

and accounts of all valuable efforts of human ingenuity and industry, from the beginning of its settlement. In pursuance of this plan, they have already amassed a large quantity of books, pamphlets and manuscripts; and are still in search of more: A catalogue of which will be printed for the information of the public.

They have also encouraged the publication of a monthly pamphlet in which is given the result of their inquiries, into the natural, political and ecclesiastical history of this country. It is requested that you would contribute to its value and importance, by attention to the articles annexed. The Society beg leave to depend on your obliging answer to these heads of inquiry, when leisure and opportunity will permit.

Your letters addressed, free of expense, to the subscriber, will be gratefully received, and duly noticed in the Society's publications: and you will have the satisfaction of contributing to the general stock of knowledge, with which they hope to entertain the public.

*In the name, and by order of the Society,*

JEREMY BELKNAP, *Corresponding Secretary.*

Boston in Massachusetts.

November 1, 1791.

*Articles on which the Society request information.*

1. The time when your town or city was incorporated; its Indian name; when the settlement began; whether it was interrupted, and by what means; to what Colony or County it was first annexed; and if there have been any alterations, what they are, and when made.
2. The exploits, labours and sufferings of the inhabitants in war; particular accounts of devastations, deaths, captivities and redemptions.
3. Divisions of your town or city in parishes and precincts, or the erection of new towns within the former limits.
4. Time of gathering churches of every denomination; names of the several Ministers; the times of their settlement, removal and death; and their age at the time of their death.
5. Biographical anecdotes of persons in your town, or within your knowledge, who have been remarkable for ingenuity, enterprise, literature, or any other valuable accomplishment; an account of their literary productions, and if possible, copies of them.
6. Topographical description of your town or county, and its vicinity; mountains, rivers, ponds, animals vegetable productions; remarkable falls, caverns, minerals, stones, fossils, pigments, medicinal and poisonous substances, their uses and antidotes.
7. The former and present state of cultivation, and your thoughts on farther improvements, either in respect to agriculture, roads or canals.
8. Monuments and relics of the ancient Indians; number and present state of any remaining Indians among you.
9. Singular instances of longevity and fecundity from the first settlement, to the present time.
10. Observations on the weather, diseases, and the influence of the climate, or of particular situations, employments and aliments, especially the effect of spirituous liquors on the human constitution.
11. Accurate bills of mortality, specifying ages and casualties, the proportion of births and deaths; and the increase and decrease of population.