



Celebration of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Gorham, Maine: May 26, 1886 (Classic Reprint)

Gorham Gorham

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Excerpt from Celebration of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Gorham, Maine: May 26, 1886

The celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the town of Gorham took place on the 26th of May, 1836.

It was probably the result of individual effort on the part of public spirited citizens, as the town records do not show any municipal action in regard to the matter, until some months afterward, when, September 12th, 1836, the town voted to have the address delivered on that occasion printed, and that each family in the town have a copy of it. The committee of arrangements, consisting of Gen. James Irish, Col. Samuel Stephenson, Hon. Toppan Robie, Joseph M. Gerrish, Esq., and Caleb Hodsdon, Esq., were among the most prominent, as well as most active and efficient citizens of their day; and the names of most of them are intimately connected with the history and prosperity of the town. The celebration was entirely successful, and an occasion of pride both to those who participated in, or witnessed it, and to those whose knowledge of it was only traditional.

In a recent endeavor to find some published account of it, written at the time, the Portland newspapers for a week preceding and a week following the day of the celebration were carefully examined, but not a word was found in them, either of previous announcement, or subsequent notice of the event.

A more extended search, however, brought to light an account of it in the "Portland Advertiser" of June 10th, and in the "Eastern Argus" of June 14th, of the same year. A somewhat striking contrast to the newspaper enterprise of the present day.

Below is given the notice of the celebration above referred to, and also an account of the same occasion, which appeared in the "Gorham Anniversary Gazette," of May 26th, 1886.

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