

**THE LEBANON WAR OFFICE: THE
HISTORY OF THE BUILDING, AND
REPORT OF THE CELEBRATION AT
LEBANON, CONN., FLAG DAY,
JUNE 15, 1891**

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JONATHAN TRUMBULL

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Compliments of the
CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Johnth Trumbull Gov.³
1794

THE LEBANON WAR OFFICE.

THE
HISTORY OF THE BUILDING,
AND
REPORT OF THE CELEBRATION
AT
LEBANON, CONN.,
FLAG DAY, JUNE 15, 1891.

In Commemoration of the War
* Office and of the Adoption of our *
National Flag.

PUBLISHED BY THE
Connecticut Society of Sons of the American Revolution,
AND
SOLD FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SOCIETY'S MEMORIAL FUND.

EDITED BY JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

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IN connection with this publication, it seems really necessary that a slight historical sketch of the War Office should be given, embodying such matters of interest as did not come within the scope of the various able and interesting addresses of the occasion. This report is, therefore, prefaced by the following sketch, which was read before the Connecticut Historical Society, Sept. 15, 1891. That society having joined in the celebration at Lebanon, it seemed appropriate that the historical portion of this work should be submitted to its criticism before publication, in order to avail of the authority which such criticism can give to any work of the kind.

J. T.

LEBANON AND THE WAR OFFICE.

ALTHOUGH Lebanon appears to have been exceeded in population by thirteen of the seventy-six towns enumerated in the census of 1774, the excess was, in most cases, slight, and the population, 3,960, is, by no means, an adequate measure of the importance of the town in the days of the Revolution. In the grand list of 1775, but ten towns showed a higher valuation of taxable property. But most significant of all is the fact that, in the awards for services in the Lexington Alarm, but two towns in the State, Windham and Woodstock, were granted larger sums of money as their compensation.

The reasons for a service so largely in excess of any quota which Lebanon might have been called upon to furnish at this time seem evident. Here were the residence and home office of the only colonial governor who asserted the rights of his country as opposed to the oppressive measures of his king, which very fact must have given to that all-potent assemblage of the day, the town meeting, an inspiration and force which it might otherwise have lacked. Owing to the location of the town and the fact that the governor resided there, Lebanon must have been the place where the news from Boston was usually received in the exciting times which led up to the Revolution.

The limits of this publication prevent us from making extracts from the town records of these days, especially in the time of the non-importation agreements, the Port Bill, and the Boston massacre, records of proceedings and measures echoed and duplicated, no doubt, in many another Connecticut town, but peculiarly inspired in