ADDRESSES AND PROCEEDINGS AT THE DEDICATION OF CANDIA'S SOLDIERS' MONUMENT: PRESENTED TO THE TOWN BY HON. FREDERICK SMYTH, OCTOBER 13, 1893.

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Addresses and Proceedings at the Dedication of Candia's Soldiers' Monument: presented to the town by Hon. Frederick Smyth, October 13, 1893. by George W. Browne

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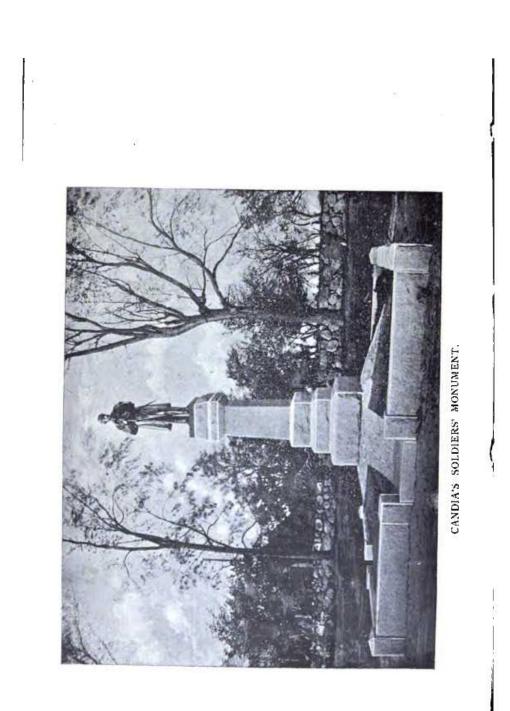
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GEORGE W. BROWNE

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Trieste



ADDRESSES AND PROCEEDINGS

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AT THE

DEDICATION

OF

Candia's Soldiers' Monument

PRESENTED TO THE TOWN BY

HON. FREDERICK SMYTH,

OCTOBER 13, 1893.

Compiled by George W. Browne.

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INTRODUCTION.

There have been some notable and auspicious days in the history of Candia. One hundred and twenty-seven years ago, in this very month of October, every ablebodied man in the parish helped raise on this spot the heavy oaken frame of the first church. Ten years later every male citizen passed in review and gave account of himself in view of the great crisis that hung over the infant colonies. A century after, the centennial of the organization of the church was observed with fitting addresses, and six years later the centennial of the nation's birth was celebrated with speech and song and military parade, with very general and patriotic enthusiasm. But it was reserved for the golden October of 1893, on a day when nature smiled her sweetest on the efforts of man, to make a record unsurpassed and unequaled in all her previous history. The grand scenery about Candia hill was never seen to better advantage. The distant hills which bound the horizon south, east, and northeast, all visible from this doubly-consecrated spot, framed the wide view in calm grandeur. The valley in the foreground, beautiful with the charm of peaceful homes, adorned by the hand of industry, with cultivated field, meadow, and woodland, lake Massabesic like a silver mirror in nature's greenroom, all made a fitting arena for the patriotic ceremonies of the hour. From amidst such surroundings came the

INTRODUCTION.

people, — men, women, and children. In the mellow sunlight of morning the country wagons dotted the distant thoroughfares; they poured in from the adjacent towns; they came from Manchester by coach and by rail; they came on foot from every near hamlet, until the old hill was alive with a multitude eager to do honor to the occasion and to testify their regard for the honored son whose generous gift was made to commemorate the valor and patriotism of the soldiers who took up arms in defense of liberty.

Here with the inspiring strains of martial music and the voice of song came detachments of veterans and a battery which had done gallant service at the front, speaking on this day not war but peace, to which the answering hills echoed back peace, liberty, and union forevermore.

In the pages that follow the design is to preserve in accessible form what was said at a time so memorable and so interesting. It is but a faint transcript of what actually occurred. The resonant voices of the speakers, the hearty responsive cheers, the moving multitude, the glad greeting of old acquaintances, the hill slopes and dooryards covered with tethered teams, the tables laden with good cheer on the lawn in the shadow of the new church, all proclaimed that the citizens of the brave little town were thoroughly awake to the deep significance of the occasion. Good taste, good feeling, and good order everywhere prevailed, and no untoward event occurred to disturb the well earned repose that settled that night over the homes of Charmingfare.

F. B. EATON.

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CANDIA'S SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

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At the annual town meeting held in Candia, N. H., March 8, 1892, on motion of Capt. J. Lane Fitts it was —

Voted, that the town lay out and donate a spot of ground twenty feet square on the site of the old meetinghouse for a soldiers' monument to be erected by Governor Frederick Smyth, and that two hundred dollars be raised and appropriate what is necessary of it for curbing and foundation.

Voted, that J. Lane Fitts be the agent to carry this vote into effect.

At the town election March 14, 1893, it was -

Voted, that the town raise and appropriate what was necessary of the same, in addition to what has been raised, the sum of one hundred dollars for the curbing and foundation of Candia's soldiers' monument.

Voted, that J. Lane Fitts be the agent to carry this vote into effect.

The town having performed its part of the conditions of Governor Smyth's offer of the presentation of a suitable memorial to the memory of the soldiers of Candia, he immediately carried out his intentions by placing on the site selected a granite monument about fourteen feet high above foundation, surmounted by the bronze figure of an infantry soldier, looking southward as he stands at parade rest. The proportions of the work are excellent

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and harmonious in every respect, and emblematical of its rugged surroundings, it is a tribute of which the sons and daughters of old Charmingfare may well feel proud. Around the base of the monument is a plat twenty feet square, surrounded by cut edgestone, with walks leading up to the inclosure on all sides.

The front, or south side, of the shaft bears the following inscription :

In Honor of the 126 Men of Candia Who Served in the War of the Rebellion.

KILLED.

G. C. Emerson,
E. Harris,
J. P. Bean,
C. B. Carr,
N. G. Hardy,
E. F. Brown,
D. Hall,
B. F. Swain,
C. F. Hoyt,
W. M. Clark,

D. B. Dudley.

On the right side of the monument is inscribed :

In Memory of Forty-eight Candia Men Who Served in the War of 1812.

And J. W. Webster, Killed in Mexican War, 1847.

On the left side :

In Memory of 155 Men of Candia Who Served in the War of the Revolution.

KILLED.

Lieut. T. Dearborn,

P. Hills.