

1883

EXEUNT—John Goldsmith of Littleton, died, Feb. 14th, at the good old age of most 88 years. Though not a native of the town himself, his ancestors for three generations, were residents of the place, and he passed most of his life there. Tradition has it that the Goldsmith's were of Irish descent, from brothers coming to this country amongst the earliest settlers. On the town records of Wenham, this state, may be read that in 1659, Richard Goldsmith was taxed for the salary of the minister one pound, fifteen shillings. In 1731, Richard Goldsmith married. Hannah Dodge of Wenham, and in the old cemetery of Littleton, some moss-covered stones mark their last resting place. From Littleton, the family removed to Harvard, and the subject of this sketch was brought up by his grandfather in that town, an accident having deprived him of his father at an early age. He was a lineal descendant of Rev Benj. Shattuck, first minister of Littleton. This reminds us that our friend was a worthy descendant in this respect too, of those his ancestors. He took an active interest in the subject and institutions of religion, as he was a faithful attendant on its services. And this not from selfish mo-

tives or because of fashion, but on principle. He gave his support and steady adherance to the church of his choice, (the First Congregational Unitarian) and was a communicant of it for years. He was in belief a Unitarian and held very firmly, and yet with all toleration, to his convictions. In fact, he was a man of convictions, and ever conscientiously acted there upon; had a mind of his own in all other, as in religious things. Above all he strove to be a consistant and exemplary Christian. Mr Goldsmith has been identified with the affairs of Littleton, for nearly seventy years; and had owned and occupied the farm where he died, over sixty years. His upright and honorable life was well-known and appreciated. He had the confidence of his townsmen and was chosen many times to offices of honor and trust. He lived a simple life and by industry and economy, accumulated quite a large property. Long will his example and influence endure and he be remembered. He married in 1818, Sabina daughter of Dea. Daniel Kimball; and two children survive him.

NOTE: SABIA KIMBALL WAS A SISTER
OF JOSEPH A. HARWOOD'S MOTHER