

*Helotype Printing Co.*

GILSEM VILLAGE FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

211 Fremont Street, Boston.

A

A

UH <sup>0</sup> 62-55  
2 HISTORY

OF THE

# TOWN OF GILSUM

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

FROM 1752 TO 1879,

WITH MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

---

BY SILVANUS HAYWARD, A. M.

---

“The kindly spot, the friendly town, where every one is known,  
And not a face in all the place but partly seems my own.”

---

<sup>3x</sup> PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR,  
BY JOHN B. CLARKE, MANCHESTER, N. H.  
1881.

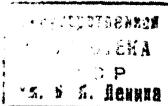
~~11221, 33~~

~~US 11847.15.5~~

~~A~~

~~Bright Branch~~

*N. B. Persons discovering mistakes, or able to supply omissions, are urgently requested to write the same to the author IMMEDIATELY.*



U 46645-62



to make the record as I should wish it to be done, if each person were my own relative. *Humani nihil a me alienum puto.*

Part III from a small beginning, continually grew upon my hands to the last moment of going to press, and five years more of labor would hardly exhaust the field of research. It contains more than 10,000 names exclusive of ancestral records. As "king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and the isles of the sea," so have I laid tribute upon all accessible resources, town records, family Bibles, family and town histories, gravestones, private diaries, the memory of the aged, &c. &c. Accuracy in dates is almost an impossibility. Records obtained from different branches of the same family, very rarely agree. Even dates sent by the same person at different times are frequently unlike. Add to these the cemetery and town records, and we sometimes have *three* different dates for the birth or death of the same person. To decide certainly between them is often impossible. I have generally taken what seemed to me to be the best authority, but in a few instances have given a double date. Honorary titles have been mostly omitted, except where needed for identification.

Out of more than a thousand letters, about fifty have failed to reach the persons addressed. A few have received no reply. Three or four persons have declined giving any information. *One only* sent an insulting answer. My first thought was to print it, for future generations to see and laugh at, but remembering *Uncle Toby and the fly*, I forbear.

My grateful acknowledgments are due for the courtesy and helpful kindness of both strangers and townsmen. Special mention should be made of John Ward Dean the accomplished Librarian of the Mass. Historical and Genealogical Society, George Hammond of Bennet's Corners, N. Y., and Isaac W. Hammond of Concord, N. H. My elder daughter has rendered invaluable service, especially in the preparation of the Genealogies.

My work is ended, but far from finished. None can be more sensible of its defects than the author. For those who may be surprised at its mistakes, which must be many, I can only wish a personal experience of the same kind of work.

S. H.

SOUTHBRIDGE, MASS., April 1881.