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EARLY RECORDS OF
GROTON. MASSACHUSETTS





Wm W. Wheeldon

for Mr Green

1888



EARLY RECORDS
OF
GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

1662-1678.



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EARLY RECORDS
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THE
TOWN RECORDS OF GROTON,
MASSACHUSETTS.

1662—1678.

EDITED BY
SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D.

GROTON:
1879.

F74
G9.A3

UNIVERSITY PRESS: JOHN WILSON & SON,
CAMBRIDGE.

TO

The Memory

OF

RICHARD SAWTELL,
JAMES FISKE,
WILLIAM LONGLEY,
JOHN PAGE,

RICHARD BLOOD,
JOHN MORSE,
AND
JAMES PARKER,

The First Seven Town Clerks of Groton,

THIS COPY OF THEIR RECORDS IS INSCRIBED

BY THE EDITOR.



W. W. Wheldon

for Mr Green

1888



EARLY RECORDS
OF
GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

1662-1678.



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indicated, as far as practicable, by the figures enclosed within brackets.

The first town clerk was Richard Sawtell, an original proprietor of Groton and the possessor of a twenty-acre right. He came from Watertown, where he was living as early as the year 1636. He wrote a good hand for his day, and held the office during three years. He died August 21, 1694, at Watertown, where he went, doubtless, in the spring of 1676, when Groton was burned by the Indians.

Att a generall towne meet[ing] June. 23. 1662.

It was agreed vpon that the house for the Minister should be set vpon the place where it is now framinge.

Also that the meetinge house shall be sett vpon the right hand of the path by a small whit Oak, marked at the souwest side with two notches & a blaze

At a genenerall Towne meeting December. the twenty fourth it is agreed that Richard Sawtell being chosen to be the Towne Clark shall have six penc for Recording & giving a Transcript of every twenty Acars of land to the severall propriators

Decem : 24. At a generall Towne meeting its agreed that all the lands that are or here after shall be granted shall be recorded with these expressions following. viz : To such a one or such a one &c : Ten or : Twenty Acars so & so bounded be it estemed more or lesse

Decem. 24 Its agreed by the Towne at a generall meeting That the wood & Timber that is in the hie-way against any mans house shall be his provided that he shall not [upon] the penalty of paying halfe a Crowne a tree falle any trees upon the Com[mon] except it apeareth they have not amon[gst] these trees such tree or trees as will suit their necessitie provided also that when they falle they shall not let lie to the prejudice of the Towne or any or any [*sic*] one of the inhabitants by hindering the pass[age] of Carts or Horses &c vpon the penalty of halfe a Crowne if vpon six dayes warning they shall neglect (within the said tim of warning.) to cleare the way for full & free passage

Liberty is granted to Timothy Allen to set his House vpon a knole with out side of his fenc & land is granted him there unto not exceeding an Acar

Decem. 24 It is agreed that Deacon James Parker James Knop & John Page shall lay out according to their discretion the Towne hie way & the land which any inhabitant wan[ts] of his grant

Deacon James Parker John Lawr[ence] [Wm.] Martin Ric : Blood & James ffi[ske are] chosen Selectmen for this [year &] are to draw vp som direction[s for the] Towne [1]

W^m Lakin Ralph Reed. Joh. Page & Joh Nuttin are chosen Surveyors of the hie wayes. this year, decem. 24. (6[2.]

At a generall Towne meeting. March 18. 1663. It was general[ly] agreed. as folloeth

first. That M^r Millar is by by the Consent of the Towne ma[ni]-fested by vote to be desired if God moue his hart there unto to continue still with vs for our further edificat[ion.] Richard Blood desents from this in regard of the time of o^r desiring him. w^c he would have to be after the gen : Court.

2^d That M^r Miller shall haue a Twenty Acar lot layd out to him according to the Townes grant to him

Thomas. Tarbole. Senio^r vpon his request was granted by the Towne to haue a knole of vpland containing about an Acar towards the vper end of Broad Medow w^c is thought Advantagious to him for the fensing of his medow

[Ju]ne 21 [16]63 Its agreed by the Towne & manifested by vote that M^r Willard if he accept of it shall be their minester as long as he lives w^c M^r Willard accepts Except a manifest providenc of God appears to take him off

These persons folloing doe desent from this former vot. Richard. Sawtell. Samuell Woods. James Parker : John Nutting James ffiske

Its agreed by the major part of the Towne that M^r Willard shall haue their interest in the house &. lands that was devoted by the Towne for the ministry suckcessively. provided they may meete in the house on the lords day &. vpon other ocasions of the Towne on metings : And these persons ffollowing desent from their act

James Parker Ric. Sawtell Willia^m Longley John nutting Tho. Tarbole. Jun.

Richard Blood and John Clary att present James ffiske. John longley. Joh laran[ce] Joseph laranc [2]

[Date torn off.]

. . . to exerceise am . . . all Edification in the ways . . . glory & o^r owne everlasting goo . . . vs And further desiring y^e Lord to . . .

what hath been herein any way off[ensive] vnto him and to help euery one of vs to forg[et] & forgiue what hath been any way offensiue [to] each other as we desire the Lord to forgiue vs

[Sep.] 10 1: It is agreed by y^e Consent of the Towne & manifested by vote that M^r Willard shall haue for this year forty pounds and if God be pleased so to despose of his & our hearts to continue together after the expiration of the yeare (w[e] hope) by o^r aproving of him & he of vs we shall we shall [*sic*] be willing to ad vnto his maintenanc as [God] shall blesse vs. expecting allso that he shall render vnto our pouerty if God shall please to deny a blessing vpon our labours

2. It is agreed & voted his yeare shall begin the first day of July last past

Sep. 21: 63 It is agreed by y^e Towne wth John Nuttin & voted that he the said John shall keepe cleane the meeting house this ye[ar] or cause it to be kept cleene & for his labour he is to h[ave] fourteen shillings

Novem 1. (63) with the consent of Anthony Pierce its granted by the Tow[n] that his son Daniell Pierce shall haue the one halfe of his said ffathers deuission of land viz. ten Acars of his sa[id] lot on that side lying next Ralph Reeds & ten of [meadow?] . . . seurall percells whereof lieth in Broade medow Halfe-moone medow. & the South medow and the rem[ainder] of his said fathers Hous lot to be reserued and added to the said Daniell in his next deuision if so much falle to hi[m] & if it proue lesse then his share he is to haue it made vp where else at the Towns descresion And hereby it is [de]-clared that the said Anthony is no propriator in Groton yet if God in prouidenc shall make way for him & mov h[is] heart to com & reside with vs the towne doth promise wi[th him] to acomadate him as conveniently as they can

[*Date torn off.*]

John Mosse of Ipswitch is accepted by the Towne to pay the allotment of John Lawranc Juni^r

Its agreed that when all men hav their full allowan of medow. The residue shall be devided to the p^rsent inhabitants by lot acording to every mans proportion

By the Towne its joyntly agreed & manifested by vote That every man of this Town shall bring a note of all his lands or their lands Bounded & abutted vnto y^e Town-Clark being subscribed by two that helpt to lay them out and then the said clark shall record them in the Town Book and giue to each [one] a Transcript of his lands acording to the Towns record which shall be vieued by the Select m[en] both originall & copy and if y^e originall Town Record & y^e Transcript be found to agree then each mans Transcript shall be subscribed by the Town Clark

For as much as y^e it apeareth that Richard Sawtell his [la]nd was not equivalent for goodness to other mens . . . who had the same quantitie. The Towne . . . have consented & by vote manifested that . . . he shall haue that scragy shrubbs . . . vnto Indian hill . . . som times a . . . Indian hill . . . [3]

. . . Towne from . . . penc provided he th . . . person that shall here after . . . make any just demand with respect to . . . ve mentioned p'mises what ever shall be by him . . . them so demanded

Due to Ric Blud & Joh. Lakin for laying out the hie-way to Lankester twenty shillings when they have perfeted the work w^c they Engage to Doe soone

3 Due to James ffisk & Joh. Nuttin twenty shillings for laying out the hie-way to Chelmsford when they haue perfeted the work w^c they promise to doe as soone as they can

4 Due to Ric. Sawtell five shillings for service done for the Towne at Cambridg twice

5 Due to Jams Parker. Jam Knop & Joh. Page. six shillings for laying out the Townes hie-wayes & & satisfing men for their land when it fell so that the hie-way went over any man's propriety

[Nov]em . . . 63

1 William Martin Sergeant James Parker Ric. Blud Wm Lakin & John Nuttin are for this yeare Chosen Select men

2 Sam. Davis Sam. Woods Ellis Barns & John Lakin are chosen surveyers of the hie-ways for this yeare

3 To view fences this year are chosen Jams Knop W^m Greene And Joseph Gilson

4 Ric. Sawtell is chosen Towne Clark for this year

November. 23. 1664. John Page is chosen to be Constable this yeare at a generall meeting.

2 James Parker William Lakin James ffisk William Martin & Richard Blood are chosen Select men this yeare

3 Sergeant James Parker Joseph Parker Richard. Blud Tho. Tarbole. & Sam Woods are chosen & impowred by the Towne to lay out all the hie wayes In the Towne & if there be an absolute necessiti apearng for them to Run the hie way into any mans propriety they haue full pow' to satisfie them out of the Towns land to their best conuenienc

4 ffor the surveyers of the hiewayes this yeare are chosen Joh. Lawranc Joseph Parker & Jam Knop & Joseph Gilson

5 To view ffences this year are chosen Walter Skinner & Nathaniell Lawranc & Jonathan Sawtell

6 The towne has granted vnto John Shaddock an alotment conteining a single mans proportion vpon condityon th[at] he shall pay the Towne Charges both Ciuill & Eclia[sti]call that heretofore hath risen or here after [shall] arise as the due proportion of such an alotme[nt.] And. secondly the vse of two [acres] of medow lyñg vpon Cow-pond Brooke i . . . for seauen yeares. provided he abide . . . constantly & conscionably . . . of the wants of each . . . they making . . . [4]

[Three lines much torn, and illegible.]

. . . other wise it is . . . disposed of at their plesur

November 27 1664 Joseua Whetney and Christofer halle were this day chosen to joyn with Johnathan Sattell formerle chosen to vieue fences

In the Rome of Walter Skenner and Nathanell larence whom ar herby Released

2ly it was this daye voated and granted y^e Mathias ffarnworth shall haue forty polle of land to be layd out agaynst his house next to James his Broke for a building place provided [it] do not predgedise the hie way

Richerd Blude William laken Mathias ffarnworth and James Kno[p] William Longley being chosen emparsall by the towne and John Lawrence sener to arbtrate a de[ed] betwen the above sayd John Lawrence and the town they haue and do her[eby] declare y^e they do thus detarmen y^e is to saye his pro.son of land being furst mad good acord to his gra[n]te we find y^e remainder to be the towns land acord as it now bounded

27 of January James fisk is now by the townes apaintment Recorded the townes Clarke for this yeare

James Fisk, the second town clerk, was an original proprietor of Groton, and the owner of a twenty-acre right. He wrote a good hand, and held the office during one year.

[Not dated.]

It was this Day granted and by voate Decla[red] y^t John Leaken shall haue a pece of lande as which is sixe acors mor or lesse bound[ed] partly on the south and by tene acors of . . . land and aingeler east by his hethermost . . . and on the north by other tene acors of . . . lande on the west by the townes Comon As also . . . on the east by the hye way [5]

Here the record is considerably torn, and is probably of a town meeting held subsequently to the last date.

It was . . . of M^r Willard our . . . declared by voate y^t our time of . . . yerly so longe as god shall please to . . . gether shall begine and ende vpon the 29 [d]ay of september

It is furthermor agreed and deleared by voate y^t M^r Willerde shall be alowed in consideration of his labours amonste vs this next yere Inseui[ng] the full p^p'osion of fiteye pounds to be payd by euery Inhabitant acordinge to his p^p'osion and as nere as may be in y^t which his nessety requir[es] and furthermor in consideration of the tim being betwene the furste of July laste past and y^e last of september next we Do herby agree and promise vnto him y^t we will paye him twenty pounds for the first thirde parte of tim at or befor the last of september next and twenty pounds mor at or befor the furste of May next and twenty too pounds and 10 shilings more at or before the last of september next after which will be in y^e yere 1666.

At a town metting vpon The 21 of the 7 moth 1665 It was this Day agrēd and voated y^t they will haue a metting house bult forthw[ith].

It was this day agreed and by voate declard y^t Sargent James Parker and Richard Blood shall make the couenenant with the carpenders for the caring one the worke p^uided y^t noe other pay shall be Requd of any man p^uouided he will pay his proposon in his labour giuñg the carpendars a wekes warñg

It was this Day granted and by voate Declared y^t John lawranc sen^r shall quietly posese and Inioye a parselle of land in controuersey and allredey within his ffenc and a Joyning to his house lotte contining too accors mor or lesse bounded west and south by the hye way and north and east by his own land & granted to him as a grantiueti

It is also granted that eury Inhabetant shall haue the like priuledg proposonally

It was thise Day granted and voated y^t Richard Bloode haue liberty to exchangẽ 20 30 or 40 accors of his land prouided he Do not take it vp agayne vpon prohibeted land nor to the predges of the hye way or any predgedes to [a]ny mans propriety

so y^t eury Inhabetant shall haue the li[ber]ty : of exchanging any parte of his land [pr]ouided it be not mor to the damedg of the town than priuledg to him y^t Desir an exchangẽ : in the aprehedsion of the commet[tee] chosen to lay it out [6]

. . . & by votte D . . . Consent of the town y^t noe . . . haue leberty . . . to take vp any lande by [way] of exchange or other way vpon Sandey pond brooke and between y^t and the magors brooke and South brooke till such tim as the milles acomodations be layd out

The 10 of the 8 moth 1665. It was this Day voated and hereby Declared at a leagell town metting y^t thes persels of land namly, y^e land Comonly called by y^e name of the Indian hills as also all the comon lande between John Lauranc sen his hous lotte and William Grens and Samuell Woods ther medo as also a pece of Swamp between William Longlys and Johnathan Crespes ther lotts shall from this Day forth lye in comone for the vse of the towne and noe man shall haue leberty to take up any parte ther of as his P^rietey

2 It was also this Day agreed and voated by the towne y^t in Consideration of a grattiaty formerly granted to eury Inhabitante anserable to John lawranc sen his grante y^e 21 of the seaventh moth 65 y^t eury man shall haue liberty to take vp 6 accors to a twentey accor house lote, and in case it Joine to his house eury man shall take vp P^rosonabl ther vnto respectnẽg such as haue eyther the holle or any part therof alredey, but if mor remote eury Inhabitant shall haue libert[y] to take vp too for one

It was this Day granted to Eleze baron y^t he shall haue liberty to take vp three percels of medow contining too accor mor or lesse lying

on the sowth of the Indeian hills bownded one all poynts by the towns comon

The Country hye way being determined between this towne and Chel[ms]ford by a commitey chosen Respectiuly by both towns haue agreed and according layd out thes country hye way from y^e metting house place in the ould carte way to Chelmsford metting house sixe Rode in width from place to pla[ce] this being testefyed vnder the laws the commitey at a towne mee[ting] the 10 of July 65 and excepted by the towne may be suficente to sattesfy aney home it may herafter concern

witnesse

JAM FFISKE in the nam o[f]
the towne [7]

The ii of the [10th month, 1665?] . . . Joseph Parker chosen Cons[table] . . . the next Insouin Sargent James Parker William Longley William Mearten William Leaken and Jam Knope ar chosen Selecte men for this next yer Inseuen Richerd Bloode Thom Tarball ar chosen suruayers of the hye ways for next yere Inseuen Sargent James Parker Jam Knop and William Leaken wer chosen together with y^m to Determen the seuerall Squadrants and hom shall worke at each squadron succesiuely

William Longly is also chosen Clarke Danell Perse and Chresepher halle ar chosen to veue fences

Att the same meeting it was, voted that there should be a high way left out of all and euery additionall lot or lotts for the town^e use as occasion should haue cause to make use of from time : to time ; thear being lands alowed by the the suruayers [w]hen they laid out the seuerall additions prouided it be not aboue one high way and that the high way do not extend aboue foure poole wide

A country rate for the year 1665

the totall summe being 11[£] 5^s 6^d

A county rate for the same yeare

the totall summe being 1[£] 15^s 3^d

both, with rates committed into the hands of John Page to gather, by the order of the Select men

William Longley was the third town clerk of Groton. He was among the earliest settlers of the town, and was the owner of a thirty-acre right. He was the son of Richard Long-

ley, of Lynn, where, in the town records, the name is sometimes spelled Langley. His handwriting was creditable, and he held the office during the year 1666. He died on November 29, 1680. A few years later his son, William, was chosen town clerk; and the two have sometimes been confounded with each other.

A generall townes meeting held. 5 of march 1655-66

Att the same meeting it was agreed and voted y^t the there should be trees marked for shade for cattell in all common hy wayes : : A the same meeting it was agreed & voted that the marke should be a great T

At the same meeting it was agreed and voted [th]at who euer shall fall or lop any shuth trees [mark]ed by the men apointed shall pay for eue[ry] . . . fallen or lopped shall pay for th . . . tenne shillings [8]

16 of the 10 moth 1665 It was this Day agreed and by a vnanams voatte Declared y^t for as much as god by his p'uidanc haue setteled Mr Willard our Rauerante Pastor by sole[mn] Ingeagment amunst vs we do therf[ore] frely giue him y^t acomadations formerle stated to the minestry to gether with the house and all other apartanances apertayni[ng] ther vnto to him and his for eur from this day forth p'uided he do contineue with vs from this day forth till seaue[n] yere be xpired. But in cause he shall se cause to remoue from vs be for the seauen yere be xpired it is ag[reed] by our Rauêrant paster one one par[t] and the town one the other y^t he shall leaue the holle acomadations to the town and be aloued what it shall be judged by Indaferant men mutually ch[osen] on both parteys and so the hous and lan[d] to remayn the towns to despose of hauing aloued as aforsayd for what improument he haue mad vpon it But if it shall pleas god to take him by death then the house and land . . . to his eayers frely for euer and Hervnto we do enterchangeably sett to our hands the day and yer aboute wretten

SAM^{LL} WILLARD

JAMES PARKER

WILLIAM LAKIN

JAMES KNOP

In the name and with the consent of the towne

It was this day granted and by voate declare[d] that Sergeant James Parker John Page Jam Knope and Thomas Tarball shall haue liberty to take vp a twenty accor acomadations of vpland and medow the vpland in that place y^t may sute them beste prouided they do not take it out of y^t land which is alredey prohebeted and the medow partly out of y^t which was apoynted for t[he] melle and the rest wher they can finde it in anye place or places that they shall make choyc of with all other priueledges apertayning the [reto] according to other grants of lik . . . In considriation of the . . . mill as apere by ac . . . [9]

Entered in the town book It is further ordered y^t the . . . shall not be ratable . . . yere sixty and seauen 67 as . . . y^e mille shall stande Reatte fre for the full terme of twenty yeres ferthermor it is agreed by the consent of the towne y^t noe man nor men shall haue liberty to build anye other mell or mels tell the full time be xpired expresed in the couenant vndr the hands of the vndertakers vnless anye man se cause to buld it vpon his own p'peritey and only for his own use

The following two entries are in the handwriting of John Morse, the sixth town clerk, and belong probably about 1680.

At a Towne meeting granted by the Towne a five acre acomadation of vpland and medow with priuledg of commonage to such a p'sell vnto Thomas Williams wife and children and soe to remaine theirs without anye sale or alteration and if in case they leaue the town then it is to returne againe to the town the towne paying him for what nesisary charg hee hau bin at

Upon an exact calculation found seauen hundred and forty acres of ratable meadow [10]

The following entry is found out of its place, and is in the handwriting of William Longley, the third town clerk.

6th 5^m 1666 it was this day voted and declared by these foure men that are aboue mentioned in this order of granting lands to builde a mill haue also released the towns engagement unto them

at a generall town meeting held 26 [probably 5th month, 1666.] . . . It was agreed and declared by vote that our re[verand] Pastor M^r Willard should haue sixty pounds al[lowed] him for this year Ensuing : beginning at the 29 of Semptember 1666 :

And also euery inhabited, is hereby ingaged to pay vnto our reuerent Pastor the third pt. of his p[ro]p[er]tion in merchantable corne at price currant and also to cutt and Car[t] to his house and there to Cord for him the aforesaid 30 cord of wood at five shilling p cord, betwixt this & the 25th 10^m

Att the same meetinge, Nathaniell Lawrenc and Samuell Woods now agreed with to lay the planks vpon the meeting and to Do them sufficiently, and they are to haue 4 s 6 : d p ooo allowed them in the meeting rat

Att the same meeting, James Knapp & Ellis [Barron] were agreed with to make 2 doores for the meeting house & to mak 2 p of stares for 1^s 6 and to lay the vpper floure for 4^s 6

At the same meating Willt Greene and Joshua Whittney where cohosen, to he[lp] the Glassiar Goodm[an] Grant to bring vp his glasse and to be allowed for their tim in the meeting house rate

Att a towns meeting held 11th : 10th 1666 Samuell Woods was Chosen Constable for the yeare Ensuing.

Att the same meeting Sergeant James Parker John Lakins John Lawrence James Knapp & William Longley we[re] Chosen Select men for this yeare en[suing.]

Att the same meeting William Longley was chosen town Clarke for the year Ensuing:

John Longley of Grawton took the oath of fidelity this 24th of the 2 month 1666

before

DANIELL GOOKIN

Att the same meeting the towne grant[ed] vnto John Morse that 2 acres & a h[alf] that was layed out vnto Tho[mas] boydens in the general [field.] [11]

11th : 10 1666 . . . the same meeting Benjamin [Crispe] did lay downe 2 acres & a halfe of w^{ch} he purchased of Thomas Boyden in the generall feild, and he had liberty by the towne to take it vp with his gratuity y^t he purchased of Thomas Boyden and the towne granted vnto the sd beniamin Crispe two acres and a halfe of vpland to be layed out with the rest abouesd :

A true account of all the p[ar]ticuler soms of all the work done to the meeting house frame and other charges as nailes hookes & hinges glasse and pulpit et :

Inpr for Thatch	5	-	0	0
It to John morsse for thathing and asetting withs	1	13	0	
It for wages for those did attend the thatcher	5	14	8	
It carting clay & stones for Dawing the wall & under pinning	3	0	0	
It the Dawbing of meeting house walls	4	12 ^s	6	
It Laths and nailing on	2	0	0	
It for nailes	3	12	13	
It for nailling on the clap bords	7	10	8	
It for getting the sleepers and Laying of them	1	4	0	
It for planks 600 & halfe	2	18	6	
It fo seanson bords 700 & 5 foot	2	12	10	
It for laying of the lower flore at 4 ^s 6 ^d p 000	1	8	2	
It making Doores and two payres of stares	1	0	0	
It for laying 40382 of bords on the gallery floors	2	0	0	
It for shutts for the windows and making p'uison for Mr Willard to preach till we haue a pulpitt	0	10	0	
It making a pulpitt	3	0	0	
It for glass for the windows	3	5	0	
It for 200 of bords and more nails and more work done by carting & laying seats &c	1	8	0	
	50	16	10	

. . . f the meeting house rate

JOSIAH PARKER [12]

Att a Town mee[tin]g held 24 10^m [1666.]

It was agreed & by vote Declared y^t all the Lower seates in the new meeting house that now is: should be deuided six for men & six for women, And also the two front seats of the Gallery: the best prouision that the town can prouide both for the Minister and also for the people to sit upon, against the next Lords Day come seauenight and euery one to be placed in their places as they shall continue for the future

Att a Generall Town meeting held 31th 10^m 1666 ffor better pceed- ing in setling seates for the women as well as for men It was agreed & by vote Declared that the ffront Gallery on the north side of the meeting house should be deuided in the midle; and the mens that shall be placed there; their wiues are to be placed by their husbands as they are below

£ s d
12 3 4 A rate made 13th 5^m 1666 and put in to the hands of
Joseph to collect, to pay these debts follow

Impms 1 pound 2 10
It to seuerall men fo[r] laying out highwais and their
time spent for the towne use

It t[o] sergent Parker	1	3	0
It to richard Bloo	00	18	4
It John Lakins	00	12	0
It Tho Tarball	00	18	0
It John Page	00	16	0
It James Knap	01	12	0
It James ffisk	00	10	0
It John Nutting	00	10	0
It Joseph Parker	00	06	0
It Joseph for the		12	0
It Sam Woods	00	02	0
It Will Longley	00	02	0
It rich holdin	00	02	0
It for the for the rate about first meeting falling short to pay the		16	0

	11	09	4
It toe Clark staffe	0	3	6
It for beans, & a halfe bushell peck & halfe	0	16	0

12	8	10
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[13]

Att a meeting of [the] Select men held 22th . . . [1667] It was agreed for the p[re]uenting vnnessary Charges y^t might fall vpon the towne, by any Constable or any other men, that shall or may be authorized, by the towne, to gather towne rates yearly It is therefore ordered for the future, that any Constable or Constables that shall be Legally Authorized from the Towne to gather rates for the vse of the towne, being Comitted vnto him or them orderly; And after Due Demand made of each inhabitant of this towne, that now are or after shall be from time to time: who euer they shall be that shall refuse to make payment, or to satisfy the Constables their respectiues sumns so demanded the s^d Constable or Constables are hereby Impowered to

Leuy a distresse vpon the goods or chattells of any man or men rusing or non paying theirs dues as afores^d; And the s^d Constable is to take two shillings for euery distresse so leuyed for his fees always p^uided that he or they make but one distresse of any one p^{er}son for any one rate, and this order was appued of by the towne to stand in force till the Towne so cause to repleale the same

Att a generall Towns meetings held 8th 3^m 1667 The Towne having further agitations about a Mill vnderstanding that Captaine Clerke of Boston had manifested his willingnesse to build a mill for the Towne; It was agreed & by vote Declared: that There should be three men chosen to go to Mr Clerke and power giuen vnto them at the same meetings to make a firme agreement with s^d Capt Clerke in the behalfe of the Towne, and the Towne did by vote declare to stand to conform what should be inacted by them, p^uided they attended to the Instructions then agittatt by the Towne the Three men chosen by the towne as the Trustees are These Sergeant James Parker Corporall James Knapp & Benjamin Crispe

Att the same meetings it was declared by vote that the Towne Clerke, should in the behalfe of the town signify vnder his hand by writing vnto Captaine Clerke that the s^d three men now chosen by the the towne and had full power Committed vnto them to make a firme & full agreement with him about his building a mill for the towns use [14]

[At a to]wns mee[ting h]eld 6th 6^m 1667. [The t]owne hauing another meeting about a mill [it] was agreed & by vote Declared y^t the lands & meadows granted to John Prescott: for to build the towne a mill; namly the 500 acres of vpland and twenty of meadow, together with the mill should be freed from all towns charges whatsoever for the space of twenty years: and this was the vote of the major part of the towne that was present at this meeting: these fouer men as folloeth, manifested their Descent at y^t time

Richard Blood
Will Longley
James ffiske
Thimō Allen

At the same meeting: James Parker, James Knapp John Page & Ellis Barron were chosen, by the major p^t to agree with John Prescott & full power given them, to make a firme bargaine with him:

Att a generall towns meeting held 7th 8^m 166[7.] It was agreed & by vote Declared that the rate that was formerly made for amunition should be made voide : that order was given to the select men to make another and to add to the former i penny vpon the acer, and the pay to be such as carry it self Down to Charles Towne.

Att a meeting of the select 8th 8^{mth} 1667 : a rate made for amunition and Committed in to the hands of Joseph Parker Constable to Colect, and procure the same for the Towne use sū the totall 12⁶ 00

Att a generall Towns meeting held 10th 9^m 1667 It was agreed and by vote Declared to giue vnto Mr. Willard our pastor for his maintenance for this present yeare beginning the 29th 1^m should haue sixty pounds, to be paid at two payments the one halfe to be paid into to him, betwixt this and the Last of March next : and the other half of the pay to be paid vnto him by the Last of September next after the date here[of.] And for quality, the major pt of the Towne agreed y^t one third p^t each inhabitant shloud pay his third p^t of his proportion, in wheat at 5^s p bushell or porke 3 pence p pound or butter at 6 pence p pound fo . . . thirds in Indian come at 3^s p bushelle : or other . . . at the price currant as it passeth betwixt . . . amongst ourseleues [15]

At the same [meeti]ng it wa[s voted that] Sergeant James should . . . Inhabitant bring in his Just pportion . . . time and quality of pay as it is stated in the [for]mer order & that the s^d James Parker shall haue full power, giuen to him vnder the select mens hands to force any Inhabitant to mak payment that shall not come vp to pforme his duty aft[er] due demand and all due means used to bring him or them as abouesd

Att a generall Towns meeting held 11th 9^{mth} 1667 The towne agreed with Thimothy Allen to swe[ep] the meetinge house & to guide water ffor the babtizing of the towns children from time to time, for this yeare ensuing, and the s^d Thimothy allen is to haue twenty shillings allowed him for his labor in the next townes rate

At the same meetinge it was agreed that the seats in the meetinge should be mad in a plaine and desent and comly manner, and euery seuerall company (that ar now present inhabitants and as they are now placed by the towne and the Committey formerly chosen,) they

should build their seates at their owne charge, And all the fronteers both aboue and below, shall be at the Charge of the laying the foundation sills for the seates that are behind them ; And what euer any maior p^t of any company that are placed together in any seat shall agree to build their seats the minor are hereby inioyned to pay with their neighbors and it was further agreed that whereas the seates are larger then the present inhabitants do fill vp then when any shall placed hereafter in any seate or seates y^t then they are hereby enioyned to pay an equall pportion to be & with those that haue laid down the pay for the building of the seates

Att meeting of the select men 21th 9th 1667 A rate made for our Pastor of 60 00 00 and put it into the hands of Ser^g James Parker to colect

[At] the same meeting was a rate made for the land . . . acer ii — — and Committed into the hands [of] Joseph Parker to colect [16]

. . . a meeting . . . men the [22 9 1667] Rekonde with Joseph Parker both for the towne rate of 12^s 3^d 4 and for the Meeting house Rate being 19-00-06, he the sd Joseph : paying all the pticular bills assigned to him by the select men or stated in the townes book to be paid as there remaine Due ; to the sd Joseph Parker 02^s - 15 - 04 of w^{ch} summe 10^s 00 00 is due to him for 2 wolues heads that he paid to the to the Indians for the towne

At the same meetinge was a towne rate made ffor to pay the Artest and the men that attended him and his diet for himself and his horse, and for two sheets of parchment, for him to mak two platts for the towne, and for Transportation of his pay all which amounts to about twenty pounds and to pay seuerall other town Debts that appear to us to be due ; which sd rate ariseth to 9 pence p acre vpon the meadow of each inhabitant of this towne, and Comitted vnto Joseph Parker now Constable to Colect, and to Discharge the aforsd Debts being ordered to him by the selectmen

Due to John Lakin	01	00	0
James Parker, for going to boston to search to Countey records and to Captain Clerke	00	15	00
Due to Joseph Parker	02	15	00
ffor two sheats of Parchment	00	05	00
due James Knap for going to Cap Clerke	00	05	00

due to Timothy Allen for sweeping the meeting house	01	00
for to build a seat for the deacon and a seat for the		
Pastor wife	02	00

Item, Sam^l Wood, & Nath. Lawrence chosen to s[ee] that hogs
bee legall

Joseph parker was agreed with for [to] keep the meeting house
Cleane for this y[ear] for twenty shillings

Richard Blood, the fifth town clerk, was the son of James and Ellen Blood, of Concord. He held the office during the year 1668, and lived in the district called "Nod." He was the largest proprietor in the town, — owning a sixty-acre right, — and was one of the first board of selectmen chosen by the inhabitants. He died on December 7, 1683.

the 6 of the 10 moth in a towne meting it was voted that . . . Accommodations with all the visible estat of [the] towne is that which is to be Rated for the defraing of publick Charges Civill and eccl[estical].

Richard Blood Willā longlye with sum others refuse to Join with them but showing there desent to the Contrarie

The : 8 of the 10 moth It was this day voted by the majior part of the towne that the minist[er have] sixty fue pounds for this yeare beginning the twenty nine of September 68 shall be Raysed the one halfe vpon the Accomdations and the other halfe vpon all the visible estat of the towne will longley Richard blood and sum others declaring the Contrarie by voyt [18]

[Gen]erall [town]e meting the . . . It was this voted by the to[wn] . . . County Court shall be . . . from the Charges of . . . so to other county to efect and to be chosen for that end

At the same meting it was determined to buil[d a] bridg over Stonie brook fitting for Cart[s to] pass over. as also that James knop . . . lakin Richard blood ar mayd cho[ice] of to vew where the best place be for that end and what the Char[ge] may amount vnto and to haue ther . . . when sargent parker and Richard [Blood] hath theirs for going to the gener[al Court].

5 of the first moth 68 69 At a meeting of the sele[ct] men for the dividing of heards ar so divided as th . . . yeare onely Richard Blood and . . lakin shall heard ther Cattell with there neighbors according to a towne order formaly mayd in the yeare 62

the 22 of March 68 69 Att a towne meting it was declared that the deaken should be satisfied for in the Ratt now put into the counst[able's] hand which is tow pounds three shillings and six pence

the 19 of the second moth 1669 A Rate mayd by the select men for belerica bridg Contaying the sum [of] sixtene pounds put now into the h[ands] of John nuttinge Counstable

At the same meting it was o[rdered] that sargent parker and so to . . . lakin shall heard ther Cat[tle] together notwithstanding any order formalie to the Contrarie for this yeare [19]

town meting the second . . . by vote granted to Robert parish . . . [Park]er and timothy Couper that th . . . and now ar free Comoners for [w]ood and timber and for there owne cat[tle] as other men of this towne haue paying to all towne Charges according to there proportion

[Sa]me [meeti]ng formalie being an account taken of all the grants that had bine giuen and granted and the Comitties order being fulfilled the towne did solemlie determine to take in no more but a taylor and a smith and Consedering the great Charg that hath bine vpon the present inhabitants the do now by vote declare that by way of grant or gift directlie or indirectlie as a towne and the townes mind herein declared by vote the second of June 1669. onely a smith and no other

same meting theise men gaue vnto Robert parish sum small grants of vpland as followeth

sargent parker	4 accors
will longlye	3 accors
Richard Blood	4 acors
John longlye	2 acors
James knop	1 acors
James fiske	1 acors
matt farnworth	1 acor
John baron	1 acor
sargent lakin	1 acor
Thomas tarball senior	2 acors

this not giuen as a towne act but out of everie mans owne pertikuler Right provided hee Come and settell amongst vs a townes man and not other wayes

it was voted that our pastors maintenance should be Rayseed the one halfe vpon the Acomidations and the other halfe vpon the visible estat of the towne and the sum to be sixtie fue pounds as followeth first to pay 30 pounds in Corne and tenn pounds in provision and what is

wanting in provision to be payd in Corne and . . . twenty fve pounds to be payd in . . . seasonnablelye or otherwayes in Corne [20]

. . month [166]9 . . . Ratte mayd for the . . . eral townes dets the sume . . . pounds sixeteine shillings and . . . put into the hands of John nu[tting.]

Att a meting of the select men the night moth 69 it is ordered that all and eu[ery] inhabitant shall from time to time . . . his swine from doing his neighbor . . . either in Corne feilds medowes or . . . other pertikuler proprietye but if any [man] or men shall neglect his or ther du[ty.] herein the shall for the first traspas . . . Just damag according to Just valuati[on] for the second traspas the shall pay d[ouble] damag according to a Just valuation for a third traspas a tribble damage a[s] aforesayd and that this order sha[ll] stand in force till this towne se . . . way to efert and prevent damag by swine

A Countrie Ratte put into the h[ands] of John nutting Counstable for this yeare 1669 being the sum [of] tenn pounds sixtiene shillings

the 10 of the 9 moth 69 att a towne meting James . . . was chosen counstable for [the] yeare next insuing

At the same meting John M[orse] chosen towne clarke for the y[ear] insuing

John Morse was the sixth town clerk, holding the office from the year 1669 to 1676, when the town was burned by the Indians, — and subsequently from 1679 to 1681. He was the son of Joseph Morse, of Ipswich, and a native of England. He wrote a handsome hand, and was an accomplished man. He removed from Groton to Watertown about the year 1699.

The 15 of the 10 month 69 At a town meeting chussen [se]lect men for this year insu[ing] will martin Sergent Parker Benjamin crisp John nutting John Page James knop John morse

[A]t the Same meeting for the same year chosen for commissioners William martin Sergent Parke[r] william Longly

for surveyers Joseph Parker Thomas Tarball senior [21]
 for veiwers of fences W Blood and John Barro[n]
 . . . Iso at the same tim were chosen Pe[leg Lawr]ance and Joshua
 whitney for [look]ing after swine to be acording to orde[r. At] the
 Same meeting were chosen [John P]age and John Nutting by the
 [town] to see that Mr Willard haue maintenance duly and truly payd
 him and that they bring the towne a generall acquitance :

Agreed with Timothy Allen for the keeping the meeting house
 cleane for twenty shillings and to be payd in his town charges

The Towne voted that the men shold be payd for the laying out of
 John Prescots land

and also agreed vpon at the same meeting that the select men shall
 haue power to petition to the Court for one to marry persons in our
 towne

At a meting of the Select men the 27 December 1669

[I]t is orderd that all and euery Inhabitant of the Towne shall
 bring in a tru inuoyce [o]f their pticuler estat to any one of the select
 men whensoever it is called for (or else it must be left to the discre-
 tion of the select men) or to a town meeting deputed for that end

endepted to the towne from James ffisk Thirteen shillings
 sixpence

o 13 6

This acknowledged to be payd by John nutting

At a meeting of the Select men Decem 27 1669 Agreed vpon that
 you are to make a Sufficient cart bridge ouer Sandy brook and also
 a Sufficient horse bridg ouer stony brook with a Raille of one side
 and to make a firm goeing in and out for a cart at the same brook
 and to mend such countrey hyewayes as doe nesisarilly fall in and for
 pticuler hyewaye working all such as are behind are to be called vpon
 by the surveyers to work their due proportion answerable to those
 that haue wrought before and that euery man work proportionably
 according to his estat and that the wayes are to be mended in the
 seuerall anggells of the towne and if any man or men shall willfully
 neglect working in any part of the hyeway after three dayes warning
 by the Surveyers they shall have power to hire any one in the rounge
 of th[ose] that doe soe neglect and to mak them to pay three shill
 a day for euery such defect giuing the man they hire 2^s 6^d for his
 day and reseruing the other 6^d for the towns vse. [22]

. . . meeting of the select men Ja 10 1[669 Or]der about fences
 [T]o the intent that we may preserue loue and peace in the towne
 and preserue our corne from onnesisary beeing destroyed It is
 ordered according to power giuen to the select men to mak orders
 according to their best discretion as in pag 11 sexion 6 we order that
 all the out sid fences about all cornefields orchards and gardens in the
 towne shalbe a sufficient five Raill fence or that that is in the judg-
 ment of the veiwers of the fences equivolent theirto and if any man
 refuse or neglect to mak such fences and theirby occasion either his
 own or his neighbours cattell to an ill haunt which otherwise would be
 orderly shall forfeit to the towne for every such default legally proued
 as a fine ten shillings and we doe expect that the veiwers of the fences
 shold atend their dutyes herin according to the law and towne order

according to that law concerning swine in page 74 for the preseruing
 our meadowes from damage as much as may be from s[wine] that goe
 vpon the commons shalbe suff[i]ciently ringed from three months old
 and vpward with two sufficiently ring[s] in each swines nose well put
 in and to be ringed by the first of Aprill from tim to tim and
 to [be] continved so ring[ed] till the last of September and to that
 end that they may goe sufficiently r[inged] doe order that the man or
 men [who] are to look after swine shold have sixp[ence] a swine for
 every swine that he or they find vnringed in the towne that is abo[ve]
 three months old and mak it apear le[gal]ly that he or they haue ringed
 them alre[ady] according to the intent of this order

4 we order that if any mans swine in the towne tak any mans
 cornefield beeing legally proued the owners of thes swine shall forth-
 with sufficiently yo[ke] them or shut them vp vpon the penalty of
 paying double damag at the first time of damag beeing done

The owners of those swine that goe unri[nged] shall pay the
 sixpence to thos men that a[re] to look after the swin after legall
 demand

At the same meeting The select men of haue ordered for the
 dividing of the heard in to three heards one to begin at Wil[m]
 Martins and to Nathaniell Larances taking in peleg Larance and
 Will greenes The second from samvell woods to Mathias ffarn-
 worths taking in Richd holden and Joshua Whitney and his neighbours
 the Third from Will Ellaes to Jam[es] Robersons and Timothy cooper

for the preseruing of wood and . . . it is ordered that for euery tr[ee]

. . . that ar feeld excepting p . . . within half a mile of [23] . . . body and top within one . . . is not set up or caried away . . . feit four shilling for euey such . . . for the towns vse and half to the inf[or]mer and euey such tree or trees shalbe . . . for any man to take and for any pine tr[ee] that is fallen crosse the high way and is not taken away with a week he shalbe lyeable to the same penalty and these foure men chosen to look after these defects Joseph Parker Nathaniell Lorange Daniell pearse and Thomas Tarball Junior

At a generall towne meeting 12 of the 11th month 1669 agreed vpon voted and agreed vpon that all publik charges excepting the ministers shold be raised vpon the accomedations till the towne see good to repeall it

At y^e Same meting The Town haue voted and agreed vpon that Mathias ffarnworth shall mak a sufficient cartbridg ouer James Brook beneath his owne house in that place wheir the Surveyers shall Judg it most convenient and to mak the way sufficient as far as Benjamins crisp[s] house with a whele against his barn in consideration for which he is to have a parsell of land of Simon Stones from the run to rock medow path till it come to his own line leauing a highway thorow it of six polle wid till it com to the mill way and that way that did formerly run thorow Simon Stones is now deserted and become his owne propriety

[T]he 11th o[f] April [1]670 At a meeting of the select men agreed with Sargent James Parker for himself and his Son John and with James Knop to run the line betwene chelmsford and our towne with chelmsford men and they are to hau for the perfecting of the same sixteene shilling
o 16 o

At a generall towne meeting Novem 1 [1]670 It is this day agreed vpon and voted that Mr. Willards maintenance and all other Towne charges shalbe raised for this present yeare the one halfe vpon accomodations and the other halfe vpon visible estate

At the same meeting agreed vpon that Mr. Willard should haue sixty five pound for this present yeare and a sixth pt shalbe payd in flesh provision that is to say in merchantable pork beef butter and cheese betwixt this and chrismas merchantable wheat five shill per bush barley 4s per bush rye 4s pease 4s and Indian cor[n] flesh meat to be payd . . . per pound and butter at 6 . . . [24]

Town meeting held the 12th 10 m [1670] chussen for constable James Knopp for the yeare ensuing

for select men Serg James Parker William Martin William Longley John Nutting John Pag James Knopp John Morsse

for Town clark was chussen John Morsse for the same year ensuing

for Surueyers { Thomas Tarball } Seni
 { John lakin }

for veiwers of fences Ellis Barron: Thomas Tarball Juni James Roberson and to see that swine be according to town and court order are chussen Natha lawranc Samuell kemp

At the same meeting agreed with Timothy Allen to keep the meeting housse cleane for this following year for twenty shill — 100.

At a meeting of the sellect men janev 2 1670 concerning swine to that end that our medowes and cornfeilds may be preseued from damag as much as may be we doe order that all swine that goe vpon the commons shalbe sufficiently yoked and ringed from three months old [and] vpward from the first of aprill to the last of September and that the owners of the swine shall keep them soe during the wholle time and those men that are chusen to se that they be according to the order shall haue six pence p head for eu[ery] tim that they find them vnyoked and six pence euery time they find them vnringed half for them selues and the other half [for] the vse of the towne prouided they giu the owners of thos swine seasonable warning excepting such swine that are turned ou[er] the riuer if the towne see good

At the same meeting and agreed vpon by the towne That all and euery inhabitant of the towne shall pay their due and full proportion to our Reuerd pastor in the seuerall kinds of it according to the agreement of the town the first half year payment to be payd at or befor the 25 of march and the other halfe to be payd at or before the 29 of Septem: and they are to bring in their accounts to the Decon or to the men chusen for y^t end within the ti[me] prefixed or else they shalbe accounted delinquents

Ja 11 1670 At a towne meeting chussen for [that] end Ser: Will Lakin and Nath Lawranc [25]

[F]eb 8 1670 At a meeting of the Sel[ect]men agreed withall an . . . meet with Boston Gentlemen for the renewing of the line

betwene our town and their farmes in Massabog woods and between mashobo and our town (viz Sergent James Parker and James knop and they are to hau 3^s p day and with Joseph Parker Senior and John Parker, and they to haue 2d—6s p day and they are to hau two quarts of Liquors to be giuen them for their refreshment vpon the towns account

At a generall towne meeting held febr 13 1670 It is this day agreed vpon and voted that these severall psells of land here specifid shall for euer hence forward to lye common—(viz a peice of comon land about the meeting house that ly from John puttings Samuell kemps James Robersons Timothy cooper unto Walter Skinners and the hye way

A swamp that lye bounded vpon the land of Willā Longleys Richard Blood and John page and the hye way that ly bye John Longleys

A peice of land from Samvell Daus Willā Ellues Willā longley Jonathan Sawtells Richd holden and John Mors

A peice of land that lye between Samvell Woods broad medow Jonathan Sawtell and the bay hye way

A peice of land that lye from that was Ralph Rieds lot of both sides y^e brook called James brook till we com to the high way that run from Willā Ellues to the pine medow

All the swamp land lye common between Timothy Allen Josep gilson Willā laken and the bridg y^e run to half moon medow

All the common land that lye from Richard blood to the generall feild that is their layd down from the river to nashaway Road

feb 17 [1]670 At a meeting of the select men for the stating and recording the hye wayes Lanchester hye way from our meeting house to James his brook sixe poll wide as the Road now lye ouer James his brook Bridge and soe to continue 6 po[ll] wide to nashaway meeting house according to the committees order

. . . high way from this countrey Road . . . [26]

At a meeting of the select men febr 24 1670 Agreed vpon for the diuision of the heard into three heards one to begin at Mr. Willards to Mathias ffarnworths taking in Thomas Boydon and Jackob ongs and Nathaniell Lawrance and they ar to goe out with their heard 2 dayes in the week by James ffiske 2 dayes by Ellis barron and 2 dayes by Matthias ffarnworth and so to Rock medow

The second heard to begin at Sergeant parkers to william Lakins taking in John Lakin Richard Blood and James blods

The third to begin at Timothy cooper and James Robersons to William Ellues taking Richard holdens the walk the second heard is to goe out by nathaniell Lawrancis and by Sergeant lakins and Richd bloods and into vnquetenorset woods all these seuerall angles of the town are to heard if they can agree to hire a heards man the major p^t so agreeing

At a generall towne meeting febr 27 70 Agreed vpon and voted that this last order about swine made by the select men shalbe made voyd and of noe effect

Also agreed vpon at the same meeting that all thos seats that are yet to build in the meeting house shalbe built in a generall way also a commitee chussen to treat with thomas Boydon to build them (viz) Sergeant James Parker corporall Knop John Pag Ellis Barron and Nathaniell lawrance

At a town meeting held the 23 6^m 1671 It was agreed and by vote declared that Samuell Scriptur shalbe an inhabitant amongst vs and for his Incoridgment these men haue giuen him some Small grants of vpland as followeth

Willã Martin	1 acre
Serg parker	2 acres
Rich Blood	2 acres & half
Willã Longley	1 acre
Ellis Barron	1 acre
John Page	1 acre
Christo hall	1 acre
John Longley	half an acre

At the same meeting agreed vpon that vpon the warning of any town meeting the seuerall perticulers that shalbe agetated vpon and that shalbe the work of that day shalbe brought in in writing and read by the clark at the begining of the meeting [27]

At a Generall towne meeting held October 16 1671 This day agreed vpon by the towne and voted that Mr. Willard shall haue sixty five for this year ensueing and that he shall hau his wholl yeares pay by the latter end of december and the maner of his pay as followeth one

third p^t of his pay in prouision and english corne and those that cannot pay in prouision and in english corne they are to pay their Indian corne at two Shill and three pence the bushell soe as to answer that third pt of their pay which was to be payd in English corn and prouision and the rest of their pay they are to pay at prise currant (that is) their Indian corne — 3^s per bush wheat at 5^s per bush^{cl} — pease Rye barley at 4^s per bush and pork and beeffe at 3^d per pond and for the maner of their payment to be raised as it was the last year the one half vpon the accommodations and the other vpon the estate

At the same meeting were chusen Sergeant william lakin and nathaniell lawrance and that they shall se that Mr Willards pay shalbe brought in and faithfully payd to him according to the agreement of the towne

At a Generall towne meeting held Decem 11 1671 chussen for constable Ellis Barron for that yeare Ensuing.

And for select men Sergeant James Parker William Martin William Lakin John Page James knop Elis Barron John Morsse and for town clark John Morsse

for surveyers Nicolas cady Thomas Tarball Juni Jonathan Sawtell and Natha Blood

for veiwers of fences Daniell Pearse Thomas Smith Jonathan Morss Joseph Lawrance

At the same meeting the towne reserued in their own hands for the ordering of the heards And for sweeping the meeting house agreed with timothy Allen for Twenty shillings for this following yeare Also agreed vpon at the same time and voted that y^e envoyce shalbe taken the first week of the sixth month and so to stand for the making of all town and ministers rates

At a meeting of the Sselect men janevary 18, 1671 Concerning the Surveyers agreed vpon by the select men for the diuiding of their seuerall sqvadrons and for the calling out of their men to work that is within their seuerall sqvadrons as is exprest in their seuerall papers The dayes they are to work is four dayes for this year excepting they can mak it apear that they . . . [28]

At a towne meeting held Sept 16 1672 It was agreed vpon and by vote declared that their shalbe a committee chusen by the towne which committee shall haue power to seat euery man according to their best

Discretion and that euery man shall pay to the value of the seat they sit in the seates also beeing valued according to their proportion and disproportion by this committee chussen and the committee chussen and the names of the men are these

Sergent Parker	}	and	{	James knop
Sergent Lakin				John Morsse
Tho : Tarball				

Att a generall Towne meeting held Octo 14 1672 It was this day agreed vpon and by vote declared that Mr Willard shall haue for this present year eighty pound and the maner of his pay as followeth a third part of his pay a followeth In english corne and prouision wheat at five shill p bushell Rye barley and pease at four shill pe bushell pork and beefe at 3^d p pound and all such as cannot pay his third part of his pay in english corn and prouision they shall pay In Indian corne at 2 shill p bushell and the remainder of his pay In Indian Corn at 3 shill p bushell his fire wood also above his eighty pound

and further these persons here set downe doe promise and Ingage to git Mr Willard hay mowing making and fetching home for eight shilling p load at a seasonable time (viz) in the midle of July

Sergent Parker	}	and	{	Timothy Allen
Rich= Blood				Ellis Barron
James ffiske				Thomas Smith
Tho= Tarball Se				John Morsse
Sergent Lakin				Joseph gilson
Rich= holden				Pelleg Lawrance

At the same meeting and by vote declared that Major Willard shalbe a fre commoner amongst vs for feed for cattell wood and timber

At a generall towne meeting held The 7th of the 9th month 1672 It was this day agreed vpon and by vote declared that all Inhabitans in the towne shalbe seated in the meeting house according to a rulle of proportion impartially (by the towne or by a committee chussen by the towne) according to their best discretion and the seates to be valued and each man to pay according to the seat they sit in and they are to place in the seats below in the body of the meeting house sixe persons in a seate and to fill vp the first and second seat first and

to sit fiv persons vnder the window and five persons in a seat in the front gallery and eight persons in a seat in the east and west gallery—the persons that are first to be seated are maried persons and also such single persons as may and ought according to a rulle of proportion be seated with them and the other young persons to be seated till they have filled vp all the seates that are [29] already builded and all such persons as want seates after this done they have liberty granted to them by the towne at the sam meeting to build them themselves or their parents for them at their owne cost and charge in such a place or places as are thought most meete and convenient by the towne and those that are to build them and the towne have voted to submit to the cõmītees order herein

and the commitee chussen by the towne at the same time the persons are as followethe

Sergent Parker	} and	James Knop
Richard Blood		
Joseph Parker		John Morsse

At a Generall towne meeting held Nouember 13 1672 It was this day agreed vpon and by vote declared that the remainder of the pay that is still behind for the building the seates in the meeting house shalbe raised in a generall way notwithstanding all other actes done to the contrary either by towne or commitee

William Longley Seni descending

At a meeting of the select men no 13 72 A Towne rate made for the defraying of seuerall towne depts and put into the constables hand to gather (viz)

for shuts for the windows of the meeting house	1	0	0
for pay for the cõmītee chussen to se that non Incroach			
vpon the towne common	1	16	0
for pay for a woalfes head to John Nutting	0	10	0
for taking an Invoyse	0	3	0
And for Timothy Allen	0	5	0
And for expenses for towne and countrey	0	15	0

At a Generall town= meeting Decem 10 1672 chussen for constable for this next year Richard Holden

And for the sellect men

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Major Willard} \\ \text{Sergent Parker} \\ \text{William Longley} \\ \text{James ffiske} \end{array} \right\}$ and $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{John Page} \\ \text{James knop} \\ \text{John Morsse} \end{array} \right\}$

for surueyers Thomas Tarball Seni- Nathaniell Lawrance
 for veiwers of fences Joseph Gilson & Jacob Onge
 for to look after swine to se that they be according to order James
 Blood & Joseph morsse [30]

At a meeting of the select men Janevary 10 1672 a committe
 chussen to meet with concord committe chussen by the generall
 court to shew them the South line and the line runing between
 groaten and the new plantation and the nam[es] of the men are
 these

Sergent Parker = James ffiske
 James knop

At a Generall towne meeting held Janevary 13 1672 This day
 agreed vpon and by vot declared that their shalbe a commit chossen
 for to seat the persons in the meeting house according to their best
 discretion and at the sam time a committee chosen and their names
 are thess

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Maior Willard} \\ \text{Sergent Parker} \\ \text{James fiske} \end{array} \right\}$ and $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Sergent Lakin} \\ \text{John Lakin} \end{array} \right\}$

and at the same meeting it was agitated and voted that all the pro-
 hibitated land shalbe proportioned and layd out to the severall Inhab-
 itants now in beeing proportionable according to what they pay in their
 publik charges as shall apear in mr willards rate only Cornelius church
 Peleg Lawrance John Cooll and Samuell Scriptur are to haue a pro-
 portion out of it the surveying of it and the laying of it out is com-
 mited into the hands of a committe and they ar as followeth

Sergent Parker Richard Blood
 and John Lakin

Agreed vpon at the same meeting that those men that layd out the
 hye wayes shalbe payd 2—6 per day

At a meeting of the select men febr 12 1672 It was this day agreed
 vpon that their shalbe three heards the catell shalbe diuided into three

heards the one Reaching from Matthias ffarnworths and so long the neck to James fiskes and along till we come to Pelleg Lawrances which heard is to goe out by Indian hill by James ffisks and the south side of Rock meadow

The second heard to begin at Samuell Woods taking nath = Lawrances and thomas Smith['s] and to goe along till we come at Thomas Williams and William Longley taking in John Lakins and his neighbors catell and they are to goe out with their heard by Nathaniell Lawrances and into vnquetenorset woods by Serg lakins and William Longleys and Richard bloods

The third heard to begin at timothy [Coo]pers and along the west sid of broad meadow to Jonathann Sawtells taking in the catell of Richard holden and Justin and they likewise are to goe into vnquete-norset woods if the se case [31] These severally angles are to hire their heards man if the major part of any company agreeing theirot the minor are to submit

Concerning Swine

At the Same meeting it to that end our medowes and corn-feilds should be preserued from damage it is ordered that all swine that goe vpon the common from three months old and vpward shalbe ringed with two sufficient rings in each swines nose well put in and to be ringed by the tenth of march and so continue from time to time till the last of September and to that end they may be soe we doe further order that those men that are chusen to look after swine shall haue sixepence a swine for euery swine that they find vnringed in the towne from three months old and vpward and mak it apeare legally that he or they have ringed them already according to the intent of this order

And further we doe order that if any mans swine in this towne tak any mans cornfield beeing legally proued the owners of these swine shall forthwith sufficiently secure them by yoking them or shutting them vp vpon the penalty of paying double damage after the first time of damage beeing done

At a meeting of the select men febr 26 72 Agreed vpon by the select men that this division of land which is granted by the towne to the seuerall Inhabitants shalbe as followeth by proportion their shalbe one acre to one shill= disbursement in mr Willards Rat and we doe

also agree that of this land that was prohibited shalbe only Indian hill and the hill behind Nath= Lawrances

and we doe further agree that euery Inhabitant shall haue an equall proportion in these lands according to disbursements in mr Willard rat and for the rest of their proportion shalbe elsewheir wheir it is most convenient for them either Joyning to their medowes or of Oake land on this sid the Riuer

only Mr Willard shall haue a proportion to a forty shilling disbursement — the town consenting hereto

Also agreed vpon by the select men at the same meeting that all such as haue taken in any of the towns land by Incrachment as haue bin determined by the committe chussen for that end they shall turne it out to the coñmon again by the 25 of march next after the date heirof vpon the penalty of all charges that they shall put the town to for the vindecating their own right

and a committe chussen for that end to see it done is Sergeant Lakin Corporall Parker and Daniell Pearsse

At a meeting of the select men Janeuary 10 1672 a commite chussen to meet with concord men chelmesford men and Robert Blood to lay out the way to the bay betwene this and the spring wheir it is most passable and the commite are maior willard sergent parker James knop The maior hauing not tim to atend it Richard Blood is chussen by the towne in his rounge at a towne meeting march 17 72-73 [32]

At a Generall towne meeting held March 7 1672-73 It was this day agreed vpon and by vote declared that diuisions of land shalb[e] according to our first grants that all publik charges from this day forward shalbe raised in that way according to the commites order and our first seauen years payment

Richard Blood and William Longley Senior descending

Also agreed vpon and by vote declared that these seuerall psels of land here specified shall from hence forward lye coñmon

1 A peice of coñmon land about the meeting hòuse Bounded by John Nuting Samuell Kemp James Roberson Timothy cooper Walter Skinner and the hye way

2 A swamp that lye by John Longley Bounded by the land of William Longley se= Richard Blood John Page and Lanchester hye way

3 A peice of land that lye Bounded by Samuell Woods Broad medow Richard Sawtell and the Bay hye way

4 All the Swamp that lye Bounded by Joseph Gilson Timothy Allen William Lakin and y^e Bridge that Run to halfe moone medow

At a meeting of the select men Wheiras by the prouidence of god the Goodwife Onge beeing in a sad condition and her case requiring constant care and Inspection with present charge and wheras the select men in whose car it lyes liuing remote and hard on all ocasions to be caled together theirfor we doe desire and impowre Sergent parker and James ffiske as a committee to Inspect and tak care vpon nesisary ocasions of the woman and her child and in case more then ordinary herein they are to acquaint the rest of the select men that so this sade prouidence of god may bee caryed on with christianity and as much ffrugalitie as may be for the townes ease

This 5th 4th mō 1673

At a meeting of the sselect men may 28 73 Sergent Parker and corperall knop wer chussen a cōmitte to meet with lancaster men for the altering the high way to lancaster [33]

Wedensday 4 of June 1673

fforasmuch as the countrey hye way as it was formerly layd out by Lancaster and groaten vpon seuerall yeares triall proued to be very insufficient and very difuccult to be made passable in regard it was for the most part lyeing in the Intervailles wheirin their are seuerall soft places and litle brookes vpon which bridges and other mater for making the same passable is apt to be raised and torne vp by floods and vpon experiance of the same Lancaster made aplication to groaten for Remouing of the said way to Run more vpon the vpland which was Readily atended and John Prescott seni= and Roger Sumner for Lancaster and Sergent Parker and corperall knop for groaten wer chuse committe by both to townes to lay out the said hye way as aforsaid which was atended the day aforsaid as followeth (viz) first within the bounds of groaten they toke their beginning at their meeting house to the mille of Jonas prescott by Matthias ffarnworths his house sixe Rods wide turning of out of the common mill way near twenty Rod abue the mille and then it Runs 4 Rode wid through the land of the aforsaid Jonas Prescott acording as it is

described by trees marked by the men aforesaid and from the said Jonas prescotts land to penicooke Riuer in Lancaster through swan swamp 6 Rod wide as it is already marked out by the comitte aforesaid and from the way aforesaid butting vpon Penicook near to the night pasture wading place, they tak the way as it is left in width through the Intervayle and ouer nashaway bridge and soe to the meeting house and as it is to be vnderstood that the way within lancaster bounds Runes neare the midway betweene the brook meadow and pluntrees medowes ouer a hill called Mahaneknits hill and soe along on the vpland to the pond path as it Runes near to the Still Riuer meadow and Josiah Whits meadow vntill it come to the Swan Swamp path as aforesaid and to the confirmation hereof the comitte aforesaid haue here vnto put their hands the day and year aboute said

JOHN PRESCOTT
ROGER SUMNER
JAMES PARKER
JAMES KNOP

The Twenty Shillings due to andrew the Indian from the towne for his warre at stonny brook assigned by the sd Indian to Richard Blood the sd Richard Blood assigne it ouer to Leiftennant James parker

At a towne meeting no 19 1673 By the agrement of the towne Jonas Prescot is to grind the towns corne for the towne euery second day and euery sixth day in euery weeke [34]

At a Generall Towne meeting held no : 19 1673 This day agreed vpon and by vote declared that Mr Willard rat shalbe raised ptly by vissible estat and partly by accomodations whatsoever votes have past formerly to the contrary as also it was agreed vpon that euery man henceforward shall haue their draughts of land according to their disbursements and those y^t haue them not shall haue them mad vp and that he shall haue eighty pound for this present yeare and a fourth part of this payment to be payd in money and the other sixty pound to be payd in all sorts of graine at price currant as the court haue determined and in prouision — and ten pound for his firewood which is to be payd in by tim prefixd and if not then to pay their proportion in corne or prouision and also agreed vpon that this twenty pound in

money is to be payd in to Capt Parker and to Richard Blood by the last of August or the first of septem- next — as also henceforward he shall haue a quarter of his payment in money yearly

At a Town meeting nouem- 24 1673 Graunted vnto Alexander Rousse by the Towne ten acres of vpland

At a Generall Town metting December 10 1673 ffor constable William Longley Seni
ffor Select men

Major Willard	}	and	John morss
Capt parker			Serg knop
Leif Lakin			John page
Serg ffisk			

ffor Surveyers

{ Richard holden }	}	and	Serg Lakin
{ John Page }			John nutting Se

ffor veiwers of fences Corperall Cady Joseph Morse Timothy Allen Justin holden

ffor to look after swine that they be according to law and towne order Jonathan Sawtell Samuell kemp

At the same meeting their was a finall agreement betweene the towne and Samuell Davis concerning the differance that was about his lands that is to say thus that samuell Davis hau Ingaged to rest satisfied and mak noe more disturbance about his lands prouided the bounds doe continue as they were befor they were defaced by the last committe to wit Richard blood and John pag and that he doe Inioy those three psells of land in the generall feild in the South Squadron of lots namely that which was John nutting and James knops and Thomas Tarballs seni and simon stones that he had of captain parker and that samuell Daus is to shew the commite the markes of these lots the last specified and they are to renew them and this bein[g] done samuell Daus doe acknowledge [him]selfe fully satisfied for all diuision lands that was due to him from the begining of the towne to this present [35]

and now we doe agree to giu him a Record of his lands

Samuell Daus —

John morse in the name of the towne

At the same meeting Timothy Alen was agreed withall by the towne to swep the meeting house for the year following for twenty shil

Decem 13 73 The Towne committe haue condescended vpon Samuell Dauises request to enterchang two psells of land specified in the former agreement to wit that which he had of Thomas Tarball Senior and simon stone and they are to be Ioyned to the south sid of the line of that diuision of land lyeing by his house from the hye way on the east sid soe downe to the River

SAMUELL DAUIS

JOHN MORSE clark

WILLIAM LONGLEY

JOHN PAGE

RICHARD HOLDEN

marke R

JUSTIN HOULDIN

At a meeting of the select men Janeva 13 1673[-74] It was then agreed vpon and by vot declared that all such towne hye wayes regularly layd out and marked out with the townes marke all the wood and timber vpon these hye wayes soe marked from halfe a foote and vpward at the Stub walnut trees and pine trees only exempted shalbe reserued for mending of hye wayes and other publik work and that noe man shall fel any such tree or trees vpon the penalty of ten shillings

It is furder agreed vpon that that order concerning swine bearing date the year 69 shall stand for this present yeare

And to the end that each Inhabitant of this towne may Injoy the benefit of his own medow and prevent censuring of and beeing troubled each with others for the eating vp each others medows we doe order that if any of our Inhabitants shall haue need to let their catell goe out to feed befor their be grasse vpon the vpland that they shall keep them vpon their owne medows or any of the towns coñmon and not vpon any mans medow that is in propriety without their leaue who is the proprietors their of vpon the penalty of paying sixepence a beast euery time that any catell be found vpon any mans medow either vnder the hand of a keeper or otherwise and this to continue till the later end of haytime

for hearing of Cattell the agreement of the select men it is that the catell in the towne shalbe diuided into three heards as it was the last yeare and what euer the maior pt of any company agree vpon the minor part is to consent theirot

At a generall towne meeting held Janevary 16 1673

At the same meeting William Longley seni was fred and Jonathan morss was chussen constable [36]

At the same meeting Cap^t Parker Leiftenant Lakin and Serg knop were chussen for a committe to lay out the diuisions of land on the other sid of the Riuer both of vpland and enteruaille to euery man their proportions and to butt it and bound it ssufficiently and to mark it so as they may see from mark to marke and they are to haue for their labour one half penny an acre for the vpland and one penny half penny for the enteruaille

At a Generall Towne meeting helde December 11 1674 William Longley sene chusen constable for the year ensueing

capt Parker serge ffisk serge knop ensine Lawrance Matthias fiarnworth serge Lakin John Morsse chussen for select men

John Morsse chussen Towne Clark

Chussen for ssurveyers Thomas Tarball sen and Samuells woods

for veiwers of fences John Nutting sene and William Greene

At a Generall Towne meeting decem 21 74 Granted to William Longley ju= that he shall haue liberty to fell those trees that stand by his fence shading his corn to the sume of 3 or 4 and tha he will giu the Towne as many trees for mending hye way worke

A Rate made for the countrey treasurer the sume containing ———

14 — 10 — 0

and committed into the constable Jonathan Morses his hand to gather and to giu an account of the principle and how he discharged the bills to the select men to bring an acquittance 1674

A Rat made for the county treasurer the sume containing 4—1—5 and committed into the hands of the constable William Longley se to gather and to return the rest of the pay back again to the towne Captain Parker payd ten pound & the barell of powder discharging Timothy Allen — 1 — 0 — 0

for sweeping the meeting house and his own bill discharged at a meeting of the select men 30 10 m° — 1674

At a meeting of the select men febr 11 74 for hearing of cattell It was then agreed vpon that euery Inhabitant shall heard their cattell that is to heard according to law and that they shalbe diuided into three heards

The first heard beginning at Samvell Woods reaching to William Longley and to serg Lakin and his neighbours taking in Nathaniell bloo[d] with the rest of those that liue their with Ensigne Lawrance and Thomas Smith

The second heard begining at Sergeant ffiske and Driuing out by Pelleg Lawrance taking in cattell belonging to the neck to matthias ffarnworth taking in the cattell of John Barron

The third heard to begine at Timothy cooper and along the west side of Broad medo[w] to Jonathan sawtell takin in the cattell [of] Richard holden and Justin [37] and that these seuerall angles shall heard provided they doe their best endeavour to hire a heardsman and in case they cannot hire a heardman for 12 shill p week that company is at their liberty whither they will heard or how provided their cattell doe not exceed abou a 100

At a meeting of the Select men febr 22 74 concerning swine It was then agreed vpon that the same order that was made in the year 69 shall stand for this present year

At the same meeting at the request of Matthias ffarnworth thir was a committe chussen to veiue a peice of land that he desire by way of exchaung with the towne or otherwis that may be for his convenience and to bring the report to the towne and the land lye from the Bridg by his own house along his own land to Justin holdens land on both sids James Brook and he is to satisfie the committe for their paynes if they desir any thing

and the names of the committe are Sergeat knop Thomas Tarball sen= Benjamin Crispe Ellis Barron se= Daniell Pearse

as also It is agreed vpon that noe man shall put away any of their cattell from any of these seuerall companyes as they are now stated by the Select men vntill they haue done their best endeavour to hire a heardsman as before for twelue shill p week vpon penalty of paying the full prise as the rest of their neighbours for specya and tim

At a Towne meeting March 3 74-75 granted vnto Nicolas cady a small peice of land by way of exchaung at brown loaf plaine adjoyning

to his owne land y^t he had of captain parker for a peice of land the same quantyty at browne loaf meadow

At the Same meeting graunted to Thomas Smith a peice of land of forty poll by way of exchaunge below his house adjoyning to his own land in the corner next to Samuell Woods and William Greenes land

At a meeting of the sellect men march 3 1674-75 chusen captain Parker serg knop and Justin holden to renew the bounds between moshobo and our bounds And also chusen to lay out a hye way betweene Dunstable and this Towne captain Parker and serg knop

At a meeting of the sellect men July 2 July 22 75 a rat made for the defraying of the charg of the ware and put in to the hand of William Longley constable to gather the sume 23^l 14^s 4 added 7 shill more then the Just proportion [38]

At a Generall Town meeting held October 20 1675 Agreed vpon and by vote declared that our Reuerand Pastor shall haue eighty pound for this present year sixty l in Corne prwisi[on] and forty pound of it to be payd betwixt this and y twenty fiue of December next ensueing and the other 20l to be payd in the spring of the yeare vnlesse god by some speciall prouidence Doe preuent and the other 20l to be payd in money the last of august or the first of september in the year 1676

and 40 cord of wood to be proportioned according to euery mans proportion to be caryed in now presently

At a Generall Towne meeting held no= 8 1675 It was this day agreed vpon and by vote declared that their should be a committe chussen to treat with Mr willard about sending down to the generall court to Enforme and supplicat to them that we may have payd to vs what is our due from the countrey and also that the Billit of the souldiers may be vpon the countreys account and also agreed vpon that if this would not doe for to stand it out at law with them

and the committee chussen was Cap^t Parker Leiftenant Lakin William Longley seni= John Page

At a Generall Towne meeting held Decem 9 75 It was this day agreed vpon and by vot declared that the soldiers that are still remaining in the town shalbe continued in the towne at the town charg till such tim as we hear a returne from the army goei[ng]

against the naroganset and then the towne to meet againe to consider what is furder to be done

At a Generall Towne meeting held Dec 10 1675 Chussen for constable for that yeare following William Greene

for select men Cap^t Parker : Leiftenant Lakin William Longley se=
Serg^t ffisk John morsse

for Surueyers Thomas Tarball sen= Samuel Wood

for veiwers of ffences John nutting sen= corporall cady [39]

At a generall town metting of the inhabitants of groaton warned by Captin Parker leftenant lakin insine lorranc and Goodman morse and asembled at Concord the (12th) of the (10th) month: 1677: Such as wear present did then and thear agree that if the prouidenc of god preuent not by death or sicknes or by the enmy that then we will goo vp in the spring folloeing and begin to Repayer our habitations againe if god parmitt and for the true purphormans of this agrement we doe ingeage the forfeiture of our wholle Right in groaton unto those that doo goe vp and cary on the work and to this agrement we heaue hear sett to our hands

JAMES PARKER sen

RICHARD BLOOD

WILLIAM LAKIN

NATHANNIL LAWRENCE

JONATHAN SAWTELL

JOHN MORSSE

JAMES KNAP

SAMUELL WOOD

his L mark

NATHANELL BLUD

his b mark

THOMAS TARBALL

JOHN TARBELL

JOHN PARISH

PELEG LORRANC

Voated that all publick charges for this present year insuing shall be Raysed vpon the furst deuision of land granted or acomidation of lands

chosen to warn a town metting goodman blud Leftenant lakin Sargant knop Insine lorranc & thomas tarball Seneyer this metting to be the furst thuseday in marche and this metting . . . town officers to nominat . . . other publick charges this metting to be at groaten [40]

[*date torn off.*]

At a general towne meeting of the inhabitants of Gro[ton] warned we did therein and thar agrē and by desair that the publick charges should be raised for this present year upon furst deuishan of medow and in whaus handes soeuer y^e furst deuishan shall apeere to be he or thay shall pay y^e charges that dus arise upon them

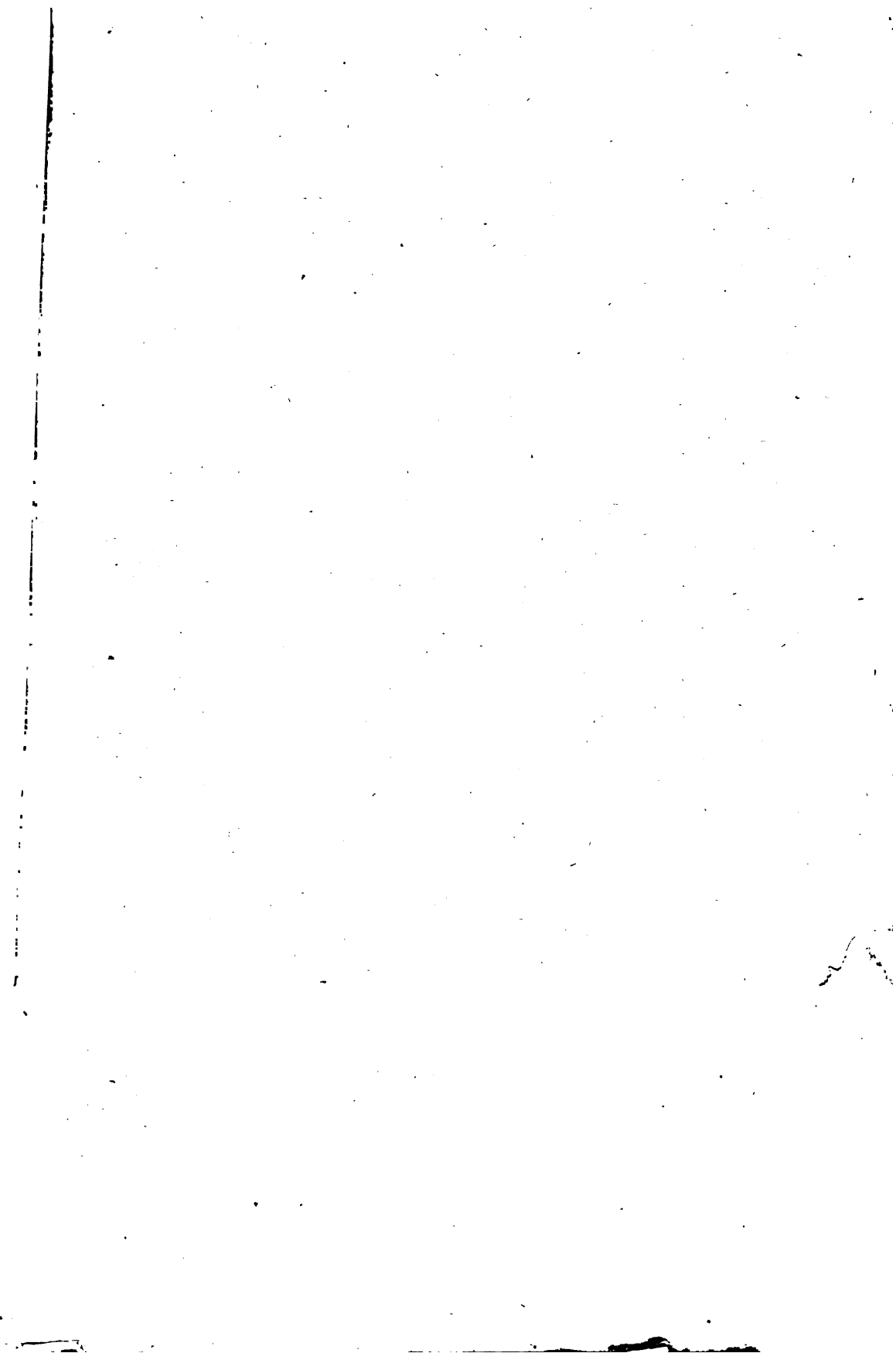
Jonathan Morses desent

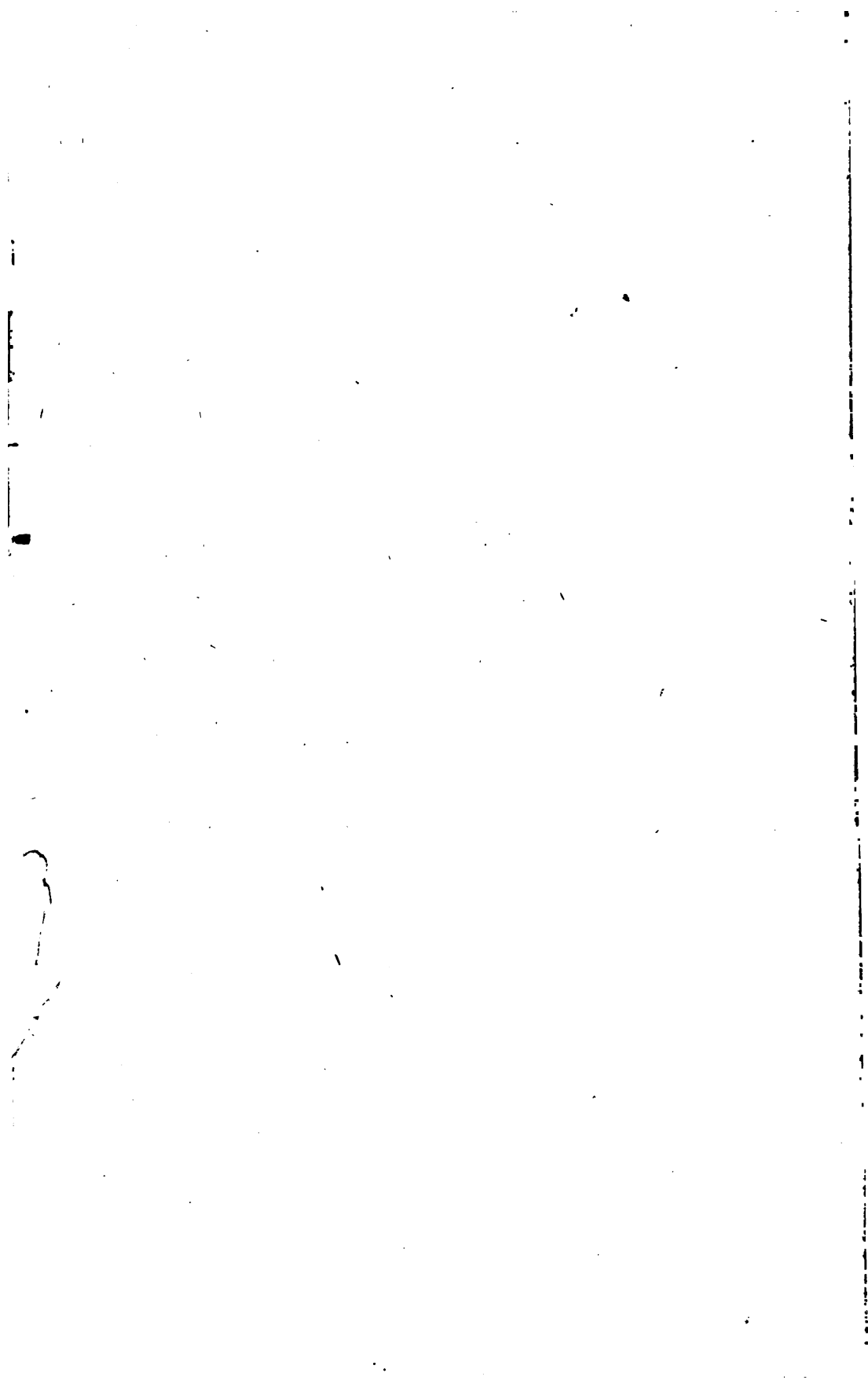
That pees of land that lyes between Samuells Wodes land and the high way y^t goes to y^e bay and the highway that gos to Sargent knapes end is granted to Jonas prescot or his brother Jonathan prescot provided ether of them come and buld and liue up on it between this and next winter and ther is to be a cart way in it to broad medow :

JAMES PARKER sen.

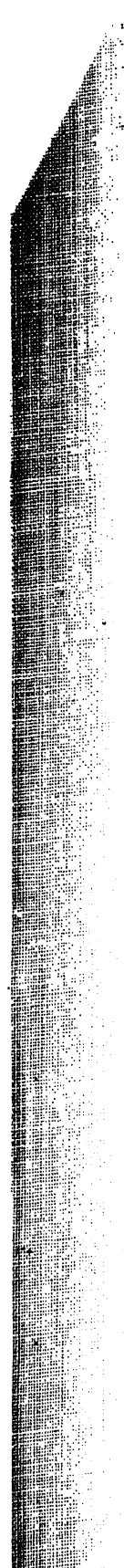
in the name of the select men.

James Parker, one of the original proprietors of Groton and a distinguished man in his day, was the town clerk during 1678, the year of the return of the inhabitants who had been driven off by the Indians. He was one of the first board of selectmen chosen by the inhabitants, at which time he is called Deacon ; subsequently he is styled Sergeant and afterwards Captain. His house lot lay on both sides of the principal street in the village, just south of the small stream which to this day is called James's Brook, named after him. The house was one of the garrisons during King Philip's War, and it was with Captain Parker that the Indian chief, on the night of March 13, 1676, talked, as mentioned in Hubbard's "Narrative." In advanced life he married for the second time, and had a daughter born after he was eighty years old. He died in 1701, aged about eighty-four years.









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