

**GATHERED SKETCHES FROM THE EARLY
HISTORY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AND VERMONT:
CONTAINING VIVID AND INTERESTING
ACCOUNTS OF A GREAT VARIETY OF THE
ADVENTURES OF OUR FOREFATHERS, AND OF
OTHER INCIDENTS OF OLDEN TIME. ORIGINAL
AND SELECTED, PP. 1-211**

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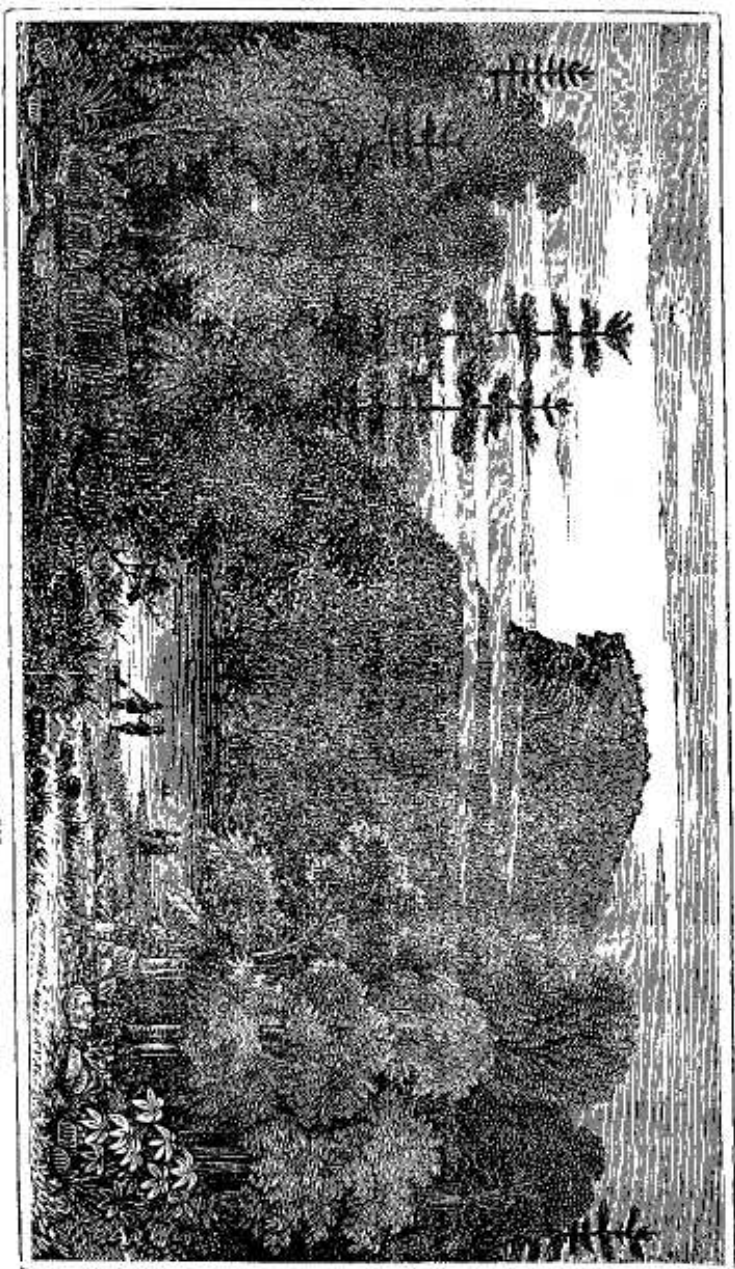
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FRANCIS CHASE

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THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN.



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ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

EDITED BY
FRANCIS CHASE, M. A.

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P R E F A C E .

GENTLE reader, you have before you a collection of Sketches, gathered from the early history of New Hampshire and Vermont; or, perhaps we ought to say, a *selection*, for the first period of the existence of these two states is a deep and copious mine, from which the diligent student may exhume any number of incidents, which it would be well worth while, both as a matter of curiosity and of information, to place before the reading public.

In this selection you will find incidents both grave and gay, both pathetic and amusing; some of them of considerable historical importance, and others which some persons might think almost trifling. But it is intended that the following pages shall illustrate as fully as possible the character of the times in which our ancestors lived. Their life, as is ours, was made up of trifles and weightier things combined, and the best illustration is that in which minor matters have their due proportion. We hope they will not be found too numerous in this attempt.

The Editor takes no credit to himself for his portion of the work. His work has been, for the most part, merely to select and arrange, adding here and there a note or a prefatory remark to clear up the meaning of the text, or to give additional information. Such articles as have been taken from connected histories have of course been altered to make them clear and intelligible when standing by themselves. Matters not connected with the main point of the story have been pruned out, and in some cases elucidating sentences have been put in; occasionally too, an inelegant

expression has been amended. The biographical and a few other articles have been prepared expressly for this work. Some fragments have been found in looking over old files of newspapers; but most of them have been culled from books now out of print, and inaccessible to the majority of readers. Where the origin of an article has been certainly known, it has been duly credited. The Editor takes pleasure in acknowledging his indebtedness to the following excellent works: Williams's History of Vermont, Belknap's History of New Hampshire, Drake's Indian Captivities, Farmer and Moore's Historical Collections of New Hampshire, De Puy's Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Heroes of '76, and Powers's interesting little History of the Coos Country. For the excellent fragment of history entitled "Kilburn's Defence," he is indebted to the faithful pen of Dr. E. Morse, of Walpole, N. H.

Above all, he would offer his sincerest thanks to those kind friends, without whose generous assistance he could, in his present circumstances, by no means have performed the labor of preparing the present work. He indulges the hope that their joint labors will be kindly received, and that this humble book may, in the houses of both the lofty and the lowly of New England, be a source of lasting pleasure. To the aged may it bring up pleasant pictures of former days; to the rising generation may it serve as an instructive history of times past, and as an agreeable substitute for the useless works of fiction which are scattered in such profusion throughout the land.

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