

## EATON GRANGE.

---

Eaton Grange, the summer home of the sons and daughters of John Eaton, is located in the south-eastern part of the town of Sutton, on the road from South Sutton to Warner, near the highest point of Kimball's hill, so called from Caleb Kimball, its first settler, who is supposed to have come here about 1780-'81. The altitude of the site is some twelve hundred feet above sea level. The air is breezy, cool, and most healthful. The roads are hilly, but the drives are embowered with trees, shady and attractive, and the views from the open heights are magnificent. South-eastwardly can be seen the steeples of the Warner churches; southerly is Stuart mountain, 1800 feet high; south-westwardly is Lovell's mountain. Turning to the right the eye takes in Sunapee mountain, at whose base nestles Sunapee lake in all its beauty, at an altitude of about 1,100 feet; then Dresser's, King's, and New London hills, the last with its church and academy, until directly to the north the eye rests upon Kearsarge which in its majesty crowns the surrounding landscape at the height of 2,942 feet. The summit of the mountain is about eight miles from the Grange, toward which it descends continuously to Stevens brook as that courses its way toward Warner river along the foot of Kimball's hill. It is supposed that the location of Mr. Kimball's buildings was determined by the proximity of a rock-sheltered spring on the northerly slope of the hill, of exceptionally pure water, still greatly prized.

In 1784, the town voted "to appoint a committee to accept the road laid out, passing by Joseph Wadleigh's (South Sutton) and Caleb Kimball's to Warner." Here is evidence of the home on the hill and of the highway to the commerce of the world. For a generation this was the main road, hilly as it was, of travel south and south-easterly for a large population in more northerly towns. The increasing travel suggested a tavern, and soon the moderate-sized red house, first built, gave way to a more pretentious mansion. Here