

the bill of mortality of Portsmouth for 1810, then containing 6934 inhabitants, the number of deaths was 111.

*Character.*—Dr. Belknap observes, "That firmness of nerve, patience in fatigue, intrepidity in danger, and alertness in action, are to be numbered among the native and essential characteristics of the people of New Hampshire." Marriage is so general, that in the country it is rare to find an unmarried man of thirty years of age. Many women are grandmothers at forty, and it is not uncommon to see the mother and daughter suckle children at the same time, and the father, son, and grandson, working together in the same field. The women spin and weave their own flax and wool. Dancing is a favorite amusement, and the young people often assemble for this purpose, particularly at the time of military musters, sittings of the courts of justice, the erection of wooden houses, the launching of ships, the ordination of ministers, and the husking of Indian corn. Indulgence in spirituous liquors increases; but the common drink is cyder, or a fermented liquor made of spruce twigs boiled in maple juice.

The political character of this state has hitherto resembled that of the other states of New England. Two years after the adoption of the constitution, the scarcity of money and clamor for paper currency, united with other minor causes of popular complaint, led to open insurrection; and the rioters, finding their petition rejected by the assembly, placed centinels at the doors, and held the members prisoners till the evening, when they were dispersed by the militia of Exeter. The leaders were afterwards taken and tried for treason, but received pardon from the court, on giving security for their future allegiance,

*Constitution.*—The legislative power now resides in a senate and house of representatives, which together form the General Court, or Assembly; and each branch has a negative on the other. Money bills originate in the house of representatives, but may be amended by the senate, by which impeachments are tried. The senators, thirteen in number, are elected annually, by citizens paying taxes. The qualifications for a candidate are these: 1st, To be thirty years of age. 2d, To be seized of a freehold estate, of the value of two hundred pounds, within the state. 3d, To have been an inhabitant of the state seven years immediately preceding his election; and an actual resident of