

Death of Ex-Governor William Haile of Keene, N. H.

Ex-Governor William Haile of Keene, one of the most distinguished citizens of New Hampshire, died of apoplexy at 6.30 Saturday morning. His health had been somewhat enfeebled for several years, but his sudden death will be a painful surprise to the community. Mr. Haile was born in Putney, Windham County, Vermont, May 22, 1807. His father was a farmer in humble circumstances, but was a man of uprightness and excellent character. Mr. Haile was educated in the common schools and at Chesterfield Academy. He acted as salesman in a Chesterfield shop for four years and then established himself as a tradesman. Eight years after he moved his shop to Hinsdale and began to trade in lumber; in 1849 he bought half of the Hinsdale woollen factory; five years ago he retired from business and moved to Keene. From 1828 to 1833 he was active in the State militia and was Captain of the Hinsdale Light Infantry, a well-known military organization of the older times. He was a Representative in the Legislature from 1846 to 1851 and also in 1856, making seven years in all. As early as 1836 he was postmaster at Hinsdale. In 1850 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in 1851 and 1855 he represented the Ninth District in the State Senate and was President of that body. The latter year Mr. Haile was the second Governor elected by the Republican party in New Hampshire. In March, 1857, Mr. Haile was elected Governor on the popular vote by the majority of nearly 3000. In 1858 he was re-elected to the gubernatorial chair by a majority of over 4500 votes. His administration was distinguished for its purity, dignity, integrity and efficiency. Governor Haile's courteous and unassuming manners, and his evident determination to do what was right, regardless of partisan prejudice, won him a multitude of firm friends in both of the great political parties. In 1860 he was a delegate at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago, and he was a delegate at large to Baltimore in 1861. In 1865 Dartmouth College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts. Governor Haile was a member of the Congregational Church, and was an active and prominent man in that denomination.
