







Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2015



SIMON BRADSTREET, COLONIAL GOVERNOR.

THE
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
OF THE
TOPSFIELD
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL II.

—:0:—
1896.

TOPSFIELD, MASS. :
Published by the Society,
1896.

III

Contents.

Governor Simon Bradstreet,	<i>Frontispiece.</i>
List of officers for the year 1896,	v
Report of the Secretary,	vii
Report of the Treasurer,	ix
List of Donations,	x
Necrology for the year 1896,	xi
Topsfield Town Records, 1659-1684—Geo. Frs. Dow.	1
The Howletts and Clarks—Marietta Clark,	53
The Topsfield Copper Mines—Mrs. G. Warren Towne,	73
Funeral Elogy on Mr. John Foster—Rev. Joseph Capen,	82
The Cradle of the Averill Family—S. Gertrude Bradstreet,	84
Charles H. Holmes—Franklin Balch,	88
The Emerson-Holmes House. Topsfield, <i>Illustration</i> ,	93
Poems—Charles H. Holmes,	96
The McKenzie Family in Topsfield—Alfred McKenzie,	106
Topsfield Baptismal Records, 1779-1841—Geo. Frs. Dow,	<i>Appendix.</i>



Topsfield Historical Society.

Officers for the year 1896.

President,
JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D.

Vice-President,
CHARLES J. PEABODY.

Secretary,
GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Treasurer,
GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Curator,
MRS. G. WARREN TOWNE.

Executive Committee,

JOSEPH B. POOR,

WELLINGTON DONALDSON,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M. D., *ex-officio*,

CHAS. J. PEABODY, *ex-officio*,

GEO. FRIS. DOW, *ex-officio*.

Secretary's Report.

Another annual meeting must remind this society that the dignity of years is beginning to surround its work, that while our chosen field is the collection and preservation of the history and antiquities of our town, all the while as a society, we are creating history and performing a duty which will not be forgotten when the story of Topsfield is related to future generations.

The relics and curiosities we collect today illustrating the life and customs of former years, with each passing cycle obtain a new significance and greater historical value. Today's object of small concern becomes tomorrow a thing of moment or curious interest. But of greater and more lasting value is the work being performed by the society in placing upon the printed page a chronicle of historical and biographical matter relating to Topsfield. Data perchance found only in the fleeting memories of those now living, or compiled from fragments widely scattered.

The past year has seen the beginning of an important work; the reproduction in type of the records of the town. Copies from the clerk's book of original records from the earliest times until the year 1684 have been carefully and exactly made and are reproduced in the first 52 pages of the volume of Historical Collections for the past year.

The work should be continued in the coming volumes, and carried forward as extensively and elaborately as the funds of the society will

allow. It is not unreasonable to ask that the town should in a degree share in this expense. Rowley, Manchester and Beverly have printed their early records, and several other towns in the county have been to great expense in having duly certified copies made of valuable records rapidly becoming illegible through the ravages of time.

If not at the coming town meeting, perhaps at some future time the matter should be brought before the town for its consideration.

The past year has shown a very successful growth. The membership has grown from a total of 94 at our last annual meeting to 139 at the present time. A large proportion of this increase comes from those living without the bounds of the town. Former residents or historians interested in obtaining our volume of historical collections in exchange for the membership dues.

This method of enlarging our rolls should be encouraged during the coming year. The annual fee of fifty cents is small and not to be compared with the value of the collections.

At the regular meeting in February, Rev. O. S. Butler of Georgetown lectured before the society on the History of the American Flag. With that single exception, members of the society have prepared the historical papers which have been read at each regular meeting, several of them appearing in the volume of collections.

On the 18th of June a highly

VIII

successful field meeting was held at "The Colleges," the Danvers Historical Society, and the History Class connected with the Essex Institute being represented on invitation from this society.

Over 150 persons were present and heard with interest an historical sketch on the locality read by Miss Gertrude Bradstreet, and speeches by Pres. Allen and Dr. A. P. Putnam and other members of the Danvers Historical Society.

We have lost three members by death, Mrs. Louisa Leach, Capt. R. B. Pray and Amos T. Fiske, while two others have been dropped from

membership for non-payment of dues.

Beyond a suggestion that an effort be made to suitably encase our growing collection of relics and curiosities now at the Town Hall, your secretary has nothing to recommend save a spirit of enthusiasm on matters historical. Enlarge the membership and speak a good word for the society when inspecting a relic of the town's life, remembering that many an attic in town still conceals treasures that should find their way into our collections.

Respectfully submitted,
GEO. FRIS. DOW,
Secretary.



IX

Treasurer's Report

For the year ending Dec. 31, 1896.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
Bal. on hand, Jan, 1. 1896	\$.80	Printing Collections	\$35.25
Annual dues	57.50	Printing Baptismal Records	8.00
Historical Collections, sold	7.00	Printing Postals and Tickets	4.00
Cloth bindings	3.00	Binding Collections	9.25
Donation, Members of Society	23.75	Postal cards and postage	4.93
Donation, George L. Gould	2.50	Use of electrotype	1.00
		Field meeting, carriages, etc.	4.81
		Expressing, stationery, etc.	1.47
		Lecturer's expenses	.28
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$94.50		\$68.99
		Balance on hand	\$25.06

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. FR. DOW,

Treasurer.



Donations for the year ending Dec. 31, 1896.

	Library.	Cabinet.
Averill, Sidney W.	1	14
Bomer, Mrs. Caroline E., Ipswich	4	
Dodge, John H.		2
Dodge, Wm. Ladd	1	
Dow, Eugene M.		1
Dwinell, Esther		1
Fitts, Rev. James H., Newfields, N. H.	12	
Foster, Edwin O., Salem	1	
Gould, Andrew	1	
Gould, Esther	1	
Harriman, H. N., Georgetown	3	
Haven, Mrs. Theodore W., Glasco, N. Y.		2
Halker, William, Newburyport		1
Kneeland, C. A. S.		1
Lake, Otto E.		1
Merriam, Henry G.	1	
Nichols, Mrs. Mary L.	3	
Peabody, Helen. St. Louis, Mo.	1	1
Perkins, William	1	
Pray, Mrs. Caroline E.	5	1
Stevens, Albert W.		77
Smith, Mrs. Nath., Boxford	1	
Smith, Mrs. Calvin, Boxford		1
Wells, Catherine		1
	36	104

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. G. WARREN TOWNE,

Curator.

Necrology for 1896.

LOUISA (MORGAN) LEACH was born at Manchester, Mass., Nov. 23, 1816, and died at Topsfield, Feb. 6, 1896. She was the daughter of Isaac and Salome (Brown) Morgan. She was united in marriage with Thomas K. Leach of Wenham May 2, 1836. Five children were born to them; Mary Ann, who married Lafayette Batchelder and lives in Wenham; Sarah Kimball, who married Isaac M. Woodbury and lives in Topsfield; Martha, who married Moses N. Boardman and lives in Georgetown; Charles Healey, who married Mary A. Wilkins and lives at the homestead and Martha Louisa who died when a child.

Mrs. Leach was a charter member of the Society and the author of the article on the trial of Elizabeth P. Bradstreet printed in Vol. I. of the Historical Collections. She became a member of the Congregational church in Topsfield in 1839, and ever maintained an exemplary christian character. Of retentive memory, her reminiscences of early life were of great interest and a journal of events kept by her for many years will be of much value to the historian.

RUEL BENTON PRAY was born at Salem, Mass., April 18, 1838, and died at Topsfield, Oct. 6, 1896. He was the son of Ruel and Mehitable (Kender) Pray. Receiving his education in the public schools of Salem, while yet in his teens he enlisted in the merchant marine and served as sailor, mate and captain. He made a voyage around the world with Capt. Lewis F. Miller of Salem. He also served on the U. S. S. Cumberland previous to the Civil war, being stationed off the west coast of Africa. The first man to enlist from Danvers he served until the close of the war; was provost marshal at Baltimore, Sept. 1861; 1st lieutenant, Dec. 19, 1861; was disabled in Aug. 1863 and resigned. March 4, 1864 he was mustered into the Navy, serving as master's mate or ensign on U. S. S. Savannah, Algonquin, Young America, Wilderness, Chicopee, Queen and Sarsacuss.

After the war he engaged in journalism, editing newspapers in Salem, and Marlboro. He was one of the projectors of THE TOPSFIELD TOWNSMAN.

For several years he was engaged in the cigar business at Danvers. He was prominent in G. A. R. circles and much interested in the public school system.

October 28, 1860, he married Caroline E. daughter of William and Sally Gallup of Topsfield. Two children were born to them, Charlotte Elizabeth and William G.

Mr. Pray was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society.

AMOS TENNY FISKE was yet a young man when he died Nov. 19, 1896. He was a charter member of the society. The son of John and Adeliza Minerva (Pike) Fiske he was born in Topsfield, June 16 1870.

For several years he was in the employ of Balch Bros. subscription book publishers but in the spring of 1895 he embarked in the retail shoe business in Topsfield. Until his death he was active in church work. A member of the Congregational society and president of the Y. P. C. E. society connected with the church.

He was never married.



THE
EARLY RECORDS
OF THE
TOWN OF TOPSFIELD,
MASSACHUSETTS.

TRANSCRIBED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

The first book of original clerk's records now in existence, begins with the year 1675. That a record was kept during the previous twenty-five years beginning with 1650, the date of incorporation, is proven by the following extracts from the clerk's records:—

“At a lawfull meeting 7 march 75-76 it is ordered that the select men shall see that the olde book the towne book shall be transcribed into the new book and that the land on the south sid the Reuer that was layed out by deuisians to the seuerall inhabetants the select men shall see that ther lots be Recorded according as tha ware lade out

voted.

At a lawfull Towne meting the 7th of march 1681 or 82. The Towne has Voated that ye old Towne Booke

shall be Trancribed in to ye new Towne Booke all that is needfull to be don & that is not all redy don.

Voated.

Lliut pebody & John Gould are Chosen to Tranccribe all ye old Towne booke in to ye newe Towne booke as is Needfull to be don

Voated.”

These earlier records were transcribed from time to time into “the new book,” and are found incorporated in the records of the current years of 1675 to 1683. In the following copy I have arranged these fragments in chronological order, greatly regretting their incompleteness.

GEO. FRs. DOW.

ACTS
OF THE
GENERAL COURT CONCERNING TOPSFIELD.

"Whereas the inhabitants of Salem have agreed to plant a village neare the ryver w'ch runs to Ipswich, it is ordered, that all the land neare their bounds, between Salem & the said ryver, not belonging to any other towne or person, by any former grant, shall belong to the said village."

Mass. Colony Records,
5 Nov. 1639.

"Whereas, at the Co'rt houlden at Boston the 4th, 7th mo. 1639. there was certaine land lying neare Ipswich Ryver granted for a village, eith'r to some of the inhabitants of Salem, or to some of the inhabitants of Ipswich, who have farmes near unto the said land, to bee enjoyed by those who first settled a village there; they both propounding for it togeth'r; howsoever the ord'r mentioneth only Salem inhabitants, & forasmuch as the said inhabitants of Ipswich have for neare this two yeas procured & maintained one to dispencc the word of God unto them, w'ch they intend to continue, it is therefore ordered & granted, that Mr. Jno. E. decott & the said inhabitants of Ipswich, viz., Mr. Bradstreete, Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. William Paine, Mr. Robert Paine, & such oth'r of Ipswich or Salem as they shall associate to themselves, shall have lib'rty to settle a village neare the said ryver of Ipswich, as it may bee most convenient for them, to w'ch the foresaid land shall belong, viz., all that w'ch lieth neare the said ryver (not formerly granted to any towne or person), provided that any of the inhabitants of Salem, who have farmes neare unto the said land now granted, shall have liberty for one yeare next coming to loyne with the said village."

Mass. Colony Records,
17 Oct. 1643.

"Upon Zacheus Goulds petition, it is conceived to be for the gen'rall good, & very convenient, there should be a village about that farme, & that the towne of Ipswich should further them therein."

Mass. Colony Records,
29 May 1644.

"Forasmuch as ys Co'rt hath form'rly granted yt yr should be a village upon Ipswich Ryver, at or neare a place called ye New Medowes, & forasmuch as c'rteine of ye inhabitants of Ipswich who have farmes improved neer yrunto, & do desire yt a minist'r might be settled yr to dispencc ye word to ye present inhabitants & such oth'rs as shall plant ymselves at ye said village, whom yet notwithstanding they are no wayes able in any comfortable mann'r to maintaine a minister, & to defray oth'r necessary charges of ye place, if w'thall they should be lyable to all other rates & publike charges of ye towne of Ipswich.

This Co'rt doth therefore hereby order, yt either ye whole towne of Ipswich shall equally contribute (w'th such oth'r inhabitants as have lands in or neere ye said village) to ye maintenance of a minister, & all other publike charges incident to such a village, or else ye foresaid inhabitants, yt have lands neer ye said village, & shall contribute to ye maintenance of a minister yr, & oth'r necessary charges, shalbe freed from all manner of rates, charges, or contributions to ye towne of Ipswich for yr land or stock in or belonging to ye said village."

Mass. Colony Records,
1 Oct. 1645.

"The Co'rt haveing consid'ed of ye great expence of time occasioned by severall persons bringing their suites to ye Co'rt to be tryed here, thinke it meete that Captain Smyth should pay twenty

nobles for defraying ye charge of ys
Co'rt, & ye towne of Ipswich & ye peti-
tion'rs of ye Newe Medows should pay 5t
for ye time their cause tooke up in ys
Co'rt, ff y shill'gs ye towne, & fifty shil-
l'gs ye petition'rs."

Mass. Colony Records,
18 Oct. 1645.

Petition to the General Court,

"Wee Humbly Intreate this honored
Court that you wold bee pleased to be-
stowe a name Vpon oure Village at the
new medowes at Ipswich Which wee
suppose may bee an Incoragment to
others to Come to liue amongst vs: and
alsoe a meanes to further a ministry
amongst vs wee thinke hempsted wile
bee a fit name if the Court please to grat-
ifie vs herewith.

Will Payne,
Brian Pendleton,
Zacheus Goold."

Mass. Archives, 112. 9.

(The deputies granted this petition,
but the magistrates set the action aside
and thought fit "it should be called Top-
pesfield." To this decision the lower
court then agreed. G. F. D.)

"The village at the newe medowes at
Ipswich is named Toppesfeild."

Mass. Colony Records,
18 Oct. 1648.

"Vppon the request of those whom it
most concernes, the village at the New
Meddowes at Ipswich, shalbe henceforth
called Toppesfeild."

Mass. Colony Records,
27 Oct. 1648.

"In answer to the petition of the in-
habitants of Top-feild it is ordered by
this Court that from henceforth they
shalbe a towne & have power within
themselves to order all civill affayres, as
other townes haue."

Mass. Colony Records,
16 Oct. 1650.

"In ans'r to the request of Zacheus
Goold and William Howard, in the behalfe
of Top-feild, the Court doth grant that
Topsfeild shall from henceforth be a
towne, and haue power within themselus
to order all civill affajres, as other townes
haue."

Mass. Colony Records,
18 Oct. 1650.



TOPSFIELD TOWN RECORDS.

March 25, 1659.

Wee hose names are Vnder Wri-
ghen being Chosen and Impowred by
the Inhabitanes of Salam and Tops-
feild to rune the six miles Extent
and also the deuisionall Line betwene
the two Townes haue thus agreed
and determined, namly that wee
haue rune the six miles Extent Vpon
the nore west and by nore Which
ends in the edg of a Swamp of John
putnams Comonly Called the great
ashing Swamp next Vnto a hill Com-
only Called by the name of Walnut
tree hill neere Vnto perie Wiggwamb
and from thence haue thus fare
agreed Vpon the deuisionall Line
Which runs Souwest Westerly to the
riverside Commonly Called by the
name of Ipswich riuer Where Wee
marked trees by a rock towards the
Est and a neck of Land Commonly
Called Crumwels neck westwardly of
the said trees marked and from
thence souwest one mile and a quar-
ter and so on according to the rule
that Mr. Joseph Gardner rune the
aforesaid deuisionall Line, and from
the six miles extent toward the nor
est esterly as it is bounded and
marked one mile and a quarter end-
ing at a swamp by a hill Called Smith
hill and from thence toward the est
norest ending Vpon a hill near Vnto
Whenham Casway, and so toward
the est and by nore one hundreds
rods ending at wenham medow side.
Thomas Putname,

Abraham Redington,
Nathanill Putname, John Redington,

Joseph Huchenson, John Wildes,
William Euans.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting the 3
day of ye 12 m 1659 it is ordred and
a greed Vpon that Mr. Perkins shall
haue ffifteene acres of Land medow
and Vpland Lying on the south side
of a hill Commonly Caled bare hill the
Vpland of the said Land is by way
of exchang with ye Towne for a per-
cell of Vpland Lying betweue Mr.
Perkins ffield and Mr. Baker house
and also a percell of swampie Land
aJoyneing to Mr. Perkins ffield at
home Voated.

At a lawful Towne meeting ye 14
of march 1661. Whereas Zacheas
Gould at a Towne meeting in february
23 1658 ded then joyne himselfe
with his estate to ye Towne of Tops-
field for seuen yeers or terme of his
life or Vntell a minister be settled in
Rowley Vilage doth now at a Towne
meeting giue in his feirme of three
hundred acres which he bought of
Mr. William Paine that he now lius
Vpon to Topsfield the said Zacheas
Gould by these presants doth for
himselife his Excetutors Administra-
tors or assignes giue in the aforesaid
farme into the sad Towne for euer
with all the priueledges and apurtin-
ances thereunto belonging.
Witnes my hand, Zacheas Gould.

Voated.

At a lawful Towne meeting the 14
of the 10 m 1661 The inhabitants of
ye Towne hath made choyce of En-
signe Howlet frances pabodye and

John Redington, they are chosen for selectmen for the year following to order the prudentiall affaires of the towne and to settle the bounds of the towne betwene Salem and Topsfield and also to settle the bounds between the Comen (partage?) and Vs and also where they shall see any wrong done to the towne by any they haue power to rectifie by sute or otherwise

Voted.

It is further ordered and herby they are impowred to lay out five hundred acre[s] of land on the other side of the riuer to remaine common to perpetuity for the Vse of the inhabitants provided none of it be medowland

Voted.

It is further ordered that the aforesaid five hundred acres of land is stated to the inhabitants of the Town excepting Ensigne Howlet as one to share in the said common notwithstanding any former order

Voted

It is also ordered and the said selectmen are impowred to deuide the other parte of the common both medow and Vpland on the other side of the riuer into three equall deuisions

Voted.

The names of the commoners that shall share in it.

Mr. Bradstreet	Tho' Perkins
Mr. Perkins	Tho' Browning
Zacheas Gould	Jacob Towne
Mr. Baker	Isacc Estey
Tho' Dorman	Willi' Towne
frances Pebody	Edmond Towne
Willi' Euens	Matthew Standly
Daniell Clark	Anthony Carell
Isacc Cumings senr	frances Bates
Isac Cumings jur	John How

Ensigne Howlet	Edmond Bredges
Willi' Smith	Willi' Nicholse
Mr. Endicoat	Vseltone lot
John Wiles	Lumpkins farme
John Redington	Rob't Andrews land

Voted.

At a meeting of the selectmen march, 10, 166 $\frac{1}{2}$ Whereas Zacheas Gould at a Towne meeting in february ye 23. day 1658. ded then Joyne himselfe with his estat to ye Towne of Topsfield for seuen years or terme of his life or vntell a minister be settled in Rowley Vilag doth now being at a meeting of the selectmen of Topsfield giue his Feirme of three hundred acres wh'ch he liue vpon into Topsfield foreuer with all the priueledges & apurtenances thereunto belonging—Zacheas Gould.

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 14 of march 1661

Whereas Zacheas Gould at a Towne meeting in february 23. 1658 ded then joyne himselfe with his estate to ye Towne of Topsfield for seuen yeers or terme of his life or Vntell a minister be settled in Rowley Vilage doth now at a Towne meeting giue in his feirme of three hundred acres which he bought of Mr. William Paine that he now lues Vpon to Topsfield. the said Zacheas Gould by these presants doth for himselfe his Excetutors Administrators or asignes giue in the aforesaid farme into the said Towne for euer with all the priueledges and apurtinances thereunto belonging—witnes my hand

Voted.

Zacheas Gould.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the 15 of January 1663 the Inhabitance

of Topsfield hath granted ther right in a percell of Common Land by way of exchange for Land of John How aquivalent to the said percell of Land to Lye Conuenant to the Common for Common, and the said Inhabitance hath Chosen ffrainces pebody John Wilds and Thomas perkins to Lay out the a boue sd Land Voated.

The Inhabitance hath a greed With Thomas Baker to Exchange two acres of Land neere to the meeting house for Land aqueuelante there vnto neere the sd Thomas Baker house, the Towne hath Chosen ffrainces pebody and Daniell Houey and the sd Thomas Baker hath Chosen John Gould and John Wilds to Lay out the aboue said p'sells of Land—Voated.

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 7. march 1664. It is ordered that the timber of the fivehundred acres of common lands on the other side of the riuer which is to remaine common to perpetuity is to be deuided by John Wiles Willi Auerell Thomas Baker & edmond Towne or either three of them into three equall proportions as two foure & six according to that rule to be deuided voted

It is also ordered that al the commonors of the Towne shall haue a share in the common on the other sid of the riuer with the timber which is to be deuided accordin[g] to the rule as is here expressed namely that thos which pay to the minesters rat[e] made in the year 1664; fiuty shilings & upward shal haue one of the greater shares and vnder fiuty shilings to twenty, shal

haue a midle share and vnder twenty shilings one of the least shares

voted

now these are the names of those men that ware then Rated that yeare 1664 and thar saueral soms as tha ar in that Rate and rite in this land

Zacheus and John goold	04-03-03
mr thomas baker	03-17-05
danel Clark	01-04-05
thomas darman senr	03-03-00
frances pabody	04-05-02
decon houey	01-03-08
william J Eueus	02-11-00
Isack Comings senr	00-13-08
Isack Comings iunar	01-08-00
Ensigne howlat	01-08-09
antoni Carol	00-11-01
thomas perkings	02-19-07
thomas aueril and thomas	01-14-02
hobes on mr brodstreets land	01-03-00
John Redington	03-05-02
thomas browning	01-06-00
John wiles	01-12-10
william smith	00-13-08
Edman bridges	00-15-03
Jacob towne	01-04-05
Isack Este	00-19-06
william towne	00-04-02
and Joseph towne	01-08-05
Edman towne	01-08-09
mathew stanle	00-15-08
william nicoles	01-12-09
mr. William Perkeings	02-03-09
mr Endicot	01-02-00
John how	00-19-00
Robart andros	00-12-00
frances bates	00-09-00

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 9 desmber 1664. It is ordred and a greed Vpon that ye Inhabitance of the Towne hath apoyented the first third day of march next and so ye first third day of march the next

yeare folowing and so from yeare to yeare to Continue Vntill such time as the Towne shall see Causes to alter it, for to Chose ofecers for the Carying on ye Townes afares and other matters of Concerment which nesesarly fales in to be don on that day
Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting on ye 6 day of march 1665

Ensigne Howlett and Liut Pebody are Chosen to Exchange some of the Townes Common Land neere to Luke Weaklins with Thomas Perkins for Land of his to make his Line straight for his Conueniance of fencing and not to damnifie the Towne
Voated

ffrances pebody Thomas perkins and John Redington are Chosen by the Inhabitance of the Towne to Lay out fifty acres of Land for the Vse of the ministrey at Topsfield Wee accordingly haue don it Wee haue Laid out fifty acres in medow and Vpland: where as there is sence two e[a]cers of this ffafy it being medow Lying betwene mudey sprieng and Luke Wakling giuene to Mr. Capen sence at a generall Towne meeting by a generall Voate of the Towne: and a stripe of medow one ye norwest side of bare hill wee Layed it for eaight eacrs be it more or Less: and a Leuen eacres of Vpland one the south side of bare hill a Jodinging to the house and twenty nine eackres of Vpland Liing one ye south of mr perkins field that is by ye meeting house and a plaine Commonly Caled the bare hill plaine one ye nore west end and ye Towne Common one ye southwest side and ye Towne Common one ye east or

southeast end to mr perkins Land.

ffrances pebody Thomas perkins and John Wilds Deputed by the Towne to Vew A percell of Land Which Edmond Bridges desiered to haue of the Towne Wee haue so don and bounded it as followeth from the Riuer About A Valey that is in the Island according as the trees are marked A tree that stands in A poynt of rockes Close by the Riuer and so from tree to tree as thay be marked ouer to the sid of the Vpland to the other sid of the swamp so wee haue marked trees all aLong as the swamp goeth as the trees are Marked to the Riuer Againe at the Vpper end of the medow next the Bridge, for and in Consideration of this Land the said Edmond Bridges is to aLowe the Towne thurty five shilings
the fift 11m 1665 Edmond Bridges

At a Lawfull Townemeeting the 19 of march 1666-7 ordred by the Inhabitance that all fences about Corne ffields with in ye bounds of the Towne shall be made of fine railes and thay shall be well plased and what other fence is set Vp by any shall be equielant to a fine raile fence and to bee set Vp and in good repare by ye twenty of apriell next and so to Continue from time to time Vntel such time as ye Towne see Case to alter it on penaltie of paying one shiling a day as a fine for euery day defect Isacke Estey and William Smith are Chosen to Vew the sd fences and take the fines the one halfe for the Townes vse the other halfe for themselues not withstanding any former Towne order.
Voated

Thomas perkins frances pebody and John Gould are Chosen to Vew and a gree with Daniell Borman for a hie way betwene William Aueriell house and the mill throw his ground as they shall see most Conuenyant
Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of Apriell 1667

The Towne hath granted Liberty to William Aueriell and Daniell Borman to make a dame at the mile brooke a rode and a halfe aboute the bridge to float there medow prouided it be no damige to the Towne
Voted.

frances pebody John Gould and John Redington are Chosen to Vew and Lay out a hie way from the meeting house to Mr Endickat farme sofcant for Carts
Voted

At a Lawfull meeting ye 29 of Apriell 1667 It is ordered that ye house and land apointed and Laid out for ye Ves of ye ministerey shall so remaine as aboue said for Euer and that this order be recorded in ye County records
Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 9 of July 1667 The Inhabitance of ye Towne hath Left to ye descretion of the selectmen or maior part of them to Lay out a hie way from ye Common ground Which Lys on ye south sid of mile brooke ouer againts Goodman Dorman and sargt pebody to Ensigne Howlett brooke notwithstanding any former Towne order Whatsoeuer
Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 31 desember 1667 The Towne hath a greed that homesoeuer shall

ether fale, or lope any tree great or smale within twenty pole of the meeting house shall pay to ye Townes Vse twenty shilings for euery such defalt
Voted

The three men namly frances pebody Thomas perkins and John Wilds which were chosen by ye Towne to Exchang a percell of Land with John How, according to our order we haue Exchanged about three acres, wee haue Layed out eaight rods Wide at one end next John How and almost nine rods at the other end, at ye end of Mr perkins Land next John french bordering Vpon the Common.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 13 day nouember, 1668. frances pebody John Gould John Wilds Thomas Baker and Edmon Townes are Chosen thay or ye Maior part of them to Lay out and deuide the Common on Salam side of the Riuier all that Which is to be deuided notwithstanding any former Chouse or Towne order according to the Towne order made in the yeare 1664. Voted.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 15 Jenewory 1668, The Inhabitance of the Towne hath giuen Samuel Howlett an inuitation to Come in to the Towne and set Vp his trade of smithing to doe ye Townes worke
Voated.

apon Considration yt Samuel Howlett promiseth to ye Towne to Come and set Vp his trade in the Towne and doe there Worke thay haue giuen to him four eacrs of Land Vpon the Common hill next to William Smith and John frainch Land
Voted.

Thomas perkins John ffranch & John Redington are Chosen to Lay out the a boue said four eacrs of Land to Samuel Howlett

Wee Whose Names are Under Wrihteen being Chosen by the Towne ye 13 of Nouenber 1668 to deiuede ye Comman one Salam side of ye Riuer all that Which is to bee deiuded not withstanding any former Chouch or Towne order according to the Towne order made in ye yeare 1661: and according to the Rule ye Towne apiunted in ye yeare 1664. to deiuide ye Common by wee haue don et as folet in to three Deuisions as ye Towne ordered in ye yeare 1664 and as there seuerall proportions was by there Rate to ye minister in ye yeare 1664 hee that paid ffiuty shilings one of ye great shares and hee that paid vnder ffiuty to twenty one of ye midell shares and hee that paid vnder twenty shilings a singell share:

The Land Lyes in two parcell the forst part is Bounded Twowards ye West with mr Endickat Land and Twowards ye south with ffarmer porters Land and Twowards the east with Joseph Porters Land and Salam Line and Twowards ye North with ye Cowe Comman beLoning to Topseild. The seekond parcell is bounded with Mr Endickat Land Twoward ye North and Twowards ye Weast with ye Riuer Commonly Caled Ipswich Riuer and Twowards ye south with Land that Lliut Thomas Putnam Layes Clame to & Land of William Hobes and easterly with ye land of ffarmer porter & William Hobes his Land: and where wee did find parson or parsons that

were Dead or had sould them selves out of ye Towne before wee deiuded ye Land we Layed ye deuision of Common Land that was ordered to bedeuiet to ye Inhabotants in ye yeare 1661 to ye Land of those that were entred in ye Towne Booke Namely Zacheus Gould was Dead wee Layed his deuision to his Land and seuerall others that were ether Dead or eles had sould all there housing and Land in 'Topsfield wee Layed out noe Land to any that was gone out of ye Towne but to ye Land that they had or did Liue one in Topseild when the acte was past by ye Towne in ye yeare 1661.

The Bredth of ye Lots in the yt first deuision is as folet beging at mr endichat Land

- 1 first lot is six rod short of ye Bound tree betweene ye Cow Common & ye Lot.
- 2 Lot is twenty 6 rod brode
- 3 lot is twenty two rod brod
- 4 lot is ninteene rod brod
- 5 lot is sixteene rod brod
- 6 lot is foorteene rod brod
- 7 lot is threeteen rod brod
- 8 lot is,tweuele rod brod
- 9 lot is a Leunn rod & ahalfe brod
- 10 lot a Leauene rod brod
- 11 lot is ten rod & ahalfe brod
- 12 lot is ten rod broad
- 13 lot is nine rod & three quarters brod
- 14 lot is nine rod & fue foot brod
- 15 lot is nine rod & fue foot brod
- 16 lot is eaight road & a halfe broad
- 17 lot is eaight rod & an a quarter brod
- 18 lot is eaight road broad
- 19 lot is seuene road an three quartere broad

- 20 lot is seuene road an three quartere
broad
- 21 lot is seuene rod & a halfe brod
- 22 lot is seuene rod an a halfe brod
- 23 lot is six rod an three quarters brod
- 24 lot is six rod an a quarter brod
- 25 lot is six rod and halfe a quarter
brod
- 26 lot is six rod an halfe a quarter
brod
- 27 lot is six rod an two foot brod
- 28 lot is six rod brod
- 29 lot is six rod wanting two ffoot
- 30 lot is fiue rod an twelle ffoot brod
- 31 lot is fiue rod an Leuene foot four
enchies
- 32 lot is fiue rod an ten foot
- 33 lot is fiue rod an nine foot
- 34 lot is fiue rod an eaight foot an a
halfe
- 35 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 36 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 37 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 38 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 39 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 40 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 41 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 42 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 43 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 44 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 45 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 46 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 47 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 48 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- 49 lot is fiue rod an a halfe
- the 47 lot and ye 48 lot an ye 49 lot
is to haue all ye Land from y[e] 46
lot to Joseph porters Line and Salam
Line to Joseph porter marked tree a
Littell wayes of wheele brooke at ye
Norwest end of his ye sd porter
farme and these three Lots namely
ye: 47: 48: 49: Lot is to bee fiue
rod an a halfe broad apece apon ye
- Cow Common
- 50 lot is twenty rod broad beecase
ye Land shortens
- 51 lot is twenty two rod broad
- 52 lot is twenty fouer rod broad
- 53 lot is to haue all to Joseph porter
Line of that deuision of Land
- 54 lot is to rune downe by ye Coue
Common and but one ye medoe downe
twords Deckon Thomas perkins ye
bread of et is ten rod and et dos but
at ye other end a gaints ye 53 lot.
- 55 lot ruing by ye sid of ye 54 lot
being ten rod broad
- 56 lot ruing as ye a boue sd being
ten rod broad
- 57 lot ruing as ye a boue sd lots
being ten rod broad
- 58 lot is twelue rod broad
- 59 lot is ffiueeteene rod broad be-
case wee conseaue et dos shorten by
Joseph porters Land and Salams
Land
- There is a smale stripe of Land
Lefte by ye Last Lot and Salam
Line ye meing is et tis betwene ye
59 lot and Salam Line:
- The seckond deuision being that
wee Cale Stickey medoe beging mr
endickat ffarme vp to that Land as
Lliut Thomas putman Layes Clame
the Lots butting apon farmer porter
Land and soe ruing to ye Riuer Caled
Ipswich Riuer wesword
there is ffiuty fiue of these Lots Laid
out fiue rod and a halfe broad these
ffiutey fiue Lots but one ffarmer porter
Land being at fiue rod and ahalfe
broad at that end and at ye Riuer
fouer rod an a halfe broad there is
fouer Lots more that dos but apon
William Hobes is Land and at Will:
Hobes Land thay are seunteene rod
an a halfe broad so Ruing vp to

Lliut Thomas putnam Line.

Wee whos hands are vnder wrigh-
teen do Testifie that wee haue Laid
out ye Lots as is here in expresed

Witness our hands

Dated march 1668

John Gould
Thomas Baker
John wills
francies pabody

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye
2 march 1668 or 69.

The Towne hath a greeed that it
shall be Leagall waring for Euery
Teme or parson that is warned to
hie way work by the seruaiers or
there order, the seruaiers or ther
order shall giue two dayes or two
nights at Least waring to euerey teme
and person thay shall warne into hie
way worke. and farder the Towne
hath ordred yt any teme warned as
above said by ye seruaiers or there
order, shall refuse or niglect to
atend the Townes seruies which
they are thus Caled Vnto Shall pay
seuene shiling for each dayes niglect
as afine for ye Townes Vese, and
also the parsons so warned as above
said, and shall refuse or niglect ye
seruies they are Caled to doe shall
pay as afine for ye Towne Vse two
shillings six pence a man for euerey
day niglect the which fines the ser-
uayers shall gather Vp with out
parshaliety and give in thre a Counte
to ye Towne at a Towne meeting

Voted.

The Towne hath excepected Wil-
liam Nicklas and John Nicklas and
William Hobes from hie Way
worke in ye Towne apon Considra-
tion thay Liue remoate: and apon
Condition thay mak there one hie
wayes to Topsfeid Bridge nere to

Joseph Towns his house Voted.

It is also ordered and agreed apon
With Ensigne Thomas Howlett that
thay will make and maintaine a
bridge ouer ye Brooke by Ensignes
house in ye way as wee goe to Ips-
wich ye one halfe to be don by the
Towne and the other halfe by ye sd
Ensigne Voted.

At a Towne Meeting ye 11 of ye
3m. 1669. Liut ffrainces pebody
Ensigne John Gould Edmond
Townes Thomas Baker & John
Wilds being Chosen to deuide ye
Common on ye other side of ye
River: accordingly haue don it and
declared ye same to ye Towne at a
Towne meeting and is excepted by
ye Towne Voted.

and also they haue agreed to Cast
Lotes for it that euery one There by
may know what is his Chare and
Where it Lyes Voted

The Towne hath ordered yt the
highway which Lyeth on ye south
sid of Mr perkins his house and Lot
ffrom William Aueriell house to ye
Common shall be Laid downe and
one other Way one ye north side of
the said house and Land shall be
Laid out and ye Towne has Chosen
Liut ffrainces pebody Ensigne John
Gould and Thomas perkins to Lay
out ye said hieway Voted.

The Inhabitance being meet to gather
to Cast Lotes yteuery one yt hatha
share in ye Common Land may know
what his share is and where it Lyes,
the Lots which are Cast are in order
as foloweth the first Lot which is
next Mr Endickat meadow and the
Cow Common and yt euerey mans
share whether singell dobell or

trebelle shall Ly to gather in Each	frances Bates share	19
deuision to each party, ye first	John Wilds	30
Lot fales to Zacheus Gould Land ye 2	John Redington	20
to Vsaltons Land ye 3 to William	Tho: perkins	24
Nicklas ye 4 to Jacob Townes ye 5	Tho: Browing	23
to John Redington ye 6 to Isacke	John How	10
Comings Jur ye 7 to Mr Bakers	Zacheus Gould share [h]is Land	01
Land ye 8 to Thomas Dorman ye 9	Jacob Townes	04
to John Wilds ye 10 to William	Isacke Estey	05
Smith ye 11 to Thomas Browing ye	William Townes	06
12 to Mr Endickat ye 13 to mathu	Edmond Townes	21
Stanley ye 14 to Antony Carell land	Mathu standly	18
ye 15 to Isacke Estey ye 16 to	Anthony Carell share to his Land	
frances Bates Land ye 17 to Mr	in ye Towne is	07
Bradstreet Land ye 18 to Thomas	Edmond Bridges share to his	
perkins ye 19 to Robard Andrews	house and Land in ye Towne	
Land ye 20 to Llumkins Lot ye 21	is in	09
to Edmon Townes the 22 to William	Will Nicklas	22
EuenesLand ye 23 to Joseph Townes	Vseltons share to his Land in	
ye 24 to John How ye 25 to Edmond	ye Towne	11
Bridges house that he had had in	Llumkins Land	28
Topseild in the year 64 ye 26 to	Robard Andrews	26
to frances pebody ye 27 to mr per-	At a Lawfull Towne meeting 15th	
kins ye 28 to Daniell Clarke ye 29	Noumber 1669. Jacob Townes &	
to Ensigne Howlett ye 30 to Isacke	Joseph Townes are Chosen to Lay	
Comings senr and as for ye Lots of	out a highway ffrom ye Bridge ouer	
the other deuision which ye stickey	ye Riuer by William Townes of one	
medow is part of is Loted out after	pole wide to William Nicklas ffarme	
this order as faeth to each party or	Which he Liue apon and also to	
each partyes Land as there seuerall	William Hobes Land	Voted.
Lots Ly 2: 3 & 4.		
Mr Bradstreet share to his Land is	Jacob and Joseph Townes being	
number 03 Mr Endickat share to his	Chosen to Lay out a highway from	
Land is 25	the Bridge ouer ye riuer by William	
Mr Perkins	Townes of one pole Wide to William	
Mr Baker	Nicklas ffarme which he Liues apon	
Tho Dorman	and also to William Hobes haue	
frances pebody	acordingly don it.	
Will Euenes share	At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 3	
Daniell Clarke	of Jenewary 1670, The Towne hath	
Isacke Comings senr	ordered ye Clarke to recorde the	
Isacke Comings Jur	13 Lotes Which are one ye other side	
Ensign Howlett	14 of the riuer according to the derex-	
Will Smith	08 tions that ye Commity Chosen for	
	17 the Laying out of ye said Lots shall	

derecte him

Voted.

Lliut ffrainces pebody Ensigne John Gould and Thomas perkins being Chosen by ye Towne to Lay out a highway through part of William Aueriell Land and through part of Daniell Borman Land to the Northward side of Mr perkins his home ffeild haue accordingly don it ye Which highway is Laid out from the Vpper End of William Aueriell orchard one rod an a halfe wide to ye afore said northward side of Mr perkins his feild and so through Daniell Borman Land one ye northward sid of Mr perkins ffeild to the former highway againe.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 7 march 1670 or 71.

The Towne has impowred the seectmen to petition to the Court to git ye Bridge ouer ye Reiuer by old Goodman Townes to be maintained one ye County a Count.

Voted

The Towne is willing that Lliut pebody should set vp a saw mille provided it dos not doe damige to any of the Towne men in there med-
owes

Voted

It was Voated that ye Towne should yearely Chose there Clarke for ye Towne and also there seectmen by papers

The Town has granted Liberty and impowred ye seectmen in the behalfe of ye Towne to agree with Lliut pebody about the Riges Ether by saile or rent as thay see good

Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 14 noubmer 1671. The Inhabitance of Topsfeild has mainfested by a Voate that thay doe not desier that our Neaighabers of ye Vilige which dos

orderly here the Word of god amongst vs should pay or be Charged With ye maintaing of it in Topsfeild noe Longer then till it please god thay be abell to maintaine ye word a mongst themselues and haue a minister settled amongst themselues for to despence ye word of God to them
Voted

At a Llawfull Towne meeting ye 5 march 1671 or 72.

The Towne has also Voated that ye Viligers shall haue Lliberty to set Vp a house for to shelter there horses in neere to ye meeting house Where ye seectmen and thay shall thinke fite or most Conuineat and also a house for to shelter themselues in with a fier in it duering so Longe as thay doe Contriubute to ye ministerey here in Topsfeild according to what thay haue meneced Vnder there hands and also the Towne has admitted and aLowed of ye Viligers to haue a Voce and Coyce of a ministerey here in Topsfeild as the Towne themselues haue during the time of there Contriubuting to ye ministerey in Topsfeild
Voted

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 18 : 1 m : 71 or 72. The Towne dos grant to Deckon Howlett Lliut pebody and Isacke Estey Joseph Towns Corpr edmond Townes and Thomas Baker all the swampe medow that Lyeth apon ye Riuer Caled Ipswich Riuer extending from the Lower part of the Gouners medow doune to the bridg that goeth ouer ye riuer be Low old Goodman Townes for an in Considration of fifty pounds ye Towne hath Reseued of the aboue named parties this medow here in meneced Lyeth one the south side of

Ipswich riuer

Voated

According to a Towne order and as ye Towne had impowered vs at a Towne meeting ye seuenth of march 1670 or 71. Wee accordingly haue don it. Wee the selectmen haue sould to Lliut pebody the Rigies that is fenced in and ye bounds of it as ye fence now stands ye Riges Lyes one ye south side of ye brooke againts his orchard, the which hee is to aLow twenty fue shilings for ye riges, and he has discounted with Vs ye selectmen ye twenty fue shilings for ye Vese of ye Towne.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 4 march 1672 or 73 It is ordred yt ye selectmen shall haue power to Lay out ye bounds where the fence shall stand by the medow side for John Houey apon ye south west side of ye brooke. Voted.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 30 Aprell 1673. It is ordred and a greed vpon that all Swine shall be Ringed soficantly from time to time from ye pobiliticaior of this order till the 15 of Nouember and Euerey swine that shall bee found not Ringed from a quarter ould and Vpward shall forfe[t] six pence also it is a greed that all swine shall bee yoaked that dos damige by breakeing into Corne feild and paster throe soficant fences after noties giuene to ye owneres of such swine thay not sped[ily] yoaking them shall forfeit one shiling for euery swine and after noties giuene to ye oneres of such swine thay shall forfeit twelue pence for euery day till thay yoake them and such swi[ne] shall be kept yoaked tell Indan haruies be ended this order is to stand from

time to time tell ye Towne see Case to alter it not with standing any formar order. Voated.

Mickall Dunell is Chosene by ye selectmen to Looke to ye yoaking and ringing of hoges and ye sd Doniell is to haue one halfe of ye forfeit for his payenes as is expresed in ye order aboute Wrighteen the other halfe hee is to returne to ye selectmen Voated.

At a meeting of ye selectmen ye 14 of 11 m: 1673. John Gould & ye selectmen Came to a recking and did cleare all a Counts from ye beging of ye World to this day the selectmen giueing John Gould his Towne rate this yeare as ye date aboute make mention of and ye sd Gould dos a quite ye Towne of all detes dues and demands, and ye fifty shilings that ye Court at Ipswich did order ye sd Gould to take of the Towne so that ye selectmen, in ye behalfe of the Towne dos Cleare John Gould of all that has bin paid to ye sd Gould by Constabell or Collecters or any that has bin apionted by ye Towne or selectmen to pay any thing to John Gould ye selectmen being Lliut pebody Thomas Perkins Thomas Baker Edmon Townes and this is or a greement as witnes our hands ye day and yeare aboute Wrighteen and Sargt Bixby dete is in Cluded that ye Towne dos owe ye sd Bixby which is fue pounds that should be paid to ye sd Gould, the selectmen giueing ye sd Gould power to demand of the said John Houey Constabell for ye yeare 72 the fue pounds that was put into ye Towne rate and Committed to him to gather Vp and if ye sd Houey dos refuse to

pay it to ye sd Gould then Wee ye
selectmen doe Ingage to giue ye sd
Gould power to sue for it the sd
Gould giueing the selectmen a noat
to Sargt Bixby to take Vp there bill
and ye sd Gould will delieur Vp
Sargt Bixby bill to him as witnes or
hands this 14 : 11 m : 1763.

Witnes, John Gould
John Commings francis pebody
John How in ye name of ye rest
of ye selectmen.

I Thomas Baker doe binde my
selfe to ye selectmen on a bond of
sixty foure pounds to see the rate
that they haue by warrant vnder ther
hands Committed to mee to gather vp
for mr Hubbord I doe by these
presant in gage as is aboue sd to ye
select men to see that et shall be
deleuered to mr Hubbord I haueing
ye ouer pluch of ye rate for my
paynes as witnes my hand this 19
day of Jenewary 1674. I the sd
Tho : Baker doe ingage to pay to mr
Hubbord 61 lb. [3] s and what ye
rate dos a mount to more I ame to
haue for my payines I doeing et by
ye Last of July after ye date aboue
sd. Thomas Baker.

a Rate made ye 9 day of february
in ye yeare 1674 to defray ye Townes
detes and giuen to ye Constabell of
Topsfeild or his deputy to gather vp
and pay as derestion is giuen to
them ye rate dos a mount to 28lb
08s 03d ye which thay stand in deted
to ye Towne tell they haue discharged
ye rate and then thay shall be dis-
charged

ye detes is 26lb 11s 08d
so that ye ouer pluch of ye 28lb 08s
03d from 26lb 11s 08d and there rest

to ye Towne 01lb 16s 03d
John how. Constabel.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 3
march 1673 or 74.

The Towne has Left it to ye sec-
lectmen to settell the bounds betwene
the Townes Land and that faireme as
was Mr Whittinggons. Voted

The proprietars haue Chosen the
Lote Layeres or ye maior part of
them to Record how thay Laid out ye
Lotes one ye south side of ye riuier
Whether to housing & Land or to ye
parsons that did Liue in the housing
in ye year 61 : with ye bredth and
Lenth of euery Lote.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the
19 of agust 1674. The Towne made
Chose of Isacke Comings senr and
Ensigne John Gould and Lliut ffrain-
ces pebody to bound the medow that
old Goodman Gould sould for ye
Towne to seuerall of our Neaibores,
wee the ffore named persons haue
bounded ye medow in manner as fol-
eth. Wee begane to marke trees at
ye Clay pits there ye medow begins
there wee marked two trees one
Whiat oake betwene ye Claie pites
and ye riuier and a nother tree neere
to ye Clay pites one ye south sid one
ye egge of ye Vpland and a great
Elme marked by ye Vpland side
West from ye Clay pites and so a
Longe with marked trees by ye Up-
land side tell wee Came neere to Mr
Endickat medow these are ye bounds
of that medow that Lyeth one the
south sid ye riuier Caled Ipswich
riuier a Joying to ye riuier from mr
Endickat farme doune to the Clay
pites neere to the Bridge by Joseph
Townes house.

Thomas perkins bounds betwene his Land at Billingate and the Townes Common Land, the first tree marked is a popler tree neere the medow Caled Robard Smith medow and a heape of stones from thence southeast two a swamp where there is two popler trees marked with a heape of stones betwene them and from thence to a smale wall nuttree neere to a swampe marked with a heape of stones at it; from thence to a smale Whiat oake in a swamp marked and a heape of stones at it neere to the Corner of berzilah Barkers Land.

John Wilds his bounds betwene the Towne Land and his, a great whiate oacke marked from thence to a Littell blake ocke marked and a heape of stones at it from thence to a heape of stones and two wallnuts trees marked from thence to a stake and a heape of stones and three Littell trees marked that stands neere to ye stake & heape of stones from thence to an eleme tree marked in a swampe neere the south side of the swamp from thence to a heape of stones behind William perkins house from thence to a nother heape of stones which is the Corner betwene William perkins and John How

John How bounds from a heape of stones that are the Corner bounds betwene him and William perkins from thence to a heape of stones that are about two rode and a halfe of his barne from thence to a heape of stones neere his dwelling house and from thence to where he Joynes to Goodman Clarke.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 1 June 1675.

Isack Estey and John Robinson and Jacob Townes are Chosen and apioynted to Vew the Way one ye south sid of ye Riuer and to aLow of it as thay shall see good that Way as goeth to Salam that is Complained of.

Voted this is a trew Cope of a Recet that Edman towne twoke of the Contre tresarer mr Rusil as a discarg of a contre rate that was mad and Comited to him to gather vp being Constabel.

Edmand town3 Constabel of topsfeild hath paid to mee twelue pounds five shilings and seuen pence which is in full of thare townes porporcion of the Cuntre Rate for the yere 1674. witnes mi hand the 4 iii mo. 1675.

by me Ricard Rusil treasurar ther is a Rate mad by the selectmen the 3 of august 1675 for the defraung of our townes porporcion of a singel Contre Rate dobeled acording to warant that we Receued from the Contre tresurer.

this Rate Comited to the Constabel iohn how is twenti five pound six penc.

at a lafull meeting of the Selectmen the 8 of saptember 1675 wee hau agreed to mak a stone wall aboute the meetting hous for fort * * the wall is to be three foote brod in the botom and five foot hie * * or six as shall be thote most Conueniant with a watch hous at the south est Corner with in this wall ten foot square this is to be don by the towne and except such as do vsalli Com to her the word preched at or in our meeting hows will halp the towne most do it at thar one charge.

this wall is to be ten foote from the meeting hous side and ende but on the south side it is to be twelue foot be twene this wall and the hous and the wach hows Cornar is to be fore foot from the hous end.

ther is a Rate Comited to John how Constabel a singel Contre Rate that a mountes to a leuen pound ten shilins and three pene.

also ther is a nother Rate Comited to John how Constable that is demaned by warant from the Contri treserar that a mountes to seuen singel Contre Rates which som is Eighte fore pound and seunteene shilens.

at a meeting of the selact men the 10 of Januari 1675 ther was a Rate Comited to John how Constable for the minester which Rate amountes to sixte on pound one shilin and two pene for the sad Constable to gather in spedeli for the mantananc of our minister 60 pound is his due the Remander is for the townes use.

John how Constabel of topsfeeld hath payd in to the treserar of the Contrey the 8 october 1675 fore and twente pounds eleuen shiligs and two pence in full of the sad townes proporcion to the two extreordenari Rates due to the Contre the last of october last past as the some is allowed on for 66.

p. me. Richard Rusil treserar.

at a lawfull meeting of the selackt men ther was a Rate Comited to John how Constable for to gather and pay in to the Contre traserar for our townes proporcion being Eighte fore pound this is Recorded befor in in a nother plac the whol Rate is Eighte fore pound seauenteene shilings.

at a Lawfull Towne Meting the 7 of March 1675-76. Left. francis pabody is Chosen Clark to kep the Towne Book this yere :

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 of march 1675-76 its agreed that selact men shall be chosen bi nomenacion this yere and vote[d].

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 march 1675-76 mr thomas baker and Epherom dorman and sargan Redington and francis pabody and decon perkens all of them are Chosen to be selact men for to order the preudancell afares of the towne this yeare Insuing.

John How is Chosen Constabell for this yere in suing and voted 1675-76. Jacob towne Is Chosen to sarue one the Juri of trialls at Ipswich Corte next in suing.

7 march daniel borman and Isack Este ar Chosen soruaures of .hiuaes and fences for this yeare in suing and voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 7 march $7\frac{5}{8}$ it is granted that samuel howlet and John french william perkens iuner and micall donell that thay shall be Comenars as other freeholder are In our Coman land for feed and other preulieges voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the 7 march 1675-76. sargan Redington and John wiles and frances pabody ar Chosen a comite for the towne to agree with mr thomas backer to axchang a strip of land that lies aioyneing to the sad mr bakers land and also to satel the boundes of his farme voted.

at a lawfull meeting 7 march $7\frac{5}{8}$ it is ordered that the selact men shall see

that the olde book the towne book shall be transcribed into the new book and that the land on the south sid the Reuer that was layed out by deuisians to the seueral inhabetants the selact men shall see that ther lots be Recorded acording as tha ware lade out voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the selacktmen the forthenth da Juli. 76, ther was Comited to John how Constabel a Rate for the defraing of ten singel Rates which Rate amountes to a hondered and twente pound for the sad Constabel to colackt and gather of the saueral parsons Ratabel and cari it in to the Contri treserar.

20. 7. 1675. at a lawfull meeting of the towne Isack Comins senar is Chosen graniuri man for this yeare Insuing also William Auril is Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of trials at Ipswich Corte next Insuing.

at a meeting of the selackt men the 29 of desamber 1676 ther is a Rate for the minester Comited to the Constabel John how to gather vp and care in to mister hobart his due is sixte pound but the Rate amountes to sixte two pound and about twelue shilins.

Reseued this: 13th: 3d: 75. of Ephraim Dorman Constable of Toppfeild in full their Townes preportion to the Cuntry Rate for one single Rate and three quarters the some of nineteene pounds eight shilings and six pence.

I say reseued for the yeare 73.
by me
Rishard Russell Treasurer.

Mr Hobard | this is a true Coppy
11lb: 2s: 0d | of the trasurrs re-
seight taken by me

Mr Russells |
8lb: 6s: 6d | frances pabody Clarke
dated the 29 of January 1676.

this fift of febrnari 1676 ther is a Rate for the defraing of Indian ware Charges Containing six singel Contrerates Rates which amounteth to fifte three pound and sixteene shilens this Rate is delivered to John How Constabel for to gather vp and deleuer to the Contre tresarer or his assigns acordingli as he hath diracion In the tresares warrant.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 2. 1676—77 Isack Comings senr. is Chosen moderater this present meeting voted.

it is agreed that the selact men shall be Chosen by nominacion not with standing ani formor ordr voted.

it is agreed that the Clarke shall be Chosen bi nominacion this day for this yeare insuing—voted not with standing ani formor order.

Leftenant Pebody is chosen Clarke for the yeare inseuing voted.

John how is Chosen Constabel for the yeare insuing voted.

the towne hath granted to John how a slip of land to John how of two rod and half brod at his barn and to Com to nothing at his stak at his bond stak to wards the bridg bi goodman Clarks.

Ensigne goold sargen towne decon perkeings John Redington and frances pabody ar Chosen selectmen for the yere in suing - - - voted.

John Comings is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trials the naxt Cort at Ipswich - - - - voted.

John french and John Robeson are Chosen seruares for hiwas to see that they be mad pasabel as the law requires - - - voted.

the seruares hau powr and here by ar impouered to tak or destrane there fines for not atending the mending hiwaes after legall warning two shilings six pene for eueri dayes neglect thay hauing two dayes warning - - - voted.

John Houey and Samuel Howlat ar Chosen to see to the mending fences that thay see that thay be as town orders Require

the town hath agreed to Chang a bout half anacor of vpland for somoth madoo with Edman towne decon perkeings and frances pabody ar Chosen to see it don - - - voted

Receued october the 22th 1676 from John how Constabel of Toppfeild for the yeare 1675 the som of Eleuen pownd ten shilings and three pence in some that being in full of that townes singel Rate for the a for saide yere as witnes mi hand as Execetor to my honored father Richard Rusill late tresarer

James Rusill

This is a trew Cope of the Constabel John how his Recet that he brot from the tresarers Excector.

pr mee frances pabody Clarke 1676.

there is a towne Rate made the three and twentieth of februaryi for the defraing of all towne debtes as alsoe whot is yet oing to mr. gilbrt.

At a lawfull towne meeting march the 7. 1676—77 the towne hath granted to william perkeings unar two acres of vpland liing betwene his one house and the swamp that strip of land that was axchanged for-

mali with william perkeings for land that John how had of t[h]e towne and the for sayd willi perkeings is to pay three pownd in Corant pay to the towne voted.

the towne hath agreed with John Robeson to sweep the meeting hows and he is to haue twenti five shilings a yeare.

also he is to dig graues for such as shall Require him and he is to haue three shilins six pene for al graues abou for foot long and two and six pene for al vnde[r].

the towne granted to exchang a smal strip of land with sargen towne at alawfull towne meeting march 2 1676—77 the towne made Coyse of decon perkens and frances pabody to see it don and thay the afor said men on the sixt of aperill did goe and see it don and it is thus don from a whit oke marked on the southe sid of the sad Edman townes madoe land to a small popeler in a line or strait Corse and that popeler is his bound Cornar tree next to the Coweman and from that popeler strat to the Reuer where there is a small Red oke marked.

In august 1676 thare was a Rate made and Comited to John how Constab[el] to gather vp and pay into the tresarer or his asignes the Rate is six singel Contre Rates which som amontes to fifte three pound and thirteene shilins.

at a meeting of the select men Januari 4 1677 ther is Comited to Jo how Constable two Rates on is the singel Contre Rate which amountes to nine pound two shilens and Eight pene the other Rate is the moni Rate which is two singel Contre Rates which amountes to Eighteene pound

five shileings and fore penc which Rates the Constabel is to gather vp of the saueral parsons Ratabel and pa it in to the Contre tresarer or his asignes.

where as the towne mad Coyse of sargen Redington and John wiles seenar and frances pabody to agree with mister baker about exchange of a small strip of land about three acres and a half which the afor-named men haue don the land that mister baker hath of the townes land lieth against his hous in part as it is layd out and the bredth at the Est end is ten Rod wide and a half from the Cornar of his wall which is the bounds of it at the Est ward Cornar and his lin is to Ron from that Corno[r] of his land to a grat whit oke about twente and fiue Rod distanc souwest ner to the hiwa that lieth or ledath from the falles bridg to the meeting howse and from that whit oke vp the hill as the fence Rones that is now standing which is a hadg and to go strat from the End of that fenc to a grat Rad oke which is marked and at that tree the land mr baker hath of the towne comes to a poynted wedg, now the bowndes of mr bakers land is neer along bi the way from the for sade oke to a small oke marked neer the hiwa as goes or comes from or to the meeting hous and from that small oke twente and on Rod towards the meeting hous wher the afore named men did agree with mr baker that his bound Cornor of his farm should be now this on and twente Rod from the small oke to the bound stake and from this bound stak fiite and fore Rod strat on in mr bakeres line west ward from the meeting hous where was a

stak sat and a heap of Rokes lad about the stake Rit in a beaten hi-way and from this stak and heap of stones Rit in a line to the afor named small oke now this is the land the towne hath of mr baker twente one Rod brod fiite and for Rod long Coming to a poynted wedg at the end of fiite fore Rod now the boundes of mr bakeres land from the bound stake and heap of stones that is at the End of the land the towne hath of mr baker from that stak and heaps of stones Rit in a line to a marked tree at the foot of the bridg nere to Ephrom dormans hous.

20 June 1677.

the select men of Topsfeild doe aLow a blake rone horse of John Gould to bee alikely horse aCording to Law to rune apon ye Commons. June 1677.

John Comings is Chosen graniure man for the naxt Cort beeld at Ipsweech.

August 26 1677.

John french is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trialls the naxt Cort hild at Ipswich.

Kno al parsons by these presents that I doe acquitt and discharge the towne of topsfeild of and from thare three first Rates of sixte pound pr anom for my labors in the ministrey thare I sa I doe fulli acquitt thare three Rates for ann 72, 73, 74, and haue receued them trewli and fulli as wittnes my hand

Jerimi hobart.

may 3da 1677 in presence of Thomas baker John how who ware apoynted by the selet men to account the Rates aforesaid with my selfe as tha say.

Boston this : 17 : of march : 1678.

Receued of franes Pebody the just sum of foure pounds in mony and is in full to pay the subscription to the contribution for the new buleding for the Colledge j say Receued by me william Manning: wittnes Henry Bartholmew. which for pownd j frances pabody Receued of the Constabel Samuel Houlat witnes my hand
frances pabody.

at a Meeting of the freemen the 22 of the 2 mo 1679, Sargen John Redington was Chosen gran Juriman for the yeare Insing voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 14 iune 1679. thay hau worke at mr hubba[rts] to make a hage fence shall pay two shiling six penc a day from sixteene yeare ould and vpward as the law doth not free.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men John how was Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of triales the next Cort that is to be heeld at Ipswich, 13, da of september 1680. voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men 13 of the 7 month 1680, a writing to John hunkin to fore warne him of Coming to be an inhabetant in oure towne.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of may 1681, Isack este senar was Chose to be graniure man fo the [y]eare insuing voted.

We whos names are under written hauing power from the Towne to settell bounds with those that Joyne on our Common: we haue a cordingly agreed with mr Timothy Pirkins; that all the upland and medow: that is within his fence at this time Jenuary ye 5th 1686: in the field by the meeting hous nere bare hill: shall be

and Remaine to him and his heirs foreuer, and the fence as it now stands shall be his bounds and that it shall be entered in our Towne book; for the which he the said Timothy Pirkins doth in iage to pay two pounds eleuen shilings

Thomas Baker
John How
Jacob Towne

one and twenty of that a boue mentioned is mony I am sertenly informed by Mr. Thomas baker and Mr. Timmothy Pirkins.

Ephraim dorman.

Decn Isaac Comings Constable of Topsfield for the yeare one thousen six hundred and eighty six, I say reseued of him ye full of that rate which was made for my use for ye year aforesaid and committed to him to collect I say reseued of him for that yeare in full for what was committed to him to gather

by me Joseph Capen.

dat Jan 26: 169½

this is a true copy entered pr me Ephraim Dorman

Recorder for Topsfield.

reseued ye full of ye rate for ye yeare 85 by the hand of Elisha Pirkins constable, wittnes my hand

Joseph Capen.

May 21:88 this is a true copy entered pr me

Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

Charlstowne 18th march 1690: or 91.

then Reseued of mr John Towne Constable of Topsfield three twenty shilling bills of creadit and thirty six shillings in mony and is in full of ye two mony rates and a halfe of said Towne ye wholl was the remainder four pounds sixtene shillings I say

reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer
Copia Vare—Ephraim Dorman
Towne Clarke.

Charlstowne ye sixt of may 1691.

Reseued of mr John Towne Cunstable of Topsfield eighty pounds in bills Charged on said Constable and bills of Creadit as mony in full of ye ten rates which he was to Colect of ye inhabitence of said Towne by worrent bareing date ye 2 of April 1690. I say reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer.

Copia Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke

Charls Towne ye 16 desember 1692

the[n] Reseued of mr John Towne Cunstable of Topsfield ye sum of ninety pounds fue shillings and one penny as mony in pt of ye twenty Rates of said Town. I say Reseued pr John Phillips Treasurer

Copya Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

Boston february 22 :1693-4.

Reseued of mr John Towne Constable of Topsfield ten shillings and six pence bill of Creadit and four pounds four shillings and fue pence by discount for my master James Tailor Treasurer in full of ye twenty Rates of said Townes asesment
04:14:11 pr Jareemiah Allin

Copya Vare—atest Ephraim Dorman Clarke.

at a meeting of the selact men the forth of Januari 1677. there was a Rate Comited to Ensigne goold and John how for to gather vp and pay in to the ministar mister hobart. tha ar to pay to the ministar sixte pound and tha are to pay John Robeson twente and fue shilings and thay ar

to haue the Rest for thar paynes or for gathering vp the ministeres due and John Robesons due.

this Rate her spesified is sixte fue pound nine shillings and ten penc.

at a lawfull Town Meting the fourth of March 167 $\frac{3}{4}$ Left. ffrancis Pabody is chosen clark to kep the town Book this yere voted :

samuel howlat is Chosen Constabel for this year insuing voted.

Ensigne goold mr thomas baker [I]sack Co[m]jings John houeey and frances pabody ar Chosen selactmen for to order the prudacal afares of the town for this year insuing voted.

John french and John Robeson ar Chosen srouaares for hiwas this year insuing. voted.

John Wiles and danil borman are Chosen to vew fences this yeare insuing. voted.

John Robeson is agreed with for to sweep the meeting hous and to fasen the dores and is to haue twente fue shilens for his payenes voted

the towne hath granted to tobiiah perkens to be a Comanar for feed and faling timbe[r] as his nibors ar.

tobiiah perkens is Chosen to sarue on the Jure of trials the naxt Counte Cort hild at Ipswich voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 5, 1677.78 the towne granted to mr hobart the pond that lieth on the southside or south est end or side of the meeting hous and three ackeres of land aioyening to it voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 5 march. 1677.78. the towne for the preseruing of thare timber on the south sid the Reuer haue agreed that no man hance forward shall fal ani trees or timber with out leue from

such men or man that t[h]e towne shall impoure to giue leue if ani shall fall ani treee with out leue hee shall pay for eueri tree ten shilins to the towne.

this order is for the timber on the south side the Reuer onli voted.

Isack Este senr is Chosen and impouered to grant liberti to such of our towne as need ani timber and to take the penalti of ani that shall fall ani timber without leue voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 5, 1677-78. the towne granted to Isack Este senr and Jacob towne and John Robeson a small strip of vpland and swamp ling by the Reuer on the south side the Reuer and the aboue sade men are to giue to the towne whot the select men and thay shall agree vpon for the prise of it.

voted.

march 5, 1677-78.

the towne granted to mr william perkins senr liberti to remoue his fence on the south west end of his feeld to the vpland side sowwest ward hee paying for it to the towne as the select men and hee shall agree prouided it be no predegidis to the parsonidg land voted.

the towne granted to william perkins Juner a strip of land aioyning to his one land bounded with a letel Ron of water in part on the west side of it and the sade william perkins is to pay to the towne Eight pound for it except the select men Judg it worth more its laft to them and him self to agree for the prise of it

voted.

Receued march 17th 167 $\frac{6}{7}$: from Isack Este by a noat from mr siman

broadstreet ecquire the som of two pounds and six shilings in full of Topcfeilds rate for the yeare, 1664. I say Receued as Excecutor to my honored father Racherd Rusil Esquir late tresurar desesed

James Rusill.

at a lawfull towne meeting march 5, of 167 $\frac{7}{8}$ the towne granted to John how fiue Rod of ground to be lade out at the norwest Corner of his howslot by his barne. voted.

the 19 of aperel 1678 this aboue mencioned fiue Rod of ground granted to John how is lade out by the select men the extent of it is about fore Rod nor ward from a great oke that is now standing nere the way against John howes barne.

this is a recet of whot william perkins hath payed to the towne in part of the three pound he oeth to the towne for his first parcell of land he boote of the towne.

Receued of william perkins, iuner, sixteene shilings for the uce of the towne of topfeeld by the order of insigne John goold select man in the yeare 1677. 2 aperel 1678.

Joseph bisbe.

this sixteene shilings aboue mencioned and payed to Joseph bigsbe to him for worke he did about mr hoberts windoe or for shingel for it.

at a lawfull meeting the thirteth day of aperell 1678, sargent John Redington was Chosen to sarue on the graniurie this year in suing

voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men 23 Juli 1678 wee doe order that thare shall be noe Rames ore Rame to Rune vpon ani ground that is with

out fence after the first of august next Insuing tell a month after mickellmas vpon the forfeiture of one half of the Rames or Rame soe taken vp and it is lawfull for ani man to take ani Rames ore Rame that is seene to ron vpon ani vnfenced ground within the time aboue sayed.

at a lawfull towne meeting 27 of august John Redington is Chosen Comisioner to Joyne with the select men to mak the Contre Rate and to Care it in to salam as the law diracts voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting 27 august John Comines is Chosen to sarue on the Juri of trials the next Counte Corte held at Ipswich voted.

boston october 10. 1678.

Receued of Constabel John how of topcfeeld in part of the moni Rates forteene pound no. 305. John hull tresurar.

I also acknoledg that the first ten Rates mad in the yeare, 1666, are fully paid

John houll tresarer.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men in nouembear 1678. there was Comited to samuell howlat Constabel two Rates the one is a Counte Rate the third parte of a singel Contre Rate which amountes to three pound fife shiling which the Constabel is to gather vp and pay in to marshall scare of salame the other Rate is al to be payed in moni it is the Coledg Rate which is in the whol som fore pound and seuen shilings fore pound of it is to be payde at Cambredg and Eight shilings to Ensigne goold.

also decan perkens william nicalles Isack Este and f[r]ances pabody are

Chosen and apoynted to be tithing men to Inspect ani parson ore parsons that shall profane the saboth and to proseed against ani that shall be falte as the law diractes.

desamber 1678. ther is two Rates Comitted to samuell howlat Constabel to gather vp and pay in to the Contre treserar or his asines the on Rate is a singel Contre Rate to be payde all in moni and the other is adobel Contre Rate it mabe payed in Corne or moni on Rate amountes to nine pownd forteene and a leuen pence the other amountes to nineteene pound thirteene shilings and a leuen pence.

1678. Januarie the leuenth ther is the ministeres Rate Comited to samuel howlat Constabel to gather vp and pay in to the minister his due is sixte pownd but the Rate the full som is sixte one pownd forteene shilings and on pence.

at a lawfull towne meeting in Januari 1678 the tow[n]e hath agreed that the select men shall haue pouar to set vp a galere and those that sit in it shall pay for the seting vp the galere and the townes men shall haue the first profer of the seates in bying of them.

this was voted by mee samuel howlat Constabel.

where as the towne granted william perkens Junar a small strip of land liing and ioyning to his one land liing on the sowest and a small Rone of water on the west and soe from John howes vp the Ron of water tel the Ron of water partes in to two where there is a small tree marked and soe from that tree to the Cornar

of his fenc as it now standes where ther is a tree marked alsoe this strip of land here mencioned was laft to the select men and william perkens to agree about the prise of it and thay did agree for fifteene pound to be payed in three yeare fiv[e] pound a yeare in Corn and Catil to the towne In neete Catil and marchantabel Corne at prise Corant the on half Corn the other Catil.

Januari 31. 1678. the select man mat.

where as william perkens was indated to the towne three pownd for a small parsil of land that he bought of the towne befor this fifteen pownd perchas the said william perkens hath payed that three pownd as he was ordered by the select men for the townes vse and alsoe he hath payed twente and two shilings and six pene more [t]orwards of his first five pownd.

At A Lawfull Town-Meeting of the Inhabitants of Topsfd. on the fourth of March 1678-79. Lieut Pabody was chosen Towne-Clarke for this year, 1679.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of march. 1678-79, william perkens iuner is Chosen Constabel for this yeare Insuing voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting march the forth 1678-79 Ensigne goold, mr thomas baker, sargen Redenton, Jacob towne and frances pabody ar Chosen select men for this yeare insuing.

the towne doth prohebet t[h]e select men from alinating ani of the townes land nor make any new Rates to pay owld detes formarli put into

Rates with out the townes order. voted.

Isack Comins Is Chosen to sarue one the Juri of trials at the naxt Copt held at Ipswich. voted.

Isack Este is Chosen again to giue liberti to such as haue need of ani timber for bul[d]ing and fencing and the liberti he giues shall hold good but one yeare voted.

John french and Joseph towne seir ar Chosen for to be seruaers and for to look to the fences this yeare that both hiwas and fences be repaired as need Require voted.

John andros hath liberti giuen him to set his fenc ouer a letel nack of land to straten his fanc and if the towne see it Conuiant to Chang it with him after wardes voted.

Jacob towne and goodman wiles and Isack Este ar Chosen bi the towne to Ron the line betwene the Cow Comon and lots voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the forth of march 1678-79 Ensigne goold and frances pabody ar Chosen to Record the lotes that are layd out on the south side the Reuer the lantn and bredth as tha war layd out voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men march 14th 1678.79. thay haue ordered and here by declare that wher as there was a way layd down bettwene mr perkens orchard and william averis land which thay Conceue to be Coman land no man shall fence it in for thare propor vse but it shall Remain Coman still tell the towne do order it other other wase voted.

Ensigne goold desentes from this order.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men march 14eth 1678-79. there was two Rates made for to procure powder and buletes as the law diractes the on Rate Comited to samuell howlat Constabel to gather vp and bring in to the select men the wholl som of that Rate Comited to samuel howlat is fourtene pound six shilings and he is to gather vp but the on third of it for the other parte is alredi payde in porchesing that stock of powder and buletes that is in hand.

the other Rate is Comited to John Comines Clarke to gather vp of the villidgers that haue lad them salues to topcfeeld Compeni for to traine with them thare Rate the som of it is foure pwnd ninteene shilins both these Rates ar to be payed in moni or indian Corne at two shilins a bushil al to be brought in to the select [men] of topcfeeld.

29 of aperel 1679. mr thomas baker was Chosen moderater for that meeting.

at a lawfull towne meeting 29. 2 mo 1679 the town agreed that the selectmen shall procure and by a cow for the vce of luck wackle [Luke Wakeling] and the towne will pay for her
voted.

the towne of topcfeeld at a towne meeting the 29eth of aperel 1679 hauing heard an order Rad that was made by the Counte Court at Ipswich Concerning oure being Requiered to pay a som of 60 pound to mr Jarimiah hobart which as the said order seemes to expres was promised for his Incorigment to Com to topsfeeld wee being in the darke about it and not knoing of ani

towne act that euer past nor ani towne Record that houldes forth ani such thing we doe Conceue it need full to suspend vntill thare be a forder oportuniti to be batter satsefied by making inquire at the naxt Connte Court vpon whot groundes mr ier hobards petision was made and also how the towne Comes to be 60 pounds in his deat.
voted.

boston, aperel 10th 1679.

Reed on act of samuel howlat and pament in full for the three last Rates due from the the towne of topcfeeld to the Country.

JohnHull treserar.
No. 391 this is samuel howlates Recet from the treserar.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men of topsfeeld the 14th June [1679] thay haue agreed thay that doe not Com to worke at mr hobartes to make a h[age] fence shall pay two shilings and six penc a day from sixteene yeares and vpward that the law doth not free.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the fourth of iuli 1679 th[ay] hauing Receued a warant from the Contre treserar whear in thay ware Required to gather of there saueral inhabitants Ratable foure singel Contre rates that amountes to thirte Eight pound ninteen shilings & for that end thay haue made a Rate and Comited it to the Constabe[l] william perkeings iuner to gather vp and pay in to the Contre treserar in boston the whol som of the Rate that is deliuered to the Constabel is thirte nine pound twelue shilings 4 d. al don in the forth of iuli.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 27 of august 1679 thare war an order giuen to Ensigne goold and mr thomas baker for to demand and Receue of samuel howlat that moni Comited in a Rate to samuel howlat to gather vp for to by amonision as the l[aw] diracts the whol Rat is about feifteene pound the third part is onli to be gathered.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men ienuari the on and twenth [in] the yeare 1679. Receued of william perkeines iuner six pownd three shilin[gs] in part of pay of that deapt he oeth the towne for land he bought of the to[wne] twente two shilings 6d of this six pound three shilings is entered in ano[ther] place in the booke.

at a lawfull meeting of the salact men the 21eth of Januari 1679 th[are] was a rate made for the minister which amounts to sixte pound an[d] sixteen shilins and ten penc which is deliuered to william perkines iun[er] being Constabel for him to gather vp and pay in to the minestar or cau[se] to be paed in to him or his asignes and to take a sofsiant discharge for the towne from the ministar of sixte pound which is due from the towne and bring that discharge to the select men.

daniel borman and John how and Epheram dorman and John nical[s] are Chosen tithing for this yeare insuing the ninth of february they beegan theare yeare 1679.

at a lawfull meeting of the free men the 13 aperel 1680 samuel howlet was Chosen graniuri man for the yeare in suing. voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men Janari 7 1680 thar ware mad three Rates mad two for the Contri Containing fore singel Contri Rates and one Rat for the Counte Containing half a singel Contre Rate it amountes to about five pound six shilings, also the Contri Rates on is to be played in moni and that Rate is twente two pound three shilings twente pound fourteen shilings is to be payed to the Contr[i] treasurer and five shiling a deet to the select men which tha laid out for the biing and gating mesures for the townes use as law require, the other Rat amountes to twente pound fourteen shilings for the Contri and the Ra[e] amountes to one and twente pound three shilings and six penc. thes Rates are Comited to william smith Constabel to gather vp in ianari 1680.

2 of march: 1679 or 80. Leftenant Pebody was chosen Clarke for the year in suing voted.

John how was Chosen to Reord town actes this day 2 march 1679.

mr thomas baker sargen Radington Corprel Jacob towne John houey and frances pabody are Chosen select men for this yeare in suing and tha are impouered to order the prudanciel afares of the towne this yeare voted by papers.

Corporall william smith is Chosen Constabel for the yeare insuing voted.

John willes is Chosen Juriman of trials for this naxt Court to be at Ipswich voted.

John french and John how are Chosen suruaeres for this yeare insuing voted.

at a towne meeting 2 of march

1670 80 the towne haue mad Choice of John how to giu a deede to mr william perkeins iuni[er] of that strip of laud which the towne sold to him and is laad out to him by the select men voted.

William anerel Enteres his Contrari desent.

mr baker Coporal towne and John willes are Chosen a Comitte to Run the boundes that are betwene the five hondered ackores that are laad out for the towne Comon and the lotes that but against it on the south that Coman here ment is on the south side the Reuer also tha are to run the boundes that ar betwene william auerel and danel borman and frances pabody soe far as thay Joyne together voted.

the 22 of march 1679.80.

the fore sade three men mr thomas baker Corporall towne and John Wiles haue acording to towne order haue Reneued the boundes betwene daniil borman and frances pabody by laing a heape of Rockes in that place where formarli dheare was a tree but now Rotten and gon in leftenant Pebody orchard wites our handes
Thomas Baker
John wills
Jacob towne

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 7 may 1680.

The Towne manifesed by voat that thay ware not Willing mr Hubbord should Continiae in ye Worke of ye ministrey here at Topsfeeld without mr Hubbord and ye Towne Can agree in a more Christan way than thay bee in at prsent. voted.

the towne by vote does declare that if mr hobard desire a towne

meeting hee may discors with the towne if hee apoyint a daye the naxt weeke thay will meet with him if hee giu notes on saboth day naxt. 7 may 1680.

The Towne has manifesed by vote that thay are willing to Jone with ye Viligers and our Neaighobers of the forimes of Ipswich that doe orderly Come to heare ye word heare to petition the Generall Court that wee might be Laid to gather for ye Cariang one ye ministerey may 7 1680.

at a lawfull towne meeting may 7 1680, william perkeines Juner and samuell howlat are Chosen Colacters to gather vp all Rates Comited to them for the minester or ani other Rates Comited to them and to sue In Case ani shal Refues to pay at bauerle or ani whear Elc where Rates are due to vs

at a lawfull towne meeting 7eth of may 1680. Ensigne John goold and mr thomas baker are Chosen to Joyne with the vilegeres and our nibores in Ipswich that Comonli Com to here the word of god here to Joyne with them to petision the general Court to grant that thay may Joyne with topcfeeld to the mantaining of the ministre to gather voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the 10eth of may 1680. John willes and John how a[re] Chosen to looke that men Ring thare swine acording to towne order vote[d].

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the tenth of July 1680 thay Receuing the new lawes mad at the genarall Court heeld ma— last 1680 abought new standereds or meseres

for Corne bere and wine we the select men doe promis the Constabel to defray the Charges that he shall all nasasarili la out on this ocaasion voted.

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 27 Juli 1680, frances pabody was Chosen to sele wates and mesures by the town standered as is now newli Com from England and is at present to be our standered in masetuset Colene voted.

at a lawfull towne meeting the tenth of august 1680. Ensigne goold is Chosen Comisionar to Joyne with the selectmen to take notes of the townes heades and estates Ratabel and to Cari in the townes Estat to salam at tim and plac acording to law voted.

this is to sarti fie that samuel howlat Constabel hath satis fied the Counte Rate which was made in the yeare 1678 and Comited to him to gather vp this twenti ninth of September 1680.

Receued of samuell howlatt Constabel of topfeld in full of the Counte Rate due in 78. the some of three pounds five shilings I say Receiued pr me Robart Payne tresear.

the two and twenteth of october 1680 wiliam smith Constabel g * * * * * that the select men In the behalf of the towne did fore warn him of liuing as a[n] inhabetant in topfeld fore dayes after he brought his famili within the boundes of topfeeld

at a lawfull meeting of the select men 7 Januari 1680, the select men Rackened with William Perkins

abought his dat he oeth the towne and he hath payed of his deat of fortene pound nine pound six shilings and six penc as he did make apere by Recetes where he had paed the townes dattes as he was ordered good man Robeson is paed in this account for two yeare Ending in march next insuing for sweeping the hous.

topfeeld the 14 of Januari 1680. Receued of the towne of topfeeld for mi labor in the ministri thare for the yeares 1675 and 1676 the some of sixte pound for each vpon a true account with John how Constabel for the years afore said i sa rcieued by mee Jarimia hobart.

witnes et

thomas baker and John how.

at a lawfull towne the 17 of december 1680. the towne did agree and Cuse a Comite to agree with mr danforth for his Contenuing here at topfeeld in the worke of the ministri as the towne shall giue diraction to the Comit[e] tha shall Chuse voted

at a lawfull towne meeting in Januari 1680 frances pabody and Ensigne goold are Chosen by the towne of topfeeld as a Comite acording to dyraction from the honored maior general danison for the produsing the best auidanc tha Can to proue our titel good to the sile wee liu on voted

John goold senr John Redington decon thomas perkeins frances pabody mr thomas baker John pabody Jacob towne senr Isack Este John houey neamia abot John willes these fore mencioned men ar Chosen a

Comite in the behalfe of the towne to agree with mr danforth for his Continuing here with vs at topfeeld in the worke of the ministri and wee doe forther giu pouer to the Comite to chuse som amongst themselves or ani other as thay shall see meet to goe and spak with the deputi gouarnor or ani other that may beconcerned abought mister danforth sattelment voted

the towne hath giuen pouar to the Comite that thay haue Chosen to agree with mr danforth and to profer him three score pound a yeare one third in siluer and the other two thirde to be payed in Corant pay of the Contre at the Contre prise namli in wheat porke molt butter Rie indean Corne an equal propotion of all with out ani particular parson or parsones doe agree with mr danforth to take it in ani on of the afore mencioned payes and if the Comite Canot agree with mr danforth for whot is afore specified thay haue powar to promise thirte pownd in siluer and the other thirte pownd as is before speified voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the 11 february 1680 danell Clark Isack Comines seenr John french and John Cortes ar Chosen for tithing men for the yeere insuing voted

At a Lawfull Towne meting the furst of march 1680 or 81 Leftenant Pebody was Chosen Clarke for this yere.

tobiih perkeins Is Chosen Constabel for the yeare insuing voted

Ensigne goold Isack Este Ephroam darman frances pabody and samuel

howlat are Chosen select men for the yeare insuing voted

Corperal towne is Chosen to sarue on the iuri of trials the naxt Counte Couart heeld at Ipswich voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the first of march 1680 or 1 the towne granted to John Cortis to be a free Comonar as is granted to other of his nibores ar as tobiih perkeins and mickal donel ar voted

mr thomas backer Ensigne goold and John houey ar Chosen a Comite to goe and veue land that Isack Este and thomas perle haue prounded to the town * * and to mak Retorne to the towne the nax towne meeting how thay find it far the towne to be willin to grati fie those men voted

mr thomas backer Corporal Jacob towne william smith sener ar Chosen to goe to Ipswich Cort naxt Ensigne goold to goe also to see if tha Can disposes hunkins and Remoue heem from topfeeld and tha ar to prose-cute it to efact voted.

this towne meeting is aiorned tell the 22eth of this instant march voted

at a lawfull meeting of the select men the tenth of march 1680 or 81 the select men now in being doe Consent and agree with Insigne goold is Chosen and John houey that thay shall sat vp a galari in the meeting hous the wholl length of the hous and to make it three seates wide the lanth of the hous and tha ar to be paed by those that shall sit in tham according to that the towne did agree at a towne meeting in the yeare 1678 as ye may find 15 page voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the 22eth of march 1680 or 80 the towne agreed that the towne order about swine in the yeare 1673 for yocking and Ringing swine shall stand in full force till the town see Cause to alter it
voted

John how and John french ar Chosen soruaeres to see to the mending liwas for the yeare insuing and fences also.
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the 22eth of march 1680 or 81 the towne did agree that the select men shall order the prudencial afares of the towne but thay shal not alinat or giue or exchang ani of the townes land
voted

Lliut pebody is Chosen to seale all the meseuers of topsfeld and yards as ye doe Requier for th:: yeare in suing
voted

Reseued of William Smith Constabell of Topsfeeld in full of his County Rate this 15th march 1680 the some of 5lb : 3s : 4d : 105lb 03s : I say Reseued by mee

Robert Payne Treseuer

This is a true Copeye of ye Treseuer Reseaute to ye Constabell the 22 : march 1670 : or : 81

fances pabody Clark

at a lawfull towne meeting the 22 march 1680 or 81 the towne granted liberti to the vilegeres to bi a third part of the galeri to sit in so that to pay proporsonabel to the ministri as is Judged meet by

Left Pebody Decon Pirkins
Ensigne Gould Sargt Pebody
John Houey

at a lawfull towne meeting the 22 march 1680.or. 81 the Towne doth

giue full power to mr Thomas Baker & Corpl Jacob Townes & John How to demand of any man or men that hath any Land Lying in our Towne to show there bounds of ye Land thay haue in our Towne bounds and if thay or hee dos refuse to show there bounds thay haue full power to sue for a mesere of there Land and to doe thare best indeuer to recouer for ye Towne what is more then there grants : and ye aboue named men are to haue one halfe of what they recouer for there paynes w:th out ye Towne see good to pay th in dubbel waiges for there time thay hauing power to agree w:th those men that haue Land with in our bounds the Towne haueing halfe or other wise as is before expressed
voted

The following sentence is written and then crossed out.

“the true meing of this order is that thay shall meseuer only ye putnam Land and fa”

At a Lawfull Towne Meeting ye 22 : march 1680 or 81 The Towne Meeting a Jorened and Left to ye description of ye selectmen to Call et and if thay see good or neede of et and if thay doe Cale this meeting thay are to signifie et vnder there hands in wrighten

there is a rate made the Eight of aperel the yere 1681 being the forth parte of a singel Contre Rate which is to be paied in moni for the masingar or agantes for thare expedition for london our warant is for two pound eleuen shilinges and nin pene but the rate the wholl som is fiftesauen shilinges and three pene this Rate was deliuered to the Constabel

tobiih perkenes the 26 day of aperel for to gather vp and Cari in to the Contritresarer as his warrant diractes him.

at a lawfull town meeting the forth of may 1681. Ensigne goold and sargen John Redington ar Chosen to goe to mr apes at salam to see if he will excapt of a Call to the menestre here

boston may 10 1781.

Receted of mr John how Constabel of topsfeild by saueral paymentes in Rates pay and money in full of the town Rates and the two six Rates and the three Rates for the yeares 1676 and 1677 two hondeed and fiueti fore pounds fore shilings and six pence I sa Receued by order of mi master mr John hull

per me John newman

Witnes William smith.

boston may 21eth 1680

Receued of mr william perkens Constabel of topcfeild by saueral pamentes in full of the last four Rates in money and as moni nineteene pound nin shilings and ten penc and in full of the half moni Rate fue pounds one shiling and six penc and in Rate pay in full of the last singel Contre Rate ten pounds three shilings I say Receued by order of my master John hull esquir

by me John newman

Receued may 9eth 1631 from william smith one aCount of of tobiih perkens two pounds alauen shilings and 9 penc being in full of topcfeild moni Rate for our agantes

James Rusil tresarer

at a lawfull towne meeting the 17 of June 1681 Ensigne goold and Isack este ar Chosen to goe to mester danel apes to se if he will

Com to help vs in Respect of the menistri eueri other saboth or oftener if he Can in order to a forther axperienc of ech other voted

At a Lawfull Towne Meeting ye 17 June 1681: The Towne has ordered that there shall bee noe boge mine doge in ye Towne but by some townes man: and hee that dos dige et shall Carey et with his one teme or hierce a townesman to Carey et alwayes prouided hee that diges it a greees with the selectmen of the Towne to pay fouer pence a ton for the Towne vese ether in siluer or Iron and this order stands in force till next march: Towne Meeting after the date hereof on till forder order bee taken about it voted

at alawfull meeting of the select men iune 27eth 1681 the select men granted Ensigne goold liberte to dig twente tun of bogmine and is [to] paye six shilings and Eight penc in silver or iarn acording to town order voted

At a Lawfull meeting of the seclact men June 27: 1481 the selectmen haue granted Liut pebody Liberty to dige twent[e] ton of bogemine hee paying six shiling & eaight penc in siluer or Iron aCording to towne order Voted

at a lawfull towne meeting 15eth of iuli 1681 Ensigne goold and John houey are Chosen to be mesingares by the towne to goe to mr John danforth to Renew thare inuitacion of him to the work of the minestri but if he Refuse then tha ar to goe by the best in formacion tha can gat to procure another to Com vpon trial a while voted

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 29 of July 1681 Thomas perkins Jur and Joseph Bixby Junr are Chosen to goe to Cambrig to pilot mr Capen to Topsfeild to Liut pebodyes house

Lliut pebody Deckon perkins Sargt Redington James How senr Mr Tho: Baker John Gould Sargt pebody Samuel Busell senr John Wilds John How Iacke estey Clarke are Chosen a Commity to discorse with Mr Capen to stay and preach here with vs at Topsfeild a while

at a lawfull towne meeting 23 6mo 1681 mi thomas baker was Chosen Comisionar to ofisiatate as the law directes about the singel Contre Rate with the selact men

at a lawfull towne meeting the fift of saptember 1681 John how was Chosen to sarue on the Juri of triales naxt Counte Couart heeld at Ipswich
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the fift of sapember 1681 sargen Redington Jacob towne senr and John how or ani two of them ar Chosen to acompeni mr Capen to dorchester when hee goes to viset his frendes and to bring him agane if tha Can with his frendes Consent to Contene with vs in the ministri
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting fift of saptember 1681. John houey isack este John how and Eprem dorman ar Chosen a comite to goe and vew how Conveniantli the towne may exchange two or three acres of land about bare hil plane with mr thomas backer he laing doune so moch more aioyninge to our Coman land prouid he and his ares shall buld and keep hous and barn and a tenent on that land
voted

at a lawfull towne meeting the 26 of saptember 1681 the town hath agreed to giue mr Joseph Capen sixte fiae pownd by the yeare twente pownd of it in siluer forti five pownd in other pay as namli in Corne porke and beefe and the vse of the parseneg house and land the towne doth leue it to mister Capen to Chuse whether he will Chuse this or to Chuse sauente fiuue pound in Corant pay as Corne porke and beefe and the vse of the parseneg house and land
voted

mister Capen hath made Coyce of sixte fiu pound twente of it in moni

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 4 of Noumber 1681 et was agreed that there should bee a Rate made to pay ye former Constabell Namely John How the fouer pounds nine shilings & two pene that was formerly Laid apon ye Gouenr: Symon Brodstreet esqr and ye selectmen are ordered to make et not with standing any former Town order
Voted

at a Lawfull meeting of ye seectmen ye 20 of desember 1681: et was a greed by them to forwarne euenes mories from staying in Topsfeild but to goe forth with to ye plase wher he has bin a inhabitance for a boue six month: namely to nebeuwey and thay haue forwarned euenes mories out of ye Towne forth with and firther in case the said Euin Morris doth not departe the Towne forthwith: Ensigne John Gould and John How are Chosen to Complain to aThority that he may be setteled acording to law

this 13 day of Jenewarey 1681 the seectmen mete and agreed With Samuel Symons to bild a pulpit for

vs here at Topsfeild.

the bargin is as foletth the said Samuel Symons is to bild a pulpit ten foot Long and if ye rome will giue way it is to belonger & for breth as ye rome will giue way it is to bee a wainshote pulpit and ye sd Symons is to doe all belorigin to ye pulpit except the flore for ye bottom and finding bords and nailes ye Selectmen are to find but to Lay ye flore and make ye stares ye said Symons is to doe it : and for to doe all ye worke about ye pulpit as is before mencned ye select men in behalfe of ye Towne are to pay to Samuel Symons ten pounds and this worke is to be don and finished by ye 15 day of aprill next in sueing ye date a boue dated and ye pay that ye Selectmen haue agreede ye Towne are to pay Goodman Symons in is one halfe in Corne at ye Contry price and ye other halfe in neate Cattell and if any body payes in money is to haue one thurd part of his proportion abated and ye selectmen doe bind themselues Jontly to see ye Towne dos pay Goodman Symons as is aboue agreede : the time of payment is when ye worke is done as Witnes our hands ye day and yeare a boue dated.

Samuell Symonds
frances pabody
John Gould senr
Isack Estey sen
Samuell Howlett
Ephraim Dorman

At a Lawfull meeting of ye seclactmen ye 31 of Jenewary 1681. William Nicklos & mr William perkins Junr and John Houey and Corpr William smith ar Chosen Tieeingmen for Topsfeild for ye yeare insueing.

at a lawfull meeting of ye select men the 31 of Januari 1681 wee the select men Rackened with william perkenes Junar and we find by his notes that ware past to him by the select men that hee hath payed the fifteene pound that hee the a boue said perkenes was in dated to the towne for land he bought of the towne where by we doe a quite and discharg the sayed william perkenes of the fifteene pownd that hee was in datted to the towne as witnes oure handes the day and yeare aboue dated.

frances pabody
John Gould
Ephraim dorman
Isack Esty
Samuell Howlett

At a lawfull Towne meting the 7th of march 1681 or 82 Enssine John Gould is Chosen Clark for the yere ensewing. voted.

Lliut pebody Sargt Redington Deckon perkins Corpl Townes & John Gould are Chosen seclactmen to order the prudenciall afares of ye Towne for ye yeare in sueing. Voted

Daniell Redington is Chosen Constabell for Topsfeild for ye yeare insueing. Voated

John ffranch is Chosen Juereyman for trialls for this naxt Court hild at Ipswich.

it was Voated that John How & John Gould should prosikaute at Ipswich Court as ye seclactmen did before order tham to see and if thay Can Keepe euene mories from being a Townesman here at Topsfeild.

Voated

John ffranch & John Townes are

Chosen to be siruouers for ffences and hie wayes & bridges for this yeare insuing. Voated

The Towne has a greed by Voate that thay doe Consent to ye bargin the selectmen haue made with Samuel Symons about bilding ye pulpit. Voated

William Auerey enters his desent to ye Voat aboue wrighteen about ye pulpit.

The Towne has Agreed that euerey man that is Legaly warned to Come to ye hie wayes with a teme and dos nigliet to Come shall bee fined six shiling a day for euerey nicelect and euerey man that is warned to Come to worke at the hie wayes and nicelect shall pay by way of a fine two shilings and six pence pr. day so nicelecting it shall bee Countied Legall waring and if there is two dayes betwene ye day of waring and ye day of working and the Seruayeres are to goe & destraine for ye fines and giue it to ye men that dos worke or hie other men to worke in there rome. Voated

The Towne dos agree that any body that dos ring hoges shall haue three pence pr hoge. hee finding rings that dos ring there hoges and is ordred by ye Towne to doe ye worke. Voated

Peter Shamway & James Watters is Chosen to ring hoges for this yeare. Voated

The Towne has Voated that ye old Towne Booke shall bee Transcribed in to ye new Towne Booke all that is needfull to bee don & that is not all redy don Voated

Lliut pebody & John Gould are Chosen to Transcribe all ye old Towne booke in to ye newe Towne booke as is Needfull to bee don

Voated

The Towne has agreed that ye selectmen shall repair all breaches about ye meeting house & parsonig house & barne & to make seates in ye meeting house & mend ye wach house and all other prudencnall a fares of ye Towne all at ye Towne charge prohibiting the selectmen from aliniting any of ye Towne Common. Voated

Topsfeild April 11th 82. reckned with & receiued of Samuell Howlett Constabel fore Topsfeild: an 1678. the full some of 6 lb for my rate for ye yeare 78 I say receiued pr me Jeamr Hobbord.

this is a true Copey of mr Hobbord Receiat as atested by mee.

Dated ye 12 A[p]riell 1682

John Gould Clarke

at a lawfull meting of the selectmen 20 of desember 81 upone consederation of our naighbour Samuell Bussell hath not a conueniant place in our meting hous as he is ordered to sit in tharefore we doe manifest our wilignes that he should sit in the second seate uoted also Leftenant pebody is ordered to in form him uoted.

Ensigne John Gould and Isaac Easty senier are Chosen to goe to mr Jerymiah Hobbord to demand the key of the parssenidg house. noted

The selectmen haue forbiden and doe by this present declare that there shall be noe raile timber feled tell ye generall Towne meeting with out or-

der from ye seclctmen and aney man
has Liberty to take any raile timber
that is apon ye Common that has bin
feled one yeare or that dos Lie in a
decaying Condition Voated

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Clect-
men ye 27 of desember 1681 Corpl
Jocab Townes and John How are
Chosn and a pionted to rune ye Line
for Deckan Tho: perkins which is
betwene ye Common Land and Dec-
kon perkins Land

at a lawfull meeting of the select
men 3 day of saptember 1681 John
Robeson excaptes of william per-
kenes iuner pamaster for his sweping
the meeting hous tel march naxt
which som is twente flu penc by the
selectmens ordering william perkins
to pay him

a Rate for the minester for the
yeare 1681 begining in nouember.

mr william perkenes	01 08 5
mr John brodstreet	01 12 4
frances pabody	03 04 0
Ensigne John goold	02 12 8
sar John Radington	02 07 11
decon thomas perkenes	02 07 0
mr thomas baker	02 07 03
wedoe mary towne	01 10 00
sar Isack Commes	01 11 07
Eproam dorman	01 02 06
Cor Jacob towne	01 08 09
thomas dorman	01 09 02
John houey	01 15 05
John willes	01 02 01
Isack Este senr	01 03 00
danell borman	01 08 09
danell Clarke	01 00 0
william auerell	01 00 06
John pabody	01 10 00
Joseph towne	01 02 03
John Cortes	00 15 08
mikall donel	00 13 05

mathew stanle	00 14 09
John how	00 13 00
John french	01 01 11
John prechet	00 15 02
william nickalls	0 15 06
samuell howlat	0 15 02
John Robeson	00 14 06
william perkins iunr	00 12 05
John nickalls	00 15 11
william hobes	00 13 06
phelap knite	00 10 04
tobiiah perkins	00 13 08
wedoe andros	00 08 00
John Ceuy (?)	00 11 00
thomas Ceuy (?)	00 07 04
petter shomay	00 07 03
Isack Este iunr	00 07 01
John towne	00 05 10
thomas towne	00 05 07
James watteres	00 09 04
Elisha perkins	00 08 09
Zecheus perkins	00 09 08
thomas Caue	00 07 00
Joseph Este	00 07 09
William Wotson	00 06 00
Abraham Radington	01 05 0
John Cimbball	00 13 0
Robard stilles	00 15 0
samuell busell	01 00 0
william foster	00 15 0
Joseph pabody	00 14 0
danell black	00 08 0
Zecheus Corteus sen	00 14 0
Zecheus Corteus iunr	00 10 0
Joseph bigsbe iunr	00 05 0
John Ramsdell	00 06 0
sargen bigsbe	01 00 0
neamiah abit	00 15 0
James how senr	00 10 0
Isack foster	00 07 0
samuell pearle	00 08 0
thomas perle	00 09 0
abraham how	00 06 0
Robard smith	00 13 0
timothy perlle	00 06 0

bringe Whenham men by Law to settell a Line or any other way as the three aboue named men shall see beaſt for ye good of our Towne.

At A Lawfull meeting of ye ſelectmen the 4 day of May 1682 wee doe hereby giue full power to Mr. Thomas Baker Corpr Jacob Townes & John How to demand of any or all the men of Salam or Whenham that Clame Land or Medoe in our Townes bounds, to ſhow there rightes and titels to thoſe Lands Clamed by them and alſo there ſeueral bounds to thoſe Land Clamed by them and if any or all of them ſhall reſuſe or doe not make et Legally apere how thay Came by thoſe Lands thay Clame to ye ſatisfaction of ye aboue ſaid Baker Townes & how: wee doe hereby giue them full power in ye Name of ye Towne to make trespas on thoſe Land or ſue the Clamers thereof and procekeut the Law againſt them or any of them or to Compound and a gree with any of them as thay ſhall ſee meete and what ſo euer thay ſhall doe there in wee will owne and ſtand by and conferme as witnes our hands.

John Gould ſenr
frances pabody
Thomas Perkins
John Redington

Wee Tho: Baker & Jacob Townes & John How not with ſtanding what ye ſelect have ingaged to Vs in there order bareing date ye 4 May 1682 to bare Vs out in ſueing or ruining a line with Whenham men doe intend noe other pay but what ye Towne haſe ingaged in there former order or any other that ye ſelectmen order dos giue Vs power to ſue for as witnes our hands

Thomas Baker
Jacob towne
John How

the 4 May 1682 there was a Rate made and Committed to Daniell Redington Conſtabelle of Topsfeild a mounting to five pounds in ſilver for agants going to his Maieſtey.

Reced June 9th from William Smith ſeueral paminents Amounting to twenty Three pounds five ſhillings & nine pence in money & twenty foure pounds fouerteen ſhilings in Contrey pay being in full of Topsfeild proportion to fouer country Rate & A quarter I ſay reced pr Jame Ruſell Treſuer.

This is a true Copey of ye Treſuer Reſeate this 20 day of June 1682 as ateſted by

Ephraim dorman
John Gould Senr
recorder for Topsfeild.

Will: Smith was Conſtabelle for ye yeare 1680 for ye Dates as he has paid to ye Treſuer as ye Treſuer Reſect dos make apere abou dated.

at A Lawfull Towne meeting the 20 June 1682 the Towne granted to mr Joſeph Capen twelue eachers of vpland & medoe or ſwampe that will make medo: if mr Capen dos ſettell a mongſt vs and except of ye miniterall ofeiceſe a mongſt vs and if God by his prouedances dos take a way mr Capen from vs: then the Towne dos deſier to haue the reſuſall of bying the Land paying mr Capen for what hee has Laid out one ye Land as any othher man or men ſhall doe.

Voated

The Towne dos Vnderſtand by ye ſelectmen that Mr Capen will except

of aparcell of Land that was shone Mr Capen by ye selectmen neere to John How and if Mr Capen dos not Like that percell of Land thin ye Towneh as Chosen a Commitey to goe & Looke one some other plase and make returne to ye Towne whare it is which hee shall haue and if it be not gretly to ye Townes damig but if Mr Capen dos except of ye plase showne him by ye selectmen then ye Commity are impowered to Lay it out whe. Mr Capen dos desier it to be don

Voated

Leit pebody Sargt Redington Corpr Jacob Townes & John Wilds & John Gould Senr. are Chosen a Commitey to goe & Lay out twelue eachers of Land & swampe or medoe to Mr Capen when Mr Capen dos desier it & if Mr Capen dos Like ye plase that was shone him by ye selectmen: and if Mr Capen dos not Like that plase then thay are to goe with Mr Capen to Looke one some other plase and make returne to ye Towne of ye plase then desiered by Mr Capen acording to Towne order.

Voated

20 2mo 1682

At a Towne meeting Walter ffaierfield & Deacon ffsike are Appointed to Joyne with the selectmen to meett with Topsfield men: on frydaye Come fortnite and haue full power to setle the Lyne betwene Topsfeild & or Towne

that is a true Copey taken out of the Towne booke of Wenham Attested Thos: ffsike recorder to the Towne.

this is a true Copey of Wenham men order as apered Vnder there recorder hand: as atested John Gould record-

er for Topsfeild this 24 June 1682.

Wee whose Names are Vnder Wrichteen being impowered by our Respectife Townes fidelied Topsfeild and Wenham meet to gather this fifth day of the thurd month 1682 to settell a deuitionall Line beetwixt our Townes: haue agreede that from a Littell tree neere Joseph Porters medow marked with T and W: and set about with a heape of stones and from thence to a plump of mapels marked which standeth northward from the fore sd tree and standeth by Charles Gote medow and from thence towards the Reuere a Cording as the brooke runes Vntill it Cometh to an Iland by the Edge of a swamp Joineing to a peece of medow Called Pegdons medow and from the weast point of ye sd Iland by the edge of ye medow tell it Cometh to ye West side of Pegdens medow a foresaid said and so in Cludinge ye said medow to Wenham to an Iland Caled hocellbarey Iland and from thence to the est end of ye sd Iland in Cluding all Walter ffarefeild medow to Whenham by a straight Line and this agreemant to bee a full settlement of a diuotional Line betwene our Townes and in Confermation thereof wee haue set too our hands.

Tho: Baker	Tho: ffsike
Jacob Townes	Walter ffarefeild
John How	Charles Gott
	Tho: Patch
	William ffsike.

This is a true Copey of ye originell Vnder there hands as thay bee now set downe as atested by me John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

this is Compared with ye ortonall atested by me John How.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye select-

men the 12 of September 1682 the selectmen have agreed to forewarne ye Widdeo Bridges out of Topsfeild with her Children and thay have ordered the Constabell to goe and forwarne her from staying here in Topsfeild.

at A Lawfull meeting of The Towne of Topsfeild & the neighbors of ye Vilege Ipswich farme ye 25 september 1682 being meete together to heare Mr Capen Answer did re-use his Answer and Voated et to be entred in ye Towne booke Voted

Corpr Will Smith is Chosen to sarue on ye Juerey of Trialls this Court now to be hild at Ipswich the Last tuesday of this Instant month Voated

at a Lawfull meeting of ye freemen of Apriell 1682 Thomas Dorman is Chosen to sarue on the Grand Juerey for this yeare Voated

it was Voated that ye selectmen shuld goe and aduise with Mr Capen about his settelment here with Vs and what way Mr Capen would haue it don and so make returne to ye Towne Voted

25 September 1682

it Was Voated that ye selectmen shall goe and aduise with mr Capen which way mr Capen will haue the money Laid out that is subscribed to be giuene to mr Capen.

In Answer to ye motion of ye Cburch & Towne of Topsfeild and ye Neighbors of Rowly Village & Ipswich: Sept. 18: An Do 1682: Hauing taken into serious Consideration ye motion which hath been made by your selues to mee in order to ye worke of ye ministry among you, hauing also to ye Vtmost of my

Vnderstanding & abillity Eyed & obsurued both ye word & ye prouidences of God in order thereunto: and Although I am greatly sensible of my inabillity and Insufficiency to so great a worke, yet seeing it is God who hath by his prouidence brought mee into ye same & not seeing my way Clear to break of from that Worke, Considering also ye Continuance of yor Loue & good Affection to mee hauing also been Earnest with that God (Wich directeth his in all their Wayes setteth bounds to ye habitations of all men) for guidance Counsell & Direction in this great Affair: Waighing all these things together I do Intend if God shall Continue me in this Worke by Assitting & inabling mee there Vnto to Continue With you in the Worke of ye Gospell in order to a farther settlment in God own tim VnLese anything shall Interuene Which shall bee accounted by Indiffarant & Impartiall Judgments to bee Just ground & sufficient Reason to obstruct any proceedings of that Nature.

Joseph Capen.

This is a true Copey of mr Capen Answer to ye Church & Towne of Topsfeild & ye Neighbours of Rowly Village & Ipswich as atested

John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

I Thomas perkins senr see it Compared and I doe aferme this aboue to bee a true Copey of mr Capen answer as witnes my hand

Thomas Perkins.

Topsfeild, July 5, 1682

Received of Ensign Jno Gould & John How Constable of Topsfeild the Complement of a Rate of sixty pound for my Labours in ye ministry there in the yeare 77 I say Received

Per mee Jere Hobart.

This is a true Copey of mr Hubbord Reseate at atested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

Witness willam smyth
Thomas Dorman

[the above 5 lines were afterwards interlined in the record with a blacker ink]

This a true Copey of mr Hobart Reseate as atested John Gould Recorder for ye Towne of Topsfeild: 60: 00: 00

Reseued June 9th 1682 from Daniell Redington in full of Topsfeild Rate for our agents: five pound in money.

Jame Russell Treasuer 05: 00: 00

this is a true Copey of ye Tresuer Reseate as atested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild this 21 of Nouember 1682.

witnes Ephrin dorman.

at a Lawfull Towne meeting the 21 nouember 1682 John How is Chosen to answer at ye Court at Salom for Topsfeild for ther being Complaind of about a defected bridges

Voated

Topsfd July 5th 82.

Received of William Smith senr Constabel the Complement of a rate of Twenty pounds, made for my Labour part of the yeare, 80 at Topsfeild. I say received Per mee

Jere Hobart.

This is a true Copey Compared with ye orignall Vnder mr Hobart hand as atested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild this 21 Nouember 1682. this is truly compared and ye oregenall actually don by mr Hobeard atasted by me John How.

At a Lawfull Towne meeting the

21 Nouember 1682.

The Towne has for ye full satisfieing of Mr Capen in respect of his good Answer to ye Church and Towne of Topsfeild and Neaighobers of ye Vilig & Ipswich farmes of his settlement amongst Vs in God one time in order to ye Worke of ye gospiell. The Towne dos ffuly Confurme ye Land granted to Mr Capen to bee his owne and if Mr Capen dos Lay out any Charge a bout ye Land ye Towne dos Looke at themselues, bouud to pay Mr Capen for it as any man or men shall doe aCording to former Towne order if any thing by God prouedance shall hinder Mr Capen ordenation a mongst Vs.

Voated,

The Towne Confarmed the bounds Laid out by John How & John Gould Senr to Mr Hobart of a pond & three eackers of Vpland to stand good to Samuel Howlett & his assignes for euer.

Voated.

John Houey entred his Contrey desent to ye Voat about Whighteen

Wee Whose Names are Vnder Wrighteen being apointed by ye Towne to Lay out three eackers of Land that ye Towne granted to Mr Jere Hobart Wee accordingly haue don it. beginning at ye pond by a stompe with a heape of stones at it being one ye North sid of ye Land and soe Rueing Esterly to a stake with a heap of stones at it and from thence sowertly to a Littell blake oacke marked With a heape of stones at it and from that Westerly to fouer Littell whiat oackes marked with a heape of stones at it a Joning to ye pond and ye bounds of ye pond

from ye whiat oackes marked as before said all a Long as ye trees bee marked to ye stompe with a heape of stones as before said the Land Joying to ye pond ye whiate oackes and ye stompe with ye stones at them doe Jone to ye pond being the two fouer bounds of ye three eackers of Land dated ye eight day of march 1677 or 78

John Gould,
John How,

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 21 Nounber 1682 The Towne has giuen power to ye select men to Let ye parsoniage house & barne & land belonging to it so as it may repare it selfe and not come to a Towne Charged to be repared. Voated.

The Towne has Lefte it to ye selectmen adding Will: Auerey & Isacke Estey & John Wilds to ye selectmen for ye seateing of pepall in our meeting house. Voated.

A Rate deliuered to Daniell Redington Constable for ye Contry a mounting to twenty fue pounds for ye yeare 1681 and a rate for ye Connty treseary of fue pounds in ye yeare 1682 and a rate for ye Contrey amounting to thurty pounds for ye yeare 1682.

There is a Towne Rate deliured to Daniell Redington Constabell a mounting to twenty fouer pounds fiuteene shiling & apeney bareing date 26 desembr 1682.

the Towne detes that ye Constabell is to pay out of this rate is twenty fouer pounds fiuteene shilings & apeney.

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Selectmen ye 16 of Jenewary 1682.

The Selectmen haue agreed with Samuel Symons to set Vp a galerey at

ye West end of ye meeting hous of Topsfeild and ye said Symons Symons is to take pay of those that site in ye galerey for his Worke: & if any dos die or remoue and those that dos siruiee them dos not Continu Constant herers and Contributors to ye Word of God here at Topsfeild then it tis Left to ye maior part of ye Constant herers and Contributors to ye Word of God here at Topsfeild Whether thay Will by ye seats or giue them Liberty to sell to home thay see Good: also Samuel Symons has Liberty to alter ye stares that goes Vp into ye galerey now and to make one other pare of stares that shall goe into the galerey that ye sd Symons is to set Vp: and into ye galery that is already set Vp & if thay that sit in ye galery now will not bee at ye Charge of ye remoueing of ye stares With those yt dos sit in ye galerey that ye sd Symons dos set Vp then it tis to be put one a Towne a Count: also ye said Symons has Liberty to remoue ye Windoe that is ouer ye dore Wheare he is to set Vp ye galerey Leueing one Lite be Low

Thomas perkins
Jacob Townes
francies pebody
John Redington
John Gould

At a Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 16 of Jenewr 1682

et was Voated by ye Selectmen and Contlued by them that John Gould should send worants for Will: Auerey seur & Mr Will: perkins & John Houey & Will: Nickles which wee haue Chosen for Tieningmen for this yeare to Come to ye said Gould house and take there oathes a Cording to

Law for wee haue apointed ye sd Gould to giue them there oathes as ye Law derects

Voated.

At A Lawfull meeting of ye selectmen ye 30 Jenevr 1682 or 83.

Wee haue Chosen Corpr Will: Smith to kepe ornorey at Topsfeild which wee doe desier this honered Court to point him a tirm for yt end also wee haueing our prinerall Towne meeting in cold wether wee doe a Low Corpr Smith to sell beer to ye Townsmen that day and to kepe a fier in ye hous that day for The Towne to remoue there meeting and if thay see Case demand

At A Lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the: 6: march 1682 or 83.

John Gould was chosen to kepe ye Towne booke for ye yeare insueing

Corpr William Smith is Chosen Constabell for ye yeare insueing for Topsfeild

Sergt Isack Comings is Chosen to serue one ye Jeruey of triall the next Court hild at Ipswich the Last tuesday of this Instant march

Mr Thomas Baker Isacke Estey Clarke Sargt Ephrom Dorman Samuel Howlett & John Gould Senr: are chosen selectmen for to order ye pre-denchall afaiers of ye Towne for this yeare insueing: only wee prohibbit them from giueing or selling or exchaing any of ye Townes Land

Daniell Clarke Coming into ye Towne meeting the 6 of march 1682 or 83 and saing that hee had noe wright in ye Coming

The Towne has Voated Goodman Clarke a Comminer Voated

The Towne has a greed that Sam-

uel Symons shall set Vp a galerey at ye Este end of ye meeting house apon ye same Conditione that hee has a greed with ye selectmen to set Vp one galerey at ye West end of ye meeting house Voated

The Towne has manifested by Voate that thay doe desier Abraham Redington Senr to Come and site in ye fore seeate and old Goodman Nicklos in ye seckond seate Voated

The Towne has a greed by Voate to pepition ye Generall Courte for an axpianation of there grants of Topsfeild bounds Voated

The Towne does by Voat declare that there shall bee appetion prefered to ye Honered Generall Court for there axplaiing of two grants vpon Court reckons one baring date 1643 the other in ye yeare 1658: this petition shall be prefered by Mr Tho Baker Jacob Townes and John How or whome thay shall desier to Joyne with them.

The Towne has granted to Daniell Clarke that Littell silipe of Land that hee has fenced in betweene his house and that house as peter Shamway did Liue in but ye sd Clarke is not to remoue his fence any forder apon ye Towne Common then it dos now stand Voated

John Wilds & Elisha perkins are Chosen to be seueruoyes for hie Wayes & ffences for this yeare Voated

Wee Whose Names are Vnder Wrighteen Beeing Apointed by the Towne of Topsfeild to Lay out to Mr Capen tweuele Eackers of Land it being Vpland and Swampe & medoe as is in ye Towne booke expresed

Wee accordingly haue don it: begining at astake standing upon the plaine next to Goodman How so Ruing norerly two and thurty rod to a Littell red oacke marked with a heape of stones at it: and from thence roining Esterly upon a straight Line to anelme marked With a heape of stones at it this Line is sixty rod Longe: and from the Elme upon a straight Line to a nash marked in the swampe neere Mr William perkins and this Line is thurty eaight rod Longe and from ye ashe tree upon a straight Line to the stake before named as Witnes our hands this 28th of ffebewary 1682 or 83

ffrances Pebody
John Wilds
Jacob Townes senr
John Gould senr

At a Lawfull meeting of ye seectemen ye 13 March 1682 or 83

John Wilds is Chosen a tieingman and his presinkes is from Samuel Howlett & all ye ffaimelies there about by Deckon perkins & all about Daniell Clarke & Tobigha perkins is Chosen a tieingman & his presinkes is all ye ffaimeles ffrom Sargt Comings to John prichats to Mr Baker & to William Auerey John Robinson is Chosen a tieingman and his presinkes is all a Longe from Corpr Townes Vp to John Gould John Nicklas is Chosen a tieingman ff all ye ffaimeles one that sid ye riuier hee Liues one.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye seectemen the 23 of Apriell 1683 Lliut Pebody & Mr Thomas Baker & John How are Chosen to meete With ye Gentellmen that Come from Ipswich at William Howlett one the twenty

forth of this Instant month to settell a Line betwene Ipswich and Topsfeild.

I John How doe acknolig that I haue Reseued of Lliut pebody the ffouer pounds ninee shilings and two pence that ye Towne did a gree by Voat to pay mee for so much as they had rated ye Gouner Symon Bradstreet Esqr for and ye Gounr not paying of it ye Towne did pas a Voat the forth of Noumber 1681 that I should haue it in a Towne rate: a Towne rate being made for that end and deliuered to Lleut pebody I doe acknolig that I haue Reseued the hole some as is aboue expressed as Witnes my hand this 23 of Apriell 1683

John How.

Witnes John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the 4 May 1683

Sargt John Redington is Chosen Ganieurey man for this yeare for Topsfeild.

At A Lawfull Towne meeting the 4: May 1683 the Towne has giuene power to Lliut pebody & Mr Thomas Baker & John Wilds & Sargt Dorman to git Ipswich men to take of the Conditions that is in there grant to us and then to settell a Line With Ipswich for our Towne Voated

there Was a rate made by Vartey of a Worant from ye Contrey Treserur of two pound seuteene shilings & aLeuene pence to be paid in monney for Vnimproued Land his warrant did bare date Boston 27th March 1683 & it was made ye 9 March 1683 and deliuered to ye Consrabbell of Topsfeild

there Was a rate made by Vartey of a Warrant from ye Contrey Treserur of ten pounds two shilings to be paid in money for our agants and other neseray Charges for ye Contrey and delieured to ye Constabell the 9 May 1683: the Treseuer Warrant did bare date Boston March 27th 1683.

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Sectectmen of Topsfeild ye 23 of July 1683

Whereas Wee did Reseue a Wrightteen from ye Sectectmen of Salam to apiont two men to meete som men thay chose at Liut Thomas putnam one frieday next to Lay out a Contrey hie Way: betwene Salam & Andeuer

Wee haue Carefully Looked into ye Law and Wee find that Wee haue noe power to Chose men for that end for ye Law dos say ye Townes shall doe it: in Loue Wee haue Chosen two men to Come to meete yu to tell yu ye reson Whie Wee Could doe noe more at this time and ye two men that are Chosen is Lliut Tho: Baker & John Gould

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 22 of agust 1683

John franch Was Chosen a Commissioner to Joyne with ye sectectmen to take a List of all male persons and other estates as ye Law drects and to Carey it to ye shere Towne and to Joyne With ye Commissioner there as ye Law drects. Voted

At a Lawfull meeting of ye sectectmen of Topsfeild the 28 agust 1683

There being great Complaints Coming to Vs about many pepell Letting there rames rune apon ye Common to ye great damige of the breed

of sheepe in or Towne and ye owners of the rames Will take noe Care to prfent ye damige that Comes by rames ruing one ye Common at Liberty Therefore to prfent forder damige by rames: ruing one ye Common it tis hereby declared by ye sectectmen that that man or men yt dos not forth with take Vp his ram or rames from ruing at Liberty one ye Common or one any open ground yt is not inclosed shall forfite ye one halfe of ye said ram to him yt take ye sd ram Vp and ye man yt take Vp ye ram is to Crie ye ram a Cording to Law and if noe owner apere Within ten dayes then he yt take up ye ram has Liberty to kille ye ram or to sekuere him from doeing damige as before expresed and if ye owner dos apeere Within one fortnight ye one halfe of ye ram so taken Vp to ye owner and ye other halfe to ye man yt tooke him Vp and if noe owner apeere within ye time before expresed then one halfe of ye ram so taken Vp to ye Ves of ye Towne and there is noe Liberty for rames to rune one ye ground Vninclosed from ye tenth of July to ye twelth of Nouember and any man has Liberty to take Vp any ram so ruing within this time and this order to stand in force tell ye Towne see Case to make some other order about rames or ye sectectmen see good to repeall it. Voated

Apriell 22 1664.

Acording to the order of the Honoured Generall Court May the Seuenth 1662 Wee Whos names are hereunto subscribed ruinge the deuiding Line between Salam and Topsfeild. Wee rune from Sal'm meeting house six miles apon playne ground

(by trais) somthing more Westerly then the north and by West poynt Wheare wee set a stake and erected a heape of stones, there standing a White oak a bout two or three pole more southerly of it marked with S T and from that heape of stones Wee first rune Eastward Circularly and marked a Whitoake with S T and so continuinge the Line With marked trees Vntill Wee Came at Bishops meow to a red oake marked at the north end of Bishops greater part of meadow and so runinge betwene the two medows ouer Bishops brooke to a Whiteoake and from thence to Long Sponge almost all the way through it by maples and one walnut tree marked in the Sponge from thence crose Thomas putnams meadow to a red oake marked on the east side of it and so ouer the hill Through ffarmer porters meadow Vnto a Littell Whit oake marked with T S which stands on the east side of the high way by the forde ouer the brooke Which is Commonly Called stoney brooke from thence it runes cross on other parcel of ffarmer porters meadow on the north end of the Long hill which Lyeth on the south east of the said meadow by a marked Wallnut tree and from thence to Wennum Line Which Line from the heape of stones is about two mille and one halfe.

Then Wee began at the first heape of stones and ran towards the south east (still keping six milles from Salam meeting house) Wee rune ouer the northeast end of Maior Haitherns hill about sixty pole by estemation from his meadow from thence ruining by a marked tree ouer part of Mr Currins farme Crose by the sid

of a Sponge of meadow Which Lyeth Vpon Ipswich riuer neare thurty pole from the riuer, and from thence the Line runs be Low the side of the steepe hill by the side of the meadow Vnto a marked pine and from that a Longe in that narrow Sponge of meadow Vnto an other pine marked With S T standing in a Litell pine swampe on the east sid of the Litell brooke about two pole from it, from thence it ran through Henry ffelps feild on the east sid of his house Vnto a great red oake marked with S T standing a bout ten pole Westward of Andeuer road to Salam and from thence to a pine forward in the Line and so to a duble Whiat oake marked as before Which stands on the south of a Littell meadow fenced in and from that to redding Line soe that this South West Line is a bout four milles from the heape of stones, all Which marques was faithfully and exactly wrought acording to the ruelles of art and the Whole bounds of Salam as now wee haue rune it is full six miles from Salam meeting hous

Thomas Noyes

Jonathan Danforth

this was entred by Voate & order of ye Seelectmen of Topsfeild in to there Towne booke

This is a true Copey Compared With the originall as atested by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

at a Lawfull meeting of ye Town of Topsfeild the 2 day of Nouember 1683

the men that ye Towne did impower to sue and petition for the Lands that ware by Salam granted in or bounds haue don it and Come to ye

Towne for there waiges and their being but a small aperance the Towne sees good to a Jorne there Towne meeting tell ten aClcke in ye morn ye twenty of this Instant

At a Lawfull Towne meeting hild apon a Jorment ye 20 Noumber 1683

The Towne did manifest by Voate that the three men namely Lliut Thomas Baker Corpr Jacob Townes and John How shall haue ye one halfe of ye Land that thay doe recouer for ye Towne as fast as thay doe recouer it Leaueing one halfe to ye Towne all wayes as fast as thay doe recouer it and thay are impowered to goe one With perticklers sutes as fast as thay can tell thay haue recouered all as is ye Townes a Cording to Generell Court order and ye Land that shall be recouered by this aboue named men shall be eaquely defied betwene ye Towne and ye aboue named men Eaquelly both for quanty & qualety and there halfe shall be for there sattisfaxtion for all there disbursments a Cording to Towne order Voated

Wee Whose names are Vnder Wrighteen doe fully Consent to & With ye Towne that ye Towne shall haue ye forst profer of bying our parts of Land and if Wee doe sell it the True meing is to any inhabitanes of or Towne this is a full agrement with the three men and ye Towne

Lliut Thomas Baker
Corpr Jacob Townes
John How

This is a true Copey Compared with ye three aboue named men Consent there hands being set to it as it tis now in ye Towne Booke as atested P mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Reced June 12th 1683 from Daniell Redington of Topsfeild in full of said Townes proportion to fue Rates ye some of thurty ffue pounds fouer shilings in Contry pay & twenty pounds two shilings in money

P Jame Rusell Tresuer

This is a true Copey Compared with ye Tresuer reseate as atested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild

Thomas Baker

This 22th of desember 1683

Receued of Daniell Redington of Topsfeild in full of his County rate in ye year 82 ye some of ffue pounds one shilings I say Resued P mee Robart Payne Tresuer 82

This is a true Copey Compared with ye Tresuer Reseate as atested P mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Samuel Howlett

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 25 desember 1683 John Gould senr and John Wilds are Chosen to deuide the Land by Whenham Line with Lliut Baker & Corpr Townes and John How that peice of Land as ye aboued named men did git of whenham men forder then or Line did rune before Voated

At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 25 desember 1683 The Towne did giue mr Capen Liberty to set Vp a seeate at ye Vpper end of ye pulpit Voated

Wee doe hereby declare yt wee are Vtterly Vnwilling to yeeld ether to a Rasionation of the Charter or to anything yt shall be equualent there Vnto Whereby ye foundation there of should be raced.

This Was Voated by or Towne and ye Inhabatiance about Vs yt dos

Vesaly Come to or meetings Voated
 Wee Whoes Names are Vnder
 Wrighteen doe hereby declare that
 Wee are desierous yt all humbell
 applection be made to his Maiesty
 yt Wee may still inioy or priuilliges
 acording to charter

John How
 William perkins
 John Robinson
 John Wilds
 John Townes

Wee being Chosen by ye Towne
 to deuide aparcell of Lland that Was
 obtained by Lliut Baker Corpr Townes
 & John How by ye settlement of a
 Line Whit Whenham as will apeere
 in ye Towne Booke Vnder there
 hands that is a Commitey Chosen by
 Topsfeild to settell ye Lines betwene
 Whenham & Topsfeild and ye Towne
 of Topsfeild did grant to Liut Baker
 Corpr Townes & Jhn How ye one
 halfe of ye Land for there paynes &
 Cost thay haue bin out about it and
 chose John Gould senr & John Wilds
 to goe and deuide the Land With ye
 three aboue named men Which Wee
 haue done as foletth, the fforst Line
 begines at Joseph porters medoe and
 ye bounds settled by Whenham and
 Topsfeild next Whenham Caesway
 to a bunch of mapels at ye brooke
 shall remaine to ye Towne & ye
 brooke the bounds ye next marked
 bunch of maples at a Litell Iland at
 ye end of Sargt Townes medow and
 the swamp one ye East side of the
 brooke the swamp and medow and
 Hucklebuerey Iland a Cording to
 agreement With Whenham shall Re-
 maine to Lliut Baker Corpr Townes
 and John How this is a deuision a
 greed apon and settled by Vs :

Dated ye 28 desember 1683

John Gould senr
 John Willd
 Thomas Baker
 John How

Lliut Baker & John How signe in ye
 behalfe of Corpr Townes as atested
 John Gould recorder for Topsfeild

Daniell Redington Constabel Came
 to mee ye the 4th march 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ and
 brought mee Reseates of ye pertick-
 ler somes as he was ordered by the
 selectmen to pay out of a rate made
 and Deliuered to him to gather Vp of
 twenty fouer pounds and ffuteene
 shilings and a peney and ye reseates
 Vnder the pertickler persons hands
 as it did apeere so that ye Constabell
 is fully discharged of that rate of 24lb
 15s : 01 d

I say this is true as atested by
 mee John Gould Recorder for Tops-
 feild

at a meting of the salactmen the
 18 of september 1677 :

in Relation to the Law Concerning
 tithing men : we haue maed Chois :
 of mr Willyem Perkins Sauner and
 Daken Thomas Perkins and Sargent
 Edman Town and Willyem Niquells
 as tithing men for Topsffeld : mr
 Willyem Perkins is to in spact thos
 ffolowing ffamelis, Left ffancis Pa-
 body : mr Thomas Baker Thomas
 Dorman willyem Averell Daniell Bor-
 man Ephrim Dorman John Houye
 John Pretchet : Isack Comins :

Daken Perkins is to in spact thos
 folowing ffamelis sargt : John Rad-
 ington John Willd John franch
 Samuell Howlet Micall Donell John
 Comins Willyem Howlet : mr John
 Brodstreet Sargt Edman Town is to
 in spact thos ffolowing ffamelys En-
 sign John Gould John Curtis Mathow
 stanly James Watters Joseph Town

Isack Easty Jacob Town John Robi-
son Daniell Clark John How Lak
wakliin willyem Perkins Willyem
Niquells is to inspact thos ffolowing
ffamelys John Niquells Thomus
Kaney willyem Hobb Philip Knight
John Gould
frances pabody

Seuerall Rates made and deliuered
to Corpr Smith Constabell bareing
date 14th Jenewary 1683

to one Rate for ye County at 08-15-00
to one Singell Country rate at 08-15-
00

to one rate & a halfe for ye Contry
in money & depytes wages which
all dos Come to 22-01-06

one ministerys rate which Comes to
65£ one thurd of it money 65-00-00

all thes rates are to bee payed in
yt yeare 1683

At a Generall Court of Election
held at Boston 10th day of third
month 1643

Whereas the Court holden at Boston
the 4th 7m 1639 there Was Certaine
Lands Lying neere Ipswich Riuer
granted for a Village Either to some
of the Inhabitants of Salam or Sume
of the Inhabitants of Ipswich Whoe
haue farmes neere Vnto the said Land
to be inoyed by those Whoe first
Setled a Village there they boath pre-
pounding for it to gether: how euer
the order mentioneth, only Salam
inhabitants. and for as much as the
inhabitants of Ipswich haue for
neere this two yeare procured &
maintained one to dispence the Word
of God Vnto them, Which thay in-
tend to Continue: It is therefore
ordered & granted that Mr John En-
decott, & the said Inhabitants of
Ipswich Viz Mr Bradstreet, Mr Sy-
monds Mr Whittingam Mr William

paine Mr Robert payne & Such other
of Ipswich, or Salam as thay shall
assosiate to themselues, shall haue
Liberty to settle a Villadge neere the
said Riuer of Ipswich. as it may bee
most Convenient for them, to Which
the afore said Land shall be Long
Vizt all that Which Lyeth neere the
said Riuer not formerly granted to
any Towne or pson prouided that any
of the Inhabitants of Salam, Whoe
haue farmes neere Vnto the said
Land now granted shall haue Liberty
for one yeare next Coming to Joyne
With the said Village. & to haue
theire equeall & proportionable priu-
iledg in the same. And Wheareas
Mr Bradstreet hath Liberty granted
him to take his farme of fwe hundred
acrs in the next Convenient place,
that is fitt for a farme, to that Which
is granted to Mr John Endecott
Which may proue preiudiciall to the
said Village, It is therefore ordered
that the said Mr Bradstreete shall
haue Liberty to take. his said farme of
fwe hundred acres in any other place
not yett granted to any Towne or
pson not prejudiciall to any plantation
made or to be made Which When
hee hath so done & manefested the
same to this Court his aforesd grant
shall forth With be Voyd & the sd
Lands shall be Long to the Village
before mentioned to be disposed of
by the Inhabitants there of for the
good of the Whole and if Salam &
Ipswich shall not agree before the
next Court about a pcell of meddow,
now desired by Salam, to be to
Whenham, then the Court shall deter-
min it

That this is a true Coppy taken out
of the Courts Book of Records is
atested by Edward Rawson Sectary

Vera Copia of yt Cobby taken by mee

Hilliard Veren Clerk

This is a true Cobby taken of yt Cobby by mee John Gould recorder for Topsfeild.

At a Generall Court held at Boston the 19 october 1658

In answer to the petition of the Inhabitants of Topffeild It being put to the question Whether, the Lands of Salam shal be accompted to Run from the meeting house six miles into the woods & noe more, Alwaies prouided that the pticular psons to Whome Lands haue beene granted by Salem Within Topsfeild Line shall be Long to the proprietors The Court resolues this question in the affirmatiue.

This a True Cobby taken out of the Courts booke of Records as atested Edward Rawson Secterey

Copia Vera of that Cobby atested Hilliard Vrin Clerk

This is a true Cobby of that Cobby taken P mee John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

At A Generall Court hild at Boston 10th of october 1683

In Answer to ye petition of Thomas Baker Jacobe Townes and John How of Topsfeild for explanation of an order of Court made 19th of october 1658 referring to Lands granted by Salem With in Topsfeild bounds Vpon A full hearing of the Case and What hath bine alleadged both by Salem and Topsfeild the Court doe Judge that the aforesaid order refers only to such Lands as were granted by Salem before the tenth of may 1643.

That What is about Written is A true Copie taken out of the Courts

Records Atested Edward Rawson Sectrey

a Verie Copia of that Cobby as a tested John Gould Recorder for Topsfeild.

At A Lawfull Meeting of ye Towne of Topsfeild the 4th of March 1683 or 84

John Gould Senr is Chosen to kepe the Towne Bookes of reckords for this yeare in suing Voated

Corpr William Smith is Chosen Constabell for this yeare insueing for Topsfeild

William Auery Senr is Chosen to Sarue one the Jeurey of trialls the next County Court to beholden at Ipswich the Last tusday of this Instant March

ssargt Redington Corpr Jacob Townes John Houey Thomas Dorman John Gould Senr is Chosen Sectectmen to order the prudanciall afares of the Towne for this ensueing yeare prouied they shall not disspose of any of ye Townes Land

at A Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfeild the 4th march 1683-84 Mr Tobigah perkins & Joseph Estey are Chosen seruayers for hie wayes for this insueing yeare Daniell Redington & Samuel Standley are Chosen fence Veueres for this Insueing yeare

Whareas the Towne had formerly giuen Liberty to Liut pebody to set Vp a mell and to floe so much of the Townes Common as Was needfull for a mille (this Towne act not being found in ye Towne Booke) the Towne dos now by Voat declare that they doe againe grant Liberty to ye said pebody to float soe much of the

Townes Common [as is for ye good
and Vese of ye mille so Long as ye
mill doth stand and grind for ye
Towne Voated wrighteen

The Towne has Chosen Lliut Pe-
body & Lliut Baker and John Wilds
& Sargt Dorman to rune and Settell
a Line With Ipswich men betwene or
Towne & Ipswich only the Towne dos
prohabet the aboue named men from
Consenting to any thing that may be
to or Townes damige in Relation to
making or Towne tresspasers in or
Cattell Coming into the bounds of
Ipswich Voated

John Houey Thomas Dorman &
John Gould Senr are Chosen a Com-
mitiey to Lay out a Countrey hie
way from Rowely to Topsfeild
Voated

The Towne meeting is a Jornd
to ye 18 of this instant march.

Mr Capen

Where as yu are pleased to moue
something ConCorning the produce
of the parsoning which the Towne
Jenerally say thay did not expect
but seauerall say that yor selfe said
yu would haue nothing to doe with it
apon which the selectmen haue Leet
it for twenty shillings a yeare. The
Towne desiers to know yor mind sar-
tin in that thing and if yu doe wholly
renounce the parsonige the Towne
will then answer yor Request in add-
ing six pounds to yor Salery for pro-
uiding yu fier wood by the yeare
Leauing our frinds of the Vilige and
farmers to doe what thay will in that
respect Voated

William Auerey Sener enters his
Contrey desent to ye Voat aboue
Voated

I do hereby declare my rediness &
Willingness to accept of ye aboue
mentioned proposall of ye addition
of six pounds to my salery for ye
precuring of my fierwood and do also
hereby renounce ye use of ye per-
sonage Which I Vnderstand is by yor
selues Concluded that I did expect
Your Saruant Joseph Capen

This is a true Copey of What Mr
Capen did send to ye Towne the 18
of March 1683 or 84 as atested by
mee John Gould

recorder for Topsfeild

Wetnesis

John How

Ephraim Dorman

At A Lawfull Towne Meeting of
the Towne of Topsfeild the 22
Apriell 1684

The Towne made Chose of Lliut
pebody Lliut Baker Corpr Townes
John Wilds Sargt Dorman John
Houey & John How to settell a Line
With Ipswich betwene Ipswich &
Topsfeild and any fouer or fve of
them agreeing With those men that
Ipswich shall Chose for yt end shall
stand and thay haue full power to
agree With Ipswich for thare settel-
ment of a Line Which hath neuer bin
don sence Wee ware a Towne
Voated

The Towne has agreed that a de-
puty yt goes to ye Generall Court
shall haue but ffuteene shilings pr
weeake in Countrey pay also thay
haue a greeed yt a deputy shall goe
to ye Generall Court apon ye Condi-
tions aboue said
Voated

The Howletts and Clarks.

TWO OLD TOPSFIELD FAMILIES.

By MARIETTA CLARK.

It goes without saying that, in examining the records of the past, the farther back we go, the more misty and meagre do they become. Just as we fancy that we are on the verge of a discovery, some important document is missing, making a broken link in our chain of evidence to be repaired as best we may.

The first items, bearing upon the subject in hand, the settlement of our farm and its immediate vicinity, I have copied from the Ipswich records.

“Mr. Appleton, Sargeant Howlett, John Perkins and Thomas Scott were appointed to assist the lott layers in laying out Mr. Dudleys. Mr. Bradstreets and Mr. Saltonstalls farmes before the fourteenth of May, 1637.”

“1642. Mr. Bartholemew, George Giddings, Jo Whipple, Sargeant Howlett have full power to lay out the land to Mr. Rogers which he bought of Mr. Tuttle.”

That this land was laid out we infer from the fact that Ensigne Howlett was credited by the town of Ipswich for “five days about Mr. Rogers.” but we are left to get an idea of its whereabouts as best we can from the following grant to Mr. William Payne:— “Also a farme granted unto him at the New Meddowes, one pt of it lying beyond the farme granted to John Webster, having a swamp on the North, a brook

towards the northwest, the river towards the south, pt. of the meddowes lying on the south syde the river. The other pt. of the said farme lyeing nearer the towne by Mr. Whitinghams bounds by the land of Symon Broadstreet and the land of Mr. Whitingham toward the south and southwest, by the land of Mr. Samuel Symonds towards the northwest, a poynt coming to the four mile brook, having the land of Mr. Broadstreet on the east and the land of Mr. Roggers toward the northeast. The whole farme containing four hundred acres more or less. To have and to hold and to enjoy all the sayd premises unto the sayd William Payne and to his heirs forever.

Dated the 20th of the 11th 1647.”

Another record gives us a little more light on the location of this land.

“Voted that Mr. William Payne shall have thirty pounds paid him for his farme lyeing beyond Gravelly brook, at or before this time twelvemonth, or else the said William Payne is to have the little Neck. Also the barnes and his two acres of ground at the little Necke is to be prized by indiferent men, and paid to him besides his thirty pounds, one chosen by the towne and one by Mr. Payne, and if they agree then they to choose a third man.

At the general meeting the 22

(12.) 1649.”

At the same meeting.

“Mr. Nathaniel Roggers is possessed by the grant of the towne of a farme at the New Meddowes containing three hundred acres, bounded by Broadstreet his farme on the south, Mr. Saltonstalls farme east the common north and northeast, Mr. William Payne northeast to enjoy all the several grants to him and his heirs forever.”

We next find the following copied into our own records :

“At a general Towne meeting (Ipswich) Feb ye 9th mnth, 1651.”

“Granted to Ensigne Thomas Howlett six acres of Upland to be joined to the farme which hee bought of Mr. Roggers wheare the said Ensigne have built his house.”

“This particular (with five others) above are true coppies taken out of the Towne book of Ipswich as they are there recorded.”

“John Brewer, Clarke of ye towne of Ipswich.” “Aprill 23, 1684”

“Thes are True coppies of these Copies as atested b me, John Gould, Recorder for Topsfield.”

“Witneis to the Copeyes as they be presented to Us under ye Clarke of Ipswich hands besides or Clarke hand.”

John How William Smith, jr.

I could find no other record save that given in this “copey” of the “farme” which Ensign Howlett “bought of Mr. Roggers.” There was no deed; the transaction was not mentioned anywhere else. We are left to learn the location of that land in a somewhat imperfect way from subsequent papers. But the six acres granted by the town we are

able to identify almost certainly with the land extending from the mill-pond to the schoolhouse, bounded on one side by the schoolhouse woods, on the other by the highway as “wee go to Ipswich,” now owned and occupied by the Perkins and Averill families. The house itself was located in the field behind Mrs. Perkins’ house, on the side of a steep hill rising from the mill pond where a heap of stones still marks the site of the cellar, and a solitary birch stands sentinel over it. Mr. John P. Perkins, who has reached the age of seventy-five years, tells me that in his boyhood this cellar was open, and was afterwards filled with stones by some members of his family.

Ensign Howlett and his family were so closely identified with Topsfield affairs and so prominent in its history, that I have made some effort to learn all I could about them. The name is not now found in town, but many of his descendants are still living here. Among them are included the Cummings, Perkins, Peabody, Clarke, Towne and Peterson families.

I would that I might take you into a picture gallery, and present to you these first settlers as they looked in ye olden time, that we might learn something of their characters, their feelings, their sorrows and their joys. “We tread the paths their feet have worn,” we still enjoy the fruits of their labors; but two centuries of time is not to be easily bridged over.

It is said to be the fashion now to trace ancestry back to England. I have not attempted to do this for

the Howlett family, but by what seemed to me a curious coincidence I chanced to be reading Carlisle's life of Cromwell at the time that I was most interested in this subject, and I found in it the following paragraph:

"Olivers tutor in Cambridge, of whom legible history and I, know nothing, was Magister Richard Howlet, whom readers must fancy a grave ancient Puritan and Scholar, in dark antiquarian clothes and dark antiquarian ideas, according to their faculty. The indubitable fact is that he, Richard Howlet, did in Sidney Sussex College, with his best ability, endeavor to infiltrate something that he called instruction into the soul of Oliver Cromwell and of other youths submitted to him: but how, of what quality, with what method, with what result, will remain extremely obscure to every one."

The relationship of Richard Howlett to our Ensign Thomas is also "extremely obscure." We can only imagine that there might have been a connection between them.

The first record of Thomas Howlett we find in Ipswich.

"1633 March, John Winthrop and twelve others commence a settlement here, April 1st. The Court of Assistants forbid any to reside in this place, except those already come. Then follows a list of them, viz.—Mr. John Winthrop Jr., Mr. William Clerk, Robert Coles, Thomas Howlett, John Biggs, John Gage, Thomas Hardy, William Perkins, Mr. John Thorndike and William Serjeant. Three are wanting to make up the number. June 11th Thomas Sellan has permission to become an inhabi-

tant."

"1636. Granted to Thomas Howlett a house lot where his house now stands and which is now in his possession."

"1641. Thomas Howlett was a commoner in Ipswich." He is called in the early records "Sargent" Howlett. This title was probably gained in service against the Indians.

"Dec 4, 1643. It is agreed that each soldier for their service to the Indians shall be allowed 12 d. a day (allowing for the Lords day in respect of the extremity of the weather) and the officers dubble." Sargeant Howlett was one of the officers so I suppose he received "dubble."

He was continually employed by the town to run lines, lay out lands, etc. The following record will serve as an example of many similar ones.

"Feb. 10, 1640. Mr. Hubbard, Mr. William Payne, Mr. Tuttle, Sargeant Howlett and John Gage are chosen by the town and full powers given to them on the behalf of Ipswich to run the lyne and make the bounds between Salem and Ipswich."

"Sargeant" Howlett afterwards became Ensign. "1645. Youth from ten to sixteen years are to be exercised with small guns, half pikes, bow and arrows. Thomas Whitingham is confirmed as Lieutenant and Thomas Howlett as ensign of the company."

Ensign Howlett was an elder in the church. 1648. "Upon complaint of Major general Denison the elders Ensign Howlett, George Giddings and Thomas Bishop were appointed to settle the trouble about

his land.”

In 1648 he was selectman of Ipswich. Ipswich, Feb. 27, 1658. “The seven men chosen for the year were Major Denison, Robert Lord, James Howe, Ensign Howlett, John Andrew jun., John Knolton, Thomas Treadwell.”

I found in Felt's History of Ipswich an interesting explanation of this term “The Seven Men.” When a church was gathered in New Haven in 1639, the Rev. J. Davenport directed the brethren “to select eleven of their most godly men as a nomination for church pillars, that there might be no blemish in church work.” These were to choose seven among themselves, because it is read in Proverbs “Wisdom hath hewn out her seven pillars.” I think the number of our selectmen will have to be increased.

“Here we very probably have the reason for the number of eleven and seven men as contained not merely on the records of Ipswich but on those of other ancient towns. So closely connected were the civil and ecclesiastical concerns of our ancestors, so fixed were they in having no person hold any social trust, unless a professor of religion, that they would not hesitate to apply the same distinctive names to their chief men, as officers of the community, which they bore in relation to the church. There can be little doubt that the selecting of such individuals originally gave rise to the term select, as applied to the superintendents of town affairs. Not a few expressions which we often use without tracing them to their source, were once associated in other minds

with important occasions. At first the selectmen were elected for three months. They continued to be seven till 1823, when they were five.

The next year and afterwards to 1841 they were restored to the old number.”

This, you will remember, was in Ipswich.

“Thomas Howlett was a deputy to a General Court held at ‘Newe Towne’ May 6, 1635. He represented Ipswich.”

These are the principal records of Thomas Howlett in Ipswich. In 1651 or thereabouts we find him located on the hillside by the brook. After that time whatever abilities he may have had, seem to have been given to the service of the infant town of Topsfield.

In the history of Essex County, Ensign Howlett is given as one of the selectmen of Topsfield in 1659; but I was unable to find any such record previous to 1661. I give it entire.

“At a lawful towne meeting the 14th of the 10th month 1661 The inhabitants of ye towne hath made choyce of Insigne Howlet, Francis Peabodye and John Reedington, they are chosen for selectmen for the year folowing to order the prudential affaires of the towne and to settle the bounds of the towne between Salem and Topsfield and also to settle the bounds between the country and us, and also where they shall see any wrong don to the towne by any they have power to rectifie it by sute or otherwise. Voted.”

Ensign Howlett was a commoner in Topsfield in 1661. He was the first deputy from Topsfield to the

general court in Boston, session of 3d Aug., 1664. begins about twenty-five miles farther up the country, issuing forth a pleasant pond. But soon after, it betakes

“At a lawful Towne meeting ye 9th of July 1667 The Inhabitance of ye Towne hath left to ye discretion of the Selectmen or major part of them to lay out a hie way from ye common ground which lye on the south side of mile brook over against Goodman Dorman and sargt. Peabodye to Ensign Howletts brooke notwithstanding any former Towne order whatsoever.” its course through a most hideous swamp of large extent, even for many miles, being a great harbour for bears. After its coming forth from this place, it groweth larger by the income of many smaller rivers, and issues forth into the sea, due east against the Island of Sholes, a great place of fishing for our English nation.”

This is the first record which I have found of Howletts brooke called by that name.

March 2, 1668-9. “It is also ordered and agreed upon With Ensign Thomas Howlett that they will make and maintain a bridge over ye brooke by Ensignes house in ye way as wee go to Ipswich ye one half to be done by ye towne and the other half by ye said Ensigne.”

“18d 1m 1671-2. The towne doth grant to Deacon Howlett, Lieut. Peabodye. Isacke Esty, Joseph Towne, Corporal Edmund Towne and Thomas Baker all the swamp meadow that lyeth upon the river called Ipswich river extending from the lower part of the Governor’s meadow down to the bridge that goeth over the meadow below old goodman Townes for and in consideration of fifty pounds ye towne hath received of the above named parties the meadow herein mentioned lyeth on the south side of Ipswich river.”

I presume this is the same swamp referred to in Felt’s history, now known as Wenham swamp. “River Ipswich. Speaking of this, Johnson says 1646: “A faire and delightful river, whose first rise or spring

You see by this record that Ensign Howlett was also a deacon. That he was suitable for this office we gather from the following: “1644 Sargent Howlett fined for felling 4 trees for rale and planks (which he made know himself.)” Good, honest soul! He should indeed be a deacon beyond a peradventure.

Ensign Thomas Howlett married for first wife Alice French of Boston. His children were: Samuel, William, born 1650. Thomas, John, Nathaniel, Sarah and Mary. Thomas, John and Nathaniel died before their father, Sarah married John Cummings, Mary married a Perley. His wife Alice died in 1666, and he married a second wife Rebecca who survived him. He died himself the 22d of Dec., 1677, aged 79 years. Of the two sons Samuel and William who were left to represent the family in Topsfield, not much is said of William in the records. To him was left the house by the brook, and the last paragraph of his father’s will reads as follows: “Lastly, I ordain my son William Howlett my sole executor of this my last will and testament, to whom I give, my debts being paid, all the rest of my estate,

housing, lands, goods—and profits of walk and conversation that he is all sorts—unto him and his heirs known in the family as Old Hundred, forever.” began to show symptoms of suppressed excitement.

But it was upon Samuel that his father's mantle fell. Like him he went through all the offices, from Sergeant upwards. He was a blacksmith and “At a lawful Towne meeting ye 15 January 1668 The Inhabitants of ye Towne hath given Samuel Howlett an invitation to come to the town and set up his trade of smithing to do ye Townes worke.”

“Upon consideration yt Samuel Howlett promiseth to ye towne to Come and set up his trade in ye towne and doe there worke, they have given him four acres of land upon the Common Hill next to William Smith and John ffrainch land.”

We may naturally suppose that this “Common Hill” was the place where his house was located, as we know that he lived on a hill, on what is called Howlett St., just behind the Methodist-meeting house. Right here let me say that I shall never again say *church* without an inward protest. In England they erected *churches*, but our fathers built *meeting-houses*.

I went to explore Howlett St. and find the site of Samuel Howlett's home one day in the early fall. It was one of those beautiful days when there was a haze on the hills and it was joy enough simply to be alive. I had not been on the old road for a long time, and was entirely unprepared for its rough condition. After I had seen several rocks as large as tea-kettles lying in the path I began to be somewhat alarmed. My horse, who is so remarkable for the dignity of his demeanor, the solemnity of his

thought he perceived the ghosts of the departed Howletts peering at him from behind the bushes I cannot tell, but he certainly looked around in a nervous and suspicious manner and manifested a most unwonted desire to go. When he came out on the travelled road he showed symptoms of unseemly hilarity, and after indulging himself in various antics a pair of heels came flying up into the air. Undoubtedly this was a great relief to his mind but it had upon me a contrary effect. I alighted from my carriage, and we walked home together very peaceably.

The second time I was more successful. Leaving my quadruped in another's care I climbed the “Common Hill” and had no difficulty in finding Samuel Howlett's cellar and well. It was just after a heavy rain and they were both partially filled with water. A tree had sprung up from the side of the well, a maple tree I judged, though the leaves had fallen and the little new buds were starting out ready for another spring. I was struck with the beauty of the situation. Were it not that the whole hill seems surcharged with water, I should prophesy that Samuel Howlett's taste will some time be vindicated and the “Common Hill” once more be built upon. I looked about me and tried to fancy how it appeared in ye olden times. There were no meeting-houses then in view and probably not many houses. It is reasonable to suppose the eye would rest on mostly unbroken forest and

perhaps the howl of a wolf might salute the listening ear. In 1686 I find the following record :

“And the Towne have agreed to allow any as shall kill wolves in our Towne that is to the Towne men ten shillings apeece for every wolfe so killed.”

But I did not see nor hear any wolves. I climbed the hill and walked along where tradition locates the old blacksmith's shop. It is said to have been placed on the right hand side of the road as you go from the village, some little distance from the top of the hill, after the willows are passed, before coming to the elms. I am told that blacksmith's coal was ploughed up at this place. Another shop has also been located in the same way at the foot of Joseph Andrews' hill, opposite the road which branches off. Tradition gives us another house on the left hand side of the road at the top of the hill but no trace of that remains and it is not known to whom it belonged.

But it is an undoubted fact that Samuel Howlett lived here and plied his trade and filled all the offices from constable to representative. He was selectman and that continually. I find that he served the town in that capacity sixteen years, four times he is called plain Samuel, six times Sergeant, once Ensign, and five Deacon. I find in Mr. Capen's record, as copied by Mr. John Gould, a statement that he was chosen to the office of deacon in 1701. Let me give Mr. Capen's first record that we may for a moment be transported back to the ye olden time. “Sept. 3, 1684 at a Church meeting called with reference to [] for his excessive drinking,

the Church was willing to baptize his children. [] did then confess he had been several times overtaken with the fault, was sorry for the same, the Church voted their satisfaction willing to baptize his children. There were present James Howsen., Francis Peabody, Nehemiah Abbott, Tho. Dorman, Ephraim Dorman, Samuel Perley, Samuel Howlett, William Howlett, Isaac Estien., and Sargent John Reddington, who were all satisfied. Witness, Tho. Dorman.”

You notice that the name of the culprit was mercifully withheld, with uncommon consideration it seemed to me. Probably they had a kind of fellow feeling for him.

Sept. 20, 1701. “Sejeant Thomas Dorman and Ensign Samuel Howlett were chosen to be deacons although the church voted to have but one deacon chosen; but the number of votes for each being equal the church passed the vote to have both of them.”

Good old deacon Samuel! He must have been a most imposing figure among the early settlers. One wonders how he looked and what he said and how he compared with our present deacons. We fail to see how he could have been any better. We heartily hope he was no worse.

Samuel Howlett married Jan. 3, 1670-1, Sarah Clarke, the daughter of my greatest-grandfather on these shores. His children were John, Mary, Sarah, Joannah, Martha, Susannah, Miriam and Samuel. From his will dated Apr. 4, 1720 I take the following: “Deacon Samuel Howlett's will, Blacksmith.”

“I give to my son John all the up-

land and meadow and housing of that land he lives upon and all that upland and meadow which lieth on the south of Isaac Cummings land joining to Mr. Bradstreets ford; excepting five acres of that which I do give to my son Samuel as a part of his portion. Further I give to my son John five acres of meadow out of the Hasakie meadow."

"I give to my son Samuel all my homestead, housing and land and all of my Hasakie meadow which his brother John has a part of, and also my shop and tools, only I would have him be so kind to his brother as to let him use them sometimes."

"I do order that all my bibles and sermon, books to be equally divided among my sons and daughters, Mary Wyld, Sarah Averill, Martha Dorman, Susannah Sherwin, Miriam Standley."

We will now return from Samuel Howlett to his brother William by the following highway: "Sargt. John Hovey and Daniel Redington being apointed to lay out a highway from Sargt. Samuel Howletts by John Wilds his house to William Howletts brook accordingly they have done it, beginning at the county road and along on the south side of Samuel Howletts land and between Mr. Copens land and the said Howletts land and so on the south side of Muddy Spring, so along the old cart way to John Wilds his land and so between Capt. French his house and barn, so along the old way to the north corner of Daniel Redingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by the said Wilds his house and so along the old way to mile brook bounds and still along the

old way to William Howletts brook; trees being marked in certain places the most of the way this was taken from their own months dated 21 march 1692-3.

Ephraim Dorman now Clark.

William Howlett married Mary Perkins 27th Oct., 1671. He had but one child, Thomas, to whom he gives a deed, dated July 30, 1709, of his farm lying on both sides of the brook being then the boundary between Ipswich and Topsfield. "Convey, confirm unto him my said son Thomas Howlett all that my farms, messuage or tenement which I myself and my said son dwells."

This Thomas Howlett married Rebecca Cummings, a daughter of the second Isaac, in 1695. Having no children of his own, he adopted Joseph Cummings, his wife's nephew, who became quite a figure in Topsfield history. As William Howlett outlived his son, who died in 1713, he again disposes of his Ipswich and Topsfield farm by a deed dated May 21, 1715, and given to his nephew John Howlett the son of his brother Samuel: "For and in consideration of a deed of sale of this date made by John Howlett of said Ipswich at my request and desire of his farm in thick woods to Joseph Cummings of said Ipswich, as per deed may appear and also for the sum of sixty pounds paid and secured to be paid by my order to my daughter-in-law Rebecca Howlett, and for that said John Howlett hath promised and engaged to fulfil these following articles: to pay annually during the natural lives of me and my now wife twenty-five bushels of good and marketable Indian corn, six bushels of good merchantble har-

ley, malt, four bushels of rye, two bushels of wheat, one hundred pounds of good pork, four barrels of cider, six bushels of apples and firewood and fifty of pork sufficient for them at the door, the keeping of two cows winter and summer, and ten pounds of flax, tan, and eighteen pounds money, the running of two pigs at door and in the orchard; all this duty to be performed yearly by said John Howlett.

Convey, and confirm unto said John Howlett his heirs and assigns forever all my farm, message or tenement which I now dwell upon and that tenement which my son Thomas' widow dwells upon which farm and tenements are situated partly in Ipswich and partly in the township of Topsfield, containing by estimation one hundred acres be it more or be it less, lying partly on the north side of Ipswich river and partly on Topsfield line bounded as followeth: on the northeast by Ipswich town common on the east upon Ipswich river, west on land of Nathaniel Averill, Samuel Howlett and Ebenezer Averill, northwest on land of Lieut Tobijah Perkins, also all my woodland lying upon the south side of Ipswich river."

This deed mentions John Howlett's farm which he exchanged for this farm in "thick woods." This term will be found in many of the old deeds. My grandfather always used it. He would say "The sun is rising over thick woods" or "The fog is coming up over thick woods." I found a deed of this farm "One piece whereon stands the dwelling house and barn about sixty acres. Beginning at a stake and heap of

stones by John Lampsons land at a place called the pond" thence up the hill and extending to the river on the other side. As I have not succeeded in finding any old cellar there, and as Joseph Cummings is known to have lived on the hill, it seems reasonable to suppose that John Howlett's house and barn were located at or near the place where Augustus Smith's buildings now stand.

In this deed I also find mention of the first tenement on our side of the brook, that is the "tenement which my son Thomas' widow dwells upon." I have no means of knowing how long this tenement had been there. I infer that it was situated there from subsequent records.

Of the second Samuel Howlett, son of the first Samuel, I find but scant mention. He married Martha Chapman of Boxford 3d April, 1722, and his children were Samuel, Martha, William, Dan, Mary and Davis. But it is John who is now settled by the brookside who keeps up the reputation of the family. He is sergeant, captain, selectman for ten years, representative and deacon. In 1718-19 I find the following record: "John Hovey, John Howlett and Jacob Peabody are chosen in behalf of ye towne of Topsfield to go to the towne of Ipswich to demand a highway to be laid out from Ipswich town by William Goodhues to Gravelly brook, and from thence by the house which was formerly William Howlett's to Topsfield line, and in case Ipswich town neglects or refuses to lay out said way then the aforesaid John Hovey, John Howlett and Jacob Peabody are empowered to make application to any court of quarter ses-

sions to be held in the county of Essex."

I must not omit to mention that Capt. John Howlett was a member of the first school committee in Topsfield in 1731-2. In 1723 "Deacon John Howlett and Mr. Nathaniel Porter are chosen agents for the town to appear at the next Inferior Court to be holden at Salem to answer to ye townes presentment for not being provided with a grammar school-master."

John Howlett married Bathsheba Hoyt 26th Dec., 1699. His children were John, Mary, William and Thomas. Mary married Jacob Clarke, a brother of my great-great-grandfather, Israel Clarke. By his will dated Aug. 21st, 1735 he gives to his "son William a small piece of land where my dwelling house now stands. And also I give to my son William the old part of my now dwelling house immediately after my wife's death or marriage and further my will is that if my son William shall be disposed to sell the house lot herein given to him that he shall give his brothers to wit John & Thomas the refusal thereof before he shall sell the same to any other person."

William Howlett sold out to his brother Thomas in 1738 and disappeared entirely from the scene; and I always inagined that Thomas *did* "pull down and carry away the newest end of my now dwelling house" and left the old part to decay, as it appears from a subsequent deed that there was no house in the old situation and Thomas Howlett was living at or near the place where the old Robinson house now stands.

Before the making of his will Capt.

John Howlett had given to his son, John Howlett, a deed of our present farm, the first deed ever given of the homestead by itself. "Deed from John Howlett to John Howlett junior:" "To all Christian people to whome these presents shall come I John Howlett do send greeting. Know ye that I John Howlett of Topsfield in the county of Essex in the province of the Massachusetts bay in New England yoeman: For and in consideration of that paternal love which I bear to my son John Howlett have given and granted and by these presents do freely, clearly and absolutely give and grant unto my said John Howlett his heirs, executors or administrators one Messuage or tract of land together with the buildings thereupon situated lying and being in Ipswich in the county and province aforesaid containing by estimation twenty-four acres be it more or less butted and bounded as followeth. On the north on the land of Tobijah Perkins, on the west and northwest upon the brook as it runs to an ash tree marked standing below Ipswich road, from thence southeast upon a straight line to a swamp oak tree standing on the bank of Ipswich river, from thence east as the river runs, northeast upon Ipswich river and Paines hill lots which premises I give unto him my said John Howlett as three hundred pounds of his portion out of my estate to have and to hold all the said premises to him my said John Howlett his heirs executors and administrators from henceforth as his and their own proper right and estate peaceably to enjoy henceforth by virtue of these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my

hand and seal the twentieth day of March one thousand seven hundred and twenty seven in the thirteenth year of his majesty king Geoges reign."

John Howlett.

This deed refers to "Paine's hill lots." I have noticed that most of the early settlers in our part of the town had lots in Paine's hill pasture. It seems that it must have been at that time an extensive tract of land. The name Paines' hill is still given to the highest point in our land, and the pasture which contains it, now having but two owners, contains something like fifty or sixty acres. It would be quite interesting to know how far it formerly extended and how many owned lots in it. Felt's History of Ipswich states that the name Paine's Hill was given as early as 1689, but as William Paine's grant was in 1646 and he parted with the "farme" north of Gravelly brook in 1647, it seems as if the name was probably applied much earlier.

John Howlett, Jr., married Hannah Averill July 18, 1728. He died in 1746, leaving by will his property to his widow. I was very much interested in the fact that John Howlett mentions in his will "my niece Dorothy Clarke now living with me, the daughter of my sister Mary Clarke." She was in all probability the first Clarke who lived upon our place. This will some of his family attempted to break on account of his "being in a conferred poster on his brain." I am not very familiar with medical terms but that was all I could make of it, and though I know people have all sorts of things on their brains I never before heard of any one having

a "conferred poster." Whatever it was, they claimed that poor John Howlett had it, and his friends, neighbors and relatives, were forthwith summoned to court to tell all they knew about him. His brother Samuel's wife, Martha Howlett, testified that "John Howletts wife told her that the said Howlett was become so disordered in his mind that he could not in a regular manner carry on his family prayer; for if he made an attempt to pray he would run into such nonsense that his prayer would turn into confusion, wherefor the Howletts wife had desired him to leave off praying in his family and accordingly he did." Poor John Howlett! People in higher places than you sometimes "run into nonsense" in their prayers, but I never heard that it was considered a sign of insanity.

In examining these papers after a lapse of one hundred and fifty years, it did not appear to me that John Howlett was of unsound mind. But I did gather the belief that if the secrets of his life could be made known, a tragedy would lie revealed.

However, nothing was proved against him, and his wife had the farm and immediately sold it to her husband's brother, Thomas Howlett, who sold it the same year to Andrew Burley. This brother himself died a few months later. I infer that his wife, Lydia Porter, and his children, Alice, John, Thomas, Ammiruhami, Lydia and Allis, some or all of them, may have lived on his farm some years, as the estate was not divided until 1763. I found this Thomas Howlett's grave in the older part of the cemetery, lying somewhat

away from the other graves, the stone bearing this inscription "Here lies the body of Mr. Thomas Howlett, who died Sept. 14, 1746."

Of the second Samuel Howlett's family I find record of the marriage of the eldest son Samuel to Mary Redington, 22d Nov., 1744, and the births of two children, Samuel, born 29th Aug., 1745, and Elizabeth, 20th August, 1748. Then this entry is in the church records "Nov. 4, 1749. Voted each member pay 4 shillings old tenor and Samuel Howlett jun. Martha and Mary Howlett—dismissed—to church in Woodstock."

William, son of Samuel Howlett, born 10th Dec., 1726, died 27th Dec., 1745 at Cape Breton.

Davis Howlett, born 13 Oct., 1737 was a cordwainer in Topsfield 1794. The name then disappeared entirely from town. Over a hundred years they lived and labored in Topsfield and now what is left? A few scanty records, two deserted homesteads marked now only by the cellars, and a solitary grave. "As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field so he flourisheth; for the wind passeth over it and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more."

If we have hope only in this life we are indeed "most miserable."

But time waits for no man. One goes and another comes to fill his place.

Thomas Howlett gave a deed of his brother, John Howlett's farm in 1746 to Andrew Burley. Of him I have little knowledge, excepting that his wife was the widow Hannah Burnham, and during the nine years that he lived here a daughter Hannah

and four boys, John, William, James, and James, came upon the stage of life to taste the joys and sorrows of existence. Then he sold out to Israel Clarke, jun., in 1755.

Of the seven generations in my line of Topsfield Clarkes, five have lived upon our present farm.

The first Daniel Clarke was a very early settler in Topsfield. I find his name first mentioned in Ipswich in 1636. Feb. 27th, 1648 is the date of the following, recorded in the same town, "Whereas Daniel Clarke had a house lot as did appear by the testimony at this meeting granted to him, as also six acres of meadow at the New Meaddowes as appears by a record; there was granted unto the said Daniell fifteen acres of upland near to Mr. Saltonstalls farme in full satisfaction of the two former grants above exprest." But he did not obtain possession of this land either, and so received another grant 13 Oct., 1650. "Goodman Daniell Clarke having had a former grant of fifteen acres in satisfaction of a former grant of a house lot and six acres of meddow, which is not laid out to him it is now voted that Sargeant Clarke with the lot layers shall make him satisfaction out of the common land beyond Mr. Winthrop's farm, near to the New Meddowes." Whether he succeeded in getting this land laid out to him, or went on receiving satisfaction for former grants to the end of his days, I am unable to determine. I cannot locate his home although I have frequently found his name in old deeds and records. That he owned land somewhere in our present vicinity, at one time, seems probable from the fact

that one of the six "particulars," copied into the Topsfield records from Ipswich, states the following: "Granted and sold unto Ensign Howlett a little stripe of land lying between him and Daniell Clarke." I have evidence also from other sources that about this time he held real estate in what is now Springville. I find his name given as a commoner in 1661 and 1664, nevertheless "Daniell Clarke Coming into ye Towne meeting the 6th of March 1682-3 and saing that he had noe wright in ye Coming."

"The Towne has Voated Goodman Clarke a Comminer. Voated."

The 28th April 1669 "The court grants license unto Daniel Clarke at Topsfield to keep an ordinary for selling beer and victuals for a year" This licensè was renewed May 1674, March 1675, Sept. 1680 and Sept. 1681. While keeping this "ordinary," he was fined "ten shillings and costs for selling a gill of liquor to the Indians." "Lo, the poor Indian!" One wonders how many of them it took to drink that gill and what effect it had upon them.

I learn from an old court record that Daniel Clarke married Mary Newbury, daughter of Mr. Thomas Newbury. Their children were Mary, Elizabeth, Dority, Sarah, Martha, Daniell born 26 Oct. 1657, died 17 Jan. 1560, Judith, John, Daniell, Samuel and Humphrey. Elizabeth married William Perkins in 1669, a son I think of Mr. William Perkins, the minister. Sarah married Samuel Howlett Jan. 3, 1670. In Daniel Clarke's will dated Jan. 10, 1688, probated March 25, 1690, he gives his son Samuel, who is in Eng-

land, ten shillings, and his property is equally divided between his three sons, John, Humphrey and Daniel.

"Item. I give to my son John Clarke my mare that is in the woods or wheresoever she be, and if she be found her first colt that she bring I give to my grandchild John Howlett." Rather an uncertain legacy.

I stated that Daniel Clarke had a son Daniel who died in 1660. The name Daniel was again bestowed on another child who was born 1665. I have found many instances of this among the old families. If a child died, the same name was soon after given to another. It seems to me like a denial of immortality, like saying, "You are *dead*, gone from us forever, utterly destroyed, your place shall be filled and your name given to another." Yet perhaps I do our fathers injustice. It may be that there were so many names to be given and John, Thomas, Sarah and Dority followed in such quick succession that time and names both ran a little short.

Humphrey Clarke sold out his property in Topsfield "to my loving brother Daniel Clarke—all my right and interest in Topsfield township, the same towne as aforesaid of house, housing, buildings, lands, meadow and upland, improved or otherwise with all fencing of all sorts with all the timber, wood, trees, streams of water or mines rocks or whatsoever doth properly belong to housing, lands as aforesaid with all privileges, appurtenances belonging hereunto as was given me by my honored father Clarke now deceased." Anyone would think that he owned the whole town of Topsfield, but he parts with

all this "for and in consideration of cloth for a suit and forty pounds in silver." This deed is dated Dec. 12, 1693.

In 1706 I find a deed from John Gould to Daniel Clarke, painter, later a deed from Zaccheus Perkins to Daniel Clarke, carpenter, and in 1725 he is called Mr. Daniel Clarke, innholder. I am unable to locate his land with any definiteness. I only know that it bordered Mr. Capen's. In 1735 I find the following record: "To see what the town will do about repairing the stone wall between Mr. Daniel Clarke's land and the parsonage."

Daniel Clarke was throughout his life a servant of the town in various capacities. Besides other services he was frequently appointed attorney for Topsfield. "1712." "Elisha Perkins, Daniel Clarke and John Hovey are chosen agents or attorneys to joyne with our representatives in behalf of the towne to manage our townes petition now in the general court for a rehearsing of the case between Boxford and Topsfield."

Daniel Clarke married Damaris Dorman May 29, 1689. Their children were Mary, born Aug. 16, 1694 died Aug. 22, Daniel, Jacob, Damaris, Mary, Israel, Humphrey, Sarah, Dan and David. It appears by his will that he had a second wife Hannah, but I can find no record of the marriage. This will was made the seventh day of June, 1646, probated Feb. 13, 1748, making him 81 years of age at the time this instrument was drawn up. It seems to me a curious old document. I quote some passages from it.

"Item: I give to my well beloved

wife Hannah—the liberty of ye parlour in my now Dwelling house and ye Bed Room in it, with the Bed which is in sd Bed Room with ye bedstead & bed cord and under bed and two coverlids, two blanketts & three pair of sheets and one Bolfster and two pillows & pillow cases with the curtains and curtain rods Belonging to s'd Bed; and I give to my s'd wife the Liberty of the Wine Cellar and liberty to pass to and from it at all times, and I give to her the Liberty of ye Little Oven to bake in as shee may have occasion, and I give to my s'd wife the use of a brass Kettle, a brass Skillett & a brass Scimmer and I give the use of a pair of andirons & a fire Slice & tongs & a frying pan and warming pan & an iron pott and Trammels and Grid Iron & Chafin Dish and an Ovel table & candlestick and I give her ye use of a Tankard, two pewter platters and six pewter plates and six knives & forks and six chairs and a pair of hand bellows. But if my s'd wife shall choose to live in ye house which my son Dann now dwells in Rather than ye aforesaid Parlour that then shee shall have ye liberty of that whole house and Cel-lar that is under it, with ye Garden that is before it and so to quitt her Right and privilege in my now Dwelling house. I give to my sd wife ye liberty of my House, Cellar, Garden, & ye use of my household goods as above mentioned so long as Shee continues my Widow and No Longer: I give to my sd wife six cords of wood yearly to be cutt fitt for ye fire and Brought to ye Door, and I give to my sd wife Six Bushells of Indian Corn, one Bushell of wheat,

one bushell of Rye, two bushells of malt and half a bushell of salt and ten pounds of good flax from ye Swingle and one hundred pounds of good pork and seventy pounds of Beef and two barrels of cyder and barrels to put it In, and three bushells of winter apples & one bushell of Turnips; the whole of these Several Species above given to my sd wife for her Support Is to be delivered to her every year, In ye proper Season therefor, so long as shee remains my widow, and I give to my sd wife so much money or Bills of Credit as to be equal to forty shillings old Tenor, to be Delivered to her every year during her sd widowhood, and the milk of one cow and Liberty to take as many Summer apples as shee shall have Occasion of for her own eating during her sd widowhood. But if my sd wife shall insist upon her having her thirds of my estate Then she is not to have privilege above given her. The several particulars above sd that my wife is to have the use & liberty of During her sd widowhood Is all of it to fall to my Exet herein after named (as his other Estate) at my wife's Decease or marriage "

He also gives legacies to his daughter Mary Dorman and to his "grandchildren the children of my daughter Sarah Bradstreet Dec'd." Her husband was Samuel Bradstreet, the son of John Bradstreet, the fourth son of the Governor.

His executor was his son Dann Clarke, who, I think, continued the inn after his father's death, and also his son Daniel after him.

How long his widow continued her "said widowhood" I have not been

able to ascertain.

To his son Israel Clarke he gives a piece of land called Barzillah's land, containing about twelve acres and taking its name presumably from Barzillah Baker, to whom it formerly belonged. This may have been his home but I do not know that it was, nor where the land was located.

We have an old account book in our possession belonging to Israel Clarke. He seems to have sold groceries; I cannot say he had a store for I hardly think anything worthy of the name of store existed at that time. The dates run from 1738 to 1747 or thereabouts. Here I find many names of the old settlers. "Mr. William Redington, Jan. 31, oyle, two quarts." "Aprell, 1743, Thomas Baker, Molasses, 5 quarts." "March 12, 1744, Jabez Towne oyle 2 quarts." John Pichard, Nathaniel Capen, David Balch, Abraham Hobbs and many others are also mentioned. Occasionally he writes down a little family history, records the births and deaths of some of his children, or intersperses a few reflections. Then he goes right on with the molasses and the "oyle." I find this note at the bottom of a page, "Israell Clarke and his wife Desires the prayers of Gods peopel in this Congregation for there Daughter BarthSheba." And again "December 10th 1740, then ye Reverend Mr John Emerson Came to Dwell Down by the Meeting house and it was a very Rainy Time and had bin for Sum Time before." Of another character, "Robert Perkins has made forty five Barrels of Cyder." And back a little farther, "The widow Dodge, one tun." Nothing more;

we don't know what kind of a "tun" whether bought, sold or otherwise. Might have been molasses, only I doubt if there was as much in the whole settlement; or coal, but they didn't burn coal in those days. Never mind what it was, I am glad that the widow Dodge in her lonely and desolate condition could sclace herself with "one tun." These entries also struck me as curious: "May 20th 1743. Received of Dan Clarke by the hand of his son Daniel eight black birds not fledged and cut off their Beaks." "July 14, 1743. Received of hennery Lamson 10 Ground Squirrels and cut off there Ears." I verily thought at first that my great-great-grandfather was akin to Jesse Pomeroy, a monster of cruelty. Some one innocently inquired "Why didn't he kill them?" But upon second thought I do not believe my worthy ancestor was guilty of the horrible crime of turning poor little squirrels and blackbirds loose on an unfriendly world minus their ears and beaks. There was probably a bounty offered upon them by some one and the ears and beaks were sent away as tokens of their untimely deaths.

Israel Clarke married Mercy Porter for first wife, for second wife the widow Swett, maiden name, Anna Jewett. Mercy Porter's children were Israel, Mercy, Jacob, David, Elijah, Sarah born Nov. 14, 1736, died Feb. 7, 1737. "Jan. 31, 1738. Then Sarah Clarke Daughter to Israel and Mercy Clarke was Born." She was followed by Samuel and Bathsheba.

"May 19, 1746. Then Israel went to his unkel porters to live."

In 1755 Israel Clarke, jun., then a

young man of twenty-three, bought our present farm of Andrew Burley, and with his father's family came here to live. That family consisted, as far as I am able to ascertain, of his stepmother, Anna Jewett, his sister, Mercy, and his brothers Jacob and David. Mercy married Joseph Roberts of Hamilton. Of Jacob, "who was born partially blind," as stated in the old family bible, I can find no further record. David lived here until he was twenty-one, and at that time or later removed to Bridgton where he is said to have amassed quite a fortune for those times.

My great-grandfather's stepmother had a daughter Ruth Swett. Whether she came here to live at that time with the family, I cannot say. It is certain that she did afterwards, for again in the old Bible it is recorded, "Israel Clarke jun. married Ruth Swett the daughter of his father's second wife;" which must have been a very convenient and satisfactory family arrangement. Of her mother's residence here we still have reminders in the shape of many old papers and account books, dating back as far as 1664, all in the same handwriting and belonging to the same person, Abraham Jewett, Rowley. He was evidently a shoemaker and cobbler, and very fond of scribbling and keeping accounts. It seems a little singular that these old books should have been so carefully preserved for such a long time.

Andrew Burley gave Israel Clarke jun., a long and carefully written deed of the farm. To this deed "we do set our hands and Seals this Seventh Day of July, 1755, in the twentyninth year of his Majesties

Reign." During his ownership he had increased the land from twenty-four to "Seventy and Three Acres be it more or be it less" including "a certain number of Lotts in Pains'-hill pasture so called also in sd Ipswich, being the whole of the second range of Lotts in sd Pasture, are in No. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 C. B.," and not including several outlying pieces of meadow and marsh.

Here were born Israel Clarke's family, consisting of Israel, Mercy, who was born April 13th, 1767 and died Sept. 23d, 1773, Anna, Sarah, Samuel, Humphrey, born July 25, 1780 and died May 30, 1782, and Humphrey born Jan. 7, 1783, and here died Anna Clarke, March 25, 1786, Israel Clarke, Nov. 24, 1789 at the ripe old age of 88 years, and eight months after Israel Clarke jun., July 26th, 1790.

To my great grandfather, Israel Clarke, we owe the row of willows by the brook side. My grandfather, who was but seven years of age when his father died, saw him set these trees out, making them some where from five to seven years over a hundred years of age. The hand that planted them has long since crumbled into dust, but the trees are more enduring than a monument of marble; for although the old trees are breaking down, new ones will spring from the roots and they will thus be continued indefinitely. Every year the first sign of the coming spring is seen in their growing greenness; they have been transferred to canvas, and at blossoming time, when the air is laden with fragrance, we do not doubt that others beside his descendants have reason to call

him blessed.

So Ruth Clarke was left a widow with several small children still below the age of majority. In this condition of affairs David Clarke of Bridgeton desires to relieve her somewhat of her burdens by adopting my grandfather, Humphrey. Whether he was the best looking or not I cannot say. I did not know him till he was old, yet I think it possible that he may have been. We still have several old letters written upon this subject by David Clarke of Bridgeton to my great grandmother Ruth Clarke. To illustrate the difficulty of travelling in those days I will quote a few lines from one of them, written Jan. 12, 1795. "I send you this letter by Mr. David Potter, he will return to Bridgeton in a Short time With two Sleighs; and if you have a mind Humphrey Should Com and Live with me, mr potter will Bring him Down if he is not too havy Loaded and I make no doubt he will take Good Care of him on the Roads and I Do not think that you will have a Better opportunity to Send him to me." Evidently there was no discussion about electric roads. I will just say here that "Humphrey" did go to Bridgeton and remained with his uncle two years; after which time he again returned to Topsfield.

Here, after he attained his majority he bought out the rights of his brothers and sisters and came into possession of his father's farm. He married Mercy Clinton Jan. 26, 1809. At or near this time the second house on the farm was erected by my great-uncle, Israel Clarke, and completed by my grandfather. It was a one story

house with a long, slanting roof at the back, the kitchen facing the north and with a bedroom at one end and a pantry at the other taking up the entire side of the house. Those old fashioned kitchens are rapidly disappearing. They were so made as to exclude the rays of the sun; only in the latter part of the afternoon, I remember, it would peep round the elm tree and throw a flickering light across my grandfather's table. They were cold rooms, perhaps meant to be so, in order that Puritan housekeepers might not take too much pleasure in living. Ours was not so bad owing to its sheltered situation, but in some other houses, with which I am familiar, built on higher land, the cold was something not easily forgotten. If the explorers for the North pole are simply seeking the coldest place on earth, they might give over their searching and contentedly sit down in an old fashioned New England kitchen.

In this house my grandfather's two sons, Humphrey and David, were born; here Humphrey died at the age of five years, my grandmother, Mercy Clinton, Jan. 2nd 1855; and afterwards my grandfather. Yet I cannot say that he died in the house. At eighty-five years of age, hale and vigorous, in full possession of his faculties, he fell dead in the cornfield holding in his hand the ripening blades of corn. No sound, no murmur, no groan to indicate to those working close by him, but concealed by the rustling corn, that a soul was passing,—a fitting close to an energetic, hard working life. In the prayer of the English church occurs this petition, "And deliver us from

sudden death." Rather, let me say, deliver me from the slow torture, the lingering agony of long continued sickness.

My grandfather left us an enduring legacy in the noble elm which shades the western side of the house. My father saw him sow the seed of this tree when he was ten years of age, making it now seventy-two years old. I measured it a short time ago and found it eighteen feet in circumference. I could hardly realize, as I measured its rugged sides, that seventy-two years ago it was only a tiny seed.

"And sun and showers nourished it
And gave the elm tree birth."

At that age man begins to fail and grow feeble and gray. Not so the grand, old tree. The years thus far only bring to it added beauty and vigor. The trunk grows larger, the branches shoot higher and far up above the world below the oriole and vireo fasten their nests to its swaying twigs.

David Clarke married Mary Peabody, Dec. 3d, 1840. In this same house his four children were born and here the oldest child, Mercea Clinton, died at the age of three years.

Our present house was built by my father in 1871. Here my brother, Humphrey H. Clarke, died Feb. 17, 1874, and my father, David Clarke, March 13, 1880.

In looking over our family history I have been struck by the continual recurrence of the same name. In every family but one there was an Humphrey Clarke, and as the next family had two the omission was atoned for. I have really felt a

curiosity to know where and when the first Humphrey Clarke came into existence, and why his descendants should cling to his name so pertinaciously. In our family we ought to be able to say, "The quality of mercy is not strained" for we have been blessed with many Mercys'.

My great grandfather Clinton, the father of Mercy Clinton, my grandmother, left an account book very similar to that previously quoted from, belonging to Israel Clarke, except that there are in it more reflections and jotting down of events. I will give a few, which may be interesting on account of their age.

"July 30, 1794. A fire in Boston, burnt fifty dwelling houses, seven ropewalks, stores etc., loss estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. The same day three pirates were executed on the common.

Sept. 13. The bell was hung in the meeting house. Betsey's brown house moved. Henry Tufts pardoned from the sentence of death by the governor and put on the castle during life.

Christmas day was the pleasantest day I ever saw, no snow, no ice, no frost.

Jan. 29, 1795. John Potter's barn blew down, killed four head of cattle, a very heavy gale of wind.

Jan. 19 & 20, 1810. Coldest ever known in New England.

July 27, 1804. Eben Clinton left home to sail in the Vainlove for northwest coast, Tom Brown master, Simon of Boston owner, bound to northwest coast and the voyage to be about three years and God be pleased to bless him."

From the nature of my subject my paper has borne a close resemblance to some of those chapters in Chronicles which go on this way: "And Shallum begat Hilkiah and Hilkiah begat Ajariah," but we are all lovers of the supernatural. Let me close with a ghost story, the only one I know which is connected with the place, and certainly the most authentic which ever came to my knowledge.

My grandmother, Mercy Clinton, had a younger brother by the name of David Clinton. In his visits to his sister he became acquainted with, and interested in, Mercy Perkins, a daughter of Elisha Perkins who then lived upon the hill in the house now occupied by the family of the late David Perkins. Being somewhat out of health he went to Boston to see a physician. A letter had just been received from him stating that he was doing as well as could be expected.

At that time, my grandmother's niece, Edna Dane of Brookfield, was visiting her. Mercy Perkins came over to make a neighboring call. When she took her leave, Edna walked home with her as far as the bridge. After they separated she heard a scream from Mercy and turned to go back to her, but seeing her keeping on her way home apparently all right, she went on again.

The next day Mercy came over in tears and after saying, "We shall certainly hear from David today," related the following story. After leaving Edna she looked around and saw David Clinton standing behind her. Thinking he had returned unexpectedly she put out her hand to

shake hands with him, when he vanished. She then uttered the scream heard by Edna. Hurrying on over the bridge she looked round again and David again stood behind her and then once more vanished. That very day a letter was received stating that David Clinton had died very suddenly and unexpectedly.

Mrs. George Dane of Hamilton,

the daughter of the Edna Dane, afterwards Edna Waite, mentioned above, told me this story and closed with these words: "My mother to her dying day believed that Mercy Perkins saw a ghost."

I will add that Mercy Perkins afterward married an Andrews and was the mother of Joseph Andrews,

recently deceased.



The Topsfield Copper Mines.

By MRS. G. WARREN TOWNE.

“Mr. Endecott hath found a copper mine in his own ground. Mr. Leader hath tried it.” So writes John Winthrop to his son, on the 30th Sept., 1648. Such a find was of much importance to the infant colony and Mr. Endicott at once petitioned the General Court to lay out, and establish the bounds, of the five hundred and fifty acres granted him in 1639, and on which he had made so valuable a discovery. The Court acted upon his request in October of the same year, and appointed Lieut. Walker and Seargt. Marshall, both of Reading, to perform this duty, which for some unknown reason they neglected to do, for nearly ten years afterwards in 1657, the Court, on petition from the Government, appointed Mr. Thos. Danforth and Robert Hale “to lay out the former grant of land on the Ipswich river made to the honored Governor Jno. Endicott Esq.,” that he shall not “suffer damage that it hath not binn layd out formerly.”

The return made to the Court reads as follows:
1659. 25th May.

“Layd out vnto the honored Governor John Endecott Esq. five hundred and fifty acres of land on Ipswich River and is bounded wth a brook anent Goodman Goolds land on the east, Blind Hole on south, and the wilderness elsewhere surrounding, the said farme taking into

the bounds thereof the swampy meadow land that lieth on the south side of the river.”

Tho. Danforth,
Robert Hale.

One would naturally think that the location of the Governor's farme on the Ipswich River was at last settled, but there are four or five other orders of the Court in regard to it. There seems to have been much trouble about the bounds between the land of Zaccheus Gould and “ye honored Governor” and as neither were of yielding dispositions, it required much time and patience to come to a satisfactory settlement even with the help of the General Court. But the Governor finally settled his five hundred and fifty acres on the Ipswich river and we are ready to consider the copper mine.

Governor Endicott's attempt at mining copper is the earliest record we have of the mining of this metal in North America by Europeans.

The natives of the soil, the Indians, had made use of copper for personal adornment, long years before the advent of the white man; but the eastern tribes probably obtained it in barter from the tribes living near “the great lake” where copper could be found nearly pure in its crude state.

In the accounts of Gosnold's voyage to America, made in 1602, the

fact that the Indians of Massachusetts had copper in their possession is mentioned.

One John Brereton, who accompanied Gosnold, wrote as follows regarding the natives of southern Massachusetts:

"They have also great store of copper, some very red and some of a paler color; none of them but have chains, ear rings, or collers of this metal. They head some of their arrows therewith. Their chains are made of hollow pieces of the bignese of one of our reeds, a finger in length ten or twelve of them together on a string which they wear about their bodies like handeliers a handful broad, all hollow pieces like the other but somewhat shorter, four hundred pieces in a collar, very fine and evenly set together; besides these they have large drinking cups made like skulls, and other thin plates of copper. I was desirous to understand where they had such store of this metal and made sign to one of them who taking a piece of copper in his hand made a hole with his finger in the ground and withall pointed to the main from whence they came."

But it was in Topsfield that the first attempt was made by English colonists to mine the ore.

Charles M. Endecott, in his memories of Gov. Endecott, mentions the copper mine in Topsfield and speaks of it as being upon his land on the Ipswich river near a place called at the time Blind Hole. He says it was tested by Mr. Leader of the Lynn iron works, who must have given a favorable opinion, for in 1651 Mr. Endecott petitions the

General Court for the grant of a wood lot in its neighborhood to enable him to work it with more ease. In this petition he states that he had already been to some charges for the finding and melting of copper ore, and was still in prosecution of bringing it to perfection by sending to Sweden and Germany for persons well skilled in the art to assist him.

Following is the grant made 14 Oct. 1651:

"In answer to the petition of John Endecott, Esquire, ye present honored Governor the court doth grant him three hundred acres of woodland lying neere to the place he intends to sett up his works, named Blind Hole, neere to a farme formerly granted him not being granted to any other, on this condition, that he sets up his workes within seven years."

Mr. William P. Upham writes me that he does not think the three hundred acres of woodland were ever laid out. He says, "John Porter seems to have owned the land on the south of the 550 acre Endecott grant where the three hundred acres in Blind Hole would have been set off to Endecott if he had complied with the condition as to the copper mine." Mr. Upham thinks as the three hundred acres of woodland were to be *near* the copper mine the mine must have been on that part of the 550 acres lying south of the river. There is not the shadow of a doubt in my own mind in regard to this.

C. M. Endecott closes his account of the mine by saying it was subsequently abandoned, it not yielding sufficient copper to encourage the Governor to work it longer.

of Walnut St
Boston

Mr. Geo. F. Dow
Topsfield

Dear Sir:

Did they find the name of Daniel Clark's wife? I am sure the history of Windsor, Conn. is correct and that this Daniel Clark did not marry a girl who went to Connecticut.

Miss Marietta Clark started the story, and must have taken it from the Colonial Records.

Does any one know the name of the first wife of Serubabak Endicott?

Dear
Emily W. Lewis
Apr 8. 1917

Savage, in his sketch of Richard Leader, says he tried a copper mine in Endecott's farm at Salem (Topsfield) but met with ill success. All things considered I think we must conclude that Governor Endicott was not more successful than others have been at a later date.

We cannot pass by Richard Leader without giving a short sketch of the man.

A letter written by Emanuel Downing to John Winthrop, Jr., in 1644, is full of interesting information.

My Honored Cosen,

The Adventurers in the Iron Works have agreed with Mr. Leader to take care of their work, you know the man. He lived in Ireland. He is a perfect accountant, hath skill in mynes and tryall of mettalls; he hath covenanted to serve them seven 7 years his wages is 100 li. per annum he is to have passage for himself, his wife, 2 children, 3 servants, an house to be built for him, and ground to be allowed him for his horses and a few coves. The 100 li. per annum begins the 25 of March next. When I perceived they were resolved upon him, and that yt would be noe advantage to you for me to have expressed my dislike of their way herein, I told them I was well assured Mr Leader would be a welcome man vnto you for at my coming thence you expressed your desire that myself or some other would undertake the business. Then Mr Leader told them he would not medle with any undertaking of their business without your free consent and contentment, for soe in private he

had promised me to express himself before them all which he preformed verie honestly. Mr Holye told me that when they were agreeing with Mr Leader they would have given him 150 li. per annum rather than left him, therefore if Mr Leader had stood upon yt he might have had the 150 li.

Your assurd loving uncle

Em. Downinge.

London, 25 ffebr 1644.

That he was of a studious disposition we may infer from an extract taken from a letter written by Robert Childs to John Winthrop Jr., in 1650.

"Mr Leader hath more curious books than I, especially about Divinity business, where you may see them." We cannot repress a sensation of surprise that the books were described in just those words.

Again, and this time it is John Winthrop, Jr., himself who writes in 1646.

Sir: I am much asked for, the saddle that was left, I pray send it by the first opportunity "to be left at my father's for me. It was borrowed of Mr Leader."

In 1649 The Adventurers in England sent over one Mr. Dawes, to oversee Mr. Leader (but he was far short of Mr. Leader.) They could not agree, so Mr. Dawes was returned to Teneriffe. We imagine that Mr. Dawes watched the infant town of Lynn sink below the horizon with a sigh of satisfaction.

In 1651, Mr. Richard Leader of the Lynn Iron works was arraigned by the court for reproaching Governor Endicott, the Court, and the Church at Lynn. In their first excitement the

Court fined him two hundred pounds, which was afterwards reduced to fifty. Mr. Leader made an acknowledgment and the fine was remitted, but after this Mr. John Gifford appears in the records as overseer of the Lynn Ironworks. Savage says that Leader went to Berwick where he had a grant of the exclusive use of the Little river to erect mills. He was a magistrate and in 1654 was a collector of Strawberry Bank. Here he disappears from the records.

There are two mine lots, so called, both owned by William Batchelder. We will consider them for convenience sake as the upper and lower mine lot. The upper lot is a field of about four acres and is situated on the left of the road leading from Sewell Towne's house to William Batchelder's and about half way between the two places. The lower lot is just beyond the first on the right, at the corner of the Boxford road, it is also bounded on the north-west by the highway leading to Middleton; this lot contains between two and three acres of pasture land.

S. S. Mackensie in an article in the Essex Institute Proceedings says "there are three different localities where shafts were sunk, one near the meadow on land now owned by David Towne and near the house of Elisha Towne." We have found no trace of this shaft and it is possible Mr. Mackensie was mistaken, as no record can be found of an Elisha Towne living in this neighborhood. Of the other two shafts mentioned we have a very connected history.

Before we proceed to the history of the lower mine, let us linger a while with the people who at differ-

ent times have owned this piece of land. The first to greet us is "Old Captain Ben," as he was called.

Benj. Towne was born in Topsfield May 10, 1691. He married four times. First, Catherine, daughter of Jacob Towne, Jr., April 1, 1713. Second, Susannah Wilds, April 12, 1722. She was the mother of nine children; March 7, 1728 she gave birth to twins Jacob and Joseph and April 30, 1736, two months before her death, she became the mother of three healthy male children all of whom lived to be middle aged men. Third, he married Mary Perkins May 2, 1738 and fourth, Mrs. Mary Clark. He acquired a large estate for the time in which he lived and from the records seems to have been a prominent man in town affairs, frequently officiating as town clerk, selectman and assessor of taxes, etc. He died Feb. 11, 1772 aged, 81.

Jacob his son, married Elizabeth Perkins and died leaving one son, Jacob who married Mary Perkins. Their son was our well known Jacob Perkins Towne, for forty years town clerk.

Joseph married twice. By his first wife, Elizabeth Rogers, his children were Deborah, who married a Brickett; Elizabeth, commonly called Betty, and Lydia. Betty and Lydia remained unmarried and lived at the old homestead on the Middleton road.

Lydia was insane and many curious and amusing incidents of her insanity are still related in the neighborhood. It is said if there was a death in town she invariably placed little stones in line like a funeral train, and many now living remember

Betty's anxious inquiry of a chance caller, "Who is dead?"

The neighbors would say, "Well Liddy, how is Betty today?" Her answer was always the same, "Betty is a good gal, she never steals!"

The story of Aunt Betty and Liddy is very pathetic. Betty was the elder by twelve years, and it is said was very plain. Liddy was a pretty girl, and many stories of her pretty dresses, her beauty and her skill and recklessness as a horsewoman still exist. We can easily imagine the love and pride of the elder and plainer sister. At length a time came when Lydia was busy from morning till night with her wheel and needle; when the pile of snowy linen grew steadily day by day; when the silken wedding dress was ready for the wedding that never came off, for it was the old story of a new face and a new fancy. Lydia became hopelessly insane.

Then was the devotion of the elder sister made manifest. Not one cent of Lydia's property was ever touched. Betty's land was sold off bit by bit until next to nothing remained. All these years she never wavered but bore her burden cheerfully till she lay it down at the Master's feet. Lydia survived her sister but one short month. They lie buried side by side in the old cemetery on the hill where the winds whisper softly in the pine trees and the spring flowers grow thick and white on their graves.

The following deed will tell its own story:

We Benjamin Towne, Gentleman, Jacob and Joseph Towne yeoman, all of Topsfield in consideration of

Five shillings and for divers other good considerations from Edmund Quincy of the District of Stoughtonham in the county of Suffolk, Gentleman, have sold Edmund Quincy all mines, mine ores, minerals and other hidden treasures of the Earth lying in land or farm of mine the said Benjamine Towne partly and partly in Land of us the said Jacob and Josep Towne which we purchased jointly of John Leach of Beverly, Esqr. bounded as follows, Viz: Southerly on the Land of Nehemiah Herrick there measuring sixty-two rods from the corner leading from Danvers Road to a white Oak Tree near the wall betwixt said Herricks Land and us the said grantors, then Northerly from said white Oak tree to a certain Spring enclosed with a stone wall there measuring about twenty rods then running still Northerly from said Spring about twenty rods more allong side with said Spring to a certain stone bridge across the road within the gate leading from Danvers to Middleton and from said Bridge on the road as it runs through the said gate from Middleton to Topsfield there measuring sixty-two rods and from thence within the Stone wall leading from the parting road toward said Herrick's house on the corner leading from said Danvers road first mentioned, there measuring about eighteen rods enclosing in said bounds A certain shaft or Mine Hole which is commonly known by the name of Towne's Copper Mine, also granting unto the said Edmund Quincy Right of Ingress Egress and Regress upon the land and premises and his workmen and Labourers, Pitts & Shafis, to sink Levells and

Drift ways and all other necessarys meet for working the Mines within the premises. Engine or Engines, Mill or Mills or any other Edeifices and Erect on the premisses and the use and benefit of all water or watercourses for the working said Mines and for cleaning the ores got within the premises and further we the said Benjamine Towne Jacob Towne and Joseph Towne do hereby agree with the said Edmund Quincy that in case he should discover any Veins of mines or mine ores, extending beyond the afore mentioned premises by us granted into any Parcel of Land to us belonging at this date that the said Edmund Quincy shall hold and enjoy the same on demand provided the said Demand is made within the term of one year from the discovery of such vein of mine ore and paying unto the said Benj. Jacob & Joseph Towne, one full sixteenth part of all such mines, mine ores, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth that shall be found and dug up in our land or got up by any ways or means whatsoever. Provided Nevertheless that whereas the said Edmund Quincy has commenced to work on the premifes at the date of these presents and shall cease working on the same by the space of Twenty-one years next ensuing this Instrument at the expiration of said twenty-one years shall be null and void.

Dated June 1, 1771, signed by

Witnessed by	Benjamin Towne
Bimsley Peabody	Jacob Towne
Elijah Porter	Joseph Towne
	Mary Towne
	Elizabeth Towne
	Elizabeth Towne

In the Essex Register, Oct. 1-8, 1771, is this item:

“We hear from Topsfield that the Copper Mine, sometime since opened there at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such samples of fine lively ore, extending in spattering all over the pit that experienced miners have declared the appearance preferable to any yet discovered in America.”

In Captain Benjamin’s will there is no mention of the Copper Mine, and as he died in Feb. 1772, the mine could have been worked but a short time.

After the death of their father, Jacob and Joseph owned the mine lot together till Joseph died in 1789, when his share fell to his daughter Lydia. She was not of age and her Uncle Jacob was appointed her guardian. It is said that he gave his share of the lot to her. Of this gift there is no record, but in 1839 Lydia was in full possession. After her death it passed through the hands of John C. Balch, Lorenzo P. Towne and William Rea to its present owner.

The first mention of the upper mine lot found in the records is a deed given by Samuel Cummings dated Feb. 7, 1772.

I, Samuel Cummings of Topsfield in the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, yeoman, and by the consent of Eunice my wife, in consideration of the sum of Fifty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence, paid me by Elijah Porter of Topsfield yeomen, do sell and convey to Elijah Porter a certain lot of land situate in Topsfield containing four acres, bounded, beginning at a corner in the fence by the highway and land of Joseph and Jacob Towne

from thence South easterly by land of the said Jacob and Joseph Towne to land of Enos Knight, thence North easterly by land of the said Enos Knight till it comes within two rods of a lott of land that was given Samuel Cummings by his father David Cummings, late of Topsfield, thence running North westerly within two rods of the fence that now stands between the land of said Samuel Cummings and land of Benjamin Bixby till it come to said highway, thence South westerly by said highway to the bounds first mentioned. This land was undoubtedly a part of the two hundred acre Porter grant.

At the death of Elijah Porter the land fell to the his son Thomas who sold the lot to Nehemiah Herrick for forty pounds, Nov. 3, 1784. The Herrick family lived here until 1791 when, Sept. 24, they sold their farm to Susannah Hawthorn of Salem for three hundred pounds. It is said by their descendants that the family moved away because they considered the vicinity of the copper mine unhealthy, and attributed to this source a number of sudden deaths that had occurred in the family. Susannah Hawthorn sold to Thomas Emerson April 1, 1792 for three hundred and thirty pounds. Mr. Emerson sold to Thomas Tenney of Rowley, May 20, 1795, for four hundred and sixty pounds. Mr. Tenney was discontented and sold to Nathaniel Porter of Middleton and at his death it was bought by Ezra Batchelder, the father of the present owner.

The following is the only official document relating to this mine on record.

I Elijah Porter of Topsfield yeo-

man In consideration of Five shillings Lawful money of the Province paid me by William Buntin of Worksworth in Darbyshare in Great Britton, Miner and for Divers other good considerations from the said William Buntin by me received, have bargained and sold unto the sd William Buntin one eighth part of all and Singular mines, mine ore, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth, lying in a certain Lot of land I bought of Samuel Cummings situated in Topsfield, the bounds being the same as in his deed, containing Four acres. Also granting unto William Buntin priviledge of Engress, Egress and Regress, in and upon the sd Land, and to his workmen and laborers, pits and shafts, to sink Drift ways, to Drive make and bring up and all other Necessary and Convients. As to him and them shall seem meet, for Securing and working the mines, within the premisses above granted. Engine or Engines, mill or mills or any other Edifice to build and erect on the premises paying unto me Elijah Porter clear of all charges one full sixteenth part of all such mines, mine ores, minerals and other Hidden Treasures of the Earth as shall be found and dug up in the Lot of Land aforesaid, or got up by any other way or means whatever, and I the said Elijah Porter do bind myself my heirs etc. that I will warrant and defend the afore granted premisses against the lawful claims of all Persons, Excepting against the demands of our Sovereign Lord the King his heirs and successors. This is dated Topsfield 6 March, 1772.

According to tradition Buntin loaded a vessel with the ore and went with it to England. He was taken sick and died either before or shortly after he landed and no one knows what became of the ore. The mine was abandoned and in course of time nearly forgotten. One of the stories current in the neighborhood relates that a foreigner once undertook to dig gold or money there, and that he suddenly disappeared, and was supposed to have been swallowed up in the earth. This was believed by a few timid and superstitious ones of a later generation; some even had a dread of going through the mine lot by night as it was reported that a grim, unearthly looking figure, armed with a huge branch of a lightning scathed oak, had been seen walking guard by the forsaken mine.

It is also related that one of Buntin's descendants, finding the old agreement concerning the ore among his ancestor's papers, and thinking there might be wealth in store, came to Massachusetts.

He visited the registry of deeds at Salem and found that the mine at Topsfield was the one mentioned in the contract. It is thought that the young Englishman did not find the prospect promising enough to attempt to work the mine. His coming, however, aroused old memories, and was probably the cause of the mine being reopened in 1839. One reason for belief in this supposition is that Ralph H. French, then registrar of deeds, (who must have known of the young man's errand) was one of the company formed.

The papers of the time say that

the upper mine was opened first. It was found to be a well shaped shaft just through the surface earth, not penetrating the bed rock. At the bottom was a chamber of considerable extent in which were found some tools and the remains of a keg or tub left there by the workmen nearly seventy years before. The current story is that the mine had caved in during one night, in '72, and everything had remained as it was when the workmen left work at night. But the mine never caved in and probably the only reason why the tools had not been removed was the accumulated debris and the water with which the mine was filled except in very dry seasons.

The upper mine not yielding very abundantly, the shaft in the lower lot was opened to a depth of about one hundred feet. In this shaft also the water was very troublesome, and an attempt was made to drain it by running a tunnel to the low ground near by, but this proved impossible and the mine was abandoned a third time, a case where the old saying "A third time never fails," proved false.

The company had Dr. Jackson of Boston down to test the ore but his verdict was unfavorable. There is a tradition that only enough copper was removed to make a head to a cane for one of the directors. Prof. John Sears of the Peabody Academy of Science has kindly allowed me to insert the following list of "minerals, mine ores, and other hidden treasures of the earth" found at the old mine:

Carbonate of Copper, Malachite, in part; Chalcopyrite, Copper Pyrite, Iron Pyrite, Magnetite, Limonite,

Dyke of Melephyre; the stratified beds of Slate Limestone and Quartzite that the Melephyre Dyke cut, are of lower carboniferous age.

The official evidence in regard to this period of activity is very meagre, only two papers having been found, (both unrecorded) but they establish the identity of this mine with that of seventy-one and also show who the official agents of the company were.

Only one requires to be copied here which is as follows: "A copy of a paper concerning the Mine signed by David Towne and others."

The first part of this paper is a copy of the deed given by Captain Benjamin and his sons. Then follows: "We the subscribers now owning the lands adjacent to the first mentioned piece so sold by said Benjamin, Jacob and Joseph to

said Quincy, do hereby sell and convey to Ralph H. French and David Pulsifer 3d, both of Salem in said county of Essex, the right and privilege of extending diggings and searchings, etc., into our land adjoining said piece as aforesaid upon the same terms and conditions as are set forth in said deed, from said Benjamin Jacob and Joseph Towne to said Quincy.

Dated—1838

Signed
Elizabeth Towne
Moses Pettingill
Nathaniel Porter
David Towne

The missing link in this sketch is the paper that proves the mine sold by Capt. Benjamin Towne was the one opened and abandoned by Gov. Endicott. This link we are quite sure time and patience will finally unearth.



FUNERAL ELEGY.

The following funeral elegy was written by Rev. Joseph Capen who was settled over the church in Topsfield on June 11, 1684.

It was printed and also circulated in manuscript form. The following reprint is made from an original copy in the possession of Mr. Thompson Baxter of South Boston, whose grandmother was a Foster.

A Funeral Elegy

Upon the much to be Lamented Death and most
Deplorable Expiration of the Pious, Learned, Ingenious,
and Eminently Usefull Servant of God

Mr John Foster

Who Expired and Breathed out his Soul quietly
into the arms of his Blessed REDEEMER
at Dorchester, Sept. 9th Anno Dom. 1681

Ætatis Anno 33

Here lye the relict Fragments, which were Took
Out of Consumtion's teeth, by Death the Cook
Voracious Apetite dost thus devour
Scarce ought hast left for worms t' live on an Hour
But Skin & Bones no bones thou mak'st of that
It is thy common trade t' eat all the fat.
Here lyes that earthly House, where once did dwell
That Soul that Scarce [ha]th left its Parallel
For Sollid Judgment Piety & Parts
And peerless skill in all the practick Arts
Which as the glittering Spheres, it passed by
Methinks, I Saw it Glance at Mercury ;
Ascended now : 'bov Time & Tides 't 'bides,
Which Sometimes told the world, of Times & Tides.
Next to th' Third Heavens the Stars were his delight,
Where's Contemplation dwelt both day & night,
Soaring unceertainly but now at Shoar,
Whether Sol moves or Stands He doubts no more.
He that despis'd the things the world admired,
As having Skill in rarer things acquired,
The heav'ns Interpreter doth disappear ;

The Starre's translated to his proper Sphere.
 What e're the world may think did Cause his death
 Consumption 'twas not Cupid, Stopt his breath.
 The Heav'ns which God's glory doe discover,
 Have lost their constant Friend & instant Lover
 Like Atlas, he help't bear up that rare Art
 Astronomy; & always took his part:
 Most happy Soul who didst not there Sit down
 But didst make after an eternal Crown
 Sage Archimede! Second Bezaleell
 Oh how didst thou in Curious works excell!
 Thine Art & Skill deserve to See the Press,
 And be Composed in a Printers dress.
 Thy Name is worthy for to be enroll'd
 In Printed Letters of the choicest Gold
 Thy Death to five foretold Eclipses Sad,
 A great one, unfortold doth Superad,
 Successive to that Strange Æthereal Blaze,
 Whereon thou didst so oft astonish'd, gaze;
 Which daily gives the world such fatal blows:
 Still whats to come we dread; God only knows.
 Thy Body which no activeness did lack
 Now's laid aside like an old Almanack
 But for the present only's out of date;
 Twil have at length a far more active state.
 Yea, though with dust thy body Soiled be,
 Yet at the Resurrection we Shall See
 A fair Edition & of matchless worth,
 Free from Errata, new in Heav'n set forth:
 Tis but a word from God the great Creatour,
 It Shall be Done when he saith IMPRIMATUR.

Semoestus cecinit

Joseph Capen.



The Cradle of the Averill Family.

BY S. GERTRUDE BRADSTREET.

As we stand here today and glance over the deserted prospect, over pasture and woodland, imagination is hardly strong enough to picture this locality as the one-time centre of a thriving, prosperous community; and were it not for the unmistakable evidences of habitation which confront us, we could easily believe that the spot still keeps its "forest primal", a place sacred to nature and to God. "The murmuring pines and hemlocks" still crown the hills, where the woodman's axe, now a frequent sound, might for the first time fell the giants of the forest to the ground. But a little research proves that this seeming primitiveness is false, and that at a comparatively short period ago the same sun which shines above us today o'erlooked a very different scene. Here, by common consent, we must agree that the first dwellers of our village made their early abode. This evidently was the centre of the settlement, for here lived and worked those who plied the trades of carpenter and wheelwright, those men who were conspicuous in town affairs, and those whose broader education placed them in a slightly higher rank than the others, giving to the locality the name of "The Colleges", a title which has descended through the years to our own time. I remember that in my childhood days I gave it its literal interpretation, and gazed with awe and wonder into the particular cellar which I had selected as

the foundation of the college, a cellar whose firm, strong wall marked the location of no unpretentious dwelling place. A short distance from here, near the highway over which we have just come, may be seen a cellar which marks the site of the home of William Averill, a carpenter by trade, the first of the name to come to Topsfield. Here he dwelt with his wife and eleven children, whose names I find to be William, John, Nathaniel, Job, Ebenezer, Thomas, Paul, Isaack, Hannah, Abigail and Mary, nearly all of whom are represented in our town today by their descendants.

I have not been able to ascertain when said William first came to Topsfield but think it must have been in the vicinity of 1662, for from that time until 1689 he was prominent in town affairs and held many town offices. I also find the names of his sons John, Nathaniel, Job and Ebenezer in the early records of our town from 1692 to 1727, having filled the offices of selectman, constable, surveyor, fence viewer, juryman and tithingman and also that of school master.

In March ye 1st, 1714, the selectmen agreed with William Averill jun., "to sweep ye meeting house and to be paid 18 shillings a year for his pains," and he was to have the meeting house key delivered to him. They also granted unto said William "half an acre of land somewhere where ye committee shall be ordered

to lay it out for him ye s'd Averill during his and his wife's life time, and s'd Wm Averill is hereby obliged to sweep ye meeting house and dig graves and to be paid for his work."

More than 200 years ago this land, a part of the original grant of Simon Bradstreet, was deeded by him to John and Nathaniel Averill, sons of William Averill. This deed given by Simon Bradstreet of Boston to John Averill, planter, and Nathaniel Averill carpenter, both of Topsfield, was dated Feb. 1st, 1692, "for and in consideration of 250 lbs. current money of New England conveyed to them 200 acres of land situate in the Township of s'd Topsfield in the present tenure and occupation of John Hawkins being betwixt two brooks there, the one commonly called and known by the name of Howlets Brook, and the other Mile Brook; also, on lot of out-land lying in the 2nd division lots on the south side of Ipswich river as laid out by the lot layers of s'd Town. The 1st Lot was in two parcels bounded as follows:—One part by the lands of Wm Howlet on the north and north-east, by the lands of Tobiah Perkins, Daniel Borman and John French on the north-west, by Mile Brook on the south and south-west, by the Hassakie meadow, so called, and the meadow of Wm Howlet on the south and south-east. The other part or parcel was bounded on the north by land of Wm Howlet and the Hassakie meadow, so called, on the west, Mile Brook on the south, till it comes to Ipswich River, and hath s'd river on the east. The Lot south of the river was bounded by the Lot of Daniel Clark on the one side and the Lot

of Jacob Towne on the other.

These, together with all houses, outhousing, edifices, buildings, fences, orchard, fruit trees, lumber, under-wood and stones, lying, standing or growing upon s'd lands or any part or parcel thereof, commonages, herbage, feedings, profits, privileges, hereditments and appurtenances, whatsoever thereto belonging."

This would indicate that there must have been a settlement here previous even to its possession and occupation by the Averills. Dwelling places, public buildings and farms of early pioneers may have formed a colony, whose origin and existence are alike forgotten,—hidden by the misty curtain of the past. If we could but push it aside and but for a brief space look back upon the realities of those distant years, verifying what must now remain a mere supposition. The original deed is still in the possession of one of the present owners. More than 140 acres of the land given by the deed are still held by the Averills, a large part never having been out of the name.

There are in this vicinity several cellars which mark the location of the homes of different members of the Averill family. Like nearly all old houses these were built to face the south. A lovelier spot than the one around us would be hard to imagine, and could we revive the image of those early homes surrounded by the verdant foliage of more than 200 years ago, we would certainly agree that those early settlers chose their homes with regard to beauty as well as comfort.

Of the early occupants I have been able to trace but little and that very

imperfectly. The first cellar we shall come to after leaving the highway, the house of which was standing until a very recent date, was owned and occupied by Joseph and Luke Averill, brothers and sons of Isaac Averill. Afterwards the part owned by Joseph or "neighbor Joe," as he was familiarly known, was purchased by John Blaisdell, whose mother was an Averill, and that owned by Luke became the property of his son. This house was the second one built on the same cellar and was burned to the ground in the spring of 1890. The cellar located near by, in the locusts, is the best preserved of any and is known as the Daniel Averill place and here in 1769 was born Solomon Averill, the grandfather of the present owner. He afterwards lived in the house which was situated on the brow of the hill near the gateway. Here was also the workshop of the cabinet makers. Several articles of furniture manufactured by them, including a desk, light-stand bureau, and some chairs, are today in the possession of some of their descendants, also a part of a violin made here and used in the old meeting house. This industry must have been quite extensive, as I have been informed that more than thirty apprentices were employed here at one time. Opposite this was the house of Jacob Averill, who descended from Nathaniel 1st, and nearby is the ancient well, which appears to be in a good state of preservation. This house was taken down and moved to the village, where it now forms the home of Mrs. Herrick on High street. Farther on, near the brook, we come to another

cellar. This is called the Nathaniel Averill place and is also the location of the wheelwright shop. One of the first pair of wheels built there came into my grandfather's possession, having been built for chaise wheels, afterwards used by my father for cart wheels. We find the next occupant of this house to be Moses Averill, son of Nathaniel, and later it was occupied by Mehitable Averill, the wife of Silas Beckford and daughter of Daniel Averill. She moved from there to the little cottage by the mill. It seems strange that no other names are given but it must have been a colony of Averills, and among them were men useful in church and active in town affairs, school teachers, a civil engineer, and we have also heard of one skilled in verse-making and fortune-telling. Indeed in examining the wills of some of the Averill forefathers one learns that they were persons likely to hold and fill important places, men of no common rank and worth.

A little farther on we come to Mile Brook, the boundary line of the Averill tract and upon this brook was built the saw mill. The actual date of its erection I have been unable to determine, but think it must have been soon after the land came into possession of John and Nathaniel Averill. The first authentic mention of it I find in the will of Nathaniel Averill who bequeathed his "half of ye saw mill" to his three sons, Nathaniel, Jacob and Jeremiah. It was afterwards owned by Jacob, then by his son Moses, who rebuilt and worked it. Later it became the property of Daniel, who sold it in 1835 to Porter Bradstreet. This is

the first time it passed out of the Averill name. It was worked by him until his death, 1849, and then became the property of Nehemiah Perkins, who repaired it and added a new wheel. In the settlement of his estate it became the property of his son, the late Austin Perkins, who ran it for many years. On the night of Feb. 22, 1891 it was burned, perhaps by the same hand which a few months later burned the Blaisdell house, so called, to the ground. The saw which was in the mill at the time it was burned was one which had lain in the attic of the house of the late Benj. Towne 45 years and was taken from the Peabody mill in 1842. It still exists and is of interest because of its connection with both mills.

The old house, whose ruins may be seen near the mill, was one which was brought from the west part of the town by kind hearted neighbors and placed upon a small plot of land staked out from the neighboring pasture, and here lived Mehitable Averill-Beckford and later her son Samuel, his wife, who was also an Averill, and their two children. Many of my listeners are familiar with the lives and characteristics of these later occupants and together with

the cottage, the mill and its surroundings will ever form one of the brightest, dearest pictures on "memories' wall." Those who never frequented the place cannot appreciate the quaint charms it holds for us, who have sat in the little house listening to the good woman's stories of other days, and when the infirmities of age approached, heard her complaints and sought to administer relief or stood under the fragrant lilacs while she called the birds to feed near her, walked through the tiny garden and inhaled the sweet scent of spicy pinks, the balm and thyme, and the rich, old damask roses, heavy with sweetness and then crossing the mill yard and on under the willows to the wasteway, where, if the water was high, we had a view of a miniature cataract. We can not help a feeling of loneliness and regret as we pass through these familiar ways. May we hope and trust that their memory at least will survive in the minds of our townspeople, and that some future historian will be able to give a complete and more perfect account than I have been able to do.

[A paper read before the Topsfield Historical Society at a field meeting held June 18, 1896.—Ed.]



Charles H. Holmes.

LAWYER AND POET.

By FRANKLIN BALCH.

Intention is not an attribute of reputation. Our life is what we make it. Reputation is what people think of us, and the biography of a person is in absolute control of the author, who adapts his work to the reader who will pay the highest price.

The exception to this rule may be found in the author whose object is for the higher consideration—to perpetuate to the memory whatever there is of value and interest in our local history of by-gone-days.

Four score and six years ago next Dec. 1st, 1896, there was born in the town of Alfred, York Co., Maine, the second son of Mr. John and Sarah Ann (Brooks) Holmes.

John Holmes was born in Kingstons, Plymouth Co., Mass., March 28, 1773, was graduated from Brown University, 1796, admitted to the bar 1799, was a prominent member of the Mass. legislature and U. S. Senate. He was one of the most active members of the convention and chairman of the committee that framed the constitution of the state of Maine, and for many years was a trustee of Bowdoin College. He died in Portland in 1843, July 7th.

After graduating from Brown University John Holmes, influenced by the apparent advantage of practicing law among the advance guard of civilization, left his home in south eastern Massachusetts, and opened a law office at Alfred, Maine.

Immense ascendancy and unbound-

ed activity won for himself universal esteem and in 1820 when this part of Massachusetts had come to be the state of Maine, Mr. John Holmes was called upon to represent his state in the U. S. Senate, where he was known as the first Maine Senator. By this title he is best known to this day. His profound views as a statesman, and the commanding qualities of an orator, secured for him in Congress the attention and esteem of such men as Thomas H. Benton, Henry Clay and Levi Woodbury.

The year 1825 found his son, Charles Henry Holmes, entering Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. Two years later he came into Massachusetts to complete his collegiate education, and entering Brown University, Providence, was graduated Sept. 2nd, 1829, among the first in rank in his class.

We are told that while in college he manifested those characteristics resulting from more than ordinary power of application, and while hindered by the intervention of romantic and poetic nature, he possessed such powers of intellectual acquisition as are seldom observed. His standard at Brown for his first term was, "attendance 100, conduct 100, scholarship excellent." His expenses were "steward's bill \$1.68 per week, damage, breaking a pane of glass, 25 cents." This report proves him to be an accomplished classical scholar, aided by that decision of conduct and

uprightness of character that always secures success.

To these transports of fame there succeeded that phrensy so fatal to those whom nature has allowed to be the children of great men. His sincere intentions and aspirations were diverted by returning to the shadow of his own fig-tree, and opening a law office in Cornishville, Maine. Here he practiced a few years and then came again into Massachusetts. He was welcomed by Miss Harriet J. Emerson, to whom he was married in a few days. To the more sedate person it may seem that he overstepped the bounds of prudence in so hastily concluding a matter of so vast importance.

It appears that there lived in Alfred, a person by the name of Joseph Emerson. He was well acquainted with Hon. John Holmes and watched with more than a friendly interest the welfare and advancement of young Charles.

There was born in Topsfield, Mass., 3 years after the birth of our subject, a daughter to Mr. Joseph and Lydia (Burrell) Emerson, who was named Harriet Joséphene Emerson. Being the only child of a well-to-do man, she was prevailed upon to accept all the opportunities of classical instruction that were available in those days, when it was thought not entirely proper for a lady to attain an advanced classical education.

We are told that a higher education is useful only to the few, and general ignorance is neither the greatest evil nor the least to be desired; a mass of ill digested information is much more dangerous, and the increase of knowledge is but an addi-

tion to the lever by which vice dissolves the fabric of society. Not so with Miss Emerson. With the advance of her education she rose to that standard of attainment which if unjustly used, to quote her own words, "leads one to search into the hidden secrets of nature to obtain a knowledge, alike useless and forbidden, that destroyed the harmony in Eden, and condemned all unborn generations to the just but most irksome penalty of disobedience."

Public opinion considered Miss Emerson the most talented woman of the 19th century in this vicinity, and was it not natural that as she had a cousin, Mr. Joseph Emerson, living in Alfred, an intimate friend of Hon. John Holmes, that the welfare and advancement of "young Charles," *should* be watched with more than a friendly interest? This interest was communicated to Charles and Harriet, so that before they had seen each other they virtually became engaged.

There was married at Topsfield, Mass., on the 26th of March, 1836, C. H. Holmes of Cornishville, Maine, to Harriet J. Emerson of Topsfield. This is the substance of the record.

This equal and loving alliance which now-a-days often precedes, and is *concluded* with the marriage ceremony, seemed to invest her powerful lord with the authority of a parent over a submissive pupil. The writer remembers the "Squire" in the last of his life, six feet six inches tall, as he entered church on Sunday passing up the aisle to the wing pew nearest the pulpit, and it was with a boyish interest and anxiety that I sought the end of my father's pew and awaited the appearance of that "wonderful

tall man.”

After marriage, Mr. Holmes made his home in Topsfield, where he remained for the last 50 years of his life. The father of Mrs. Holmes died in 1826 and left his house and part of his property to his wife and daughter, and at this house Mr. Holmes first and last resided.

As the experience of past faults is seldom imparted to those who are allured into the same career of folly, so Mr. Holmes venture to her home, “with none of the *a-la-mode*, show-off, scholastic, superfluous manner; but as a thorough, practical well doer, matter-of-fact-man, maintaining his character and position without fear.”

While Mrs. Emerson lived she aided in every way to maintain union and affection in the family. In this she succeeded, *but* was nevertheless his mother-in-law.

Mr. Holmes at once assumed control of his wife’s property, she giving him a promissory title to her share in case of her death, and began farming in a theoretical sort of way. He also received a lawyer’s license to practice law, but most of all he practised the virtues of domestic life, and to the last may be attributed the remarkable alteration of his character and conduct. It is said that the different characters that mark the civilized nations of the globe may be ascribed to the use and abuse of reason; but we think that his effeminate luxury, which almost tended to indolence, was due to the relaxation of discipline and was only the ardent and passionate disposition manifested in college, now bursting forth un hindered by any high ambition. But we may suppose that he produced a

favorable impression among his town’s people by his election to the General Court as their representative in 1837, the following year after coming into town. At this session he was placed on one of the standing committees.

Anything attendant to a person of prominence in starting on his career is of interest, and here it is not amiss to refer to a letter written by his father to Charles, upon the advent of his first election to public office. This letter is also of value as showing the feelings and inspirations of one of the most prominent of men in New England.

Thomaston, Me.

2nd Nov. 1837.

I have received dear Charles your letter announcing your election to the legislature of Mass. with much pleasure, but with some solicitude. It is naturally flattering & no doubt gratifying to you that stranger almost as you are. you should have been elected, & by the influence of age and experience, on the other hand you are, probably without intending it, embarked on the tempestuous ocean of politics for a long service. For young as you are and ardent moreover it will be a hard struggle to return. The first year will be tedious and you will resolve that it shall be the last. The election comes round, and the partiality of your friends and all the assaults of your enemies & your prospects of promotion influencing a little perhaps will combine to induce you to stand for *reelection*. Before this term shall expire you will have formed friendships, contracted alliances, and become enlisted in measures and schemes from which it

will be extremely difficult to be disengaged, you wish to be returned for your own sake. By some of those casualties to which public life is exposed, your own imprudence, treacherous friends open enemies, any or all may defeat or postpone you. By this time your feelings of ambition and revenge will be roused. You will go back *into the ranks* to strive for promotion again.

If defeated again, you will more than ever press on. You may succeed and continue to mount and soar until you will have distinguished yourself in the great council of the nation. There you will meet with more resistance, as your station will be worth competition. Suppose you defeat them all still how much sacrifice of true wealth, principle, peace & domestic endearment must have been sacrificed.

All this you will now say is crying "sour grapes!" Be it so!—And although I think my grapes have not been very sour still I am willing you should consider these remarks as the result of at least superannuated prudence, so no more of this, and if taking the *case* as it is allow me to suggest some few monitions which may serve you in your new career. Your talents will not be hid. Your relationship to one who has been so long and so much the object of public observation and animadversion, will point you out as an object of curiosity & criticism.

As there is a propensity among men and associate bodies of men, to measure in some sense the one by the other, more may be expected from you than from other new members, some too may suppose that your op-

portunities for political information have been greater than other young men. Now all this consideration may raise expectation which may not be realized.

A little caution at first will therefore be indispensable to prevent disappointment. Be *slow* then in coming out, otherwise you might speak yourself out before you get in. Never speak on any subject till you are fully prepared. Prepared or not don't speak often—never begin to speak till you have something to say and always leave off when you are done.

Never speak or think *meanly* of your adversary. A good natured hit may do very well but a well timed compliment much better. While you should never surrender principle you should never triumph over a fallen adversary.

Study well, and methodically. Your chief fault is a desultory mode, here a little and there a little without a certain perspicuous method, and when once established it will be of incalculable advantage. If defeated and mortified never pine nor be discouraged.

I have known the first essay of a young man to be an entire failure & yet there was remaining a recuperative energy which overcame and triumphed at last.

In all cases be honest in your opinion, especially appear to be so. If you seem to lack confidence in your cause you will surely fail to convince.

I am truly yours,
J. Holmes.

One session of legislative life end-

ed Mr. Holmes' political career and in the spring of 1838 he returned to private life and began to till his farm, and settle estates or any other business of a lawyer. But the absence of a large town and the peaceable, even tenor of the ways of the people in his vicinity, gave little employment in the legal line of his profession.

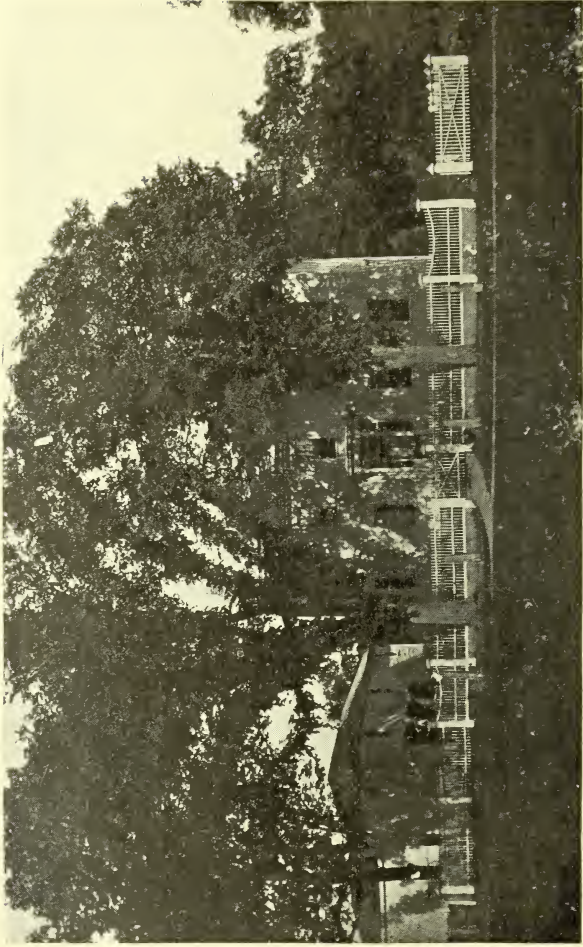
Connected as he was by marriage with so estimable and talented a woman, we may learn of her influence and his character by her journals so far as they pertain to the surrounding home. In this journal which she carefully kept for years, we find these words:

Jan. 1, 1835. "I have felt sad all day. This morning Charles received the melancholly news of his brother's dangerous illness and he left for Alfred this afternoon. It was sad tidings for a New Year's news. O how much I feel his absence. The man who took him to the cars has not yet returned. God forbid any accident.

Jan. 10, 1835. "Charles sent word after tea that he should pass the evening away, having some business of importance to attend to, and that he should not return till late. It is now almost eleven and he has not come. It is a very unusual thing for him to pass an evening away from our dear and festive fireside. I will go to bed as it is so late and not wait for him any longer.

Jan. 11, 1835. "I went to bed last evening or rather night, about midnight and before I went to sleep Charles returned. He did not let me know where he was going for fear it would trouble me but sent me such a

message as would lead me to imagine, as I did that he had gone to attend to some law business, but when he came back he told me the cause of his absence. John Towle had been missing ever since ten o'clock in the forenoon, and it was supposed that he had lost his way going home, and had wandered into Wenham swamp. Several people had been looking for him all the afternoon and had returned entirely discouraged, and maintained that every effort to find him that night would be in vain, but Mr. Holmes told them that if he was found alive he must be found that night. He took two men in his sleigh and several other sleighs accompanied him and they drove as fast as possible to Wenham. This was about 6 P. M. The men at Wenham were very kind and joined in the search. A party of 25 men entered the swamp. Charles formed them into five different parties each with a guide and a lantern, and taking separate directions the search was began. One hurrah was to declare that their object was accomplished and two hurrahs to bring them together. About 10 o'clock a loud shout was heard. The poor fellow was found leaning with folded arms against a tree entirely exhausted, for he had been travelling in that labyrinthian swamp all day. He was stiff with cold and would surely have frozen to death before morning. He was taken to a house near and everything done for his comfort and may God bless the people of Wenham for their true kindness, and each of those 25 men last night sought their pillows with the happiness that ever follows a kind action."



THE EMERSON-HOLMES HOUSE.

After ten years of happy married life, as all reports combine to show, Mrs. Holmes became ill. For the last four years of her life there are numerous "I have just recovered from a severe attack of illness," to be found in her journals and she was unable to care for herself for a long time before her death, which occurred Sept. 17, 1849, aged 36 years, 7 months, 25 days. She died not in the fullness of years, but endowed with intellectual genius borne far in advance of her age by deep thought, patient investigation and ever attentive research.

The dignity of virtue and the charms of beauty no more could cull or restrain the adventurous disposition of Mr. Holmes. He let his house and boarded at various places about town, passing his leisure time in a variety of adventures that would pass for fabulous if they had not occurred in real life. He served on the school board for the years 1856, 1864, and 1866, always acting as chairman. The following extracts from his school reports are interesting:

"My relations with the schools of Topsfield have been peculiarly grateful the past year. With no personal paternity myself, the affectionate yearnings of my nature were transferred to the children of my care, who became sons and daughters by adoption, looking up to me as their great supervising father."

"Miss Anna C. D. Holmes, of Ipswich, who although considered a competent teacher, did not exactly suit the 'city' people, who, nurtured in the school of republican freedom, could ill brook the stern discipline

and unfamiliar indignities perpetrated on 'them and theirs',—but one, and then another, till the whole population en masse, little and big, man, woman and child, whispered, murmured, threatened, denounced and at last rising like a volcano, burst with fiery indignation into open rebellion, kicking up a great dust in all the region round about. So frantically intense was the convulsion that the very animals and even the elements conspired in sympathetic expressiveness. The geese, whose ancestors saved Rome, with conscious political importance, loudly vociferated, quack! quack! quack! The turkey, that true *native American* with indigenous consequential pride, gobbled about calamities of foreign participation. The sheep, aroused from their quietude by the passing events, looking askance, gave a contemptuous bah! The horse indicated his *course* by a *racy*, yet positive *neigh*. Chanticleer, *crested* and *spurred*, and red with ire, from an eminence blew his clarion note of defiance; and the dog and cat, fraternizing in the common cause, *duetted* a caterwauling howl of execration. The bellicose bull 'tossed a horn' to the success of the enterprise, while the pacific guinea hen in the spirit of true kindness cried out earnestly, go back! go back! go back! Nor these alone, for Trinity River itself, that evangelical stream, swollen with rage, bursting forth in a torrent of wrathful outpouring, whirled and boiled, and eddied in irascible frothings, threatening the City mole of 'Long wharf' with demolition. To appease the tutelary Deity of the City, and

relieve it from such an impending visitation, it was judged expedient to throw the mistress over-board, Jonah-like, where upon a great calm ensued."

In 1859 there was visiting in town at Mrs. Elizabeth Perley's on High street, Miss Abbie Webster of Wood's Holl, Barnstable County. Hither Mr. Holmes was wont to go. He went with more than ordinary regularity to see Miss Webster, but great as were his talents, sincere his intentions, and unbending his probity, he was unable to carry into effect the conjunction which he so anxiously strove to produce. Mr. Holmes came home one day from visiting at her home after they had become engaged and said to Miss Welch, his housekeeper, "Miss Webster and I are done. She wanted me to give her my place before she would marry me, and I told her I wouldn't and *we are done.*"

A man in love is generally inaccessible to argument, and he can only avert it by pursuing some new object attractive both to himself and to his friends. But there is something in courage which commands respect even amid the bitterness of faction. Segur says, that peace is the dream of the wise; war is the history of man. Youth listens without attention to those who seek to lead it by the paths of reason to happiness, and rushes with irresistible violence into the arms of the phantom which lures it by the light of glory to destruction.

Mr. Holmes was an active member of the Congregational Church in Topsfield, having been admitted Nov. 6, 1853.

The Civil War began in 1861, and Mr. Holmes was very active in recruiting troops to enter the Federal army. While he was nearly ten years in advance of the age to be drafted, he did enter the army in the spring of 1864, and remained during that summer, being honored with a lieutenant's commission.

"He was so tall that it was deemed expedient to keep him from the front, so he was stationed at Boston and other places as a recruiting officer, which duty he faithfully attended to and to the satisfaction of the department."—*Salem Mercury*.

"The tallest man in the British army is Corporal Maffit, who stands six feet seven and a half inches. That is one inch shorter than Lieut. Holmes of Topsfield, who has been in our army."—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

On his return home he went to live where he first had lived after being married, in what is now the Congregational parsonage, and cared for the land now known as the "Holmes property." He owned a meadow located "over the river" in the extreme eastern part of the town. It was at the time when horseless wagons were in common use. The hay must be brought across the river and the oxen as they entered the water had been inclined to stop, where upon it is said Mr. Holmes "hollered at them with such power that the vibration of the sound in the air struck the river with such force as to divide the water and his oxen and wagon were wont to go over on dry land."

In 1873 he made his will, giving \$500 to the Congregational Church

as a fund and the remaining value of his estate to the Sisters of Charity of the Roman Catholic Church, styled the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul. This latter bequest was made out of respect to the memory and wishes of his wife, who had been a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Holmes had identified himself with the Congregational Church after coming to this town, and for a long time had given the sum of \$25 per annum for the support of the gospel. By his will this gift was made perpetual.

It is singular and perhaps highly gratifying to observe the ardent enthusiasm manifested at first by only a few members of the church to avail themselves of Mr. Holmes' house as a parsonage. The 70th annual return of a day dearer to none than himself had already vanished and soon Mr. Holmes would leave his house forever.

One afternoon two ladies might have been seen looking from the front end window of our Town hall. For want of other topics one of them remarked, "What a nice place that would be for a parsonage." The parish had already been negotiating for a parsonage but no one had mentioned this house. The idea spread rapidly; a paper was circulated and money pledged for Mr. Holmes' house. A meeting was held where the maxim that measures calculated for the benefit of future ages are hardly ever agreeable for all persons in the present, was clearly manifest.

There were many propositions suggested and other places proposed, one of which was only defeated by the moderator's deciding vote. It was remarkable to observe the vehe-

ment contention that arose upon the question of purchasing the present parsonage. It surely was not a question of price. The result which followed was most pleasant. Each one joined to make it a parsonage claimed by every one. The papers were drawn; conditions settled, and that was all.

Mr. Holmes passed away ere the house had been used for the purpose intended. He died Wednesday evening, July 14, 1886, aged 74 years, 8 months, 14 days. The funeral was held the following Saturday at the house.

The following notice of his death appeared in Salem Mercury:

"THE TALLEST MAN IN NEW ENGLAND DEAD IN TOPSFIELD.

Charles H. Holmes, Esq., of Topsfield, well and favorably known throughout Essex County, died at his home in Topsfield at 11 o'clock last Wednesday night. He had been sick for several months. Some time ago he sustained serious injuries by being thrown from a wagon and last week was slightly sun struck, which doubtless hastened his death. For years he was a contributor to the press, his productions in the main being of a poetical character. He was a widower, his wife having died many years before. He was held in high esteem by his townsmen, and was a member of the Congregational church."

His practice at the bar, though limited, manifested knowledge of the law. His ability far excelled his judgment, but his energy of character has unquestionably left an influence in the history of this town. In

force of expression and sarcastic power he was paramount among his contemporaries, but his intelligence was not appropriated with discre-



Poems

By C. H. HOLMES.

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

Written for a Fourth of July celebration in 1861.

Flag of my country, hail, all hail!
 As floats thy ensign to the gale,
 Thy star-lit blue, thy unique stripes,
 Our Union and redemption types—
 All hail, I say, all hail to thee,
 Palladium of our Liberty!

How swells the heart, how beams the eye,
 As we recall a scene gone by;
 When first had dawned our nation's sun—
 Our Independence first was won—
 A conqueror thou in Freedom's war,
 And drawn in Mars' triumphal car—
 On that glad day we celebrate
 The great epochal of our fate,
 Which all our thronging memories fix
 At July Fourth, year Seventy-six.

In later times, though less the stake,
 Victor on land, and sea, and lake,
 From 'neath thy folds went up the cry
 Of glory and of victory.
 Whate'er the gage, whate'er the foe—
 Of Britain or of Mexico—
 Thus runs thy record with these powers:
 "We've met the foe and they are ours."

Nobly hast thou sustained our cause
 In all our policies and wars ;
 Gaining respect at home, abroad,
 With civilized and savage horde,
 And e'er maintaining thy first stand,
 The pride and glory of our land !

Now clouds and darkness round us lower,
 Yet, guarded by a spirit power,
 That sainted and departed band,
 The hero fathers of our land ;
 Invoking, too, our father's God,
 We'll "bless the hand and kiss the rod,"
 And wearing sackcloth 'neath our mail,
 Armed at allpoints our foe assail.

Shades of our sires, ye mighty dead,
 Heroes whom Washington hath led,
 Who helped our Union fabric rear,—
 Patriot spirits, now appear,
 And, like the spirit Cid of yore,
 In all our battles go before !

God of our sires, "who brought them up"
 Oh, pass from us this bitter "cup"—
 This bitter cup with passions rife,
 The jarring elements of strife ;
 If not for ours for their sake save
 The Union thou the fathers gave—
 Hold in thy right hand still those "stars"
 And save us from domestic wars.

Walk still midst these thy "candlesticks,"
 And so o'errule our politics
 That we shall be united, free,
 From lake to gulf, from sea to sea !

WILD GOOSE POND.

Near my old house, and be it known
 That I've the oldest house in town,
 Numbering full two hundred years
 As by the record here appears,
 Tho' some versed in traditions lore
 Say 'twas a fort-house years before

And for a parsonage built anew,
 Such too is the Emerson view
 Who have possessed the same estate
 Since Seventeen hundred and thirty-eight,
 Buying it of the Capen heirs
 Or who had charge of their affairs.
 The Emersons we think would know
 Whether or not the thing was so.
 The old house stands on rising ground
 And is as straight as can be found,
 Resembling much, Fort-House in York,
 Concerning which has been much talk.
 A photograph of which you'll see
 In Harper's New England History.
 It has a Puritanic look
 Rather of Holland, not mistook,
 Of which we have the amplest proof
 In the projecting front and roof,
 And built thus out of compliment
 To Holland, where the Pilgrims went
 When persecuted to the stake
 They fled for their religion's sake
 And spent twelve years with their Dutch friends.
 And here their persecution ends,
 For Holland was the only place
 That had a free religion base,
 The only State in Europe too
 That dared promulgate this broad view.
 Were I disposed I could say more
 About the house, its chimney, floor,
 Or the firm brick clay mortar wall
 Sufficient to resist a ball ;
 Of the low door, which here has swung
 Two-hundred years since first 'twas hung,
 And all of the et cetera
 Connected with it any way,
 But time and space will not allow
 Of a more full description now.

Near the old house there is a pond
 Not like the Scottish Lake Lomond,
 But a smallish bit of water
 Six square rods or such a matter.
 Though in the Spring time flowing o'er
 Full out an acre's space or more

And then the boys rig out their crafts
 In tiny boats and treacherous rafts,
 And in the Winter far and wide
 The boys and girls come here to slide ;
 And then it is a famous place
 For all of the aquatic race,
 And every kind of varmint thing
 Which harmless is without a sting.
 The naturalist in this abode
 Will find the frog, snake, turtle, toad.
 The hunter finds the musquash rat
 By which the hatter makes the hat.
 Sporting fisherman will find
 Fishes of almost every kind,
 For I have found in my research
 Shiners, roach pickerel and perch ;
 How they first came there, I suppose
 'Twas on the misty wind that blows.
 Some years ago, perhaps 'twas six,
 The time I can't exactly fix,
 Some strangers of the quashie race
 Arrived here at this central place,
 And built their home, and formed their nest,
 And seemed determined here to rest.
 Of course these strangers made a stir
 With their perfume and garb of fur,
 Resembling much the modern belle
 In their 'fumed habits and their smell.
 The modern beau, too, if you please,
 Redolent with his scented grease.
 At first the quash was very sly
 When any person came too nigh,
 But when a little artless girl
 With laughing eye and sunny curl,
 Had made the quashies comprehend,
 She was their real social friend.
 By placing 'fore them bread and meat,
 The quashies then came out to eat ;
 Which verifies the simple fact,
 And by the Bible too is backed,
 That in proportion as we're kind,
 The laws of love all nature bind.
 It was so surely at the first
 Before the earth by hate was cursed,
 And will be inspired prophets say,

On the great millennial day,
 When with the wolf the lamb will feed,
 And these a little child shall lead.
 So here these musksquash sly and wild
 Were tamed and petted by a child

Now I'll relate just how it came
 That "Wild Goose Pond" obtained its name.
 A wild goose wearied by its flight
 Lit in this pond and spent the night,
 And just before the break of day
 Spread its broad wings and sped away,
 And from this circumstance arose
 "Wild Goose Pond's" name, with this I close

MY LOVE FOR THEE.

My love for thee is infinite,
 It is my solace and delight.
 Where'ere I go, what'ere I do,
 The world's a void without thee too.
 Inspired by thy angelic face,
 Indeed thy every charming grace,
 The simplest act in thee I see
 Perfection's work—Divinity.
 Thy heart's affection is a mine
 Where princely wealth doth sure combine ;
 Far more than I conceived could be
 Enveloped in mortality,
 Than which the fancies' light can beam
 Is but a faint expiring gleam.
 Darling! I love thee, yea, adore,
 With seraph's lyre could I say more?
 My life! my hope! my harp! thou art,
 The cherished music of my heart.

BLACK SELIM.

Topsfield, April 4, 1858.

EDITOR NEWBURYPORT HERALD :—At the earnest request of my neighbors, superadded to my own appreciation of "departed worth," I have been induced to write in "offhand verse," an elegy on my old and faithful horse,

“Black Selim,” who died in his thirty-sixth year, and who had gained a “Bucephaline” notoriety not only in Topsfield, but “the whole region round about.” Will you have the kindness to insert it in your paper, and oblige

Your obedient servant,
C. H. HOLMES.

No common merit I rehearse,
But dedicate my humble verse
To eulogize an equine friend ;
And of his death this notice send.

“Black Selim’s” days are passed and gone ;
He died of age last Monday morn,
And lies where oft he took his ease,
Between two stately ashen trees.
He was lamented through the town,
For everywhere was he well known ;
And when we named “the old black horse,”
All knew just what he meant, “of course.”
He was the village patriarch,
The theme of wonder and remark,
And everywhere his shape and age
Were criticised by jockey’s sage.
He was permitted free to range,
A better horse all round the grange,
By road and common ne’er was seized,
But cropped the grass just where he pleased ;
Incurring only one disgrace,
Of “creeping through a narrow place ;”
’Twas mere conjecture, for his stay
Was ne’er prolonged till break of day ;
But circumstantial proof was strong,
From certain vestiges along ;
Unlike to some who scrapes get in,
He always could get out again.
If Spartan virtue were the rule,
He surely was “more rogue than fool.”
His color was of blackest hue,
Except when old, quite gray he grew ;
From head to foot, in all his points,
His “make” was perfect to his joints ;
And all allowed, both far and near,
That no horse e’er had finer ear.
He ne’er indulged in vicious tricks.

Like many horses, nor in kicks ;
 But without "hitching" always stood,
 And as you'd like, so was his mood.
 Was fleet in gig, and sure on back,
 Could ramble, canter, gallop, rack ;
 Was full of frolic and of fun,
 Yet kind, and ever prompt to run ;
 He was just suited to my mind,
 His equal I shall never find ;
 Was old, well tried, thus doubly dear,
 Though in his six-and-thirtieth year ;
 And owned by me full twenty-one.
 As by his pedigree is shown.
 One Billy Emerson I am told,
 Kept him until thirteen years old,
 A year after his death or so,
 (And 'twas in '35 I know,)
 I bought him, and this time will bring
 His age to thirty-six this Spring.
 This horseman said he was the best
 Of all the steeds he e'er possessed ;
 And he had owned his thousands, too,
 And such a horse he never knew.
 The wondrous 'scapes that I could tell,
 By road and field that me befell,
 Up hill and down, through mud and mire,
 'Cross rivers deep, and ditches dire,
 And all the freaks I could relate,
 Would make one laugh at any rate.
 How oft I've rode like one bewitched,
 And by the sport did feel enriched,
 Boys running out to see the canter,
 Like that of the famed "Tam O'Shanter."
 And though I've met the middle age,
 By maxim should be tame and sage,
 Which says, "at forty tame or never,"
 Yet I like races well as ever.
 I never reached the "Hovey Place,"
 Without enjoying one good race ;
 There is a long and level plain,
 Before this little farm I gain,
 A steep and quite a sandy hill.
 Near by a bridged and rippling rill,
 Called from the tenants of the nook,
 By common parlance, "Gallop's Brook ;"

And lies about a mile or so,
 From Topsfieldville as north you go.
 Ere this was reached he slowly went,
 As if upon some fell intent ;
 One would have thought him in a doze.
 Seeing between his legs and nose :
 I knew him well—'twas his cunning.
 Pacing slowly for his running.
 The summit gained, he made a leap,
 And down he dashed the hill-side steep,
 O'er the wide bridge he madly rushed,
 And up another hill he pushed,
 With such furious pace and clatter,
 The people cried, "What's the matter?"
 The frogs dived quickly in the stream,
 The birds flew off with frightened scream,
 The dogs rushed out with bark and yell,
 And horse and dogs all went pell-mell ;
 Up went the windows. from the doors
 The hats were swung with deaf'ning roars,
 "With bark and whoop," and loud halloo,
 The hills re-echoed "go it, go,"
 The gig was tossed with direful squeak,
 Threatening the vehicle to break,
 Sometimes on two wheels, then on one,
 Yet right side up I always won.
 Fond memory delights to trace
 My trusty friend in cosy pace,
 Associated from my youth,
 In every phase in life in truth :
 I call to mind the truth far back,
 When he was styled the "bonny black,"
 With ease could trot from my own door
 To Alfred, seventy miles or more ;
 Each day could draw his cord of wood
 Two miles five times from where he stood ;
 And when grown old he ne'er would flag,
 But was the same prompt racing nag.
 When thirty-two he drew a ton
 Eight miles an hour, myself therein ;
 And e'en last Fall when on a tour,
 He trotted full eight miles the hour,
 And never needed whip or spur,
 Whate'er the distance, near or far ;
 And yet his size and weight were small.

Being eight hundred—that was all.
 Indeed he was a matchless steed,
 And well deserved the “olive meed,”
 Outstripping all of his compeers
 In strength and bottom, speed and years.
 As he who at the Olympia race,
 By some misfortune lost his place ;
 His steeds performed the accustomed round,
 And by the judges then were crowned ;
 Although my seat I ne’er have lost,
 Or ever from my seat been tost,
 And always could my steed restrain,
 Or prompt him to the racing vein,
 And ever had him at command,
 With tightened rein, and “well on hand,”
 Still let his deeds emblazoned be,
 The meed to him and not to me,
 Sufficient praise for me to own
 The best of steeds, and this alone,
 Although some persons may say fie
 At my sentimentality,
 Yet I this weakness will confess.
 For “Selim’s” death in stoic virtue brave,
 I dropt a tear upon his grave.

FOR SALE.

Who ever wants a country seat,
 Removed from summer’s dust and heat,
 With a wide common right between
 The road and house in living green,
 Shaded by stately ashen trees
 And shut out from the noxious breeze,
 Let him just leave the country road
 And step across to my abode,
 A view of which will here be seen
 A photographic view I wean.

Terms easy to the man who’d buy,
 At any rate one can but try.

C. H. HOLMES,

Topsfield, May 25, 1885.

Salem Gazette.

FARM LANDS

AT AUCTION.

The Heirs of Stephen Perley say
 On THURSDAY, 23d of May,
 At 10 A. M., they'll sell th'estate
 Of Stephen P., of Topsfield late.
 This Farm lies in a quiet nook,
 Almost surrounded by Pye-Brook,
 Save on the line to this abode,
 Along Low's Mill and Boxford road;
 And is about a mile or so
 From Topsfield Church as North you go;
 Though to the farthest point, by Clapp's,
 The distance is two miles, perhaps,
 Containing, as the Deeds express.
 One hundred Acres, more or less.
 Here on this ancient place one finds
 The soils and growths of different kinds,
 Peat, Pasture, Wood, Field, Meadow Land,
 From fertile soil to barren sand,
 These we've arranged in shape and size,
 To suit the purchaser who buys
 From thirty acres down to three,
 Just as the quality may be.
 The man who'd like a quiet life,
 (Save love-spats from his darling wife,)
 And farm, or hunt, or sport the brook,
 Will just turn in and take a look.
 Terms, one-fifth Cash, the auction day,
 The rest, in thirty days to pay.
 To see this farm, whoever comes,
 Will please to call on C. H. HOLMES,
 Or, on your servant, S. D. HOOD,
 Who's Auctioneer, 'tis understood.
 S. D. HOOD, Auctioneer.
 Topsfield, May 11, 1867.

The McKenzie Family in Topsfield.

By ALFRED MCKENZIE.

Read before the Historical Society by Miss Marietta Clark.

The ancestors of the subject of this paper were racially traceable back to the Scots who came by the way of Spain into Ireland early in the Christian era, for when St. Patrick, the Italian missionary, was there in the fifth century, he speaks of them as the Regeels (Rulers) and of the common people as Hybernigenal. The name Scot, rendered from Celtic, means Wanderer but taken from the German of Scythia (Scutten) would signify Scythian race. But certainly they were a very energetic people and remarkable for making room for themselves as they ruled the country till it took the name of Scotia and retained it for many centuries.

About the sixth century they wandered into Argyleshire, a district of the country known since the eighth century as Scotland. They increased there in numbers till they formed the kingdom of Dalsiade. Thus there came to be three kingdoms within the bounds of North Britain, that of the Northern Picts, or people of the woods, Southern Picts and the Scots.

Sometime near the beginning of the eighth century (730 A. D.) the Northern Picts quarreled and went to war with the Southern Picts. The Scots were appealed to and gave aid to the Northern Picts; thus began a war which lasted more than a century. A reverse to the Scots induced them to call over their kindred from Ireland, and after a long strug-

gle with both the Northern and Southern Picts, the Scots became master of the country, and in 843 A. D. crowned Kenneth, "the hardy" King of the Scots, down by the Scot water or Forth.

This is the event known in history as the Scottish conquest.

The stone upon which this king was crowned was called Lia Fial or "Stone of Destiny." It was carried to England by Edward the First in the year 1296, and now forms a part of the coronation seat. Queen Victoria was crowned upon it.

The crest and armorial bearings of the family this paper concerns, appears none other than that of the Scots. The crest was the face of the sun in a halo of light; and the armorial bearings, á shield held by two persons; one hand holds the shield and the other a lighted torch. Upon the shield a buck's head; all of which was crowned by a helmet, beneath inscribed in latin "Lucio non Uro" (Light, not Darkness).

When in the year 81 of the Christian era, Agricola invaded North Britain, it was inhabited by twenty-one aboriginal tribes or clans.

The introduction of clanship and tartans seems to be beyond the reach of history, but Logan in his Scottish Gael gives the following extract from the charge and discharge of John Bishop of Glasgow, treasurer to King James III, 1471:

"Ane elue and ane halve of blue Tartane to lyne his gowne of cloth

of gold."

£1 10s (Scots).

I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of clans in Scotland. In a little book entitled "The Scottish Clans" I find a map of Scotland divided into clans in the 10th century, with the names of thirty-one written below, probably the principal ones, as many more are marked out on the map. The same book gives a list of ninety-six clans and families with their tartans.

Far up in the north of Scotland we find the clan of MacKenzie. The descent of the chief of this clan—

"MacKenneth, great Earl of the North,
The Lord of Loch Carron, Glensheil and Seaforth"

is of pure Scoto-Gaelic descent, with a strain of Irish as asserted by Douglas and others.

Colin, eleventh chief, fought bravely for Queen Mary at the battle of Langside, for which he was afterwards pardoned by the Regent Murray.

Kenneth, his eldest son by Barbara Grant of that ilk, was raised to the peerage in 1609 as Lord MacKenzie of Kintail. Colin, their eldest son, was created Earl of Seaforth in 1623.

In Robertson's "Index of Missing Charters" there is a Crown charter of Confirmation by David II for the lands of "Kintale" in 1344 when a grant of that and other lands by William, Earl of Ross, to Reginald, son of Roderick de Insulis, dated 1342, 4th July is confirmed. In MacKenzie's "History of the Clan" the earliest date which can be assigned for its acquisition of Kintail

from John, Earl of Ross, is 1463. After the forfeiture of the Lords of the Isles, the clan, like all others in the west, became independent.

There is a tradition in the MacKenzie family that the Topsfield MacKenzies are directly descended from the Earl of Seaforth.

The fighting force of the MacKenzies is given by Forbes as 2500 men, adding those of the Earl of Cromarty and the Lairds of Gairloch, Skatwell, Killeowie, Redcastle and Comrie, all MacKenzies.

The war cry of the MacKenzies was "Tulach Ard," a mountain near castle Donnan, the strong hold of the clan anciently.

The badge of the MacKenzies and MacLeans was in Gaelic "Cuilion," in English "Holly."

I do not know the extent of their lands, but there were but two clans north of them.

The great attachment of the clansmen to their chieftain is shown by the following incident. "In 1778 Edinburgh was startled by what was known as the "Affair of the Wild Macraes," some hundreds of whom had enrolled in the Seaforth Regiment of Highlanders formed in 1778 by Kenneth, the Earl of that title ("that is, the head of the MacKenzie clan") and which mutinied at Edinburgh on hearing that they had been sold to the East India company.

General Skene, Lord Macdonald and others proved to the men that their complaints were groundless and the affair was settled. The regiment then marched, with pipes playing, to Holyrood, and afterwards sailed for India on what proved a fatal voyage to the MacKenzies and Macraes, for

ere St. Helena was in sight Lord Seaforth died and then a great grief, with homesickness, fell upon his clansmen, so of the thousand who sailed from the British Isles, 230 perished at sea, and only 390 were able to carry arms when they began the march to Chingleput.

From the history of the MacKenzie clan we will now pass to that of our Topsfield MacKenzies.

Enoch MacKenzie, the father of John and grandfather of John's progeny, was born in Inverness, Scotland, about the year seventeen hundred and fifty-eight, and was the second son of a family of five children, three sons and two daughters. The oldest son, in accordance with the custom of that country and England in families of some means, was provided for by giving him a military education. Thus was Alexander the oldest trained, finally entering the army with the commission of a lieutenant. The second son, Enoch, was sent to Edinburgh for a university course preparatory for some profession. In the early part of his course, war between England and the American colonies began and the lieutenant was called into the service and sent to America. At that time the Clyde was navigable only to Greenock for vessels of any considerable size. A transport having arrived bound for the American colonies, to take the mails and by press-gangs to replenish the English army and navy, Enoch, with a college companion, went down to deliver on board the transport, letters to his brother the lieutenant. They were very courteously received and invited to go below and inspect the vessel. On

arriving below decks both were put in irons. Ordinarily their social position would have kept them free from such a seizure and they little expected such treatment. In due time the transport put to sea and Enoch and his companion were put under military drill. To this they concluded, for their present comfort, to submit, but to fight for England against America, never.

Arriving on the American coast, the transport was pursued by an American privateer and taken. When taken the two young men were found below in irons. Enoch always congratulated himself and praised his companion for their decisions. When they were called for action they refused to obey and not even the threat of suffering the penalty of traitors would induce them to comply. They were therefore ironed below. The transport was taken into Boston harbor and a part of the crew were sent to Salem as prisoners of war. Among these was Enoch. At that early time of the war there was no particular provision made for detaining prisoners of war except in the large towns, and they relieved themselves and the tedium of the prisoners, by allowing themselves to be selected by farmers to work for their board till exchanged. Out of an early number sent to Salem, Mr. Emerson, who resided at the north end of the common in Topsfield, had selected one who was of a dignified bearing and a gentleman of culture. Hearing of another arrival, the following market day. Mr. Emerson, wishing to find a fit associate for the one he had, called to view them. Seeing one of a more intelligent cast

than the rest although quite young, he approached him, informing him of his desire, with which the prisoner readily complied. Mr. Emerson with his selection started upon his journey home. Soon engaging him in conversation he found his judgment fully confirmed. When arriving near the end of their journey, just before turning off the main street to the house, the first prisoner, in his anxiety to learn the news, which in those times traveled slowly, had walked out to meet Mr. Emerson; just as they were abreast, the young man having finished an earnest conversation, turned his head to the pedestrian and sprang directly upon him. Mr. Emerson was at first dumbfounded, but in a moment relieved and delighted at hearing Enoch exclaim "brother—Alexander"! Here was his brother the lieutenant, who had been previously taken prisoner, and was awaiting an exchange of officers of his grade.

Up to this time the English had refused exchange on double grounds; first that we were rebels; second a like commission of ours was not an equivalent of theirs. This delay gave ample time for the two brothers to deliberate upon their future course. Alexander could see no possible chance for the colonies, in their weakness, to succeed against so powerful a nation as England, and in case of failure if he entered our service his fate would be the gallows. The younger had determined from the first to enlist in the American service during the war, however it might terminate, but to remain with his brother till the question of his exchange should be settled. When

at length that occurred, Alexander appended the condition, that he, having relations in the American Army, would accept an exchange only on the condition, that he be assigned to the East India service during the continuance of the American war. This was complied with and subsequently confirmed by letters received from him dated from that place. Enoch immediately enlisted in the Continental army, served to the end of the war and received an honorable discharge.

Topsfield being the only town in which he had made acquaintances he therefore passed his furloughs there and some of his time in a family of one of its soldiers, an acquaintance formed in the army, and who had daughters. This led to an event which is not uncommon to young men, even today, which, in the sum of time crystallized into six entities, three sons and three daughters; John, William and Abraham; Catharine, Susan and Mary. John was born during his father's brief residence in Topsfield, the others in Londonderry, N. H., where he remained till his family exceeded the capacity of his farm, when he removed to Waltham, Vermont, where he and his family, except John, passed the remainder of their days. John remained in Topsfield till he went to an apprenticeship with a wheelwright, in Lynn. At the end of that service, he married and established himself in the business of his trade in Lynn; but, possessing a marked mechanical genius, he soon added that of carpentry, joinery and millwright, which trades he successfully followed several years till in-

duced to purchase a farm in Topfield and move there. At this time he had two children, having soon after attained his majority married Elizabeth Searle, the daughter of a puritan from England who came here about the year sixteen hundred and thirty-eight to enjoy in freedom his religion, and settled in what has been known as Newbury—Oldtown. Being a well-to-do farmer he gave his children, in accordance with puritanic conceptions, a good education in the more solid and practical branches; but Elizabeth, being energetic and enterprising, ventured into the higher grades and therefore was instructed much above the average females of her time. Her activity induced her to follow teaching till she married. She was a kind mother and still held her team of seven boys well in hand, always commanding their respect, and with several, almost reverence.

She was skilled in all the household duties of that time, which were much more complete than today, as they comprised spinning, weaving, and in her case, the results of the loom could be shaped into the required garments and the needle work deftly performed.

Her moral instructions were of the sternest stoical character. Shun all the vices and tell the truth whatever the consequences. She was very studious, always inclining to weighty literature; also possessing a fair talent for music, sketching and conversation as well. Samuel S., the oldest son of John and Elizabeth, in his earliest boyhood gave signs of the possession of a very diversified genius, comprehending many of the

sciences, prominently, metaphysics, philology and esthetics. In the science of delineation he was known to all in the neighborhood. The work-shop of a plow-maker stood near the little red school house in the north part of the town and on the street fronting the latter. Through the large folding doors could readily be observed what passed within, and frequently the hourly habits of the occupants.

One morning there appeared sketched on these doors, a drawing of what had transpired the previous night. The proprietor full sized with his most conspicuous physical peculiarities; a tumbler in his upraised hand, the jug sedately seated upon the bench, and his striker with equally distinguishable physical characteristics, with upturned eye grudgingly viewed the departure of the contents of the tumbler and anxiously awaiting his turn. For the remainder of the school term the young rogue found his safety by way of the fields. In later years, while following the cordwainer's trade, ever impelled by a love of study and research, he took up philosophy, chemistry, astronomy, meteorology, metallurgy, horology, hydrostatics, mathematics plain and mixed, in as confused a manner as here presented and as old treatises came to his hand, always seeking an old and exhaustive work containing between two covers all that was then known and perhaps all known today, published under the present mode of diverseness, each requiring as much expenditure of time without then obtaining the whole problem. This he ever contended. Therefore he had few books, and a

teacher, never, save a little time on the first rudiments of each study. He had the mechanical ability to make all the instruments he required for experiments in the various sciences mentioned and others, and when entering another to gain a livelihood, those needed in its pursuit, such as instruments for surveying, in which he was occupied in connection with watch and clock repairing, till the close of his life

He always took great interest in music, was well informed in thorough base and its framework and could present it with great clearness, but its soul he never could express. Worthy of notice in this sketch is Addison, the sixth son of the family.

He suffered through life from poor health which confined him to a light vocation. Therefore he took up that of shoemaking, but not finding enough in it for mental occupation, and having viewed the external of a locomotive standing upon a railroad track, on his return home employed his leisure in an effort to make one. From the external his genius readily suggested what the interior must be. Procuring the necessary material soon a complete working model about six inches long, and a track about two feet in diameter, were finished. Tiring of his present condition he packed engine and track into a hand bag and departed for a locomotive factory at Lowell or Lawrence, immaterial to him which. Finding one he entered the counting room and applied for employment; being asked if he had been in the employ of a machine shop, he answered no but had a working model

and a track which he had made without help. This aroused the curiosity of the agent and he requested to see it. Soon it was steamed up and gracefully spinning around the track. The agent asked his terms which were his board till more could be paid. The agent desired him to follow and he would procure him a boarding place, which done he commenced work in the factory. At the end of a year he was receiving full pay and put upon finishing work. This continued till the second year of the war when an officer came into the factory inquiring if they had a hand capable of constructing an hydrostic appliance of sufficient power to draw two foot bolts out of oak timber. The officer was from the Boston navy yard, where they had been trying to accomplish this work and had failed.

Addison was thought to be capable and was applied to; he said he would try if he could have his own way and do all the work himself.

This was complied with and within ten days the machine built, working with complete success. From thence, for a time, he was employed by the government adjusting monitor engines. Franklin, the seventh son, in order to give him a better opportunity to develop a musical talent and obtain instruction, at the age of thirteen was placed in an excellent family of a green grocer and in his employ. He was soon placed under instruction both in vocal music and the piano forte, with one of the best teachers in Boston to receive lessons until his twenty-fourth year, but no tuition was required of him the last four

years, as he served his teacher as solo singer. He graduated a professor of music. In the Spring of his twenty-fourth year he caught cold and from the effects of it, in the Fall was translated to a higher sphere, which he pre-eminently merited by his virtuous and moral life.

Enoch's family leaves male issue in the third generation of one, John's of one and the prospect of only one for the fourth. Then the inquiry may be raised, has Enoch's progeny been a failure? Yes, so far as continuing the name is concerned; but to the public weal certainly not, nor to themselves. For John's family, which is now prominently under consideration, a family of seven boys set afloat in the world without the helm even of an elementary education, amidst the temptations of their surroundings, not one of them fell into vicious habits, nor at any time in their lives were under the influence of intoxicants, or participants in the popular vices; but each and all striving to supply their deficiencies of early schooling, or for the love of study and knowledge and to be able to demonstrate it to themselves. Their lack of an ambition, seemingly to turn it to a financial account, would suggest that their acquisitions came too late in life, passed its ambitious period for public notoriety. Or may be, by virtue of an ante natural law, certainly in mechanics, how in other branches? Some were defective in metaphysics while others journeyed on to, if not through, occult science. Was it that a part adhered to a deductive process of investigation, to which the Scotch so pretinaciously cling? Or,

with others by the inductive method, either instinctively or otherwise, adopted even in boyhood?

NOTE.

Here let me add my own personal tribute to the character of Mr. Samuel MacKenzie. I have never felt that full justice has been done his memory. It is perhaps little wonder that in his later years when his mind had become broken by reason of the infirmities of old age, poor, old and solitary, that to the younger and more unthinking portion of the community he should have become somewhat of an object of merriment. Then he thought he could sing. It did seem strange, when there were so many things he could do, that he might almost be called a genius, that he should take more pride in his musical ability than in anything else. This was one of the strange contradictions of human nature.

But years ago, when in his prime, it has been told me that no man was more respected in town than Mr. Samuel MacKenzie. He represented Topshfield in the legislature in 1852 and was a member of the board of selectmen in 1853-4-5 and 6.

And as far as I personally knew him and have been able to ascertain; Topshfield was amply justified in her selection. Peculiarities he had indeed. His opinions often had the crudeness of the solitary student; there was also in his character a certain Scotch obstinacy and perversity of opinion, which was often most trying even to his friends. Nevertheless, he was, I believe in moral character and religious principle, far above the ordinary individual. I

find it difficult to put in words just not help it. To him there was no the impression which in this respect other course. It is a broad statement he always made upon me. "Except ment, not to be made lightly, yet I ye become as little children, ye can- think I am justified in saying that not enter the kingdom of heaven." Mr. Samuel MacKenzie never did a It was this childlikeness, this sim- mean thing. Surely a worthy de- plicity of integrity, which I felt in scendent of the Scottish High- him. I have never seen it in the landers. same degree in any other individual. "Nowhere beats the heart so kindly He was guileless, honorable and As beneath the tartan plaid." high-minded, simply because he could

MARIETTA CLARK.



BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE MINISTRY OF THE REV. DANIEL BRECK,
NOVEMBER 17, 1779, UNTIL THE DISMISSAL MAY 5, 1841,
OF THE REV. JAMES F. M'CEWEN.

COMMUNICATED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

“On the 17th day of November, 1779, Came the Revnd — Chandler of Rowley west Parish; and the Revnd George Lesslie of Lyne Brook Parish in Ipswich. And the Revnd Elizur Holyoake, Pastor of the first Parish in Boxford. And the Revnd — Lothrop, Pastor of the Church of the Old North, (so call^d) in Boston, and the Revnd John Treadwell Pastor of the first Church in Lynn, and the Revnd Benj^a Wadsworth Pastor of the first Parish in Danvers, with their Delagates. The Solemnity began with Prayer. Mr. Treadwell was the mouth of y^e Congregation. M^r — Lothrop Preached the Sermon from the 2nd of Corinthians, 4th Chapter & the 5th verse:—for we Preach not our Selves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your Servents, for Jesus Sake. M^r Lesslie gave the Charge. M^r Holyoak gave the Right hand of fellowship. M^r Chandler Pray^d. After wards a Suitable Hyme was Sung, and the Blessing given and the Solemnity Concluded.”

2 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

BAPTISMS.

Isaac Averel his Luke	Nov ^r	21 st , 1779.
It being the first Child y ^e Rev nd M ^r Breck Bap- tized after his Ordination		
Daniel Boardman his John	"	28,
A daughter of John Boardman by y ^e name of Eliza- beth	"	"
A child of Dan ^l Hood by y ^e name of Elizabeth	Feb ^y	6, 1780.
A child of Jonathan Chapman of Linebrook, by y ^e name of Jonathan Perkins, and	April	23,
A child of Nathaniel Fisk by y ^e name of Lydia	"	"
A child of David Towne by y ^e name of David	"	30,
A child of Nathanael Averill, Jun ^r by y ^e name of Ammi	May	7,
A child of Stephen Towne by y ^e name of Hepsey	"	21,
A child of John Gould by y ^e name of David	June	18,
A child of John Perkins by y ^e name of John	July	2 ^d ,
A child of Eben ^r Goodhue by y ^e name of Samuel	"	9,
A child of Moses Conant by y ^e name of Lois	"	16,
A child of John Balch by the name of Rebekah	August	20,
Humphrey, a son of Israel Clark Jun ^r	"	27,
Abigail, a daughter of Samuel Fisk	Nov.	26,
James, a son of Eleazer Lake Jun ^r	Jan ^y	7, 1781.
Sarah, daughter of Robert Balch	March	25,
Betty, daughter of Oliver Perkins	April	29,
Daniel, son of Ephraim Towne Jun ^r	"	"
Susannah, daughter of Joseph Towne Jun ^r	June	17,
Sarah, daughter of Jacob Towne	July	1 st ,
John, son of Will ^m Estie	August	12,
Ruth, daughter of Philemon Foster of y ^e Chh. in Linebrook	Sep ^r	2,
Moody, son of Dan ^l Clarke	"	16,
Bishop, son of Daniel Boardman	Nov.	11,
Mary, daughter of Nathanael Smith	"	18,
Becca, daughter of John Gould	Feb ^y	10, 1782.
Lydia, daughter of Nathanael Averell	March	25,
Ebenezer, son of Nathanael Fisk	April	14,
Matte, daughter of Moses Conant of Linebrook	May	5,
Amos, a son &		
Hitte, a daughter of John Gould Jun ^r	Aug ^t	4,
Sara, daughter of David Towne and Allen, a son &		
Polly, a daughter of Daniel Porter	Oct.	6,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 3

Stephen, a son of Step ⁿ Towne	Oct.	27, 1782.
Polly, a daughter &		
Daniel, a son of Daniel Dodge	Nov.	10,
and also		
Rebekah, daughter of Zaccheus Gould Jun ^r	“	“
Anna, daughter of Zaccheus Gould Jun ^r	March	2, 1783.
Martha, daughter of Joseph Cree and		
William, son of Philip McKensie	April	20,
Billy, son of Oliver Perkins, and		
Stephen, son of Nathanael Smith	May	4,
Rachel, daughter of Jacob Towne Jun ^r	June	22,
Ruth, daughter of Ephraim Towne Jun ^r	July	20,
Sally, daughter of Samuel Fisk	August	3,
Nabby &		
Rhoda, daughters of David Hobbs	“	17,
Jacob, son of Benja ⁿ Perley	Sep.	21,
Ruth, daughter of John Gould Jun ^r	“	28,
Moses Perley, son of Daniel Clarke	Jan ^y	4, 1784.
Daniel, son of Daniel Boardman	“	18,
Daniel, son of Daniel Hood	Feb ^y	8 th ,
Miriam, wife of Cap ^t Nehemiah Herrick, and their		
children in the following order :		
Polly, a daughter		
Hannah, a daughter		
Joseph, a son,		
Edy, a daughter		
Nehemiah, a son		
The above were baptized at Cap ^t Herrick's house		
on account of his wife's weak & declining state,		
She was at the same time received into full com-		
munion	Feb ^y	9,
Dorothy, daughter of Nathanael Averill	April	2,
Dilly, daughter of Robert Balch	May	16,
David, son to Nathana ^l Fisk	June	6,
John, son to John Dwinell	Agust	1 st ,
Nathanael, son to Philemon Foster of New Boston	Oct ^r	17,
Joseph, son to David Towne	Nov ^r	7 th ,
Sara, Daughter to Eleazer Lake Jun ^r	“	28,
Elizabeth, Daughter to Zacheus Gould Jun ^r	March	20, 1785.
Mehitabel, daughter to Joseph Cree &		
Mehitabel daughter to Benja ^m Emmerson,	April	3 ^d ,
Samuel Son to Samuel Gould	“	24,
Elizabeth daughter to Philemon Foster of y ^e Chh. in		
Linebrook	May	22 ^d ,

4 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

George, Son to David Hobbs	July	31, 1785.
Sara, Daughter to Joseph Towne and		
John Son to Philip McKensie	Aug ^t	21,
Jacob, Son to Oliver Perkins	Sep ^t	11,
John Son to John Gould	"	25,
Elijah Son to Stephen Towne and		
Polly daughter to Elisha Perkins	Oct ^r	2 ^d ,
Betsy, Daughter to Stephen Pearly and		
Molly Daughter to Daniel Gould	"	9,
Will ^m Son to Moses Conant of Linebrook	"	16,
Ebenezer, Son to Daniel Dodge	Nov.	6,
Mary, Daughter and		
Ezra, Son to Ezra Perkins	"	"
Jacob, Son to Jacob Towne Jun ^r	"	"
Jere &		
Francis sons &		
Dorothy a daughter to Benj ^m Hood	"	20,
Benja ^m son to Benja ^m Emerson	"	27,
Nathaniel, son to Ezra Perkins	Jan ^y	29, 1786.
Betsey, Daughter to Dan ^l Boardman	March	19,
Benjamin, son to Robert Perkins 3 ^d	"	"
Polly, Daughter to Abraham Hobbs	April	9,
Betsey, Daughter to Robert Balch	"	"
Moses, son to Nathan ^l Averill	June	26,
Mehitebel, daughter to Thomas Foster of Linebrook	Decem.	3,
Joseph, son to Joseph Towne		
at his house the child being dangerously sick	Feb ^y	1, 1787.
Elizabeth, daughter to Daniel Breck	"	"
Lucy, daughter to Sam ^l Gould	March	11,
Fanny, daughter to Stephen Perley	"	18,
Nathan Ames &		
Abraham, sons to Abraham Foster Jun ^r	April	15,
Prisee, daughter to Stephen Perkins Jun ^r		
by y ^e Rev ^d M ^r Holyoke	June	10,
Luke, son to David Towne	"	24,
Nabby, Daughter to David Perkins Jun ^r	July	15,
Jacob, Daughter (son) to John Dwinnell	Sep ^r	30,
Huldah, Daughter to Zach ^s Gould Jun ^r		
By the Rev. M ^r Frisbie	Nov.	11,
Mary, Daughter to Tho ^s Porter	Decem.	2,
Edward Allen Son to Ditto	Jany	27, 1788.
Daniel, Son to Daniel Breck	Febr ^y	17,
Nabby, Daughter to Abra ^m Foster Jun ^r	"	24,

Daniel,	} children of Aaron Kneeland	March	2, 1788.
Aaron,			
Mary,			
John,			
Moses,			
Ezra,			
Sarah, daughter to David Perkins Jun ^r		“	30,
Amos, son to Robert Perkins Jun ^r		April	13,
Nehemiah, son to Aaron Kneeland		May	18,
Lydia Daughter to John Gould Jun ^r		July	6,
Susanna Daughter to abraham Hobbs		Oct.	12,

May 26, 1788. “The Chh. met, & having attended to the renewal of the pastor’s request for a dismissal, consented to it, & voted an acceptance of what the Com’ttee had prepared as a recommendation. They then proceeded to the choice of M^r Jacob Kimball as Clerk, to record the votes of the Chh. and having in a very affectionate & solemn manner united in prayer, the pastor & brethren, parted.”

“Topsfield, November 12th, 1789. This day convened the Reverend Gentlemen before requested to sit in council, (M^r Oliver excepted) with the delegates of their churches, & ordained M^r Asahel Huntington to the pastoral office in this place.

M^r Nott [of Franklin, Conn.] made the introductory prayer—M^r Hart [of Preston, Conn.] Preached a sermon from Heb. 12th 1st “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses”—M^r Smith [of Middleton] made the consecrating prayer—M^r Cleaveland [of Ipswich] gave the charge—M^r Holyoke [of Boxford] gave the right hand of Fellowship—M^r Dana [of Ipswich] made the concluding prayer.”

Esther, daughter to Robert Perkins Jun ^r	Jan.	17 th , 1790.
Zaccheus, son to Zaccheus Gould J ^r	Feb.	28 th ,

6 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Sally, Daughter of Stephen Perley	Feb.	28 th ,	1790.
Lucy, Daughter to Benj ⁿ Emerson, Boxford,	"	"	
Lucy Kimball Perley, Daughter to Solomon Perley of Boxford offered for Baptism by M ^r Jacob Kimball grandfather to y ^e child,	Oct ^r	17 th ,	
Nathaniel, Son to Daniel Bordman	"	31 st ,	
Thomas, son of Thomas Porter	Jan.	9 th ,	1791.
John, a Son of Abraham Foster Jun ^r	Feb.	13 th ,	
Asa, son of Aaron Kneeland	"	27 th ,	
David, son of John Gould	March	27 th ,	
David, son of David Perkins	Aug st	20 th ,	
Allen, Son of Robert Balch	"	"	
Jacob, son of John Hood Jun ^r	Jan.	1 st ,	1792.
Hannah Potter, Daughter of Stephen Perkins	Aug st	5 th ,	
Elijah, son of Thomas Porter	Oct ^r	7 th ,	
Ira, a son, &			
Sally, a Daughter of Daniel Porter	"	28 th ,	
Humphrey, a son of Zac Gould Ju ^r	"	"	
A child of Daniel Bordmans	June		1793.
Samuel, Son of Aaron Kneeland			
Asa, son of Samuel Gould			
Patty, Daughter of John Gould			
Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah Cleaveland			
—— ——— of Stephen Perkins	Aug st		
Bradstreet, son of Benjamin Emerson	Sept.		
Cynthia Cummings, Daughter of y ^e Rev ^d Joseph Cummings Disceased By y ^e wife of Robert Perkins Jun ^r			
John, Son of Ezra Perkins	Oct ^r		
John, Son of John Hood Jun ^r			
Samuel, Son of Aaron Conant			
Eunice, Daughter of Aaron Conant			
Aaron, Son of Aaron Conant			
Alethea, Daughter of Asahel Huntington	March		1794.
Nehemiah, Son of Robert Perkins Jun ^r	April		
Benjamin, Son of Jacob Towne Jun ^r			
John, Son of Zaccheus Gould	May		1795.
Ester, Daughter of Samuel Gould			
Stephen, Son of Stephen Perkins			
Mary, Daughter of Elisha Perkins			
Clarissa &			
Bestsy, Daughters of Cornelius Gould	Augst		
Anna &			
Ruth, Twins, Daughters of John Hood J ^r			

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 7

Benjamin, Son of Joseph Cree		
Elisabeth, Daughter of Joseph Cree		
John, a son of Joseph Cree		
Nathaniel, Son of Aaron Conant		
Elisabeth, Daughter of Ezra Perkins	Feb ^y	8 th , 1796.
John, Son of John Gould J ^r	April	1 st ,
William Adde, Baptized, offered by Eliczer Lake		
Elisha, Son of Asahel Huntington	May	15 th ,
Betsy, Daughter of Stephen Perkins	Oct.	26 th ,
Humphry, Son of Zaccheus Gould	Sept.	17 th , 1797.
William, Son of M ^r . Tenny	Oct ^r	7 th ,
Betsey, Daughter of Robert Perkins J ^r	Jan ^y	14 th , 1798.
William Neal, Son of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq	May	20 th ,
David, Son of John Hood J ^r		
William Porter, Son of Aaron Kneeland	June	
Asahel, Son of Asahel Huntington	August	
Betsy, Daughter of Deac. John Gould	June	1799.
Joseph Porter, son of Cornelius Gould	July	
Eleazer, Son of Zaccheus Gould	August	26 th ,
Sally, Daughter of Samuel Gould	Nov ^r	24 th ,
Richard, a son of John Hood J ^r		
Hezekiah, Son of Asahel Huntington	August	17 th , 1800.
Mercy, Daughter of David Perkins J ^r		
Sarah, Daughter of Moses Averell deceased	Oct ^r	5 th ,
Lydia	}	Daughters of Moses Bradstreet
Phebe		
Cynthia		
Mary, Daughter of John Hood J ^r	Nov ^r	30 th ,
David	}	Children of David & Hitty Cummings
Nabby		
Samuel		
Pamela		
Sylvester		
Hiram		
Moses	}	Children of Simon Gould J ^r
Haffield		
Sally		
Mary, Daughter of John Balch		
Charles	}	Children of Thomas Perkins
Polly		
Wesley		
Irena		
Hiram		
Phebe	}	Daughters of John Batchelder J ^r
Anna		
	Sept ^r	

8 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

William, Son of Aaron Conant		
Cynthia, Daughter of Eli Brown	Oct ^r	4 th , 1801.
Eunice, Daughter of Moses Bradstreet		
Sarah, Daughter of John Balch	"	18 th ,
Fanny, Daughter of Cornelius Gould	Nov.	1 st ,
Eunice, Daughter of Zaccheus Gould	"	29 th ,
Mary, Daughter of N. Cleaveland Esq ^r	May	9 th , 1802.
Anna	}	Daughters of Thom ^s Foster
Lydia		
Sally		
Phebe		
Polly		
Robert, Son of Robert Lake	"	
Hannah, Daughter of Robert Lake	"	
Hitty	}	Daughters of Jonas Merriam
Polly		
Thomas Wendal Durant, a boy indented til of age to Jonas Merriam	"	"
Mary Ann, Daughter of Aschel Huntington	Sept ^r	26 th ,
Mrs. Lucy Friend &	Nov ^r	14 th ,
Sally Friend, Daughter of Lucy	"	"
Richard, Son of John Hood	April	3 ^d , 1803.
Polly, Daughter of Sam ^l Gould	"	10 th ,
Samuel White, Son of Simon Gould	June	12 th ,
Jonas, Son of Jonas Merriam & Mehitable his Wife	"	"
Ruthy	}	Children of John Perkins & Sarah his Wife
Hezekiah Balch		
Rebecca		
Robert		
Mary		
Jane Searl, Daughter of Thom ^s Tenny		
John &	}	twin Sons of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq ^r
Ebenezer		
Benjamin Conant, son of David Perkins	May	13 th ,
Jacob Perkins, son of Jacob Towne 3 ^d	"	27 th ,
John, a son of John Perkins	June	16 th , 1805.
John Capen, Son of John Balch	"	23 ^d ,
George, Son of John Hood	Oct ^r	5 th ,
Elijah, Son of Simon Gould	Decemb ^r	1 st ,
Elijah Perkins, Son of Zebulon Perkins	May	7 th , 1806.
Elisha Lord, son of Nehemiah Cleaveland Esq ^r	Sept ^r	7 th ,
John, a son of John Wright deceased		
Mary, daughter of Jacob Towne 3 rd	Oct ^r	26 th ,
Jonathan Knowlton, son of Thos Perkins Ju ^r	Jany	16 th , 1807.
George, son of John Hood	July	5 th ,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 9

Nehemiah, son of John Balch		
Ezra, son of Jacob Towne Junior	June	12, 1808.
Thorndike Osgood, son of Simon Gould	Oct ^r	23 ^d ,
Lucy, Daughter of John Hood	Sept ^r	24 th , 1809.
Baptized the Children of Daniel Wildes & Euni[c]e his Wife By the following names, viz:—		
Joshua		
Sally		
Thomas		
Israel		
Mehitable	Nov ^r	16 th ,
William Porter, son of Amos Gallop	Sept.	30 th ,
Stephen Perkins, son of Edward Hammond Lately deceased	Sept ^r	1811.
Sarah Manning, adult, Daughter of John Manning esq. of Ipswich	Jan.	31 st , 1812.

Reverend Asahel Huntington died April 22^d 1813, aged 52 years, one month and five days, "after having served as the affectionate, faithful and beloved Pastor of the Church of Christ in Topsfield twenty two years and five months—his praise was in the Churches."

Elisabeth	} Children of Samuel Todd	July	17 th , 1815.
Lydia			
Samuel			
Alethea			
Louisa, adult daughter of Jonas Warren	Sept ^r	21 st , 1817.	
Caleb Kimball, adult	Nov ^r	9 th ,	
Sarah	} Children of Jonas & Sarah Warren	"	23 ^d ,
Parker			
Harriet			
Charles			
Lucinda			
Adeline			
John Peabody jun. adult	May	31 st , 1818.	
Widow Elisabeth Waite			
Augustine Symonds son of John Peabody jun.			
William	} Children of Widow Elisabeth Waite		
Elizabath			

The moderator addressed the throne of grace. Documents were then read testifying the call from the chh. & people in Topsfield to Mr. Dennis, & his answer in the affirmative to the same. The candidate then being examined, it was voted unanimously, that the council are satisfied of the regularity of the proceedings of the chh. & Town relative to the settlement of Mr. D. & also with his qualifications as to piety & knowledge for the sacred ministry; & that they will proceed to ordain him as soon as may be over the chh. & people in this place.

Voted, That Rev. Mr. Braman make in. prayer.

Rev. Mr. Hall preach the sermon.

Rev. Dr. Dana make ordaining prayer.

Rev. Dr. Wadsworth [make] charge.

Rev. Mr. Briggs [give] Rt. Hand.

Rev. Mr. Kimball address the chh.

& conclude by prayer.

* Voted, to proceed at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 o'clock."

Calvin	} Children of William & Elizabeth Co- nant			
Elizabeth				
Ruth			Nov.	19, 1820.
Louis				
Nehemiah, son of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins,		April	29, 1821.	
Mary, daughter of Rodney G. & Mary Dennis,		Jan.	20, 1822.	
Mary, infant daughter of Saml & Lydia Todd,		March	3,	
Mary Elizabeth, infant daughter of John & Mary Perkins,				
Abigail, infant daughter of Thomas & Sarah Perkins,		Nov.	10,	
Phebe Wildes, infant daughter of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins,		Dec.	22,	
Theodosta Dennis, infant daughter of R. G. & M. P. Dennis,		May	18, 1823.	
Elizabeth Ashby, infant daughter of Benja. & Rebecca Perkins,		June	1,	

* No further record appears of the proceedings of the ordination.

12 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Thomas Emerson, infant child of James & Lydia Stearns of Salem,	June	15, 1823.
Ruth Gould, daughter of Joseph Gould,	July	13,
Ruth Gould, infant daughter of Dea. Saml. & Lydia Todd,	Aug.	10,
John Brown, child of Capt. John & ——— Peabody,	July	4, 1824.
Jesse Appleton & Jane Abigail, infant children of R. G. & M. P. Dennis,	“	18,
David Peabody, son of John & Lydia Peabody,	Aug.	15,
Austin, infant child of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins,	“	“
Benjamin, infant child of Sam'l & Lydia Todd,	Dec.	26,
Mary Jane, infant daughter of Thomas & Sarah Perkins,	July	10, 1825.
Eunice Cummings, infant daughter of William and Elizabeth Conant, [Lyndebrook]	“	“
Rodney, infant child of R. G. & M. P. Dennis,	April	2, 1826.
Moses Bradstreet, infant child of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins	Aug.	20,
Mrs. Eliza, wife of Mr. Elisha Perkins Jr.	Oct.	1,
Edward Augustus, infant child of Benja. & Rebecca Perkins,	May	13, 1827.
Joel Rogers, son of Mr. John Peabody,	July	22,
Josiah, son of late Capt. Eben'r Peabody	“	“
Hiram Kneeland, and Cynthia Hobbs, and Rhoda Cummings, children of Mr. George & Mrs. Mary Hobbs,	“	29,
Joseph, infant child of R. G. Dennis,	April	13, 1828.
Ruth Lamson, infant child of Nehemiah & Lydia Perkins,	“	“
Mehitable, infant child of Dea. S. Todd	May	4,
Esther Wildes, infant daughter of Jeremiah Stone, M.D.	May	3, 1829.

Rev. Rodney G. Dennis upon his own request was dismissed from the pastoral office in Topsfield by a Council of Churches held May 6, 1829. The relations existing between Church and pastor were dissolved on May 18, 1829.

Edward Parker, infant son of Rev^d Rodney G. Dennis and Mary P. Dennis was baptised by the father of the child April 25th, 1830.
 Attest, N. CLEVELAND, Clerk.

Rev. James F. McEwen formerly settled over the Church in Bridport, Vermont, was installed pastor of the Church in Topsfield on May 5, 1830. Nine churches were represented by pastor and delegate in the ecclesiastical council.

William Gunnison on his own account	Sept.	5, 1830.
Huldah Pike (wife of Benja. P. Jr.) her own account	"	"
Susan Cummings Jr. her own account	"	"
Alpheus Justus Pike & Alethina Philena Pike, on account of Huldah, wife of Benja ^a Pike Jr.	Octr.	24,
William Bradstreet on his own account	Nov ^r	7,
Ebenezer Peabody " " " "	"	"
Perley Balch Jr. " " " "	"	"
Benjamin Howe " " " "	"	"
Thomas Furgison " " " "	"	"
Abigail Wildes (wife of Humphrey W) her own account	"	"
Susan Cummings (widow) on her own account	"	"
Priscilla Bradstreet (widow) on her own account	"	"
Mary Perkins (Dau. of Elisha) on her own account	"	"
Huldah W. Perkins (Dau. of Elijah) on her own account	"	"
William Thomas Gunnison	} Children baptized on account of their father W ^m Gunnison	Dec ^r 2,
Elisha Washington Gunnison		
Mary Ann Gunnison		
John Harrington Gunnison		
Daniel Lungreen Gunnison		
Lydia Smith Gunnison		
Lucy Elizabeth Gunnison		
William Rea on his own account	Jan ^y	2, 1831.
Israel Rea Jr. " " " "	"	"

14 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Dudley Perkins on his own account	Jan ^y	2, 1831.
Amos Perkins Jr. " " " "	"	"
Lucy Peabody (Dau. of Widow Mercey) her own account	"	"
Mary Ann Peabody (Dau. same) her own account	"	"
Mary Cook her own account	"	"
Sarah Brown " " " "	"	"
Eunice K. ^{Andrews} Adams (wife of ^{Joseph N.} Moody) her own account	"	"
Mary Ann Balch (wife of Nehemiah) her own account	"	"
Dolly Pike (Dau. of Benja.) her own account	"	"
Eunice Balch (Dau. of Perley) " " "	"	"
Abigail Perkins (Dau. of Elijah) " " "	"	"
Bartholomew Conant on his own account	March	6,
John Lamson " " " "	"	"
John Conant Jr. " " " "	"	"
Benjamin Pike Jr. " " " "	"	"
Nathaniel Wells " " " "	"	"
Humphrey Balch " " " "	"	"
Sarah Balch (wife of Perley) her own account	"	"
Mercy Rea (wife of John) " " "	"	"
Eunice Bradstreet (wife of W ^m) her own account	"	"
Mercy Peabody (Dau. of Wid. Mercey) her own account	"	"
Elizabeth Peabody (Dau. of Wid. Mercy) her own account	"	"
Porter Bradstreet on his own account	May	1,
Nancy Towne (wife of Dan ^l) her own account	"	"
Mehitable Br[a]dstreet (wife of Porter) her own account	"	"
Eunice Stiles her own account	"	"
Lucy Gile " " "	"	"
Eliza Bradstreet (Daughter of Dudley) her own account	"	"
Sarah Bradstreet (Daughter of Dudley) her own account	"	"
Ruth Rea (Daughter of Israel) her own account	"	"
Abigail Bradstreet (Daughter of William) her own account	"	"
Sarah Bradstreet (wife of John) her own account	July	3,
Asahel Huntington Todd, on account of Father Dea. Sam ^l Todd	"	17,
Caleb Kimball Perkins, on account of Parents Nathaniel & Judith Perkins	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 15

Josiah Bridge Lamson	}	Children on account of their father John Lamson	Aug ^t	7, 1831.	
Alathea Huntington Lamson					
Mercy Perkins Lamson					
Mary Ann Lamson					
Priscilla Augusta Lamson					
John Augustus Lamson	}	Children on account of their parents Dudley & Sarah Perkins	"	"	
Elbridge Fiske Perkins					
Rodney Dennis Perkins					
Lydia Phippen Perkins					
Dudly Quincy Perkins					
Mary Elizabeth Perkins	}	Children on account of their Mother Phebe, the wife of Silas Lake	"	"	
Ann Maria Lake					
John Batchelder Lake					
Silas Page Lake					
Robert Channell on his own account		Sept ^r	4,		
Hannah Balch (Dau. of David B.) her own account		"	"		
Sally Balch (Dau. of David B.)		"	"		
Elizabeth Cynthia Andrews, on account of her mother the wife of Joseph Andrews		"	18,		
Elizabeth Day Bradstreet, on account of her mother widow Priscilla Bradstreet		"	"		
Ruth Esther Gould Perkins, on account of her Mother Lydia Perkins, wife of Nehemiah Per- kins,		October	16,		
John Dwinnel		}	Children on account of their mother Louisa Dwinnel wife of John D.	"	23,
David Holt Dwinnel					
Sarah Perkins Dwinnel					
Louisa Richards Dwinnel					
Hiphzibah Sophia Dwinnel					
Esther Mehitable Dwinnel					
Willard Adolphus Dwinnel					
Priscilla Lamson (wife of John) on her own ac- count		Nov ^r	6,		
Hannah Perkins (wife of David) on her own ac- count		"	"		
Lois Moore (wife of Thomas) on her own account		"	"		
Abigail W. Kimball (wife of Benj ^a) on her own ac- count		"	"		
Abigail Wildes (Daughter of Humphry) on her own account		"	"		
Harriet Towne (Daughter of Jacob 3 ^d) on her own account		"	"		
Israel Gallup on his own account		Jan ^y	1, 1832.		
Abraham T. Pierce " " " "		"	"		

16 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Richard Phillips	on his own account	Jan'y	1, 1832.
Joseph Phillips	“ “	“	“
Betsy Gould (Dau. of Joseph)	on her own account	“	“
Mary J. Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	“ “	“	“
Sarah Phillips (Dau. of Richard)	“ “	“	“
Mehi[t]able Balch (Dau. of Perley)	“ “	“	“
Lydia Peabody (wife of John)	“ “	“	“
Mary Cross	“ “	“	“
Mary Munday (wife of W ^m)	“ “	“	“
Elizabeth Gallup (wife of Israel)	“ “	“	“
Lydia B. Emerson (widow)	“ “	“	“
Harriet J. Emerson (Dau. of Widow L.)	on her own account	“	“
Lois R. Carter (wife of Sylvester)	on her own account	“	“
Lydia Bradstreet (Dau. of Cap ^t . Dudley)	on her own account	“	“
Anstiss P. Balch (Dau. of David)	on her own account	“	“
Benjamin P. Adams	on his own account	March	4,
Eunice B. Wells	on her own account	“	“
Mary Ann Cummings (Daughter of Widow Susan C.)	on her own account	“	“
Sally M. Munday, Daughter of W ^m ,	her own account	“	“
Betsey Gould (Daughter of Andrew G.)	her own account	“	“
Benjamin Adams	on his own account	May	6,
Lydia Smith	on her own account	“	“
Lucy M. Wilkins	“ “ “ “	“	“
Elizabeth C. Wilkins	“ “ “ “	“	“
Gustavus Dorman Pike	on account of his parents		
Benj ^a . Jr. & Huldah Pike		July	1,
Abigail Kimball McEwen,	on account of her parents		
(by adoption) Rev ^d Jas. F. & Harriet C. McEwen		“	“
Frederick Perley	on his own account	“	“
Sarah Abigail Perkins } on account of their mother			
David Perkins } Hannah, wife of David P.		“	15,
Mary Ann Whiting Moore,	on account of her mother		
Lois Moore the wife of Thomas M.		Sept ^r .	16,
Edwin D. Sanborn	on his own account	July	7, 1833.
Arner Averell	on her own account	“	“
Benjamin Flavius Pike,	on account of his parents		
Benj ^a Jr. & Huldah Pike		“	28,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 17

Dudley Bradstreet	} On account of their mother Sarah Bradstreet, the wife of John Bradstreet		
John Bradstreet			
Israel Rea Bradstreet			
Thomas Franklin Ferguson on account of his parents Thos. & Huldah Ferguson			October 20, 1833.
Caroline L. Hart on her own account		Jan ^y	5, 1834.
Mary Ann Perkins on account of her mother, Han- nah, the wife of David Perkins		July	13,
Susan Alzea Stone on account of her father Doctr. Jer. Stone		"	20,
Arathusa Elizabeth Pike on account of her parents Benja. Jr. & Huldah Pike		Augt.	24,
Ebenezer Peabody on account of his parents Eben- ezer & Abigail Peabody		June	21, 1835.
Edwin Augustine Peabody on account of his father Augustine S. Peabody		"	"
Jacob Symonds Peabody on account of his father Augustine S. Peabody		July	24, 1836.
George Winslow Dwinell, on account of his mother Louisa, the wife of John Dwinell		Octr.	23,
Moses Wildes Stone on account of his father Doctr. Jeremiah Stone		Nov ^r	20,
Josiah Peabody Perkins	} on account of their parents Dudly & Sarah Perkins		
Samuel Webster Perkins			Sept ^r . 17, 1837.
Edward Hammond Ferguson	} on account of parents Thomas & Huldah Ferguson		
Ruth Abigail Ferguson			" "
Harriet Elizabeth Bathink on her own account		July	1, 1838.
Lucy Foster on her own account		Sept ^r .	2,
Elias Putnam Peabody on account of his Parents Ebenezer & Abigail Peabody		"	9,
George Cowls Perkins on account of his Parents Nathaniel Jr. & Lucy Perkins		"	"
Charlotte W. Taplin on her own account		Jan ^y	6, 1839.
Betsey Perkins, wife of Amos P. on her own ac- count		March	3,
Betsey Gould wife of Tho ^s G. on her own account		"	"
Hannah P. Bradstreet dau. of Porter, on her own account		"	"
Thomas L. Lane on his own account		"	"
Robert S. Perkins " " " "		"	"
Alva Moulton " " " "		"	"
Asa Bradstreet " " " "		May	5,

18 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Lydia Bradstreet (Dau. of W ^m B) on her own account	May	5, 1839.
Sophia C. Perkins (Dau. of Amos P) on her own account	"	"
Catherine C. Adams on account of her parents Benj ^a P. & Mary Ann Adams	"	12,
Rosamond P. Ferguson on account of her parents Thomas & Huldah Ferguson	"	"
Thomas S. Peabody on account of his father Augustine S. Peabody	"	"
William G. Peabody } on account of their mother		
George W. Peabody } Almira the wife of William Peabody	"	"
Mehetable F. Adams wife of Benj ^a F. Adams on her own account	July	7,
Frederick Wallace Perley } on account of parents		
Greenleaf Proctor Perley } Frederick & Almira P. Perley		
Susan Ellen Perley	Aug ^t	25,
Emerson P. Gould on his own account	Septem ^r	1,
Jonathan P. Gould " " " "	"	"
Ariel H. Gould " " " "	"	"
Moses J. Currier " " " "	"	"
Henry A. Merriam " " " "	"	"
James E. Gifford " " " "	"	"
Elizabeth Simonds on her own account	"	"
Mary A. Gould " " " "	"	"
Sally F. Gould " " " "	"	"
Ann Gould " " " "	"	"
Ruth P. Batchelder " " " "	"	"
Mary E. Munday " " " "	"	"
Almira P. Perley " " " "	"	"
Isaiah M. Small " his " "	Nov.	3,
John A. Gould " " " "	"	"
Ruth Lake " her " "	"	"
Eliza G. Adams " " " "	"	"
Elizabeth A. Gould " " " "	"	"
Mary Ann E. Coburn on her own account	"	"
Catherine K. Wells on her own account	Jan'y	5, 1840.
Lucy H. Lake " " " "	"	"
Huldah Florilla Pike } on account of their par-		
Ithamah Evandah Pike } ents Benjamin & Huldah		
Amanda Dolly Pike } Pike	February	16,
Abby Wildes Wright on account of her parents John & Abigail Wright	May	17,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 19

Minerva Achsah Pike on account of her parents Benj ^a & Huldah Pike	February 14, 1841
Lucy Abby Peabody on account of her parents Ebe- nezer & Abigail Peabody	April 18,

1841. May 5. "The pastoral relation of the Rev^d James F. McEwen to this chh. closed agreeably to the result of the Council of February last; the Parish having paid him his salary, & two hundred & fifty dollars of the sum awarded him, & he having relinquished one hundred dollars."







