

Same (page 271)

- 1800

May 22^d.

This year, Mr. Timothy Palmer was chosen Surveyor of the highways, in Newburyport. Under his skillful supervision, the roads and lanes of the town assumed a new and greatly improved appearance".

Chase's History of Haverhill, page 459 contains the following: — "Contemporaneous with the first stage coach and the first newspaper, was the erection of the first bridge across the Merrimack, in this town. The Haverhill bridge was completed in the fall of 1794.

It was erected on three arches of one hundred and eighty feet each, supported by three handsome stone piers forty feet square. It had as many defensive piers, or sterlings, extending fifty feet above, and a draw of thirty feet over the channel. It was built on the plan of Timothy Palmer. Moody Spofford, of Georgetown, was the chief engineer in its erection. Palmer was an apprentice to Spofford when he made his invention.

At the time of its erection, the bridge was considered a marvel of mechanical ingenuity and skill; and to this day, though divested of much of its beautiful proportions