HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF SMITHFIELD FROM ITS ORGANIZATION, IN 1730-1, TO ITS DIVISION, IN 1871, COMPILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE VOTES OF THE TOWNS OF SMITHFIELD, NORTH SMITHFIELD, LINCOLN AND WOONSOCKET, R. I.

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THOMAS STEERE

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AND WOONSOCKET, R. I.

BY

THOMAS STEERE.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.:
E. L. FREEMAN & CO., PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1881.

NOTE.

The undersigned desires to express his obligations to the Hon. Joshua M. Addeman, Hon. Samuel Clark, the late Hon. Charles Moies, and the late Thomas A. Paine, for valuable aid in the prosecution of his work. He is indebted to Erastus Richardson's History of Woonsocket for suggestions and the smoothing the path of investigation.

The death of the Hon. Charles Moies and Thomas A. Paine, members of the town committees during the progress of the duty accepted by the writer, has removed from Lincoln and Woonsocket men of pronounced ability and character, who have left no survivors more embued with Rhode Island sentiment and conservatism, or more faithful in the performance of public trusts than themselves. As they were representative men in Old Smithfield, so were their acts and example such as to stimulate and encourage public spirit, public honesty and genuine patriotism.

THOMAS STEERE.

PUBLIC RESOLUTION

Passed by Congress and Approved by the President, March 13th, 1876.

JOINT RESOLUTION on the celebration of the Centennial in the several counties and towns.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it be, and is hereby recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives to the people of the several States that they assemble in their several counties or towns on the approaching centennial anniversary of our national independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch may be filed, in print or manuscript, in the clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy, in print or manuscript, be filed in the office of the librarian of congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of their existence.

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, A joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States was duly approved on the 13th day of March last, which resolution is as follows:

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that it be and is hereby recommended by the Senate and the House of Representatives to the people of the several States that they assemble in their several counties or towns on the approaching centennial anniversary of our national independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch may be filed in print or manuscript, in the clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy in print or manuscript be filed in the office of the librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of their existence;" and

WHEREAS, It is deemed proper that such recommendation be brought to the notice and knowledge of the people of the United States,

Now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known the same, in the hope that the object of such resolution may meet the approval of the people of the United States, and that proper steps may be taken to carry the same into effect.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, the 25th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1876, and of the independence of the United States the one hundredth.

By the President, U. S. GRANT.

HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State.