



















THE HISTORY OF LYNDEBOROUGH  
NEW HAMPSHIRE







BENJAMIN LYNDE, JR.

THE HISTORY

---

OF THE

TOWN OF LYNDEBOROUGH

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1735—1905

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BY

*EMMIS*  
REV. D. DONOVAN AND JACOB A. WOODWARD

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PUBLISHED BY THE TOWN

ANDY HOLT    J. H. GOODRICH  
LUTHER CRAM    REV. D. DONOVAN  
JACOB A. WOODWARD

HISTORY COMMITTEE

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THE TUFTS COLLEGE PRESS

H. W. WHITTEMORE & Co.

1906

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1735

Granted by the Province of Massachusetts as  
SALEM-CANADA

1753

Chartered by the Masonian Proprietors as  
LYNDEBOROUGH

1764

Chartered by the Province of New Hampshire as the  
TOWN OF LYNDEBOROUGH

Benning Wentworth, Governor





## Preface.

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It is said that many years ago some of our most gifted and intelligent citizens felt that the history of Lyndeborough ought to be written while aged men and women were still living whose recollection reached back to the later days of many of the pioneers. Had it been commenced then, doubtless many things of great interest would have been preserved for us which are now either entirely lost, or shrouded in impenetrable haze. The reasons which then prevented are not now clearly manifest. But the thing was not done, and the years rolled on and carried away the fathers and mothers, revered repositories of facts and traditions which would undoubtedly have both enlivened and enriched the pages of our present volume.

The interest in having a history was, however, revived in the March meeting of 1889. The town then voted to celebrate its One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary, and on the same day, also, voted to appropriate two hundred dollars towards preparing and publishing its history. Messrs. D. C. Grant, J. H. Goodrich, J. A. Woodward, L. Cram, and E. C. Curtis were chosen as the History Committee. The next year three hundred dollars were added to the former appropriation; and a year later, on motion of Hon. B. G. Herrick, the town instructed its committee "to proceed with the work as fast as consistent with getting up a good history." Thus an earnest interest in obtaining a history became manifest.

About that time, Rev. Frank G. Clark published his "Historical Address," prepared for the 150th anniversary. It was entitled "Salem-Canada-Lyndeborough," and almost deserved to be called a "history in miniature." This he kindly and generously permitted to be freely used as an aid in compiling the more extended work; and for the very valuable aid thus extended the compilers unite in expressing to him most hearty and unfeigned thanks. Readers will learn from the frequent citation from this address as authority how much they are indebted to Rev. F. G. Clark.

The committee for several years reported very little progress. Meantime, two of its members, Messrs. Woodward and Curtis,

declined to serve. The former had already collected many genealogical records which remained in his care during this inactive period, and served at a later day to forward the work. Very many and valuable facts had been collected by Mr. Goodrich, but were in a detached form awaiting combination to exhibit their utility and real worth. Mr. Grant's collection was of a miscellaneous, and, perhaps, necessarily, of an unclassified nature, and very much of it was difficult to decipher. The collections thus made were reported by the chairman as about all that were needed for the publication of the history.

Upon learning this Hon. B. G. Herrick moved that the resident pastors, Rev. O. E. Hardy and Rev. D. Donovan, be added to the History Committee, to assist in arranging the materials and preparing them for the press, and the town so voted. The committee thus constituted had held but one session when Rev. Mr. Hardy resigned his pastorate and removed from town, in 1899. Early, also, in the year 1900, our Chairman, D. C. Grant, was removed from us by death. The vacancies thus made were filled by electing Mr. Andy Holt as chairman, and Rev. A. M. Rockwood, the new pastor, in place of Mr. Hardy. After a few months, however, Mr. Rockwood declined to serve, and Mr. Jacob A. Woodward was again elected a member of the History Committee, which then consisted of Messrs. Andy Holt, Chairman, J. H. Goodrich, Clerk, Luther Cram, Rev. D. Donovan and J. A. Woodward. The two members last named seemed to be selected to shape the work, while the others agreed to render every assistance which they could. And it may here be stated that unusual harmony and even kindly feelings have governed their action in labors which, however pleasant in themselves, have at times been very perplexing and exacting.

The committee thus constituted commenced the process of inspecting, classifying and combining materials, collecting new and collating both new and old matter, and composing the whole into narrative form somewhat approaching unity. The task was undertaken without undue presumption, and has been as faithfully prosecuted as circumstances seemed to permit; and it is hardly necessary to state that its completion, so long delayed, is viewed by them with emotions of grateful relief. Our cordial sympathies are tendered to our generous fellow-citizens who have unstintingly voted their money for and earnestly desired to see the finished book. We trust that, all in all, it will not utterly disappoint their hopes.

Justice and gratitude alike demand appreciative recognition and mention of our friends and helpers. Among the very helpful volumes consulted are the Province Records and State Papers, edited by Bouton, Hammond and Batchellor, to which we add the Histories of Exeter, Weare, Hancock, Peterborough, Antrim, Francestown, New Boston, Amherst, Milford, Wilton, Mason, Temple, Rindge and possibly a few others. We are indebted, also, to our State Library and to our Hon. Secretary of State, Edward N. Pearson, as well as to our Registrar of Deeds, Col. Dana W. King, for courteous assistance and permission to consult the archives of our county which are in their custody; and it is presumed that some of the old deeds and conveyances will possess a measure of interest for present readers who may, perchance, occupy some of the tracts there described. We extend sincere and hearty thanks to Maj. D. E. Proctor, Trustee, and Miss Mary E. Abbott, Librarian of Wilton Public Library for free use and consultation of the volumes of that institution, and to Miss Doane, Librarian of Milford Public Library for similar courtesy. The Historic Genealogical Society's Library in Boston afforded us valued assistance respecting Benjamin Lynde, Jr., Esq., and his heirs, who at one time owned a large portion of our town; the portrait of him which forms our frontispiece was obtained from a painting in possession of Mrs. Oliver of Boston who kindly permitted it to be copied for this history, and whose late husband, Dr. F. E. Oliver, was a great-grandson of Benjamin Lynde, Jr.

The Committee regards it as a piece of good fortune that Mr. H. W. Whittemore had charge of printing the book. Mr. Whittemore is a son of Lyndeborough and shares in the interests and traditions of some of her old, substantial families. He has taken great pains with the work and has rendered effective and interested assistance in every department of it.

The illustrations in Part I. were furnished chiefly by home talent, some by Mr. E. D. Putnam, now of Antrim, some by Mr. John P. Proctor of North Lyndeborough, and a few from other sources.

Finally, we tender sincere and grateful acknowledgments and thanks to all our neighbors and friends who generously entrusted us not only with printed volumes, but also with private documents to aid in our investigations. Nor would we forget the uniform patience and kindness of our more aged fellow-citizens in our almost inquisitorial quizzing at times. They have

truly merited our gratitude and esteem. And though our book may omit some facts which both we and its readers may wish had been recorded and include others which might have been omitted with little injury, this very condition may serve to explain partly, at least, our earnest quest to obtain the best possible matters to put on record.

We now commit our history to the considerate judgment of all our citizens and friends, confidently trusting that it will in no wise diminish their affection and esteem for the old Town of Lyndeborough.

South Lyndeborough, Jan. 18, 1906.

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# THE HISTORY OF LYNDEBOROUGH.

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## General Introduction.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### SUMMARY VIEW.

The town of Lyndeborough is one of the chartered political divisions of the State of New Hampshire. The territory of which it is a part, was granted by the King of England to the Plymouth Company, or as it was more commonly called, the Council of Plymouth, in the year 1620; granted again in 1622 by the same king, James I., to Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Captain John Mason; and further, granted to Captain John Mason in 1629, by the Council of Plymouth. But quite a portion of this territory at a later day was granted by the Colony of Massachusetts to the soldiers of the Canada Expedition of 1690 and to their heirs, in consideration of their services. This land was again re-granted by the Masonian proprietors, and was finally granted incorporation as a town by the Charter of the Royal Governor, Benning Wentworth. Thus our territory has passed through several hands.

#### QUESTIONINGS.

Some perplexing questions must naturally occur to our thoughtful citizens, in consequence of the statements above made; such as: "Why is our town called Lyndeborough?" "Why was any former name changed to this?" "How came our State to be called New Hampshire?" "What right had the Colony or Province of Massachusetts to make grants of land in New Hampshire?" "How has our territory been from time to time governed and protected?"

Now, it will not be denied that our citizens could cultivate their soil just as well, at least so far as the manual labor is concerned, without as with, the ability to answer readily such questions. But it surely would neither unnerve their arms nor dwarf their intellects to know how to answer them in a

proper and correct manner. And, furthermore, conscious of possessing a correct knowledge of their true history, they would feel that they are resting on ground well nigh as firm as the enduring granite of their native hills.

#### GENERAL SURVEY.

To this end a hasty glance at the relation of New Hampshire to other colonies and movements in this new world will not at the outset be amiss. Let it be distinctly borne in mind, that after the discovery of America by Columbus in 1492, more than a century intervened before a single European colony had been planted on this continent north of Florida. There was voyaging to and fro, and traffic in various commodities, and explorations of the coast by both public and private enterprise. But not a permanent settlement was planted, not a firm foothold was gained on these shores during all the years of the sixteenth century. The honor of the first colony on American soil north of Florida belongs to France. Port Royal, now Annapolis, Nova Scotia, founded by the French, in 1604, heads the list, in regard to age. Next in order of time came Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. Then came the Dutch colonies of New Netherlands in 1614; the Plymouth, or Old Colony of Massachusetts, in 1620; and the Piscataqua settlements at Dover and Portsmouth in 1623; while the colony of Massachusetts Bay, including Salem, 1628, Charlestown, 1629, and Boston, 1630, followed in order. At an early day, the two Massachusetts colonies united, forming one Province, under one Governor, taking the name of the more populous and powerful plantation, Massachusetts. This came speedily forward as the most prosperous and influential of the New England colonies.

#### GRANTS.

1. The first charter having a direct bearing on our State history was that granted by King James the First to "Sir Ferdinando Gorges, Knight," and called by the king, "Captain of our fort and island of Plymouth." This grant was made to him as the President of the Council of Plymouth and included "all that circuit etc., in America from forty degrees north latitude to forty-eight degrees, and by the breadth aforesaid, from sea to sea, with all seas, rivers, islands, etc.," : "And the same shall be called by the name of NEW ENGLAND IN AMERICA."\*

\* Bouton, Prov. Papers I, p. 3; Bouton, I, p. 5.

This grant bore date of November 3, 1620, and was consequently issued before the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. It promised a new charter, for better assurance; and the council was to be favored in all constructions, and aided by all officers.\*

2. The second charter, dated Aug. 10, 1622, was issued to "Sir Ferdinando Gorges of London, Knight, and Captain John Mason of London, Esquire," by the Council of Plymouth. This assigned "to them, their heirs and assignes, all that part of the main land in New England lying upon the sea-coast betwixt y<sup>e</sup> rivers of Merrimack and Sagadahock, and to the furthest heads of the said rivers, and soe forwards up into the land westward until three-score miles be finished from y<sup>e</sup> first entrance of the aforesaid rivers, and half way over"; which they, the grantees, "intend to name THE PROVINCE OF MAINE." In the same year, according to Palfrey,† "the Council granted to Gorges and Mason the country bounded by the Merrimack, the Kennebec, the ocean, and the river of Canada, and this territory they called Laconia." A like statement is also made by the Maine historian, Williamson, and by Belknap.‡

3. The charter of Massachusetts gave to Sir Henry Roswell and others, under date of March 19, 1627-8, a title to "all that part of New England which lies and extends between a great river there commonly called the Merrimack, and a certain other river there called Charles River," and also all those lands "lying within the space of three English miles on the south part of Charles River"; and also, "all those lands which lie and be within the space of three English miles to the northward of the said river called Merrimack, or to the northward of any and every part thereof." The last statement of this grant is especially important to remember, for it gives the boundary line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, a line which in later days caused long and acrimonious disputes.

4. The grant which most intimately concerns us as citizens is that made to Captain John Mason by the Council of Plymouth, bearing date of Nov. 7, 1629. It confirms to him, "his heirs and assignes, all that part of the mainland in New England lying upon the sea-coast, beginning from the middle part of Merrimack River, and from thence to proceed northwards along the sea-coast to Piscataqua River, and so forwards up within the said river and to the furthest head thereof, and from thence northwestward until three-score miles be finished from the

\*P. P. I., p. 9. †N. E., 397; also 202. ‡N. H., p. 4.

first entrance of Piscataqua River; also from Merrimack through the said river and to the furthest head thereof, and so forwards up into the lands westwards, until three-score miles be finished." Thus Mason's charter, issued at least a year later than that of Massachusetts, made his territory a distinct, separate colony. The lands specified were beyond the bounds of the Bay colony, and were never properly subject to her dictation. The tract thus bounded was called New Hampshire.

5. Other grants of greater or less importance were issued which may be studied at one's leisure. Such were those to John Wheelwright of Exeter; to Edward Hilton of Dover; and to Gorges and Mason and their associates of Portsmouth. But the connection between these and our town history is more remote, and hence we pass these with a mere mention of them.

#### TERRITORY DIVIDED.

"Near the close of the year," (1631), says the historian Whiton,\* "Mason and Gorges by mutual agreement divided Laconia into two parts." Gorges took the tract lying east of the Piscataqua, and called it MAINE; while that lying between the Piscataqua and the Merrimack, "was confirmed to Mason by a new patent, and called NEW HAMPSHIRE, after the County of Hampshire, in England, the place of his residence."

For several years Mason, his associates, and those whom they employed, managed the settlements. But these grew very slowly and yielded their owners much trouble, but very little gain. Mason himself lived but a few years to enjoy his new possessions. He died in 1635, having expended large sums in improvements from which he never realized any adequate returns. "His name," says the historian Whiton, "merits the grateful remembrance of future generations, as the FATHER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE."† "His personal property in New England," says another writer, "seems to have been appropriated by his former servants and agents, with what justice it is unnecessary to inquire."‡

#### DISTURBANCES.

About that time there was great religious agitation in the neighboring colony of Massachusetts. The peace of the Boston hierarchy had been disturbed by a man, who, according to Cot-

\* Whiton, p. 10.

† Whiton, p. 13.

‡ McClintock, p. 39.

ton Mather,\* "had a windmill in his head." This was because he taught that "there ought to be fair dealing with the Indians, that the civil magistrate had no right to interfere in religious matters, and that in such matters there should be complete soul-freedom." They banished him from the colony; but deferred execution on account of his ill health. They purposed and prepared to send him back to England, but he eluded their vigilance, fled southwards through the wilderness to hospitable savages, and afterwards became the founder of the first government on earth to grant its citizens complete religious freedom, — Roger Williams of Rhode Island. But he was not the only troubler of their camp. Mrs. Anne Hutchinson was becoming very popular in Boston about that time, and her brother-in-law, Rev. John Wheelwright, a college mate of Oliver Cromwell, was in Braintree, near by, and in sympathy with her. The Boston authorities banished both. Then there was also Captain John Underhill, who had trained their militia, and led a detachment of their forces in exterminating the ferocious Pequods; he, also, sympathized with Wheelwright, and for this reason was deposed from his captaincy and banished from the colony.

An Episcopal minister also who had been persecuted in England for imbibing dissenting views, one Hansard Knollys, came into the colony in 1638, and was grievously suspected of antinomianism.† Forbidden to remain, he departed from Boston before his time limit expired, and went away with two strangers from Piscataqua, who invited him to accompany them to their home. He and Captain Underhill reached Dover near the same time, while John Wheelwright found a home at Exeter. Mrs. Hutchinson with many of her friends went to Rhode Island and shared the hospitality of Roger Williams. But afterwards when Massachusetts was striving to get jurisdiction over Williams' territory, she fled to the Dutch colonies, where, at a later day, she and all her household perished by the hands of the savages. ‡

These cases have received more attention, because they illustrate the claims which Massachusetts made to jurisdiction over the places in which those outlawed exiles found homes.

#### PLOTTING AND SCHEMING.

Mr. Knollys became pastor in what afterwards was called Dover. In 1636, Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts "wrote to Dover that if the latter dared to receive any persons that had

\* Elton's Williams, pp. 116-120.

† Backus I, p. 82.

‡ Backus I, p. 375; Elton's Williams p. 160.

been cast out from the Bay, it would be taken ill," and threatening them, that if such exiles were received, "they should survey their utmost limits and make use of them." \* This they had evidently been doing for several years. It was not the work of one year or of one person. For, in 1632, † Captain Wiggin went to England and formed a company of "*honest men*," according to Winthrop, and with their aid purchased the entire Hilton Patent for £2,150. The purchasers were all Puritans and friends to Massachusetts, who had been "writ unto by the Governor and Magistrate of Massachusetts, who encouraged them to purchase the said lands, in respect they feared some ill neighborhood from them." ‡ Immediate steps were taken after the purchase to submit the territory to Massachusetts jurisdiction. One of Wiggin's people had stabbed another, and he requested that the culprit "might be tried in the Bay, if the party died." "The Governor answered, that if the Pascataqua lay within their limits (as it was supposed) they would try him." § Another offer of a like nature was made the following winter, but the authorities after conferring on the matter, "did not," as Winthrop wrote, "think fit to try them here." So the scheme to turn over the colony to Massachusetts dragged. Intense hostility to the design sprang up among the original planters of Hilton's Point, who occupied the soil, and the salesman proved unable to deliver the goods.

But internal strife arose. Mr. Larkham, the Episcopal minister, and Mr. Knollys quarrelled, and Captain John Underhill sided with the latter. There was a resort to arms. Hard words were plentifully hurled, but there was no blood shed. Larkham sought help from Strawberry Bank, whose Governor came with an armed posse, and "beset Mr. Knollys' house, where Captain Underhill was, kept a guard upon him night and day till they could call a court," at which the Governor sat as judge. || Underhill and his company were found guilty of riot, heavily fined, and he and some others were ordered out of the plantation. The Larkham party triumphed, as wishing to maintain their independence. Underhill, though at first reckoned as opposed to Massachusetts, was at last discovered to be plotting in her favor; and when ordered out of Dover, returned to Massachusetts, made a confession, and had his sentence of banishment revoked, and was restored to favor. Possi-

\* N. H. State Papers by Batchellor, Town Charters, II, 684; also Winthrop I, 276.

† Prov. Ps. I, p. 157.

‡ Town Charters II, 682.

§ Town Charters II, 682.

|| Town Charters II, 684.

bly, a reward for political service. But broils and dissensions continued among the inhabitants of Pascataqua, until in 1640, "Massachusetts saw her long awaited opportunity to spread her jurisdiction" over the territory. But even then it was necessary to resort to some manœuvring to effect the end. Accordingly, "the famous Hugh Peters, with two others, were sent "to understand the minds of the people, to reconcile some differences between them, and to prepare them."\* He spent considerable time among them, and on his return reported to Governor Winthrop, "The Piscataqua people are ripe for our Government." "They grone for Government and Gospel all over that side of the country. Alas! poore bleeding souls."†

There were then four distinct governments or "Combinations" within the limits of New Hampshire. These were Portsmouth, Kittery, Dover and Exeter.§ A majority of these "poore bleeding souls," made overtures for union which were, of course, very favorably received by the General Court of Massachusetts; and in 1641, the bonds were sealed and the union consummated, on conditions entirely satisfactory to the New Hampshire applicants. The union thus formed was not destitute of advantages, and lasted thirty-eight years, or from 1641 to 1679.

\* 2 Winthrop 38. Town Charters II., 685; McClintock, p. 47. J. S. Jenness cited  
† Fourth Series Mass. Hist. Coll. 6, 108. § P. P. I., p 155. n.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE INDIANS.

1. The last date mentioned, 1679, carries us a few years past the close of the great Indian War, called the Narragansett, or King Phillip's war. Up to that time, to the credit of New Hampshire, be it said that her relations with the Indians had been of a most commendably honorable and friendly nature.

The tribes within and on the borders of the State were the Pequakets on the east and along the Saco River, the Ossipees around the Ossipee and Winnepesaukee lakes, and most important and powerful of all, the Penacooks, who had their headquarters from Concord down the Merrimac to Lowell. The chief of this latter tribe was Passaconaway, whose influence surpassed that of all others of his kindred and associates. To the end of his days, he lived on terms of unbroken friendship with his English neighbors, and in his farewell to his people is reported to have said, "Hearken to the last words of your father and friend. The white men are sons of the morning. The Great Spirit is their father. His sun shines bright upon them; never make war with them. Surely as you light the fires, the breath of Heaven will turn the flame on you and destroy you. Listen to my advice; it is the last I shall be allowed to give you. Remember it and live."\*

So thoroughly did they obey their revered chief that, although Philip repeatedly and earnestly sought them as confederates and allies, they steadfastly refused to join him, and remained strictly and unblamably neutral. For more than fifty years from its first settlement, New Hampshire territory suffered no calamity from Indian massacres! Why this exemption?

2. But a change finally came, and in the following manner: After the close of King Philip's War, the province of Maine suffered from some incursions of the Indians. Possibly these may have been instigated by refugees from the shattered army of Philip. Whether so or not, when rejoicings over their victory and over the death of Philip were past, Massachusetts dis-

\* History of Hillsborough Co., p. 528.







NORTH SIDE OF PINNACLE, FROM D. E. PROCTOR PLACE.

patched two companies of her returned soldiers to assist the eastern colonists.\* They set out from Boston with orders "to seize all southern Indians wherever they might be found." Having marched to Coheco, or Dover, they found a large body of the red men encamped near the house of Major Waldron, commander of the New Hampshire militia, who had just confirmed a peace with them. The Boston men seemed to have anticipated the hateful modern notion, that "the only good Indian is the dead one," and wished to fall upon and slaughter the multitude at once. But to this Waldron would not readily consent. He, however, under pressure, as it seemed, did propose a sham fight for the next day, to which they agreed; the Indians forming one party, and his own troops with those of Kittery and the Boston men the other. "In the midst of their fight, the whites suddenly surrounded the whole body of Indians, and made them prisoners, almost without exception, before the Indians were aware of the intended deception."† The Indians had discharged their muskets, were treacherously entrapped, disarmed, and divided into two companies. The Penacooks and other friendly Indians were set at liberty. But the recognized confederates of Philip, fugitives who had sought hiding among their friends, and who with them had made peace and supposed themselves safe; these to the number of about two hundred, were seized and shipped to Boston for trial. A few of them who were counted guilty of murder were executed without delay, and the rest were deported to Algeria and sold into slavery. There were different opinions and views expressed in regard to the transaction. To the Penacooks it was a piece of base treachery, most deeply resented and never forgiven. But to pious, civilized, and enlightened Massachusetts, it was a piece of masterly strategy "highly applauded." It was said that Major Waldron felt compelled to this course by Massachusetts' authority as against his own better judgment, because he knew that many of those Indians were true friends of the New Hampshire colony. Thus was sown among the Indians in New Hampshire the seed from which the frightful massacres sprung—surely a baleful harvest. The strategists marched on into Maine, and the enemy disappeared from before them. They planned a winter campaign to the north country, but found no more enemies to entrap; and after a few unimportant skirmishes and the erection of a fort on the Kennebec, the ex-

\* Bouton's Prov. Ps. I, p. 357; Prov. Ps. I, 357.

pedition returned after its toilsome marches over frozen mountains and pathless snows, without accomplishing anything proportioned to their effort.

But troubles did not end. There was a lull for a few years, and then, new fuel was added to the flames.\* “Imagining that an incursion of Mohawks might terrify the hostile Indians into submission, the Government of Massachusetts sent agents into their country, who found it easy to persuade them to take up arms against their eastern enemies.” They appeared in New Hampshire, killed some of Waldron’s friendly Indian scouts, but failed to effect the purpose of those who invited their incursion. On the contrary, the Penacooks were the more embittered against the English, who had in addition to the treacherous seizure and sale of their friends, now plotted with their most ferocious enemies for their destruction. Consequently, individuals were frequently killed by parties of the red men who seemed continually hovering near the settlements. A short lived peace was concluded with them, and the change was made in the government by which New Hampshire was constituted a royal Province. A general uneasiness, nevertheless, prevailed among the people.

3. Nor were matters improved very much by the change made in the government. Sir Edmund Andros became royal Governor over the colonies of New York and New England, and his administration was very offensive to most honest men. He was regarded as tyrannical and rapacious. He was appointed Governor by the Duke of York, then King James II. and was naturally anxious to ingratiate himself with the King as well as to enrich himself by the plunder of those whom he governed.

4. “The lands from Penobscot to Nova Scotia had been ceded to the French by the treaty of Breda, in exchange for the island of St. Christophier. On these lands the Baron de St. Castine had for many years resided, and carried on a large trade with the Indians, with whom he was intimately connected. The lands which had been granted by the Crown of England to the Duke of York (now King James the Second) interfered with Castine’s plantation, as the Duke claimed to the river St. Croix. A fort had been built by his order at Pemaquid, and a garrison stationed there to prevent any intrusion on his property. In the spring of 1688, Andros went in the “Rose” frigate and

\*Whiton, p. 30.

plundered Castine's house and fort, leaving only the ornaments of his chapel to console him for the loss of his arms and goods. This base action provoked Castine to excite the Indians to a new war."\* This was called King William's, or the French and Indian war. The Baron Castine had to some extent adopted Indian customs and modes of life; had married the daughter of one of the most powerful of the Indian chiefs; had taught the Indians military tactics and the use of firearms, and had obtained an immense influence over them. Resenting intensely the injuries done him, he aroused the Indians of Maine, and even those of Canada to join the French in hostilities against the English. Some of the tribes had grievances of their own, and needed little incitement. Some of those Indians also who had been sold into slavery had succeeded in escaping and returning to their native wilds, and these kindled the deepest possible enmity against those whom they somewhat appropriately regarded as their kidnappers. Thus, the eastern Province was in a state of ferment.

5. On the 28th of June, 1689, the shock came, and came first at Dover, the very neighborhood of the "sham fight" of thirteen years before. Major Waldron had "sown the wind;" he was now destined to "reap the whirlwind."

The day before the shock, some squaws were permitted to lodge in some of the garrison houses, who informed the Major that "a number of Indians were coming to trade with him the next day." An Indian chief named Mesandowit, whom he entertained, said to him at supper, "Brother Waldron, what would you do if the strange Indians should come?" He answered carelessly, "I could assemble a hundred men by lifting up my finger." He set no watch, and with his family retired to rest in fancied security. "In the hours of deepest quiet the gates were opened. The Indians, who were waiting without, immediately entered, placed a guard at the gate, and rushed into the Major's apartment. Awakened by the noise, he sprang from his bed, seized a sword and, though over eighty years old, drove them through two or three rooms; but returning for other arms, they came behind him, stunned him with a hatchet, and overpowered him. Drawing him into the hall, they then placed him in an elbow-chair on a long table with a derisive cry, 'Who shall judge Indians now?' They cut the Major across the breast with knives, each one with a stroke

\*Prov. Ps. II, 46, 47; Farmer's Belknap, p. 124.

saying, 'I cross out my account.' Cutting off his nose and ears, they thrust them into his mouth; and when he was falling down, spent with the loss of blood, one of them held his own sword beneath him; he fell upon it, and his sufferings were ended."

"Twenty-three persons fell victims in this bloody tragedy and twenty-nine were made prisoners" and carried to Canada, where they were sold to the French; "the first English prisoners," it is said, "ever carried to that country." Sad results surely, from the treacherous sham fight, "applauded by the voice of the colony" of Massachusetts.

The next year "the French Governor of Canada entered resolutely into the war and furnished the hostile Indians with arms and supplies. He offered a bounty for scalps and prisoners. Salmon Falls was attacked in March by a combined French and Indian force, and twenty-seven of its brave defenders were slain, and fifty-two, mostly women and children, were carried into captivity."\*

6. But enough of this. The purpose is not to recount horrors, of which there were far too many, but to explain facts, as far as history offers explanation of them. These events and many others of like nature led to the fitting out of the Canada Expedition of 1690, so often referred to, and so seldom described, even in the histories of those towns which were granted in view of services rendered in that ill-fated expedition. Let it be remembered that New Hampshire had no serious trouble with the Indians till after its union with Massachusetts, and its trouble came largely in consequence of that union. After the severance of the two interests, however, the disturbances became so frequent and so great, that New Hampshire again in the revolutionary period of 1689, sought and renewed its union with Massachusetts until some satisfactory agreement should put an end to the uneasiness.

\*Whiton, pp. 43, 44; Provincial Papers II, p. 49; McClintock, pp. 111, 112, 113.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE CANADA EXPEDITION OF 1690.

1. The French were accounted the chief instigators of Indian massacres. It was therefore considered important, if possible, to suppress both. In the English revolution of 1689, James the Second fled the Kingdom, and William and Mary became the sovereigns. The same year a popular uprising in Massachusetts deposed the royal Governor, Andros, from office, made him a prisoner, and sent him to England for trial. England and Holland declared war against France, and the dependencies of these nations naturally acted in full sympathy with them. This they faithfully did. "Sir William Phipps,\* afterwards governor of the province of Massachusetts," and a native of Pemaquid, had recently arrived in the country, under his appointment as high sheriff for New England; and as he was an experienced seaman, the command of the colonial forces was entrusted to his care. The General Court meditated an attack upon Port Royal and Quebec. Eight small vessels and seven or eight hundred men constituted the armament sent to Port Royal; and sailing from Boston early in the spring, in about two weeks he reached his destination; the fort surrendered with but little resistance, yielding plunder sufficient to pay expenses. Sir William took possession of the whole sea coast from Port Royal to New England; and three weeks later he returned to Boston.\*

"The success of this enterprise encouraged the prosecution of the design upon Canada; and the expedition was hastened by the horrible ravages of the Indians and French upon the frontier settlements, and by the desire of the colonists to commend themselves to the favor of the king, from whom they were expecting a renewal of their charter."

Assistance could not be obtained from the mother country, and hence Massachusetts "formed an alliance with Connecticut and New York," at a "Congress" held in the latter colony, determined to proceed on her own responsibility, and, while a land army of eight hundred men was to march by Lake Champlain

\*See Mather's *Life of Phipps*, Sec. 10. N. Y. Col. Doc., III, 720, and IX., 474-475; Williamson's *Me.*, I, 596; Briefer is Quackenbos. *History of U. S.*, p. 136 (Appleton, N. Y., 185); See Mather's *Life of Phipps*, etc., as on preceding page.

to attack Montreal, her forces, consisting of upwards of thirty vessels and about two thousand men, were to fall upon Quebec.\*

It was late in the season when this fleet sailed from Nantasket. Intelligence of the march of the troops from Connecticut and New York had reached Montreal. Dissensions among the English paralyzed their strength, and they fell back to Albany. Had it not been for this and the delay of Phipps' fleet, the fate of Quebec would have been then sealed. This delay enabled the French commanders to put their fortifications into the best possible condition of defense. When on the 6th of October, 1690, they were summoned to surrender, they returned a scornful and indignant reply.

“By noon of October 9 the English assailants were fully satisfied that the contest was hopeless, and allowed their vessels to recede out of reach of the enemy's fire. The rear admiral's flag had been shot away, and was seized by a Canadian who swam out into the stream and brought it to the castle, and it was afterwards hung up many years as a trophy in the church of Quebec.”†

“Utterly discouraged, the assailants withdrew; and reëmbarking in their vessels in the utmost confusion, exposed to the fire of the French, and abandoning their guns and the remnant of their stores, they prepared to return home, humbled and disappointed. Nor was the return voyage without damage; for unacquainted with the passes of the river, nine vessels were wrecked among the shoals of the St. Lawrence.”‡

The arrival of Sir William at Boston, with the remnant of his fleet, spread an unusual gloom over the community.

Thus the expedition proved a disastrous failure, and the Massachusetts soldiers on their return found also a bankrupt treasury.

2. Says Rev. F. G. Clark, “They had no money with which to pay the soldiers, and so they resorted to the perilous method of issuing bills of credit, or paper money, which very soon depreciated in value, and brought untold misery upon the people. The first issue of bills was called old tenor; the second, middle tenor, and the third, new tenor; and all soon became depreciated in value, the old tenor more than the others. Finally, the mother country took pity on her colony, and sent over seventeen cartloads of silver, and ten truck loads of copper

\* Barry II, p. 79. † Barry Hist. of Mass., p. 84. N. Y. Col. Doc, IX, pp. 457, 488.

‡ See Quackenbos School Hist., Ed. 79, p. 97.



in 1749, to establish specie payments; and one Spanish dollar was given for forty-five shillings of paper. This was called lawful money, while the specie was called sterling,—making five kinds of money. All through the earlier history of the town these different currencies are mentioned. Sometimes the bills of credit were called proclamation money, but usually old tenor, or lawful money.”\*

3. Both the survivors of the expedition and their posterity repeatedly petitioned for some adequate remuneration of their service as a means of relief. At last, in 1735, more than forty years after their enlistment, a tract of land equivalent to six miles square was granted by the General Court of Massachusetts to Captain Samuel King and fifty-nine others. The majority of these were from Salem, and hence the tract granted them was first called Salem Canada, combining the name of their town with that of the expedition.

4. How did Massachusetts obtain the right to grant lands in New Hampshire? “Massachusetts claimed all lands lying south and west of the Merrimack River,—claimed that her line started three miles north of the mouth of the stream, and run at that distance from the stream along its northern and eastern bank up to the Pemigewasset, where the river forks, and where the town of Franklin now is, and thence due west to the South Sea. Her boundary, according to her charter, was to run ‘everywhere’ three miles north of, and parallel to, the Merrimack, to its head, and from a point three miles north of its head due west to the South Sea.” †

“New Hampshire maintained that it was impossible to run a line ‘everywhere’ three miles north of a stream flowing mostly southward;” and, “therefore it ought to be drawn as near as possible to what was supposed to be the fact when the charter was given, viz., that the river came from the west. She therefore claimed that the line should start from a point three miles north of the middle of the stream at its mouth, and run due west to the south sea, or to other provinces.” ‡

Commissioners appointed by both provinces met at Newbury in 1731, “disputed and separated,” but decided nothing. In subsequent years the dispute waxed hot and bitter, until in 1737 a board of commissioners from Nova Scotia, New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island met at Hampton. The legislatures of the two provinces also met within five miles of each

\*Salem-Canada, p. 7.

†Peterboro, Hist., p. 44.

‡Hist. of Peterboro, p. 44.

other, one at Hampton and the other at Salisbury. The occasion was extraordinary, and "the procession, with the governor riding in state attended by the great and general court, was an imposing spectacle which was burlesqued in Hibernian style, thus : \*

" Dear Paddy, you ne'er did behold such a sight  
 As yesterday morning was seen before night.  
 You in all your born days saw, nor I didn't neither,  
 So many fine horses and men ride together.  
 At the head, the lower house trotted two in a row,  
 Then all the higher house pranced after the low ;  
 The governor's coach galloped on like the wind,  
 And the last that came foremost was troopers behind  
 But I fear it means no good to your neck or mine,  
 For they say 'tis to fix a right place for a line."

But with all this pomp and display the commissioners failed to fix the matter. However, while the boundary was thus under heated dispute, Massachusetts assumed a very patriotic attitude toward the veterans of the fruitless and ill-fated Canada Expedition, and the descendants of those who perished in it, or had died since. For she hastened to make grants to them of several townships out of the territory which she so unconscionably claimed. The towns thus granted were Dunbarton, Lyndeborough, New Boston, Richmond, Rindge, Salisbury and Weare. Had Massachusetts succeeded in gaining her way, very little of Mason's New Hampshire would have escaped her grasp. But the eastern and northern boundary of New Hampshire was fixed by the Commissioners at that time, as it now stands. The southern line, however, was referred back to the king for decision. "In 1740," says Dr. Smith, "the king in council confirmed the northern boundary as fixed by the commissioners, and decided that the southern boundary should run three miles north of and parallel to the Merrimack, to a point north of Pawtucket Falls when the river turns north, and from that point should run due west. They decided to execute the charter, so far as it could be executed, by following the north bank of the river ; and when the river turned so as to have no north bank, they took a straight line. 'Had the river turned to the south,' they said, 'instead of the north, Massachusetts would have justly complained of a loss of territory by follow-

\*Rev. F. G. Clark, *Salem-Canada*, pp. 16, 17; also *Hist. of Weare*.

†See Batchellor, *State Papers*, Vol. XXIV., Pref. VI; also *History of Weare*, p. 44; *History of Peterboro*, pp. 45, 46.

ing the stream, and the same rule ought to hold now that the stream is found to come from the north.'” Now the course of the river from Pawtucket Falls, now Lowell, to Newburyport, is considerably north of east. In tracing the river up from its mouth, therefore, when those Falls are reached, parallels running through both that point and Newburyport, will be fourteen miles apart at the Falls. This decision of the line, therefore, gave “New Hampshire a strip of land fourteen miles wide, extending from the Merrimack to the Connecticut (fifty miles), and containing twenty-eight townships, more than she had ever claimed! In 1741, the new line was run by New Hampshire surveyors, Massachusetts refusing to take any part in it.”

Many of the settlers had already begun to establish themselves in their new abodes before the decision of the line. They were enjoying “*placidam sub libertate quietem*,” (placid rest under freedom’s sway) guaranteed by Massachusetts; and just as this sweet experience came to them, to wake up one fine morning in “the leafy month of June,” 1740, and find that the Massachusetts line had receded from them full fourteen miles to the south, leaving them among the cold, hyperborean hills of New Hampshire, was a sensation anything but pleasant. They suffered an indescribable chill!

And Massachusetts sympathized deeply with their deplorable condition, and in her kindness to them refused any assistance to New Hampshire in running the line. But New Hampshire surveyors in 1741 did the work, just a century after the first union with Massachusetts; and the line thus surveyed still remains, with very slight change, the southern boundary of our State.

The right by which Massachusetts granted townships in New Hampshire to her veterans and their descendants is thus indicated. It was a right usurped and unjustifiable from the first. Her jurisdiction over New Hampshire had been set aside more than sixty years before; but not till 1740 had her territorial limits been clearly and positively marked and specified. But this very satisfactory result to the State brought serious difficulty to many of the settlers.

#### THE MASONIAN CLAIMS

The settlement of the boundary line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts quite unsettled some matters of very grave importance. If Massachusetts had made grants of townships

within New Hampshire territory where she had no legitimate right of control, it is very clear that such grants would be illegal and void. They were so regarded; and the rightful heirs to the lands so granted began to assert their claims to them.

JOHN MASON, the original grantee of New Hampshire, died without male issue in 1635. He had but one child, his daughter Anne, who married Joseph Tufton and had two sons, John and Robert. The oldest son died in childhood and the inheritance passed to his brother Robert, who reached manhood in the troublous times of the first Charles, when the nation was sorely rent by dissension and civil war. The Mason family were royalists and when the iron hand of Cromwell dashed royalist hopes and fortunes to shivers, they wisely remained inactive and held their claims in abeyance, making no assertion of their rights. It was an evil time. Confiscation and attainder were rife and prudence dictated the policy of silence. But after the Restoration Robert Tufton, who had assumed the name of Mason in order to secure his title to the inheritance, petitioned the King for a recognition of his rights. The case was referred to the Attorney General, who reported that "Mason had a legal right to New Hampshire."

For about thirty-seven years Massachusetts had been governing New Hampshire. By what authority was a natural question. She could produce none except the consent of the governed, which by skilful manipulation she had been able to secure. Commissioners were appointed to investigate and determine matters of common and heated dispute. One of these commissioners, Edward Randolph, was a relative of Mason, who came to act in his interest. He was cordially disliked by the Massachusetts authorities because he was too open-mouthed and told too much truth. His caustic and too vividly truthful delineations of the cruelties and usurpations practised by that intolerant government were published in England, and aroused not only royal but also popular indignation. As a result a revocation of the charter of Massachusetts was threatened and a few years later was actually effected.

The claim of Mason was regarded as so strong, and was so favored by the king, that the next year New Hampshire was separated from Massachusetts and constituted into a Royal Province with its own independent government.

But neither the New Hampshire government nor the people,

as a whole, favored Mason's claims. They were anxious, if possible, to evade quit rents and defeat his title to the original ownership of the soil. In this they failed. But their hostility to his claims was so bitter and effective that his attempts to secure any benefit from them were baffled. Members of the new government combined with the people to defeat his claims, though these had been adjudged by the highest authority in the kingdom to be just and legal.

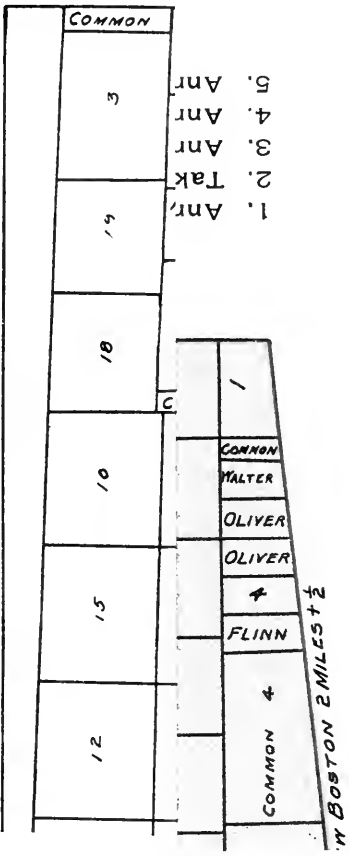
Robert Mason died in 1688, bequeathing his claims and controversies to his sons, John and Robert. They soon sold their rights to Samuel Allen, a wealthy merchant of London, who was afterward commissioned as Royal Governor. But the people were as bitterly opposed to him as to Mason, and he died without receiving any special advantage from his purchase. The law at a later day, decided that Allen's title was technically defective. The estate had been entailed, and the decision was that its possessor had no power to sell or alienate it beyond his own lifetime. Hence, after the death of John Tuf-ton Mason his brother Robert held legal title to New Hampshire, in opposition to the claims of the heirs of Governor Allen.

In 1743 it was, however, finally decided that Col. John Tuf-ton Mason's right was unquestionably valid. After this decision he offered his estates for sale to the Provincial Government. Action in regard to his offer was dilatory. He urged haste on the ground that other parties desired to purchase. The government finally came to a decision; but too late! On the very day that they agreed to accept his offer he had sold his lands, in fifteen equal shares, to a syndicate of twelve men in Portsmouth, who afterwards managed and controlled them. These men were thenceforth known as "The Masonian Proprietors," or often as "The Lord Proprietors of Mason's Claims." Their names and the number of shares which they owned will be found in Chapter V of this History. These having purchased Mason's title afterwards compelled the settlers to secure from themselves the titles which alone were valid, to the lands on which they had planted their homes. Colonel Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable became their agent; and the towns which had been previously chartered by the government of Massachusetts found their charters annulled by the new proprietors, and new titles to their lands must be procured from him. These titles or charters were usually issued by the

proprietors of lands purchased of John Tuston Mason, Esq., and were signed by their agent, Joseph Blanchard.

Having thus briefly glanced at several of the steps leading to the history of our township, we are now ready to enter intelligently into its direct record.

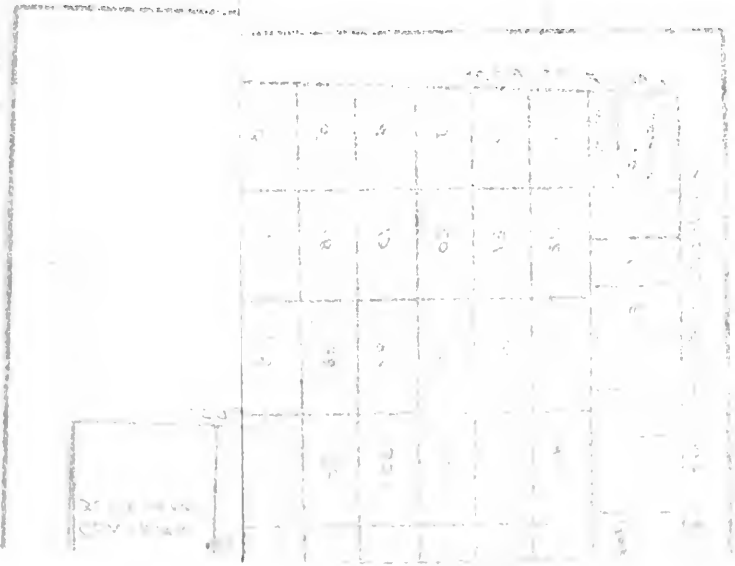
QUARTERS



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THIS PLAN

DOWN BY A SCALE OF AN INCH & HALF TO ONE HUNDRED & SIXTY RODS  
AT TEST BY ANDREW FULLER SURVEYOR







## PART I.

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### Salem-Canada and Lyndeborough.

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#### CHAPTER I.

The Province of Massachusetts laid strenuous claim to a large portion of New Hampshire to which both King and Council agreed that she had no just right. A few years later the same authority decided that the heirs of John Mason had a valid right to all the territory granted to Mason in 1629.

But Massachusetts had for years been granting townships in the very territory included by the bounds of Mason's charter, as a reward to soldiers who had served in her wars. Salem-Canada was one of the townships thus granted. We now present some of the records of the Massachusetts legislature bearing on the matter.

[Mass. House Journal, June 18, 1735.]

*Colonel Chandler* from the Committee for Lands, reported on the Petition of *Samuel King*, and others, who were in the Expedition to *Canada* in the year 1690, or the descendants of such as were lost or are since dead; which was read and accepted, and *Voted*,

\* That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that Mr. Samuel Chandler and *Captain John Hobson*, together with such as shall be joined by the honorable Board, be a Committee at the Charge of the Government, to lay out a Township of the contents of six miles square, West of the *Narragansett*-Township, Number *Three*; and that they return a Plat thereof to this Court, within twelve months for Confirmation; and for the effectual bringing forward the Settlement of the said Town; *Ordered*,

That the said Town be laid out into sixty-three equal shares, one of which to be for the first settled Minister, one for the Ministry, and one for the School, and that on each of the other sixty shares the Petitioners do within three years from the

\* Batchellor, Vol. XXIV, p. 172.

Confirmation of the Plan, have settled one good Family, who shall have a House built on his Home-Lot of eighteen feet square and seven feet stud at the least, that each Right or Grant have six acres of Land brought to and plowed or brought to English Grass and fitted for mowing, that they settle a learned and orthodox Minister, and build and finish a convenient Meeting-House for the publick Worship of GOD, provided that in case any of the Lots or Rights are not duly settled in all regards as aforesaid, then such Lot with the Rights thereof to revert to and be at the disposition of the Province. Sent up for Concurrence.

[Mass. Court Records, June 19, 1735.]

\* A Petition of Samuel King and others, who were in the Expedition to Canada in the Year 1690 and the Descendants of such of them as are dead, praying for a Grant of Land for a Township in Consideration of their or their Ancestors Sufferings in the said Expedition.

In the House of Represent<sup>a</sup> Read and *Voted* that the prayer of the petition be Granted and that Mr. Samuel Chandler and Mr. John Hobson, together with such as shall be Joined by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Board, be a Com<sup>tee</sup> at the Charge of the Government to lay out a Township of the Contents of Six Miles Square and West of the Narragansett Town Called Number three and that they Return a Plat thereof to this Court within twelve Months for Confirmation; and for the more Effectual bringing forward the Settlement of the said New town, *Ordered* that the said Town be laid out into Sixty-three Equal Shares, One of which to be for the first Settled Minister, One for the Ministry, and one for the School, and that on each of the other Sixty Shares the Petitioners do within three Years from the Confirmation of the Plan have Settled One Good family who shall have a house built on his Home lott of Eighteen feet Square and Seven feet Stud at the least, and finished, that each Right or Grant have Six Acres of Land brought to and plowed or brought to English Grass and fitted for mowing; That they Settle a learned orthodox Minister and build and finish a Convenient meeting house for the public worship of God; provided that in Case any of the Lotts or Rights are not duly Settled in all Regards as aforesaid, then such Lott with the Rights thereof to Revert to and be at the Disposition of the Province

\* Batchellor, XXIV, p. 173.

In Council Read & Concurr'd and Samuel Welles Esq<sup>r</sup> is  
Joined in the Affair

(STATE PAPERS NEW HAMPSHIRE, Batchellor, Volume  
XXIV. TOWN CHARTERS, Vol. I.)

[Mass. House Journal, June 1, 1736.]

A Plat of the contents of six miles square of Land with an allowance of one thousand and eighteen acres for Waste &c. surveyed and laid out by *Stephen Hosmer*, Jun. Surveyor, and two Chain men on Oath, to satisfy a Grant of this Court of the 18th of *June* last, in answer to the Petition of *Samuel King* and others, Officers and Soldiers in the *Canada Expedition Anno* 1690, and their descendants &c. was presented for allowance. Read and *Ordered*, That the Plat be accepted, and the Lands therein delineated and described be and hereby are confirmed to the Officers and Soldiers mentioned in the Petition of the said *Samuel King*, and others, and the heirs legal Representatives and Descendants of such of them as were lost, or deceased in or since the *Canada Expedition Anno* 1690, and to their heirs and assignus respectively forever, they complying with the Conditions of the Grant; provided the Plat contain no more than the quantity of twenty-four thousand and fifty-eight acres of Land, and does not interfere with any former Grant; the said Lands lying West of *Salem Narragansett Town* number *Three*, on the North of *Souheeg River*, beginning at a Spruce Tree and runs North by the Needle two thousand one hundred ninety one Perch on Province Land, and then East on Province Land to said Township of *Salem*, South on the Township of *John Simpson* and others, West on *Duxbury School Farm*.\* Sent up for Concurrence.

Layd out In May 1736 a Township of the Contents of Six Miles Square or 23040 acres and 1018 acres allowed for water &c. which was Lay'd out to Sam<sup>l</sup> King and others Canada Soldiers In the year 1690 Lying on the west of Salem Narragansett Town No 3 on the North Side of the Souheeg River Bounded as follows Beginning at a Spruse Tree and runs North By the Needle 2191 Perch on Province Land To a hemlock Tree marked then Runs East 1558 Pearch on Province Land To a Township adjoining To and Lying North of Salem Narragansett Town No 3 then Runs South on Said Township 640 perch to Township, granted to John Simpson & others Then

\* Batchellor, XXIV., p. 174; Ibid. p. 176.

Runs East on s<sup>d</sup> Township 402 perch To a stake & Stones then runs South 1467 Perch on said Salem Narragansett Town then runs west 480 Perch on Duxbury School Farm to a stake and heap of Stones then Runs South 13 Perch on Said Farm To a popler Tree Marked then Runs west 1460 perch To the Spruse Tree First Named on Province Land all which May appear By the plan above Layd Down by a Scale of 216 Pearch To an Inch the Swagg of Chain In this Township is 3 perch In one Hundred: by order of the Honorable Sam<sup>l</sup> Welles Esq<sup>r</sup> and Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Chandler

§ Stephen Hosmer Junr Surveyor

In the House of Representatives June 1, 1736 Read and Ordered that the plat be Accepted, and the Lands therein delineated and described be and hereby are confirmed to the officers and soldiers mentioned in the petition of the said Samuel King and others, and the Heirs, legal Representatives and Descendants of such of them as are lost or deceased in or since the Canada Expedition Anno 1690, and to their Heirs & Assigns respectively for ever they complying with the Conditions of the Grant provided the plat contains no more than the quantity of twenty-four thousand & fifty Eight Acres of Land, and does not interfere with any former Grant. The said Land lying West of Salem Narragansett town Number three on the North of Souheeg River beginning at a spruce Tree & runs North by the Needle 2191 perch on province Land, & then east on province Land to Salem Narragansett Township Number three South on the township of John Simpson and others, West on Duxbury School farm

Sent up for Concurrence

J. Quincy Spkr

In Council June 2 1736 Read and Concurred

J. Willard Sec'ry

17: Consented to,

J. Belcher

[Mass. Court Records, June 2, 1736]

A plat of a Township of the Contents of Six Miles Square, with the Allowance of One Thousand & Eighteen Acres for Water &c.

Surveyed & Laid out by Stephen Hosmer junr. and Chainmen on Oath, to Satisfy a Grant made by this Court in Answer to the petition of Samuel King and others; lying on the West of Salem Narragansett Town Number three, on the North side of Soheag River; bounded as follows, beginning at a Spruce

Tree & Runs North by the Needle Two Thousand One hundred & Ninety One perch on province Land to a hemlock Tree Marked ; then Runs East one Thousand five hundred & fifty Eight perch on province Land to a Township Adjoyning to & lying North of the said Narragansett Town Number three ; then Runs South on said Township Six hundred and forty perch to the Township Granted to John Simpson and others, then Runs East on said Township four hundred and two perch to a Stake & Stones then Runs South One Thousand four hundred and Sixty Seven perch on said Narragansett Town, then Runs West four hundred & Eighty perch on Duxbury School farm to a Stake and heap of Stones ; then Runs South thirteen perch on said Farm to a poplar Tree marked ; thence Runs West One Thousand four hundred and Sixty perch to the Spruce tree first named on province Land.\*

## ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons Claiming an Interest in y<sup>e</sup> Grant of a Township, made by y<sup>e</sup> Great and Generall Court or assembly to Samuel King & others who were, or are Descended from such as were in y<sup>e</sup> Expedition to Canada Anno 1690,

That y<sup>e</sup> Said Township is Laid out, and y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> purpose to meet att y<sup>e</sup> House of Mrs. Pratt att Salem, On Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Sep<sup>r</sup> Next att Ten o'clock before noon to admit persons according to y<sup>e</sup> Grant, and take bond for their fulfilling the conditions.

p ord. of y<sup>e</sup> Comitte  
Samuel Wells

BOSTON July y<sup>e</sup> 8, 1736.

The meeting occurred in accordance with the above notice, and the list of the persons admitted into the township on the first and second days of September, 1736, follows :

A List of the persons admitted into y<sup>e</sup> Township Granted by the General Court to Capt. Samuel King and others on y<sup>e</sup> first & second Days of September anno 1736.†

Capt. Samuel King on the right of Ensign John King  
Capt. Samuel King on the right of John King's Servant  
Joseph Blaney, Esq<sup>r</sup>. on the right of Joseph Blaney  
Mr. Joseph Sweat on the right of Joseph Sweat

\* Batchellor, Vol. XXIV, p. 177.

† Proprs. Records, p. 4

Mr. Roger Derby on the right of Charles Derby  
 Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of Wm. Derby  
 William King on the right of Capt. Daniel King  
 Peter Martin on the right of John Martin  
 William Hine on the right of Benj<sup>a</sup> Norman  
 Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of Edward Britton  
 Thomas Cloutman on the right of William Potes  
 William Webb on the right of John Smith  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Codner on the right of Christ<sup>o</sup> Codner  
 Joseph Halett on the right of Thomas White  
 Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of John Legroe  
 David Foster on the right of Jonathan Foster  
 Bartholomew Jackson on the right of George Jackson  
 John Dodd on the right of John Dodd  
 Samuel Osgood on the right of John Walk  
 Joseph Hilliard on the right of David Hilliard  
 Abell Robinson on the right of William Robinson  
 Cornelius Tarbell on the right of Nicholas Ford  
 Daniel Epes Esq<sup>r</sup>. on the right of John Boen  
 Daniel Epes Esq<sup>r</sup>. on the right of Richard Blanch  
 John Gyles Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of John Andrews  
 Jonathan Peal on the right of George Peal  
 Ephraim Ingalls on the right of Samuel Clay  
 John Gardner on the right of Michael Coomes  
 Isaac Williams on the right of Jon<sup>a</sup> Williams  
 Robert Swan on the right of Joel Hunt  
 Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of John Pickworth  
 Edward Trask on the right of William Trask  
 Isaac Knap on the right of Isaac Knap  
 Simon Orn on the right of William Norman  
 Simon Orn on the right of Arheball Furgason  
 Stephen Daniel Jun<sup>r</sup> on the right of Stephen Daniel  
 John Bartell on the right of Thomas Forten  
 John Bartell on the right of Robert Bartell  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Goodhue on the right of Thomas Searl  
 Isaac Knap on the right of Jam<sup>s</sup> Knap  
 Joseph English on the right of Thomas Beadle  
 Samuel Swasey on the right of Stephen Swasey  
 Joseph Hilliard on the right of Edward Hilliard  
 Jonathan Verry on the right of John Verry  
 Jonathan Verry on the right of John Archer  
 John Procter on the right of Benj<sup>a</sup> Procter  
 Phillip English on the right of Joshua Hollingsworth  
 Benjamin Lynde, Jr. Esq<sup>r</sup> on the right of Peter Collier  
 Capt. Joseph Bowditch on the right of William Bowditch  
 Mr. Joseph Hilliard on the right of Richard Petors  
 William Tapley on the right of Robert Tapley  
 William Tapley on the right of John Tapley  
 William Dixey on the right of Samuel Dixey  
 Samuel Wells Esq<sup>r</sup> on the right of John Beal

Mr. Joseph Clough on the right of Thomas Hendley  
 Joseph Lambert on the right of Samuel Lambert  
 Thomas Trott on the right of Hilliard Williams  
 Joseph Blaney Esq<sup>r</sup> on the right of Nicholas Merrett

The above is an Exact List of all the proprietors' names who are admitted Grantees into the Township lying West of the Narragansett Township No. 3.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Wells in behalf of y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>l</sup>.  
 chosen by y<sup>e</sup> General Court for y<sup>e</sup> purpose.

In the Mass. House of Representatives Dec. 17, 1736, it was ORDERED,

\* That Daniel Epes, Esq., be authorized and impowered to assemble and convene in some convenient place in the town of Salem the proprietors or Grantees of this township, to choose a Moderator, clerk, and to pass such votes as shall seem for the general interest and advancement of the town, and further, to agree upon a method of calling future meetings, as well as to admit grantees to a draft of their home lots.

In accordance with the foregoing order of the Court, "the Proprietors or Grantees admitted into the Grant made the Inhabitants of Salem & Marblehead &c. In June 1735," were notified to assemble together "at the house of Mrs. Margaret Pratt Inholder in Salem, on Thursday the 3rd day of Feb<sup>y</sup> next at Eleven of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> forenoon, To chuse a Moderator, Proprietors' Clerk, &c. & to pass Such Votes & orders as may be agreeable to y<sup>e</sup> bringing forward the Settlement of y<sup>e</sup> Township, and to agree upon methods how to call future Proprietors' meetings, and also to admit y<sup>e</sup> Grantees to a Draft of their home Lotts, and that every Grantee pay in his proportion of money for laying out S<sup>d</sup> Lotts before he draws the same.

Daniel Epes

Salem Jan<sup>y</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 20th 1736\* (? 1737)

#### FIRST LEGAL MEETING.

Att a Legall meeting of y<sup>e</sup> pro<sup>s</sup> of Salem-Canada Township att Mrs. Pratt's Inholder in Salem on Thursday y<sup>e</sup> 3rd Day of Feb<sup>y</sup> 1736. (1737)

\* The date 1736 seems an error ; for Jan. 20, 1736, is nearly eleven months earlier than Dec. 17, 1736, the date of the ORDER of the General Court which authorized Daniel Epes to call the meeting. To notify a corporation to meet at a date nearly a year in the past, is absurd ; and the proper date should therefore be 1737.

See account of the First Division Rights drawn by the several proprietors at their meeting Feb. 3, 1737. The latter date is manifestly the correct one. Then follows an account of the first legal meeting, a record of which is here transcribed, *verbatim et literatim*, as a sample.

Voted, Daniel Epes Esq<sup>r</sup> Moderator, and Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> proprietors Clerk, and he was Sworn accordingly att y<sup>e</sup> meeting P<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde Jun<sup>r</sup> Jus<sup>t</sup> peace.

Voted, Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde Jun<sup>r</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> Treasurer.

Voted, That four pound be raised on Each right in order to Defray the Charges that have arissen on this propri<sup>y</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> surveying and Laying out of y<sup>e</sup> Lotts and other Charges y<sup>t</sup> have or may arise to y<sup>e</sup> property.

Voted, A plan of y<sup>e</sup> Township being presented to y<sup>e</sup> proprietors by y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> Some time since, Desired to Lay out y<sup>e</sup> home Lotts, Together with Platts of the severall home Lotts as Laid out P<sup>r</sup> a Skillful Surveyor In quantity & quality according to a standard of 60 acres to Each Right. That the same be Excepted and y<sup>e</sup> Severall Lotts be Confirmed to the Severall P<sup>ro</sup><sup>ts</sup> as they shall draw the Same.

Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> Prop<sup>rs</sup> Proceed to y<sup>e</sup> Drawing their home Lotts; Paying for Each Right four Pounds Voted as above before they Draw, Inclusive of the fourty shillings already paid P<sup>r</sup> Some of y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors.

Capt. Ju<sup>n</sup> Stephen's acc<sup>o</sup> for Surveying & Laying out S<sup>d</sup> home Lotts am<sup>o</sup> to £88, 13s being Presented & Read,

Voted, that y<sup>e</sup> Same be allowed and the acc<sup>o</sup> paid, Excepting £20 Charged to be for Laying out fourteen home Lotts, not yett Performed, which y<sup>e</sup> S<sup>d</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephens is to Lay out, and on his doing y<sup>e</sup> Same to be paid y<sup>e</sup> S<sup>d</sup> Twenty Pounds.

Voted, The following accounts of Charges for Laying out y<sup>e</sup> home Lotts, be allowed & paid Viz<sup>t</sup>.

To Daniel Epes Jun <sup>r</sup>	£60, 2,
Maj <sup>r</sup> Blaney	13, 4, 3
Mr. Cornelius Tarbell	13, 2, 0
Mr. Roger Derby	13, 5, 11
Mr. John Gardner	13, 13, 9

Voted, That Samuel Epes & Ju<sup>n</sup> Gyles Jun<sup>r</sup> be allowed £10, each on y<sup>e</sup> ab<sup>o</sup> S<sup>d</sup> account.

Voted, That Samuel Chandler and Sam<sup>l</sup> Chandler Jun<sup>r</sup> be p<sup>d</sup> Eleven pound besides what they were paid by Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> and Charged in his acc<sup>o</sup>.

Voted, To chuse a Com<sup>t</sup> of five men (viz<sup>t</sup>) Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde Jun<sup>r</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup>, Joseph Blaney Esq<sup>r</sup> Capt. Sam<sup>l</sup> King, Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> and Mr. John Fowl, They or the maj<sup>o</sup> part of them is hereby fully Impowered to call future pro<sup>ts</sup> meetings and Draw orders on y<sup>e</sup> Treasurer for y<sup>e</sup> payment of y<sup>e</sup> Sums ab<sup>o</sup> Voted or any other Small Charges that may arise.

Voted, That Notifications for calling future Proprietors meetings be put up two att Salem two att Marblehead and one att Woburn.

Voted, Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde Jun<sup>r</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> take y<sup>e</sup> Seven Lotts that remains yett to be drawn and keep them till y<sup>e</sup> adjournment of this meetiug, Unless they or any of them pay his or their money to Mr. Lynde then he or they may Draw. This meeting was adjourned to y<sup>e</sup> Last Wednesday of this Instant Feb<sup>r</sup> att Mrs. Margaret Pratts att one of the Clock in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon.



Att a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 6th 1736, Ordered y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Clerk Draw upon the Treas<sup>r</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> Payment of y<sup>e</sup> Sums of money Voted  $\text{P}$  y<sup>e</sup> Prop<sup>rs</sup> to be paid to y<sup>e</sup> Surveyor and Com<sup>t</sup> &c. att their Last Meeting.

Att y<sup>e</sup> adjournment.

Voted, That there be one Hundred acres of Land laid out on or adjoining to both sides of stream that is convenient for Setting up a Saw Mill and that y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> Hereafter to be chosen Lay out y<sup>e</sup> Same, and itt be Reserved for y<sup>e</sup> Use of y<sup>e</sup> Propriety.

It being put to Vote whether you will now come to any further Division or Divisions, it past in y<sup>e</sup> affirmative.

Voted, That there be Laid out to Each Prop<sup>tr</sup> two more Divisions Cont<sup>a</sup> one Hundred & Thirty acres Each, which Lotts are to be so qualified & coupled by a Com<sup>t</sup> Hereafter to be chosen, as y<sup>t</sup> Justice may be so Done to Each prop<sup>tr</sup> as far as by them may be Done.

Voted, Mr. John Gardner One Hundred & Fifty Pounds for Laying out one Hundred & twenty Six Lotts Each Contaiuing 130 acres, and also one Lott Cont<sup>a</sup> 100 acres for a Mill Lott, and to run y<sup>e</sup> Lines all round S<sup>d</sup> Lotts, and to mark & numb<sup>r</sup> Each Lott, and also to make out y<sup>e</sup> Extream Lines of y<sup>e</sup> Township where they are not yett Done, and also to Lay out Highways between y<sup>e</sup> Lotts according to y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> Direction, and to return a Propper Plan of y<sup>e</sup> Same with y<sup>e</sup> number on Each Lott, and to be p<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> one Hundred & fifty Pounds in Thirty days after y<sup>e</sup> return of S<sup>d</sup> Plann.

Voted, To chuse three men a Com<sup>t</sup> to Lay out S<sup>d</sup> Lotts Viz<sup>t</sup>

Mr. Thomas Fletcher	}	Com <sup>t</sup>
Mr. John Gardner		
& Daniel Epes Jun <sup>r</sup>		

Voted, To give Mr. Gardner & Mr. Fletcher 15/  $\text{P}$  Day they to find themselves and Daniel Epes Jun<sup>r</sup> 20/  $\text{P}$  Day he to find himself.

Voted, That there be four pounds raised on Each Right to Defray y<sup>e</sup> Charges for Surveying qualifying & coupleing y<sup>e</sup> Second Divis<sup>o</sup> Lotts Voted as above.

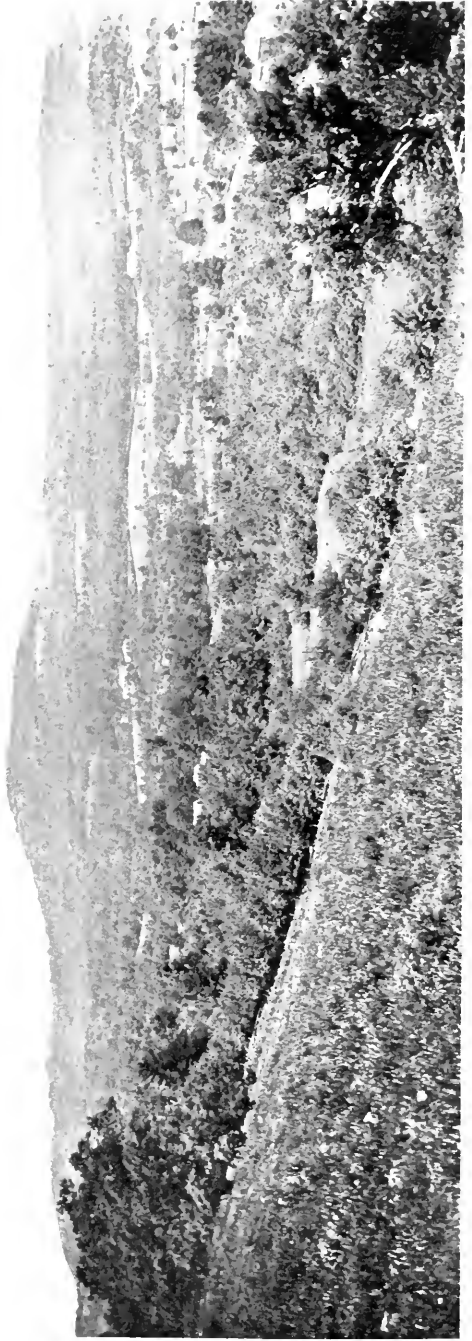
Voted, That Mr. Gardner with y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>t</sup> Sett out to Lay out & quallify s<sup>d</sup> Lotts ab<sup>o</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Beginning of Apr<sup>ll</sup> next, and Compleat the work by the first Day of June Next.

Thus we have given a sample of the records of the proprietors' meetings. Then follows an account of the first division rights, or home lots, as drawn by the several proprietors at their meeting Feb. 3, 1737.

Capt. Samuel King, one lot,	No. 5	Daniel Epes, Jun.	No. 51
One ditto	56	“ “	53
Maj. Blaney	3	Peter Martin	17
One ditto	6	William Stone	41
Mr. Joseph Sweat	49	John Felton	43
Ditto for John Dowd	2	Timothy Cummings	26
Roger Derby	29	Joseph Richardson for Benj.	
Daniel Epes Junr.	10	Codner	42
Ditto	22	Daniel Foster	20

Thomas Fletcher for J. Hilliard	38	Samuel Osgood	12
Thomas Fletcher for Peters	18	John Proctor	48
Ephraim Ingalls for D. Hilliard	59	Philip English Jun.	61
Ephraim Ingalls for Elson	40	Benj <sup>a</sup> Lynde Jr. Esq.	39
Benj <sup>a</sup> Tapley	13	Capt. Joseph Bowditch	4
Benj <sup>a</sup> Tapley	50	Fletcher for Wm. Dixey	35
Cornelius Tarbell	25	Samuel Wells Esq.	57
Col. Daniel Epes	7	Thomas Trott for Williams	54
Col. Daniel Epes	44	Samuel Swasy for Jon <sup>a</sup> Lambert	11
John Gyles	46	Joseph Clough	45
Jonathan Peal	60	Joseph Lambert	27
John Gardner	31	Joseph English for Beadle	21
Isaac Williams	52	Joseph Hallett	8
Robert Swan	55	Edward Flardy for Jon <sup>a</sup> Very	24E
Capt. John Stephens for J. Knapp	9	Capt. Bowers for John Archer	1
Capt. John Fowle Jun.	15	Edward Trask	16
Simeon Orn for Furginson West	24	Capt. William King	19
Simeon Orn for William Norman	23	Capt. Barth <sup>o</sup> Jackson	36
Capt. John Fowle Jun. for		Stephen Daniel Jr.	47
Robbinson	62	School Lot	32
Isaac Knapp for John Bartoll	14	Lot	33
John Bartlett for Robert Bartlett	37	Lot	34
Benj <sup>a</sup> Goodhue for Searle	58		
Hugh Kelly for Swasy	28		
George Deland for E. Hilliard	30		





WINS MOUNTAIN.

## CHAPTER II.

### SALEM-CANADA SAWMILLS ROADS & MEETING-HOUSE.

At the next legal meeting of the proprietors two points on which to act, were "to consider of some proper method for erecting a saw-mill in said Township, also to chuse a committee-man in the room of Capt. Samuel King who has disposed of his Right in said Townshipp."\*

They voted at this meeting, June 21, 1737, "That the mill lot be 130 acres, equal in quantity with the other 2nd. division lots." On Dec. 26, 1738, they voted, "That Mr. John Cram have Twenty Pounds in Bills of Credit, & the lot No. 39 in the Second Division of lots, Allotted by the committee for the mill lot to him & his heirs forever, upon condition that he build a good & sufficient saw-mill on said lot, & cut boards for the Proprietors at the halves, or equivalent for such of them as shall bring logs. To be finished on or before the last day of August next, & keeps in sufficient repair for sawing during the term of fifteen years, to commence from the said last of August."

A good saw-mill was a necessity for the new town, and we learn that Mr. John Cram later gave bonds for its erection on his lot No. 41, as the best place for the same, the proprietors consenting thereto. When second division lots were drawn, June 21, 1737, Deacon Nathaniel Putnam drew instead of Capt. King, upon the home lot No. 5. He seems to have purchased Capt. King's right in the township, and he became thereafter a leading actor in the affairs of the town.

At the proprietors' meeting in May (28) 1739, it was voted that a committee "be impowered to take Bond of Mr. John Cram for his performing the conditions of building a saw-mill on the terms voted at a meeting of the Proprietors in Dec. last." There seems to have been some delay in erecting this mill, a thing not surprising or blameworthy in primitive conditions. However, at the Proprietors' meeting, on May 9, 1740, a petition was presented from their new proprietor, Mr. Nathaniel Putnam, humbly showing, "that he hath lately builded a good saw-mill in said town, at his own cost & charge, and as he apprehends will be of great service to the said Proprietors now before any other saw-mill be erected & fitted for sawing. He

\*Props Rs., copied by Mr. J. H. Goodrich.

therefore most humbly prays that the said proprietors would give him some consideration, as they in their wisdom shall see meet, and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Viz<sup>t</sup>: Nathaniel Putnam."

He was at once voted a consideration of Ten Pounds which was paid Sept. 15, 1741.\* "This first saw-mill in Salem Canada was in all probability just above Barnes's Falls in Wilton."† But the saw-mill of Mr. John Cram was also built in due time, not on the lot 39, first selected, but on lot 41 as seemed preferable. Lot 39 is west of South Lyndeborough, on Rocky river, and lot 41, on Saw-mill brook, nearly east of South Lyndeborough, just below where the saw-mill of Mr. E. H. Putnam now stands. The last named gentleman is a lineal descendant of both the original mill owners.

#### ROADS.

After making provision for a good saw-mill, the proprietors' attention was turned to securing good roads. "At the second meeting of the proprietors, Nov. 21st, 1737," says Rev. Frank G. Clark, "they voted to clear a road to the centre of their township from Amherst, & to let out the building of the road "by the great," that is, by the job. They also voted that, "upon Mr. Cornelius Tarbell & Mr. Joseph Richardson's clearing a good and sufficient cartway from the place where Mr. Timothy Cummings left off clearing a way from Mr. Waltron's in Narragansett No. 3 to or near Wainwood's brook, & to clear said way to or near the centre of said Canada township & building a good bridge over said Wainwood's brook, & laying the bodies of trees and making good passable causeways over miry places and over gullies & small brooks, so that a laden cart may pass conveniently, that the said Tarbell & Richardson be paid fifty-eight pounds."‡

The road was cleared and the money duly paid to those who did the work.

At the proprietors' meeting, March 7, 1738, it was learned that some of the proprietors of the Ashuelots and other towns on the upper parts of the Connecticut River proposed "to cut & bring the road from said townships across the woods, & so into this Canada township, which if effected may be of great advantage to this propriety; Wherefore Voted, that to encourage the bringing of said road from the Ashuelots into

\* See Prop. Records † Clark, p. 22. ‡ Clark, pp. 20, 21.

this township, this Propriety engage and will make a good and sufficient way from the place where the said road is brought into this town to the end of the road cleared by Messrs. Tarbell & Richardson, to or near the centre of said township." They also appointed Capt. John Fowle, Mr. Joseph Richardson and Mr. Cornelius Tarbell a committee to treat with a committee of the other towns in regard to this road. The road was built; for in the record of the proprietors' meeting Dec. 10, 1741, it was voted to pay Capt. John Fowle 4*l* for his part of the work on the Ashuelot road. At this last named meeting it was also voted, "That there be a good cart-road cleared from Deacon Putnam's saw-mill to the meeting-house, & that three pounds be allowed for the same, to be drawn out of the Treasury."

Again at a meeting held Jan. 4, 1743, it was voted "That the road from Peterboro through this Township be well cleared & mended, so as to render it commodious for persons to travel through the same & that Mr. John Cram is hereby impowered to do the same."

#### THE MEETING-HOUSE.

Now, even before the settlers had succeeded in getting good roads, they began to agitate, and set about building their meeting-house. That they did so was no special evidence of piety on their part. The very conditions upon which their town was granted required this. Not only was their land obtained by agreeing to fulfil this and other conditions, but possession of it could not be maintained without a performance of their agreement. The State of Massachusetts, the grantor of their township, held them to a strict compliance with her demands. They, therefore, set out early to perform their task. Nor need it be inferred that no house of worship would have been built had it not been required, for some of the leading men in the town were men of standing as Christians. Necessity and expediency alike combined to incite them to act. The first point to decide was the place on which to build. Accordingly, at the proprietors' meeting, March 7, 1738, the same day on which they took action in regard to the Ashuelot road, they appointed a committee consisting of Mr. Cornelius Tarbell, Capt. John Fowle and Mr. Joseph Richardson to select a good spot for the meeting-house, and "clear a road from the road already made by Messrs. Tarbell and Richardson, to the said meetinghouse place."

The committee thus appointed reported May 28, 1739, that in

their opinion, "the most convenient place is partly on lot No. 41, and partly on lot No. 44, upon the line running east and west, and have cleared a road to said place." The proprietors voted, May 28, 1739, to accept the report of the committee, and to build a meeting-house 45 ft. long, 35 ft. wide, and 20 ft. stud. Benjamin Lynde, Jr., Esq., agreed to give 20 acres of lot No. 44, and Mr. John Cram agreed to give 10 acres of lot No. 41 for the meeting-house grounds.

Mr. Stephen Putnam, Mr. Joseph Richardson, and Mr. Stephen Richardson were chosen a committee "to treat with a person or persons to build and finish the meeting-house as cheap as they can," and report proceedings at next meeting for the proprietors' acceptance. At the next meeting July 2nd, 1739, the committee reported that they had not been able to find "a person or persons that will undertake to finish the same by the Great." The same committee was appointed "to build and sett up a good frame for a meetinghouse, workmanlike," on the place allotted for the same, on or before the 16th day of May next, and "underpin the said frame with good, handsome stones," — "as cheap as may be." There was failure to do this in the given time; and again on October 21, 1740, it was voted, "that the raising of the meeting-house be deferred till next spring, and that Lieut. Joseph Richardson take care and secure the timber from the fire," &c.

Thus, the securing of the meeting-house seems to have been attended with much difficulty and delay. Nor is it surprising that it should have been so, for even in our own day, with every facility at our command, it is no trifling matter to secure the fulfilment of a contract for either labor or materials within specified time. But in those early days the workmen were scarce, and the materials were often inaccessible. Things moved more at the pace of the oxen and cart than at that of the railway and steam engine. The building of the meeting-house, therefore, seems to have dragged along discouragingly.

It will be remembered that it was in 1740 that King George decided the controversy about the boundary line between this State and Massachusetts, and that the settlers of this town were from the Bay State, and were not a little worried at finding themselves without consultation or consent made a part of New Hampshire. The decision had the effect of unsettling people's minds, and creating great uneasiness. They were uncertain even as to the tenure of their lands and the validity of their



titles to them, and in case of defect or annulment of title, whether they should receive any compensation for their clearings, buildings and improvements. The air was full of uneasiness and discontent. These phantoms of the times, no doubt, served greatly to retard their efforts in the good work. But courage and hope soon gave stability and firmness to their action, and in May, 1741, they voted that "the meeting-house be underpinned, raised, and covered forthwith." The dimensions were, meantime, considerably altered. The length was to be 30 feet instead of 45, while the original width and height were to be retained.

On the 9th of September following, the vote of May was supplemented by another vote, empowering Cornelius Tarbell, Lieut. Stephen Putnam, and Lieut. Joseph Richardson to get the meeting-house raised on the 24th day of September, instant, and "that they take sufficient care that it be done."

The following accounts are interesting in this connection: —

SALEM, Aug., 1740.

Accounts of work done about the meeting-house at Salem, Canada: —

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Cram, 6 days at 12s. per day,	3	12	0
" Lemau, 4 days, 40s. ; Mr. Buffee, 2 dys. 20s.	3	0	0
" Joseph Richardson, 15 dys. at 17s. 6d.	13	2	6
" George Goold, 15 dys. at 12s.	9	0	0
" John Deal, 8 dys. at 12s.	4	16	0
" Stephen Putnam, 15 dys. at 17s. 6d.	13	2	6
	<u>46</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

Stephen Putnam.

SALEM, June 11, 1741.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Cram, 1 day, 12s. ; Jacob Putnam, 2½ dys. at 12s.	2	2	0
" John Deal, 10 dys. at 12s.	6	0	0
" Joseph Richardson, 15 dys. at 17s. 6d.	13	2	6
" " Richardson's son, 13 dys. at 10s.	6	10	0
" George Goold, 15 dys. at 17s. 6d.	13	2	6
	<u>49</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>

Stephen Putnam.

"Allowed, and ordered that the Treasurer pay the same accordingly."

Daniel Epes, Jun., Proprs.' Clk.

We give here the accounts of Lieut. Tarbell and others for the raising of the meeting-house :

SALEM, Oct. 7, 1741.

	£	s.	d.
To 21 Gall Rum of B. Lynde Jr. Esq <sup>r</sup> . @ 12s. ½	12	12	0
" 2 q <sup>t</sup> fish of Mr. Bickford @ 40s.	4	0	0
" 20lb sug <sup>r</sup> & 1 gal <sup>l</sup> rye of Capt. Jos. Bowditch	3	14	8
" 20 spikes & rings of Jos. Clough 30/	1	10	0
" cart hire 20/ 2 horses' hire 25/	3	10	0
" 25lb cheese 30/ 10lb cheese 10/ of John Felton	2	0	0
" 2 bus <sup>l</sup> meal & Bread 5/	1	13	0
" 7 days myself @ 15/	5	5	0
" 8 days my son @ 10/	4	0	0
" Keeping horses 10/ 1 Cask 10/ of Eph. Ingalls	1	0	0
" 20lb Butter of Jon <sup>a</sup> Hill 60/ ½ bus. meal Jo <sup>n</sup> Cram 12/	3	12	0
	<u>42</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>8</u>

Cornelius Tarbell.

The account was examined and allowed Jan. 7, 1742.

Stephen Putnam and others also presented their account for their work about the meeting-house, and clearing roads Sept. 16, 1741 : —

	£	s.	d.
John Deal 3 days' work at 12/	1	16	0
Ephraim Putnam 2 days work with a pair of oxen, & 1 day himself 48/	2	8	0
Lieut. Jos. Richardson 12 days @ 15	8	0	0
Jacob Putnam 1 day 12/	0	12	0
Mr. George Goold 11 days	6	12	0
Myself, 11 days @ 15/	7	5	0
Mr. Cummins for pewter and help 25/ son clearing roads 8/	1	13	0
	<u>28</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>

Stephen Putnam.

The above account was examined and allowed Jan. 7, 1742.

The account of Joseph Richardson and others for making a bridge over Wainwood's Brook, bears date of Dec. 19, 1741 :

	£	s.	d.
To myself 10 days at 15/	7	10	0
Mr. John Cram 3 days at 10/	1	10	0
" Buffee 2 days at 8/	0	16	0
William Peabody and his oxen 13/	0	13	0
	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>

Jos. Richardson.

The above was examined and allowed Jan. 7, 1742.

## CONTRACT FOR FINISHING THE MEETING-HOUSE.

Mr. John Ganson appearing to undertake the finishing the meeting-house at Salem-Canada, Voted, "that there be given him One Hundred Pounds for the same; viz<sup>t</sup>, Boarding the sides and ends of the house, and feather-edging the boards, boarding and shingling the roof, putting on the weather boards and finishing the covings; making and hanging all the outside doors; finding and laying the sleepers; and laying a double floor in the meeting-house, and finding and placing pillars under the galleries; and the said Ganson is also to find all materials of boards, shingles, nails, hinges and all other things for the finishing the work as aforesaid; and the standing committee are desired to enter into articles for performing the contract with said Ganson." At the proprietors' meeting Aug. 23, 1743, there were added to the specifications above given, that there should be six seats made on each side, and a "conveniency for the minister to stand in to preach, and to glaze the said house with glass 7 inches one way, and 9 inches the other way; and to make five windows."

The committee appointed doubtless entered into agreement with the contractor. But we learn from a source outside of the proprietors' records, of a petition, a copy of which follows:

## PETITION.

"To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hamp<sup>t</sup>.

The petition of the Inhabitants of Salem-Canada in said Province, Humbly Shews.

That your petitioners live in a place Greatly exposed to the Indians and have not men Sufficient for to Defend us, That tho' there be but few of us yet we have laid out our estates to begin in this place So that we shall be extremely hurt if we must now move off for we have there by the Blessing of God on our labors a fine crop of corn on the ground and tho' we have a Garrison in the Town Built by Order of Maj<sup>t</sup> Lovell yet we have no body impowered so much as to set a watch among us nor men to keep it; we would therefore pray your Excellency that we may have some assistance from the Government in sending us some souldiers to Guard and Defend us as in your wisdom you shall think proper. Tho' we are but newly added to this Government yet we pray your Excellency not to dis-

regard us but so to assist us that we may keep our estates and do service for the government hereafter & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.\*

Salem-Canada

June 26, 1744.

John Cram Jr.	John Dale
Joseph Cram	Jonathan Cram
Samuel Leman	Ephraim Putnam
John Cram	Benjamin Cram
David Stevenson	Abraham Leman
John Stevenson	

After perusing this petition in its chronological order, it will occasion us less surprise to read in the proprietors' records of July 25, 1744, "Voted, That nothing more be done to the meeting-house at present than to shingle it and board it so as to secure it from the weather, and that it be done forthwith by the committee chosen for that purpose." Evidently things were not pursuing the even tenor of their way. The uncertainties which prevailed in reference to a number of things are doubtless reflected in this vote, to do nothing more to the meeting-house than shingle and board it "so as to secure it from the weather." The petitioners state that they had been "newly added to this Government." In the contention about the boundary line New Hampshire won much more than she had claimed. Enough territory to make 28 good townships, over and above her claim, had been given her by the decision of King George, and this town, claimed by Massachusetts and granted to the settlers, was placed beyond her control, and subject to the government of New Hampshire. This change of boundary and jurisdiction made them fearful that their titles would be invalidated.

But that was not all. The Masonian ownership of the soil was under agitation. If their farms were in New Hampshire, then the claim of Mason's heirs, which the highest legal authority had affirmed to be valid, covered their holdings, and they must secure a settlement with Mason before they can be sure of their possessions. John Tufton Mason was attempting to sell his right and title to the Government of New Hampshire. Negotiations were protracted and at last embittered. Doubt as to the outcome of those proceedings caused hesitancy, and

\* N. Bouton, Town Papers, Vol. IX, p. 535.

the effect of any sale which might be made, kept them in suspense and uncertainty.

Then added to all else, a war cloud arose between the mother country and Spain, and the fear that France would assist Spain and send the savage red men into their unprotected settlements haunted them. They had heard of the warwhoop, the tomahawk, the scalping knife, the torch, and captivity in Canada, but had supposed that all these were things of the past, not likely to return. But now the horrid phantoms seem on the point of appearing once more. Menacing specters began to haunt the forests, and hovered uncomfortably near their homes and hearths. The surprise is, that they did not forsake their primitive cabins and return to the more cheerful towns of the old Bay State, to Woburn, and Salem, and Danvers, and Marblehead. Had there not been brave, hopeful, determined hearts among both men and women, they would hardly have endured the toils, privations, loneliness and fears of their unpromising situation, so remote from social advantages, so defenceless and exposed to prowling savages. But they came to stay. Their courage was equal to their trials, and even triumphed over all their hindrances.

Thus, by all these causes they were no doubt influenced to postpone somewhat the completion of their house. During this same year, 1744, Amherst people were at work on their meeting-house, and voted "to lath and plaster" it "in case there is not an Indian war next fall." \* In the petition of Rev. Daniel Wilkins, pastor in Amherst, in 1744, he says, "That as war is already declared against France, and a rupture with the Indians hourly expected, your memorialists, unless they have speedy help, will soon be obliged to forsake their town, how disserviceable soever it may be to the crown, dishonorable to the government, hurtful to the province and ruinous to ourselves." "This petition was presented at Portsmouth, June 22, 1744, and, in answer to it, scouts were provided for Amherst and Salem-Canada (now Lyndeborough) on the west."

\* Amherst Centennial of Meeting-house, p. 10.

## CHAPTER III.

### SALE OF MASON'S ESTATE.

The years 1745-6 seem to have been comparatively uneventful for the settlers, save that 1746 decided the negotiations of Mason for the disposal of his estates. The Provincial legislature, in their rivalry with the Governor and his council, had dallied too long and lost their opportunity to deal directly with Mason. While they wasted time in their bickerings one with another he sold his property to a syndicate of twelve men in Portsmouth, who were afterwards known as the Masonian proprietors, the purchasers and proprietors of Mason's claims. Henceforth, Salem-Canada proprietors and settlers have to treat with the new owners of the soil.\*

#### "THE MASONIAN PROPRIETORS."

"At first the purchase was divided into fifteen shares. The owners were Theodore Atkinson, three-fifteenths; Mark Hunking Wentworth, two-fifteenths; Richard Wibird, John Wentworth, John Moffat, Samuel Moore, Jotham Odiorne, George Jaffrey, Joshua Peirce, Nathaniel Meserve, all of Portsmouth, Thomas Wallingford, of Somersworth, and Thomas Packer, of Greenland, to the last ten one-fifteenth each. Previous to the date of the charter of this town (Rindge), the number of shares was increased to eighteen, and nine more persons were admitted to a common partnership. The new members of the association were: John Rindge, Joseph Blanchard, Daniel Pierce, John Tufton Mason, John Thomlinson, Matthew Livermore, William Parker, Samuel Solley, and Clement March."†

But there seems to be evidence that in these years material progress in this town was much interfered with. For, in May, 1747, Rev. Daniel Wilkins, Pastor at Amherst, petitions the Government once more for protection, stating, "That when we began our settlement we apprehended no danger of our ever being a frontier, there being at that time so many above us begun and obligated to fulfill the conditions of the Massachusetts grants, which occasioned us to settle scattering, only regarding the advantage of good and compact farms.‡

\* See Hist. of Rindge, pp. 41 and 42.

† Stearns, Ezra S. Hist. of Rindge.

‡ N. Bouton Town Papers, Vol. IX, pp. 7, 8.

“That the difficulty of war happening so early on our settlements, and the defenceless condition they were in, has obliged them all, viz., Peterborough, Salem-Canada, New Boston, and Hillsborough (so-called) entirely to draw off,—as well as the forts on the Connecticut river left naked,—whereby we are now left as much exposed as any of the frontiers on Merrimack river.

“That the first year of the present war we were favored with a scout from this province (which we thankfully acknowledge), and Salem Canada with another, which was equally serviceable to us. Since that time both Salem Canada and this place has had a guard from the Massachusetts till the winter passed, together with our inhabitants keeping a constant scout (though much impoverished thereby.)

“That this encouragement has occasioned our venturing here till now.

“That as we are now left without either scout or guard, (we) apprehend we are in imminent danger, yet loath to yield ourselves such an easy prey to our enemies, or suffer ruin by leaving our improvements waste, — one whereof we have no reason to think but must unavoidably be our lot unless the government compassionately grants us protection.”\*

This indicates that Salem-Canada was a sharer with its neighbors in the fears and inquietudes of the time. Some of the children of the first families in this town were born elsewhere. “The second child of Ephraim Putnam was born in Salem; the oldest child of Melchizedeck Boffee was born in Litchfield; the oldest son of Jacob Wellman was born in Dunstable, because, as the family record says, “his parents had gone there on account of the depredations of the Indians.”†

A note appended to the historical address of Hon. W. B. Towne published with the account of the centennial ceremonies of the dedication of the meeting-house at Amherst, in 1874, implies that it was almost an act of benevolence on the part of Massachusetts that she “granted military aid to this infant settlement five years after it had been adjudged within the jurisdiction of New Hampshire.” It would be unfair to deny Massachusetts the credit of rendering a most excellent service. But did not this act have in it a measure of self-protection? These infant settlements were the outmost guards,

\* Centennial of Amherst Meeting-house, by Dr. J. G. Davis, pp. 13, 14.

† Salem-Canada, pp. 23, 24.

the advance posts of civilization; and Massachusetts well knew that if these barriers were burst by the marauding savages, her own homes and firesides could have no assured safety. It argued the rather, a wise and comprehensive policy on her part, that she sent forward her scouts and aided the pioneers to maintain their newly planted, wilderness abodes. Thus could she most effectively secure the safety of her own citizens.

But the citizens of Salem-Canada must endure yet another trial. Many and various petitions are in circulation about this time. Among these was that of Samuel Dustin and others of the Haverhill and Methuen Districts, for which see Batchellor, Vol. XXVII, p. 401, and Vol. XXIX, p. 236. The latter page refers not only to that of Samuel Dustin, but also to one which proved much more mischievous; for the reason that it was successful, and also injurious in its results. For this reason I transcribe a copy of it which was forwarded "To the Gentlemen Purchasers and Proprietors of Capt. John Tufton Mason's Right to Lands in y<sup>e</sup> Province of New Hampshire;" and was endorsed by Nicholas White and Nathaniel Bartlet.

I give it *verbatim et literatim*, omitting the preamble:

[Petition for Grant, 1748]

[Masonian Papers Vol. 8, p. 127]

Portsmouth November 2<sup>d</sup> 1748.

"To His Excellency Bening Wintworth Esqr. Capt Generall and Governer In Chief In and over His majesties Province of New Hampshier To the Honr<sup>d</sup> Councel In S<sup>d</sup> Province

\*May it Plee your Excellency & Honners It haveing been Practist to Grant tracts of Lands to Such Persons as Have dun servis In y<sup>e</sup> wors and In Hopes of obtaining the Like favour wee your Humble petitioners would Gest mention Sumthing wee Have dun Sum of us was Present at the taking Poortrial others at Caperton others In Hopes of Doing Great Servis Inlisted against Canodi and others of us Have Suffered greatly Not onely In y<sup>e</sup> Present but former wors yet so It Hath hapned No lands have been Given to us as yeat and being Greatly Stratned for want thereof & finding Sum Lands Not Laid out betwixt a place Cold Salem-Canody & a Remote place Cold grotten if your Excellency & Honnours would be Please<sup>d</sup> to Grant us out of s<sup>d</sup> Lands a Nuf for a Small town Ship of Six

\* Batch, XXVIII, p. 446.



or Eight miles Square, or So much as you in your Wisdom Shall think Best it would Greatly oblige your Humble petitioners.

Nicholas White  
Nathaniel Bartlet.”

To this petition were fiftyone other names subscribed. It seems to have been the first occasion of the dismemberment of Salem-Canada. Three days later, the following obligation was assumed by Col. Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable :

Portsmouth November 5<sup>th</sup> 1748.

\*“Gen<sup>l</sup> the Prop<sup>r</sup> of Masous Grant &c<sup>a</sup>

Whereas I the Subscriber have this day Rec<sup>d</sup> your Request and Authority to Lay out into townships the Lands As therein described And to Admit Setlers at my descretion And On Such Conditions on your behalf as I Shall think Equitable I hereby Oblidge my Self to Reserve on Quarter part at the least And As much more as the Expediency of the Setlement will Allow of &c the township to be Allotted ont and the Setlers at the whole Charge therein And will Constantly Acquaint You with my proceedings thereing

I am Y<sup>r</sup> Hum<sup>b</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

Jos. Blanchard.”

Again, under date of Nov. 30, 1748, he (Jos. Blanchard) sent a letter from Dunstable to “The Venerable Society of Mason Hall,” after having entered upon his work as their agent, in which he stated, “I have wrote to the Proprietors’ Clerk of Groton and the Proprietors Clerk of Townshend, Intimating y<sup>e</sup> Authority you gave me, Particularly that at my Discretion I was to Admit Inhabitants, and if they inclined to Setle I should Accomodate them as far as I Could in faithfulness to my trust provided I had their Auswer in twenty days to the Same purpose I have Wrote Coll<sup>o</sup> Berry one of y<sup>e</sup> Principal Proprietors of New Ipswich and to Severall of the Proprietors of Rowley Cauada, Desireing a positive Answer. This has sufficiently Allarm’d the vicinity, And Application has already been made for twice the Quantity of Land you Left with me to dispose of . . . I apprehend I Shall Quietly Succeed, unless Coll<sup>o</sup> Berry be Poutey and Sullen on Behalf of New Ipswich, Which Since I have entered upon it Desire under your directions my Liberty may be Continued to Setle with him, or Any Others that Shall be Obstinate. The Writings I’m not Capable of forming, shall depend on them being done at Portsmouth. The Proprietors of Souhegan West, Since I was at Portsmouth have Divided their Com’ons and I hear bid Defiance to your Title, if no Notice be taken of them I apprehend it will have An ill effect and perhaps create you a Squabble with many other towns, and your Setting up your Bristles early might put an end to it. (but as to y<sup>t</sup> you know best what to do.)”†

And they proceeded to set them up quite early, as the following communication will show.

\* Batch, XXIX, pp. 232, 233.

† Batch, XXIX, p. 234.

Portsmouth Decr 3<sup>d</sup> 1738

S<sup>r</sup> We have both your Letters before us as to that of y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> of the last month for which we are obliged we greatly approve of your Scheme and y<sup>e</sup> Progress you have made and hereby give you full Power of agreeing with any person of note that can be Serviceable in Securing y<sup>e</sup> Peace and Quiet of the Settlers either in New Ipswich or other Town as to Souhegan West if they should be troublesome they can expect no favor from this Society and we shall soon prosecute Some of the foremost in the Opposition which if you think proper please to inform them of and let us know the men.”\*

†Further; in response to an overture for settlement from the inhabitants of New Boston in May 1751, the Masonian proprietors voted June 10, 1751, that “Joseph Blanchard Esq. be and hereby is Authorized and fully impowered to Settle agree and Compound all Claims and Demands Differences Disputes and Controversies whatsoever made being and Subsisting between the Said Proprietors and the Claimers of the Said Tract of land under the Said Government as fully and amply to all Intents and purposes as said Proprietors themselves.”‡

Again; those proprietors voted in November of the same year 1751, in regard to towns No. 1, No. 2, New Ipswich, and Peterboro Slip, so called, that, “in as much as the Said Joseph Blanchard hath been at much trouble Cost and Charge in managing carrying on and Effecting the Said Business and whereas in each of the said Tracts of land so granted one of the Said Reserved Shares is drawn by and entered to the said Joseph Blanchard Therefore, Voted That all the Right and Interest of the Said Proprietors of in and to each of the said shares so drawn by and entered to the Said Joseph Blanchard Shall be and hereby is granted unto him the Said Joseph Blanchard to have & to hold the Same unto him the Said Joseph Blanchard his heirs and Assigns in Severalty for his Service in doing the aforesaid Business.”§

The petition before cited, of Nicholas White, Nathaniel Bartlet and others, seems to have received speedy attention; for early in June of the following year, Joseph Blanchard made such an assault upon the south side of the old town of Salem-Canada as has never ceased to grieve and annoy many of its worthy citizens. At an adjourned meeting of the Salem-Canada proprietors in Salem, Mass., June 27, 1749, it was voted, that, “Whereas the committee heretofore chosen to treat with Col. Joseph Blanchard relating to the claimers under Mason (according to their verbal reports) have not agreed with him; Therefore, Voted, the Hon. Benjamin Lynde, Joseph Blaney, Benjamin Pickman Esq. and Maj. Joshua Hicks a committee to confer with said Blanchard, and make the best enquiry with the claimers and also their demand; and to agree

\*Batch, Vol. XXVII, pp. 63 and 64.

‡Batch, XXIX, p. 441.

†Hist. of New Boston, p. 67.

§Batch, Vol. XXIX, p. 437.

and settle with him in behalf of said claimers on the best terms they can in behalf of the Proprietors; to the which agreements the said Propriety determine to abide by, and this vote shall be the said Committee's power to effect the same.''\*

Daniel Epes Jun Pro. Clerk.

From the last mentioned date till Jan. 22, 1753, no entry is made in the records of Salem-Canada. But on May 1, 1753, it was voted by the proprietors "to choose a committee of seven persons to effect the settlement of the Propriety in securing the whole land laid out and to be laid out, according to the proprietors agreement with Joseph Blanchard Esq., as also the building of a meeting-house according to said agreement, and to get a plan of the land and lots when laid out, to transmit a list of persons admitted into said Propriety to said Blanchard, and to get a patent of said lands drawn and executed by said claimers under Mason, and to do what may be thought proper and to the advantage of the propriety." The committee chosen were :

Hon. Benjamin Lynde, Esq.	}	Committee.
Benjamin Pickman Esq.		
Daniel Epes Jun.		
Joseph Blaney Esq.		
Maj. Joshua Hicks		
Mr. Stephen Putnam, & Mr. Benjamin Goodhue.		

The time which elapsed between June, 1749, and March 20, 1753, seems to have been passed in trying to effect an agreement, which appears to have been accomplished only with great difficulty. The indications point to a coercion of the committee by the agent, into consent to a procedure which was in no way agreeable to them. There was no escape from the validity of Mason's claims, nor from the clutches of those who had purchased his rights. If the Salem-Canada settlers wished to retain their lands, new titles to them must be secured. The agent of the Masonian proprietors was empowered to make terms at his discretion; and his discretion in this instance seems to have been to make their surrender of a large tract of Salem-Canada township, a condition of obtaining a charter for the residue of the town. An exaction like this the committee could not have endured except under dire pressure. Their acquiescence in it was evidence of their inability to do better.

\* Props. Rs, 1749.

Having thus, Shylock like, exacted his pound of flesh, blood and all, the agent took and joined it to the tract called Groton Gore, and constituted the new township which he called No. 2, which at a later day was chartered by the Provincial Government under the name of Wilton.

\*It may be interesting to note that in the new town, Mr. Blanchard was both a grantor and grantee, thereby being entitled to draw six lots. His lots were numbered on the original plan of Wilton, 8 in each of ranges three and four, 20 in range two, 5 in range four, 10 in range three, and 4 in range eight. Thus he was permitted to draw equal rights with the Masonian proprietors in every town which he succeeded in organizing. The more towns, the more farms and money for the agent and his venerable principals. Groton Gore might easily have been parcelled out to Monson or Raby or to Peterborough Slip, as a portion of it was at a later day, and it would have made a welcome addition to their scant territory. But that course, would not add the farms and pounds sterling to the property of the grantors and their agent. They would gain much more by striking at the heart of Salem-Canada, and compelling it to deliver up some of its choice treasures, both of land and inhabitants, to construct with them township number two. The latter scheme would result in much greater profit to the grantors; and the mutilated town would do better to refrain from being "pouty or sullen" about it, like Col. Berry.

In its attempt to settle with this agent, Amherst learned that charters were "costly things," although her inhabitants were required to pay but fifty-one shillings sterling money, each, to the grantors, and three shillings like money to the committee for "time Expenses and trouble in procuring" the grant.†

‡The grantees of New Ipswich were less favored, for they had to "pay fourteen Pounds Cash, old tenor" at the executing of their grant. But these expenses were still moderate compared with those of the town called number one (Mason.) This, though entitled to rank first in accordance with its number, was placed a full calendar month behind number two, in the date of its charter. And again, while no expense of settlement is stated in regard to the latter, the expense for each settler in number one, was "thirty pounds Cash Old Tenor." No definite statement of the cost of Salem-Canada's

\* Batch, Vol. XXVIII, pp. 450 to 453 and plan.

† Batch, XXVII, 72.

‡ Batch., XXVIII, 117.

charter has been discovered. But there is little reason to suppose that there was any omission of expense, or that the cumbersome document was conferred as a gratuity.

The Masonian proprietors and their agent do not, however, seem to have been wholly unconscionable in their dealings with Salem-Canada.\* For, they made a pretence of adding to it on the north as much territory as they took away on the south. The sop was unsatisfying. How thoroughly the adding of it was a pretence is shown, when less than two years later, a large portion of it was annexed to New Boston, thereby making that town "Seven miles long by six miles broad." †

The New Boston charter shows that, beside his own allowance for service, the agent further secured that one half right in the New Boston settlement should be granted to Joseph Blanchard, Jr., then twenty-two years of age, and together with this, "two Lotts in the Great Meadow," requiring that the reservations for him, Joseph Blanchard, Jr., should be like those of the grantors," free from all Dutys, Taxes, Charges, or Expence whatsoever until improved by the Owner or Owners, or some holding under them." In view of the recent generous addition made to its territory, New Boston would surely be very ungrateful to refuse Joseph Blanchard, Jr., a trifle like that.

More attention has been given this man than his merits warrant, or that he would have received, but for the great injury which he did to the early settlers. That the injury was deeply felt from time to time by the citizens of Lyndeborough will occasion little surprise to persons fully informed in regard to the facts. Their sense of the injury done the town is on record in a remonstrance against a further division of the town, which was presented to the legislature in 1784, bearing the honored names of Levi Spaulding, Ephraim Putnam, and Peter Clark. They state, that "there was a large piece of the Town taken off from the South part of Said Town and Added to Wilton, by Joseph Blanchard Esq<sup>r</sup> who was agent for the Masonian Proprietors, which was a great dammage to this Town." These worthies did not state all the respects in which it was a damage. But to us it is clear; first, that it weakened the settlement at a time when it was far from strong, and that too while a cruel Indian war was distressing it; secondly, it gave Wilton many choice farms, together with some of the foremost citizens; thirdly, it added territory on the north, and thus

\* Batch. XXVIII, p. 59.

† New Boston H'y, p. 68.

left the mountain near the middle of the town, separating its inhabitants and making united action very difficult; and fourthly, the people, thus separated, felt it necessary to seek better conveniences elsewhere, and consequently a series of disruptions commenced which has harassed the town even to the present day.

The old town continued its course as best it could under this great disadvantage. The committee chosen to treat with Joseph Blanchard did not complete their negotiations till Dec. 5. 1753. They then succeeded in obtaining that cumbrous and formidable document known as the charter of the Masonian proprietors. It is as follows:

CHARTER OF LYNDEBOROUGH, 1753.\*

Province of New Hamp<sup>r</sup>.

Pursuant to the Power and Authority granted And vested in me the Subscriber by the Prop<sup>rs</sup> of Lands Purchased of John Tufton Mason Esq<sup>r</sup> in the Province of New Hampshire At their meeting Regularly Called for that Purpose,—

I do by these Presents On the terms And Conditions with the reservations herein After Expressed Give And Grant All the Right title property And Possession of the Prop<sup>rs</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> According to the following Proportions of Interest viz<sup>t</sup> to Benjamin Lynd's Esq four Shares Benjamin Pickman Esq<sup>r</sup> three Shares Robert Hooper Esq One Share, to the Heirs and Assigns of Joseph Sweat Esq Six Shares to Joseph Blaney Esq two Shares Samuel Wells Esq two Shares Daniel Epps Junr. Esq<sup>r</sup> two Shares Major Joshua Hicks two Shares Benjamin Goodhew three Shares Thomas Fletcher Two Shares Joseph Richardson two Shares George Gould two Shares Ephraim Ingalls Two Shares And to the following Persons viz<sup>t</sup> Joseph Bowdage Esq Josiah Bowers Stephen Puttnam the Heirs of James Lendall Esq late Deceased Jonathan Bowers Major John Fowle John Bickford William Holt Moses Graves Oliver Fletcher Esq Timothy Cummings to Mrs Hannah Cobbit Joseph Clough David Stinson Daniel Nickolls Robert Swan And Jonathan Peal to Which Seventeen One Share Each of in And to a tract of Land in the Province of New Hamp<sup>r</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> Containing by Estimation twenty eight Thousand Acres Part thereof Heretofore Called Salem-Canada the Whole tract Bounded As follows, Beginning at the Northeast Corner of a tract of Land Called Duxbury School Farm And in the line of that tract or township Called Souhegan West from thence running West by the Needle One mile two Hundred And Eighty Rods to the East line of a tract of Land Called Number two from thence North by the Needle four Hundred And ninety Eight Rods to the Northeast Corner of S<sup>d</sup> N<sup>o</sup> two from thence west by the Needle by S<sup>d</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 2 five miles to a White Ash marked the Corner of Petersborough Slip And of N<sup>o</sup> 2: And from thence west by the Needle two Hundred and Forty Rods by S<sup>d</sup> Petersborough Slip to a Beach tree

\* Farmer's MSS. Town Papers, Vol. 4. p. 275; Batch., XXVII, p. 401.

Marked from thence North by the Needle Six miles and Three Quarters to a tree Marked for the Corner of S<sup>d</sup> tract from Thence East by the Needle three miles and One quarter to a tree marked in the Western line of New Boston from thence South by that line One mile And An half to the most Southwesterly Corner of New Boston afores<sup>d</sup> from thence East by S<sup>d</sup> New Boston line three miles One hundred And twenty rods to a Black Oak marked Still by Said New Boston line & runs South two miles And An half To a Stump and Stones from thence East One mile And Eighty rods to the northwest Corner of that tract Called Souhegun west afores<sup>d</sup> from thence South by the line of Said Souhegun west four miles One Hundred And twenty-three rods to the Bounds first mentioned, & to all the Bounds afores<sup>d</sup> lett Either of the lines afores<sup>d</sup> be more or less. Which tract of Land or Township Shall from this time be Called Lyndes Borough, the Premises afores<sup>d</sup> under the terms & Conditions with the Reservations hereafter express, (that is to Say) that the Grantees afores<sup>d</sup> According their Respective Shares (excepting as hereafter excepted, have twenty One Thousand & thirty Acres Part of the afores<sup>d</sup> twenty eight Thousand Acres As the Whole of the grantees part of the Premises in the following manner viz<sup>t</sup> that each of the Grantees named in the Schedule hereunto annexed Own And Enjoy the Severall And Respective lotts to their names Respectively affixed, As part of their Shares, That the following Severall Lotts, (And to be part of the Grantees proportion afores<sup>d</sup>) be granted As afores<sup>d</sup> free from Duty Settlement or taxes in Bringing forward or Compleating the duty as the Conditions of this grant to the Severall Persons hereafter named As follows To David Badger the lott N<sup>o</sup> 117, to Francis Densmore the lott N<sup>o</sup> 106 to Bartholomew Jackson lott N<sup>o</sup> 100, To John Skead the lott N<sup>o</sup> 50, To Paul Raymond the lott N<sup>o</sup> 99, Which lotts Contain by estimation one Hundred And thirty Acres each And is part of the Second Division formerly laid out in S<sup>d</sup> tract, To James Twadle in the Right formly Edward Fladre the Home lot Called 24 East with An Addition Round About it of Sixty four Acres to Compleat the quantity of One Hundred And thirty Acres to Deacon Nathaniel Puttnam Peter Martin & George Dealands Heirs to Each One lott, to be lay'd Out in the undivided Lands which three lotts Are to Contain One Hundred And thirty Acres each And to Benjamin Lynde As Assignee to John Dale Sen<sup>r</sup> the home lot N<sup>o</sup> 21 And One Hundred and Twenty Acres to be lay'd out in the Undivided Lands Which S<sup>d</sup> persons in their Capacitys as above Shall be Intitled to no further part of y<sup>e</sup> Premises.

That Out of the Grantees Proportion there be three Shares more granted One for the first Settled Minister And One for Ministry And One for the Schole there forever Which Said Shares Shall be And Contain in the Severall And Respective lotts entered in the Schedule hereunto Annexed As their Whole & Respective Shares & Shall be free of Duty of Settlement And all taxes in performing the Condi(tions)\* of this Grant.

To have and to hold to them their Heirs & Assigns forever under the following Conditions with y<sup>e</sup> Reservations hereafter mentioned Viz<sup>t</sup>.

That there be reserved out of said Tract, One Farm of Five Hundred Acres, at the South-Westerly Corner of said Tract and also One Hundred

\**ti* is probably omitted by misprint in Bachellor, XXVII, 403.

and Fifty Acres, Adjoining on that Corner of y<sup>e</sup> Township that Bounds on New Boston West Line, & One Hundred and Fifty Acres as described in y<sup>e</sup> Plan of Said Tract

And that there be further reserved to and for the use of y<sup>e</sup> Grantors, their Heirs and Assigns, Free of all Charge and Incumbrance of Settlement or Taxes, until improved by the Owners, or by them sold, Six Thousand and Sixty Six Acres, and laid out into Nineteen Equal shares at the Charge of y<sup>e</sup> Grantees, in y<sup>e</sup> following manner Viz<sup>t</sup> That there be in y<sup>e</sup> next best Accommodations of y<sup>e</sup> undivided Lands, Three Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Acres, laid out for the Grantors aforesaid, for Quantity and Quality, with y<sup>e</sup> Lands already laid out, in Nineteen Equal shares, as aforesaid and that there shall be next laid out, in y<sup>e</sup> said undivided Lands so much to each Grantee, who has not his full Proportion in y<sup>e</sup> Lands already laid out, and set in y<sup>e</sup> Schedule, as shall make their respective shares equal with the rest.

And that the remaining part of the Land reserved for the Grantors aforesaid, being Two Thousand Four Hundred Acres, be Divided for Quantity and Quality, with the rest of y<sup>e</sup> com'on Lands into Nineteen equal shares. And the remainder of y<sup>e</sup> Com'ons or undivided Lands, to be to and for the use of y<sup>e</sup> Grantees as they shall Order the Divisions thereof. And that where any Lands was by the Proprietors, claiming under the Massachusetts Grant formerly left within any Lott, for Highways, the Owners of such Lott, shall have said Land thus reserved, allowing so much, as shall be of Equal Value, out of his Part in y<sup>e</sup> next division of y<sup>e</sup> Com'ons

That the respective Grantees, Owners of y<sup>e</sup> Fifty shares afores<sup>d</sup> and who are not excused from Duty and Charge, bring forward and make settlement, in the following manner Viz<sup>t</sup> That they lay out y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Tract or Township and compleat the Division thereof as afore directed, at or before y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Day of November next ensuing, and return a Plan thereof, certified under the Hand of their Clerk on Oath, within Two Months after such Work, shall be compleated to the Clerk of said Grantors

That y<sup>e</sup> respective Owners, for each respective share, make One settlement, in the following manner Viz<sup>t</sup> To clear inclose & fit for Mowing or Plowing Two Acres on some one Lott, and have a comfortable dwelling House, Built and fitted for comfortable Dwelling in, and a Family or some Person resident there at or before, the first Day of December, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Six, and to continue Inhabitant or Resident there, for Four Years, then next comeing and also for the same Four Years Annually, on each of y<sup>e</sup> said Lotts, to have Two Acres cleared, Inclosed and fitted as aforesaid

That there be a Meeting House for Publick Worship in said Township, within Five Years from this Date, at Such Place as shall be agreed on by the Proprietors, both Grantors and Grantees, to be determined according to Interest, and Ten Acres reserved there for Publick use notwithstanding such Lott should be laid out to any Particular Person or Persons

That the Lands in said Township belonging to Grantors and Grantees, be subjected to have all Necessary Highways, laid through them as there shall be occasion, for the Future without any Pay or Allowance for Damages, that the aforesaid Grantees, their Heirs or Assigns not heretofore



excused from Charge, by a Major Vote in Publick Meeting called for that Purpose, Grant and Assess in Equal Proportion, Such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall think necessary for carrying forward and compleating the Settlement aforesaid or for the Support of the Ministry as the Proprietors shall agree to, and every one of the Grantees exclusive of the Three Publick Lotts, or his Assignee who shall Neglect for the Space of Sixty Days after such Assessment shall be granted, to pay the same, so much of such Delinquents Rights, shall and may be sold as will Pay their respective Taxes and all Charges arising thereon by a Committee to be appointed by the Grantees or their Assignees, for that Purpose. And in case any of the Grantees, or their Assignees shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the Articles, Matters or Things aforesaid by him respectively to be done, He shall Forfeit his Right in said Township, and every Part thereof, to those of the Grantees or their Immediate Assignees who shall have complied, with the Conditions on their Part, herein expressed, and it shall, and may be Lawfull for them or any Person, by their Authority, to enter into & upon, the Right or Part, of such Delinquent Owner and any and every part in the Name and behalf of the whole of the Grantees or their Immediate Assignees, who shall comply as aforesaid, to amove oust and expell for the use of them their Heirs and Assigns, provided they settle or cause to be settled each such delinquents Right, within the Term of one Year at the farthest from the Periods, that is by this Instrument Stipulated to be done as the Condition of this Grant and fully comply with the whole Duty, such delinquent ought to have done, within One Year from Time to Time after the respective Periods thereof and in case the Grantees or their Assignees, fulfilling their Parts as aforesaid shall neglect, fulfilling as aforesaid the Duty of any delinquent Owner as aforesaid then such right or Part shall be Forfeit revert and belong to the Grantors their Heirs and Assigns and be wholly at their disposal

Allways Provided there shall be no Indian Warr, within any of y<sup>e</sup> Terms aforesaid for doing the Duty conditioned in this Grant, and in case that should happen, the same Time to be allowed for the respective matters afores<sup>d</sup> after such Impediment shall be removed

That all White Pine Trees fit for Masting His Majestie's Royall Navy growing on said Tract of Land, be and hereby are Granted to his Majesty, His Heirs and Successors forever

Lastly the said Grantors, do promise and Engage to y<sup>e</sup> said Grantees, their Heirs and Assigns, to defend through the Law, to King & Council, (if need be one Action that shall and may be brought against them or any Number of them, by any Person or Persons whatsoever, claiming the said Land or any part thereof, by any other Title than that, of the s<sup>d</sup> Grantors, or that by which, they hold and derive theirs from, provided the said Grantors are avouched in to defend the same and that in Case on Final Tryall, the same shall be recovered, against the Grantors, that such Person or Persons, shall recover nothing over against the Grantors for the Said Lands, Improvements or Expence, in bringing forward the Settlement

To all which Premises, I Joseph Blanchard Agent for and in behalf of

the Proprietors, the Grantors, have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this Fifth Day of December A D. 1753.

Signed Sealed & Joseph Blanchard [seal]  
 D D in presence of  
 Geo: Delond  
 Ju<sup>o</sup> Bowles

The foregoing Pages contain a True Copy of the Charter signed & Executed by Joseph Blanchard Esq<sup>r</sup> as Agent for and in behalf of the Proprietors of Lands purchased of Ju<sup>o</sup> Tufton Mason Esq<sup>r</sup> in the Province of New Hampshire delivered unto us the Subscribers in behalf of the Grantees mentioned in this Charter And whereas we were by the afores<sup>d</sup> Grantees Authorized & Impowered to settle Agree & Compound, concerning the premises in the aforewritten Charter, with the s<sup>d</sup> Joseph Blanchard Esq<sup>r</sup> in his capacity above mentioned, on such terms & Conditions & with such reservations as by both parties should be agreed & Concluded, Now therefore we the s<sup>d</sup> Com<sup>'</sup>itee in the name & behalf of the Grantees mentioned in the aforewritten Charter, hereby Accept s<sup>d</sup> Title & for s<sup>d</sup> Grantees do Acknowledge that we hold s<sup>d</sup> Lands, under the s<sup>d</sup> Grantors Title & on the conditions & Limitations with the reservations expressed in said Charter

Witness our hands this 5<sup>th</sup> Decemb<sup>r</sup> 1753

Witnesses

Love Pickman  
 John Nutting Jr

Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Pickman } Com<sup>te</sup>  
 Joshua Hicks }

(Copied by D. Donovan, Feb. 26, 1902.)

## [Draft of Lots 1753]

[Farmer's MSS. Town Papers, Vol. 4, p. 281]

Schedule to be annexed to Charter made to Benjamin Lynde Esq<sup>r</sup> and others of Salem-Canada now called Lyndeborough

Persons Names	No. Home	No of Second Division Lotts
	Division Lotts	
Benjamin Lynde Esq <sup>r</sup>	27, 50, 23,	44, 55, 83, 84, 98, 101, 65,
Benja. Pickman Esq <sup>r</sup>	9, 22, 44,	53, 66, 80, 83, 111,
Robert Hooper Esq <sup>r</sup> & Mr. Swetts Heirs	2, 8, 37,	34, 36, 37, 92, 93, 48, 49, 108, 87,
Joseph Blancy Esq <sup>r</sup>	41, 43, 49,	94, 29, 103,
Maj <sup>r</sup> Joshua Hicks	3, 6,	30, 41, 54,
Benjamin Goodhew	28, 47,	52, 97, 102, 114,
Thomas Fletcher	20, 58, 61,	48, 60, 64, 115, 124, 125,
Samuel Wells Esq <sup>r</sup>	18, 35,	56, 57, 82,
George Gould	54, 57,	71, 75, 81,
Ephraim Ingalls	24, 46,	69, 70, 74,
Daniel Epes Jr. Esq <sup>r</sup>	40, 59,	51, 112, 119, 123,
Capt Joseph Richardson	51, 53,	40, 73, 104, 107,
Josiah Bowers	19, 31,	63, 89, 116, 118,
Joseph Bowditch Esq <sup>r</sup>	1,	81,
The Heirs of James Lindall Esq <sup>r</sup>	4,	86, 95,
Stephen Putnam	7,	77, 78,
Jonathan Bowers		113, 122,
John Bickford	14,	47, 79,
Moses Graves	16,	38, 42,
Maj <sup>r</sup> John Fowle	38,	109, 110,
Oliver Fletcher Esq <sup>r</sup>	15,	45, 105,
Hannah Cabot	39,	72,
Joseph Clough	42,	120, 121,
David Stimson	45,	62, 96,
Daniel Nichols	48,	58, 59,
Robert Swan	52,	68,
Jonathan Peele	55,	
Timothy Cummings	60,	35, 61,
William Holt	26,	31, 32,
School Lott	25,	46, 76,
Ministry Lott	32,	67, 126,
First Ministers Lott	33,	90, 91,
	34,	126, 127,

The foregoing List is the Schedule referred to in the Annexed Charter, Dec<sup>r</sup> 5: 1753.

Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde }  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Pickman } Com<sup>tee</sup>  
 Joshua Hicks }

(Schedule copied Feb. 26, 1902, by D. Donovan.)

Such was the result obtained by the committee appointed to negotiate with Col. Joseph Blanchard, agent of the Masouian proprietors.

As citizens of Lyndeborough, we assume a position in regard to the mutilation of our ancient town, the correctness of which it may be difficult to establish by positive proof. Yet, we believe that the division of old Salem-Canada was as distasteful

to those severed from the old grant as to their old neighbors who still retained the original name. We cannot believe without better evidence than any documents public or private exhibit, that the Putnams and Dales and Burtons and Stileses and the rest had any grievance against their old town, or signed a petition to be severed from it, without being subjected to a species of intimidation amounting to coercion. Straws indicate the direction of the current. So, in the conduct of those who were parted from us by the new line, we think there is good evidence that the construction of No. 2 was neither by their contrivance nor connivance.

That the portion of the old town which remained should be aggrieved by their loss was of course to be expected. But what cared the agent for that? The damage done to the residue of the old town was far-reaching, and so rankled in the hearts of Lyndeborough's selectmen a quarter of a century later that they spelled the word damage strongly, using two m's. Indeed, traces of the injury then done continue, even to the present day.

And here it may not be amiss to make a few words of response to the allusion of the Wilton History to this very matter.\* The History recites, that "Some feeling has been expressed of late as if Wilton had encroached on Lyndeborough, and taken away a part of its territory. But Lyndeborough as a grant to Benjamin Lynde and thirty others did not date till December 5, 1753, †*four years* after Badger's settlement and that of others in Salem-Canada." "That about one-third of Wilton was once a part of Salem-Canada no one will deny, but Salem-Canada was not identical with Lyndeborough any more than it was with Wilton." Now, that so large a part of No. 2 was torn away from the old town, is Lyndeborough's precise grievance; and furthermore Lyndeborough inclines to the notion, that it is at least 12,000 acres more nearly identical with Salem-Canada than was Wilton. "But," continues the history, "We confess that our good neighbor, Lyndeborough, since she became Lyndeborough and not Salem-Canada, has suffered mutilation." Our acknowledgments are due for the confession, so far as it goes. But it is too partial. For it ostensibly commiserates Lyndeborough, while it consents with the spoliation of Salem-Canada.

The kindly author of those sentences was a man whom it was

\* Wilton History, p. 23.

† Likely a misprint for fourteen.

a benediction to know. We believe that he was incapable of an intentional unfairness. We can therefore account for such a decision of the case in hand, only by his failure to obtain and thoroughly sift the evidence.

The Lyndeborough people feel as the good Doctor did not, that "Salem-Canada suffered mutilation," and to this day, they regard themselves as sufferers from the effects of it.

The history again proceeds, "We cannot with any advantage rake over the embers in the old ashes of past grievances to kindle new regrets and jealousies. Let bygones be bygones! What is written is written, and what is done is done and cannot be reversed or undone."\* Our heartiest sympathy is on the side of every proper effort to allay ill-feeling between the two towns. To kindle anew the dying embers of jealousy and regret is surely an unworthy part to act. The towns are too closely akin, too intimately allied by intermarriage, too much interested in each other's material welfare, too highly endowed, let us believe, with a genuine, dignified manliness, to yield their conduct to the sway of ill-feeling. They were for many years classed together, alternating in sending representatives to the General Court, the same man serving the common interests of both. It were therefore unseemly to nurse imaginary grievances or to revive dying strife. But these will be more readily dissipated by candor and fairness than by a partial or one-sided view.

Now Salem-Canada was not a mere unoccupied tract of land opened for free appropriation of its territory by either town. It was as much a regularly chartered town as New Boston, or Narragansett No. 3, or Dunstable. Its grant bears date of 1735; No. 2's of 1749. John Cram, Senior, was in Salem-Canada in 1737, two years before John Badger entered the town in 1739. Salem-Canada was, therefore, fourteen years old, before No. 2 was constituted; and it kept its old name more than four years afterwards. But, according to the Wilton History's mode of reasoning, Badger never lived in No. 2, and much less in Wilton. It required the partially settled fragment of land called "Groton Gore," and the tract rent from Salem-Canada, to constitute No. 2. Did, then, the old name and traditions as naturally belong to the new town as to the old? To ask this question is to answer it. The Wilton His-

\* Wilton History, p. 24.

tory seems as ready to assume Salem-Canada's good name, as to enjoy its valued territory.

It is quite possible, that Lyndeborough people may have unduly blamed Wilton for the mutilation of the old town. If so, they were wrong. Blame should rest where it belongs. We sometimes receive injury without perceiving clearly the source whence it springs. Lyndeborough may have thus erred. But reliable records now indicate that the chief blame should rest neither on Number two, nor on its successor, Wilton, but rather on Col. Joseph Blanchard of Dunstable and the Masonian Proprietors who both permitted and authorized their agent to effect the great and lasting injury. But many of the Lyndeborough people may say that "Wilton profited by the injury and so shared in it." This may have been true, and yet more unjust than we know; for her share may have been very small. Frequently, and we fear too truthfully, is it said that "Corporations have no souls." Incorporated Wilton, therefore, would have shown an extraordinary, and unlooked for degree of unselfishness in rejecting an addition so valuable and important to its material interests. Our good neighbor Wilton should not be harshly censured. Better say with her kindly historian, "Let bygones be bygones," as the best lenitive with which to allay irritation; though it fails to heal the sore. A man, well endowed with the virtue of self-control, may accustom himself to gaze calmly upon goods which have been wrested from him and lodged irrecoverably in the possession of another man. But the sight will seldom awaken such enthusiastic emotions of joy as will make him toss up his hat and shout. The holder of the goods can more easily shout and "let bygones be bygones" than the loser of them, who is compelled to bear the loss and feel the rankling hurt. Rest the blame where it rightly belongs, and crush contention and strife between hands clasped in fraternal peace and friendship.

## CHAPTER IV.

### LYNDEBOROUGH UNDER THE MASONIAN CHARTER DECEMBER, 5, 1753.

It is interesting to observe conditions under the new charter. There were fewer limitations under the old. The entire broad domain was the property of the Salem-Canada proprietors. A great change came when the Masonian proprietors took possession. In the first assault they took away 4800 acres to aid in forming town Number two. Then, 6660 acres were reserved from the remainder for the new owners of Mason's claim, beside a few parcels for the agent, 500 acres at the southwest corner of the town, 150 at the northeast corner adjoining New Boston, and still another farm of 150 acres, more nearly central. In addition to all this there was the legal expense of a new charter (a costly thing). We feel little surprise, after thus raising a corner of the curtain, at the difficulty the old Salem-Canada committee experienced in its effort to agree upon a settlement. The exaction was "rank," and those who were compelled to endure it, doubtless felt, that "it smelled to Heaven!"

But, having got off with "the skin of their teeth," the old landholders and proprietors assume a new name, and face the future with admirable determination to advance. Benjamin Lynde Jr. Esq., who not only inherited large wealth, but also possessed rare legal and judicial talent, and added to all this, had an unsullied reputation for honesty and integrity, became about that time the principal owner of the real estate of the town. He became such by honest purchase, not by any process of pressure or extortion. Not a stain of this kind rests on his name. Under the new charter the town was, therefore, Lyndes Borough; or as we now write it, Lyndeborough. But many of the old proprietors disappear, while the old organization and its records are continued. Under the new auspices the building of a meeting-house was as indispensable and imperative as under the old. The completion of the former structure was seriously interrupted by the outbreak of the French and Indian War, and then by the panic and uncertainty connected with the decision in regard to Mason's claims. The changed conditions demanded readjustments. The site first selected for the meeting-

house, generally accepted as central, is no longer acceptable. The line of the new town, Number 2, is less than two miles from the former centre. A new and more central point must now be chosen. Some of the citizens live north of the mountain. Many of them built their homes along the east side of the town, adjoining Amherst and New Boston, while other homes were situated along the west side and well upwards toward the Peterborough mountain. The interests of the different sections of the town conflicted. It was, indeed, a difficult matter to fix upon a new site for the place of worship, which would give general satisfaction. This new bone of contention disturbed the town for a number of years; and failing to agree among themselves, it became necessary finally to submit the matter to the decision of a special commission.

Meantime the preaching of the gospel was maintained as best it could be, under such discouragements and disadvantages. The services were held in private dwellings. A committee was appointed Oct. 28, 1754, to "view the meeting-house and see in what manner it can be made suitable for public worship." This indicates that their obligation to provide a place of public worship was not dormant. But so far as the records show there was no attempt made to finish the house begun before the late war. A new house, however, seems to have been built, and "located in the field east of where Mrs. Benjamin Dutton" lived, "on the road from the present centre of the town to Johnson Corner."\*

Thus the preaching of the Gospel continued to receive their attention. At the first meeting of the Lyndeborough proprietors after their acceptance of the new charter, they agreed "to allow two dollars per day towards procuring preaching for the next six months," to be drawn from the treasury, the number of days to be certified by the preacher. Oct. 29, 1754, it was agreed that "Mr. Stephen Putnam & Mr. Samuel King be desired & appointed to do as much this fall as they can" toward preparing the house; and further that "Mr. Putnam be desired to give such directions about the finishing of the meeting-house as will be attended with least cost to the propriety and make it comfortable for public worship."†

In 1755, the inhabitants petitioned the proprietors that they might have a settled minister, or pay for preaching granted them. After duly considering the request, the proprietors in-

\* Clark's S. C., p. 43.

† Proprs. Rec'ds, 1754.



structed their clerk, Benjamin Lynde, to write the following letter :

“To the Inhabitants of the Township of Lyndeborough,

The Committee of the Propriety met together on your petition for having the Preaching of the Gospel continued among them, & considering your earnest request, (with which they are well pleased) & the advantage it may be to the spiritual & temporal interest of the Town, have resolved to allow to such Gospel minister as you shall get to preach for the three following months, Six Pounds, ten shillings, Old Tenor, for every Sabbath after the 25th, of the instant month,

I am in the name

Your Assured Friend,

B. Lynde.

SALEM 25, Dec. 1755.

Again, at a meeting of the committee May 16, 1756, it was agreed to write and send the following letter to the inhabitants :

“I am desired by the Proprietors' Committee to acquaint you that at their meeting at your request of the 13th. instant, they have resolved to continue the £6 10 shillings our Old Tenor, for the preaching the Gospel among you for 26 Sabbaths from the 25th. of March last—which is what they conclude best, considering the difficult circumstances of affairs at present in New England.”

I am Your Assured Friend,

B. Lynde.

At the proprietors' meeting on the 4th of January 1757, Daniel Epps Jr. Esq. was chosen Clerk, and Benjamin Lynde Esq. treasurer for the “Propriety.” Voted also that “there be a committee of 5 persons to manage the affairs of the Township;” and that they or a majority of them “call future meetings of the Propriety.” The members of this committee were Hon. B. Lynde, Esq., Hon. Benjamin Pickman, Esq., Deacon Jn<sup>o</sup>. Bickford, Daniel Epps, Jr. Esq., and Mr. B. Goodhue.

The meeting was adjourned to the next day, at which time they took into consideration the petition of John Johnson and others, a committee appointed by the society at Lyndeborough to make application for the settlement of a gospel minister among them. It was voted “That for the encouragement of an Orthodox Minister settling among said people, there shall be paid out of the Proprietors' Treasury, the sum of Forty Pounds, Lawful Money, in the following manner, viz., Thirteen Pound six shillings & eight pence the first year after his ordination; & the like sum the second year; and the remaining sum of 13£-6s.-8d. at the expiration of the third year; He continuing in said capacity, with said people so long.” “Also voted, that

as a farther encouragement, there be paid to the order of the said Society the sum of Forty Pounds annually, for and towards such minister's yearly salary."\*

The proprietors were generous in their appropriations to encourage and assist the town. They were careful, not churlish, in expending their money. They aimed to develop it and preserve its unity of interest and friendly intercourse. Hence, although ready to contribute liberally toward the erection of the required and much desired house of public worship, we find them reluctant to expend money while heated disputes existed as to the site most [convenient and suitable for its location. They therefore voted again that the sum appropriated "toward the building of the meeting-house be not paid until three-quarters of the settlers of the township have agreed on the same place, and the committee be certified of the same by a writing from under their hands." Thus their funds were given to promote harmony, not to foster contention. These appropriations were voted when the people were preparing to settle their first pastor, Mr. John Rand. He remained with them but a few years. But after his departure, the proprietors' committee, Nov. 17, 1762, agreed "that Mr. Rand be paid his third or last year's settlement;" and also "that his salary be allowed him to the 7th of April last." Thus year after year they continued to aid and encourage the settlers.

"In October, before Rev. John Rand was settled, the society voted, — †

"That the meeting-house shall be set on the road that goes from the beaver pond bridge to Jonathan Cram's, Jun., on a place called the Rocky Hill not further from a place called Rocky ledge, on the road to the lower corner of the town so called, than the bridge is."

The next year, December 7, 1758, the society record reads:

"Bound ourselves to build a meeting-house on Rev. John Rand's lot lying east of Jonathan Cram's Jun., not exceeding forty rods from the southwest corner of said lot."

"According to these votes, the second meeting-house was located in the field east of where Mrs. Benjamin Dutton, a granddaughter of Rev. John Rand, now lives, on the road from the center of the town to Johnson Corner." †

No undue attention has been devoted to this matter of the meeting-house, although our treatment of it may savor some-

\*Records for 1757. †Rev. F. G. Clark, Salem-Canada, p. 43. †Clark, p. 43,

what of an ecclesiastical form. The story of the meeting-house will be found a real, substantial part of the civil history of the town. For there was a distinct attempt to blend both civil and religious interests under the same code of regulations and the same board of executive officers, in the government of Massachusetts Bay. This blending, also, is discernible in the early charters issued by that government. The puritan idea of building a meeting-house, and settling "a pious learned and orthodox minister" in every town, supported by a tax levied on all the inhabitants, was an almost invariable rule and requirement in securing a charter. Nor was the rule a bad one for the times. The Masonian proprietors as well as the Royal Governors of New Hampshire retained the same regulations, even after the separation of the provinces. The erection of "a good and sufficient house for the public worship of God," usually within three years from the reception of the charter, was made one of the indispensable conditions of retaining it, and this condition was unaltered even after our province was freed from the political domination of Massachusetts. Hence, caring for the religious interests of the town, was made by its charter as much a part of civic duty as fostering any other department of its enterprise. We have for this reason endeavored to give due space and attention to the progress made in securing the meeting-house.

#### DISTURBING INFLUENCES.

The influences which disturbed the town came mainly, though not wholly, from without. The old Salem-Canada proprietors who were still land-holders in Lyndeborough continued to hold their meetings as aforesaid. They met generally at the Inn of Mrs. Pratt, in Salem, Mass., though occasionally elsewhere, as convenience or interest dictated. \* The notices of their meetings were posted in public places in Salem and Marblehead, Mass., where most of them resided. A notice was put up in Chelmsford, Mass., for the benefit of the one proprietor who lived there, and one was also sent to one of the principal inhabitants of Lyndeborough. All were to be posted at least ten days before the day of meeting; and the matters to be considered were specified as in the warrants for our town meetings. In the year 1759, they voted, that instead of the usual method

\* See Records of 1772.

for notifying meetings, a notice might be given in at least two of the Boston newspapers.

One of the troublesome things in those early days was delinquency in paying taxes. Then, as now, lands could be sold to satisfy such demands against their owners. For certain acts of neglect, the penalty was forfeiture of title. But the proprietors were very lenient, if not lax. They practised great forbearance towards the settlers. Penalties were not rigorously enforced. Land sold for taxes might generally be redeemed when payment was made. A commendable friendliness governed their action in many such cases. But, despite all this, they did not enjoy unalloyed happiness.

The disturbance created by the cutting away of a portion of the old township of Salem-Canada, in order to form township No. 2, cannot now be fully comprehended. And instead of this disturbance subsiding and disappearing, it proved rather, like Banquo's ghost, which would not down at a fancied superior's bidding. It kept repeating its annoyances.

Consequently, a meeting was called for Jan. 4, 1756, one article of which contemplated the appointment of a committee to effect the fulfilment of the conditions required by the charter; to have the lands described continued, and to direct in making allowances to those who have had part of their allotments taken off. About twenty of the old proprietors and settlers had portions of their lots cut off, for which they were to receive allowances. This required the making of new surveys and the running of new lines, all of which not only increased the expenses of the town, but also increased the inconveniences of those whose farms had been invaded. There may have been no *mutilation* in this; but there was something very like mutiny in consequence of it. There was intense and choking indignation, all the more, that there was no proper, available means of redress. They must swallow their wrath, and adjust matters which could be adjusted, as fully as they had the power. To this they devoted themselves.\*

But in assigning lands to compensate for losses, they were obliged to lay these out, not on lands immediately adjoining those of the losers, but on lands in other parts of the town. The inconvenience to the owners must be manifest at once. But that was not all.

The survey made by Robert Fletcher at the north part of the

\* Records, 1760.

town fell short about a half a mile of what Mr. Fletcher called it. So great were his errors, indeed, that his whole survey of that section was set aside; and Osgood Carleton was engaged to make a new one, at the town's expense. This came in less than twenty years after they had borne the expense of Fletcher's warped and faulty one.

One plan of Mr. Fletcher's survey was attested by him as, "*well bounded & truly described.*" But it was endorsed by another hand as, "*Wrong in Almost every part; is almost a Mile Wider than it really is.*"

If, then, the land fell short nearly a half a mile in measure from north to south, on the north side of the town, and again fell short almost a mile in measure from east to west, it is easy to see that purchasers must have paid for many acres which they did not receive. Relying on the sworn statements of the surveyor, Robert Fletcher, the committee of the Salem-Canada proprietors accepted the plan of Lyndeborough which he presented. His errors were not discovered until encroachments began to be made by settlers on adjoining lands on the north, whose deeds had been received from Col. Wallingford, one of the grand proprietors. The deeds clearly entitled them to the land on which they had entered, had their deeds been valid. But Lyndeborough had the land prior to the date of Wallingford's titles given to those settlers. But these had already begun to clear the land and were quite reluctant to withdraw from it. Not till crowded by these trespassers, as Lyndeborough people called them, did they learn how great was the deficiency in their acreage.

Appropriate to this matter is the letter of John Goffe,\* dated,

"Derryfield April 29 1774.

Honored Sirs the Lines of your Society land are so hard to be found that the people that have purchased cannot find the Exact Spot there land is on and they Complain one incroches upon an others land and som are Liable to loose there labour therefore they pray your Hon<sup>rs</sup> would order the lins to be Run anew so that Every one may know their own lines & I am sure it is best for you to have Run Speedely for the old lines are So Grown out that they Cant be followed & it is said that a great part of them lines never were Run."†

This from the old hero, Col. Goffe, states the situation

\* Batch. XXVIII., 415.

† Cf. Batch., XXVIII., 261.

familiarly and forcefully. Now the Lyndeborough proprietors had no relish for such encroachments. It was the discovery of the frauds which led to them, that incited Judge Lynde to have a resurvey made of the different portions of the town. This survey, however, availed very little, as will appear later. The most that was accomplished by it, was to convince the settlers that they were grievously cheated out of their just rights.

#### PLAN OF SALEM-CANADA LOTS.

The plan of the first lots seems to have been made as follows :

\* "Each proprietor, after paying into the treasury four pounds, drew a home lot of sixty acres, and then drew two lots of one hundred and thirty acres each, on paying four pounds more to defray the necessary expenses of surveying and marking the lots. † There were one hundred and twenty-seven Second Division Lots, two for each proprietor, two for the first settled minister, two for the support of the ministry, two for schools, and one for a mill lot."

The first division, or home lots, contained sixty acres each, were located in the southeast part of the town, and their eastern range adjoined Souhegan West, now Amherst. The second division lots commenced at the west side of the home lots, on the south line of the town, and were from east to west 160 rods long, and from north to south 130 rods wide. The numbering of these commenced at their southeast corner, and the tier next to the south line had seven lots. Number seven was in the southwest corner of the town, and adjoining it on the north was number eight, the lowest number of the second tier, which ended at the home lots with number fourteen; directly north of this again was number fifteen, which commenced the third tier, which continued its course west to twenty-one, north of which again came twenty-two, and so on to twenty-eight. Those four tiers of lots were taken away to make township No. 2. The numbering continued thus, rising from one to 126. Each owner of a right could draw two of these large lots in addition to his home lot. A regular time was appointed for drawing the lots, when each owner could draw his own share, or authorize some one else to draw for him,—or the majority of the grantees present could select some one to draw in his place. Thus, were the various lots distributed in old Salem-Canada.

\* Clark, p. 9.

† "This seems a large sum to pay for expenses, but it was the old tenor money or paper, which was not worth a third of its face value."

## THE LYNDEBOROUGH ARRANGEMENT.

The arrangement already considered was, of course, greatly disturbed after the Masonian proprietors came into possession. A tract of land five miles long from east to west, and one and a half miles wide, from north to south, was cut off from the south end of our town, a thing which did not, however, interfere materially with the old numbering of the rest of the farms. Twenty-eight of the second division lots of 130 acres each were thus taken away to form township No. 2. But as if to increase confusion and disturb all former plans of ownership, the grand proprietors laid out their own reservations in various parts of the town. Nineteen lots of two hundred acres each were set off into two ranges, on the west side of the town. A farm of 500 acres was reserved on the southwest corner; one of 150 acres at the northeast corner; another of 150 acres near the centre; and several others in the northwest and in the eastern portions of the town. More than ten thousand acres were thus severed from their former connection, and from an ownership enjoyed by the Salem-Canada grantees for more than eighteen years under the authority of Massachusetts. Great disturbance must obviously result from so changed a situation. The Masonian owners reserved for their own interests one-fourth of the territory, and that was to be free from all taxes and other charges, until improved by themselves, or by those who should hold titles from them. This territory had been granted to the Salem-Canada proprietors in consideration of hard unremunerated service, rendered by some of them or by their fathers, in the disastrous expedition of 1690. Of this hardly-earned patrimony they were despoiled by the purchasers of Mason's claim. But still further, they suffered from trespassers on their remaining acreage, and were defrauded in the measurements of estates for which they had paid roundly.

## THE COMMONS, OR COMMON LANDS.

After Benjamin Lynde, Esq., and the thirty others associated with him had received the charter of Lyndeborough from the Masonian proprietors, and all the proprietors and settlers had received their portions, there was still quite a large quantity of unoccupied town land. This was called common or undivided land. If, from time to time, a farm was sold out of this territory, the price received was put into the common treasury of the corporation to defray general expenses. Lands forfeited for

failure to comply with the conditions of the charter, might thus be added to the common lands, and would revert to the grantees. This land was lying waste, unproductive, unfenced and untilled. It seemed rather to challenge than invite trespassers, and at times the challenge was accepted. It was no easy task to master all the difficulties and despite all the trials to secure general welfare.

#### CLASSES OF PROPRIETORS.

I. John Mason was the original owner of New Hampshire by grant from the King of England. From him the title, disputed long with great acrimony and opposition, descended to his heir of the sixth generation, Col. John Tufton Mason, born in Boston, Mass., Apr. 29, 1713. This heir of Mason's entire claim to the soil of New Hampshire sold his right and title to a company of gentlemen in Portsmouth. The property was divided by them into fifteen equal shares. Of these, three were purchased by Theodore Atkinson, two by Mark Hunking Wentworth, and one each by Richard Wibird, John Wentworth (son of Governor), George Jaffrey, Nathaniel Meserve, Thomas Parker, Thomas Wallingford, Jothan Odiorne, Joshua Pierce, Samuel Moore and John Moffatt. These were called the Masonian Proprietors and sometimes, the "Lord Proprietors or Grand Proprietors." Their title from Mason was decided to be valid, and all other titles so called were thus annulled or made void.

#### THE CANADA PROPRIETORS.

II. These were persons to whom the Government of Massachusetts had made grants of land for special services rendered either in the army or navy. Thus the survivors of certain military expeditions or campaigns, or the heirs of such as perished in them, or had died subsequently, received special consideration in such grants. So a tract of land on the Souhegan River was granted to the heirs of those who fought in the Narragansett War. This township was called Souhegan West, or Narragansett No. 3, which was later called Amherst. In like manner, men who engaged in the Canada expedition of 1690, from the towns of Ipswich, Rowley, Salem, etc., received grants which at first bore the names of their several towns, for instance, Ipswich-Canada, Rowley-Canada, Salem-Cadada, which became respectively New Ipswich, Rindge and Lyndeborough. The persons who were fortunate enough to obtain such grants, sharing



equally in them, were the proprietors of the towns so granted. Those of our town were called the Salem-Canada proprietors. At a later day they were compelled to procure titles to their farms and estates from the Masonian proprietors, or lose their lands and improvements. Benjamin Lynde, Jr., Esq., was the largest stockholder in the town, which in honor of him was called Lynde's Borough, or as now written Lyndeborough.\*

But many of the early proprietors became such by purchase. People whose ancestors had been in the Canada expedition of 1690 inherited rights which they drew as members of their posterity; but they preferred to sell them rather than settle on them. The purchasers of such rights were entitled to all the privileges and advantages arising from them; and it was in this way that many became proprietors in the town. Men possessing large wealth invested their money in the new lands and sold them again as the opportunity came for a profitable sale. The majority of those who thus owned the original lots never lived in Lyndeborough. There were some honored exceptions. Among these may be named the Epps families and connections, the Stephensons, Goulds, Putnams and others.

III. The larger number of the inhabitants of the town were not, however, properly speaking, proprietors or share holders in its territory. These bought farms on which they settled and built their homes and reared their families. Such were proprietors only of their own holdings, and not strictly town proprietors.

#### ATTEMPTS AT PACIFICATION.

It was no easy matter to secure just rights and maintain harmony. At the meeting of the Lyndeborough proprietors, held at Salem, Mass., April 21, 1768, they voted,

That John Shepard Jr. Esq., Capt. Jonathan Cram, and Capt. John Stephenson be "a committee to consider and report what allowance should be made to Adam Johnson, John Carkin, and Joseph Wilkins, for their home lots being short of measure." This committee reported fully Oct. 15, 1774, that Adam Johnson's land was short 16 acres, and as it was good land, recommended that a tract of 37 acres of poorer quality be given him in its stead. John Carkin's land fell short more than 13 acres, and they recommended that 17 acres be given him to compensate for it. Joseph Wilkins was short of his measure about 9

\*Diary of Benj. Lynde. p. 148, note.

acres and it was recommended to give him a tract of 29 acres to make good his shortage. But the committee stated, that "the last mentioned tract is excessive poor." This report was finally approved by the proprietors, in Dec., 1782, and the tracts of land specified were assigned to the several settlers named.

#### LYNDEBOROUGH VERSUS THE MASONIAN PROPRIETORS.

##### The Letters of Benjamin Lynde and Others.

These letters were among the papers of Mr. David C. Grant, who seems to have procured them from the Hon. Ezra S. Sterns, Secretary of State. They are all now printed in the State Papers edited by Mr. Albert Stillman Batchellor, Vol. XXVII, pp. 412-436.

These letters are given in full, that the reader may learn from the honored Judge himself, the complications induced by the grand proprietors of Mason's right. They are numbered, so that they may stand in chronological order, when printed, as given in the State Papers mentioned above.

##### No. I.

##### The deposition of Robert Fletcher, surveyor.

I, Robert Fletcher, aged about 42 years, testify and say that I was the surveyor who with Samuel Butterfield and others laid out to y<sup>e</sup> several proprietors who hold under Jn<sup>o</sup>. Tufton Mason, Esq. the tract of land called the Society Land or Reserved Lands, their particular lots 1753. That the lot number eight which fell to Esq. Wallingsford on the east end began at a black oak which is the n. e. corner of number eight, the line runs south one mile on the head of New Boston Addition Line to an hemlock tree which is the north-east corner of Lyndeborough Addition, which was made by order of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard A. D. 1753 from thence it runs west three miles and eighty rods on Lyndeborough to a black oak, thence turning at a right angle and runs south one mile and 120 rods to a white pine being the extent of No. 8 southward and is in direct line east with Peterboro' north line.

I was also the surveyor that by order of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard made the Addition to Lyndeborough and planned the same agreeable to which the charter was drawn, and at the north-west corner of the town y<sup>e</sup> Addition No. was made from the southwest corner of New Boston Addition and was to run No. on that head line one mile and one-half to a hemlock tree in the said head line of New Boston Addition, and I know it was intended y<sup>t</sup> Lyndeborough should extend so far north until it came to y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid hemlock, which is one mile south of the black oak at the northeast corner of no. eight, and one mile and half north of y<sup>e</sup> southwest corner of New Boston Addition. That sometime in the spring of the year 1766 I informed Mr. Wm. Dickey, one of the purchasers of the lot no. eight of the bounds as above mentioned, who told me that he

(said Dickey) and others were about purchasing this lot no. eight and that he came to me to enquire about the bounds. Robt. Fletcher.

Essex ss. Salem 9 Febr'y 1770.

Then the above named Robt. Fletcher made oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed and the same is taken to lie, "in perpetuam rei memoriam."

Jurat Coram, And<sup>w</sup> Oliver, Justicus Pacem  
Wm. Browne, Quorum Unus.

### No. II.

This letter is dated: Salem, May 28, 1773, and is addressed to Honorable Geo. Jaffrey Esq., who was then clerk of the Masonian proprietors.

Salem May 28th., 1773.

Honble Sir:

With this you will have a new survey and laying out of eight grand proprietors lots by Mr. Osgood Carleton April 1773 at the no. west of Lyndeborough; these with eight before laid out on Amherst line and near the same lots by Jn<sup>o</sup>. Sheppard, Esq.; make sixteen only, the number directed without any for the three lawyers. These being at the n. w. corner and beyond the mountains are 150 to 160 acres as the other are near the inhabitants. The lots laid out by Jn<sup>o</sup>. Sheppard are lost by the encroachment of the seventeen Derry men who bought of Col<sup>o</sup> Wallingsford, who claim half a mile further south than the bounds in his deed gives them, and take half a mile which our charter gives us in plain words. You have also the reform of the survey of the 19 grand lots laid out by Mr. Fletcher 1759 which was erroneous in not making allowance for the variation of the compass from the 1st. running 1736, whereby the northern lots were above 100 rods short thro the width. This now is rectified, and the bounds at the corner of each lot ascertained on the plan, without which it was impossible for any grand proprietor to have found his certain lots. This has been attended with a great deal of charge to us, but absolutely necessary and best to be settled right before improvements come to be made. I wish, sir, that the proprietors, with you, would draw for the 16 lots that they may know how to sell (if they incline to it) and accommodate such as come to settle. I am sir, with great respect,

Your most obedt. and humbl. servant,

Benj. Lynde.

Honble Geo. Jaffrey, Esq.

### No. III.

This was evidently addressed to the person named in No. II. The remaining letters up to No. IX seem to need no caption, as they are self-explanatory.

Salem, 28 July, 1773.

Honble Sir:

Your favors of the 23 I received last night; I find it goes intirely on a mistake — as tho the Masonian Proprietors had not the

quantity of land reserved for them in their charter. That was 6066 acres Anno 1759 there was laid out for them nineteen lots each of 200 acres, makes 3800 acres these they drew for in July 1760. In 1766 there was laid out by Jn<sup>o</sup>. Sheppard Jun. eight lots on Amherst line each containing 130 acres, is 1040 acres more. These being nearer Amherst and supposed better were not so large as those at a distance. In 1768 Mr. Sheppard laid out the eight lots in the Addition made to Lyndeborough which being at a greater distance were larger, viz. 150 to 170 acres. The seventeen Derrymen by virtue of their purchase from Wallingsford whose deed gives them only one mile on New Boston, made an encroachment of half a mile further tho they were told by Mr. Fletcher, Esq. to whom they applied, before they bought, how far Wallingsford came south and that he had only one mile on the head of New Boston. This broke up the allotment of Esq. Sheppard, put us to a much greater charge for examining and to measure Wallingsford great lot, with fixing it by his deed and other evidence. This cost us 15 or 16 pounds L. M. and now Carleton laying out in 1773 also. All this has been the charge of the grantees and tho they have some hundred of acres taken from them, yet the Grand Proprietors have the whole of their reservation and 10 or 12 acres more. These eight lots are generally the best land tho further distant. What I proposed was the drawing for the eight lots laid out in 1766 of 130 acres each with the eight lots laid out by Carleton 1773 of 150 acres each. If I omitted the plan of the eight lots laid out 1766 when I sent the other eight lots of Carleton it was a mistake and is sent now.

I also transmit you Mr. Fletcher's deposition taken "in perpetuum" and to show the grand Proprietors the unreasonableness of the Derry men's encroachments. Should the land between Peterboro' and Lyndeboro' be offered for sale tho' it's chiefly mountainous and hilly, I should be glad to have the refusal of it and would make as good pay as any. I am, with my best regard to the proprietors, sir,

Your and their most obedt. humbl. servt.

Benja. Lynde.\*

Salem Sept. 2, 1773.

Honble Sir:

I am favored with yours of the 18th. of August, in answer to which let me assure you, that as I take it there will none of those lots laid out by Carleton be infringed on by the Derry men's encroachments. I have two shares in the 16 lots now to be drawn, my own interest therefore would have led me to take care that those lots should be clear from encroachment. I am sorry to find that Francestown laps on Lyndeborough. I suppose the charter of incorporation is the same with the Proprietors charter from Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard 1753 which makes Lyndeborough to run from the southwest corner of New Boston Addition one

\* This letter has no address on the outside. On the back it is minuted:

Benja Lynde July 28 1773

& Plans.

Osgood Carltons Plan of  
Proprietors 2d Division in Lyndeboro'  
and Sheppards Plan of Proprs  
2d Division in Lyndeboro'

mile and half on the head line of said addition. This leaves for Wallingford no. 8 one mile to the red oak which is in the n. e. corner of his lot as it's Odiorne's s. e. corner bound. Yet these Irish, tho' Col<sup>o</sup> Wallingford's deed to them is only one mile from said red oak south, they have stretched it to one mile and half, large measure.

Mr. Pierce's illness may prevent his attending when you draw your lots I should therefore be obliged to you if you would please to draw for my two rights bought of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard viz. one that was Meservy, Green and his, and one he had as agent of the Grand Proprietors.

With regard to the strip between Lyndeborough and Peterborough I knew very little about it. I am told towards the south a great part of it is rocky and mountainous, other parts may be tolerable; but it's only because it is adjoining to Lyndeborough that I would buy it if it was sold a penny worth. I should be glad to hear what the quantity is and what it will fetch in cash. I am, sir, with respect to the Compn.

Your and thcir most humbl. servant,

Benja Lynde.

The Honorable George Jaffrey, Esq.

Sept. 5, 1773.

Since finishing the other side Mr. David Chandler has been with me and tells me Mr. Esq. Sheppard has measured the strip. of the proprietors land by Duxbury school farm and its measure is six hundred and odd acres, makes but 42 or 43 acres to 1/15. Yet Mr. Pierce about 10 years ago writes me that Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard (as he understood by his son) was to have 8 miles of that strip on the south part, the remainder supposed to be 1 mile and half was divided and lotted out and made 53 acres to 1/15 at which rate I bought and paid for Col<sup>o</sup> March's part. His letter Mr. Chandler has for your perusal. I am, sir,

Your most obedt servant,

B. Lynde.

Danvers 25th. April 1774.

Honble Sir:

Your favors of 24th. December past I received and was in hopes 'ere this to have heard you had drawn for the lots laid out to the Grand Proprietors. I should have been glad also to have had Capn. Fletcher's original testimony returned recorded with what I am Indebted for it as I suppose you have a register chosen.

I am told you have lately advertised two pieces of land adjoining on Lyndeborough and that one is the supposed Gore between that town and the Derry men. I should have been very glad to have known its description and contents, one of your news papers might sufficiently do that if you could send me one unless they are not so particular as your book. We have spent several hundred pounds on ascertaining the addition made to Salem Canada by Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard and Fletcher.

I have myself taken more pains about it than I would again for 20 pounds lawful money. In my letter of 10th. Novr. I mentioned to you an affair of Mr. Qiglig viz. his demand for paying witnesses on a trespass on Mr. Hancock and my society lot no. 2 which as I knew nothing

of, I supposed was a general charge but I promised to write you and have your advice thereon which should be much obliged to you for,

I am, sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

Benj. Lynde.

The Honorable George Jaffrey, Esq.

Portsmo. June 15th. 1774. Joshua Holt and Jn<sup>o</sup> Abbot 4th. both of Andover in y<sup>e</sup> Province of Massachusetts agrees to purchase of the Proprietors the strip of land between Peterborough and Lyndeborough and to pay four shillings per acre for the same part of y<sup>e</sup> sum on having y<sup>e</sup> grant y<sup>e</sup> remainder in September next to pay interest till paid and they will be in this town by a month from this date to receive y<sup>e</sup> grant.

Joshua Holt,

John Abbot 4th.

Jn<sup>o</sup>. Sheppard, Esq. :

The Proprietors of the lands purchased of Jn<sup>o</sup>. Tufton Mason Esq. are about making a conveyance of a strip of land to Messrs Holt, Abbot and etc. and to be conveyed by y<sup>e</sup> acre. We had a plan thereof made by Osgood Carleton for ascertaining y<sup>e</sup> quantity of land in their tract y<sup>e</sup> certainty of which those persons are in some doubt and are desirous of having y<sup>e</sup> same surveyed again, and we are consenting having reason to think that tract of land contains more acres than mentioned in Osgoods plan. As the proprietors have great confidence in your integrity and skill have requested your favors to undertake y<sup>e</sup> survey and return a plan of the same to us. That is that you will as soon as you can conveniently make a survey of the said strip, to begin at the northwest corner of Borland's farm so called and run by the northerly line thereof to the west line of Lyndeborough and on the said line to the south line of the Society land so called, then by that line till it meets the northeasterly corner of Peterborough, then by that line to the bounds began at. The course of the westerly side line of Lyndeborough and easterly side line of Peterborough are north by y<sup>e</sup> needle, granted in the year 1753 or thereabouts. It is desired you will be as exact as you can in y<sup>e</sup> admeasurement and contents of the land. For your assistance we enclose you Carleton's plan of the strip and y<sup>e</sup> plan of Borland's farm by which you will see the form and contents, which you'll see if it contains no more than 400 acres. The persons who apply to you for making the survey will pay you for the same and plan which send to us under your cover.

In behalf of proprietors,

G. J. P. Clerk.

Portsmo. July 16, 1774.

Portsmo. July 15th. 1774.

Then agreed with Mason's Proprietors that as were requested a survey of y<sup>e</sup> strip of lands between Lyndeborough and Peterborough, which is to taken by Jn<sup>o</sup> Sheppard, Esq. that we will pay y<sup>e</sup> cost and charge of y<sup>e</sup> survey and plan.

Joshua Holt,

John Abbot, 4th.

Ipswich Hamlet, 7 Decembr. 1775

Honble Sir :

It is now several months since I have been favored with anything from you perhaps the difficulty of the times has occasioned it. The damage of having our commons lie open to all trespassers as well as good settlers stopped from coming into the town obliges me to. ask the trouble of your urging the proprietors to pass on and accept Mr. Carleton's plan of 1773 and then draw for the several lots, that we may know our own and devide the small remains of commons. Had Mr. Robt. Fletcher laid the grand lots out right 1759 with the boundary mark at the corner of each lot, all this charge and delay would have been prevented. Mr. Sheppard was sensible of this 9 or 10 years ago, and you will readily find Fletcher's errors by looking into his plan of the Grand Proprietors Lots returned to you 1759, in that he makes J. Wentworth, Mr. Vybird and Peirces No. 3, two hundred acre lots to be 275 poles long from his farm to the west line, whereas Esq. Sheppard in 1758 find, on exact measure but 153 poles from Fletcher's farm (he had from Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard) to our west line. This with the three other arguments hinted at in mine of Decemr. 1773 and Febry. 1774 must fully satisfy every unprejudiced person that our west line is as far as we carry it. I must beg the favor of an answer and with great respect,

Am, sir, your most obedt. servt.

Benja. Lynde.

Hou. G. Jaffrey, Esq.

Ipswich Hamlet 27th Dec. 1775.

Honble. Sir:

Your favors of the 21 instant I received. As I have had considerable leisure I have carefully looked over my papers relative to Lyndeborough and am pretty well sure no letters of yours came to my hand of a later date than 6 Feby. 75 nor do I find I had wrote you after said February. Times have been such as that no private business could be followed, but now it becomes necessary or our wood and timber will be all stolen from us. In the letter I wrote first about the lands between Lyndeboro' and Peterboro, I then acquainted your propriety that it would be better for us to pay the loss than be at. the charge of new laying out and marking the lots. I have more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of our commons, and I now say the same. This the mind of all of us. As we have laid out the lots, we were to get done the small remains of our commons we must devide and not let it lay longer. If we have entered on the Grand Proprietors interest (which I am sure is not so) we will submit it to three persons to judge how much we have encroached and pay for as much as we have over. Sir, although I might write you that Mr. Holt had told me they had bought from Mr. Borland's farm 1300 acres as far as to N end of Lyndeborough yet I suppose that was a mistake as Peter boro' goes not so far north as Lyndeborough by more than 200 rods on the west line. If so, they leave a piece of your pine land of your 1000 acres reserved in Wallingford lot no. 8. I beg you would ask Dr. Rogers or some that transacted the affair and please to write me how far north the strip runs? How wide it is at the north end? And as near as they can the quantity of the tract sold? I send you a copy of one attested by you, of Capt. R<sup>o</sup> Fletcher return of y<sup>e</sup>

200 acre lots laid out 1759 by which you find the 3 lots lying west from his lot measured 275 rods whereas we desire only 260 rods from his lot to our west line.

I am with great respect, sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

Benja Lynde.

The Honble. George Jaffrey Esq.

at Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Salem 30 Jan'y 1779.

Hon'ble Sir

I have the Pleasure of yours of the 5th Inst acquainting me that y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors have drawn their 2d devison rights in Lyndeboro' but you have wholly mistaken the Two rights I claim The one of which was Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard for settling the Interest & agreing with the agents of the Massachusetts—the other was what I bought of his from the right of Merservy Green & Blanchards. & Blanchard on division had the share in Lyndeboro' so that there should have been 16 shares with that given to Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard for settling.

I had no part of Soly & March's share that as Colo. March told me was his cousin Woodbridge's as the 200 acres No. 16.

I can say nothing of your 200 acre formerly or your Draft now.

I Wonder none of the Proprietors should remember that Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchards assignus were to have a right as agent. My letter of Sept 1773 mentioned your drawing for my Two Rights I bought of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard viz: on one as agent for the Proprietors & the other for Meservy Green & Blanchard I believe the 16th lot or No 5 in Sheppard plan is where the land is poor & none would choose it. I should not like it for one of Blanchards unless it is by a new lott I should be glad to know Wether your state in the Tax Act for selling nonresident lands gave a liberty of Redeeming Lands with paying double Interest & costs a Privilege granted in the Massachusetts State. Should it be otherwise I dont see but that for a trifling tax a man may be divested of his Land by the vendors cutting & carrying off the Timber & Wood worth more than y<sup>e</sup> land itself.

I am with respects Hon Sir,

Your most obedient

Benj'n Lynde\*

Salem 30 April 1779.

Honble. Sir :

Yours of the 26 of Febry after laying at the tavern at last came to hand. It fills me with great surprise. That after a fair purchase of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard's heirs on 6th. April 1759 recorded with you, I should meet with such loss. I was present at your meeting on y<sup>e</sup> 7th. July 1760 and then drew for Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard No. 1 and five, two lots and then mentioned that we had given him one hundred pounds cash and 500 acres of land out of the settlers part for good terms, and when I wrote Mr. Peirce deceased he writes Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard agreed to have a right thro' out in every town he, as agent for the Masonian Proprietary settled with the Massachusetts men. Nor was there at the meeting any the least objection to his two rights. The Honble. Col<sup>o</sup> Atkinson, the

\*Addressed on outside to George Jaffrey.



Honble. Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Peirce and yourself, as I perfectly remember, were at said meeting. The proposal of omitting the said lots was from myself to Mr. Peirce, supposing that 3 gentlemen had each of them 200 acres in the 1st. division, they might be contented with it as they never did anything for that town, and he writes me you were all of that opinion. I cant but think it very hard that when I askt. your drawing my two lots and particular mention who I. had them of in my letter Sept. 1773 that you would draw my two rights bought of Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard viz. one as he was agent for the proprietors and the other for his, Meservy and Green's right. So also when there was some difficulty about the location I. then wrote you as clerk that as I had two rights in the 16 lots it was my high concern and then also mention for whom. Also in my letter to the Honble. Mr. Peirce in the fall of 1769 I write who my rights were from, one from Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard as agent and one more from him, Meservy and. etc,—sometime after Decr. 1761 he had mentioned my proposal to the proprietors and they all agreed to it.

Mr. Meservy in answer to a letter I wrote of the 26 Oct. 1761 writes me that at a meeting the proprietors were full with me in sentiment, that the two hundred acres already allotted to the three gentlemen of the law was sufficient. In the same letter he writes that the power to dispose of lands in Lyndeboro' was discretionary in Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard, and goes on in that strain, then says "*We imagine that the lands he disposed of was as much out of the Proprietors reach as if they had conveyed it themselves.*" This was the apprehension, then, and now to be disputed can be neither just or fair with a legal or honest purchaser who ought not to be thrust out of his right in such a manner.

It is very hard that when by my proposal each one is so advanced in their interest, I only must be the sufferer. Surely my letter of y<sup>e</sup> 14th. October. 1778 where I. wrote "My interest of 2/15th. in the Grand Proprietors lots I do not like to lie so" might have remembered you, sir, of it. But if finally I can have nothing for it I must seek my remedy where I may have it tho' with great loss. I am, sir,

Your most humbl. servant,

Benja Lynde.

The Honbl. George Jaffrey at

Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Justice to the Masonian proprietors requires that a point unnoted by the Lyndeborough proprietors' records should be stated in connection with the remonstrance of the above letter. The State papers, edited by A. S. Batchellor, show that at a meeting of the Masonian proprietors on June 23, 1779, after reviewing the drawing of the sixteen lots in Lyndeborough, their records contain the following account :

"Whereas all the Said Sixteen Lotts were fairly drawn for at Said Meeting, to the Rights of the fifteen original Proprietors, and entered as drawn to them, as a Severance of the Same to their Respective Rights—and Lot N<sup>o</sup> 5 in Sheppards Plan was drawn for the Proprietors use in Common as aforesaid—Therefore Voted that the Said Lot N<sup>o</sup> 5 in

Sheppards Plan be and hereby is granted appropriated and Severed, to the Said Blanchard's heir's and assigns as the Second division of his whole Right or share be reserved to himself as aforesaid, to have and to hold the Same, in the Same manner as conveyed by Said Blanchard — notwithstanding the Vote & Draft of Said Lot N<sup>o</sup> 5 on the fifth day of January as aforesaid for the Proprietors use in Common" — \*

Boston, 16 Nov., 1797.

Dear Sir :

Col<sup>o</sup> Hutchinson has long been pursuing his right to a tract of land which was laid out by Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard as agent for the Masonian Proprietors at the distance of one mile and half or two miles from the corner of New Boston Addition. This grant, if I rightly understand the matter, was prior to the grant or charter of Lyndeborough, and was intended to have been brought into the n. e. corner of Lyndeborough when that charter was granted. By such a strange mistake of Fletcher in running the boundary line of Lyndeborough on that side of the town there is only one short mile from the corner of New Boston Addition, and consequently this grant of Blanchard's does not come within the township of Lyndeborough but is actually at a distance from it. Fletcher afterwards acknowledged his error. I went with Carlton who is now alive in this town, and is ready to testify on oath that Fletcher went with him and showed him where the true bounds ought to be, but Beatie and others purchasing under Wellingford had got possession of the land and would not deliver it up without a law suit. The proprietors of Lyndeborough were unwilling to engage in a law suit for the recovery of their right and thus lost several hundred acres of land on that side which they are justly entitled to at this day; but Col<sup>o</sup> Hutchinson thinks he cannot lose his interest and that the Masonian Proprietors under whom Col<sup>o</sup> Blanchard acted ought to see him right or give him an equivalent. This is the purport of his present journey and he desired me to give him a line of introduction to you with a general statement of the business. With great esteem and respect I remain, dear sir,

Your humbl. servt.

Walter.

Hon. Geo. Jaffrey, Esq.

To the Masonian Proprietor or proprietor of the right of John Tufton Mason Esq. in the State of New Hampshire.

Gentlemen :

In December 1753 Joseph Blanchard, Esq. as your agent by his deed conveyed to Benjamin Lynde and others since called the Lyndeborough proprietors, a tract of land containing twenty-eight thousand acres called Lyndeborough, particularly bounded as expressed in the said deed reserving however a part of the said tract within the said bounds and among other lots therein reserved, he reserved a lot of one hundred and fifty acres in the northeast corner of said Lyndeborough which corner is described in the same deed to be one mile and a half North from the Southwest corner of New Boston called Huston's Corner, also to be at a marked tree — on the eighteenth day of May 1754 the said

\* Batchellor XXVII, page 432.

Joseph Blanchard as your agent and by virtue of the power and authority, vested in him by your propriety, by his deed conveyed to Joseph Richardson, his heirs and assigns all the right title, interest and possession of your said propriety in one hundred and fifty acres of land lying within the tracts of land called Lyndeburgh on the northerly part thereof following the description of said reserved lot bounded of follows viz. beginning at the former bounds Lyndeboro where it joins to New Boston west line about one mile and a half from New Boston southerly corner and runs from thence west one hundred and sixty rods by Lyndeborough north line thence south one hundred and fifty rods, thence east one hundred and sixty rods to New Boston line, thence northerly by New Boston line one hundred and fifty rods to the first mentioned bounds, to have and to hold the same forever free and clear.

Afterwards I purchased the same one hundred and fifty acres by the same bounds I sold the same by (the same bounds) to Joshua Balch and took his note of hand for the consideration money. In 1771, Osgood Carleton surveyor assisted by Robert Fletcher, Esq. another surveyor at the request of Judge Lynde, one of the Lyndeboro' committee, proceeded to locate the same piece of land, according to his direction and to the said several deeds, and first to fix the said northeast corner of said Lyndeborough. They measured from said Huston's corner, a point I understand well settled northerly one mile and a half on the west line of New Boston agreeable to the deed said Blanchard first above mentioned and there fixed the said northeast corner of Lyndeborough in the said west line of New Boston at a point one mile and a half from the said Huston's corner being the most southwesterly corner of New Boston mentioned in the said deed and there laid out the said one hundred and fifty acres in the said northeast corner according to the grant aforesaid and by the bounds aforesaid.

Having commenced an action on said note in order to recover the contents of it against Mary Balch, the executrix of the said Joshua Balch in a trial therein which was had in the superior court of New Hampshire in October 1795, she recovered against me a bill of costs of eighty-nine dollars on the ground that said 150 acres or at least a great part of it cannot be held under said Blanchard's deed, it not being within the said north line of Lyndeborough and therefore that the consideration of the said note was not good whereby I have lost the said note; said eighty-nine dollars costs and upwards of sixty dollars costs more as will appear thus in locating the said lot the northeast corner thereof is made to coincide with the said northeast corner of Lyndeborough and that according to said Blanchard's deed and plan fixed at a point one mile and a half north of Huston's corner in New Boston west line and by the decision of the Court in the two actions brought in 1787 by the said execution one against Rich Batten and the other against Andrew Cressey, it appears the said lot cannot be laid out or extend further south, and by finally fixing the said northeast corner of Lyndeborough at a point only about one mile and a quarter from said Huton's corner instead of a mile and a half about eight fifteenths of said lot the northerly parts of it fall within the Society lands so called and so without the limits of said Lyndeborough and without title under said deed of Blanchard's.

It is clear from said deed that your propriety meant to grant and the said Richardson intended to buy 150 acres of land in the northeast corner of Lyndeborough which your propriety reserved in the grant or conformation of that township and not a disputed right.

In conveying the lands north of Lyndeborough in 1767 the parties follow up their line to the northwest corner of New Boston and then measure south one mile on the east line of that town to a hemlock tree, then west three miles and a quarter by Lyndeborough, hence they and your property made it two miles and a half from said northwest corner of New Boston to said Huston's corner as appears by their deed and said Blanchard's deed first above mentioned but it is now stated that this line is found to be only about two miles and a quarter long and that no particular tree was ever run to or marked as making the corner as mentioned in said deeds, and thence this vexatious dispute and difficulty arises, and perhaps the boundry lines of Lyndesboro' traced as described in Blanchard's deed could never be made to meet and would if followed embrace more than twenty-eight thousand acres, if from the consideration of these errors you and the Lyndeborough proprietors have been induced to allow the said northeast corner of Lyndeborough expressly fixed in your said grant in 1753 to be at a point one mile and a half north of said Huston's corner to be moved about eighty rods south towards said corner and by this concession and admeasurements made since your grant, under which said lot is held, I persuade myself you will not hesitate to defend or compensate for such parts of that eighty rods as were located previous to such concessions under your grants.

Wherefore I have to request you to indemnify me in the premises by allowing other lands or monies that shall be a reasonable compensation.

Israel Hutchinson.

Danvers Feb. 5th. 1798.

The last entry made in the proprietors' records of Lyndeborough by Benjamin Lynde, Esq., proprietors' clerk, is dated 1778. April 30, 1779, he wrote to the Masonian proprietors, remonstrating against their sale of two rights in the town which he had purchased, and seeking some suitable redress. No proper rectification of his losses appears from the records, save that stated on pages 75 and 76 above.

After many successive adjournments of their meetings, the Lyndeborough proprietors met again at Salem, Mass., May 21, 1783. Mr. Lynde died in 1782. His grandson, Benjamin Lynde Oliver, became for a time his successor in the Lyndeborough interests. At this last named meeting Benjamin Lynde Oliver was chosen moderator and Stephen Goodhue, clerk. The business transacted indicates a purpose to close up the affairs of the "Propriety" as speedily as possible. For this object a committee was elected to get the common lands laid out and surveyed; to settle with the Masonian proprietors and with any others

whose lots had been cut into, and allow them compensation out of the common lands for their losses; and further, to prosecute trespassers or settle with them without prosecution. This committee consisted of Benjamin Lynde Oliver, William Pickman and Stephen Goodhue.

Again, meetings were repeatedly called and adjourned till Oct. 8, 1783, when it was voted to raise nine shillings L. M. on each right to defray necessary charges. From the last date till May 25, 1792, no record appears on the proprietors' book.

In that intervening period great uncertainty prevailed in all parts of the country. The surrender at Yorktown was not viewed on all hands as decidedly closing the war for independence. The ensuing years were full of ferment, uneasiness, turmoil and financial depression. The new government was launched, but had not as yet been tested. Confidence in it was found to be "a plant of slow growth." Many of its best friends were by no means sure of its complete success. To its strongest supporters it was a serious question whether it would outride the storms that rudely beat upon it. But the new Constitution was finally adopted, and our peerless first President, "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," was elected, inaugurated and placed at the helm of state. Confidence superseded distrust. The helmsman was sane and skilful, alert and self-poised, powerful and determined; and the ship of state passed safely out of the stormy zone into smoother waters, more assured sea room, and a serener and more prosperous outlook.

May 22, 1792, we find the following record:—

PETITION.

To John Shepard Esq<sup>r</sup> one of the Justices of the Peace within & for the County of Hillsborough & State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Proprietors of the Common & Undivided Land, in the Township of Lyndeborough in said County,

Pray your Honor, to issue your Warrant for calling a meeting of the Proprietors of said Common, & undivided Land, to be holden at the House of Capt. Benjamin French Innholder in Dunstable in said County'on Tuesday the Eleventh day of September next, at Ten of the Clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following Articles, Viz.

1st. To choose a Moderator to regulate said Meeting.

2nd. To choose a Clerk, Committee & other Officers if need be.

3rd. To determine on some effectual method for dividing said Lands so that they may be held in Severalty, or to sell the same entirely. To settle with the Original Grantors & all Persons whomsoever, having Demands against the said Proprietors, & to see if they will prosecute such person or persons as may have committed Waste upon, or unlawfully entered or trespassed upon said Common Interest, or any part thereof; and do whatsoever may be necessary for a final settlement.

Salem 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1792

William Walter  
 William Pickman  
 Andrew Oliver  
 Samuel Welles  
 Stephen Goodhue  
 B. Goodhue  
 Nehemiah Rand.

The warrant was issued in response to the foregoing petition, and was published in the "Boston Chronicle" and the newspaper at Portsmouth three weeks in succession, and the meeting was duly held and in legal form. "Present a large majority of the Proprietors aforesaid."

Voted Rev. Wm. Walter, D.D., moderator, and Rev. Sewall Goodridge, clerk. "A letter from John Pierce Esq., as Agent for the Grantors of the Town of Lyndeborough Township directed to the Grantees in the present Meeting, making proposals respecting certain deficiencies of Land in the proportion assigned them by the Charter, was then read & considered, and thereon Voted that the same lie over for further consideration."

"Upon examining the Charter & carefully comparing it with the plan, it appears, that the line extending from the Southwest Corner of New Boston Addition ought to run One Mile & an half North. Whereas by the encroachment of certain Persons purchasing under Col<sup>o</sup> Wallingford, the line does not exceed One Mile—by which a great loss accrues to the Grantees, as well as much difficulty in laying out the lots bounding on that line. Therefore Voted, that one or more Agents be appointed to treat with the aforesaid Purchasers of Wallingford right & if possible to come to an amicable adjustment of the dispute so as to ascertain the length of said line, & in failure thereof to commence a Prosecution for the recovery of the Land by them wrongfully detained." Voted, to choose two Agents, & chose Coll<sup>o</sup> Phillip Putnam & Nehemiah Rand Esq. and the meeting

adjourned to the last Tuesday in October, at 11 o'cl. in the forenoon, at the same place.

At this adjourned meeting the Moderator & Clerk of the former meeting were present & also Nehemiah Rand Esq. & Col<sup>o</sup> Phillip Putnam, in their own Right & by Agency representing Twentyeight Shares.

The agents reported "that they had waited on several of the Purchasers of Colonel Wallingford's Lot, & after two conferences with the principal of them, it was agreed that they would attend this meeting to confer with the Proprietors then Assembled."

"Messrs. Betton, Fisher & Butterfield did attend, and after much time spent in explaining & hearing the Grounds of the different Claims, it was agreed at the request of the Purchasers aforesaid" to refer the matters in dispute to the next meeting, to enable them meantime, "to obtain the Sense of their Partners on the Subject."

"Mr. Atherton being present in behalf of the Grantors, proposed that the Letter from John Pierce Esqr. be taken into consideration; whereupon,

Voted, That any Interference of Mr. Carleton's Survey of Eight Lots laid out to the Grantors with the Survey formerly made by Mr. Fletcher shall be duly attended to, & if any errors they shall be rectified."

After a further consideration of accounts against the "Propriety," a vote was passed, empowering the committee, Col. Putnam and Mr. Rand, to dispose of enough of the common land joining on the north side of Wilton to pay the debts, then nearly sixty pounds.

"Rev. Mr. Sewell Goodridge desired that the Proprietors would consider of an Encouragement" given him by the proprietors' committee in 1779, "that he should have a strip of Common on Wilton Line, containing about thirty-five acres," and showed a paper to that effect, signed by the late Judge Lynde, as proprietors' clerk.

The case was considered and the land granted, and Nehemiah Rand Esq. was appointed to execute the deed of conveyance. The proprietors further, voted, "that the Committee, Mr. Rand and Col. Putnam apply to John Shepard, Esq. to inspect and see what errors or deficiencies have arose from the Survey of Carlton's Eight Lots on the North West Corner of the town by interfering with Fletcher's Survey of Nineteen Lots to

the Grand Proprietors on that side, and that a copy of the same be delivered to the Committee for the Inspection and use of the Proprietors." After this the meeting adjourned to the third Tuesday of Feb., 1793. At this latter date, Feb. 19, 1793, the purchasers of Wallingford's lands were present and "exhibited a variety of papers and Plans endeavoring to convince the Propriety (of Lyndeborough) that they ought to be contented with the Line at the head of New Boston addition, though it measures by their own Survey One Mile & 103 Rods only, instead of One Mile & half as by Charter, & Mr. Robert Fletcher's Plan." What was offered by Messrs. Betton &c. being in no respect satisfactory, Doctor Walter then moved, "That to avoid an expensive & lengthy Lawsuit, the Parties should agree to leave the Line in dispute to *Referrees*, to be mutually chosen & to abide by their decision, let them decide as they may. This was consented to by all the Proprietors of Lyndeboro' present, but was refused by the Purchasers under Wallingford,—they chusing to have the matter decided in a regular Course of Law."\*

Nehemiah Rand Esq., and Col. Putnam, the committee appointed to sell so much of the common lands as would suffice to pay the debts of the "Propriety" and redeem such redeemable lands as have been sold for taxes, exhibited a plan of a strip on Wilton line which they had caused to be surveyed and appraised and reported that "there were Persons in Treaty for the same, and though not as yet sold, there was no doubt but the whole would be shortly sold, and they should be in Cash for the purposes of their appointment. Voted, That all further proceedings respecting the prosecution of the Purchasers of Wallingford's Lot as Intruders, be deferred till the adjournment of this meeting." But, meantime, Mr. Rand and Dr. Walter were to procure, each respectively, from John Shepard Esq., and Col. Israel Hutchinson what information he could respecting the lands in dispute, and report accordingly at the next meeting.

"Voted, That the agents sell with all convenient speed the Lands laid out on the South Line of Lyndeborough by Wilton, & before the next meeting do discharge all Debts, Dues & Demands against the Proprietors, as far as shall come to their knowledge.

Voted, That they cause a Survey to be made of Two Lots

\*Proprietors' Records for Feb. 19, 1793.



of 130 Acres each to be laid out to the Grand Proprietors, to make up the Deficiency they claim. And one Lot of 60 Acres to the Town to be for the Public School. And so much to those two or three Lots which were in part cut off by Wilton as will make up their Quantity."

The records indicate a succession of endeavors to deal honestly, to pay all just debts and demands, and fulfill all agreements entered into by charter or other contract.

The agents appointed reported the discovery of great damages which had been done to the interest of the proprietors in Lyndeborough; and "that they had taken such measures as they apprehend have effectually put a stop to any further depredations, and beg to be informed what is further advisable to be done in the Business, upon which

Voted, That the Agents have the Thanks of this Propriety for their vigilance, & the part they have taken & that it be referred to the next meeting to determine what necessary steps shall be taken to recover the damages that appear to have been done.

Voted, That Nehemiah Rand Esq. be Authorized and empowered to make the Conveyances of the Land to be sold, in the Name of the Propriety.

Voted, A strip upon Wilton East Line to Rev. Sewall Goodridge in lieu of his rights in the commons, one-third of which, however, he was empowered to sell and convey when a purchaser appeared, and give the money to the agents for the proprietors."

At the meeting in June, it was thought that they ought to appoint a treasurer, and they accordingly appointed Dr. Willam Walter to that office.

Col. Putnam then informed the proprietors that Mr. Rand and he had sold the largest part of the strip on Wilton; that they had paid the taxes due on redeemable lands and they were redeemed accordingly; but that for the remainder, they had taken notes of hand payable in six months from date, which he accordingly delivered to the treasurer; viz:

Notes dated

	£.	S.	d.
Mar. 23, 1793, by Jacob Dascomb	8	8	0
Indorsed, Paid	1	1	0
Mar. 23, 1793, by James Dascomb Jr.	18	10	0
Indorsed, Paid	1	10	0
Mar. 23, 1793, by Jacob Putnam	16	18	6
Indorsed, Paid	1	11	0
Mar. 23, 1793, by Daniel Batchelder	10	8	0
Mar. 25, 1793, by Daniel Goold	28	16	0
Indorsed, Paid	3	0	0
Apr. 22, by Simeon Holt	20	0	0

Nehemiah Rand Esq. exhibited a correct plan of the commons taken by John Shepard Esq., together with the lot laid out for the school, 60 acres, two lots of 130 acres each to the lord proprietors and one lot of 130 acres to the right of Swan. Also receipts for taxes paid 1788 and 1789, with deeds which had been given by the constables for land sold for taxes, now redeemed—the whole amounting to 13£ 1 shilling and 10 pence.

“Voted, That the lots set off to the proprietors on the plan be accepted and further

Voted, That Nehemiah Rand Esq., Col. Philip Putnam, and Maj. Daniel Gould be and hereby are a committee to prosecute trespassers, or to adjust settlements with them in such manner as they think best. Adjourned to the third Tuesday of September, 1793.”

Met again at last named date and place, Dunstable, present Rev. Wm. Walter, D.D., moderator, and Rev. S. Goodridge, clerk, and a majority of the proprietors. The committee appointed to treat with trespassers reported; that they had settled with the major part of them, and in their deliberate judgment, upon the best terms they could, and had taken their notes payable on demand, for the adjudged damages, giving them discharges severally.

“They further report, that the sums agreed for together with what they expect, They apprehend, will be sufficient to discharge all the taxes that have been laid on the said common from time to time in years past, & for redeeming the land sold, & to pay the committee’s expense of attending the business, as also the attorney & Judge Shepard’s bills for assisting the committee. The report was accepted.

They then voted, that the school lot of 60 acres laid out by John Shepard, Esq. on the north line of Lyndeborough by Greenfield be accepted.”

This appears to be the first mention of Greenfield in the proprietors’ records. It had been “incorporated June 15, 1791, and was composed of portions of Society Land, Peterborough and Lyndeborough and land between the two last named towns, called Lyndeborough Gore.”\*

The portion taken from Lyndeborough contained the homes of many of our noble citizens who had distinguished themselves in the Revolutionary War, and as such rightly adorn the records of our town.

\*Hist. of Hillsboro County, p. 331.

Resuming the record of Sept., 1793, the Lyndeborough grantees proceed :

“ And now having laid out to the Lords Proprietors the lands due to them by charter, & having satisfied all other claimants as far as have come to the knowledge of the Grantees,” they vote to sell all the remaining common lands at auction. Notice of this sale was given; but before it came off, there arose a doubt whether it could be legally done. The sale had been appointed for the 29th of October, 1793; but owing to doubt as to its legality, the auction was adjourned to the last Tuesday of April, 1794. It was then voted to petition the General Court for power to effect such sale; and Nehemiah Rand, Esq., was appointed to present the petition, which he did. The Legislature were of opinion “ that the powers of the Judge of Probate by the existing laws, were sufficient for the settlement of the propriety.”

The following letter was read and considered, and it was voted that the same be signed by the clerk and sent to John Pierce, Esq., clerk of the Masonian proprietors, in answer to his letter, dated Sept. 5, 1792.

John Pierce Esq.

Sir.

The proprietors of the common & undivided lands in Lyndeborough have received your letter of Sep. 5, 1792 with your proposals inclosed; and after minutely weighing the contents were of the opinion, that whatever deficiency there was in lots No. 4 & 5, should be made good to those lots. And also as two of the lots laid out to the grantors, were entirely cut off, so that the proprietors of No. 1 & 2 had lost their lands, that two other lots in some part of the commons, consisting of 150 acres each, should be laid out to them; that a final close might be made between the grantors & proprietors.

And I have the honor now to acquaint you that the proprietors have caused by their Surveyor, John Shepard Esq. the deficiencies in Lots No. 4 & 5, to be made up. And two lots of 150 acres each, to be laid out of the commons for the grantors agreeable to the Survey, which I have the honor to transmit you, which I hope will be satisfactory. And am with esteem,

Your most Humble Servant

S. Goodridge, Proprietors' Clerk.

The Lyndeborough proprietors voted to place on their records

the letter of John Pierce, Esq., of Sept. 5, 1792, to which the preceding letter was answer. The letter is as follows :

Portsmouth Sept. 5, 1792.

Gentlemen.

You will find by the inclosed vote of the Masonian proprietors, the grantors of Lyndboro' that I am appointed to settle with the grantees, respecting the common land, and by the settlement inclosed, that there is an interference between the first division of 200 acre lots by Fletcher, & the second division lots of 150 acres by Carleton. This was occasioned by Judge Lynde's ordering a resurvey of Fletcher's lots, by which means he crowded them so together as to leave room for near three of Carleton's lots, in the northwest corner, whereas in fact, there is room for only about one lot ; now this resurvey is totally inadmissible, for after Judge Lynde had returned Fletcher's plan, & it had been accepted, & the lots drawn for & recorded it made a decided severance of that division of lots to the individuals who severally drew each lot, & no act either of the grantors or grantees could alter that severance, & each individual will clearly hold by Fletcher's plan, & the bounds made by him, whether they be right or wrong, more or less ; whoever drew each lot must finally abide by it, & will forever be consigned to those bounds. And many persons have bought those lots, & I conclude have set themselves down by Fletcher's bounds & no other. I think, Gentlemen, after examing our statement and plans, you will clearly see that the proprietors who drew Lots No. 1 & No. 2, in Carleton's survey have lost their whole lots. And the proprietors of No. 4 & No. 5, have lost a considerable part of theirs. And that on the whole there is a further deficiency of 26 acres to the grantors in common. And that previous to your making any further disposition of the common land, you will do us the justice to lay out 150 acres for each of the lots No. 1 and No. 2, and as much land for lots No. 4 & No. 5, as are found to be laid out in the first division of 200 acre lots, of equal quality with the lands in general. And as the grantors would not have applied for the 26 acres, if there had been no error, we shall not now trouble the grantees about it. But if the deficiencies of the four lots before mentioned are made up in quantity & quality, forever relinquish all further claim to the common lands in Lyndeborough. Although the grantors apprehend,

they have a legal & just claim to a further division in the commons over and above the 26 acres.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your most Humble Servant,  
John Pierce.

To the proprietors of Lyndeborough in proprietors' meeting at Dunstable assembled on Tuesday the 11th day of Sept. at 11 o'clock before noon.

How appropriate to this speak Shakespeare's witches, "Fair is foul and foul is fair." Not a tittle as to correcting their own errors, so long as poor obsequious Lyndeborough is in their clutches!

The Lyndeborough proprietors requested the moderator, April, 1794, to write to the Masonian proprietors that they had complied with their demands, as stated in the foregoing letter, and they now request from them a full and final discharge.

They then adjourned to Sept. 2, 1794.

At the meeting on the last-named date, Col. Putnam, chairman of committee on the sale of land &c., reported that several of the trespassers had been consulted, and they had requested a stay of legal process till the proposals of the committee could be considered by their associates. And as the death of Nehemiah Rand Esq. had happened about that time, the committee had proceeded no further in the premises.

It was then voted that John Shepard, Esq., administrator of the estate of Nehemiah Rand, Esq., be appointed to fill the latter's place on the committee. Voted, further, that the committee cause actions at law to be brought against all trespassers on the common lands in Lyndeborough or Greenfield, and report results at the next meeting. The Rev. Dr. Walter also reported that "he had seen Messrs. Jaffrey and John Pierce Esq. at Portsmouth, to whom he had made the request that the grand proprietors would give to the Lyndeboro' proprietors a full and final discharge of all demands whatever, which request they promised to lay before the proprietors at their next meeting, and supposed there would be no difficulty in granting it." The Rev. Sewall Goodridge was authorized to make and execute all conveyances left unfinished by Nehemiah Rand, Esq., deceased. Several accounts were presented and approved, amounting to a sum which required 50£ to discharge the debts, and the committee was empowered to sell land sufficient to produce the required sum. Adjourned.

The proprietors met again the last Tuesday of May, 1795, but only to call to order and adjourn again to the last Tuesday in June, 1795.

At this meeting the committee reported "that they had settled, & taken leases of all the trespassers, except Solomon Cram, Joshua Stiles, & Israel Balch, whom they have prosecuted, & whose actions are still in litigation."

Mr. Jacob Wellman, Jr., produced a deed showing a good title to a full share or right in the common lands, under Capt. Benjamin Goodhue, and in the previous November meeting, had petitioned that "he might have the privilege of laying off 40 acres which he has improved, adjoining the north and north-westerly part of his own land as a full share or right in the common & undivided land. The "Propriety," therefore, voted that his petition be granted, and that the said land "is hereby granted to him, his heirs & assigns forever." Pursuant to this vote, a description of the piece of land and its measurement was presented by the committee and the same was accepted.

The meeting on the third Tuesday in October received a report in regard to the trespassers that the actions in law against them were necessarily laid over to the next term of court. The return of a survey of a lot of 130 acres laid out to the heirs of Robert Swan in lieu of the lot returned the second Tuesday in June, 1795, was presented by Capt. Benjamin Epes, surveyor, and was accepted; and the clerk was directed to give a deed. Accounts for services were presented by Major Gould and Rev. S. Goodridge, and were voted, allowed, and further instructions were given the committee on sale of lands, after which the meeting adjourned to the second Tuesday in June, 1796.

Second Tuesday in June.—The committee on the sale of land at this meeting reported that the three trespassers who had most stubbornly resisted settlement heretofore had come to terms. Mr. Solomon Cram had given his note on demand for \$80, and had taken a deed of a certain piece of common land. "Mr. Joshua Stiles had disclaimed his right of soil, & the action was dropped,—said Stiles to pay costs." Mr. Israel Balch was present and disclaimed his right of soil. The action was dropped, and he paid costs. "A petition was presented by their committee from the Town of Lyndeboro', stating that by the charter, the town was entitled to ten acres of land about the meetinghouse, & praying the same may be laid out."

"Voted, that this propriety can do nothing in this business;

The Town having made a private agreement with Mr. George Goold, deceased, for setting the meetinghouse on his lot number 70." The meeting adjourned to 6 o'clock in the morning of next day, June 15, 1796. Accounts of John Shepard, Esq., were examined and allowed, the sums received from the trespassers being discounted. Then they voted, "that all impediments being now removed from an immediate division of the undivided land in Lyndeboro', so many of the proprietors as choose to apply to the Judge of Probate in the County of Hillsborough to have their shares set off to them, have now an opportunity of making application accordingly.

The meeting adjourned to the third Tuesday in Sept. next— at this place— at 9 o'clock A. M.; to receive all demands against the propriety, & to settle finally all remaining accounts relating thereto. And all the proprietors will attend said meeting— free of all cost & charge against the propriety aforesaid."

Third Tuesday in Sept., 1796.— Mr. Goodridge reported that he and Major Goold had attended the Probate Court at New Ipswich the third Tuesday in August, and presented their petition for a division of the land. But objection was made by Richard Goold that lot No. 4, bought of George Jaffrey, Esq., fell short of measure; and by Doctor Russell that the ministerial lot lacked 10 acres on Wilton line, which had not been made up. On this account the judge had adjourned further consideration of the petition to his court in Amherst the third Tuesday of October next. Satisfaction was made for these deficiencies, and all accounts were properly settled and audited. A letter from John Pierce, Esq., was read, and the moderator, Dr. Walter, was appointed and desired to answer it in the name of the proprietors. The meeting then adjourned, to meet at the house of Major Daniel Goold in Lyndeborough, the first Tuesday of November next at 9 o'clock A. M.

The proprietors met according to preceding adjournment at the house of Major Daniel Goold in Lyndeborough. Rev. Dr. Walter read a letter prepared by him according to the proprietors' request, to be sent to John Pierce, Esq.; and it was voted to accept and place the same on record. The letter is the following:

To John Pierce Esq. Portsmouth.

Sir.

Your letter of September 17th, was received by the proprietors of Lyndeborough at their late meet-

ing in Dunstable, the contents thereof were fully discussed, and I was directed to communicate their sentiments upon the subject. You will permit me to call to your remembrance the contents of your former letter, Sep. 1792, wherein you declare yourself fully authorized by the Masonian Proprietors, to communicate to us the extent of their demands, against the propriety of Lyndeborough, which were to have two lots laid out to you in lieu of No. 1 & 2, cut off by Carlton's survey laying over Fletcher's,—and to have No. 4 & 5, made up what deficiency was said to be in them; and then in behalf of the Masonian proprietors, you declare, that these conditions being complied with, you would forever quit all demands upon the proprietors of Lyndeborough; although—further demands might be made. No words can more fully express your mind, no conditional engagement can be stronger in honor or in law.

Without entering into the merits of the different surveys or contending that you had already received your quantity, except 26 acres, as appears by Fletcher's resurvey of the 19 lots, & Carleton finding space enough to lay out his eight lots; without entering, I say, into this old dispute, for peace sake the proprietors of Lyndeborough immediately voted to comply with your request, & to rectify what you called errors in Carlton's survey; by which more than 300 acres are in effect given to the Masonian Proprietors beyond their strict due. A committee, at the same time, was appointed to lay out the two lots, & survey No. 4 & 5, to make up the deficiencies in them, if any there were. The committee were two of our most respectable members, Esqr. Rand & Col. Putnam who took with them one of the most respectable Surveyors in the neighborhood, John Shepard, Esq. They went over the commons & finally fixed on that part of them which lies toward Amherst, & laid out two lots No. 1 & 2, in lieu of the same numbers in Carleton's survey, said to be cut off, & regular return was made to us & accepted at our meeting June 1793. And an official report to you, as Agent of the Masonian proprietors was ordered to be made, & was in fact made as appears by a copy of the letter which stands on the records of the clerk of the propriety.

I presume therefore it must have escaped your recollection, when you say that no return has been made of this survey. The land so laid out, is now declared by Col. Putnam, Major Goold, Rev. Mr. Goodridge & Esqr. Shepard to be equal to the commons in general, well wooded & laying near a sawmill, & what-



ever old Mr. Rand might have said to you in a jocular manner, or might be said by others maliciously — it is supposed to be any day worth a dollar per acre or more. This I presume, must satisfy you of its being more than a tolerable proportion to the land lost,—especially when I assure you that I have myself, this week, agreed for the sale of one of my second division lots, near the centre of that town, for less than one dollar an acre. As to lots No. 4 & 5, they also were surveyed at the same time. No. 5 was found to be more than complete, & the committee thought it as reasonable to take off the surplus, as to add to No. 4 a deficiency that might be found in it.

But as you are pleased to say, the lots being drawn for & sold must stand as it is, be it more or less, we have ordered a new inspection of No. 4, & have made up that lot to the satisfaction of the purchaser, leaving No. 5 with all its *overplus*.

After this we presumed certainly upon having a final discharge from the Masonian proprietors, as from Gentlemen who must feel themselves by their most solemn promise under every obligation as men of honor to give it to us without a moment's delay. Instead of which we have a new demand for a deficiency in No. 6,— & we know not but some time hence still further demands will be made under the threat, that you or some other gentleman cannot acquiesce in the final division of the commons till these conditions are complied with.

But, Sir, the proprietors of Lyndeborough are not to be awed into endless submissions by *threats* contained in public or private letters. As to No. 6, I am directed to say, that We Know Not the State of that lot. It may be delinquent — but if it is, we presume the fault is not ours, for it lies on the North Side of the town, which line we have for 30 years back been complaining to the Masonian Proprietors as being crowded too far South by Beton & others, who purchased Wallingford's lot, and have prayed their interference to do us justice by giving to us who were the first purchasers the extent which our

\*Wallingford's Lot No. 8, in Society Land, was an extensive tract of 5000 acres, more or less. It was sold for 200£, or about 1000 dollars. The purchasers were seventeen men, most of whom were from Derry, who, whether intentionally or not, crowded over & encroached upon Lyndeborough. This not only disturbed Judge Lynde, as appears from his letters, but also disturbed all the Lyndeborough proprietors. For, the encroachment fell chiefly upon common land, in which all these proprietors were interested. The names of the seventeen purchasers follow,— Samuel, William, and Adam Dickey, Thomas and William Boyd, Edward Aiken, and Edward Aiken, Jr., John Taylor, William Butterfield, Samuel Fisher, Isaac Brewster, John MacKeen, John S(i)enter, Robert Barnet, Hugh Montgomery, John Hall, and James Betton. (Proprs. Records, last page. See also, Hist. Francestown, p. 429, which, however, gives but 15 names).

charter gives us on that side. But we have not been able to procure from them the smallest exertions, not even to the moving of one of their fingers, to displace the burden — by which we are losers of some hundred of acres. And if you also are a loser, it is no matter of admiration, but surely your complaints should not be sent to us.

I have therefore, only to say in behalf of the proprietors of Lyndeborough, that if the Masonian proprietors will carry back or cause to be carried back *that line*, so as to give us our just claim on that side and there shall then be any deficiency in No. 6, or any other lot bordering on that line, we will instantly make up the deficiency whatever it may be. This I presume, Sir, will convince you that we have done all that you, or any reasonable men could expect, and induce you to give us what you have so long denied us, A Full & Final Discharge. If this is still cruelly denied us — we must appeal to the powers which are above us.

I am Sir with due respect your most Obedient  
 Humble Servant,  
 Walter.

After the reading and considering of the preceding letter, Rev. Mr. Goodridge reported that he had attended Probate Court at Amherst the third Tuesday of October last, and observed that the petition by mistake mentioned only the common lands in Lyndeboro, omitting those of Greenfield, he let the matter lie as though nothing had been done. “Voted, to take up the matter tomorrow evening. Met, according to adjournment, Nov. 2, 1796. Present, Dr. W. Walter, Mod., Rev. S. Goodridge, Clerk, Hon. John Shepard Esq., Col. Philip Putnam, and Major Daniel Goold.

Voted, to withdraw the petition to the Judge of Probate for severance &c. and proceed to a division as the law permits without such application to Judge of Probate. Voted further, to appoint a committee of two judicious persons to set a value on the different pieces of common in Lyndeboro and Greenfield, and make a return of their valuation to the next meeting of the proprietors. Deacon Ephraim Putnam and Capt. Peter Clark were appointed this committee. Adjourned.”

The second Tuesday of December, 1796, the proprietors met at Major Gould's in Lyndeborough, and the committee appointed to value the several pieces of common lands reported, and their report was accepted. The Rev. Dr. Walter requested

that as he was proprietor of the largest number of shares, he might be allowed the first choice; and the proprietors state, that "as we consider he has taken the lead in all matters that have been transacted in the meetings of the propriety since 1792, and been eminently serviceable to said propriety, voted, That he be allowed his choice in the division of said commons, provided he make his choice known at the next meeting."

"Voted, to sell land enough to pay the debt of 100 dollars; and as there is uncertainty in respect to the admeasurement of several pieces of common land in Lyndeborough and Greenfield, voted, that Major Daniel Goold and Ensign John Savage be a committee to measure the same and make report thereof at the next meeting. Adjourned to meet at the same place, Major Goold's, the third Tuesday in April, 1797." At this meeting, December, 1796, the name of Jacob Flynn appears for the first time as one of the proprietors. He was a resident of Milford, and lived "in the north-west part of the town on the place more recently owned by John Rand. In addition to the business of farming, he at different times in his life was engaged in business as a taverner and trader. He was also repeatedly elected to town offices and engaged in the settlement of estates."\*

Third Tuesday of April.

Major Goold, one of the committee chosen to sell a piece of land in order to pay the debt, reported that sickness and deaths in his family had prevented his attention to the matter of making any sale; and reported further, that he and Ensign Savage, who had been appointed to take measurements of the several pieces of common land in Lyndeborough and Greenfield, had found it impracticable to proceed on account of the unfavorable season, but would do so whenever the season permitted. Rev. Mr. Goodridge named the several pieces of common land chosen by Dr. Walter, viz., "The land in commons near Mr. Flynn's, near the Widow Peabody's, the land on which Joseph Epes & Timothy McIntire live, also the land on which Ebenezer Hutchinson dwells, & any commons adjoining said pieces, or near his two lots No. 2 and 5, on Amherst line." Meeting adjourned to the second Wednesday in June at 9 A. M. at the same place.

Second Wednesday in June, 9 A. M. Major Daniel Goold's in Lyndeborough.

Major Goold was chosen moderator; and he reported that he

\* Milford Hist., pp. 184 and 185.

and Ensign Savage, with Andrew Fuller Esq. as surveyor, "had gone over the several pieces of commons concerning which there was any doubt and have made a plan which they offer to the proprietors as a true account of the quantity of the commons in Lyndeboro and Greenfield." Voted that the same be accepted. Several accounts of the clerk, the committee, and others for services were presented, allowed and by vote ordered to be paid. Voted, to sell to Dr. Walter a strip of land East of the Scataquog Hills sufficient to pay all his demands; and that a deed be executed by the clerk for the same in the name of the "Propriety." A vote was taken, confirming to Rev. Sewall Goodridge the two pieces of land granted him by the proprietors as part of his settlement, referred to Feb. 11, 1778. It was voted, also, to place on record in the proprietors' book, a list of the commons in Lyndeborough and Greenfield, containing the number of pieces, the quantity of acres, and the value by apprisement this day exactly taken; which is as follows:

LIST OF COMMONS IN LYNDEBOROUGH AND GREENFIELD,  
THEIR QUANTITY AND VALUE.

No.		Acres	Apprized at	Value
1	Near Amherst contains	25	\$6. per ac.	\$ 150
2	East of Scataquog	606	1. "	606
3	On Amherst line	129	3.50 "	451.50
4	In two pieces, Hutchinson Jos. Epes & McIntire	50 130	3 4 "	150 520
5	South of Fletcher grant	23½	2 "	47
6	Joins Francestown	356	5 "	1780
7	West of Swan lot	29½	2 "	59
8	Northwest cor. old Lyndeborough	24	1½ "	36
9	Near Wilton in two pieces	117	1½ "	175.50
10	Near Mr. Flynn	177	3 "	531
Whole number of acres		1667		\$4506 value

This sum, 4506 dollars was to be divided into 43 shares, which which would give for each share the sum of \$104.79.

1. It was proposed to offer Dr. Russell a small piece of about 12 acres near Johnson's poor land, provided he will pay Esq. Fuller for a plan of old Lyndeborough and commons as directed by the proprietors this 13th of June, 1797, and the clerk to give a deed.

2. Voted, that Rev. Dr. Walter have leave to choose out of the pieces of commons as many as shall amount to the shares which he claims in value, that is, 1466 dollars. Dr. Walter presented a list of the pieces which he had chosen, numbers

1, 3, 4, 9, 10, amounting, it is stated (erroneously), to 493 acres (should be 498). This land was valued at 1458 dollars. "Voted, that his choice be and hereby is allowed;" and ordered that "the clerk execute deed for the same to him, his heirs and assigns forever." Voted various portions of this land described to the other shareholders, and directed the clerk to give deeds of the same to the several persons, their heirs and assigns forever. Such deeds were issued to Major Daniel Goold, Mr. Joseph Sweet by his agent, Rev. Sewall Goodridge, Mr. John Savage, Mr. Jacob Flynn, Col. Philip Putnam, Dr. B. Lynde Oliver, Andrew Oliver Esq. and Mary Oliver, his wife. Voted, "That all and every of the votes and transactions of the propriety in this and all the foregoing meetings be and they are hereby confirmed and ratified. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to the first Wednesday of October next, at 9 o'clock A. M., at this place.

Met as by appointment above; but as the weather was very stormy, adjourned one week. The second Wednesday in October, at Major Goold's in Lyndeborough. Present—Major Daniel Goold, Mod.; Rev. Sewall Goodridge, Clerk, and agent for several proprietors; and (two new names) Mr. Joseph Crosby on a half share of Mr. Wells and Mr. Daniel Pearson, as agent for the heirs of David Nichols.

David, or Daniel Nichols drew common land on *home lot No. 52*, Jacob Wellman, on *home lot No. 57*. Timothy Hartshorn and Elizabeth Pearsons, widow, heirs to Daniel Nichols, had  $104\frac{3}{4}$  acres of land laid off to them on the south-east corner of No. 2, West and North of Jacob Wellman. Joseph Crosby had 52 acres laid off to him on Mr. Wells' Right, west of Nichols' share No. 2.

At the meeting in June, 1797, Dr. B. Lynde Oliver had three shares voted him, which by some mistake measured equal to two. They voted him land sufficient to make up his quantity immediately west of the shares already laid off to him in No. 6, thus completing his full portion. At the request of the Widow Stevenson, twenty-three and three-fifths acres in No. 6 were assigned her immediately west of Dr. B. L. Oliver's.

The proprietors thus endeavored to close up matters and settle all accounts. But the hindrances seemed endless. There were delays on account of bad weather, on account of sickness and death, on account of mismeasurements of surveys and re-surveys, of corrections of bounds, of valuations and apportion-

ments, of faults in the writings and legal impediments, on account of trespassers and law suits and various errors of statement and difficulties of settlement, and of failure to send plans. After the business seemed on the very point of completion, some new complication, some provoking interruption, caused a halt in proceedings, and a readjustment was required, which postponed complete and final settlement.

Having voted Dr. Walter first choice in the common lands and fully paid all their obligations to him, the other proprietors considered him no longer one of their number. He had been their treasurer for several years, and now that he was to cease connection with them it became necessary to appoint a new treasurer to take charge of the treasurer's book, reckon with the late treasurer, receive any funds which might remain in his hands, and give receipt for the same.

Major Goold was chosen to this office. At the next meeting of the "Propriety" he made written report as follows :

Boston 23, February 1798.

We the underwritten William Walter & Daniel Goold do hereby certify that agreeable to the vote by the proprietors of the common & undivided lands in Lyndeborough & Greenfield in the State of New Hampshire, at the meeting by adjournment held at said Lyndeborough on the 2nd. Wednesday in October 1797, appointing Major Daniel Goold their Treasurer in y<sup>e</sup> room Rev. Dr. Wm. Walter, resigned; and directing said Goold to reckon and settle with said Walter the late treasurer. That we have this day settled y<sup>e</sup> accounts of s<sup>d</sup> Walter with y<sup>e</sup> proprietors afors<sup>d</sup> & there appeared a ballance due to s<sup>d</sup> proprietors of seven pounds & two pence, which ballance s<sup>d</sup> Walter paid to s<sup>d</sup> Goold & took his receipt for the same in full of all demands — £7-0-2

Attest Harriot T. Walter.

William Walter

Daniel Goold

Voted that this report be accepted & recorded.

Among the transactions on record for the years 1798 and 1799 were the assigning of several portions of the common lands to the persons named as follows: Timothy Hartshorn, Elizabeth Pearsons, Joseph Crosby, B. L. Oliver, Widow Stephenson, Capt. Jonathan Peel, Nathian Read, Samuel Wells, Esq., Major Daniel Goold, Joseph Peabody, Asa Howe, Stephen Goodhue, Hon. Benjamin Goodhue, Esq., John Harwood, Phineas Lund, Oliver Perham. Deeds were given to these by the clerk. Dr.

Russell accepted the twelve-acre lot adjoining Johnson's poor land on the proposed conditions, and sold his right to Eliezer Woodward in November, 1799. When, however, he presented the plan of the town of old Lyndeborough with the several layings out of the commons by said "Propriety" since 1792, to be examined by the proprietors, they found errors in it. Consequently they voted to accept the plan "when the errors were rectified by said Esq. Fuller,—but not till then, &c. &c. &c."

Dr. Russell considered his part of the contract fulfilled, and sold the land to Eliezer Woodward. He therefore petitioned that the deed which was to be given him should be transferred to Mr. Woodward; which petition was granted, and an effectual deed executed to said Woodward.

A method of paying debts was adopted. Accounts for service rendered were presented and allowed by vote and duly paid. Adjourned to the second Tuesday in May, 1800. Met, but owing to absence of Major Goold, adjourned further to the second Tuesday in June, 1800.

Met according to adjournment and voted that the deed before transferred from Dr. Russell to Eliezer Woodward, be further transferred from Eliezer Woodward to James Ordway, and that the clerk be directed "to execute a good & effectual deed to said Ordway."

Voted, that the clerk be and hereby is "impowered to call on all who are indebted to the propriety to make immediate payment, as they will thereby avoid immediate prosecution."

Adjourned to the second Tuesday in October, at this place (Major Goold's), at 9 o'clock A. M.

The proprietors met as above stated; but as the clerk was called to attend Superior Court, the meeting was further adjourned to the third Tuesday in October, at the same place and hour.

Met the third Tuesday in October, 1800. Present, Amos Whittemore, Jr., on right of Joseph Blaney, Esq., deceased, moderator; Rev. Sewall Goodridge, clerk, representing several proprietors; Major Daniel Goold, Jacob Wellman, on Peabody's right. After consultation it was agreed that, "whereas it is necessary that the proprietors' accounts be brought to a close as soon as may be, therefore, Voted, The Rev. Sewall Goodridge & Mr. Jacob Wellman be a committee to reckon & settle with Major Gould, Treasurer, & make report at next meeting."

Fully authorized by law, the proprietors then voted, "That

all & every of the votes & transactions of the propriety, in this & all the foregoing meetings: be & they are hereby ratified and confirmed." Adjourned to the second Tuesday of December next, at this place, at 9 o'clock A. M.

The proprietors met the second Tuesday of December, 1800. The committee chosen to reckon with the treasurer reported, that "they had attended to that business & found that the Treasurer had received Money & securities amounting to £74-7-11; & had paid orders amounting to £52-6-4;" & that there was due from himself & others, responsible parties, sufficient to balance the account." The report was accepted. Several accounts for services were presented and accepted; and at his request the remaineer of lot No. 6, was deeded to Mr. Amos Whittemore, as his full share of two rights of common, on Blaney's original right. The meeting was then adjourned to the second Tuesday of September next, at this place, at 9 o'clock A. M.

The proprietors met the second Tuesday in September, 1801. Voted that Jacob Wellman be impowered to sell a certain piece of common land lying below Purgatory, so called, and voted, that as there was an uncertainty respecting a piece of land said to be common, in the northeast corner of the town adjoining New Boston, Esquire Fuller be impowered to go and measure the same. Adjourned to the 4th Tuesday of this September, at this place at 9 o'clock A. M.

The fourth Tuesday of Sept.—Met as by adjournment. Major Gould was chosen moderator pro tem. Esquire Fuller reported that he had run the line of the lot on the Northeast corner of Lyndeborough, adjoining New Boston, and that there is left in common 94 rods in length and 25 rods in breadth, equal to about  $14\frac{2}{3}$  acres. James Ordway showed his right by assignment of Adam Johnson, to a piece of land and a deed of the same was voted to him. Meeting adjourned to second Tuesday of Sept., 1802.

Second Tuesday of Sept., 1802. Met as by adjournment. Present, Amos Whittemore, moderator; Major Gould, Sewall Goodridge, clerk, and Jacob Wellman.

The meeting opened and Jacob Wellman reported that he had sold a piece of land near Purgatory, so called, supposed to contain 19 acres, to Mr. Josiah Dodge for \$1.25 per acre. The sale was confirmed and a deed voted. Rev. Sewall Goodridge was impowered by vote, to sell a piece of land in the northeast



corner of Lyndeborough, near New Boston; and Mr. Amos Whittemore was impowered to sell a piece in Greenfield and make report; and the clerk was directed to give a deed. Adjourned to the 4th Tuesday in October next, at 9 o'clock A. M., at Major Gould's.

The fourth Tuesday in October, 1802. Met as by adjournment. Mr. Amos Whittemore, moderator, Rev. Sewall Goodridge, clerk. Mr. Goodridge reported that "he had not sold the land assigned him for want of a purchaser." Mr. Whittemore reported in the same words. Mr. Goodridge offered twenty dollars for a certain piece of common land, described; and the same was sold to him, and the moderator was impowered to give a deed. Meeting adjourned to the fourth Tuesday in April next, 1803, at 9 o'clock A. M., at the same place.

Fourth Tuesday in April, 1803. Met as by adjournment. Mr. Amos Whittemore, moderator, Rev. Sewall Goodridge, clerk, Major Gould, treasurer, and Mr. Jacob Wellman, present. The vote of the last meeting to give deed of a certain piece of land to Rev. Sewall Goodridge was annulled; because it appeared that a part of the same had been previously voted to Mr. Solomon Cram. The meeting adjourned to the first Tuesday in June next, &c.

The first Tuesday in June. Met according to adjournment. Present, Major Gould, treasurer, Mr. Goodridge, clerk, and Mr. Jacob Wellman. Voted, that Rev. Sewall Goodridge be allowed and have 8 acres in the common land of No. 9, south of land sold to Solomon Cram, at one dollar per acre, Mr. Amos Whittemore, moderator, to give the deed. Adjourned to the 4th Tuesday of June, 1803.

The fourth Tuesday of June, 1803. The proprietors met as by preceding vote, Mr. Amos Whittemore, moderator, absent. Therefore adjourned to the first Tuesday in July, 1803.

The first Tuesday of July, 1803. The proprietors met according to adjournment. Present, Mr. Amos Whittemore, Jr., moderator, Sewall Goodridge, clerk, Major Gould, treasurer, and Mr. Jacob Wellman. The moderator reported that "he had not sold the common land in Greenfield, but had a prospect of selling the same very soon." Therefore, voted to adjourn to the first Tuesday in August, 1803, to this place at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The first Tuesday in August, 1803. Met as by vote of proprietors. After consultation, it was agreed to view the remain-

ing common land in No. 9. The moderator, Mr Amos Whittemore, Mr. Goodridge and Mr. Jacob Wellman offered themselves as a committee for said purpose, and immediately to proceed to business, which offer was accepted and they proceeded accordingly. On returning, they reported that it was best to have the same surveyed. Voted that Mr. Amos Whittemore, Jr., survey the same and make report at next meeting. Voted to adjourn to the last Tuesday of this inst. August, 1803, at 9 o'clock A. M.

The last Tuesday in August, 1803, the proprietors met according to preceding vote. Present, Amos Whittemore, moderator, S. Goodridge, clerk, Major Gould, treasurer, and Mr. Jacob Wellman.

The meeting being opened, the following preamble and vote were agreed to: "Whereas it is made plain to the proprietors that the land in common remaining is not sufficient to pay the debts of the propriety, therefore, Voted, that each creditor take y<sup>e</sup> remaining land in proportion to y<sup>e</sup> several as they see fit, by paying other claimants &c., leaving a small piece of common &c." "Voted to adjourn this meeting to the last Tuesday in Sept. next, then to meet at this place, Nine o'clock A. M. Sewall Goodridge, clerk."

#### OBSERVATIONS OF TRANSCRIBER.

Having now finished transcribing and placing in a clearer light a large portion of the old records of the proprietors of both the Salem-Canada and Lyndeborough grants, the writer feels prompted to add, that so far as records can indicate the characters of the early proprietors, their posterity and successors have just cause for honoring their memory. They were men of sterling qualities, liberal-minded, fair dealing, confronting grave difficulties with courage and patience, forbearing toward lax and delinquent associates, generous to the settlers upon town lands, soliciting peaceful rather than litigious courses, but reluctant to endure encroachments and recalcitrant toward insidious, diplomatic robbery. Never is there a suspicion aroused of their resorting to trickery or finesse. They endeavored to act justly, to correct errors, to atone for deficiencies, and honorably to fulfil their agreements. Their thorough paced efficiency and uprightness in business transactions enhances our admiration for the founders of our town. They appear to have been endowed with rugged honesty and genuine manliness.

Many of our early proprietors bore official titles, which was a matter of importance in colonial days, even as now in Canada, where people assume that only those eschew titles who are not authorized to wear them. Among our people were some colonels, some majors, several captains, lieutenants, ensigns; and one or two deacons. At least one was a Harvard graduate, Chief Justice of the State of Massachusetts, and of most honorable character and record. Commencing with such auspices, it is the less surprising that our citizens have been, in general, quiet, industrious, prosperous and patriotic, upright, law-abiding, kind and generous. The town has been remarkably free from vicious elements, and among the more intelligent people of sister towns, holds an honored place for its genuine worth.

## CHAPTER V.

### PHYSICAL FEATURES.

1. *Geology.*—Having glanced at the settlement of Lyndeborough it will now be in place to notice some of its physical features. Its territory was indeed a broad and noble domain, with marked variety of “hills and woods,” “sweeping vales and foaming floods,” shaded nooks and sunbright knolls, well adapted for the homes of stalwart and thrifty husbandmen. Under the hand of careful cultivation, some of the finest fruits of our temperate zone are now produced in luxurious abundance upon its fertile soil.

Professor C. H. Hitchcock in his *Geology of New Hampshire* writes of the Temple Mountain Range,\* “The map shows a line of elevations from Lyndeborough to New Ipswich, whose similar topographical features suggest identity of geological character. The Lyndeborough mountains rise abruptly from the comparatively flat ground of New Boston and Francestown; and the rocks change as quickly as the elevation. Gneiss is exchanged for mica schist.” . . . Again in describing the Hooksett range of quartz, he wrote of its disappearance in New Boston and adjacent towns, and of its discovery again at a “hill east of J. Haggett’s in the east part of Lyndeborough.” “There is said to be a little quartz by a saw-mill a quarter of a mile north of the natural place for the line of outcrop to cross the stream, but the rock appears near E. N. Patch’s. Irregularities in direction are to be expected in Lyndeborough, since the trend of the rock at Patch’s if continued, would carry the ledge a mile below its next outcrop, west of J. F. Holt’s. It continues south of west, and makes the hill near the glass works at South Lyndeborough.” . . . “The first railroad cut west of the station barely touches this bed of quartz.” . . . “By the eye this range can be followed over the large hill east of Burton pond, on the town line between Lyndeborough and Wilton.”†

“Between the Pinnacle and Pack Monadnock mountains is a deep valley, cut down by Stony Brook, and the place where the railroad passes from Wilton to Greenfield. For two miles or

\* *Geol.* Vol. II, p. 580.

† *Geol.* II, pp. 540, 541.

more, the mica schists are well exposed along the axis of the mountain ranges."\*

"On the west side of Badger pond the rock is like the Concord granite, and is used extensively in the neighborhood for underpinning. The dips about Lyndeborough centre are high to the northwest. It has a similar character two miles to the southwest, near S. S. Cumming's. A hard granitic gneiss occupies the country in the valley of Stony brook for about two miles west of South Lyndeborough. The range runs through the northwest part of Wilton to Temple."†

"Fig. 90," facing p. 545, "illustrates the rocks from South Lyndeborough to the west part of Milford, through East Wilton."‡ . . . "In the south edge of the village, following the carriage road instead of the railroad, the next interesting rock is a granite like the Concord in general appearance, but full of small, distinct crystals of feldspar."

Again after referring to the phenomena of potholes at Manchester on the Merrimack, one of which was 12 feet in diameter and 25 deep, he continues, "The 'Purgatory,' on the line of Lyndeboro and Mont Vernon, shows other potholes. The stream — 10 feet wide — winds spirally through a narrow chasm, and then falls 15 or 20 feet into a large pool. Both the spiral course and the pool are to be classed with potholes, and there are several small examples above the main cataract. A cave below is thought to have originated from ordinary disintegration through freezing."§

The formation known as Glacial Drift is described as follows: "The ice accumulated in the St. Lawrence valley so as to flow over New England, possibly preceded by a southwest current. The whole country would have been covered by a sheet of ice, thousands of feet in thickness — probably 7,000 or 8,000 feet in the lower part of the state, — flowing southeast towards the ocean. This was the period of the formation of the lower till, and of the great terminal moraines of lower New England."||

The lenticular hills of the Glacial Drift form an interesting subject of study, and parts of Lyndeborough, as well as that section of Wilton detached from Salem-Canada, furnish fine examples of these formations. In the eastern part of Greenfield also, "they are finely developed. Two miles northeast of Russell's crossing, till lies in rounded masses on the northwest slope of Lyndeborough mountain. It also forms a smooth

\* Geol. II, p. 580 † Geol. II, p. 551. ‡ Id., p. 546. || Geol. III, p. 250. § Vol. III, p. 337, 2.

area of several acres near its southwest summit, and is spread in extensive sheets on its southeast side."\* . . . They occur also "upon Perham hill, in the northeast corner of Wilton;" again "a mile to the northwest in the edge of Lyndeborough," and at North Lyndeborough.

"A railroad cut in South Lyndeborough, two miles west of the station exhibits three layers in the till. The top is the familiar loose ferruginous earth, such as universally covers the ground-moraine. Next, *b* is a good example of the lower till, full of glaciated pebbles, porphyritic and granitic gneisses, mica schist, etc., 5 feet, and in one case six feet long. The laminated appearance arising from compression is clearly defined. Beneath this is a coarser mass, reaching to the bottom of the cut, so very compact that a pick had no effect when struck into it by the workmen; only gunpowder or a stronger explosive could excavate it, and it was necessary that the holes should be bored horizontally near the surface to become effectual in removing the earth."†

Finally, our author wrote:

"In Lyndeborough there is an establishment fitted up for the manufacture of glass based upon the presence of one of the beds of quartz," already mentioned, as so common in the southern counties of the state. "Although milky-white, the quartz contains a small percentage of iron and is therefore apt to impart a green color . . . to the vessels manufactured from it.‡ Therefore it is best to eliminate the iron as completely as possible, so as to secure a better quality of glass. The rock is put into a kiln and burnt, just as if it were limestone being converted into lime. The rock becomes friable, so that it can be readily crushed and pulverized, and the iron is converted into the magnetic oxid. After pulverization, the quartz-flour is made to fall in a stream over magnets set like bristles on the surface of cylinders. The magnets instantly attract the iron sand, which is thus perfectly removed from the quartz by several repetitions of the process of falling over the revolving cylinder. Had not the fire removed the water and a portion of the oxygen from the iron ore, the magnets could not purify the quartz . . . which is now ready to be put into crucibles. A very large business is done at Lyndeborough."§

Alas! this last statement, true when published in 1878, re-

\* III, p. 297. † Geol. III, p. 283, Illustration. ‡ See Vol. I, p. 509.

§ Geol. I, p. 509 and III, Part V, p. 89, combined.



LENTICULAR HILLS AT NORTH LYNDERBOROUGH: WHITEFLORE HOMESTEAD.





mains so no longer. The glass-factory is a thing of the past, and the flourishing business once done here, is now a reminiscence. Traces and traditions of it still remain as one of the branches of manufacture which gave our town more than a local reputation, furnished employment to many hands, made money more plenty, and nearly all other industries of the population more thriving.

2. *Mineralogy*.\* Minerals.—It has been written that the world might be said to be built upon crystal foundations because quartz comprises one-half or more of the mineral formation of the globe. It might be said truly of Lyndeborough, for a quartz ledge, or chain of quartz ledges having a N. E. trend extends through the town. Many of them, the Lucas, Gilmore, Putnam, and Hartshorn ledges, have been worked to a greater or lesser extent. Quartz and granite (the latter composed of quartz, feldspar and mica) predominate among the minerals of our town. I have found the following list, some of course very sparingly :

Actinolite	Jasper rock
Albite (soda feldspar)	Mica
Arsenopyrite, mispickel, arsenical iron pyrites	“ muscovite
Bog iron ore	“ biotite
Cairngorm stone	“ schist
Clay	Petrified wood
Copper (just a trace)	Quartz
Dendrite	“ aventurine
Feldspar, several var.	“ drusy
Garnet	“ ferruginous
Gneiss	“ false topaz
Granite	“ granular
“ porphyritic	“ milky
“ hornblendic	“ rose
“ garnetiferous	“ rock cristal
“ albitic	“ smoky
“ black micaceous	Selenite
“ graphic	Syenite
Granulite	Talcose schist (named for me by Professor Dana of Yale)
Graphite, plumbago, black lead	Tourmaline, black
Hornblende	Tremolite
Iron pyrites	Water

Black tourmaline, rose quartz and tremolite are found on Pinnacle Mt. A peculiarly soft, argillaceous slate containing granular quartz is found on land of J. A. Johnson.

\*Mineralogy furnished by Mrs. E. A. Putnam.

## TOPOGRAPHY.

BY J. A. WOODWARD.

The original township of Salem Canada was a tract of land six miles square, situated near the centre of Hillsboro County, New Hampshire. It contained 23,040 acres of land with 1018 acres allowed for water (which was probably largely in excess of what there really was). It was neither a square nor a rectangle. Rev. Mr. Clark says, "it was nearly square with the exception of a corner missing toward Boystown or New Boston. The south-east corner was a little north of the Dea. Bartlett place on the road to Milford. The south line running from that point west, passed back of the Congregational Church, Wilton, crossed the Forest road near Mr. Levi Putnam's mill, running past the old north burying ground, Wilton, and a little to the south of the old county farm, to a point south-west and near the Benjamin Whiting house in Temple, about half a mile from the old County farm."<sup>\*</sup>

The west line extended north to within a short distance of Greenfield village. The north line extended north of the Pinnacle to the New Boston line. Afterward the land added to the township to make up for what was taken to help form Wilton or No. 2, made the west line extend nearly to Driscoll Hill, Francestown. The north line ran from that point near where the Nehemiah Epps blacksmith shop stands, to the New Boston line. The "History of Francestown" throws no light on the question of where this north line was; nor does it give the size or shape of the tract of land called Lyndeborough Addition. But from the fact that the petitioners asking to be allowed to join Francestown lived on Driscoll Hill and vicinity, and as the map of Society land, published in 1753, gives a straight line running east from this hill three and one-half miles as the north line of Salem-Canada, it would seem that the above description must be true.

This township of Salem-Canada was emphatically a land of mountains, hills and valleys, and figuratively speaking, there were few places in it where a wagon would stand without "trigging the wheels." It was a well watered, attractive country, sightly and healthful.

The shape of the Lyndeborough of to-day bears little resemblance to that of Salem-Canada, owing to the inroads which

<sup>\*</sup>Rev. F. G. Clark, Salem-Canada-Lyndeboro', p. 18.





PINNACLE MOUNTAIN, FROM STEPHENSON'S HILL.

other towns have made on its territory. It is bounded on the west by Temple and Greenfield, on the north by Francestown, on the east by New Boston and Mont Vernon and on the south by Milford and Wilton. Its boundary lines are very irregular, and have many angles and corners.

It was undoubtedly very heavily timbered originally, with pine and spruce and hemlock, with hard wood ridges covered with forests of oak, maple, beech, birch, ash, &c. It is said that the balsam fir was never plentiful in Lyndeborough. There is very little of what is called "pine plain" land in Lyndeborough, that section in North Lyndeborough east and north of John H. Goodrich's being the only land of that kind in town. The old stump fences in that vicinity show what the original growth was there.

The land, as New England land goes, was and is fertile and strong, and the farms compare very favorably with any of those of the hill towns of New Hampshire. The early settlers evidently could not tell just what land could be most easily brought into an arable condition, owing to its covering of leaves and humus, and sometimes the burnings revealed the fact that they had located on stony ground, and they soon removed to more favorable localities. This partly accounts for the many cellar holes in town.

While the highest elevations of land in town are generally known as the Lyndeborough Mountains, there are four distinct peaks, viz.: Pinnacle, Rose, Winn and Piscataquog. They are all of the Pack Monadnock range. Rose Mountain was named after Abram Rose, who first settled on its eastern slope. Winn Mountain was named for persons owning land on its summit, and it is unknown who gave the name Pinnacle to the second highest elevation. Nearly every hill has a name handed down from early times.

3. *Elevations.*—Rose Mountain, 1710; Pinnacle, 1680; Winn Mountain, 1075; Piscataquog Mountain, 1262 (commonly called Scataquog); Stephenson's Hill, 985; elevation back of No. 9 schoolhouse, 1407; Lyndeborough Centre, 880; South Lyndeborough, 649; Badger Pond, 800; Burton Pond, 840; Hadley's Hill, 1321; Bradley Tay's house, 1280; hill back of the DOLLIVER place, 1271; summit of new road, 1100; Buttrick's mills, 787; road from the Wilder place to D. B. Whittemore's, 800 to 900; road from the Ryerson place to No. 5 schoolhouse, 800

to 950; Putnam Hill, 800; roads in Johnson's Corner, 700 to 800.

From a point on the summit of Hadley's Hill (1321) may be seen the following mountains. Looking from east to west they are nearly in the order named: Joe English, Uncanoonucs, Pawtuckaway, Saddle-back, Nuts Mt., Nottingham Mt., Fort Mt., McCoy's Mt., Brush Hill, Catamount, Straight-back, Belknap Mt., Ossipee Mts., Mt. Chocorua, Mt. Paugus, Mt. Passaconaway, Mt. Whiteface, Tripyramid, Mt. Washington, Sandwich Dome, Mt. Israel, Pemigewasset Mt., Profile Mt., Mt. Stinson, Moosilauke Mt., Mt. Carr, Mt. Kearsarge (Warner) Stewart's Peak, Sunapee Mts., Lovetts Mt., Croydon Mt., Crotchet Mt. and Knight's Hill. The view of the Grand Monadnock is hidden by the Pinnacle from this place, but otherwise the viewpoint is rather better than the Pinnacle, although the latter is the higher elevation.

As a rule the north sides of our mountains and hills are sloping, with an easy grade, while the south sides are more or less abrupt and in some places precipitous. Geologists explain this as the action of glaciers during the ice period. And speaking of the ice period, there are several so-called kettle-holes in town. They are circular depressions in the ground, of varying size, with a well defined ridge, or lip. These are said to have been caused by masses of ice broken from glaciers and left stranded, and partially covered with earth and stones. When the ice melted, the result was these curious formations. There is a very well defined one on land of David G. Dickey, near where the writer lives. The trend of the mountain range in Lyndeborough is slightly circular from Piscataquog to Winn Mt., the direction being toward the southwest, with Peterborough, or North Pack Monadnock, next to Winn. It will be seen that the elevation of the "middle of the town" is about the same as that of the road at D. B. Whittemore's place, and that leaving out of consideration the highest mountain land, the average altitude of the town is about 800 feet.

The southeastern end of Lyndeborough mountain proper may be said to be near the old Micalah Hartshorn place, later owned by the late Eliphalet J. Hardy. From this there is a gradual rise to the summit of Piscataquog Mt., with a very abrupt descent on the easterly side, which at a point east of the highest elevation known as the "Ledges," becomes precipitous.

The elevations are taken from Peterboro Quadrangle of the U. S. Topographic Map, edition of June, 1900.

Lyndeborough is exclusively a farming town, and there are but two villages within its limits. South Lyndeborough is the largest and most closely built, the village at the "Centre" being composed mostly of farm houses with considerable intervals between each. These farmhouses, with the church, town house and parsonage compose the village.

The water-shed of the town to the south is into the Souhegan River and thence to the Merrimack, and to the north into the Piscataquog River.\*

Lyndeborough abounds in stones of all shapes and sizes, from immense boulders to tiny pebbles, and the early settlers found no difficulty in getting material to fence their land. An outcropping of white quartz extends the width of the town from a point near where Emery Holt lives to the Temple line. No mines of metals, precious or otherwise, have ever been discovered within the limits of the town, though mining for them has been carried on, as related in another chapter.

#### PONDS AND STREAMS OF LYNDEBOROUGH.

BY J. A. WOODWARD.

It would be interesting to compare the brooks of Lyndeborough, as they are in these later days, with the same streams as they were when the town was covered with the primeval forest, as they were when the first settlers came to Salem Canada. While the annual rainfall is probably about the same now as then, notwithstanding the alarming assertions of the "Forestry Commission," the flow of water is not as even as in those early days. The shade of the forest, the leaves and moss and humus on top of the soil, served to retain the moisture, and yield it in a gradual flow through the season. The clearing away of the forest, the conversion of the hillsides into open pastures, has resulted in quick drainage and sudden and violent freshets. The channels or water courses of many of our brooks are growing larger year by year and more boulders are exposed. Dutton Brook and the upper part of Cold Brook show this wearing-away process more than the others. Another result of the cutting away of the forests is the drying up of

\*I think we may freely write the name of this river, although it touches but sparingly our town. It has been immortalized by our Quaker poet in his "Bashaba's Feast," which was graced by

"Cranberries picked in the Squamscot bog,  
And grapes from the vines of Piscataquog."—D.

the brooks in summer. It is probable that in the early days these brooks were never dry, and many small brooks were noted for trout forty or fifty years ago where no fish have existed for years, owing to the midsummer drouths. The stories and traditions that have come down to us of the privations and exposure of the early settlers seem to indicate that the snowfall was much greater then than it is now, but the probabilities are that the spring freshets were not as violent, and the rise and fall of our brooks were not as sudden as at present. While Lyndeborough has few attractions in the way of ponds and lakes, it is greatly favored in the number and beauty of its mountain brooks.

#### BADGER POND.

Badger Pond is a small sheet of water situated just north of the village at the centre. It was named for David and Robert Badger, who settled near its northern shore. It would require a stretch of the imagination to call it a lovely body of water. Its area is about seventeen acres, but it has been curtailed on the north and west shore by water brush and a growth of reeds and rushes until it is somewhat smaller. Its waters are shallow, nowhere much exceeding five feet in depth with a bottom of unfathomable mud. No one has yet been able to find solid bottom a short distance from the shore. It has been the favorite abode of the muskrat and water snake. Numbers of these last repulsive looking reptiles might be seen, sunning themselves on the hassocks about its edge, a few years ago, but they are about exterminated now and are seldom seen. The muskrat used to build its dome-shaped nest around its shores, and not many years ago as many as a dozen might be seen rising above the ice in winter, like small haycocks, but bitter experience with the trappers who broke open the tops of the nests and set traps therein, taught these cunning animals wisdom and, although they still frequent the pond, they build their winter homes in burrows under its banks, and a muskrat's house has not been seen there for some years.

This pond was doubtless a stopping place for the Indians when they roamed these mountains and valleys. Whether they had a village near its shores will probably never be ascertained, but in 1863 one of the residents in the vicinity, while digging mud near its east shore, unearched four Indian gouges made of stone. They lay near a small spring and were buried about eighteen inches in the mud. They are made of a kind of







BADGER POND, FROM WALKER'S HILL.

stone not found in Lyndeborough. One of them is in the possession of one of the citizens of the town. This same resident also dug up from the sand knoll west of the pond the bones of an Indian skeleton. He supposed he had encroached on the forgotten grave of some white man, and hastily reinterred the bones, but later learned that Samuel Jones and his son, Clark B., dug up the skeletons of two Indians at the same locality a few years previously — one of which was presented to Francestown Academy — which would indicate that the Indians had a permanent abiding place in the vicinity. Badger Pond is the favorite resort of the fishermen after pickerel, and is noted for the great number and small size of the catch. It is thought by some that the meadows which extend for a long distance below the pond were once a part of it. It is fed by two small brooks coming in from the north and by numerous springs.

Jonathan Barron was drowned while attempting to cross on the ice one Thanksgiving day. He was a young man living where F. B. Tay now lives, and started to attend service at the church at the Centre. He took the short cut across the pond, but the ice was not strong enough to bear his weight.

#### BURTON POND.

While Burton Pond is not what is termed a natural pond it is deserving of mention in this history. Most people would never mistrust from a casual examination that it was any other than a pond formed by nature, but hidden away in the woods surrounding it, is the dam built in 1837 by Mr. Otis Smith, which created this body of water. Sewell and Eliphalet Putnam acquired the right of flowage and had the dam built to form a reservoir of water to run a bobbin-shop in Wilton. They purchased the flowage rights of Dexter Burton, Isaac Giddings, Ephraim Putnam, and perhaps others.

This body of water, now known as Burton Pond, is situated in the southwest part of the town. It can by no means be called a pretty sheet of water, and yet from some parts of it a beautiful view of the mountains to the west may be obtained. The land flowed was heavily covered with forest growth and as much of this was cut after the pond was formed, it is pretty thoroughly dotted with stumps, and navigation is uncertain. The fisherman finds his scow hard and fast on a submerged snag, and further progress stopped until he can work off. It is also a repository of lost fishing tackle. In shape it is very irregular, in fact, it is almost all coves. While pickerel abound

the toothsome but homely horn-pout is its principal product. Its muddy bottom yields hundreds annually. Raccoons and mink abound about its shores, and its roots and snags are the favorite sunning places for the tortoise. The writer once found a pretty wild-flower growing in a hollow of a stump away in the middle of the pond, and speculated much how the seed got there. The pond is said now to be the private property of Dr. Frye of Wilton and many of the stumps were removed during the winter of 1903-4.

#### COLD BROOK.

Cold Brook has its source in springs on the mountain west of Robt. C. Mason's house. It flows down the mountain in a northeasterly direction until it reaches the Whittemore meadow, where it makes an abrupt turn to the east. At the foot of this meadow it is joined by the waters of a small brook that rises south of the Wilson place. Its course is then almost due east, and with comparatively little fall until it crosses the new road, so called. It has by this time become a pretty good sized stream, and its bed is strewn with immense boulders as it plunges down the steep mountain side, until it emerges into the meadows in New Boston. It enters the Piscataquog River a short distance above Paper Mill Village. Its whole length is about three and one-half miles. About sixty rods below where it crosses the new road it plunges through a steep ravine, over ledges, now a pool, now a cascade, forming a scene as wild and grand and withal as beautiful as can be found in southern New Hampshire. Standing at the foot of this ravine and looking up, one can see for nearly twenty rods a series of tumbling cascades, mossy ledges and overhanging boulders. This charming place is little known and seldom visited except by trout fishermen, but will amply repay anyone who will take the trouble to find it. It can be most easily reached from the road at C. H. Senter's house.

Capt. Peter Clark built a saw-mill on this brook back of the house where Henry Holden lives. Traces of the old dam may still be seen. He records in his "Diary" that he "began to saw at my mill March 15, 1775." Considering that he set out for Lyndeborough Jan. 23, 1775, arriving the 25th of that month, he must have labored diligently through the winter. He built his house near this mill, sawing the lumber for the same at the mill. About the year 1835 Ebenezer Flint built a peg-mill





SESTER'S FALLS, NORTH LYNDERBOROUGH.

on this brook also. It was located near where the new road crosses the brook.

#### FRENCH OR DUTTON BROOK

Has its source in springs on the old Woodward or French place on the north side of the mountain. It is a small brook, and runs in a northerly direction until it reaches the Woodward meadows in Francestown, when it turns to the east and flows into Cressy River, or Rand Brook as it is called by some. It is a turbulent stream during high water, as its course is almost directly down the mountain side. Its length is about a mile and a half, and there was never any mill on its banks.

#### SCHOOL HOUSE BROOK

Rises on the north side of the mountain and not more than twenty rods from the source of the Dutton Brook. They have both been famous trout streams. It flows north through the intervale land south of No. 8 schoolhouse, and thence down the mountain side, joining the Dutton Brook just before it enters Cressy River. On the bank of this brook is a large boulder of steatite, or soapstone, of the finest quality. It was found by Daniel Woodward, Sr., in 1835, and since then it has caused much speculation as to how it came there, and much searching for a quarry of the stone, supposed to be in the vicinity. The land where it lies is now owned by Willis J. Stephenson.

#### BEASOM BROOK

Is a small brook which rises on the mountain southwest of the Dolliver place and flows into the river a little way below Buttrick's mill. It is a very crooked stream, but its general course is a little north of east.

#### THE RIVER.

The stream commonly known as the "River" has its source in the swamps west of the Fletcher place in Greenfield. Its upper part is known by several names, and there is a tradition that it was called as a whole, "Bear Brook" in the early days; but now that part of it in Lyndeborough is generally spoken of as the River—probably for the reason that it is the largest stream of water in town. At first its course is generally southwest and it is but a small brook, but in the meadows east of Russell's Station it runs due west for some distance. In this meadow it receives the waters of Duncklee Brook, and there is a very noticeable increase in the volume of water from this on.

Just below this meadow it bends to the south and maintains that direction until it leaves Lyndeborough and becomes "Stony Brook" of Wilton. After passing through the intervale land near the Jacob Butler place it receives the waters of Frye Brook from Peterborough mountain, and when it enters Lyndeborough has become a considerable stream. It bends sharply to the east soon after passing the town line, but soon returns to its southerly course. A short distance below where it passes under the railroad bridge, are the remains of a dam\* and some of the timbers of the penstock where once stood a mill, the first on the stream. Who first built there is to the writer unknown. Only a little way below this mill site is where the Stephenson† saw mill stood for many years, but nothing except some of the stone work of the dam remains at this time. From this on the river is a succession of dark pools, about immense boulders with but little fall until the site of the mill best known, perhaps, as Buttricks, now owned by Mr. Colburn, is reached. It is said that Joshua Sargent once had a fulling mill here. Not far below Buttrick's mill this stream receives the waters of Beasom Brook, and thence to South Lyndeborough its course is through a deep, rocky ravine. Its next interruption is the mill site and dam of the Hadley Bros. mill, where Levi Tyler first built. It is said there used to be a mill west or southwest of the village, and another grist mill just before the Wilton line is reached. This stream flows into the Souhegan River at Wilton and is its principal branch.

#### MILL OR FURNACE BROOK

Two small brooks from the south side of the mountain, unite in the meadows south of B. G. Herrick's place to form Mill Brook. The easterly one is known as the Poor Farm Brook, and the one to the west as the Herrick Brook. They are small streams, but ever since farmers' boys tied a string to an alder pole, and on days when it rained so hard they could not shell corn in the chamber, went forth with a box of fish worms, these two brooks have been their Mecca. At the foot of the above-mentioned meadow used to stand a saw-mill said to have been built by a Mr. Hildreth, afterward owned by Jonathan Stephenson.‡ It is gone now but the dam remains to confine the water as a reservoir for the mill, which has been built below the road. This mill is owned by Willis J. Stephenson.

\* Built by Jonathan Butler. † First built by John Stephenson and Jotham Hildreth.

‡ Built by Jotham Hildreth, Sr.



Just below this mill is Andy Holt's shingle mill, and in this vicinity, probably between the two, was built the first corn or grist mill to be erected in town. It must have been an important place to the early settlers of the town. This brook possesses more historical interest perhaps than any other in town, from the fact that the first saw-mill and the first grist-mill to be erected were on its banks. From the Holt mill its course is almost due east through the Stephenson and Boutwell meadows, under the old stone bridge on the road from South Lyndeborough to the Centre, through the wood lot known as the "Promised Land" to the Lucas meadows, where it bends to the southwest. Below here is the saw-mill now owned by E. H. Putnam and a little below that is the "stone mill," so called, where for a number of years the quartz rock was ground and prepared for use in the glass factory. This mill is also owned by E. H. Putnam. It was in this section of the stream that the first saw-mill was built, but its exact location is to the writer unknown. It is said that an iron furnace or foundry was located near here, where kettles and various useful articles were moulded, and from which the brook got one of its names.† After passing under the railroad the stream soon enters the "River" or "Stony" Brook.

#### DUNCKLEE BROOK

Has its source in swamps on the mountains northwest of the Pinnacle House. It flows down the steep mountain side in a series of pools and cascades until it reaches the meadows in Greenfield. Its general direction is northwesterly and its waters are peculiarly clear and limpid. It flows into the "River" east of Russell's Station and was once a noted trout stream.

#### BRANDY BROOK

Is a small stream, often dry in summer, which has its source northwest of Ethan Woodward's place. It gets its name from the amber hue of its water. It enters the river near Hadley Brothers' mill.

#### TRAIL BROOK.

Mr. E. C. Curtis says this stream was called "Winners" Brook in the early days. That name is probably a corruption of "Wainwood," by which name this brook, after it joined Purgatory or Halfway Brook, was referred to in the early records of Salem Canada. It was known as "Trail" Brook

† Owned and operated by Henry and James Cram.

from the fact that the first path or trail from Narragansett No. 3, or Amherst, into Salem Canada followed its course for a long distance. It has its source in Badger Pond and is at first a shallow, sluggish stream. It flows easterly through meadows which were undoubtedly beaver ponds at one time, but it soon turns to the south and thence its course is southeastward until it enters Milford. Just east of the old Rand place there are the ruins of a dam, where Nehemiah Rand built a saw-mill, probably in 1777, one of the first erected in town, but long since gone. It was in the vicinity of this mill that many thought the central village would be located. Near where this brook crosses the road to "Johnson's Corner" it is said once stood a grist mill, but little if any trace of it can now be found. A short distance below this is the saw-mill built or removed to this place by Micah Hartshorn, now owned by E. J. Hardy.

Next is the site of a saw-mill owned by E. C. Curtis and in operation until a comparatively recent time. The stream crosses the road from Johnson's Corner to Wilton and near here Eli Curtis, father of E. C. Curtis, had a mill which he operated many years. Mr. E. C. Curtis is authority for the statement that below this was once a grist mill, the first built in that section of the town, and that some of the old timbers may still be seen. Still farther down this stream, almost to the Milford line, is the saw-mill owned by the Howards of Milford. This brook joins Purgatory Brook and ultimately flows into the Souhegan River. It is eminently a "trapper's" brook, its many sluggish pools making it the congenial home of the mink, the muskrat and the otter. Only two mills remain on its entire length but it has probably furnished power to saw more lumber than any other brook in town.

There are many other small brooks and water-courses in town, most of them dry in midsummer. One that has its source near H. H. Joslin's place and crosses the roads north of the Foster Woodward place, flows through Mrs. Sargent's and the Stephenson's meadows and enters Mill Brook at Andy Holt's mill. Another has its source south of the schoolhouse at North Lyndeborough and flows easterly, crossing the turnpike and entering New Boston and the Piscataquog River. Another, sometimes called Silver Mine Brook, skirts the base of Scataquog mountain on the east side, and flowing northerly enters Cold Brook at the head of Senter's meadow. Purgatory Brook is also for a short distance within the limits of the town.

## THE FAUNA.

The flora has been prepared with painstaking diligence by Mrs. F. A. Putnam. The fauna and its incidents of adventure are submitted with much diffidence by a less skilful hand.

Wild animals, as all are aware, were numerous in the early days of our town. The moose, though less common than the deer, was not a great stranger to our territory. The bear, the wolf, the beaver, the sable had their dwelling places on our hills and along our streams. There is a tradition that when one of the pioneers, whose name now escapes memory, was plowing with his oxen a moose came out of the neighboring forest and frightened his oxen. In an attempt to scare the wild creature away, it rushed at him, threw him down, and with its forward feet punched at him to crush his head. It, however, missed its aim, and sunk its sharp hoofs into the ground on each side, and went away, leaving him but little injured.

Captain Wellman had an adventure in bear hunting similar to that which has been reported of Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. He killed the animal in his den when he could see little more than the glare of its eyes. He afterwards went into the den and fastened a rope around him, but needed assistance to draw him out.

Captain Wellman lived at Johnson's Corner, on the place now occupied by Mr. Frank Carson. He had two sons, Jacob and John, respectively, ten and eight years of age. About the year 1758, the boys were left alone by their parents one day. The gun hung in its accustomed place, and they were warned not to use it, for it was heavily loaded for a bear. They were also ordered not to leave the house for fear the bears might catch them. But no sooner were the parents out of sight than the boys took down the gun and started off into the woods. When about a half a mile from home they met a huge bear, which stood up before them. Jacob rested the gun on John's shoulder and fired, and shot the bear dead. The boys then went home. When the parents returned they soon learned what had happened, and with the assistance of neighbors the bear was brought home.

We may suppose that the father was so glad that his children were unharmed and had made such an excellent shot that he did not insist on trouncing them as they deserved for their disobedience.

One season, it is said, the bears made sad havoc of the corn fields in Johnson's Corner. The people had tried to hunt and trap them but without success. At their wits' end, they sought assistance from Osgood Carleton, who had just returned from one of his surveying trips, and whom they knew as a skilful trapper and hunter. He tried his hand at setting a gun-trap, and spent the night at Mr. Carson's, on what is now known as the Kilburn Curtis place. In the gray dawn of the next morning the old Scotch housekeeper called out, "Osga, your gun gaed off!" "Stopping only for his pants,—barefoot—he repaired to the scene. It was not yet light. He could see no bear. He jumped from the fence on what seemed to be a black log, and landed plumb on the dead bear." Major Proctor, the narrator of this incident, thought the surprise had been mutual had bruin been alive. The beast had thriven on the corn, and is said to have tipped the beam at more than four hundred pounds.

It is also told that a man living where Harry Richardson now lives, had a big, shaggy dog which one day started a wildcat. The man had his gun. The wildcat seized the dog and gave him a furious shaking. But the man shot the cat, which proved to be a very large one.

There is a well attested tradition that on Woodward Hill, in the western part of the town, was a farm which produced a large quantity of hay that the owner was accustomed to feed out on the place to his sheep and young cattle. It was easier to dispose of it thus, than to haul it away to be fed out elsewhere. His two sons, who were large boys, were sent there to take care of the animals in the winter. These boys were frequently aroused in the night by the howling of the wolves which came near to seek their prey. Sometimes the boys would go out in the night to protect their flock and drive the wild beasts away.

Mr. Luther Cram, who occupies the old homestead, states that once when wolves were howling around his grandfather's buildings, his father was directed to take the gun and go out and discharge it to frighten them away. He did so, and saw several of the pack bounding off over the hill above the house.

Bears and wolves have entirely disappeared from our town. So have also the moose, which probably never were numerous. For a few years past, however, many deer have been seen, and seem to be on the increase. Some specimens of the Canadian lynx or wildcat are occasionally seen, and Mr. Samuel Dolliver

has succeeded in shooting one or two within a few years. An otter was trapped in the eastern part of the town last fall by Mr. Roy Burton. Red foxes are frequently caught. Rabbits abound. Squirrels, red, gray and striped are hunted. The hedgehog, woodchuck, weasel, skunk, rat, mouse, mole and bat are among the inferior creatures which infest our borders. Beaver and sable, common in early days, are unknown, but the raccoon, mink and muskrat inhabit our territory now.

It is narrated "that when Andrew Harwood was a boy he used to bait wild turkeys with corn on what was called Carkin Hill. He fixed a place for them to put their heads through to get the corn so that they would be in a straight row. A flock came, and while eating he fired from his ambush and killed eight of them at a single shot."\*

Partridges are often abundant. But they are said to be unlawfully snared at times; and are surely killed in the game season in such numbers as to diminish the abundance. Waterfowl visit us but in passing. Our ponds are too small to afford them seclusion and safety. Heron have, however, been with us a few seasons, and are believed to have reared their young beside a neighboring fen.

The valleys of the Souhegan and its tributaries are the pleasant haunts of many varieties of the feathered tribes. To name these might afford something more than holiday diversion to even an ornithologist, which the writer is not. Only the common names, therefore, of well-known birds may be expected. The crow, the owl, the hawk, blue-jay, robin, woodpecker, yellow-hammer, lark, brown thrush, catbird, bobolink, oriole, finches, sparrows, barn swallows, chimney swallows or swifts, quails, pigeons, whip-poor-wills, nighthawks, warblers, flycatchers, blackbirds, blue birds, tanagers, grossbeaks, chickadees, wrens, humming birds; these and the varieties ranged under some of the foregoing terms will impress upon us the idea that our feathered guests are very numerous and of grave as well as gay and even gorgeous plumage.

An expert fisherman informs me that our fish are limited to speckled trout, pickerel, horned pout, sunfish, minnows and eels.

The reptiles are those common to neighboring towns; and consist of the tortoise, toad, snake—the green, striped, black, mottled snake or adder, and water snake—small lizards, snails,

\*John Carleton's letter.

centipedes, &c., are also found here and there, but are neither very numerous nor venomous.

Such are the principal creatures which have found either temporary or permanent abodes upon our soil.

#### THE FLORA OF LYNDEBOROUGH

The following paper was contributed by Mrs. Eliza A. Putnam in response to a request for a description of the flora of Lyndeborough. The paper is itself an evidence of her industry and interest in the subject to which she has so kindly contributed.\*

#### CROWFOOT FAMILY

<i>Clematis Virginiana</i>	Common wild clematis; virgiu's-bower; traveler's joy.
<i>Anemone Virginiana</i>	Wind-flower
<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>	Wind-flower; wood anemone
<i>Hepatica triloba</i>	Round-lobed hepatica; liver leaf
<i>Thalictrum polygamum</i>	Tall meadow-rue
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous crowfoot; buttercups
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Tall crowfoot or buttercups
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Early crowfoot; buttercups
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold
<i>Coptis trifolia</i>	Gold-thread
<i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i>	Wild columbine
<i>Actea alba</i>	White baneberry

#### BARBERRY FAMILY

<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	Common barberry
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#### WATER-LILY FAMILY

<i>Brasena peltata</i>	Water-shield
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	Sweet-scented water-lily
<i>Nuphar advena</i>	Common yellow pond-lily

#### PITCHER-PLANT FAMILY

<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>	Side-saddle flower; pitcher plant; huntsman's cap
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#### POPPY FAMILY

<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Celandine
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#### FUMITORY FAMILY

<i>Corydalis glauca</i>	Pale corydalis
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#### MUSTARD FAMILY

<i>Nasturtium Armoracia</i>	Horseradish
<i>Cardamine Pennsylvanica</i>	Small bitter cress
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard
<i>Brassica Sinapistrum</i>	Charlock
<i>Brassica nigra</i>	Black mustard
<i>Capsella Bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's purse

\* A few names have been added to this list by W. L. Whittemore and by H. W. Whittemore; some corrections have been made at the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University.

VIOLET FAMILY

<i>Viola rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved violet
<i>Viola lanceolata</i>	Lance-leaved violet
<i>Viola blanda</i>	Sweet white violet
<i>Viola cucullata</i>	Common blue violet
<i>Viola fimbriatula</i>	Arrow-leaved violet
<i>Viola conspersa</i>	Dog violet
<i>Viola pubescens</i>	Downy yellow violet

ROCK-ROSE FAMILY

<i>Lechea intermedia</i>	Pinweed
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SUNDEW FAMILY

<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved sundew
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ST. JOHN'S-WORT FAMILY

<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Common St. John's-wort
<i>Hypericum ellipticum</i>	
<i>Hypericum maculatum</i>	
<i>Hypericum mutilum</i>	
<i>Hypericum Candadense</i>	
<i>Hypericum nudicaule</i>	Orange-grass; pine-weed
<i>Elodes campaulata</i>	Marsh St. John's-wort

PINK FAMILY

<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Common soap-wort; bouncing Bet
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common chickweed
<i>Stellaria longifolia</i>	Long-leaved stitchwort
<i>Cerastium vulgatum</i>	Mouse-ear chickweed
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Pearlwort
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn spurry

PURSLANE FAMILY

<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common purslaue
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MALLOW FAMILY

<i>Malva rotundifolia</i>	Common mallow
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LINDEN FAMILY

<i>Tilia Americana</i>	Basswood
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GERANIUM FAMILY

<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Wild cranesbill
<i>Geranium Robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
<i>Impatiens pallida</i>	Pale touch-me-not
<i>Impatiens fulva</i>	Spotted touch-me-not
<i>Oxalis Acetosella</i>	Common wood-sorrel
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Yellow wood-sorrel

CASHEW FAMILY

<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn sumach
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth sumach
<i>Rhus copallina</i>	Dwarf sumach
<i>Rhus venenata</i>	Poison sumach or dogwood
<i>Rhus Toxicodendron</i>	Poison ivy; poison oak

## VINE FAMILY

<i>Vitis Labrusca</i>	Northern fox-grape
<i>Vitis æstivalis</i>	Summer grape
<i>Vitis vulpina</i>	Winter or frost grape
<i>Ampelopsis quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper

## SOAPBERRY FAMILY

<i>Acer Pennsylvanicum</i>	Striped maple; moosewood
<i>Acer spicatum</i>	Mountain maple
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Sugar or rock maple
<i>Acer dasycarpum</i>	White or silver maple
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red maple

## MILKWORT FAMILY

*Polygala sanguinea*  
*Polygala paucifolia*

## PULSE FAMILY

<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Rabbit-foot or stone clover
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red clover
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover
<i>Trifolium agrarium</i>	Yellow or hop clover
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Yellow melilot
<i>Melilotus alba</i>	White melilot
<i>Robinia Pseudacacia</i>	Common locust or false acacia
<i>Desmodium nudiflorum</i>	Tick-trefoil
<i>Desmodium acuminatum</i>	Tick-trefoil
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Bush-clover
<i>Apios tuberosa</i>	Ground-nut; wild bean
<i>Amphicarpæa monoica</i>	Hog pea-ntt

## ROSE FAMILY

<i>Prunus Pennsylvanica</i>	Wild red cherry
<i>Prunus Virginiana</i>	Choke-cherry
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Wild black cherry
<i>Spiræa latifolia</i>	Common meadow-sweet
<i>Spiræa tomentosa</i>	Hardhack; steeple-bush
<i>Agrimonia striata</i>	Common agrimony
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water or purple avens
<i>Potentilla Norvegica</i>	Norway cinque-foil
<i>Potentilla simplex</i>	Common cinque-foil or five-finger
<i>Potentilla argentea</i>	Silvery cinque-foil
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby cinque-foil
<i>Fragaria Virginiana</i>	Wild strawberry
<i>Dalibarda repens</i>	Dalibarda
<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	Purple flowering raspberry
<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	Black raspberry; thimble-berry
<i>Rubus nigrobaccus</i>	Common or high blackberry
<i>Rubus villosus</i>	Low blackberry; dewberry
<i>Rubus hispidus</i>	Running swamp blackberry
<i>Rosa Carolina</i>	Swamp rose
<i>Rosa lucida</i>	Dwarf wild-rose
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet-brier



<i>Cratægus coccinea</i>	Scarlet-fruited thorn
<i>Cratægus tomentosa</i>	Black or pear thorn
<i>Pyrus Malus</i>	Apple
<i>Pyrus arbutifolia</i>	Choke-berry
<i>Pyrus Americana</i>	American mountain ash
<i>Amelanchier Canadensis</i>	Shad-bush ; service-berry

SAXIFRAGE FAMILY

<i>Ribes Cynosbati</i>	Wild gooseberry
<i>Ribes prostratum</i>	Fetid currant
<i>Ribes rubrum</i>	Red currant
<i>Saxifraga Pennsylvanica</i>	Swamp saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga Virginiensis</i>	Early saxifrage
<i>Mitella diphylla</i>	Mitrewort ; bishop's cap
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	False mitrewort
<i>Chrysosplenium Americanum</i>	Golden saxifrage

ORPINE FAMILY

<i>Sedum Telephium</i>	Live-for-ever
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WITCH-HAZEL FAMILY

<i>Hamamelis Virginiana</i>	Witch-hazel
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EVENING-PRIMROSE<sup>2</sup> FAMILY

<i>Circæa Lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's nightshade
<i>Circæa alpina</i>	Enchanter's nightshade
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Great willow herb ; fire-weed
<i>Epilobium lineare</i>	
<i>Epilobium coloratum</i>	
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Common evening primrose
<i>Oenothera pumila</i>	Common evening primrose
<i>Ludwigia palustris</i>	Water purslane

PARSLEY FAMILY

<i>Hydrocotyle Americana</i>	Water pennywort
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Common parsnip
<i>Angelica atropurpurea</i>	Great angelica
<i>Sium cicutaefolium</i>	Water parsnip

GINSENG<sup>2</sup> FAMILY

<i>Aralia racemosa</i>	Spikenard
<i>Aralia hispida</i>	Bristly sarsaparilla
<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Wild sarsaparilla
<i>Aralia trifolia</i>	Dwarf ginseng ; ground-nut

DOG-WOOD FAMILY

<i>Cornus Canadensis</i>	Dwarf cornel ; bunch-berry
<i>Cornus circinata</i>	Round-leaved cornel or dogwood
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red-osier
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved cornel
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo ; pepperidge ; black or sour gum tree

HONEYSUCKLE FAMILY

<i>Lonicera ciliata</i>	Fly-honeysuckle
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<i>Diervilla trifida</i>	Bush-honeysuckle
<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i>	Common elder
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Red-berried elder
<i>Viburnum Lentago</i>	Sweet viburnum
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrow-wood
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Maple-leaved arrow-wood; dockmackie
<i>Viburnum lantanoides</i>	Hobble-bush; American way-faring-tree
<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	Withe-rod

## MADDER FAMILY

<i>Galium asprellum</i>	Rough bedstraw
<i>Galium Claytoni</i>	Small bedstraw
<i>Galium triflorum</i>	Sweet-scented bedstraw
<i>Galium lanceolatum</i>	Wild liquorice
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Button-bush
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge-berry
<i>Houstonia cærulea</i>	Bluets

## COMPOSITE FAMILY

<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	Joe-pye weed; trumpet weed
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Thoroughwort; boneset
<i>Sericocarpus conyzoides</i>	White-topped aster
<i>Aster corymbosus</i>	
<i>Aster macrophyllus</i>	
<i>Aster lævis</i>	
<i>Aster undulatus</i>	
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	
<i>Aster Tradescanti</i>	
<i>Aster puniceus</i>	
<i>Aster acuminatus</i>	
<i>Aster linariifolius</i>	Double-bristled aster
<i>Aster umbellatus</i>	
<i>Erigeron Canadensis</i>	Horse-weed; butter-weed
<i>Erigeron bellidifolius</i>	Robin's plantain
<i>Erigeron annuum</i>	Daisy fleabane; sweet scabious
<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	
<i>Solidago bicolor</i>	Golden-rod
<i>Solidago cæsia</i>	
<i>Solidago puberula</i>	
<i>Solidago arguta</i>	
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	
<i>Solidago Canadensis</i>	
<i>Solidago serotina</i>	
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	
<i>Solidago lanceolata</i>	
<i>Inula Helenium</i>	Elecampane
<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>	Great ragweed
<i>Ambrosia artemisiæfolia</i>	Roman wormwood; hog-weed; bitter-weed
<i>Tussilago Farfara</i>	Coltsfoot
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cone-flower

<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	
<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Jerusalem artichoke
<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Common beggar-ticks
<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Larger bur-marigold
<i>Anthemis Cotula</i>	Common May-weed
<i>Achillea Millefolium</i>	Common yarrow or milfoil
<i>Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum</i> ,	
var. <i>subpinnatifidum</i>	Ox-eye or white daisy; white-weed
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Common tansy
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Common mugwort
<i>Artemisia Absinthium</i>	Common wormwood
<i>Gnaphalium polycephalum</i>	Common everlasting
<i>Gnaphalium uliginosum</i>	Low cudweed
<i>Antennaria plantaginica</i>	Plantain-leaved everlasting
<i>Erechtites hieracifolia</i>	Fireweed
<i>Senecio aureus</i>	Golden ragwort; squaw-weed
<i>Cnicus lanceolatum</i>	Common thistle
<i>Cnicus pumilus</i>	Pasture thistle
<i>Cnicus arvensis</i>	Canada thistle
<i>Arctium Lappa</i>	Common burdock
<i>Cichorium Intybus</i>	Succory or cichory
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Fall dandelion; hawkbit
<i>Hieracium Canadense</i>	Canada hawkweed
<i>Hieracium scabrum</i>	Rough hawkweed
<i>Hieracium paniculatum</i>	Panicled hawkweed
<i>Hieracium venosum</i>	Rattlesnake-weed
<i>Prenanthes trifoliolata</i>	White lettuce; rattlesnake root
<i>Prenanthes altissima</i>	Tall white lettuce
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Common dandelion
<i>Lactuca Canadensis</i>	Wild lettuce
<i>Lactuca leucophæa</i>	False or blue lettuce

## LOBELIA FAMILY

<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal-flower
<i>Lobelia inflata</i>	Indian tobacco
<i>Lobelia spicata</i>	
<i>Lobelia Dortmanna</i>	Water lobelia

## CAMPANULA FAMILY

<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell
<i>Specularia perfoliata</i>	Venus's looking-glass

## HEATH FAMILY

<i>Gaylussacia frondosa</i>	Blue tangle; dangleberry
<i>Gaylussacia resinosa</i>	Black huckleberry
<i>Vaccinium Oxycoccus</i>	Small cranberry
<i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i>	Large or American cranberry
<i>Vaccinium Vitis-Idæa</i>	Cowberry
<i>Vaccinium Pennsylvanicum</i>	Dwarf blueberry
<i>Vaccinium Canadense</i>	Canada blueberry
<i>Vaccinium vacillans</i>	Low blueberry
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Common or Swamp blueberry

<i>Epigæa repens</i>	May-flower; ground laurel; trailing arbutus
<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	Creeping wintergreen
<i>Cassandra calyculata</i>	Leather-leaf
<i>Andromeda ligustrina</i>	Andromeda
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	Calico-bush; mountain laurel
<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>	Sheep laurel; lambkill
<i>Kalmia glauca</i>	Pale laurel
<i>Rhododendron nudiflora</i>	Purple azalia; pinxter-flower
<i>Rhododendron Rhodora</i>	Rhodora
<i>Pyrola Americana</i>	Wintergreen; shin-leaf
<i>Pyrola chlorantha</i>	
<i>Pyrola secunda</i>	
<i>Chimaphila umbellata</i>	Pipsissewa; Prince's pine
<i>Monotropa uniflora</i>	Indian pipe
<i>Monotropa Hypopitys</i>	Pine-sap; false beech-drops

## HOLLY FAMILY

<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Black alder; winterberry
<i>Nemopanthus fascicularis</i>	Mountain holly

## PLANTAIN FAMILY

<i>Plantago major</i>	Common plantain
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribgrass; ripplegrass; English plantain

## PRIMROSE FAMILY

<i>Trientalis Americana</i>	Star-flower
<i>Lysimachia stricta</i>	Loosestrife
<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>	
<i>Scironema ciliatum</i>	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Pimpernel

## BLADDERWORT FAMILY

<i>Utricularia vulgaris</i>	Greater bladderwort
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## BROOM-RAPE FAMILY

<i>Epiphegus Virginiana</i>	Beech-drops; cancer-root
<i>Aphyllon uniflorum</i>	One-flowered cancer-root; naked broom rape

## FIGWORT FAMILY

<i>Verbascum Thapsus</i>	Common mullein
<i>Verbascum Blattaria</i>	Moth mullein
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Toad-flax; butter-and-eggs; ramsted
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Turtle-head; snake-head
<i>Mimulus ringens</i>	Monkey-flower
<i>Veronica scutellata</i>	Marsh speedwell
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	Common speedwell
<i>Gerardia purpurea</i>	Purple gerardia
<i>Gerardia quercifolia</i>	
<i>Melampyrum Americanum</i>	Cow-wheat

## VERVAIN FAMILY

<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue vervain
<i>Verbena urticæfolia</i>	Nettle-leaved or white vervain

## MINT FAMILY

<i>Trichostema dichotomum</i>	Bastard pennyroyal
<i>Mentha viridis</i>	Spearmint
<i>Mentha piperita</i>	Peppermint
<i>Mentha Canadensis</i>	Wild mint
<i>Lycopus Virginices</i>	Bugle-weed ; water hourhound
<i>Hedeoma pulegioides</i>	American pennyroyal
<i>Nepeta Cataria</i>	Catnip
<i>Nepeta Glechoma</i>	Ground ivy : gill-over-the-ground
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal : heal-all
<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>	Skullcap
<i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i>	
<i>Leonurus Cardiaca</i>	Motherwort

## BORAGE FAMILY

<i>Echinopspermum Virginicum</i>	Beggar's lice
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## CONVOLVULUS FAMILY

<i>Convolvulus sepium</i>	Hedge bindweed
<i>Cuscuta Gronovii</i>	Dodder

## NIGHTSHADE FAMILY

<i>Solanum Dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet
<i>Datura Stramonium</i>	Jamestown-weed ; thorn-apple

## GENTIAN FAMILY

<i>Gentiana crinita</i>	Fringed gentian
<i>Gentiana Andrewsii</i>	Closed gentian
<i>Limnanthemum lacunosum</i>	Floating heart

## DOGBANE FAMILY

<i>Apocynum androsæmifolium</i>	Dogbane ; Indian hemp
<i>Asclepias Cornuti</i>	Common milkweed or silkweed
<i>Asclepias phytolaccoides</i>	Poke milkweed
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp milkweed

## OLIVE FAMILY

<i>Fraxinus Americana</i>	White ash
<i>Fraxinus sambucifolia</i>	Black or water ash

## POKEWEED FAMILY

<i>Phytolacca decandra</i>	Common poke ; garget ; pigeon berry
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## GOOSEFOOT FAMILY

<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Lamb's quarters ; pigweed
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## AMARANTH FAMILY

<i>Amarantus retroflexus</i>	Pig-weed
<i>Amarantus albus</i>	

## BUCKWHEAT FAMILY

<i>Polygonum Persicaria</i>	Lady's thumb
<i>Polygonum Hydropiper</i>	Common smartweed or water-pepper

<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass; goose-grass; door-weed
<i>Polygonum arifolium</i>	Halberd-leaved tear-thumb
<i>Polygonum sagittatum</i>	Arrow-leaved tear-thumb
<i>Polygonum Convolvulus</i>	Black bindweed
<i>Polygonum scandens</i>	Climbing false buckwheat
<i>Rumex Acetosella</i>	Field or sheep sorrel
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Bitter dock
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock
LAUREL FAMILY	
<i>Sassafras officinale</i>	Sassafras
<i>Lindera Benzoin</i>	Spice-bush; Benjamin-bush
MEZEREUM FAMILY	
<i>Dirca palustris</i>	Leatherwood; moose-wood
SPURGE FAMILY	
<i>Euphorbia maculata</i>	Spurge
<i>Euphorbia Cyparissias</i>	
<i>Acalypha Virginica</i>	Three-seeded mercury
NETTLE FAMILY	
<i>Ulmus Americana</i>	American or white elm
<i>Urtica gracilis</i>	Nettle
<i>Pilea pumila</i>	Richweed; clearweed
<i>Humulus Lupulus</i>	Common hop
WALNUT FAMILY	
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut
<i>Carya alba</i>	Shell-bark or shag-bark hickory
OAK FAMILY	
<i>Betula lenta</i>	Sweet or black birch
<i>Betula lutea</i>	Yellow or gray birch
<i>Betula populifolia</i>	American white birch
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Paper or canoe birch
<i>Alnus incana</i>	Speckled or hoary alder
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Quercitron; yellow barked, or black oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red oak
<i>Quercus Prinus</i>	Chestnut oak
<i>Castanea dentata</i>	Chestnut
<i>Fagus ferruginea</i>	American beech
<i>Corylus Americana</i>	Wild hazel-nut
<i>Corylus rostrata</i>	Beaked hazel-nut
<i>Ostrya Virginica</i>	American hop-hornbeam; lever-wood
<i>Carpinus Caroliniana</i>	American hornbeam; water beech
SWEET-GALE FAMILY	
<i>Myrica Gale</i>	Sweet gale
<i>Myrica Caroliniana</i>	Bayberry; wax-myrtle
<i>Myrica asplenifolia</i>	Sweet-fern
WILLOW FAMILY	
<i>Salix discolor</i>	Glaucous willow
<i>Salix sericea</i>	Silky willow

<i>Salix lucida</i>	Shining willow
<i>Salix alba</i>	White willow
<i>Salix rostrata</i>	Livid willow
<i>Salix Babylonica</i>	Weeping willow
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	American aspen
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Large-toothed aspen
<i>Populus balsamifera</i> , var. <i>caudicans</i>	Balm of Gilead

## PINE FAMILY

<i>Pinus rigida</i>	Pitch pine
<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Red pine
<i>Pinus Strobus</i>	White pine
<i>Picea rubra</i>	Spruce
<i>Picea alba</i>	White spruce
<i>Tsuga Canadensis</i>	Hemlock
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam fir
<i>Larix Americana</i>	American black larch ; tamarack
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	American arbor vitae
<i>Juniperus communis</i> , var. <i>depressa</i> , Pursh.	Common juniper
<i>Juniperus Virginiana</i>	Red cedar or savin
<i>Taxus Canadensis</i>	American yew ; ground hemlock

## ORCHIS FAMILY

<i>Habenaria lacera</i>	Ragged fringed orchis
<i>Habenaria Hookeri</i>	
<i>Habenaria psycodes</i>	
<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>	Ladies' tresses
<i>Spiranthes gracilis</i>	
<i>Pogonia ophioglossoides</i>	Pogonia
<i>Corallorrhiza multiflora</i>	Coral-root
<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>	Stemless Lady's slipper

## IRIS FAMILY

<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Blue flag
<i>Sisyrinchium augustifolium</i>	Blue-eyed grass

## LILY FAMILY

<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>	Common green briar
<i>Smilax herbacea</i>	Carrion-flower
<i>Trillium erectum</i>	Purple trillium or birthroot
<i>Trillium erythrocarpum</i>	Painted trillium
<i>Medeola Virginiana</i>	Indian cucumber
<i>Veratrum viride</i>	American white hellebore ; Indian poke
<i>Oakesia sessilifolia</i>	" Wild oats "
<i>Streptopus roseus</i>	Twisted-stalk
<i>Clintonia borealis</i>	Clintonia
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	False spikenard
<i>Maianthemum Canadense</i>	Two-leaved Solomon's seal
<i>Lilium Philadelphicum</i>	Wild orange-red lily

## PICKEREL-WEED FAMILY

<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Pickereel-weed
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## RUSH FAMILY

*Luzula campestris*, var. *multiflora* Wood-rush

## CAT-TAIL FAMILY

*Typha latifolia* Cat-tail flag

*Sparganium simplex* Bur-reed

## ARUM FAMILY

*Arisæma triphyllum* Indian turnip

*Acorus Calamus* Sweet flag; Calamus

## WATER-PLANTAIN FAMILY

*Sagittaria variabilis* Arrowhead

## PONDWEED FAMILY

*Potamogeton natans* Pondweed

## PIPEWORT FAMILY

*Eriocaulon septangulare* Pipewort

## SEDGE FAMILY

*Cyperus strigosus* *Carex polytrichoides* *Carex vulpinoidea*

*Carex stipata* *Carex rosea* *Carex Deweyana*

*Carex stellulata* *Carex scoparia* *Carex tribuloides*

*Carex stricta* *Carex vulgaris* *Carex crinita*

*Carex granularis* *Carex pallescens* *Carex conoidea*

*Carex gracillima* *Carex laxiflora* *Carex umbellata*

*Carex Pennsylvanica* *Carex communis* *Carex pubescens*

*Carex scabrata* *Carex debilis*, var. *Rudgei* *Carex lurida*

*Carex intumescens* *Carex lupulina* *Carex monile*

## GRASS FAMILY

*Alopecurus pratensis* Meadow foxtail

*Phleum pratense* Timothy; herds-grass

*Argostis alba*, var. *vulgaris* Red-top

*Agrostis scabra* Hair grass

*Calamagrostis Canadensis* Blue-joint grass

*Dactylis glomerata* Orchard grass

*Danthonia spicata*

*Poa compressa* Wire grass

*Poa pratensis* Green or common meadow-grass

*Agropyrum repens* Couch quick or "witch" grass

## HORSETAIL FAMILY

*Equisetum arvense* Common horsetail

## FERNS

*Polypodium vulgare* Polypody

*Adiantum pedatum* Maidenhair

*Pteris aquilina* Common brake

*Asplenium thelypteroides* Splenwort

*Asplenium Filix-fœmina*

*Phegopteris hexagonoptera* Beech fern

*Phegopteris Dryopteris*

*Aspidium Thelypteris* Shield-fern; wood-fern



<i>Aspidium Noveboracense</i>	
<i>Aspidium spinulosum</i>	
<i>Aspidium cristatum</i>	
<i>Aspidium marginale</i>	
<i>Aspidium acrostichoides</i>	Christmas fern
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Bladder fern
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive fern
<i>Woodsia Ilvensis</i>	Woodsia
<i>Dicksonia pilosiuscula</i>	
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Flowering fern
<i>Osmunda Claytoniana</i>	
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon fern
<i>Botrychium Virginicum</i>	Moonwort

## CLUB-MOSS FAMILY

<i>Lycopodium lucidulum</i>	Club-moss
<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i> , var. <i>dendroideum</i>	
<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>	Common club-moss
<i>Lycopodium complanatum</i> , var. <i>flabelliforme</i>	Ground-pine

## CHAPTER VI.

### LYNDEBOROUGH UNDER THE PROVINCIAL CHARTER.

Hitherto, we have taken a view of Salem-Canada from 1735 to 1753; and, from that time on, we have followed the principal acts of the original proprietors of Lyndeborough, till all the lands held in severalty or in common have been assigned to their rightful heirs or purchasers. We now turn to survey Lyndeborough as a unit under the provincial government. The transition from a stock company acting under the Masonian Charter to an incorporated town under a Royal charter, is well presented in Vol. II of our Town Records, which covers the period from 1764 to 1774 inclusive. We shall transcribe only samples of these records, noting main features. We give in full the records for the years 1764 and 1768, *verbatim et literatim*, neither setting aught down in malice, nor cloaking faults of diction or of orthography.

TOWN RECORDS, VOL. II, Page 4. Anno. 1753.

Joseph Blanchard Esq. being appointed Agent for the Masonian Proprietors Grants a Charter to Benjamin Lynde Esq. & others of so much of Salem-Canada as had not been taken off by No. 2 (now Wilton) & with the addition of Land on the West & North makes a Township of ab<sup>o</sup> 28,000 acres, & to be from thenceforward called Lyndeborough, as <sup>th</sup> Charter dated 5 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1753. The bounds whereof Followeth,  
A tract of Land in the Prov. of New Hampshire cont<sup>s</sup> ab<sup>o</sup> 28000 acres, bounded as followeth; beginning at the North East corner of a Tract of Land called Duxbury School Farm, & in the Line of that Township called Souhegan West, from thence West by the needle one mile 280 rod to the East Line of a Tract of Land called No. 2. from thence run<sup>s</sup> North 480 rods to the N<sup>o</sup> East corner of No. 2. from thence West by the needle by the s<sup>d</sup> No. 2, five mile to a White Ash marked the Corner of Peterboro Slip, & of N<sup>o</sup> 2, & from thence West by y<sup>e</sup> needle 240 rods by s<sup>d</sup> Peterb<sup>o</sup> Slip to a Beach tree marked from thence North by y<sup>e</sup> needle Six miles &  $\frac{3}{4}$  to a Tree marked for the Corner of s<sup>d</sup> Tract. from thence East Three miles & a quarter to a Tree marked in the Western Line of New Boston; from thence South by that Line one mile & an

half to the most S<sup>o</sup> Westerly Corner of New Boston afores<sup>d</sup>, from thence East by s<sup>d</sup> New Boston line Three Miles 120 rod to a Black Oak marked, Still by New Boston Line run<sup>s</sup> South Two Miles & an half to a Stump & Stones; from thence East one mile 80 rod to the N West Corner of that Tract of Land called Souhegan West afores<sup>d</sup>—from thence by the Line of s<sup>d</sup> Souhegan West four miles 123 rod—to the bound first mentioned—and to all the bounds afores<sup>d</sup>, lett either of the Lines aforesaid be more or less.

Under this grant the Lyndeborough people acted with varying fortune for more than eleven years. Other towns around them sought charters from the Provincial Government, while they held to the Masonian guarantee of rights. Amherst was chartered in 1760, Wilton in 1762, New Boston in 1763.\* It seemed Lyndeborough's turn to move. Accordingly, the very year last named, we find a "Petition for an Act of Incorporation" addressed as follows: † "To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq Governor & commander in chief in and over his majestys Province of New Hamp<sup>r</sup> & the Hon<sup>r</sup> his Majestys Council.

The petition of a number of Inhabitants of said Province Humbly Sheweth that they live on a Tract of land in said province Bounded Easterly by Amherst southerly by Wilton North-erly by New Boston and Westerly Near what was called Peterborough and that said tract of land is not yet Incorporated into a Town & by reason of which they labour under many difficultys. Therefore your petitioners Humbly pray that they may be Incorporated into a Body Politick and by a charter be invested with the Authority & Priviledges as other Towns have and enjoy in this province, and y<sup>r</sup> petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray.

June 28, 1763.

The signers were,

John Stephenson  
Joseph Wilkins  
William Holt  
John Carkin  
Jacob Cram  
Jonathan Cram  
David Cram  
Moses Ordway

Ephraim Putnam  
Melchizedek Boffee  
David Badger  
George Goold  
Robert Badger  
Moses Stiles Jr.  
John Kidder  
Joshua Hadley

\*Bouton, IX., pp. 6, 553, and 794.

† Bouton, Town Papers, Vol. IX., p. 541.

Ephraim Powers	John Ordway
Moses Stiles	John Johnson
Jacob Wellman	Adam Johnson
William Carson	John Hutchinson
Edward Bevings Jr.	

To this petition was appended the following note : —

“ Having considered the within Petition I do hereby consent to the Incorporation of the s<sup>d</sup> Town of Lyndeborough & you are hereby directed to prepare a charter of Incorporation accordingly. B. Wentworth”

To Mr. Secretary Atkinson.”

We present now an outline plan of the town as chartered by Col. Joseph Blanchard.

The preceding outline plan of the town represents it and its measurements as given in the Masonian Charter of Dec. 5, 1753.

We now give a copy of the Charter issued by Governor Wentworth :

(SEAL) PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

GEORGE y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> by the Grace of God of great Brittain, France & Ireland King, Defender of the Faith &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come — Greeting —

Whereas our loving subjects Inhabitants on a Tract of Land within our Province of New Hampshire afores<sup>d</sup> by the name Lyndsborough have humbly Petitioned & requested that they may be erected & incorporated into a Township & Infranchised with the same Powers & Priviledges w<sup>ch</sup> other Towns have & Enjoy within our s<sup>d</sup> Province by Law have & enjoy ; and it appearing to us to be conducive to the General good of our s<sup>d</sup> Province as well as to the s<sup>d</sup> Inhabitants in perticular by maintaining good Order & encouraging the culture of s<sup>d</sup> Lands that the same should be done.

Know ye therefore that we of our special Grace, certain knowledge, and for the Encouragement & Promotion of these good Ends & purposes, by & with the Advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esq. our Govern<sup>r</sup> & Commander in Chief, & of our Council for s<sup>d</sup> Province of New Hampshire, Have Erected & Ordained, & by these presents for us, our Heirs & Successors do will & ordain that our loving subjects residing on the Tract of Land afores<sup>d</sup> or that shall hereafter reside and improve thereon, the same being limited & Bounded as followeth, Beginning at the N. East corner of a

Tract of Land called Duxbury School Farm & in the Line of the Township of Amherst, from thence running West by the needle one mile 280 rods to the East Line of the Township of Wilton, from thence North by the needle four hundred Ninety Eight rods to the N<sup>o</sup> East Corner of Wilton afores<sup>d</sup> From thence West by the needle by Wilton afores<sup>d</sup> five miles to a White Ash marked the Corner of Peterborough Slip & Wilton afores<sup>d</sup> from thence West by the needle Two hundred & 40 rod by s<sup>d</sup> Peterb<sup>o</sup> Slip to a Beach tree marked, from thence North by the needle Six miles & Three quarters to a Tree marked for the Corner of s<sup>d</sup> Tract — from thence East by the needle Three miles & one quarter to a Tree marked in the Western Line of New Boston; from thence South by that Line one mile & an half to the most SouthWesterly Corner of New Boston afores<sup>d</sup> from thence East by the s<sup>d</sup> New Boston Line, Three miles 120 rods to a black oak marked; Still by s<sup>d</sup> New Boston Line & runs South Two miles & an half to a stump & stones, from thence East one mile & 80 rods to the North West corner of Amherst afores<sup>d</sup>: from thence South by the Line of Amherst, four miles One hundred Twenty three rods, to the bounds first mentioned, Shall be & by these Presents are declared & ordained to be a Town corporate & are hereby Erected & Incorporated into a body politick & corporate to have continuance untill his Majesty's Pleasure shall be signified to the contrary; by the name of Lyndeborough, with all the Powers Authority's Priviledges and Immunities & Franchises which any other Town in s<sup>d</sup> Province by law have & enjoy; always reserving to us our heirs and successors all White Pine Trees that are or shall be found growing & being on the s<sup>d</sup> Tract of Land, fit for the use of our Royal Navy; reserving also the Power & right of Deviding the s<sup>d</sup> Town when it shall appear necessary & convenient for the benefit for the Inhabitants thereof. Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby declared that this our Charter & Grant is not intended or shall in any manner be construed to Extend to or Affect the Private Property of the Soil within the limits afores<sup>d</sup> And as the several Towns within our s<sup>d</sup> Province of New Hampshire are by the laws thereof enabled & authorized to assemble & by the authority of the voters present to chuse all such officers and Transact such affairs as by s<sup>d</sup> Laws are declared; We Do by these presents Nominate & Appoint Mr. John Stephenson to call the first meeting any time within 30 days from the Date hereof, giving legal notice of the

Time & Place & Design of Holding such meeting, after which the Annual meeting for s<sup>d</sup> Town for the choice of Officers and management of the affairs afores<sup>d</sup> shall be held within s<sup>d</sup> Township on the Second Tuesday of March annually.

In Testimony whereof We have caused the seal of our s<sup>d</sup> Province to be hereunto Affixed.

Witness, Benning Wentworth Esq<sup>r</sup> our Governor & Commander in Chief in & over our s<sup>d</sup> Province of New Hampshire, the 23<sup>d</sup> Day of April in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of our Reign, Annoq Domini 1764.

By his Excell<sup>ty</sup>'s Comand  
with advice of Council

T. Atkinson Jun<sup>r</sup> Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

B. Wentworth.

Province of New Hampshire 24 April 1764.

Recorded in the Book of Charters No. 1 p. 261, 262.

Ⓢ T. Atkinson Jun<sup>r</sup> Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Copy from Original.

#### THE FIRST TOWN MEETINGS.

Province of } By vertue of a Charter I have given notice  
New Hampshire } to all Persons Inhabiting that Tract of Land  
Known by the Name of Lyndeborough that whereas it hath  
Pleased his Excellency Governor Wintworth with the advice of  
the Council of this Province to Incorporate the tract of Land  
with the Inhabitants into a Township by the Name of Lynds-  
borough — whereas it Hath Pleased the said Governor and  
Council to Nominate and apoint me the subscriber to call the  
first Meeting for the choice of town officers.

These are therefore to warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitents of said tract of Land now in the town of Lyndsborough that they meet at the meetinghouse in said town on Tuesday the fifteenth day of May next Insuing the date hereof at one O Clock in the afternoon.

1 — to Except of said Chartor

2 — to Chuse nessecery and ordenary town officers for the year untill the Second tuesday in next March Insuing. Given under my Hand this twenty Eighth day of April Anodo y. 1764

The above is a notification for a town meeting by vertue of a Chartor — Tru Copy

John Stephenson.

At a Legol meeting of the Inhabitants of Lyndsborough being Uneversally met by vertue of a Chartor at the meetinghouse — on fifteenth day of May Ad. 1764

Voted by a Large Majority that the Chartor is Excepted  
 Voted John Shepard Jun<sup>r</sup> Moderator to this meeting  
 Voted John Stephenson Town Clerk  
 Voted Jonathan Cram Benjamin Cram William Carson Se-  
 lectmen  
 Voted Melchizedek Boofee Constable  
 Voted Sergant John Hutchinson Edward Beveins Jun<sup>r</sup> David  
 Badger John Kidder & David Cram Surveyors of Highways  
 Voted Jacob Wellman Ephraim Putnam Tything men  
 Voted Selectmen fence vewers  
 Voted David Badger George Goold Deer Keepers  
 Voted Jacob Cram Asahel Stiles Hawards or field drivers  
 Voted George Goold Pound Keeper.  
 Trew Copy att.  $\text{P}$  John Stephenson Town Clerk.

Province of New Hampshire.

Lyndsborough May y<sup>e</sup> 15, 1764

At the opening of the meeting a discent was given as foloeth.  
 I the Subsbriber do Enter my descent against the excepting  
 of the Chartor as witness my hand Jeramiah Carleton  
 Att. John Stephenson Clerk.

Such is the record of the first town meeting. Three others were also held that year, as if to get the new machinery speedily into good working order.

The first of these was held the 6th of June, and votes were taken on six articles, viz.: —

1. Jonathan Cram was chosen Moderator.
2. A committee was chosen to treat with the Proprietors of the town to see if they will continue their contributions to enable us to hire preaching. Jonathan Cram was chosen such committee.
3. They petitioned the Proprietors for aid in resettling the gospel; & Ephraim Putnam, Jonathan Cram, & John Stephenson were chosen a committee to present the petition.\*
4. Dismissed the matter of raising money to pay for charter.
5. Voted money to pay for boarding the ministers the year past.
6. Dismissed the article, on accepting the roads.

\*The response of the proprietors may be found in the "Proprietors' Records" under date of Nov. 12, 1765. They voted, "that for the Encouragement of a Learned Orthodox minsters settling . . . among the people of Lyndeboro, there be paid to the order of sd Town, the sum of Thirty Three pounds 6 s 8 pence, L. money annually for the space of two years from such minsters settlement,— he continuing to discharge the Office & Duty of a Gospel Minister." Voted also, "That as a further Encouragement for such minsters settling in the ministry at Lyndeboro there is granted Two hundred acres of the Unappropriated Land, to be for the use of such Person his Heirs and Assigns for ever, & to be laid out by the Proprietors." Prop. rec'ds, year 1765.

The second of these meetings was held Sept. 18, 1764, and considered six articles:—

1. Chose Ephraim Powers Moderator.

2. Dismissed consideration of better accommodating the South East corner of the town as to holding Sabbath Meetings, or easing them in paying charges for the minister's board.

3. Voted to raise 6 £. 6 S. sterling money of Great Britain, or 28 Spanish milled Dollars, to pay for the charter of Incorporation.

4. Voted to choose a committee to hire preaching "the Proprietors allowing the money," for the remainder of the year; and chose the Selectmen such committee.

5. Voted to warn townmeetings for the future, by setting up two warrants,—one at the meetinghouse, & the other, at the house of John Hutchinson in the South East corner of the town.

6. Voted to "Except the roads as described in a paper read by Benjamin Cram in this meeting."

The third meeting was held Nov. 28, 1764.

1. Chose Ephraim Powers Moderator.

2. A proposition to divide the town at Boffee's Mountain, so called, was negatived.

3. To see if the town-meetings may be held at the centre of population instead of at the meetinghouse, was also negatived.

4. To see if the town will relieve Jacob Cram and all the other inhabitants South of him from all taxes except the Province tax, was also decided in the negative.

All these were attested by John Stephenson, Town Clerk.

We give abstracts of succeeding meetings:—

Mar. 12, 1765,—Annual Townmeeting.

1. Chose Benjamin Cram, Moderator.

2. " John Stephenson, Clerk.

3. " John Stephenson, Edward Bevius Jr. & David Badger, Selectmen.

Aug. 29, 1765,—

1. Chose Jonathan Cram, Moderator.

2. The several places proposed as sites for the meetinghouse, *negatived*.

3. Vote, to consult Proprietors to aid in deciding on the place, & to call Rev. Antipas Steward as pastor.

4. The latter's salary is not to be specified at this meeting.

5. Benjamin Cram, Sergt. John Hutchinson, & Jacob Cram



were appointed a committee to see what encouragement the Proprietors will give toward Mr. Steward's settlement.

6. Voted that the southeast corner of the town have preaching one fourth of the time at Jacob Cram's house.

Dec. 12, 1765,—

At a meeting held on this date at the meetinghouse Voted,—

1. Benjamin Cram, Moderator.  
2. The proposal to build a meetinghouse on 2nd. division Lot. No. 69, near its N. E. corner &c. *Negatived.*

3. To dismiss the proposal to give Mr. Antepas Steward a call to the ministry.

4. To settle with the Treasurer of the proprietors in regard to money received for preaching, & Jacob Wellman be the committee to carry out the same.

5. To dismiss article five, in regard to hiring preaching in the winter.

6. Cleared Mr. William Carson & Mr. Jeremiah Carleton from paying personal rates this year. The proposal to clear Mr. John Rand Esq., was *negatived.*

John Stephenson, Clerk.

#### DISSENT.

Several freeholders present at this meeting entered an earnest dissent against passing votes "to build a meeting-house near the N. E. corner of 2nd. division Lot No. 69, forty feet long by thirty feet wide, with eighteen feet posts, on condition that the Proprietors pay 26*l*. 13*s*. & 4*d*. towards the building." This was the second article of the warrant; and the third was to see if the town would extend a call to Mr. Steward to become their pastor, and ascertain what assistance the proprietors would give to encourage him in settling here. The dissentients record themselves as follows: "Against said 2nd. & 3rd. articles being voted, we do not yeald or consent unto it for the Reasons that followeth; viz. we think the dementions of the house are not Properly Given; but if they ware we are not able to defray the charges; besides we are of opinion that the place is very discomodious for setting a Meeting House, & that we are not able to settle and soport a minister:—

Joseph Wilkins	Richard Boynton
Phineas Barker	Jacob Wellman
George Hutchinson	William Carson Jr.
Jacob Cram	James Johnson
James Hutchinson	John Carkin

Edward Bevins  
 Edward Bevins Jr.  
 John Johnston  
 John Hutchinson, Sergt.  
 Adam Johnson

John Hutchinson  
 Benjamin Richardson

The above is a true Record of a discent brought in to the Last Town Meeting — true copy — Att. John Stephenson, Town Clerk.

In answer to the petition of the town for fixing on a place for the meetinghouse, the Proprietors of Lyndeborough, at their meeting at Mr. Somerville's in Salem, Mass., on Nov. 12, 1765, voted, "That the meetinghouse be set near the N. East corner of second division Lot. No. 69, belonging to John Goold, he allowing the ten acres ordered by charter to be set off for publick use; provided also that the inhabitants build a suitable house for publick worship of the dimentions following, viz. forty feet long and thirty feet wide, on the Proprietors paying towards the purchase of glass, nails, and other materials the sum of Twenty-six pounds, Thirteen shillings and Four pence, Lawful Money."

Voted, "That for the encouragement of a learned Orthodox minister settling in the ministry among the people at Lyndeborough, there be paid to the order of said town the sum of Thirty-three Pounds, Six shillings & Eight pence annually for the space of five years from the settlement of a minister, he continuing to discharge the office & duty of a gospel minister to said people."

Voted, "That as a further encouragement for such minister's settlement in the ministry at said place, there be granted two hundred acres of Land to such person, his heirs & assigns for ever, and to be laid out by the proprietors."\*

True Copy, Benj<sup>a</sup> Lynde, Proprietors' Clerk.

Att. True Copy Examined, John Stephenson, T. Clerk.

Jan. 16, 1766.

On this date, a town meeting held in the meetinghouse.

1. Chose Benjamin Cram, Moderator, and voted, to adjourn the meeting to Mr. Ebenezer Caston's house. (now C. R. Boutwell place).

2. Voted, "by Pole to Except of the Proposals" made by

\*T. R. I., page 18.

the Proprietors of the town in answer to the petition of the town Respecting a Meeting-house.

3. Voted to choose a committee consisting of Ephraim Putnam, John Stephenson & George Goold, to inform the Proprietors of their action.

On Dec. 3, 1765, occurred one of the instances of a custom, common in those early days, of warning out of the town any recent comer who had no good means of self-support, and was therefore likely to become a burden on the town. When in the opinion of Edward Bevins Jr. such a person was on the ground, he notified his associates on the board of selectmen of the fact, and they issued a warrant expressed in these words: "Pursuant therefore to the Law of this Province in such cases made and provided, you are hereby in his Majesty's name required instantly to warn the said (person named) to depart and leave this town." The warrant was signed by the two remaining selectmen, John Stephenson and David Badger.

Rev. Mr. Clark gives an amusing instance of one constable who performed a duty of this kind "with great official importance," saying "I have come Mr. Wilkins to warn you off the face of God's earth; so now you step!" \*

The warrant for the town-meeting, March 11, 1766, had a postscript added to it, from the inhabitants of the S. E. corner of the town, desiring either to have the meeting-house brought nearer to them, or to be cleared "from the charge or part of the charge of building the meeting-house and settling a minister, excepting his yearly salary."

Town Meeting at the meetinghouse. Voted,

1. Benjamin Cram be moderator.
2. Benjamin Cram, John Stephenson and Sargt. John Hutchinson be selectmen.
3. John Stephenson, Town Clerk.

Also, to repair, accept, and lay out various roads; and adjourned to March 13, at ten o'clock a. m. at the meetinghouse.

Met according to adjournment. Voted to warn town meetings by setting up two warrants; *one* at Benjamin Cram's house, and *the other* at John Hutchinson's, in the S. E. corner of the town.

Voted, Ephraim Putnam, Melchizedek Boffee, and George Gould a committee to supply the pulpit.

\* S.-C., page 31.

Voted, to concur with the church in completing a call to Rev. A. Steward.

Voted, To give him an annual salary of 40£ sterling until there are seventy families, and after that, Forty-five pound, until there are a hundred families; and after that 50£, annually.

Voted, That the supply committee extend the call.

Voted, To dismiss the Postscript.

July 1, 1766. At a legal meeting of this date

*First.* Voted, Jacob Wellman, Moderator.

*Second.* Voted, that the selectmen lay out a road from Jacob Wellman's to Amherst line, near Stephen Peabody's;

*Thirdly,* Voted, another road proposed, in the *negative*.

July 21 At a legal meeting, the Rev. Daniel Wilkins of Amherst being present was chosen moderator.

Voted, That, in order that the most easterly inhabitants of the town may cordially join with the others in settling the gospel, that the meeting-house be built about half way between where it was fixed by the Proprietors of this township, and where the meeting-house now stands, that is, before the door of Mr. Gould's house, where a heap of stone is this instant laid by the inhabitants of the town; Provided the Proprietors consent thereto, as in the former place by them voted.

The meeting was adjourned, to the spot here described, when the vote was passed.

Aug. 7. A legal meeting was held and voted:

1. That Jonathan Cram be Moderator.

2. Chose a committee to consult the Proprietors and see whether they will concur with the town in setting a meeting-house where the town last voted; and also to see if they will grant any further encouragement towards a minister's settlement. The committee were Ephraim Putnam, Jonathan Cram, and Jacob Wellman.

Sept. 4, 1766. A legal meeting held on this date.

Chose Ephraim Putnam, Moderator.

Voted, the Proprietors having concurred in the change, to build the meeting-house in front of George Gould's house, where a heap of stones was laid by the inhabitants on July 21, 1766.

Voted, To give Mr. Antipas Steward a call.

Voted John Johnson, Jonathan Cram and John Glover a committee to procure land for a meetinghouse spot.

Mr. Antipas Steward declined the call given. Possibly the dissensions about the location and building of the meeting-house influenced his decision. But, at a legal meeting held Jan. 20, 1767, the very next meeting of the town after this, the town voted "to give Mr. Sewall Goodridge a call to settle with us." They voted for "his incorigemint to settle, Fifty Pounds "starling money of Grate Brittan," twenty-five to be paid within one year after his settlement, and the residue within the second year after. The remaining terms of his salary were the same as those offered Mr. Steward.

It was voted that the moderator, Jonathan Cram, together with Ephraim Putnam and Benjamin Cram give Mr. Goodridge the call.

TOWN MEETING, Feb. 13, 1767.

At the meeting held on this date the usual steps were taken to obtain assistance from the proprietors; and further to see if they would grant the minister, provided he shall accept the call, the privilege of his selecting the 200 acre farm which they had voted him; or if he did not settle with them, to see if they would permit the town to choose such a farm out of the common and undivided land.

March 10, 1767.—At the annual meeting the customary officers were chosen and necessary appropriations made for expenses.

Dec. 10.—Met at the meetinghouse. Voted,

1. Jonathan Cram for Moderator.
2. To build a meetinghouse next year, 50 ft. long, by 40 ft. wide, with twentytwo feet studs; the outside to be decently finished, and the lower floor laid by the Sep. 1st. next ensuing.
3. To raise 80£ to carry on the work, & a committee of five men, viz. Benjamin Cram, Jonathan Cram, Sergeant John Hutchinson, Levi Spaulding, and James Boutwell, was chosen to complete it.

Town meeting, Dec. 24, 1767. Voted,

1. Jonathan Cram as Moderator.
2. To give Mr. Sewall Goodridge a call to settle in the ministry in this town; and further,
3. That Jonathan Cram, Benjamin Cram, and Ephraim Putnam be committee to extend Mr. Goodridge's call.
4. To adjourn this meeting to Jan. 5, 1768.

The adjourned meeting was held, and Ephraim Putnam was chosen to carry his answer from Mr. Goodridge, and the conditions attached to the Proprietors.

Voted, To adjourn this meeting to Jan. 21.

Met according to adjournment, and again,

Voted, To adjourn to the 2nd. Tuesday in Mar. next, (Mar. 8, 1768.)

Met accordingly on Mar. 8.

Voted, To adjourn to the first Monday in May next, (May 2nd.)

May 2.— Voted, To concur with the church in the ordination of Mr. Sewall Goodridge.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Lyndeboro' upon adjournment on the 5th. day of January 1768, at the meetinghouse

Voted in order to receive Mr. Sewall Goodridge's answer to the foregoing call, that Ephraim Putnam is committee to carry Mr. Goodridge's answer or the conditions of his answer to the Proprietors of this Township.

Voted, to continue the adjournment of this meeting to thursday the twenty first day of this Instant January, at ten of the clock, in the forenoon, at the meetinghouse.

true copy, Att  $\text{J}^{\text{r}}$  John Stephenson } Town Clerk.

At the adjournment of a meeting of the Town of Lyndsborough on the twenty first day of January 1768, at the meetinghouse,—

Voted to adjourn this meeting to the Second tuesday in March next, at Nine O'clock in the forenoon at the meetinghouse.

copy att  $\text{J}^{\text{r}}$  John Stephenson } Town Clerk.

At a meeting of the Inhabitents of Lyndsborough, at the meetinghouse, upon adjournment on March the Eighth, 1768, (being a Tuesday) at nine o'clock in the forenoon:—

Voted, to Continue the adjournment of this meeting to the first monday in may next, at two of the clock in the afternoon at the meetinghouse.

true copy att  $\text{J}^{\text{r}}$  John Stephenson } Town Clerk.

At the meeting of the Inhabitents of Lyndsborough upon adjournment on may 2<sup>d</sup>, 1768, at the meetinghouse—

Voted, to concur with the Church in the Choice of the after-mentioned Pastors & Churches to performe the solemnite of the ordination of Mr. Sewall Goodridge over the Church of Christ in this Place, on wednesday the seventh day of September next, (viz.) Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Zabdiel Adams,— Rev<sup>d</sup> John Payson— Rev<sup>d</sup> Nathaniel Merrill, Rev<sup>d</sup> Daniel Wilkins— Rev<sup>d</sup> Daniel

Emerson — Rev<sup>d</sup> Joseph Emerson, — Rev<sup>d</sup> Stephen Farrar, — Rev<sup>d</sup> Jonathan Livermore — and Rev<sup>d</sup> Joseph Kidder.\*

Messrs. John Stevenson, Melchizedek Boffee, and George Gould were chosen a committee to provide entertainment for the council, and also for the relatives of Mr. Goodridge.†

The bills for entertainment amounted to the handsome sum of Fortyeight Pounds, four shillings & six pence, silver, Old Tenor.‡

But the location of the meetinghouse was an irrepressible source of trouble. At a town-meeting held in April|| a request made by Josiah Dutton and others from the western part of the town, for better accommodation as to the place of the meetinghouse received consideration. Those who made the request and the rest of the town, mutually agreed to refer the case to a committee jointly chosen. The committee consisted of three prominent and judicious men, which were, Col. John Goffe of Bedford, Col. Samuel Barr, of Londonderry, and Col. John Hale of Hollis. After due attention and deliberation concerning the matter, they decided upon the spot already selected, where a monument of stones had been laid, and stated that that spot or “as near that as the Land will admit, in our opinion, is the most suitable place for erecting the meetinghouse in the Town of Lyndeborough.”

Signed	John Goffe	}	Com.§
	Samuel Barr		
	John Hale		

#### ESTIMATED COST OF MEETINGHOUSE.

The town, on date here given, Nov. 1, 1768, voted to accept “acompts” of the committee for the cost of the meetinghouse which was “One thousand thirty seven Pounds Eight shillings & seven pence, silver, old tenor; of which Eighty Pounds, Lawful Money is raised.”¶

They voted to raise £53, 6s. and 8d. to pay the remaining charge of the building.\*\* They voted also to have 20 pews around by the walls, and four back of the body seats. The pews were to be appraised by a committee, and the highest payer of rates was to have first choice of pews as appraised, the second highest payer, next choice, and so on. The money received was to be laid out in finishing the house.††

John Stephenson, Osgood Carlton and Jacob Wellman were

\*For a full account of the ordination, see chapter on the church history.

†T. R. I. pp. 40, 41. †Ib., p. 46. (Records again abridged.) ††April 11, 1768.

§ T. R.'s I. pp. 23, 44. ¶ See T. R., I, p. 36 \*\* Ib., p. 47. †† T. R., I, p. 51.

chosen a committee to lay out and appraise the spots for the pews.

Nov. 28, 1769, a committee consisting of Adam Johnson, Osgood Carlton and Jacob Wellman was appointed to examine the land allowed for the meeting-house, and see that its bounds were properly described and recorded.

The land was 22 rods long on the west side, 23 rods on the east side,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  rods on the north end, and 11 rods on the south end, on the west side of the road.\*

Mar. 16, 1770, the town voted to have 26 pews on the lower floor, exclusive of the parsonage pew, and 22 pews in the gallery, 48 in all. The parsonage pew seems not to have been counted. Spots for the pews were sold on the 7th of Nov., 1770, for 189 pounds, L. M., John Shepard Esq. acting as salesman; and it hardly seems as though they could have had a very dry time of it. For the bills for "Liquer, Vittels, Horse-keeping, and Other Particulars were 9*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*"

In one of the warrants for a town meeting in 1771, was an article which aimed, "To see if the Town will take any method to prevent the Snow Blowing in threw the Ruf of the Backside of the meetinghouse;" and on this matter they voted to "Pint the Backside of the Ruf."

At the March meeting in 1772, the price of labor for men and oxen on the highways was fixed from the middle of April to the last of October, by vote as follows: Two shillings a day for a man, and one shilling and four pence a day for a pair of oxen, nine and one half pence for a cart: and from the first of November to the middle of April, one shilling and six pence a day for a man, and one shilling for a pair of oxen; one shilling and four pence for a plow, and the other articles that men work with in proportion.

The matter of special interest in the town records for the year 1773 was the petition of the inhabitants to the Court at Amherst, then, the shire town, for the repeal of a financial grievance. This arose in the following way. John Holland of Amherst, a deputy sheriff, brought suit against one Joseph Kelley of Hudson, and obtained judgment against him for the sum of *l.*83. Kelley failed to secure bondsmen, and was imprisoned. But he, together with another prisoner, escaped from jail, and left Holland to take care of his own finances. This he did by petitioning the Court for a grant to atone for

\* T. R. I, p. 76.



his loss, and the Court so decreed it. The £83 therefore was added to the county taxes, forming as the petitioners thought, an unjust and grievous burden, and a precedent liable to be repeated whenever an unprincipled man could win the favor of the Court in a similar case. There were also circumstances which suggested official connivance in connexion with the escape. Nearly all the towns in the county united in a petition for redress.

This town voted unanimously to send John Stephenson and Nathaniel Phelps to join in a request that the Court would reconsider the grant made to Holland, and direct the County "Treasurer not to pay the same."\*

When at the session of Court, "the Question was put whether the Court would Issue an order to the treasurer to revoke the former order and it passed in the Negative, Ordered therefore that the petition be Dismissed.

Copy Attest J. Holland."†

He seems to have been Clerk of that Court. But the people of Lyndeborough were not satisfied. Consequently on Nov. 1, 1773, the Town voted to send John Stephenson as agent to petition the General Court, or Legislature, for a repeal of the grievances they suffer on account of Capt. Kelly's "escape out of Goal." But, all seems to have been of no avail. For in the House, Jan. 21, 1774, the petition was dismissed. It was a bit of interesting and instructive reading however.‡

It will be remembered that this was the year, 1773, of the appalling calamity connected with the raising of the Wilton meeting-house. The event is not properly a part of our town history. But, to such an extent were our citizens sufferers in consequence of it, that no history of that period would be at all adequate to our situation, which should not contain some account of it. We are, therefore, glad to reproduce a passage from the account of the Wilton Centennial, which describes for us in fitting language, the awful occasion.

CASUALTIES OF LYNDEBOROUGH MEN AT THE RAISING OF  
THE WILTON MEETING-HOUSE.

The following graphic account of the event is from the oration of Rev. Ephraim Peabody, at the centennial celebration of Wilton, in 1839.

They commenced raising it Sept. 7, 1773. Such things

\* Bouton IX, p. 23.

† Ib. p. 24.

‡ Bouton XI, pp. 63 to 65.

were conducted differently then from what they are now. It was considered the work of two days. People came from distant towns to see the spectacle. There was great note of preparation. A committee of the town appointed the raisers, and ample provisions were made to entertain strangers.

It was a beautiful September morning. And now might be seen coming in by every road, and from the neighboring towns, great numbers, men, women and children, to see the show. Some came on foot; some practiced the method, unknown in modern days, of riding and tying; some were on horseback, with their wives or sisters behind on a pillion. It was an occasion of universal expectation. The timbers were all prepared, the workmen ready, and the master-workman, full of the dignity of his office, issuing his orders to his aids. All went on prosperously. The good cheer, the excitement of the work, the crowd of spectators, men looking on, women telling the news, boys playing their various games, all made it a scene of general rejoicing.

The sides of the house were already up, and also <sup>a</sup> part of the roof at the east end of the building. One of the raisers from Lyndeborough, Captain Bradford, had brought over his wife, whom he left on account of illness, at the place where Mr. Baldwin now resides, while he himself went on to take part in the work. Having to pass along the centre of the building he observed that the middle beam extending across the church, was not properly supported. A post was under the centre, but it was wormeaten and was already beginning to yield and give way under the pressure. In raising the middle part of the roof the weight of the workmen would come in great measure on this beam, which was evidently not strong enough to bear up the timbers and men. He immediately ascended the roof and informed the masterworkman, who, being made over confident by the success thus far, replied to him that if he was afraid he might go home, that they wanted no cowards there. Indignant, he immediately went down and started off for his wife with the purpose of returning home. But before he had reached Mr. Baldwin's the men had already proceeded forward, confident and elated at their progress. They were swarming upon the unsupported beam and the planks and timbers which rested on it. They were raising up, with much exertion and shouts of direction and encouragement the beams and rafters, when suddenly, as he was anxiously looking back, he saw the frame

already erected tremble, the men shrink back aghast, the building seemed to rock for a moment to and fro, and suddenly all, timbers and tools and men, rushed down together in one mingled mass in the centre. The crash was so loud as to be heard nearly a mile. For a moment all was silent, and then the air was filled with groans and outcries and shrieks of terror. There were fifty-three men on the frame that fell. Three were instantly killed, two died very shortly afterwards, others were crippled for life, and most of them were more or less mangled or wounded.

“To understand the impression that the event made at the time, it must be remembered the whole population of the town—men, women and children—was scarcely five hundred. It was like so many men lost overboard from a ship at sea. It caused a general mourning, for there were few families which had not lost a friend, or connexion, or some one of whose friends were not among the wounded.”

Under date of Nov. 30, 1894, W. H. Grant Esq. of St. Paul, Minnesota wrote his brother, David C. Grant. “I found recently a list of the killed and wounded at the raising of the Wilton Meeting-house. Those from Lyndeborough were as follows;—Killed instantly, Reuben Stiles. Mortally wounded, Joseph Severance, Timothy Carlton, and Benjamin Jones. The first of these died the next day; the second, lived four days, and the third was supposed to be dead, when the matter was written. Wounded, David Carlton, Jonathan Chamberlain, Thomas Boffee, Andrew Thompson, Benjamin Senter, Ebenezer Gardner, Uriah Cram, Edward Bevins, Nehemiah Hutchinson, and John Rowe.”

Sept. 14th, 1774, the town voted to build a pound, 25x30 feet, the wall to be 6 feet high, faced on the inside, 3 feet thick at the bottom and 1½ feet at the top, and to be capped with a timber frame. It was to have a convenient gate with lock, and was to be finished to the “Exceptance” of the town by the first of March. George Gould and Thomas Boffee agreed to build it as proposed for Four Pound, Lawful Money.

The ruins of the structure, long unused, show the solidity of their work, done nearly 130 years ago. It stands back of the sheds, south of the meeting-house.

## PRECURSORS OF THE REVOLUTION

Had already begun to appear. On the 15th day of July, 1774, the Chairman of the House of Representatives sent a message to the Selectmen of Lyndeborough, desiring them to choose an agent to join with agents from the other towns, in a convention at Exeter, to consult as to the best and most peaceable methods for uniting the colonies and the mother country, and establishing their rights and privileges on a solid and lasting foundation. He also requested the people to raise thirty shillings by subscription to defray expenses in connexion with the Congress at Philadelphia.

The Selectmen, Andrew Fuller, David Badger, and Levi Spaulding, called a meeting for July 18, and added, "As the time is short we would desire every one that hath money by him would bring it to the meeting with him."

Signed, Andrew Fuller, T. Clerk.

At this meeting, Ephraim Putnam was chosen Agent to go to "Exator," and the thirty shillings for the expenses of the New Hampshire delegates to Congress were provided.

At a town meeting Oct. 31, 1774, it was voted to purchase a Town Stock of "Powder, Bawls and Flints," namely, one barrel of powder, one hundred "wait of lead and five Dussen of Flints," and Ephraim Putnam was chosen to make the purchase.

Thus preparations were making for possible hostilities, at the same time that delegates were appointed to use their utmost wisdom to bring about an honorable and enduring peace.





MOUNTAIN VIEW FROM H. J. RICHARDSON'S HOUSE.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

The last meeting on record in Volume I, of our town's archives, is dated Jan. 20, 1775, and states that Dr. Benjamin Jones was elected a delegate to Exeter, where a convention was to choose an agent, or agents, to the Continental Congress, to assemble at Philadelphia in May; and also to choose a committee to apportion to each town its share of the expenses of such a congress.

At the annual meeting in March the town voted to raise money to pay the expenses of delegates to Congress.

The disturbances in and around Boston were reported in all the parts of New England with which Boston held communication. The militia of New Hampshire were alive to all the interests of a true freedom as far as they were able to see them. The organization and training of men for military service in an emergency had not been wholly neglected. The report of the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, sounded out among our northern hills as the tocsin for mustering their freedom loving inhabitants, and from all sides the brave yeomanry sprung to arms.

Four days after the famous fight and flight from Lexington and Concord, Captain Levi Spaulding of Lyndeborough marched with a company of sixty men to the seat of war. Thomas Boffee was his 2nd lieutenant; William Lee and James Hutchinson were sergeants, and twenty-three others of his fellow townsmen and neighbors were in the ranks; a list of whom is appended: Corporals, Benjamin Dike and Samuel Hutchinson. Fifer, Jacob Dutton. Privates, Nathaniel Batchelder, Phineas Barker, Edward Bevins, James Campbell, Nehemiah Hutchinson, John Johnson, Jesse Lund, John Rowe, Ephraim Smith, Isaac Carkin, David Carlton,\* Ezra Dutton, Joseph Ellinwood, Samuel McMaster, Andrew Thompson, Jacob Wellman, Elisha Wilkins, Josiah Woodbury, Timothy McIntire, Daniel Cram.

At a town meeting on May 3, 1775, it was voted to raise ten minute-men and voted upon the fidelity of the town, that

\* David Carlton was mortally wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill, and died two days later, June 19, 1775. Jacob Wellman was also reported as mortally wounded, but he recovered and lived many years.

if these are called away upon any "Sudding Elerrim," those that tarry at home shall take care of their farms; and the selectmen were appointed to carry this vote into effect.

They chose Ephraim Putnam, Jr., delegate to the Congress at Exeter. Agreed to buy a town stock of provisions, and chose a committee to have charge of it. They also voted to pay each minute-man one shilling for each half-day's exercise in drill, which they desired should be performed each week.

Every vote passed in relation to the war for independence and raising and equipping men for the army indicates the patriotic spirit of the people, and the lively interest they took in the welfare of their country.

June 17, 1775, a meeting was called at which the whole "Training Band" was requested to assemble in order to choose three commissioned officers for the town, and those who had received powder or balls from the town were requested to return them to the Selectmen. While men read this notice in Lyndeborough, twenty-six of her gallant sons with their brave Captain, Levi Spaulding, were under British fire and doing fatal work against their country's would-be oppressors, on memorable Bunker Hill. They were with the rear guard of the retreating Americans, like a fiery wall between them and their British pursuers. One of them, David Carlton, was mortally wounded and carried off the field by his brother-in-law, John Johnson, and on the second day after the battle, died. Another, Jacob Wellman, was reported as mortally wounded, but recovered, and later became Captain, serving his country faithfully, and becoming a prominent man in the town.

June 19, 1775.—The meeting was held and officers were chosen according to the notification, and the town voted to sell school lot No. 126, "provided they can have the money down for it," and William Carson, James Boutwell and Amos Whittemore were chosen a committee to effect the sale.

Among the provisions ordered for the town, were forty hogsheads of salt, five of molasses, and one of rum. The citizens were evidently moderate drinkers, not sots.

On the 21st of November, 1775, the committee entrusted with the sale of the school lot reported that they had "sold the same to Mr. John Clark for the sum of 67*£*, 10 Shillings," and had taken security of him, and were answerable for the same.

December 1st, 1775, at the town meeting, the question arose whether they would "join with Wilton in sending a Deligate to



Exator," or send independently, which they viewed as their right. It was decided in the negative, because they were unwilling to renounce their "birthright and privileges."

February 29, 1776, the town voted to request the appointment of Andrew Fuller a Justice of the Peace and Joseph Herrick as Coroner.

That Andrew Fuller was not an unfit man for the office may appear from an incident, which in our day, may seem trivial. In his effort to enforce the statute against profanity, he aimed to be honest and impartial. And once when he found himself a violator of it, he made out the regular papers in such cases, and imposed and paid the usual penalty of one dollar for the offense.

July 11, 1776.—A meeting was held to see what means the town will take to raise their quota of men to go to "Cannidy." They voted that the men who were most able to hire should couple together and hire men until the number required was raised.

In October, 1776, the people anticipating an alarm soon, on Sunday, the 27th, after service, gave notice of a meeting on Monday, October 28, at which they voted to purchase a barrel of powder, and appointed Mr. Joseph Herrick to provide it, and empowered the Selectmen to hire money for the same.

November 9, 1776.—Mr. Herrick informed the people that he had provided the powder as above, and as he is going to the "Westward Army" next Tuesday, he determines to carry the powder to the Training tomorrow for the town's acceptance.

A meeting called in the same manner as the preceding one was held November 11, 1776, at which Capt. John Stephenson was chosen as agent to consult with other agents at Dracut, Mass., in connection with merchants and farmers. At this meeting Mr. James Boutwell was chosen custodian of the town's stock of ammunition.

Tuesday, the 26th of November, the town voted to unite with Wilton, Duxbury School Farm and Mile Slip in the choice of a Deputy.

The annual meeting for this year (1777) gave attention to the usual routine work. But on the 8th of April a meeting convened with Capt. Levi Spaulding as moderator, at which a vote passed to give each man yet to be raised to make up the sixteen that are called for, one hundred dollars, with interest until it is paid. At the same meeting they voted to divide the

town into school districts, and appointed a committee for the purpose.

In a meeting held May 6th, 1777, a committee of five men was chosen to appraise and settle the turns done in the war from the 19th of April, 1775, to the present time, and Capt. Nathaniel Batchelder, Lieut. Reuben Spaulding, Deacon David Badger, Dr. Benjamin Jones and Mr. Joseph Herrick were the committee. One hundred dollars bounty was voted to the sixteen men that have enlisted or shall enlist from this town, "except Joseph Wilson and Thomas Grush who have received hire from particular men."

Monday, December 1st, 1777.—The town voted to set every month's turn of service for the colonies in the present war at twenty shillings. A protest was entered against this vote, and the like, stating, "Such votes are to us unreasonable," as they give "money out of our pockets to men that was hired by persons out of this town to do a turn for them; therefore we protest we will pay none of such moneys.

Lyndeborough, January 12, 1778.

Signed,

Philip Fletcher  
Joseph Herrick  
Benjamin Jones  
Samuel Huston  
Joseph Batchelder  
Robert Badger  
Aaron Lewis  
Eleazer Woodard  
David Badger  
Edmund Bickford  
Nathaniel Batchelder  
Reuben Batchelder

John Kidder  
Joshua Hadley  
Andrew Fuller  
John Savage  
John Raynolds  
Reuben Spaulding  
Isaac Day  
Daniel Gould  
Nathaniel Phelps  
William Barron  
Benjamin Punchard

Attest pr. Peter Clark, T. Clerk."

Though an effort was made to have the votes passed Dec. 1, 1777, reconsidered and disannuled, the town at subsequent meetings on Jan. 12 and Feb. 9, 1778, refused to reconsider, disannul, alter or amend them. At the last mentioned meeting, Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union, from Congress, were read, and the town voted its approbation of them.

Annual meeting and usual election of town officers Mar. 10, 1778. But on Mar. 26, 1778,\* the town voted to procure and

\*T. Records, II. p. 43.

pay a man to take Asa Boutwell's place in the army; and Capt. Peter Clark was chosen agent to hire the man. Samuel Barron of Amherst was hired, and performed the service; but when tendered 105 £, the stipulated sum, he refused it, because the currency had, in the meantime, so depreciated that it failed to fulfil the contract.\* This tender was made early in 1780, and under date of November 15 of that year, the following note was addressed,

To the Town of Lyndeborough.  
Gentlemen.

I hereby acquaint you that I have offered the nominall sum of money that I agreed to pay Samuel Barrons in Behalf of the Town as a Reward for his taking Asa Boutwell's place in the army, and he refuses to take the same. Therefore, I desire you would furnish me with money sufficient to pay him the said Barron, Forty for one, agreeable to the depreciating act.

Peter Clark.

Lyndeborough, Nov. 15, 1780.

A true copy att. Pr. Benj<sup>n</sup> Jones } T. Clerk. †

At the annual meeting Mar. 13, 1781, the town voted, "to raise money to enable Maj. Clark to fulfil his agreement with Samuel Barron, according to the Depreciation Act." †

At a town meeting May 4, 1778, Nehemiah Rand, Esq., was chosen to represent the town at a convention to be held in Concord, on the 10th day of June next, for the purpose of forming a plan of government for this State. Voted, also, to add one hundred pounds, L. M. to Mr. Goodridge's stated salary for this present year. ||

This seems to have been a generous addition, in view of all the other burdensome expense of war times.

The people in general were beginning to feel very sensibly the effects of carrying on the war. Prominent among these effects were the depreciation of their currency and the scarcity of the common necessaries of life. The latter result was regarded as the work of monopolists, which then unduly raised the prices of meats as well as of farm products and merchandise, even as they do today. Then there were the financial stringency consequent upon the vast expenditures needed to prosecute a war, and the insatiable greed of brokers and money changers to add to the many other distresses of the situation.

\* T. Records, II., p. 44.

† *Ib.*, p. 48.

‡ T. Records, II, p. 90, 9thly.

|| T. Records, II, p. 50,

In an effort to relieve the pressing burdens, a convention was called to consider the best means of amelioration. The convention was held at Concord, Sept. 22, 1779, at 10 o'clock A.M., and Nehemiah Rand was sent as delegate from this town, chosen Aug. 30, previous. At 1 o'clock P.M. on the same day, the town voted to accept the plan of government. An Order had been received from the general court to present reasons, if any existed, why "Parsons' Corner," so called, should not be set off and joined with Duxbury School Farm and a part of the Mile Slip, to form a new town. They opposed the measure, and appointed Deacon Cram, Capt. Levi Spaulding and Deacon Badger to oppose it in the Legislature.\*

The reasons presented by this committee are printed in full in "Bouton's Town Papers," Vol. XII., pp. 519, 520. They were briefly these: In a time when there were only about forty families in town, the people in the southeast corner, being more compactly located, were the strongest advocates for placing our meeting-house where it now stands, much nearer the east than the west side. The building was erected at an expense from which the people, even yet, have hardly recovered. And now these petitioners seek to free themselves wholly from the responsibility incurred, and roll it more oppressively on the rest of the town. Moreover, a mountain crosses the north part of our town, running from east to southwest, beyond which the land is already filling up with new inhabitants, who are likely to be formed into a town by themselves at no very distant day. We can not expect to retain them because of the mountain barrier. In closing, the committee said, "If the Prayer of the Aforesaid Petitioners Should be Granted and the Land therein Mentioned be set off, And in Process of Time the west Part of the Town likewise It will leave a Poor Parish indeed such an One as Cannot by any means Support the Gospel and Other Necessary Charges."

"We therefore Submit these Considerations to Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> Wisdom to Do therein as to Justice Shall Appertain And as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray."

Levi Spaulding }  
Benjamin Cram } Committee.  
David Badger }

[The project did not succeed.—E.D.]

In compliance with an address issued by the fore-mentioned

\*Parsons' Cor. Defection.

Concord convention of Sept. 27, 1779, to the several towns of the colony, a committee of nineteen men was appointed by our town, "to set a value" upon the necessaries of life, and to note any violation of the agreement fixed upon by the committee, acting under the instruction of the convention. The members of that committee were men of high standing, heads of families from all parts of the town, whose character and judgment would have great weight and influence. Their names follow:\*

Peter Clark	Daniel Gould
Jeremiah Carlton	Nathaniel Phelps
Thomas Parsons	Capt. Wm. Barrons
Nehemiah Rand	Samuel McMaster
Nathaniel Batchelder	Deacon Putnam
Jacob Wellman	Amos Whittemore
David Badger	Nathan Parsons
Josiah Woodbury	Jacob Cram
John Raynolds	Jonathan Parsons
Joseph Herrick	

At a legal meeting the 11th of October, 1779,

1. Voted to accept the report of this committee and
2. Voted "that this committee be continued, and follow the direction of the Convention in all respects for the appreciating our paper currency."

At the regular annual meeting, March 9, 1779, the sixth article to consider was the insufficiency of the pastor's salary, in view of the depreciated currency. The response to this matter was cordial, and it was voted to pay Rev. Sewall Goodridge £750, L. M., including his stated salary for the year, "in corn, rye, wool, flax, pork, beef, or labor, at the price such articles used to be sold for in the year 1774."

The town, Aug. 3, 1779, was requested to act on three articles presented in a petition which had been sent to the selectmen, signed by a number of persons.\*

Article 1. To hear the complaint of any aggrieved person, and allow every one liberty to stand or sit, during the singing in public worship;

Article 2. To see if the church and congregation may introduce Dr. Watts' version of the psalms and hymns into the public worship; and

Article 3. To see if the town will grant the "Choreesters" (choir?) any particular seat or seats in the meeting-house.

\*T. R., II, p. 60.

† Vol. II, T. R., pp. 57, 58.

The petition was granted, and permission was given to introduce said "psalms and hymns" upon trial for three months; and also voted four men's seats and three women's seats below in the meeting-house to accommodate the singers.

Feb. 3, 1780, the citizens were requested to state whether they were willing that Joshua Atherton Esq. might plead law in the county for any who wished to employ him. On March 28 following, the town unanimously voted their disapprobation of Mr. Atherton's pleading law.

At the same meeting, they voted to allow Mr. Nehemiah Rand's account for attending the conventions at Concord and Exeter for forming a plan of government, and supporting the credit of the currency for the years 1778 and 1779; (viz.) the quantity of 22 bushels and 3 pecks of corn, or money to purchase the same. Voted, also to allow thirty dollars for a day's work, previously hired at 3 shillings.\*

The town voted April 17, 1780, to choose a committee to report to the committee of claims sitting at Exeter, the amounts of money, certified by oath, that had been "paid to or expended on the Continental soldiers or their families since the year 1777."† Committee, Major Clark, Deacon Putnam, Jeremiah Carlton, Capt. Wellman and Esqr. Fuller.

The surrounding towns have all sought, and profited by securing portions of Lyndeborough territory.\* In 1780, a petition was sent to the General Court by several inhabitants of this town and of the northwest part of Amherst, praying that a half mile of the east side of this town be annexed to the northwest part of the town of Amherst, and formed into a new town. The Legislature gave the town the usual notice, to show cause why the petition should not be granted. The town at a legal meeting, held Sept. 28, 1780, chose Deacon Badger, Capt. Barron, and Capt. Spaulding to present a remonstrance to the Legislature against the aim of the petitioners, and the project for the time at least was defeated.

Jan. 29, 1781, the town chose a committee consisting of Capt. Jonas Kidder, Lieut. Amos Whittemore and Ensign John Savage, to make an average of what every man had done in town toward the war, since its commencement.† The average was made month for month, according to the time spent in the army. A bounty of forty shillings per month was paid them

\* T. R. I, p. 90, II, p. 66, 5thly.

† T. Records II, pp. 68 and 69.

‡ T. Records II, p. 73.

|| T. Records II, p. 82.

for service done in the army. But citizens of this town were not to receive anything for service rendered for other towns, unless such service was properly certified, or proof of it was furnished by two reliable witnesses.

Another committee was chosen at the same meeting, consisting of Capt. Barron, Mr. Amos Persons, and Mr. Eleazar Woodward, and the commissioned officers, to raise and enlist the quota of men for the town.\*

Feb. 20, 1781. At a legal meeting, Capt. Spaulding, Moderator, "Voted to accept the agreement which the committee has made with the men who engaged to serve in the Continental Army for the term of three years."† The committee was authorized to give notes on the behalf of the town, which voted to give each soldier that enlisted in the Continental Army for three years a thousand dollars paper money, to be deducted out of their hire in proportion to the agreement. The agreement was that each soldier was to receive one-third of his wages or bounty, at the end of each year, which was secured to him by notes, given on behalf of the town. The selectmen were authorized to assess the money on the town.

THE SOLDIER'S AGREEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1781.‡

We the Subscribers, for and in consideration of Eight Dollars per month, to be paid in Indian corn at three shillings per bushel, or rye at four shillings per bushel, or money, or quick stock equal thereto, to be paid to us by the town of Lyndeborough in three years from the time of our passing muster. Do voluntarily inlist ourselves to serve in the Continental army the term of three years from the time we pass muster, and promise obedience to our officers and submit to the rules and regulations of the army during the said term.

Further, we agree that if we do not pass muster, the agreement to be void; and we further agree with Capt. William Barron and Mr. Amos Persons and Mr. Eleazar Woodward together with the commissioned officers, a committee chosen by the town to hire our proportion of Continental men to take one thousand paper dollars and Reduct it out of the above sum, agreeable to the price of Grain in paper money.

Lyndeborough Feb. 1 1781.

John Putnam  
Moses Ordway

Samuel Punchard Jr.  
Edward Spaulding

† T. Records II, p. 82.

† T. Records II, p. 84.

† T. Records II, p. 85.

Israel Hails, During war. Luther Smith

A true Cobby Att. per. Benj<sup>a</sup> Jones } Town Clerk

At a legal meeting held May 15, 1781, Maj. Peter Clark was chosen to represent the town in the convention called to meet at Concord, the first Tuesday of June next.\*

July 10, the town voted, that constables shall not receive any of the old continental money for the town rates of those who are behind in their lists; but that they receive the new emission in lieu thereof, at the rate of one dollar for forty of the old. Voted further, that the Treasurer shall not receive any of the old money after the 12th day of July, 1781.

The purchase of beef for the army was a matter of great importance in the Revolutionary War, as well as in the late war with Spain. This town was expected and required to furnish its share of the commodity or of money to buy it elsewhere. On the 15th of August, 1781, the town voted to raise "Two Hundred and Fifty Pound, Lawful Money in silver, to purchase army beef for this year."†

On the 19th of October, 1781, the army of Cornwallis surrendered to the American forces at Yorktown, Va. At this there were great rejoicings all over the land, and well there might be, for this was the master stroke, the decisive victory of the war. The fighting, practically, ceased with this battle. The armies still kept the field to guard danger points. But gradually the enemy withdrew, and Great Britain, at length, in Parliament decreed it inconsistent with her interests, any longer to continue the war. Not till November, 1783, however, was peace definitely declared; and then, the American army disbanded.

The contest thus closed was one of the most remarkable in the history of the human race; nor can any believer in an overruling Providence fail to be deeply impressed with the idea that "the embattled farmers" of our new fledged states were Providentially aided in the unequal, and as many feared, unavailing struggle. Our town might be pardoned for cherishing a little pride in the part taken by her citizens in that successful achievement. No eulogy can be more eloquent than the facts and votes chronicled in our town records. I have cited some of the votes of the town relating to the soldiers. The heroism of the soldiers themselves may be partly learned from the sketches

\* T. Records II, pp. 94 and 95.

† T. Records II, page 96.



of the five captains which went from our town with the subordinate officers and the men in the ranks. These brief biographies alone would indicate some of the patriotic interest of our townsmen in their country's freedom. But a record more extended and particular will not diminish our admiration for our Revolutionary predecessors.

A special record of individual service, collected by our worthy long-time Town Clerk, Mr. E. A. Danforth, at the suggestion of Mr. D. C. Grant, strongly seconded by his brother, W. H. Grant Esq., is of unusual interest, and is largely self-explanatory.

It is given as presented by our Clerk.

LYNDEBOROUGH, STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1776.

An account of those that went in the Service in the year 1776 and of those that Hired them, viz.:

Cap John Stephenson did a whole turn Hired Joseph Elenwood Junr. 12/0.

Mr. John Kidder did a whole turn hired Mr. John Rowe 12/0

Sart. Aaron Lewes did one quarter of a turn

Mr. Nathan Parsons did one quarter of a turn

they hired Mr. John Rynolds and Rynolds did half a turn for himself

Dea'n Ephraim Putnam and Son Ephraim did a whole turn they hired Nath'l Bachelor.

Esq'r Andrew Fuller did two thirds of a turn

Lieut. Jonas Kidder one third of a turn they hired Samuel Butterfield

Deacon David Badger did half a turn

Mr. Robart Badger did half a turn. they hired Hezekiah Hamblet

Mr. George Goole and son Daniel did a whole turn

they hired Philip Flecher

Cap. William Barons went Did a turn for himself

Sar. Peter Russell did half a turn Mr. Joshua Hadley half a turn Russel went

Mr. Ruben Bachelor did half a turn Mr. Joseph Bachelor did half a turn Ruben went.

Mr. William Carson did two thirds of a turn

Mr. Jonathan Chamberlain did one third of a turn

they hired Mr. John Savage and Mr. Sam'l Stephens and each of them did half a turn for themselves

Mr. John Aordaway did half a turn

Mr. Isaac Day did half a turn Day went

Lieut Sam'l Huston Sarg't Amos Whittemore Simeon Flecher Each did one third of a turn hired James Burnam

Cap Jonath'n Cram Mr. Solomon Cram Mr. Asael Stiles Each Did one third of a turn Stiles went

Mr. Ephraim Putnam 3d did half a turn

Mr. John Buffe did half a turn Buffe went

Ens'n Nathaniel Phelps did two thirds of a turn

Mr. Jeremiah Carleton did one third of a turn they hired Mr. John Carcan.

The above persons went to 'Ticonderoga passed muster July 22 and continued in the Service until the first of December

Those that inlisted to clear out the Road to St. Johns are as follows, (viz)

David Putnam	Hezekiah Duncle 3 months
Ebenezer Denten* 3 months & ½	Nathan Cram home sick inlisted June the 3 for three monthis

The following is an account of men that enlisted to go to new york† and passed muster September 26 1776 and continued in the Service until the first of December each went for himself only nameley

Ithamar Woodard	Amos Whittemore
Josiah Woodbery Jun'r	Asa Dutton
Nathaniel Woodbery	Ezra Dutton
Benj'n Senter	Joseph Willkens
Ebenezer Gardner	Nicklus Beesom
Hezekiah Duncle	went in the Room of Jesse Putnam and Received two Dollars of Putnam for the same.

The following men went to new york Inlisted in December and Continued until the first of March Namely

Richard Bating	Daniel Cram
Andrew Creese	Samuel Chamberer‡
Aaron Putnam	

An account of those that went upon the Alaram July 1 1777  
Served 12 Days the Longest

Lieut Sam'l Hunston
Sarg't Aaron Lewes
Jeremiah Carleton
Jonathan Chamberlin
Jonathan Chamberlin Jun
John Beesom
William Holt gone 3 Days
Aaron Putnam
Timothy Parsons
Nehe'h Hutchinson for woodard 3 Days
John Hutchinson
Edward Bavins
Daniel Cram

\* Probably hired man of Capt. Clark's.

† White Plains, Oct. 28, 1776.

‡ Probably Chamberlain; compare with R. Rolls, I, 537, 538.

John Carkar  
 Thomas Parsons  
 Josiah Abbot  
 Simeon Fletcher  
 Joseph Batchelder  
 Ruben Spaulding 9 Days  
 John Booffe

An account of those men that went to Bennington Engaged  
 July 21 1777 Continued in the Service two months

Peter Clark	
Stephen Burnam	
Nathaniel Burnam	
Benj'n Osgood	hired Jessa Lund
Daniel Herrick	
George Parsons	
John Meads	hired Josiah Blanchard
Aaron Whittemore	
John Hutchinson	hired Nehemiah Hutchinson
Amos Wilkins	hired Sam'l Hutchinson
John Stiles	
Walter Roos	hired Josiah Woodbery Jun'r
Benj'n Cram Jun'r	
Benj'n Dutton	hired Ezra Dutton
William Holt	
David Straton	hired Benj'n tuck Ellingwood
Ruben Spaulding	hired Jacob Dutton
Jacob Cram	hired Tho's Pringle
Edmund Bickford	hired Nathanael Woodbery
David Cram	hired Hezekiah Duncle

An account of those men that to Saratoge to take Burgoine Engaged September 29th 1777 in the Service 26 Days

Peter Clark	David Putnam
Joseph Ellingwood	John Smith
Sam'l Punchard	Simeon Fletcher Jun'r
James Punchard hired Skerrey	Hezekiah Hamblet
Joseph Herrick	Timothy Parson
Francis Epes	James Burnam
Jonathan Chamberlin Jun'r	Thomas Parsons hired Edw'd Bavins
Daniel Cram	Joshua Balch hired Andrew Creese

An account of those men that went to Rhoadisland August 6  
 1778 Engaged

Wm Lee	Daniel Gould
Jonas Kidder	Daniel Cram
Ruben Spaulding	John Kidder Jun'r
Joseph Herrick	Nicholas Beason went for Lt Buffe
Francis Epes	Timothy Parsons
Edward Bavins	Samuel Hutchinson

Nathan Parsons  
Adam Johnson Jun'r  
July 1778

Robert Badger  
Jacob Cram hired Jessa Lund

Jacob Dutton went Six months to Rhoad Island half the time for Eleazer Woodard and the other half for Moses Stiles Jun'r and Uriah Cram.

an account of those men that procured four men for the Continental Army for one year July 15 1777

	months	
Deacon Badger	1	
Deacon Putnam	1	hired
Lieut R Spaulding	1	
Joshua Hadley	1	John
John Ordway	1	
William Holt	1	Purple
Ephraim Putnam Second	1	
Solomon Cram	1	for one
Andrew Fuller	1	
Benj'n Killam	2	year
Jonas Kidder	1	
Capt John Stephenson	2	
John Kidder	1	
Sam'l Punchard	1	hired
Dr. Jones	1	
Josiah Abbot	1	
Nath'l Reynolds	1	Isaac
John Carkin	1	
Samuel Hutchinson	1	
John Case	1	Carkin
Jonathan Chamberlin	1	
Lieut Huston	1	
James Punchard	1	
Ensign Phelps	2	hired
Sam'l Towns	3	
Adam Johnson	2	Israel
Adam Johnson, Jun'r	1	
Daniel Gould	1	Hutchinson
Thomas Richardson	2	
Benj'n Punchard	2	
Jonathan Whittemore	1	hired
Cap Cram	1	
David Cram	1	
John Archer	1	William
Joseph Ellingwood	1	
Stephen Burnam	2	
Joshua Stiles	1	Burnam
John Thompson	2	

Those that hired two men to go to Rhoad Island for six months are.

	months	
John Clark	2	
Benj'n Bullock	2	hired John Woodbery
Sam'l Whittemore	2	
Will'm Blaenough	2	
Moses Lever	2	hired John Mellen
John Woodard	2	

Those men that Engaged to go to portsmouth for two months from September 5, 1779 were

John Archer	Nath'l Burnam	
Jonas Kidder	Samuel Hutcherson	hired Stephen Ritcherson

account of thos men that Enlisted to go to Cohos in the Service Six weeks march 1780

Dea John Putnam	William Carson
Peter Russell	Enock Ordway

an account of those that hired men for Six months in the Continental army

	m		m
Ens John Savag	1	Joseph herrick	1
Daniel herrick	1	Ephraim Abbot	1
James Burnam	1	Edmand bigford	1
Eleazer Woodard	2	Doct Jones	1
David Straton	1	Moses Stils jur	1
John Stiles	1		
Jonathan Pearson jur	1	Jonathan Chamberlin jur	1
Thomas Pearson	1	Jeremiah Carlton	2
Jacob Cram	1		
Daniel Gould	2	Walter Ross	1
hezekiah Duntley	½	William Punchard	½
Johnathan Whitmore	1	Uriah Cram	1
William Mcadams	2	Benjamin Burros	1
Robert Mcadams	1	Hugh Mcadams	1
William Mcadams	1		

July ye 4 1780

an account of those that hired men for three months to go to westpoint July 4 ye 1780

Jonas Kidder	3	Robert Badger	1½
		Jonathan Chamberlin	1½
Cap't John Stephenson	1		
Edward Spaulding	1		
Lieu' Reuben Spaulding	1	Deacon Badger	1
		John Ordway	1
		Joel manuel	1

John Kidder	2		
Benjamin Dutton	1	Decon Putnam	1
		Ephraim Putnam jur	1
		Daniel Cram	1
Benjamin Punchard	1		
Aaron Lewes	1		
James Punchard	1	Adam Johnson	1
		David Cram	1
		Thomas Richardson	1
Ens Nath'l Phelps	2		
Samuel towns	1		
Joshua Hadley	1½		
Nathan Pearson	1		
John Meeds	½		
Lieut Huston	1		
Lieut Whitmore	1		
Philip Fletcher	1		

an account of thoes that went to the westward for three months in the year 1781

Simeon Fletcher went and did one month for him Self.

Edmand Bickford Benja Osgood Jonathan Whitmore and Ezekiah Duntley Each of them Did a fortnit

William Holt Did two months

Peter Russel Did one furtnit

William Tayler did one furtnit

an aCount of those that hired William Lee to go to Cohoss July 12 1782

John Ordway Did two months

William Holt jur Did one month

Stephen Burnam Ephraim Abbot Joseph Elenwood William Tayler Each of them Did a fortnit

Return of Soldiers bountyes Made to the Committe on Claims in the year 1788 is £751:13:11

LYNDEBOROUGH, N. H., March 9th, 1892

I hereby certify that I have carefully compared the foregoing copy with the original record thereof, now remaining in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy and transcript thereof, and of the whole thereof.

Edgar A. Danforth,

Town Clerk of the

Town of Lyndeborough.

LYNDEBOROUGH, Decemb'r ye 25, 1777

To the Gentelmen Selectmen For the Town of Lynd'h per-

sewing to a Vote of this Town for the Comitty making an Everidge in the proportion of the war for this Town from April 20, 1775 to May 1777 the following is our Sentiments Considering the places of the Destination of those persons that Have Served in the war Now Belonging to this Town.

the preceeding Sums annexed to Every man's Name is in Lawful mony.

Those persons that went to the Alarm and Returned with Lieut Barron the Committee have Allowed each man £0:10:0

the following is the Names of those persons that returned with

£0:10:0

Lieut. Barron	Ebenezer Gardner
John Reynolds	John Thompson
John Savage	And <sup>w</sup> Thompson
Samuel Stephens	Reuben Batcheldr
Peter Russell	Amos Whittemore
Philip Fletcher	John Carkin
Nath <sup>n</sup> Burnam	Nath <sup>n</sup> Phelps
Joseph Herrick	Edward Bevings
Adam Johnson, Jur	Lieut Spaulding
Daniel Gould	

Sum Total £9:08:0

Our Reasons for Seting the Services above is the provision & Expense was paid By the Town

Those that Engag<sup>d</sup> in the Service For the Year 1775 there Time 8 months at winter Hill the Committee have allow<sup>d</sup> those persons that then Engag<sup>d</sup> for the 8 months Belonging to this Town twelve Shillings Each man

£0:12:0

Capt Spaulding	Edward Beving Jur
Lt. Thomas Boffe	John Smith
Ensign Will <sup>m</sup> Lee	Jacob Wellman Jur
Joseph Ellenwood Jur	Elisha Willkings
Jese Lund	Daniel Cram 5 months
Nehemiah Hutchinson	John Hutchinson
Samuel Macmaster	David putnam
Nath <sup>n</sup> Batcheldor	Benj <sup>a</sup> Bevings
Jacob Dutton	phineas Barker
Ezra Dutton	

Our Reasons for Sitting the Service at winter Hill at this Value is None Gave more that Hird others to Do there Turn

Those that Engag<sup>d</sup> in the Service For the Year 1776 that went to from winter Hill to York and there Tarry<sup>d</sup> through out

the Campaign the Committe Allow<sup>d</sup> those men one pound p<sup>r</sup> Month

£1:0:0

Adam Johnson jur Alias  
John Johnson

Thom<sup>s</sup> pringle  
Edward Bevings jur

Those that Engag<sup>d</sup> For the year 1776 that went from winter Hill to Canada and Concluded the Same Back to Trenton the Committe allow<sup>d</sup> those persons one pound twelve shillings p<sup>r</sup> month

£1:12:0

Cap<sup>t</sup> Spawlding  
Lieut Thom. Boffe  
Ensign Will<sup>m</sup> Lee  
Jacob Dutton

Nehemiah Hutchison  
Samuel Stiles  
John Woodbury  
James Cambell

Those that Engage<sup>d</sup> in the Year 1776 and went to Tycondroque 4 months and Ten Days and have allow<sup>d</sup> Every man what he paid towards the 4 months and Ten Days those that went for themselves have allow<sup>d</sup> the same

£12:0:0

Cap <sup>t</sup> Barron	£12:0:0	John Savage	£6:0:0
Cap <sup>t</sup> John Stevenson	Ditto	Esq <sup>t</sup> Fuller	7:4:0
John Kidder	Ditto	Lieut. Kidder	3:12:0
John Reynolds	6:0:0	John Ordway	6:0:0
Aaron Lewis	3:0:0	Isaac Day	6:0:0
Nathan Persons	3:0:0	Lieut. Hueston	4:0:0
Deac <sup>n</sup> putnam	6:0:0	Amos Whittemore	4:0:0
Deac <sup>n</sup> putnam jur	4:0:0	Simeon Fletcher	4:0:0
David Badger	5:6:0	Cap <sup>t</sup> Cram	4:0:0
Robert Badger	5:6:6	Solomon Cram	4:0:0
Gorge Goold	6:0:0	Asael Stiles	4:0:0
Daniel Goold	6:0:0	Ephraim Putnam ye 3 <sup>d</sup>	6:0:0
Rewben Batcheldor	6:0:8	John Boffe	6:0:0
Joseph Batcheldor	6:0:0	Samuel Stephens	6:0:0
peter Russell	5:6:8	Jonathan Chamberlain	4:0:0
Joshua Hadley	6:13:4	Ens. Phelps	6:0:0
William Carson	6:0:0	Jeremiah Carlton	3:0:0

Sum Total

£189:9:0

3:0:0

£186:9:0

those men that Engag<sup>d</sup> in the Service for the Year 1776 in September & went to New York have Allow<sup>d</sup> 18/0 p<sup>r</sup> month For Each man

Nathaniel Woodbury  
Josiah Woodbury Jur  
Ebenezer Gardner

Ithamar Woodard  
Amos Whittemore  
Ezra Dutton



Benj <sup>a</sup> Senter	Joseph Willkings Jur
Epes By Dunckly	Jesse Putnam
Aasa Dutton	

Those men that went in the Service to Fishkill in the year 1777 there Time 3 months have allow<sup>d</sup> Each man 15/0 p<sup>r</sup> month

Samuel Chamberlain	Daniel Cram
Richard Badden	Aaron Putnam
And <sup>w</sup> Creasy	

Those that went to Coos to Clear the Roads to St. Johns. have Allow<sup>d</sup> Each man 15/0 p<sup>r</sup> month

£0:15:0

David Putnam	Nathan Cram
Hezekiah Dunckly	Cap <sup>t</sup> Clark's man

This May Certify the Selectmen and others that the Services of And<sup>w</sup> Thompson James Thompson Jesse Lund John Wellman and William Blany For the year 1776 was Done for persons in Other Towns who Hir<sup>d</sup> them therefore we the Committy think that they ought Not to Be Allow<sup>d</sup> any thing By the Town for there Services in as much as the Town was Depriv<sup>d</sup> of the Service of those men.

these may Certify the Town that we are Not Satisfied what allowance may Be Just to allow Adam Johnson in Regard of Hiring James Johnson Benj<sup>a</sup> Jones in Regard of hiring John Hutchinson and Isaac Kidder in Regard of Hiring Benj<sup>a</sup> Dike

Nath <sup>n</sup> Batcheldor	} Committe
David Badger	
Reuben Spalding	
Joseph Herrick	
Benj <sup>a</sup> Jones y 2d	

LYNDEBOROUGH, N. H., March 9, 1892.

I hereby certify that I have carefully compared the foregoing copy with the original record thereof, now remaining in my office, and that the same is a true and correct copy and transcript thereof and of the whole thereof.

EDGAR A. DANFORTH,  
Town Clerk of the  
Town of Lyndeborough.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The Constitution of the National Society states in Article III, Sect. 1: "Any man shall be eligible to membership in this Society, who, being of the age of twenty-one years or over, and a

citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unflinching in his loyalty to and rendered actual service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman or minuteman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress; or of any one of the several Colonies or States; or as a Signer of the Declaration of Independence; or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a civil officer, either of one of the Colonies or States or of the national government; or as a recognized patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain." Copied from the "Year Book of the Minnesota Society, Sons of the American Revolution," p. 39.

LYNDEBOROUGH REVOLUTIONARY ROLL.

Lyndeborough had the military honor of furnishing five captains in the War for Independence. Their names were William Barron, Peter Clark, Jonas Kidder, William Lee and Levi Spaulding. Some of these did service in more than one campaign, and for the sake of both brevity and convenience, the service will be indicated as follows: Capt. Spaulding's men at Bunker Hill and Winter Hill will be indicated respectively by the capitals, B. H. and W. H.; Capt. Clark's men, on the Alarm at Bennington and at Saratoga will be marked A., B. and S.; Captain Barron's men marched for Canada and served at Ticonderoga, indicated by C. or Ti.; Captain Lee's men served, as indicated, in R. I.; Captain Kidder's men, raised for service at West Point in 1780, will be marked as W. P.

Special sketches of the captains are given, and the rank of the men serving under them will be stated, so far as obtainable.

The statements here made are based on the records of our town (see preceding pages, 161 to 169) and also on the Revolutionary Rolls of New Hampshire which are printed as state papers.

A.

1. Abbott, Ephraim. Our town records state that Ephraim Abbott paid a month's hire or bounty for a man to serve in the Continental Army; and also in the "account of those that hired William Lee to go to Cohoss," he is said to have done "a fortnit."

2. Abbott, Josiah. The home of Josiah Abbott seems to have been in the northwest part of the town, which was after-

wards set off to form the town of Greenfield. He served under Capt. Peter Clark, on the A. He was also at Portsmouth, Sept. 27, 1779. He likewise paid one month's bounty toward Isaac Carkin, who served a year in the Continental Army. He was, likely, a relative of the preceding Ephraim. Peterboro History, p. 5, of family registers, has a favorable sketch of his son Daniel, a native of Lyndeborough.

3. Archer, John. The name of John Archer appears in our town records under date of 1776. He is called Capt. Archer, and is named as owning land on a road laid out from James to Nathaniel Burnam's, who were settled in the northwest part of the town. He paid one month's wages or bounty, towards William Burnam, for serving a year in the Continental Army.

He also engaged and served two months at Portsmouth in 1779. The name John Archer is given as one who owned an original right in Salem-Canada, who was drawn for in the first draft for lots by Jonathan Verry, and in the second draft by Captain Bowers. There is no impossibility that he was the same man, but, also, there is no certainty in the case.

#### B.

4 and 5. Badger, David and Robert. They were sons of John Badger, the first settler in that part of Salem-Canada which was taken to form Township No. 2 (now Wilton).

Deacon David Badger, as the name is frequently written in our town records, lived on the place now occupied by Mr. James Karr, north of the pond named for him, Badger Pond. The brothers united in hiring Hezekiah Hamblet to serve in Capt. Barron's Co. at Ti. The Deacon, also, paid one month's hire of John Purple, to serve in the Continental Army a year for Lyndeborough; and also a month for a man to go to W. P. in 1780. He was deacon of the Congregational church, and was the moderator of the annual town meeting in the years 1775 and 1776. He was a prominent actor in the town business, and is said to have brought up a large family. He was chosen select-man in 1780, and served from time to time in the various offices and committees of the town.

5. Badger, Robert. Robert Badger was a brother of David, and joined with him in hiring Hezekiah Hamblet to do a turn of army service in Capt. William Barron's Co. at Ti. in 1776,—time of service, four months, ten days. He was a corporal in Capt. William Lee's Co., and went to R. I. in 1778. He paid one and one-half months' bounty for a man to go to W. P. in 1780. He was frequently honored by his townsmen with official position and various duties, and proved worthy of their confidence and esteem.

His home was on the place now owned by Mr. Harry Richardson, near the summit of Lyndeborough mountain.

6. Barker, Phineas. Phineas Barker was one of Capt. Levi

Spaulding's Co. in the famous battle of B. H. He was also with Capt. S. in the W. H. campaign in 1776, serving eight months. His home seems to have been toward the west side of the town, probably on land at a later day set off to form the town of Greenfield.

7. Barnum, James. James Barnum was a soldier in Capt. Barron's Co., raised for Canada, out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt., mustered and paid by Moses Kelly Esq., July 22, 1776. He seems to have lived in the northwest part of the town, a part which furnished many revolutionary men for its size.

8. Barron, Capt. William. See sketch of Capt. William Barron. He was one of seven brothers, all of whom served in the Revolution.

9. Barron, Samuel. Samuel Barron was a resident of Amherst, and took the place of Asa Boutwell in the army. He was hired by Capt. Peter Clark, and for a fuller account of him, see sketch of Capt. Clark. Samuel Barron entered May 1, 1778; and was discharged May 20, 1780. (See Asa Boutwell No. 24.)

10. Batchelder, Joseph. Joseph Batchelder served at Ti. through Reuben, who went there under Capt. William Barron. He marched with Capt. Clark on the A., July 1, 1777. When the Greenfield church was constituted, he became one of its members, and this would seem to show that he lived near Greenfield.

11. Batchelder, Nathaniel. Capt. Nathaniel Batchelder appears first as a private in Capt. Spaulding's Co. He was at B. H. and continued in the campaign at W. H. 1775-6. He served for awhile in 1776, as a substitute for Deacon Ephraim Putnam and his son Ephraim. April 8, 1777, he was one of the five men appointed to raise a bounty of one hundred dollars for each man of the sixteen then required to make up the quota. May 1, 1777, a road was laid out between his house and that of Josiah Woodbury. Jan. 12, 1778, he signed a protest against overpaying soldiers, and in 1780, he was chosen selectman. On May 6, 1777, he was appointed chairman of an important committee chosen to set a value upon the various turns of service done in the several campaigns by the soldiers of Lyndeborough. He was a prominent man in the town, holding official position from the commencement of the war till after its close. He is repeatedly called Capt. in our town records; but no roll has been found of men whom he commanded in the Revolutionary War. There were several of the same name in the army, and care should be taken to distinguish him from the others. He served for Lyndeborough in the Continental Army in 1780. After 1785 the name ceases from our records.

12. Batchelder, Reuben. Reuben and Joseph Batchelder furnished a "turn" of military service in 1776, the former rendering the actual service, and the latter paying his portion of the wages or bounty.

Reuben went under Capt. William Barron to Ti., having passed muster July 22, and served till Dec. 1. He returned with Capt. Barron.

The names of Joseph, Nathaniel and Reuben Batchelder are signed to the protest presented in January, 1778, against the town's voting money away for bounties to men who served for, and were paid by other towns. The objection was that the town ought not to pay bounties for services which it did not receive.

13. Batten, Richard. Richard Batten was one of the men raised and "mustered by Col. Daniel Moor Out of his Regiment, to March to New York Agreeable to a late requisition the 19th. Day of Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1776." He served at Fishkill in 1777, time 3 mos. and received from the town 15 shillings per month bounty. Richard Batten was among the gifts of Lyndeborough to Francestown in 1792. He married Mary, dau. of Nehemiah Rand Esq. of Lyndeborough. His daughter, Mary Batten, b. May 29, 1788, married Amasa Downes of Francestown, Feb. 13, 1810, and died at Francestown Aug. 22, 1817. The same authority states, that "like his father," he was "a seafaring man," and when "first mate of a ship, in a night of fearful storm, was blown from the rigging while heroically trying to perform what the terrified seamen had shrunk from attempting."

14. Beasom, John. John Beasom was the son of Philip Beasom who came from Marblehead, Mass., to Lyndeborough about 1775. He marched with Capt. Peter Clark on the A. He married Persis Fletcher, March 11, 1779. He lived on the place now occupied by Mr. Samuel Doliver, his great grandson.

15. Beasom, Nicholas. Nicholas Beasom according to the R. Rolls of New Hampshire, Vol. I, p. 425, went to N. Y. in Capt. McConnell's Regt., Sept. 26, 1776. Our town record states that "he went in the room of Jesse Putnam, and received two Dollars of Putnam for the same." The dates of our record and the R. Rolls above cited, agree. He was probably a brother of John. He went to R. I. in 1778 as substitute for Lt. Thomas Boffee.

16. Bevins, Benjamin. Benjamin Bevins was a resident of Duxbury School Farm which lay adjoining our town on the south, running west from its southeast corner. He enlisted May 3, 1775, as a fifer in Capt. Benjamin Mann's Co. of Col. James Reed's Regiment. He was serving for Lyndeborough, in the W. H. detail, for eight months and was paid 12 shillings a month bounty. He again enlisted in the Continental service in Capt. Wait's Co. in Col. Cilley's Regt. for three years,

(on page 612 of Vol. I) however he is reckoned in Capt. Scott's Co. His name appears again, where the amount of depreciation on his wages was \$135.20; and he received a bounty also from the Duxbury School Farm and Mile Slip, previous to 1780, of £13 9 S. and 1 d.

17. Bevins, Edward. Edward Bevins was in Capt. Wm. Barron's Co. at Ti. in 1776 from July 22 to Dec. 1. He was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the A. and was also with Capt. Clark, as corporal, in Sept., 1777, having been hired by Thomas Parsons. He was with Capt. William Lee, in the R. I. expedition Aug., 1778. He was also in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. in the Continental Army, Col. Nichols' Regt. at W. P., N. Y., 1780.

18. Bevins, Edward, Jr. Edward Bevins, Jr. was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., in the Battle of B. H., and also in the besieging army at W. H. He went from W. H. to New York in the winter of 1776, and to cite our town record, "tarryed throughout the Campaign."

The Bevins men all lived near Bevins' Corner, the same which is now called Perham's Corner, in the southeast part of the town.

19. Bickford, Edmond. Edmond Bickford is on the town roll of Capt. Clark's men for B. He hired Nathaniel Woodbury as substitute. He paid for one month's service of a man in the Continental Army, July 4, 1780, and also did two weeks' service among the 3 months' men who went westward in 1781. His name does not seem to be recorded on the printed Revolutionary Rolls of New Hampshire; though he was prominent in our town affairs.

20. Blanchard, Josiah. Josiah Blanchard served for John Mead, in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at B. Though his record is not extended, it was much to be with Clark and Stark at Bennington.

21. Blaney, William. For his record see the more extended sketch. Our records tell us that he and some others served for men of other towns.

22. Boffee, John. John Boffee was one of Capt. William Barron's Co. at Ti. in 1776. He was also in Capt. Clark's Co. on A.

23. Boffee, Lieut. Thomas. Lieut. Thomas Boffee was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. both at B. H. and at W. H. as 2d Lt. He went "from W. H. to Canada, and concluded the same back to Trenton" in the winter of 1776. He also hired Nicholas Beasom to go to Rhode Island in 1778, as his substitute.

The Boffees above named were the sons of Melchizedek Boffee who came from Londonderry and settled on the place

occupied by the late David C. Grant. He was long a Deacon of the Congregational Church in Lyndeborough. His son John is said to have lived on the place now owned by Mr. George Newton. The Lieut. probably succeeded his father on the D. C. Grant place, now owned by Mr. Frank Joslin. His grave is in the south cemetery, under the pines.

24. Boutwell, Asa. The town records of a legal meeting held Mar. 26, 1778, contain the following entry, "Voted to procure and pay a man to take Asa Boutwell's place in the army." Capt. Peter Clark was chosen the agent to hire the man; and the man secured was Samuel Barron of Amherst, who faithfully performed the service. (See sketch of Samuel Barron). Asa was the son of James and Mary Boutwell, and was born Feb. 17, 1761. He was consequently a little past his seventeenth birthday at the time that a man was hired to take his place. At a later day Asa Boutwell personally entered the army in Capt. Amos Emerson's Co. and Col. Joseph Cilley's Regt. Later still, both he and Samuel Barron seem to have served in the same company, the fifth Co. in the first Regt. of the Continental Army.

25. Boutwell, James. James Boutwell, so far as traced, did no direct military service in the Revolution. He was the father of the preceding Asa. He was a member of the Lyndeborough committee of safety, its chairman and he was also custodian of the town's stock of ammunition, which at that day was kept in the meeting-house loft. He was, therefore, performing duties of great importance to his country's cause, though not personally in the field. His home was where his lineal descendant, C. R. Boutwell, lately died.

26. Burnham, James. James Burnham holds high rank among our Revolutionary soldiers. He was with Capt. Barron at Ti., hired by Samuel Houston, Amos Whittemore and Simeon Fletcher. He was with Capt. Clark and assisted in the capture of Gen. Burgoyne at S., time of service 25 days. June 28, 1780, he enlisted in the continental service, and in July, 1780, paid for one month's service of a man in the same army. He was then 30 years of age, and lived in the northwest part of the town.

27. Burnham, Nathaniel. The Burnhams seem to have been brothers and all living in the same part of the town. Nathaniel was one of Capt. Peter Clark's men at B. He also engaged to go to Portsmouth for two months from Sept. 5, 1779.

28. Burnham, Stephen. Stephen Burnham was with Capt. Clark at B. He also paid two months' bounty towards William Burnham who enlisted for a year in the Continental Army. He likewise "Did a fortnit," as the type record states, toward hiring William Lee to go to Coös in July, 1782.

29. Burnham, William. William Burnham was one of the four men who enlisted for one year each, in the Continental Army, and whose bounty amounted to £60 each, or £240. This money was raised by subscription, thirty-eight citizens and minutemen alike, uniting to procure and pay it. See type record 1, pp. 6 and 7. A patriotic record.

30. Butler, Jonathan. Jonathan Butler served first in a Massachusetts regiment and was in the battle of B. H. On the retreat from the battle he was taken with cramps, fell out of the ranks and was left behind. After much suffering he crawled into a swamp where he was concealed, and later he managed to rejoin his company.

He came to Lyndeborough in 1777, and Aug. 17, 1778, married Lois, daughter of John and Tryphena Kidder of this town. The particulars of his service are given by W. H. Grant, Esq. thus: "Immediately after the battle of Lexington he enlisted as a private; was soon after promoted and served as an orderly sergeant in Capt. Nathaniel Warner's Co. of Col. Moses Little's 17th Massachusetts troops, taking part in the battle of Bunker Hill and the siege of Boston. He marched with his regiment to New York, served on the Hudson, was with Washington on his retreat through New Jersey, and present at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. He was a prominent citizen of Lyndeborough till his death."

31. Butterfield, Samuel. Samuel Butterfield was one of Capt. William Barron's Co. who went on the C. expedition in 1776, time of service four months and ten days. He also served in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. which went to W. P., N. Y., in 1780. His home was north of the mountain, and near Francestown, for which town his brother Robert served.

### C.

32. Campbell, James. James Campbell enlisted in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which marched four days after the battle of Lexington. He was in the battle of B. H., and was also at W. H. From there he went to Canada and returned and took part in the battle of Trenton, Dec. 25, 1776. He was in the Continental Army, Capt. Amos Morrill's Co. and Stark's Regt., afterward Cilley's, Mar. 7, 1777, and served in the campaign against Burgoyne.

33. Carkin, Isaac. Isaac Carkin was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. at B. H. and also at W. H. He was one of the four men who were secured by subscription, to serve a year in the Continental Army, receiving for the same a bounty of £60 each. The term was from July 15, 1777, on. He was in Col. Moses Kelley's Regt. June 26, 1779; he enlisted to remain through the war. Dec. 27, 1779, he was transferred to Capt. Frye's Co. From this he was drafted to join Capt. J. Munroe's Co. in February, 1781. There is a discrepancy between this latter state-



ment and that made in Rolls 3, p. 511, which states that he died December, 1781. He doubtless endured hard service and rejoiced to survive the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, Oct. 19, 1781.

34. Carkin, John. John Carkin was in Capt. William Barron's Co., raised for Canada out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. In that campaign he served for Ensign Nathaniel Phelps and Mr. Jeremiah Carleton, who united in hiring him. He was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co., on the A. He also paid one month's bounty towards Mr. Isaac Carkin's year in the Continental Army. The Carkins lived in the eastern part of the town. John and Elizabeth (Cram) Carkin settled on the place owned by the late Robert Lynch.

35. Carlton, David. David Carlton was one of Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and was mortally wounded at B. H. He was carried off the ground by his brother-in-law, John Johnson, to a safe place, and died two days later, June 19, 1775. He was the first Lyndeborough citizen to die for his country, having fallen in that memorable battle.

36. Carleton Ebenezer. Ebenezer Carleton was the son of Jeremiah Carleton of Lyndeborough, who lived on the place where Mr. Eli C. Curtis now lives. He was a brother of David. He is credited to Wilton and certainly served for Wilton men. Wilton history states that he did one-eighth of a turn of service for Jacob Putnam, one-fourth for Jonathan Burton, and one-fourth for Capt. Philip Putnam. The Revolutionary Rolls credit him with one year's service for the last-named gentleman, "at Boston and Roxbury in 1776," which, however, is ascribed to Ebenezer Coston by the Wilton historian. Cannot decide which is wrong.

Such service and his enlistment in Wilton justly accredits him to that town. As for a time his home and the home of his parents during the Revolution and also the remainder of their lives was in Lyndeborough, we wrong no one by giving him a place on our roll of honor.

Ebenezer Carleton enlisted as a private Mar. 21, 1777, in the Co. of Capt. Isaac Frye, to remain during the war. He was transferred from that Co. to "his Excellency General Washington's Guard Jan. 1, 1779," one of the six New Hampshire men who enjoyed that distinction. He so far won the favor of the General that he offered him a permanent home at Mount Vernon. This honor, his love for home and kindred moved him, with great reverence and esteem, however, to decline. At his departure Mrs. Washington presented him with a fine gold watch as a token of her appreciation of his service in guarding her husband. After coming home from this service he settled in Chester, N. H.

Daniel Webster is reported as having once said to his son Fletcher, "I should rather have it said upon my father's tomb-

stone that he had guarded the person of George Washington, and was worthy of such a trust, than to have emblazoned upon it the proudest insignia of heraldry that the world could give."

37. Carleton, Jeremiah. Jeremiah Carleton was the son of Jeremiah and brother of the fore-named David and Ebenezer. He was one of Lyndeborough's minutemen, which were arranged into sections of four men each. Every section sent a man to the war; and those who stayed at home were pledged to care for his farm and family. Mr. Carkin, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Cram and Mr. Phelps formed one section. Mr. Carkin went to the war and the rest took care of his family and carried on his farm. In 1777, Mr. Carleton had just ground his scythe to commence haying when he received orders to call out the militia on double quick time. He hung up his scythe and shouldered his musket. He was with Capt. Peter Clark on the A. July 1, 1777. He acted as their commissary. News came, however, that they were not immediately needed, so they returned home after only 12 days' service. He and Ensign Phelps hired Mr. John Carkin in 1776, and at a later day he paid for two months' service of one of the six months' men in the Continental Army. He was selectman several times, and Lieut. in the militia, and a man of marked ability and influence in town.

38. Carleton, Osgood. Osgood Carleton was long a resident of Lyndeborough, where his parents lived before the days of the Revolutionary War. A town history of Lyndeborough which should fail to record his name, and at least some of his achievements, would be justly chargeable with a conspicuous oversight. The record of his military service here appended, though imperfect, was the best obtainable. It may be found in Heitman's "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army, 1775-1783."

"Osgood Carleton (Mass.) Quartermaster of the 16th. Continental Infantry, 1 Jan. to 31 Dec. 1776. First Lieut. 15th. Mass. 1st. Jan. 1777; transferred to Invalid Regiment Dec. 1, 1778; Regimental Q. M. Sept. 7, 1782, and served to June 1785. (Died June 1816.)" He was eldest brother of the Carleton's above named. Later information and fuller will be found in the sketch of his life hereafter given.

39. Carson, William. William Carson was a resident in the eastern part of our town, a part afterwards annexed to Mont Vernon. He was represented in the Ti. campaign by his substitute, Mr. John Savage, who was in Capt. William Barron's Co. He enlisted in 1780 to go to Coös for six months.

40. Case, John. The name of John Case appears on our town records, marking him as one of Lyndeborough's highway surveyors for the years 1777, 1778, 1781 and 1783. He is clearly indicated as one of our citizens, too, in Hammond's "Town Papers of New Hampshire, Vol. XII, p. 511. These statements are made because some of the printed authorities credit him to

the town of Wilton. The diary of Jonathan Burton of Wilton names him as one of Capt. Benjamin Taylor's Co., which marched from Amherst to join the Continental Army at W. H., Dec. 8, 1775. He served in the same Co. at Ti. in 1776. He also assisted in hiring Mr. Isaac Carkin of Lyndeborough to serve a year in the Continental Army. He lived in that part of our town which then adjoined Amherst, and was one of the original petitioners for the township of Mont Vernon.

John Case married Elizabeth Curtis of Lyndeborough. He removed from Lyndeborough to Antrim in 1796. He was born in Middleton, Mass., and served during the whole seven years of the Revolutionary War. Antrim History says, "he had a large family and was very poor. His wife drove the cattle daily into the woods to browse, her only means of keeping them alive."

41. Cavender, Charles. "Charles Cavender was born in the county of Wexford, Ireland, 1750; lived in that part of Lyndeborough now Greenfield, N. H., and died at the same place May 6, 1833. In May, 1775, he enlisted and served 10 months as private in Capt. George Reed's Co. of Col. John Stark's regiment, N. H. state troops. He was in the battle of Bunker Hill and the siege of Boston. In March, 1776, he again enlisted as a private in the same company and regiment, serving 13 months and 14 days. He was with his regiment around New York on the Hudson, at Ticonderoga, in Washington's retreat through New Jersey, and at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. At Morristown, Dec. 31, 1776, his enlistment having expired, he, with his regiment, at the request of Washington, reenlisted for 60 days, and continued in the service until the middle of April, 1777.

On the 23rd of July, 1777, he enlisted, and was mustered as first Corporal in Capt. Peter Clark's Company of Col. Thomas Stickney's Regiment, Gen. Stark's Brigade, N. H. Militia, organized to oppose Burgoyne's invasion, and was present and took part in the battle of Bennington, Aug. 16, 1777. In the summer of 1778 he again enlisted, and served 6 months as a private in Capt. James Barry's Company, Mass. Continental Line; and again, in the summer of 1781, he enlisted and served 6 months as a private in Capt. David McGregor's Company, Col. George Reid's Regiment, N. H. Continental Line, and was placed on the pension roll in 1832." (W. H. Grant, Esq., in *The Minnesota Sons of the American Revolution*, p. 219.)

42. Chamberlain, Jonathan. (For family history see Genealogy.) Jonathan Chamberlain appears to have been the first of that race in Lyndeborough. He was the son of Capt. Samuel and Abigail (Hill) Chamberlain of Chelmsford, Mass.

May 12, 1737, his father deeded him lots Nos. 5 and 12 in Tyng's Town, now Pembroke, N. H., which he sold in 1739, and removed to Salem-Canada, now Lyndeborough. He mar-

ried Elizabeth, the daughter of John and Sarah (Holt) Cram of Wilmington, Mass., who were the first settlers in Salem-Canada.

Jonathan Chamberlain was born Feb. 11, 1711. He was consequently 64 years old when the Revolutionary War commenced. He hired Mr. John Savage to serve for him in 1776; and on the alarm given July 1, 1777, both he and his son of the same name marched as minutemen under Capt. Peter Clark for the defense of Fort Ti. Thus, at the age of 66, he did personal service, having marched 86 miles. He died Jan. 19, 1795, aged 84 years. His grave is under the shadowing pines of the south cemetery. The farm on which he lived is now owned and occupied by his great-grandson, Mr. Rufus Chamberlain. It was deeded to Jonathan in 1768, by the heirs of his brother-in-law, Joseph Cram, the conditions requiring that he should care for him and give him Christian burial.

43. Chamberlain, Jonathan, Jr. Jonathan Chamberlain, Jr., was the son of the preceding Jonathan. He was born in Chelmsford, Mass., Feb. 26, 1744. He married his cousin, Margaret, the daughter of his mother's youngest brother, Benjamin Cram. His farm was west of Capt. William Blaney's and south of his father-in-law's, the place now owned (Apr., 1905) by Mr. Frank Winn.

Jonathan, Jr., was a Revolutionary hero, and marched with his father in the Co. of Capt. Clark on the A., July 1, 1777. He reenlisted under Capt. Clark, in September, 1777, and was in the fight at S., which resulted in the capture of Burgoyne. He also paid for one month's service of a man in the Continental Army. He died in Lyndeborough, Apr. 26, 1815, aged 71 years, and was buried in the south cemetery.

44. Chamberlain, Samuel. Samuel Chamberlain was a brother of Jonathan, Jr., and also a Revolutionary soldier. He enlisted Dec. 7, 1776, in Capt. William Walker's Co., and served three months and eleven days at Fishkill, N. Y. He was transferred to Capt. Samuel McConnell's Co., Col. David Gilman's Regt., for that service, and marched 600 miles. He also served in Capt. John Haven's Co., "Enlisted for the purpose of guarding prisoners from the State of New Hampshire to New Port in Rhode Island." His time of service on this duty was but 12 days. He died in Lyndeborough in 1812 or 1813.

45. Clark, Capt. Peter. See sketch elsewhere.

46. Cram, Benjamin, Jr. Benjamin Cram, Jr., served in the Revolutionary War in Capt. Peter Clark's Co., Col. Stickney's Regt., and Stark's brigade. He was in the battle of Bennington and served in that expedition two months and six days.

47. Cram, Daniel. Daniel Cram was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. and at the battle of B. H. He is reported as a deserter, but the report is believed to be incorrect and lacks consistency with his active soldierly record. The same volume

which makes the report shows clearly that he served in 1776 and 1777. Our town records credit him with five months' service at W. H. in the siege of Boston, 1775 and 1776, and also with service in N. Y. state at Fishkill, from Dec., 1776, to Mar., 1777. He marched with Capt. Peter Clark on the A. for Ti. He also went with Capt. Clark on the S., and assisted in the capture of Gen. Burgoyne. He also went with Capt. William Lee on the R. I. expedition in 1778; and further, paid for a month's service of a man to go to W. P. with Capt. Jonas Kidder in 1780. This record should seem to nullify the charge of desertion.

48. Cram, David. David Cram does not seem to have done personal service in the Revolutionary army. But he hired Hezekiah Dunklee to serve for him at B., under Capt. Peter Clark. He also paid for one month's service of William Burnham, who enlisted for a year in the Continental Army, and whose bounty was furnished by several citizens. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. in 1780 in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. His home was on the fine hillside on which now stands that of his grandson, Mr. Luther Cram.

49. Cram, Jacob. Jacob Cram was a brother of David, and appears to have done no personal army service. He, however, hired Thomas Pringle to go with Capt. Peter Clark's Co. to B. He also hired Jesse Lund to go to R. I. with Capt. William Lee. He also paid for a month's service of a man in the Continental Army. He lived in the southeast part of the town, where Mr. Melendy now lives.

50. Cram, Capt. Jonathan. Jonathan Cram was the father of David and Jacob. He was born in Hampton Falls, N. H., Feb. 21, 1708, and died at Lyndeborough Jan. 23, 1790. He had served in the French and Indian wars and was a captain in the militia, and generally was called Capt. Cram. When the Revolutionary War began he was 67 years of age. Though disqualified by age for effective army service, he hired Mr. Asahel Stiles to serve for him. Mr. Stiles went on the C. campaign, and served at Ti. in 1776, continuing his service 4 months and 10 days in all, one-third of which was paid for by Capt. Cram. "In conjunction with other patriotic exempts, in July, 1777," wrote W. H. Grant, Esq., "he hired William Burnham to serve one year in the Continental Army." (Minn. Soc. of S. A. R., p. 298.) His home was on what is now known as the John A. Putnam place.

51. Cram, Nathan. Nathan Cram enlisted for three months to go to "clear out the road to St. John's," Canada. He was taken sick and came home, but appears to have resumed and performed the service, judging from the town pay roll. There seems no evidence of his rendering any other service.

52. Cram, Solomon. Solomon Cram was a son of Capt.

Jonathan above mentioned. He joined with his father in hiring Mr. Asahel Stiles, and paid one-third of the bounty. He was not, himself, in the army, but he paid for one month's bounty of John Purple, who served a year in the Continental Army for Lyndeborough. His home was on the place owned by the late Mr. George Rose.

53. Cram, Uriah. Uriah Cram was also a son of Capt. Jonathan, and lived near his father, on the well-known road leading from the eastern part of the town to the south cemetery, and on westward by Dea. Ephraim Putnam's. He was a minuteman, and also one of three, who in 1778 hired Jacob Dutton to serve six months in R. I., and again paid one-sixth of a man's bounty for enlisting six months in the Continental Army. His house is said to have been so built that it was used as an armory or drill room for the minutemen. It was a two-story house, and the drill was practised in the upper story, which had partitions that could be removed at pleasure, making the upper part all into a single room or hall.

54. Creasy, Andrew. The name of Andrew Creasy appears in so many different forms even when written by scholars, that I am unable to decide which is the most approved spelling. Andrew Creasy was a private in Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. in 1776, and was one of a detachment mustered out of his command to march to N. Y. agreeable to a requisition made the 19th of Dec., 1776. He was afterwards in Capt. McConnell's Co., in Col. David Gilman's Regt., with which he served 3 months and 11 days, and traveled 600 miles. He was evidently in the battles of Trenton and Princeton.

I count it not amiss here to cite the words of Gen. Sullivan's letter to Hon. Meshech Weare, dated Chatham, Feb. 13, 1777. He wrote :

"General Washington made no scruple to say publicly, the remains of the Eastern Regiments were the strength of his army, though then their numbers were comparatively speaking but small ; he calls them in front when the Enemy are there ; he sends them to the rear when the Enemy threatens that way ; all the general officers allow them to be the best Troops. The Southern officers and soldiers allow it in times of danger, but not all other times. Believe me, Sir, the Yankees took Trenton before the other Troops knew anything of the matter more than that there was an engagement, and what will still surprise you more, the line that attacked the town consisted of eight hundred Yankees and there was 1600 Hessians to oppose them. At Princeton, when the 17th Regiment had thrown 3500 southern militia into the utmost confusion, a Regiment of Yankees restored the day. This General Mifflin confessed to me ; — though the Philadelphia papers tell us a different story. You may venture to assure your friends that no men fight better or write worse than the Yankees, of which this Letter will be

good evidence." (Revolutionary Rolls, Vol. I, pp. 522 and 523.)

Andrew Creasy was not only in these battles referred to in Gen. Sullivan's letter, but later in that year, was one of Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at S. as the substitute of Joshua Balch, aiding in the capture of Gen. Burgoyne.

Mr. Creasy's farm was situated north of Mr. H. H. Joslin's, reaching well up toward the side of the mountain. In 1792 he became a citizen of Francestown.

#### D.

55. Day, Isaac. Isaac Day was one of the men raised for Canada, out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. He was in Capt. William Barron's Co., mustered July 22, 1776, and served 4 months and 10 days. He lived in the northwest part of Lyndeborough.

56. Denten, Ebenezer. Ebenezer Denten was one of the men who "inlisted to clear out the road to St. Johns," and since the list of men "that went to Coös to clear the Road to St. Johns" shows the same names, except that Ebenezer Denten in the first list is changed to "Capt. Clark's man" in the second, we infer that Ebenezer Denten was Capt. Clark's hired man. His term of enlistment was three months and a half.

57. Dike, Benjamin. Benjamin Dike was a resident of Amherst, but having done military duty for Lyndeborough, is entitled to a place on our roll. He was hired by Isaac Kidder. He was 1st corporal in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which marched to the seat of war April 23, 1775. He was in the battle of B. H., and was also at W. H. among the besiegers of Boston.

58. Dunklee, Hezekiah. Hezekiah Dunklee did much service for himself and others in the Revolutionary War. He enlisted 3 months to clear out the road to St. Johns. He next enlisted in Capt. McConnell's Co., drawn from Col. Daniel Moore's Regt., to march to N. Y. They served from Sept. 26 to Dec. 1, 1776. In this campaign he seems to have been substitute for Francis Epps. In Capt. Peter Clark's expedition B, he was substitute for David Cram. In 1780 he paid one-half a month's bounty for a man's service in the Continental Army; and in 1780, the account states that "he did a fortnit" for those that went to the westward for three months. He seems to have lived near Francestown. and was in 1784 a signer of the petition for the organization of Greenfield.

59. Dunnell, Reuben. Reuben Dunnell served three years, entering the first N.H. Regt., March, 1777; and was discharged March, 1780. In the Revolutionary Rolls, Vol. I, page 600, the name is Reuben Donnell, Vol. 2, pp. 437 and 715, it is varied to Dunill and Dunnell, and in Hammond as cited above, it is Duunel. But however the name may be spelled, he served for Lyndeborough with Lyndeborough comrades. He was in

Capt. Amos Emerson's Co., in Col. Joseph Cilley's Regt., in which William Lee of Lyndeborough was 2nd Lieut.

60. Dutton, Asa. Asa Dutton was a soldier in Capt. McConnell's Co., raised out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. to march to N. Y., serving from Sept. 26 to Dec. 1, 1776.

61. Dutton, Benjamin. In Captain Peter Clark's expedition to B., Benjamin Dutton was represented by Ezra Dutton. The only record we have found of Benjamin's share in the Revolution is that he assisted to hire a man to go to W. P., and that he "hired Ezra," and he proved a good substitute, as the following account will show.

62. Dutton, Ezra. I avail myself here of W. H. Grant, Esq's. assistance, who wrote: "Ezra Dutton lived in Lyndeborough, and died there in 1793. He was a minute-man and one of Capt. Spaulding's Co.; was in the battle of B. H., and continued through the siege of Boston, and was discharged in March, 1776. He was also a private in Capt. McConnell's Co., raised in Sept., 1776, to reinforce the Continental Army, near New York. He served four months, and was in the battle of White Plains. He was also corporal in Capt. Peter Clark's Co., which fought at Bennington. He marched to Saratoga and aided in the capture of Burgoyne. He was also with Capt. William Lee in the Rhode Island campaign under Gen. Sullivan and fought in the battle of Rhode Island, 1778."

63. Dutton, Jacob. Jacob Dutton was one of Capt. Spaulding's Co. at B. H., and also at the W. H. camp. He was a fifer. He was also with Capt. Peter Clark in the B. campaign. He was also a fifer in Capt. Samuel Dearborn's Co., Col. Stephen Peabody's Regt. for Continental service at R. I. He was there six months and 12 days, half of the time as a substitute for Eleazar Woodward, and the other half for Moses Stiles Jr. and Uriah Cram. He was a fifer in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. of Col. Nichols' Regt., at W. P. He was in Capt. Spaulding's march to Canada, and back to Trenton and Princeton.

#### E.

64. Ellinwood, Benjamin. Benjamin Ellinwood was probably the man called Benjamin Tuck Ellinwood on our town roll. He was one of Capt. Peter Clark's men on the B. campaign, and was substitute for David Stratton. He seems to have lived in the eastern part of the town.

65. Ellinwood, Joseph. Joseph Ellinwood was fourth sergeant in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. in the S. campaign, in which Gen. Burgoyne was captured. He assisted in hiring William Burnham to serve a year in the Continental Army; and also in hiring William Lee to go to Coös in 1782. Joseph Ellinwood and Joseph Ellinwood Jr. were residents of the northwest part of the town, and petitioners for a division of it in 1784.



66. Ellinwood, Joseph Jr. Joseph Ellinwood Jr. was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. in the battle of B. H., and also at W. H., besieging Boston, while in the hands of the British. He seems to have enlisted as a substitute for Capt. John Stephenson. If this is correct, he served at Ti. from July 22 to Dec. 1, 1776. In Rev. Rolls 1, 359, his name is misprinted Allinwood, and omits the Jr. It is often difficult to distinguish between persons of the same name. Others must judge of success in this case.

67. Epps, Francis. Francis Epps was selectman in Lyndeborough in 1775, at the breaking out of the Revolutionary War. He appears to have hired Hezekiah Duncklee as his substitute to go to N. Y. In 1777 he marched as quartermaster with Capt. Peter Clark, his brother-in-law, on the S., and aided in the capture of Gen. Burgoyne. In 1778, he was in the R. I. expedition with Capt. William Lee.

Francis Epps was the son of Daniel Epps Jr. Esq., the first clerk of the Salem-Canada proprietors, lived in northeast part of the town, and was an honored and influential citizen.

#### F.

68. Fletcher, Philip. Philip Fletcher was in Capt. William Barron's Co., raised out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. for Canada, and was in the Ti. campaign. He went as substitute for Mr. George Gould and son Daniel. He returned with Capt. Barron from the campaign at Ti., and later paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P.

69. Fletcher, Simeon Jr. Simeon Fletcher, Jr. was one of Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the S. expedition for the capture of Burgoyne. (I follow town, not the state, records.) This appears to be the only service credited by our town roll to Simeon Fletcher, Jr.

70. Fletcher, Simeon. Simeon Fletcher was the pioneer of the family in this town, and was the father of both Philip and Simeon Jr. They lived in that part of the town which was at first province or society land, which became the Lyndeborough Addition, and which was again taken away to aid in constructing the town of Greenfield. Much of his old estate is still owned by Simeon's descendants of the fourth and fifth generations.

Our town records state that Simeon Fletcher "did one-third of a turn" of army service at Ti., through his substitute, James Burnham. He was with Capt. Peter Clark on the A. (Rolls 2, 138 adds Jr. to the name, which seems an error). He was also in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co., Col. Moses Nichols' Regt., raised to join the Continental Army at W. P., in 1780. He is supposed to have been "on guard the night that Arnold attempted to surrender the fortress to the British." He also served one month among those who went westward for three

months in 1781. Such is his record according to both town and state papers.

71. Fuller, Andrew, Esq. Andrew Fuller was town clerk as well as one of Lyndeborough's selectmen in 1776. He did two-thirds of a turn of army service in 1776 and Jonas Kidder, one-third. They hired Samuel Butterfield. He did personal service also in Capt. William Lee's Co. in R. I. He paid one month's bounty of John Purple, who was hired to serve a year in the Continental Army. He seems to have paid the highest sum on the list of those who hired substitutes.

### G.

72. Gardner, Ebenezer. Ebenezer Gardner was a soldier in Capt. Samuel McConnell's Co., raised out of Col. Daniel Moore's Regt. in N. Y., was mustered Sept. 26 and continued in the service until Dec. 1, 1776. Each man went for himself only, and was allowed 18 shillings per month bounty by the town.

73. Gould, Daniel. Daniel Gould was a soldier in Capt. William Lee's Co. of Col. Moses Kelley's Regt. in the R. I. expedition in 1778. He enlisted Feb. 23, 1781, for three years or during the war. He paid for one month's bounty of Israel Hutchinson who was hired for a year in the Continental Army, and also two months' bounty toward a man's serving six months in the same army. He together with his father, George, hired Mr. Philip Fletcher. He is reported as having returned from the Ti. campaign with Lieut. Barron, a fact which seems difficult to explain, through his substitute, Philip Fletcher. See number 68.

74. Gould, George. George Gould was the father of Daniel. He was probably unfitted by age for personal army service. But he united with his son Daniel, and they performed a full turn of service through their substitute, Philip Fletcher. He lived nearly opposite the town hall, at the centre.

75. Gould, Stephen. Stephen Gould lived in the northwest part of the town, and was one of the petitioners for its division in 1784. He was in Capt. William Walker's Co. of 42 men raised out of the 5th Regt. of N. H. militia, by an order from Major Gen. Folsom, to reinforce the Continental Army at N. Y. from Dec. 7, 1776 to March 1, 1777. He reënlisted in the same line of service from June 28 to Dec. 19, 1780.

76. Grushe (or Grushé), Thomas. In our town records Vol. II., p. 29, we find, "Voted to give 100 Dollars as a bounty or reward, to each of the sixteen men that shall enlist from this town, except Joseph Willson and Thomas Grush, who have received a hire from particular men." Thomas Grush was in Capt. Amos Emerson's Co., in Col. Joseph Cilley's Regt., raised by the State of N. H. for the Continental service, Feb., 1777.

## H.

77. Hadley, Joshua. Joshua Hadley seems to have done no personal service in the army. But he hired a substitute for the Ti. campaign under Capt. William Barron, paying £6, 13s., 4d. He further paid one month's bounty to hire John Purple for a year in the Continental Army, and one and a half month's bounty for a man to go to W. P., July 4, 1780.

78. Hale, Israel. Israel Hale was born in Beverley, Mass., and at the time of his enlistment in the Continental Army, Feb. 26, 1781, was 16 years, 5 months old. He was a resident of Lyndeborough and enlisted for three years, or until the close of the war. He was in Col. Joseph Cilley's Regt., second Co., and was discharged in Oct., 1781, when the war practically ended with the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

79. Hamblet, Hezekiah. Hezekiah Hamlet (as formerly spelled, Hamblet,) was one of Capt. William Barron's Co. in the expedition to Ti. in 1776. He served as substitute for both David and Robert Badger. He was also one of Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the S.

80. Herrick, Daniel. Daniel Herrick was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at B. Time in service, 2 mos., 6 dys. He also joined with five others in hiring a man for 6 months in the Continental Army. He lived in what is now Greenfield, and was one of the petitioners for the new town.

81. Herrick, Joseph. Joseph Herrick was one of the selectmen of Lyndeborough in 1776. He is named among those who returned with Lieut. Barron from the Ti. expedition. He was one of the committee of safety for 1777, and was one of a committee of five men chosen to average and appraise the services done for the town by each of its citizens in the war, from the 19th day of April, 1775, to May 6, 1777. He was in Capt. Clark's Co. on the expedition to B. and also on the S. In the latter he was Q. M. Sergt. In 1778 he was in the R. I. expedition; and in 1780 he paid a month's bounty for a man in the Continental service. He belonged in that part of the town set off to form the new town of Greenfield, and was a petitioner for the same.

82. William Holley. We cannot give his record, but in 1840 he was a pensioner living in Greenfield. He lived for many years on what in early times was known as Woodward Hill, on the old stage road between Temple, Peterborough, and Greenfield, a road which passes over the hill north of the Dolliver place.

83. Holt, Oliver. Oliver Holt enlisted Sept. 17, 1781, in Capt. William Boyes' Co. of Col. Daniel Reynold's Regt., of N. H. militia. He received provision and supplies from the selectmen of the town sufficient to last him to Springfield. His

term of service was short, for the war closed with the surrender of Cornwallis, Oct. 19, a little more than a month after his enlistment.\*

84. Holt, William. William Holt was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the A., and was also with the same Capt. on the memorable expedition to B., in which a large detachment of the British Army was signally defeated. He paid a month's bounty towards John Purple's service for a year in the Continental Army, and "did two months" towards service to the westward in 1781.

85. Holt, William, Jr. William Holt, Jr., gave one month's service to hire William Lee to go to Coös, July 12, 1782. There was danger of an invasion of our frontiers from Canada at this time, and two companies of able-bodied and effective men were raised as rangers for the defense of our borders. In this service William Lee, who had previously served as Capt., enlisted as a private, and William Holt, Jr., contributed towards his bounty, or hire.

86. Houston, Samuel. Samuel Houston was one of three men, all prominent in our town, who hired James Burnham as their substitute in Capt. William Barron's Co. in the Ti. campaign. His name appears first on our Revolutionary Rolls, Vol. II, p. 101, in Capt. Robbe's Co., Col. Enoch Hale's Regt., of N. H. troops. In Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the A., he was Lieut., and always after that was called Lieut. Houston. In Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co., destined for W. P., he was sergeant, and the same year, 1780, he paid a month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. He lived north of the mountain, near the Frances-town line.

87. Howard, Silas. Silas Howard came from Massachusetts where he had been in the army of the revolution. He continued a citizen of Lyndeborough to the close of his life. His descendants remained in this town till the fourth generation, and were then annexed to Milford. His son Samuel was one of our soldiers in the war of 1812, and was one of ten children. (See Genealogy.)

88. Hutchinson, Israel. Israel Hutchinson enlisted in the Continental Army for a year, and received a bounty of £60 for his services. The money was raised by subscription, three men paying each 1 month's bounty, three others paying 2 months' bounty each, and one paying 3 months' bounty. Some who did no personal army duty took real, active interest in the war.

89. Hutchinson, James. James Hutchinson was 2nd sergeant in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which served from Apr. 23 to Aug. 1, 1775. He served 5 months and 18 days in the

\*Oliver Holt, Enoch Ordway, James Hutchinson and Simeon Fletcher were in the same company and marched to Fort Edward, which had surrendered the day before their arrival. They were not needed there and so returned.

Continental service. Sept. 17, 1781, he enlisted for three years, and a little more than a month later he was discharged, at the close of the war.

90. Hutchinson, John. John Hutchinson was one of Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. in the W. H. campaign. He was, also, with Capt. Peter Clark on the A., but hired Nehemiah Hutchinson on the B., under the same Capt. He seems, also, to have performed some service for Benjamin Jones.

91. Hutchinson, Nehemiah. Nehemiah Hutchinson saw considerable service in the Revolutionary War. He was a private in the Co. of Capt. Levi Spaulding, and appears to have served with him at B. H. and W. H. He went with him to Canada and back to Trenton, &c. He went with Capt. Peter Clark on the A., and also on the B., in which he was hired by John Hutchinson, and held the office of 1st sergeant.

92. Hutchinson, Samuel. Samuel Hutchinson was corporal in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. at B. H. He was hired by Amos Wilkins, and served in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at B. He was in Capt. William Lee's Co. in R. I. in 1778. He paid a month's bounty for Isaac Carkin's service, who enlisted for a year in the Continental Army; and in Sept., 1779, he hired Stephen Richardson to serve two months at Portsmouth.

## J.

93. Johnson, Adam. Adam Johnson was in Capt. William Lee's Co., Col. Moses Kelley's Regt., in the expedition to R. I. in 1778, serving as quartermaster sergeant. He paid two months' bounty for Israel Hutchinson's year's service in the Continental Army, and one month's bounty to hire a man to go to W. P., N. Y., in 1780. In 1782, he was Lieut. in Capt. Jonathan Smith's Co. of rangers for the defense of our western frontiers.

94. Johnson, Adam, Jr. Adam Johnson, Jr. was one of Capt. William Barron's Co. in the Ti. campaign, though his name seems omitted from the printed rolls. He enlisted for the W. H. campaign in the siege of Boston, 1776, and went from there to N. Y., and continued throughout the campaign. He paid one month's bounty toward Israel Hutchinson's year in the Continental Army.

95. Johnson, James. James Johnson, as we learn from our town records, was hired by Adam Johnson, and served somewhere for him, as the record plainly shows. But the printed Revolutionary Rolls do not seem to have his name, unless he is the one named in Rolls, II, p. 514.

96. Johnson, John. John Johnson was in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and was in the battle of B. H. It was he who took up his brother-in-law, David Carlton, mortally wounded, and

carried him off the field. In the winter of 1776 he went from W. H. to N. Y., and remained throughout that campaign. There seems no further record of him. He doubtless fell as a victim of the war. His widow, Abigail (Carlton) Johnson, became the wife of Ensign David Putnam.

## K.

97. John Kidder in 1776 paid for a man's service in the Ti. campaign. "He hired Mr. John Rowe." He paid a month's bounty for Isaac Carkin in 1777. He afterwards enlisted in Col. Moses Kelley's Regt., and was in Capt. William Lee's Co. in the R. I. expedition in 1778. He was also a member of the same Regt. when engaged in the defense of Portsmouth in 1779. He also paid two months' bounty for a man to go to W. P. in 1780. A portion of the land owned by him remains still the property of some of his descendants of the fifth generation, Elizabeth Rebecca (Mrs. Ethan A. Woodward) Kidder, and Miss Harriet Moore.

Elizabeth Rebecca (Kidder) Woodward died July 20, 1904.

98. Kidder, John, Jr. Our records credit John Kidder, Jr., with a share in the R. I. expedition in 1778. He was one of the seven men whose estates were severed from Lyndeborough and annexed to Temple in 1796.

99. Kidder, Jonas. Jonas Kidder and Andrew Fuller, Esq., united in hiring Samuel Butterfield to enter the Ti. campaign in the Co. of Capt. William Barron in 1776.

In 1777 he paid one month's bounty to hire John Purple to enter the Continental Army for one year. In 1778 he served as a private in the Co. of Capt. William Lee in the R. I. expedition. In 1779 he served two months at Portsmouth as Lieut. In 1780 he was commissioned as Capt. in Col. Moses Nichols' Regt., and served at W. P., The same year he paid the bounty of a three months' man to serve at W. P. At that time the British had special movements on foot to try to capture that fortification, and special efforts were made to reinforce and strengthen it. In his duties at that place Jonas Kidder, it is said, was entrusted with guarding Major Andre the night before his death. The list of his Co. and their residences is given in the Revolutionary Rolls, Vol. III, pp. 161, 162, and they were in Camp Highlands Sept. 27, 1780.

In 1781 he was serving the town as one of its selectmen, associate of Ephraim Putnam. That same year a petition, very interesting, for the light it sheds on our financial condition, was sent to the General Court of the State of N. H., assembled at Exeter, Jan. 5. The petition bears the names of Abel Stevens of New Grantham, William Barron of Merrimack, Jonas Kidder of Lyndeborough and Peter Page of Charlestown, all captains in the regiment lately commanded by Col. Moses Nichols.

"Humbly Shews, That they have received Warrants upon

the Treasurer for their respective wages, and for the wages of the men under their Command during the time they were employed in the service of the said State. They have presented some of the warrants to the Treasurer for payment, and he informs them that there is no money in the Treasury, and that 'tis out of his power to pay them. They further beg leave to show their honors they have been for several days past, and now are in the Town of Exeter on expense waiting for their pay.

“That they are not possessed of money sufficient to pay their expences in said Town of Exeter, or to bear their expences to their several homes.

“That they and the men belonging to their several Companies have depended upon receiving their wages to pay their taxes; that they did not, as has been usual heretofore, receive any advance wages; that they were obliged to advance considerable sums of money in order to defray their expences in travelling to and from Camp; that they were employed in the service of said State at a time of the year when 'twas most inconvenient for them to leave their several homes. Your Petitioners wish not to be troublesome to your Honors — they wish 'twas in their power to pay their expences in said Town of Exeter, bear their expences home, and pay their taxes after their return, but they are sorry to say that 'tis not.

“They therefore pray that your honors would point out some way to enable the said Treasurer to pay them respectively the sums mentioned in their respective Warrants (or at least some part of the sums aforesaid) that they may be enabled to pay their taxes, defray their expences in said Town of Exeter, bear their expences to their homes, and pay the men which were under their Command some part of the wages due to them; and as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c.”

Jonas Kidder    Abel Stevens  
Peter Page     William Barron

Jonas Kidder held various offices of trust in Lyndeborough after the close of the Revolutionary War. He spent his last days in the home of his daughter, in his native town of Hudson, having nearly completed his 94th year. On his headstone is the inscription: —

“In memory of Capt. Jonas Kidder  
who died Nov. 1st, 1837, aged 94  
Formerly of Linesborough.”

100. Killam, Benjamin. Benjamin Killam, at the time a citizen of Lyndeborough, is named as one of the men who marched from Temple to Cambridge on the 19th of April, 1775. He paid two months' bounty for John Purple's year of service in the Continental Army. In 1796, he, with six others, were severed from Lyndeborough and annexed to Temple.

101. Kittridge, Joshua. Joshua Kittredge enlisted in the Continental Army July 1, 1780, and was discharged Dec. 6,

1780. He was 19 years of age at the time of his enlistment, and was enrolled from Lyndeborough. His name stands on our town records for the year 1781.

## L.

102. Lee, Capt. William. William Lee was sergeant in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and was at the battle of B. H., and also for a time at W. H., besieging the British in Boston. He went from W. H. to Canada in 1776 as ensign under Capt. Spaulding, returned and with him shared in the battles of Trenton and Princeton in Dec., 1776. In 1778 he was Capt. in the expedition for the defense of R. I. In July, 1782, he enlisted as a private in Capt. Jonathan Smith's Co. of rangers for the defense of our western frontiers. (See sketch elsewhere.)

103. Lewis, Aaron. In 1776 Aaron Lewis joined with Mr. Nathan Parsons in hiring Mr. John Reynolds to do half a turn of army service for them; and he did half a turn for himself, thus filling out a whole turn of service for the defense of Ti. In July, 1777, he was first sergeant in Capt. Peter Clarke's Co., which marched on the A. The next year, 1778, he served as a private in Capt. William Lee's Co. in the R. I. expedition. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to serve three months at W. P. in 1780.

104. Lund, Jesse. Jesse Lund appears to have been a native of Dunstable. But the greater part of his army service was performed for Lyndeborough. He enlisted in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. of Col. James Reed's Regt., and had a part in the battle of B. H., and was reported as among the mortally wounded. He recovered, however, and rendered further service. He fought under Capt. Peter Clark at B., as the substitute of Benjamin Osgood. He also served for Jacob Cram, in Capt. William Lee's Co., in the expedition to R. I. in 1778.

105. Lund, Willard. Willard Lund was probably a brother of Jesse. He served in the Co. of Capt. Jonas Kidder at W. P. They assisted in holding the fort at the time of Arnold's treason, and were entrusted by General Washington with the most important soldierly services at that critical time.

## M.

106. Manuel, Amos. Amos Manuel was a soldier in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. of Col. Nichols' Regt., in duty at W. P., 1780.

107. Manuel, Joel. Joel Manuel paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. for three months in 1780.

108. McAdams. Four persons of this name, presumably a father and three sons, together with Benjamin Burroughs, contributed the bounty of a six months' man for the Continental Army in the year 1780. Their voluntary contributions to the



patriot cause entitle their names to a place on our roll. The names are William McAdams, Robert McAdams, Hugh McAdams, William McAdams. The names of Robert and William McAdams, Jr., appear on our lists of town officers for the years 1779 and 1785.

109. McIntire, Andrew. The name of Andrew McIntire is found in our Revolutionary Rolls, Vol. I, pp. 469, 602. He enlisted in Capt. Morrill's Co. of Col. John Stark's Regt., Feb. 20, 1777. He doubtless saw active service, though what we cannot distinctly state.

110. McIntire, John. He also was in the 1st Regt., in Capt. Morrill's Co., under Col. Stark. Hammond's Town Papers, Vol. XII, p. 522, states that John McIntire entered the 1st Regt. Mar. 8, 1777, and was discharged Mar. 20, 1780. He therefore served more than three years.

111. McIntire, Timothy. Timothy McIntire was a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., Col. James Reed's Regt., and was in the battle of B. H. He was credited to Duxbury School Farm. But his name appears among our town officers for the year 1776, and therefore we doubt the correctness of that credit.

112. McMaster, Samuel. Samuel McMaster was also a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and in the battle of B. H. His name is among those of our town officers for the years 1779 and 1780.

113. Mead, John. John Mead hired Josiah Blanchard, who marched with Capt. Peter Clark, and was in the battle of B., and served two months. He also paid one-half month's bounty for a man to go three months to reinforce W. P., but find no record of his personal military service.

114. Mellen, John. John Mellen was a resident of Frances-town, who served in the Continental Army for Lyndeborough. He was chosen out of Col. Moses Kelley's Regt. to fill up the New Hampshire battalions raised to reinforce the Continental Army, and also to aid in the defense of R. I. He was mustered into the army July 20, 1779, to serve six months. William Blaney, Moses Lewis and John Woodward each paid two months' bounty to hire him.

#### O.

115. Ordway, Enoch. Enoch Ordway enlisted in Capt. William Boyes' Co., Col. Daniel Reynold's Regt., Sept. 17, 1781. He and three others, Oliver Holt, Simeon Fletcher and James Hutchinson, were in the same Co., and marched to Fort Edward, N. Y. But the fort surrendered the day before they reached there, and as their service was not needed, they returned east. Enoch Ordway enlisted for six weeks in 1780, to go to Coös for the defense of our frontiers.

116. Ordway, John. John Ordway seems to have done no

personal army service, but assisted liberally to support those who did. He united with Isaac Day in performing a full turn of service in the Ti. campaign, under Capt. William Barron in 1776. Isaac Day was his substitute. He paid a month's bounty to hire John Purple for a year in the Continental Army. He also paid a month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. three months in 1780, and paid two months' bounty for William Lee to go to Coös in 1782.

117. Ordway, Moses. Moses Ordway enlisted Feb. 21, 1781, for three years, or during the war. He was in Capt. Isaac Farwell's Co., in the 1st N. H. Regt.

118. Osgood, Benjamin. Benjamin Osgood hired Jesse Lund as substitute in the Co. of Capt. Peter Clark in the B. campaign. He also paid half a month's bounty towards those who went to the westward for three months in 1781.

#### P.

119. Parsons, George. George Parsons was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the B. campaign, sharing in one of the important successes of the Revolutionary War. George Parsons lived in the northwest part of the town.

120. Parsons, Jonathan, Jr. Jonathan Parsons, Jr. paid one month's bounty for a six months' man in the Continental Army. See Hammond XII, p. 606.

121. Parsons or Pearson, Nathan. Nathan Pearson and Aaron Lewis did one-fourth of a turn of service each, through Mr. John Reynolds their substitute in 1776. He was in the R. I. expedition with Capt. William Lee in 1778. He also paid one month's bounty for a three months' man to go to W. P. in 1780. In 1776, he was one of the selectmen.

122. Pearson, Thomas. Thomas Pearson was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the A. He hired Edward Bevins to march with Capt. Clark on the S. campaign for the capture of Burgoyne. He also paid a month's bounty to secure a six months' man for the Continental Army.

123. Pearson, Timothy. Timothy Pearson was in Capt. Clark's Co. on the A. He also served under the same Capt. on the S. expedition for the capture of Gen. Burgoyne. He was in Capt. William Lee's Co. in the R. I. expedition in 1778.

The most of the Pearsons lived in the southeast corner of Lyndeborough and adjacent parts of other towns. They petitioned the Legislature in 1779 that they might be joined with a part of Amherst, Duxbury School Farm and the Mile Slip, and be chartered as a separate town. But all the towns seemed opposed to this, and the movement failed. That part of the town of Lyndeborough was called "Parsonses Corner."

124. Perham, Oliver. The Massachusetts records of soldiers

and sailors in the Revolutionary War, p. 140, state that he enlisted from Chelmsford, as a private in Lieut. John Flint's Co. of Col. Thomas Poor's Regt., and served eight months and fourteen days at and about White Plains, including twelve days' travel home, 240 miles. He was also at West Point, 1780, marching from home June 30, 1780, and discharged Dec. 19, 1780."

"Soon after the close of the war, he settled in the southeast part of Lyndeborough. He had seven sons and one daughter." (See Genealogy.)

125. Phelps, Nathaniel, Ensign. Nathaniel Phelps was one of the selectmen in 1776, and was a prominent man in the town. He and Jeremiah Carlton united in paying Isaac Carkin for performing service under Capt. William Barron on the Ti. campaign. He bore two-thirds and Mr. Carleton one-third of the expense. He paid two months' bounty to hire Israel Hutchinson to enter the Continental Army for a year. He paid two months' bounty for a man to go to W. P. three months. He is constantly called Ensign Phelps in our town records.

126. Pringle, Thomas. Thomas Pringle was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the B. expedition. He served at that memorable occasion as substitute for Jacob Cram. He lived in that part of the town which was afterwards annexed to Greenfield.

127. PUNCHARD, Benjamin. Benjamin PUNCHARD was one of Lyndeborough's haywards in 1776. He paid two months' bounty towards hiring Mr. William Burnham for a year's service in the Continental Army in 1779. He paid one month's bounty for a man to go three months to W. P., N. Y., in 1780.

128. PUNCHARD, James. James PUNCHARD hired John Skerry to go with Capt. Peter Clark on the S. campaign. He paid one month's bounty toward Israel Hutchinson's service for one year in the Continental Army in 1777. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to go three months to W. P. in 1780.

129. PUNCHARD, John. John PUNCHARD was a drummer in Capt. Jonas Kidder's Co. at W. P.

130. PUNCHARD, Samuel. Samuel PUNCHARD was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the S. expedition, Sept., 1777. The same year he paid one month's bounty towards Isaac Carkin's year in the Continental Army. Feb. 21, 1781, he enlisted in the Continental Army for three years.

131. PUNCHARD, William. William PUNCHARD paid one-half month's bounty for a man to serve six months in the Continental Army.

The PUNCHARD family, evidently influential, must have lived near Francestown, whose historian, we think, incorrectly claims Samuel for his town. He is enrolled as one of our town officers in 1782, and enlisted as above in 1781. Wm. and John may have been the younger sons at the time of the war.

132. Purple, John. John Purple was a resident of Amherst who served for Lyndeborough, and received a bounty of sixty pounds sterling for service in 1779. His bounty was raised by subscription, eleven of our citizens having shared in providing it.

133. Putnam, Aaron. Aaron Putnam was one of five men who enlisted in Dec., 1776, and continued their service till the first of March, 1777. He served three months and eleven days, in Capt. McConnell's Co., Col. David Gilman's Regt., and marched 600 miles. They went to Fishkill, N. Y. He also marched under Capt. Peter Clark on the A., and served with Capt. William Lee in R. I., in 1778.

134. Putnam, Ensign David. One of our records gives his name as one of Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. at the siege of Boston on W. H. Have found no corroboration of this statement. But the name of David Putnam stands foremost on the list of those who went "to clear out the road to St. Johns." He was in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the S. campaign, and assisted in dealing the enemy one of the severest blows of the war, resulting in the capture of Gen. Burgoyne.

135. Putnam, Ephraim. Ephraim Putnam and son Ephraim, Jr., united in hiring Mr. Nathaniel Batchelder to enlist in the Ti. campaign under Capt. William Barron, in July, 1776. Ephraim Putnam was deacon of the Congregational Church, as was also his son Ephraim. He paid a month's bounty toward hiring John Purple to enlist for a year in the Continental Army, and also a month's bounty to get a man to go to W. P. in 1780. When preparing for the war in 1774, the town chose him as committee to provide its stock of ammunition which was to consist of "one barrel of powder, one hundred weight of lead, and five dozen flints." Although he did no personal military service, he was active in fitting out men, and served the town as a true patriot and promoter of the war. He died in Nov., 1777.

136. Putnam, Ephraim, Jr. Ephraim Putnam, Jr. was a worthy son of a noble sire. He shared with his father in hiring Nathaniel Batchelder for the Ti. campaign, in Capt. William Barron's Co. in 1776. He paid a month's bounty for a man to go to W. P., in 1780. He was Dea. Putnam, Jr. He served the town as one of its selectmen and was also like his father, an active supporter and promoter of the war.

137. Putnam, Ephraim, 3rd. Ephraim Putnam, 3rd., united with Mr. John Boffee to do a turn of military service. Mr. Boffee did the service and Mr. Putnam paid half its value in money. The service was rendered in Capt. William Barron's Co. in the Ti. campaign.

138. Putnam, Jesse. Jesse Putnam hired Nicholas Beasom for two dollars to go in his room, or place. He was one of the

eleven men that went to N. Y. in Sept., 1776, and continued in the service till Dec. The town records put the name of Jesse Putnam in place of his substitute.

139. Putnam, John. John Putnam was a brother of Jesse, and was also a deacon. In 1780 he enlisted to go to Coös for the defense of the frontiers; term of service, six weeks. In 1781 he enlisted for three years or during the war, and was discharged in Dec., 1781, as no longer needed. Cornwallis had surrendered as well as Burgoyne.

## R.

140. Reynolds, John. John Reynolds is introduced to us thus:—

“Sergt. Aaron Lewis did one quarter of a turn; Mr. Nathan Parsons did one quarter of a turn; they hired Mr. John Reynolds, and Reynolds did half a turn for himself.” He went into the Ti. campaign in 1766, in Capt. William Barron’s Co., Col. Joshua Wingate’s Regt., serving four months and ten days, from July 22 till Dec. 1, 1776. He lived in the northwest part of the town, and was one of the petitioners for the charter of the town of Greenfield.

141. Reynolds, Nathaniel. Nathaniel Reynolds paid one month’s bounty toward Isaac Carkin’s year’s service in the Continental Army.

142. Richards, Joseph. At a legal meeting on Jan. 12, 1778, the town of Lyndeborough passed the following vote:—

“Voted, To release William Carson, Benjamin Punched, John Skerry and Joseph Richards from doing anything in the war, until others in this town have done as much as they, according to their estates.”

Possibly, he was the Joseph Richards who enlisted among the soldiers from Temple, as did others of our citizens. See Temple History, p. 97, and Rolls of N. H., Vol. I, p. 35.

Richardson. It is admitted by the History of Temple that in 1796 that town received from ours one Joseph Richardson. Two Joseph Richardsons are reported from that town in the Revolutionary War, but none from ours. There were several men of that name in the army, and, presumably, one of the men enrolled as citizens of Temple should have been credited to Lyndeborough. Be that as it may, our roll has first:—

143. Richardson, Stephen. Stephen Richardson enlisted in April, 1777, for three years, or the war. In 1779 he went to Portsmouth for two months as substitute for Samuel Hutchinson. He was in Capt. Jonas Kidder’s Co. at W. P. in 1780.

144. Richardson, Thomas. Thomas Richardson paid two month’s bounty for Israel Hutchinson, who served a year in the Continental Army and received £60 for his service. Thomas

Richardson also paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. three months in 1780.

145. Rose, Abraham. Abraham Rose came to us from Sandwich, Mass., and settled on the part of our mountain which was named for him, "Rose Mountain." When the project, then an innovation, of putting a stove into the meeting house to warm it was broached and under discussion he objected strenuously to the novelty. He is reported to have spoken somewhat as follows: "I have attended church these fifty years; I have fought the British seven years; I have slept in a tent on the frozen ground with nothing but a blanket to cover me; I have trod the snow path with bleeding feet, nearly naked, and I now need no stove to keep me warm in church, etc." He thus gave his own military record and none of his fellow-citizens seemed to doubt or dispute it. He was very likely at Valley Forge and endured some of the severest hardships of the struggle.

At a later day he removed from his mountain home to that which is now owned by Willard Rose, his great grandson.

146. Ross, Walter. Walter Ross hired Josiah Woodbury, Jr., to enlist in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the B. He was also one of six to hire a man to enlist for six months in the Continental Army.

147. Rowe, John. John Rowe was No. 33 in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which marched from Lyndeborough April 23, 1775. He was in the battle of B. H. He was with Capt. William Barron at Ti. as substitute for Mr. John Kidder. He was in the Continental Army in 1777, in Capt. Amos Emerson's Co. In 1780 he was a soldier in the Regt. of Col. Joseph Cilley, and in 1782, he enlisted in Capt. Jonathan Smith's Co. of rangers, raised "for the defense of the Western Frontiers."

148. Russell, Daniel. Daniel Russell was a pensioner on half pay, March 20, 1780, and resided in Lyndeborough in 1786. The R. Rolls, 3,446, gives his own statement as follows:

State of Newhampshire } Lyndeborough January 22 1788  
Hillsborough }

I do hereby Certify that I Daniel Russell Inlisted into the Continental Army for the town of Rindge sometime in April (or not far from that time) in the year 1777, under Lt James Crombie and was turned into Capt Blodgets Company and Colonel Hales Regt. and was wounded Sept. 19, 1777 in the Battle at Stillwater  
Daniel Russell

149. Russell, Jedediah. Jedediah Russell came into Lyndeborough from the adjoining town of Wilton, not far from the year 1800. He served in the Revolution in some Massachusetts Regt. of which his descendants at the present day have no trace. He bought land of a Mr. Dascomb, and lived on the place now occupied by Dr. Richards, in the southwest corner of

the town. He was at one time licensed as a tavern keeper (1805). His son Ebenezer was one of the volunteers in 1812, going to Portsmouth under Lt. Timothy Putnam, and his grandson, Adoniram, also served at Portsmouth under Capt. Tarbell in 1864.

150. Russell, Peter. The town records tell us that "Sergeant Peter Russell did a half turn, and Mr. Joshua Hadley half. Russell went." This was in 1776, and had special reference to the Ti. campaign. Capt. William Barron led one hundred men from this and neighboring towns for that enterprise, among whom was Peter Russell. He also went six weeks to Coös in 1780, and also "did a fornit" toward those who went westward in 1781.

## S.

151. Sargent, Joshua. Joshua Sargent (m. Abigail Ladd) was one of Capt. William Lee's Co. in the R. I. campaign of 1778. He was also one of the W. P. men in 1780.

A little incident connected with him was narrated by Mrs. Susanna P. Hartshorn with pleasing animation just a few weeks before her death. Mr. Sargent's last days were spent at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Israel Putnam, and he was accustomed to cail frequently at the house of Deacon David, Mrs. Hartshorn's father. He used to tell that "he was on duty as sentry in front of Gen. Washington's headquarters when the news of Major Andre's capture and Benedict Arnold's treachery was received. The General had just come in from one of his rounds of inspection, and dismounted, with birchen switch still in hand, when he learned of the perfidious plot. Intensely aroused, and absorbed in deepest thought, he began slowly to pace the floor to and fro, chewing little strips of both wood and bark from his switch. He continued thus in profound meditation, until his switch was nearly used up."

The hour was one of gravest trial for even a heroic soul. But his courage and fortitude endured the test, and he was enabled to overcome.

Joshua Sargent came from Methuen, Mass., and built and conducted a cloth mill, as it was called, once situated near the mill now owned by Mr. Colburn. He spent his last days in the home of his daughter, Ruthy, the first wife of Capt. Israel Putnam.

152. Shaw, William. William Shaw was a private in the First Regt., commanded by Col. Joseph Cilley. He enlisted in July, 1777, and was discharged in Feb., 1778. The town of Lyndeborough advanced a bounty to him of £7, 6s, 6d.

153. Skerry, John. John Skerry, in 1776, was one of Lyndeborough's haywards or field-drivers. He seems to have lived in the northwest part of the town. Benjamin Punchard hired him for the S. campaign with Capt. Peter Clark, Sept. 29, 1777, and he was in the service 26 days. In 1778, at a legal

town meeting a vote was passed, "to release John Skerry" and three other citizens, "from doing anything in the war" until others should do "as much as they according to their estates."

154. Smith, Benjamin. Benjamin Smith enlisted at Cambridge after Apr. 19, 1775, and he was at the battle of B. H. He was in Capt. Ezra Towne's Co., which marched from New Ipswich. In 1777 he enlisted for the war. He was in the First Regt. of N. H. troops, under Col. Joseph Cilley, in Capt. Amos Emerson's Co., and was discharged in Dec., 1781.

155. Smith, David. David Smith was in the First Regt. commanded by Col. Joseph Cilley. He enlisted on the same day as Benjamin, and was discharged Jan. 1, 1780. David re-enlisted July 5, 1780, and was again discharged Dec. 14, 1780.

156. Smith, John. John Smith was with Capt. Peter Clark on the B. expedition. He was also with the same captain in the S. campaign, both of which were successful, resulting grandly for the Americans, and paving the way to Yorktown.

157. Smith, Ephraim. Ephraim Smith was a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which marched from Lyndeborough April 23, 1775, and was in the battle of B. H.

158. Smith, Luther. Luther Smith of Lyndeborough, enlisted Feb. 28, 1781, for three years. He was in the 2nd Co. of Col. Joseph Cilley's Regt.

159. Spaulding, David. David Spaulding, born in Nottingham West (now Hudson), and likely a relative of Capt. Levi Spaulding, 17 years of age, enlisted in Feb., 1781, for three years.

160. Spaulding, Lieut. Edward. Edward Spaulding enlisted in Captain Jonas Kidder's Co., July 5, 1780, which went to W. P. He served till Oct. 23, 1780. He also paid one month's bounty to hire a man for three months' service at W. P. He re-enlisted Feb. 21, 1781, for 3 years in the Continental service, and was discharged Dec., 1781.

161. Spaulding, Capt. Levi. (See sketch of Capt. Levi Spaulding elsewhere.)

162. Spaulding, Lieut. Reuben. Lieut. Reuben Spaulding was one of Capt. Peter Clark's men, on the A., July 1, 1777. He hired Jacob Dutton for the B. campaign, under Capt. Clark. He was with Captain William Lee, in the R. I. expedition in 1778. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to serve three months at W. P. in 1780. Reuben Spaulding was one of a committee of five appointed by the town, to make an average of the services done in the war by the different citizens, and to allow each man his just due for such service.

163. Stephenson, Capt. John. According to our town roll, "Capt. John Stephenson did a whole turn." He hired Joseph



Ellinwood, Jr., paying him £12. He also paid two months' bounty towards hiring Isaac Carkin to serve a year in the Continental Army; and further, one month's bounty for a man to serve three months at W. P.

When Lyndeborough was chartered by the Provincial Government in 1764, (April 23), John Stephenson was appointed to call the first town meeting under the charter. At that meeting, May 15, 1764, he was chosen town clerk, and continued his service till March 12, 1771. Oct. 4, 1765, according to W. H. Grant, Esq., "John Stephenson was commissioned Capt. and Jacob Wellman, Ensign of the tenth company in the Sixth Regt. of the Militia of the Province, by Benning Wentworth, Esq., Captain General and Governor in Chief" of "His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire in New England &c."

It is probable that John Stephenson may have been too infirm for effective army duty, and that his share in the war consisted of his contributions.

164. Stevens, Samuel. Samuel Stevens was in the expedition for the defense of Fort Ti. in 1776, with Capt. William Barron. He was probably hired by Mr. Jonathan Chamberlain to do one-third of a turn of army service. He was a near neighbor of Philip Fletcher in that part of Lyndeborough which was set off to form Greenfield, for which town he was one of the original petitioners. He died in Chester, Vt., about 1806.

165. Stiles, Asahel. Asahel Stiles was paid by Mr. Solomon Cram and Capt. Jonathan Cram for doing one-third of a turn of service for each of them; and he also did one-third of a turn for himself. He served in the Ti. campaign in Capt. William Barron's Co. He lived in the northwest part of our town, and was one of the petitioners for the incorporation of Greenfield.

166. Stiles, John. John Stiles was one of Capt. Peter Clark's Co. on the B. campaign in July, 1777. He lived near the Francestown line and was one of those whose lands were annexed to Francestown in 1791. He paid a month's bounty for a man to go six months into the Continental Army.

167. Stiles, Joshua. Joshua Stiles comes into our record as having paid one month's bounty towards hiring William Burnham to serve one year in the Continental Army. He seems to have lived in that part of the town taken to constitute Greenfield.

168. Stiles, Moses, Jr. Moses Stiles, Jr. and Uriah Cram, his cousin, together, paid one-half of Jacob Dutton's bounty for six months' service in R. I. in 1778. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to serve six months in the Continental Army. Moses Stiles, Jr., John, Samuel and Asahei seem to have been brothers, sons of Moses and Phebe (Cram) Stiles. See Cram Genealogy, Phebe.

169. Stiles, Samuel. Samuel Stiles was a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and took part in the battle of B. H. He was also at W. H., besieging the British in Boston. He was one of eight Lyndeborough men who marched from W. H. to Canada, and returned and took part in the battle of Trenton, New Jersey.

170. Stratton, David. David Stratton hired Benjamin Tuck Ellinwood as his substitute in the B. campaign, under command of Capt. Peter Clark. He also paid one month's bounty towards a man's serving six months in the Continental Army. He was early in town and settled first on the farm now owned by Mr. Andy Holt. Probably exempt from service by advanced age.

### T.

171. Taylor, William. William Taylor "did one fortnit" towards the bounty of those who went westward three months in 1781. He also did a like service towards the bounty of William Lee who went to Coös in 1782.

172. Thayer, Jonathan. Jonathan Thayer lived north of the mountain, near Francestown. He was a blacksmith by trade, kept tavern in 1827, was regarded as a man of good ability and highly respected. He died in 1836, aged 75 years.

173. Thompson, Andrew. Andrew Thompson was a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co. at B. H. He was also in Capt. William Barron's Co. in the campaign for the defense of Fort Ti. He not only did military service for his own town, but also for some other not definitely named.

174. Thompson, James. James Thompson was without doubt a Revolutionary soldier in 1776. But he served for some other town than Lyndeborough. Possibly for Amherst. Rolls 2, 438.

175. Thompson, John. John Thompson served under Capt. William Barron in the Ti. campaign of 1776, and "returned with" him. He also paid two months' bounty towards hiring Mr. William Burnham to serve a year in the Continental Army.

176. Towne, Samuel. Samuel Towne was not in the army, but contributed liberally to induce others to enlist, who, perhaps, could render better personal service than he. He paid three months' bounty for Israel Hutchinson to serve a year in the Continental Army July 15, 1777. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. three months in 1780. He lived in the eastern part of Lyndeborough, adjoining the north-west part of Amherst.

### W.

177. Wellman, Abraham. Abraham Wellman was the third son of Capt. Jacob Wellman, one of the early proprietors of

Salem-Canada, as well as of Lyndeborough. He was a native of Salem-Canada, and a Revolutionary soldier. He lived after the close of the war, and was a pensioner. He married Rebecca Parsons, and about 1785 removed to Belgrade, Me., and about 1820 to Ohio.

178. Wellman, Jacob, Jr. Capt. Jacob Wellman, Jr., volunteered to serve his country in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co.; was in the battle of B. H., and at first reported mortally wounded; was carried off the field, and the next day carried to a hospital in Cambridge. When sufficiently recovered to take the journey, he received a furlough, and "was welcomed home by his dear wife and children." He was wounded in the shoulder, and probably disabled for army service. He died Apr. 20, 1834, aged 88 years.

179. Wellman, James. James Wellman was born in Salem-Canada in 1747 and died in the Revolutionary Army.

180. Wellman, John. John Wellman was a Revolutionary soldier. In 1776, he did service for some Wilton man, unnamed in our town records. Of his subsequent services we have no record.

The Wellmans above named, Abraham, Jacob, Jr., James and John, were sons of Capt. Jacob Wellman, who served in the militia of our town before the Revolution. His commission, received from the Royal Governor, Benning Wentworth, as ensign bears date of Oct. 12, 1764, the same year in which our town was chartered. The captain's commission is thought to have been issued in 1765.

181. Whittemore, Aaron. Aaron Whittemore was at B. under Capt. Peter Clark.

182. Whittemore, Maj. Amos. Amos Whittemore was in Capt. McConnell's Co. in N. Y. in 1776. He was the son of Benjamin and Hannah (Collins) Whittemore, born, probably, in 1747. He settled in Lyndeborough in 1771, and married Molly Taylor of Amherst.

Our records inform us that Sergt. Amos Whittemore, Lieut. Samuel Houston and Simeon Fletcher did one-third of a turn each. They hired James Burnham. He served, also, in the Ti. campaign under Capt. William Barron. In N. Y. he did personal duty, and appears to have been in the battle of White Plains. He paid one month's bounty for a man to go to W. P. in 1780.

The Antrim historian relates that "at one time during the Revolutionary War, he received orders to march the next morning: "He was woefully short of pantaloons and knew not what to do. After consultation with his blessed wife Molly, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, he went and sheared a sheep (probably a black one), and his wife carded, spun and wove the wool and made it into a pair of pantaloons, ready for the morning's march.

Such were many of the wives of Revolutionary heroes." He was a citizen of Lyndeborough throughout the Revolutionary War, and for ten years after its practical termination. He was promoted ensign, and later lieutenant, and was a major in the militia.

183. Whittemore, Jonathan. He was a brother of Aaron, and assisted by the paying of one month's bounty to hire William Burnham for a year in the Continental Army in 1777. He also paid one month's bounty for a man to serve six months in the Continental Army; and further, he paid one-half month's hire for a man to serve in the West in 1781.

184. Whittemore, Samuel. Samuel Whittemore paid two months' bounty to hire John Woodbury to go to R. I. for six months in 1779.

185. Wilkins, Amos. The name of Amos Wilkins does not appear on the printed Revolutionary Rolls. But he hired Samuel Hutchinson as a substitute, who fought in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at B.

186. Wilkins, Elisha. Elisha Wilkins was a soldier in Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., and took part in the battle of B. H. He enlisted May 1, 1775, and served three months and eight days.

187. Wilkins, Joseph, Jr. Joseph Wilkins, Jr., enlisted to go to New York, and passed muster Sept. 26, 1776, and continued in the service till the first of Dec. It is stated that "*each went for himself only.*" But it also stated that "Nicklus Beesom went in the room of Jesse Putnam, and received two Dollars of Putnam for the same." The eleven men who went at the time specified above appear to have been in the battle of White Plains, Joseph Wilkins being included.

188. Willson, Joseph. Joseph Willson enlisted in the First N. H. Regt. in 1776, and also at various times afterwards. In Feb., 1781, he enlisted to remain during the war, and in consequence of the surrender of Cornwallis, which practically closed the war, he was discharged in Dec., 1781.

189. Woodbury, John. John Woodbury was one of the eight men that in 1776 "went from Winter Hill to Canada and concluded the same back to Trenton." John Clark, Benjamin Bullock and Samuel Whittemore hired John Woodbury, and he enlisted July 12, 1779, in one of the N. H. battalions, raised to reinforce the Continental Army and to aid in the defense of R. I. His term of service under the last enlistment was six months, and each of the men named above paid for two months of his time.

190. Woodbury, Josiah, Jr. Josiah Woodbury, Jr., was one of Capt. Levi Spaulding's Co., which marched from Lyndeborough Apr. 23, 1775, and then served one month and thirteen days. He also passed muster Sept. 26, 1776, in Capt. McCon-

nell's Co. in New York. He was, therefore, in the battle of White Plains. He was also in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. at B., as substitute for Mr. Walter Ross.

191. Woodbury, Nathaniel. Nathaniel Woodbury was also one of Capt. McConnell's Co., and was in the battle of White Plains, N. Y.. Oct. 28, 1776. He was also in the battle of B., in Capt. Peter Clark's Co. as a substitute, or as hired by Mr. Edmund Bickford.

192. Woodward, Eleazar. Eleazar Woodward hired Jacob Dutton for three months in the R. I. campaign in July, 1778. He also paid two months' bounty toward a six months' man to serve in the Continental Army. He was one of the town committee, chosen to enlist its quota Jan. 29, 1781. His name is on the remonstrance against the petition of the northwest part of the town in 1783.

193. Woodward, Ithamar. Ithamar Woodward was one of the men who enlisted Sept. 26, and continued in service till Dec. 1, 1776. He was in Capt. McConnell's Co. in New York, and was in the battle of White Plains Oct. 28. He was one of the strong remonstrants against being annexed to Greenfield, much preferring to be joined to Francestown, a preference in which the General Court gratified him, by annexing his and his associates' estates to Francestown Dec. 11, 1792.

194. Woodward, John. John Woodward was one of the three men who hired John Mellen to go to R. I. for six months, the others being William Blaney and Moses Lewis. He lived near the Francestown line, and opposed being set off into Greenfield.

This completes our list of Revolutionary men. It speaks for itself with great and forceful eloquence, as well as for the town in which these men lived.

#### A CENSUS OF REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONERS.

In a letter from St. Paul, Minn., July 29th, 1891, W. H. Grant, Esq., wrote to D. C. Grant, his brother: "I found hid away in one corner of a book-case among a lot of public documents, at the Historical Library, the other day, a very interesting book. It was a census of the Revolutionary Pensioners living in 1840, each town, county and state arranged by itself. It is a book published by the Government in 1841, showing name and age of pensioner and with whom the pensioner resided. I give you the Lyndeborough and Greenfield lists with their ages:

LYNDEBOROUGH	Age	GREENFIELD	Age
Jonathan Butler	87	Joseph Eaton	81
Jedediah Russell	88	William Holley	75
Joshua Sargent	82	Ebenezer Farrington	83
Oliver Perham	78	Jacob McIntire	84
Abraham Rose	80	Lucy Perry	73
Edmund Perkins	80	William Brooks	79
Phineas Kidder	84	Simeon Fletcher	80
		Ruhama Burnham	76
		Simon Low	85

Of all the Lyndeborough Revolutionary soldiers he wrote that "Simeon Fletcher was the only one left, residing in either Lyndeborough or Greenfield," when the book was published. He states further, "I have examined the entire New Hampshire list, and find the name of but one other Lyndeborough soldier, John Purple, aged 97, then living in Amherst." John Purple served for Lyndeborough, but was an Amherst resident when he enlisted.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE MILITIA.

The excellent sketch of the Lafayette Artillery Co. by Mr. Jacob A. Woodward\* will be referred to as probably containing the fullest and best information for present use.

It was written with unusual particularity and thoroughness for the Company's Centennial celebration, Sept. 9, 1904.

#### THE LAFAYETTE ARTILLERY COMPANY.

In 1760 there were in the Province of New Hampshire, ten regiments of militia, viz.: One of cavalry and nine of infantry. The most of these had seen service in the French and Indian war then just closing. New Hampshire had furnished more than five thousand men for the six campaigns for the reduction of Crown Point and the Canadas, and ending with the capture of Montreal. The militia were thoroughly organized, both officers and men having seen seven years of service. There is nothing to show that any of the men of Lyndeborough, then Salem-Canada, served in these campaigns, but it must be remembered that the town was young, the settlers poor, and having all they could do to maintain a foothold in their new country. In April, 1764, the town was incorporated, and on the fourth of October following, John Stephenson was commissioned captain, and Jacob Wellman ensign of the tenth company in the sixth regiment of the militia of the Province of New Hampshire. The commission of John Stephenson is in the possession of Willis J. Stephenson of Lyndeborough, a great-grandson of the above mentioned John. It is signed by Benning Wentworth, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire. From that October day to the present time, a period of one hundred and forty years, the town has maintained one or more companies of active militia, ready to take the field on short notice. It is to be regretted that no roster of this first company can be found.

In 1773 the number of regiments was increased to twelve, and the officers Major-General and Brigadier-General for the first

\*Mr Woodward says: "We are indebted to Mr. Joseph A. Johnson for much of the information in regard to the early history of this company; to valuable letters of the late William H. Grant, Esq., and to Mr. Charles H. Tarbell for courteous help."

time were commissioned. In September, 1776, an act was passed for forming and regulating the militia within the state, greatly changing the whole system. The state militia was divided into seventeen regiments. It provided for two classes of soldiers, a "Training Band" and an "Alarm List."

The training band was made up of all the able-bodied male persons in the state from sixteen years old to fifty, except certain persons in position and employment specified, and negroes, mulattoes and Indians. There was to be one major-general, with power at all times to draw forth the militia, or any part of them, as he should judge expedient for the immediate defense of this or any of the United States of America. The field officers were one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel and two majors for each regiment, and they were to divide their regiments into companies consisting of, as near as might be, sixty-eight privates each. The companies were to choose a captain, two lieutenants and one ensign. Each officer and private soldier was to equip himself and be constantly provided with a good fire-arm, good ramrod, a worm, priming-wire and brush, a bayonet fitted to his gun, a scabbard and belt therefor, and a cutting sword or a tomahawk or hatchet, a pouch containing a cartridge box that will hold fifteen rounds of cartridges at least, a hundred buck-shot, a jackknife, and tow for wadding, six flints, one pound of powder, forty leaden balls, fitted to his gun, a knapsack and blanket, a canteen or wooden bottle sufficient to hold one quart. Each town was to provide and deposit in some safe place for use in case of an alarm, a specified number of spades or shovels, axes and picks, and to provide arms and equipment for those unable to provide for themselves. Each company was to muster eight times a year, including the regimental musters. Treating with victuals or drink on any training or muster days subjected any officers, so offending, to court martial.

The alarm list included all male persons from sixteen years of age to sixty-five, not included in the training band, and not exempted in the first section of the act. They were to serve in a separate corps, were subject to be called out of their towns by no officer under the rank of colonel, and once in every six months they were to be called out by the captains of companies of the training bands to have their arms and accoutrement examined. Under the provisions of this act Lyndeborough became a part of the Ninth regiment, whereof Daniel Moore of Bedford was colonel. Pursuant to this act Peter Clark



became captain and Samuel Houston lieutenant of the Lyndeborough company. Both of these men subsequently did heroic work in the cause of liberty. In 1780 a new militia act was passed, but did not differ essentially from the preceding. The next considerable change was made in 1792, after the adoption of the present constitution, wherein it is declared that a "well regulated militia is a proper, natural and sure defense of the state." This act made many changes, and by the new arrangement Lyndeborough became a part of the second battalion of the 26th regiment, and in 1796 Daniel Gould was commissioned major of the battalion, while the regiment was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Pierce of Hillsborough, afterward governor, and the father of President Pierce.

In 1803 several artillery companies were organized and annexed to the regiments in the limits in which they were located. It was also provided that there should be at least one company of light infantry or grenadiers to each battalion, and a company of cavalry and also of artillery to each regiment. It was also provided that in forming companies of artillery and cavalry no more than one-eleventh part of any infantry company should enlist therein. It was also made unlawful for any non-commissioned officer or private to fire any gun on the day or evening of a muster, in or near any public road, or any house, or on or near the place of parade, without the permission of a commissioned officer.

It was also provided that the state should furnish one cannon with carriage, harness and apparatus to each artillery company; also music, money and colors, that suitable meats and drinks, or thirty-four cents in lieu thereof should be furnished each non-commissioned officer and private, within their several towns, on regimental or battalion musters. Each town was required to be constantly provided with certain amounts of powder, balls, flints and camp kettles, that these companies might constantly be in readiness in case of an emergency.

Such, in brief, were the conditions in 1804, under which the Lafayette Artillery Company was organized. The arrogance, and acts of annoyance by Great Britain, which culminated a few years later in the War of 1812, were stirring the public mind. The people had but won their independence after a long, bloody struggle, and they felt that to preserve their hard-won liberty, they must have a well-drilled militia, and the military spirit ran high. This company was first known as the Artillery Company

of the 22nd Regiment, and was not christened the Lafayette Artillery Company until many years later. The early history of this organization is shrouded in the mist of a hundred years. No records of the first twenty years of its existence can be found, if, indeed, there ever were any ; but it would be a story of meetings for drill, and of gathering at the muster-field, "armed and equipped as the law directs." Its first cannon, of which there is any record, was an iron four-pounder, and was handled with drag-ropes. This gun was condemned in 1844 as unfit for service by the inspectors of the 22nd Regiment, and a brass six-pounder was substituted. This gun is now in the possession of the company. It bears the date, 1810, and is famous as the only gun in the state service fit to be fired when the War of the Rebellion broke out. It was taken to Concord at Governor Gilmore's order, and used to fire salutes. Its voice has been heard on many muster-fields and at many celebrations in the towns in this section of the state. The company has come to regard it with much veneration and affection. It is much to be wished that a description of the first uniform of the company might here be given, but nothing of the kind is available. The members of the company wore side arms prior to 1856, and since that time have carried muskets instead. Those side arms, in part, were a short, broad-bladed sword worn in a belt.

The company was organized in Peterborough, and for a number of years was essentially a Peterborough affair. A majority of its members were Peterborough men ; Lyndeborough came next, and some men were enlisted from other towns. It will be noticed that the commissioned officers for a number of years after its organization were from Peterborough. As the years passed by, Lyndeborough came to the fore in the number of men enlisted. Now, what came about in 1833 is a matter of record, but the causes of the changes in that year are mostly a matter of tradition only. From stories of elderly men, from the fact that two companies appeared on the muster-field in that year, both claiming to be the Artillery Company of the 22nd Regiment, it would seem to be a plausible theory that Lyndeborough insisted on having the commissioned officers, and that Peterborough resisted, and that there was a quarrel between the men of the two towns, which resulted in a division of the company. The Peterborough contingent was commanded by Captain Samuel Cary, who had been its captain in 1829-30-31, and the men from Lyndeborough and Wilton were led by Captain Eleazer Put-

nam. They had borrowed the famous "Molly Stark," a gun owned by the New Boston Artillery Company, together with their uniforms, and it was for Col. Luther Dascomb, who was colonel of the regiment at the time, to decide which was the artillery company of the regiment. Now, whether the fact that some of the men in the Lyndeborough company were from Wilton, Col. Dascomb's town, had anything to do with his decision, is a matter of conjecture, but, at any rate, he decided in favor of the Lyndeborough company, and since that year (1833) the organization has been known as a Lyndeborough institution. They sent up a squad of men and a pair of horses and captured the old iron field-piece, which was theirs until condemned as unfit for service.

In connection with the above the following record from the Orderly Book of the company may be of interest:—

WILTON, Dec. 3, 1833.

"We, the undersigned, desirous of becoming an organized Company of Artillery in the twenty-second 'Regiment' of New Hampshire Militia, do hereby agree to uniform and equip ourselves according to the following plan, viz.: The cap shall be a Bonaparte cap with a black 'Ploom,' the coat Blue and trimmed with yellow ball buttons and yellow worsted cord; with white pantaloons, with black 'gaters' in Pickets and black stocks, yellow belts for the sword with a belt over the shoulder, and Boots."

Eleazer Putnam	Harvey Holt	Moses Parmenter
William Holt	Wm. Bachelder	Samuel Osgood
Ezra Dane	David Holt	James Marshall
Solomon Cram	Amos M. Whittemore	Ezra Ellingwood
John F. Holt	Smiley Blood	Joseph Karr
Lyman Stone	Dennis Abbott	John B. Kidder
William Bayles	Luther Cleaves	John Parker
Isaiah Holt		

Then follows the certification of the field officers that the uniform was satisfactory, and that they (the Company) should constitute the Artillery Company of the 22nd Regiment N. H. Militia. Signed by

LUTHER DASCOMB	} Field Officers 22nd Regt. N. H. Militia
SAMUEL RYAN Jr.	

The uniform described above is the oldest that can be remembered by anyone now living. Mr. Joseph A. Johnson says, "It was probably worn many years prior to 1833."

The company was incorporated in 1837 and the following is the notice thereof:

“Notice is hereby given that John F. Holt, John B. Kidder and Amos M. Whittemore, their associates and successors, be and hereby are made a body corporate and politic by the name of the Lafayette Artillery Company in the 22nd Regiment New Hampshire Militia, and that they may hold personal property not to exceed six hundred dollars, and are entitled to all the privileges incident to incorporations of a similar nature, and that John F. Holt, John B. Kidder or Amos M. Whittemore, or either two of them, may call a meeting for making by-laws for the future observance of said Company, not repugnant to the laws of the State, by giving 4 days’ notice thereof personally or in writing.”

Lyndeborough, Aug. 25, 1837.

(The Adjutant General’s office gives it as Jan. 13, 1837.)

In 1840 the ladies of Lyndeborough made a silk flag and presented it to the Company. It was carried many years and although worn and faded it is still treasured by the Company as a souvenir of the past. Some years later the late Col. King of Wilton presented the Company with a staff for this flag, through Amos Herrick, a member of the Company, Col. King being unable to be present at the ceremony. The Company ordered their clerk, Mr. J. A. Johnson, to write Mr. King a letter of thanks for the gift. Another flag was presented by citizens of the town in 1862. It was originally 10x18 feet in size, but has been reduced by wear to 9x11, and is badly tattered and faded.

Feb. 22nd, 1891, at the annual celebration, Mr. Byron Putnam presented a large flag to the Company. Mr. Putnam formally presented the flag and Maj. C. H. Holt accepted in behalf of the citizens and Company. This flag is 12x21 feet.

The earliest roster and roll of membership of which there is any record is that of 1820. It is inserted here as a matter of historical interest.

#### COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

James White, Capt.

Nathan Leathers, Lieut.

Isaac Hadley, Ensign.

Sergeant, Benjamin Brackett.

The commissions of these officers were dated April 20, 1820.

#### PRIVATEs.

Charles M. Howe

William Matthews

Pliney E. Yer

Milton Carter	Ahamaaz Jewett	James Howe
Charles Smith	Samuel H. Howe	William Puffer
John Barber	William Breed	Charles Fletcher
Robert White	Mathew Grey	Anson Moore
John J. Holt	William Scott	Silas Barber
Norton Hunt	James Wilder	Isaiah T. Smith
Samuel Gates	Jeremiah Steele	Adam Miller
James H. Swan	Eli Upton	Jonathan Felt
Nathaniel Felt		

A large majority of these men were probably from Peterborough.

From a careful examination of the records it would seem that the following persons were members of the Company from 1833 to 1838 which includes the year of its incorporation :

Eleazer Putnam	Henry Herrick	Amos M. Whittemore
William Holt	Putnam Cram	John S. Hutchinson
Ezra Dane	Sumner Blanchard	Isaac Butterfield
Solomon Cram	George Bales	Sherebiah Manning
John F. Holt	Andrew Harwood	Eben Averill
Lyman Stone	Daniel Holt Herrick	John S. Fuller
William Bales	Rodney Hunt	John Adams
Isaiah Holt	John Hutchinson	Adney C. Searles
William Bachelder	Ezra Ellingwood	Abel Hutchinson
Smiley Blood	Joseph Karr	Charles Osgood
Dennis Abbott	John B. Kidder	Asher Bennett
Luther Cleaves	John Parker	Joshua Rogers
Moses Parmenter	Alvin Upton	Enos Crooker
Samuel Osgood	Joseph H. Ford	Henry A. Abbott
James Marshall	Jesse Read	Alonzo W. Stiles
Daniel P. Goldsmith	Sylvester Bradford	Joel H. Tarbell
Carl Searles	John I. Carson	Samuel B. Bales
Thomas B. Kidder	Albert Hardy	Josiah Parker Jr.
Franklin H. Kidder	Jonas Wheeler	John Putnam
Benjamin F. Stevens	Otis R. Fisher	Joseph A. Johnson
John Frye	John R. Fish	James H. Grant
Calvin Holt	Phillip Putnam	

This company is now one of the oldest military organizations in the country. Decade after decade it has made its appearance in the camp and on the muster field, and much might be written of scenes and incidents connected with its history, but the limits of this sketch forbid. It was a part of the New Hampshire militia from 1804 until 1866 or thereabouts, when the N. H. National Guard was organized and the old regimental divisions were done away with. From 1866 to 1878 it was a part of the First Regiment N. H. N. G.; in the Second Regiment from 1878 until 1882, when it was mustered out of the

National Guard. As an incorporated independent company it has maintained its organization since.

The Company was mustered into the U. S. service Aug. 1, 1864, at Lyndeborough, by Capt. William M. Graham, First Artillery, U. S. A., and was sent to Newcastle, N. H., to do garrison duty. It was mustered out Sept. 23, 1864, at Fort Constitution, Newcastle, by Thomas S. Dunbar, First Lieut. 14th Infantry, U. S. A. Previous to this enlistment many of its members had seen service at the front. This company had 135 men in the service of the United States during the war of the Rebellion. The first New Hampshire man killed in that war was Harvey Holt, a member of this Company. Its Rolls have contained the names of many of Lyndeborough's most honored citizens. Their roll books contain the names of upwards of 700 persons. In 1878 the members of the Company arranged to celebrate the seventy-fourth anniversary of their organization, and Feb. 22nd, the birthday of the "Father of our Country," was selected, and Joseph Chamberlain, a former captain, made the address. From that year until the present, the day has been celebrated by the Company by a free dinner, an oration, music, speaking by invited guests, and a ball in the evening. Its observance has gradually grown until now it is the one day in which the people from all sections of the town get together for a good time. It was through their influence and exertions that the commodious hall at the south village was secured, they contributing liberally to its cost, and also giving the lot of land upon which it is built. Part of it is now used as the Armory. It was erected in 1888.

Mr. Joseph A. Johnson is the senior member now living, having enlisted April 15, 1838, and Mr. Eli Clark Curtis is the oldest living captain.

The first captain of the Company was James Wilson of Peterborough, and he held his commission from 1804 until 1810. He was the son of Major Robert Wilson. He graduated from Harvard College in 1789, and chose law as his profession. He practised in Peterborough until 1815, when he removed to Keene, where he died Jan. 4, 1839, aged 73 years. He was said to be a talented and successful lawyer. He was elected Representative to Congress in 1809 and 1811. He was the father of James Wilson, Jr., a noted orator during the presidential campaign of 1840. This son was major-general of the

New Hampshire militia at one time, and was best known as General Jim Wilson.

1810-14. The second captain was Nathaniel Morrison, born at Peterborough, Oct. 11, 1779. He was a carriage and chair maker, and at one time carried on his business at Fayetteville, N. C. At the urgent solicitation of his father he returned to Peterborough. There came with him a young mechanic named John H. Steele, who afterward became governor of New Hampshire. Capt. Morrison died in Mississippi, Sept. 11, 1819.

1814-20. The third captain was Jonathan Mitchell, born at Peterborough Jan. 11, 1787. He died at Belvidere, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1853. His father was a soldier in the Continental Army.

1820-23. The fourth captain was James White, born at Peterborough, March 31, 1784. He died in that town July 6, 1859. He was the grandfather of Gen. Daniel M. White of Peterborough, a soldier in the Civil War.

1823-24. The fifth captain was Isaac Hadley, born at Lexington, Mass., Aug. 9, 1784. Died at Peterborough, June 25, 1843. He was a brickmaker by trade, and a sergeant in the United States Army in the War of 1812. His father, Ebenezer Hadley, was a resident of Lexington, Mass., and was one of that gallant band of yeomen who stood on Lexington common and fought the British on that memorable 19th of April.

1824-27. The sixth captain was William Scott, born at Peterborough, Feb. 19, 1801. Died Sept. 24, 1846. He was a farmer by occupation, and was the father of Col. Charles Scott of Peterborough.

1827-29. The seventh captain was Norton Hunt, born at Peterborough, March 27, 1800. He was a farmer and miller by occupation, and at one time was colonel of the 22nd Regiment, New Hampshire militia. He died March 30, 1885.

1829-32. The eighth captain was Samuel Carey, born at Jaffrey, June 1, 1799. He was a successful farmer. He died March 27, 1886.

1832-33. There seem to have been two captains chosen during this period. Of L. Hill we have no record. Capt. Ashley Loring was born at Peterborough, April 21, 1807. Died in Ohio, Jan. 28, 1849.

1833-36. The eleventh captain was Eleazer Putnam, born at Lyndeborough, Jan. 8, 1801, and died in that town, Dec. 27, 1866. He was a descendant of one of the early settlers of Lyndeborough, and was the first captain chosen after the headquarters of the Company was removed to Lyndeborough. He was by trade a millwright. He served with the Company at Fort Constitution for a short time during the Rebellion. One of his sons, Albert M., was a soldier in that war.

1836-37. The twelfth captain was William Holt, said to have been an inhabitant of Wilton. We have no further record.

1837-38. The thirteenth captain was Lyman Stone, born in 1803. Died at Milford, Nov. 25, 1882. He was for many years a resident of Wilton.

1838-39. Of Moses Parmenter, the fourteenth captain, we have no record except that he was said to have been a Wilton man.

1839-40. The fifteenth captain was Solomon Cram, born at Roxbury, Vt., Nov. 5, 1802. Died in Lyndeborough March 11, 1863. He was a blacksmith by trade. Three of his sons, members of the Company, served in the War of the Rebellion, viz., George M., Orrin N., and Azro D. They are lineal descendants of the first settler of Lyndeborough.

1840-42. John Fletcher Holt was the sixteenth captain. He was born Nov. 12, 1807, and died April 17, 1883. He was born and died in Lyndeborough. He was a farmer and carpenter.

1842-43. The seventeenth captain was John Boffee Kidder, born Aug. 16, 1811. Died in Milford, May 2, 1892. He was a farmer by occupation, and for many years a resident of Wilton. He was a son of Ephraim and Betsey (Boffee) Kidder, and was a descendant of one of the oldest families in town.

1843-44. The eighteenth captain was Amos Marshall Whittemore, born at Greenfield, Jan. 15, 1815, and died in that town Dec. 15, 1890. A farmer by occupation.

1844-45. Jonathan Stephenson was the nineteenth captain, born at Lyndeborough, March 19, 1807. Died Nov. 10, 1903. He was a descendant of John Stephenson, one of the early settlers, and was a life-long resident of Lyndeborough. He was a farmer and millwright. It was through his influence that the Company secured the gun from the state, which is in their custody at present. He was the son of John and Mary (Hildreth) Stephenson.

1845-47. The twentieth captain was Ezra Dane. He lived at South Lyndeborough on a farm connected with the parsonage, at the time he was captain. No better record.

1847-48. Joshua Rogers was the twenty-first captain. He was a resident of Lyndeborough at the time he was captain of the Company, and died at Manchester, N. H. No further record.

1848-49. The twenty-second captain was Joseph Chamberlain, born at Milford, Feb. 22, 1821, and died at Paxton, Mass., in 1886. He was the son of Joseph and Sarah (Abbott) Chamberlain. He was a lumber dealer. In 1878, when the Company first celebrated the 22d of February, he was selected to make the address.

1849-50. The twenty-third captain was Nathaniel Jones, son of Benjamin and Chloe (Farrington) Jones, born at Lyndeborough, Nov. 15, 1811. Died at Natick, Mass., Dec. 28, 1878. He was a farmer.

1850-65. Joel H. Tarbell was the twenty-fourth captain. He was the son of Joel and Betsey (Shattuck) Tarbell, born at Mason, Feb. 6, 1816. Died at Lyndeborough, Feb. 14, 1891. He held his commission as captain fifteen years, the longest term in the history of the Company. He was its captain when the Company was mustered into the service of the United States.

1865-67. Eli Clark Curtis was the twenty-fifth captain, born at Lyndeborough, May 3, 1821, the son of Eli and Sarah (Loring) Curtis. He is the oldest captain of the Company now living. He has been a life-long resident of Lyndeborough. He is a farmer by occupation.

1867-70. The twenty-sixth captain was Charles Henry Holt, son of



Abiel and Olivia (Proctor) Holt, born Jan. 14, 1828, at Milford. Died Jan. 31, 1897, at Lyndeborough. He was captain also from 1875 to 1878, and from 1882 to 1885, and from 1886 to 1890, making him the thirtieth, thirty-third and thirty-fifth captain of the Company. During the later years of his life he was postmaster at South Lyndeborough.

1870-72. The twenty-seventh captain was John Gage, born June 15, 1836, at Wayne Co., Miss., the son of David and Betsey (Putnam) Gage. He is a mason by trade and resides at Wilton.

1872-74. Andy Holt was the twenty-eighth captain. He was born at Lyndeborough Feb. 1, 1842, the son of David and Ann (Cochran) Holt. He was captain also of the Company from 1878 to 1881, from 1890 to 1891, and is its present commanding officer, making him the thirty-first, thirty-sixth and forty-fifth captain of the Company. He was a soldier during the War of the Rebellion.

1874-75. The twenty-ninth captain was Albert S. Conant, born July 22, 1840, the son of Samuel and Abigail E. (Reynolds) Conant. He was born at Antrim. He is a veteran of the Civil War, resides at South Lyndeborough, and is a carpenter by trade.

1881-82. The thirty-second captain was David G. Dickey, born Oct. 24, 1836, the son of Adam and Keziah (Clement) Dickey. He is a farmer and carpenter, was a soldier in the Civil War, and now resides at Milford. He was also captain of the Company from 1885 to 1886, making him the thirty-fourth commanding officer as well.

1891-92; Henry A. Proctor, the thirty-seventh captain, was born in Stoddard, N. H., Sept. 22, 1854. He is a carpenter by trade, and now resides at Wilton, N. H.

1892-93. The Thirty-eighth captain was Frank H. Eaton, born Feb. 1, 1855, the son of George D. and Eliza (Southwick) Eaton. He was born at East Cambridge. While captain of the Company he lived in Lyndeborough; was a farmer. He now resides at Somerville, Mass.

1893-94. John C. Carkin was the thirty-ninth captain, born at Lyndeborough, March 7, 1844, the son of David and Lydia (Abbott) Carkin. He is a descendant of one of the early settlers of Lyndeborough, was a soldier in the Civil War, and has always made his home in this town. He is at present in the employ of the Whiting firm of Wilton.

1894-96. Joseph A. Blanchard was the fortieth captain, born at Milford, Nov. 16, 1829, the son of Luther and Mary (Kinson) Blanchard. He is a farmer at South Lyndeborough, was a soldier in the Civil War, and has been a member of the Company for over fifty years.

1896-98. Roy N. Putnam was the forty-first captain, born at Lyndeborough, July 9, 1870, the son of Edwin H. and Eliza (Keyes) Putnam. He is a descendant of Ephraim Putnam, one of the very early settlers of the town; is the present postmaster at South Lyndeborough and keeps a general store there. He was also forty-fourth captain, 1903-1904.

1898-1900. The forty-second captain was Sewell M. Buck, born at Norway, Me., April 16, 1839, the son of Austin and Sarah (Coburn) Buck. He is a painter by occupation, was a soldier in the Civil War, and resides at Lyndeborough.

1900-03. Edward Ross was the forty-third captain, born at Wellington, Conn., July 4, 1861, the son of Samuel and Sarah (McMullen) Ross. His father died from a wound received at the Battle of Gettysburg. Resides at South Lyndeborough.

1904-05. Capt. Andy Holt was the forty-fifth captain. It will be seen that thirty-six men served as captains during the century of the Company's existence.

1904.

The following is the Roster and Roll of Membership in the centennial year of the Company :

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Andy Holt, Captain.

Edward Ross, 1st Lieut.

Fred A. Holt, 2d Lieut.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Algernon W. Putnam, 1st Sergt.

Walter S. Tarbell, 2d Sergt.

Carl J. Bishop, 3d Sergt.

Willie F. Herrick, 4th Sergt.

James H. Williams, 5th Sergt.

Fred Moore, Corp.

Charles L. Perham, Corp.

James A. Putnam, Corp.

Albert E. Swinnington, Corp.

John A. Spalding, Corp.

Charles H. Tarbell, Quartermaster.

PRIVATES.

John C. Carkin	Harry F. Hartshorn	Herbert A. Cheever
Sewell M. Buck	Charles E. Putnam	Alfred K. Shepard
Albert S. Conant	George S. Proctor	Walter T. Shepard
George M. Cram	Fred W. Proctor	Frank H. Boutwell
Ethan A. Woodward	Willie J. Gangloff	Albert H. Hayford
Arthur J. Grant	Frank J. Bishop	Harry W. Cheever
Alfred T. Ford	L. Nute Woodward	Percy W. Putnam
Azro D. Cram	Edward L. Curtis	Elmer J. Blanchard
John W. Hartshorn	Perley L. Holden	Harry W. Holt
Roy N. Putnam	Warren A. Nichols	Clarence A. Eastman
John M. Curtis	William H. Cheever	George S. Buttrick
Charles D. Riley		

THE LIGHT INFANTRY.

Lyndeborough had also another military company which it would be not only impolitic, but almost unpardonable, to overlook or ignore. This, also, as well as the Lafayette Artillery, formed a part of the 22nd Regiment. Between the artillery and the other infantry companies, however, this distinction should be borne in mind. The artillery company could enlist men

from any of the different towns in the military district. The infantry companies were restricted to the enlistment of men residing in the town where the company had its headquarters.

The other company referred to above was "The Light Infantry," or the 2nd Light Infantry of the 22nd Regiment. This was the "Training Band" of the town. They were to provide themselves with the regulation equipment.

We have no distinct account of the organization of the Light Infantry. But we have muster rolls, and lists of its commissioned officers with dates, and other papers of legal tenor which certify to its complete organization for service. Although wanting authoritative record of the organization of the Lyndeborough Company, we are fortunate in having a complete muster roll of the Third Company of the 26th Regiment of the New Hampshire militia.

"Oct. 1," (1805) "The Company was warned by Daniel Putnam, commandant, at the head of his company, to appear on parade the 7th Instant." "Oct. 7, the Company were warned by said Putnam to appear on parade near to John Gibson's in Francestown, for the purpose of mustering with the regiment the 11th Day of October, Instant."

We imagine that some of our readers may take an interest in reading the document which follows :

The Roll of the Third Company of the Twenty-sixth Regiment of N. H. Militia, warned by Capt. Daniel Putnam to appear at the regimental muster at Francestown, Oct. 11, 1805.

## SERGEANTS.

Nathan Wheeler    Jacob Manning    Timothy Putnam    I. H. Goodrich

## FIFERS.

Thomas Lakin

Reuben Dutton

## DRUMMERS.

John Besom, Jr.

Chase Hadley

David Averill

Aaron Carlin

Asa Blanchard

Asa Carson

Crosby Blanchard

Henry Cram

David Butterfield,

Joseph Cram

Samuel Butterfield, Jr.

James Cram, Jr.

Thomas Boffee

Jonathan Chamberlain,

Jonathan Butler, Jr.

Daniel Chamberlain

Samuel Badger

Dudley Carleton

Daniel Badger

Asher Curtis

Josiah Brown

Israel Cram

Rufus Badger

John Clark, Jr.

James Cram

Peter Clark, Jr.

Moses Dutton	S. W. Parker
Thomas Dutton	Ephraim Putnam, 2nd
William Dutton	Jonathan Putnam
Joseph Ellinwood	Ephraim Putnam, 3rd
Peter Flanders	Nathaniel Putnam
David Farrington	Ebenezer Pearson
Benjamin Fuller	Robert Parker, Jr.
Joseph Farnam	Solomon Parker
Lewis Fisher	John Proctor, Jr.
Daniel Gardner	Oliver Perham, Jr.
John Giddings	Timothy Richardson
Charles Frye Hutchinson	Jedediah Russell, Jr.
Ebenezer Hutchinson Jr.	John Russell
David Holmes	John Russell, Jr.
Samuel Hardy	David Stiles
Jotham Hildreth	Lemuel Savels
Andrew Harwood	Jonathan T. Steward
John Hartshorn, Jr.	Oliver Scripture
Samuel Hartshorn	H. Ladd Sargent
Jonathan Hartshorn	John Sargent
John Melody	David Senter
Benjamin Holt	Reuben Stiles
Benjamin Jones, Jr.	Benjamin Senter, Jr.
Nathaniel Jones	Oliver Senter
Elbridge Jones	Eliezer Woodward, Jr.
Phineas Kidder, Jr.	Israel Woodward
Thomas Kidder	John Woodward, Jr.
Joseph Melody	Ephraim Woodward
John Medes	Alpheus Wilkins
Jacob McIntire	Clark Whittemore
Timothy Ordway	James Whittemore
Joshua Orne	Daniel Woodward
Samuel Pearson	Simon Wilkins
Timothy Pearson, Jr.	Oliver Whiting
James Pearson	

Whole number enrolled, 101

## OFFICERS.

Capt. Daniel Putnam Lt. Benjamin Goodrich Ens. Caleb Huston

The preceding roll, possibly the oldest one of the company, appears to be in the penmanship of Nathan Wheeler. We now present Sergeant Ebenezer Hutchinson's roll of the same company for the year 1812.\*

## ROLL FOR OCT. 12 TRAINING, 1812.

## SERGEANTS.

Hutchinson Chamberlain Putnam Clark

## FIFERS.

Dutton Richardson Bointon Averill

\* The spelling of the roll is copied except in the name of Putnam, where the Sergeant has Putman.

## DRUMMERS.

Besom	Putnam	Whitmarsh	Pearson
George Allen		Jacob Howard	
Joseph Carter	Abbott	Jotham Hildreth	
Samuel Allen		Mark Hadley	
Amaziah Blanchard		Samuel Hartshorn	
Jotham Blanchard		Ira Houston	
John Bullard		Benjamin Jones, Jr.	
Daniel Bullard		Nathan Jones	
Jacob Butler		Jacob Jones	
Thomas Boardman, Jr.		Ephraim Kidder, Jr.	
Daniel N. Boardman		Thomas Kidder	
Thomas Buffee		Asa Manning	
Israel Brown		John Medes	
Manley Butler		Enoch Ordway, Jr.	
Allen Cross		Robert Parker	
Henry Cram		Carlton Parker	
Joseph Cram		Moses Pearsons	
John Cristy		Timothy Pearsons, Jr.	
James Cram		Jesse Pearsons	
Joseph Chamberlain, 2nd		Ephraim Putnam, 3d	
Nath <sup>l</sup> Chamberlin		Joseph Putnam	
Samuel Chamberlin		Benjamin Putnam	
Joseph Chamberlin		John Perham	
John Chamberlin		Samuel Perham	
Peter Chamberlin		Brackley Rose	
Asa Chamberlin		Jotham Reed	
Dudley Carlton		John Russell	
Eli Curtis, Jun <sup>r</sup>		Jedidiah Russell, Jr.	
Asher Curtis		James Russell	
Benj <sup>a</sup> Curtis		Wm. Russell	
Henry Campbell		Ephraim P. Russell	
John Carson		Jesse Raimond	
John Carkin		Timothy Richardson	
Samuel Dutton		Wm. Richardson	
Wm. Dutton		Lemuel Savels	
Moses Dutton		Henry Spaulding	
Warren Damon		John Sargent	
Ira S. Ellenwood		Bodwell Sargent	
Daniel Eepes		Joseph S. Stone	
Nehemiah French, Jr.		Benjamin Senter	
James Fuller		Oliver Senter	
Frederick Fuller		Asa Senter	
Archelaus Fuller		John Sterns	
James Ferguson		Tyler Town	
Jareb Gould		John Town	
Daniel Gardner		Ebenezer Tower	
Francis Gideons		Russell Upton	
Nath <sup>l</sup> Hutchinson		Elijah Upton	
Samuel Howard		Israel Woodward	

Aaron Woodward	John Woodward, Q.
Daniel Woodward	Ephraim Woodward, 2nd
David Woodward	Caleb Whittemore
Samuel Woodward	Josiah Wheeler

Lists of the officers of the 2nd Company of the 22nd Regiment, and the dates of their commissions.

Timothy Putnam	Captain	June 7, 1814
Daniel Chamberlain	"	Nov. 13, 1818
Resigned June 8, 1819.		
David Putnam, Jr.	Captain	June 8, 1819
Resigned Sept. 4, 1820.		
Daniel N. Boardman	Captain	Sept. 4, 1820
Oliver Whiting	"	April 11, 1825
Peter Clark	"	" 8, 1826
Samuel Marble	"	" 25, 1828
Charles Parker	"	" 14, 1829
Jonathan Whiting	"	March 1, 1831
Jacob Woodward	"	Dec. 10, 1832
David J. Putnam	"	April 9, 1834
Albert C. French	"	" 5, 1837
Putnam Woodward	"	Nov. 1, 1837
John Dolliver	"	May 19, 1842
Luther Cram	"	" 8, 1843
Putnam Woodward	"	July 9, 1844
John Dolliver	"	June 18, 1846
Ebenezer Hutchinson, Jr.	Lieutenant	June 7, 1814
Jacob Butler	"	" 8, 1819
Resigned Sept. 4, 1820.		
Oliver Whiting	Lieutenant	Sept. 11, 1820
Peter Clark	"	April 11, 1825
Samuel Jones	"	" 8, 1826
Charles Parker	"	" 25, 1828
Jonathan Whiting	"	" 14, 1829
Jacob Woodward	"	March 1, 1831
David Johnson Putnam	"	Dec. 10, 1832
Minard Putnam	"	April 9, 1834
Sylvester Proctor	"	Nov. 1, 1837
John Dolliver	"	Aug. 14, 1838
Daniel Chamberlain	Ensign	June 7, 1814
Jacob Butler	"	Nov. 13, 1818
Daniel N. Boardman	"	June 8, 1819
Silas Wilkins	"	Sept. 4, 1820
Peter Clark	"	April 19, 1822
Samuel Jones	"	" 11, 1825
Samuel Marble	"	" 8, 1826
Jonathan Whiting	"	" 25, 1828
Jacob Woodward	"	" 14, 1829
David Johnson Putnam	"	March 1, 1831
Ephraim H. Putnam	"	Dec. 10, 1832

Albert C. French	Ensign	Aug. 29, 1836
Rodney C. Boutwell	"	" 13, 1838
A. Russell	"	June 18, 1846

## REGIMENTAL, FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS.

Timothy Putnam	Lt. Col. Com'dg.	June 20, 1820
	Major	June 20, 1818
	Colonel	June 20, 1820
Discharged July 26, 1824, and removed to Lowell, Mass.		
Daniel Wardwell	Surgeon	May 21, 1818
Israel Herrick	Surgeon's Mate	Jan. 19, 1822
Nathan Jones	Surgeon	Aug. 28, 1826
Nathaniel Merrill	Chaplain	Apr. 30, 1821
David J. Putnam	Major	June 16, 1836
Declined.		
Daniel Proctor	Major	June 29, 1838
Declined Sept. 3, 1838.		
Putnam Woodward	Major	July 2, 1841
	Lt. Col.	June 24, 1842
William G. French	Paymaster	Aug. 21, 1842

The foregoing lists of officers, with the dates of their commissions, were procured by W. H. Grant, Esq., from the Hon. Ezra Stearns, secretary of state of New Hampshire, and were among the papers of David C. Grant. The records show that a flourishing military company had its home among our hills, many of whose members served in the Revolutionary War, as well as in that of 1812. The Light Infantry thus on record was sometimes designated the 2nd Company and sometimes the 3rd Company of the 22nd Regiment. This variation in name was due to a different arrangement of the companies in the regiment.

"The Light Infantry" was a uniformed company. Its uniform consisted of white pantaloons, red coats, a tall cap with white plume tipped with red. They were frequently styled "Red-coats."

## THE ALARM LIST.

The body of militia thus designated constituted a third company. They were called into service only in cases of emergency, but were required by law to parade once in six months. In consequence of training so little, they could not discharge their firearms with the same promptness and precision as the Light Infantry. The fire of the latter came like the report of a single gun; the alarm list men when firing went "slam! bang!" from which cause they were called "Slam-Bangs."

Mr. Joseph A. Johnson, one of the later captains of this

company, kindly furnished me the following statement relating to the body : —

“ Lyndeborough has always been noted for its military spirit. Early in its history military duty was compulsory, and all males between eighteen and forty-five years of age were enrolled and designated as infantry. As time passed along they began to form independent companies under the names of light infantry, artillery and cavalry. The infantry, an un-uniformed body, was kept up as a sort of reserve from which to replenish the uniformed companies, which, however, were restricted to a certain per cent. of the infantry. Sometime in the fifties they ceased to do military duty, but were enrolled until the national guard was formed. The Lyndeborough body was known as the 5th company of the infantry of the 22nd Regiment. Such companies were generally known as the Slam Bangs, from the fact that when taking part in the sham fight in the old regimental musters, and drawn up in front of the supposed enemy, they discharged their muskets so promiscuously that they would have endangered each other, had they fired bullets instead of blank-shot.”

The lists of the officers with the dates of their commissions, procured by W. H. Grant, Esq., from Hon. Ezra Stearns, secretary of state, are as follows : —

OFFICERS OF THE 5TH CO. OF THE 22ND REGIMENT.

Henry Isaac	Captain	Nov. 2, 1819
Charles Whitmarsh	“	Aug. 30, 1821
Israel Putnam	“	April 13, 1822
Ebenezer Russell	“	Feb. 22, 1826
David W. Grimes	“	March 24, 1827
Israel Putnam	“	July 8, 1828
Newton Boutwell	“	Aug. 20, 1829
Samuel Hartshorn	“	Nov. 25, 1831
Jonathan Stephenson	“	April 9, 1834
Daniel Proctor	“	Jan. 23, 1836
John J. Martin	“	June 17, 1839
Phineas C. Kidder	“	April 8, 1848
Asa Hill	“	June 14, 1843
Levi H. Woodward	“	Feb. 1, 1844
Samuel Karr	“	March 25, 1845
Joseph A. Johnson	“	April 18, 1848
William L. Whittemore	“	Aug. 28, 1848
William J. Herrick	“	Aug. 12, 1850
Joseph Saunders, Jr.	Lieutenant	Sept. 2, 1819
Israel Putnam	“	Aug. 13, 1821
Oliver Bixby	“	April 13, 1822



Daniel Cram	Lieutenant	April 28, 1824
Ebenezer Russell	"	April 20, 1825
David Grimes	"	Feb. 22, 1826
Brackley Rose	"	March 24, 1827
William Richardson	"	July 8, 1828
Asa Blanchard	"	June 16, 1828
Samuel Hartshorn	"	Aug. 20, 1829
Jonathan Stephenson	"	Nov. 25, 1831
John Hartshorn	"	April 9, 1834
Daniel Proctor	"	July 6, 1835
Benjamin J. Martin	"	Jan. 23, 1836
Phineas C. Kidder	"	June 17, 1839
Asa Hill	"	April 8, 1841
Levi H. Woodward	"	June 14, 1843
Samuel Karr	"	Feb. 1, 1844
Joseph A. Johnson	"	March 25, 1845
William L. Whittemore	"	April 18, 1848
William J. Herrick	"	Aug. 28, 1848
Charles M. Butler	"	Aug. 12, 1850
Isaac Kimball	Ensign	Nov. 2, 1819
Oliver Bixby	"	Aug. 30, 1821
Benjamin Chamberlain	"	April 13, 1822
David Grimes	"	April 20, 1825
Thomas H. Leverett	"	Feb. 22, 1826
Franklin Hadley	"	March 24, 1827
Newton Boutwell	"	July 8, 1828
John Carleton	"	June 16, 1829
Benjamin J. Boutwell	"	Aug. 20, 1829
John Ramsdell	"	Nov. 25, 1831
Royal Tupper	"	Mar. 15, 1832
Benjamin Jones, Jr.	"	Jan. 23, 1836
Richard N. Dolliver	"	May 16, 1838
Levi H. Woodward	"	April 8, 1841
Samuel Karr	"	June 14, 1843
Joseph A. Johnson	"	July 1, 1844
Jonathan H. Butler	"	March 25, 1845
William L. Whittemore	"	March 26, 1846
William J. Herrick	"	April 18, 1848
William A. Jones	"	Aug. 28, 1848
David J. Carkin	"	Aug. 12, 1850

## CAVALRY OF THE 22ND REGT.

No list of the rank and file of this cavalry company has come to our hand. A few of our citizens, however, were commissioned officers in it, and their names are, therefore, preserved. In the cavalry company of the 22nd Regiment were :

John Houston	2nd. Lieutenant	June 7, 1814
	1st. Lieutenant	June 4, 1816
Resigned		May 21, 1818

Jonathan Clark	Cornet	Aug. 31, 1818
	2nd. Lieutenant	April 15, 1819
	1st. Lieutenant	April 24, 1820
Dexter Burton	Cornet	March 3, 1830
•	2nd. Lieutenant	Sept. 5, 1831
	1st. Lieutenant	April 17, 1833

This completes our record of the militia of the Twenty-Second Regiment, which was in itself a miniature army.

The following papers were among the old documents of the late David Putnam, Jr., for a time Capt. of the Light Infantry, and were kindly entrusted to the writer for use in this history by Mrs. Susanna P. Hartshorn and Mrs. F. B. Richards: —

To Daniel Putnam Esq. Justice of the Peace, in and for the County of Hillsborough;

I, the subscriber, Clerk of the Company commanded by David Putnam Jr., do hereby give information against the following persons, who being duly enrolled in said company, and being duly notified to meet with said company on the second Day of May, Anno Domini 1820, were guilty of the offense and did incur the forfeitures set against their respective names,

Edward Herrick, neglecting to appear on said day, \$2.

Joseph Cram, being deficient of cartridge box, 25c.

Eli Curtis, Jr., for being deficient of Cartridge box and bayonet on said day, 50c.

Eli Holt, for neglecting to appear on said day, \$2.

Joseph Putnam, for being deficient of Knapsack, on said day, 20c.

Jesse Reed, for being deficient of a priming wire and brush, and two spare flints on said day, 20c.

John Southwick, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day 25c.

David Smith, for being deficient of a cartridge box and canteen 35c.

John Town, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day 25c.

Ephraim P. Woodward, for being deficient of a bayonet, knapsack and canteen on said day, 55c.

John Clark, for neglecting to appear on said day, \$2.

Allen Brown, for neglecting to appear on said day, \$2.

James Whittemore, for neglecting to appear on said day, \$2.

Jonathan Cochran, for being deficient of a cartridge box, Knapsack, and priming-wire and Brush, on said day, 55c.

Andrew Smith, for being deficient of a cartridge box, on said day, 25c.

John Cram, 2nd, for being deficient of a ramrod and Knapsack, on said day, 40c.

William Holt, for being deficient of a cartridge box, on said day, 25c.

Silas Chamberlain, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day, 25c.

William Summers, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day, 25c.

Abijah Spaulding, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day, 25c.

Charles P. Fowle, for being deficient of a cartridge box on said day, 25c.

I, therefore, agreeable to my oath of office and in compliance with the

requisitions of the law in this behalf, request that you would issue a summons to each of the Persons named in the above information to appear before you and shew cause if any he has, why it should not be adjudged that he pay the forfeiture set against his name for the offence or offenses which he is therein alleged to have committed.

Dated at Lyndeborough, this fifth day of June,  
in the year of Our Lord, 1820.

Oliver Whiting, Clerk of the Co.  
Commanded by, David Putnam, Jr.

## MUSIC RECEIPTS

Received of

David Putnam Captain of the 2nd. Lt. Infantry Company in the 22nd. Regt. the sums set to our names, for which we agree to furnish ourselves with Instruments of Music for training, for two years from the first Day of May 1820.

John Besom, Jr.	\$2.25
Israel Putnam	2.25
Ebenezer Pearson, Jr.	2.00
William Richardson	1.00
Edward Herrick	.50

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE WAR OF 1812 AND THE MEXICAN WAR.

For several years previous to the above date the governments of both Great Britain and France had been infringing upon the rights of the American Republic by irritating and lawless acts, which they imagined they could practise at their pleasure with assured impunity. The indignation of the people grew hot against their unprincipled assailants. There were then, as now, two great parties in American politics which were as ready as the parties of today to traduce and incriminate each other. The parties were called Federalists and Republicans. The latter were accused of partiality for France, the ally of our colonies in their war for independence; the former were charged with undue fondness for Great Britain, the old oppressor and enemy of the colonies. While the people were thus divided, it was no trivial matter to guide national affairs. The British navy kept repeating its offences against American seamen. British cruisers claimed the right to search American ships; and they seized and impressed able-bodied American sailors, under pretext that they were British subjects.

“These outrages American vessels were often too weak to resist. The frigate Chesapeake, when starting on a distant voyage, was unexpectedly attacked by the British ship Leopard, which had been enjoying the hospitality of an American port. Several of her crew were killed, and four men were impressed and carried on board of the Leopard, on the plea that they were deserters. Jefferson, in a proclamation, immediately ordered all British war vessels to quit the waters of the United States.”\*

To distress England, he forbade American vessels to leave port, which, while England was involved in the Napoleonic wars, had done most of the carrying trade of Europe. This embargo was found very injurious to American commerce. After fourteen months it was repealed, and a non-intercourse act with Great Britain was passed in its stead. Although “the English government disavowed the flagrant attack of the Leopard and promised reparation, nothing satisfactory was done. But England continued her provoking assaults upon the American

\*Quakerbos Old Ed., p. 335.

people until their resentment was wrought up to such intensity as to justify hostilities and form a basis for maintaining them. Consequently, war was declared against Great Britain in June, 1812."

A statement from the *New Hampshire Patriot* of Feb. 25, 1812, as illustrating the cause of this war, follows:—

"6,257,

By the reports from the Department of State, is the number of Impressed American seamen, now held in worse than Barbarian slavery by Great Britain: this is not probably half the actual number, as comparatively few that have been impressed have ever had an opportunity to make known their deplorable condition to the American Government."

"The impressment of our seamen stands first on the catalogue of British injuries; for what is our *property*, what our *honor* worth, if our citizens are permitted to be seized by a British press gang, their protections torn and thrown in their faces, and they doomed to a perpetual exile from their country and friends — to wear out their lives in slavery?"

Congress prepared for war, to carry on which, "a loan of \$11,000,000 was authorized." Twenty-five thousand regulars and fifty thousand volunteers were to be enlisted, "and the respective States were directed to arm and equip their proportion of 100,000 militia for the defense of the coast and frontier."\*

It was in response to this call of their country that the town of Lyndeborough, in a legal meeting held June 16, 1812, voted

"To raise or make up the wages of those of the militia who may enlist themselves as this town's proportion of the one hundred thousand, to twelve dollars per month while they are in actual service; and to make up their pay to one dollar per day, in case they shall be called upon by authority for inspection and military duty at home, for each and every day that they may be called upon more than the remainder of the militia."†

#### A COPY OF SOLDIERS' ENLISTMENT.

We the subscribers, soldiers in the Town of Lyndeborough, under the command of Nathan Wheeler, hereby voluntarily in consideration of our duty to our country and the generous offers made this day by the said Town of Lyndeborough, enlist ourselves to serve agreeably to a law of the United States to raise One Hundred Thousand of the militia, and hereby promise to

\*Quackenbos O. Ed., pp. 343, 344.

†T. R. S., III, p. 187.

equip ourselves according to law, and to hold ourselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

Dated at Lyndeboro, this 16th. day of June 1812.

Timothy Putnam, as Lieut.	John Medes (Mead)
Israel Putnam, Drummer	Ebenezer Russell
John Sargent	Asa Chamberlain
Robert Parker	James Fuller
David Putnam, Jr.	Carleton Parker
William Russell	Samuel Howard
Samuel Dutton	Nathaniel Chamberlain
Joseph Chamberlain	Daniel Chamberlain
Henry Spaulding	{ True Copy, Attest.
Ephraim Putnam, 3rd.	{ Nathan Wheeler, Town Clerk.*

Thus was the town's quota of the one hundred thousand men required by the national government completed. At a subsequent meeting, held Aug. 31, 1812, a vote passed, "to purchase for the Town's use 100 lbs. of powder, 2 cwt. of lead and 400 flints." The selectmen were authorized to procure these, and also "to call for the powder and ball in the hands of sundry persons" as by report of selectmen for 1796. Voted also, "to purchase six stand of arms for the use of the Town."

Jan. 16, 1815 the town voted to make up the wages of each soldier, with what he received from the State and United States, to thirteen dollars a month; and further voted to give two dollars a month to each additional.

The men were sent to Portsmouth for the defense of the fort and the coast. They were under the command of Timothy Putnam, who was soon made captain of the company raised from this military district, and was subsequently promoted to be colonel.

Others enlisted at a later day, some for ninety and some for sixty days. Their names follow, in lists procured and forwarded by W. H. Grant, Esq., of St. Paul, Minn.

Lyndeborough men who went to Portsmouth in 1814 for three months, with date of muster.†

CAPTAIN TIMOTHY PUTNAM'S COMPANY, FIRST REGIMENT.

Timothy Putnam	Captain	Sept. 10, 1814
David Putnam	Sergeant	" "
William Boutwell	Private	" "
John Cram	"	" "
Benjamin Putnam	"	" "
John Russell	"	" "
William Russell	"	" "

\*T. Rs., III, p. 187.

† Lists by Hon. W. H. Grant; source not given.

Tyler Town	Private	Sept. 10, 1814
Ephraim Woodward	"	" "
Jacob Butler	"	" "
Leonard Putnam	Waiter	" "

CAPT. WILLIAM GREGG'S COMPANY, SECOND REGIMENT.

For Sixty Days.

William Gregg (not of Lyndeboro)	Captain	Sept. 27, 1814
John Beasom	Musician	" "
Joseph Chamberlain	Private	" "
Asa Chamberlain	"	" "
Francis Dunckley	"	" "
Moses Pearson	"	" "
Ebenezer Russell	"	" "
William Richardson	"	" "
John Sargent	"	" "

THE MEXICAN WAR.

So far as present knowledge extends, but one native of our town took part in the Mexican War. He is mentioned in a letter written by his sister, Mrs. Hannah Vose (Cram) Draper of Boston, to Mr. David C. Grant. The soldier's name was Hiram Cram, a son of Benjamin and Polly (Vose) Cram, born in Lyndeborough, Nov. 3, 1818. He was a brother of the late Daniel Cram, one of the contractors on the building of the railroad through our town. Unable to give his full record as a soldier, I think Mrs. Draper's narrative credible and worthy of a place in our military traditions, and hence copy it.

"An incident in Hiram Cram's Mexican life was related to us by one of his comrades in arms. Hiram was a very quiet man, always minding his own business, and was a great sufferer from phthisic. The bully of the regiment, not knowing the Cram spirit that would not bear imposition, and not reckoning on the nervous strength the invalid possessed when excited, thought him a good subject for his brutal sport, and got soundly whipped in consequence of attacking him. The subdued bully ceased to annoy the peaceable men of the regiment, and Hiram became a general favorite in return for the service rendered them."

## CHAPTER X.

### LYNDEBOROUGH IN THE CIVIL WAR.

The foregoing military record makes it plain that New Hampshire has been an active partner in national emergencies. Her sons have been conspicuous in all the great conflicts through which the country has passed. She had her representatives at Lexington and Concord, and rendered memorable service under Stark and Reed at Bunker Hill. In the latter fight, seventeen hundred of her sons and more took part. Through all the war for independence, none were braver than they. For the honor of the nation, they have always been bold, alert and active. The Civil War affords special proof of this.

In the latter, as well as in all the rest, Lyndeborough participated. At a legal meeting of the town, Oct. 26, 1861, the town voted, "To raise money to aid the families of volunteers;" and instructed the selectmen "to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$1,000, to be so expended, agreeable to a law passed in June, 1861, and approved July 4, 1861."\*

On Aug. 12, 1862, the town voted, "to authorize the Selectmen to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$4,000, and to appropriate the same to encourage voluntary enlistments in the United States Service, either military or naval; and that they be directed to pay to every volunteer resident of this Town who enlists previous to the first day of Sept., 1862, for the term of three years or during the war, the sum of One Hundred Dollars, when mustered into the U. S. Service; and to every one who may enlist for the term of nine months ageably to the call of the President, (of Aug. 4) they are directed to pay the sum of \$100, whenever such person shall have been accepted and mustered into the U. S. Service."†

Again, on the second Tuesday in March, 1863, the town voted to appropriate \$1,500 for the aid of the families and dependents of volunteers, agreeably to an act of the Legislature, and that the Selectmen appropriate the same."‡

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1863, the town voted to appropriate a sum of money "not exceeding One Thousand Dollars for the

\* Town Records, Vol. VI, pp. 89 and 90. Names of many enlisted men are found in the same volume, p. 104.

† T. Records, Vol. VI., p. 149.

‡ T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 175.







SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

purpose of aiding dependents and families of drafted men or their substitutes who may be mustered into the U. S. Service, and that the Selectmen be authorized to borrow and pay out the same."\*

On the 31st of March, 1864, the town voted "to raise a sum of money not exceeding \$6,000, to be appropriated in procuring volunteers to fill the quota of the town, under the present call of the President of the U. S. for two hundred thousand men, and also to fill any subsequent call that may be made during the year; and that the Selectmen are also hereby authorized to borrow the same."†

At a legal meeting held Aug. 12, 1864, it was voted "that the Selectmen be instructed to fill the quota of the town of Lyndeborough, under the call of the President, issued on the 18th of July, 1864, for five hundred thousand men. 1st. By procuring a substitute for three years, for any enrolled man, whenever said enrolled man shall pay the town the sum of two hundred dollars; or 2nd, by procuring volunteers for said town, if they can so act legally." It was further voted, "that the sum of twenty thousand dollars be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of filling all present and future quotas for the year; and that the Selectmen be hereby authorized to borrow a sufficient sum of money to carry the above votes into effect."‡ At an adjourned session of this meeting held Aug. 27, 1864, the town instructed the Selectmen "to fill the quota of this town by paying volunteer citizens of the town for one year, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars to each person."||

Again, at the adjournment of the annual town meeting March 15, 1865, the selectmen were authorized "to pay to each enrolled or drafted man who had put in a substitute, a sum equal to the sum actually paid by said principal to his substitute; provided said sum of money thus paid does not exceed three hundred dollars; and provided further, that the Selectmen shall carry this vote into effect, if upon taking counsel they shall find that said payment by the town be legal; otherwise, this vote shall be of no effect."§

"Voted that the sum of Six thousand dollars be appropriated for the purpose of paying principals who have put in substitutes agreeable to the above vote, and that the Selectmen be authorized to borrow the same."

\* T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 200.

† T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 245.

§ T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 268.

† T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 232.

|| T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 247.

“Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to pay all citizens of this town who have served or may serve in the United States Army and counted on the quota of this town, the sum of eight dollars per month for the time of actual service, or in the case of the death of the soldier, to his wife and orphan children, father or mother, provided that all persons who have received a town bounty of that amount shall not be included; provided also, that the same may be paid legally.”\*

The foregoing votes seem to include the direct action taken by the town in relation to the war. The town has no cause to be ashamed of its war record. The list of those who were mustered into the service of the United States, as credited to Lyndeborough, follows :

#### LYNDEBOROUGH CIVIL WAR ROLL.

First Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

Mason W. Tappen, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was with the Army of the Potomac in Maryland.

- Asher Curtis, private; enlisted Apr. 22, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.  
 Hiram F. Curtis, private; enlisted Apr. 26, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.  
 William R. Dunklee, private; enlisted Apr. 22, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.  
 Martin Hale, private; enlisted Apr. 22, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.  
 William Langdell, private; enlisted Apr. 22, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861; re-enlisted in regular army.  
 Harvey M. Newton, private; enlisted Apr. 21, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.  
 William H. Ordway, private; enlisted Apr. 20, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861; re-enlisted several times.  
 Hiram M. Tarbell, private; enlisted Apr. 22, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861; re-enlisted in Eighth Regiment.

Second Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

Gilman Marston, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia.

- Harvey Holt, private; enlisted May 9, 1861; was detailed as a sapper and miner at the first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861; was killed at that battle by a bursting shell, being the first man from New Hampshire killed in the war.  
 John A. Hartshorn, corporal; enlisted May 20, 1861; killed May 5, 1862, at Williamsburg, Va.  
 James M. Wellman, private; enlisted May 25, 1861; discharged Jan. 30, 1863.

\* T. Records, Vol. VI, p. 269.

Arthur P. Smith, private; enlisted May 21, 1861; discharged Aug. 9, 1861.

William Davis (substitute for John Bradford), private; enlisted Oct. 3, 1864; discharged Dec. 19, 1865.

Fourth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Thomas Whipple, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was in Gen. Q. A. Gilmore's command.

Edward K. Marsh, private; enlisted Aug. 14, 1861; discharged for disability Jan. 31, 1862.

George Randell (substitute), private; enlisted Oct. 15, 1863; wounded Jan. 15, 1865 at Fort Fisher, N. C.; discharged June 22, 1865.

John Sheppard (substitute), private; enlisted Sept. 1, 1863; deserted Nov. 14, 1864.

Fifth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Edward E. Cross, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia.

Frederick S. Manning, private; enlisted Sept. 25, 1861; wounded Dec. 13, 1862 at Fredericksburg, Va.; killed at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.

John H. Stephenson, private; enlisted Aug. 24, 1861; wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862; discharged Oct. 11, 1864.

Jesse Munroe (substitute), sergeant; enlisted Sept. 1, 1863; wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864; discharged June 28, 1865.

Daniel Finning (substitute for Otis Perham), private; enlisted Sept. 9, 1864; deserted Oct. 12, 1864.

Henry Campbell (substitute), private; enlisted Oct. 15, 1863; discharged June 9, 1865.

Seventh Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Haldimand S. Putnam, Colonel.

John Gallden (substitute for Fred A. Richardson), private; enlisted Sept. 26, 1864; discharged July 20, 1865.

Eighth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Hawkes Fearing, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was in the department of the Gulf.

Joseph Blanchard, corporal; enlisted Oct. 19, 1861; discharged Jan. 18, 1865.

Charles Campbell, private; enlisted Oct. 1, 1864; no date of discharge.

David J. Carkin, private; enlisted Oct. 25, 1861; discharged Dec. 19, 1864.

Azro D. Cram, sergeant; enlisted Oct. 19, 1861; wounded at Port Hudson June 14, 1863; taken prisoner at Brashier City, La., in Oct., 1863; exchanged at Brashier City; discharged for wounds Nov. 28, 1863.

John B. Dolliver, private; enlisted Oct. 12, 1861; wounded severely at Moreauville, La., May 14, 1864; discharged Jan. 18, 1865.

Jotham P. Draper, private; enlisted Oct. 21, 1861; died in hospital at Baton Rouge, La., June 14, 1863.

- George R. Follansbee, private; enlisted Oct. 12, 1861; died of disease Apr. 30, 1862.
- George E. Green, private; enlisted Oct. 10, 1861; re-enlisted Jan. 4, 1864; deserted Mar. 18, 1864.
- Benjamin Harris, private; enlisted Dec. 9, 1863; no record of discharge.
- L. Nathan Hodgman, private; enlisted Oct. 21, 1861; wounded at Port Hudson, La., May 27, 1863; died on the way home, Jan. 9, 1865.
- Andrew J. Marshall, private; enlisted Oct. 23, 1861; discharged Dec. 19, 1864.
- Hugh Maguire (recruit); enlisted Oct. 1, 1864; discharged Oct. 28, 1865.
- John Morgan (recruit); enlisted Oct. 1, 1864; no date of discharge.
- Edward O'Connor (recruit); enlisted Oct. 3, 1864; no date of discharge.
- William H. Ordway, private; enlisted Oct. 26, 1861; discharged Apr. 10, 1862, for disability.
- George Pratt, private; enlisted Nov. 27, 1861; discharged Jan. 18, 1865.
- Edward P. Ross, corporal; enlisted Oct. 12, 1861; killed at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863.
- Lewis W. Smith, private; enlisted Oct. 26, 1861; discharged for disability June 5, 1863.
- Hiram M. Tarbell, sergeant; enlisted Oct. 13, 1861; discharged Jan. 2, 1865.
- George E. Winn, corporal; enlisted Nov. 19, 1861; appointed sergeant Dec. 14, 1863; re-enlisted; appointed first sergeant Mar. 14, 1864; discharged Jan. 2, 1865.
- Seth Preston, private; enlisted Oct. 2, 1861; promoted to corporal Aug. 1, 1863, and to sergeant Dec. 16, 1863; re-enlisted; wounded at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863; discharged Oct. 28, 1865.
- Albert S. Conant, private; enlisted Oct. 12, 1861; promoted to corporal Dec. 16, 1863, and to sergeant Jan. 1, 1864; taken prisoner June 20, 1863; exchanged Oct. 20, 1863; wounded May 14, 1864, at Moreauville, La.; discharged Jan. 18, 1865.

Ninth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

Enoch Q. Fellows, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was in the Department of the Ohio.

- William P. Joslin, private; enlisted July 21, 1862; deserted Sept. 7, 1862.
- Edward K. Marsh, corporal; enlisted July 10, 1862; deserted Sept. 9, 1862.

Tenth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

Michael T. Donahue, Colonel.

The service of this regiment was with the Army of the Potomac.

- Joseph Reon (substitute for Jason Holt), private; enlisted Aug. 19, 1863; wounded at Petersburg, Va., June 16, 1864; discharged Nov. 19, 1864.

Eleventh Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.

Walter Harriman, Colonel.

Service with the Army of the Potomac.

- Howard B. Ames, private; enlisted Aug. 13, 1862; discharged June 4, 1865.

Louis Bruno (substitute), private; enlisted Sept. 2, 1863; discharged for disability May 1, 1865; wounded severely May 12, 1864, at Spottsylvania, Va.

Thirteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Aaron F. Stevens, Colonel.

Service with the Army of the Potomac.

Benjamin J. Boutwell, corporal; enlisted Aug. 16, 1862; discharged May 20, 1863.

Nathan B. Boutwell, private; enlisted Aug. 29, 1862; appointed second lieutenant Sept. 27, 1862; appointed adjutant Mar. 24, 1863; wounded severely June 15, 1864, at Battery 5, Petersburg, Va.; discharged for disability May 5, 1865.

William T. Boutwell, private; enlisted Aug. 16, 1862; discharged June 28, 1865.

David E. Proctor, private; enlisted Aug. 14, 1862; appointed corporal Mar. 12, 1863; appointed sergeant Jan. 1, 1864; was commissioned captain in the 30th Regiment, U. S. Colored Troops, Colonel Delevan Bates; he was discharged Mar. 1, 1864, to accept this promotion. (See U. S. Colored Troops.)

George T. Woodward, private; enlisted Aug. 13, 1862; promoted to corporal Mar. 12, 1863, and to sergeant June 10, 1863; was discharged Mar. 1, 1864, to accept promotion in the 30th Regiment, U. S. Colored Troops; was commissioned captain in that regiment Mar. 3, 1864. (See U. S. Colored Troops.)

Henry E. Spalding, private; enlisted Aug. 15, 1862; discharged for disability May 20, 1863. (See Genealogy.)

William Morris (substitute), private; enlisted Sept. 1, 1863; killed at Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864.

Sixteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
James Pike, Colonel.

Service in the Department of the Gulf.

Charles R. Bacon, private; enlisted Sept. 13, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.

Richard J. Batten, private; enlisted Sept. 15, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.

William M. Blanchard, private; enlisted Sept. 13, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.

George W. Bosworth, private; enlisted Oct. 10, 1862; commissioned captain Nov. 4, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863. (See 18th Regiment, N. H. V. I.)

Abram Boutwell, private; enlisted Sept. 6, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.

James Boutwell, private; enlisted Sept. 6, 1862; died Aug. 15, 1863, while still in the service.

John R. Butler, private; enlisted Sept. 6, 1862; died in hospital at New Orleans, La., June 28, 1863.

John C. Carlin, private; enlisted Sept. 4, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863; re-enlisted in 1st N. H. Cavalry.

- Walter Chamberlain, private; enlisted Nov. 11, 1862; died at New Orleans, La., May 7, 1863.
- Benjamin J. Clark, private; enlisted Sept. 6, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- Michael Ford, private; enlisted Sept. 20, 1862; discharged for disability June 17, 1863.
- John A. Franklin, private; enlisted Sept. 16, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- Nathan S. Harris, private; enlisted Sept. 13, 1862; detailed as wagoner; drowned on the way home in the Mississippi River Aug. 6, 1863.
- Andy Holt, corporal; enlisted Sept. 15, 1862; promoted to sergeant Mar., 1863; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- George T. Jones, corporal; enlisted Sept. 6, 1862; promoted to sergeant; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- John H. Karr, private; enlisted Sept. 16, 1862; died at Vicksburg, Miss., Aug. 10, 1863.
- Joseph Mason, private; enlisted Sept. 5, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- John C. Ordway, corporal; enlisted Sept. 25, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- William H. Ordway, private; enlisted Oct. 31, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- Eben J. Palmer, corporal; enlisted Sept. 11, 1862; died June 30, 1863, at Baton Rouge, La.
- George B. Raymond, private; enlisted Oct. 8, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.
- William P. Steele, private; enlisted Oct. 4, 1862; discharged Aug. 20, 1863.

Eighteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry.  
Thomas Livermore, Colonel.

Service in the Army of the Potomac.

- George W. Bosworth, private; enlisted Sept. 20, 1864; commissioned captain Oct. 13, 1864; discharged June 10, 1865.

First New Hampshire Cavalry.  
John L. Thompson, Colonel.

Service in the Army of the Potomac.

- James Anderson (substitute), private; enlisted Apr. 5, 1864; deserted.
- James G. Arnold (substitute), private; enlisted Apr. 6, 1864; wounded severely at Kearneysville, Va., Aug. 25, 1864; discharged May 30, 1865.
- Austin Blood (substitute), private; enlisted Apr. 8, 1864; appointed corporal; wounded Nov. 12, 1864, at Middleton, Va.; died of wounds Nov. 15, 1864, at Winchester, Va.
- John C. Carkin, private; enlisted Mar. 10, 1865; discharged July 15, 1865.
- Charles Moore, private; enlisted Jan. 1, 1864; no date of discharge.
- Rufus Orcutt, private; enlisted Feb. 18, 1864; discharged July 15, 1865.
- Joseph Wetherbee, private; enlisted Feb. 16, 1864; appointed corporal May 1, 1865; discharged July 15, 1865.



## First Company Heavy Artillery.

Merrill T. Spalding, private; enlisted July 22, 1863; discharged Sept. 11, 1865.

## Veteran Reserve Corps.

Cyrus Brackett (substitute), private; enlisted April 15, 1864; deserted.

## United States Colored Troops.

David E. Proctor, captain; commissioned Feb. 10, 1864; severely wounded Nov. 28, 1864, at Point of Rocks, Va.; brevetted major March 13, 1865; discharged Dec. 10, 1865. At the celebrated Crater fight before Petersburg, Va. He is said to have been the first white soldier to enter the mine after the explosion.

George T. Woodward, captain; enlisted March 3, 1864; wounded at the explosion of the mine at Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864; brevetted major March 13, 1865; discharged Dec. 21, 1865.

Adolphus Boyku (substitute), private; enlisted Aug. 19, 1864; discharged Oct. 20, 1865.

John W. Boone (substitute), private; enlisted Sept. 22, 1864; discharged Oct. 31, 1865.

## Miscellaneous Organizations.

Gorham B. Clark, private; enlisted Sept. 1, 1862, in the 5th Mass. Regt; discharged July 2, 1863; enlisted March 26, 1864, in the U. S. Signal Corps; died July 24, 1865.

Everett E. Cram, private; enlisted March 29, 1864, in U. S. Signal Corps; discharged Aug. 25, 1865.

William Langdell, private; enlisted Aug. 30, 1861, in Co. H, 14th U. S. Infantry; captured May 5, 1864, at the Wilderness, Va.; died at the Andersonville Prison, Sept. 25, 1864.

Jonathan H. Stephenson enlisted Sept. 9, 1861, in Co. H, 14th U. S. Infantry; discharged Aug. 30, 1864; died Dec. 27, 1864.

John P. Raymond enlisted in U. S. Signal Corps, March 29, 1864; discharged Dec. 16, 1865.

Otis Harwood in Mass. Regiment.

William H. Ordway enlisted April 5, 1864, in 2nd Mass. Cavalry; discharged May 8, 1865.

## United States Navy.

Joseph Leacher, landsman; enlisted June 25, 1864; discharged Oct. 25, 1864.

George Powers (substitute); enlisted Sept. 23, 1864; deserted Sept. 28, 1864.

John Price (substitute); enlisted Sept. 28, 1864; deserted Oct. 17, 1864.

Henry Smith (substitute); enlisted Sept. 28, 1864; discharged Feb. 1, 1865.

William Teague, seaman; enlisted Sept. 3, 1861; discharged Nov. 21, 1862.

John Thompson, seaman; enlisted Sept. 28, 1864; died in Hospital at New York, Feb. 6, 1865.

## Marine Corps.

John Fox (substitute); enlisted Sept. 27, 1864; deserted Oct. 2, 1864.

Robert Griffin (substitute); enlisted Feb. 1, 1865; discharged Feb. 1, 1869.

John Hartman, corporal; enlisted Dec. 31, 1864; deserted Jan. 20, 1865.

Herman Wolf, drummer; enlisted Jan. 28, 1864; discharged Jan. 28, 1869.

#### Lafayette Artillery Company

Enlisted Aug. 1, 1864; discharged Sept. 23, 1864; service at Fort Constitution, Portsmouth, N. H.

(See History of the company in another chapter.)

#### OFFICERS.

Joel H. Tarbell, Captain	Andy Holt, Corporal
Eli C. Curtis, 1st Lieut.	Charles F. Tarbell, Corporal
Charles H. Holt, 2nd Lieut.	Edwin H. Putnam, Corporal
John Gage, 1st Sergeant	Stephen P. Holt, Corporal
Abner K. Lewis, Sergeant	William J. Herrick, Corporal
Benjamin G. Herrick, Sergeant	Samuel S. Cummings, Corporal
Edwin Patch, Sergeant	Moses C. Fuller, Corporal
William N. Ryerson, Sergeant	John C. Carkin, Corporal
	William F. Barrett, Drummer.

#### PRIVATES.

Calvin A. Abbott	Isaac Lowe
Oliver H. Bixby	George W. Parker
Ward N. Cheever	George B. Raymond
Benjamin J. Clark	Orrin P. Russell
Charles W. Conant	Jotham S. Stephenson
Orrin N. Cram	Amos P. Swinington
Asher Curtis	William W. Woods
Hiram F. Curtis	Charles Young
Alvin Dean	Lafayette Herrick
David S. Draper	George W. Holt
Elverton G. W. Duncklee	Albert J. Kidder
Alfred T. Ford	Edmund J. Parker
John H. Goodrich	Eleazer Putnam
Levi P. Hadley	Fred A. Richardson
Samuel N. Hartshorn	William P. Steele
Benjamin F. Holt	William R. Stephenson
Jason Holt	Samuel E. Swinington
Charles L. Hubbard	Alfred C. Woodward
Alvin J. Ford	George W. Young

#### THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The first soldier named on this monument deserves more than a passing notice; for the reason that he was not only the first man from our town to fall as a victim of our Civil War, but he was also the first soldier from our state to die for the preservation of the union. Harvey Holt was killed in the first battle of Bull Run by a fragment of a shell which exploded near him while he was in the heat of the conflict. When the Grand Army of the Republic organized a Post here, it took the

name of Harvey Holt Post, No. 15, of the G. A. R., in his honor.

This Post in 1871 voted to place all its surplus funds at interest with the view of procuring a soldiers' monument. By the aid of an appropriation of \$250 from the town and the money raised by the members the monument was erected in 1879, and stands near the highway at the South Cemetery, an honor both to the living and the dead. Upon it are inscribed the names of all Lyndeborough soldiers who fell in the conflict and whose dust reposes under the sunny skies of a now united country.

## EAST FACE.

1. Harvey Holt, Co. I, 2nd Regt., N. H. V. Killed at first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861.
2. George R. Follansbee, Co. B, 8th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at Ship Island, Miss., May 1, 1862.
3. Corp. John A. Hartshorn, Co. G, 2nd Regt., N. H. V. Killed at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862.
4. Walter Chamberlain, Co. G, 16th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at New Orleans, La., May 7, 1863.

## NORTH FACE.

5. Frederick S. Manning, Co. I, 5th Regt., N. H. V. Killed at Gettysburgh, Pa., July 2, 1863.
6. Nathan S. Harris, Co. G, 16th Regt., N. H. V. Drowned near mouth of White River, Ark., Aug. 6, 1863.
7. John H. Karr, Co. G, 16th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at Vicksburg, Miss., Aug. 10, 1863.
8. Corp. Austin Blood, Troop C, 1st N. H. V. Cavalry. Died of wounds at Winchester, Va., Dec. 10, 1864.
9. Elnathan Hodgman, Co. E, 8th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at Baton Rouge, La., Jan. 9, 1865.

## WEST FACE.

10. Edward P. Ross, Co. B, 8th Regt., N. H. V. Killed at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863.
11. Jotham P. Draper, Co. E, 8th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at Baton Rouge, La., May 16, 1863.
12. John R. Butler, Co. G, 16th Regt., N. H. V. Died of disease at New Orleans, La., June 28, 1863.
13. Corp. Eben J. Palmer, Co. G, 16th Regt., N. H. V. Died at Baton Rouge, La., June 30, 1863.
14. Sergt. William Langdell, Co. A, 14th U. S. Infantry. Died in Andersonville prison, Ga., Sept. 25, 1864.

## REVIEW.

In a review of the financial condition of the town, the year after the close of the Civil War, the selectmen made the following statements :

“The whole number of men furnished by the town, not including the ninety days’ men at Portsmouth, is one hundred and ten. The amount of Town bounties paid, including the \$1,375 paid in 1863 for men who were not credited, is \$17,140.00. The amount paid by individuals for substitutes is \$5,090.00.”

“We believe the war expenses of the town below the average of the towns in the State, in proportion to the number of men furnished.” “Will it not, then, be good policy for us to pay a part of the Town debt the present year? We hope every tax payer will feel a deep interest in the prosperity of the Town, and act accordingly.”

The votes of the town certainly indicate a readiness to be liberal with the soldiers and to borrow funds to assist any dependents who might be in circumstances of need. The agents of the town, after the war was over, turned the attention of their fellow citizens to an immediate effort to reduce their debt. These points cannot fail to be viewed as commendable. Honor to whom honor is due !





VIEW FROM WALKER'S HILL, LOOKING SOUTHERLY.

## CHAPTER XI.

### LYNDEBOROUGH'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER TOWNS.

#### GREENFIELD.

From military affairs we turn back to give a brief account of the later changes in boundary lines.

It was previously shown that a large tract of the old township, Salem-Canada, was cut off in order to form township No. 2, now Wilton. "This was the most unkindest cut of all," in the opinion of the old inhabitants of our town, for it began, in 1749, a series of excisions which are unpleasant to recall. To atone, as it were, for the land cut off on the south side, there was added an equal quantity on the north side; but although the acreage may have been made equal, "the new agreed not with the old," and in time trouble ensued. By means of this addition, our old town extended as far north as what is now Greenfield village, and the added tract was called "The Lyndeborough Addition."\*

Two years later, in 1751, if its chartered measurements are to be trusted, New Boston received 2,700 acres out of this addition. This, with other territory further north, constituted the "New Boston Addition," which formed the main part of Frankestown at the date of its incorporation, June 8, 1772.

But even after the incorporation of this large tract into New Boston first, and afterwards into Frankestown, there still remained a large strip of the original "Lyndeborough Addition," at the northwest corner of the town. The addition was made while our town was yet Salem-Canada. But in 1753 the name was changed to Lyndeborough, covering both the remainder of Salem-Canada and its addition.

The town continued thus till the war for independence was in full progress. During this war an annoying petition came from the inhabitants of "Parsonses Corner," so-called, requesting to be set off to "Duxbury School Farm," in order to make up a town. Lyndeborough was notified by the legislature of their request, and directed to show reasons, if any they had, why this should not be done.† The town voted to oppose the petition, and chose Capt. Levi Spaulding to present objections to the Gen-

\*Batch., XXV, pp. 358, 360. Frankestown History, pp. 10, 11. Cf. also, Batch., XXVIII, pp. 58, 71, with XXIV, p. 175, and XXVII, pp. 408, 410.

†See Hammond, XII, pp. 519 to 521.

eral Court. The objections prevailed, and in Hammond's words, "The project did not succeed."

But the Revolutionary War had scarcely closed before the town was requested by citizens in the northwest part of Lyndeborough in Sept., 1783, that they might be set off in order to form a new town. The town voted to dismiss the subject. But at the November meeting in 1783 the request was urgently repeated, and then a vote passed that the northwest part of the town be set off according to the plan exhibited. It was carried by the petitioners only. They next petitioned the legislature to be set off as a town, and the legislature notified Lyndeborough to present reasons, if any there were, why it should not be done. The town decided to assign reasons against the request, and for this purpose chose Capt. Levi Spaulding, Ephraim Putnam and Major Peter Clark as their committee. The reasons were assigned and strongly expressed. They were, briefly: —\*

1. To set off the N. W. corner of the town as proposed, would leave the town in such shape that it could not be supposed long to exist as a town.

2. Separation as requested would make the maintenance of the gospel very burthensome to the remaining people of the town.

3. The town had borne its part with patriotic zeal and fortitude in a long and distressing war, from which it was still suffering. Its people regarded the General Court as the guardian of their civic interests, and now desired from it protection, in every proper way, from unnecessary and hurtful division and expense, at least, until they have more fully discharged their proportion of the public Debt.

These reasons were subscribed to by the selectmen and fifty-one others, under date of Dec. 12, 1783.

But the petitioners were persistent, and the next year, agreeable to an order of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Town of Lyndeborough presented an earnest remonstrance against granting their desire, and gave their reasons. They stated that: — †

As to the Town of Lyndeborough being very large, as is set forth by the petitioners, it was at first laid out but six miles square, except a little corner that New Boston took off on the North East. Afterwards a large piece was taken off from the South part and added to Wilton by Joseph Blanchard Esq., agent for the Masonian Proprietors, which was a great damage to this town. For the piece that was added on the north, in lieu of it, we cannot expect to hold when they request to be set off to Francestown, it being but about a mile from Francestown meetinghouse.

\* \* \* The Southeast part of this Town by Reason of their distance from the meetinghouse petitioned the General Court in 1779, to be taken

\* Hammond, XII, pp. 511, 512.

† *Ib.*, p. 513.



off, and together with Duxbury School Farm and part of Amherst to be incorporated (into) a distinct town by themselves. But the Honorable Court viewing the plan of this town and considering its circumstances resolved that the request ought not to be granted.

As to the present petition before the Honorable Court, their request appears to us so extravagant & unreasonable that it is a matter of wonder to us that men so zealous for the public worship as the petitioners express themselves, should so fail in the second branch of Duty, viz. Love to their neighbor. For it appears to us that their petition cannot be granted without the destruction and annihilation of the town as your Honors may see by the plan of that part of the town that will be left. The true state of the matter will we trust appear so plain by the plans exhibited, \* \* \* & what may be said on the day of hearing, that we humbly refer the matter to your wise consideration & paternal care of us trusting that it will be settled agreeable to Justice & Equity.

Permit us further to add that we could wish to accommodate the owners & few inhabitants of said Slip of Land agreeable to their plan & make that the centre of a fine town bounded out as they please, could it be done without so great expence as the ruin of this town. Likewise we think & take it to be the minds of the town & that they are heartily willing to allow to their brethren the petitioners that belong to this town, a full equality of privilege as to the place of meeting by moving the meetinghouse to the Center or some other way that may be thought best. But we cannot be reconciled to the thought of having the town torn to pieces according to the request of the petitioners. Therefore it is the prayer of this Town that the prayer of the petitioners may not be granted, for which the Town of Lyndeborough as in duty bound will ever pray.

Signed by,

Levi Spaulding	} Committee in behalf of the Town of Lyndeborough.
Ephraim Putnam	
Peter Clark	

In response to this petition and remonstrance, the General Court appointed a committee to consider the situation, and confer with committees appointed by both the town and the petitioners. The committee from the legislature advised compromise and concession, for the present, at least. The other committees conferred together, and arranged terms of agreement for five years, which terms are given in the report of the committee for the town as follows : — \*

#### REPORT.

We the subscribers being a committee chosen by the Town to consult with the petitioners in the Northwest part of the town with regard to an accommodation agreeable to the advice of a committee from the General Court, upon considering the matter on all hands think proper that the town make the petitioners the following offers, (viz.) that our Reverend Pastor go to preach with the petitioners four Sabbaths out of five of what money the said petitioners pay towards the yearly support of the

\*T. Rs. II, p. 133.

gospel in this Town. (They) shall draw in proportion to the yearly salary for the term of three years from the 7th. day of September, 1785. The Sabbath's preaching is with the petitioners to (be) equally divided through the year, and the meeting to be held in the centre of the petitioners (or as near as may be with conveniency) provided the petitioners shall remain with the town as they are at present for the above said term.

Lyndeborough, Feb. 2, 1785.

Ephraim Putnam	} Committee.
Jonas Kidder	
Levi Spaulding	

This report was read and accepted at an adjourned meeting of the town on the first Wednesday in February, 1785.

The matter was thus set temporarily at rest. The agreement appears to have been faithfully kept.

But at the end of the specified five years, the northwestern part of the town again showed great activity. The record of the town meeting, Feb. 1, 1790, is, in part, as follows: —

*First*, Chose Dr. Benjamin Jones Moderator.

*Secondly*. After reading the petitions presented to the town by the Northwestern part of this town, also part of the inhabitants of the Society Land, also the Inhabitants of Lyndeborough Slip, after considering of the several Petitions, Voted to choose a committee to consist of seven (viz) Levi Spaulding Esq., Dr. Benjamin Jones, Benjamin Killam, Peter Clark, Lieut. Amos Whittimore, Joseph Herrick, John Reynolds, committee to consider the Petitions, & report to the town at an adjourned meeting what ought to be done respecting them, the meeting adjourned to the first Tuesday in March next at one of the clock in the afternoon.

When reassembled the first Tuesday in March, the committee finding the impropriety of their choice made report nothing done.

*Voted*, to choose a committee of three to consider the situation & report what they think right & just to do. Levi Spaulding, Nehemiah Rand Esq., & Peter Clark were chosen the Committee; & the meeting adjourned to the first Tuesday in April.

*Met* according to adjournment. Heard the report of the committee; which follows:

To the inhabitants of the Town of Lyndeborough in Town-meeting assembled on the sixth day of April 1790.

We your committee chosen to take into consideration the several Petitions now lying before the town by several inhabitants signed, requesting to be set from the town and annexed elsewhere,

Beg leave to report, That having taken said Petitions severally with the several petitioners into our consideration as also the situation & circumstances of the remaining part of the Town with its inhabitants, are fully satisfied it will not by any means be for the benefit & welfare of the Town to grant the Petition of the West or Northwest part of this Town in full at this present conjuncture of time.

With respect to the Petition of such as would wish to be annexed to & incorporated with the Society & Gore into a town, we say that their being voted off in full, according to the limits in said Petition set

forth, would leave the remaining inhabitants under very unhappy circumstances indeed & open a door for such unhappy differences too plain to discernment of every one. However, as we are willing to gratify the petitioners so far as may reasonably comport with the conveniency of the old Town, according to situation of the meetinghouse & other circumstances, we think it may be advisable for the town to vote off the two tier of which is called the Lord Proprietors Lots, on the West side of the Town which will gratify Benjamin Killam & others in full & the other petitioners of the Society & Gore & this Town in part.\* As to the Petition of a number of the inhabitants who request to be set off to & annexed to Francestown, we advise that if in case the whole of the petitioners on the West side of the town will accept of & be easy with the two tier of Lots aforesaid,† that the prayer of their petition be granted, & not otherwise at the present.

All of which is humbly submitted by your committee.

Levi Spaulding } Committee.  
Peter Clark }

A true copy, attested pr. Ephraim Putnam, T. Clerk.

The above report was accepted by vote of the town at its meeting, Apr. 6, 1790.‡

But the petitioners renewed their appeal to the General Court, and in response a committee of the Court was appointed at its session in June, 1790, to consider the petition of the inhabitants of the northwesterly part of Lyndeborough, etc., and to view their situation and report thereon. The report favored their incorporation, according to a description printed in Hammond's Town Papers, Vol. XII, pp. 528, 529.

The town opposed the separation as proposed by the report. By way of remonstrance against it, they forwarded to the legislature a record of the proceedings of their town meeting in regard to it, as follows: —

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives in & for the State of New Hampshire.

The Memorial of the Town of Lyndeborough humbly Sheweth.

Agreeable to the Order of the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives upon a petition preferred to them last June by a Number of the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of this Town and Others, praying to be Set off from this Town & Incorporated into a Town by themselves.

The Town at their Meeting on the 27 Day of December Instant took the Matter into their Consideration agreeable to an Article in the warrant for said Meeting & Voted as follows (viz).

1<sup>ly</sup>. That it appears Evident to us that if More of this Town Should be Set off to the Petitioners than we Voted to them at a Meeting of this Town last April it will Intirely break up the Town & that it Cannot Subsist as Such, after So large a part of it is taken off.

\* See Plan in Batch. XXVII, p. 410. † That is, the two tier joined to Francestown.

‡ T. Rs., II, p. 201.

2<sup>ly</sup>. Therefore Voted that the Prayer of this Town be presented to the Honorable Court at their next Sessions at Concord on the first Wednesday of January next by our Member in Said Court, praying that the prayer of the Petitioners may not be granted, farther than this Town Voted them at the aforesaid Meeting

3<sup>ly</sup>. Voted that in Case the Honorable Courts Committee Should Report different from the aforesaid Vote of this Town, or Report that more of said Town be Set off to Said Petitioners than Said Town have Voted, & if the Reasons that may be Offered Should not be Sufficient to Convince the Honorable Court that this Town have Voted off to the Petitioners as much of said Town as is Consistent with Reason & Justice, then Voted to pray the Honorable Court to grant us a Committee upon the Expence of the Town to take a View of that part of Said Town Called the Old Town, that the Situation of the whole Town with all the Circumstances that attend it may be taken into Consideration, as the late Honorable Committee by the Order of the Honorable Court were Confined to View the Situations of the Petitioners only.

4<sup>ly</sup>. Chose Peter Clark Levi Spaulding Esq., & Lieut. Jeremiah Carleton a Committee to Assign Reasons to the Hon<sup>l</sup> Court why the prayer of the Petitioners Should not be Granted.

A true Copy of the Vote of the Town of Lyndeborough at their Meeting aforesaid

Attest pr Ephraim Putnam Town Clerk

Agreeable to the foregoing Vote the aforesaid Committee beg leave to Inform the Honorable Court of the Difficulties & perplexities (like the present) that have attended the Town of Lyndeborough in years past, as, also, the present Circumstances — and the Consequences that will follow, Should the prayer of the present Petitioners be granted.

And in the first place as to the Town being Very large as Set forth in the present petition, it was laid out Six Miles Square Except at the North East Corner where New Boston Corner Came in about two miles Said New Boston holding its Square Corner being the prior grant, afterwards there was a large part of this Town taken off & added to Wilton as may be Seen by the Plan of Lyndeborough which was a great Damage to this Town, for the Land Added on the west & North did by no Means Compensate for what was taken off by Wilton, for the Addition on the North lay So in with Francestown that they were Very Sure of having it annexed to them Sooner or later, accordingly Francestown Set their Meeting House within about one Mile of Said Addition, & in the Year 1777 Petitioned the Town of Lyndeborough to have the Said Addition Set off to them, which the Town of Lyndeborough then Refused to do — however the Land then not having many Inhabitants Settled upon it, & Francestown being Very Sure that when it had, they would be for Coming to them, let the Matter Rest until last Spring.

Likewise Duxbery School Farm with part of Amherst & the Inhabitants on the South East part of this Town the year 1777 petitioned the Town of Lyndeborough & also the General Court to be Incorporated into a Town by them Selves, but the Honorable Court Viewing the Cituation of Lyndeborough Resolved that the prayer of Said petition Ought not to be granted.

The Town then had Rest from an Invasion until the Year 1784 when Lyndeborough Slip So Called & Some of the Inhabitants of the westerly part of this Town Petitioned the Town, also the General Court, to be set off by the Same lines the present petition Sets forth, & they had a Committee from the General Court, who after viewing the Situation of the Town Reported Unanimously that the prayer of Said Petition be not granted.

thus Matters Rested untill last Spring at which time the Inhabitants that were Settled on the four Lots in the Southwest Corner of this Town petitioned to be Set off to Temple likewise the present Petitioners to be Set off by the Same lines as heretofore as may appear by their petition now before the Honorable Court — likewise the Inhabitants on the before Mentioned part of this Town lying next to Francestown, again Petitioned together with the Town of Francestown to have Said land with the Inhabitants thereon Annexed to Said Town.

The Town being thus Harass with petitions from So many quarters at their Meeting Chose a Committee to Consider the Matter, and Report to the Town which they did accordingly, which Report was accepted by the Town, Said Report being had may more fully appear.

The next Movement was made by those petitioners who wish to be annexed to Francestown together with the Selectmen of said Town who again petitioned the Town of Lyndeborough at their meeting held on 30th Day of August last to be Set off to Francestown by Such bounds as Set forth in their petition now before the Hono<sup>bl</sup> Court—the prayer of which Petition the Town at Said Meeting Voted to grant.

Thus by the before going Memorial the Honorable Court may See how this Town has been Harassed—and to prevent any farther Difficultyes in this way the Town has Voted off to the Several Petitioners all the Land that was added on to this Town to make up for what Wilton took from us amounting to above Six Thousand Acres & have Reduced the Town to the bigness of about five Miles & a half one way & about five Miles & one quarter the other, Excepting the South East Corner which brings the Meeting House near the Senter & Should we be permitted to Reap So much benefit from the Charter heretofore granted to this town as to only Suffer the loss of what Wilton took from us & Injoy only what they left us without any part of the additions we might possibly remain as a Small Town, but if the lines that the Town has prescribed for themselves & wish to hold to, are broken Over, or if the prayer of the petitioners is granted farther than the Town has Voted them, we Expect nothing but Contention Divisions & finally the braking up & Distruction of the Town, to prevent which we humbly present the prayer of this Town to the Honorable Court (whom we Esteem as the Guardians of & Defenders of our Rites) that the prayer of the Petitioners may not be granted.

Signed Peter Clark for y<sup>e</sup> Committee

Lyndeborough January 5 1791."

The foregoing Memorial narrates so much of the early history of the town, that it seemed best to give it, without important

emendation or abridgement. The copy here given is from the Town Papers, by Hammond.\* The latter wrote :

[In II. of Rep., January 24, 1791, another committee was appointed "to view the situation of said Inhabitants," and the following is their Report: — Ed.]

[6-235.]

The Committee appointed by the General Court at their Sessions in Jan<sup>y</sup> 1791 to consider the petition of the Inhabitants of the Northwest part of Lyndeborough, having viewed the situation of all the parties concerned in said petition & fully heard them thereupon do agree to report as there opinion that a Town be incorporated with the same limits & boundaries as reported by the committee appointed in June 1790 a copy of which is inclosed & submitted by

Tim<sup>o</sup> Farrar } Com<sup>tee</sup>  
James Underwood }  
Jeremiah Page }

The matter was disposed of by incorporating the several tracts mentioned into the town of Greenfield, June 15, 1791.

But a mistake had been made in describing the boundary line between the two towns in the new charter. Greenfield, therefore, petitioned Lyndeborough to join with it in a petition to the General Court to enable it to rectify the mistake. On Dec. 19, 1791, Lyndeborough voted its willingness that the line between it and Greenfield "should be established agreeable to the Report of the Honorable Court's Committee."

Accordingly, by a legislative act passed Dec. 28, 1791, the boundaries of Greenfield were changed and established.†

March 6, 1798, Lyndeborough, also, voted to grant the petition of Moses Lewis and John Stiles to be set off that they might be annexed to Greenfield.‡

Thus Greenfield people had gained their point and had reason to be pleased. But very different was it with some of those whom they had included within their corporate limits. The people of the two eastern ranges of Greenfield lots were not merely dissatisfied; they were greatly disturbed and even distressed.

The next year, therefore, they, too, petitioned the General Court, stating: —

That it is with unspeakable sorrow, they consider themselves as included within the bounds of said Greenfield, to which they have been uniformly & decidedly opposed, \* \* \* and with which they never can with any degree of contentment be connected. \* \* \* They beg leave to suggest to your honors, that the Estates of your petitioners, all lay contiguous to each other, & are not mixed with those of any per-

\* Vol. XII, p. 529-532.

† T. R. II, p. 235.

‡ T. R. II, p. 357.

sons, who wish to go a different way. That they are all on the borders of Francestown & within two or two & a half miles of Francestown meetinghouse & the shortest distance from said lots to said meetinghouse but one mile & seventy-one rods, & a good road leading thereto. \* \* \* Your petitioners therefore pray that they may be rescued from the bondage of belonging to Greenfield, or living within the limits of it, & be annexed to Francestown, where they can enjoy privileges, which they will consider as a compensation for those they had a right to in Lyndeboro'. \* \* \* Wherefore as your petitioners always have been averse to any connection with Greenfield, as their interest, convenience, inclination, & local situation all so strongly lead to Francestown — as Greenfield will not be hurt in its form, & Francestown will be mended by our being set from one Town to the other, as Lyndeborough have consented to release us & Francestown to receive us And Greenfield have no present right to us, \* \* \* we therefore beg your honors to set off the two east ranges of "Lyndeboro' Addition" so called containing six lots from Greenfield, annex them to Francestown & thereby deliver your petitioners from their present distress & misery, & they as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

Signed by

Ithamar Woodward	Reuben Kimball
Jacob Dutton	Isaac Balch
John Batten	Francis Epes
Richard Batten	William Draper
Andrew Creese	Israel Balch.

[The foregoing request was granted, and the petitioners and their estates annexed to Francestown Dec. 11, 1792. Ed.]

#### TEMPLE.

At a town meeting in Lyndeborough, Dec. 7, 1795, Mr. Benjamin Killam and others residing in the southwest part of the town petitioned to be set off and annexed to Temple. The request was negatived.\*

But the matter came up again at the March meeting, 1796. They had petitioned the General Court, and an order from the Court required the town to consider it and show reasons, if they had any, why the request should not be granted.

The town appointed Dr. Daniel Russell, Capt. William Dutton and Esq. Levi Spaulding a committee to make report on the matter at the next town meeting. Twenty-five votes, including five of the petitioners, favored the petition and sixty-five opposed. May 30, 1796, the town voted against granting the petition, and added Major Peter Clark and Capt. Aaron Lewis to the committee and empowered them to assign reasons to the General Court against the same.

The petition is said to have been supported by Gen. Francis

\* T. Rs. II, p. 315.

Blood of Temple, and through his influence to have been granted. To this the rhymes of Dr. Israel Herrick, in the County History refer.\*

“Next, Temple presented a Bloody request,  
And after contention, ’twas thought to be best,  
To let them take off a three-cornered bite,  
And keep it, rather than quarrel and fight.”

By the act of the legislature, June 10, 1796, the estates of Benjamin, Joseph and Samuel Killam, John Kidder, Jr., Theodore Barker, Ebenezer Stiles and Joseph Richardson, “comprising more than nine hundred acres, were disannexed from Lyndeborough and joined with Temple.”†

The above named gentlemen, in a letter to the selectmen of Temple, in 1794, wrote, “Nature seems to show that she designed these lots to be separate from said Lyndeboro &c.” ‡

Previous to 1800 two attempts were made by the inhabitants of what was called “Parsonses Corner,” to be annexed to Duxbury School Farm, &c, and so connected with Milford. These attempts were made in 1779 and in 1797. The first one was denied by the legislature, after hearing the reasons presented against it by Capt. Levi Spaulding. The full statement of the reasons may be seen in Hammond’s Town Papers, XII, pp. 519-521. The second appears to have gone no further than the town meeting, the record on which stands, “Artical Dismissed.”

#### MONT VERNON.

In the year 1780, an article in the warrant for the town meeting bore date of Sept. 13, and asked the town to take into consideration “the petition of several of the inhabitants of this town (viz) Samuel Town & John Case, and of the northwesterly part of Amherst, viz. Josiah Dodge & Stephen Peabody, to the Council & House of Representatives, for half a mile of the East side of this town to be annexed to the Northwest part of the town of Amherst and formed into a town, which came to the selectmen of this town by order of Court, that this town may have the opportunity to show cause why the prayer thereof may not be granted, & to choose a committee to act in that affair as the town shall see fit.”§

This matter was considered in the town meeting Sept. 28, 1780, and Capt. Barron, Deacon Badger and Capt. Spaulding were chosen a committee to send a petition to the General Court

\*County Hist., p. 507. †Blood, Hist. of Temple, p. 68. ‡Ib. §T. Rs. II, p. 73.



against this petition of Samuel Town and others. The report and remonstrance of this committee is instructive, and contradicts some of the implications of the petitioners.

Their petition in full is given in Town Papers, XII, pp. 510, 511. The remonstrance is as follows:—

To the Honorable the Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Lyndeborough by their Committee. Humbly sheweth.

That Whereas the town has been served with a Copy of a petition of a number of the Inhabitants of this Town Requesting that they with a particular part of the town of Lyndeborough therein Mentioned May be set of & Incorporated with Duxbury School Farm Mileslip with a part of Anherst into a Town &c. &c. . . . the town being Legally Assembled Voted & Choose a Committee to Appear & Assign Reasons Accordingly.

We therefore the Committee beg leave in the Name & behalf of the Town Humbly to Represent the following Reasons why the prayer of s<sup>d</sup> petition should not be Granted and that part of Lyndeborough therein Mentioned set of and annexed to Duxbury School Farm &c.

That in the year 1765 when the Town was Small but few Inhabitants About 40 families in all when we Attempted to build a Meeting house & settle the Gospel among us. Frequently when Town Meetings were Called & we attempted to Agree upon a Particular Spot of Ground for the Meetinghouse to Stand upon. They Voted Against Our proceedings & threw in Protests offering the Following Reasons— Viz That the place Voted is not Commodious for building a Meeting upon— And that they were not able to Support a Minister— And in 1766 after the Meeting house Spot Was fixed upon for their Accommodation they Cordially Agreed with the other Inhabitants to proceed in building a Meeting house & settling the Gospel in Town. And Accordingly the town did Unanimously proceed in 1768 to build a Meeting house on s<sup>d</sup> Spot to Accommodate s<sup>d</sup> petitioners in particular & to settle the Gospel in s<sup>d</sup> Town which was done with Great Unanimity & which still Continues. And as s<sup>d</sup> Meeting house stands at a Great distance from the Center of the Town Not More than two Miles from the East line Measuring from the Meeting house And at least five miles from the west line of s<sup>d</sup> town. And the Meeting house has been handsomely & Decently finished at the no Small Cost & charge of the Town, And as the Town is settling fast in the North Northwest, West, & South, west part some of the Inhabitants have now the Travil of 4, 5, 6 & 7 Miles as their Roads Run to Attend Publick Worship; And If s<sup>d</sup> part of Lyndeborough Sh<sup>d</sup> be set of such Inhabitants from s<sup>d</sup> parts of the Town will Immediately Call for a Remove of the Meeting house or to be set off by themselves into Separate Parishes to the Destruction of the Town Whereas the Cost & Charge of Building & furnishing the Meeting house and settling the Gospel is hardly Got Over by the Inhabitants in General as they are Now Compact together. Altho there has been the Greatest harmony and Concord thro' the Whole Charge Moreover that from the North East of the

Meeting house to the East line of the Town the Land is poor & not Capable of making Settlements & in all Probability will Never be Improved And as from this Circumstance It will fully Appear that the Meeting house was settled in its Present Place to accommodate s<sup>d</sup> Petitioners Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> will Easily See the Unreasonableness of their being set off from the Town.

Again that in the Northwest part of the Town there is a Large Range of Mountains About two Miles from the Meeting house And a Great Number of Inhabitants now settled on the West & North west part of the Town beyond those Mountains And in all probability the whole Tract will be settled in the Course of a few Years, when it is Likely they will be set off by themselves. And If the Prayer of the Aforesaid Petitioners Sh<sup>d</sup> be Granted & the Land therein Mentioned be set off And in Process of Time the west Part of the Town likewise It will leave a Poor Parish indeed such an One as Cannot by any means Support the Gospel & Other Necessary Charges

We therefore Submit these Considerations to Your Hon<sup>rs</sup> Wisdom to Do therein as to Justice Shall Appertain And as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Levi Spaulding }  
Benjamin Cram } Committee \*  
David Badger }

The Editor added [The project did not succeed.]

But although this project failed the northwest parish in Amherst was established the next year, June 30, 1781. Twenty years then elapsed, and these parishioners again † “decided to petition the General Court to incorporate them into a town, with the same boundaries as those first established between the First and Second Parishes; also, that a strip of land half a mile wide, lying in the easterly part of Lyndeborough, extending the entire length of this parish and adjoining it, be asked for as a part of the new town.” The town of Mont Vernon, including only the lands originally within the bounds of the northwest parish in Amherst was incorporated by act of the legislature, and the signature of Governor John Taylor Gilman was set to the charter, Dec. 15, 1803. The first town meeting was held Jan. 23, 1804.

Nearly fifty years again passed, when a petition came to Lyndeborough requesting that the tract of land, formerly sought, should be severed from Lyndeborough and annexed to Mont Vernon. The boundaries were thus given: ‡ “Beginning at the southwest corner of New Boston, and running southerly to land of Burnham Russell; thence easterly to the highway running north and south by Peter Cram’s dwellinghouse;

\* Copied from Hammond XII pp. 519-521. † History of Hillsboro Co., p. 733.

‡ T. Rs., Vol. V, pp. 166 and 167.

thence southerly by said highway as far as the south line of said Cram's home lot; thence easterly by said Cram's land to land of William Cleaves; thence southerly by land of said Cleaves, James Upton and others, as far south as the south line of the town of Mont Vernon; thence east to the southwest corner of said Mont Vernon."

The town meeting at which this petition was presented, May 21, 1851, voted "to reject the prayer of the petitioners;" and further, "that our Representative take such measures as necessary to defeat the petition."\*

These measures, whatever they were, proved insufficient for the purpose. For although our records afford no direct statement, a transcript of the line between Lyndeborough and Mont Vernon, as surveyed by Sewall Putnam of Wilton, April 15 and 16, 1853, indicates that Mont Vernon received her request.†

The author of the sketch of Mont Vernon in the Hillsboro County History, Charles J. Smith, wrote: ‡ "There has been since its incorporation but one territorial change in Mont Vernon. Through the persistent efforts of a few individuals, and against the remonstrance of the large majority of its citizens, a tract exceeding one thousand acres of land was annexed from Lyndeborough to Mont Vernon at the winter session of the Legislature of 1852. There were fourteen families added to the population of Mont Vernon by this change."

#### MILFORD.

The last territory severed from Lyndeborough was a small tract annexed to Milford. It is thus described in Milford History:—

Beginning at a stake & stones, on the town line between Milford & Lyndeborough, on the north side of the highway leading from Milford to Lyndeboro', thence running westerly by said north side of the highway about forty rods, thence southerly three rods to the south side of the highway, thence westerly by said south side of the highway thirteen rods to a stake & stones, thence southerly as the fence runs to the town line thirty one & one fourth rods, thence easterly by said town line to the bound first mentioned.

The territory thus detached from Lyndeborough consisted of the homestead of the descendants of Silas Howard, whose son Samuel served for Lyndeborough in the War of 1812.

#### THE DUXBURY SCHOOL FARM.

Although no part of this tract came into our town, yet it is so

\* *Ib.* p. 167.

† *Ib.*, p. 234.

‡ *Ib.*, p. 740.

often mentioned in connection with the town that some description of it is desirable, for many people of our day who have hardly any knowledge of it.\*

"A Petition of Col. John Alden, Representative of the Town of Duxbury, Shewing that said Town is obliged by Law to maintain a Grammar School, but by reason of the fewness of the Inhabitants and their Poverty the Charge of the School lies heavy upon them, & therefore Praying that this Court would make them a Grant of the Province Land the better to enable them to defray the said Charge" was presented to the General Court of Massachusetts, Mar. 4, 1733, and in response to it, the Court Ordered, "that the Town of Duxbury be & hereby is allowed & impowered \* \* \* to survey & lay out Five Hundred Acres of the Unappropriated Lands of the Province, \* \* \* for the maintenance & support of a Grammar School there." This tract "began at a white oak marked on the north side of the Souhegan River, above the upper end of the Charlestown School Farm, & ran N. 200 rds.; from thence E. 400 rds. to Narragansett No. 3, (or Amherst); thence S. 216 rds. to Souhegan River, & thence up along by said river to where it first began."

Batchellor's State Papers, XXIV, p. 209, contains a plan of it, though it is inverted, as printed.

This grant was made one year or more before that of Salem-Canada, which was then unappropriated land. Hence, when the next year, the grant of Salem-Canada was laid out, its bounds began at that point in the line of Amherst, which was touched by the N. line of Duxbury School Farm, and Salem-Canada south line coincided with the N. line of Duxbury School Farm, the entire extent of the latter. This tract, therefore, adjoined Lyndeborough's south side, contiguous to the original "home lots." It was afterwards divided into two farms, one of which belonged to John Shepard, Esq., of Milford, and at the organization of that town, in 1794, was included in it as a constituent part.

Some of its residents did army service for Lyndeborough in the Revolutionary War.

\* Batch., XXIV, Town Charter, Vol. I, pp. 208-210.

## CHAPTER XII.

### TOWN OFFICERS FROM 1764 TO 1905.

The following list was thought to be sufficient to give an idea of the town officers, though it omits very many important services rendered by distinguished citizens. Those omitted were for the most part viewed as of minor consequence. Such were constables, highway surveyors, surveyors of wood and lumber, sealers of weights and measures, sealers of leather, haywards, deerkeepers, poundkeepers, titling-men, hogreeves, &c.

We give in order, moderator, town clerk, representative.

1764	John Shepard, Jr.	John Stevenson	
1765	Benjamin Cram	“ “	
1766	“ “	“ “	
1767	Jonathan Cram	“ “	
1768	“ “	“ “	
1769	David Badger	“ “	
1770	Adam Johnson	“ “	
1771	Benjamin Cram	Andrew Fuller	
1772	David Badger	“ “	
1773	“ “	“ “	
1774	“ “	“ “	Ephraim Putnam
	was chosen representative to the congress at Exeter		
1775	David Badger	Andrew Fuller	
1776	“ “	“ “	
1777	Peter Clark	Peter Clark	
1778	David Badger	“ “	
1779	Capt. Jacob Wellman	“ “	
1780	Lt. Reuben Spaulding	Benjamin Jones	Capt. Levi Spaulding
1781	Capt. Levi Spaulding	Ephraim Putnam	
1782	“ “ “	“ “	Capt. Levi Spaulding
1783	Maj. Peter Clark	“ “	“ “ “
1784	Jeremiah Carleton	“ “	“ “ “
1785	Capt. Levi Spaulding	“ “	“ “ “
1786	“ “ “	“ “	“ “ “
1787	Nehemiah Rand	“ “	Nehemiah Rand
1788	Peter Clark	Peter Clark	“ “
1789	Nehemiah Rand	“ “	“ “
1790	Dr. Benjamin Jones	Ephraim Putnam	Peter Clark
1791	Capt. Levi Spaulding	“ “	“ “
1792	Peter Clark	“ “	“ “
1793	Maj. Peter Clark	Peter Clark	Nehemiah Rand

1794	Dr. Benjamin Jones	Ephraim Putnam	Peter Clark
1795	Capt. Wm. Dutton	" "	None sent
1796	Maj. Peter Clark	Capt. Wm. Dutton	Ephraim Putnam
1797	Ephraim Putnam	" "	" "
1798	Maj. Peter Clark	Jacob Dascomb	" "
1799	Dr. Benjamin Jones	" "	Dr. Benjamin Jones
1800	Maj. Peter Clark	" "	" " "
1801	Capt. Wm. Dutton	" "	Jacob Dascomb
1802	Dr. Benjamin Jones	" "	Dr. Benjamin Jones
1803	" " "	Jonathan Butler	Jacob Dascomb
1804	" " "	" "	Dr. Benjamin Jones
1805	" " "	Dr. Benjamin Jones	Lient Daniel Putnam
1806	Aaron Lewis	" " "	Daniel Putnam
1807	" " "	Caleb Huston	" "
1808	" " "	Nathan Wheeler	" "
1809	Dr. Benjamin Jones	" "	" "
1810	Jacob Richardson	Aaron Lewis	" "
1811	Dr. Benjamin Jones	Nathan Wheeler	" "
1812	Capt. Wm. Clark	" "	" "
1813	Daniel Putnam	" "	" "
1814	Dr. Benjamin Jones	" "	" "
1815	Nehemiah Boutwell	Daniel Putnam	" "
1816	" " "	" "	" "
1817	" " "	" "	Nehemiah Boutwell
1818	" " "	" "	" "
1819	Timothy Putnam	" "	Timothy Putnam
1820	Nehemiah Boutwell	" "	Daniel Putnam
1821	Timothy Putnam	William Jones	Nehemiah Boutwell
1822	Nehemiah Boutwell	" "	" "
1823	Daniel Putnam	" "	" "
1824	Nehemiah Boutwell	" "	" "
1825	" " "	" "	Joseph Jones
1826	" " "	" "	" "
1827	" " "	Israel Herrick	" "
1828	William Jones	Joshua Atwood	Nehemiah Boutwell
1829	Nehemiah Boutwell	Nathan Jones	Samuel Hartshorn
1830	" " "	" "	" "
1831	" " "	Oliver Bixby	" "
1832	" " "	Nathan Jones	Israel Putnam
1833	Joseph Jones	" "	" "
1834	Israel Putnam	Israel Herrick	" "
1835	Joseph Jones	" "	Samuel T. Manahan
1836	" " "	" "	" "
1837	" " "	" "	Benjamin Jones
1838	Israel Putnam	" "	" "
1839	" " "	Jonathan Stephenson	" "
1840	Joseph Jones	" "	Daniel N. Boardman
1841	Israel Putnam	" "	" "
1842	" " "	" "	Asa Manning
1843	Joseph Jones	" "	" "
1844	" " "	" "	" "

1845	Amos Pratt	Jonathan Stephenson	Peter Cram
1846	Daniel N. Boardman	" "	" "
1847	" "	Luther Cram	" "
1848	" "	" "	Jesse Clement
1849	Amos Pratt	" "	Dea. David Putnam
1850	Samuel Jones	Joel H. Tarbell	Jotham Hildreth, Jr.
1851	Amos Pratt	" "	Sherebiah Manning
1852	" "	" "	Ebenezer Russell
1853	Wm. H. Grant	" "	Wm. H. Grant
1854	Amos Pratt	" "	" "
1855	" "	" "	Charles Parker
1856	" "	" "	Jotham Hildreth, Jr.
1857	John Richardson	Oliver Bixby	Israel Herrick
1858	" "	" "	John Richardson
1859	" "	Dr. Wm. A. Jones	" "
1860	" "	" "	Israel Herrick
1861	" "	" "	" "
1862	" "	" "	Jonathan Stephenson
1863	" "	" "	" "
1864	" "	Wm. J. Herrick	John C. Goodrich
1865	" "	" "	" "
1866	" "	Dr. Wm. A. Jones	Timothy T. Putnam
1867	" "	David E. Proctor	" "
1868	" "	" "	Luther Cram
1869	" "	George A. Putnam	" "
1870	" "	" "	George A. Putnam
1871	David E. Proctor	Charles F. Tarbell	Dr. Wm. A. Jones
1872	John Richardson	" "	Eli C. Curtis
1873	Luther Cram	" "	" "
1874	John C. Carlin	" "	Wm. W. Burton
1875	" "	" "	" "
1876	Luther Cram	" "	None sent
1877	David C. Grant	" "	Franklin Senter
1878	" "	" "	" "
1879	Joel H. Tarbell	" "	John H. Goodrich
1880	John C. Carlin	Edgar A. Danforth	Charles Tarbell
1881	" "	Charles F. Tarbell	
1882	Jacob A. Woodward	" "	Daniel B. Whittemore
1883	" "	" "	
1884	" "	" "	Gaylord B. Smith
1885	" "	Edgar A. Danforth	
1886	" "	" "	Sent none
1887	Benjamin G. Herrick	" "	
1888	Jacob A. Woodward	" "	Jacob A. Woodward
1889	" "	" "	
1890	" "	" "	Fred A. Richardson
1891	Fred B. Richards	" "	
1892	Jacob A. Woodward	" "	Edgar A. Danforth
1893	" "	" "	
1894	John C. Carlin	" "	William W. Burton

1895	John C. Carkin	Edgar A. Danforth	
1896	“ “	“ “	Harry R. Chase
1897	A. L. Curtis	“ “	
1898	“ “	“ “	F. B. Richards
1899	“ “	“ “	
1900	“ “	“ “	Benjamin G. Herrick
1901	“ “	“ “	
1902	A. L. Curtis	“ “	Andy Holt
1903	Algernon W. Putnam	“ “	
1904	“ “	“ “	Edward L. Curtis
1905	“ “	“ “	

## SELECTMEN.

Arranged in order, chairman of the board of selectmen, second selectman, third selectman.

1764	Jonathan Cram	Benjamin Cram	Wm. Carson
1765	John Stephenson	Edward Bevins, Jr.	David Badger
1766	Benjamin Cram	John Stephenson	Sergt. Jno. Hutchinson
1767	Jonathan Cram	“ “	Benjamin Cram
		Jacob Wellman	Wm. Carson, Jr.
1768	Benjamin Cram	Edward Spaulding	James Boutwell
1769	David Badger	Osgood Carlton	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.
1770	John Stephenson	Adam Johnson	Andrew Fuller
1771	James Boutwell	David Badger	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.
1772	David Badger	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.	William Barron
1773	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.	John Gould	John Ordway
1774	Andrew Fuller	David Badger	Levi Spaulding
1775	Francis Epps	Josiah Woodbury	Nathan Pearsons
1776	Andrew Fuller	Joseph Herrick	Nathaniel Phelps
1777	Peter Clark	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.	Jeremiah Carlton
1778	“ “	“ “	David Badger
1779	Andrew Fuller, Esq.	Daniel Gould	Jacob Wellman
1780	Capt. Nat. Batchelder	Capt. Jacob Wellman	Benjamin Jones
		Dea. David Badger	Jacob Cram
1781	Ephraim Putnam	Jeremiah Carlton	Jonas Kidder
1782	“ “	“ “	“ “
1783	“ “	“ “	“ “
1784	“ “	Jonas Kidder	Joseph Herrick
1785	“ “	“ “	“ “
1786	“ “	“ “	“ “
1787	“ “	Lt. Jeremiah Carlton	Jonathan Butler
1788	Peter Clark	“ “	Capt. Jonas Kidder
1789	“ “	“ “	Lt. Joseph Batchelder
1790	Dea. Ephraim Putnam	Joseph Herrick	Capt. Jonas Kidder
1791	“ “ “	“ “	Ensign Abial Wilson
1792	“ “ “	Jeremiah Carlton	Samuel Houston
1793	Peter Clark	Wm. Dutton	Lt. Aaron Lewis
1794	Ephraim Putnam	Capt. Aaron Lewis	Lt. Jacob Dascomb
1895	“ “	“ Wm. Dutton	John Woodward
1796	Capt. Wm. Dutton	John Woodward	Uriah Cram
1797	“ “ “	Uriah Cram	Eliphalet Badger



1798	Jacob Dascomb	Ens. Joseph Epps, 2nd Lt. Wm. Clark	
1799	" "	" "	" "
1800	" "	" "	" "
1801	" "	" "	" "
1802	" "	" "	" "
1803	Jonathan Butler	Daniel Putnam	Oliver Whiting
1804	" "	Edmund Perkins	Uriah Cram
1805	Benjamin Jones	" "	Caleb Huston
1806	Benjamin Jones	Edmond Perkins	Caleb Huston
1807	Caleb Huston	Nathan Wheeler	Benjamin Goodrich
1808	Nathan Wheeler	Benjamin Goodrich	Jotham Hildreth
1809	" "	" "	" "
1810	Aaron Lewis	Jonathan Butler	Gideon Cram
1811	Nathan Wheeler	Capt. Benj. Goodrich	Jotham Hildreth
1812	" "	" "	" "
1813	" "	Edmond Perkins	Joseph Jones
1814	" "	" "	" "
1815	Daniel Putnam	" "	" "
1816	" "	" "	Benj. Jones, Jr.
1817	" "	Benjamin Jones, Jr.	Jotham Hildreth
1818	" "	" "	" "
1819	" "	" "	" "
1820	" "	" "	" "
1821	William Jones	Capt. Benj. Goodrich	Samuel Hartshorn
1822	" "	" "	Jacob Flinn
1823	" "	" "	" "
1824	" "	Jacob Flinn	Israel H. Goodrich
1825	Daniel Putnam	Asa Manning	Joshua Atwood
1826	" "	" "	" "
1827	Joshua Atwood	Oliver Bixby	Henry Cram
1828	" "	" "	Oliver Whiting
1829	Henry Cram	Asa Manning	Daniel N. Boardman
1830	" "	Daniel N. Boardman	James L. Clark
1831	" "	" "	" "
1832	" "	James L. Clark	Ebenezer Russell
1833	Wm. Jones	Asa Manning	Daniel N. Boardman
1834	Daniel N. Boardman	David Putnam	James Cram, 2nd
1835	Samuel T. Manahan	Joshua Atwood	Oliver Whiting
1836	" "	" "	" "
1837	Israel Herrick	Oliver Whiting	Jacob Butler
1838	Daniel N. Boardman	Asa Manning	Ebenezer Russell
1839	" "	David Stiles	Samuel Jones
1840	Oliver Whiting	" "	Ebenezer Fisk
1841	David Stiles	James L. Clark	Samuel Jones
1842	Oliver Whiting	Samuel T. Manahan	Ebenezer Fisk
1843	Daniel N. Boardman	Samuel Jones	Peter Cram
1844	" "	" "	" "
1845	Samuel Jones	Peter Cram	Dexter Burton
1846	" "	" "	" "
1847	Amos Pratt	Jonathan Stephenson	Jotham Hildreth, Jr.

1848	Dexter Burton	David K. Holt	Ezra Dane
1849	Ezra Dane	Jotham Hildreth, Jr.	Luther Cram
1850	Luther Cram	Daniel Woodward, Jr.	Sherebiah Manning
1851	“ “	“ “	Jos. Chamberlain, Jr.
1852	Dexter Burton	Samuel Jones	Howard S. Blood
1853	Jos. Chamberlain, Jr.	Jotham Hildreth	Howard S. Blood
1854	Jotham Hildreth	David C. Grant	Rufus Chamberlain
1855	Amos Pratt	John Hartshorn	Eli C. Curtis
1856	Samuel Jones	John F. Holt	Rufus Chamberlain
1857	Jonathan Stephenson	Charles Henry Holt	Wm. H. Howard
1858	Charles Henry Holt	Wm. W. Howard	John Hartshorn
1859	Wm. W. Howard	John Hartshorn	Edward P. Spalding
1860	John Hartshorn	Edward P. Spalding	Joel H. Tarbell
1861	Joel H. Tarbell	Nath'l T. McIntire	Charles Tarbell
1862	“ “	Harvey Perham	John H. Goodrich
1863	“ “	Charles H. Holt	John F. Holt
1864	Luther Cram	Rufus Chamberlain	George E. Spalding
1865	“ “	Charles H. Holt	“ “
1866	George E. Spalding	Rufus Chamberlain	Wm. W. Howard
1867	Rufus Chamberlain	Wm. W. Howard	John Richardson
1868	“ “	John Richardson	Edmand J. Parker
1869	Nathaniel T. McIntire	Eli C. Curtis	David E. Proctor
1870	David E. Proctor	Andy Holt	Luther Cram
1871	Charles Henry Holt	Jonathan Danforth	“ “
1872	“ “ “	Luther Cram	Wilkes H. Hadley
1873	Rufus Chamberlain	George Rose	Adoniram Russell
1874	George Rose	Adoniram Russell	John M. Emery
1875	Adoniram Russell	David C. Grant	Erwin D. Wilder
1876	George Rose	Levi P. Hadley	Adoniram Russell
1877	Levi P. Hadley	Adoniram Russell	Jason Holt
1878	Adoniram Russell	Jason Holt	Albert Cram
1879	Daniel B. Whittemore	Albert Cram	George Rose
1880	“ “	Jason Holt	Levi P. Hadley
1881	Nathaniel McIntire	George Rose	Charles H. Senter
1882	George Rose	Charles H. Senter	Everett E. Lowe
1883	Charles H. Senter	Everett E. Lowe	Charles L. Perham
1884	Everett E. Lowe	Charles L. Perham	Levi P. Hadley
1885	Charles L. Perham	David G. Dickey	Andy Holt
1886	Andy Holt	Charles H. Senter	Benjamin J. Boutwell
1887	Charles H. Senter	Charles L. Perham	Jason Holt
1888	Jason Holt	Charles H. Senter	Jacob A. Woodward
1889	Charles H. Senter	Jacob A. Woodward	Andy Holt
1890	Jacob A. Woodward	Andy Holt	Warren A. Eaton
1891	Andy Holt	Warren A. Eaton	Edwin H. Putnam
1892	Warren A. Eaton	Harry R. Chase	Charles H. Senter
1893	Harry R. Chase	Charles H. Senter	Andy Holt
1894	Andy Holt	Fred A. Richardson	W. C. Wilder
1895	Fred A. Richardson	Will C. Wilder	Harry R. Chase
1896	Will C. Wilder	Harry R. Chase	Andy Holt
1897	Andy Holt	Fred A. Richardson	Frank H. Eaton
1898	“ “	“ “	“ “

1899	Fred A. Richardson	Andy Holt	Charles H. Senter
1900	Charles H. Senter	Fred A. Richardson	Harvey E. Holt
1901	Charles H. Senter	Fred A. Richardson	Edward L. Curtis
1902	Andy Holt	Edward L. Curtis	Jason Holt
1903	Edward L. Curtis	Jason Holt	Andy Holt
1904	Jason Holt	Andy Holt	Edward L. Curtis
1905	Andy Holt	Edward L. Curtis	Edward W. Dolliver

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The list of the Justices of the Peace here given, apart from Andrew Fuller, seems to have been procured and partly furnished by W. H. Grant, Esq. It was among the papers of D. C. Grant.

NAMES	DATES OF APPOINTMENT,
Andrew Fuller	Town voted to recommend, 1776 (?)
Peter Clark	Dec. 20, 1784-1815
Nehemiah Rand	May 22, 1787
Levi Spaulding	June 8, 1791
Benjamin Jones	Dec. 6, 1800
Timothy Putnam	June 19, 1819
Nehemiah Boutwell	June 23, 1821

## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND QUORUM.

Dates not given.

Dr. Benjamin Jones	Luther Cram
David Stiles	Charles H. Holt
Israel Herrick	Peter Cram
David C. Grant	Dexter Burton
John Richardson	Joel H. Tarbell
Daniel Putnam	William H. Grant
William Jones	William A. Jones
Joseph Jones	William J. Herrick
Joshua Atwood	Eli C. Curtis
Israel H. Goodrich	Jacob Butler
David Putnam	Rufus Chamberlain
Oliver Bixby	William W. Curtis
Benjamin Jones	John H. Goodrich
Daniel N. Boardman	George A. Putnam
Isaac P. French	Nathaniel T. McIntire
Jesse Clement	Charles F. Tarbell
David E. Proctor	

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Joseph A. Johnson	Walter S. Tarbell
John C. Carkin	

## THE TITHING-MAN.

In old English law, a tithing was "a civil division composed of ten freeholders and their families, all bound as sureties for the peaceable behavior of each other." Anciently in England,

the chief or principal man of a tithing, who decided small causes, was called a tithing-man.\* It would be an easy matter to pass from such an office to that of "a town or parish officer, chosen for enforcing the observance of Sunday and preserving order during church service"; and hence, in the early days of New England, we find that the tithing-man was regularly a town officer, chosen annually.

There is a reference to such an official in the "New England Magazine" for Aug., 1902,† in the description of Weston, Mass., which says, "A drum called the worshipers to meeting, instead of the 'bells which now knoll to church'; and tithing-men or constables kept the congregation in order with wand, a hare's foot on one end and hare's tail on the other. Children were not allowed to sit with their parents."

The historian of Antrim, N. H., wrote: "In earliest times, children big enough to leave the mother's knee were put on the stairs, or in a box pew by themselves and put under the care of a 'tithing-man' to keep them quiet." The tithing-men, also, made a great deal of noise in keeping the young people still, and accomplished a fair amount of confusion in preserving order.‡

It is said that one man having "bin chose to wake y<sup>e</sup> sleepers in meeting, & being much proud of his place, must need have a fox taile fixed to y<sup>e</sup> end of a long staff wherewith he may brush the faces of them y<sup>t</sup> will have naps in time of discourse; likewise a sharp thorn wherewith he may prick such as be moste sounde. On y<sup>e</sup> last Lord his day, as he strutted about y<sup>e</sup> meeting house, he did spy a farmer sleeping with much comfote, his head kept steady by being in y<sup>e</sup> corner, & his hand grasping the rail. And so spying, he did quicklie thrust his staff along the rail & give him a grievous prick upon the hand. Whereupon the farmer did spring upp much above y<sup>e</sup> floor, & with a terrible force strike his hand against y<sup>e</sup> wall, & also to y<sup>e</sup> great wonder of all, prophainlie exclaim in a loud voice, 'Cuss the woodchuck!' he dreaming, as it seemed, y<sup>t</sup> the woodchuck had bit him."

It is said that on one occasion, "George Washington, after he was president, was stopped by a tithing-man and narrowly escaped arrest, because, having missed his way, he had to travel Sunday morning to reach a certain place for worship.§

\* Standard Dictionary.  
† P. 663.

‡ History of Antrim, N. H., pp. 265, 266.  
§ N. E. Mag. for Oct. 1902, p. 168.



Hillsborough Ss. } These are to require you in the name of  
 } the Government and People forthwith to  
 warn all freeholders &c.

But another form of the warning followed, thus :

STATE of NEW HAMPSHIRE, } This is still used, and long  
 Hillsborough Ss. } may it continue to be ! for it  
 voices the authority of a sovereign and independent state.  
 This was adopted late in the year 1776, and Eleazer Wood-  
 ward was the constable who served it.

#### THE COLLECTION OF TAXES.

The collection of the taxes was of course an important matter, and was to be annually provided for. This duty usually devolved on the constables, and in the earlier days was not a very onerous matter. But with the increase of population, and many miles of travel to reach the scattered settlers, the work became more difficult, and some adequate remuneration was necessary to compensate for the trouble. We purpose to present a few samples of the premiums given for this service, and the conditions imposed at a few of the periods.

In 1794 chose "Ephraim Kidder constable and collector, and voted to give him seven pence on the pound for collecting, he paying within the year." In 1803 "chose John Stephenson collector, and gave him nine cents on \$3.33 for collecting." The next year John Stephenson was chosen both "constable and collector of taxes, and voted to give him ten cents on the pound for collecting the same." In 1807, also, the town "chose John Stephenson collector of town, state, county and school taxes, and voted him a premium of two cents and four mills upon every dollar."

The next year, the town voted to "vendue" the taxes, and Eleazer Woodward bid them off, at three cents per dollar, and was chosen collector.

In 1809, it was voted "that the collection of taxes be put to the lowest bidder with the privilege of the constableness, if the town so choose. Lt. Jotham Blanchard bid of the collection of taxes at three cents per dollar, for every dollar that may be committed to him ;" and he was chosen both collector and constable.

John Woodward bid off the collection of the taxes at three cents and eight mills per dollar in 1810, and he was chosen constable. The next year he received but three cents and two

mills per dollar ; and Mr. Nehemiah Boutwell was chosen constable.

In 1813, the town voted the collector a premium of "three cents three mills on the dollar, for what money he pays into the treasury, on or before the first day of March next after receiving the warrant of collection ; and that he have no premium for collecting money due after that time." The collectorship was struck off to John Besom, Jr., agreeable to the foregoing conditions.

A rather unusual thing occurred in 1819, when Mr. Ira Huston "agreed to collect the taxes for the honor of the office." He was chosen both constable and tax collector. There is no sign in the records of any unfaithfulness or failure in his duties. We suspect, however, that he may have been sufficiently filled with the honor, to eschew seeking a second term of service ; for, the next year, Jacob Butler bid off "the collection of the money to be assessed," at the rate of three cents and four mills on the dollar, and was chosen both tax collector and constable.

In 1825, voted a discount of five per cent. to all persons who pay their whole tax at Oliver Bixby's the first Monday of September ; to all who there pay on the first Monday of November, three per cent. ; to all who pay on the first Monday of January, a discount of one per cent. ; after that the collector was to finish his collection as soon as possible. Joshua Atwood bid off the collection of all the money to be raised, at thirty-three dollars ; and was elected constable.

In 1826, the collection of taxes was bid off by Mr. Edmund Perkins at nineteen dollars ; and the same percentage was allowed as in the previous year.

In 1831, the collection of taxes was struck off to Mr. Gideon Cram, the lowest bidder, at thirty-nine dollars ; and he was chosen collector.

WARRANT FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES IN 1786.

To David Putnam one of the  
 " State of New Hampshire } Constables for the Town of Lynde-  
 Hillsborough Ss. } borough & State and County afore-  
 said,

Greeting :

Pursuant to the Law of this State for levying & collecting Public Taxes,— You are hereby Required forthwith to Levy & Collect the following Rates (viz.) the several sums set and annexed to each person's

name. The sum set in the first column in the list herewith committed to you, being their proportion of Eightysix Pound, two shillings & ten pence, the sums which we have assessed the polls & estates in this Town, by a Warrant from the Treasurer of this State; and the sum set in the second column in said list, being their proportion of Fortyfive Pound & three pence; and the sum set in the third column of said list, being their proportion of Fiftyseven Pound Eight shillings & seven pence;” Then follow the sums to be paid into the State Treasury & and the dates of the payments, & the disposition to be made of any remainder in the hands of the collector. “And if any person or persons shall refuse or neglect to pay their proportion of the aforesaid sums, then you are to take it by Distraint as the Law directs upon his or their goods or chattles; and for want thereof, you are to take the body of the person or persons so refusing or neglecting, & commit him or them to the common goal of this County, there to remain till he or they shall pay the sum or sums on him or them so assessed, & the cost thereby arising. And for your so doing, this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under our hand & seal at Lyndeborough, this twenty-sixth Day of April, Anno Domini, One thousand Seven hundred & Eightysix.

Ephraim Putnam	}	Selectmen of Lyndeborough
Jonas Kidder		
Joseph Herrick		

The list of names follows, but only the sum set against each in the first column is given, which represents specie, and sufficiently indicates the relative value of each man's taxable estate in the town.

## TAX LIST.

	£ S. d. qrs.		£ S. d. qrs.
Lemuel Abbott	0 2 11 0	Jeremiah Carleton	0 13 1 1
William Blaney	0 10 2	John Carkin	0 11 8 3
Benjamin Burroughs	0 1 9	Uriah Cram	0 12 10 3
Thomas Boffee	0 5 4 2	David Cram	0 12 4 2
John Boffee	0 14 8 2	Jacob Cram	0 17 0 1
John Besom	0 14 4 2	Eunice Carleton	0 0 7 0
James Boutwell	0 13 3	Jonathan Chamberlain	0 4 6
Jonathan Butler	0 8 0	John Chamberlain	0 6 6 1
Jotham Blanchard	0 8 9 3	Jona. Chamberlain, Jr,	0 13 3 0
Micah Barron	0 6 1 1	Benjamin Cram, Jr.	0 7 0 1
Ephraim Bixby	0 5 1 0	Daniel Cram	0 6 2 3
William Carson	1 0 8 1	Benjamin Curtis	0 3 6 0
Solomon Cram	0 13 6 2	John Cram	0 2 11 0



## TOWN OFFICERS

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William Dutton	o 6 4 2	Ephraim Putnam, Jr.	o 17 9 1
Isaac Day	o 4 2 2	David Putnam	o 11 5 2
Abraham Dunsmore	o 2 11 0	Aaron Putnam	o 7 7 3
Jacob Dascomb	o 4 9 3	John Putnam	o 7 4 3
Samuel Ellinwood	o 4 6 0	Didymus Pearson	o 2 11 0
Elijah Flint	o 9 9 0	Nehemiah Rand	o 12 6 3
Nehemiah Frost	o 2 11 0	Walter Ross	o 12 1 0
Daniel Gould	1 6 11 2	Thomas Richardson	o 9 8 1
Samuel Hutchinson	o 3 9 2	Daniel Russell	o 7 4 1
John Hartshorn	o 10 2 2	John Rowe	o 2 11 0
Nehemiah Hutchinson	o 5 6 2	Luther Smith	o 2 11 0
Joseph Hobbs	o 8 0 0	Widow Stephenson	1 7 3 1
Samuel Hutchinson, Jr.	o 4 1 0	John Smith	o 7 9 2
David Haselton	o 4 1 0	Samuel Stiles	o 11 5 2
Nathan Haselton	o 3 6 0	Oliver Holt	o 2 11 1
Silas Howard	o 4 1 0	John Thompson	o 9 11 0
Adam Johnson	o 4 6 2	Samuel Towns	o 5 0 1
Adam Johnson, Jr.	o 6 3 1	Thomas Towns, Jr.	o 5 0 1
Thomas Hutchinson	o 2 11 0	Thomas Towns	o 4 2 3
John Kidder, Jr.	o 8 3 3	Jacob Wellman	o 11 3 3
Samuel Killam	o 1 2 2	Jacob Wellman, Jr.	o 7 0 2
Benjamin Killam	o 15 3 2	John Wellman	o 2 11 0
John Hutchinson	o 6 8 0	Amos Wilkins	o 8 9 3
Enoch Holt	o 4 5 1	Amos Wilkins, Jr.	o 2 11 0
Benjamin Lewis	o 7 8 1	John Woodward	o 6 10 0
Samuel McMaster	o 3 7 1	Abial Wilson	o 3 9 2
John McMaster	o 3 9 2	Joseph Killam	o 5 3 3
Thomas McMaster	o 3 9 2	Benjamin Killam, Jr.	o 2 11 0
Hugh McAdams	o 9 7 3	Moses Peabody	o 2 11 0
Robert McAdams	o 6 4 0	Cesar Freeman	o 7 3 2
John Peabody	o 7 4 3	Isaac Wilkins	o 4 4 2
Nathaniel Phelps	o 15 8 0	Samuel Stuart	o 2 11 0
Jonathan Pearson	o 16 8 3	Wid. Stephenson, (Cram	
Amos Pearson	o 3 9 3	farm)	o 1 10 1
Ephraim Putnam	o 12 9 2		

Subsequent names seem to be those of non-resident tax payers.

William Bowers	o 4 0 0	Josiah Dodge	o 1 6 3
Simeon Blodget	o 1 11 2	Capt. Farmer	o 2 0 2
Joshua Burnam	o 1 1 0	Jacob Howard	o 1 10 2
Samuel Blanchard	o 1 2 3	Timothy Kendall	o 1 7 1
John Bell	o 1 2 3	William Kidder	o 2 0 2
Jacob Butler	o 2 11 0	James Lewis	o 1 5 0
Jonathan Batchelder	o 1 5 2	Ebenezer Pearson's est.	o 2 5 1
Simeon Cummings	o 3 1 3	John Parker	o 1 11 2
Samuel Chace	o 1 8 0	Jacob Putnam	o 1 7 2
Ephraim Crosby	o 0 8 3	Jacob Putnam, Jr.	o 1 1 0
Benjamin Lewis, Jr.	o 1 10 3	Abner Stiles	o 1 5 2
John Hale	o 1 7 2	Timothy Winn	o 4 0 0

Joseph Winn	o 4 o o	Joseph Sterns	o o 10 o
Henry Putnam	o 3 o 3	Hardy and Watkins	o 2 2 1
Benjamin Taylor	o 2 7 2	Thomas Hills	o o 7 o
James Hopkins	o 3 5 1	Abner Hutchinson	o o 7 o
Ovid Haselton	o 1 10 2		

The following names seem to be those of the original proprietors and their heirs.

Reuben Wright	o o 9 2	Dr. Lemmon	o 1 8 o
John Ames	o o 8 1	Dr. Lemmon	o 1 8 o
Swett	o o 5 o	Heirs of Lynde	o 2 10 o
Robert Hooper	o o 5 1	Heirs of Lynde	o 2 11 o
Robert Hooper	o 1 10 3	Heirs of Lynde	o o 10 2
Robert Hooper	o o 4 3	Heirs of Lynde	o o 8 3
Robert Hooper	o o 8 3	Heirs of Lynde	o 1 8 o
Robert Hooper	o 1 10 3	Heirs of Lynde	o o 8 1
Robert Hooper	o 1 8 o	Stephen Goodhue	o 2 8 2
Widow Fletcher	o o 1 3	John Burton	o 1 5 2
Timothy Hartshorn	o o 1 3		
Robert Means	o o 8 3	Apparent footing	40 : 14 : 8 : 3

The seemingly low rates of the proprietors and their heirs were probably due to the fact that only small portions of their original estates remained unsold, for which they were taxed. Robert Means was an Amherst resident. Dr. Lehman belonged in Hollis, the heirs of Hooper and Lynde and Stephen Goodhue were Massachusetts people, and John Burton was probably a Wilton man.

#### OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Nearly every warrant for town-meeting illustrated that divine saying, "The poor ye have with you always, and when ye will ye may do them good." One of the questions in the warrant for the annual town meeting was generally, "What method will the town adopt for the support of poor?" In the early days of the town the poor were comparatively few. The law in those days permitted the selectmen to warn out of town any new comers who were likely to become town charges, and properly belonged in other towns. The records show no instance of any attempt to evade the care of poor who belonged in town; nor on the contrary, do they show any disposition to submit to having poor thrust upon them who belonged elsewhere. Hence, in the year 1770, two families, one containing eight persons, and another six, and also a single person, who were likely to become a burden on the town, were warned to depart out of town.

A family of this kind which came into our town from Wilton

in 1773 was duly warned out according to law. But there was a failure to enforce the law, which occasioned the town considerable trouble and expense.

The warrant for this warning was served, and a copy of the same sent to Stephen Holland, Esq., clerk of Hillsboro Sessions, who about that time left the office, and was succeeded by Robert Fletcher, Esq. Upon the removal of the papers belonging to said office, the\* "warrant with many other papers was lost, and no record of the same to be found, whereby the Town of Lyndeborough is likely to become chargeable with the maintenance of the said family." Hence, the town, through its representative, Nehemiah Rand, petitioned the Legislature "that the said warrant & Service & returning may be Good & Established So that the Town of Lyndeborough may have the Benefit of the Laws of this State in Such Cases made & provided &c."

A committee of the legislature upon this petition reported as follows:

That in the latter end of May, 1773, the then selectmen of Lyndeborough made out a warrant in the Following words viz  
 province of New Hampshire Hillsborough ss  
 (Seal) To James Boutwell Constable for the Town of Lyndeborough in said County Greeting.

Whereas there is a person come of Late with his wife to sojourn or Dwell in This Town & last came from Wilton in this County viz Elisha Wilkins & wife and are not by Law Inhabitants of this Town therefore are likely to become too chargeable to this Town unless means are taken to prevent the Same. Pursuant therefore to the Laws of this Province in that case made & provided.†

You are hereby required in his Majesties Name instantly to warn the said Elisha Wilkins & wife to depart & leave this Town within fourteen days from this date. hereof fail not & make return of this warrant with your proceedings thereon to the Clerk of his Majesties Court of General Sessions of the Peace next to be holden at Amherst

Given under our hands & Seals the                      day of May 1773  
 Signed by the Select men.

Your Committee also find that the said warning was served by the said James Boutwell on the said Wilkins & wife about the first of June 1773 & sent by him to the Clerk of the Ses-

\*Hammond Town Papers, XII., pp. 524-526.

†Batch., XXI., p. 316.

sion by Andrew Fuller Esq. with money to pay for recording the Same, & the said Fuller delivered the said warning & money to the then Clerk of the Sessions at the Sessions of said Court in July 1773 & the said warrant cannot now be found in the Clerks Office.

Therefore your Committee agree to report that upon any tryal respecting the Settlement of said Wilkins and wife the Town of Lyndeborough or any others concerned may offer in Evidence the before recited warrant which shall be deemed as good & legal evidence as the original would have been if the same had not been lost, & shall be considered as dated the last day of May signed by the then Selectmen & served on the first day of June 1773. Signed Francis Worster for the Committee which report being read & considered *voted* that it be received & accepted. Sent up by Mr. Rand.

Editor Hammond informs us that the foregoing report was adopted, and was in the hand-writing of John Sullivan.\*

The next year the town chose a committee of fifteen to petition the General Court "for a redress of the grievance we labor under respecting Elisha Wilkins." The committee were:—

Dr. Benjamin Jones	Mr. James Boutwell
Dea. Ephraim Putnam	Andrew Fuller Esq.
Mr. John Reynolds	Cap. Samuel Huston
Peter Clark	Lt. Jotham Blanchard
Lt. Amos Whittemore	Lt. Jeremiah Carleton
Capt. William Blaney	Ensign Abiel Willson
Mr. Joseph Herrick	Capt. Benjamin Epes
Capt. William Barron	

No report of this committee appears upon our town records.

There was a petition from the selectmen about that time, which is reported as non-concurred by the General Court, which perhaps may have related to this case.† Some of our town's people afterwards attempted to get the matter revived; but the town, twice, at least, dismissed the subject, so that further efforts in that direction were not encouraged. Thus the town endeavored, though without success, to free itself from a burden which had come upon it from its neighbor.

In 1775, it was voted "to raise 4:0:0 L. M. for the support of the poor this year."

In November of the same year, it was voted, "to sell the cow that was purchased by the Overseers of the Poor for the Town," and afterwards returned to the town. "Dea. Cram,

\*Batch., XII., p. 526.

†Batch., XXI., p. 331.

Doctor Jones and Nathaniel Phelps were chosen a committee to sell the Town's cow at a public vandue."

In 1776, the town voted that the overseers of the poor "take care of the necessitous poor, and lay their account before the town." This course appears to have been followed for a number of years. The next entry regarding the poor relates to the overseers' request for instructions in regard to "binding out a poor child cast upon the town." They were authorized "to use their best judgment in the case."

The common method of caring for them, for many years, was to "vendue" them to the lowest bidder. In this way they were taken to the homes of those citizens who were able and willing to receive them and care for them on the lowest terms. Hence in 1790, there were small sums of money on account of the poor, due to David Putnam, David Cram, Benjamin Jones, Capt. Barron, Capt. Kidder, Ithamar Woodward, Uriah Cram, James Boutwell, Solomon Cram, Jacob Cram and John Smith, all of whom shared in this work, although only Mr. James Boutwell and Capt. Barron were the overseers of the poor. The selectmen were frequently chosen also overseers of the poor. This custom long retained its hold. There was a slight departure from it when Joseph Jones and Israel H. Goodridge, in 1825, were chosen overseers of the poor, though the latter was also one of the selectmen. But in 1826, an entirely distinct board of overseers of the poor was chosen, and the next year the town voted "to purchase a farm," and chose Israel H. Goodridge, Asa Manning, Capt. William Clark, Jotham Hildreth and Elias McIntire, a committee to purchase the farm, and also stock and tools, and to make all necessary repairs on the buildings.

Of the several farms purchasable, that of Mr. Eleazar Woodward, containing 133 acres, was bought for fifteen hundred dollars. The committee reported that they paid for all, live stock, tools, repairs and household stuff two thousand, one hundred and seven dollars and eighty-seven cents. The report was accepted by the town, and thus its experiment of caring for the poor upon its own farm was tried.

The names of the superintendents and their terms of service follows:

Levi McIntire, 1828, 1829, Town Records, Vol. IV, pp. 82, 109; Israel Woodward, 1830, 1831, pp. 133, 156; David Holt, 1832, p. 184; Jesse Read, 1833, 1834, pp. 209, 238; William Carson, 1835, p. 264; James Grant,

1836-1838, pp. 292, 332, 357; George Smith, 1839, p. 385; William Fisher, 1840, 1841, pp. 419, 455; Samuel Jones, 1842-1844, pp. 477, 501, 534; Samuel Jones, 1845, Town Records, Vol. V, p. 1; Sylvester Proctor, 1846-1848, pp. 28, 44, 64; Mynard Dutton, 1849, p. 93; Persons S. Holt, 1850, p. 122; James Grant, 1851, p. 158; Henry Clark, 1852, p. 184; James R. Wright, 1853-1858, pp. 226, 262, 304, 353, 409, 451; Ebenezer Fisk, 1859, p. 481; William Ryerson, 1860, Town Records, Vol. VI, p. 19; B. F. Woodbury, 1861-1865, pp. 99, 122, 177, 223, 271; A. F. Clark, 1866, p. 367; Martin Whitney, 1867-1869, pp. 419, 465; D. G. Dickey, 1870, Town Records, Vol. VII, p. 20.

In 1870, the town voted to sell its farm and all personal property. The sale was effected April 16, 1870, the net proceeds amounting to \$5601.18. Since that time our town has adopted the county system.

#### AID FOR SUFFERERS BY THE PORTSMOUTH FIRES.

The annual town meeting in Lyndeborough, March 1, 1803, voted "to choose a committee to send an answer to the request of the town of Portsmouth respecting the sufferers by the late fire."

Benjamin Jones, Esq., and Peter Clark, Esq., together with the selectmen, Jonathan Butler, Daniel Putnam and Oliver Whiting, were chosen as this committee. We have found no report of their doings. But the character of the men composing the committee forbids us to think that they were either indifferent to the suffering or inefficient in affording relief.

Respecting this fire in Dec., 1802, one of the historians of N. H. wrote: "Near the close of the year, the town of Portsmouth was visited by a most calamitous conflagration, which consumed more than a hundred buildings, and laid waste a fair and important portion of the place. The amount of property destroyed was estimated at two hundred thousand dollars; and more than forty-five thousand were contributed in various places for the relief of the sufferers."\*

But a much more disastrous conflagration occurred in Portsmouth near the close of the year 1813, by which nearly four hundred buildings were reduced to ashes, including a flourishing portion of the town. "More than one-fourth of these were dwelling houses, many of them large and elegant. So intense was the fire, that in the evening, the reflection of the light from the clouds was visible in the western parts of the State, and even in Vermont to the summits of the Green Mountains, a distance of more than one hundred miles. Large contributions of money

\*Whiton, p. 171.

and provisions, were collected from all quarters for the relief of the numerous sufferers."\*

In these contributions it is pleasant to know that our town had a generous share. A little subscription book, an interesting relic, now yellow with age, yet well preserved, and written in the neat, legible penmanship of Nathan Wheeler, gives evidence of the interest our town's people manifested in contributing for the relief of the distressed. Every page contains the name or names of Revolutionary veterans and of citizens then prominent in the town's affairs. A sample page from the ancient document would certainly interest the curious and awaken memories of some who were both loved and honored in their times.

## LYNDEBOROUGH TREASURERS.

Very much might be said in various connexions of some of the men on our list below. In the days of the Revolution, Ephraim Putnam bought the ammunition, James Boutwell kept the "powder dry," and Peter Clark and his company fired it away at Bennington and at Saratoga. Again, while six of those named served but one year each, yet their brief service in no wise indicated any inferiority; for one of them was a revolutionary minute-man, another the first native of Lyndeborough to become a college graduate, and a third a soldier in our civil war. The second column furnishes the names of those distinguished for many years of service, that of Nehemiah Boutwell appearing four times, and representing nineteen years of service; that of Nathaniel T. McIntire eighteen years, Levi P. Hadley fourteen years, and that of Josiah Wheeler, who surpassed all others, thirty-two years of continuous service. Surely these may be justly reckoned as among the official worthies of our town.

1765-73	Ephraim Putnam	1809	Nehemiah Boutwell
1774-77	James Boutwell	1810	Jacob Richardson
1778-91	Peter Clark	1811-18	Nehemiah Boutwell
	No record of Treasurer's name	1819	Timothy Richardson
	from 1782-90. But the name	1820-24	Nehemiah Boutwell
	was presumably omitted by	1825	Aaron Barnes
	oversight.	1826-30	Nehemiah Boutwell
1791	Jeremiah Carleton	1831	Oliver Bixby
1792-95	Dr. Benjamin Jones	1832-64	Josiah Wheeler
1796-97	Capt. William Dutton	1865-66	Samuel Jones
1798-1802	Jacob Dascomb	1867-69	George E. Spalding
1803-04	Jonathan Butler	1870-87	Nathaniel T. McIntire
1805-06	Dr. Benjamin Jones	1888	Byron Putnam
1807	Caleb Huston	1889-1902	Levi P. Hadley
1808	Jacob Richardson	1903-05	Charles H. Tarbell

\* Whiton, p. 182.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### ECCLESIASTICAL MATTERS.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BY J. A. WOODWARD.\*

The Congregational form of church government, or government of the church by its members, originated with the Pilgrim fathers, and in its elementary form came with the Mayflower. In this new and rugged land it was nurtured by strong men whose memory of persecution for belief's sake was fresh and who had come to this country to enjoy religious liberty. This form of creed soon became the prevailing religion of New England. These Puritans wanted no elders or bishop to prescribe rules of church government, for them, and like the democracy they founded in civil government, the church must be of the people, for the people and by the people.

Ecclesiastical history was an integral part of our town history for nearly a hundred years, as during that time the minister was paid by the whole town. The first settlers of Lyndeborough were trained in the Puritan faith, and brought with them the Bible and catechism. They observed the Sabbath and understood the advantages of public worship. They were men and women of fortitude, courage and perseverance, and they had need of those qualities to effect a permanent settlement here. It was a wilderness far from the villages of eastern Massachusetts from which they came. Their life was one of unceasing toil in overcoming the obstacles nature had placed in the way of their making homes. They had few books, no newspapers, and houses were widely scattered and separated by dense forests. They desired to have the Gospel preached to them in their new home, and it was a part of their contract with the proprietors that they should have a meeting-house and preaching within five years after the settlement began. The proprietors were also interested to do their part, so far as possible. But it was so much easier to vote at Salem than it was to carry out the vote in Salem-Canada that the progress at first was slow and discouraging.

\*By kind permission of Rev. Frank G. Clark we availed ourselves of that portion of his excellent Historical Address which relates to the history of the old Congregational Church. This Address was delivered at the celebration of the One Hundred and Fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of the town. We have copied it extensively, and it has been of invaluable assistance in preparing this part of our Town History.







CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LYNDEBOROUGH.

The church in those days represented much more to its members than now. It was the tribunal before which the differences of the neighborhood were brought for settlement. It kept a watchful eye on the walk and conversation of the community. It was at a meeting of the church that a charter for the town was proposed, and at a later meeting it was voted to obtain a charter and appoint a committee to get it.

The long sermons of the Sabbath meeting gave the only opportunity to have thoughts quickened and minds enlarged and educated. The isolation of the people's lives made them turn to the church for comfort.

The proprietors voted March 7, 1739, to place the meeting-house as near the centre of the township as it could be, and a committee was appointed "to look out a convenient spot for the same, and make report at the next meeting, and to clear a road from the end of the road already cleared to the said meeting house place." The place selected was on Putnam hill, east of the south village, in the upper end of the field north of Edwin H. Putnam's, partly on lot 41 and partly on lot 44, at the western ends of said lots. Benjamin Lynde donated twenty acres and John Cram ten for the use of the meeting-house, which was to be set on the road adjoining said lots. They voted to "build and set up a good frame, thirty-five feet long, thirty feet wide, and twenty feet stud, on or before May 10, 1740, and to underpin the same with good, handsome stones." But for various reasons the frame was not raised until September 24, 1741. The bills for raising the frame as approved by the proprietors indicate that the rum and sugar used on the occasion cost more (sixteen pounds and six shillings) than the bread, fish and cheese (eleven pounds and five shillings). It took liquor in those days to hew timber and put up frames, and one would judge it was not used sparingly. The frame stood uncovered for a long time. The proprietors voted Aug. 23, 1743, to finish the meeting-house: viz., "boarding sides and ends with feather-edged boards, to board and shingle the roof and put on weather boards, and finish the covings, to make and hang all the outside doors; to lay a double floor below; to make six seats on each side; to fix pillars under the galleries; to make a conveniency for the minister to stand in to preach, and to glaze the said house with glass seven inches one way and nine the other way, and to make five windows."

There is evidence from the records that the house was

boarded and shingled, but there is nothing to show that it was ever finished. No doubt it was used for a time, but no evidence of it can be found in any records. Eleven years later, Oct. 10, 1754, a committee was appointed to "view the meeting-house and see in what manner it can be made suitable for public worship," and five years later, in 1759, the proprietors voted an appropriation "for a new meeting-house to be erected for the accommodation of the present inhabitants." After the strip was taken from Salem-Canada and given to No. 2, or Wilton, the first location of the meeting-house was no longer near the centre of the town, and this explains the reason for building a new house.

But they did not wait to have a meeting-house built before they provided preaching, for the records of the proprietors for Dec. 10, 1741, read, "It being put to vote whether the word of God should be preached in the town this winter, passed in the affirmative, and six pounds were granted for that purpose." Aug. 23, 1743, John Cram, Jacob Putnam and John Dale, Jr. were appointed a committee to procure a minister to preach, and three pounds, old tenor, were allowed for as many days as they shall have preaching for the next six months ensuing.

The following letter was sent to Lyndeborough by the proprietors, Dec. 25, 1755, in answer to a petition for a minister:—

To the inhabitants of Lyndeboro':

The committee of the proprietors met together on your petition for having the preaching of the Gospel continue among them, and considering your earnest request (with which we are well pleased) and the advantage it may be to the spiritual and temporal interests of the town, have resolved to allow such Gospel minister as you shall get to preach for the three following months \$6.10 old tenor for every Sabbath after the twenty-fifth of the instant month.

I am in the name

Your Assured Friend

Salem Dec 25, 1755

B. Lynde.

The first meeting in Lyndeborough, in the interests of a settled ministry of which there is any record, is suggestive of the practical piety of those days. It was held at the house of Ephraim Putnam. The record of the meeting is as follows:

1. Chose Jonathan Cram, moderator.
2. Chose Jacob Welman, society "clerk."

3. Voted "to keep a day of fasting and prayer for the blessing of Almighty God in "chusing" a "minester" and settling church order.

4. Voted "to send for Mr. Daniel Wilkins of Sowhegan West and Mr. Daniel Emerson of Hollis, and Mr. Joseph Emerson of Pepperill to carry on the work of the above said day of fasting which was the 23rd day of September, 1756, and to give their advice on the "waitty affair" of "setteling a minister."

5. Chose Jonathan Cram, Jacob Wellman and Benjamin Cram a "commity" to carry on the Business of this society till the "next munday" after the above S<sup>d</sup> day of fasting.

Jacob Wellman, Society Clerk.

The above s<sup>d</sup> day of fasting was kept and two of the ministers they sent for came and carried on the work of the day, and advised them to "settel" a minister.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Lyndeborough, held Sept. 27, 1756, it was voted "to choose a minister at that time."

"Mr. John Rand who is our present teacher" was unanimously chosen to settle among us in the work of the ministry in the Congregational way of worship and church government. But Mr. Rand was evidently absent from town at the time, for at a meeting held June 6, 1757, it is recorded "that Mr. John Rand being gone from us a long time; voted not to wait any longer for Mr. John Rand's return." Without being in "Lawfull" means to hear from him, and if he is not "Likely" to come to preach the Gospel to us any more, to try for another man to preach the Gospel to us.

Sept. 12, 1757, it was voted "that the society will pay what the proprietors fall short of nine pounds silver old tenor for each Sabbath that Mr. Nathan Holt shall stay and preach the Gospel to us from the date hereof."

Mr. Holt probably supplied the church until the following December. At an adjourned meeting of the society, held Oct. 31, 1757, it is recorded that "Mr. John Rand employ six weeks every year in the service of the 'Neighboring' towns which are destitute of Pastors." This was a permission. It was also voted "to appoint John Johnson, Jonathan Cram, Ephraim Putnam, Moses Stiles and Ephraim Powers a committee to consult with Mr. Rand with respect to a council for his ordination."

On the fifth of December, 1757, a church was organized, Rev. Mr. Clark says, with eight male members and perhaps twenty or more in all. He also says that "this was the seventh church organized in the county and that there was no church on the north and west nearer than Keene and the nearest on the south and west were Amherst, Nashua and Hollis." This church organized that December day was a controlling influence in the development of the town for nearly a hundred years.

Dec. 7, or two days after the organization of the church, Mr. John Rand was ordained, and the following is the record of the event.

"On the seventh day of the same month Mr. John Rand was ordained a 'pasture' of this church by Mr. Hemingway of North Town, Mr. Emerson of Hollis Mr. Meril of Nottingham and Mr. Wilkins of Souhegan west and their delegates and the church under the care of Mr. Joseph Emerson in peperil." Mr. Rand was to receive forty pounds from the proprietors as a settlement, payable in three instalments, and a yearly salary of forty pounds, and the society was to furnish him with a certain amount of wood. In addition to this he was to have one shilling for each soul in town, the number of shillings increasing with the increase in population. This would make his salary about \$400, probably.

Mr. Rand lived for a time on what is now called the Boutwell place. It would be hard to say at this time whether this first minister of the church in Lyndeborough had a successful pastorate or not. The records would seem to show that there were misunderstandings between pastor and people. Perhaps his ideas were a little in advance of the times. Rev. Mr. Clark says of him that "he was said to have been Arminian in doctrine but inclined to the Episcopal form of worship. He occasionally ministered to a few persons of the latter denomination then resident in Goffstown and Bedford but was never again settled in the ministry." He was dismissed from the church in Lyndeborough April 8, 1762. For further record of Rev. John Rand, see Genealogies.

The first record of the choice of tything-men was on March 5, 1759, when Ephraim Powers and Moses Stiles were chosen.

At a meeting of the society, held Sept. 6, 1759, it was put to vote by the moderator whether the society would accept of the proprietors' vote of money at their last meeting for the

building of a meeting-house in the township of Lyndeborough which "passed in the negative." Rev. Frank G. Clark comments on this vote as follows: "The proprietors voted to appropriate £13-8s-6d for glass and nails for this house, but the aid was declined by the people, probably on account of the small sum offered. Tradition says the people were so much displeased with Benjamin Lynde, Jr. Esq., that they thought seriously of changing the name of the town, showing that they had grit as well as grace." "

In March, 1758, Melchizedek Boffee and Ephraim Powers were chosen a committee "to take care and see that there is no disorder on the Sabbath day for the year ensuing." Probably they were meant to be tything-men.

The first record in regard to the meeting-house above mentioned, is dated Oct. 31, 1757, and is as follows: "Also voted that the meeting-house shall be set on the road that goes from y<sup>e</sup> Beaver pond bridge to Jonathan Cram Jun. on a place called the Rockey Hill not further from a place called the Rocky ledge on the road to the lower corner of the town so called than the said bridge is." This would seem to be the road to Johnsons' Corner.

Dec. 7, 1758, the society bound themselves to build a meeting-house on the Rev. John Raud's lot, lying east of Jonathan Cram Jun. not exceeding forty rods from the southwest corner of s<sup>d</sup> lot. "Jonathan Cram, Benjamin Cram, and John Johnson were chosen a committee to see that the aforesaid meeting-house is built, and to receive the particular sums which the signers for the said house shall bind themselves to pay," and this committee was instructed "to go on and build the house the first year from the date hereof, the galleries and ceiling overhead excepted."

This second meeting-house was built somewhere in the field east of the Dutton house, near the intersection of the roads, or north of that on the Boutwell place. The forty-rod limit would cover either location. We can find no record of the dimensions or general plan of this meeting-house. It was probably finished within the year named. Rev. Mr. Clark says, "it was occupied only about ten years and tradition says it was then moved nearer the centre, used as a dwelling-house and afterward burned."

\* March 1, 1762, at a meeting of the society it was "voted to ask for an incorporation of this township."

March 5, 1764, at a meeting of the inhabitants of Lyndeborough, "voted to choose a committee to procure a charter of this township now called Lyndeborough"; "voted John Stephenson a committee to procure a charter."

For five years after the dismissal of Rev. John Rand the church was without a settled pastor. The pulpit was supplied by Rev. John Wyeth of Cambridge, and a call was extended to William Clark and to the Rev. Antipas Steward, but both declined the invitation.

After the incorporation of the town there seems to have been some question as to whether the proprietors would continue to assist in supporting the minister, and June 6, 1764, at a meeting of the inhabitants of the town, Jonathan Cram was chosen a committee to "treat with the proprietors of this township to see if they will continue to allow us money, whereby we may be enabled to hire preaching."

It was about this time (1764) that there began to be dissatisfaction with the location of the meeting-house. Sept., 1764, this article was inserted in the warrant for a town meeting: "To see if the town will hold their meetings for public worship on the Sabbath so as to better accommodate the south corner of the town or otherways ease them of paying any charges toward the minister's board." The town voted to dismiss the article for the present. This was the beginning of a long controversy over the location of the proposed new meeting-house. The southeast corner of the town was granted preaching a quarter part of the time at Jacob Cram's house, known as the Harwood place, where A. A. Melendy now lives. Those living north of the mountain, were, of course, very desirous of having the meeting-house as near as possible. After a large section of the town had been set off to form No. 2, or Wilton, it was contended by the inhabitants in the north part of the town that the house was not then in the centre of the township, and that if the town should build a new house it ought to be set further north. It was voted Dec. 12, 1765, to build a meeting-house on lot No. 69, said house to be fifty feet long and thirty feet wide and eighteen feet stud. This would be not far from where George E. Spalding now lives.

The inhabitants of Johnson's Corner and Bevin's Corner were not satisfied with this, and seventeen men signed a protest as follows: "that we do not yield or consent unto it for the reasons that followeth viz. we think the dimentions of the house are not



properly given, but if they ware we are not able to defray the charges, besides we are of the opinion that the place is very in-commodious for setting a meeting-house, and that we are not able to settle and support a minister." The next year, July 21, 1766, it was "voted in order that the inhabitants of the most eastwardly part of this town cordially join with the other inhabitants of said town in settling the Gospel that the meeting-house be built about half way between where the meeting-house is fixed by the proprietors, and where the meeting-house now stands, that is before the door of Mr. Gould's house, where a heap of stones is this instant laid by the inhabitants of this town."

Rev. Frank G. Clark says, "The town-meeting was adjourned long enough to erect this monument of their compromise." But it is evident that all did not accept the compromise, for article 2 of a warrant for a meeting of the inhabitants of the town, March 5, 1768, reads as follows: "To see if the town will hear the petition of Josiah Dutton and others of the inhabitants of the westerly part of the town respecting setting the meeting-house so as to better accommodate them, than where the town has agreed to set it." The result of this meeting was the agreement to "leave it to a mutuil committee" chosen between the petitioning party and the town to "fix the meeting-house." The members of this committee were Col. John Goff of Bedford, Col. Samuel Barr of Londonderry and Col. John Hale of Hollis. The church militant was evidently well represented by this committee. They decided that the spot last chosen by the town, where the "monumint" of rocks was erected, was the most suitable place, and here the meeting-house was built. It stood where the present town house now stands. Commenced in 1769, finished in 1772, it was used by the church and the town for sixty-five years and by the town for eight years more. Its dimensions were fifty feet long by forty feet wide and twenty-two feet stud.

The record of the disposal of the pews is as follows: March 14, 1769, "Voted that the pews shall be laid out and prized by a committee and that the highest 'payor of rates' shall have the refusal of the highest pew 'at the price,' and if it is not agreeable to him to take it at the price, the next highest payor shall have the same liberty, and that the money paid for the several pews shall be laid out in finishing the meeting-house."

The following description of this old church is from the pen

of the late David C. Grant: "It had three grand entrances with double doors surmounted by heavy caps, like a roof with heavy cornices. It stood facing the south after the custom of the times, so as to be square with the sun at noon. The south door was covered by a porch about twelve by eighteen feet, with double flight of stairs leading to the galleries. This porch, like the house had three doors. The interior had a gallery on three sides. The singers were located in front of the pulpit. There were two or three rows of seats extending around the gallery, with free seats for men and boys on one side, and women and girls on the other, and many a meaning look and tender glance were exchanged in that holy place. Back of these free seats was a row of pews of the sheep pen pattern of those times, with seats around the sides. In the body of the church was one broad isle leading from the south entrance to the pulpit, and also a narrower one extending around the house, leaving a row of pews between it and the wall, raised about eight inches above the rest of the pews on the ground floor. The central part of the house had square pews with seats all around, so that the children and servants sat with their backs to the minister. All the pews were surmounted with a railing ten or fifteen inches above the panel work, sustained by spindles like the rounds of a modern chair. The front seats were hung, not on golden hinges, and were usually turned up during prayer, when all the congregation stood. With the Amen down came the seats with an almost deafening roar, like that of the firing of the old slam-bang infantry in the sham fight of muster. The pulpit was built high upon the centre of the north side with nice panel work painted to represent mahogany veneer. Pulpits in those days were built for such fiery speakers as John Knox, of whom it is said, 'er he hade done with his sermone was sae active and vigorous, that he was like to ding the pulpit in blades and flie out of it.' Beneath the pulpit in front was the deacon's seat, partially hidden by a wooden screen, to which the communion table leaf was attached, which could be let down when not in use. Over the minister's head was the indispensable sounding-board, nearly round and several feet in diameter, looking like an inverted top; and children used to wonder what would become of the minister if it should fall upon his head."

Some time subsequent to 1845 this church edifice was sold to Jacob Butler, who tore it down and built a barn with its timbers.

While the church and town were settling the question of when and where to build a new meeting-house, they were also wrestling with the problem of getting a new minister to come and settle among them. The Rev. Antipas Steward had been given a call but had declined, and the pulpit was being supplied from time to time.

Jan. 20, 1767, the people of the town voted to give Mr. Sewall Goodridge a call to settle with them "in the work of the ministry of the congregational constitution." He declined this call and also a second, but accepted the third call with the proviso that he should be allowed to chose the two hundred acres which were to be given him as an inducement.

Letter of acceptance of Rev. Sewall Goodridge:—

To the Church and People of the town of Lyndeboro, greeting:

My Brethren and Friends

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Having taken upon myself to preach the Gospel of Christ in the world, and in the course of Providence, was called to preach the word amongst you, my brethren in this town for some considerable time, during which time you saw fit to give me a legal invitation to settle with you in the work of the ministry, and after due consideration I was led to repeatedly decline the acceptance of your proposals. Nevertheless endeavoring to surmount all difficulties that lay in the way, upon assurance that your ardent and sincere desire that I should yet undertake the work of a gospel minister among you, I have in some measure affected the same, and thereupon gave you encouragement, so far as that if you saw fit you might renew the invitation, which I perceive you have done by a scroll delivered me by your committee, elected for that purpose, and having considered of the same, with all the circumstances on the one hand and on the other, With respect to your offer I accept them as free and generous, though small, yet according to your ability. But as the Proprietors have not discovered that generosity which the Proprietors in other places have and commonly do in like case, neither is the settlement itself agreeable or sufficient to establish a Gospel minister in the character and in the comfortable circumstances in which such an one ought to live and be supported. I have thought fit to return you a conditional answer viz. that if the proprietors over and above the land already voted as an encouragement in the settlement, with the privilege of choosing the same, will advance as a farther encouragement in the settlement, a sum in money equal to what they now annually advance for supplying the pulpit, upon this consideration I accept of your and their proposals to settle with you in the work of the ministry. At the same time not without a sense of my own inability insufficiency and unworthiness. Begging your prayers for me whenever you approach the footstool of divine grace; That God of his infinite mercy would be with me at all times; That his grace might dwell within my heart; That his spirit may lead and guide me in all truth, even as it is in Jesus Christ, which is according to Godliness; That his spirit may descend into my heart even as a spirit of truth and purity, integrity and uprightness; That I may be enabled

to see more and more of the excellency and amiableness of that religion which I myself profess, and which I shall or may from time to time communicate to others; That I may be made faithful and abundantly successfull to your souls and to the souls of all such as shall hear me; That I may be enabled to preach Christ and Him crucified, and rightly and sincerely divide the truths of the Holy scriptures, and administer the oricles of God unto you in the truth and purity of the same; That I may never be suffered to daub with untempered mortar, but that I may season with the true salt of the Holy Ghost. Finally that I may truly and sincerely administer the sacraments of the new testament baptism and the Lord's supper, that I may be supported under every temptation, carried through all the difficulties and dangers of this life in the fear of God blameless, That I may be a blessing to the church of Christ and people in this place; That the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon us, and we be mutual blessings to each other, while here and hereafter; That we may be presented before Christ without spot or wrinkle and join the Church triumphant on high in sounding forth the praises of Almighty God and our Savior Jesus Christ forever and ever Amen.

S. Goodridge.

Jan 1, 1768

Mr. Goodridge was ordained Sept. 7, 1768. He had been preaching in the town for some time previous. The council of ordination consisted of Rev. Zabdiel Adams of Lunenburg, Mass, Mr. Goodridge's former pastor, Rev. John Payson of Fitchburg, Mass., Rev. Nathaniel Merrill of Hudson, Rev. Daniel Wilkins of Amherst, Rev. Daniel Emerson of Hollis, Rev. Joseph Emerson of Pepperell, Rev. Stephen Farrar of New Ipswich, Rev. Jonathan Livermore of Wilton and the Rev. Joseph Kidder of Nashua.

Rev. Mr. Clark in his Historical Address says of Mr. Goodridge, "He was a liberty loving man, and when the coming storms of the Revolution began to lower, and the oppression of the mother country and the rights of men began to be discussed all over the land, he and his people were not ignorant of these things, and both minister and people warmly espoused the cause of the colonies. In the second year of his pastorate, twenty-four united with the church, and there were additions almost every year for twenty years."

The arduous duties of his parish impaired the health of Mr. Goodridge and he resigned in 1806, but the town continued him in office and voted him an annuity of one hundred dollars while he lived. For a biographical sketch of Rev. Sewall Goodridge and the terms of his settlement see Genealogies.

It may be well at this point to insert a list of the members of the church. As no record of some of these families can now be obtained, it will be valuable for reference and is of historical interest. The list in the old church record book is not dated, but after careful comparison of the dates of baptism, and admission, we think it fairly correct of those who were admitted to the church previous to 1780.

Dea. Ephraim Putnam and Sarah his wife.  
Dea. Benjamin Cram and Elizabeth his wife.  
Jonathan Cram, Jr. and Mary his wife.  
John Johnson and Mary.  
Jacob Wellman and Jane his wife.  
Adam Johnson and Abigail his wife.  
James Johnson and Hannah his wife.  
William Carson and Isabella his wife.  
John Carkin and Elizabeth his wife.  
Moses Stiles and Phebe his wife.  
David Cram and Mary his wife.  
David Stephenson and Elizabeth his wife.  
John Stephenson and Abigail his wife.  
Melchizedek Boffee and Sarah his wife.  
Ephraim Powers and Lucy his wife.  
John Kidder and Triphena his wife.  
Andrew Fuller and Mary his wife.  
Asahel Stiles and Sarah his wife.  
Edward Spaulding and Elizabeth his wife.  
Stephen Spaulding and Martha his wife.  
Levi Spaulding and Anna his wife.  
Jonas Kidder and Huldah his wife.  
Joshua Hadley and Mary his wife.  
William Barron and Olive his wife.  
David Badger and Rachel his wife.  
Robert Badger and Hannah his wife.  
Eleazer Woodward and Hannah his wife.  
John Gould.  
James Boutwell and Mary his wife.  
Jacob Wellman, Jun. and Hannah his wife.  
Joseph Wilkins, Jun. and Phebe his wife.  
Nathan Person and Annie his wife.  
Widow Eunice Carleton.  
Widow Bevins.  
Widow Eunice Wilkins.  
Widow Carson.  
Beulah Holt wife of William Holt.  
Mehitable Russell wife of Peter Russell.  
Sarah Dutton wife of Benj. Dutton.  
Mary Stiles.  
Silena Gould.  
Abigail Stephenson.

Ephraim Putnam and Lucy his wife.	
Ephraim Putnam 3rd and Rachel his wife.	
Jonathan Chamberlain, Jr. and Margaret his wife.	
George Pearson and Elizabeth his wife.	
Benjamin Cram, Jr. and Olive his wife.	
John Row and Mary his wife.	
Osgood Carleton and Lydia his wife.	
Timothy Carleton and Rachel his wife.	
Samuel Hutchinson and Bethy his wife.	
Joel Manwell and Phebe his wife.	
Thomas Boffee and Sarah his wife.	
Francis Epes and Mary his wife.	
Samuel Houston and Rachel his wife.	
Nathan Fisher.	
Jonathan Chamberlain and Elizabeth his wife.	
Benjamin Jones and Jemima his wife.	
Thomas Person.	Jonathan Pearsons, Jr.
Aaron Lewis.	John Boffee and wife.
Nathaniel Bachelder.	Amos Pearson and wife.
Peter Clark.	Daniel Cram and wife.
James Punchard.	Israel Day and wife.
Nathan Cram and Rachel his wife.	Robert Day and wife.
John Stiles and wife.	William Blunt and wife.
John Clark and wife.	Jonathan Holt and wife.
John Smith, Jr. and wife.	Ephraim Kidder and wife.
Phillip Fletcher and wife.	John Kidder, Jr. and wife.
Uriah Cram and wife.	John Hutchinson.
Daniel Herrick and wife.	Benj. Lewis and wife.
Joseph Bachelder and wife.	Stephen Farnum and wife.
Ephraim Abbott and wife.	John Hartshorn and wife.
Jonathan Whittemore and wife.	Thomas Hutchinson and wife.
Jotham Blanchard and wife.	Hannah Haggett.
James Persons and wife.	Huldah Cram.
Solomon Cram.	John Cram, Jr. and wife.
Jonathan Pearsons and wife.	

In reading the old records of the church in Lyndeborough one is impressed with the amount of space taken up in recording the complaints, the dissensions, the church trials of its members. To the church in those days, or to the pastor, were brought the misunderstandings among the people of the town for settlement, or the church members for discipline. Rev. Mr. Clark in his Historical Address has this to say on the subject: "If the historian should estimate a church from the standpoint of its records simply, he would gain a very wrong impression of its character and work, for a record is made of all dissensions and difficulties, but nothing is said of the years of prosperity. The church in Lyndeborough was not alone in having occasions for discipline.

The men of those times had strong will power. They had to contend with almost insurmountable difficulties in establishing homes for themselves. The times developed a rugged independence and individuality of character, and it was not strange that some sparks of fire should fly when such flint and steel came in contact. But the spirit of their Master had a wonderful power over their lives, and when they found themselves waxing warm in debate, or troubled by each other's faults, they sought advice of neighboring churches, and were prompt to make suitable confession if rebuked by their councillor."

The following extracts from the records of the church will doubtless be of interest to many. There is an undeniable charm in their quaintness, at all events.

April 10, 1769, "After debate voted and chose Andrew Fuller, Osgood Carleton, and William Barron to take care and set the Psalm in Lyndeborough."

May 3, 1770, it was "Voted that whereas the difficulty that now labors in the chh. and congregation is such that it is thought by many necessary that the heads of families have a voice with the chh. in the business of the day, provided they submit to the order of the chh: The case put and passed in the affirmative."

May 2, 1771, the society "voted that there be provided at the expense of the church one 'Flaggon' two platters and four cups, and a new table cloth for the service of the table of the Lord, and that there be one shilling Lawful raised upon the heads of every family that are members of the church for the above purpose."

Before this vote was carried into effect, however, David Lewis and others, and John Gould presented the church with the larger part of a communion service, and in 1774 Benjamin Lynde presented the remainder.

April 3, 1778, it is recorded "to see if the chh. will consult anything about the singing in the house of God on Lords day, as there are several persons *uneasy* about the same."

As a result of this consultation Daniel Cram was chosen assistant chorister; and it may be added that that *uneasy* feeling has pervaded the church more or less to this present day.

Sept. 9, 1778, "Voted and chose Mr. Francis Epes, Dea. David Badger, Capt. Jacob Wellman, Capt. Peter Clark, Capt. William Barron, Andrew Fuller, Esq., Mr. Nathan Person and Capt. John Stephenson a committee to consider, review, and make

a new Draught of the Chh. Covenant, if they see proper and lay the same before the Chh."

This committee attended to its duties and presented a new draught of the covenant, which was accepted by the church.

Aug., 1779, "Agreed by a great majority of the church that every member stand or sit, as they may think it convenient at time of singing in Public Devotion in Lords day."

Rev. Mr. Goodrich himself did not escape trouble in the church. At a meeting of the church held Jan., 1785, one of the members presented charges against him, much to the surprise (it is recorded) of every one present. These charges were:

*First.* "I apprehend I can point out some particular times when liquor or strong drink has a different and 'unexpected effect' with Rev. Mr. Sewall Goodridge to me and others as well as Mr. Goodridge himself according to his acknowledgement to the chh on the fourth of Nov. last."

*Second.* "I apprehend y<sup>e</sup> Mr. Sewall Goodridge is chargeable with disregarding y<sup>e</sup> truth in y<sup>e</sup> matter of moving y<sup>e</sup> fence belonging to y<sup>e</sup> heirs of Dea David Badger Dec<sup>d</sup>."

*Third.* "I apprehend the pastor chargeable with unfaithfulness as to his word and promises in dealing with others."

At the adjourned meeting of the church Mr. Goodridge answered the complaint as follows:—

Art. 1. "Though I have never been drunk with strong liquor yet I have perceived it to have at particular times a different effect from what I expected, but cannot allow by any means, I am become a slave to it."

2<sup>d</sup>. "I know not even the color of a disregard for truth, though there was a contradiction."

3<sup>d</sup>. "I have never knowingly made a promise but I have either fulfilled or endeavored to fulfill it unless Providence shut the door by disappointment."

The church dismissed the complaint, and the complainant admitted "that matters did not appear to him in such an aggravated light as when he exhibited the complaint," at the same time expressing the most cordial affection and satisfaction.

Again we quote from Mr. Clark's address; "The highest outward respect was paid to the Christian ministry in those days. When the pastor approached the church on the Sabbath the people parted to the right and left, while the minister and his wife passed between, both parties politely exchanging civilities. When the services closed in church not an individual left his



pew until the minister left the pulpit and passed down the aisle."

For two or three years the church was without a settled minister, and on Aug. 1, 1811, a call was extended to the Rev. Nathaniel Merrill. His favorable answer is dated Sept. 22, 1811. Before this, however, the church extended a call to Mr. Jesse Fisher of Princetown, but there is no further record. They also invited Rev. Jaazaniah Crosby of Hebron to settle with them, but the council refused to settle him because of unsoundness in theology, and this council was the cause of much trouble to the church and of some bitterness among a few of its members. They tried to get Abraham Randall of Stow, Mass., but he wanted to be furnished twelve cords of good, hard, dry wood yearly. This condition the town would not accept.

Rev. Mr. Merrill was ordained Oct. 30, 1811, and the churches and pastors invited to assist were Rev. Elijah Parish, D. D., Byfield, Mass.; Rev. Isaac Braman of Rowley, Mass.; Rev. James W. Woodward of Norwich, Vt.; Rev. Jeremiah Barnard of Amherst; Rev. Ebenezer Hill of Mason; Rev. Thomas Beede of Wilton, and Rev. Ephraim P. Bradford of New Boston.

It is somewhat difficult to estimate the value of the services of Mr. Merrill to the church and to the town at this late day. Almost a century has passed since his pastorate began. Traditions tell and the records show that his long pastorate was an eminently successful one. The conditions of life in his parish were very different from what they were when the Rev. Sewall Goodridge was ordained. Sixty or more years had wrought great changes in the community. The vexatious question of the location of the meeting-house had been long settled, and the people had a church home suitable for their needs. The rude houses of the early times had been replaced by comfortable framed buildings. He had a united church to welcome his coming and he certainly justified their choice by heartily entering into the work of building up the church; and by the gentle and kind way of performing the duties of a country minister, he soon endeared himself to the townspeople.

Rev. Mr. Clark says of him: "The new minister was a man of ardent temperament and tender sensibilities, and soon won the affections of his people. Feeling the power of the Gospel himself he knew well how to reach the mind and heart, and his ministry was long and very successful. Though many years

have now elapsed he has not ceased to be lovingly remembered. He was a genuine son of consolation, and his ministerial brethren used to speak of him as the 'Beloved Merrill,' and he was often called by them to assist in revival work, for which he had peculiar qualifications."

During Mr. Merrill's pastorate a religious association was organized, and twenty-four persons signed its constitution which is said to be almost identical with that of the present Christian Endeavor Society. This was in 1823. From the meetings of this association, together with the work of the pastor, came the greatest revival the church in Lyndeborough ever experienced. One hundred and seven united with the church at this time. One hundred and ninety-seven united with the church during the first twelve years of his ministry, and one hundred and fourteen more before he dissolved his connection with the church in Lyndeborough, making four hundred and eighteen in all. As Rev. Mr. Clark says, "A grand record for pastor and people." Mr. Merrill lived where E. K. Warren now lives, this place having been given to the town for a parsonage by Benjamin Lynde, Jr. It is best known now as the Bixby place. The following is a list of the members of the church just previous to Mr. Merrill's pastorate (1807). It will be noticed that there are many widows of members in the first list, and that only a small proportion of the old members remain. But as this list contains the names of many families now extinct in town, we thought best to insert it :

Rev. Sewall Goodridge and wife.	Joel Manwell and wife.
Dea. Peter Clark and wife.	Benjamin Jones and wife.
Dea. Samuel Houston and wife.	James Punchard.
Dea. Aaron Lewis and wife.	John Clark and wife.
Widow Carkin.	Uriah Cram and wife.
David Cram and wife.	Widow Eleanor Whittemore.
Widow John Stephenson.	Jotham Blanchard and wife.
Andrew Fuller and wife.	John Boffee and wife.
Jonas Kidder and wife.	Ephraim Kidder and wife.
Widow Barron.	Livy wife of Samuel Steward.
Widow Rachel Badger.	Widow Hartshorn.
Widow Hannah Badger.	Thomas Hutchinson and wife.
Eleazer Woodward and wife.	Huldah Cram wife of John Cram.
Widow Mary Boutwell.	Oliver Whiting and wife.
Jacob Wellman.	William Clark and wife.
Widow Lucy Putnam.	Johnathan Putnam and wife.
Ephraim Putnam and wife.	John Woodward and wife.
Jonathan Chamberlain and wife.	Charles Whitmarsh and wife.
Benjamin Cram, Jr. and wife.	The wife of Edward Ballard.

Ephraim Putnam, Jr. and wife.	Israel Woodward and wife.
Prudence Carkin.	Benjamin Goodridge and wife.
Wife of Andrew Smith.	Widow Sarah Ordway.
Aaron Carkin and wife.	John Haggett and wife.
Elcazer Woodward, Jr. and wife.	Nehemiah Boutwell and wife.
John Thompson and wife.	Jacob Richardson and wife.
Benjamin Holt and wife.	The wife of David Putnam.
Aaron Putnam and wife.	Widow Sarah Gardner.
John Wellman.	Widow Mary Batten.
Jacob Dascomb and wife.	Widow Sarah Dutton.

Admitted between 1807 and 1814 inclusive :

John Clark 2d and wife.	Wife of Reuben Dutton.
William Clark, Jr. and wife.	Permelia Lewis.
Widow Nancy Elliott.	Phebe Hutchinson.
David Farrington and wife.	Hannah Hutchinson.
David Woodward and wife.	Polly Whitmarsh.
John Houston and wife.	Asa Manning and wife.
Wife of Osgood Hutchinson.	Widow Miriam Butterfield.
William Jones and wife.	Hannah Carleton.
James Whittemore and wife.	Trephina Butler,
Eben Hutchinson and wife.	Joshua Sargent.
Israel H. Goodridge and wife.	Ephraim P. Russell.
Aaron Whittemore.	Widow Susanna Dutton.
Dudley Carleton.	Wife of Jotham Hildreth.
Jonathan Clark.	Anna Chamberlain.
Wife of Thomas Boardman.	Bathsheba Holt.
Hannah Cram.	Aaron Woodward and wife.
Jane Smith.	Sally Ordway.
Hannah Epes.	Wife of Daniel Putnam.
Daniel Epes.	Wife of David Woodbury.
Charles Whitmarsh.	Wife of Amaziah Blanchard.
William Hutchinson.	Eli Curtis and wife.
Jacob Manning.	Wife of Ephraim Kidder.
William Holley and wife.	Fanny Ordway.
Jonathan Butler and wife.	Ruth Day.
Wife of Henry Cram.	Warren Damon.
Wife of Moses White.	Wife of John Sargent.
Wife of Joseph Epes.	Olive Chamberlain.
Widow Polly Allen.	Hannah Woodward.
Wife of John Proctor.	Hannah P. Woodward.
Wife of Daniel Woodward	Wife of Joseph Carter.

Ever since the town was organized the expense of building meeting-houses and supporting the minister had been a town charge. In an act passed in 1792 the legislature provided that "the inhabitants of each town in this state qualified to vote as aforesaid, at any meeting duly warned and holden in such town, may agreeably to the constitution grant and vote such sums of money as they shall judge necessary for the settlement mainte-

nance and support of the ministry, schools, meeting-house schoolhouses, &c."

But this law seemed to some to be unjust, and an agitation was started by persons of differing religious beliefs or of no religious belief, to have this rule modified. This agitation resulted, in 1819, in the passing of what was called the "Toleration Act" by the legislature, which greatly modified existing law. The last clause of this act was as follows: "Provided that no person shall be liable to taxation for the purpose of fulfilling any contract between any town and settled minister who shall prior to such assessment file with the clerk of the town where he may reside a certificate declaring that he is not of the religious persuasion or opinion of the minister settled in such town." This act "provided that each religious sect or denomination of Christians might form societies, and having done so, establish by laws, and have all the corporate powers which may be necessary to raise and assess money by taxes upon the polls and ratable estates of its members."

Some of the townspeople began to chafe under the necessity of paying a tax for the support of something in which they took no interest or to which they were openly or covertly opposed, and notifications began to be sent to the town authorities. Some of them read as follows:—

"To the Selectmen of Lyndeborough. This may certify that I differ in religious opinion from Rev. Nathaniel Merrill and object to you or your successors in office hereafter taxing my poll or estate toward the support of preaching in this town."

"Sir: For particular reasons I wish not to be taxed to Mr. Merrill again until I think different."

"Gentlemen: This may certify that I differ from Rev. Nathaniel Merrill's religion and therefore refuse to pay him any minister tax and shall not."

Some time later church and state became separate institutions in Lyndeborough. On account of these changes in ministerial support Mr. Merrill resigned, and was dismissed July 28, 1835.

Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, son of Thomas and Sarah (Friend) Merrill was born in that part of Rowley now called Georgetown, Mass., Dec. 4, 1782. He married, Jan. 22, 1812, Betsey Carpenter, of Norwich, Vt. After leaving Lyndeborough he was settled in Wolcott, N. Y., in September, 1835. He died at Georgetown, Mass., July 4, 1839. He prepared for college at Dummer Academy, and was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1809. Several of his children were born in Lyndeborough, but we have no record of their births. The dates of their baptism are as follows: Almon

Carpenter, baptised Jan. 3, 1813; James Hervey, baptised Nov. 27, 1814; Sarah, baptised May 27, 1819.

It was during Mr. Merrill's pastorate that the celebrated "scarecrow" case brought such trouble and discord into the church.

It would seem that Mr. Joseph Kidder, who lived where Dea. N. T. McIntire now lives, went after his cows one Sunday afternoon and saw the crows pulling his corn. He went over into his field and, cutting a stake, hung his coat upon it, as a makeshift until he could put up something more suitable. Old Grannie McMaster, who lived where Indiana Herrick now lives, saw him commit the crime and reported it to Mr. Eleazer Woodward. Now it is whispered that Grannie McMaster herself was out after ovenwood, but this is merely tradition. Mr. Woodward felt called upon to bring the matter before the church and have Mr. Kidder disciplined. His charges were five in number. Charge No. 3 reads: "That he had as he thought trespassed upon the rest of the Lords day by setting up or erecting objects in his cornfield on that day to prevent y<sup>e</sup> crows from injuring it. Articles 4 and 5 were charges "that Mr. Kidder travelled much on the Lords day."

"That he set out on a journey to the northern part of the state on the Lords day."

Mr. Kidder promptly reported a countercharge that Mr. Woodward "disregarded the truth," and that he "put up some fence between his field and pasture on the Sabbath."

This quarrel led to much trouble for the church. Mr. Woodward confessed that he put up the fence and asked forgiveness, but would by no means own that "he had disregarded the truth." Mr. Kidder was contumacious, and many church meetings and finally a council of neighboring churches were needed to settle it. It may be said that many of the members of the church saw the folly of investigating and bringing before the church charges so trivial, and entered a protest against their consideration. This trouble also led to the appointing of a committee — a sort of ecclesiastical grand jury — before which all complaints must be made, the committee to determine if they should be brought before the church.

It was while Mr. Merrill was pastor, also, that the question of warming the church was decided. All these previous years the people had worshipped in a church without any fire to temper the cold of winter. It is one of the most amazing facts in the

history of our forefathers. Any one who has lived through a New England winter must be impressed by the amount of grit or grace it took for the congregation to sit quietly, on a zero day, and listen to two long sermons, with the temperature of the room raised only by the heat of their own bodies. Some were tired of it, and asked permission to set up stoves. It may be said, however, that the women used to carry into church a tin foot stove filled with coals and these were refilled at some of the neighboring houses, to last through the afternoon service; but the men scorned such devices. Jan. 2, 1822, the town granted certain individuals the right to set up stoves in the meeting-house, and, strange as it may seem, there was some opposition and considerable excited discussion of the question. One old Revolutionary hero is reported as saying, "I have attended church these fifty years; I have fought the British seven years; I have slept in a tent on the frozen ground with nothing but a blanket to cover me; I have trod the snow path with bleeding feet nearly naked, and if Mr. Merrill wants a fire let him go to the place where they keep one all the year round."

It would seem from the records that for a few years the church depended upon voluntary subscriptions to support the ministry, but just what years is not clear. Nov. 1, 1839, this resolution was placed on record, "Resolved that this church feels and ever has felt the importance of supporting a preached Gospel in the centre of the town, that it is the duty of all its members to contribute for this object according to the ability which God has given them. Whereas the duty of raising funds devolves upon the Society with which the church is connected, and whereas all the members of the church are not members of the society, therefore it is expedient to use means to have all the members of this church who do or may reside in town bear an equal share of the expense. Voted that this church request the society to instruct the wardens of the same, that when a tax is laid upon the members of the society it be laid upon all the members of the church who may reside in town in equal proportion with those of the society." This shows that previously to that date, they were raising money by taxation. This method evidently proved very unsatisfactory. The records are full of complaints against those who for various reasons did not pay, and of the reasons they gave for not paying. The system was causing endless trouble and vexation, so that in 1846, March 3, they returned to the plan of voluntary subscriptions,

and Daniel Woodward, Jr., and Sherebiah Manning were chosen a committee to go through the town and solicit funds. But this was not for a long time and seems to have proved a failure, for the next year, 1847, they again resorted to taxation of the church and society members, and this plan was continued for some years. Some of the members were negligent about paying these taxes; some on the plea of not receiving an income from the property taxed; some entered the plea of poverty and it finally became necessary to call a council to advise how these delinquents should be dealt with. In the case of one brother, they recommended "that he first pay all he thinks he ought and *not be mean*, and then reflect upon paying the remainder."

During the autumn of 1835 the church was supplied by the Rev. Jacob White, and at a meeting of the church and society held Oct. 27, 1835, they extended to him a call to become their pastor.

He was to have five hundred dollars salary, and the society voted to furnish him with a suitable dwelling-house, (by his giving seasonable notice) for a reasonable rent. This last would seem to show that the old parsonage near where George E. Spalding lives, and which was presented by Benjamin Lynde, Esq., to the town, had been disposed of, or that when the church and town dissolved partnership the town kept the parsonage. We can find no record in regard to it, however. Mr. White's letter of acceptance is dated Dec. 12, 1835, and he was ordained Jan. 13, 1836.

The council was organized the preceding evening at the house of Royal B. Tupper, where Mr. White passed the examination in the presence of most of the male members of the church and "a few females." The exercises the following day were at the meeting-house:

- Invocation by Rev. Mr. Jones of Greenfield.
- Sermon by Rev. Mr. Aiken of Amherst.
- Ordaining prayer by Rev. Mr. Bradford of New Boston.
- Charge by the Rev. Mr. Whiton of Antrim.
- Right-hand of Fellowship by Rev. Mr. Richards of Francestown.
- Address to the church, Rev. Humphrey Moore of Milford.
- Concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Jewett of Temple.

Mr. White says, "that the day was pleasant and the house was so crowded that all could not get in, and that the exercises were solemn and interesting."

After the pastorate of the Rev. Sewall Goodridge, the pastor of the church seems to have been the church clerk as well, and this continued until the end of Mr. Claggett's ministry.

Rev. Frank G. Clark says of Mr. White, "He was a thoroughly educated man, a sound theologian, a good writer, and an able and instructive minister of the Gospel."

Jacob White was born at East Bridgewater, Mass., Nov. 20, 1806, and died in Lyndeborough while on a visit, April 3, 1865. He was graduated from Brown University in 1832, and at Andover in 1835. His health was not good while in Lyndeborough, and did not improve for a time after he left the town. He supplied for nine months at Plymouth, Mass., and was pastor at Orleans, Mass., from 1841 to 1861. In 1865 he removed to Bridgewater, his early home. In a historical address delivered June, 1839, he says of the church in Lyndeborough, "In conclusion I would observe that from a careful examination of the records, there appear to have united with this church since its organization, 84 years ago, about 750 persons. In this statement no estimation is made of those who may have been added during the twenty-three years the history of which is entirely lost. Of this number eleven have sustained the office of Deacon, eight have been licenced to preach the Gospel and some others are in course of preparation for this glorious work. The present number on our catalogue is not far from 200."

This record appears under date of Nov. 26, 1837: "Today the Congregational church and society in this place worshipped for the last time, as we suppose, *in the old meeting-house.*"

Mr. White preached on that day, a historical sermon from the text, Zech. 1: 5. "Your fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they live forever?" An original hymn was sung by the choir, written by Dr. Israel Herrick.

Nov. 29, 1837. "This day the new meeting-house belonging to this church and society was solemnly dedicated to Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The exercises were solemn and interesting. The assembly was large and attentive. The services commenced at eleven o'clock in the morning and were as follows:

Voluntary by the choir.

Invocation and reading of scriptures by Rev. Mr. Richardson.

Anthem. "Our Lord is risen."

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Folsom.



Psalm 122, Particular Meter.

Sermon and prayer by the pastor. Text, 122 psalm, 1 verse.

Anthem. "Assign to Jehovah."

Dedicatory prayer by Rev. Mr. Bradford.

Dedicatory hymn, composed by Dr. Israel Herrick  
and read by Benj. F. Clark.

Concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Jennison.

Doxology sung by the whole congregation.

Benediction, after which the choir performed an anthem.

Jacob White, Pastor."

Those who remember this occasion say that the singing was particularly good, the choir being augmented for the event.

Mr. White was dismissed June 30, 1840, after four and a half years' of service.

The first record of a Congregational society is dated March 18, 1833. At a meeting held on that date the preliminary steps were taken to form a society to be known as the First Congregational Orthodox Society in Lyndeborough. Nehemiah Boutwell was moderator, and Nathan Jones, clerk of this meeting. They chose Dudley Carleton, clerk, William Jones, treasurer and collector, and Israel H. Goodridge, Elias McIntire, and Nathan Jones, wardens. The following notice was published in the Farmers' Cabinet, March 25, 1833.

#### NOTICE

Is hereby given that Wm. Jones, Asa Manning, Elias McIntire and Israel H. Goodridge, and their associates have formed themselves into a religious society by the name of the First Congregational Orthodox Society in Lyndeborough agreeably to an act of the Legislature passed July 3, 1827.

Dudley Carleton, Clerk.

It would seem that the society had some controversy with the town in regard to a ministerial fund, for at a meeting of the society held Jan. 16, 1835, it was voted "That the Wardens of the Society take legal measures to retain the 'fund' provided it should be necessary." The records do not fully show how the controversy was settled.

The first measures to build the present parsonage were taken Dec. 23, 1835, when at a meeting of the society it was "voted to chose a committee of five to ascertain the probable expense of building a parsonage and fix on a spot and report to this Society." This committee reported in favor of purchasing a spot of Joseph Jones, situated in the southeast corner of his field between Timothy Richardson's and Oliver Bixby's. But

the inevitable wrangle over locating such buildings occurred, and June 1, 1836, another committee was appointed, consisting of Dea. Benjamin Goodrich, Oliver Whiting, Oliver Perham, Jacob Butler, Elias McIntire, Jotham Hildreth, Benjamin Jones, Daniel Woodward and Capt. William Clark. Their decision was to be "final and conclusive" in regard to the purchase of land and the location of the spot on which to erect the building. No further record appears in regard to the matter of the location. The parsonage house was built by subscription and was finished and ready for occupancy in November, 1837. Josiah Wheeler did most of the carpenter work, and the plans were his, modified somewhat by the Rev. Mr. White. Its cost, including barn and well, was \$1567.41.

At a meeting of the society held Jan. 16, 1837, the subject of building a new meeting-house was brought forward, and on Jan. 31, 1837, it was "voted to choose a committee to petition the Selectmen to insert an article in the warrant for the next annual Town Meeting requesting the town to sell the meeting house at public auction." This was the first step taken in the direction of building a new meeting-house. June 7, 1837, the society voted to build a new meeting-house. This house was to be built one hundred feet south of the parsonage house, leaving room for horse sheds &c., and the money to defray the expense was to be raised by shares of \$25.00 each, taken by members of the society and others. The house was built and ready for use late in the fall of 1837 and has served the use of the church and society ever since. Its steeple has been struck by lightning one or more times and is now much lower than when first erected. It was dedicated Nov. 29, 1837, as has been before stated. The horse sheds were completed that year and in 1838.

After the dismissal of the Rev. Mr. White, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. William Richardson, formerly of Wilton, and there was some desire to have him settled, but the majority of the society were unfavorable. Nov. 15, 1842, the church extended a call to the Rev. Ivory Kimball to become their pastor, the society concurring. They first offered him as salary \$360.00, but afterward raised it to \$400.00. In his letter of acceptance he says, "I accept your call on the condition that you pay me punctually." He was installed Dec. 28, 1842. The sermon was preached by Rev. Wm. T. Savage of Amherst; installing prayer by Rev. E. P. Bradford of New Boston; charge by Rev. John M. Whiton of Antrim; Right Hand of





*Yours fraternally,  
E. B. Claggett*

Fellowship by Rev. William Richardson of Deering. Mr. Kimball preached in Lyndeborough a little more than three years and was dismissed, Feb. 24, 1846. He was born at Wells, Me., Sept. 21, 1805; studied theology at Bangor Seminary; in 1834 was ordained at Lemington, Me., where he was pastor until 1841. He died July 24, 1853.

July 16, 1846, the church and society extended a call to Erastus B. Claggett to become their pastor. He accepted and was ordained Sept. 30, 1846. It would be hard to overstate the value of the services of Rev. Mr. Claggett to the church and to the town. He was not only the minister, he was the citizen, taking great interest in every material interest of the town. As the superintendent of schools he could call all the boys and girls in town, not only by their first but by their middle names, and he left an impress for good upon every youth with whom he came in contact. Of medium height, thin and spare, with keen but kindly black eyes, nose a little inclined to be hooked, nervous and spry, devoted to his calling, the valued friend and counsellor of all his people, he labored for twenty-five years in the church, and for the town of Lyndeborough. He was never a strong man, physically, but had an endurance which enabled him to bear the burden of life as a country minister. Rarely or never was he unable to perform his parish duties.

Rev. Mr. Clark says of him: "He was eminently qualified by his literary attainments, his warm, sympathetic nature, and his entire consecration to do a noble work in his Master's service. He entered heartily into every interest of the town. He advocated and helped to sustain lyceums and public lectures for the benefit of the community and was a prime mover in the establishing of the Franklin Library Association. He served thirteen years as superintendent of schools, and was instrumental in greatly raising the standard of scholarship, and in securing new and improved schoolhouses. He encouraged the scholars to continue their studies beyond the common school, and gave his time cheerfully and without compensation in teaching them in preparation for academy or college. He was a warm friend of the cause of temperance, and of the oppressed colored race, and by his words and efforts greatly stimulated those who went forth in defense of the Union. He was devoted to the spiritual interests of the whole town. If the people could not, or would not, come to the church, he was ready, with much bodily discomfort, to go to the out-districts and hold meetings. Ninety united with the

church during his pastorate, and many of the young people were trained in mind and heart for fields of usefulness in town and elsewhere."

In 1864 he served with the Christian Commission, helping the Union cause the best way he could.

At his ordination the sermon was preached by Rev. John Woods of Newport, and the Rev. Jonathan McGee of Frances-town, Rev. Bezaleel Smith of Mont Vernon, Rev. Leonard Tenney of Jaffrey and the Rev. Albert Manson of Bennington took part in the ceremony.

Erastus Baldwin Claggett was born at Newport, May 9, 1815; entered Dartmouth College, but did not graduate on account of ill health, and was graduated from Andover in 1844. He was dismissed from his pastorate in Lyndeborough, Sept. 30, 1870, and died at New Fairfield, Conn., May 16, 1877. Just before coming to Lyndeborough, he married a Miss Paine, and during their residence in Lyndeborough five children were born to them.

Feb. 7, 1871, the society voted to hire the Rev. George Smith to labor with them in the ministry for one year from Feb. 1, 1871. There is no record to show how long Mr. Smith preached for the church, and the engagements of the Rev. Newton I. Jones, Rev. Lyman F. Rand and Rev. Lincoln Harlow are not recorded. They served as pastors of the church during the years from 1871 to 1878. We have no further record of them.

At a meeting of the church held Aug. 29, 1878, it was voted to extend an invitation to the Rev. Theophilus P. Sawin to become the pastor, provided the society concur with the church. The society concurred with the church and the invitation was sent. Mr. Sawin was to receive from the society three hundred and fifty dollars per year, with the free use of the parsonage, and also two Sabbaths' vacation. The Home Missionary Society was to be asked to add to this the sum of two hundred dollars, which they did.

The members of the committee of the society sending the invitation were Benjamin G. Herrick, John C. Ordway and W. T. Boutwell. In a letter dated Sept. 28, 1878, Mr. Sawin accepted the invitation, and he was installed Nov. 20, 1878. The invocation and reading of Scripture was by Rev. W. H. Woodwell of Mont Vernon; Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hubbard of South Lyndeborough; Sermon by the Rev. Albert Bryant of West Somerville, Mass.; Installing Prayer by Rev. William Clark, D.D., of Amherst; Charge to the Pastor by Rev. George Dustan of

Peterborough; Right Hand of Fellowship, Rev. F. D. Sargent of Brookline, N. H.; Address to the people by Rev. J. G. Davis of Amherst.

Theophilus Parsons Sawin, son of Bela and Becca (Barber) Sawin, was born at Natick, Mass., Feb. 4, 1817. He studied at Phillips Academy, and took a theological course with Rev. Parsons Cooke, D.D., of Lynn. He was ordained at Saugus, Mass., April 19, 1843, and dismissed April 20, 1848. Installed at Harwich, Mass., March, 1850, and dismissed March 11, 1851. He was city missionary at Manchester from 1851 until 1856, and from 1866 to 1869. He was installed at Brookline Dec. 11, 1856, and dismissed May 18, 1866. He was acting pastor at Revere, Mass., from 1869 until April, 1874; at Middleborough, Mass., from Jan., 1875, to Dec., 1877. He married, Jan. 1, 1838, Martha, daughter of Robert and Phebe (McIntire) Mason.

Mr. Sawin was a man of genial presence, of social disposition, and soon won a warm place in the affections of the people of the church and parish. He performed the duties of pastor with scrupulous fidelity. Failing health compelled his resignation, Aug. 14, 1885. He was not dismissed, however, the church hoping that a cessation from active work might restore his health, and that he might be enabled to continue his work. He was the pastor of the church when he died, Jan. 19, 1886.

After the resignation of Mr. Sawin the pulpit was supplied mostly by Andover students for a time, then Mr. D. T. Torrey, a recent graduate of the Andover Theological Seminary, was engaged. No record was made of the time he commenced his labors or when they ended in this church, but he was the religious teacher of the community for more than a year. He was a young man of great energy and zeal in his Master's cause, an untiring worker, and was possessed of a great desire to do good in the church and town. His stay in the church in Lyndeborough tended to the uplifting and refining of the community.

During the summer of 1881 the church received the gift of a fine communion service and also a Mason & Hamlin cabinet organ of good tone and power. They were given by former residents and friends of the church and town. The names of the donors are as follows:—

Joseph E. Brown	Julia A. Stark
Allen A. Brown	Clark B. Jones
Roswell M. Boutwell	Clarissa B. Colley
Henry M. Woodward	Sarah C. Rand
Roland H. Boutwell	Hattie Rand
Jennie C. Deadman	Rev. Frank G. Clark

Nellie B. Hardy	Mrs. Jennie C. Upton
John F. Colby	Mrs. A. F. Hovey
Richard Batten	Ira Houston
Rachel Todd	Abby F. Beard
Amos Pratt	Mrs. William Blaney
Oscar Fowler	Harriet C. Jones
Mrs. George W. Bosworth	George S. Jones
Mrs. Adams	John Gage
Josephine Stayner	Benjamin Fiske
C. C. Boutwell	Robert Hawthorne
Alfred F. Holt	David Fowler
Mrs. C. A. Hurlburt	J. Kimball Wheeler
Herbert Fiske	John H. Clark
Mrs. George Dodge	William H. Grant
Charles R. Boutwell	Rufus Blanchard
Charles P. Clark	Peter H. Clark
William L. Whittemore	John Houston
Sewell G. Mack	Isaiah Parker
Dr. Henry E. Spalding	Sarah R. Dunbar
Mrs. William Beasom	Mary C. Pettingill
Sidney Gage	David E. Proctor
Freeman Kimball	Asa B. Clark
Mrs. Marshall	W. W. Curtis
Dolly Kimball	B. J. Boutwell
Alice Kimball	Abby J. Hawthorne
John Haggett	George S. Boutwell

Sept. 22, 1888, a call was extended to the Rev. A. C. Childs to become the pastor of the church. He accepted the call in a letter dated Oct. 31, 1888, and on the 14th of November following, he was installed. Those taking part in the exercises were the Rev. John Thorpe of Mont Vernon, Rev. Dennis Donovan of South Lyndeborough, Rev. E. H. Greely, D. D., of Concord, N. H., Rev. Cyrus Richardson of Nashua, Rev. J. H. Heald of Bennington, Rev. George W. Ruland of Greenfield. The sermon was by Rev. Frank G. Clark of West Medford, Mass. Mr. Childs' pastorate continued until Dec. 31, 1890, although he was dismissed Oct. 15, 1890. He was a man of sound orthodox theology, with a fitting sense of the dignity of the ministerial calling, performing his parish duties with fidelity, but with a rather hasty temper, withal, that detracted from his usefulness in the church.

Andover students again supplied the pulpit until May 17, 1891, when the Rev. L. D. Place was hired by the year. He closed his labors with the parish Nov. 12, 1893. Mr. Place was a man of commanding personality, inclined to liberality in his religious views, original in thought and an interesting preacher.



After leaving Lyndeborough, he went to New York city, after a time, and is reported to have resumed the practice of law, having prepared himself for that profession, and been admitted to the Bar before entering the ministry.

During the winter of 1893-94 the pulpit was supplied by candidates, among whom was Owen E. Hardy, a student at Andover, Mass. He was graduated in June, 1894. May 5, 1894, the church and society united in giving him a call to become their pastor. He accepted the invitation in a letter dated May 17, 1894, but it was not until the 2nd of the following October that he was ordained and installed. The order of exercises was as follows :

- Invocation by Rev. D. Donovan of South Lyndeborough.
- Reading of scripture by Rev. H. S. Ives of Francestown.
- Sermon by Prof. J. W. Churchill of Andover, Mass.
- Charge to the Pastor by Rev. A. J. McGown of Amherst.
- Right Hand of Fellowship by Rev. Charles H. Dutton of Wilton.
- Charge to the people by Rev. Cyrus Richardson of Nashua.
- Closing prayer by Rev. Fred E. Winn of Brookline.

Owen E. Hardy, son of Eliptalet J. and Sabrina (Jennings) Hardy, was born July 13, 1862, at Wilton, Me. He was born on a farm, where he lived until attaining his majority, his lot the same as that of the average farmer's boy, attending the district school as opportunity offered. He fitted for college at the May School, Strong, Me., graduating from there in June, 1887, entered Bowdoin College and graduated in 1891. He says of himself that he obtained all of his education by his own efforts, working his way through college by teaching and in other ways. He entered Andover Theological Seminary in the autumn of 1891, and was graduated in 1894. He joined the church in 1881. This church was three miles from where he lived, and he says he "used to walk both ways most of the time." He preached one summer at North Anson, Me., and the next summer at Alexandria, South Dakota. He served while in college on the "college jury," the governing body of the students. He resigned his pastorate Feb. 5, 1899, and was dismissed March 6, 1899, serving about five years. He removed to West Peabody, Mass., becoming the pastor of the church there.

While here Mr. Hardy labored earnestly for the upbuilding of the church, in promoting lectures courses, and in all ways striving for the best interests of the community.

June 26, 1899, the church extended a call to Arden M. Rockwood of Andover, Mass., to become their pastor. He accepted the invitation and was ordained and installed Sept. 5, 1899. Those taking part in the ceremony were the Rev. Charles H. Dutton of Wilton, Rev. Donald Brown of Mont Vernon, Rev. George Merriam of Greenville, Rev. Fred F. Winn of Benning-

ton, Rev. W. H. Bolster of Nashua, Rev. A. T. Hillman of Concord, and Rev. A. J. McGown of Amherst. Prof. J. W. Churchill of Andover, Mass., preached the sermon. He was dismissed Sept. 17, 1901, after a pastorate of two years. He accepted a call to become the pastor of a church at Wayland, Mass.

For the next few months after the dismissal of Mr. Rockwood the pulpit was supplied by candidates. In June, 1902, Rev. Austin Dodge was engaged as supply.

Austin Dodge, son of Moses and Susau (Webster) Dodge, was born at Newburyport, Mass., March 4, 1839. He prepared for college at the Newburyport high school, and entered Amherst College in 1857; graduated in 1861. He was graduated from the Andover Theological Seminary in 1866. He had pastorates at Winchendon, Mass., Boylston, Mass., and East Bridgewater, Mass., and came to the church at Lyndeborough from Burlington, Mass. He married, Oct. 11, 1866, Sarah S. Richardson of Dracut, Mass. Mrs. Dodge was a teacher in the Punchard High School at Andover, Mass.

The present membership of the church (1904) is 15 males and 45 females, a total of 60.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF CHURCH HISTORY.

The following is from a historical sketch written by Rev. Jacob White and dated June, 1839. It is interesting, though some of it is a repetition of what has already been recorded:—

“The first catalogue of the members of the church now extant numbers two hundred and three names. Among these is that of Mr. Jonas Kidder, who died about eighteen months ago, aged ninety-four years. It is probable that all those received under its first pastor have now fallen asleep.

After the dismissal of the Rev. Mr. Rand, the church was destitute of a pastor for a number of years. At length Mr. Sewall Goodridge was employed as a candidate for settlement. Having preached a number of Sabbaths, it was the strong desire of the Church that he should become its pastor. To the first and second invitations extended to him he gave negative answers. But after he received a call the third time he resolved to comply with the request. Accordingly on Sept. 7, 1768, his ordination took place.

During the first twenty years after the settlement of the Rev. Mr. Goodridge there appears to be an unbroken record of the names of those who united with the church. This is evidently in his own handwriting. The second year after his ordination there were twenty-four added to the church, a few about every succeeding year till 1788. After this to the close of his life, which is more than half the time of his ministerial labor, there is no church record to be found. Thus a space of about twenty-three years intervenes in which we do not know how many were added to the church, or how many ceased to be members from death or other causes.

From 1809 to 1811 the church was destitute of a stated pastor. Even for some time previous, in consequence of the Rev. Mr. Goodridge's feeble health, it was not always favored with the regular administrations of divine ordinance. During the period that the people were without an under-shepherd to watch for their souls, a considerable number of ministers at different times supplied the desk. To some of them invitations were given to settle. But none of them proved effectual till Mr. Nathaniel Merrill gave his answer to remain, in the year 1811. On Oct. 30, in the same year, his ordination took place.

How greatly his labors were blessed while he remained pastor of the church, many who now worship God in this house are ready to testify. Not a few look to him as their spiritual father in Christ. If any who heard the Gospel message as it fell from his lips are yet in their sins, it becomes them to seriously inquire whether the fault is not in themselves rather than in this devoted servant of God.

When Mr. Merrill commenced the work of the ministry in this place, the number belonging to the church was 108. During the first twelve years after his settlement there were added one hundred and seventy-nine persons. But from an uncontradicted report it appears that there has been no one year since the organization of this church when the Lord has manifested to it the exceeding riches of his grace like that of 1826. For a considerable season previous to this a death-like slumber seemed to rest upon the people. The foolish and wise were apparently sleeping in carnal security. From the statements of professed Christians, it is evident that iniquity abounded, and the love of many waxed cold. The public worship of God on the Sabbath was thinly attended. Conference meetings were in a great measure suspended. The few who sighed in view of the widespread desolation of Zion were about to give up all for lost.

But the time for deliverance, though invisible to the mortal eye, drew near. In some of the meetings for conference and prayer, which had been revived, it was manifest to those who attended that the power and spirit of God were present. The work eventually so increased that, to use the language of the Rev. Mr. Merrill, 'there were very few families in which there were not some who seemed to be either deeply impressed, or to be rejoicing in the hope of salvation.' For about two months it is estimated that there were more hopeful conversions than days. The Spirit of the Lord seemed to come down like a mighty wind, prostrating sinners and bringing them submissively to Christ. Such a season had never been witnessed in this place from its earliest settlement. In this work God was in a striking manner pleased to magnify and to honor His own institutions.

Though some were arrested and brought in who were the open despisers of divine truth, of Christians and of the Sabbath, and who seemed to be far from the kingdom of heaven, yet nearly all had been accustomed to attend on the means of grace. Those parts of the town where the people uniformly attended religious worship were the parts most signally blessed. But in those neighborhoods where the families generally absented themselves from the house of God on His holy day, there were only a very few hopeful conversions.

As the fruits of this revival in 1826, one hundred and seven persons

soon made a profession of their faith in Christ. During the remaining nine years of the Rev. Mr. Merrill's ministry in this place, there were one hundred and five persons added to the church.

In regard to my own brief and imperfect ministry, there is nothing very particular to relate. No special divine influence has attended my feeble efforts. Eleven only have united themselves with the church, while double that number have been removed from it by death and other causes.

In conclusion I would observe that from a careful examination of the records there appear to have united with this church since its organization, eighty-four years ago, about seven hundred and fifty persons. In this statement no estimation is made of those who may have been added during the twenty-three years the history of which is entirely lost. Of this number eleven have sustained the office of deacon, eight have been licensed to preach the Gospel, and some others are in a course of preparation for this glorious work. The present number on our catalogue is not far from two hundred."\*

Jacob White, Pastor.

The following scrap is in the handwriting of Rev. Nathaniel Merrill and is dated Feb. 20, 1822:—

"Present number of church members is 205. The church experienced a season of revival in 1812. Forty-four persons were added to its membership. A less general revival has at other times been experienced by which the number of church members has been gradually increasing. When the present pastor commenced his labors, the number of professors was about 100. One Social Library containing 100 volumes, incorporated 1794. Nine school districts. No established means of literary instruction other than the statute of the State requires. Generally, however, more money is raised than by these laws is required. One person only received a public education. Mr. Caleb Houston graduated from Williams College in 1812. Deaths in town in ten years, 160—16 in a year. In 1812 a disease of a threatening aspect prevailed in the town and thirteen died in about as many days. Called the spotted fever, or Cold Plague."

The writer of this history undertook to compute from the records of the church the number of persons who had been members since its organization, but could come to no satisfactory result. Rev. Frank G. Clark gives the number as nine hundred and forty-one, which is undoubtedly correct.

In the spring of 1886, during the months of March and April, the whole interior of the church was remodeled and refurnished. The singers' gallery was dismantled and done away with. A slightly curved partition extending from floor to ceiling was built, effectually separating that historic place from the auditorium. The gallery is now used as a store-room for odds and ends of church furniture. The stairway leading to this

\*This was in 1839.

gallery on the south was torn out and the space thus gained made part of the entry, but the one on the north side remains. For more than half a century those old stairways were the loitering place for the boys and men and it may be observed here, that it was the custom for the women and girls to use the north stairway and the same unwritten law compelled the men and boys to use the one at the south.

The old high pulpit with its winding stairs was removed and a platform and desk substituted. The recessed panel back of the pulpit with the inscription in gilt letters, "Holiness becometh thy House O Lord, forever," at which generations of children have stared during service, was removed and the walls were replastered and given a soapstone finish. The west end of the auditorium was frescoed, the inscription before quoted being preserved in colors. Frescoed panels at the right and left of the platform contain passages of scripture. The expense of this frescoing was given by Mr. Robert Hawthorne, of Boston.

The old-fashioned pews with doors were removed and new pews arranged in a slightly circular form were put in. A broad aisle was made down the center of the room, with aisles next the wall. The backs of the old pews, being of fine broad boards, were used in making the new, so that there is that much in the new furnishing to serve as a memento of the past.

A raised platform with railing was made at the rear of the room as a place for the choir. It was first proposed to place the choir at the left of the preacher's desk, but so much opposition developed that the plan was abandoned. New carpets were bought, new chairs for the choir platform, and in 1896 the Ladies' Sewing Circle paid the expense of putting in new windows, these windows being partly made of stained glass, and then there was little to remind one of the old church of 1837.

The expense of these new windows was about \$85.00. Through the efforts of the Ladies' Sewing Circle, generous contributions by Mrs. Ellen Trevitt of Mont Vernon and her sister, Mrs. Josephine Boylston of Amherst, together with the proceeds of a lecture by the Rev. Frank G. Clark, a new pulpit set was bought and installed in place. The result of all these changes is a beautiful church interior.

The expense of remodeling the church was largely paid by the Ladies' Sewing Circle. But former residents of the town and friends of the church contributed liberally, while resident members of the church and society helped with money and

labor. The Ladies' Sewing Circle before mentioned is an organization of the ladies of the parish, whose object is to provide funds for carrying on church and society work.

The large and costly Bible used on the preacher's desk was the gift of Mrs. Charles E. Abbott, of Malden, Mass. She was formerly Miss Clara A. Manahan, a former resident of the town.

The first church or society clerk was Jacob Wellman. He was succeeded in 1761 by John Stephenson, who served until 1764, and perhaps after that. It is evident that the Rev. Sewall Goodridge kept the church records during most of his pastorate. Dea. Aaron Lewis was chosen clerk in 1806, serving until the Rev. Nathaniel became pastor, when he also assumed the duties of clerk. The Rev. Jacob White kept the records during his pastorate and then Doctor Israel Herrick was chosen clerk. Rev. Ivory Kimball succeeded Dr. Herrick, then John Richardson, followed by Rev. Mr. Claggett. Dea. Nathaniel T. McIntire has served from 1871 until the present time.

Ephraim Putnam and Benjamin Cram were evidently the first deacons of the church in Lyndeborough. David Badger and Ephraim Putnam, Jr., were chosen in 1774. In 1782 Peter Clark and William Barron were chosen. Then in order, Dea. Samuel Houston, Dea. Aaron Lewis, Dea. Oliver Whiting, Dea. John C. Goodrich, Dea. William Jones, Dea. N. T. McIntire, Dea. Asa Hill, Dea. William C. Wilder and Dea. Eli C. Curtis.

In December, 1823, a religious association was organized, which Rev. Frank G. Clark says "might well be called the original Society of Christian Endeavor, as its aim, method and constitution were almost exactly those of the present society of that name." The constitution of this early religious society is as follows :

We the subscribers agree to form ourselves into a society for religious improvement, and as a summary of our belief of the leading truths entertained in the Holy Scriptures we adopt the confession of faith used in the church and we humbly entreat the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit to assist us in our Christian course, that we may be enabled to perform every duty which devolves upon us with filial piety, and that our meeting may prove a blessing to our own souls, and the souls of those around us. We furthermore agree in the strength of Christ to observe the following rules and regulations :

(1) That the present pastor of the church be the president of the society.

(2) That a vice-president be chosen quarterly to act as president in his absence.

(3) That a secretary be chosen at the first meeting in January annually whose duty it shall be to keep the records of the society.

(4) That we meet once a fortnight in the afternoon or evening of Monday at such hour and place as may be agreed on by the society.

(5) That in case of absence we will render an excuse if requested.

(6) That our meetings be opened and closed with prayer and singing.

(7) That none of us will decline leading in prayer when requested by the president, unless for special reasons. (In this article male members are intended.)

(8) That experimental religion be the frequent subject of conversation, and that the president may select a passage of Scripture at each meeting to be discussed by the members at the next meeting.

(9) Resolved, That we will be free to relate to each other our feelings and views upon religion.

(10) That strict order be observed during our meetings and that but one speak at a time.

(11) That no person, either male or female, will be expected to meet with this society more than once, unless such person unites with us by signing the constitution.

(12) That the above constitution may receive such amendments, alterations or additions as the society may think expedient.

Dated Dec., 1823.

Signed by Males  
 Nathaniel Merrill  
 John Houston  
 Daniel Woodward  
 Eleazer Woodward  
 Joshua Sargent, Jr.  
 Israel H. Goodridge  
 Isaac P. French  
 William Jones  
 William T. Boutwell  
 David Woodward  
 Timothy Ordway  
 Erasmus D. Eldredge  
 Williams Woodward

Females  
 Betsey Merrill  
 Clarissa French  
 Rachel Woodward  
 Hannah Lewis  
 Nancy Lewis  
 Hannah Goodridge  
 Precilla Jones  
 Hannah Whiting  
 Fanny Ordway  
 Alice Whiting  
 Jeannette N. Brewster

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CHOIR.

In the early days of the church in Lyndeborough the singing was by the congregation. Some person qualified for the place was chosen to "set the psalm," as it was called. His position was up in front near the minister, and it was his duty to pitch the tune and lead the singing. He used what was called the pitchpipe to get the proper pitch, though later the tuning-fork came into use, and was considered an improvement. Sometimes more than one person was chosen, as in 1769, Andrew Fuller, Osgood Carleton and William Barron were voted into the office.

Singing books were almost unknown then, and much of the

singing was done by memory. Tradition says, however, that they had grand, good singing in those days, and that almost every one entered into the spirit of "singing to the Lord." It was the custom for all of the congregation to stand during the singing, but some evidently rebelled at that, for later it was a vote of the church that they might sit or stand as they might think convenient. From time immemorial churches have had trouble about their singing, and it is probable that the church in Lyndeborough was no exception. Persons in those early times became "uneasy in their minds" about the singing, and choristers were "turned down" occasionally.

Just when the first choir was formed in Lyndeborough cannot be told, but it would seem to have been some time previous to the erection of the old church at the centre, for in that house a place was reserved for the singers' seats. Nor can it be told when musical instruments were first introduced. Tradition says there was much opposition to any stringed instrument being used in the sacred place. A pipe-organ was bought and installed in the old church, and Johnson Putnam was paid a dollar a Sunday to play it. When the new church was built in 1837, this organ was taken out and sold. The violin, bass-viol and trombone took its place for awhile, and they were probably played more or less with the old organ. Later, Kilburn S. Curtis introduced and played what was called a stopper-keyed melodeon, the kind that was blown with the right elbow when in use. Next came a more modern melodeon, and now a Mason & Hamlin organ.

Ira Houston was the first leader of the choir of which there is any remembrance, and since his time many have held the office: Daniel Woodward, Jr., Jotham Hildreth, Eli Clark Curtis, Daniel B. Whittemore, John Richardson, William W. Curtis, Benjamin G. Herrick and others.

Tyler Tupper played the trombone, Jesse Pearsons, Daniel Gould and Lafayette Herrick the bass-viol, Daniel Woodward, Jr., Joel Gay, Eli C. Curtis the violin. Daniel Gould, Asher Curtis and Oliver Bixby were also leaders of the choir at one time or another. Probably no one family has been more identified with singing in Lyndeborough than the Curtis family. Eli and Asher, Sr., Israel, Eli C., Betsey Ann, Kilburn S., Asher, 2nd, Hiram, William W., all were members of the choir, and musicians of repute outside the town. Singing schools flour-



ished and the pupils graduated into the church choir, which was known for half a century as one of the best.

Through the efforts of Rev. Mr. Claggett a bell was bought for the church. This first church bell in Lyndeborough was hung Feb. 20, 1850. The money to pay for this bell, some three hundred dollars, was raised by subscription, and it is said to have been of exceptionally sweet tone. By some means it became cracked, and about 1855 was replaced by the present bell. The old one was sold for bell metal, and the difference made up in various ways, among which was the holding of the old-fashioned "levee" for raising money. And here it may not be out of place to mention the custom, now done away with, of tolling the church bell on the death of any one in the parish. All within hearing of its tones could tell by the number of strokes the age of the person, and whether man, woman or child. It was not until about twenty years ago that this old New England custom was dropped.

#### THE RECORD OF BAPTISM.

The following list of baptisms is inserted for the reason that it is the only record of some of the early families to be found. It is taken from the first volume of the church records and includes all up to 1800, but is evidently very incomplete. The record of baptisms from 1811 down appears to have been correctly kept, but as the records from the organization of the church until 1811 are fragmentary it is probable that this is a list of only a part of those baptized before that date.

##### A.

- Aug. 6, 1769. Daniel, son of Josiah and Hannah Abbott
- July 25, 1773. Sarah, daughter of Josiah and Hannah Abbott
- June, 1780. Daughter of Ephraim and Dorothy Abbott
- June, 1780. Ephraim, son of Ephraim and Dorothy Abbott

##### B.

- Oct. 2, 1768. Eliphalet, son of Robert and Hannah Badger
- Oct. 2, 1768. Ruth, daughter of William and Olive Barron
- Dec. 4, 1768. Phebe, daughter of Phineas and Sarah Barker
- Mar. 26, 1769. Stephen, son of David and Rachel Badger
- Apr. 23, 1769. Judith, daughter of James and Mary Boutwell
- Sept. 7, 1769. Phineas, son of Phineas and Sarah Barker
- June 26, 1770. Deborah, daughter of Edward and Eunice Bevins
- June 26, 1770. Hannah Boynton, daughter of Richard and Rebecca Boynton
- June 26, 1770. Josepha Boynton, daughter of Richard and Rebecca Boynton
- July 1, 1770. Joanna, daughter of William and ——— Butterfield

- July 8, 1770. Mary, daughter of Robert and Hannah Badger  
 Sept. 9, 1770. Joseph, son of Edward and Eunice Bevins  
 Dec. 23, 1770. Hannah, daughter of David and Rachel Badger  
 June 2, 1771. Sarah, daughter of William and Olive Barron  
 Oct. 6, 1771. James, son of James and Mary Boutwell  
 Oct. 20, 1771. Hannah, daughter of Phineas and Sarah Barker  
 May 31, 1772. John, son of William Butterfield and wife  
 Aug. 23, 1772. Sarah, daughter of David and Rachel Badger  
 Aug. 30, 1772. Rachel, daughter of Robert and Hannah Badger  
 Sept. 12, 1772. Thomas Spaulding, son of Thomas and Sarah Boffee  
 Aug. 29, 1773. John, son of John and Sarah Bradford  
 Sept. 5, 1773. Joseph, son of Edward and Eunice Bevins  
 Nov. 7, 1773. William, son of Phineas and Sarah Barker  
 Nov. 21, 1773. Nehemiah, son of James and Mary Boutwell  
 Apr. 3, 1774. Jonathan, son of William and Olive Barron  
 Apr. 24, 1774. Prince, servant boy to John and Sarah Bradford  
 July, 1774. Son of Richard and Keturah Boynton  
 July, 1774. Orpah, daughter of Richard and Keturah Boynton  
 July 31, 1774. Anna, daughter of David and Rachel Badger  
 May 14, 1775. Robert, son of Robert and Hannah Badger  
 July 8, 1776. Daniel, son of David and Rachel Badger  
 Nov. 14, 1779. Benjamin, son of Benj. and Sarah Bullock  
 Nov. 14, 1779. Sarah, daughter of Benj. and Sarah Bullock  
 Nov. 14, 1779. Anna, daughter of Benj. and Sarah Bullock

## C.

- Jan. 24, 1769. Robert, son of William and Isabel Carson  
 June 13, 1769. Hannah, daughter of David and Mary Cram  
 June 13, 1769. Micajah, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Coston  
 Oct. 6, 1769. Olive, daughter of Jacob and ——— Cram  
 Aug. 12, 1770. Benjamin, son of Jonathan and Margaret Chamberlain  
 Aug. 19, 1770. John, son of William and Isabel Carson  
 Aug. 26, 1770. Elizabeth, son of John and Elizabeth Carkin.  
 Jan. 6, 1771. Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Olive Cram, Jr.  
 Apr. 14, 1771. Gideon, son of David and Mary Cram  
 Aug. 25, 1771. Abigail, daughter of Timothy and Rachel Carleton  
 Apr. 26, 1772. Jonathan, son of Jonathan Chamberlain, Jr. and Margaret,  
 his wife.  
 May 31, 1772. Zebulon, son of Jacob and ——— Cram  
 June 21, 1772. Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and ——— Carleton  
 May 20, 1773. Asa, son of William and Isabel Carson  
 June 6, 1773. Eunice, daughter of Timothy and Rachel Carleton  
 Aug. 8, 1773. Deborah, daughter of David and Mary Cram  
 Apr. 17, 1774. John, son of Jonathan and Margaret Chamberlain, Jr.  
 May 8, 1774. Benjamin, son of Benjamin Cram, Jr. and Olive, his wife.  
 June 5, 1774. Timothy, son of Jeremiah Carleton.  
 Nov. 13, 1774. Benjamin and John Clough, sons of Benjamin and Thank-  
 ful Clough.  
 Oct. 1, 1775. Rachel, daughter of Nathan Cram  
 Oct. 18, 1778. Nathan, son of Nathan and Rachel Cram  
 Oct. 18, 1778. Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Chamber-  
 lain

## D.

- Aug. 19, 1770. Benjamin, son of Benjamin and Sarah Dutton  
 June 28, 1772. Sarah, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Dutton  
 Nov. 1, 1772. Hannah, daughter of ——— Dickerman and Bathsheba,  
 his wife.  
 July 31, 1774. Reuben, son of Benjamin and Sarah Dutton  
 Oct. 6, 1776. Jacob, son of Benjamin and Sarah Dutton  
 June 1780. Susanna, daughter of Isaac and Susanna Day  
 June, 1780. Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac and Susanna Day

## E.

- May 24, 1772. Mary Epes, daughter of Francis and Mary Epes  
 July 4, 1773. Elizabeth, daughter of Francis and Mary Epes

## F.

- Mar. 18, 1770. Panila, daughter of Andrew and Mary Fuller  
 July, 1772. Phoebe, daughter of Nathan and Esther Fisher  
 Jan. 30, 1774. Benjamin, son of Andrew and Mary Fuller  
 July 31, 1774. Esther, daughter of Nathan and Esther Fisher  
 Sept. 22, 1771. Mehitabel, daughter of Andrew and Mary Fuller  
 Oct. 18, 1778. Mary, daughter of Philip and Mary Fletcher

## G.

- Sept. 30, 1771. Mehitabel, daughter of Sewall and Phebe Goodridge  
 Jan. 20, 1771. John, son of John Susanna Gould  
 Feb. 2, 1772. Sarah, daughter of Sewall and Phebe Goodridge  
 Feb. 16, 1772. David, son of John and Susanna Gould  
 July 11, 1773. Benjamin, son of Sewall and Phebe Goodridge  
 Oct. 10, 1773. William, son of John and Susanna Gould  
 Jan. 19, 1777. Lucy, daughter of Sewall and Phebe Goodridge  
 Nov. 9, 1788. George, son of Daniel and Dorcas Gould  
 June 18, 1788. Sarah, daughter of Ebenezer Gardner  
 June 18, 1788. Sarah, wife of Ebenezer Gardner  
 June 18, 1788. Mary, daughter of Eben Gardner and Sarah, his wife  
 June 18, 1788. Henry Whittredge, son of Ebenezer Gardner  
 June 18, 1788. Daniel, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Gardner  
 June 18, 1788. Ebenezer, son of Ebenezer and Sarah Gardner  
 Nov. 14, 1779. Susanna, daughter of Daniel and Dorcas Gould  
 Nov. 14, 1779. Mehitabel, daughter of Daniel and Dorcas Gould  
 June, 1780. Sarah, daughter of John and Margaret Grant

## H.

- Oct. 16, 1768. Elijah, son of John and Hannah Hutchinson  
 June 4, 1769. Ebenezer, son of James and Deborah Hutchinson  
 June 26, 1770. Samuel, son of George and ——— Hutchinson  
 June 26, 1770. Elizabeth, daughter of George and ——— Hutchinson  
 June 26, 1770. George, son of George and ——— Hutchinson  
 June 26, 1770. Ruth, daughter of George and ——— Hutchinson  
 June 26, 1770. Sarah, daughter of James and Deborah Hutchinson  
 Aug. 19, 1770. Chase, son of Joshua and Mary Hadley  
 May 5, 1771. Umphrey, son of Joshua and Mary Hadley  
 May 19, 1771. Clark, son of George and Susanna Hutchinson

- Feb. 23, 1772. John, son of Samuel and Betty Hutchinson  
 June 28, 1772. John, son of James and ——— Hutchinson  
 July 19, 1772. Samuel, son of Samuel and Rachel Houston  
 May 23, 1773. Betty, daughter of Samuel and Betty Hutchinson  
 July 11, 1773. Ambrose, son of George and Susanna Hutchinson  
 July 11, 1773. Mary, daughter of George and Susanna Hutchinson  
 Aug. 8, 1773. Hannah, daughter of James and ——— Hutchinson  
 June 21, 1772. Daniel, son of Daniel and ——— Howe  
 May 17, 1772. Bethia, daughter of Oliver and Bethia Holmes of New  
 Boston  
 Nov. 1, 1778. Ruth, daughter of ——— Hooper and Ruth, his wife  
 Nov. 15, 1778. Huldah Bevins, daughter of Widow Deborah Hutchinson

## J.

- Mar. 26, 1769. Ephraim, son of James and Hannah Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. Lydia, daughter of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. John, son of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. Adam, son of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. Betty, daughter of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. Hannah, daughter of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1769. Mary, daughter of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Aug. 6, 1869. Lucy, daughter of Adam and Abigail Johnson  
 Nov. 7, 1773. Son of Benjamin and Jemima Jones  
 Sept. 17, 1775. Osgood and David, sons of John and Abigail Johnson, Jr.  
 May 14, 1775. Sarah and Lydia, daughters of Adam Johnson, Jr., and  
 Mary, his wife

## K.

- Apr. 23, 1769. Rachel, daughter of John and Trephina Kidder  
 May 21, 1769. Aaron, son of Jonas and Huldah Kidder  
 Mar. 31, 1771. Jonas, son of Jonas and Huldah Kidder  
 Apr. 25, 1773. Hannah, daughter of Jonas and Huldah Kidder  
 Feb. 19, 1775. David, son of Jonas and Huldah Kidder

## L.

- Aug. 25, 1771. Sarah, daughter of David and Lydia Lewis  
 Aug. 13, 1773. Bethsheba, daughter of David and Lydia Lewis  
 July 31, 1774. Lydia, daughter of David and Lydia Lewis  
 Sept. 17, 1775. Willard and Catharine, son and daughter of Phineas  
 Lund

## M.

- June 6, 1769. Samuel, son of Samuel and Elizabeth McMaster  
 June 6, 1769. James Jewett, son of Samuel and Elizabeth McMaster  
 June 6, 1769. Dan., son of Samuel and Elizabeth McMaster  
 May 6, 1770. Sarah, daughter of Joel and Phebe Manwell  
 Apr. 28, 1771. Betty, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth McMaster  
 Apr. 19, 1772. Hannah, daughter of Joel and Phebe Manwell  
 Aug. 13, 1773. Phebe, daughter of Joel and Phebe Manwell  
 Aug. 29, 1773. Deborah, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth McMaster

## O.

- Oct. 7, 1770. James, son of John and ——— Ordway

- Oct. 27, 1771. Frances Chase, daughter of John and ——— Ordway  
 Apr. 24, 1774. Amos, son of John and ——— Ordway

## P.

- Sept. 8, 1768. Mary, daughter of George and Elizabeth Parson  
 Nov. 13, 1768. Ephraim, son of Ephraim Putnam, Jr., and Lucy, his wife.  
 Nov. 26, 1769. Samuel, son of Archelaus and Abigail Putnam  
 Nov. 26, 1769. Jonathan, son of Ephraim 3d and Rachel Putnam  
 June 26, 1770. Sarah York, servant girl to Nathan and Anna Parson  
 July 8, 1770. Anna, daughter of Nathan and Anna Parson  
 Sept. 30, 1770. Daniel, son of Ephraim Putnam, Jr., and Lucy, his wife.  
 June 15, 1771. George, son of George and Elizabeth Parson  
 Aug. 11, 1771. Cornelius Grey, son of Samuel and ——— Parson  
 Oct. 20, 1771. Mary, daughter of Archelaus and Abigail Putnam  
 Jan. 10, 1773. Tabby, daughter of Nathan and Anna Parson  
 Feb. 14, 1773. Sarah, daughter of Ephraim Putnam, Jr., and Lucy, his wife.  
 Feb. 14, 1773. Mehitabel, daughter of Ephraim Putnam 3rd and Rachel his wife.  
 June 13, 1773. Bartholomew, son of George and Elizabeth Person by the Rev. Mr. Webster  
 Feb. 7, 1775. Nathan, son of Nathan and Anne Person  
 Sept. 17, 1775. A son of William Person  
 June, 1780. Benjamin, son of Samuel and Susanna Punchard

## R.

- April 16, 1769. Joseph, son of John and Mary Row  
 July 29, 1770. Hannah, daughter of Peter and Mehitabel Russell  
 May 5, 1771. Thomas, son of John and Mary Rowe  
 June 20, 1773. Mary, daughter of John and Mary Rowe  
 May 14, 1775. Joseph, son of Joseph Richard  
 Nov., 1775. Irene, daughter of Nehemiah Rand  
 Jan. 19, 1777. Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah and Mary Rand  
 June, 1780. Molly, daughter of Peter and Mehitabel Russell

## S.

- Sept. 8, 1768. Nathaniel, son of Stephen and Martha Spaulding  
 Sept. 8, 1768. Martha, daughter of Levi and Anna Spaulding  
 Jan. 1, 1769. Daniel, son of Asahel and Sarah Stiles  
 Aug. 5, 1770. Esther, daughter of Levi and Anna Spaulding  
 Sept. 30, 1770. Esther, daughter of Asael and Sarah Stiles  
 June 15, 1771. Rachel, daughter of Stephen and Martha Spaulding  
 April 2, 1772. Levi, son of Levi and Anna Spaulding  
 May 12, 1772. William, son of Samuel and Rebecca Stevens  
 June 6, 1773. Mary, daughter of Moses Stiles, Jr.  
 Jan. 30, 1774. Sarah, daughter of Asahel and Sarah Stiles  
 Jan. 7, 1775. Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Stevens and wife  
 Jan. 12, 1775. Mehitabel, daughter of Joshua Stiles and wife  
 Feb. 19, 1775. Phebe, daughter of Moses Stiles, Jr., and wife  
 Nov. 19, 1769. Abigail, daughter of John and Abigail Stephenson  
 May 27, 1770. John, son of Samuel and Rebecca Stephens

- Feb. 7, 1773. Lydia, daughter of John and Abigail Stephenson  
 Oct. 6, 1776. David, son of David and Eunice Stratton  
 Oct. 16, 1776. Mary, daughter of John and Mary Savage  
 Oct. 20, 1776. Samuel, son of Moses Stiles, Jr., and Sarah, his wife  
 Oct. 18, 1778. Rhoda, daughter of Asahel and Sarah Stiles  
 Oct. 27, 1778. Sarah, daughter of John and Abigail Stephenson  
 June, 1780. William, son of John and Mary Savage  
 June, 1780. Charity, daughter of John and Mary Savage  
 June, 1780. Dorothy, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Stevens  
 June, 1780. Rebecca, daughter of Joshua and Mehitabel Stiles

## T.

- Oct. 27, 1776. James, son of Widow Mary Thompson

## W.

- Oct. 23, 1768. Sewall, son of Joseph and Phebe Wilkins, Jr.  
 March 26, 1769. Ephraim, son of Eleazer and Hannah Woodward  
 Sept. 24, 1769. Eunice, widow of Joseph Wilkins  
 Sept. 24, 1769. Joseph, son of Widow Eunice Wilkins  
 Sept. 24, 1769. Aaron, son of George and Martha Wilson  
 Oct. 2, 1769. Hannah, daughter of Jacob Wellman, Jr., and Hannah, his wife.  
 March 11, 1770. Joseph, son of Joseph and Phebe Wilkins  
 March 24, 1771. Jacob, son of Jacob Wellman, Jr., and Hannah, his wife  
 July 21, 1771. Hannah, daughter of George and Mary Wilson  
 July 28, 1771. Cyrus, son of Amos and ——— Wilkins  
 Nov. 17, 1771. Eleazer, son of Eleazer and Hannah Woodward  
 June 14, 1772. Phebe, daughter of Joseph and Phebe Wilkins  
 July, 1772. Caleb, son of Zachariah Whiting and wife.  
 Dec. 6, 1772. David, son of Jacob Wellman, Jr., and Hannah, his wife  
 June 20, 1773. Hitty, daughter of Amos Wilkins and wife  
 June 12, 1774. Isreal, son of Eleazer and Hannah Woodward  
 June 12, 1775. Ezra, son of Joseph and Phebe Wilkins  
 Nov. 13, 1774. Eleanor Whittemore  
 Feb. 16, 1775. Samuel, son of Jacob Wellman, Jr., and Hannah, his wife  
 May 14, 1775. Rachel, daughter of Amos Wilkins  
 Sept. 29, 1776. Jeremiah, son of Joseph and Phebe Wilkins  
 Oct. 10, 1776. Ward, son of Eleazer and Hannah Woodward  
 Oct. 18, 1778. Susan, daughter of Jonathan Whittemore

## UNION LECTURE HOUSE, NORTH LYNDEBOROUGH.

In 1812 it was the custom to hold meetings at North Lyndeborough on Sundays and other days, and sometimes in the evening, for the purpose of hearing lectures and concerts. These meetings were attended by people from Lyndeborough and Francestown, New Boston and Mont Vernon. All these towns corner near North Lyndeborough, and the inhabitants of these corners were somewhat remote from the churches. Ministers were invited to come and deliver lectures, and as singing was thought much of then, concerts were given, probably by local

talent. But private houses were not very convenient for such meetings, and the subject of building a house suitable for their needs began to be agitated.\* Feb. 19, 1813, a meeting was held to see what they would do, and the following agreement was entered into:—

“We the subscribers think it of great importance to erect a house for the purpose of convening the Union or Concert Lecture somewhere between the Great bridge on the turnpike near Dea. John Smith’s in Francestown and Thomas Parker’s in New Boston on the turnpike. We further think it expedient to appoint a meeting on Friday, Feb. 26, 1813, at the house of Isaiah Parker Innholder to choose a committee and make such arrangements as shall be thought proper to carry the same into effect.”

The following names were subscribed to the agreement. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) were from Lyndeborough:—

*Thomas Boardman	*Joseph Epps, 2nd
*Daniel N. Boardman	Robert Holmes
*John Clark, 2nd	William Crombie
John Christie	*Israel Brown
*David Senter	*Aaron Whittemore
*Joseph Epps	Nathaniel Martin
Joshua Blanchard	Manley Butler
Joseph Wilson	James Ferguson
*Peter Clark, Jr.	Joseph French
*Ebenezer Hutchinson	*Osgood Hutchinson
Dole Butler	*Benj. Goodrich
*Charles Whitmarsh	

At a meeting held Mar. 1, 1813, the following was adopted:—

“Whereas the Union Lectures (so called) have been kept up in this vicinity for several months past, and as we think they have a great tendency to administer to our comfort, instruction, and edification, we are desirous to have them, and for the better accommodation for the same we think it expedient to erect a building for that purpose to stand on Mr. Ebenezer Hutchinsons land near the turnpike. Therefore we the subscribers do agree to pay the several sums affixed to our several names, in money, labor or any material that may be thought necessary for said building.

Manley Butler	Labor \$4.00	Nails \$2.00	6.00
Dole Butler	Labor and boards		5.00

\*Rev. Frank G. Clark mentions this house in his Historical Address as follows: “At the suggestion of Rev. Moses Bradford of Francestown, the ministers of that town and of Lyndeborough, New Boston and Mont Vernon agreed to establish a Wednesday Lecture at North Lyndeborough, to accommodate parts of the four towns adjoining. It was held in the afternoon every other Wednesday, and these four ministers were to preach in turn, the others as far as practicable to be present. At first it was given in private houses, then in Parker Hall. Then in 1813 a lecture house was built which was used about forty years. Out of this movement began the revival of 1812 and the neighborhood Sunday evening prayer meeting.”

Aaron Whittemore	Labor		3.00
John Clark 2nd	Labor \$8.00	Nails \$2.00	10.00
Thomas Hutchinson	Work		8.00
Nathaniel Hutchinson	Labor		4.00
William Dodge	Labor		5.00
William Crombie	16 dollars in Lumber		16.00
Daniel Clark	Labor		11.00
Nathan Fisher, Jr.	Cash \$5.00	Work \$5.00	10.00
John Stanley	Cash \$5.00	Work \$5.00	10.00

It is very evident that the above list of those who gave toward the building is not complete ; probably only the subscription of that meeting. At this meeting Ebenezer Hutchinson contributed as follows : —

The subscriber hereby promises to give the use of a certain piece of land to set the above mentioned house upon, so long as it shall be occupied for the above-mentioned use. Ebenezer Hutchinson.

The building was erected that year. It was a large, barn-like structure with an unfinished interior, and the land on which it stood is now owned by John H. Goodrich. It served the purpose for which it was built for quite a number of years, but was finally torn down and carried to Mont Vernon and erected for a barn.

#### IN CONCLUSION.

At this day it is hard to analyze the religious convictions of our forefathers. Perhaps it is useless to try. The church records of Lyndeborough are not safe guides in such an undertaking ; but that these men were sincere in their belief in and reliance on the Bible as a guide in affairs temporal and spiritual there can be no shadow of a doubt. Men and women living north and west of the mountain rode or walked three and four miles to attend divine worship. The inhabitants of "Bevins" or Perham Corner did the same. All living on the outskirts of the town traveled long distances, over wretchedly poor roads or no roads at all, to reach the meeting-house, and they did it too, through storms and snow as well as sunshine. The absence of any of the congregation for a Sunday or two was the cause of remark, and it may be added, sometimes got the absentee into trouble. These facts show the sincerity of the people in the value they placed upon church services.

In those early times ready money was very scarce and the settlers were poor. It was a hard struggle to obtain the common necessities of life for themselves and their increasing families. Luxuries were unthought of. That these men paid



as much as they did out of their meagre store of cash to build meeting-houses, and to support the church and minister, shows that they were willing to supplement their faith by work and self-denial. Believing they must watch the path their own feet trod, they also firmly believed that it was their duty to watch the pathway of their brethren lest they stumble; and being human, mistakes and misunderstandings were often magnified into something that should be taken before the church for adjustment. But this does not in the least detract from their magnificent courage and sublime faith in an immortality which made them endure privations and hardships with fortitude and without a murmur.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### ECCLESIASTICAL MATTERS, CONTINUED.

REPAIRING THE MEETING-HOUSE, BY REV. D. DONOVAN.

The meeting-house had been built about twenty-five years, and had been used both as town hall and house of worship. The population of the town had increased so that an enlargement of the accommodations was necessary, and doubtless the house needed touching up in order to freshen it and make it more attractive. The matter of repairs, therefore, began to be agitated. The town meeting of July 29, 1793, adjourned its session to Aug. 19, 1793, and chose a committee at the adjourned meeting, consisting of Dea. Putnam, Lieut. Blanchard, Lieut. Lewis and Ebenezer Gardner, to make an estimate of the matter of repairing the meeting-house. The committee reported that

“There should be twelve pews made on the lower floor, in the following places, viz., Eight where the body seats are, and One against each of the end doors, and One in each stairway; and Eight pews in the front gallery; also that there should be a porch built at the front of the meeting-house. The house was to be shingled, and painted a stone color, and the roof was to be a Spanish brown. Windows were to be made where the end doors were, new water tables made and the underpinning repaired.\*

The report was accepted by the town, and Dr. Benjamin Jones, Deacon Ephraim Putnam and Capt. Benjamin Epes were chosen a committee to effect the work; and a vote was also passed to sell the pews at public vendue the 3rd of September next at the house of Major Daniel Gould at 1 o'clock P. M.

The sale of the pews was carried out and duly recorded. But other changes were made in the plans from time to time, which render a clear and positive statement of the repairs actually made somewhat difficult. But the work was finally completed, and the report of the expenses was presented by the committee and accepted by the town, May 28, 1795. More than \$1,100 was expended on the improvements, a sum which must have considerably burdened the people when money was very scarce

\*The house was so plastered as to leave part of the large posts and the braces in view, which were whitewashed. The gallery was supported by pine pillars, rounded and whitened, the entire structure, without and within, indicating the regard of the people for their house of worship.

and war debts were still pressing. They were as loyal to their church as to their country in its time of conflict. All this, too, while efforts were put forth by Benjamin Killam and others in the southwest part of the town and Jonathan Pearson, Jr., and others in the southeast to be set off from Lyndeborough and annexed respectively to Temple and Milford.

#### FURTHER REPAIRS OF THE MEETING-HOUSE.

On Aug. 19, 1811, the town again voted to repair the meeting-house, by "building five pews in the east bannister seat, and five pews in the west bannister seat, and one pew at the east end of the east body seats, and one pew at the west end of the west body seats, reserving one half of the body seats for the use they now are for." Daniel Putnam, Esq., Nathan Wheeler, and Lieut. Oliver Perham were chosen a committee to carry this vote into effect. This committee reported Oct. 8, 1811, as follows :

"That we made a contract with Mr. Jacob Manning to build said pews at 7.99 a piece, in a workman-like manner and with good stuff, amounting to D. 95.88. He charges for making and hanging six extra seats, 1.25, total D. 97.13. We have examined the pews and are of the opinion that Mr. Manning has fulfilled his contract, and is entitled to the above sum of D. 97.13 within sixty days from this date," which is submitted by

Daniel Putnam	}	Committee
Nathan Wheeler		

Oct. 7th, 1811.

The town voted to sell the pews at vendue, and chose Nathan Wheeler, Capt. William Clark and Mr. Nehemiah Boutwell a committee to carry out the sale.

The repairs planned at this time, seem to have covered only a part of the work needed. For we find the town voting, in Sept., 1814, "to have a good ground pinning of hewed stone put under the meeting-house, the front to be twenty inches deep, and the porch and east end the same, to the door; and the back side to be one foot deep; and that there be three new door-stones." The whole cost \$123, as estimated by the committee, Daniel Putnam, Nehemiah Boutwell, and Daniel Woodward.

Still further repairs were made upon the house, three years later, when, May 5, 1818, the town voted "to put a new water court around the meetinghouse, to paint it in a decent manner, nail the clapboards well, and make some small repairs in the plastering and joists overhead." The cost at this time was estimated to be about \$155. Daniel Putnam and Nehemiah Boutwell were chosen a committee to get the work done.

These, so far as appears, were the last repairs made upon the old meeting-house built by the town, while it was used as a house of worship. In 1837, a new meeting-house, the property of the Congregational church and society was built, and the old house was used thereafter, for several years, as a town house. It was soon considered inconvenient for such purposes, but the town was slow in uniting upon any change in its interior which would improve it. A vote of the town was finally obtained, however, to build a convenient town hall; and after this was built, the old meeting-house was sold. Jacob Butler bought it, had the frame taken down, and removed to his place in the northwest part of the town, and had it set up, with some small alterations in its form, and used as a barn.

The barn is still standing (1905) and its solid, well-finished oak timbers, ingeniously and powerfully fitted together, do credit, even at this advanced day, to the townsmen and mechanics of that early time.

#### THE CARE OF THE MEETING-HOUSE.

An item of considerable importance, to be settled annually, was the care of the meeting-house. At each annual meeting, the town entrusted this essential matter to some reliable citizen. The town owned the meeting-house and the care of it was paid for out of the town funds.

In 1775, Mr. George Gould, whose house stood on the opposite side of the road, was chosen to take care of the meeting-house, his remuneration, eight shillings.

In 1786, "Voted James Boutwell nine shillings for taking care of the meeting house the year ensuing." But in 1812, the town voted, "that the care of the meetinghouse be put to the lowest bidder, the undertaker to sweep the house well and keep it clean, to clear the doors from snow in the winter, to open and shut it as often as necessary, and all to be done to the acceptance of the Selectmen." "The care of it was struck off at auction to Mr. Timothy Richardson, at two dollars and ten cents."

#### THE MEETING-HOUSE GROUNDS.

About the time of repairing the meeting-house previously described, there arose, also, on the part of many of the citizens, a desire for more commodious meeting-house grounds than those hitherto occupied. The insufficiency of the old grounds was less apparent when the population of the town was small.

But after the close of the Revolutionary War, the number of inhabitants was increasing year by year; and after costly improvements had been made upon the house of worship, it was natural enough that attention should be directed to securing more spacious grounds for its surroundings. Hence, people began to inquire what it was possible for them to do.

Some of them remembered that the original charter of Lyndeborough from the Masonian proprietors, reserved ten acres there "for public use, notwithstanding such Lott should be laid out to any particular person or persons." Therefore, at the annual meeting, March 5, 1793, Nehemiah Rand, Esq., Dr. Benjamin Jones, and Capt. Benjamin Epes, were chosen to inquire into the matter.\* They planned a conference with Major Daniel Gould, the owner of the land adjoining the meeting-house, to see if some arrangement could not be made, and the grounds specified in the charter secured.

This committee took pains to investigate the case and to confer with legal counsel; and at the next annual meeting, March 4, 1794, presented as a report, a writing from Judges Dana and Gordon, whom both Major Gould and the town had accepted as referees, and whose advice they both promised to follow.† The advice was given thus: ‡

"We the subscribers, having heard the claim of the Town of Lyndeborough to ten acres of land, part of the Lot of land on which their meeting-house stands by their committee, and the objections to the same on the part of Major Daniel Gould, at their mutual request, are of opinion that at this day, no action can be supported against the possession of said Lot, to recover possession of said ten acres; and the rule of law is, that want of right and want of remedy is the same."

Signed } Samuel Dana  
          } William Gordon

Amherst, March 23, 1794.

But the ghost was not laid. An article in the warrant for a town meeting, Nov. 16, 1795, revived the matter with great and unexpected vigor. This meeting adjourned to Dec. 7, when a committee, composed of Capt. William Dutton, Mr. John Orne and Mr. John Ordway, was chosen to examine the books, charter, and all votes respecting the ten acres, and report their opinion to the town. The meeting adjourned again to Dec. 21, 1795, and when met, heard the report of the committee; but voted not to accept it.

\* T. R. II, pp. 271, 274.

† This meeting adjourned to March 24, 1794, when the writing was presented.

‡ Id. 284.

Bearing the same date, Dec. 21, 1795, is a protest expressed as follows :

“ We the subscribers do hereby protest against the proceedings of the Town respecting their proceeding any further respecting the ten acres of land mentioned in the warrant on which the meeting is held this day, and that we will not pay one cent of the cost that may arise in consequence of their proceeding in a law-suit or any other way, for the following reasons, viz. :

1. That the said ten acres that was proposed to be given to the Town in case the Town had set the meeting-house where the proprietors determined it should be set, was lost by the town's noncompliance ;

2. That if the Town had a title to the said land and should recover the same, yet the land would not be worth enough to defray the expense of the lawsuit ; and

3. Because the town of late solemnly referred the matter, and voted to abide the report of the referees ; and the taking the matter up again in this way reflects great dishonor on the Town.

William Blaney  
Jeremiah Carleton  
Daniel Gould  
Edmond Bickford, Jr.  
James Boutwell  
Charles Whitmarsh  
Ephraim Kidder  
Samuel Chamberlain  
Jacob Dascomb  
Joseph Epes 2nd  
Joseph Hobbs  
Joseph Kidder  
Peter Clark  
Andrew Fuller

Aaron Lewis  
Benjamin Jones  
Eleazer Woodward  
Jonas Kidder  
Samuel Huston  
Thomas Farrington  
Thomas Boardman  
John Clark  
Jeremiah Brown  
Aaron Whittemore  
Edmond Bickford, and  
William Holt added his name, Jan.  
11, 1796.

The meeting adjourned again to Jan. 11, 1796. On the latter date the committee reported, that

“ It appeareth by the charter of the township a meeting house was to be built and ten acres of land reserved there for public use, . . . for a common, so long as it shall be called Lyndeborough ; and we think the charter would suffice to deposite the same ; and by the Proprietors and Town votes the ten acres for a common is to be where the meeting house now stands. Therefore we think it necessary a mediately to petition the Grantors &c. setting forth the inconvenience we labor under by the charters not being fulfilled, and remonstrate for releaf.

William Dutton }  
John Orne } Committee.  
John Ordway }

The foregoing protest was little heeded. A vote was passed to petition the proprietors, and also to request the selectmen to join in the petition and report to the town as soon as may be.

Voted, also, that the committee request Major Gould to set off the ten acres.

The proprietors were petitioned as by above vote. Major Gould had "utterly refused to set off the ten acres or any part thereof." The joint petition of the committee and selectmen of Lyndeborough, therefore, invoked the decision of the umpire. The proprietors in their meeting at Portsmouth, Feb. 22, 1796, duly considered the petition, and voted, That so far as the interest of the proprietors —

"In the ten acres of land reserved in said Lyndeborough for public uses may be, they confirm the location thereof in Lot numbered seventy, in the second division of lots, including the land where the meeting house is now placed.

Attest George Jaffrey, Proprietors' Clerk.

Not very destructive lightning this, for either party to the contest. The committee and selectmen conjoined made report of this response from the proprietors, which report was accepted, and Capt. William Dutton, Dr. Daniel Russell and Mr. John Ordway were chosen a committee to attend to the matter in whatever way they shall think best for the town, and report as soon as may be.

This new committee reported at the annual meeting, Mar. 7, 1797, and presented a plan of the ten acres reserved by charter for public use in this town, and that the same may have the incumbrances moved off and be for the use of the town according to charter, proper measures being pursued.

The annual meeting in 1798 met for its adjourned session, Mar. 12, and heard the report of the committee and accepted it. Voted to proceed with the lawsuit against Major Daniel Gould, and chose Capt. William Dutton as agent to carry it on.

A protest was again entered, in the same words as before, but by different signers, whose names follow : —

Ebenezer Gardner	Samuel Pearson
Jotham Blanchard	Benjamin Farnum
Eleazer Woodward	Edward Bullard
Benjamin Jones, Jr.	Timothy Carleton
Abiel Stickney	Oliver Holt
Jonathan Pearson, Jr.	William Holt
Timothy Pearson	Nehemiah Boutwell

A true copy, attest. Jacob Dascomb, T. Clerk.

In 1799, March 18, an effort was made to have the suit withdrawn from court, and the case once more submitted to referees. But the measure was negatived, and Capt. William Dutton was re-elected agent to carry on the suit.

Again, Sept. 30, 1800, the town voted "to further pursue the lawsuit with Major Gould, and chose Capt. Dutton, Lieut. Clark and Uriah Cram a committee to proceed according to their discretion in the matter."

But at the adjourned portion of the annual meeting of 1801, held on March 23, proposals were received from Major Gould in the following language:—

"The subscriber being apprehensive that the further continuing the long and expensive lawsuit respecting the ten acres of land, &c., will not be attended with any very advantageous circumstances either to the Town or himself, makes the following proposals to the Town, (viz.) that if the Town shall think fit to drop the action and pay their own cost—I will pay mine—and will give the Town a Deed of all the land I now claim that now lays common, with the addition of all the land there is or will lay East of the line and west of the Road. Beginning at the North-west corner of the Pound, from thence about three rods west to a stake and stones, from thence southerly to a stake supposed to be on the line between Major Gould and land of Mr. Boutwell; thence easterly on the line of said land, until it strikes the county road, the Town being at the cost of moving the wall and fencing the premises."

Lyndeborough 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1801.

Daniel Gould.

The town chose Benjamin Jones, Esq., Capt. Wm. Clark, Solomon Cram, Capt. Aaron Lewis and Ensign Oliver Perham to confer with Major Daniel Gould and consider the proposals. These were accepted by vote of the town, and Dr. Benjamin Jones, Deacon Aaron Lewis and Capt. William Clark were chosen a committee to authenticate the business and report to the town within eight days, and the meeting adjourned to the 30th inst. at 1 o'clock P. M.

On reassembling, March 30, 1801, the town voted to accept the deeds and have them recorded on the town records previous to their being recorded on the county records; and also authorized Capt. William Dutton "to take the lawsuit out of the law," after which the meeting was dissolved.

Thus ended the tedious, evidently heated and expensive dispute.

#### MINISTERIAL LANDS.

By each charter of the town, whether from Massachusetts, the Masonian proprietors or the provincial governor, Benning Wentworth, one whole right or share in the sixty-three lots, into which the town was originally divided, was reserved for the support of the ministry. This share included from two hundred and sixty to three hundred and twenty acres, and a proportional



part with the other shares in any common or undivided lands which might remain in the town. These lands at first were not very productive. But as the population of the town increased, the lands became more valuable.

In 1802 the town voted to sell all the ministerial lands in this town on the following conditions,\* viz. : —

“That if Mr. Goodridge will give the Town an acquittance of all his right and title to said premises” \* \* \* “the Town will give him one half of the interest of the money that may arise upon the sale of said lands yearly, so long as he performs the work of the ministry in said Town, and that Mr. Goodridge clear the premises of all incumbrances by any person or persons improving any of said premises, and that a committee be chosen to again wait on Mr. Goodridge and report to the Town as soon as may be.” At a subsequent meeting, on Mar. 22, 1802, this committee reported; that “Mr. Goodridge will comply with the vote of the Town at their last meeting respecting said lands” and the town voted “to sell all the ministerial lands in this town at public vendue” and “Jacob Dascomb, William Clark, & Joseph Epes, 2nd., were chosen a committee to effect the sale.”

Six lots of excellent land, containing about 360 acres, were sold at public vendue at the house of Mr. James Ordway, innholder, on Thursday, Apr. 29, 1802. The proceeds of the sale amounted to \$2,621. The committee received good security for the several sums, and for the punctual payment of the interest; and the town faithfully fulfilled their agreement with their pastor.

At the May meeting in 1805, a vote was passed that the interest of the ministerial land money be paid to the treasurer of the town, to be appropriated for the use of the town.

Presumably, the question of the right to do thus may not have been raised. They may have been embarrassed by their abundance of ministerial funds, and carelessly voted to apply them to more urgent needs of the town, as on the previous year they voted a portion of the ministerial forfeiture money “for the repairs of the meeting-house, if needed.†

Apparently, some disturbing influence intervened at this time to affect their deliberate action.

In 1806, on account of bodily infirmity, Mr. Goodridge resigned the pastorate, and the town voted him one hundred dollars, annually, toward his support during his natural life. He did not long enjoy this annual stipend; for he passed to his eternal reward on town meeting day, March 14, 1809, an event

\*Town Records, II, 409.

†T. R. III, p. 26.

on which the town clerk, Nathan Wheeler, made the following record : —\*

“After the votes for Governor were counted the melancholy news of the death of our former pastor, the Rev. Sewal Goodridge, was brought into the house by Dn. Peter Clark, upon which the town passed the following votes or resolutions,—

1. Voted unanimously to assist the bereaved family at the funeral & in burying our Reverend Pastor, Mr. Goodridge.

2. Voted to choose a committee of seven.

Chose Dn. Clark, Dn. Huston, Dn. Lewis, Dr. B. Jones, Capt. Wm. Clark, Lt. Jacob Richardson & Capt. Jonas Kidder for said Committee.

3. Voted that the Committee be instructed to bury the Rev. Mr. Goodridge in a decent, respectful & ministerial manner, to send to & request all the Ministers to attend, make provision for their entertainment, & pay all funeral charges, except the mourning garments of the family.”

The most unfeigned thanks of Mrs. Goodridge and family were presented to the town for the respect shown to the memory of her late husband and their father at the adjourned meeting, Mar. 21, 1809.†

After the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Goodridge, the church called three pastors in succession, Mr. Jesse Fisher, Rev. Abraham Randall and Rev. Jaazaniah Crosby.‡ But difficulties arose concerning each of these, and none of them was installed as pastor. The Rev. Nathaniel Merrill was next called, in 1811, and became pastor. He was ordained Oct. 30, 1811, the town having concurred with the church in both his call and ordination. The town also agreed, “provided he shall relinquish or quitclaim all right & title to all ministerial charter privileges in this Town,” to give him three hundred dollars as a settlement, payable at the expiration of one year from the time of his settlement, and four hundred and sixty dollars *per annum*, each and every year that he shall perform the work of a gospel minister in this town, payable the first of January annually.

This settlement Mr. Merrill seems to have accepted and considered “liberal for this part of the country.” The sermon at his ordination was preached by Rev. Elijah Parish, D.D., of Byfield, Mass., and at the next annual meeting the town presented him their thanks “for his ingenious discourse,” requested a copy of it for the press, and voted to get five hundred copies of the sermon, charge, and right hand of fellowship printed.

The pastorate of Mr. Merrill was both a long and successful one. Several causes, however tended to disturb its closing years. Baptist, Universalist and Christian societies sprang up

\*T. R. III, p. 136.

†T. R. III, p. 139.

‡T. R., III, pp. 96, 142, 174.

during his ministry, and doubtless bore their part in causing some disturbance. But some people who were not connected with either of these expressed dissent from his preaching and refused to be taxed for his support. About that time, also, the legislature passed an act permitting dissenters from the ministry of any church to pay their ministerial taxes toward the support of any regular minister whom they preferred. By this act they were relieved from being taxed to support preaching with which they had little or no sympathy.

These incidents lead us by no very long road to another point from which to view "the ministerial fund." The Congregational Church, the first in town, and so long as it remained the only one, had sole and unquestioned right to the use of that fund. The land was undoubtedly granted for the support of the ministry in accordance with the narrow view of the ministry held by Massachusetts, the original grantor. Was it, therefore, necessary that New Hampshire, always less bigoted, should be cramped by her example and precedent? When other religious bodies sprang up in town, was the Congregational Church still to be the sole recipient of the ministerial benefice? For a brief period it enjoyed this advantage. But, in process of time, three other bodies were organized in town, and were these to be utterly excluded from any share in this fund? Obviously not, according to their opinion and purpose. Relieved by a law of the state from being taxed to support a ministry from which they dissented, were they not entitled to share with others in the public funds of the town set apart for the preaching of the Gospel? They assumed the affirmative of this question, and petitioned the town for a share of it.

In 1830, the warrant for the annual meeting makes first mention of the Baptist denomination as an applicant for a proportional part of the interest of the ministerial fund.\* To this application there was added a P. S. which requested that "all the religious denominations might have a share of the interest in proportion to their taxes. The town voted "to dismiss the article."

In 1831, the different denominations do not appear as such on the records.

But in 1832, the Baptist society repeated their application, and were treated as before.† In response to another repetition of their request for a division of the interest of the ministerial

\*T. R. IV, pp. 103 and 106.

† T. R. IV, p. 155.

fund at the annual meeting in 1833, the town voted "not to divide the interest of the ministerial fund."\* On the 10th of April following, the town voted to give "the whole of the ministerial fund so called" to "the First Congregational Orthodox Society," with the exception of twenty-five dollars which was to be paid annually to the Baptist society, upon similar conditions and restrictions to those required of the Congregational body. The latter, however, might according to vote, "retain said fund Ninety-nine years." "Yeas 67, Nays 58."

Again in 1834, a petition was presented requesting a division of the ministerial interest money between the different religious denominations in proportion to their several valuations, provided they expend the same for preaching within the limits of the town. This petition was signed by,

Jonathan Putnam	Samuel Hartshorn
Ephraim H. Putnam	John Hartshorn 2nd
Ephraim Putnam 2nd	William Perham
Eli ezer Putnam	Andrew Harwood
Jonathan Putnam Jr.	Asa Blanchard
Israel Putnam	Daniel Blanchard
Thomas Bradford	James Pearson
Albert Hardy	David K. Holt
Solomon Cram	David Perham
Joseph Cram	John Carson
Daniel Cram	Joshua Baldwin
Henry Cram	James L. Clark
James Cram 2nd	

In response to this request, the town voted to divide the interest of the ministerial fund between the several religious denominations in this town, agreeable to a petition." †

Nov. 28, 1834, after granting the above petition, the town voted to revoke the action of April 10, 1833, which gave the entire fund, except \$25 annually, to the "Congregational Orthodox Society," ‡ for ninety-nine years.

On Sept. 1, 1835, voted to raise a committee of nine, § "to hear proposals for a compromise with the First Congregational Orthodox Society" respecting this fund. The committee chosen were Edmond Perkins, Daniel Putnam, James Cram, 2nd., Jonathan Putnam, Jr., Thomas Kidder, Joseph Chamberlain, Benjamin Jones, Israel H. Goodridge, and Oliver Whiting. At an adjourned meeting of the town, on Sept. 5, this committee reported,

\* T. R. IV, pp. 189 and 190.

† T. R. IV, p. 209.

‡ T. R. IV, p. 220.

§ T. R. IV, p. 246.

"That said Society propose that they will give Bonds by an authorized committee to restore the funds in question to the town Treasury with all the interest after December next, as soon as a tax shall be raised and assessed by legal vote on the polls and estates in said town to defray the debts and charges of said Town, whose proportion on residents shall be nearly equal to the fund, and that said town shall vote to distribute said funds among the inhabitants of all denominations in said town in proportion to their ratable valuation." \* And your committee recommend the adoption of the above terms.

Edmond Perkins, for the Committee

The Society's Committee acquiesce in this report.

N. Boutwell, for said Committee.

On the same day the "Bond" embodying these specifications was given and signed by the Committee of the First Congregational Orthodox Society.

Nehemiah Boutwell

Joseph Jones

David Woodward

The whole proceeding was duly recorded by Israel Herrick, town clerk. †

In accordance with this action of the town and societies in Sept., 1835, it was voted at the annual meeting, March 8, 1836,

‡ "That the ministerial fund be distributed to each town-inhabitant in proportion to his poll and estate by orders drawn on the Treasurer by the Selectmen at their discretion."

This seems to have been acceptable to all parties interested in the ministerial fund.

When the matter was first broached of giving to those who differed in "religious sentiments" from Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, their equal proportion of the interest of the public ministerial fund, in 1821, the idea seemed somewhat novel; and the town voted very wisely, to refer it to the selectmen, to act agreeable to the charter. It began, then, to be common for the selectmen to receive such notices as follows: "This may certify that I differ in religious opinion from the Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, and object to you or your successors in office hereafter taxing my poll or estate towards the support of preaching in this town." § These shafts seemed to be pointed at the person, Mr. Merrill, rather than at the principle, which of course he represented. The records indicate, first, a reluctance of the town towards dividing the ministerial fund; then, later, a disposition to make some concession in regard to it; and finally, a vote to grant fully the petition of those dissenting in religious views and sentiments from the majority.

\* T. R. IV. p. 247.

† T. R. IV. pp. 251 and 252.

‡ T. R. IV. p. 263.

§ Invoice Book 1809-1822. Last written page.

When men began to take advantage of the law which permitted them to pay their ministerial taxes towards the support of any minister in town, whom they preferred, an inquiry in the warrant for town meeting, May 17, 1819, "to see whether the town will exempt any persons from paying toward the support of the Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, the present year," was answered by a vote of the town, "that the Selectmen exempt all those persons" from paying to his support, "who are exempt by law."

#### DISTINCTION BETWEEN CHURCH AND TOWN.

In the year 1819,\* two members of the Congregational church had for some cause been excommunicated, and felt aggrieved and wronged by the action of both church and pastor. They attempted to get the proceedings of the church, in their case, reviewed, but failed to elicit any response in regard to the matter, from either pastor or people. They then sought to call a council, either mutual or *ex parte*, but in this both pastor and church treated them with the same disregard as before.

They next petitioned the selectmen to call a town meeting. This was done, and the meeting so far sympathized with their wish as to vote to join with them in calling a council. The day was set for the meeting. Letters of invitation had been sent to divines in Massachusetts as well as to some in neighboring parishes.

But another town meeting was called to review the action of the last one. By this a committee was chosen to ascertain what expense had been thus far incurred in regard to the proposed council. The committee reported that "the bills were so various and scattering," that it was difficult to ascertain what sums had been expended. But as the expenses were probably increasing, they thought it "advisable for the town to take measures to prevent their growing to a larger sum."

At this report the meeting grew noisy and disorderly, and the town clerk, Daniel Putnam, Esq., adjourned the meeting, and left his seat. But on the persuasion of some friends he resumed his place; order was restored, and the meeting passed the following votes:

1. To dismiss the committee chosen at the last Town-meeting from any further duties in their office; and
2. To choose a committee to inform those invited to attend an *ex parte* council, that the town has no business to lay before them."

\* T. R. III, p. 284.

It is little to be wondered at, that the aggrieved party should think the town entitled to interfere in their case. So intimate had been the connexion between the town and the church that the boundaries separating them were not clearly and unmistakably perceived by the citizen of only ordinary intelligence. The town had built the meeting-house, was taxed for its maintenance and support, for the salary of its pastor, and had the supervision and trusteeship of its ministerial lands and of the income derived from them. Why should not the town interpose if one of its taxable inhabitants feels himself wronged by the acts of church and pastor? Why not join with an aggrieved person in calling a council to act as an impartial arbiter in the difficulty? The question may be more easily presented than decided, among those trained under a practical union of church and state. It was fortunate for the town that at that juncture, she had some citizens who perceived that the town as such, had no proper right or authority to meddle with the internal affairs of the church; and that those citizens extricated themselves and all concerned, so speedily and effectually from a disagreeable and perhaps protracted ecclesiastical tangle, by informing those who had been invited to attend a council, that "the town had no business to lay before them." The knot was cut, and the ends were allowed to straighten of their own accord.

#### SETTLING ACCOUNTS WITH PASTOR.

The depreciation of the national currency in war time, as well as the disturbance connected with the agitation in the northwest part of the town, complicated the situation very considerably for the pastor, Rev. Sewell Goodridge, and added both to his work and worry. There were two points on which he seemed to expect somewhat more in the way of pecuniary consideration; namely, his loss by depreciation of currency, and also his extra labors in that part of Lyndeborough which was in a turmoil to be incorporated as Greenfield. His people felt that they were common sufferers in the depreciation; and they understood that he had consented with them to render freely his service to that portion of his flock living in the northwest of the town, bearing with the inconveniences which resulted from the truce on which they had agreed. A settlement was effected in 1793, the record of which need not be spread here. The differences of view, through mutual kindness and forbearance, were measurably harmonized and a full and satisfactory conclusion reached, while

mutual friendship and respect were preserved and became permanent.

#### CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

Most of the people in those days were accustomed to attending church. On Sunday mornings the roads would be filled with people on their way to the sanctuary, and the church used often to be filled to overflowing.

Such a condition of things reflects dishonor on our own times of disregard for church attendance, and devotion to debasing worldly pleasures on the sacred day. In some important respects, at least, "the former days were better than these."







BAPTIST CHURCH.  
SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH.

## CHAPTER XV.

### HISTORY OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

BY REV. D. DONOVAN, PASTOR.

The formation of a generally accepted church of Christ in a community is often a matter of great and far-reaching import. A sketch of such a body which has existed even three-fourths of a century will hardly seem,

“As idle as a painted ship  
Upon a painted ocean.”

The successors of those who organized it will regard the record as a memorial of the consecration of its founders, and may be incited by the story to imitate their virtues.

There are rumors that Baptist notions or opinions infected the pure minds of even some of the pioneers of Lyndeborough. But, it will never answer to found a history on mere rumor. Positive diversity of religious sentiment manifested itself unmistakably in 1818. About the year 1819, a law was enacted which excused men from taxation for the support of preaching with which they were out of sympathy. They were taxed still, but allowed to pay their taxes for the support of the ministry wherever they preferred. Upon notifying the selectmen of their preference, they could be excused from taxation to support the regular ministry of the town, as it was then considered. In accordance with the above law, we find on the tax book for 1819, the statement :

“The following persons have produced certificates from ‘The Baptist Society,’ that they are regular members of the same, and are therefore exempt by law from paying toward the support of Rev. Nathaniel Merrill; viz: Samuel Pearson, Samuel Hartshorn, John Wellman, Jr., Jacob Fliun, Israel Burnham, Parker Burnham, Eli Holt, Moses Pearson, William Richardson, Jr., Solomon Cram, Samuel Ellingwood, Ira S. Ellingwood, Levi Curtis.”

Twenty-nine other names are recorded as exempt from taxation for the support of Mr. Merrill on account of their religious sentiment; and in 1821, twenty-eight were “excused from Minister Tax.”

The following year another name was added to the last list, and David Putnam was excused from paying minister tax, “on account of being a Baptist.”

The lists here referred to are by no means irrelevant to our sketch. The statements which accompany them indicate the existence of a Baptist society ten years before the organization of this church, and point to the presence of one man who was known as a Baptist seven years before its recognition. Some of the names which appear on those lists were, at a later day, inscribed on the roll of the Baptist church.

The first Baptist preaching in town which resulted in conversions was that of Rev. Joseph Elliott of Mason. He held services in the dwelling of Mr. Moses Pearson in 1825, when the audience filled the house, and overflowed to seats under the noble elms in the front yard. Mr. Pearson's children, William and Susan, became converts and were baptized in the Rocky River, west of the house. So far as known, they were the first persons baptized in that stream. They united with the Baptist church in Wilton.

Occasional services were continued, Caleb Brown, Bela Wilcox, and Mr. Elliott sharing in them. Soon a subscription was circulated for the support of preaching, and the money raised was expended in the various school districts in proportion to the sums which each paid. Thus the people maintained preaching as they could for a few years. Rev. Simeon Fletcher of Wilton was for a few months their stated supply about that time.

Finally, Dec. 10, 1829, a council, consisting of pastors and delegates from the churches in Milford, Wilton, New Boston and Hillsborough, was convened to recognize this church, if thought proper. The council met at the residence of Daniel Putnam, Esq., now the parsonage. The Rev. Charles Cummings of Hillsboro' was chosen moderator, and Rev. Caleb Brown, of Wilton, clerk. David Putnam and Daniel Cram were chosen by the proposed church as its representatives, and the former had been chosen deacon provided the council should decide on recognition. The council decided "to constitute them into a distinct church." Recognition services were held in the school house, and some of the parts were assigned as follows: Sermon, Rev. Samuel Everett, Milford; Hand of Fellowship, Rev. John Atwood, New Boston; charge to the church, Rev. Charles Cummings of Hillsboro. Fifteen of the members came from the church in Wilton, viz.: Moses and Susanna Pearson, David and Tryphena Putnam, Job and Betsey Swington, Elijah and Alice Upton, Daniel and Rhoda Cram, Benjamin and Abigail Holt, Abigail Ellingwood, Joseph

Marshall, and Ebenezer Gardner. Six others came from the church in Milford; viz: Samuel and Abigail Persons, John and Betsey Wellman, and Micah and Hannah Hartshorn.

These founders of the church were, at least, people of average intelligence, actuated by their convictions of duty, and ready to make sacrifices, if necessary, to carry them out. To this end, they wrought and taught, not factiously, but with manifest piety and sincerity.

Their meetings were held for a time in the school-house. Prosperity attended them. Congregations increased, and at times were larger than the house could hold. Then in the warm weather, they would meet in the grove back of the school house, and arrange temporary seats, while many would sit around on the rocks. Mr. Cummings became their first pastor. He was a man of stentorian voice who could easily be heard over on the road to Wilton, and awaked the echoes. He was an agent of the Domestic Missionary Society, and "was instrumental in organizing churches in Keene, Swanzey, Marlboro, Peterboro, Hillsboro, Lyndeboro, and Antrim."\*

Their success is thought to have awakened envy, so that when wishing to hold a meeting at one time, the school-house key could not be obtained, or "found" as it was said. This was taken as a practical refusal of the use of the house. At that time Mr. Ebenezer Pearson opened his house for their meetings through the winter, and they laid their plans to build a meeting-house. This was in the winter of 1831.

Having decided to build, popular opinion was somewhat divided as to the best place for the house. Some favored the center of the town, some Johnson's corner, and some Putnam Corner, now South Lyndeborough. Deacon David Putnam and other prominent citizens strongly favored the latter place, and thought more help could be obtained for building here than elsewhere. It was decided to test this opinion, and contributors to the enterprise were requested to express their preference for the place. The heaviest subscriptions came from those who preferred South Lyndeborough, and this settled the question, and work was at once begun here.

In aid of it Mr. Ephraim Putnam, 2nd, though a Universalist in sentiment, gave them the lot on which to build, and he, together with Deacon Putnam, cut and drew the first timber from his own woods. Miss Sarah Stephenson gave twenty-five stand-

\* Child's Gaz. of Cheshire County, p. 404.

ing trees from her wood lot. Others gave labor in cutting the trees into logs and drawing them to the mill. Captain Israel Putnam gave a part of the sawing. Deacon Smith of Wilton made the frame. The raising, of course, was a matter of unusual importance. The subject of temperance had then received little attention; hence, among the incidental expenses was a little bill for two and a half gallons of rum with the molasses needed to make it palatable, indispensable at raisings in those days. The raisers partook somewhat of the spirit of the times.

The house was duly covered, and the inside work was done by Josiah Wheeler of Lyndeborough. The ladies subscribed money and secured the pulpit, but funds for the building of the pews were wanting, and planed seats were used for a few years to take their place. Finally, Deacon Putnam and Franklin Hadley hired the pews built and became jointly responsible for the expense of them.

Thus the house was finished. It stood in the northeast angle formed where the road from South Lyndeborough to Temple is crossed by the Forest road. The exact spot is very near where the railroad from Wilton crosses the Temple road, in front of the railroad station. The house was dedicated Oct. 8, 1836, Rev. Dura D. Pratt of Nashua preaching the sermon.

The people were not able to support a regular pastor. They obtained supplies for their pulpit as they were able. The Rev. Leonard Kimball supplied them eleven Sundays in 1836. The Rev. John Atwood of New Boston served them at different times as stated supply, in periods varying from a few months to two or three years. He seems to have baptized some of the first converts received by the church. One of these was David Burroughs, who was licensed by this church and spent sixty-five years in the ministry. Rev. John Woodbury was pastor in 1838, Joshua Currier in 1839 and Joseph Sargent in 1840.

Others who supplied in the early years of the church's existence a few weeks or months, as the case might be, were Miles Bronson, afterwards a missionary in Assam, W. B. Kelley, George Daland, Joseph Davis, S. C. Pratt, Willard Glover, Henry Archibald, Frederick Page, Joseph C. Foster, late associate editor of "The Watchman," W. C. Richards, M. L. Bickford, Phineas Richardson, Amzi Jones and John Atwood.

The labors of these men were blessed, for in the ten years

after the organization of the church about forty new members were received.

#### TRIALS.

In 1840, serious troubles arose. Cases of discipline occurred. Some members were excluded, some dropped, and some were dismissed to unite elsewhere. Soon after this, Rev. John Atwood again became their stated supply, serving two or more years. About that time G. W. Hutchinson, a preacher of the Christian order appeared on the scene. He was wonderfully successful. Some of the Baptists, both men and women alike, were captivated by him. They united with the church which he organized, and thus the Baptist membership was diminished in numbers and in ability to maintain preaching. Naturally enough, they were discouraged. Moreover, some members of the Baptist society seemed ready to hand over to this new body the property of the church. The new body was given the use of the meeting-house at a merely nominal cost. But this was not enough. They began to assume, at least, *quasi* ownership of it. Thus the matter stood for a time. The Baptists were doubtless annoyed and uneasy, but were tolerably quiet. Mr. Hutchinson was in the place a few years and won quite a following. But one fine morning he was missing and could not be found. He had vacated his apartments and forsaken his flock in the night, and, as a consequence, his church suffered a fatal collapse. That his entire course injured the Baptist church will be readily assumed and promptly conceded.

#### SURVIVAL.

The church, though greatly weakened, did not see fit to disband or die. It made an attempt at recovery. Like a tempest-tossed, badly lurching ship, with twisted rigging and torn canvas and diminished crew, the old church shifted ballast, righted position, and turned her prow once more toward the sunlight and the desired haven. This occurred in the year 1849.

Early in 1850, the church called Rev. D. P. French, one of her own licentiates, as her pastor. He gathered the scattered flock and received some new accessions, but remained with them only a year. He left them, however, in much better condition than he found them.

For about three years, again, Rev. John Atwood became stated supply. He is kindly remembered for his good services to the church. In 1854 the church invited Mr. E. J. Emery to

their pastorate. He was here ordained, received several new members, and remained with them about three years, the longest continuous service up to that time.

The Rev. T. Clarkson Russell preached several weeks in 1858, and is pleasantly remembered. A call was that year extended to Rev. Joseph B. Mitchell of Guilford, Vermont. He accepted, and in his brief pastorate of about two years, received a goodly number of new members, one of whom has served as both deacon and clerk for many years. The labors of Rev. John Peacock of Amherst followed for several months and were fruitful in adding seventeen new members to the church.

From 1861 to 1864 Rev. Asaph Merriam, an aged, devoted servant of God, served as stated supply. From that time to 1870, the desk was supplied mainly by students from the Newton Theological Institution, among whom were J. H. Gannett, Joseph Pollard, Isaiah Record, and later, George T. Raymond and Asa L. Lane.

The next regular pastor, E. J. Whittemore, came to the church in 1871, received several additions to the membership and resigned in 1873.

The Rev. E. H. Watrous was next called, but failing to find a suitable residence in the place, he felt compelled to decline the call.

The Rev. David Gage then supplied for a time, encouraged the people much, and urged them to try to secure a parsonage. This they did at a cost of \$1,500. About this time the railroad came through the place, the glass factory was in operation, and the population was larger, and there was more money in circulation than there had been in previous years or than there has been since.

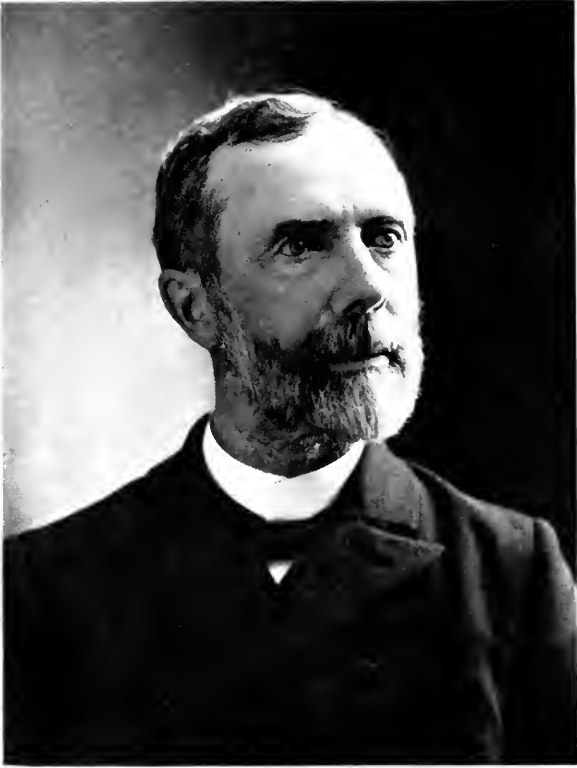
That year, 1874, Rev. S. B. Macomber settled with the people as pastor. He received a number of new members; but closed his labors with the church in about two years.

The Rev. William R. Warner became his successor in 1876. The committee of the Young Men's Christian Association assisted him in a revival effort which resulted in the largest accession ever received in a single year. Twenty-nine were baptized and eight were received by letter. Mr. Warner remained with the church only about two years.

Rev. H. G. Hubbard, a faithful man and a sound evangelical preacher, succeeded Mr. Warner. Mr. Hubbard's work for the church, as expressed by his son, "consisted largely of







*D Donovan, Pastor.  
Bapt. Church.  
South Lyndeborough.*

pruning and weeding out a growth too rank and unfruitful." He continued with them about four years."

Soon after his departure Rev. Gaylord B. Smith accepted a call. During his pastorate the young people gave entertainments to raise money for building a vestry. Sixty-five dollars were secured and placed at interest. Mr. Smith was much esteemed by the community. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was chosen chaplain of Harvey Holt Post, No. 15. He was chosen town representative to the General Court. He closed his labors early in 1886, having accepted a call to Jamestown, R. I. He died Feb. 4, 1905, at East Wrentham, Mass.

For a few weeks afterwards, Rev. D. M. Cleveland, missionary of the Baptist State Convention, labored here. A general interest was awakened, and some hopeful conversions followed.

In April, 1886, Rev. D. Donovan, after preaching for a few Sundays, accepted a call and commenced labor with the church in July, and is still pastor, through the grace of God and favor of the people. There have been no great accessions to the church. Many of our faithful and devoted members have been called up higher.

#### A BRANCH CHURCH.

This church organized a branch in Greenfield in 1839. It numbered nine members, and continued its operations there about three years. But in the trying period before mentioned, the members of that body, at their own request, were again received into the parent church. It doubtless seemed wiser then for all to unite and work together.

#### LICENTIATES.

The first person licensed by the church was also the first baptized into its fellowship, after its organization, that was David Burroughs, a native of Lyndeborough. He was ordained in Plymouth, Vt., in 1834, and after serving in various pastorates in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, removed into the state of New York. He died at Painted Post, N. Y., Aug. 30, 1898, after a service of 64 years in the ministry.

David P. French, also a native of Lyndeborough, and first a member of the Congregational Church at the centre, was the next. He became a Baptist while a student at Oberlin College, Ohio, and was received by letter from the Baptist church in

Columbia, Ohio, 1837. He was licensed in 1838, and twelve years later, rendered this church excellent service as pastor for one year. He died in Nashville, Illinois, April 29, 1886.

Third among these was Jason Putnam, eldest son of Deacon Putnam. He was licensed in 1838, was considered a young man of great promise and was pursuing a course of ministerial study. He died deeply lamented, at the age of twenty-three.

A fourth was Charles Wilder of Peterboro, whose name was on record as supplying the desk about 20 years before. His license bears date of March, 1890. He rendered friendly and gratuitous assistance, not only to his own, but also to other pastors, both of his own and other denominations in the county. He died July 26, 1900, at his home in Peterborough, having made a generous bequest to the church.

The last who was licensed to preach by the church is W. N. Donovan, Aug. 6, 1893. He was ordained in South Lyndeborough, Nov. 3, 1898. He is assistant professor of Biblical Interpretation, Old Testament, in Newton Theological Institution, Newton Centre, Mass.

#### REVIVALS.

The church has enjoyed three seasons of special revival. The first came in 1835, when nineteen members were received by baptism. The second was in 1861, when under the labors of Rev. John Peacock seventeen were added to the membership. The third and greatest was in 1876, when the Rev. William R. Warner baptized twenty-nine, and received eight others by letter.

#### DEACONS.

Those who served the church as its deacons were David Putnam, the first person selected for that office, who served two different periods; others who held the office in the order named were Samuel Hartshorn, Jr., Nathan Barnes, John Hartshorn, David Putnam, Jr., and Samuel S. Cummings. At his first election, the latter declined the office; but several years after he was again chosen and served till his death. David Putnam, Jr., who now holds the office, has rendered the longest service, since Jan. 31, 1873, and "won a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."

#### CLERKS.

The clerks have been Daniel Cram, David Putnam, Thomas Kidder, John Hartshorn and David Putnam, Jr., who has also rendered the longest service as clerk.

## THE CHURCH'S CHARACTER AND STANDING.

Though the church has never been financially strong, it is faithful to its pecuniary obligations, and usually prompt in meeting its current expenses. It is free from debt, united and benevolent, and occupies a good vantage ground for spiritual work. Under divine guidance and blessing it has a prospect of much usefulness.

## AID FROM STATE CONVENTION.

In its early years the church relied mainly on its own resources for the support of preaching. The Rev. John Woodbury became pastor in 1838 and the State Convention aided in his support. He remained with the church but one year. They seem not to have received aid again until Rev. E. J. Whittemore became pastor in 1871, and from that time on they continued to receive aid until 1888. Then, through the liberality of the members in general, and the special assistance of brother Charles Wilder, the church again returned to the plan of self-support, a return in no way distasteful. Mr. Wilder at his death left a generous bequest to the church. Pending the settlement of his estate, the church has again received generous assistance from the Baptist State Convention.

## REPAIRS OF CHURCH EDIFICE.

It will be remembered that the meeting-house was dedicated in 1836. From that time till 1863, hardly anything had been done to it to improve its condition. It stood on the plot now occupied by the railroad station, but so close to the highway which runs east and west that sometimes careless teamsters defaced it with their carts.

In 1863 J. H. Tarbell, Esq., gave the church in exchange for that lot the one on which their meeting-house now stands and further, assisted them in moving the building. The change was an advantage, the house was slightly raised upon good underpinning, nice stone steps were placed at the entrance, and its whole appearance much improved.

A few years later Rev. Joseph Pollard, who had supplied the desk for several weeks, offered the church \$200 if they would raise a like sum and expend it in repairs. The offer was thankfully accepted and a ladies' circle was formed and commenced collecting funds. Their enthusiasm infected others, who assisted liberally. Mr. Luther Cram gave lumber for the belfry and E. B. Badger, Esq., a summer visitor at the time, gave the

fine vane to surmount it. The work proceeded slowly, however, as the funds could be obtained. Mr. J. H. Tarbell and son gave the bell, and when the repairs were all finished it was found that \$1,700 had been expended, largely called forth by brother Pollard's generous offer.

Owing, however, to this esteemed brother's protracted sickness and lamented death about that time, the church accepted but one hundred dollars of the money. They hold his memory in affectionate and grateful remembrance.

Again, in 1887, quite a complete alteration was made in the interior of the house. The gallery was removed, and the entry which was under it was included in the audience room, though the seatings were not increased. A porch was added in 1888, and the next year Mr. J. H. Tarbell had the spire built at his own expense. He also bequeathed the church three hundred dollars for the erection of a vestry under the main building. To this sum Mrs. E. C. Tarbell and her son, Walter S., added each one hundred dollars, and in 1891 the work of building the vestry commenced. The church was raised six feet above its old foundation and the work advanced as far as the funds would permit. To avoid a debt, only a ladies' room was finished at first, and for three or four years our midweek meetings were held in this. But in January, 1897, the whole was completed, and the entire cost of improvements since 1887 must have been somewhat in excess of two thousand dollars.

#### THE OWNERSHIP OF HOUSE DOUBTED.

Doubts have sometimes been expressed by outside parties whether the meeting-house was a Baptist or a union house. The doubt probably arose from the peculiar situations in which the church organization has a few times been placed. A statement in regard to these will not here be out of place.

Soon after the erection of the house, the Universalists in the vicinity secured a pastor to preach for them alternate Sundays for a year. The hall in which they held their services was uncomfortably warm in summer, and hence they sought the privilege of using the house a share of the time when it was not needed by the church. This privilege was cheerfully granted. It was only a fitting courtesy, for the Universalists as individuals had liberally assisted in building it. But as is frequently said of dwellings, "no house was ever yet large enough for two families," so it may as truly be said, perhaps, that no meeting-

house was ever built capable of satisfying two diverse church organizations or denominations. There was some friction in consequence of the arrangement. Very likely some people may have thought the house a union house, and some others may have wished it so. Sometimes it is an easy step to assume as a right what is granted as a courtesy. Doubtless there was a conflict of beliefs as well as of economic interests; and so there was more or less contention as to the real proprietorship.

In 1845, also, after the organization of the so-called Christian church, some of its adherents assumed a similar right to the use of the house. A number of these were members of the First Baptist society, and had a voice in permitting the church property then in their custody to be used according to their preference or whim. They seemed to exercise their power perversely, for they let the house to the Christian body one-half of the time, and twelve pews all of the time for a sum little more than sufficient to pay the hire of the sexton. In this manœuvring the Baptists either had their hands tied, or decided to let matters temporarily alone.

At a still later day members of the Baptist society who had little sympathy with the church, made an attempt to buy and get control of a majority of the pews, with the idea of permitting any denomination which they chose to favor at the time the use of it. This scheme was also frustrated, as they thought, through Divine favor and sagacious leadership. They have, thus, managed and controlled their house from the first, and with full right, as may appear from the original subscription paper circulated for building it. A copy of this follows:—

“Lyndeborough Feb. 20, 1832.

We the subscribers agree to pay to the Committee of the First Baptist Church & Society in Lyndeborough such sums of money & other articles as are hereinafter affixed to our names respectively, to be used & expended by said Committee for the purpose of erecting a convenient meeting-house for the sole use and behoof of the First Baptist Church in said Lyndeborough forever; said house to be located on the new road near Mr. Ebenezer Pearsons', hereby binding ourselves, our heirs, executors & assigns to the faithful fulfillment of the same; In witness whereof we hereunto set our names & subscribe the following sums.”

The names which follow are those of persons prominent in the community, who knew what they wanted and stated their purpose clearly and unmistakably. There was no simulation or duplicity in their language. Throughout their course they seem to have

quietly held to their legal right to their own house as exclusive and indefeasible.

#### THE FIRST BAPTIST SOCIETY.

The charters of the town all made provision for the support of the ministry. The minister was to be Orthodox, and all taxable inhabitants were assessed for his support, however they might differ from him in religious belief, and were required to pay their rates. But about the year 1819 a law was enacted which permitted every man to pay his minister rate for the support of any minister whom he chose. They must, however, notify the selectmen of their purpose in order to be excused from the accustomed tax. (See p. 294.)

In accordance with the above law, we find on the Lyndeborough tax-book for 1819 the statement: "The following persons have produced their certificates from the Baptist Society that they are regular members of the same, and are therefore exempt by law from paying toward the support of Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, viz., Samuel Pearson, Samuel Hartshorn, John Wellman, Jr., Jacob Flinn, Israel Burnham, Parker Burnham, Eli Holt, Moses Pearson, William Richardson, Jr., Solomon Cram, Samuel Elingwood, Ira S. Elingwood, Levi Curtis."

This, we take it, indicates clearly that a Baptist society, sufficient for legal requirements, existed at the time named. This society seems to have supported preaching in some of the school districts of the town a number of years before making any effort to form a church. In the "Farmer's Cabinet" for April 23, 1831, may be found the following:—

#### NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN, that we, MOSES PERSONS, SAMUEL HARTSHORN, DAVID PUTMAN and our associates have formed ourselves into a Society to be known by the name of the FIRST BAPTIST SOCIETY IN LYNDEBOROUGH, agreeably to an act of the Legislature, passed July 3, 1827.

SAMUEL HARTSHORN, *Clerk.*

*Lyndeborough, Mar. 29, 1831.*

The society assisted greatly in building the meeting-house, and continued its work for about thirty years. The names of many citizens in this part of the town are enrolled among its members, and by its system of legal requirements it rendered important service to the church in its business and finances.



## ITS SUCCESSORS.

In August, 1873, it seemed necessary to form a new society, to have charge of the parsonage and provide for other necessities. This society was constituted wholly of the church members, and was consequently smaller than the old organization. It has had the advantage, however, of having greater unity and no less efficiency than the former. This organization in 1897 transferred its responsibility to the church and adjourned *sine die*.

## LADIES' SOCIETIES.

In 1836, a young ladies' society was formed to raise funds for the support of preaching. It was called the "Young Ladies' Dorcas Society," and at one time numbered about thirty members. The president was Miss Submit R. Pearsons, and the secretary, Miss Susanna B. Putnam. This society assisted greatly the object for which it was formed. But in the trying time of the Elder Hutchinson movement, it became extinct.

## THE LADIES' CIRCLE.

The present "Ladies' Circle" sprang into existence when the first repairs on the church were contemplated in 1863. Mrs. Susanna P. Hartshorn and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mariette D. Putnam, were prime movers in organizing it, and at that time nearly every family in the place was represented in its membership. It still continues its work of procuring funds in various ways to assist the church wherever the need is greatest. Their success on the occasion of the celebration of the centennial anniversary of The Lafayette Artillery Co., Sept. 9, 1904, gave them fresh inspiration for continuing their good work. The last premium paid for the renewal of the insurance on the church edifice came largely from their treasury.

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday school grew up along with the church. In 1835, it reported sixty-five pupils and seven teachers, with Deacon David Putnam as superintendent. In 1863, John Hartshorn was superintendent, and there were forty-three scholars and six teachers reported. In 1876 more than 100 scholars were reported, and for more than ten years after that the attendance remained the same. It was prosperous for several years under the superintendence of Mr. L. P. Jenson, and still continues

active, though in late years, its number has considerably decreased, due in part to the decrease of population in the place. It has a library of more than five hundred volumes, many of which are well adapted for Sunday schools. The Sunday school library, we think, has been used less since the founding of our town's public library.

#### BENEFACTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHURCH.

The church has received many tokens of regard, not only from its own members, but also from others who at various times became interested in its success. One of the first favors from people out-of-town was a nice Bible and five dollars in money from Mrs. Farwell of Cambridge, Mass. Mr. E. B. Badger of Boston gave forty dollars on the first repairs of the meeting-house, and also gave the handsome table and rich communion service. He further gave one hundred dollars towards payment for the parsonage, and the once fine weather vane which now surmounts our church spire. On the occasion of our reunion, in 1887, he kindly forwarded to the church his check for twenty-five dollars. Thus, for many years has he shown interest, awakened first while a summer visitor in the homes of some of its members. Matthew Bolles, Esq., of Boston also gave one hundred dollars towards securing the parsonage. Mr. William R. Putnam and also his brother, Professor Daniel Putnam of Ypsilanti, Michigan, generously remembered the church at its reunion in 1887; and the former presented us his check for fifty dollars, Dec. 23, 1895, to aid in finishing our vestry. He has also kindly remembered the church in a bequest not at present available.

Besides these the church has received legacies from the friends named below :

Mrs. Isaac Low, Greenfield	\$ 100
Mrs. Isaac Foster, Greenfield	100
Mr. Joel H. Tarbell, Lyndeborough	300
Mr. Orrin Cram	100
Mr. Charles Wilder, Peterborough	5,000
Mr. Byron Putnam of Lyndeborough (conditioned on keeping his burial lot in repair)	300

#### THE UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.

About the same time that the Baptists commenced holding meetings, the Universalists began to secure preaching. Both parties expressed dissent from the preaching of Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, and in much the same way. But the Universalists and

other dissenters largely outnumbered the Baptists. In fact, it is said, that those of Universalist sentiments from the three towns, Lyndeborough, Temple and Wilton, united in the support of preaching for a time, and that some very able preachers of that faith were sometimes secured to hold service for them. Their first meetings were held either in private dwellings or in the hall over the store.

The town tax book for the year 1819 has the record that several persons were that year exempted from taxation "on account of their religious sentiment." Among these were Andrew Harwood, Thomas Bradford, Gideon Cram, Joseph Cram, James Cram, Jr., James L. Clark, Daniel Putnam, Israel Putnam, Eli Curtis, Jr., Ebenezer Russell, Thomas Boffee and Nathan Fish. Some of these were men of property and influential citizens. They had a common sympathy with the Baptists, on the ground that all had been paying taxes for the support of preaching by Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, from whom some differed in one way and some another. Hence, the very same copy of "The Farmer's Cabinet" in which the formation of "The First Baptist Society" was announced, contains, also, the following:

## PUBLIC NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN that we DANIEL PUTNAM, JOSEPH CRAM and GIDEON CRAM, and our associates, have formed ourselves into a *Religious Society*, to be known by the name of "*The First Universalian Society of Lyndeborough*, and that we shall claim all the privileges that any other religious society can claim under the Constitution and Laws of the State of New Hampshire.

DANIEL PUTNAM

*Clerk of said Society.**Lyndeborough, April 4, 1831.*

The Universalist people materially assisted the Baptists in building their meeting-house in 1832. It remained in an unfinished condition some little time, but was dedicated Oct. 8, 1836. Sometime between the dates given above, the Universalist people had obtained a preacher to hold services with them "*one Sabbath in four for six months.*" Before this engagement expired, he was engaged as preacher "*one half of the time for a year.*" I use the preacher's language, who wrote:

"We occupy a hall near the Baptist meeting-house. During the sultry sabbaths of summer, this hall was *filled*; and so oppressive was the heat,

upon one occasion in particular, that we requested and obtained permission to occupy the Baptist house in the afternoon."\*

Many of the Baptists attended the service, and listened to doctrine at variance with their views, which provoked ill feeling. The two could not walk together, for they disagreed, and the Baptists recoiled from allowing their house to be used for the spread of views so contrary to their own. Thus, unfriendly feeling arose, which possibly hurt the influence of the church, and within a decade prepared the way for the Elder Hutchinson division.

The Rev. C. S. Hussey, the preacher above quoted, seems to have been a man of good ability. He came to South Lyndeborough to live, and occupied a house which then stood on the ground now occupied by the cottage of Mrs. Dorcas A. Holt. He taught school a few terms here in District No. 3, and was here when the Baptist meeting-house was dedicated. He removed from town soon after that event, and is said to have gone to the State of Maine.

The Universalist society had commenced preparations to build a parsonage on the land now occupied by the summer cottage of Mrs. Clough of Lynn, Mass. This work was undertaken for Mr. Hussey's benefit. His departure disheartened the project, and the place and building materials collected on it were sold to the heirs of Major William Richardson, who built the house which is now occupied by Mrs. Clough. No Universalist preaching has since been maintained.

#### THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

About the year 1844, there came to South Lyndeborough a preacher of the Christian connection whose name was G. W. Hutchinson. He commenced holding meetings which were largely attended and seem to have interested many of the people. The meetings were held in the Baptist meeting-house, and several members of the church became constant attendants upon the services. Some of the members of the First Baptist Society, also, were so carried away with the new order of things that they seemed ready to transfer the church property or meeting-house to the new congregation. Such was the success of this movement that on the 23rd of April, 1845, the congregation met at the South Lyndeborough meeting-house to see what could be done about organizing a church. Elder Hutchinson opened the meeting with prayer, followed by remarks

\* From "The Star in the East," Concord, N. H., Dec. 10, 1836.

suiting to the occasion. He was chosen moderator, and Ezra Dane, clerk *pro tempore*. After ascertaining who wished to unite in forming a church, and whether those so wishing were in full fellowship with each other, they proceeded to organization. The constituent members numbered thirteen, whose names follow :

John F. Holt	Ebenezer Pearson	Elizabeth Johnson
Matthew Gray	Ezra Dane	Abigail Holt
Reuben Dutton	Mary Karr	Abigail Pearson
Obed M. Goldthwait	Phebe Goldthwaite	Sarah H. Floyd
James M. Floyd.		

John F. Holt was chosen deacon and Ezra Dane clerk. The church thus constituted voted to receive and dismiss members by majority vote. They also

“Voted to receive Elder Hutchinson as member of this church, and, Voted to receive Elder Hutchinson as Pastor of this church.”

The church continued its meetings for about five years, and seems to have received a number of members to its fellowship, one of whom in later life has won a wide and worthy reputation as professor and educator in the state of Michigan, viz., Daniel Putnam, A.M., LL.D.

Ezra Dane was church clerk till Mar. 17, 1850, at which time Joel Tarbell became his successor, and signed letters of dismissal for both him and Elder Hutchinson to unite with the Christian church in East Andover. The record of the dismissal and recommendation of Ezra Dane to the East Andover church is the last entry on the church book.

The organization could hardly be otherwise than troublesome to the Baptist church, which was at the time sufficiently disturbed by internal affairs, as may be seen by a reference to the latter's history.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF LYNDEBOROUGH.

It is a source of regret that our town has not had educational facilities equal to those of some of her neighbors. Yet, despite her deficiency in this respect, several of her sons have gone forth and occupied noble positions among their fellow-men. Their success may have resulted from the stimulus imparted to them by parents who prized a liberal education, but were themselves unable to obtain it, though their love for it never faltered. But, even in the early records, a commendable appreciation of the value of schools is manifested.

The warrant for the annual meeting in 1770 asked the town to consider whether they will hire a schoolmistress, and what sum they will raise for a school.\* This called attention to the need that was felt for it. And, even though the matter was then negatived, a vote was passed at the next annual meeting† to sell the school lot to the highest bidder, and appropriate the money for the support of a school, and George Gould, Benjamin Cram, and David Badger were chosen a committee to effect the sale. On the 6th of June following, voted to hire a school kept and to raise £12, L. M., for the same, and chose Deacon Ephraim Putnam, William Carson, Jacob Cram, William Barron and Josiah Abbott the committee to carry out the vote.

In 1772 they decided to have a school, and voted £15 for its support, and chose five men, viz., Deacon Ephraim Putnam Robert Badger, William Carson, John Kidder and Nathan Pearson the committee to provide for and take care of it.‡

The town voted forty dollars for the support of a school in 1773, and the next year £12 was voted for the purpose.§

In 1775, the town voted "to raise £13, 6s., 8 pence, L. M., together with the interest of the money" received for the school lot, for the support of a school, and chose Edward Bevens, Jeremiah Carleton, Dea. Putnam, Jr., Andrew Fuller, Dea. Badger, Joseph Ellinwood, William Thompson and Capt. Spaulding a School Committee. The school lot No. 126, situated in the northeast part of the town, was sold to Mr. John Clark for £67, 10s., by William Carson, James Boutwell and Amos Whittemore, committee.

\*T. R., Vol. 1, p. 58. †T. R., 1, 76. ‡P. 84. §P. 91, 98.

Voted in 1776 to raise £12 for the support of a school.\* Let it be borne in mind that war was then raging, and that money was getting very scarce among our rugged hills. Yet the usual sum was appropriated for school purposes.

The year 1777 formed a marked era in our town, not only because of the bravery of her men at Bennington and Saratoga, but also because of their noble record at home. On Apr. 8, this year, a vote was passed to divide the town into districts, and allow each district its proportion of the money raised.† The work was assigned to a committee consisting of Capt. Levi Spaulding, Mr. Eleazer Woodward and Mr. William Carson.

Mar. 10, 1778, the town voted to hire a man a year to teach school in four places.‡ On May 4 following, they voted to omit hiring a man as was before decided, and to raise £100, to be divided among the eight districts in the usual manner.

The next year§ they hired a man to teach in eight parts of the town, and sufficient money was assessed to pay him for his services.

At the annual meeting, 1780, it was voted to have a school kept and divide the town into seven districts in which to keep it; and the selectmen were appointed to make the division, and "provide a proper school-master"; and the school was to be free to the children and servants of all the lawful inhabitants of the town.

The next year, 1781, they voted one hundred pounds, such as was lawful money in 1775, to be divided proportionally to the seven districts, school to be kept an equal time in each, till the money is expended, and the whole town is to have liberty to send to any district where school was keeping.||

In 1782, voted forty pounds for a school, the money to be laid out in the same manner as last year.¶ In 1783\*\* one hundred pounds were appropriated, to be disposed of in the same manner as last year; and in 1784,†† fifty pounds were voted to be similarly expended. A like sum was voted for 1785, to be expended in a like manner, and so till 1787, fifty pounds were voted each year, and the custom of distributing it equally in the several districts was kept up.‡‡

One hundred pounds, including the interest of the invested schools funds, was to be expended in the usual manner. The record for the succeeding year indicates some friction of the

\*T. R. II, 15. †P. 27. ‡P. 51. §P. 55. ||P. 90. ¶P. 101. \*\*P. 110.  
††P. 124. ‡‡PP. 137, 145, 157.

school machinery, and the town voted fifty pounds to be expended at the discretion of the districts, if they can agree; and if not, it was to be left to the discretion of the selectmen.\*

By the next year a law had been passed requiring every town to expend a certain percentage of their money for the support of schools. Our town this year voted to add twenty pounds sterling to the sum required by law.† This looks as though the people were in full sympathy with the legislative enactment, and somewhat in advance of it. In 1791, a like amount was appropriated, and for the ensuing two years the annual expenditure was sixty pounds.‡

From 1794 to 1798, inclusive, the town voted eighty pounds a year; in 1799, they raised sixty pounds in excess of the interest on the school funds. In 1800, two hundred dollars, exclusive of the interest of the school funds, was expended; in 1801, \$333.33 was voted; and the next year they fell back to \$200. In 1803 the sum of eighty pounds was appropriated.

The year 1804, however, may be regarded as commencing a new era for the common schools. The selectmen were chosen a committee to set limits to the several school districts. Fifteen hundred dollars was appropriated for building schoolhouses in all the districts except the "out corners which could not be easily convened." There were, as first laid out, in 1777, but eight districts. This year, 1804, it was voted to district the town, and proportion the money to be expended justly to each district, for use in building their schoolhouses. Where any schoolhouses already stood, they were to remain; and all were to be estimated at their real value.

In 1805 there was voted for schools only what the law required; but sixty dollars was voted to hire a singing-master to teach singing in the different parts of the town. In 1806 five hundred dollars was voted; and the next year again only what the law required.

But in 1808, five hundred dollars was raised for the support of schools, and the selectmen were chosen a committee to set limits to the several school districts. The report of this committee can hardly fail to be interesting, because of the light which it sheds upon the locations of the families which then flourished in our town. Therefore we reproduce the names of the inhabitants of the several districts forthwith:—

\*P. 183.

†P. 220.

‡P. 220.



## DISTRICT NO. I.

District No. 1 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Nehemiah Boutwell	Daniel Badger	Aaron Woodward
George Ashby	Israel H. Goodridge	Jonas Kidder
David Farrington	Samuel Badger	John Ordway
Nathan Wheeler	Rachel Badger	Timothy Ordway
Jacob Richardson	Hannah Badger	Eleazer Woodward, Jr.
Timothy Richardson	Eli Curtis	Israel Woodward
William Clark	Chase Hadley	Nehemiah Rand

And Rachel Sewel and the lands of Perkins & Durant and Eliphalet Badger, non-residents, and all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. II.

District No. 2 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

John Boffee	Benjamin Fuller	Abraham Rose
Thomas Boffee	William Holt	Abigail Stephenson
Samuel Chamberlain	Benjamin Jones	John Stephenson
John Cram	Joseph Jones	William Stephenson
Samuel Chamberlain Jr.	Ephraim Kidder	Eleazer Woodward
Andrew Fuller	Joseph Kidder	David Woodward

And the non-resident lands owned by William Putnam, Joseph Elliuwood, Eleazer Putnam, John Grant and Ebenezer Jones; and also, all the polls and personal estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. III.

District No. 3 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

John Chamberlain	Benjamin Holt	Uriah Cram
David Putnam	Jonathan Chamberlain	Henry Cram
Timothy Putnam	Jacob Dascomb	Jedidiah Russell, Jr.
Daniel Putnam	Benjamin Cram 2nd	Samuel Ellinwood
Ephraim Putnam, Sr.	Benjamin Cram 3rd	Thomas Lakin
Ephraim Putnam, 2nd	Jonathan Putnam	Abel Lakin
John Putnam	Gideon Cram	Joel Manwell

And the lands of the following non-residents:

Ruth Blaney	Jacob Putnam	Pierce & Blood
Timothy Winn	Parker & Emerson	Oliver Holt
Jonathan Towne	Joseph Winn	Ebenezer Barrett
John Burton	James Dascomb	Thomas Bradford
Philip Putnam		

And also all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. IV.

District No. 4 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Charles Whitmarsh	Joseph Epes 1st	Jacob Manning
Thomas Boardman	Joseph Epes 2nd	Isaiah Parker
Peter Clark	Benjamin Senter	Phineas Kidder
Jeremiah Brown	Asa Senter	Benjamin Goodridge

Seth Allen, Jr.	Thomas Hutchinson	Daniel Gardner
John Proctor	John Clark	Peter Clark, 2nd
Josiah Brown	John Clark, Jr.	Osgood Hutchinson
Allen Brown	Ebenezer Hutchinson	

And all the lands and estates of the following non-residents :

John Epes	Daniel Dane	Oliver Holmes
Benjamin Senter, Jr.	Moses Fisher	Solomon Parker
David & Joseph Lewis		

And likewise all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

DISTRICT NO. V.

District No. 5 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Aaron Putnam	Enoch Ordway	Joshua Sargent
John Woodward	Jedidiah Russell	John Woodward, Jr.
John Besom	Jotham Hildreth	Heirs of Wm. Dutton
John Besom, Jr.	Moses Pearson	

And the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

Asa Stiles	Samuel Adams	Batchelder & Jenkins
Benjamin Thomson	David Patterson	Thomas Hill
Heirs of Beard	Cummings & Kendal	Parker & Putnam
Isaac Beard	Cross & Goodspeed	Amos Flint

And also all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

DISTRICT NO. VI.

District No. 6 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Jotham Blanchard	Jonathan Pearson	Joseph Melendy
Jotham Blanchard, Jr.	Ebenezer Batchelder	Andrew Harwood
Asa Blanchard	Samuel Pearson	Jacob Cram
Timothy Pearson	Oliver Perham	Samuel Hartshorn
Timothy Pearson, Jr.	Israel Burnham	

And the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

Henry Putnam	Ebenezer Pearson	Patten & Farmer
Joel Spaulding	Simeon Blanchard	John Batchelder
Benjamin Lewis	Ephraim Crosby	Timothy Hartshorn
Jacob Flinn	Willard Heywood	Joshua Jones
Jacob Flinn, Jr.	John Parker	

And likewise all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

DISTRICT NO. VII.

District No. 7 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

John Hagget	Jacob Wellman	Daniel Pearson
Samuel Butterfield	Edward Bullard	Jeremiah Carleton
Asa Manning	Amos Wilkins	Samuel Stewart
Jeremiah Brown, Jr.	Robert Parker	Aaron Carkin
Israel Brown	Jonn Hartshorn	Thomas Towne
John Wellman	Solomon Cram	Eleazer Rhodes

And all the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

John Wallace	Ezekiel Upton	Ebenezer Damon, Jr.
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Joseph Wallace	Ezekiel Upton, Jr.	Amos Elliot
Ebenezer Buxton	Conant & Rayment	Jesse Fales
Dana & Bell	Lot Conant	Zephaniah Kittridge
William Marvel	Ebenezer Averil	Ebenezer Odell
William Wilkins	Joshua Burnham	Chase & Parker
James Hopkins	Jonathan Colburn	Widow Rayment
Stearns Needham	Ebenezer Damon	Wilkins & Towne
Josiah Dodge		

And also all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. VIII.

District No. 8 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Aaron Lewis	Andrew Smith	Reuben Dutton
Samuel Huston	Joseph Hobbs	Aaron Whittemore
Oliver Whiting	Henry Spaulding	Clark Whittemore
Benjamin Jones, Jr.	Daniel Woodward	

And the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

Ithamar Woodward	James Ray	Heirs of Isaac Bartlett
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And all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. IX.

District No. 9 to contain and include all the polls, lands and estates of

Daniel Averil	Abraham French	George Russell
Nehemiah French	David Smith	

And the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

John Averill	John Patterson	Joseph Peabody
Jacob Curtis, Jr.	Nathan Green	

And also all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

## DISTRICT NO. X.

District No. 10 to contain and include the polls and estates of

Jonathan Butler	William Holley	Enoch Richardson
Joshua Hadley, Jr.	John Thompson	

And the lands and estates of the following non-resident owners, viz :

William Read, John Reynolds, Jonathan Bowers for his pasture, east of Joshua Hadley's, and also all the polls and estates of all persons who now or may hereafter reside within the limits of said district.

Your committee recommend to the town to annex the District No. 10 to the adjoining district in Greenfield ; provided they can have the same privileges, be under the same penalties and regulations, with the district in Greenfield ; that is, have full and equal right to vote in all district meetings, pay their just and equal proportion of all moneys to be raised for the repairing and building of school-houses, with the said district in Greenfield as though they belonged to the town of Greenfield.

And the school taxes on all unimproved, non-resident lands, when collected and paid into the treasury, we think ought to be proportioned among the several school districts in the same way as the school interest money is proportioned.

All which is humbly submitted by your committee,

Lyndeborough, Aug. { Nathan Wheeler  
26, 1808. { Benjamin Goodridge  
                                  { Jotham Hildreth

True copy

Attest Nathan Wheeler, T. Clerk.

This report was accepted, and its substance adopted by the town.

Such was the work of 1809 in regard to the schools. These limits of the districts enable us to determine, at least approximately, in what part of the town the persons named resided.

From 1810 to 1812, inclusive, the annual appropriation for schools was 400 dollars. From 1813 to 1817, inclusive, 450 dollars; and from 1818 to 1820 it was 500 dollars annually, showing an increasing interest in them.

The record of the annual meeting in 1817 presents the first mention of a committee to inspect the schools. Rev. Nathaniel Merrill, Joseph Jones and Aaron Woodward were elected to the office. The two years succeeding that, Rev. Nathaniel Merrill was the sole incumbent of the office, and was allowed the remuneration of fifty cents for each visit. In 1820 Messrs. Joseph and William Jones were associated with him. He was chosen annually to fill this position, sometimes definitely named as chairman of the superintending committee, while the two others chosen or appointed to act with him were frequently changed. Among the latter were men remembered by many yet living, such as Dr. Israel Herrick, Israel H. Goodridge and Israel Woodward. In 1822 each district was empowered to choose its own committee, and two years later inspectors of schools were chosen for each district, with Rev. Nathaniel Merrill as principal. In 1827 it was voted "That the committee man in each district accompany him" in his visits.

July 6, 1827, the legislature passed an act by which the selectmen were authorized to appoint a superintending school committee. A schedule follows, giving dates, names and pages of the town records:—

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

				Page
1828	Rev. Nath'l Merrill	Dea. William Jones	Dr. Nathan Jones	50
1829	" " "	Nathan Jones	Israel H. Goodrich	84
1830	" " "	" "	" "	110
1831	" " "	" "	" "	136
1832	" " "	William Jones	" "	157
1833	" " "	Israel H. Goodrich	Nathan Jones	192

1834	Rev. Nath'l Merrill	Nathan Jones	Samuel T. Manahan	212
1835	“ “ “	Dr. Israel Herrick	Joshua Atwood	240
1836	“ Jacob White	David Stiles	Dr. Israel Herrick	267
1837	“ “	William Jones, Esq.	Jacob Hildreth	296
1838	„ Benj. F. Clark	Rev. John Woodbury	David Stiles, Esq.	327
1839	No record			
1840	„ Jacob White	Jacob Hildreth	William Jones, Esq.	380
1841	„ Wm. Richardson	“ “	Joseph Jones, Esq.	416
1842	Jacob Hildreth	David Stiles	Israel Herrick	451
1843	Rev. Ivory Kimball	Dea. William Jones	Jotham Hildreth	478
1844	“ “ “	Joseph Jones	Daniel Woodward Jr.	508

The latter were appointed, although at the annual meeting it was voted, “ To dispense with the Superintending School Committee so far as it relates to visiting schools.”

Notwithstanding this the selectmen, Daniel N. Boardman, Samuel Jones and Peter Cram, made the appointment, and the committee served and made an excellent report of the schools.

For some reason not apparent, there is no record of any appropriation for schools in the year 1839, and neither is there any mention of a superintending school committee. It seems to have been an “ off year.”

But in 1840 the town voted to appropriate the interest of the literary fund and one hundred dollars above what the law required to the use of the schools. In this year, also, a committee was chosen, composed of David Stiles, Oliver Whiting, Jacob Butler, Samuel Hartshorn and David Putnam, to define the “ metes and bounds ” of the several school districts. The report of this committee follows : —

#### REPORT.

School District No. 1 shall contain the following lots in the second division, viz., Fifteen lots, No. 56, 57, 70, 71, 72, 74, 75 : 87, 88, 89 ; 92, 93, 94 : 127, 128. Also a strip of the commons lying by the east end of lot No. 56, sixty rods wide from east to west.

District No. 2. This district shall consist of the following lots in the second division, viz., Fifteen lots, No. 55 : 58, 59, 60 ; 67, 68, 69 : 76, 77, 78 : 85, 86, 95, 96, 103, and the original lot lines shall be the boundaries.

District No. 3 shall contain the following Fifteen lots in the second division, viz., No. 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 : 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 53, 54, & also the forty rod strip on Wilton Line from lot No. 34 to the first division.

District No. 4 shall consist of the following lots in the Second Division, viz., No. 3, 4, 73, 90, 91, 108, 109, 110, 107, 125, 126, also the east half of lots 106, 111 and 124, divided through the center.

District No. 5 shall consist of lots in the Second Division numbered 34, 35, 36, 37, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 79, and also lots No. 4 and

5, in the 3rd division, and the forty rod strip from the east line of No. 34, to Temple Line.

District No. 6 shall consist of all the lands in Lyndeborough south of the south line of lots No. 37, 38, 39, and of Wayner's Brook (so called) and all east of said brook and south of Noah Hutchinson's land, which is situated east of lot No. 22, all in the First Division in said Town, and East of Wilton Line.

District No. 7 shall contain all the lands situated within the following boundaries, to wit, Beginning at the Northern corner of lot No. 72, in the Second Division, thence running East across the common land to lot No. 5 of the common, thence South on the west line of the square lots to the North line of the First Division, called Home Lots, thence East to the northeast corner of lot 55, in said First Division; thence South on the East line of said lots to the Southeast corner of said lot, thence East to Mont Vernon Line; thence South on Mont Vernon Line to the South line of Noah Hutchinson's land; thence west by Wayner's Brook, thence up said Brook to the line between 24 and 42 of the First Division; thence West on said line & on the same course to Wilton East Line, thence on the North Line of Wilton to the lot No. 34, thence North on the East line of lot No. 34 to lot No. 44; thence West to the East line of the Second Division; thence North on said division line to the Northeast corner of lot No. 43, called the Mannel Farm; thence East sixty rods; thence north to lot 128; thence East on lot No. 128 & 127, to the Southeast corner thereof; thence North on East line of lots No. 127 & 72, to the place of beginning.

District No. 8 shall contain ten lots, numbered 5, 6, 7, 104, 105, 112, 113, 114, 122, 123; also the west half of lots numbered 106, 111 and 124, divided through the center as a division line between District No. 4 and No. 8.

District No. 9 shall contain six lots, numbered 64, 80, 81, 83, 84, 97, bordering on the line of Greenfield.

District No. 10 shall contain all the land within the following limits, to wit, Beginning at the Northeast corner of lot No. 91 in the Second Division, thence running South on the East line of said division to the Northeast corner of lot No. 72; thence East to the West line of No. 5 and 6 of the commons, thence South on said line to the Southwest corner of lot No. 8 of the commons; thence East by the Road to the North-west corner of lot No. 54, in the first division; thence South the West line of 54, to the Southwest corner thereof; thence East to Mont Vernon line; thence North on the Town line to New Boston line; thence West on the South line of New Boston to the Southwest corner of said Town, near the house of Edgar Rand; thence North on the West line of New Boston to a stake and stones, directly West of the first mentioned bounds; thence West to the place of beginning.

District No. 11 shall begin at the Southwest corner of lot No. 34 of the first division, thence running North on the Lot line to the Northeast corner of said lot; thence West on the Lot line to the East line of the Second Division; thence South on said Second Division line to Wilton Line; thence East on said Wilton line to the place of beginning; and also the Forty rod Strip by Lot No. 29.

District No. 12 shall contain Lots numbered 1 and 2 in the Second Division and the common land East of said Division from lot No. 1, South to the second stone wall, South of Paul Atwood's house; thence running East to New Boston line.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted by Your Committee

Committee { David Stiles  
Oliver Whiting  
Jacob Butler  
David Putnam

The superintending committee consisted usually of the pastor and two laymen. Its first extended report appears on the record of the town clerk for the years 1844 and 1845. It will be a matter of some interest to present for inspection a portion of this report, from eight of the districts :

District No. 1.	Summer,	Scholars,	35,	Teacher,	Miss Ann Jane Nevins.
" "	Winter,	"	44,	"	Not given.
District No. 2.	Summer,	"	34,	"	Miss Elizabeth Karr.
" "	Winter,	"	35,	"	David A. Davis.
District No. 3.	Summer,	"	46,	"	Miss Ruth P. Fletcher.
					Miss Grant finished.
District No. 3.	Winter,	"	46,	"	Mr. Thomas S. Corey.
District No. 4.	Summer,	"	7,	"	Miss Martha Hill.
" "	Winter,	"	20,	"	Mr. George W. Stevens
District No. 5.	Summer,	"	15,	"	Miss P. J. Mack.
" "	Winter,	"	24,	"	Mr. Simon O. Danforth.
District No. 6.	Summer,	"	22,	"	Miss Sarah Bruce.
" "	Winter,	"	29,	"	Miss Mary E. Smith,
					Mt. Vernon.
District No. 7.	Summer,	"	24,	"	Miss Martha G. Stevens.
" "	Winter,	"	39,	"	Mr. Sylvester Hill.
District No. 8.	Summer,	"	13,	"	Miss Martha Hill.
" "	Winter,	"	17,	"	Mr. Wm. L. Whittemore.

We shall aim now to give the names of the superintending committee of schools, and such other occasional notes as may have special interest for the reader. It is quite a difficult thing to give a just idea of the interest taken in our schools without possibly occupying too great space. The printed reports of the superintending committee would of themselves form quite a large volume.

In 1851, the town voted "that such part of the Report of the Superintending Committee of Schools as deemed by them proper should be printed in pamphlet form, and one copy be given to each family in town." The superintending committee were : Rev. E. B. Claggett, John Richardson and Sylvester Hill. That year the superintending committee reported, "that the experiment of trying to sustain a High School in town last Autumn was successful beyond our expectations. We are happy to announce the expectation that it will be reopened next Autumn, under the instructions of the same teacher."

This refers to Sylvester Hill, who opened a private high school in the town hall in the autumn of 1850, and continued a term each autumn for three or four years, when his health failed and he died. The school was well attended by the young people of Lyndeborough and was considered a good school. Wm. Curtis, Harvey Perham and Clara Boutwell were among his scholars.

The same year the school-house in District No. 3 was reported as "ancient and in bad repair." The superintending committees of 1852-1859 were :

- 1852. Rev. E. B. Claggett, Charles H. Parker, William L. Whittemore.
- 1853. Rev. E. B. Claggett, Sylvester Hill and Charles H. Parker.
- 1854. Rev. E. B. Claggett, William L. Whittemore and James Donnell.
- 1855. Rev. E. B. Claggett.
- 1857. Enville J. Emery.
- 1858-'59. Rev. E. B. Claggett.

In 1855 the limits of the school districts were once more given, as described by James Cram 2nd, agent.

The school-house in District No. 3, in 1859, was reported as excellent. The new house was probably built in the summer of 1859. The school was kept for a while, when work was progressing on the school-house, at the dwelling of Mr. John Hartshorn, on the hill.

By vote of the town, in 1860, three persons were chosen superintending committee, namely, Rev. E. B. Claggett, William A. Jones and D. C. Grant.

The town voted in 1861, "to have but one man for Superintending School Committee." William A. Jones was elected, but declined. The selectmen, later, appointed William A. Jones, D. C. Grant and Samuel Jones to the office, and they served.

In the winter of 1861, Mr. George L. Dascomb of Wilton, a teacher of twenty-six terms' experience in teaching, was employed to have charge of the school in District No. 3. He taught also the following winter in the same school.

The superintending committees from 1862 to 1880, inclusive, were as follows :

- 1862. Rev. Asaph Merriam and Daniel Woodward, Jr.
- 1863 to 1866. William W. Curtis.
- 1867 to 1870. Rev. E. B. Claggett. When elected he declined ; but served when appointed by the selectmen.
- 1871. Rev. E. B. Claggett and D. E. Proctor.
- 1872. Miss Nellie B. Holt was this year appointed superintending committee of the summer schools, and was thus the first lady selected for this important duty. The winter schools were under the superintendence of Rev. E. J. Whittemore.



1873. Rev. Elias J. Whittemore    1876. Rev. S. B. Macomber  
 1874. Leonard G. Brown            1877 and 1878. Leonard G. Brown  
 1875. Leonard G. Brown            1879 and 1880. Charlotte M. Wallace

This was at the time an innovation ; but one in which it was thought that Lyndeborough honored itself, as well as the lady who was chosen for this important service. Her first report contains the following pertinent sentence : " Certainly if there is anything of which the people of Lyndeborough have occasion to be proud, and in which they should take the deepest interest, it is the bright-faced, active, intelligent children found in the different schools scattered throughout the town." (page 10).

A writer in the *Milford Enterprise* of those days remarked that Miss Wallace " was considered so competent for the position of Superintendent of Schools, as to receive the vote of both parties." On the roll of honor for 1879 in District No. 3 are the names of " Myrtie Putnam, Clintie Emery, Addie Marshall, Ada Smith, Freddie Moore, Harley Emery, Roy Putnam and Willie Gibney.

In 1881, Rev. T. P. Sawin was chosen superintending committee. He devised two neatly arranged, instructive tables which concisely present to us the work of the schools for that year. We will attempt to reproduce one of these :

District	Reading	Spelling	Pennmanship	Arithmetic	Geography	Grammar	History	Composition	Physiology	Bookkeeping	Algebra	Philosophy
1	15	15	6	14	6	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
	19	19	19	17	10	4	2	7	0	3	0	0
	12	12	5	8	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	17	17	8	12	10	5	2	0	2	0	0	0
	45	45	17	32	15	11	6	0	0	0	0	0
3	45	45	15	33	14	13	2	0	6	0	3	0
	32	32	18	30	15	15	4	0	7	1	2	1
4	9	9	6	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	12	12	9	8	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	12	12	8	10	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	19	19	16	17	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	19	19	18	14	10	6	0	8	2	0	0	0
	20	20	15	15	11	8	0	10	3	0	2	0
7	17	17	12	14	11	5	0	0	0	0	2	0
	16	16	10	15	12	6	0	0	0	0	1	0
8	8	6	7	6	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
	8	8	8	8	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	0
9	8	8	6	8	6	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
	8	8	6	8	6	2	0	6	0	0	0	0
10	10	10	9	6	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	11	11	5	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1882. Rev. T. P. Sawin, committee. His report states that "District No. 3 has three times as many pupils as any other school in town. It requires more strength, and more hard labor to keep it. Some of the pupils were advanced into the higher studies."

That year fifteen young people from our town attended school elsewhere.

Six went to Francestown Academy, namely, Harry Richardson, Fred Spalding, Lizzie Spalding, Mabel Hadley, Flora Holt, Clintie M. Duncklee.

Six went to Milford High School, namely, George Batchelder, Carrie Batchelder, Oscar E. Cram, Walter S. Tarbell, Effie A. Holt, Lillie M. Swasey; and three went to Mont Vernon Academy, namely, Anna M. Curtis, Clara J. Burton, and Harry Joslin.

Concerning those who went to Milford, the principal remarked, "We like them much as students and as young gentlemen and ladies. If you have more of such in your town, we shall be glad to see them in the Milford High School."\*

Rev. T. P. Sawin's last report was made in March, 1883. His successor as superintending committee in 1884 and 1885 was Mr. J. A. Woodward.

The year 1885 closes the list of those who served as superintending committee. A change in the school law went into effect in 1886, by which all the schools in the town came under the charge of a board of education.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The first board of education consisted of J. A. Woodward, B. J. Boutwell and F. B. Richards.

This board served one term, after which Messrs. Woodward and Boutwell resigned. Mr. Richards held his position and chose two others to fill the vacancies in the board, viz: S. N. Hartshorn and Leonard G. Brown. For the fall and winter terms, therefore, the board was constituted of F. B. Richards, S. N. Hartshorn and L. G. Brown.

The members of the board since 1886 are as follows:

- 1887. F. B. Richards, S. N. Hartshorn, L. G. Brown.
- 1888. N. T. McIntire, George Rose, David C. Grant.
- 1889. Frances H. Curtis, N. T. McIntire, S. Kate Swington.
- 1890. N. T. McIntire, Frances H. Curtis, S. Kate Swington.
- 1891. J. H. Goodrich, S. K. Swington.

\* T. R., 1883, p. 14.

1892. F. B. Richards, secretary; J. H. Goodrich, treasurer.  
 1893. F. B. Richards, J. H. Goodrich, Abby F. Cram.  
 1894. H. H. Joslin, chairman; J. H. Goodrich, treasurer; Abby F. Cram, secretary.  
 1895. H. H. Joslin, chairman; J. H. Goodrich, treasurer; Abby F. Cram, secretary.  
 1896. Rev. O. E. Hardy, J. H. Goodrich, Abby F. Cram.  
 1897. J. H. Goodrich, chairman; O. E. Hardy, treasurer; Abby F. Cram, secretary.  
 1898. Abbie F. Cram, Eliza A. Putnam, J. H. Goodrich.  
 1899. J. H. Goodrich, George Murch, S. S. Hartshorn.  
 1900. S. S. Hartshorn, F. B. Richards, Mrs. Elsie M. Sargent.  
 1901. Mrs. Elsie M. Sargent, F. B. Richards, S. S. Hartshorn.  
 1902. F. B. Richards, S. S. Hartshorn, Abby F. Cram.  
 1903. S. S. Hartshorn, Algernon W. Putnam, Mrs. C. P. Mason.  
 1904. S. Kate Swinington, Alice M. Chase, Ella R. Holt.  
 1905. S. Kate Swinington, Alice M. Chase, Ella R. Holt.

## PRINTED REPORTS.

The reports of the superintending committee of schools began to be published in pamphlet form in 1851. Could complete files of these be secured, they would be of material assistance in our work. Previous to that date, very few of the names of teachers in our district schools are given. Hence, the names of the earlier teachers in the nineteenth century can be only partially, and so to speak, fortuitously given; for the reason that no systematic record of such names was made. It was a matter of greater note, at least, to provide for the materials to carry on the school and make record of them, than to give the teacher's name. By way of example, the records of District No. 3, for Nov. 14, 1826, state that Daniel Putnam, Esq., was moderator, and Jonathan Putnam, Jr., clerk, and proceeds:—

Voted, "to set up the boarding of the master at auction. Daniel Putnam took the boarding of the master at 30 cents per week." One person bid off the supplying of two cord, and another the supplying of three cord of wood, at 95 cents per cord, and it was further voted, "that the school begin the first Monday in December." But the teacher's name is not on the record. *Cui bono?*

But, although we cannot present as good an account of the pioneer teachers as we should like, we present some names that are not wholly obscure.

## EARLY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The names of many of the early teachers of our schools are

not at the present day accessible. Some which have been collected from a portion of the old records of District No. 3 and such other sources as were available are preserved. No records from other districts were found, and this will account for any omissions of names which it would have been a pleasure to report. Some of the teachers here named bore the burden of instructing youths when text-books were scarce, and school appliances such as are now common either did not exist, or were very imperfect, if at all obtainable. The names of the noble band, who, while working at great disadvantage, yet wrought excellently for their day, deserve worthy and grateful record.

We place at the head of this list the name of Andrew Fuller and give his certificate below:—

Lynd Borough Mar. 22, 1774, this Day agreed with Andrew Fuller Esquier to open and Keep a Gramer School only for Sutch as are to be taught Gramor. Comities being Chosen to Provoid Schools for Comon Larning for this Present year

David Badger } Selectmen  
Levi Spaulding } Lynd Borough

To Andrew Fuller Esquier.

“Hurd’s History of Hillsboro’ County,” p. 249, informs us that, “April 6, 1791, Isaac Brooks of Amherst closed a school in Lyndeborough, of ten weeks, at thirty-six shillings per week, excluding horsekeeping.” A fair inference from this seems to be that he rode to and from his school. At a later day he became registrar of deeds for Hillsboro’ county, an office to which he was annually reëlected for nearly twenty-six years.\* His excellent penmanship adorns many volumes of deeds in the county office, where he put himself on record as well as the deeds which he copied.

1809. Polly Dascomb, a name familiar in town.

1810. John Bruce, probably of Mont Vernon.

1811. Sally Fuller; but the last two weeks of term, Abigail Putnam. I suppose that this last lady was the one who is said to have taught school twenty-five years. If this is correct she taught very early in the history of our schools. She was the daughter of Ensign David Putnam.

1811. Lieut. Cyrus Lewis. It is stated that scholars came from other districts when he taught.

1814. Simeon Childs.

1819-20. Samuel R. Hall. He is said to have been a fine teacher, and to have stimulated his pupils to seek a higher edu-

\*History of Hillsboro’ County, p. 239.

cation. He afterwards became widely known as "first principal of the teachers' seminary at Andover, Mass," and later became a highly esteemed Unitarian minister.

1821 or 1822. David Gage taught in South Lyndeborough, and married Miss Betsey, daughter of Daniel Putnam, Esq., also a teacher. After their marriage they went into Mississippi, under appointment of the American Board, as teachers of the Cherokee and Choctaw Indians.

1835 or 1836. Ephraim Knight of Hancock, later famous as a teacher of mathematics at New London Literary and Scientific Institution, and ordained as a Baptist minister at Sutton.

Charles H. Burns taught in district No. 1 during the pastorate of Rev. E. B. Claggett. He is now one of the best known lawyers in the state, and wrote for publication in the Hillsboro' county history the sketch of Milford, one of the raciest and best in the volume.

Another teacher, a resident of Lyndeborough for a few years, was Col. W. H. D. Cochrane, who died recently in Nashua, highly honored and esteemed. According to the history of the "First Regiment of N. Hampshire Volunteers,"\* he enjoyed the distinction of having been "the first uniformed New Hampshire soldier who entered the Capital" at the commencement of our Civil War.

Earlier by several years, probably, than the two immediately preceding names should be set the name of Miss Elsie M. Bales, who taught several terms in district No. 3. She became Mrs. S. F. Adams of Greenville in 1857, and died in Wilton, Jan. 3, 1905, aged 80 years.

#### TEACHERS' NAMES IN TOWN REPORTS.

Reports for the years 1852, 1853, 1855 and 1856 are missing.

#### Teachers, 1851.

- No. 1. Miss Clarinda F. Bruce; Mr. Sylvester Hill.
- No. 2. Miss Cynthia M. Dunklee. Summer and winter.
- No. 3. Miss Luey Woodward; Mr. W. L. Whittemore.
- No. 4. Martha Hill. Both terms.
- No. 5. Helen Burton; Mr. A. W. Wright.
- No. 6. Harriet L. Crosby; Miss Caroline S. Averill.
- No. 7. Miss Mary A. Haggett; Mr. Simon O. Butler.
- No. 8. Miss Orpah Gage; Miss Salome R. Crosby.
- No. 9. Mr. George L. Dascomb. Winter.
- No. 10. Miss Harriet Clement; Miss Salome R. Crosby.
- No. 11. Miss Helen Burton. Winter term only.

\* P. 119.

No. 12. Mr. George D. Epes. Winter.

Teachers, 1854.

- No. 1. Sarah C. Monroe. Caroline A. Stevens.
- No. 2. Harriet N. Whittemore. George W. Marden.
- No. 3. Harriet L. Crosby. Summer and winter terms.
- No. 4. Sarah D. Clark. Walter Gibson.
- No. 5. Verona E. Person; F. P. Hadley.
- No. 6. Lydia Proctor; Charles H. Boyd.
- No. 7. Miss A. M. Steele; Clark B. Jones.
- No. 8. Lavinia A. Gould; Sarah B. Byam.
- No. 9. Harriet N. Whittemore.
- No. 10. Sarah M. Patch; Sarah C. Monroe.

Teachers, 1857.

- No. 1. Miss Mary F. Perkins; Frank G. Clark.
- No. 2. Miss Frances A. Holt; Alvah R. Potter.
- No. 3. Miss Maria S. Stevens; Rev. E. J. Emery.
- No. 4. Miss Clara A. Sawyer; Miss Martha Hill.
- No. 5. Miss Nellie W. Stayner; Albert O. Houston.
- No. 6. Miss Eliza A. Robins. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Lucy K. Spalding. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Martha E. Le Bosquet; Miss Frances A. Jaquith.
- No. 9. Miss Frances A. Holt; Miss Nellie W. Stayner.
- No. 10. Miss Julia A. Kingsbury. Two terms.

Teachers, 1858.

- No. 1. Miss Mary F. Perkins; Frank G. Clark.
- No. 2. Miss Frances A. Holt; Alvah R. Potter.
- No. 3. Miss Maria Stevens; Rev. E. J. Emery.
- No. 4. Miss Clara A. Sawyer; Miss Martha Hill.
- No. 5. Miss Nellie W. Stayner; Albert O. Houston.
- No. 6. Miss Eliza A. Robbins.
- No. 7. Miss Lucy K. Spalding.
- No. 8. Miss Martha E. LeBosquet; Miss Francis A. Jaquith.
- No. 9. Miss Frances F. Holt; Miss Nellie W. Stayner.
- No. 10. Miss Julia A. Kingsbury.

Teachers, 1859.

- No. 1. Miss Martha LeBosquet; Jonas Hutchinson.
- No. 2. Miss Emeline Spalding; Miss Emma Holt.
- No. 3. Miss Frances A. Holt; Miss Susan Butler.
- No. 4. Miss Eliza P. Jones; Miss Harriet Richardson.
- No. 5. Miss Emily E. Dascomb; Andrew J. Philbrick.
- No. 6. Miss Lucy K. Spalding; Benjamin J. Boutwell.
- No. 7. Miss Ellen M. Holt; Miss Abbie J. Boutwell.
- No. 8. Miss Frances M. Fiske; Miss Georgia Giles.
- No. 9. Miss Nellie W. Stayner.

Teachers, 1860.

- No. 1. Miss Eliza P. Jones; Miss Harriet Richardson.
- No. 2. Miss Frances A. Holt; T. P. Sawin.
- No. 3. Miss H. E. Bell; Miss Nellie W. Stayner; J. B. Mitchell.

- No. 4. Miss Emeline Spalding; Miss Martha E. Conant.
- No. 5. Miss Mary F. Hopkins; Mr. A. G. Stearns.
- No. 6. Miss Augusta L. Bruce; Mark F. Burns.
- No. 7. Miss Nellie W. Stayner; Miss Augusta L. Bruce.
- No. 8. Miss Lizzie S. Mansfield; Miss Juliette Haggett, 4 weeks; on account of sickness at home, given up; finished by Miss Susan M. Sawyer.
- No. 9. Miss Ellen B. Holt; Miss Mary F. Hopkins.
- No. 10. Miss Sarah L. Cochran; Miss Frances Fiske.

## Teachers, 1861.

- No. 1. Miss Georgie E. Wilson; Miss Ellen Putnam.
- No. 2. Miss Clintina M. Butler.
- No. 3. Miss Abbie F. Cram; Miss Mary Gertrude Lucas; George L. Dascomb.
- No. 4. Miss Martha A. Batten; Mr. D. E. Proctor.
- No. 5. Miss Nellie M. Holt. Summer and winter.
- No. 6. Miss Emeline Spalding; James B. Hall.
- No. 7. Miss Frances A. Jaquith; Miss Abba S. Dodge.
- No. 8. Miss Lizzie Mansfield. Both terms.
- No. 9. Miss Nellie W. Stayner; Miss Abbie J. Holt.
- No. 10. Miss Sarah L. Cochran; Miss Eliza A. Robbins.

## Teachers, 1862.

- No. 1. Miss Ellen Putnam; Both terms.
- No. 2. Miss Clintina Butler; Ramsey C. Boutwell.
- No. 3. Miss Fidelia S. Savage, two terms; George L. Dascomb.
- No. 4. Miss Susie M. Sawyer; Miss Georgia D. Giles.
- No. 5. Miss Eliza H. Spalding; Miss S. Eliza Heald.
- No. 6. Miss Maria N. Tuten. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Juliette Haggett; Miss Gertrude Lucas.
- No. 8. Miss Susie M. Sawyer. One term.
- No. 9. Miss Lucelia R. Butters. Both terms.
- No. 10. Miss Sarah L. Cochran; Charles F. Stinson.

## Teachers, 1863.

- No. 1. Miss Juliette Haggett and Miss Clintina M. Butler.
- No. 2. Miss Clintina Butler; Miss Georgia G. Giles.
- No. 3. Miss Lucy T. Tyler, two terms; George L. Dascomb.
- No. 4. Miss Minerva L. Stevens; Miss Lottie Adams.
- No. 5. Miss S. M. Washburn; Miss Frances B. Reynolds.
- No. 6. Miss Emily F. Dodge; Miss Victoria Neville.
- No. 7. Miss Mary Stacey; Miss Flora A. Dodge.
- No. 8. Miss Lizzie Moore; Miss Emeline Spalding.
- No. 9. Miss Susan P. Smith. Two terms.
- No. 10. Miss Frances D. Rand. One term.

## Teachers, 1864.

- No. 1. Miss Georgia D. Giles.
- No. 2. Miss Martha Conant.
- No. 3. Theodore Collins.
- No. 4. Miss Lottie R. Adams.

- No. 5. Miss Lizzie Davis.
- No. 6. Miss Abbie P. Crosby; Mrs. William Cleaves.
- No. 7. Miss Lizzie Moore.
- No. 8. Miss Joie C. Jones.
- No. 9. Miss Eliza Stephenson.
- No. 10. Rodney K. Wilder.

## Teachers, 1865.

- No. 1. Miss Georgia D. Giles. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss C. L. Patch; Miss N. R. Wilder.
- No. 3. Miss C. Butler, two terms; Miss H. D. Clark, 3rd.
- No. 4. Mrs. Harriet Blaney; Miss Ellen B. Holt.
- No. 5. Miss E. A. Lynch; Miss Lizzie Davis.
- No. 6. Miss Joie C. Jones. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Christina Hutchinson; Miss Abbie Crosby.
- No. 8. Miss Carrie Stearns. Both terms.
- No. 9. Miss Abbie F. Cram.
- No. 10. Miss Jennie Marden; Miss Katie Kidder.

## Teachers, 1866.

- No. 1. Miss Joie C. Jones; Nellie B. Holt.
- No. 2. Miss Abbie E. Crosby; Miss Nellie B. Holt; Miss Lizzie B. Hadley.
- No. 3. Miss Juliette Haggett; Lu A. Butters; Mrs. Harriet L. Cleaves.
- No. 4. Sarah O. Jones; Mrs. Harriet Blaney.
- No. 5. Miss Martha Putnam; Miss Mary Baldwin.
- No. 6. Miss Mary B. McConihe. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Norah Smith; Joie C. Jones.
- No. 8. Miss Sarah L. Tuten; Miss Ellen W. Kennedy.
- No. 9. Miss Annie J. Gregg.
- No. 10. Miss Juliette Haggett.

## Teachers, 1867.

- No. 1. Miss Joie C. Jones. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Nellie B. Holt. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Hannah A. Foster; Miss Mary McConihe; Miss Joie C. Jones.
- No. 4. Miss Hannah D. Clark; Miss Nellie M. Adams.
- No. 5. Miss E. Putnam. One term.
- No. 6. Miss Joie C. Jones; Miss Mary McConihe.
- No. 7. Miss Eliza A. Lynch. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Emma Soule; Miss Sarah Rand.
- No. 9. Miss Alma K. Moore. One term.
- No. 10. Miss Lucretia H. Rideout; Miss Lottie B. Wardwell.

## Teachers, 1868.

- No. 1. Miss Emmie Emerson; Miss Abbie F. Crosby; Miss Martha A. Putnam.
- No. 2. Miss Nellie B. Holt; Joie C. Jones.
- No. 3. Miss Mary E. Wright, three terms; Miss E. A. Keyes, assistant in 3rd.
- No. 4. Miss Hannah D. Clark. Two terms.



- No. 5. Miss H. L. Fowler ; Miss Clemmie F. Averill.
- No. 6. Miss Sallie F. Tilton. Winter term only.
- No. 7. Miss Maria L. Moore. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Sarah C. Rand ; Miss Mary F. Felt.
- No. 9. Luella C. Hutchinson. One term only.
- No. 10. Miss Julia A. Dodge ; Miss Letitia Adams.

Teachers, 1869.

- No. 1. Miss Mary N. Abbott ; Rev. E. B. Claggett.
- No. 2. Miss Hannah D. Clark ; Miss Nellie B. Holt ; Miss Mary C. McIntire (subscription school.)
- No. 3. Miss Maria L. Moore ; George L. Dascomb.
- No. 4. Miss Eliza A. Butterfield ; Miss Emma J. Boynton.
- No. 5. Miss Ida E. Patch ; Miss Ella J. Bragg.
- No. 6. Miss Eliza H. Spalding ; Isadore Richardson.
- No. 7. Miss Etta F. Gage ; Oliver F. Giles.
- No. 8. Miss Mary F. Felt ; Miss Nettie Elliott.
- No. 9. Miss Emma E. Johnson. One term.
- No. 10. Miss Sarah Richardson ; D. Atherton Starrett.

Teachers, 1870.

- No. 1. Miss Abby J. Kidder ; Miss Vina A. Dole.
  - No. 2. Miss Lizzie P. Claggett ; Miss Evie M. Atwood.
  - No. 3. Miss Olive T. Giles, Miss Georgie A. Holt ; Alfred B. Spalding, Dartmouth College.
  - No. 4. Miss Mary C. McIntire. Two terms.
  - No. 5. Miss Mary F. Richardson ; Walter C. Frost, Dublin.
  - No. 6. Miss Emmie Spalding. Two terms.
  - No. 7. Miss Julia A. Dodge. Two terms.
  - No. 8. Miss Nettie Elliott ; Miss Eliza A. Butterfield.
  - No. 9. Miss Lydia C. Hardy ; Mary F. Felt.
  - No. 10. Miss Eliza A. Butterfield ; Miss Eliza A. Lynch.
- Also HIGH SCHOOL, kept by Mr. A. B. Spalding.

Teachers, 1871.

- No. 1. Miss Belle L. Clark ; Frank W. Cram.
- No. 2. Miss Clara A. Curtis ; George E. Adams, Dublin.
- No. 3. Miss Sarah E. Richardson, two terms ; A. B. Spalding, Dartmouth College.
- No. 4. Miss Mary F. Richardson ; Miss Mary C. McIntire.
- No. 5. Miss Abbie F. Dascomb ; Miss Clara E. Flint.
- No. 6. Miss Sarah M. Parker. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Lizzie P. Claggett. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss E. A. Butterfield ; Ida H. Lamson.
- No. 9. Miss Ella J. Bragg. One term.
- No. 10. Miss Katie E. Kidder ; Miss E. A. Butterfield.

Teachers, 1872.

- No. 1. Miss Mary C. McIntire ; Abbie J. Kidder.
- No. 2. Miss Lizzie M. King. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Julia A. Dodge, 1st and 3rd terms ; Sarah E. Richardson, 2nd.
- No. 4. Miss Mary C. McIntire. Winter term.

- No. 5. Miss Carrie H. Walton. Two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Eliza Spalding. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Clara A. Curtis. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Ida H. Lamson; Millie C. Waldo.
- No. 9. Miss Ida Belle Johnson.
- No. 10. Miss Ellen M. Woodbury; Eliza A. Butterfield.

Teachers, 1873.

- No. 1. Miss Mary F. Richardson. Both terms.
- No. 2. Miss Clara Curtis, John Moses; Frank E. Hadley, Nashua.
- No. 3. Miss Susan Howard, two terms; Silas B. Dutton, Francestown.
- No. 4. Miss Clara F. Dodge. One term.
- No. 5. Miss Nellie A. Steele; Miss Clara Curtis.
- No. 6. Miss Eliza H. Spalding, Wilton. Both terms.
- No. 7. Miss Julia A. Dodge. Both terms.
- No. 8. Miss Ella J. Richardson. Both terms.
- No. 9. Miss Ella J. Richardson. One term.
- No. 10. Miss Katie Kidder; Miss Abbie Kidder.

Teachers, 1874.

- No. 1. Miss Ella M. Dodge. Both terms.
- No. 2. Miss Mary C. McIntire. Both terms.
- No. 3. Miss Lottie M. Wallace, Mary F. Richardson; Lizzie S. Pike.
- No. 4. Miss Lizzie M. King. One term.
- No. 5. Miss Clara Curtis; Hattie Curtis.
- No. 6. Miss Mary A. Hartshorn; Oldie A. Barrett.
- No. 7. Miss Mina A. Brown; Ida H. Lamson.
- No. 8. Miss Emeline Spalding; Miss Emma L. White.
- No. 9. Miss Emeline Spalding. One term.
- No. 10. Susie J. Wheelock; Minnie A. Ames.

Teachers, 1875.

- No. 1. Miss Abbie H. Rand; Mary L. Dutton; Addie E. Gould.
- No. 2. Miss Lucie Stiles; Mr. W. L. Crabbie.
- No. 3. Miss Lottie M. Wallace; Miss Emeline Spalding, fall and winter.
- No. 4. George N. Merrill. One term.
- No. 5. Miss Katie S. Curtis; Marion E. Center.
- No. 6. Miss Abbie A. Boynton; Miss Ella S. Burnham.
- No. 7. Miss Belle V. Tyler. Both terms.
- No. 8. Miss Emma L. White. Both terms.
- No. 9. Miss Emeline Spalding. One term.
- No. 10. Miss Emma L. White; Eliza A. Butterfield.

Teachers, 1876.

- No. 1. Miss Hattie J. Carson. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Fannie C. Goodhue; Miss Hattie S. Curtis.
- No. 3. Miss Emeline Spalding, two terms; Mr. D. A. Stiles, winter.
- No. 4. Henry D. Soule. One term.
- No. 5. Miss Nellie H. Woodbury. Two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Ella S. Burnham. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Emma J. Tarbell. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Emma L. Little; Eva M. Fletcher.

- No. 9. Miss Sarah A. Keyes. Two terms.  
 No. 10. Miss Josie A. Proctor ; Fred Ranger.

## Teachers, 1877.

- No. 1. Miss Emeliue Spalding. Two terms.  
 No. 2. Miss H. J. Carson. Two terms.  
 No. 3. Miss Clara A. Curtis. Two terms ; D. A. Stiles, 3rd term.  
 No. 4. Miss Clara F. Dodge. One term.  
 No. 5. Miss Lucy C. Barrett ; Mr. J. B. Warner.  
 No. 6. Miss Kate S. Curtis ; Clara A. Curtis.  
 No. 7. Miss Ella A. Rand ; Kate S. Curtis.  
 No. 8. Miss E. M. Fletcher, two terms ; Nettie M. Giddings.  
 No. 9. Miss Eva L. Savage ; Miss A. A. Russell.  
 No. 10. Miss Nettie F. Ranger. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1878.

- No. 1. Miss Lora Tarbell. Two terms.  
 No. 2. Miss Ella M. Dodge. Two terms.  
 No. 3. Miss J. H. Karr began, Mr. F. B. Richards, closed the year.  
 No. 4. Miss Nettie M. Carson ; John Carson.  
 No. 5. Miss Katie S. Curtis. Two terms.  
 No. 6. Miss Grace H. Crosby ; George W. Battles.  
 No. 7. Miss Hattie Carson. Two terms.  
 No. 8. Miss Lizzie R. Kidder ; Miss Julia A. Dodge.  
 No. 9. Miss Lizzie Cummings. Two terms.  
 No. 10. Miss M. A. Pritchard ; Charles Brown began, George K. Wood, finished.

## Teachers, 1879.

- No. 1. Miss Hattie Emerson ; Miss Nancy Flint.  
 No. 2. Miss Addie Hook ; Miss Fanny Coombs.  
 No. 3. Mrs. Clara Cram, two terms ; Mr. F. B. Richards.  
 No. 4. Miss Katie Curtis. Two terms.  
 No. 5. Miss Eva Fletcher ; Miss Sarah McLane.  
 No. 6. Miss Grace Crosby ; Miss Julia Dodge.  
 No. 7. Miss Emma Perham ; Miss Annie Kayes.  
 No. 8. Miss Katie Curtis ; Miss Jennie Downer.  
 No. 9. Miss Lizzie Cummings. Two terms.  
 No. 10. Miss Eliza Downes ; Farley Atwood.

## Teachers, 1880.

- No. 1. Miss Ella M. Dodge ; Miss Clara F. Dodge.  
 No. 2. Miss Fannie Hall ; Harry Whittemore.  
 No. 3. Mrs. Clara Cram, for the year.  
 No. 4. Miss Ella Woodward. Two terms.  
 No. 5. Miss Kate Curtis ; Miss Wealthy Farwell.  
 No. 6. Miss Lora Tarbell. Two terms.  
 No. 7. Mrs. Emma J. Perham ; Clarence L. Trow.  
 No. 8. Miss Susie Wood ; Miss Julia Dodge.  
 No. 9. Miss Sarah McLane ; Miss Fannie L. Farnham.  
 No. 10. Miss Annie L. Langdell ; Miss Lizzie J. Jordan.

## Teachers, 1881.

- No. 1. Miss Anna S. Richardson; Jennie F. Fuller.
- No. 2. Miss Laura S. Sawin; Harry W. Whittemore.
- No. 3. Miss Jennie M. Carr. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Ann F. Langdell; Dana B. Whittemore.
- No. 5. Miss Emma C. Cram; Miss Carrie F. Averill.
- No. 6. Miss Nellie Wilson; Miss Mary E. Bussell.
- No. 7. Mrs. Emma J. Perham. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Jennie Scott. Two terms.
- No. 9. Miss H. J. Herlihy. Two terms.
- No. 10. Miss Lizzie J. Jordan. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1882.

- No. 1. Miss Anna S. Richardson; Miss Addie E. Gould.
- No. 2. Miss Lucie S. Stiles; Mrs. Emma J. Perham.
- No. 3. Miss Annie E. Caldwell; Harry W. Whittemore; F. B. Richards.
- No. 4. Miss Anna F. Langdell. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Agnes M. Leach. Two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Abbie E. Crosby. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Carrie F. Averill. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Lizzie R. Kidder; Mr. D. A. Stiles.
- No. 9. Miss Hannah J. Herlihy; Miss Eva L. Twiss.
- No. 10. Miss L. Hattie Pevear; Elmer E. Fisher.

## Teachers, 1883.

- No. 1. Miss Addie E. Gould; Miss Clintie A. Burton.
- No. 2. Miss Jennie E. Fuller. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Emma J. Nahor. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Emma H. Lamson. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Etta J. Curtis; Miss Helen M. Hadley.
- No. 6. Miss Grace H. Crosby; Miss Emma F. Wyman.
- No. 7. Miss Ida M. Kittridge; Miss Jessie F. Crosby.
- No. 8. Miss Hannah J. Herlihy.
- No. 9. Miss Clintie M. Duncklee. Two terms.
- No. 10. Miss Ann F. Langdell. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1884.

- No. 1. Miss Annie M. Curtis; Miss Nellie M. Atwood.
- No. 2. Miss Jennie F. White; Willis M. Mason; Charlotte M. Wallace.
- No. 3. Miss Emma J. Nahor. Two terms.
- No. 4. Miss Emma H. Lamson. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Grace B. Hutchinson; Miss M. Jennie Child.
- No. 6. Miss Jennie F. White; Miss Emma F. Wyman.
- No. 7. Miss Jessie F. Crosby. Two terms.
- No. 8. Miss Hannah J. Herlihy; Miss Nellie E. Ordway.
- No. 9. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 10. Miss Ann F. Langdell; Miss Julia L. Langdell.

## Teachers, 1885.

- No. 1. Miss Annie S. Clark; Miss Annie M. Curtis.
- No. 2. Miss Fannie L. Carleton. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Emma J. Nahor. Two terms.

- No. 4. Miss Emma H. Lamson. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss M. Jennie Child; Miss J. Clara Burton.
- No. 6. Miss J. Clara Burton; Stephen W. Ford. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Mary Crosby. One term.
- No. 8. Miss Hannah J. Herlihy; Miss Soule.
- No. 9. Miss Mabel Hadley; Miss Lizzie M. Spalding.
- No. 10. Miss Minnie D. Lovejoy. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1886.

- No. 1. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Clintie Duncklee; Miss Flora M. Holt.
- No. 3. Miss Eva Fletcher. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Emma Fisher. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss J. Clara Burton. Two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Emma R. Holt; C. L. Carpenter.
- No. 7. Miss Flora Holt; S. K. Swinington.
- No. 8. Miss Jennie E. Shattuck; Louie Richardson.
- No. 9. Miss Eunice Hodkin. Two terms.
- No. 10. C. M. Farnum; A. F. Langdell.

## Teachers, 1887.

- No. 1. Miss Hattie Crosby. One term.
- No. 2. Miss Belle M. Harrison; Miss S. Eliza Atkinson.
- No. 3. Miss J. Clara Burton, three terms; Ellis Ring, one term.
- No. 4. Miss Emma Fisher. Three terms.
- No. 5. Miss Mabel Hadley; G. Scott Mackay.
- No. 6. Miss Belle M. Harrison. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Flora M. Holt; Miss Emma Fuller.

## Teachers, 1888.

- No. 1. Miss J. Clara Burton; Miss Ida M. Fletcher.
- No. 2. Miss Annie M. Curtis; Miss Lois McIntire.
- No. 3. Miss Mabel E. Rogers; Miss Annie M. Curtis; W. N. Donovan.
- No. 4. Miss Clintie M. Duncklee; Emma Fisher.
- No. 5. Miss J. Clara Burton. One term.
- No. 6. Miss Belle McCollom; J. G. G. Thompson.
- No. 7. E. D. McCollom; Miss Bertha L. Wilson.
- No. 9. Miss Martha R. Sargent. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1889.

- No. 1. Miss Florence A. Ring; Miss Ettie M. McGilvray.
- No. 2. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 3. W. N. Donovan, two weeks, and sick; Miss Fannie L. Carlton completed year.
- No. 4. Miss Emma Fisher; Miss Alice G. Crosby; Miss Lizzie G. Curtis.
- No. 5. Miss J. Clara Burton; Miss Katie J. Herlihy.
- No. 6. Miss Alice G. Crosby; Miss Eva L. French.
- No. 7. Miss Belle M. Morrison. Two terms.
- No. 9. Miss Belle M. Morrison. One term.

## Teachers, 1890.

- No. 1. Miss Emma L. Pettee. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Mabel Hadley; Miss Lizzie F. Johnson.

- No. 3. Miss Fannie L. Carlton, the year.
- No. 4. Miss Ida M. Mason. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Alice G. Crosby. One term.
- No. 6. Miss Eva I. French. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Ida M. Mason. One term.
- No. 9. Miss Belle Morrison; Miss Katie J. Herlihy.

## Teachers, 1891.

- No. 1. Miss Annie E. Downes; Miss Clintie A. Emery.
- No. 2. Miss Mary E. Richardson; Miss Mabel Hadley.
- No. 3. Miss Eva I. French. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Ida M. Mason. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Maude L. French; Miss Mary E. Richardson.
- No. 6. Miss Maude M. Harrison. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Hannah E. Hickey; Miss Maude M. Harrison.
- No. 9. Miss Mary E. Richardson. One term.

## Teachers, 1892.

- No. 1. Miss Clintie A. Emery; Miss Lillie M. Butler.
- No. 2. Miss Jennie M. Joslin; Miss Mabel Hadley.
- No. 3. Miss Carrie M. Proctor; Miss Ida. M. Mason; Miss Clara Blood.
- No. 4. Miss Lillie M. Prince; Miss Clintie A. Emery.
- No. 5. Miss Katie J. Herlihy. Two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Maude M. Harrison. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Marion Hartshorn; Miss Lu A. Butler.

## Teachers, 1893.

- No. 1. Miss Lillie M. Butler; Miss Hannah J. Herlihy.
- No. 2. Miss Lu A. Butler; Miss Agnes Cary Curtis.
- No. 3. Miss Clara H. Blood. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Susie J. Chickering; Miss Emma J. Duncklee.
- No. 5. Miss Agnes Cary Curtis; Miss Flora M. Chapman.
- No. 6. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Lillie M. Butler.
- No. 9. Miss Hattie E. Thompson; Miss Carrie M. Downes.

## Teachers, 1894.

- No. 1. Miss Hannah J. Herlihy; Miss Grace E. Putnam.
- No. 2. Miss Marion M. Hartshorn. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Clara H. Blood. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Emma J. Duncklee. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Agnes W. Curtis; Miss Addie W. Downes; H. J. Herlihy.
- No. 6. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 7. Mrs. Frances H. Curtis. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1895.

- No. 1. Miss Emma J. Duncklee. Three terms.
- No. 2. Miss Mabel Hadley. Two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Ida S. Fletcher. Three terms.
- No. 6. Miss Helen M. Chase, one term; Miss Nellie M. Perham, two terms.
- No. 7. Mrs. F. H. Curtis. One term.

## Teachers, 1896.

- No. 1. S. K. Swingleton. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Mabel Hadley, one term; Miss Minnie Martin, two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Edna Swift, two terms; Algernon W. Putnam, one term.
- No. 6. Miss Clintina E. Curtis. Three terms.
- No. 7. Mrs. F. H. Curtis. One term.
- No. 9. Miss Lillian G. Harrington. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1897.

- No. 1. Miss Imogene E. Edwards. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Agnes C. Curtis; Miss Eva M. Bugbee.
- No. 3. Miss Clintina E. Curtis. Three terms.
- No. 6. Miss Elsie B. Curtis. Two terms.
- No. 9. Miss Lillian G. Harrington; Miss Alice F. Herlihy.

## Teachers, 1898.

- No. 1. Miss Irene V. Murch. Two terms.
- No. 2. Miss Eva M. Bugbee; Miss Ida B. Woodward.
- No. 3. Miss Clintina E. Curtis, one term; Miss Helen C. Farnsworth, two terms.
- No. 6. Elsie B. Curtis. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Marion M. Hartshorn. One term.
- No. 9. Miss Alice M. Herlihy. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1899.

- No. 1. Miss Irene V. Murch. One term.
- No. 2. Miss Minnie L. Martin. One term.
- No. 3. Miss Jennie G. Dodge. Three terms.
- No. 5. Miss Bertha C. Duncan; C. M. G. Johnson.
- No. 6. Miss Julia L. Langdell. Two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Alice F. Herlihy. Two terms.

## Teachers, 1900.

- No. 1. C. L. Brockway.
- No. 3. Miss Jennie G. Dodge, one term; Miss Ida Fletcher, two terms.
- No. 6. Miss L. Anabel Tenney. Three terms.
- No. 7. Miss Elizabeth Desilets. Two terms.
- No. 9. Miss Carrie G. Johnson. Three terms.

## Teachers, 1901.

- No. 1. C. L. Brockway, one term; Miss Ethel M. Hadley, two terms.
- No. 3. Miss Ida Fletcher, two terms; Miss Annie Curtis, one term.
- No. 5. C. M. Johnson, one term; Miss Florence Chauncey, two terms.
- No. 6. Miss Ethel M. Hadley, one term; Miss Annie Curtis, two terms.
- No. 7. Miss Lizzie Desilets. Three terms.

## Teachers, 1902.

- No. 1. Miss Ethel M. Hadley. Three terms.
- No. 3. Miss Annie Curtis. Three terms.
- No. 4. Miss Annie Senter. Two terms.
- No. 5. Miss Florence M. Chauncey. Three terms.
- No. 6. Miss Blanche M. Bullard. Three terms.
- No. 7. Miss Elizabeth Desilets. Three terms.

## Teachers, 1903.

- No. 1. Miss Ethel M. Hadley, one ; Miss Amy T. Tenny, two terms.  
No. 3. Miss Annie M. Curtis, two terms ; Miss Lizzie M. Gordon, one term.  
No. 4. Miss Edith E. Weston. One term.  
No. 5. Miss Martha M. Whitney ; Miss Edith E. Weston ; Miss Martha M. Whitney.  
No. 6. Miss Amy T. Tenny, one term ; Miss Bertha G. Perham, two terms.  
No. 7. Miss Florence M. Chauncey, one term ; Miss Edith Parker, two terms.

## Teachers, 1904.

- No. 1. Miss Amy Tenney. Three terms.  
No. 3. Miss Annie M. Curtis, one term ; Miss Bertha T. Parker, two terms.  
No. 5. Miss Martha M. Whitney. Three terms.  
No. 6. Miss Bertha G. Perham, one term ; Miss Bertha G. P. Woodward, two terms.  
No. 7. Miss Bertha T. Parker, one term ; Miss Annie M. Curtis, two terms.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### LIBRARIES.

#### THE SOCIAL LIBRARY

The town of Lyndeborough, in the early days, did not possess many literary advantages. Some of its citizens, however, evinced an appreciation of the value of good books. For we find a "Social Library" not only in operation, but also, actually incorporated, in the year 1798. Very likely it had been in existence some time before its founders sought to have it sanctioned by legal enactment. It seems to have been conducted as a stock company, governed by its proprietors. Its collection of books was good for that day. It was incorporated seven years before the Francestown "Social Library,"\* although the latter was thought to be "the first of its kind in the vicinity"; and it was thirteen years ahead of the "Peterborough Social Library."†

An extract from the act of incorporation follows: —

"Be it enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court convened, that Sewall Goodrich, Ephraim Putnam, Peter Clark, and their associates, proprietors of said library & all such as may hereafter become proprietors of the same be & they hereby are incorporated into a body politic by the name of the Proprietors of the Social Library in Lyndeborough continuation & succession forever — in that name may sue and be sued in all actions personal & may prosecute & defend the same to final judgment & execution & they are hereby vested with all the powers & privileges incident to corporations of a similar nature & may enjoin penalties of disfranchisement or fine not exceeding three dollars for each offence to be recovered by said Society in an action of debt to their use in any court in said State proper to try the same; & they may purchase & receive subscriptions, grants & donations of personal estate not exceeding the sum of one thousand dollars for the benefit of their association."

Approved Dec. 4, 1798.

J. T. Gilman, Governor.

A true copy, Attest:

Philip Carrigain Secretary.

An old schedule gives, 17, 53, 54, 70, as the numbers of books to be sold out of the library, and also names for purchase, "Washington's Letters, European Spectator, 8 volumes, (was it Addison's?) Evelina, History of a young lady, 3 volumes, Ed-

\* Francestown History, p. 403.

† Peterborough History, p. 113.

wards on the Affections, Keith on Prophecy and Andrew Fuller's "The Gospel its own Witness." The works here named indicate something of the rugged manhood which prompted their selection. We have found no record of the success or of the decline of this institution. But like the noble men who originated it, having served its generation, it passed away.

From records found by Mr. Woodward, he adds, "This library established in Lyndeborough was organized in April, 1792. It was a subscription library, and the books were kept at the village at the middle of the town. The following are the subscriber's names, with the amount contributed:—

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Rev. Sewall Goodridge	0	12	0	Eleazer Woodward	0	12	0
Joseph Kidder	0	12	0	Ephraim Kidder	0	12	0
John Epes	0	6	8	Dan <sup>l</sup> Gould	1	4	0
Ithemere Woodward	0	12	0	Capt. Jacob Wellman	0	12	0
Capt. Jonas Kidder	0	12	0	Jonathan Chamberlain, Jr.	0	12	0
Simeon Wilson	0	6	0	Maj. Clark	0	12	0
Dr. Benj. Jones	0	12	0	Aaron Putnam	0	1	6
Capt. William Barron	0	12	0	Dea. Ephraim Putnam	0	12	0
William Dutton	0	12	0	Ephraim Putman, Jr.	0	12	0
Dan <sup>l</sup> Cram, 3 <sup>d</sup>	0	12	0	James Ordway	0	12	0
Lieut. Aaron Lewis	0	12	0	John Woodward	0	12	0
Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Houston	0	12	0	Dan <sup>l</sup> Hardy	0	12	0
Uriah Cram	0	6	3	John Clark	0	12	0
John Besom	0	12	0	Lieut. Joseph Batchelder			
John Boffee	0	12	0	Aaron Carkin			
Lieut. J. Blanchard	0	12	0	Esq. Spaulding			
James Boutwell	0	12	0	Benj. Epes			

The amounts given by the last four subscribers are not legible on the record. Of this amount of money raised, £6, 19s., 9d. was expended by Esq. Rand for books Apr. 1792, and July 2, same year, Dan<sup>l</sup> Gould expended £8, os., 3d. for books, and the expense of "giting" them was 3s.

After a record of fines is this entry, under date of Sept. 3, 1798:—

"Reckoned and settled with Peter Clark Treasurer to y<sup>e</sup> Social library in the Town and find due to said proprietors five dollars and twenty-nine cents to balance. Jonas Kidder, John Clark, Aaron Lewis, Committec."

This was money received from fines and the sale of one book to Dr. Benjamin Jones. The list of the subscribers' names show that it was supported by people from all parts of the town. The amount given was nearly a hundred dollars, a large sum in those early days, and this shows, also, the strong desire for knowledge which our forbears had."

## FRANKLIN LIBRARY, BY J. A. WOODWARD.

In the winter of 1850-51 the citizens of the town organized a lyceum, or at any rate were holding lyceum meetings, and among the questions proposed for discussion was the following: "Resolved: That Napoleon Bonaparte was a greater man than George Washington." William H. Grant and William A. Jones, then young men, were among the disputants, and started out one morning to see if they could find a "Life of Napoleon," a book they much desired to consult. They called on William J. Herrick at his shoemaker's shop, and there these three Williams came to the conclusion that books were entirely too scarce in Lyndeborough, and that some way should be devised to remedy the fault. The result of that conversation was that they went to see Rev. Mr. Claggett. The result of the interview was that a meeting was called for a week from the following Saturday at the town hall for the purpose of talking the matter over. Mr. Claggett actively interested himself, and there was a pretty full attendance of those interested. At this meeting a plan was outlined for a library association, and a constitution and by-laws were drafted, and much of the stock was subscribed for.

PREAMBLE, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE FRANKLIN LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION

Preamble: Feeling it important to cultivate a taste for profitable reading and to procure access to good books in the various departments of literature we form ourselves into a body corporate agreeably to the laws of this Commonwealth and adopt the following Constitution and By-Laws:

## CONSTITUTION

Art. 1. This shall be called the Franklin Library Association.

Art. 2. The stock of this Association shall be taken in shares of one dollar each, and every share shall be subject to such tax as may be assessed from time to time by vote of the Association. All the income of the Association arising from the sale of stock and from other sources except what is necessary to defray current expenses, shall be appropriated to the purchase of books.

Art. 3. Any person may at any time by purchasing one or more shares become a member of this Association.

Art. 4. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Board of five Directors to be chosen annually.

Art. 5. The Directors shall at their first regular meeting make choice of one of their number for Chairman who shall preside at all meetings of the Association.

Art. 6. It shall be the duty of the Directors to select and purchase books for the Association, appoint Librarians, extend the sale of stock, meet once in three months to inspect the state of the library, appraise damages if any and distribute books, also to make a report of their doings at the annual meeting of the Association, and transact all other needful business.

Art. 7. This Association shall hold its annual meetings the first Saturday in January to choose officers, hear the report of the directors and transact all other necessary business.

Art. 8. All votes of this Association shall be taken by stock when requested by one or more members.

Art. 9. This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of the Association by vote of three-fourths of the stockholders.

#### BY-LAWS.

Sect. 1. No member shall have books from the library amounting in value to more than their stock unless it be a single volume of more than that value.

Sect. 2. All books shall be returned to the library at or before every quarterly meeting of the Directors, and any member not complying with this law shall be fined six per cent. on the value of the books charged to him, and three per cent. for each succeeding week until the fine shall amount to the cost of the book or books.

Sect. 3. Every member shall be held responsible for all books charged to him, and shall be liable for all damages committed on the same while in his possession, and any member charged with the damage of a book may have it at his option to pay said damages or take the book at its appraised value.

Sect. 4. No member shall be entitled to draw books from the library who neglects to pay any fine or charge for damages standing against him.

Sect. 5. Any member may at any time except at the quarterly meetings of the Directors draw books from the library by paying three per cent. on their value.

Sect. 6. At the quarterly meetings of the Directors any member wishing for any particular book may request of the Librarian to sell the use of the same to the highest bidder, and no book shall be drawn from the Library at said meetings in any other way.

Sect. 7. No member shall lend any book belonging to the Association to any person not residing in the same house with himself, unless it be a stockholder, and for every infringement of this law he shall be fined twenty-five cents (amended Jan. 1, 1853). Every stockholder shall pay an additional three per cent. every time while charged to him any book is lent to another stockholder and shall be responsible for all damages on the same until returned to the library.

## LIST OF STOCKHOLDERS.

	No. of shares		No. of shares
Rev. E. B. Claggett	10	John Richardson	2
David C. Grant	10	Asa Hill	2
Wm. H. Grant	7	Israel Herrick	2
D. B. Whittemore	5	Benj. G. Herrick	1
David Holt	5	Benj. J. Clark	1
Wm. L. Whittemore	5	Josiah Wheeler	5
Lafayette Herrick	3	Lyndeboro Benefit Asso.	20
Daniel Woodward, Jr.	3	John C. Goodrich	2
Williams Woodward	2	Charles Parker	1
Putnam Woodward	2	Charles H. Parker	2
Artemas Woodward	2	Isaiah C. Parker	2
James H. Karr	2	Sherebiah Manning	3
Wm. R. Duncklee	1	Wm. A. Jones	2
Clark B. Jones	2	Harvey Perham	3
Sylvester Hill	5	Otis Perham	1
Wm. J. Herrick	3	Eli C. Curtis	2
Wm. Jones	1	Wm. W. Curtis	1
Rodney C. Boutwell	2	Burnham Russell	1
Nathan Boutwell	1	Isaac Duncklee	2
Levi P. Spalding	1	Levi Holt	1
George E. Spalding	1	Transferred	
Peter Clark	1	George Woodward	1
Oliver Bixby	1	Charles Carkin	1
Oliver H. Bixby	1	Eliza M. Cochran	1
John Wellman 2nd	1	Mary A. Joslin	1
Luther Cram	5	Leonard G. Brown	1
Amaziah Blanchard	3	Nathan Richardson	1
Ebenezer Fisk	2	William Raymond	1
Jonathan Stephenson	2	Henry F. Dodge	1
Samuel N. Hartshorn	1	Levi Spalding	1
John Bachelder	1	David D. Clark	1
John Proctor	2	David E. Upton	1
Alonzo Hartshorn	1	George B. Young	1
Wm. N. Ryerson	2	Benj. F. Holt	1
Mary C. Lucas	1	Asa B. Clark	1
Edmond J. Parker	1	Lois J. McIntire	1

Jan., 1851. At a voluntary meeting of the stockholders of the Franklin Library Association at the town hall, the meeting being called to order, John Richardson was chosen chairman, and D. B. Whittemore secretary, for the meeting. After remarks had been made by several members in regard to the future prospects of the association, it was unanimously voted that the association now go into permanent organization by the choice of directors. And in accordance with said vote the following gentlemen were chosen the first directors of the associa-

tion. Israel Herrick, David Holt, Daniel B. Whittemore, David C. Grant, E. B. Claggett. Voted that this meeting adjourn to the call of the directors, D. B. Whittemore, secretary.

May 17, 1851, the first sale of books was made, and at this meeting Israel Herrick was chosen president of the Board of Directors, and David C. Grant, secretary. The amount realized from the sale of stock and other sources was \$163.12. A room was furnished at the house of Josiah Wheeler, and Mrs. Wheeler was made librarian, which office she kept until her death, in 1870. Four hundred and five books have been purchased and 77 donated by the U. S. departments.

After the death of Mrs. Wheeler the library was removed to the parsonage, and since it has been located at various houses. Since the formation of the town free public library the Franklin library has practically ceased to be patronized. In 1860 John H. Goodrich was chosen secretary and treasurer, which offices he has held ever since, a term of forty-four years.

The sale of the books at the quarterly meetings was sometimes productive of much fun and sometimes spirited bidding, especially when new books had been bought. For a long time fiction was not in favor with those who selected the books, and for that reason the library contains many standard works, much of history, and books of a scientific character. It has been a blessing to the town!

#### SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

Fogg's "Gazetteer of New Hampshire," published in 1874, reports at that time a library at South Lyndeborough which contained three hundred volumes. A writer in the *Milford Enterprise* of June, 1878, states that the South Lyndeborough library contained about four hundred volumes. Definite dates of the origin of this library do not now seem attainable. But it is probable that it was started late in the sixties. Mrs. E. C. Tarbell was one of its earlier librarians, and the books were then kept in Tarbell's hall, about where our public library is now located.

The prime mover in founding this library seems to have been a talented lady who was accustomed to spend a portion of her summers here, Miss Clara Urann. She circulated a paper and obtained subscriptions for it among the boarders and others. She enlisted Mr. Merrill, her brother-in-law, in favor of it. He was an elocutionist, and gave a reading in aid of the enterprise.

The library thus begun was designed for the common benefit of both citizens and summer guests, and the number of the books indicates that a very lively interest was taken in the project. The books were also of admirable quality. Among them was a set of Bancroft's "History of the United States" and a large sprinkling of standard works.

In time, however, the interest in maintaining it flagged; and in the decade commencing with 1880, the books were much scattered through the community, and systematic care for them had rather relaxed. Though greatly reduced in the number of its volumes, the library still continued in operation until the Lyndeborough public library was established, and then, *nemine contradicente*, became merged in that organization.

#### LYNDEBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public statutes of New Hampshire, in 1891, made provision to aid in establishing free public libraries in all towns of the state which should by vote at a legal town meeting accept the provision. The towns accepting the aid were to receive one hundred dollars' worth of books after having provided in a satisfactory manner "for the care, custody and distribution of the books."\*

Any town accepting these provisions must "annually appropriate for the use and maintenance of its free public library a sum not less than fifty dollars, if its last assessed valuation was one million dollars or upward, or a sum not less than twenty-five dollars, if the valuation was less than one million and not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, or a sum not less than fifteen dollars if the valuation was less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars."†

Eighty-one towns voted in favor of accepting the provisions of the law, among which was Lyndeborough, although it had not fully completed all its arrangements.

Library commissioners had been appointed to further the work of establishing such libraries. Their aim, as avowed, was "to get the *best* books rather than the cheapest," to have quality rather than number. This aim, we believe, was evidenced by the volumes which they selected.

The accession list of the books granted by the State was not made up till March, 1894, when one hundred and four volumes were entered, and three more were added the following June.

\* Public Statutes, 1891, Chap. XIII, Sec. 24.

† *Ib.*, Chap. XIII, Sec. 25.

Further additions have been made, not only by town appropriations, but also by private citizens. The late Mr. William R. Putnam, a native of Lyndeborough, residing in Woburn, Mass., made very large personal gifts to it; and as the executor of the will of the late Jotham Hildreth, he appropriated five hundred dollars from the latter's estate, for the purchase of books for our library. This grant added many volumes to our collection. The town has also made liberal appropriations year by year, until now there are thirteen hundred and thirty-five volumes upon our lists, many of which are very instructive as well as interesting and entertaining. One hundred volumes were added to the library during the year ending Feb. 15, 1904.

Its present trustees are Mr. W. S. Tarbell, secretary of the board since its first organization; Mr. Algernon W. Putnam, elected last year, and Rev. D. Donovan, treasurer, continuously since its organization. Two other gentlemen served as trustees for a time, namely, S. N. Hartshorn, Esq., who served till his death, and Mr. J. A. Woodward, who resigned last year.

The library is now in its third domicile; it was first placed in the building now used as post office and store, with Mrs. Lizzie G. Tarbell as librarian; it was secondly housed in the B. & M. R. R. station, with Mrs. E. A. Danforth as librarian; and thirdly, given its present quarters, over Tarbell's store, with W. S. Tarbell as librarian.

We hope, not vainly, I trust, that some worthy child of Lyndeborough, blessed with abundant means, will yet build for himself "*monumentum aere perennius*," a monument more lasting than bronze, in the form of a convenient library building, and thus confer an enduring benefit upon future sons of his beloved native town.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

### LYCEUMS.

#### THE SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH LYCEUM.

By special request of the writer, Mr. Luther Cram, the oldest member of our "Town History Committee," in his eighty-sixth year, furnished the following account of one of the earliest lyceums in Lyndeborough. He wrote :

"Soon after the erection of the store at South Lyndeborough, a lyceum was organized composed of the adult portion of the community, with a preamble substantially as follows :

'We, the undersigned, believing that a well-conducted lyceum is of great advantage, form ourselves into an organization to be known as the South Lyndeboro Lyceum, the object of which is to prepare ourselves more fully to perform our duties as American Citizens, adopt the following Constitution and By Laws :'

The meetings were held in the hall over the store, which was fairly well filled each week with interested members. The exercises consisted of debates by the male members, and compositions and essays by the ladies. Those who took part in the exercises would seek information on the subject of debate ; and consequently, books which had lain neglected and unread for years, were brought into use, much to the benefit of the disputant and the interest of the audience. An effort was also made in those gatherings to improve in a correct use of the English language. Critics were appointed to report any improper use of words or phrases introduced into the debate. An example of this kind occurred once in a discussion of the prohibitory law, when all the speakers, except one, called it 'prohibetary' law. The remarks of the critics were so keen and trenchant, that the proper word was used ever after in that lyceum."

Among the teachers who interested themselves in the lyceums of those times was Ephraim Knight of Hancock, famous at a later day as teacher of mathematics and natural sciences at the New London Literary and Scientific Institution, New London, New Hampshire.

Mr. Cram thinks that the first lyceum in town was organized in District No. 3, and also, that this of which he has written was one of the earliest. He distinctly remembers when Prof.

Daniel Putnam of Ypsilanti, Michigan, as a boy, took part in the discussion, and was at times followed by his grandsire, Daniel Putnam, Esq., who was thirteen times elected representative to the New Hampshire legislature. The latter was accustomed to refer so deferentially and respectfully to "the gentleman last on the floor," or to the "remarks of the preceding speaker," that it is pleasant and refreshing even at this day to recall the scenes.

"Of the Lyceum," Prof. Putnam has written, "I can add little, perhaps nothing, to what Mr. Cram knows. My impression is that it was the first of the Lyceums organized in the town. The organization must have been a little earlier than 1840, but I have no means of fixing the exact date. I have reason to remember the Lyceum with some measure of gratitude, as my first practice in public speaking was in the discussions of that society. . . . We discussed, and of course settled, a good many important questions, among these the question, 'Which have the greater influence, men or women?' I do not now remember how that question was decided."

In that lyceum two papers were edited, one of which was called "*The Bee*," and was conducted by the boy, Daniel Putnam. Of this matter, Prof. Putnam has recently written, "I remember something of '*The Bee*,' of which Mr. Cram speaks. My work in editing '*The Bee*,' came about in this way, my uncle, David J. Putnam, edited a paper, the title of which I do not recall, in which he advocated certain views to which I could not then subscribe; and '*The Bee*' took the opposite side. As I think over the matter, after the experience of a good many years, I can readily believe that my writing then was very crude, but I got some facility in expression which has been of advantage to me in later years, and I suppose the members of the Lyceum got some enjoyment out of the matter."

That the lyceum here described in part was of some advantage will doubtless be conceded after testimonies such as have been cited. In entire harmony with these is a preamble of one of the constitutions adopted by a lyceum of later date at Lyndeborough Centre. It proceeds:

"We, believing that it is a duty as well as a privilege to cultivate and improve those intellectual powers which the Great Author of our being has given us — believing also, that in no way can this be better accomplished than in a well regulated Lyceum; do hereby associate ourselves

together to form a Lyceum for mutual improvement, subject to the following Constitution and By Laws."

This preamble is viewed by the writer as breathing the spirit of Rev. E. B. Claggett, whose name is subscribed to the "Constitution" together with a goodly list of others, who were honored in the town at that time. Some of our older citizens have said that in his day a very large proportion of our active, young men attained such facility and ease of expression in debate as to enable them to speak almost impromptu, with fluency and intelligence and effectiveness upon a large variety of interesting and practical subjects. They became, through their practice in the lyceums, well informed on many subjects, and could address an audience with great acceptance. Much of this ability is attributed to Mr. Claggett's genial, kindly, wise and effective leadership. After he became pastor of the Congregational Church he devoted himself earnestly and heartily to every interest of the town, religious, educational, practical. For many years he was chairman of the superintending committee of schools, and it is said that he could, at sight, call every scholar in the town by name. He lent his cheerful assistance to every scheme which aimed to promote general welfare.

He prepared for one of the lyceums, a historical sketch of Lyndeborough, which he used as the "basis of a lecture delivered Jan. 17, 1854," in which he refers enthusiastically to the heroism of Lyndeborough men in the great struggle for national independence. This must have strongly appealed to patriotic impulses which a few years later were severely tested on many a field of tragic, fratricidal strife.

A sample or two of Mr. Claggett's humor may not here be misplaced. After stating that the history of our ancient town embraces many facts and matters of great interest which might be expanded to the size of a neat little volume, he added: "One thing I have also noticed of this town is the fact that they have always been in the habit of getting married; and I expect they will keep doing so. I have no knowledge of the first wedding in town, nor can I tell how they used to conduct such occasions. In connection with this subject, it may not be inappropriate to say, that Benjamin Cram, who died many years ago, used to say with much satisfaction, that his father married the handsomest girl in the whole township. On further inquiry it appeared that she was the only girl in town, and very homely at that."

This lyceum lecture was doubtless very instructive and very highly enjoyed.

#### THE SECOND MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

This, so far as appears, was the direct successor of the previous society. It was organized in January, 1839. After continuing to hold meetings about two winters, it voted to unite with "The Lyndeborough Lyceum" and adjourned Dec. 1, 1840. The next record in the old book is dated Nov. 17, 1843. The question for debate, Feb. 9, 1844, was, "Would the emancipation of the slaves at the present time be injurious to the community at large? The affirmative disputants were Jonathan H. Butler and David Stiles; the negative were Israel Herrick, M. D., and Samuel Karr. The decision was in the negative. Before the union of these lyceums the meetings were held in the school-house of District No. 2; after the union, meetings were held at the centre.

From the forty-five names on the roll of membership of this union lyceum we select the names of some who have recently passed away, but are well remembered; and others who are still with us and well known. Foremost among the latter is that of Joseph A. Johnson, the secretary, then a boy of sixteen, and now "a gray-haired boy."

Wilkes H. Hadley	Israel H. Goodridge
David C. Grant	Franklin Senter
Nathaniel T. McIntire	Eli C. Curtis
Harvey G. McIntire	Kilburn S. Curtis
George D. Woodward	Daniel Whittemore
James H. Karr	William A. Jones
Lafayette Herrick	Ward Woodward
William Herrick	William Wellman
John F. Marden	

#### THE FRANKLIN DEBATING CLUB.

I quote from the Record Book :

"Lyndeborough, Aug. 22, 1851.

According to previous notice, the friends of the Lyceum met and transacted the following business :

1. Chose D. Stiles, Esq., President pro tem.;
2. Chose W. A. Jones, Secretary pro tem.;
3. Heard the report of the committee chosen to prepare a Constitution and By Laws;
4. Voted to take up the Constitution and By Laws by the article.
5. Voted to adopt the Constitution and By Laws.

6. Chose W. A. Jones, President.  
 " Sylvester Hill, V. Pres.  
 " W. H. Grant, Secretary.  
 " O. H. Bixby, Treasurer.
7. Adjourned to meet Thursday, Aug. 28, at 7 o'clock P. M.  
 W. A. Jones, Secretary.

The officers were to serve two weeks, except the treasurer, whose term of service was to be eleven weeks, or till his successor was chosen. In addition to the names above given, we give those of others who became members :

Harvey Perham	E. B. Claggett
W. J. Herrick	R. C. Boutwell
Lafayette Herrick	Luther Cram
Clark B. Jones	Wm. W. Curtis
Benjamin G. Herrick	D. B. Whittemore
S. N. Hartshorn	Foster Woodward
Charles H. Parker	Nathaniel Jones
Isaiah C. Parker	Moses Ordway
Daniel Woodward, Jr.	John Batchelder
John Richardson	Joseph Chamberlain
Francis Clark	John Gage

## Ladies.

Martha Hill	E. J. M. Claggett
Lydia Proctor	Anna M. Claggett
Mary J. Holt	Lizzie T. Steele
Anu E. Boutwell	Orpah Gage
Francis M. Fiske	Harriette Richardson
Abby J. Boutwell	Sarah A. Plumer
Sarah D. Clark	Adaline Woodward
Frances A. Holt	Virginia Richardson

These do not include the whole, but are samples of the material which formed the lyceum. Other names as worthy as they, are possibly omitted.

This specific club seems not to have been long lived. It met weekly till Nov. 4, 1851, at which date, declamations were given by W. H. Grant, Alfred Holt, N. B. Boutwell, Charles H. Parker and C. B. Jones. The following resolution was discussed :

"Resolved that the Legislature of New Hampshire ought to enact laws making it a *penal offense* to traffic in intoxicating drinks as a beverage, giving the right to search suspected places, and liberty to destroy the contraband article when used for sale."

## Debaters.

Affirmative. David Stiles and Charles Carkin.

Negative. Daniel Woodward, Jr. and C. H. Parker.

The resolution was adopted 27 to 4, indicating the strong temperance

sentiment of the club. "After the discussion, came the reading of the 'Literary Star,' and then a vote, to adjourn to a call of the officers."

Clark B. Jones, Secretary.

Thus ended the work of the Franklin Debating Club.

#### THE LYNDEBOROUGH LYCEUM.

In the debating club above described probably originated its longer-lived successor, "The Lyndeborough Lyceum." In both these organizations, Rev. E. B. Claggett was a prominent factor. The names of the members were those of the most active and best-known citizens of the town.

Under date of Lyndeboro', Dec. 7, 1854, we find the following record :

"According to previous notice, the friends of the Lyceum met and transacted the following business :

*First.* Adopted the Constitution and By Laws.

*Second.* Chose the following officers :

Luther Cram, President.

Charles Carkin, Vice President.

John H. Goodrich, Secretary.

Henry Richardson, Treasurer.

Elizabeth Claggett and } Editors.  
Hannah D. Clark }

J. G. Donnell, S. H. Dyer and Foster Woodward, Executive Committee."

The Constitution appears to be the penmanship of the Rev. E. B. Claggett. The meetings were held in the town hall weekly, and continued through the winter to March, 1855. The names of the members are chiefly those in the preceding lists.

Those lyceums for mental improvement greatly assisted in developing quite a marked intellectual activity among the young people, and fitted them to express their ideas clearly and forcibly upon a variety of subjects in which the public was then interested. The young people of today have enjoyed greater advantages, have had training in schools of higher grade, and a free use of both public libraries and the current literature of the time; but the debaters of fifty years ago have, even now, very few superiors in the power of using a vigorous, sententious, English speech. Their number, also, formed a very respectable proportion of the population of the town.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, BY J. A. WOODWARD.

#### THE "SCATAQUOG" HILL SILVER MINE.

The story of the "Scataquog" Silver Mine is interesting as probably the only attempt ever made in Lyndeborough to prospect for any of the precious metals.

In 1783, Joshua Partridge, of Medway, Mass., claimed to have discovered indications of silver in the rock composing the ledges near the top of "Scataquog" mountain, on land of Francis Epes. There is a tradition that he used a "divining rod" in his explorations, and that he had previously discovered other mines in New England.

He succeeded in interesting many of the early settlers of the town, and a corporation was formed for the purpose of buying the land and developing the mine. They blasted a deep ditch or partly ditch and partly tunnel, into the side of the mountain, and the excavation can be found at this day, though time and the action of frost has partly filled it up. The stone is of a rusty color.

The writer was once there with a man well versed in geology. He said the stone undoubtedly contained a sulphuret of something, probably of iron. There was long a tradition that the owners got enough silver to make a pair of shoe buckles, but it is highly improbable. They had their labor for their pains.

Names of the proprietors of the mine, with their parts of the same. In the original deed, said Lott considered to consist of 24 shares :

Francis Epes, Esq.	2	Col. Israel Hutchinson	1
Lieut. Thomas Boffee	4	Capt. Benjamin Epes	1
Mr. Daniel Gould	4	Peter Clark, Esq.	1
Rev. Sewell Goodridge	$\frac{3}{4}$	Mr. Samuel Neven	1
Capt. William Barrons	1	Capt. John Wood	1
Maj. Samuel Epes	1	Andrew Fuller, Esq.	$\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. William Holt	$\frac{1}{2}$	Dr. Benj. Jones	$\frac{1}{2}$
Abraham Wellman	1	En. Nathaniel Phelps	1
Dea. Ephraim Putnam	$\frac{1}{2}$	Daniel Eppes, Esq.	$\frac{1}{2}$
Joseph Epes	$\frac{1}{2}$	Capt. Levi Spaulding	$\frac{1}{4}$

March 27, 1783. At a meeting of the maj. part of the foregoing proprietors at the house of Capt. William Barrons, Innholder in said town, to consult upon and come into the best "method" to obtain and dig for

a mine which they suppose to be in a lot belonging to Francis Epps, Esq. Accordingly they agreed to give Mr. Epps three shillings pr. acre. and Mr. Epps agreed to sell and convey said lot to the proprietors for the same. Said lot contains acres by estimation amounting to £19-10-0.

2nd. We agreed said lot should consist of 24 shares.

3rd. We agreed that Mr. Joshua Partridge of Medway should have the 32d part of the neat profit of said mine for finding the same for us.

4th. Agreed to raise one dollar on a share to purchase necessaries to begin with.

5th. Agreed to adjourn to Thursday, April 10, at Capt. Barrons.

A true copy att. by Peter Clark, clerk of proprietors of said mine.

April 10, 1783. Proprietors met according to adjournment.

1st. Chose Capt. William Barron, moderator.

2nd. Chose Peter Clark, clerk and treasurer for the proprietors of y<sup>e</sup> mine until the next annual meeting.

3d. Agreed to chuse a Committee to consist of 5 to form a covenant and bond for the — to enter into and rules of procedure to the above mine.

Rev. Sewell Goodridge	}	Committee
Peter Clark		
Lt. Thomas Boffee		
Francis Epps Esq.		
Daniel Gould		

4th. Agreed to have an annual meeting on the first Wednesday in October, always to be held in the Town of Lyndeboro.

5th. Agreed that the above committee shall settle all accounts in and with said proprietors until the first Wednesday in October next.

6th. Mr. Daniel Gould agreed with the proprietors and promised to give up one of his shares to the workmen if said workmen were inclined to have it, if not, to remain to Mr. Gould.

7th. Agreed to raise two dollars more to a share in addition to the one dollar first raised to furnish supplies for said mine.

8th. Agreed to have a meeting on Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 25th day of June next at the House of Mr. Daniel Gould. Agreed to adjourn to Tuesday next to meet at the mine.

A true copy of the proceedings.

Peter Clark, Prop<sup>r</sup> Clerk.

At this meeting of the proprietors at the mine it is recorded that they "began to open the mine."

May 2, 1783. The Proprietors meet at Capt. William Barrons. Chose Moderator. Agreed with Lieut. Thomas Boffee to find a good bed and bedding and procure the washing Necessary for the same for two shillings per month. Chose Lieut. Thomas Boffee, Inspector and overseer of the work at the mine according to the first article in the Covenant.

Voted to allow 5/ pr. day for what Labours has been done by the day until this time. Labor that has been done by the day is as follows, viz. :

	Days		Days
Rev. Sewell Goodridge	4	Peter Clark	4
Lieut. Thomas Boffee	6	William Holt	5½
Capt. Barron	6½	Dea. Ephraim Putnam	5½
Dr. Jones	2½	Francis Epps	4
Mr. Daniel Gould	4½	Nathaniel Phelps	4
Andrew Fuller Esq.	3½	Abraham Wellman	5



At a meeting, June 25, 1783, it was voted to release Rev. Mr. Sewell Goodridge from serving on the committee according to his desire, with a grateful acknowledgement of his good services and chose Capt. William Barron as one of the committee in the "sted" of Mr. Goodridge.

July 9, 1783. Proprietors met according to adjournment. Voted to receive and examine the "Several and Respective Accounts" Respecting the Mine and find accounts stand as follows with those persons whose names are here inserted, likewise find the Expense and cost Exclusive of the Rum Molasses Powder and iron, Coffee, and Shugar, provided by Col. Hutchinson to amount to £2-14-0 to each share, total amounting to £64-16-0.

The amount of money "sunk" by the proprietors is as follows :

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Rev. Sewell Goodridge	2	14	0	Lieu <sup>t</sup> Thomas Boffee	10	16	0
Capt. William Barron	2	14	0	W <sup>m</sup> Lack	8	2	0
Peter Clark	2	14	0	Andrew Fuller Esq.	1	7	0
Dr. Benj. Jones	1	7	0	Francis Epes Esq.	13	10	0
Dea. Ephraim Putnam	1	7	0	Mr. Daniel Gould	9	9	0
Abraham Wellman	2	14	0	William Holt	1	7	0
En. Nathaniel Phelps	2	14	0				

The others lost their time and labor.

#### LYNDEBOROUGH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

At about the time of the commencement of the Civil War it was thought by many that the rates of fire insurance companies on farm property were too high, and that these companies were taking altogether too much money out of the town. In 1862 the following named men organized the Lyndeborough Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the same being incorporated June 2, 1862.

Joel H. Tarbell	Nathan Richardson
Jonathan Stephenson	Ebenezer Fiske
John F. Holt	Peter Clark
David C. Grant	Henry Clark
David Holt	Joseph Haggett
John Hartshorn	Rufus Chamberlain
Harvey Perham	Josiah Wheeler
John C. Goodrich	Martin Whitney
Nathaniel T. McIntire	William A. Jones
John Richardson	Nelson Kidder
Jotham Hildreth	Oliver Bixby
Rodney C. Boutwell	Levi Tyler
Isaac L. Dunklee	Artemas Woodward
Edwin N. Patch	Albert Cram
Micah Hartshorn	Asa Hill
Burnham Russell	Eli C. Curtis
Samuel Jones	

Of these thirty-three original incorporators but five are living at the date of this writing, 1904. John Richardson was the first

president, William A. Jones the first secretary, and Peter Clark the first treasurer. Mr. Richardson served as president until 1865, Jonathan Stephenson from 1865 to 1870, Joel H. Tarbell, from 1870 to 1891, and Nathaniel T. McIntire from 1891 until the present time. Dr. Jones (W. A.) was secretary until 1865, Samuel Jones from 1865 to 1868. At his death John Richardson was appointed for the rest of the year 1868. Samuel N. Hartshorn, 1869 and 1870. John H. Goodrich was chosen in 1871, and has held the office to date (1904). Peter Clark was treasurer from 1862 until his death in 1879, Benj. J. Clark in 1880 and 1881, Daniel B. Whittemore from 1882 to 1893, Jacob A. Woodward from 1893 to 1896, and Charles L. Perham from 1896 to date.

The amount of the policies issued is over one hundred thousand dollars, and the company has succeeded from the date of its organization in making the cost of fire insurance in Lyndeborough much less than formerly.

The losses paid since its incorporation are as follows : —

Nathan Richardson, barn struck by lightning but not burned, \$18.00.

Sumner French, house burned March 11, 1871, \$550.00.

Leonard G. Brown, barn struck by lightning 1873, \$25.00.

Martin Whitney, house damaged by fire 1876, \$24.50.

Azro D. Cram, buildings burned Oct. 6, 1881, \$535.00.

Oliver Watkins, damage by fire in 1881, \$5.00.

Andy Holt, house damaged by fire Oct. 15, 1887, \$63.00.

Frank B. Tay, buildings struck by lightning and burned July 31, 1890, \$1000.00.

George H. Butler, barn struck by lightning and burned Aug. 13, 1895, \$900.00.

Alice Morse, barn struck by lightning and burned July 25, 1900, \$225.00.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

At South Lyndeborough Sept. 22, 1868, was organized Post Harvey Holt, No. 15, Department of New Hampshire, Grand Army of the Republic, by Maj. Samuel F. Murry, with twelve charter members.

This organization of the soldiers of the War of the Rebellion has for its objects fraternity among its members, the keeping in remembrance the dead, who gave their lives that the Union might live, the decorating of their graves on Memorial Day, and mutual help and cheer among surviving comrades.

With the help of a small sum of money from the town, this Post has appropriately observed Memorial Day ever since its or-

ganization, and with this Order as leader, no town has more sincerely than Lyndeborough paid its just tribute, each returning 30th of May, to the soldier boys who lost their lives on the battlefield and by wounds and disease.

This Order, also, has been instrumental in having markers placed at the graves of the soldiers of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and these graves are not forgotten in the services of decoration day.

It is the custom to have an oration and other appropriate exercises at the hall and a procession to the south cemetery and the soldiers' monument, where other and fitting exercises are held. Besides, delegations visit the other yards of the town.

The townspeople very generally observe the day and attend these ceremonies.

This Post was named in honor of Harvey Holt, a Lyndeborough boy killed at the battle of Bull Run, and one of the first to lose his life for the cause.

## CHARTER MEMBERS.

C. Henry Holt	Joseph Blanchard	John C. Carkin
Charles F. Tarbell	John H. Goodrich	Everett A. Cram
George T. Jones	William W. Wood	Fred A. Nourse
Moses C. Fuller	Andy Holt	Ward N. Cheever

## MEMBERSHIP.

*Abbott, Willis H.	Draper, David S.	Macomber, S. R.
Atwood, Samuel H.	*Emerson, Charles A.	Ordway, John C.
Brown, George E.	*Farnsworth, Irving S.	Putnam, George A.
*Burton, John	Ford, Alfred T.	Pinkham, Charles B.
*Blanchard, George	Frye, Charles H.	Proctor, David E.
Bailey, Charles H.	Gordon, Clark S.	Putnam, Byron
Bailey, William A.	Gray, Moses.	Richardson, Fred A.
Buck, Sewell M.	*Gage, John	Ruffle, George
*Bridges, G. W.	Gould, Benj.	Raymond, George B.
Boutwell, Abram	*Hutchinson, Merrill	Raymond, John P.
Batten, Richard	Herrick, Benj. G.	Ryerson, William N.
Conant, Charles W.	Holt, Jason	Smith, Jacob
Cram, Orren N.	*Hardy, James L.	Sullivan, John
*Carter, Charles T.	*Hutchinson, Isaac N.	*Sheldon, John R.
Cummings, Sam <sup>l</sup> S.	Hutchinson, Charles L.	Steele, William P.
*Clark, Aaron A.	Howard, John F.	Spalding, Merrill T.
Cram, George M.	Hanover, U. A.	Thrasher, F. E.
Cram, Azro D.	Hart, Parker	Woodward, George T.
Conant, Albert S.	Hall, Henry K.	*Woods, Charles T.
Curtis, Randall B.	James, Leonard T.	*Way, Lucius A.
*Dunklee, George W.	Key, Joseph H.	Winn, George E.
*Dascomb, James K.	Lowe, Isaac	
Dickey, David G.	Marshall, Andrew J.	

\*Wilton.

## OFFICERS.

1868	Commander C. Henry Holt	Adjutant Charles F. Tarbell
1869	“ Andy Holt	“ George A. Putnam
1869 (July)	George T. Jones	“ David E. Proctor
1870	“ David E. Proctor	“ John H. Goodrich
1871	“ C. Henry Holt	“ Charles F. Tarbell
1872	“ C. Henry Holt	“ John C. Carkin
1873	“ C. Henry Holt	“ John C. Carkin
1874	“ C. Henry Holt	“ John C. Carkin
1875	“ C. Henry Holt	“ John C. Carkin
1876	“ C. S. Gordon	“ John C. Carkin
1877	“ C. S. Gordon	“ John C. Carkin
1878	“ Azro D. Cram	“ John C. Carkin
1879	“ Sewell M. Buck	“ John C. Carkin
1880	“ Sewell M. Buck	“ George E. Brown
1881	“ A. S. Conant	“ George E. Brown
1882	“ A. S. Conant	“ George E. Brown
1883	“ John C. Carkin	“ George E. Brown
1884	“ John C. Carkin	“ Andy Holt
1885	“ George M. Cram	“ Andy Holt
1886	“ Gaylord B. Smith	“ A. S. Conant
1887	“ Byron Putnam	“ Azro D. Cram
1888	“ George E. Winn	“ Azro D. Cram
1889	“ Jason Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1890	“ A. S. Conant	“ Andrew J. Marshall
1891	“ C. H. Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1892	“ Jason Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1893	“ Andy Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1894	“ Charles H. Frye	“ Azro D. Cram
1895	“ John C. Miller	“ Azro D. Cram
1896	“ David G. Dickey	“ Azro D. Cram
1897	“ Frank B. Tay	“ Azro D. Cram
1898	“ George Murch	“ Azro D. Cram
1899	“ Andy Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1900	“ Benj. G. Herrick	“ Azro D. Cram
1901	“ Jason Holt	“ Azro D. Cram
1902	“	“ Azro D. Cram
1903	“ George M. Cram	“ Azro D. Cram
1904	“ George M. Cram	“ Azro D. Cram

## CHAPTER XX.

### PINNACLE GRANGE, BY J. A. WOODWARD.

The primary objects of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, better known as the Grange, were to obtain relief from the unjust freight tariffs of the railroads of the country, to do away as much as possible with the services of the army of middle-men who handled the agricultural products of the land, to thus bring the producer and the consumer nearer together, and to promote fraternity and co-operation among its members. Its later aims are the result of development along other lines.

The National Grange was organized at Georgetown, D. C., in January, 1873. The order obtained some foothold in New Hampshire in the summer of that year, the first subordinate grange being organized at Exeter, August, 1873, with the late John D. Lyman as master.

The New Hampshire State Grange was organized Dec. 23, 1873, there being then seventeen granges in the state. At this meeting of the State Grange C. C. Shaw of Milford was appointed general deputy to promote the interests of the order in his jurisdiction; and he held that office by re-appointment until 1879.

The order soon became an influential factor in the interests of the farmers of the state and nation, and in no section more so than in New Hampshire, where nearly every community soon had a branch.

But as the years went by and more favorable conditions obtained in the carrying and handling of farm products, the objects of the order changed, and education, fraternal and social improvement among the farmers came to the front.

Pinnacle Grange, No. 18, Lyndeborough, was organized by C. C. Shaw, General Deputy of the State Grange, Dec. 26, 1873, and was the first grange organized after the first meeting of the State Grange.

During its existence it has been a powerful factor for good among its members and the people of the town; possibly no secular organization more so. The following historical sketch was written to be read at the twenty-fifth anniversary of its organi-

zation, and while it was never intended to be included in the history of the town, it is inserted without further apology:—

Twenty-five years ago the twenty-sixth of last December Pinnacle Grange was organized by Bro. C. C. Shaw of Milford. It came as a sort of belated Christmas present. Bro. Shaw, however, did not bring it all set up and ready for business, but constructed it after his arrival.

He took Andy Holt and made him master, and joined to him David G. Dickey, overseer, Henry H. Joslin, steward, John C. Ordway, assistant steward, Edward J. Stephenson, lecturer, John Richardson, chaplain, Martin Whitney, secretary, James H. Karr, treasurer, George E. Spaulding, gate keeper, Phebe A. Ordway, Ceres, Mary E. Dickey, Flora, Annie F. Fuller, Pomona, and Abby J. Holt, lady assistant steward.

Bro. Shaw looked upon his work when it was done and said it was pretty good, but recommended careful handling until the glue should be set and the parts strongly bound together.

And immediately those outside the gates rose up with a desire to pull it to pieces to see with what material it was stuffed.

The interest in the grange as a farmer's organization first developed in New Hampshire in 1873. The first grange was organized in Exeter in the late summer of that year, and Pinnacle Grange in the closing month, so it appears to be about as venerable as any of them.

Of those who were foremost in exciting an interest in the Order of Patrons of Husbandry in this state but few are known to the writer of this sketch, but certainly Bro. Shaw labored earnestly night and day in carrying forward the work. Believing most sincerely in its principles he spared neither time nor pains in pushing the work along, and it is probably mostly through his influence that Pinnacle Grange had an existence. It is to be wondered if he built better than he knew on that stormy December night.

It is to be regretted that the records of this grange for the first two or three years are so meagre. The first record is dated Dec. 9, 1873, and is as follows: "Met at the Town Hall to see if a Grange could be organized. Chose John Richardson Chairman. Listened to remarks by Eben Thompson. Adjourned to Dec. 18." Nothing is recorded of those who were present, and the historian is unable to tell who Eben Thompson was. From the best information obtainable it is likely that Martin Whitney, James H. Karr, William H. Clark, Moses C. Fuller, David G. Dickey,

Geo. E. Spaulding, Andy Holt and John Ordway were present, besides the chairman, and it is probable they did not fully comprehend the order, then in its infancy.

Under date of Dec. 18, is the statement, "Met by adjournment, chose Martin Whitney, Secretary, adjourned to Dec. 20th."

Dec. 20, "Met in the absence of the chairman and chose Eli C. Curtis, chairman for the evening. Chose a committee to notify Deputy Shaw to come and organize them." That committee was Martin Whitney, Eli C. Curtis, David G. Dickey, Henry Joslin and John C. Ordway. They notified Mr. Shaw to come Dec. 26, at 7.30 o'clock in the evening, and he came as before stated. That he came that stormy December night from Milford, through drifting snow and against piercing winds, shows his devotion to the order.

He found the hall unwarmed and unlighted, but teams were sent hurrying after this one and that, before enough came to fill the chairs. One member who has since been a tower of strength to the order, both in town and elsewhere, said, "The Grange might go to the blue blazes before he would turn out on such a night," and he didn't.

The following signed the rolls as charter members :

Andy Holt	David G. Dickey
Henry Joslin	John C. Ordway
John Richardson	Edward J. Stephenson
James H. Karr	Martin Whitney
George E. Spaulding	Moses C. Fuller
Olney P. Butler	C. Henry Holt
Eli C. Curtis	David Holt
William H. Clark	Nathaniel T. McIntire
Artemas Woodward	Jane D. Joslin
Abbie J. Holt	Phebe J. Ordway
Mary E. Dickey	Annie E. Fuller
Abbie J. Spaulding	Hattie E. Holt
Clara F. Karr	Nancy E. Whitney
Betsey A. Curtis	Nancy E. Woodward

The records of the first year simply show the grange in process of development. David C. Grant was elected master for 1874. In the records of the meetings of this first year, the worthy secretary signs his name in a fine, small hand, and in unexpected places, but in the record of the second election of officers, he gives almost half a page to his signature with many a twirl and flourish, as much as to say, "Hurrah! That important matter is well over."

Martin Whitney was the next master, serving until 1877, when Andy Holt was again elected. In 1878 it was again Martin Whitney, master. This taking turns seems to show the popularity of these two brothers in the order.

The name of Benjamin G. Herrick, a new member, begins to appear in the records about this time and he was chosen master in 1879, holding the office four years, or until 1883. There was a period of depression in grange interest during that time, and it is probable that Pinnacle Grange would have surrendered its charter if it had not been for his perseverance and determination that the grange in Lyndeborough should live.

Jacob A. Woodward succeeded Bro. Herrick in the master's chair, serving two years and was succeeded by Eli C. Curtis, in 1885. Bro. Curtis was one of the charter members, and served two years. In 1887 and 1888, Jacob A. Woodward was again master. In 1889, David G. Dickey was master, and was re-elected in 1890 but declined to accept the office; Andy Holt was then chosen. William C. Wilder was master in 1891 and 1892. William T. Bowen in 1893. Charles H. Senter in 1894 and 1895.

In 1896, John H. Goodrich, who had served faithfully and acceptably as secretary for seventeen years, was promoted to the master's chair. Willie F. Herrick succeeded Bro. Goodrich in 1897 and 1898, and in 1899, Sister S. Kate Swington was chosen master, being the first sister of the order to fill that position in Pinnacle Grange. William C. Wilder was the master in 1900, George P. Bradford in 1901, and Charles L. Perham in 1902, 1903 and 1904. L. Nute Woodward is the master for 1905.

The dates for holding the meetings have been changed many times. Some of the years an attempt was made to arrange the meetings so that the patrons could come and go by the light of the moon, a great convenience for those living some distance from the grange hall. At present its meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

It is inferred from the records that in the first years of its existence Pinnacle Grange did not do the work of the degrees, and in the opening and closing of its meetings in the best of form. But in the process of time, however, a spirit of emulation was developed. The ritual was studied with a view to a better understanding of the precepts of the order. Grange discipline was more strictly enforced, and Pinnacle Grange



was soon second to none in the order in its efficiency and excellence of initiatory work.

From 1876 until 1880 may be called the transition period of the grange in Lyndeborough and in fact throughout the state. It was a time of much depression in the order. The financial element had been discounted, and the social and educational features so prominent now, had not then been thought important, and believing that "there was nothing better for a man than that he should eat and drink and make his soul enjoy good in his labor," and finding also a very slim attendance at the meetings, and little or no interest in the work of the order, this significant record begins to appear: "Voted to have an oyster supper at our next meeting," and "voted to have a feast at our next meeting and invite our friends" until it would appear that oysters and friends were part of the programme of every meeting. One of the charter members told the writer that this supper business nearly wrecked the grange. And yet at the present time some hold to the opinion that if you wish to get out a large attendance at any particular meeting you must appeal to the stomach instead of the mind, and as a matter of fact, the same is true of other organizations besides the grange.

The debates of Pinnacle Grange have always been characterized by an originality of thought, a freshness and breeziness which would compare favorably with any grange in the land. Many of the brothers and sisters early developed a talent for debate. In the earlier years of the grange the subjects discussed pertained almost wholly to the farm and household, but later took a wider range and included almost every thing from political economy to pie. Questions of education, questions of state and national policy have been formulated and intelligently discussed. Young members have been encouraged to join in these exercises and to become accustomed to speak in public.

During the decade from 1880 to 1890 Pinnacle Grange was in the zenith of its influence and prosperity. It was through its influence during that time that the town hall at the centre was enlarged and remodeled, giving the order a larger, lighter and more convenient home. A "fair" was held, which netted a sum of money larger probably than that made by any other fair in town, before or since. The proceeds were used to purchase a piano for the hall. Its membership and average attendance were greater than ever before in its history. Its installations at-

tracted patrons from about every grange in this part of the state.

From the first the sisters have been loyal to the interests of Pinnacle Grange and earnest in its work. If it were not for the principle of "opening wide the door" to them, the order would undoubtedly have been a failure. In its literary work, in its music, in its banquets Pinnacle Grange would have been an "arid, barren waste" without them.

The limits of this sketch forbid recording the names of those who have filled the minor offices in the grange. Some of them were promoted to the master's chair, and, as a rule, all have endeavored to discharge their duties faithfully.

Mention has already been made of the proficiency in debate of some of the members. A man once said to another, "I have a friend over there that I want to introduce you to; I think he will interest you, he's a mighty good talker." The other replied, "I don't think I care to meet him; it's a mighty good listener I want to strike." It is doubtful if any of our debaters would care to talk to empty chairs or an inattentive audience, and in being good, sympathetic listeners the majority of the members have exemplified its principles, with how much hope and faith is not known, but certainly with charity and fidelity.

The grange choir has always been a prominent feature, and was for many years under the direction of Bro. E. C. Curtis, or some member of his family. Bro. B. G. Herrick, bass, Bro. E. C. Curtis, tenor, Sister Phebe A. Ordway, contralto, and Sister Betsey A. Curtis, soprano, composed the choir in the early days of the grange.

It seems a much longer time to say a "quarter of a century" than to say "twenty-five years," and in comparison with the age of Lyndeborough as a town, it is but a small fraction, and yet the twilight of the past begins to obscure the early scenes and incidents of Pinnacle Grange life. Against the fading light some figures stand in sharper outline. The memory of the faces of some of the brothers and sisters who have taken the wonderful step over the line into the unknown, which to some means rest, and to others only the beginning of activities that shall never end, comes to us this day. . . .

The influence of Pinnacle Grange has modified the home life of many of the families of the town, mid green leaves and summer showers or when the light in the window casts a shining halo over the snowdrifts.

Do not think that its life has been like a river gently flowing

between flowering banks: Sometimes the wind blew strong from down stream, and sudden flaws came from every quarter, and lively chop seas were raised, but with a little smaller attendance at some of the meetings and a little larger at others, a little more spirited debate, and all was again calm and serene.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### STORES AND MERCHANTS.

#### STORE AT LYNDEBOROUGH, BY J. A. WOODWARD.

The old store-house, as it was called, stood directly opposite the town hall. It was a large, square, two-storied structure, with a long " ell " at the south in which was kept the store. It was said to have been built by one of the Goulds, either George or Maj. Daniel (most probably the latter), some time previous to the year 1800. At the time it was destroyed by fire it was said to be one of the oldest houses in town.

Maj. Daniel Gould was the first storekeeper of whom there is any tradition. Whether or not there was any store here before his day, it is not now possible to determine, but it would seem as if there must have been. But from the time he sold out, or went out of business, until the year 1831 it is a matter of tradition mostly.

Rev. Frank G. Clark in his historical address mentions Daniel Gould, John Ordway, Nathian Wheeler and Jonathan and William Clark as merchants at the centre. It would seem that these must have " kept store " previously to 1831.

In 1831 Samuel T. Manahan came to Lyndeborough and bought the store property. It was first the firm of Manahan & Tubbs. Where this Mr. Tubbs came from or what became of him is unknown to the writer. His stay was brief, for in the latter part of that same year Mr. Manahan became sole proprietor. In 1835 he sold out to a man named John J. Martin. In 1836 Oliver Bixby bought out Martin and was in trade until 1838. In the latter year Jacob Hildreth, a brother of Jotham, formed a partnership with a Mr. Duncklee, under the firm name of Hildreth & Duncklee. They bought out Bixby. Duncklee soon sold his interest to Charles French, a son of Isaac P. French.

In 1843 James G. Woodward bought the store, and the next year sold it to Anson Woodward and Daniel Woodward, Jr. James and Anson were brothers, sons of Ephraim Putnam Woodward. In 1844 Daniel Woodward, Jr., became sole proprietor, and kept the store until 1847. In that year he swapped the store-house property with his father and moved to the old





LYNDEBOROUGH CENTRE. FROM BOTTWELL WINDMILL.

farm over the mountain, and Daniel Woodward, Sr., came to the centre, but not to keep store. The stock in trade was sold to David Hawes, but of him there is no record, and a few months was the extent of time he was in business. In 1848 Oliver Bixby, who had returned to Lyndeborough again, took the business, renting the store of Mr. Woodward. In 1850 the firm of Herrick & Donnel was formed and bought out Bixby. This firm was composed of William J. Herrick and James S. Donnel.

After Herrick & Donnel was the protective union store, a sort of co-operative concern which had a brief existence, and then William J. Herrick again became proprietor. He was engaged in trade at the center longer probably than any of his predecessors, but in the early sixties he closed out his stock in trade and removed to the west.

William W. Curtis then bought the land and buildings and opened the store, which he kept until the buildings were destroyed by fire, May 13, 1870.

Some time after this Martin Whitney opened a small store in the carpenter shop of Josiah Wheeler. When this was closed the center was without a store for a time, or until Thomas A. Williams opened one in the old Bixby house. He sold to E. K. Warren, the present owner. The store at the "middle of the town" was never a source of much profit to its owner. The long distance which merchandise had to be hauled by team was a severe handicap to successful competition with the stores of Wilton, Milford and Nashua, and although there was a good assortment of those things which a country store generally carries in stock, the well-to-do farmers found it convenient to buy by the quantity of the dealers lower down the country. This explains the frequent change of ownership.

Sometime between 1850 and 1855, Levi Joslin kept the village store. The time is not positively determined, but like most of the other tradesmen at the center, his career as merchant there was brief.

#### MERCHANTS AT SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH, BY REV. D. DONOVAN.

Our caption is in the above form, because we are tolerably certain that the persons named were merchants in the place; but are not certain that the names which we are about to give include all who engaged in trade here.

The first merchant in South Lyndeborough, by general con-

sent, was Mr. William Holt, who came here from Greenfield about 1830. He at first kept a grocery store in what had been the old dwelling house of Ephraim Putnam, 3rd., the father of Captain Eleazer. This house stood near where Mr. William P. Steele's now stands, and had been moved away previous to the erection of the latter. It was moved across the highway to the location now occupied by Tarbell's store. Mr. Holt had kept store there but a short time, when he moved it across the street again near where the railroad station now stands, whence it was moved to the spot which it now occupies as the dwelling of Mr. Ward N. Cheever. Mr. Holt, after its removal, built the house and store combined, which are now serving as the post office and store of Roy N. Putnam, and the grocery store of Walter S. Tarbell. Mr. Albert Hardy, who also came from Greenfield, was Mr. Holt's partner in trade until 1835, when the business was sold to Mr. Lewis Cram.

The firm of Cram & Daniels then became the successors of Holt & Hardy. But they continued the business only a short time, after which Mr. Cram left town and went west.

The next occupant of the store was the firm of Hardy & Stephenson. Mr. Hardy's home was the place now owned by Mr. E. H. Putnam. He married Rebecca, daughter of Mr. Thomas Bradford, and was a leading merchant, and also postmaster in this part of the town. He was chorister at the Baptist church, and a public-spirited, well-to-do citizen. He removed to Amherst and engaged in trade there; and went thence to Nashua. On his departure from Amherst, the handsome gift of a thousand dollars was received from him. His last will bequeathed a share of the residue of his estate to the Baptist church nearest his home at his decease. He died in Nashua. But the executor of his will long withheld the legacy, and appears never to have intended the payment of it. Having almost accidentally learned of this situation, the Rev. W. H. Eaton, D.D., ferreted out the attempted knavery; and the church, finally, after litigation, secured some benefit, though less than it would have received had the will been legally and honestly executed.

Mr. Hardy's partner in Lyndeborough was the late Mr. Jonathan Stephenson, whose home was on the ancestral farm, including the Stephenson Hill, on the spot now occupied by his son, Mr. Willis Stephenson. The late Mr. Stephenson was an honored citizen for many years, having filled many offices in







STREET AT SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH, LOOKING SOUTH.

the town and served several years as town clerk. He passed away in November, 1903, in his 97th year.

The successor of the firm of Hardy & Stephenson was Mr. Robert Burns Wallace. He came from New Ipswich and bought the store. He remained here but two years.

Next came Mr. Peter Smith from Nashua and engaged in trade. He continued here, however, but a short time.

Mr. Gilman P. Fletcher of Greenfield carried on the grocery business for a few years. He sold both his store and stock to Mr. J. H. Tarbell, who was then keeping the hotel, called the "Forest House." Mr. Tarbell combined with his tavern a grocery store, and also kept the post office under the same roof. Thus he continued in business more than ten years. He subsequently built a new store and conducted business in it for a few years. The new building stood on land west of the freight house of the B. & M. R. R., near the west crossing.

This new store Mr. Tarbell sold to Mr. William W. Young, who came from Chelsea, Mass., about 1857. Mr. Young continued in trade about seventeen years, when the railroad came through our village. His store was in the way of the proposed railroad track, and the R. R. company bought him out. He then returned to Chelsea, where he died.

The building was sold by the R. R. Company, and was moved back from the railroad. The original builder of it, Mr. J. H. Tarbell, bought it, moved it, remodeled it and made it his home during the remainder of his life. It remains still the property of his granddaughter, Mrs. Minnie (Stacey) Hadley.

The former grocery store of Messrs. Hardy & Stephenson and others was afterwards used for a few years as a shop in which to shave hoops. Mr. Hezekiah D. Davis carried on the business and kept a few men in his employ. Some of our residents remember well when the shavings were carried across the highway and piled up near the Baptist meeting-house, almost as high as the house, on ground now covered by the R. R. track and the platform.

The next occupant of this store was Mr. George W. Holt. He had spent several years away, and about 1861 returned to his native place and engaged in the grocery trade at that stand. His health failed and he passed away in 1862, at the age of 36. Mr. J. H. Tarbell settled his estate and closed out his business as grocer.

The settling of Mr. Holt's business seemed to Mr. Tarbell

to require him to resume mercantile life again, first on account of the sale of Mr. Holt's goods and later on his own account. He therefore commenced trade again about 1863. His son, Charles F., served as clerk for a few years, and was afterwards taken into partnership, thus constituting the firm of J. H. Tarbell & Son. This arrangement continued several years, after which, Mr. C. F. Tarbell, by purchase, became sole proprietor.

Mr. Charles F. Tarbell carried on the trade for several years, assisted more or less by his father. In 1878 he sold his store to his uncle, J. A. Tarbell, and devoted his attention to farming, on the place now owned by Mr. Andy Holt.

Mr. Joseph A. Tarbell had been engaged for a number of years in the manufacture and sale of flavoring extracts. He had done quite an extensive business in that line, which he sold out to his brother-in-law, Mr. Fred B. Richards, in 1878. He then bought the grocery store and carried it on about two years, soon after which he removed to Hancock.

Mr. Charles F. Tarbell again bought the store, about 1880. He continued in it as long as he lived. He died Feb. 24, 1888, in the forty-fourth year of his age.

After the death of Mr. Tarbell the store passed into the possession of the elder of his two sons, Walter S. Tarbell, as a part of his share of his father's estate. He has carried on the business since 1888. He employed R. N. Putnam several years, after which his brother, Charles H., entered his employ, and has served till the present month, December, 1904. Thus, for more than forty years, though the store has a number of times changed owners, it has borne the same name, "Tarbell's store."

Among other traders in the place we name Mr. John J. Martin, for a time in business at the centre of the town, and also first landlord at the hotel. He was a shoemaker, and kept confectionery and other articles for sale, while employed at the bench in his shoe shop. The date is uncertain, though probably about 1840. His store and shoe shop were in the house owned by the late Charles M. Butler.

Another person who kept a small store and did a limited business here was Mr. Charles Henry Holt. He was a carpenter, born in Milford, came to Lyndeborough in 1852, and the same year married Mary A. Wheeler, daughter of Jonas Wheeler. When W. W. Young removed from town, where he had been postmaster many years, Mr. Holt succeeded him.

The post office was then located in the basement of his house, built by Jonas Wheeler, where he also kept a small stock of stationery, confectionery, cutlery, fishing tackle, patent medicines, etc. He owned the place afterwards purchased by Capt. McIntire of Hyde Park, Mass., and now owned by Mr. Lawrence of Cambridge, Mass., as a summer residence. He died Jan. 31, 1897, having served more than twenty-four years as postmaster at South Lyndeborough.

Mr. Roy N. Putnam became his successor as postmaster, and also trader, having rented the premises from Mr. Holt's heirs. He enlarged his stock of merchandise, adding quite an assortment of footwear and many other articles. When the owners of the house and shop wished to occupy the place Mr. Putnam moved his goods to his present place of business and established the post office there; and he has since added largely to his stock of boots, shoes and rubbers, besides a few articles of men's furnishing goods, an extensive variety of fancy articles for the place.

Mr. T. M. Beal, a son-in-law of Mr. Charles Henry Holt, came here to live in the house occupied by the late Mr. Holt. He planned and built a projection to the lower story or basement in which the post office was formerly kept, and established a grocery store, adding a small quantity of dry goods and fancy articles. He has also carried on a lunch room.

Mr. J. H. Tarbell, wishing his granddaughter, Miss Miunie E. Stacey, to gain a knowledge of business, fitted up and filled with merchandise a small dry goods store for her in the front room of the brown cottage so long the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Swasey. Miss Stacey kept this store a few years, but several causes rendered the business unremunerative and it was given up.

The unsold stock from the last mentioned store, was transferred to the one which is now used for the post office and variety store. This was conducted by Mrs. Lizzie G. Tarbell, and our public library was kept there, with Mrs. Tarbell as librarian. But there, also, the sales were light and not very profitable, so that this, too, was given up. After that the space was filled with shelves and used by Walter S. Tarbell, as a kind of annex to his store, until secured by our postmaster for his accommodation.

Such is the store keeping record of our village, so far as now ascertainable. The store conducted by J. H. Tarbell, Esq., and

his successors in trade has generally kept a large assortment, and has filled a large place in accommodating the people of our town.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### TAVERNS AND TEMPERANCE.

#### TAVERN KEEPERS.

Were the people of Lyndeborough to be judged by the number of licensed tavern keepers on the records of the town, they would doubtless be thought unusually bibulous. But the reputation of our town in that line will not probably be worse than the average. In most of our towns, tavern-keeping was considered a respectable, and even a reputable business, until well along into the nineteenth century. This statement will be illustrated by merely citing the name of some of our worthy citizens who were engaged in that occupation as well as in cultivating the soil. We cannot attempt to give a full list, nor to classify very extensively. Commencing with the year 1793, we name:

	1793-1798.
James Ordway	Eliphalet Badger
Capt. Daniel Gould	Ensign David Putnam
Capt. William Barrou	Nathaniel Martin
Daniel Connex	
	1799.
Peter Clark, Esq.	Artemas Wheeler
	1800.
Daniel Putnam 2 days	Wheeler & Stiles
	NO DATE.
Benjamin Cram, 2nd.	John Hartshorn
John Cummings	
	1804.
Eleazar Rhodes	Nathan Wheeler
James Taylor	
	1805.
Jedidiah Russell	
	1806.
Oliver Perham	Eleazar Woodward
Zaccheus Fairbanks	
	1807.
Isaiah Parker	John Clark, 2nd.
Solomon Parker	Lemuel Soules (near meeting house)
Sarah Ordway	
	1808.
Timothy Putnam (one day)	Nehemiah Boutwell
John L. Perry (at his store)	Peter Clark, Jr. (at his store)
	1809.
Eleazar Woodward (at his dwelling)	Jacob Manning

	1810.
Timothy Richardson	Jeremiah Putnam
David Farrington 2 days	Peter Clark, 3rd.
	1812.
Manley Butler	
	1814.
William Jones	Caleb Blanchard
	1820.
Jonathan Cochran	
	1827.
Oliver Bixby	Capt. Jonathan Thayer
Charles Parker	
	NO DATE.
James McCauley	Phineas Whiting
Elias McIntire	Mark D. Langdon
Jotham Hildreth	Samuel T. Manahan
Robert B. Tupper	
	1838.
John W. Adsit	
	NO DATE.
S. D. and B. Stanley	

The list is incomplete, but we trust no one will seriously impugn it for this cause. We judge it possible to add to the list if desirable.

Yet large as this list of venders of intoxicating drinks is, it does not warrant the conclusion that our town was a sinner above others. Neither the records nor the facts would sustain this. The list includes taverners of two or three generations with the changes incident to removals, deaths, and discontinuance of the business. They were scattered over a wide township, far from the great cities and the thronging haunts of men. The custom of the time was to keep liquor on which to treat guests, and it was a custom too much honored by its observance. Exceptions were very few, and judged uncourtly if not discourteous. Temperance was then little agitated or practised, and total abstinence was viewed as chimerical. In such respects it will hardly be said, that "the former days were better" than those in which we are now living. A change has come, and we may well consider some of the agencies which had a share in producing it.

#### TEMPERANCE INFLUENCES.

The leading agency in awakening and producing temperance sentiment has undoubtedly been the Christian pulpit. Fanatical people sometimes berate the attitude of the churches on this subject; and it cannot be denied that at times they seem too



indifferent to the havoc which intemperance is producing even among church members. But surely, were it not for the churches and the noble army of temperance workers which they have equipped and sent forth, conditions would be much worse, and croakers would be drowned in rum.

The Rev. Benjamin F. Clark, a native of this town, who supplied the pulpit of the Congregational church in 1838, gave some very interesting reminiscences of his boyhood which finely illustrate this matter. In a letter to Mr. D. C. Grant, January 17, 1879, he wrote : \*

"I well remember the excitement produced on the Fast day in April, 1827, a few days before I left my home, with Palmer and Woodward for East Tennessee. Instead of a sermon, Mr. Merrill read the celebrated lecture by Kittridge of Lyme, on temperance, which contained the statement that 'one gallon of rum used as a beverage in the town of Lyme, is just four quarts too much.' The good old men of the church, including my honored father, went out of the house vexed, if not *mad*. My father said, 'Why did Mr. Merrill read that foolish lecture? We cannot get our hay without rum. It will rot in the field.' When I returned home in 1837, I found all those good men pledged to total abstinence. They acknowledged that haying and all other kinds of farming work could be better performed without rum than with."

The subject of temperance was receiving more and more attention year by year, and societies were organizing for the promotion of it. Soon after Rev. E. B. Claggett became pastor, a society was organized in Lyndeborough for the suppression by "all honorable exertions of the unlicensed traffic in ardent spirits," and "the relief of widows and orphans." It adopted the following constitution : †

Art. 1. No man shall belong to this society who is not known as a tried friend to the cause of temperance, believing in the expediency of using legal suasion.

Art. 2. Every member shall pay all assessments on the subscription set against his name, made by a board of directors hereafter specified.

Art. 3. This society shall have a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a board of directors.

Art. 4. It shall be the duty of the board of directors to record all testimony that may come to their knowledge against unlicensed traffickers in ardent spirits in this and other towns in Hillsborough County ; to commence prosecutions and see that they are carried on ; to make all necessary assessments on the money subscribed in order to meet the expenses of the society, and pay the assessments made by the county committee ; and to call a meeting of the society whenever they think circumstances require it.

\* Hillsborough County History, page 510.

† Constitution presented by J. A. Johnson, Esq., secretary, May 13, 1848.

The names of subscribers, and sums forming the basis for assessments follow :

Names	Sums	Names	Sums
Jacob Butler	\$10.00	Eliphalet Atwood	\$10.00
David Holt	10.00	Peter Clark	10.00
William Jones	10.00	Benjamin Goodridge	5.00
Josiah Wheeler	10.00	Harvey Holt	5.00
Eli Curtis	3.00	John Hartshorn	10.00
Joseph A. Johnson	5.00	Jonathan Stephenson	5.00
Joseph Chamberlain	10.00	Amos Pratt	5.00
E. B. Claggett	10.00	Foster Woodward	5.00
John Richardson	10.00	Samuel Jones	5.00
R. C. Boutwell	10.00	Nathaniel T. McIntire	5.00
John C. Goodridge	10.00		

Lyndeborough has not the reputation of being an intemperate town. It is true, that while the glass works were in operation at South Lyndeborough, there was said to be much drinking among the employees; and sad traces of it have too long remained. But in those very days, an active temperance organization sprang up to counteract the evil.

The records of this organization show that on Sept. 24, 1876, a temperance lecture was delivered in the Baptist Church at 4.30 o'clock P. M. by Dr. Benjamin Colby. The audience was evidently interested, for a meeting was appointed at the same place, the next evening, Monday at 7 o'clock P. M. to take some action on the subject of temperance. At this meeting Mr. Luther Cram was appointed chairman; and Mr. Rufus Chamberlain, "President of the division of Sons of Temperance," made remarks. Mrs. Burdette, a member of a "reform club" in Beverly, Mass., followed, and spoke for about an hour, and a total abstinence pledge was circulated for signatures. The form was, "Believing the use of all spirituous and malt liquors to be the cause of much crime and sorrow, we do hereby with the help of Almighty God, pledge ourselves to abstain from the sale or the use of all intoxicating drinks, wine or cider, as a beverage."

Fifty-seven signed this pledge at the time. A short discussion ensued, after which officers were elected as follows; President, F. B. Richards; Vice-President, H. Cutter; Treasurer, Mrs. William Wallace; Secretary, William R. Warner. The President, Vice-President and Secretary were chosen a committee to prepare a constitution and by laws. The organization was called "The South Lyndeborough Reform Club."

A break in the records deprives us of a full account of its proceedings; but the meetings are said to have been maintained with a good degree of interest. Ninety-two signatures, in all, were appended to the above pledge, two of which were for one year only.

At the election of officers in April 1877, Mr. Luther Cram was chosen President, William R. Warner, Vice-President, and Edward M. Roby, Secretary. The last meeting recorded was on March 7, 1878. The Reform Club as an organization, thus had its day and ceased to be.

The writer does not endorse the doctrine of the "transmigration of souls," taught by an ancient Greek philosopher; but something very much resembling this seems to have occurred in South Lyndeborough. For after the quiescence of the Reform Club, the Sons of Temperance increased in number till they reckoned about seventy names and seemed to be filled with the energy of the reform spirit. Thus, the work of reform did not cease, although the organization bearing its name ceased its operations.

#### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The temperance organization above named, had its local representative here, called the "Lithleukonia Division of Sons of Temperance, No. 29, of South Lyndeborough." \* Officers, David Putnam, G. W. P.; Rufus Chamberlain, W. P.; Fannie A. Wallace, W. A. P.; Luther Cram, R. S.; Letitia McGinley, A. R. S.; Edgar Danforth, F. S.; J. A. Johnson, Treasurer; William B. Warner, Chaplain; Olney P. Butler, Conductor; Ida M. Newton, A. Conductor; Ruth Ross, I. S.; George Ruffle, O. S. These were duly installed by Mr. Thorndike, G. W. P., of the State Division of Sons of Temperance. This organization was very flourishing for a time, and accomplished much good.

When, in 1903, the question of licensing the evil traffic in intoxicating drink in our town, was presented for decision, it was very gratifying also, to our better citizens, that while only seventy-four votes, in all, were registered, sixty-seven of them were against license. Hence, neither in former days could our town justly be ranked as intemperate, nor can it be at the present time. Today, at least, there is no open sale of liquor within its borders. While, therefore, its record is not all that its sturdiest, best citizens could wish, they are proud and grateful to have it as favorable as it is; and they think that it will average fairly with that of sister towns.

May it never grow worse!!

\* Substance furnished by J. A. Johnson, Esq.

## BAND OF HOPE.

A flourishing "band of hope" existed soon after the other temperance societies were formed, but no records have been found.

## THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

In the autumn of 1887, a W. C. T. U. was organized in South Lyndeborough, with Mrs. Emily C. Tarbell as President, and Miss Emma D. Putnam as Secretary. These officers soon afterwards removed from town, and in 1889, the organization became extinct.

A second society of the same name was formed in Dec. 1896, when the officers were, Mrs. Martha M. Farrar, President; Mrs. Dorcas Colson, Vice-President; Miss Hattie D. Steele, Recording Secretary; Mrs. L. R. McGinley, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. Carrie Cheever, Treasurer. The organization was active for a time, seeking to increase interest in temperance work by means of lectures, essays, addresses from pastors and prayer services. Once the county convention of the W. C. T. U. was entertained by them, holding a meeting of unusual interest and spiritual fervor. But the membership was never large, and the work became burdensome and difficult for the few, and active operations were suspended finally, May 11, 1902.

## THE LOYAL TEMPERANCE LEGION.

A Loyal Temperance Legion was organized in 1897, as a child of the W. C. T. U. and indicated the interest of the women in the rising race. It was carried on for a short time by Mrs. Lizzie Richards assisted by Miss Marion Hartshorn. Later, Mrs. Lizzie Tarbell had charge for a while; and still later, Mrs. Carrie Cheever had charge, conducting the exercises for two or three years. The aim was to instill temperance principles into the minds of the children, and the legion is thought to have won a good degree of success. But the members of the society finally grew remiss, interest in the meetings waned, and like all living things, the legion found "a time to die."

## GUARDIAN FOR INTEMPERATE MAN.

The advocates of present day license of the liquor traffic would, doubtless, regard the following procedure as a sad infringement of sumptuary privileges.

To the Hon. Luke Woodbury, Judge of Probate, at, within, and for the County of Hillsboro.

The undersigned Selectmen of the town of Lyndeborough in said county, represent that — of said Lyndeborough, an inhabitant thereof, by excessive drinking, idleness and vicious habits, is so wasting, spending, or lessening his estate as thereby to expose himself and his family to want, and the said town to the charges and expense of maintaining him and his family.

Wherefore, they request that a guardian may be appointed over said — as the law in such cases directs.

Signed { Samuel T. Manahan,  
Ebenezer Fiske.

Lyndeborough, Aug 2, 1842.

Hillsborough Ss.

Probate Court at Temple, Aug. 3, 1842.

On the foregoing complaint it is Ordered, that the same be heard at the Probate Court to be holden at Amherst on the 4th day of October next, at which time and place the said — is hereby cited to appear to answer thereunto; and an attested copy thereof and of this order is to be served on him at least fourteen days before said Court, and an attested copy of the same (if by the Selectmen thought expedient) left with the Town Clerk as soon as may be after the service on the said — to the end that he may appear, and also be prevented from making any sale or contract.

By order,

S. Peabody, Regr.

Received Aug. 8, 1842 in the Town Clerk's Office, and Recorded and Examined.

By Jonathan Stephenson, Town Clerk.

Whether the legal process above outlined was carried out in all its particulars or not, does not appear on the town records. But it was surely a sensible mode of guarding against such pauperism as naturally results from intemperance.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### MAILS, POST ROUTES, AND STAGES.

BY J. A. WOODWARD.

The first settlers of Salem-Canada and Lyndeborough had no postal facilities, and probably gave such matters very little thought. When they came with their families into the forests to make homes, they knew they were severing themselves from all communication with their relatives and friends except at infrequent times. The sending or receiving of a letter was not the common occurrence that it is now, and the contents of a letter received was made known to the neighbors all around if it contained news not personal to the receiver. Letters might be sent by special messenger or by the hand of a neighbor going on a visit to some of the lower towns.

Newspapers they did not have for a long time or until the "Farmers' Cabinet" began to be published at Amherst, except perhaps a stray copy of some Boston paper that found its way into the backwoods.

These pioneers had little time to read, and but very few books could be found in most of the houses. The labor of building their houses and barns, of clearing their land and fencing it with stone walls occupied pretty much all their time, and involved the expenditure of so much muscular energy, that they were little inclined to sit up evenings and read even if they had books. This condition of things continued until the establishment of the post office at Amherst and the building of the second New Hampshire turnpike in 1800, although it is probable that from 1780 until 1800 more letters passed back and forth than in the earlier years.

The turnpike road was built from Nashua to Claremont and passed through the northeast part of Lyndeborough. Then came stages and stage routes; and letters and the "Farmers' Cabinet" were left at the tavern stands to be called for. They were left at Isaiah Parker's, where George Barnes lives now, and at the Lynch place now in New Boston, then known as Beech Tree Corner.

One of the Goodrich family went to the Parker Tavern in 1812 to get his "Cabinet" and found the proprietor dead of

spotted fever, a man who at noon of that day was apparently sound and well.

Before the establishment of the post office at Lyndeborough Centre those who lived south of the mountain used to take turns in going to Amherst for the mail, letters being addressed "To be left at the post office at Amherst." This Amherst office was established in 1791 and the office at Wilton in 1816. It is probable that some of the people of the south part of the town got their mail at Wilton for two or three years. The earlier stages over the turnpike made two trips a week, and later there was a daily stage.

Lyndeborough was not included in the towns accommodated by post riders. One of these post routes or post circuits was arranged in 1791 as follows: Beginning at Concord, thence to proceed through Weare, New Boston, Amherst, Wilton, Temple, Peterboro, Dublin, Marlboro, Keene, West Moreland, Walpole, Alstead, Acworth, Charlestown, Claremont, Newport, Lenster, Washington, Hillsboro, Henniker, Hopkinton to Concord. It will be seen that this "route" went completely around Lyndeborough.

The rates of postage in those days were for a single sheet of paper :

Under	40 miles	8 cents
"	90 "	10 "
"	150 "	12½ "
"	300 "	17 "
"	500 "	20 "
Over	500 "	25 "

If the letter was composed of two pieces of paper the rate was doubled, if of three it was tripled and so on.\*

Prepayment was not demanded, and people were frequently obliged to pay a heavy postage on letters of no value. There was little money in circulation in those days, and the sixpence, ninepence or shilling they had to pay on their letters seemed a heavy tax.

Most of the business was done by barter, and in a year's transactions one man in Lyndeborough gave his note for \$2.50, balance due in settlement, and he owned a number of hundred acres of land, free of debt. It was a common thing to give a note for sums of one or two dollars.

The rate of postage to Boston was ten cents for a single

\* We are indebted to Rev. Mr. Cochran's *Francestown History* for many facts about the mail.

sheet. The evils attending the non-enforcement of prepaying postage led to an agitation, which, in 1855, resulted in a law compelling prepayment.

In 1868 newspapers were made free of postage in the county where published. Postage stamps were first used in this country in 1847, but did not come in common use until some years later.

The rate for letters for a long term of years was 3 cents for  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce or fraction thereof. In 1883 it was reduced to two cents for one ounce.

April 29, 1822, the post office at Lyndeborough Centre was established, with Oliver Bixby as postmaster. The mail was then brought to Mont Vernon by stage, and Jacob Butler carried it from there through Lyndeborough to Greenfield twice a week. At first he went horseback and carried the mail in two capacious saddle-bags, each holding about half a bushel. Later he drove a horse and wagon. This route was continued until the opening of the Forest road in 1831.

Most of the time the post office was at the store. Oliver Bixby, Samuel T. Manahan, Daniel Woodward, Jr., James S. O'Donnell, William J. Herrick, William W. Curtis, Oliver P. Hutchinson, Martin Whitney and Thomas A. Williams all kept the office at the store.

David Stiles kept it at his house, where William H. Clark now lives. Mr. Stiles used to put the mail in a box on a table, and every one sorted the contents and picked out his own, if he had any. It was not until 1843 that any case or boxes were used and this was a very rude affair, with a glass front where the letters were put with the address side outward. Persons finding there a letter belonging to them frequently opened the door and helped themselves. The post office was always opened Sunday noon; the room was warmed in winter, and before stoves were put in the church this place was a favorite resort. Women would come and replenish the coals in the foot warmers to last through the afternoon service, and the men lingered to get thoroughly warmed up for the same ordeal.

After the post office at South Lyndeborough was established the mail was brought from there twice a week, and later the service was increased to a daily mail.

Following Jacob Butler, David Stiles, Jr., carried the mail for a time. Hiram Cram was one of the early carriers. For a time Artemas Woodward had the contract, and it was while



carrying the mail that his wife was thrown from a wagon and killed. She and Huldah Woodward were returning from the village at the "Centre." Miss Woodward got out of the wagon at the corner to go to her home; when the team started down the hill the holdback strap became unhitched and the horse (a blind one) ran away, throwing Mrs. Woodward out and, her head striking the ledge, she was instantly killed.

In 1860 the mail was brought from Wilton daily by Dr. William A. Jones, but as he was frequently called to visit a patient from out of town, the mail took a very circuitous route sometimes and was what you might call irregular.

With the coming of the railroad to South Lyndeborough a daily mail was brought from there to the office at the centre. Levi P. Spaulding carried it for a number of years, and it was carried by the milk teams of Fred A. Richardson and William H. Clark. As the milk teams left South Lyndeborough before the arrival of the forenoon train, the mail had to remain at the South Lyndeborough office for twenty-four hours, a cause of much vexation. When Byron Putnam became a carrier this was remedied. There have been many mail carriers on this route. Azro D. Cram was one, Dana B. Sargent another, and others whose names we cannot recall.

The post office at the "middle of the town" accommodated the whole town from 1822 to 1835. The south part of the town, Johnson's Corner and North Lyndeborough, got their mail there. It was kept in private houses most of the time after the old store was burned, May 13, 1870. Martin Whitney and Thomas A. Williams were the exceptions, they kept it in stores.

The free delivery of the mail at farmers' homes had been advocated for a few years by the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, perhaps better known as the "Grange." Many thought the scheme impracticable and visionary and too expensive to be ever carried into effect. But persistent effort on the part of its friends caused the government to make the experiment, and the result of that experiment has been the establishing of rural free delivery routes all over the farming sections of the country. It proved a success from the start and now the great majority of the farmers have their mail brought to their doors once a day at government expense. Contrast this service with that of a hundred years ago, and the thought comes, what will the next hundred years bring in the way of improved mail facilities.

The first free delivery route was established March 1, 1901, Benjamin H. Joslin carrier. The post office at the centre was discontinued June 30, 1902, and its patrons served by rural free delivery route No. 1.

The following is a list of the postmasters with the dates of their appointment, each holding the office until his successor was appointed :

Oliver Bixby	April 29, 1822	William W. Curtis	Feb. 2, 1867
Samuel T. Manahan	May 12, 1832	William H. Clark	Apr. 22, 1872
David Stiles	Apr. 23, 1835	John C. Ordway	Oct. 21, 1875
David Stiles, Jr.	May 2, 1837	Oliver P. Hutchinson	Nov. 22, 1875
William G. French	Dec. 20, 1841	Fred K. Ranger	June 8, 1877
Daniel Woodward, Jr.	Apr. 1, 1843	Martin Whitney	Oct. 1, 1878
Oliver Bixby	Apr. 23, 1849	Jacob A. Woodward	Jan. 13, 1881
James S. Donnell	Apr. 18, 1854	Benjamin J. Boutwell	Feb. 28, 1882
William J. Herrick	Aug. 7, 1855	Thomas A. Williams	June 27, 1889

The post office at South Lyndeborough was established March 3, 1835, with William Holt postmaster.

With the opening of the Forest road in 1831 came a stage line, which ran as far north as Charlestown. Prior to 1837 there were connected with the line between Wilton and Hancock, Mr. Iram Woods, two young men by the name of Wyman, a Mr. Pennock, Nathan Dane, George W. Tarbell and probably others, either as proprietors or drivers.

In December, 1837, Hon. Hiram T. Morrill bought Mr. Tarbell's interest, and soon after Mr. Dane sold his to Mr. Phelps, and in 1840 Mr. Phelps sold to Mr. Hall. Mr. Hall retained his interest but a short time, when R. R. Howison and Howland Prouty, both of Milford, became partners of Morrill. After a few years, Mr. Prouty sold to Morrill and Howison, who retained their interest in the line until they sold it in October, 1870, to the railroad company. This company ran the line until the railroad was opened to Greenfield.\*

Among the drivers were Elbridge Harris, Charles Leavett, Ezra Pettingill and John N. P. Woodbury.

When the office at South Lyndeborough was first established, there were but three mails a week. This was increased to a daily service in a year or two.

William Holt and Lewis Cram presumably kept the post office in private houses, but when Joel H. Tarbell was appointed postmaster it was kept for many years at his tavern. When he built the store, which used to stand on land now crossed by the

\* Wilton History.

track of the railroad, the office was removed there, and was kept there while Mr. Young was postmaster. C. Henry Holt ran a small store in connection with the office and at this writing it is kept at the store of Roy N. Putnam, the present postmaster.

The amount of mail received and forwarded has always exceeded that of the office at the centre.

Two rural free delivery routes are run from this office. Route No. 1 has already been mentioned. Route No. 2, Harry W. Holt carrier, serves the postal needs of the west and northwest parts of the town and also a part of Greenfield.

The following is a list of the postmasters with the dates of their appointment.

William Holt	March 3, 1835	William W. Young	May 25, 1863
Lewis Cram	May 2, 1836	Charles H. Holt	Sept. 30, 1872
Joel H. Tarbell	Jan. 19, 1839	Roy N. Putnam	May 6, 1897

The post office at North Lyndeborough was established May 11, 1857, with John H. Goodrich, postmaster. This office was on the post route from Danforth's Corner (now Ponemah Station) to Francestown and the down mail was on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and the up mail Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Ezra Pettengill of Wilton was the carrier.

About the year 1858, he sold out the stage route to Amaziah W. Wood of Hatfield, Mass. He drove the stage until April, 1868, and then sold to Edgar A. Danforth, then of Amherst, who owned and operated the route until 1874, when he sold to Walter Woods of New Boston.

Milford was made the terminus of the route with the coming of the railroad, and while Mr. Danforth ran the route, it was changed to a daily trip and consequently there was a daily mail.

In 1893 the route was changed from Milford to South Lyndeborough and North Lyndeborough, with Levi P. Spaulding and Charles B. Hills as carriers.

When the railroad came to New Boston, the route to North Lyndeborough was changed to that place Sept. 1, 1893, Joseph Chandler and others, carriers. Alvin R. Smith was the last and carried the mail until the office was discontinued. This occurred June 29, 1901, and John H. Goodrich and wife ended a faithful service of over forty years. Many of the patrons of this office are now served by rural delivery route No. 2, which was established July 1, 1901, Alvin R. Smith, carrier, with New Boston as headquarters.

The others are served by rural delivery route No. 1, having headquarters at South Lyndeborough.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The roads laid out in Lyndeborough form a source of some perplexity for several reasons. First, they will be found quite numerous; secondly, they are very minutely described; thirdly, some of them are not easily traceable; fourthly, quite a number of them are "thrown up" or abandoned as useless; and fifthly, some of them are supposed never to have been much more than "bridle paths."

For these reasons it would be well nigh impossible to give any adequate description of the old roads at the present day. Yet a history which should omit some attempt in that direction, must incur a suspicion of negligence or indifference to matters of interest and importance. We will therefore, endeavor to present some names and notes of the highways laid out.

1. The first road came from Narragansett No. 3, now Amherst, to the meeting house in Salem-Canada, and is thus described by Rev. Frank G. Clark.\* "This first road came up by what used to be called the crotch of the brooks and into Johnson Corner by the place formerly occupied by John Carson, south of David Clark's; after passing Willis Perham's place, and near the Israel Curtis place and George Rose's, it came out at what was then the centre of the town, Putnam hill in South Lyndeborough, near where Mr. Edwin H. Putnam now lives." It was over this road that Rev. Sewall Goodridge with his young wife, Phebe (Putnam) Goodridge, of Danvers, Mass., came into town "in a two wheeled chaise, a vehicle that had scarcely been seen in any of our towns at that early period. Mr. Jacob Wellman was decidedly of the opinion that they would not be able to come through with the carriage, or at least, that the lady would not have courage to ride in it all the way. Accordingly, he saddled and pillioned his horse, thinking he might have the honor of bringing the bride himself. But it was finally concluded that the minister and his wife should both keep their seats, while six strong men followed behind to keep the chaise right side up." † This road came through the home

\* Page 32 of this history, and also Salem-Canada, page 21.

† Rev. E. B. Claggett, S-Canada, pp. 47-48.

lots of the town, and wound around past the David Carkin place, now Mr. Norbourn's summer residence, and past the Manuel, or Lucas place, by Moses Stiles's, where Mr. Rufus Chamberlain now lives, and so down across Mill Brook and up the hill past the old fort to the meeting-house.

2. The second road was laid out to meet the road which the Ashuelot towns were proposing to build, and did build.\* The proprietors having learned of this purpose, promptly voted "to make a good and sufficient way from the place where the said road is brought into this town to the end of the road cleared by Tarbell and Richardson to or near the centre of" this township. This road as described by Rev. F. G. Clark,† "passed from Putnam hill by Emory Holt's place, around Stephenson hill, and by David Grant's and Deacon McIntire's over the mountain, and was the first and only road for many years to what is now Greenfield."

3. On Dec. 10, 1741, the proprietors voted "that there be a good cartroad cleared from Deacon Putnam's sawmill to the meeting house, and that three pounds be allowed for the same, to be drawn out of the treasury."

This road was the third so far as appears. The mill was located on the stream which forms Barnes', or as now, Gaerwin's falls, and stood a short distance above the falls. Traces of this old road are still visible. It was one of Wilton's early roads, running down the hill by the Jacob Putnam place northward, passing the old Philip Putnam place, and still down into the bed of the little rivulet, back of what is now called the Hicky place in Wilton, and going still a little east of north from there, till it crossed the Rocky River about twenty rods below the present bridge on the Forest road. Then it turned nearly north and passed through land of the late James Burton, now John Carkin's, and passed along towards the present south village, and was twice crossed by the Forest road before reaching the spot now occupied by the house recently purchased by Miss Ellen B. Churchill. The old walls of this road appear on the west of the Forest road in the Burton pasture a short distance below the last named house, as one goes to Wilton.

4. The fourth road, mentioned in the Proprietor's Records, was the road from Peterborough through this township. Jan. 4, 1743, it was voted that it "be well cleared and mended," to

\* Pp. 32, 33.      † P. 23.

render it commodious for travel and that "Mr. John Cram is hereby impowered to do the same." (P. 33.)

A short distance west of the School house in District No. 9, a road turns slightly at first from the Forest road and goes down the hill and crosses the Rocky River a little north of the old milldam of what was once the John Stephenson mill. This road passes on by Jotham Sumner Stephenson's, and bears to the westward up the hill west of the late James C. P. Draper's house and up over the northern spur of the mountain and so on westward into the town of Peterborough. On this northern spur is now located the bungalow of Rev. Donald Browne, built for a summer encampment for boys. This was in early days the main road to Peterborough.

Farther than this the order in which the roads were laid out seems somewhat uncertain. We will, however, continue to number them for the sake of definiteness, if nothing more.

1. After the incorporation of the town, many other roads were laid out. I can do no better here than give the same description which Rev. Mr. Clark has so aptly given in his historical address at the town's 150th anniversary. It aims to describe the first road laid out after the adoption of the royal charter.

A road laid out two rods wide, beginning at the end of Amherst road which is laid out along by James Boutwell's house, at Amherst west line and from thence as the road is now trod, or near it, to the north east corner of Wm. Carson, Jr., land and then where the road was allowed at the north side of his land and Adam Johnson's land to the south-east of John Hutchinson land and so on to the footpath that goeth from Adam Johnson's house to John Hutchinson's, and by that or near it to said Hutchinson's house, and by the south side of his house and down the hill westerly to the road as it is now trod and by that, or near it, to where the way turns out to go across by Wainwright's brook little meadow so called and near that as the way is marked out to the east line of Mr. Rand's lot and across the south side of Mr. Rand's lot and through the southeast corner of Mr. Rand's pasture to the way that goes from the meeting house to Benjamin Cram's house and so by that or near it to Benjamin Cram's house and then as the way is now trod by Melchizedek Boffe's house and to the north line of said Boffe's lot."\*

This road perhaps would not be readily found by the uninitiated today, but was plain enough three or four generations ago. It is doubtless the road which commenced at a point near where the late David Clark lived, now occupied by Mr. Frank Carson and passed down by where Mrs. Kilburn Curtis lives,

\* S.-C., pp. 5, 6.

past the place where the Johnson corner schoolhouse stands and down past where C. L. Perham lives, then John Hutchinson's, and over by little meadow, not far from the Haggett place on the opposite side of the road, and across the brook and up past what was later Micah Hartshorn's mill, and up to the road that passes by the meeting house and goes to Benjamin Cram's house where Percy Putnam now lives, and so on by where Melchizedek Boffee lived, but where now Mr. Frank Joslin lives, and passing up to the north line of his land.

So many changes have occurred in ownership and alterations and in the decay or disappearance of marks once well known, that it is difficult now to follow directions.

2. Town Records volume II, pages 19 and 20, present a number of descriptions of roads laid out in different parts of the town, which it may interest the curious to read. The descriptions are not fully given. They are somewhat abridged. The second one seems to be the road from the east part of the town coming down by the old Capt. Jonathan Cram place, down what is called the great hill southwest of Mr. Luther Cram's, turning nearly an easterly course at Mr. Rufus Chamberlain's place, passing on by the old Moses Stiles place, by the Manuel or Lucas place, and onward toward the Boutwell place and the meeting house.

3. This road runs from the northeast corner of Wilton and comes down by the Jonathan Cram place, now Mrs. John A. Putnam's, down by Mr. Luther Cram's and across the Mill brook by the old bridge nearly a north course up the hill to Deacon Ephraim Putnam's, and thence northerly toward John Stephenson's, where his great grandson, Willis J. Stephenson, now lives, and over to the road which runs towards the meeting house.

4. This road was laid out from Robert Badger's house to David Badger's, and is that from Harry Richardson's to near where James Karr lives. (Page 21.)

5. This road is from the east line of Wilton over to Perham corner, formerly Bevins' corner, running over Gunn hill, and continuing easterly to the oldest road in town, that from Johnson Corner to Amherst. (Page 21.)

6. A road from Moses Ordway's through land of William Holt, till it strikes road formerly leading from said Ordway's to Deacon Putnam's, and thence between Deacon Putnam's house and barn. (March 11, 1766, page 23.)

7. This is a road from Jacob Wellman's to Amherst line near Stephen Peabody's. This is probably what is now called the Milford road, which runs through Perham Corner. (July 5, 1766, page 24.)

8. This road runs from Josiah Dutton's to the west side of Jonas Kidder's, and from that till it strikes the way from Stephen Spaulding's to Joshua Hadley's, till it strikes the way from Robert Badger's to the meeting-house. May 30, 1767, page 42.)

9. Voted, a road from William Thompson's house by John Rowe's for Ephraim Powers and others to travel to meeting, and it was laid out Dec. 25, 1769. (Page 68.)

10. A road for Benjamin Jones to travel to meeting and to market.

11. March 16, 1770. The road from the meeting-house to Ephraim Putnam's, the 3rd., was accepted, i. e., the old road from the meeting-house by Nehemiah Boutwell's and by what is now Emery Holt's to where Mr. Steele lives, near the railroad station.

12. Voted, to accept the road from William Jones's land to the road that leads from John Hutchinson's to Amherst. Laid out Dec. 24, 1769. (Page 68.)

13. Also the road from Jonathan Chamberlain's, Jr., to Ephraim Putnam, 3rd. Road between Blaney and Chamberlain's. (Page 68.) Laid out by Osgood Carleton and Ephraim Putnam, Jr., March 12, 1770. Road No. 9 above was accepted at the same time as this.

14. A road between James Boutwell's house and the old meeting-house spot, southeasterly to Johnson's road, so called. (Page 68.)

15. A road through John Kidder's and William Holt's land, and George Gould's, near the fordway over which said Gould carts his hay, which is over the brook just below Holt's meadow, thence southeasterly to the saw mill, and thence to the road that leads from David Badger's to the meeting-house. (Page 72.)

16. A road from a run of water in the road leading from Johnson's saw-mill eastwardly to Sergt. John Hutchinson's Accepted June 6, 1771. (Page 73.)

17. Road from New Boston south line, south to Stephen Spaulding's. (Page 84.)



18. Also, from Amos Whittemore's east line to Edward Spalding's. (Page 84.)

19. Also, from Josiah Woodbury's south line by Robert Badger's to his west line.

20. Also, from Francis Epps' west line to Woodbury's road. (Page 85.)

21. From Joseph Herrick's to the road which leads to Peter Russell's. (Page 85.)

The Francestown Road\* intersected with the road through the Centre near where Dr. Benjamin Jones lived, (now the George Spalding place) running northerly past the Eleazer Woodward place, (later the "Town Farm") and up the mountain past the Ordway farm. At the top of the mountain, near where Bradley Tay's summer cottage stands, it turned to the right and then northerly, past the Capt. Levi Spaulding place, marked now only by the old cellar, thence down very steep grades to where John Proctor lived, crossed Cold Brook and intersected with the New Boston road near where Merrill Spalding lives. In two places the roadside walls are still standing, while the rest of the way is now a dense forest with nothing to show that there was ever a highway there. Mr. Daniel B. Whittemore remembers this road.

It is very probable that about the time this road was built, the road from the top of the mountain was continued past the Jonas Kidder place, where Robert C. Mason now lives, down the mountain to the Levi Spaulding place. Here it turned westward running past the homes of Ira Houston, Daniel Woodward, Reuben Dutton, and Deacon Samuel Houston, thence north to the Driscoll Hill section of Francestown. From near the corner where the towns of Lyndeborough, Greenfield and Francestown now join, the road has been discontinued, but the roadside walls are still standing and the abutments of the bridge across Cressy River are fairly preserved.

This was undoubtedly the road used by the people of that section of Lyndeborough which was afterwards annexed to Francestown.

The right hand road at the top of the mountain was continued westerly from its intersection with the New Boston road, past the Whittemore place, the Nathaniel Batchelder or E. P. Spalding place, (now the Parry place), then past the No. 8 schoolhouse and the Dea. Oliver Whiting place, intersecting

\* Described by Mr. Woodward.

with the old Francestown road at the Samuel Houston place. Later, a road was built from the Parry place past the Twitchell and Aaron Lewis homes. This last is the present highway to Francestown.

The New Boston road intersected with the road to Francestown a few rods north of where the latter intersects with the road from the centre, forming what was called the "crotch of the roads." This road passed the Dea. David Badger place, the William Barron place, and Robert Badger's, down the steepest part of the mountain by the Abel Hill place to North Lyndeborough where the Atwoods, Clarks and Boardmans lived, and thence to New Boston, and was called the New Boston road. From known dates of the settlement of farms along these roads, it seems probable that they were all built about the same time, from 1770 to 1780. According to credible tradition, the section north of the mountain had chiefly "bridle paths" over the mountain for a few of the earlier years. People rode to church on horseback, the way being marked by "blazed trees."

It was probably several years later that the road from the Capt. William Barron place past the Amos Pratt, or D. G. Dickey, place and the Hadley farm was built, intersecting with the old Francestown road just north of where C. J. Cummings lives. The road from the Parry place running easterly through the north part of the town was probably built to accommodate the travel to North Lyndeborough and New Boston, and that part of it east of where it intersects with the old New Boston road from the center, was probably built as early as any of the roads in the north part of the town.

Some of the principal roads in town cross it diagonally from southeast to northwest. Those from Amherst northwest parish, now Mont Vernon, and from Amherst plain or court house, converged near what is now the Frank Carson place; thence the road passed toward the center by the Micah Hartshorn mill, till it intersected with the road which led to the meeting-house.

From a few rods north of the meeting-house the road turns westward, passing George Spalding's, B. G. Herrick's, Deacon McIntire's, the Pinnacle House, and so on over the mountain by the John Savage place to Greenfield. This was the chief road through the town in its earlier years.

The road from Milford enters the town at the Howard place, and runs north through Perham corner, past the E. C. Curtis

place and the Willard Rose place, and passing the Norbourne place, or the Micah Hartshorn place, intersects the road to the meeting-house at either the William B. Raymond place or the Mrs. Benjamin Dutton place. As the Milford road reaches the Asher Curtis place, a road passes to the rear of his house which goes on to Johnson's corner. Another passes westward and soon runs into the road from the northeast corner of Wilton, road No. 3.

From the corner east of Mr. Norbourne's a road passes southwest in front of his house and intersects with the road from the meeting-house toward South Lyndeborough at the Stearns place. Then it passes by the Lucas or Manuel place, and by the south cemetery toward the R. R. station, post office and church.

The Forest road lies for the most part in the valley of the Rocky River. It appears to have started from northwest of Lyndeborough and passed through to Wilton. The building of it was at first opposed by this town. But Greenfield favored the road so much as to offer liberal assistance to Lyndeborough on condition of their permitting the road to be built. The inducements proved effectual, and a vote was passed to aid in building it. The road came through early in the fourth decade of the last century, and proved of great benefit, especially to the south part of the town.

Commencing at the railroad station at South Lyndeborough and going nearly south, the Wilton line is reached within a mile. The first turning east on this Wilton road passes the old location of the glass factory, and is intersected at two points east of the railroad station by the roads from the John Emery place to the factory and the road which passes the schoolhouse and turns southeast near David Putnam's. This road leads to the center, to New Boston, Mont Vernon, the southeast part of the town and to Milford.

Going west from the railroad station is the direct way over the hills to Temple. Short pieces of highway like that from A. T. Ford's to where W. W. Young's store stood, and also that from Isaac Lowe's to J. A. Blanchard's, are of comparatively recent date, and need but passing mention. But the Blaney road, which turned to the left after crossing the river and passed over the hill a southwest course, passing by the Barrett place and by where Mr. Andrew Burton lived, and ran a very direct course to Wilton centre — this, although long ago aban-

done as a highway, ought not to be omitted from our record. It was once the direct road to Wilton Centre.

Going west still from the river up the hill to the old Benjamin Cram place, now occupied by Frank Winn, another road branches to the southwest, passing by the Woodward place and on by what used to be known as the Dascomb place, now owned by a Mr. Tighe, and still onward by the Warren Stiles place in Wilton.

On the road from the Frank Winn place northwest is the Ryerson, or Ephraim Putnam 2nd place, now the Pettingill place, and westward from that are now A. D. Cram's, J. C. Miller's places and schoolhouse No. 5, a short distance west of which this road intersects with the road which leads from W. W. Burton's toward the Beasom place, now Samuel Dolliver's. Mr. Burton's farm adjoins the Wilton line. The road which runs from Mr. Burton's place to the Beasom or Dolliver place, after passing the latter, went up over the hill northward by the Aaron Putnam, John Woodward and William Holley places, and intersected with the old Peterborough road near the Jacob Butler place. This is said to have been the old stage road between Wilton, Temple, Greenfield and Peterborough.

Again, going toward Greenfield from South Lyndeborough, the first road turning eastward passes between G. M. Cram's and J. A. Blanchard's under the railroad and leads directly to the centre of the town. From Mr. Cram's to the little bridge it is nearly parallel with Brandy Brook, and is thence called the Brandy Brook road. Still farther on, this northwest or Forest road is crossed by the road from the Hildreth place, near Mr. Ed. Dolliver's. The northeast road goes toward Lyndeborough Centre, while the southwest one crosses the river, formerly passed by the Beasom place, but leaves it on the hill northwest, and passing southwest intersects with the old stage road above described, just west of the schoolhouse No. 5.

As the Forest road to Greenfield nears the foot of the mountain, a road branches from it toward the west which is known as the "gulf road" to Peterborough. It was built in the forties of last century, with the purpose of avoiding the hills. The place where it turns off from the Forest road is known as the Benjamin Crosby place.

At the very foot of the Winn mountain a road turns southeast and passes in front of schoolhouse No. 9. After passing a short distance south of the schoolhouse, it left the old Capt. William

Dutton place and took a southerly course by the Jotham Hildreth place down to the brow of the hill west of Elmer Blanchard's. From near the Dutton place, back of the present residence of Mr. S. M. Buck, the road bears still southeasterly by the old Moses Pearson place, now Frank Reynold's, and joins the road which runs from the Hildreth place to the Foster Woodward place.

About an eighth of a mile from the corner near schoolhouse No. 9 toward Greenfield, a road descends into the woods westward, which is the old road to Peterborough. This joins "the gulf road" near the old Stephenson mill site, crosses the river and passes on through what is called "happy hollow" to Peterborough, or over the north end of the mountain.

Taking our bearing now from the Centre, the roads to Greenfield and Francestown have both been described. The old road to New Boston is next to be noticed. This started as the eastern part of the fork formed by the roads near the residence of Mr. Herman Walker and passed by the David Badger, or James Karr place, the Capt. William Barron, or Frank B. Tay place, by the Robert Badger, or Harry Richardson place, and over the north side of the mountain down to North Lyndeborough. From there the roads divide, one passing to New Boston and another to Francestown.

Again, a newer road passes down the hill in front of the church and runs over the "Scataquog" mountain to the Bailey place. Here it intersects with the road to New Boston.

Still another road passes nearly north from Jonnson's corner and runs direct to New Boston. Near the northeast corner of Lyndeborough a road branches eastward from the New Boston road toward Mont Vernon.

There are besides these, several short sections of highway which it seemed difficult to include in this compendious view of our roads. These roads are in general well cared for and well marked with guide boards at their intersections; and it is believed that any one following the lines of highway here indicated will see that the town endeavored to afford all its citizens the most thorough and abundant facilities for travel in the nature of the case. Large sums of money have annually been expended for repairs and improvements of these highways.

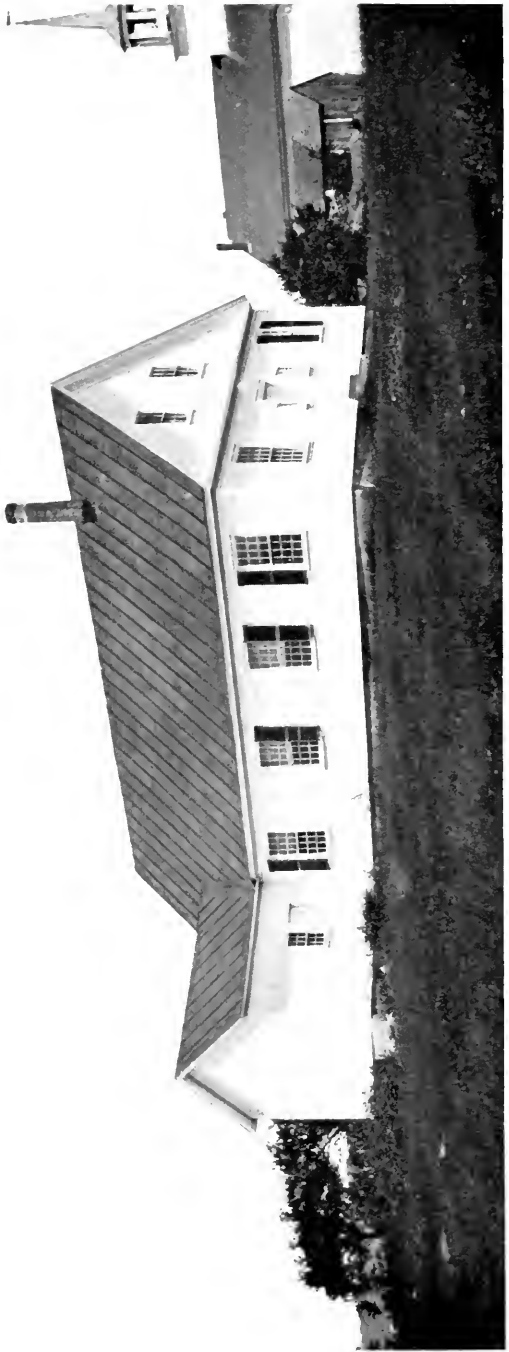
#### BRIDGES.

The bridges of the town are small, and for this reason not

generally expensive. The care of these seems for a time to have rested largely upon the citizens living in the highway districts where they were situated. The support of these by the people who lived nearest to them became at times, when unusual damage occurred, quite troublesome, and in their estimation an unreasonable tax. An article was therefore inserted in the warrant for a town meeting to be held on May 5, 1818, to see whether the town would vote "to build and support certain bridges" which may be shown "to be an unreasonable tax on the district in which they are situated."\* On considering this matter the town voted "to build all bridges in said town that are over ten feet in length"; and further voted that the Selectmen be a committee to view the bridges, "if applied to," and "if, in their opinion, the districts are unable to support the same, then the Selectmen are to proceed agreeable to the above vote."† In harmony with these votes, we find the town again directing the selectmen "to assist those highway districts which are burthened with bridges," by giving them "materials for the repairs of the same as they think best."

\* T. R. III, pp. 271, 273.      † T. R. IV, P. 8





TOWN HALL, LYNDEBOROUGH.



## CHAPTER XXV.

### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

#### THE TOWN HALL.

The old meeting-house failed to give general satisfaction as a town hall. Consequently, March 14, 1843,\* a committee was chosen to examine the Town House and see what repairs were necessary, and estimate the cost of them; and also to estimate the probable cost of a new house suited to the town's use. David Stiles, Josiah Wheeler, Asa Manning, Peter Cram and Israel Putnam were chosen for this service.

This committee reported April 11, 1843, and gave it as their opinion, † "that a hall thirty by forty feet will be sufficient to seat all the voters which ever will come there, and give them convenient room for all necessary operations; and that such a hall may be set off at either end of the house and well finished with a store for the sum of \$240; and that a committee-room or selectmen's office" included may be supplied for the above sum. Three rooms might also be fitted up as a dwelling, and the house be moved about twenty feet west; the entire cost of such changes and repairs would be about 300 dollars.

They also reported that a new house of the size mentioned, one story high, with the underpinning of the old house, door-steps, etc., would cost 650 dollars. ‡ March 11, 1845, the town voted to build a Town House, and chose William Jones, Josiah Wheeler, and Levi Tyler a building committee. Voted further that this committee dispose of the old Town House, all above the underpinning, and that one half of the proceeds be paid to the pew-holders.

To the latter committee were added two other persons, viz.: Peter Cram and David Putnam, as a committee to locate the house on the common. This committee reported, March 22, 1845, that they have agreed and determine "the location in question to begin directly west of the old Town House, as far as the ledge of rock will admit, thence extending east the length of the house so that the corner of each end shall lay nearly parallel with a line drawn from the new meeting-house

\* T. R., IV, p. 470. † P. 475. ‡ P. 531.

to the well-house near the house of David Stiles, but being a little to the right of said line." This report was signed by

William Jones  
 Josiah Wheeler  
 Levi Tyler  
 David Putnam

The building committee above named was authorized to draw from "the Treasury an amount not exceeding six hundred dollars of the Surplus Money."

An attempt was made at a meeting called on March 31, 1845, to have the town "rescind all the votes relative to building a Town House, passed at the last annual town meeting."\* The meeting voted, "to indefinitely postpone" † the article covering this subject, 83 for, and 69 against; and by a vote of 82 to 68, adjourned the meeting indefinitely.

#### CITIZENS' HALL.

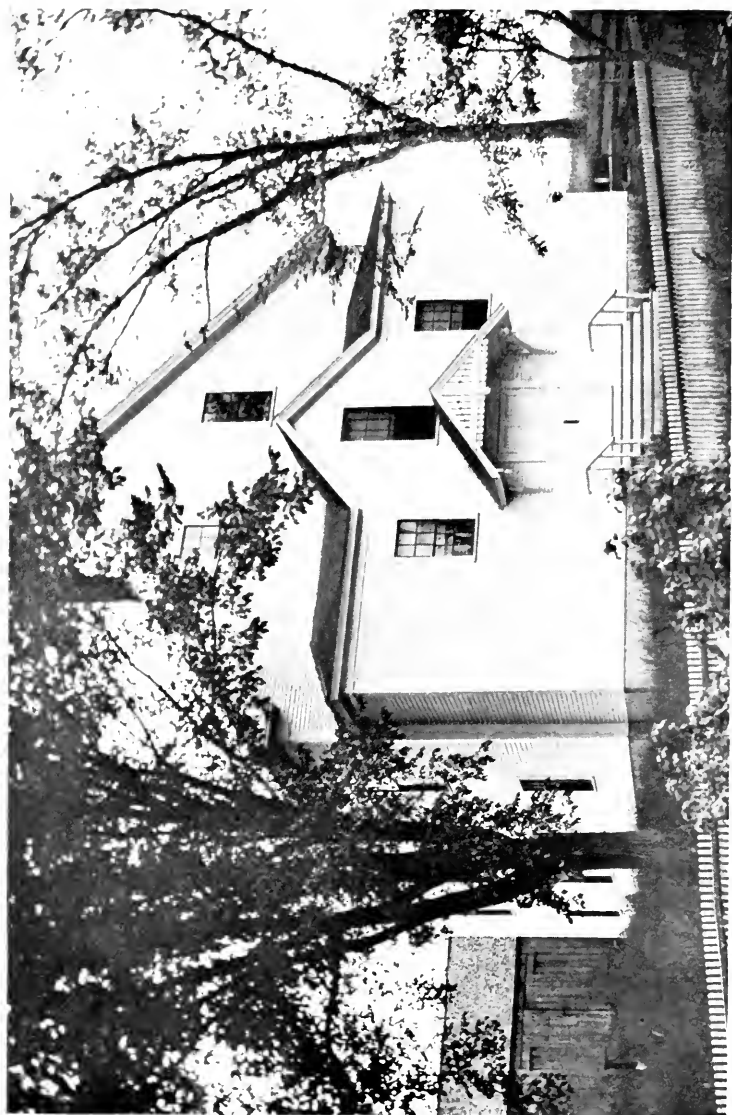
Citizens' Hall, South Lyndeborough, was built in part by the town for the accommodation of a library, and partly by the subscriptions of citizens who desired better conveniences for holding such gatherings and reunions as the Lafayette Artillery, Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, and other assemblies, both military and civic, are accustomed from time to time to enjoy. Before its erection there were two halls in the village, "Tarbell's Hall," over the store, and "Armory Hall," over the railroad station. But both together did not with any comfort contain the people who were usually present at the annual celebration of Washington's birthday by the Lafayette Artillery. This fact showed the people the urgent need of better accommodations in general, which they set out to secure. A site for a hall was purchased, and funds were collected to assist in building it.

A committee of five persons, namely, Jason Holt, C. Henry Holt, B. G. Herrick, Andy Holt and Fred A. Richardson was chosen to have charge of the work. Money was raised and the work was commenced in the spring of 1888. The building is sixty feet by forty, two stories high, and was sufficiently finished for occupancy that year. The lower story contains entry, ante-rooms, a spacious dining hall, and kitchen supplied with fine range and other serviceable appointments; and also, a gun room or armory for the muskets and other equipments of

\* T. R. IV, p. 538.

† T. R. IV, p. 539.





CITIZENS' HALL, SOUTH LYNDEBOROUGH.

the Lafayette Artillery. The upper story contains the hall, having a seating capacity of about four hundred, a broad stage and convenient dressing rooms, &c. &c. Connected with the building are a good well, a barn, and the house for the cannon. The artillery company contributed three hundred dollars towards the fund for its erection, and the entire cost was \$2842.91. For the conveniences which it affords the company, they pay a moderate annual rent. It has been used for all kinds of gatherings. Religious meetings were held in it while the church was undergoing repairs.

When Captain Tarbell's golden wedding occurred, Jan. 15, 1889, so large was the number of guests expected, that it was thought best to hold the celebration in the new hall; and this was the first public occasion on which the hall was used, and was one of general interest and unusual good feeling.

Some of our citizens, it is said, were greatly opposed to building this hall, so much so that they never have entered it. But this opposition, like almost everything mundane, has largely disappeared, and Citizens' Hall is now generally considered a great convenience, and a credit to the town.

#### SCHOOLHOUSES, BY J. A. WOODWARD.

Probably no one cause has ever made so many troubled times in our country communities as the location of the district schoolhouse. Our ancestors as well, perhaps, as ourselves, were exceedingly jealous of their school privileges. They had large families and they naturally wanted the schoolhouse within convenient distance from their homes. They valued education, but they did not want their children to go a greater distance than was just to obtain their schooling. As the schoolhouses became dilapidated and the districts were obliged to build new, there were sometimes lively efforts made to get a little advantage, which was simply human nature.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the first schoolhouse built within the limits of what was District No. 1 was situated near the intersection of the roads leading from the "Centre" to what was afterwards District No. 2. This point is sometimes called "Monument corner." It stood for many years on the north side of the road, and probably accommodated the settlers to the west, as well as those of the middle of the town. The date of its erection cannot be ascertained, but was probably during the Revolutionary war. It was ultimately burned.

The next schoolhouse to be built was located a short distance above the intersection of the roads, near where Frank B. Tay lives, and it is probable that another schoolhouse was built about the same time in the middle of the town, for as early as 1809 two schools were running.

Tradition says there was trouble in the district and they divided. About the year 1850 the northerly school was discontinued and the building sold to Amos Pratt. It is now a part of the L, or shed on the David G. Dickey place. Thereafter there was but one school in District No. 1.

Dec. 18, 1809, the selectmen were petitioned to call a meeting of the voters of the district. At this meeting it was "voted to build a schoolhouse of the same dimensions as the house in District No. 3, near Capt. Putnam's," and that "the selectmen fix upon a locatlon for said house." They voted to adjourn for three weeks, and at the adjourned meeting they voted to reconsider all former proceedings. But in the meantime the selectmen had attended to their duty and reported "that having measured the road, considered the situation of each individual as related to travel and estates, are of the opinion that the schoolhouse ought to be built where the "Goodman house formerly stood." Where the Goodman house stood cannot be determined at this day, but it was probably just west of Badger pond. May 19, 1812, the district tried again and voted to build a schoolhouse at "the crotch of the road leading to Eleazer Woodward Jr." This would be near Herman A. Walker's place. A committee was chosen to view the spot and fix upon that one which was most convenient, and it was voted to adjourn to meet at the old schoolhouse on the second Monday in June. Where that "old" schoolhouse stood no one can now tell. Perhaps the schoolhouse near Frank Tay's was meant. But this was not satisfactory, for at the adjourned meeting, June 8, it was voted to reconsider that vote, dismiss the committee, and purchase a piece of ground of Israel Hutchinson Goodridge to build a schoolhouse upon, near the Goodman place, so called—the place that the selectmen formerly pitched upon. It was voted to raise money and have the house built in five months. There was evidently still division of sentiment, however, for Oct. 5, 1812, it was voted to build the house "near the cherry tree on Capt. William Clark's land instead of building where the district voted to." This meeting, by adjournment, "voted to sell the old schoolhouse, reserving the

bricks and mantle-tree." But the end was not yet. This spot was not satisfactory to many, and April 12, 1813, the district voted to call a committee from out of town to decide the question. This committee consisted of William Lovejoy, Robert Clark and John Carleton. Their report was as follows:

"We, the subscribers being mutually chosen and agreed upon by the inhabitants of the first school District in Lyndeboro to examine and fix upon the most suitable ground to build a schoolhouse upon, and having examined the district, heard the observations from its members and agreed to report, and do report that the corner of land owned by the Gould heirs and at the corner where the roads leading from Francestown and New Boston intersect, being about forty rods north of Dr. Benj. Jones' house, if it can be obtained; if not, the nearest convenient ground to it will best accommodate the District and is the most suitable place to erect a school for its members, according to our best skill and judgment." This report is dated April 19, 1813.

The next year, 1814, they built the schoolhouse, but it is pretty hard to tell from the records just where it was located, though it must have been not far from where it stands now. It was the "old red schoolhouse" so well remembered by many of us. It is now used as a tool-house, and was moved to its present location in 1828 at Dr. Nathan Jones' expense. Its total cost was \$350. In 1854 between fifty and sixty pupils attended school within its walls. They had to sit three at a bench in those days, and generally one pupil at the teacher's desk as a place either of honor or punishment.

Feb. 25, 1822, it was voted at a meeting of the district that all those on the northeast section of the district—that is, all on the road leading from the schoolhouse, at the crotch of the road near Mr. Merrill's to New Boston, including Chase Hadley and I. H. Goodridge—have liberty to withdraw from the district and be disannexed from said district, provided they wish to be disannexed therefrom, and the district is to pay them thirty cents on the dollar for what they *actually themselves* paid for the building of said schoolhouse above mentioned, provided they relinquish all right and title to the above house both as individuals and as a district of any name or nature. The records do not show whether the "northeast section" ever took advantage of the offer.

The following transcripts from the records may be of interest for comparison with present expense of schools. In 1836 Dea. Wm. Jones agreed to furnish two cords of good hard wood, fitted for the stove, for \$1.50 per cord, and the next year he bid

off the board of the teachers for the summer term at 62½ cents per week. In those days it was the custom to sell the furnishing of the wood and the board of the teacher to the lowest bidder.

March 29, 1830, Timothy Richardson bid off the wood at \$1.50 per cord. March 8, 1833, N. Jones bid off the wood for \$1.30 per cord. March 13, 1839, voted to receive the scholars from District No. 11 by paying their school tax in this district, and voted not to receive the scholars from any other district. March, 1843, Dea. Wm. Jones bid off the board of the teacher for the summer term for 62½ cents per week, and R. C. Boutwell for the winter term at \$1 per week. There is a tradition that competition was once so keen, and the anxiety to have as long terms as possible was so great, that one man boarded the teacher and paid 10 cents per week for the privilege. The whole amount expended for schools in this district in 1843 was \$72.07.

In 1859 it was decided to build a new schoolhouse more in accord with modern requirements. March 10, 1859, at a meeting of the district it was "voted to build a new schoolhouse the present year." Voted to locate the schoolhouse near the intersection of road, above the present schoolhouse, near the northeast corner of Deacon Jones' field, where he formerly had a hop field. This would be about opposite Herman A. Walker's house. This vote precipitated another controversy. March 29, 1859, the vote was reconsidered, and it was voted to locate the schoolhouse on one-half acre of land laid out in a square in the southeast corner of Oliver Bixby's field east of his garden. Another lot was finally chosen by a committee. It is said that in the former case one of the women of the district went in the night and pulled up the boundary stakes and carried them away. The second location would be just east of where E. K. Warren lives.

April 18, it was "voted to build our schoolhouse and woodshed as far as practicable on the east end of the lot laid out by the committee" and here the house was built. Probably no bleaker or more wind-lashed spot could have been found in the district. The following from the district records is suggestive considering where they placed the house. Voted "to have the committee put up a good strong frame well braced" for the house. John Richardson offered to give a piece of land for the house, opposite the church or any spot in his pasture on the road from Deacon Jones' to the parsonage, but the inhabitants of the north section of the district strenuously opposed going



farther south, and the struggle was a rather bitter one. They paid Oliver Bixby forty-eight dollars for the lot, and David C. Grant built the house. Its total cost was \$721.50 and it contained many modern improvements in schoolhouse furnishing. It served the purposes of the district until April 7, 1892, when it caught fire from a fire running in grass and was burned. That same season the neat and commodious house at the centre was built by the town school district, the law at that time having done away with the old district system.

The date of the building of the house in District No. 2 cannot be given. There are no records and no traditions. It is known to have been built previous to 1820 and it is pretty safe to say it was built soon after the one that stood near Monument corner was burned, or about 1800. It is one of the three oldest schoolhouses in town, though like the other two it has been repaired so many times that practically the frame is all that remains of the original building. March 2, 1850, a committee reported to a meeting of the district that they had attended to the duties assigned them by the district with Messrs. John Gage and David Gage and come to final settlement between the parties, and received from them satisfaction that we are "satisfied" with. It is inferred that there had been some trouble about disturbing the school. The total amount of money expended in this district in 1853 was \$88.40.

As nearly as can be ascertained in the absence of any record, the present schoolhouse in District No. 3 was built in 1857 or 1858. David C. Grant was the builder. The summer that this house was in the process of erection the school was kept at the house of Dea. John Hartshorn. The new house was built on the site of the old one. It is probable that the old schoolhouse was one of the first built in the town. It was in existence in 1800, and as the first settlements in the town were made in the near vicinity it would seem that the first schoolhouse must have been built nearby.

There is no record to show when the first schoolhouse in District No. 4, North Lyndeborough, was built. According to Capt. Peter Clark's "diary" a new one was raised Aug. 14, 1793. This new house stood near the intersection of roads north of the Clark homestead. After serving the purposes of the district for many years, it was sold to Deacon John C. Goodrich and now forms part of the buildings of J. H. Goodrich. It was of rather an unusual pattern, and differed from most of

the schoolhouses of that day. It was some fifty feet long and about sixteen feet wide, with an aisle running through the center of the room from end to end. From each side of this aisle the seats sloped upward to the walls of the house. The boys sat on one side of the room and the girls on the other. In 1820, David Atwood taught the winter term in this house and had eighty pupils.

Oct. 5, 1857, the district voted to build a new schoolhouse and chose Luther Odell, Wm. K. Cochran and John C. Goodrich a building committee. The next year the house was completed in the new lot selected. It was built by Luther Odell and its total cost was \$464.00.

In 1821, Benjamin Goodridge bid off the board of the teacher for eighty cents per week and Daniel N. Boardman bid off the wood for seventy-five cents per cord, said wood to be two feet six in length.

In 1822, they voted to repair the east end of the house and move the chimney, and they voted to set up the attending of the masons to the lowest bidder. Bid off by Luther M. Wheeler for seventy cents per day, and every item of the job was sold the same way.

In those days there was more or less friction as to when the winter term of school should be "set up." Those families having well grown boys wanted their work on the farm and naturally tried to have the winter term commence as late as possible, while those families with younger children wanted it to commence as early in the fall as practicable, to escape snow storms and bad travelling. The record of this and of other districts shows many "reconsidered" votes as one party or the other won or lost. In 1854, the total amount of money expended for schools in this district was \$50.97.

The schoolhouse in District No. 5 used to stand on the road leading from where Mr. Eastman lives, or the Adoniram Russell place, to the Dolliver place, above the intersection of roads. In 1850, after the schoolhouse in District No. 9 was built, this house was removed to its present location, as being more convenient for the district. It has been thoroughly repaired at one time or another. No record can be found of when it was first built. Like all the districts in town, more especially those away from the villages, this one has suffered a diminution in the number of pupils attending school, and for a time it was united with District No. 9.

The early records of District No. 6 seem to show that previous to 1821 there were two schools kept in the district, and that they were taught in private houses.

Dec. 31, 1821, the district, at an adjourned meeting, voted that "We have a school this winter at Jotham Blanchard, Jr.'s, and Samuel Hartshorn's, according to our proportion. . . . Voted to give Hartshorn and Blanchard one dollar a week for house rent and fire wood."

"Struck off the board at the east school to Lieut. Blanchard at 60 cents per week."

"Struck off the board at the west school to Samuel Hartshorn at 74 cents per week."

In 1818 or 1819 the schoolhouse in this district was burned, which probably accounts for the school being kept in private houses. What was saved from this old house was sold at auction Sept. 24, 1821, viz.:

Mantlepiece to Lieut. J. Blanchard, 35 lbs., at 5½,	\$1.90
1 lott of old iron to J. Howard	1.29
Window to Asa Perham	.43
1 lott of brick, J. Howard	1.00

They seem to have divided the district into classes, for under date of May 24, 1817, it was "voted to receive Mr. A. Blanchard, Mr. Oliver Perham, Jr., and Mr. S. Perham, all as members of this class. Nov. 4, 1819, it was "voted that each head of said class that sends children to school give a 'note' to the clerk for their proportion of wood, at the rate of \$2 per cord, note to be given up when the wood is delivered at the schoolhouse, if in season."

It is evident that all the school districts were beginning to find the custom of bringing so much wood for each pupil sent, rather unsatisfactory.

May 28, 1821, the district voted to build a new schoolhouse. At this meeting it was "voted that the schoolhouse be set in the 'senter' of the district."

"Voted to have a committee to 'senter' s<sup>d</sup> district."

This committee consisted of Israel Burnham, Andrew Harwood and Jacob Flynn.

"Voted to measure from the *front door of the houses.*"

At an adjourned meeting, Sept. 24, 1821, the "jobb" of building the schoolhouse was struck off to Mr. Joseph Howard at \$149.50.

"Voted that the 'class' do all below the sills."

This schoolhouse has been repaired and improved so many times that probably but little of the original structure remains.

Oct. 20, 1817, it was voted to get one foot of wood to each child, to be brought and cut up before the school is to begin. Those who did not get their proportion of wood for the subscription school last winter are to make up their "reorage." If this does not suffice, "*one foot is to be added to each child.*"

June 29, 1816, it was voted to "lay out one-third of the money raised by the district for a *woman school.*"

May 13, 1823, "voted to hire Betsey Holt if she can be obtained on reasonable terms."

"Voted to have Betsey Holt at \$1.33 per week, and board herself."

Certainly the terms would appear to be reasonable.

The schoolhouse in District No. 7 was built by the selectmen of the town in 1851. Its early history is one of trouble and litigation and divided sentiment. The selectmen of the town at that time were Luther Cram, Daniel Woodward, Jr., and Joseph Chamberlain, Jr., and they proceeded to build the house upon petition of the district, or a part of it, as provided by law. But the district would not accept the house when finished, and lawsuits followed. The selectmen were beaten in the courts, and they had the house on their hands.

The technical cause of their defeat was that the carpenters set the house two feet away from the location voted by the district. Finally, in 1853, the district voted to accept the house, and pay the builders its cost with interest, which was \$533. It has served the needs of the Johnson's Corner people ever since.

March 11, 1854, it was voted at a meeting of the district that Charles Carkin sell the "remains" of the old schoolhouse to the highest bidder; and the "remains" were sold to Rufus Chamberlain for \$4. There is nothing to show when this old schoolhouse was built.

The first school in District No. 8 was taught in a private house that stood north of the French place, in what is now a pasture that belonged to the late George D. Epps of Frances-town. The school was also held in the house afterward occupied by Asa Twitchel. About the year 1810 the schoolhouse was built.

Evidently an attempt was made in those days to locate the schoolhouse on some road as near the geographical centre of the

district as possible. This house was built at the foot of the hill west of where the late E. P. Spalding lived.

It was a type of the schoolhouses of that period. The floor sloped from the north side to the south, the back seats being much higher than the front. A wide and deep fire-place occupied much of the north side of the room. West of the fire-place was a seat and bench with a window back of them — a seat shunned by all the pupils as the coldest place in the room. It was generally occupied by some boy as a penance for wrongdoing. On a small raised platform to the west end was the teacher's table. The door was in the east end, and led directly into the woodshed. The seats and benches were of two-inch pine plank, and the boys of that day thought they were at school to whittle; so, as the most of them had jackknives, as the wood was soft and getting lessons irksome, these benches were soon deeply scored with initials, fly-traps, rude carvings and other devices.

The fire-place would take in a four-foot log. The boys had to cut up the wood, and it is said were glad of the chance during school hours, for the sake of getting warmed up.

April 11, 1860, the district voted to repair its house and to remove it to the top of the hill, at the intersection of roads, near E. P. Spalding's, but so much opposition developed among some of the inhabitants of the district that the vote was reconsidered and the house was repaired where it stood, at an expense of \$200.00. The floor was made level and the house was virtually made new outside and in.

No school has been kept in it for a number of years. In 1850 there were more than forty pupils. The Houston, Whiting, Spalding, Dutton, Manning, Woodward and Whittemore families were largely represented. Now there is not a child of school age in the district that was born there and but three anyway.

The following appears in the records of District No. 9. It is self-explanatory. "Voted that a committee of three be chosen to invite school District No. 1 of Greenfield to unite with school District No. 9 of Lyndeborough, in disposing of the schoolhouse which the two districts have built and occupied as a schoolhouse, on just and honorable terms, and that the committee have power to give a title to the house or receive a title of the same and give security for the payment of whatever they may agree to pay for said house. Jotham Stephenson, Jona-

than Bailey and Jacob Butler were chosen for that committee. No. 9 had evidently made up its mind to dissolve partnership in school matters.

March 30, 1850, the district voted to build a new schoolhouse, twenty-seven feet long and twenty-one feet wide. These dimensions were afterward modified. They also voted to build the house on the spot formerly occupied by John Thompson's dwelling house. The building was erected that year. There is no record of any controversy over its location.

The total amount of money expended for schools in this district in 1849 was \$54.54.

The schoolhouse in District No. 10 formerly stood on the road to New Boston, about fifty rods east of where Charles L. Avery lives. In 1843, this district was united with a part of Francestown for school purposes, and the house was removed to the turnpike near the Francestown line. After the town district system was adopted, it was sold to Harvey Nichols for \$20.00 and was removed. The part of the town annexed to Mont Vernon contained one whole school district. The schoolhouse was situated on the turnpike road near where Edward Averill now lives. It is said there was also a schoolhouse near where Asher Curtis lives, but of this there is no record.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### MILLS AND INDUSTRIES.

#### SAW MILLS AND GRIST MILLS.

The mills in our town fall easily into four divisions, according to the streams on which they were built, or the part of the territory which they occupied. Information about most of these has been kindly furnished by J. A. Johnson, Esq., whose contribution will be placed within quotation marks. Other parts will be either by the writer or duly credited.

1. "On the south branch of a stream known as the Lee Brook, in the northwest corner of the town, is a site of a saw-mill which was built and run by the family of Jonathan Butler."

2. "A short distance below the junction of the Lee brook and the Mountain, or Savage brook, is the site of a saw and grist mill built by John Stephenson. Later, another building was erected by Jotham Stephenson and used as a shingle and threshing mill."

Merrill's Gazetteer, published 1817, states that there were in the town at that time "two grain mills." Farmer & Moore's Gazetteer, published in 1823, credits our town with three grain mills. Probably the Stephenson mill here mentioned was built in the years intervening between the publication of these two Gazetteers, or previous to 1823. We had two grain mills in this part of the town before the earliest date here. The mill owned by Thomas Bradford, west of South Lyndeborough village, and that owned by Ensign David Putnam, east of it, were certainly in operation before the earliest of the above publications was issued.

3. "On the road leading from Lyndeborough to Temple was built the first (and as far as we know, the last,) fulling and wool-carding mill ever in town. It was built by Joshua Sargent. Later, it was used as a door-knob manufactory, and also a grist mill. It was taken down by John Newell, who erected the mill a few rods south of the old mill, and is the one now occupied by Mr. Colburn."

4. "On the Forest road, near the head of the pond known as the Hadley mill pond, Levi Tyler built a saw mill. After running it a few years, he moved it to the site now occupied by buildings known as the Hadley Brothers' mill." It was afterwards operated many years by the late C. Henry Holt.

5. "A few rods south of the road leading from South Lyndeborough

to Temple is the site of a grist mill owned by Thomas Bradford. This site and some of the adjoining land was given the builder with the condition that he should continue to run it as a grist mill, as long as the public good required it."

This site appears to be on the old Lot, No. 39, granted to the first settler of the town, John Cram, by the old Salem-Canada proprietors.\* This lot and twenty pound, in Bills of Credit, were given to him, on conditions which he fulfilled to the entire satisfaction of the proprietors. In what connection, or by whom, this condition stated by Mr. J. was imposed has not thus far been ascertained.

6. The Manuel brook took its name from a Mr. Manuel through whose farm it ran, that "now known as the Lucas farm." This brook has also been known as "Furnace brook," from the furnace located on it, a little to the north of the South Cemetery. But older than either of these names is that of "Mill brook," as we suppose, because upon it were built the first mills, both saw and grist mills, in what is now Lyndeborough. This name, so appropriate to the situation, is worthy of retention.

"The first mill site on this stream is near its head waters, on the west side of the road from South Lyndeborough to the Centre of the town. The mill was a saw mill, built and run for many years by Jotham Hildreth, Senior."

7. "A few rods down the stream on the East side of the road is a saw mill built by the late Jonathan Stephenson, and now owned by his son, Willis J. Stephenson."

8. "A short distance from this is a mill owned by Andy Holt. It has been used as a shingle and clapboard mill; and also used for threshing and making cider."

9. "We have very authentic evidence that on or near the site of this mill was built the first grist mill in town, by John Stephenson."

Mr. Woodward thinks the location of this grist mill was probably between the two last-named mills. Dates of the erection of most of these mills are inaccessible. Papers which might have aided to secure these were burned with the old dwelling of Mr. Jonathan Stephenson, which stood on the spot where Willis J. Stephenson now resides.

10. "The next mill as we go down the stream is owned by Edwin H. Putnam, and is a saw and shingle mill."

This mill was owned for a time by Capt. Israel Putnam, who repaired it and made some addition to it. But neither the late

\* S.-C. History, p. 21.



Jonathan Stephenson, who died in his 97th year, nor any of the most aged of our citizens, has positive knowledge as to its builder. Deed No. 38, among Mrs. Richards' papers, seems to indicate that it was, at one time, the property of Ensign David Putnam, the great grandfather of the present owner. Possibly it may have been built by Ephraim Putnam, Senior, or by his son, Ensign David.

11. "A short distance from the Putnam mill is said to be the site of the first saw mill built in what is now Lyndeborough. It was built by John Cram, who, it is claimed, was the first settler of the town."

For building this mill, with the full consent of the Salem-Canada proprietors, on this stream rather than on Rocky River, Mr. Cram received from said Proprietors 2nd. Div. Lot No. 39, known as the mill lot, and an additional bounty of £20. (See No. 5 above.)

12. A few rods below this, in the ravine nearly opposite the clay bank, may still be seen the old sill of a mill, doubtless the corn mill of Ensign David Putnam, referred to in Deed No. 38, mentioned in connexion with No. 10 above. A trustworthy tradition states that he was a miller, quite harmonizing with the deed. He is also reported to have had a cider mill on Putnam hill, operated by horse power.

13. Farther down the stream, a few rods below the old sill mentioned as in the ravine, "is a mill owned by E. H. Putnam, now employed as a cider mill. It was built by the Lyndeborough Glass Co., for the purpose of crushing and grinding silex, or quartz rock, for the manufacture of glass."

14. We have glanced at the sites on the two principal streams of the town, and now turn to another part of our borough, even its central and eastern side.

"On the stream known as the Badger brook, the first mill site below the pond, is east of Mr. William Clark's. It was a saw mill and built by Nehemiah Rand."

This mill was probably built during the days of the Revolutionary War. For Mr. Rand lived in Charlestown, Mass., until his dwellings and shop were burned by the British in connexion with the battle of Bunker Hill. He was then the owner of at least some of the land over which that battle raged. When his buildings in Charlestown were destroyed, he removed his family to Lyndeborough, where he previously owned land adjoining the estate of his brother, Rev. John Rand, first pastor of Lyndeborough Congregational church. (See Ponds and

Streams, and Sketch of Nehemiah Rand). The mill was doubtless built after he came to reside in town. This mill was owned at a later day by Major Daniel Gould, who lived on the place now owned by Mr. Fred A. Richardson. After Mr. Nehemiah Rand's decease, John Shepard, Jr., Esq., was executor of his will, and died before the estate was settled. Major Gould was appointed to complete the work, and seems to have purchased the mill, known later as the mill of Major Daniel Gould.

15. "There is a site of a grist mill a few rods south of the road leading from the Centre to Johnson's Corner. The mill was built by Micah Hartshorn."

On this road was a mill known as Johnson's saw mill as early as 1771. See Roads, No. 16.

16. "A short distance down the stream is a saw mill" which was last owned by the late Eliphalet Hardy, "which was also built by Mr. Hartshorn."

17. "There is a site of a saw mill on land now owned by Eli C. Curtis. The mill was built by Joseph Chamberlain, Jr."

After referring to the saw-mill built by Micah Hartshorn, noticed above, Mr. J. A. Woodward adds :

"Next is the site of a saw-mill owned by E. C. Curtis. This mill was in operation until a comparatively recent time."

18. "East of the road leading from Johnson's Corner to Wilton is the site of a saw mill formerly owned by Eli Curtis and run by him for many years, and probably built by him."

19. Mr. Woodward in describing "Trail Brook," wrote :

"Mr. E. C. Curtis is authority for the statement, that below this (last named mill) was once a grist mill, the first built in that section of the town, and that some of the old timbers may still be seen."

20. Mr. Woodward adds, "Still farther down this stream, almost to the Milford line, is the saw-mill owned by the Howards of Milford."

21. We resume Mr. Johnson's description :

"About one-half mile above Purgatory falls is a site of a saw mill on the west side of Beech hill, near Miles E. Wallace's residence. This mill was owned by Mr. Cleaves of Mont Vernon, and was in the territory set off from Lyndeborough to that town."

22. "Tradition says that there was, many years ago, a grist mill at Purgatory falls, and that Micah Hartshorn moved the mill stones from there to the grist mill built by him."

23. "Below the crotch of the brook, not many years since, there

was a saw mill owned by Dimon Pearson. The builder of this mill we are unable to learn."

The Milford History probably refers to this mill thus :

"A few rods up the stream known as Purgatory brook and near the residence of the late D. Pierson was located the old Pierson saw-mill, which for a long time was operated by the Pierson family, but is now abandoned."

24. We come now to the fourth division or group of our old mills, which are found over or north of the mountain. From Mr. J. A. Woodward's description of Cold Brook, we learn that on that stream, "Capt. Peter Clark built a saw-mill back of the house where Henry Holden lives. Traces of the old dam may still be seen. Mr. Clark recorded in his "Diary," that he began to saw at his mill March 15, 1775." He arrived in Lyndeborough Jan. 25, 1775, built his mill in about seven weeks, and sawed in it the lumber for his house which he built near it.\*

25. "In the northeast corner of the town, where the Piscataquog river runs a short distance, is the site of a saw and shingle mill. We have no means to ascertain who first built this mill. But it was run, seventy years ago, by Joseph Lewis and Franklin Lynch. In time this mill disappeared, and a new one was built near its site, taking the water by canal from the same pond. The new one was built by Isaac Lewis of Francestown, and was used as a saw mill."

26. "On Cold Brook a short distance east of the road known as the Scataquog road was built a small mill for the purpose of manufacturing shoe-pegs. It was built about seventy years ago by Ebenezer Flint, who lived where Harry Richardson now lives."

Such are the mills and old mill sites to be credited to our town. We now turn to other industries and manufactures.

#### INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES.

The earliest manufactures in our town were conducted by the wives, sisters and mothers, who came into this wild, uncultivated region as the companions and helpers of the brave, hardy pioneers who cleared away the forests, built their log cabins and commenced their plantations upon our hillsides and in our valleys. While the men felled the giant trees, cut and piled their logs, burned off the brushwood, planted their first Indian corn, sowed their garden seeds, and raked into the soil their first sowings of wheat or barley or rye, the women did not sit listlessly

\* See Cold Brook, in Ponds and Streams.

in their cabins and "eat the bread of idleness." They cheerfully "laid their hands to the spindle, and their hands held the distaff." They did much of the labor of raising, dressing, spinning and weaving the flax into fine linen. They carded and spun their wool into yarn and wove the same into a fabric, from which those skilled with the needle manufactured warm, comfortable garments for themselves and their households. Even after the wool was carded at the mill of a later day, the rolls were carried home to be spun; and the hum of the old-fashioned spinning-wheel was the most familiar instrumental music of the majority of the primitives homes. The clatter of the loom was frequently heard, and the noiseless industry of knitting, plied by hands which refused ever to be idle, was the mere by-work practised by those busy, companionable dames.

Lyndeborough is especially a farming town. Its streams are too small to furnish great power. It cannot, therefore, boast much of its factories; and of that one which did the most extensive business it has little disposition to boast. Its saw and grist mills supplied the essential comforts of life to its hardy pioneers.

#### CLOTH MILL.

The nearest approach to a factory came, probably, about the close of the Revolutionary War. During the early years of that war Joshua Sargent came here from Methuen, Mass. He was a revolutionary hero, and served under Capt. William Lee in Rhode Island. He built what was then called a cloth mill, which did not make, but fulled cloth. The cloth, woven by the women at their homes, was sent to the mill to be fulled and receive the final touches to fit it for the apparel of the household. And it may be truthfully said that, fine as are the fabrics of the present day, this early cloth would suffer little in comparison, and would match, if not excel, them in one very desirable quality—durability. It would wear well.

The builder of that mill or factory spent the residue of his life in town. His mill carded the wool into rolls, which were spun and woven by hand, and the cloth was fulled and dressed at the factory. His mill was afterwards owned by Oliver Marble, and later was sold to William Harper. "The Farmers' Cabinet," April 23, 1831, has the following notice:

"The subscriber, having purchased the Clothing Works formerly owned by Mr. Oliver Marble in Lyndeborough, and having improved and repaired the same, offers his services to its inhabitants and the towns ad-

joining; and from an experience of twenty years in the Woolen Manufacturing, he thinks he can confidently assure those who will be kind enough to favor him with their custom, that they may depend on having their work done in the best manner and on the most reasonable terms.

Lyndeborough, April 15, 1831.

WILLIAM HARPER.''

This mill was at a later day given up as a cloth mill, and was changed to a grist mill and a door knob factory. Mr. John Newell, born in Brookline Aug. 30, 1824, bought it, probably about 1845. He took it down and built, a few rods south of the old foundation, the mill which is now owned by Mr. Colburn. Mr. Newell carried on a cabinet shop there for several years. Mr. Daniel Cragin, now of Wilton, served about three years there as Mr. Newell's apprentice, after which he bought the shop, about the year 1857, and Mr. Newell removed to Hancock. Mr. Cragin engaged in the business but a little more than a year, and then sold out and removed to Wilton. His successors in the business were the Gage brothers, brothers-in-law of Mr. Newell, Mr. Jacob Crosby, Mr. Alvaro Buttrick, Mr. Warren Eaton, and for a short time Mr. G. W. Eastman, and its present owner, Mr. Colburn.

#### FURNACE.

A furnace for smelting iron ore and the casting of various domestic utensils, such as pots, kettles, griddles, etc., was carried on by the brothers, James and Henry Cram, at a point on Mill Brook, just above the present bridge, which crosses it, north of the South Cemetery. The old building is well remembered by some of our aged citizens, and some of the foundation stones are still visible. The ore which was used was said to be bog ore, from the Manuel, now called the Lucas meadows. Probably it was here, also, that iron ore was obtained for the forge in Temple.\* Samples of the work done at the Lyndeborough furnace are still preserved among some of the Cram families.

At this forge were also made cut nails, some of the very first to have been made anywhere. Of course the quantity was limited, but the principle and process of thus making nails were nowhere applied and practised earlier than here, as one of our oldest and most intelligent citizens strongly affirms and believes.

#### POTTERY.

The Rev. F. G. Clark informs us that a pottery was carried

\* Blood's Hist. of Temple, p. 165.

on north of the mountain by Peter Clark.\* The fact is well attested by Joseph A. Johnson, Esq., who says, "We have no means of knowing when the manufacture of brown earthen ware was first established in town. But in 1826 and a few years later, it was made by the family of William Clark of North Lyndeborough. They had two shops, one situated on the east side of the turnpike, opposite the residence of J. H. Goodrich, and operated by Benjamin F. Clark; the other nearly opposite Mr. Holden's house, and operated by Peter Clark. The clay which they used in manufacturing their wares was brought from Amherst. The wares consisted of milk-pans, jugs of many sizes, bean pots, and pots for baking brown bread, mugs and many other utensils. The mode of manufacture was rather primitive. A ball of clay of the right consistency was placed upon a round, horizontal wheel, which was put in motion by the foot, the utensils being shaped by the hands. When sufficiently dried they were subjected to heat, similar to the burning of brick."

Mr. J. A. Woodward states that "the pottery of Peter Clark and John Southwick" was opposite the house of J. H. Goodrich. Articles of the earthen ware manufactured in those days are still preserved in the families of descendants of the Clarks.

#### TANNERIES.

1. William Blaney carried on a tannery on his farm about three-fourths of a mile southwest of South Lyndeborough village on the hill road which passed by the Oliver Barrett place, now owned by Mr. George Butler. It was situated nearly west from where is now the cellar of the Blaney house. According to Wilton History,† the Stockwell tan yard in Wilton, "was purchased of John Farrington by William Blaney, deed dated Nov. 13, 1799."

2. Nehemiah Boutwell carried on a tannery in the valley west of the residence of the late C. R. Boutwell. This was on the road between the centre of the town, and what was then known as Putnam Corner, now South Lyndeborough.

3. Another tannery was managed by John Woodbury, north of Badger Pond. Possibly this was the same which had been previously operated by Peter Farnum, who, according to Francestown History was drowned in his own tanvat.

4. At North Lyndeborough, opposite the house of Mr. J.

\*S.-C., p. 37.

† Page 172.

H. Goodrich was a tannery owned by Paul Atwood; and David Atwood did custom shoemaking in the same neighborhood.

5. Still another tannery is said to have been located near where Mr. Moses Fuller lives, on the side of the small stream which flows in front of his house. It was carried on by Mr. Archelaus Fuller, an uncle of Moses. A near neighbor used to buy sheep and kill them largely for the hides and tallow. The tannery disposed of many of the skins.

#### POTASH WORKS.

1. Mr. Nehemiah Boutwell had potash works near his residence in the valley west of Mrs. Charles R. Boutwell's house. This was on the old road from the meeting-house to Putnam's corner, now South Lyndeborough.

2. Potash was also made by Mr. John Stephenson, on the place now owned by Willis J. Stephenson, a great grandson of John. The John here named was doubtless he who was authorized to call the first town-meeting under the Provincial charter. More than a year before the late Mr. Jonathan Stephenson's decease, he pointed out the spot where his grandfather's ashery stood, which was near an elm tree growing close to the little brook, a few rods north of Mr. Willis Stephenson's residence.

3. Major Daniel Gould, who used to own the place where Mr. Fred A. Richardson lives is said to have had an ashery in a field not far south of his house.

4. The field nearly south of Mr. George Spalding's house is owned by Mr. Fred A. Richardson, and is called "the potash field," because there, the owner's grandfather, Timothy Richardson, made potash.

5. Back of the residence of Mr. J. H. Goodrich, at North Lyndeborough, was a potash shop owned and carried on by his grandfather, Benjamin Goodrich.

#### BRICK MAKING.

1. The oldest brick yard in town was probably that on the side hill back of Mr. E. H. Putnam's saw and shingle mill. The late Mr. Daniel Cram of South Boston, a son of Benjamin and Olive (Chamberlain) Cram, testified that he worked at brick making in this town when a young man in the year 1820. It cannot be positively said that he labored at that particular spot; but it is very likely he did.

2. A second brick yard was located near the bend of the road between the clay-pit and the mill brook, east of South Lyndeborough village. The brick were made on land over which the road now passes, and also on land now owned by Mr. Albert Cram. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, father of townsman, Mr. Rufus, is said to have carried on the business at this yard.

3. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is said to have carried on brick-making also near where Mr. G. W. Eastman now lives.

4. The Amherst Cabinet of Oct. 15, 1818, contains Samuel Chamberlain's advertisement of a farm of 100 acres in the west part of Lyndeborough for sale, with good orchard and brick-yard. This brickyard was in the neighborhood of Rose mountain, and was one of the very old ones of the town.

The Farmers' Cabinet of Oct. 11, 1817, gives an advertisement of Jacob S. Gould and John Carkin, stating that they have fifteen or twenty thousand good merchantable brick for sale.

5. When the glass works were started here many of the bricks needed for the construction of them were made on the ground. Some of the land where the brick kiln stood is said to be now covered by the railroad. Mr. Boutelle, the father-in-law of Mr. David P. Hartshorn, was the brick-maker. The clay for them came from the old clay bank near the bend of the road mentioned in number 2 of the above yards. The experienced brickmaker, Mr. Boutelle, said "that the brick made there were as nice as any he ever saw."

#### THE GLASS FACTORY.

"The Lyndeborough Glass Company" appears to have been formed in 1866, and an act to incorporate it was passed by the Legislature, and approved June 26, 1866. The incorporators were George H. Sanborn, Luther Roby, John Hartshorn, Joel H. Tarbell and Charles F. Eaton. The act enabled them to carry on the business of the manufacture of glass, to purchase and hold real and personal estate not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars. Capital stock was to be fixed, and shares were to be one hundred dollars each.

A year later an act to incorporate "The New Hampshire Silex Company" was passed, and was approved June 29, 1867. The incorporators of this company were Luther Roby, Timothy T. Putnam and Charles F. Eaton. The business of the company was "to establish, manage and carry on the manufacturing of silex into sand for glass and fire-brick, and other articles



and substances of which silex or quartz is a constituent part. Place of business at Lyndeborough, or at any other place in the State, etc.; and may purchase and hold real and personal estate not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars. Amount of capital stock to be fixed by the company.\*

These companies were parts of the same general enterprise. In May, 1868, the stockholders numbered one hundred and eleven. Fifty-three of these were New Hampshire residents. Fifty-one were from Massachusetts, chiefly from the cities of Lowell and Boston; and seven were from the State of Maine.

The factory building proper was a large wooden structure, stated to have been about forty by sixty feet in dimension. It stood on the low, level spot southeast of the store at South Lyndeborough. The various other buildings connected with it were spread over two or three acres of ground. Early in the morning of June 15, 1868, the main building was destroyed by fire, causing the business a serious reverse and much extra expense. The company at once set about rebuilding it and continuing the work. Mr. Charles Foster was employed as master-builder, and Mr. J. D. Putnam was made general superintendent and agent. A brief description contained in the "Milford Enterprise" of 1878 states that through the courtesy of Mr. J. D. Putnam, the agent, and Mr. Byron Putnam, the overseer, the reporter "was shown over the establishment." During the past year business in that institution has been good. All kinds of bottles, from the common ounce bottle to the carboy, containing fourteen gallons, are made here. The silex from which the glass is made is taken from a ledge about a half mile distant. The wares manufactured here are sent all over New England and the Canadas.† About fifty workmen were at that time employed, and experienced glass workers affirm that no better glass is made in the country than that which was manufactured here.

But the factory seemed to be unfortunate and unremunerative from the start. No one got rich out of it. Almost every one connected with it complained of having lost more or less money in its employ. In 1886 it suspended operations, and for more than a year afterwards there was much doubt whether the work would ever again be resumed. Mr. Putnam, the agent, died suddenly of apoplexy in February, 1888, and the owner of the factory, Mr. Tripp of Lowell, in the course of two or three years

\* Copied by W. H. Grant, Esq., at Sec. of State's office. † See also pp. 104, 105.

closed up the business, selling both the wares and the real estate at great sacrifice and loss.

The old buildings were sold at auction, and one after another of them was taken down and removed. The agent's residence is now owned by Mr. Benjamin Joslin. Another of the old buildings serves him as a barn. What was formerly the office is now a dwelling owned by Mr. J. A. Carkin, while another of the buildings, moved across the highway and much changed, is the residence of Will C. Carkin.

Thus the old glass factory, once so busy and lively, so productive and prominent, has faded and vanished from the scene, leaving us little more than a hazy reminiscence.

#### ESSENCES AND FLAVORING EXTRACTS.

A somewhat extensive business was carried on in town, in the manufacture and sale of articles bearing the above names. The owner of the business was Mr. Joseph A. Tarbell, half brother of the late Joel H. Tarbell. He was a native of Mason, born Feb. 22, 1844, and came to Lyndeborough with his parents when a child. After the death of his father, in 1851, he spent seven years in the family of Mr. Benjamin Crosby of Lyndeborough. He afterwards changed about from place to place, till he was about the age of 23, when he married and settled on a farm in Hancock. His wife was Amaret, daughter of Joshua S. Lakin. He remained on the farm but a few years, and then purchased the extract business. He commenced operations in West Wilton, but soon removed to South Lyndeborough, where for several years he conducted quite a flourishing business both as merchant and manufacturer. In extracts alone he is said to have done a business amounting to six or eight thousand dollars per annum, and his goods were accounted of a superior quality. They were sold largely by his teamster and salesman throughout all this section of southern New Hampshire and Vermont, and northern Massachusetts, and were said to be favorites in "thousands of New England households." Mr. Tarbell sold his extract business to his brother-in-law, F. B. Richards, and removed to Hancock in 1881, where he has ever since resided.

Mr. Richards has been carrying on the business now for about twenty-five years. He is regarded by his townsmen as upright in business relations, and they have honored him by electing him representative to the General Court one term, and to other positions of public trust from time to time.







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