

orchard flourished there long beyond the memory of any one now existing. The great broad stump of the last of the venerable trees is still shewn. The straggling orchard now remaining about the hotel looks tolerably old, but the trees are only successors, by several generations, of the original Old Orchard. That this part of the coast has long been settled, is evident from several very ancient headstones still remaining in the field in front of the hotel, close by the fence which separates the grass from the large heaps of fine sand thrown up from time to time by the storm-driven billows. When the Old Orchard was planted, and these headstones were erected, more than one hundred years ago, the British banner waved, as the emblem of sovereignty, over the Old Orchard Beach; and the names we can still read on the venerable stones are the names of those who prided themselves, as we do now, on being subjects of the British Empire. Had the political spirit of the day resembled that of the present time; had they the enjoyment of the Constitution we so happily possess; had they had the self-government which to ask for at that time was rebellion, but which is now our precious birthright, perhaps the Starry Flag would never have been heard of, and the Union Jack might still have waved from the Gulf of Mexico to the North Pole.

Orchard Beach is very quiet and rural: the nearest towns, Saco and Biddeford (which are close together on opposite sides of the Saco River), being four miles distant from the Beach. Biddeford (called so, probably, after a town of the same name in Wales) has several thriving cotton factories. The operatives frequently form pic-nic parties to the Beach for the sake of bathing. The farmers round come in their well-appointed buggies from a distance of twenty miles for the same purpose, as well as to drive on the Beach when the tide is out. Thus every day an animated scene is witnessed on the broad, firm, damp sand, on which the wheels of the carriages and the feet of the horses scarcely make an im-