and Wm. P. Jones, and the subsequent illness of Mr. Hoyt, however, tended, among other things, to interrupt proceedings in this direction—and they have never been resumed, until recently, since the death of Mr. John Elwyn.

May 1st, 1876, Mr. Joseph H. Foster was invited to become a member of the Board of Trustees, and it was voted that the Mayor of the city of Portsmouth should be a member, by virtue of his office. The Board of Trustees was then organized by the choice of F. W. Miller as chairman, H. M. Clark Treasurer, and T. Salter Tredick Secretary; the name of



Elwyn Park was adopted; and the following advertisement in the city newspapers was the first public official announcement of their intended fulfillment of their trust:

### ELWYN PARK—NOTICE.

The public are respectfully informed that the beautiful grounds lying between South Street and the Mill Pond, donated for a Park by the late HON. JOHN ELWYN, will be opened to the public use forever, with appropriate ceremonies on the premises, on

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 23, AT 3 O'CLOCK,

in which every citizen, and every Son and Daughter of Portsmouth wherever residing, is generally and specially invited to join, without further notice.

On this occasion, (or at any time previously) there will be set in the Park, 100 CENTENNIAL TREES, of all varieties; and any citizen, Society, or Association desiring to furnish one or more trees for this purpose, may send them to the Park at any time, or report at the Bookstore of Mr. JOS. H. FOSTER, or to either of the Trustees, or to Mr. JOHN F. MARDEN, on South Street.

Or parties wishing to aid the cause, and preferring to be represented by one or more trees, rather than provide them, can do so by a donation of \$5, (or any sum they see fit,) to the Treasurer.

Citizens willing to contribute labor gratuitously toward the construction of the Park, either of men or teams, are invited to report at the grounds at any time previous to the 23d inst., to assist in setting trees, building fences and embankments, clearing the grounds, etc.

Most respectfully, for the cause.

FRANK W. MILLER, Chairman,  
HENRY M. CLARK, Treasurer,  
T. SALTER TREDICK, Secretary,  
ALFRED M. HOYT,  
JOSEPH H. FOSTER,  
MOSES H. GOODRICH, (Mayor,)

Board of Trustees of Elwyn Park.

Portsmouth, May 6, 1876.

Invitations were also extended directly to several prominent citizens, and Sons abroad, to take part in the opening ceremonies of the Park.—The response to this call was something wonderful, in its heartiness and unanimity. Although rather late in the season when issued, for the setting of trees, the list which follows herein, shows that more than 600 trees, many of them choice specimens—six times as many as were requested or expected—were furnished and planted in the park in the short space of two weeks. This must be pronounced a very successful arbor day, and should encourage all of us to persevere in the same direction.

Although the trustees had not yet received any funds for the park, they voted to spend about \$500 in clearing the grounds, preparing the soil for the reception of trees, properly fencing the park for its own protection, doing a little necessary grading, providing seats, water, &c. To assist in defraying these expenses, it was announced in the advertisement that contributions of any amount would be received by the treasurer, and that \$5 or more would secure the setting of a representative tree for the donor, by the trustees. Several such subscriptions were made, but the first considerable contribution was from the Portsmouth Horticultural Society, (of which Mr. William R. Preston is President and Hon. M. Bufford Secretary,) who voted \$200 from their own idle treasury into the now active but empty treasury of Langdon Park. Other

smaller contributions of money, material and labor were also received, and all such are still solicited from any who approve the enterprise.

One feature, certainly novel, and so far as we are informed, unique in this little park, is that besides the very numerous individual and family trees, groups and clusters which are planted—many companies, societies, associations, clubs, lodges, &c. are here represented by miniature gardens, groves, arbors, triangles, and other floral forms, with trees, hedges, &c. therein, symbolizing each their own Order or object. A full alphabetical list of all trees set in the park, and the name of the owner or donor, will be found printed in these pages.

The day selected for the opening of the Park, May 23d, was chosen as being the date on which it is held by good authorities, a vessel arrived in the Piscataqua harbor, which probably brought New Hampshire's first permanent settlers to Odiorne's Point. Wet weather, however, caused the services to be postponed to the 25th; when the public exercises passed off to the complete satisfaction of all concerned.

A procession of which Col. W. H. Sise was Marshal, and consisting of the Knights of Pythias and the Daughters of Rebekah, with the City Guards, Capt. Haddock, for escort, and with Harlow's Marine Band, marched from Market Square down Richards Avenue to the entrance to the Park on South street; closely followed by the Kearsarge Cotton Mill operatives, with the Agent and other officers, with the Drum Corps for music.

The Board of Trustees, and a large concourse of people, received the procession at the Park; and after music by the Band, Mr. Frank W. Miller, chairman of the Board, introduced Rev. Dr. Alden, chaplain of the occasion, who earnestly and eloquently invoked the divine blessing upon the exercises of the day and the future of the Park.

Mr. Miller then announced that in accordance with the special request of Rev. Alfred Elwyn, present heir to the Langdon Elwyn estate, and agreeably to the well known preferences of the late Mrs. Elizabeth L. Elwyn, the Trustees had unanimously decided to change the name from Elwyn to Langdon Park, under which it was hereby opened to the public use forever; and the new flag being run up to the masthead, was saluted by Capt. Marvin's Light Artillery, whose field pieces were stationed on the hill adjacent.

As an interesting and important portion of the history of the Park, we give the correspondence from Rev. Mr. Elwyn which caused the Trustees to change the name from Elwyn to Langdon. As Mr. Miller stated from the stand, although the present generations have known and styled these lands as Mr. John Elwyn's fields, and are directly indebted to him for the gift of the site for a park—which facts had led the trustees to give the name of Elwyn Park; yet there was an older and nobler citizen even than Mr. Elwyn—the late Governor John Langdon, the eminent merchant, statesman and patriot—whose ample estate included every acre of these broad and beautiful lands, and from whom alone Mr. Elwyn received them by descent. The present owner, Rev. Alfred Elwyn, was desirous of the adoption of the name of Langdon for the Park, because of his great and preeminent respect for his great grandfather; and the discovery of the following old letter from his grandmother, Mrs. E. L. Elwyn, to her son, the late John Elwyn, among his papers, in reference to this very



matter of name for this road or common, had decided him to solicit the change by the trustees. The Board desiring some written request for the alteration, for their records and for their fullest justification, received the following note from Rev. Mr. Elwyn:—

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., May 19, 1876.

MR. TREDICK: *Dear Sir:* Your favor is received, and I hasten to comply with the request of the Park trustees, as conveyed by you.

It seems to me that nothing can be more authoritative than the stipulation made by Mrs. Langdon Elwyn, the late Gov. Langdon's daughter, in a letter found by me among Mr. John Elwyn's papers. Mr. Foster has kindly copied that portion of it pertinent to the subject in hand, which he will lay before the Board.

Accordingly, in the name of justice and patriotism, I beg to express the earnest wish that, on the coming day, the land be named "Langdon Park," and so named be presented to the citizens of Portsmouth. Thank the trustees for affording me this privilege, and believe me

Yours very truly,

ALFRED ELWYN.

The following are the portions of his grandmother's letter referred to, which are relevant to the point:—

NEW YORK, Nov. 15, 1850.

*Dear John:* Yours of 13th received, etc. \* \* \* Will the road destroy the rising ground in one field and the trees in the other, which I have loved to look at from my infancy? My father always wished a bridge to be built over the pond. \* \* \* Provided the bridge be built to your satisfaction, and the road marked out not to my injury, I will agree to your proposition and give the land requisite for the making the road—stipulating, however, that if it be named for any person it may be the owner of the land seventy years since; no one of the other name ever owned those lots—nor would I give the one hundredth part of an inch of ground were that name to be even thought of.

I shall like to see a pretty bridge across where I so often heard it talked of in childhood, and to drive over it and through or over the very spot first thought of for the house now overlooking it on the other side the stream. Let me hear again, and do all for the best—I am in earnest as well as you. Affectionately,

ELIZA LANGDON ELWYN.

Rev. James DeNormandie, the orator of the day, was then introduced by the chairman, as one who needs no introduction; and who although not a son of Portsmouth, is the next thing to it, and has endeared himself to all by the lively interest he has ever manifested in all our present local affairs and our local history. Mr. DeNormandie delivered the following finely written address, in which he evinced his usual research and thorough acquaintance with his subject, both special and general:

## ADDRESS

BY REV. JAMES DENORMANDIE.

—OO—

It often falls to the lot of one generation by the landscape of our coast, and one of them after returning, wrote, "we stood awhile as ravished at the beauty, and delicacy of the sweetness."

What the necessities of an early civilization require us to cut down, the equal necessities of a fuller culture may plead with us to restore. The forests which covered this surrounding space as far as our vision can reach, and met the yearning gaze of our first settlers, called forth their wildest praises, and became a large part of their wealth.

It is 274 years since the spirit of enterprise for establishing colonies, and exploring the fabled riches of this continent, which was most active in the French, English, Spanish and Portuguese in the 17th century—drew near to our harbor. At that time there was no European family along the whole line of the sea from Florida to Greenland. In March, 1602, Gosnold, an adventurer associated with the distinguished Sir Walter Raleigh, sailed for America, with a small vessel, sighted the coast of Maine, gave the name to Cape Cod, and after some discouragements gave up his plan and returned with a cargo of Sassafras root, then one of the most prized among medicines, and bringing such extravagant prices that it was one of the most valuable freights that could be taken to the sick of the old world. It is in memory of this first vision of our shore, as well for its own beauty, that I have tried to find a fine specimen of the Sassafras tree, to set out in this park. The voyagers were enraptured

In 1603 another expedition, this time from Bristol, came across the ocean, and in the month of June entered our harbor, and left, if not a permanent settlement, another testimony "to the goodly groves and woods" along the banks of our river. In 1623 this spirit of enterprise took for us a more definite form, and with results lasting unto the present day. There were two persons, Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Capt. John Mason, conspicuous in energy, adventure, and faith in the final success of planting colonies here. "I doubt not," writes Gorges, "it will prove a very flourishing place, and be replenished with many fair towns and cities, it being a province both fruitful and pleasant." A prophecy which has had ample fulfilment.

Perhaps we shall never know beyond doubt, the name of the vessel, or the day or month which brought the first colony to the mouth of our harbor. It may have been a barque belonging to the father of young Francis Champenowne, who afterward owned extensive possessions in Greenland and Kittery, from whom on the early maps, Chauncy Creek was called Champenowne Creek. It surely was close to this season of the year. The traces of that settlement, the foundation stones of Mason's Manor Hall, of the blacksmith shop near by, the



stones which mark the graves out of which great trees, worthy of the primeval ones, have grown, nourished by the dust of our ancestors—are all easy of access, at Odiorne's Point, where, an unusual thing in our land, the eighth generation is still found on the homestead of the first.

The settlement fairly begun, the necessity of fires and houses, of pastures and gardens and boats, required that the first labor should be the clearing of these forests. It seemed a ruthless destruction, but self-preservation, the comforts of life, the pursuits of commerce, the progress of civilization, all called for it. Man turns all nature first to his necessities, and then to his enjoyments. Beginning on yonder coast, slowly the forest mass fell before the invading axe. The trees turned into log cabins from Little Harbor to Strawberry Bank. Up to the first rude chapel on Pleasant street, just across the pond, and by goodly groves, many a Sunday the worshippers came in their boats to the Episcopal Service by Parson Gibson. There was no need of parks then for recreation, or grand trees for shade or shelter—the continent was a park. A clearer vision, lest perchance an Indian was behind some friendly oak, and room for the kindly fruits of the earth, were more needed.

So matters have gone on for two centuries. When we have gathered all we can from the treasures of the woods, when we have all the ground we want for agriculture, when the increase of wealth gives to a community more leisure, or the pressure of business and toil its attendant weariness, when we learn that the temperature, the rains, our crops and our health are somewhat influenced by our forests, man begins in the interests of pleasure, and of preservation, to restore the destructions his necessities once made. We respect the plan of nature as we know more of it, and by nature's own generous help we bring

back her harmonies, "for Nature is made better by no means but Nature makes that means."

One of the first sentences in the old Latin reader is, "The true husbandman plants the tree, a berry of which he will never behold." We begin to-day a work whose chief benefits after generations shall enjoy. We plant for posterity. Under the shade of these trees our children's children may rest and be grateful. There is something in the steady and increasing growth of the forest for so many years, solemn and suggestive. There are trees of the myrtle class in the valleys of Australia, surpassing in height the dome of St. Peter's, while on the island of Teneriffe is the Dragon tree, older than any date ascribed to the pyramids,—so that the ancients regarded trees as immortal, or as old as Time. The great oak of Saintes in Southern France is 90 feet in girth, and at least two thousand years old, whose leaves stirred before the tread of the cohorts of the first Caesar, and heard the laments over the fall of the last Napoleon. There is the Cowthorpe oak of England, over eighteen hundred years old, which has looked calmly down upon all the revolutions and developments of that wonderful island. There is the Linden of Wurtemberg, called "the great" six centuries ago, and there are olive trees on the slope of Olivet which were, not improbably, witnesses to the birth of Jesus. There are species of pine in our California forests of which Prof. Gray says, "it is possible that close to the heart of some of the living trees may be found the circle which records the year of our Saviour's nativity. There are cypress trees which by the most moderate calculation, have attained the venerable age of at least four thousand years, as unchanged as the Oriental civilizations they have witnessed. (*Science Monthly*, July 1873.)

In the fact of these great ages, which are

being more and more fully established, it may be, too, that the great oak of Abraham, now standing on the plains of Mamre, is the very one which shaded the patriarch, for as far back as history goes it has the weight of the tradition, and has welcomed to its living shrine a procession of pilgrims reaching through unnumbered centuries. Stately and alone on the plain stands this immense tree. As we drew near, we found a company of pilgrims holding a religious service beneath its spreading branches, while children climbing among them dropped down little twigs, which were gathered at the close for the venerable bishop to bless. Grand old tree, to have witnessed the birth of Hebrew monotheism out of the worship of Chaldean stargazers, to have heard the Palmist of Israel, to have been a silent witness at the birth of Jesus, and to hear the hymn of prayer from the unceasing throng still cherishing the memory of the "Friend of God." So we learn a lesson of permanence and growth from trees. They grow more slowly as they grow old, but as long as they live, they grow, and the foliage which comes forth on this spring day is as new as that which adorned them an hundred or a thousand years ago.

But we are asked in our overmastering spirit of utilitarianism, "Will it pay?" That question was asked of an Hibernian about the Hoosac Tunnel, and he replied "that whether it would pay or not, it was doubtless a great ornament to society." The returns of a Park may never come in any pecuniary benefits, which can be touched or handled. Doubtless there are some forebodings of new claims upon the city treasury, to end what has been well begun. Doubtless some may ask what need of any Park in a town so small, that amidst the surrounding groves, and walks, and drives, the ocean beaches hard by, and the banks of this chiefest of rivers, it is easy for any one to find the rest and charms of nature's

glory. Our reply is, that nature having done so much for us, it is our place to add to these natural advantages all that we can. Our reply is, that one of our chief needs, near every city, is some retreat easy of access and free as the forests to our first settlers, where those who are confined by the business and labor of the week may come with their families every holiday, and a part of every Sunday, and find grateful rest, as in the flight into Egypt the old artists represent the holy family beneath some sheltering tree, whose fruitful branches are bent by angel hands to their hungry lips. Our reply is that the most useful things are often those which bring us the least perceptible, and least immediate returns, but returns which, like the growth of a forest tree, reach through generations. Last Sunday afternoon I passed through the Public Garden and Common of Boston, and I never felt so intensely the usefulness of such resorts. In the genial air of that first day of Summer, thousands were sitting, strolling, talking, resting by the statues, the flowers, the fountains, under the elms; and I, a clergyman, feeling as keenly as any one the emptiness of the sanctuary, could not but confess that many found there the most helpful worship. It is true that nature does not of itself give the taste of beauty, the culture of knowledge, or the sense of reverence. The Indian among the grandest scenes of earth was savage still, and early worship amidst the grandeur of the universe was supremely of fear rather than trust,—but when these faculties have once been aroused and taken through other revelations a right direction, all outward things of beauty give some strength to better emotions, some silent rebukings of the lower; and one in whom religion has found a lodgement at all, can hardly roam or meditate amidst such surroundings "without some sense of a dew falling upon him out of the sky."



There is one way, however, in which the planting of trees may become useful in the lowest meaning, and not only useful but beneficent. I mean by setting out, with shade trees, nut and fruit trees whose products should be free to all. In our parks, along our common highways for miles and miles we might have rows of these, giving, with hardly any cost, fruit enough to supply all those who seldom have it abundantly. The managers of some of our railroads might atone for their ignorance or dishonesty in business matters, by lining these roads with the apple and pear, the peach and walnut, and berries too, whose loaded boughs should year by year drop a blessing into the thousand homes whose little earnings they have taken unto themselves, or into those other thousands to whom good fruit is only the temptation in their neighbor's garden—and I will trust all the boys of Portsmouth to let the trees grow and the fruit mellow, as surely as the children of Warnerton and Gibbins, Sherburne and Sloper, Pickering and Cotton, Cutt and Vaughn, Odiorne and Penhallow, and of many a nameless settler, let the wild berries ripen upon Strawberry Bank, two hundred summers ago.

All literature is full of the part the groves and forests have played in civilization; poetry, art, religion have turned to these for analogy, illustration, the secrets of nature, the records of history, and the handiwork of importance. Among the Greeks they were sacred, for that reverential people thought they were filled with divinities to meet and bless them at every step—whereas to Dante the idea of a forest is repulsive, and in the middle ages they were held to be the resort of robbers instead of deities, until the poets of England, Chaucer, Spenser and Shakespeare restored them to their glory, and sent their favorites into the woods for pleasure, for meditation; and there the Knights and ladies are always

represented as singing, or making love, or finding there the rest and joy of life. (See Ruskin, vol. 3, page 215, Modern Painters.)

Among all trees, perhaps no one has served a better or more frequent purpose in literature or in life, than one native to our soil, the pine. "Placed nearly always among scenes disordered and desolate, it brings them into all possible elements of order and precision. Lowland trees may lean to this side or that, though it be but a meadow breeze that bends them, or a bank of cowslips from which their trunks lean aslope; but let storm and avalanche do their worst, and let the pine find only an edge of vertical precipice to cling to, it will nevertheless grow straight. It desires nothing but rightness. Tall or short, it will be straight. Small or large, it will be round. Softer than the bodies of other trees, though its struggle of life is harder." Whether the magnificent pines which have had room and nourishment to attain the proportions of the California trees, or the dwarfs on whose tops you can walk among the storm-swept rocks of Mt. Washington, they are pines still.—as whether sheltered from temptation, and nourished by all the opportunities of culture, or driven by the storms of passion, we are human beings still.

"The grandeur of the forest tree  
Comes not by casting in a formal mould,  
But from its own divine vitality."

In religion too, what a part have groves and forests played, as the scene of man's earliest worship, or furnishing its treasures for his temples. Take that beautiful nature-hymn of Willis,

The perfect world by Adam trod,  
Was the first temple built by God,  
His fiat laid the corner stone  
And heaved its pillars one by one.  
He hung the starry roof on high,  
The broad illimitable sky,  
He spread its pavement green and bright,  
And curtained it with morning light.  
The mountains in their places stood,

The sea, the sky, and all were good.  
And, when its first pure praises rang  
The morning stars together sang.

In the scripture how manifold and significant the references to trees, from the one of Knowledge and of Life at the opening of Genesis, to the one at the close of Revelations whose leaves were for the healing of the nations. The juniper tree which heard the despair of Isaiah; the godly man like the tree planted by the rivers of waters, the groves of the idolaters, the cedars of Lebanon which the Lord hath planted, the trees of the field which clap their hands, and the woods and wilderness in which the flock of Israel were to dwell and safely sleep—and Eden and Gethsemane were not so much gardens as the Park of Paradise by the Euphrates, and the olive fields across the Kedron.

Let us rejoice then that we are to have a

Park. Year by year let us do what we can to make it more and more attractive, as year by year the silent forces of nature carry on the work we begin to-day. Let us bear in kindly memory him, through whose patriotic ancestors, and love of nature, and of preserving from traffic and destruction her growths, we have received this gift. Let us pay our tribute to those who with enthusiasm, energy, and generosity have made this day's dedication so successful. Here may toil find rest, meditation reverence, childhood a place for its sports, youth for its sentiments, age for its reflections; and may Almighty God grant that the trees we plant to-day, still fresh when we have all faded, when the century comes round, may shelter better men and women than we are, and see brighter days for our loved Fatherland.



## LIST OF TREES IN LANGDON PARK.

The following is the list of persons who planted trees in Langdon Park from May 8th to 27th, with the kind of trees furnished, and their location. Doubtless some names have been accidentally omitted, in the haste of preparation. Further ample opportunity will be afforded for setting other trees, at the proper season:

**A**  
 Samuel Adams, 1 hickory, 1 white oak, corner; also 1 large hornbeam in hollow.  
 from Adams farm, Kittery—S. E. corner. Concord Railroad employes in Ports-  
 Horace C. Adams, 1 white ash, from do. mouth, 1 large beech, S E side.  
 Joseph Akerman, 2 rock maples, S. W. corner. Richard T. Call, 1 black spruce, N. W.  
 hollow. Benjamin Cheever, 6 large arbor vitæ, S.  
 Daniel Austin, group of 6 trees, N. E. hollow.  
 side—1 Norway spruce, 2 rock maple, 2 Daniel H. Cotton, 1 rock maple, in rock  
 sweet chestnuts, 1 purple beech. maple grove, S. W. side.  
 Isaac Adams, Sandwich, N. H., 2 seed- Dr. B. W. Curtis, 1 rock maple, 1 elm,  
 ling European oaks, from English acorns; S. E. side.  
 South hollow, each side causeway. Edward D. Coffin, 1 elm, 1 maple, S. W.  
 Alice G. Adams, 1 hornbeam. hollow.  
 Marcelena J. Adams, 1 hemlock. Mrs. John Currier, 1 hickory, S. W.  
 Robert Aldrich, 2 white pines. hollow.  
 Rev. E. M. O'Callaghan, 1 large oak, S.  
 W. slope.

**B**  
 Mrs. M. P. Brooks, 1 sweet chestnut.  
 Arthur Brewster, 1 rock maple, N. centre.  
 Charles E. Brackett, 1 tall rock maple, 1 hickory, S. W. corner. Herman Brackett, 1 red oak.  
 J. H. Bailey, 1 large elm, S. W. hollow.  
 J. C. Butler, 1 large elm, S. W. hollow.  
 Floron Barri, 1 elm, N. centre.  
 William Berry, 1 rock maple, N. E. slope.  
 H. W. Briant, 1 aspen, S. W. hollow.  
 W. H. Berry, 1 elm, S. E. hollow.  
 Andrew J. Beck, 1 elm, N. centre, near pond.  
 Mrs. Mary Bassett, 1 elm, N. W. slope.  
 Maud Berry, 1 rock maple, 1 white maple, S. E. hollow.  
 Mrs. J. W. Bell, 1 elm.  
 James P. Bartlett, 1 black birch, S E slope.

**C**  
 City of Portsmouth, 7 trees, one for each ward—1 white oak, 1 hickory, 1 red oak, in S. E. front corner; 1 elm, 1 hornbeam, 1 wild cherry, 1 mountain ash, in S. W. front

corner; also 1 large hornbeam in hollow.  
 Concord Railroad employes in Ports-  
 mouth, 1 large beech, S E side.  
 Richard T. Call, 1 black spruce, N. W.  
 corner.  
 Benjamin Cheever, 6 large arbor vitæ, S.  
 hollow.  
 Daniel H. Cotton, 1 rock maple, in rock  
 maple grove, S. W. side.  
 Dr. B. W. Curtis, 1 rock maple, 1 elm,  
 S. E. side.  
 Edward D. Coffin, 1 elm, 1 maple, S. W.  
 hollow.  
 Mrs. John Currier, 1 hickory, S. W.  
 hollow.  
 Rev. E. M. O'Callaghan, 1 large oak, S.  
 W. slope.  
 H. Colson, 1 maple, 1 fir, N. slope.  
 John Canty, 1 elm, S. E. hollow.  
 Lizzie May Carrier, 1 red pine.  
 E. W. Cochrane, 1 large elm, S E hollow.  
 James E. Charlesworth, 7th son of Eman-  
 uel Charlesworth, 1 Norway spruce.  
 Carrie E. Carter, 6 years, 1 white spruce.  
 Lillie E. Curtis, 1 white pine.

**D**  
 Damon Lodge, No. 9, Knights of Pythias,  
 triple triangle and bower, with 4 large  
 rock maples, 1 elm, spruce hedge, etc.,  
 on hill.  
 W. Irving Drake, 1 rock maple, in rock  
 maple grove, S. W. side.  
 Edmund B. Dearborn, 1 elm. Frank K.  
 Dearborn, 1 rock maple, S. W. slope.  
 Annie S. Dran, age 22 mos., 1 elm, N.  
 centre.  
 S. M. Demeritt, 1 large and 1 small elm,  
 S. W. hollow.  
 Charles T. Durgin, Manchester, 1 Norway  
 spruce, S. E. corner.  
 James H. Dow and Elbridge Philbrook, 1

## LANGDON PARK.

15

twin white oak, S E hollow

**E**

Marcellus Eldredge, 2 large elms,—the largest trees set on the grounds, one on each side of the gate entrance—presented by Mr. Eldredge, and called by the trustees, the "Eldredge elms."

Leonard Evans, 2 rock maples, S W hollow.

Rev. Alfred Elwyn, family group of 8 trees in diamond near S. entrance—2 gray oaks, 1 rock maple, 3 white spruce, 1 white pine, 1 hemlock.

Wm. Y. Evans, 1 elm, S. W. side.

Joseph M. Edmonds, 1 yellow birch, S W hollow

**F**

Dr. N. L. Folsom, 3 Balm of Gilead, west line.

Joseph Fuller, 2 rock maples, in rock maple grove; also 6 hemlocks near.

Nath'l Foster, 3 mountain ash, 4 red sumac, S. W. hollow.

Wallace C. Freshett, 1 white spruce, S. W. hollow

Joseph Foster, U. S. N., 1 purple beech, S W front.

Edward A. Ferguson, 1 hackmetack, S. W. slope

William D. Fernald, 1 elm. Annie M. Fernald, 1 horse chestnut,—S. E. slope.

W. D. Fernald, memory Mrs. W. D. Fernald, Albert A. Fernald, Mrs. A. A. Fernald, Alberto C. Fernald, Mattie E. Fernald, Aggie Fernald, each 1 rock maple,—7 trees in row in S. E. hollow.

Samuel S. Frye, Mr. and Mrs. Horace E. Frye, Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Frye, Cora Frye, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Foster, Ida Foster,—each 1 rock maple, in rock maple grove, S. W. slope.

**G**

Ichabod Goodwin, 3 rock maples from his home farm in North Berwick, S E slope. Also 1 large rock maple in centre of same.

Miss Mary Garrett, 1 white poplar, in Spinney's row.

William Gray, 1 walnut, S W hollow

Zerviah Gray, 1 beech, S W hollow

Joshua C. Gray, 1 hickory, S E side

John H. Grant, 1 hemlock, S E slope

Mrs. Geo. A. Gerrish, 1 red oak, N. centre, in triangle, three sisters' oaks.

Samuel Gove, 1 cherry tree, N. centre slope

Allen Greenough, 1 large white maple, S E Hollow

Owen Griffin, 1 silver leaf poplar, N. W. corner

Wm. A. Greenough, Boston, 1 silver maple, S E front

Moses H. Goodrich, 2 large fir balsams, S. W. corner. Also, 1 lemon walnut

Andrew Gardner, 1 elm, S E slope

Charles W. Gardner, 1 elm, S E slope

E. M. Grindle, 1 elm; Abby A. Grindle, 1 elm. S. W.

**H**

Joseph R. Holmes, 2 rock maples, (the first trees set,) near S. W. corner. Also 1 white oak in same row, and group of 12 small trees near same, viz. 3 black birch,

1 white birch, 1 walnut, 1 white ash, 1 rock maple, 1 beech, 1 fir balsam, 1 mountain ash, 2 hackmetack.

George H. Ham, 1 rock maple: Charles W. Ham, 1 rock maple; Lizzie E. Ham, 1 rock maple, S. E. side.

Haven School, (by R. H. Perkins, Principal), 1 large elm, S. E. side.

Clinton Humphries, 1 hornbeam.

Geo. Clifton Humphries, 1 hornbeam,—S. W. hollow.

Annie M. Hatch, 1 red oak, 1 mountain ash, N E waterside.

Wm. Horn, 1 white oak, S E hollow.

Margaret T. Humphries, 1 maple, S. W. hollow.

Memorial Major Hooper, 1 rock maple; Mrs. M. Hooper, 1 rock maple; Samuel G. Hooper, 1 rock maple,—S. E. corner.

M. E. Hutchinson, 1 cut-leaved birch, S. W. slope.

R. H. Hall, 1 rock maple, S. W. slope.

John L. Howard, 1 red oak, S. W. side.

Mrs. J. B. Haley, 2 elms, 2 arbor vitæ, N. centre, near pond.

Mrs. Robert L. Harris, gray oak, in triangle, N. centre, three sisters' oaks.

Dr. J. F. Hall, group of 6 hackmetacks, 1 yellow, 1 white and 1 gray birch, 1 white pine, 1 cedar, S W slope.

C. A. Hazlett and A. H. Sides, 1 rock maple, S. E. corner.

Frank W. Hackett, Washington, 1 rock maple, S. E.

Martin Hoyt, silver maple, S. E. hollow.

Albert R. Hatch, Kentucky coffee tree, N. W. side, in Masonic group.

Geo. Herbert, 1 black spruce, N. E. row.



**I**  
I. O. of Odd Fellows, symbolic design, with chain of three links, of arbor vitae hedge, enclosing 10 large rock maple trees, etc., on hill.

**J**  
Mrs. M. P. Jones, 1 Kilmarnock weeping willow, 1 Norway maple, 1 rock maple, S. E. side.

John G. Jellison, Greenland, 1 brown ash, S. W. slope.

Belle S. Jones, 1 rock maple, N. E.

Dr. D. W. Jones, 1 rock maple, S. W. hollow.

James Janvrin, 1 white pine, S. hollow.  
Frank Jones' clerks, 2 elms, N W slope.

**K**  
Harriet McEwen Kimball, 1 white oak, in triangle, N. centre, three sisters' oaks.

Kearsarge House, by James E. Dennett, 1 elm, 1 brown ash, 1 bass, S. E. slope.

Kearsarge Steam Mill, by R. B. Adams, Agent, 1 large hornbeam, S. W. slope.

Oliver M. Knight, 1 Norway spruce, N. W. centre.

Kearsarge Steam Fire Eng. Co., No. 3, Grove, 1 white spruce in centre, with 8 Norway spruces in circle, with ornamented grounds.

**L**  
Samuel Langdon, 3 rock maples, 1 white maple, 1 ash, 1 white spruce, in group S. E. side.

Mrs. John Loughton, aged 90 years, 1 chestnut, set by herself May 21st, with appropriate remarks; Lafayette Loughton, her son, 1 chestnut; John Loughton, her grandson, 1 chestnut; Samuel Dodge, her grandson, 1 chestnut; Albert Loughton, her son, 1 linden,—in group in centre of S slope to hollow.

Mrs. Wm. Laskey, 1 rock maple, S E slope.

Mrs. Woodbury Locke, 1 cedar; Nellie Locke, 1 rock maple, N E slope.

Eustis Langdon, 1 elm; Helen Haven Langdon, 1 rock maple, S. E. hollow.

Henry Lombard, Mrs. H. Lombard, H. Lombard, Jr., each 1 rock maple, S. E. side.

Henry Lowd, 2 lemon walnut, N E river-side.

# M

Frank W. Miller, 6 small elms, near

millpond; 2 white pines, 2 white poplars, 2 rock maples, S. W. side.

Daniel Marcy, 1 rock maple, in Langdon group.

William J. and Maud B. Mendum, 9 rock maples, in group on S. E. hill, also 2 others near.

Marvin Brothers, (juveniles,) three small horse chestnuts, on S. E. slope.

Charles L. Mudge, 1 white ash, S. W. slope.

William Moses, 1 walnut, 1 hemlock; Samuel Moses, 1 walnut; Julia Moses, 1 Norway pine; Clara Moses, 1 Norway pine —S. W. hollow.

D. B. Macomb, U. S. N., 1 rock maple, in grove.

Oliver Manson, 1 elm, S E hollow.

Clarence B. Mason, 1 very large rock maple, N W centre.

John T. Mortimer, 1 elm, near pond.

Mrs. F. W. Miller, laburnum, S E slope.

Wm. H. Muir, 1 hackmetack, N W corner.

James McClure, 1 white pine, N W corner.

George W. Marston, 1 rock maple, S W corner.

T. E. O. Marvin, 1 large fir balsam, S E corner.

Simon H. Mills, 1 hackmetack, S W corner.

Daniel Murphy, 1 English ash, S centre.

Wm. Marvin, 1 fir balsam, S E corner; 3 hackmetacks; 1 white spruce, William E. Marvin.

# N

James W. Nutter, 2 hackmetacks, S W corner.

Newichewannock Tribe, Imp'd Order of Red Men, 19 red pines in circle around 1 white birch, N centre.

Nowell Brothers,—Wm. G., of Boston, Winslow A., of Milwaukee, and Samuel J., of New York,—1 large Norway spruce, S. W. corner.

Wm. H. Nutter, 1 black birch; C. A. Nutter, 1 maple; M. M. Nutter, 1 red oak; N W slope.

Oxford & Johnston, family group of 17 evergreen and deciduous trees, on S W side of hill, 6 maples, 4 black birch, 1 cedar, 3 white pine, 2 hemlocks, 1 Norway pine.

John E. Odion, 1 gray birch, 1 wild cherry, S W hollow.

Lory Odell, 1 white oak, S E corner  
Old Oaken Division, S. of T. 1 white spruce, in Temperance group.

# P

Portsmouth Horticultural Society, 4 lindens, with flowers and shrubs, centre of Park.

Portsmouth Grange, (by Frank W. Miller, W. Master,) 2 Norway spruces, one on each side, near South street. (The second trees set in the grounds.)

Portsmouth Mechanic Association, (by Frank W. Miller, President,) 1 white oak, S. E. side.

Portsmouth Mercantile Library Association, (by Wm. H. Sise, President, and Frank W. Miller, Trustee, committee,) 1 Norway spruce, N E corner, near pond.

Portsmouth Board of Trade, (by William H. Sise, President, and Frank W. Miller, Secretary, committee,) 1 Norway spruce, N W corner, near pond.

Portsmouth Heavy Artillery, Capt. Williams, 13 trees in a row, on east side of park, on the hill—one for each of the original States. (The first trees voted by any association, and the first brought upon the grounds.) Virginia, red oak; Massachusetts, hickory; New Hampshire, white oak; Connecticut, elm; Rhode Island, white maple; New York, rock maple; New Jersey, yellow birch; Delaware, beech; Pennsylvania, hemlock; Maryland, ash; North Carolina, Norway pine; South Carolina, cottonwood; Georgia, Lombardy poplar.

Portsmouth Light Artillery, Capt. Marvin, 1 large elm, N. W. slope, near pond, with ornamental grounds, hedge, etc.

Portsmouth Veteran Artillery Association, (by Nath'l D. Miller, committee,) 1 large rock maple, near S. E. corner.

Capt. John S. Pray, 1 white oak, S. E. Dr. A. Perry, 1 white poplar, on W. line.

From Peirce Farm, (Greenland) 12 trees in line, S. E. side, (by Joseph W. Peirce,) 2 bass (or American linden,) 2 hornbeam, 1 hickory, 2 brown ash, 1 elm, 1 lemon walnut, 1 black birch, 1 red oak; 1 maple, (by W. Peirce.)

A. J. Penhallow, 1 hickory, 1 white oak, S. E. slope.

Portsmouth Guards, Capt. Haddock, 1 large elm, S. E. side of hollow; planted by the company in full uniform, with salute of music and cheers—the first public services on the grounds.

Portsmouth Temperance Reform Club, 2 hickory, on N. and S. sides of Temperance group.

Portsmouth Band of Hope, 1 rock maple, on N. side Temperance group.

Joseph Pettigrew, 2 rock maples, N. of Temperance group.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pritchard, in her 96th year, 1 white birch, in centre, N. slope of hill. Planted by herself.

Lucy J. Preble, 1 white ash, N. W. slope.

Portsmouth High Schools, by Stephen W. Clark, Principal, 1 very large English larch, 1 European linden, N. centre of slope, with tablet.

Dr. John S. Perry, 1 silver birch, S. W. Thos. W. Penhallow, aged 92 years, 1 rock maple, S. E. side.

Miss Lydia Pickering, 3 elms.

Mrs. Joseph Parry, 1 white oak, from the old Haines farm in Greenland, N. E. corner.

Portsmouth Horticultural Society, group of 4 lindens, S. E. slope.

Portsmouth Cornet Band, 1 maple, S. E. hollow.

Wm. R. Preston, Wm. H., Andrew J., and Frankie S. Preston, each 1 linden, S. E. slope.

Willie Page, 1 maple, N. W. slope.

P. Y. M. C. Association, 1 tulip tree, S. E. front.

Peter Page, 1 sweet chestnut, S. W. corner.

# R

C. H. Rollins, 1 white oak, S. E. slope.

Robert Rand, Mrs. R. Rand, Rienzi C., and Wingate G. Rand, John J. Grogan and Harry Pryor, each 1 elm, N. W. corner.

Mrs. Wm. G. Randall, 1 maple, S. E. slope.

James A. Rand, Mrs. Rand, Chas. S. Rand, Flora B. Dow, each 1 rock maple, S. W. corner. Also 1 sassafras family-tree, S. centre.

R. Roberts, 1 maple, Mrs. Roberts, 1 red oak, 1 maple, N. E. slope.

George Rogers, 3 rock maples, the first trees given by any individual, S. W. side.

Jefferson C. Rowe, 1 rock maple, S. E. corner.

Ira Randall, 1 gray birch, S. W. hollow.

Albert H. Rowe, 1 black birch, S. W. hollow.

Mrs. D. L. Randall, 6 maples, 1 spruce, N. E. side.

Edwin Randall, 1 elm, near pond.



Mrs. Clara Randall, Clara Dame, 1 black birch, N. E. slope.

Revs. Edward A. and Wm. A. Rand and family, 3 elms, N. W. side:

Lucy Rand, 1 white poplar, N centre.

### S

St. Andrew's Lodge, F. and A. M., 1 elm, 2 hickory, 1 red oak.

Mary Stuart, 1 white poplar, N centre.

St. John's Lodge, F. & A. Masons, 3 oaks, 1 hickory, in triangle,—next north K. of P.

S. P. C. A., 1 elm, N. centre of Park; also 1 rock maple, in rock maple grove, South.

S. P. C. Children, 1 elm, N. centre hill.

John Stearns, Sup't Peirce Farm, 1 brown ash.

Mrs. E. P. Seavey, 2 hornbeams, in hollow.

Mark H. Seavey, 1 white oak, 2 white spruces.

Daniel H. Spinney, 1 elm; Mrs. Spinney, 1 mountain ash; Delhi Spinney, 1 white oak; Ceylon Spinney, 1 white oak; Clyde Spinney, 1 white oak,—all on S. W. line.

Michael Sheridan, 1 rock maple, 2 beech, in Langdon group.

Fred Clinton Sides, 1 black birch, N. W.

William Simes, 1 hickory, 1 ash, 1 linden, S. W. slope.

John P. Simes, 1 hickory, 1 red maple, from the old John Pickering farm in Strat-ham, S. W. hollow.

Nellie C. Stimson, 1 maple; Annie P. Stimson, 1 maple; Albert G. Stimson, 1 elm—N W wall row.

John H. Smith, 1 red maple, S W slope.

Willie J. Sanborn, 1 hickory.

Susie P. Spalding, 1 balm Gilead, N W.

C. Sullivan & Co., 1 rock maple, N W.

St. Mary's Benevolent Association, 1 large rock maple, S E slope.

Emma F. Stott, 1 rock maple; Washing-ton Stott, 1 red oak, S W slope.

Freeman Snow, 1 elm, N W slope.

James Sanborn, 1 hickory, N W side.

Freeman F. Sanborn, 3 rock maples, N E side.

Sagamore Lodge, No. 258, Knights of Honor, 1 large rock maple, N W centre.

Richard H. Smart, 1 hickory, N W corner.

Joshua Stackpole, 1 rock maple, S E

William H. Sise, 1 elm, S E side.

### T

T. Salter Tredick, 6 cut-leaved mountain ash, two each in front, centre, and N of park.

Lewis B. Tarlton, 1 rock maple, N W side of hollow.

Elisha Tripp, 1 white oak, S E side.

Moses H. Tilton, 2 black cherry, 3 rock maple, group, N E corner.

John S. Tilton's harness workmen, 1 white oak, N E corner.

Charles H. Tucker, 1 rock maple, S W side.

John S. Treat, President of the Ports-mouth Temperance Reform Club, 1 hickory, N side of Temperance group, with marble tablet, inscribed, "By the temperance workers, 1876."

Tredick Brothers (Edward, of Dover, Benjamin T., of Philadelphia, and Thomas, of Portsmouth,) 1 beech, 1 white, 1 rock maple, S E side.

Mrs. J. M. Tredick, for Gertrude Bailey Tredick and Marian Fendell, her grand-children, each 1 British oak.

Mrs. E. S. Cushman Tilton, 1 weeping elm, called the Cushman elm, set May 23d, the anniversary of her father's death, S W hollow.

### U

U. S. S. Kearsarge Crew, 1 large elm, S E hollow.

U. S. Custom House, 1 hickory, 1 white oak, N W side.

U. S. Post office, by E. G. Peirce, Jr., 1 elm, N W side.

John C. Urch, 1 white poplar, N centre slope.

### V

J. M. Vaughan, 1 yellow birch, S W hollow.

### W

Charles L. Woodbury, 1 large yellow oak, S front.

John H. Wells, 1 hickory, 1 maple; Mrs. E. Wells, 1 maple; May Tucker, 1 maple;

E. Viola Tucker, 1 maple, S E hollow.

Helen M. Walley, 1 elm; James Walley, 1 elm, S E side.

Lieut. Frank D. Webster, U. S. M. C., 1 rock maple, to note the centennial of the Marine Corps; also 1 rock maple, memorial to Henry C. Webster, who fell in action

during the rebellion.

H. F. Wendell, 1 maple, S W hollow.

H. J. Willey, 1 fir balsam, 1 maple, N centre.

Mrs. Charles A. Wendell, 1 maple, Harry Wyatt Wendell, 1 small maple, N E side.

Henry F. Wendell, 1 large elm, S W centre.

A. Q. Wendell, 1 cedar, S W hollow.

Job Woodsum, 1 fir balsam, S W corner.

Women's Temperance League, 1 large silver birch, on N E slope, in centre of tem- perance group.

Frederica Williams, 1 white poplar, N centre.

Dr. and Mrs. S. C. Whittier, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Briant, and Gracie M. Briant,

each 1 aspen, S W side.

F. Williams and W. I. Trafton, 1 large white spruce, with adornments, W side, top of hill.

Dr. S. C. Whittier, 2 aspen, N W slope.

F. Williams, 3 cedars, S W slope.

Charles S. Whidden, 1 elm, S E hollow.

Daniel Wardwell, 1 elm, S W slope.

Andrew P. Wendell, 1 elm, N E slope.

### Y

Aaron Young, 1 elm, from his home farm, in Barrington, S W hollow.

Capt. Jonathan Young, U. S. N., 1 white oak, S E slope.

Mrs. J. W. Young, 1 maple, S W slope.

### Mrs. Pritchard's Tree.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pritchard, the oldest lady in the city, now in her 96th year, at the

dedication of her tree at the Park, said:

"I bless the gentlemen who so kindly pre-

sented me with this beautiful tree in my

old age. May it live and thrive, and may

they and theirs have the pleasure of sitting

under the shadow of its branches for time

to come. May the blessing of the good

God ever attend all the offices of this Park

in their good and noble work, and may

they be blessed in all their undertaking. I

believe this park will be, must be a bless-

ing to the city and the community."

### The Loughton Group.

Mr. Albert Loughton sent the following

poetic request to the chairman of the trus-

tees; and his linden tree was accordingly

planted in the centre of the four sweet chest-

nuts set by his family.

Dear Friend: This linden tree I send;—

Find for it some green spot,

Some sheltering slope where stormy winds

May pass and harm it not.

Be tender of its budding charms,

Give it the amplest room,

That wooing airs may some day come

And kiss it into bloom.

Yours ever, ALBERT LAUGHTON.

To Hon. F. W. MILLER, Chairman of Trustees.



## THE OPENING EXERCISES AT THE PARK.

The arrangement of this little book,—like the simple, quiet celebration it treats of, and the lovely miniature Park itself, is altogether informal, and somewhat novel, for greater convenience of printing; but neither will on that account possess the less attraction for those who are interested therein. We continue our report of the proceedings on the public arbor day.

The chairman introduced ex-Governor Goodwin, as one who though not a Son of Portsmouth, yet had come to us from his native Maine, at his earliest opportunity, and had long filled the position of our noblest citizen. He expressed his earnest sympathy with the present Park enterprise, and related how in 1834 he labored to save the beautiful grounds from being the location for the almshouse.

Rev. Daniel Austin of Kittery was also introduced, as a Son who had changed his home to Maine, perhaps because it would not be fair for two such nice old gentlemen to live in the same city. But while it was not at all probable that Gov. Goodwin ever regretted his coming among us; Mr. Austin had recently owned up that he was sometimes more than half sorry that he left us. Mr. Austin made a very appropriate speech, shortly beautiful, and beautifully short—in which he expressed pleasure that the improvements which he had so long hoped for here had now actually begun; and he prophesied, as also did the Governor, that the bridge so long talked of, will now be built across the South Pond.

These two venerable gentlemen, who have always shown great love for trees, and for nature and the beautiful generally, then proceeded with and on behalf of the trustees, to plant a rock maple tree in front of the stand—which let us hope will flourish and continue as long as any in the park;—and the band gave Auld Lang Syne.

The groups of trees set by Governor Goodwin and Mr. Austin, are also mentioned in our detailed record.

Mr. Miller then stated that as all are now in favor of women's rights, the ladies must now have a chance;—that the venerable and venerated Mrs. Pritchard, in her 96th year, was on the grounds, and would plant her own beautiful white birch tree near the centre of the Park—which she presently did, with appropriate and interesting remarks, which were closely listened to by a large circle, and are given elsewhere.

The chairman also stated that the venerable Mrs. John Loughton, who is in

her 91st year—mother of the poet Albert Loughton; the lovely old lady, whose presence is a benediction, and whose gift to our city of the poet, her son, and other worthy children, is a benefaction—was on the grounds on Wednesday, and herself planted a chestnut tree, with three others in a group, to be called the Loughton group, with a linden in the centre, selected by her son, and sent with a couple of beautiful verses, which were read by the chairman, and are printed herein.

Rev. Alfred Elwyn was next called upon, and spoke with full approval of the Park, and the change of name to Langdon, and with best wishes for the success of the enterprise.

Hon. C. L. Woodbury, who was then introduced as of Portsmouth and Boston, and spoken of as a white oak citizen, but who had planted a red oak for his tree, (hist'ry) and would always be found a well read man—favored his fellow-townsmen with one of his jolly, able, and always interesting speeches, as follows:

### MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES & CITIZENS:

It is pleasant on this bright day to see so many of the good and true gathered around. It is cheering to see these venerable survivors from the last century joining heartily with their descendants in votive efforts to adorn and dedicate this Park to the grandfather of my esteemed friend who gave it to the people of Portsmouth, whom he loved so well. The name of Langdon is well chosen. Every one in Portsmouth reveres that patriot of our revolution, not only for his courage, enthusiasm and self sacrifice in times that tried men's souls a century ago, but for the wise statesmanship and the keen sagacity which made him a leader in tracing the path and moulding the institutions of our country into the shapes that have resulted in the present greatness of our Union and our liberties.

While I hesitate to touch on those subjects which the orator of the day has dwelt upon in a way so cheering to your ears and mine, allow me to go back into one of the past centuries of this old Strawberry Bank and recall to you, the descendants of the patriots of those days, the bold and successful blow struck by your grandsires Dec. 13th, 1774, at the British fort which guarded the mouth of your harbor. Receiving news that a British man of war had dropped down below in Boston harbor, it was suspected to reinforce Fort William & Mary, John Langdon communicated with Gen. Sullivan, who lived up this river, and who gathering a party of dashing youngsters came down the river on a gundalow, joined Langdon who had raised another party here, and dropped down to Great Island, with the tide, attacked the fort, received the fire from their land battery without hurt, captured the fort, and carried off all the ammunition, small arms, and light artillery it contained. This, historians say, was the powder that near six months afterward served the patriot forces at Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill. Your historians have recorded all this better than I can tell it; and although Portsmouth made no centennial parade on the anniversary of that dark night when her fathers "fired the American heart" by their resolute onslaught on the royal flag, yet your neighbors in the Bay State celebrated the centennial of those fights, apparently oblivious of the bold deed that won the powder, and even that it was their Paul Revere who rode sixty miles to warn Langdon, at the request of their Committee of Safety.

Another noble deed of sacrifice on his part, in 1777, when Burgoyne had



cut his way into the heart of New York and had detached Baum and the Hessians to plunder Vermont for the support of his armies, and the fortunes of the rebellion were very dark, Langdon, then president of the council of this State, arose at the council and said, "I have three thousand dollars in hard money, my plate I will pledge for as much more. I have seventy hogsheads of Tobago rum, which shall be sold for the most it will bring. These are at the service of the State. If we succeed, I shall be remunerated; if not, they will be of no use to me. We can raise a brigade; and our friend Stark, who so nobly sustained the honor of our arms at Bunker Hill, may safely be entrusted with the command, and we will check Burgoyne."

New Hampshire accepted the offer, Gen. Stark took the command, Langdon rode with him, though a civilian. The hardy sons of the Granite State swarmed with them. Bennington was fought, the best regulars of Europe were driven out of their breastworks by those homespun soldiers. Beaten at every point, Burgoyne's fate decided by the blow, and the cause of American liberty rescued from impending ruin, this was New Hampshire's private fight made "on her own hook." In the way of parenthesis, and in behalf of a once very respectable and healthy article of commerce, now sadly, and I will not say undeservedly abused, I say to you, stalwart sons of Portsmouth, when you look on the star-spangled banner that floats here above us and ask why it outlived those early perils, drop a silent benediction to the memory of those seventy hogsheads of Tobago rum. Even the strictest temperance men will admit that rum "dared to do right" on that occasion, however perilous it is often found. I cannot dwell further on the shining record of his revolutionary services.

Gov. Langdon was more than the man of generous impulse, the fiery patriot, the sympathetic leader of masses. For more than thirty years after the revolution he continued in public life, encountering the vicissitudes of party. In him statesmanship of rare order was added to great good sense. The revolution accomplished, a form of government had to be blocked out for these States. Many honorable and educated men thought our best course would be to follow the tradition and forms of the British constitution, and looked on its decayed and crumbling feudalism as the noblest structure of the human intellect. Gov. Langdon belonged to that class who looked forward with faith that the new departure meant progress in the pursuit of happiness. He was one with those who believed that through our independence expression would be given to better social institutions, and a higher average of personal character be attained. His hands were on the plough, and he never looked back at the furrow irresolute. In the moulding of our constitutions, State and Federal, in legislation and administration of public affairs, he was side by side with those who having caught the true spirit of the American mind, aided to give it expression in our institutions.

Look at our departure. We left monarchy, landed aristocracy, no written guaranteed liberty for our masses, the union of Church and State, primogeniture, distrust of popular education, privilege for one class, repression for the other.

We have arrived at written constitutions, elective officers, bills of rights for the whole people, liberty of conscience, taxing no man to support another's creed, equal toleration for all religious creeds, and the individual right to

choose your own religion and support it by your voluntary contributions; equal political rights for all, a common educational system which provides the means of learning for every child who desires to enjoy it in all the States, sovereignty of the people, State rights, free thought, equal right of inheritance, and a broad system of equality where merit takes the place of privilege, and where every avenue to wealth or political power is open on equal terms to all.

Among the nations of the world, the Americans planted these institutions on the ruins of feudalism, and are ready to-day to abide the judgment whether we have improved on the standard of the last century, loyal Briton—or have retrograded.

Bright indeed as Langdon's name now is to us, with future generations it will grow in reverence, and these honors you now lavish will be succeeded by faithful tokens in full sheaves.

Ladies and gentlemen, our real business to-day is not history, but enjoyment, looking with this spontaneous planting to provide for it in the future as well as now. In the early days of his migrations to this coast, even John Bull had some good traits, and we might revive one of our earliest eastern customs in aid of making this park a thing of joy to the youth of this good city. Before the days of puritanism, this colony was a very cheerful institution, mainly given to trade and fisheries. Old Phineas Pratt, in 1622, left England and arrived at Damrell's Island, at the eastward, in, as I presume, May, 1623; for he says, "The men belonging to the ships there fishing, had newly set up a maypole and were very merry." Thence he came to the Isles of Shoals, and there leaving the haunts of the stalwart fishermen, our ancestors, and the aroma of mayflowers, and song and dance, he sailed on towards those lugubrious and sandy shores where "setting an Episcopalian in stocks, flogging a Baptist or hanging a Quaker for conscience sake," were their chief saturnine revels. Starved out and hunted thence he returned the following spring to Piscataqua and to the kindly hospitality of Mr. David Thompson and the fishermen.

Now, Mr. President, a Maypole becomes a Park, its garland of flowers yield an aroma of happiness, of civility and toleration. As an American institution it was first planted east of Cape Ann. We have passed the days of intolerance, and I want to see a Maypole in Langdon Park. I want to see the pretty girls and stalwart young men of old Strawberry Bank on the anniversary of to-day, when the hawthorn, the myrtle and the arbutus are in blossom, gathering here with song and mirth, making the balmy air redolent with their happiness. Do you remember how old Herrick sings?

"See how Aurora throws her fair  
Fresh quilted colors thro' the air!  
Get up! sweet slug-a-bed! and see  
The dew bespangled herb and tree;  
Each flower has wept and bowed toward the East  
Above an hour since, and you not dressed;  
Nay—not so much as out of bed,  
When all the birds have matins said  
And sung their thankful hymns! 'tis sin,  
Nay, profanation, to keep in!  
When as a thousand virgins in this day  
Spring sooner than the lark to fetch in May."

I am sure the pretty girls of Portsmouth deserve a more fervid admiration than the old poet's Corinna, and if your poets don't surpass him in madrigals under their inspiration, the fault will not be with the girls. I say then that next year "while time serves and we are but decaying," let's go Maying here; and to start the ball I prom-



ise to furnish your Queen of the May the prettiest bouquet to be found in Boston, as my respectful tribute to the empire of youth, innocence and beauty.

It was then announced that a weeping elm had been planted in memory of the late Hon. Samuel Cushman, at the request of his daughter, Mrs. Tilton, to be known as the Cushman elm. The chairman referred to his courtliness, urbanity, integrity, and his long and valuable services in connection with our public schools. Also to the late Rev. Dr. Burroughs, who lived and died in the John Langdon house, and who was always so much concerned for and identified with all our best home interests. Likewise to the late Albert L. Jones, Esq., first chairman of the Board of Trustees; and to Alfred M. Hoyt, Esq., who though not able to be present, or to take any active part with the Trustees—yet is cognizant of and interested fully in every movement for the Park. Mr. John Elwyn's memory was also called up, and the fact alluded to that none would enjoy this scene more than he and those others named, could they be here to participate. In memory of them all, and also in view of the fact that the new park was the first camping-ground of the famous Second New Hampshire Regiment of volunteers in the rebellion, enrolled under authority of Gov. Goodwin—the "Angel of Peace" was an especially appropriate and beautiful selection by the Band.

As showing the late Mr. Elwyn's regard for children, and his kindness of heart, it was related that a few years ago, as he was walking in from the trotting park with Judge Odell, they overtook a little girl drawing a baby in a carriage; and as she was evidently tired, Mr. Elwyn took the carriage from her hand, and drew it for a mile or two, till he delivered the children safely at their own door on High street.

The chairman of the Trustees and of the meeting, then gave some brief account of the manner in which the Park had been constructed thus far. With-out any funds or material, and with only the impromptu plan for laying out the grounds as approved by the Board, carried in their own heads—they yet decided to start the movement, and depend upon the public—the Portsmouth public, at home and abroad, for approval and support, moral and pecuniary. And during the two weeks of arbor culture, they had had a tree-mendous time indeed. Men, women and children; maids, wives and widows; families, lodges, societies, associations, temperance and military organizations; ministers, sea captains; the city corporation, representatives of church, state and nation—anybody, everybody—the young and the old—had brought or sent trees, singly or in lots—trees before breakfast, during dinner, and after supper—high trees and low trees, deciduous and evergreen—trees that couldn't help living, and trees that couldn't but die—trees pruned close, and trees that not a leaf must be touched;—until the chairman, who was overseer of all, and dined, supped, and almost lived on trees, not only saw trees as men walking, but as ladies and babies walking, or riding also, for verily all ages planted trees, from 22 months to 96 years! Good, so, for a beginning.

It was frequently asked where the money came from, which has been expended on the Park. Well, those who have made donations to the treasurer, know how much they have given towards it—and all such have due credit on his books; and further contributions of money are solicited from all who approve the enterprise, and are willing to believe, judging from the work already performed, that such funds will be judiciously expended. The cost thus far

has been about \$700, and the receipts about \$300, besides the trees supplied, and a considerable amount of material and labor donated by various parties..

In introducing James P. Bartlett, Esq., to the audience, the chairman alluded to his interest long manifested in our city schools, and in public affairs generally; and said that he would in part speak for the High Schools, who had set the large larch and linden near by. Mr. Bartlett spoke as follows:

#### MR. CHAIRMAN, AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It seems to me eminently fitting that this budding and blossoming season in this most celebrated year should have been chosen for the opening, and so to speak the dedication of this charming spot, which has been voluntarily donated to our city through the generosity of one whose memory we revere, marking as it does at this interesting period, the birth of a new recreative pleasure, open to all the citizens of our town. In this year of jubilee we have every reason for profound thankfulness as we survey the past, and exultant hope as we look forward to the future. Long have we looked forward to the coming of this year, with anxious yearnings to participate in its rejoicing festivities, well knowing that but one such year in our country's history can occur within the limits of one human life.

To-day we stand as it were upon an elevated plateau in the life-path of our nation, and as we look back upon the road, alternately bestrewn with thorns and flowers, which has led us on and up to where we now stand, our hearts swell with love and gratitude to those brave men who, a hundred years ago, achieved and established constitutional government by the people, which by the blessing of heaven has come down to us unimpaired—aye, better than that; purified and cemented as it has been in the late war by the best blood of this generation of our countrymen, it stands to-day upon a broader and firmer foundation than ever. We never have had more strong reason for faith in the permanence of our free institutions than we have to-day; we have never had a fairer prospect of possessing "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable," and we may well feel proud and happy.

Sir, I believe in the gratitude of communities. The flight of years cannot eradicate the feeling of gratitude which a people cherish for the men or women who have rendered a service which has contributed to the welfare of a nation, or of the community in which they lived. The very names of Washington, Samuel Adams, Hancock, John Langdon and hundreds of others, of the brave soldiers, emancipators and defenders of our beloved country of a hundred years ago, never fail to stir within us a feeling of love and gratitude. We never visit the grave of a soldier who has died in the cause of his country,—we never look upon the faces of those (some of them before us now) who bear the scars of honorable wounds received in the defence of our country without a lively appreciation of the service which they have rendered to us all.

I well remember, as doubtless others here present do, the visit of Gen. La Fayette to our old town many years ago,—with what demonstrations of affectionate regard the whole population flocked to meet him, to shake his hand,—that hand which had drawn a sword for the cause of our country in the hour of her poverty and peril. I was then but a child, too young to give voice to the patriotic spark which the scene kindled in my small bosom; and like all the



other small boys of the town, I wore upon the frontlet of my beaver, the bright blue badge with the sentiment of the day emblazoned upon it in golden letters, "Welcome LaFayette." In later years I remembered that welcome of joy, and I do not forget to-day, that there is such a thing as a nation's gratitude; aye, such a thing as gratitude in our beloved old town of Portsmouth, for we do revere and cherish the memory of our home patriots, and of those who have been active and generous in the promotion of our home interests.

I know it is the custom to speak of the virtues of our fellow-men, only when they have passed away. We wait until the eye that ever kindled with joy at the happiness of others, is closed,—until the ear that was never shut to the calls of duty, can hear no longer, and the heart which ever beat in quick response of human sympathy, is stilled forever, before we give utterance to our sentiments of praise, for certain of our fellow-citizens. I see around me here to-day, men and women whose presence with us for many years has been a cheering encouragement to every benevolent enterprise,—open-handed, free-hearted and full of sympathy for every good cause. I will not diverge from custom so far as to name or eulogize them here, but I will say this for you, Mr. President, that we owe you a large debt for your unflagging energy in the prosecution of this worthy enterprise. May you live long to enjoy it; the fruits of your honest endeavors here, will outlive us all;—and standing here now upon this dedicated ground, the very portion of the inheritance of his fathers which he devoted to his townsmen and their heirs forever, we would not suppress the gratitude and respect which we feel for the memory of our late beloved townsman, John Elwyn. Our regret is that he cannot be present to-day, to witness the enthusiasm of all classes in the hearty reception of his gift—to see these trees planted—each tree either a personal tribute or the offering of some of the associations of men and women; not the least among them the tribute of the boys and girls of the High School,—yonder graceful larch, and the poetical linden that stands near, the offerings of the youthful part of this generation—with the others they shall henceforth find companionship with those grand old elms planted by the Langdons a century ago—their united, cooling shadow shall fall upon the happy rambles in this Park, like a benediction of the past and present.

One of the lessons which we learn to-day, in accepting this beautiful slope of ground from the generous donors is, that we ought not and must not live for ourselves alone. Self-preservation it is true is the first law of nature, and our first duties are those we owe to our families and the kindred who are dependent upon us. But there is room above and beyond all this for an outreaching benevolence that shall encompass our town, our State, our country, our race, aye, all mankind; and even the dumb animals, our cousins less fortunate than we are in the scale of existence,—benevolence which shall touch not only our living fellow beings, but shall reach forward to embrace coming generations yet unborn.

Our forefathers did not live to themselves wholly, but largely for others, for us,—they rest from their labors, and we are enjoying the fruits thereof, and we cannot at this hour thank them in any way more appropriately, than in the purpose for which we have assembled. For this plat of ground is not for our own gratification alone—and whatever adornment we may deck it with now or

hereafter has far more reference to the happiness of our children and of their children than to our own.

With this view then let us lay it out, adorn it, plant our trees upon it, fill it with pleasant walks and shady groves, with restful seats beneath, where the weary in soul or body may find quiet recreation and rest from the toils of the day, that it may be a bequest worthy to be made by us, and accepted by posterity.

Then may we in the eloquent words of the immortal son of New Hampshire—bid them—

"Advance then—ye future generations! we hail you as you rise in your long succession to fill the places which we now fill, and to taste the blessings of existence, where we are now passing and shall soon have passed our own human duration. We bid you welcome to the healthful skies and verdant fields of New England; we greet your accession to a great inheritance which we have enjoyed. We welcome you to the blessings of good government, and of religious liberty. We welcome you to the treasures of science, and the delights of learning. We welcome you to the transcendent sweets of domestic life, to the happiness of kindred, and parents, and children. We welcome you to the immeasurable blessing of national existence, to the immortal hope of Christianity, and the light of everlasting truth."

We are pleased also, to be able to present the brief impromptu remarks of Rev. Mr. Austin, Rev. Mr. Elwyn, and Gov. Goodwin, as furnished at our request, but not received in season for insertion earlier.

Previously bent upon being silent, yet overcome by his feelings, Mr. Austin made the following brief and ardent outbreak:

O, is it not delightful to witness, how, under the impulse of a great, noble and beneficent idea, the energetic genius of one man has been able to sway the sympathies of a noble city, and, in so short a time, planted these heights with such a number of trees, and peopled them, to-day, with such a host of eager and consenting minds. A park here is needed for sanitary as well as esthetic purposes. Your fellow citizens on this side of the pond need it and a rustic bridge leading to it. They have too long been ignored by both town and city government, whose duty it was to draw them more closely to the center. Let them, by and by, meet you on the prospective Elwyn bridge and clasp fraternal hands. They need this Langdon Park. We all need it, and can have it. Faith and a strong will work wonders. It ought to be done. It can be done. It must be done, and prophetically speaking, it will be done.

The following are substantially the words of Gov. Goodwin:

MR. CHAIRMAN:

It is with much pleasure that I respond to your summons to add my voice to that of others about us, in celebrating this interesting occasion. In finding myself here this afternoon, I am reminded of a set of circumstances which occurred quite forty years ago, which you will pardon me for recalling; for had certain plans at that time urged, been carried out, this lovely spot would have had far other occupancy than ours, to-day. The old Almshouse, which at that period stood where our Court House now stands, had fallen out of repair,



and I was one of a committee to determine what should be done in the premises. The youngest member of the committee, and in opposition to the ideas of several of my seniors, I advocated pulling the old house down, and building a new one in some other and more retired location. This view was finally accepted at a Town Meeting, and the committee was then empowered to seek and recommend a suitable site for the new edifice. There was much feeling as to whether it should be at the north or south part of the town. This Park, then known as the Langdon lot, and the Simes farm, where the Almshouse now is, were offered to the committee. On the one hand it was contested that the Simes farm was too far out and inaccessible; while the Langdon lot with a light bridge over the South Mill Pond would be easily approached. The cost of the two places was about equal; though the Simes farm contained very much more land, every acre of which was equally good for cultivation. A town meeting was called and the two propositions were presented.

I recollect making a speech in favor of the Simes farm, setting forth in the best manner I could, its advantages, particularly taking into consideration its extent and agricultural possibilities. The question was put, and decided by the moderator for this lot. I disputed the vote, and called for a poll of the house, and by this method, the question was decided by a very large majority, for the Simes farm; and I was made one of the committee to purchase it. Thus the Langdon lot was saved for our Park, and the promenade bridge will come ere long.

I am, with my friend Mr. Daniel Austin, requested to plant a tree this day, in front of this stage, in behalf of the Trustees of this Park, which we hope will grow and flourish and "keep their memories green" in days to come. And I have already planted in these grounds, three rock maples, taken from my early home in North Berwick, which I also hope may yet spread broad branches to shade and refresh the coming generations.

Our late townsman, Hon. John Elwyn, in so liberally presenting this beautiful tract of ground to our city, while enlisting our most earnest appreciation and gratitude as citizens, has also ensured by his public-spirited gift, a suitable and lasting commemoration of his distinguished grandfather, Governor Langdon. Nor do we forget what is due to you, sir, in view of your indomitable energy and perseverance, whereby this gift has been made available for the purpose intended by the donor.

Rev. Mr. Elwyn being called upon, responded briefly, as follows:

I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity publicly to express my thanks to the Trustees for granting my request that the Park be called Langdon Park, after the name of him who originally owned the land which includes it. The memory of Gov. Langdon is that of an ancestor whom I have always been taught to venerate; and this, together with the statement made in the letter from Mrs. Langdon-Elwyn, his daughter, which has been already read, my friends, in your hearing, makes me glad that it is to be perpetuated on this spot. It only remains for me to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, that your efforts are to-day rewarded in being able to present to your fellow-citizens this Park, so well laid out, and to conclude with expressing the hope that they may here spend many a pleasant hour.

The following letters, or portions of them, were also read. Mr. Tuttle's tribute to the direct donor of the Park land, is especially appropriate in this little book:—

From Charles W. Tuttle, Esq., of Boston.

Boston, May 20, 1876.

*Gentlemen:* I have the honor to receive from you an invitation to attend the formal opening of the Elwyn Park on the 23d instant. I beg you to accept my thanks for your kind invitation. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be present and witness the solemn dedication of the noble gift to Portsmouth, the heritage and the bounty of my late venerable and esteemed friend, the late John Elwyn. But other engagements absolutely forbid me the privilege.

It seems a fitting tribute to his memory to make this occasion one of the events of this memorable year in our national calendar, as well as a notable event in the history of Portsmouth. The idea of planting this new Park, which is to bear his name down to posterity, with young forest trees in the manner you have determined, is as happy as it is novel. I regret that I have not time to select a tree suitable to my wishes, for this occasion; but if there is space left I shall do myself the honor, very soon, to plant, with your permission, a young pine, descended from that tribe of "stately timber," which our fathers found crowning the banks of the Piscataqua river two and a half centuries ago, and the staple product of New Hampshire for more than two centuries. If it shall grow to maturity it will survive the next centennial anniversary.

Of the late Mr. Elwyn, whose memory you design to honor, I have the most delightful reminiscences. He was a true lover of "reverend antiquity," and he knew better than any one else the history of the Piscataqua and its families. I have walked with him, again and again, over all the venerable acres of old Strawberry Bank, and a far beyond and heard him discourse, as no one else could, of the olden times. A common descent from Ambrose Gibbons, the chief agent of Captain Mason in this settlement, and from the first generation of Sherburnes and Langdons, made our intertment, and from the first generation of Elwyns, made our acquaintance. I have been amazed to hear him talk of these persons, six and seven generations distant; he seemed to have had actual personal acquaintance with them, so thoroughly was he possessed of their actions and motives, gained through tradition, the early records, and by long familiarity with the identical scenes through which they passed two hundred years before.

I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to declare that it is owing to his advice and encouragement that I undertook the investigation of the history of Captain Francis Champenowne, one of the chiefs of the early settlement in the Piscataqua river. I find that he had formed very accurate conclusions respecting him and his family, although he had made no particular investigation of the subject.

Mr. Elwyn had a strong bias in favor of the Mason and the Gorges plantations; and he was never tired of defending these founders of New Hampshire and Maine from the attacks of the Puritans. His attachment to the home of his maternal ancestors and his fondness for the local history of the place, did not prevent his having large acquaintance with American history, especially with the history of the period of discovery and of colonization. Of the history of England and of the noble and gentle families of England, during many ages, his knowledge was extensive and accurate. I doubt very much if he had any equal in this country.

Of his philological attainments I forbear to speak. The study of the literatures of many nations was his chief concern in the later years of his life, and may have been in his earlier. I do not know that he claimed mastery over anything else. No one could converse with him a few minutes without being satisfied that "he was a scholar, and a ripe and good one." It was impossible to hear him discourse on any subject, without receiving some information, or some hint, that was new and useful. He knew something of everything and everything of something, the latest test of a thoroughly



educated man. His noble gravity, his dignity, and his reserved appearance, will not soon be forgotten. I most sincerely lament the death of one who was so entirely in sympathy with me in my historical investigations, and who watched my progress with a friendly interest. With my best wishes for the success of your worthy undertaking, I am, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

C. W. TUTTLE.

To Hon. Frank W. Miller and others,  
Trustees of the Elwyn Park,  
Portsmouth, N. H.

From Rev. Dr. A. P. Peabody.

Cambridge, May 19, 1876.

*My Dear Sir:* I delayed answering your invitation, hoping that I might be able to accept it; but I regret to find it impossible on account of the pressure of college duty. Accept my thanks for the courtesy and kindness of the invitation, with my best wishes for the success of your arrangements, and the commencement under the happiest auspices of an enterprise that cannot but be of unspeakable pleasure, comfort and benefit to your whole community.

I am, my Dear Sir, very truly yours,

A. P. PEABODY.

From James T. Fields, Esq.

Boston, May 22, 1876.

*T. S. Tredick, Esq: Dear Sir:* A severe cold warns me that it will be unsafe to leave my house tomorrow for the ceremonies in Elwyn Park. I regret extremely my inability to be present on this most interesting occasion in which I had hoped to take part by saying a few words expressive of my earnest sympathy for what is being done to adorn still further our beautiful native city. I am sure that my friend Mr. DeNormandie will say as he always does, just the right thing to those who will come together on the 23d, and I wish you all a happy day, full of sunlight and heartfelt enjoyment.

Cordially yours,

JAMES T. FIELDS.

From Hon. Albert R. Hatch.

Portsmouth, May 22d, 1876.

*Gentlemen:* I regret that an engagement elsewhere will prevent me from attending the ceremonies of opening the Elwyn Park tomorrow. I assure you that I feel a deep interest in this great public improvement. It will add something to the beauty of our city, for which Nature has done so much; and it will, I trust, tend to bring our people into closer acquaintance and intercourse with each other, to the removal of personal, sectarian and party distrusts and prejudices, and to the promotion of public spirit, enterprise and prosperity, as well as to wealth and pleasure. It will, I doubt not, be the desire as well as the duty of every citizen to aid in the adornment and preservation of the pleasant grounds, which by your exertions are being so auspiciously opened.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

ALBERT R. HATCH.

To Messrs. Frank W. Miller and others, Trustees.

From Rev. Alfred Elwyn.

Portsmouth, May 6th, 1875.

*Dear Sir:* I desire to say, through you, to the gentlemen of the Park commission

that it will give me pleasure to present for its adornment eight trees, according to the number of my family.

Yours truly,

ALFRED ELWYN.

T. S. Tredick, Esq.

From Isaac Adams, Esq.

Sandwich, N. H. May 20, 1876.

*T. Salter Tredick, Esq: Dear Sir:* This note will be handed you by John H. Plummer, Esq., who brings two small European White Oaks, (*Quercus pedunculata*), raised by myself from the Acorns, and respectfully offered to the Elwyn Park Association. If you accept them, Mr. Plummer will aid in planting them. They are, doubtless, more difficult of successful transplantation than most trees; but my hope is that the trees, and their multiples, may flourish thousands of years, and that their branches and foliage may, through all time, afford nestling places for the beautiful birds of your locality, and invigorating shades and objects of admiration for all those who may follow you and your associates.

Most truly yours,

ISAAC ADAMS.

From Frank W. Hackett, Esq.

Washington, May 15, 1876.

*My Dear Tredick:* I am delighted to see that trees are to be planted in Elwyn Park on the 23d. As I cannot well enclose a young tree itself, I send you my check for five dollars, to help the thing along. Of course, I don't suppose so small a sum entitles one to look upon any particular tree as his, but if such a thing be possible, and it won't give you too much trouble, if you choose to designate one as mine, I'll hope that others may enjoy its shade after we have gone. At all events, the idea is excellent, and I wish you all success.

Truly yours,

FRANK W. HACKETT.

T. Salter Tredick, Esq., Sec.

From Rev. Wm. G. Nowell.

Boston, May 19, 1876.

*F. W. Miller, Esq., Dear Sir:* We enclose to you the \$5 requisite to secure the planting of a handsome evergreen at the inauguration of your new Park. We are glad of this opportunity to show our interest in an improvement which will not mar the charm that attaches to an old town like Portsmouth, as, we fear, may other changes of a more innovating character. We are moved also by a desire to set something growing down near the site of old Bread and Cheese Rock, most welcome resting place to weary legs of skaters who from Edward's Lane had skirted the western edge of the old millpond, and yet more welcome drying place for those daring wights who "weren't afraid" of the thin ice that stretched its tempting glassy smoothness right across from the eastern shore.

We contribute our mite the more cheerfully, because we delight in the memory of the studious old gentlemen who set us, when boys, so unmistakeable an example of scholarly industry and perseverance; and who is in this case all the more generous a donor, as to him, land was the one material thing valuable.

Three Portsmouth Boys,

W. G. NOWELL,  
W. A. NOWELL,  
S. J. NOWELL.



From Mr. S. J. Nowell.

New York, May 19th, 1876.

*My Dear Sir:* It is with regret that I find myself unable to be present at your gathering for the inauguration of Elwyn Park. I should have shared most heartily the pleasures of the occasion, and congratulate you, and your co-laborers on the too long delayed promise of this additional beauty in old Portsmouth. Nature has crowned her with so many attractions that her venerable beauty needs no added adornment, but in all the other ways in which a Park ornaments a city, elevates and cultivates its people, and affords a pleasure ground for the safe and healthful recreation of the young, your work is a creation for which future generations will "rise up and call you blessed." I sincerely hope your enterprise will be pushed until the Elwyn Park, includes the pond, handsomely curbed, encircled by a shaded drive, spanned by a graceful bridge, and afloat with pleasure boats. With best wishes for the rapid and satisfactory progress of all your plans,

Most truly yours,

SAMUEL J. NOWELL.

To Frank W. Miller, Esq., and others, Portsmouth.

From Rev. E. A. Rand.

South Boston, May 19th, 1876.

*F. W. Miller, Esq., Dear Sir:* Let me congratulate you on the tree planting. Grand idea. I am coming Tuesday. Will and I will bring our own trees and set out a family souvenir. Glad you remembered Odiorne's Point in the date you chose.

Truly yours,

EDWARD A. RAND.

From Mrs. E. S. C. Tilton.

Cambridge, Mass., May 22d, 1876.

*Mr. Miller, Dear Sir:* I have accepted your kind invitation to be one of the centennial ladies to plant a tree in the Elwyn Park. My selection is a Weeping Elm to be forever known as the Cushman Elm. This day is the anniversary of the death of my dear father. A generation has passed away, and I wish to give significance to the name.

Truly yours,

E. S. CUSHMAN TILTON.

From T. Bailey Aldrich.

A letter was received from Thomas Bailey Aldrich of Cambridge, but unfortunately it has got mislaid. He expressed his warm interest in the projected Park, his regret at being unavoidably detained at Cambridge, and gave the promise at some future day of "setting a tree which should be for the benefit of the 'Bad Boy' of the next generation."

The foregoing account is designed to include all the services from the public stand; but as the record is made up solely from memory, there may be omissions; and some letters may have been mislaid. At the close of these exercises the operatives of the Kearsarge Mills planted what the Chronicle calls "a tall and mysterious tree," that is, there is, as in some other instances here, a difference of opinion as to the variety,—whether hornbeam, buttonwood, or what. The Chronicle reporter says: "The ceremony was interspersed with good chorus singing, selections by the drum corps, and most appropriate remarks by Mr. Bryant, one of the overseers. The Mill people, including the managers, were all clothed in smiles, and many of them armed with large and rare bouquets—and they, like everybody else, made a day of it, and were bound to have a good time generally. And they did. This occasion was evidently regarded on all hands as an event. Business generally was suspended, the stores were closed, and the people flocked to the grounds by thousands.

"The Daughters of Rebekah also had appropriate service at the grove, Rev. Mr. Goss making a brief address; Sir Knight Charles W. Gardner addressed the Pythians most happily at their beautiful bower; and there were perhaps other services."

"The occasion was a happy one, the only drawback being the rather high wind. The scene presented was charming indeed, for a considerable portion of which the public were indebted to the owners of the South mill, for consenting to forego their business for the day, and keeping the pond full of water; and to Mr. Thomas S. Gay, who voluntarily decorated the speakers' stand, the gate and grounds with flags and streamers."

We also copy from the Daily Chronicle the following paragraphs relating to arborial proceedings subsequent to the opening day:

"The Women's Temperance League dedicated their tree on the evening of May 29th, Rev. Mr. Goss and others officiating."

"The female operatives of the finishing department of Jarvis & Co's hosiery mill planted a tree at Langdon Park, by moonlight, on Wednesday evening of last week."

"The Marine Corps was organized Nov. 10, 1775, and is older than the regular Army or Navy. Lieut. Frank D. Webster with a squad of marines under his command planted a rock maple in Langdon Park May 27th, in Centennial recognition of the fact. Lieut. Webster also planted a maple in memory of his deceased brother, Henry C. Webster, who was killed while an officer in the navy, on a gunboat in an engagement in Virginia waters.

"The whole number of trees now considerably exceeds six hundred, and when you are in the Park there are 'trees to the right of you, trees to the left of you, trees in front of you;' but it does not yet appear that any one 'has blundered' in the matter. On the contrary, all has gone on very successfully, and promises thus to continue.

"The dedication of the tree planted at Langdon Park by the teachers and scholars of the Haven School took place on Saturday afternoon, June 3d.



The scholars marched to the Park, headed by the Naval Band. The exercises consisted of selections by the Band, prayer by Rev. Mr. Noyes, singing by the scholars, and a very interesting and appropriate dedicatory address by Mr. R. H. Perkins, Principal of the Haven School. Mr. Perkins was followed by the following named gentlemen, in short addresses, which were attentively listened to and enjoyed by all present: Charles W. Gardner, Esq., Rev. Charles A. Holbrook, Rev. James DeNormandie, Hon. T. E. O. Marvin, and Stephen W. Clark, Esq., Principal of the High School. The exercises closed with the performance of some choice selections by the Band. The attendance was large, and the occasion was one of much pleasure to participants and spectators, and particularly creditable to Mr. Perkins, who planned and so successfully carried out the whole affair."

#### ADDITIONAL TREES, &c.

The following have been set in the Park since the list was made up:—

By Rev. James DeNormandie, 1 Sassafras, S. W. Front.  
 Capt. Geo. W. Towle and wife, and Col. G. Frank Towle and wife, each  
 1 Norway Spruce, S. E. hollow.  
 James H. Weeks, of Boston, 1 Norway Spruce, S. E.  
 John G. Tompson, Newton, Mass., 2 Hop trees, S. E.  
 John E. Odion, 2 Maples.  
 Mrs. Belle Locke, 1 Elm, S. W.  
 Carrie Davis, 1 Elm, S. W.  
 Mrs. Geo. Whitehouse, Dover, 1 White Oak, S. W.

The N. H. S. P. C. A. and the S. P. C. Children have erected three bird houses on poles in the Park; and Dr. N. L. Folsom has also placed six bird houses in the large trees.

The following Card of acknowledgement from the Trustees, which was pub-

lished in the newspapers as dated, shows to whom the Park was indebted for various favors:

#### Langdon Park---A Card.

The Trustees of Langdon Park desire, for themselves and in behalf of the public, to acknowledge their indebtedness to each and every person who aided in any way in the recent preparation of the Park for its intended use. Especially to Rev. Mr. DeNormandie, for his very able and beautiful oration on the occasion; also to Rev Dr. Alden, Messrs. Bartlett, Goodwin, Austin, Woodbury, Elwyn, and all others who took part in the exercises of the day.

To Marshal Wm. H. Sise, and City Marshal Israel Marden and his Assistants, and the Police, for their voluntary and efficient services, in regard to the procession, etc.

To the Portsmouth Horticultural Society, for their donation of \$200 to the Park.

To Messrs. George A. Perkins, H. G. Gray, M. Sheridan, A. J. Beck, J. Chase Gray, George H. Smart, Robert Green, P. H. Kirby, Dr. D. W. Jones, Oxford & Johnston, John F. Marden, F. W. Rogers, Stephen B. Pearson, James Janvrin, Jacob H. Haddock, Dr. N. L. Folsom, and any and all others who furnished labor gratuitously, on the grounds or fence.

To Messrs. Samuel Adams & Co., T. E. Call & Sons, and A. A. Fernald, for donations of lumber for the fence. Also to Mr. E. D. Coffin, for paint for same. Likewise to Messrs. John H. Bailey, Isaiah Wilson, and A. P. Wendell & Co., for donations of hardware, tools, etc. And to Hon. Moses H. Goodrich, for plank for seats.

To Mr. M. Eldredge, for the pair of large

elms at the entrance. Also to the various Societies and bodies which have added their elaborate decorations to the other attractions of the Park.

To Messrs. Dennis Shea & Co., for a donation of their excellent cement drain pipe, and laying the same.

To the Portsmouth Aqueduct Company, for the gift of the pump and pipe in the well; and to Mr. John P. Sweetser for waterpot and dippers. Also to Messrs. N. F. Mathes & Co., for tool-chest, and to Messrs. Wm. Ward and Alexander Robinson for water tanks. Also to all who have extended similar favors, great or small.

Last, but by no means least—to Mr. C. W. Gardner, for printing; to the city press generally, for gratuitous advertising; and to Mr. Thomas S. Gay, for decorating the grounds on the opening day.

The Board deem it best to state, for the public information, that the expenses of the recent improvements at the Park, for labor of grading, fencing, clearing the grounds, providing good soil for the trees, etc., has been about \$700, and the receipts thus far about \$300. Those persons who approve the recent action of the Trustees, and desire to encourage and aid their further progress, are requested to send such sums of money as they see fit, to Mr. H. M. Clark, the Treasurer, or to either of the other trustees, immediately.

Per order of the Board of Trustees of Langdon Park.

T. SALTER TREDICK, *Secretary*.

The following very modest appeal was also issued by the Board, in the shape of a printed circular, and sent by mail to such prominent citizens, to the number of four hundred, as it was thought would readily aid and encourage the Park project, at least to the extent suggested; but strangely enough the responses thus far have not been sufficient even to pay the small costs of construction, as stated:—

The Trustees of Langdon Park having expended for fencing, grading and otherwise



preparing the Park to be opened to the public, the sum of \$700, and having received from various sources about \$300, would be pleased to have a subscription from you (not exceeding ten dollars) towards the payment of the above balance.

The subscription may be sent to the Treasurer in the enclosed envelope or given to either of the Trustees.

[The subscription was led off by \$10 from each of the Trustees.]

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 1876—77.

PORTSMOUTH, August 24th, 1876.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Langdon Park, held this day, it was

VOTED, that Hon. John H. Broughton, having been elected Mayor of Portsmouth, be and hereby is unanimously invited to join and act as a member of this Board during his term of office, agreeably to a former vote of the Board.

It was also

VOTED, that Hon. Moses H. Goodrich, ex-Mayor, who has rendered very efficient service as Trustee during his late term of office, be and hereby is unanimously invited to remain and continue permanently to be a member of this Board.

Both the gentlemen named having accepted the trust confided to them, as above, the Board of Trustees for this year at least, consists of Messrs. F. W. Miller, chairman; H. M. Clark, Treasurer; T. Salter Tredick, Secretary; Alfred M. Hoyt; Moses H. Goodrich; John H. Broughton, (Mayor, ex-officio.)

We shall close this little book, as it was begun, altogether informally. It has grown, as we hope the Park will grow, altogether beyond the limits at first assigned to it; and both have been likened to the answer to the old conundrum, Why is a kiss like the creation? because both were made of nothing, and are very good. This book is not exactly an authorized publication of the Board of Trustees, though it doubtless meets their full approval. It was mainly the impromptu idea and incidental work of the chairman. But if anybody finds therein aught to amuse or gratify, they will please credit it to the Board; if anything they don't relish, they may charge it to the author.

We will only add further, in reply to numerous inquiries, that the Trustees have various plans for enlarging and improving the Park, as fast and as far as the funds which may be placed at their disposal by those interested, at home or abroad, will warrant. But thus far, recommendations and advice, good wishes and friendly criticism, have been more plenty than cash donations—which fact perhaps will warrant our alluding to the well-known anecdote at the negro meeting, where the old woman always kept her eyes closed when the contribution box was passed, and swaying and singing, "Fly abroad thou mighty gospel;" to which the indignant collector replied, "Tain't no use, Aunt Sally, to shout 'Fly abroad thou mighty gospel,' if yer don't give nuthin to make him fly!"

Yours always, for Langdon Park,

F. W. M.

Portsmouth, Sept. 1st, 1876.