

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE WILMOT SPA SPRINGS.

For ages before Nova Scotia was settled by the French or Anglo-Saxon, the mineral waters from the group of springs known as the Wilmot Spa Springs were highly prized by the Micmac Indians for their curative qualities, and the mud from the outlet of these Springs, saturated with the water, is by the remnant of these people believed to be of wondrous healing power in cutaneous diseases. Experiment and experience have proven that their faith is well founded. The **Wilmot Spa Springs** were known before the opening of the present century, by the proprietor, Farsfield Woodbury. Their medical value became known about the year 1817. The surrounding country being sparsely settled, the news spread slowly; but as their curative properties became known, visitors were attracted, until in 1830 all the farm-houses within reach of the Spa were filled to overflowing each summer. The absolute demand for better accommodation prompted the proprietor of the Springs to erect a Hotel of proportions to meet the demand. Visitors of all classes visited the Hotel, and, from the register of fifty years ago, we see the signatures of many of the prominent men of the period from our own Provinces and the United States. The testimonials received from that time to the present are certainly enough to convince all of the remarkable virtues of these waters as a remedy for numerous of the ills to which flesh is heir.

Quoting from an old manuscript of the Rev G. Robertson, Doctor of Wilmot, N. S., under whose personal notice came a large number of the cures which were effected in the years gone by, he writes of the Springs:

"Their medical properties, which are both powerful and efficient, remained undiscovered until about 1817 to 1820, when some gentlemen who had visited several watering places in Great Britain, and had examined Wilmot Spa Springs, suggested the probability that the latter might contain certain of those healing virtues which are found to result from the use of Spa water. Accordingly, their effect was tried in a series of experiments, first upon children who had been suffering from the diseases which are commonly peculiar to their years, and