

CHARLESTOWN.

In the year 1740, the first settlement was made in the town of Charlestown, then known by the name of No 4, by three families who emigrated from Lunenburg, by the name of Farnsworth ; that part of New-Hampshire west of Merimac River was then a trackless wilderness. Within a few years past instances have been known, of new townships totally uninhabited, becoming flourishing and thick settled villages in the course of six or seven years. But in those days, when savages were on our borders and Frenchmen in Canada, population extended with timorous and tardy paces ; in the course of twelve years the families increased only to twenty two or three. The human race will not flourish unless fostered by the warm sunshine of peace.

During the first twenty years of its existence as a settled place, until the peace between Great-Britain and France, it suffered all the consternation and ravages of war ; not that warfare which civilized nations wage with each other, but the cruel carnage of savages and Frenchmen. Sometimes engaged in the duties of the camp, at others sequestering themselves from surrounding enemies, they became familiar with danger, but not with industrious husbandry.

In the year 1744, the inhabitants began to erect a fort for their safety. When the