

THE  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

---

VOL. XVII

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1912

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TOPSFIELD, MASS.  
Published by the Society  
1913







THE TOPSFIELD MEETING HOUSE,  
BUILT IN 1759.  
(See page 88.)



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GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

*Editor*

THE MERRILL PRESS

*Topsfield*

MASS.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE SECRETARY OF THE  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 30, 1911.

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The membership of the Society on December 30, 1911 was 236. Only one new member was elected during the past year, while one has resigned, eleven have been dropped for nonpayment of annual dues and five have died:—Mrs. Amanda D. Clifford of Topsfield, William Orrin Hood of Danvers, John E. Morris of Hartford, Conn., Augustus V. Peabody of Malden, and John Henry Smith of Salt Lake City.

Three meetings of the Society have been held at which papers were read by Hon. Arthur H. Wellman and the Secretary. Volumes 15 and 16 of the Historical Collections have both been completed and distributed during the year and volume 17 is partly in type. In volume 16 two groups of tintype portraits of Topsfield people, taken about 1868, were included with accompanying short biographical sketches. These have aroused considerable interest and in following volumes it is proposed to continue the series. Accordingly it is suggested that the Secretary be permitted to have access to tintype albums preserved in the various homes so that family groups of portraits may be engraved. It would be desirable to include larger engravings from photographs but the cost of reproduction is greater. This, however, can easily be done if relatives or friends would assume part of the expense. By continuing this plan, the Collections would contain in the course of time, a portrait gallery of many of our townspeople.

Of the present membership only ninety-eight reside in Topsfield. There should be a very much larger percentage of our population enrolled and if each member would only ask a neighbor or friend to join, without doubt a courtesy would thereby be conferred and also a benefit to the Society. The gatherings held during each year present opportunities for meeting where there are no social, political or religious distinctions, while the annual volume of Collections in itself is certainly worth more than the small assessment. May I ask you one and all to please propose the name of at least one new member during the coming year. The simple request on meeting a friend will be all that is necessary in many cases for no doubt very many people have never had the matter brought to their attention.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Secretary.

# REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 30, 1911.

## RECEIPTS

1911		
Jan. 1,	Balance on hand,	\$142 72
Dec. 30,	Historical Collections sold,	13 50
"	Annual dues,	173 50
"	Bindings sold,	47 50
		<hr/>
		\$377 22
		<hr/>

## PAYMENTS

1911		
Dec. 30	Printing Vol. 15 balance,	\$12 25
"	Binding Vol. 15,	33 41
"	Printing Vol. 16,	71 36
"	Binding Vol. 16,	33 51
"	Engraving Vol. 16,	9 90
"	Stationary and printing,	11 60
"	Postage,	3 63
"	Balance,	201 56
		<hr/>
		\$377 22
		<hr/>

Jan. 1, 1912,	Balance cash on hand,	\$201 56
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## THE BUILDING FUND

1911		
Jan. 1,	Amount on hand in Salem Savings Bank,	\$813 36
	Interest one year,	32 84
		<hr/>
		\$846 20
		<hr/>

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,

Examined and found correct,

Treasurer.

HENRY F. LONG,

W. PITMAN GOULD,

Auditing Committee.

MRS. MARY LAKE (GOULD) NICHOLS.

---

Mrs. Mary Lake (Gould) Nichols who died very suddenly in Topsfield on Dec. 17, 1912, was the eldest daughter of Andrew and Mary Prudence (Lake) Gould of Topsfield, where she was born May 24, 1831 in the house long known as the David Lake house. She married Mar. 10, 1857, in Newburyport, Lucius Warren Nichols, who died in Topsfield, Aug. 26, 1888. She left one daughter, Martha E., wife of Wm. Pitman Gould of Topsfield.

Mrs. Nichols was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church with which she united in 1868 and was particularly interested in every event relating to its history. She also was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society and a constant attendant at its meetings. Her knowledge of local history and genealogy was extensive and freely extended to all in search of information. In November, 1885 she met with a severe accident which brought about years of physical suffering, yet she ever was one of the most cheerful of people, never idle, her busy hands constantly employed with needlework or the making of lace. Her remarkable will and high courage did much to prolong her years. She was loved by all who knew her for her bright smile and her helpful word.





MRS. MARY LAKE (GOULD) NICHOLS.



COPIED BY HENRY F. LONG.

(Continued from Vol. XVI, page 164)

Dat. Topsfield November 10: 1725      John Hovey  
Jacob Dorman Constable      in the name & by order  
of the rest of y<sup>e</sup> Select-  
men

Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

The free holders and other inhabitation of this Town Qualified According to Law for voting are to take notice to meet here at the Meeting house in Topsfield on ffryday the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Decem: next After the Date hereof at 12 of the Clock in s<sup>d</sup> day.

1st To Choose a Committe to give Mr William Osgood a Call to the work of the Ministry in our Town

2ly To Doe any other thing or things Relating to his Settlement with us as the Town shall then think best

3ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will grant the petition of some of the inhabitation on the other side of Nickolls Brook to be set of to a new precinct & fourthly to hear the Committes return that were Chosen to Reckon with Madam Capen & to allow bills of Charge

John Hovey by

Dated in Topsfield December the 4: 1725 order of the rest  
Jacob Dorman Constable of the Selectmen  
of Topsfield

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Decem 1725

1 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2ly Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter Mr Eliezer Lake and Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould are Chosen a Committe to joyn with the Committe wich the Church hath Already Chose to inform the Reverend Mr William Osgood that the town as well as y<sup>e</sup> Church hath unanimously Made Choice of himself to be our Minister and to Settle with us in the ministry and if said mr Osgood is please to accept of the Call: that then the said Committe which the Town has now Chosen are further ordred to discourse with y<sup>e</sup> said Mr Osgood to see upon what Terms he shall see Cause to Settle with us in the work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry and y<sup>e</sup> said Committe to return Mr Osgoods answer to y<sup>e</sup> Town as soon as may be Conveniently  
voted

3ly The Town agreed to give to y<sup>e</sup> reverend Mr William Osgood Eighty pounds by the year sallary for his incouragement to settle with us in the Work of Ministry  
voted

4ly The Town allowed to Mr<sup>s</sup> Capen Twenty six pound thirteen shillings and for pence for the reverend Mr Joseph Capens service in y<sup>e</sup> ministry from the first of March 1724-5 till y<sup>e</sup> Last of June following  
voted 26 13 4

5 The Town allowed one shilling to Clerk Elisha Perkins for timber to mend highways

The free holders and other inhabitants of this Town Quallified according to Law for Voting are to take notice to meet



here at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on fryday next after the Date hereof at 12 of the Clock on said day

1ly By Vertue of a Warrant to y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen y<sup>e</sup> freeholders are to make Choice of a Person to be Register of Deeds

2ly For the ffreeholders & other inhabitants to hear mr Will<sup>m</sup> Osgoods answer to the Committe that were Chosen to give him a Call to the work of the Ministry in our Town and to act upon it as the Town shall then think best in order to his Settlement with us in said work

Dated December 18 1725

John Hovey by order  
of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of

Jacob Dorman Constable

Topsfield

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> day of Decm<sup>r</sup> 1725

1 Dea: Daniel Redington is Chosen Moderator of this meeting

voted

2ly The freeholders brought in their votes for a Register of Deeds

3ly: The Town having heard the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Osgoods Answer to the Town Respecting his Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in this Town: the Town Dose Now agree to give to the Reverend Mr William Osgood one hundred pound per Annum in Currant Passable Money: or in Bills of Publick Creditt for his Sallary: and also y<sup>e</sup> Improvement of the Parsonage Land; during the Term of his ministry amongst us

voted

4ly The Town agreed to give two hundred pounds to R<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Osgood towards his Settlement Amoungst us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry

voted

5ly Whereas M<sup>r</sup> Osgood has but one Sabbath more to Preach with us according to former agreement; therefore the Town Do now Desire him to Preach with us one month Longer then s<sup>d</sup> agreement: and agree to give him for sd month According as the former Committe Agreed with him: viz Thirty five shillings per week

voted

6ly The Town agreed to adjourn this meeting unto the first Tuseday of Jan<sup>y</sup> next

voted

the Moderator adjourned this present meeting Accordingly

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield begun & held on y<sup>e</sup> 24 Day of December 1725 and adjourned unto y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Day

of Jan: 1725-6 at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon: and then met and whereas the Town did agree at said meeting on y<sup>e</sup> 24 of December: to give two hundred pounds to the reverend M<sup>r</sup> William Osgood towards his settlement with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry the Town do now agree to pay one hundred pound of said money within this year that is now begun and y<sup>e</sup> other hundred pound of s<sup>d</sup> money to be paid the next year following voted

And also whereas the Town Did agree to give to the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> William Osgood one hundred pounds per annum for his sallary: the Town Do now agree to pay in unto the s<sup>d</sup> Mr Osgood the one half of his yearly sallary at Every half years End voted

the year to begin at y<sup>e</sup> first of March next Ensuing untill which time Mr Osgood doth now Consent to Preach with & amoungst us as heretofore

Topsfield feeb<sup>y</sup> 11: 1725-6

The ffreeholders & other Inhabitance of this Town: Quallified according to Law for voting: are to take Notice to meet here at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house on Tuseday the first of March Next after the Date hereof at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> morning to Choose Town Officers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing To see if the Town will agree upon sum other method of fenceing in y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage Land then what hath already been Agreed upon: To Choose Jurymen for Ipswich Court and do any other thing or things as the Town shall then see best

Jacob Dorman Constable	John Howlet
A True Copy of the notification Attest	Jacob Estey
Jacob Peabody Town Clerk	William Porter
	John Hovey Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull & Annual Town meeting in Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> 1: of March 1725-6

1ly Mr Ivory Hovey is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting voted

2ly Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

3ly Corp<sup>l</sup> Tobijah Perkins & Eben<sup>r</sup> Nickols are Chosen Constables for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

Corp<sup>l</sup> Perkins having agreed with John Willdes to serve as Constable in his room the Town accepted thereof by a vote

4ly En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould Serg<sup>t</sup> Thomas Robinson M<sup>r</sup> Simon Bradstreet & Jacob Peabody are Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

5ly Edmond Town Nathan Byxbe & Eliezer Lake are Chosen Tything men for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

6ly En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

7ly M<sup>r</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town Jonathan Willds & Benjamin Knight are Chosen Surveyers of highways for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

8ly Serg<sup>t</sup> Joshua Town & David Balch Are Chosen fence viewers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

9ly Serg<sup>t</sup> Zacheus Gould & Joseph Robinson are Chosen Hogreeves for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

10ly William Town & Joshua Town are Chosen field Drivers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

11ly M<sup>r</sup> Simon Bradstreet is Chosen School master for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

12ly Serg<sup>t</sup> Zacheus Gould is Chosen grand jury man for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

Serg<sup>t</sup> Ivory Hovey & David Balch are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryals at y<sup>e</sup> next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

13ly M<sup>r</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter is Chosen Town Treasurer for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

14ly Whereas the Town at a Leagal Town meeting on y<sup>e</sup> first day of Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1725 Did agree to fence in all y<sup>e</sup> parsonage Land in Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> first day of June next following with a good sufficient fence: & the Town having Considered the Matter do now Agree to fence in all y<sup>e</sup> parsonage Land with a good Legall stone wall voted

15ly The Town having heard y<sup>e</sup> Reverend M<sup>r</sup> William Osgoods Answer to the Church and Parrish Relating to his settling with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry: accepts thereof and ordered that it should be Entred in y<sup>e</sup> Town book

All the Officers Chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Town on s<sup>d</sup> first of March 1825-6 whom the Law Requires to be sworn viz. Town Clerk, Constables, Tything men Surveyers of highway, fence view-

ers, Hogreeves, field drivers & Town Treasurer were all of them sworn. Each man to his Respective office on y<sup>e</sup> said first & fourth Days of March 1725-6 before y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen

The Sealler of Leather Excepted: and Serg<sup>t</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Robinson & Sam<sup>l</sup> Curtis being Chosen field drivers by y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of Stickey Meadow Commonfields were sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull Discharge of s<sup>d</sup> office: before y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen on sd 1: of March

At the above sd Town meeting on y<sup>e</sup> 1: of march: 1725-6 the Town gave Liberty for Clerk Elisha Perkins to set up a stable at y<sup>e</sup> East End of y<sup>e</sup> stable by M<sup>r</sup> Capens fence

To the Church and Parish of the Town of Topsfield  
Gentlemen

I have taken into serious Consideratian the Invitation which you made me to settle with you in y<sup>e</sup> Work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry: and likewise the Sallary which by vote you have allowed me for my subsistance in that work These are therefore to Inform you, That I readily take up with what you have already done on that account.—and I hereby do Consent to settle with you in y<sup>e</sup> work of the ministry as Long as God shall enable me thereto

These from Him who is ready to  
Serve you in the Gospel of our  
Glorious Redemer

This is a true Copy of Mr Osgoods      William Osgood  
Answer to the Church and  
Parish attest Jacob Peabody Town Cle

En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman being Chosen Clerk for & by y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of Stickey Medow Com: on field: was sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull Discharge of s<sup>d</sup> Office before y<sup>e</sup> selectmen of Topsfield March 15 1725-6

Boston June 7<sup>th</sup> 1722

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Joseph Robinson Constable of Topsfield P M<sup>r</sup>  
Daniel Clark Twenty one pound four shillings & Ten pence  
in full for My ffather      Jer Allen Treasurer  
21:4:10      P Ja<sup>s</sup> Allen

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Joseph Robinson as Constable of Topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> year 1721 the full of what was Committed to him to Colect



for my use for s<sup>d</sup> year I say Rec<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> full of it per me Joseph Capen

Topsfield March: 10: 1723-4

The two Receipts above Entred are True Copies attest Jacob Peabody T C

The ffreholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Legall Quallified for voting are to take Notice to meet at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in s<sup>d</sup> Town on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> Twenty second Day of this instant March at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon

1 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Give Liberty for swine to go at Large

2 To 'agree upon some Method to pay in the Towns Loan Money

3 To Choose Jurymen for Ipswich Court

4 To Choose a Committe to Seat People in y<sup>e</sup> meeting house

Amos Dorman	
Simon Bradstreet	Select
Joseph Gould	men
Thomas Robinson	of
Jacob Peabody	Topsf <sup>d</sup>

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1725-6

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield

A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification

attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup>: 1725-6

1 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 The Town gave Liberty for swine to go at Large according as y<sup>e</sup> Law gives Liberty voted

3 Zacheus Gould is Chosen grand Jury man for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

& Ivory Hovey & David Balch are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryalls at the next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

4 The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Trustees, Namely, Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould, Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett & M<sup>r</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter; Shall Call in

one fifth part of y<sup>e</sup> Principal of the Towns Loan money: of such person or persons to whom said money was Lett out where said money may be most Conveniently be had according to their sound judgment & Discretion: & pay in y<sup>e</sup> same unto y<sup>e</sup> Province Treasurer by y<sup>e</sup> first day of June next according to y<sup>e</sup> General Court Act made & passed in November 1725

voted

5 William Porter, Thomas Gould, William Town, Quarter<sup>m</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman: and Jacob Estey; are Chosen a Committee to Seat People in the meeting house

voted

Pursuant to a Warrant to me Directed from under y<sup>e</sup> hands of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Topsfield by vertue of sd warrant The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs are to take Notice to meet at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Tenth of this Instant May at Tenn of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> forenoon

first To Choose a Representative to serve at y<sup>e</sup> Great and General Court

2ly To agree upon a time when to pay in Mr Osgoods Sallary

3 To Choose a Committee to make up y<sup>e</sup> wall about y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage where any Person or Persons shall Refuse or Neglect to make up his or their part of sd wall

4 To see if Town will agree to turn y<sup>e</sup> way that Leads through Dea<sup>n</sup> Redingtons Land on y<sup>e</sup> south side of River

5 To Receive the Committees Return of apportioning the fence about y<sup>e</sup> parsonage

6 to Choose Jury men for Ipswich Court

7 To Choose men to Answer y<sup>e</sup> Petition of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Topsfield On y<sup>e</sup> south side of Nickolses brook Relating to their being set of to a Precinct

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 6: 1726

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield

A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 10: 1726

1 M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

voted

2 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould Chosen to Represent y<sup>e</sup> Town at y<sup>e</sup> general Court for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

3 The Town accepted of y<sup>e</sup> Committees return of setting out to Each free householder Their Respective proportion to fence about y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage Land in Topsfield voted

Mr Ivory hovey Enters his Contrary Decent to y<sup>e</sup> Last vote above Entered

4 Where as Mr Osgood did Consent to begin his year at y<sup>e</sup> first of march 1725-6 and y<sup>e</sup> Town finding it inconvenient on several Accounts Therefore the Town and Mr Osgood do now Agree to begin y<sup>e</sup> year of his service in y<sup>e</sup> ministry on y<sup>e</sup> first Day of July next voted

5 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen & appointed to appear at y<sup>e</sup> Generall Court in behalf of y<sup>e</sup> Town to give in the reason why y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> south side of Nickol-ses brook (so called) should not be sett of to another Parish or Precinct voted

6 The Town Agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Present Selectmen should draw up the Reasons why y<sup>e</sup> Prayer of y<sup>e</sup> Petition of y<sup>e</sup> above said Inhabitants should not be granted voted

At a Legall Town meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1726

1st Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen moderator for this meeting voted

2ly The Town did manifest by a vote that they are willing that Mr Osgood should Continue with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry voted

The freehol[d]ers & other Inhabitants of Topsfield such as are Quallified as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs for voting are to take Notice to meet at the meeting house in Topsfield on ffryday y<sup>e</sup> Tenth Day of June next at two of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in sd Day

first to agree upon some method to find out y<sup>e</sup> truth of those Scandalous reports Concerning Mr Osgood

2 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will agree to set of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Topsfield on the south westerly side of Nickolses brook to joyn with other inhabitants to make a Township and to do any other thing or things that the Town shall then think needfull & proper to be done

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1726

John Wildes Constable for Topsfield

Thomas Robinson

Simon Bradstreet

Jacob Peabody

this is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification attest Jacob Peabody  
Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1726  
1 Mr Isaac Peabody is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2ly The Town agreed to Choose a Committe to joyn with  
y<sup>e</sup> Committe which y<sup>e</sup> Church hath Already Chosen to finde  
out y<sup>e</sup> truth of those Scandalous Reports Concerning Mr  
Osgood voted

3 Quarter<sup>mtr</sup> Nath<sup>ll</sup> Bordman, M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Gould, & Mr  
Benjamin Town, are Chosen a Committe for s<sup>d</sup> Service voted

4 And when s<sup>d</sup> Committe have made search into & found  
out what they can of y<sup>e</sup> truth of those Scandalous reports  
that are concerning Mr Osgood sd Committe are to inform  
y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen thereof in order for y<sup>e</sup> Towns being Called to-  
gether and then y<sup>e</sup> said Committe to make report to y<sup>e</sup> Town  
of what they have found out Relating to s<sup>d</sup> Scandalous Re-  
ports in order for y<sup>e</sup> further proseedng in that matter voted

5 Where as Thomas Caves Edward Putnam & Joseph  
Knight & five other the Inhabitants of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> south  
side of Nickolses brook have Petition<sup>d</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> Town of Tops-  
field At a Legall Town meeting June y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1726 for all y<sup>e</sup>  
Lands belonging to y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> southerly or  
westerly side of Nickolses brook with all y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants now  
Dwelling on s<sup>d</sup> Lands to Joyn with some of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of  
Salem Andover & Boxford to make a Township and also to  
sett to s<sup>d</sup> Petitioners their proportion of y<sup>e</sup> Towns parsonage  
& all other undivided Lands in y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield The  
Town having Considered of y<sup>e</sup> sd Petition have Agreed that  
it should be dismist voted

To M<sup>r</sup> John Willdes Constable of Topsfield greeting

In his Majesties Name you are hereby Required forthwith  
to warn the freeholders & other Inhabitants Quallified as y<sup>e</sup>  
Law Directs for voting on y<sup>e</sup> north side of y<sup>e</sup> River to meet  
at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield, on y<sup>e</sup> seventeenth day of  
this Instant June, at three of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> after noon first  
to Receive y<sup>e</sup> Committies return that were Chosen to find out  
y<sup>e</sup> truth of Those Scandalous Reports Concerning mr Osgood

2ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will give Mr Osgood a Dismission from y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry in this Town

3 To agree upon some method to pay to Mr Osgood what is due to him from y<sup>e</sup> Town for his work in the ministry in this town

Amos Dorman                      Selectmen  
Thomas Robinson                of Topsfield  
Jacob Peabody

Dat Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> 16:1726

Topsfield June 17:1726 By vertue of this warrant I have warned y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> north side of y<sup>e</sup> river according to time & Place within mentioned John Willdes Constable for Topsfield

A true copy of warrant & return attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At a Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1726  
1 Mr Isaac Peabody is Chosen Moderator for s<sup>d</sup> meeting  
voted

To the Town of Topsfield Now Assembled & met. Whereas we the Subscribers were Chosen a Committe by y<sup>e</sup> Church & Town to find out y<sup>e</sup> truth of those Scandalous Reports Concerning Mr Osgood; Accordingly we have made Dilligent search and have gotten y<sup>e</sup> best Information we could and we find nothing worthy of Raising such scandalous Reports Concerning M<sup>r</sup> Osgood and by the best Information that we could find we do Judge that some of those Reports were Raised by and we went to house with mr Osgood to see them face to face and to hear what they then would accuse s<sup>d</sup> Osgood with and to give them a Sivel Discourse but y<sup>e</sup> Refused to make any Discourse with Mr Osgood, or with us: but said that they had Nothing to say to us and asked us what power we had to ask them Concerning such things and said that knew nothing about those stories Concerning Mr Osgood: Dat. Topsfield June 17:1726

This is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Return  
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Daniel Clark  
Jacob Towne  
Elisha Perkins  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Borden  
Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

2 The above written Return being twice Thomas Gould  
Publicly read y<sup>e</sup> Town Accepted thereof voted

3 The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> present Selectmen shall take  
Care to pay Mr Osgood with y<sup>e</sup> Towns money what shall be  
Due to him from y<sup>e</sup> Town when this month is out for his  
work in y<sup>e</sup> ministry Amongst us voted

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of Topsfield such as  
are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting are hereby Noti-  
fied to meet at the meeting house in Topsfield on fryday the  
Ninth of this Instant September at Twelve of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on sd  
day first to see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will proceed in order to ordain Mr  
Osgood

2 To Allow bills of Charge. 3ly to Choose overseers for  
y<sup>e</sup> poor

4 To Choose Jurymen for Newbery Court

	Amos Dorman	Select-
Dat <sup>d</sup> Topsfield Sept <sup>t</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1726	Joseph Gould	men
John Willdes Constable for	Thomas Robinson	of
Topsfield	Simon Bradstreet	Tops-
	Jacob Peabody	field

At a Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Sept<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>: 1726

1 Mr Isaac Peabody is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 The Town have manifested by a vote that they were  
willing to prosceed in order to ordain the Reverend Mr Will-  
iam Osgood voted

3 The Town allowed to Mr Eliezer Lake Eleven shillings  
& four pence it being what Isaac Powers was Rated in Tops-  
field in 1724 which s<sup>d</sup> Lake being Constable could not git

voted 11-4

4 The Town Allowed to Joseph How one pound one shill-  
ing for sweeping the meeting house from y<sup>e</sup> Twenty fift day of  
October 1725 till y<sup>e</sup> twenty fift Day of October 1726

voted 1-1-0

5 The Town Allowed Eight pound to John Nickols & John  
Burton for Rebuilding this Towns part of y<sup>e</sup> bridge which is  
over y<sup>e</sup> river near to Edward Putnams house sd bridge being  
built this year

voted 8 0 0



6 The Town allowed five shillings to John Wildes for warning y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> North Side of River to a Town meeting voted 0 5 0

7 The Town allowed Twenty shillings to Mr Simon Bradstreet for serving Schoolmaster in 1725 voted 1-0-0

8 Jonathan Willdes & Robert Perkins are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Trialls at the next Inferior Court to be holden at Newbery voted

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of Topsfield such as are Quallified as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs for voting are hereby Notified to meet at the meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> Twenty third day of November Currant at Ten of the Clock on said day

1 first to Allow bills of Charge

2 To Receive the Committies Return of Seating People in the meeting house

3ly To agree upon a method to Dispose of y<sup>e</sup> intrest of the Towns Loan money

4ly To agree upon a Method to Stir up People to Make up their Respective proportion of fence about y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage Land in Topsfield according as it hath been Laid out

5ly To take Care to procure Plank to Cover y<sup>e</sup> bridge over y<sup>e</sup> River in Topsfield

6ly To see if the town will give Liberty to some of our Neighbours in Ipswich to set up a stable near y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield

7ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will give Liberty to John Clark to Live in y<sup>e</sup> watch house this winter

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield Novem: 17<sup>th</sup> 1726 Joseph Gould Select-  
John Willdes Constable for Thomas Robinson men of  
Topsfield Jacob Peabody Topsfield

A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield Novem: 23<sup>d</sup> 1726

1 Mr Isaac Peabody is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2ly The Town allowed Twelve shillings to Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet for serving Representative Thre Days at y<sup>e</sup> general Court in Aprill 1726 voted 0 12 0



3ly The Town Allowed four shillings & six pence to Jacob Averill for slabs to mend y<sup>e</sup> highways this year voted 0 4 6

4ly The Town Allowed two shillings to Jesse Dorman for Timber to mend y<sup>e</sup> falls bridge voted 0 2 0

5ly The Town Allowed Eighteen shillings to Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould Dea<sup>n</sup> John howlet & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter for their trouble in taking in y<sup>e</sup> intrest of the Towns Loan money this year  
voted 0 18 0

6ly The Town Allowed one pound four shillings to Eliezer Lake & Jacob Peabody for sitting out to Each man his proportion to fence about y<sup>e</sup> parsonage voted 1-4-0

7ly The Town allowed six shillings to Clerk Elisha Perkins for Timber to mend the bridge near to said Perkinses house this year voted 0 6 0

8ly The Town agreed & ordred y<sup>e</sup> Trustees viz Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter to pay in y<sup>e</sup> intrest of the Towns Loan money (that is Due to y<sup>e</sup> Town) to y<sup>e</sup> present selectmen & said selectmen are to Dispose of it to y<sup>e</sup> Towns Use & benefit voted

9ly The Town Agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> River bridge Covered with plank y<sup>e</sup> next summer voted

10ly The Town granted Liberty to Samuel Potter, Caleb Foster, Abraham How & Others of our Neighbours in Ipswich to sit up a stable on y<sup>e</sup> Plain Northerly of & near y<sup>e</sup> meeting house voted

11ly The Town granted Liberty to Clerk Elisha Perkins & Ser Joshua Town to sit up a stable at y<sup>e</sup> Southerly End of Cap<sup>t</sup> Goulds stable near y<sup>e</sup> meeting house voted

Boston May 27: 1726

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould one of y<sup>e</sup> Trustees of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield the sum of Fifty one pounds being the first fift part of their proportion of y<sup>e</sup> £ 50000

P Jer: Allen Treasurer

This is a True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At a Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield Jan<sup>y</sup> 31: 1726-7

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 The Town allowed Ten shillings to Sam<sup>l</sup> Howlet for vic-tualing the widow Mary Averill & her Nurse Eight Days y<sup>e</sup> summer past voted 0 10 0

3 The Town allowed four shillings to Hannah Averill for Nursing or tending the sd widow Mary Averill Eight Days y<sup>e</sup> summer past voted 0 4 0

4 The Town Allowed one pound Ten shillings to Jonathan Willdes for keeping the widow Mary Averill seventeen Days in August Last past voted 1 10 0

5 The Town Allowed three pound Ten shillings to y<sup>e</sup> widow Phoebe Goodhall for keeping the widow Mary Averill seven weeks next after she came from Jonathan Willdes voted 3 10 0

6 The Town Allowed to y<sup>e</sup> widow Anne Averill one pound for keeping the widow Mary Averill five weeks next to y<sup>e</sup> Wido: Goodhall voted 1 0 0

7 The Town Allowed one pound Ten shillings to y<sup>e</sup> widow Luce Town for keeping the widow Mary Averill about Ten weeks next after Anne Averill voted 1 10 0

8 The Town Allows twelve shillings to Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter for his trouble in setting out to Each man his proportion to fence about y<sup>e</sup> parsonage voted 0 12 0

9 The Town Allowed five shillings to Mr Daniel Clark for a Glasser & his horse two Days when he Mended y<sup>e</sup> meeting house Glass in 1724 voted 0 5 0

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Jacob Dorman Constable of Topsfield the sum of four pounds Nineteen shillings & two pence in full for y<sup>e</sup> County Rate for sd Town

March: 5: 1725

P John Appleton County Treas:

This is A True Copy attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting are hereby Notified to meet at the meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> seventh day of March next after the date hereof at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> morning on sd day

1 To Choose Town Officers such as the Law Requires or Allowes to be Chosen at such meeting

2 To Choose a man To take Care of and Amend any breach that is or may be in y<sup>e</sup> meeting house

3 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see Cause to turn y<sup>e</sup> way that Goes through Sam<sup>l</sup> Howlets pasture

4 To Choose a County Treasurer

Dat : Topsfield ffeb : 14 <sup>th</sup> 1726-7	Thomas Robinson	Select- men of Topsfield
John Willdes Constable of Topsfield	Joseph Gould	
	Simon Bradstreet	
	Jacob Peabody	

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1726-7

- 1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet is Chosen Moderator for this meet-  
ing voted
- 2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 3 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter is Chosen Town Treasurer for y<sup>e</sup> year  
Ensuing voted
- 4 John Willds & David Cummings are Chosen Constables  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 5 Quartermaster Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Corp<sup>l</sup> Jacob Towne Benja<sup>a</sup>  
Towne Thomas Gould and William Redington are Chosen  
Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 6 Samuel Smith Corp<sup>l</sup> Tobijah Perkins and Richard Towne  
are Chosen Tything men for the year Ensuing voted
- 7 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y<sup>e</sup>  
year Ensuing voted
- 8 Mr Daniel Clark Job Averill Thomas Dwinel Jonathan  
Perkins & Isaac Peabody are Chosen Surveyers of highways  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 9 Jacob Estey & John Towne are Chosen fence viewers for  
y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 10 Jacob Redington & Daniel Gould are Chosen Hog-  
reeves for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 11 M<sup>r</sup> William Porter is Chosen Schoolmaster for y<sup>e</sup> year  
Ensuing voted
- 12 Mr Daniel Clark is Chosen to take care and Amend  
any breach that is or may be in Meeting house for y<sup>e</sup> year  
Ensuing voted
- 13 Mr Daniel Clark Mr Thomas Gould & M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Estey  
are Chosen to view the way that Leads through Samuel  
Howlets Pasture to see if sd way may turned with Conven-  
iency. And to make Report to y<sup>e</sup> Town what their Opinion  
Concerning it at y<sup>e</sup> next Town Meeting voted

14 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury & Doct<sup>t</sup> Michael Dwinel & — are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryals at y<sup>e</sup> Inferiuer Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

15 Thomas Robinson & Daniel Towne are chosen field Drivers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

The Several Officers Chosen at y<sup>e</sup> above s<sup>d</sup> Town Meeting of whom an oath is by Law Required were all sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of Their Respective Offices on y<sup>e</sup> seventh and on y<sup>e</sup> Tenth days of March 1726-7 Excepting Jacob Towne Entred by order of the Selectmen: Jacob Peabody Town Cler

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified according as the Law Directs for voting: are hereby Warned & Notified to meet at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the Twenty Eighth Day of March Currant at one of the Clock in the Afternoon on said Day

1 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Concur with the Church in what they have done in order to ordain Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Osgood

2 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Choose Two men to Joyn with y<sup>e</sup> Churches Committy that are to Discourse [with] the Ministers y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Church have Chosen to Ordain Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Osgood

3 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Answer the Petition of some of the Inhabitants on the south side of Nickoles Brook to abate their Rates towards the Minister in Topsfield

4 To see what they will do in order to fence y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage Land in Topsfield

5 To see if the Town Will Give Leave for swine to go at Large

6 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will allow y<sup>e</sup> Widow Mary Averills Petition

7 To Choose Overseers of the Poor

Date<sup>d</sup> Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 23:1726-7 Thomas Gould

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield Nathaniel Bordman

This is A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification William Redington

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 28:1727

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting voted

2 Whereas y<sup>e</sup> Church have agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr William Osgood ordained on the second Wednesday in June next y<sup>e</sup> Town do now Readily Concur therewith voted

3 The Town agreed that swine should go at Large this year according as y<sup>e</sup> Law Gives Liberty voted

4 The Town Agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> watch house repaired & kept in repair voted

5 The Town have Chosen Mr John Perkins to Repair sd watch house voted

The freeholders and other Inhabitation of the Town of Topsfield Duly Quallified by Law for voting: are hereby Warned & Notified to Assemble and Meet together on Tuseday the Ninth Currant. at two of the Clock in the After Noon; at the meeting house in Topsfield.

1ly To Choose a Representative to serve at y<sup>e</sup> General Court for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing

2ly To Choose Jury men for Ipswich Court

3ly To see if the Town will Concur with what the Church shall present to them then, in Order to the ordination of Mr Osgood

4ly To accept of y<sup>e</sup> Committies Return that was Chosen to apportion the fence Round the parsonage Land in Topsfield: to wit: Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter and others and to see what they will do in Order to make up their fence

5ly To Alow bills of Charge

6ly To Choose a Committe to view the highway that goeth through Jacob Redingtons Land in order to turn it

Dated Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1727 Thomas Gould

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman

This is True Copy of the Notification William Redington

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> Ninth: 1727

1ly Mr Thomas Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2ly Quarter<sup>m:tr</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman is Chosen to serve for and Represent the Town At the Generall Court the year Insuing voted



3ly The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Trustees Namely Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter shall Call in one fifth part of the Towns Loan money of such Person or Persons to whom sd money was Let out where sd money may most Convenient be had According to their sound Judgement & Discreetion & pay in y<sup>e</sup> same to y<sup>e</sup> province Treasurer by y<sup>e</sup> first day of June next According to an Act Made And passed at the General Court in November 1725

voted

4ly Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill & Jacob Peabody are Chosen a Committe to View the highway that Leads through Jacob Redingtons Land in order to turn it and to make return to y<sup>e</sup> Town at y<sup>e</sup> next Town Meeting: what their minds are Concerning the turning of s<sup>d</sup> way

voted

April: 24<sup>th</sup> 1727

We Jacob Towne Jacob Robinson & Benjamin Towne being appointed and impowered to Perambulate & Renew the bounds between the Townes of Salem and Topsfield accordly we met with John Preston and Cornelius Tarbell they being appointed by the Selectmen of Salem for said service and have Renewed the bounds as they formerly stand Entred in y<sup>e</sup> Towns Records

This is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Return of      John Preston  
Perambulation with Salem.      Cornelius Tarbell  
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Topsfield To John Willdes Constable you are hereby Required in his Majisties Name to warn and give Notice unto the Inhabitance of this Town on y<sup>e</sup> North side of the River Duly Quallified by Law for Voting that they meet together on fryday the sixteenth Currant at three of Clock in the after noon at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield in order to Choose one or two men as Attorneys or Agents to Implead the petitioners on the south side of Nickolses Brook in Topsfield which have Petitioned to the Great and General Court to be set off in order for a Township

Dated Topsfield June 13: 1727

Jacob Towne	
Thomas Gould	Selectmen
Benjamin Towne	of Topsfield
William Redington	

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield June: 16<sup>th</sup> 1727

1<sup>st</sup> Mr Thomas Gould is Chosen moderator for this meeting  
voted

2ly Mr Nathaniel Bordman & Mr Daniel Clark are Chosen Attorneys for the Town to Appear at the General Court on y<sup>e</sup> Twentieth Currant to Implead the Inhabitants on the South Side of Nickolses Brook in Topsfield which have Petitioned to the General Court to be set of with other Inhabitants to make a Township: and the said Attorney are to give in the Reasons to the sd Court why the prayer of said petition should not be Granted and s:d Attorneys are hereby fully impowdered to use all Lawfull and proper means to prevent the s<sup>d</sup> Petitions being Granted  
voted

Topsfield To David Commings Constable of s<sup>d</sup> Town Greeting you are hereby Required in his Majisties name to warn & Notifie all the Inhabitants of sd Town on y<sup>e</sup> south side of Ipswich River Duly Quallified for voting in Town Affairs as the Law Directs: to meet together att the meeting in Topsfield on Tuseday the fourth of July next at three of the Clock in y<sup>e</sup> afternoon on s<sup>d</sup> Day: for to see and Examine, Wherefore y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr Osgood hath not Carried on y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry Amongst us According to Agreement as in time past: and to take a prudent Care that we may no Longer be distitute of the publick worship of God being Carried on Amongst us and if need be to Chuse a Committe for the same service and make timely Return of your so doing

Dated Topsfield June 30 <sup>th</sup> 1727	Jacob Towne	Selectmen
	Benja <sup>a</sup> Towne	of Topsf <sup>d</sup>
	Thomas Gould	

At A Leagall Town Meeting in Topsfield July 4<sup>th</sup> 1727

1 Mr Zacheus Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 Mr Thomas Gould & Mr Joseph Towne are Chosen a Com:itte to Suply the Pulpit with a minister to despence the word of God to us y<sup>e</sup> three next Sabbaths  
voted



3 The Town agreed to send to five ministers viz: the Reverend Mr ffish m<sup>r</sup> Prescot & Mr Clark all of Salem: Mr Putnam of Reading & Mr Barnard of Andover and desire them to meet together in Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> nineteenth of this Instant July and to Give us their advice in what may be proper for us to do under our present scircumstances inasmuch as y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr William Osgood. Whom the Town & Church had agreed with to be our settled minister hath Left us voted

Mr Thomas Gould & Mr Joseph Towne are Chosen to Desire y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> ministers to meet together for y<sup>e</sup> End afore<sup>sd</sup> and s<sup>d</sup> Gould & Towne are to take Care that suteable provision be made for sd ministers where they shall think it most Convenient in Topsfield voted

The free Holders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting are Notified and warned to Assemble and Meet together at the Meeting House in Topsfield on wednesday the Nineteenth Currant at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock before noon on said day

1 To Choose A Committe to Inform the Reverend Ministers that the Town And Church hath made Choice of: And to Lay before Them y<sup>e</sup> Difficult Circumstances that We the Town & Church Labour under in Respect of the Reverend Mr William Osgood

2 If any Person In sd Town are Agrieved they are Desired to Make their personal appearance at time & place and make known their grevience In order. In order to Bar Mr Osgoods settling amongst us in the Ministry

Dated Topsfield July the 13<sup>th</sup>: 1727

Thomas Gould

Jacob Towne

This is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> notification

Benjamin Towne

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

Selectmen  
of Topsfi<sup>d</sup>

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Jnly y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1727

1 Mr Jacob Towne is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting  
voted

2 Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Redington Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Mr Zacheus Gould Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne and Mr John Prichitt are Chosen a Committe to Inform the Reverend Ministers that that y<sup>e</sup> Town and Church have made Choice of: And to Lay before them

the Difficult Circumstances the Town & Church Labour under in Respect of y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr William Osgood voted

3 The Town agreed to send to such of sd Reverend Elders as are now in Town and Desire them to Come up to y<sup>e</sup> meeting house

4 The Town agreed to Leave the whole of the present Concern Referring to Mr William Osgood and the Town: To the Reverend Elders that the Church & Town hath sent for to advize us in that afair: voted

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such As are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby Notified to meet At the Meeting house on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> fifteenth Day of August Currant at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on said day after noon

1 To Choose a Committe to make up Accompts with Mr William Osgood

2 To Choose a Com<sup>tee</sup> to supply y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit

3 To see what Method the Town will take to Support the Pulpit: Whether by Contribution or other ways.

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield august y<sup>e</sup> 12: 1727

Thomas Gould

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield

Jacob Towne

Benja<sup>a</sup> Towne

Will<sup>m</sup> Redington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Leagall Town meeting in Topsfield August y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1727

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen moderator for this meeting voted

2 The Town Agreed that the present Selectmen or any of them shall make up And Settle accompts with Mr William Osgood Referring to his service in the work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield voted

3 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill mr Zacheus Gould En<sup>s</sup> Timothy Perkins & Mr Daniel Clark are Chosen a Committe to Agree with three Ministers to Preach to and Amoungst us three Sabbath Days a piece and the time to begin y<sup>e</sup> Last Sabbath in August Currant voted

4 And sd Com<sup>tee</sup> are to take Care to provide Quarters for such ministers as they shall Git to preach: for y<sup>e</sup> time above

mentioned voted  
 5 The Town Agreed to Contribute towards the paying of sd  
 Ministers During y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Term voted

May y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1727

We the Subscribers being appointed by the Selectmen of our Respective Towns viz: Wenham, & Topsfield; to Perambulate on y<sup>e</sup> Line between our sd Towns, have according to Agreement Renewed the heap of stones by the End of Wenham Casway & the Clump of Maples at y<sup>e</sup> Edge of the Meadow so as y<sup>e</sup> Brook Runs to a stake & heap of stones near to Robinsons Island and so on y<sup>e</sup> Line of Pigdins Meadow (so called) to the Island & on y<sup>e</sup> Ditch to the River. as the Line of Townships is stated Witness our hands y<sup>e</sup> Day above<sup>sd</sup>

for Topsf<sup>ed</sup>

Michael Dwinel

Daniel Clark

Robert Perkins

David Batchelder

Josiah Hairfield for Wenham

This is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Return

Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The free Holders and other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs for voting are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and meet together at the Meeting house in said Town on Tuseday the Ninteenth Currant At Two of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on sd day

1<sup>st</sup> To see if the Town will agree upon a Rule to Raise money To Defray Town Charges

2 To Allow Bills of Charge

3 To see if the Town will agree that y<sup>e</sup> advice of the Reverend Ministers Concerning Mr William Osgood shall be Entered in the Town Records: to wit the advice that was Left by y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr ffiske and others

4 to Choose Jurymen for Newbery Court

5 to Accept of the Return of the Committe that was Chosen to Turn y<sup>e</sup> way that Layeth through Jacob Redingtons Land.

Jacob Towne

Dated Topsfield September 16<sup>th</sup> 1727 William Redington

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Sep<sup>t</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1727

1 Mr Thomas Gould is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting  
voted

2 The Town agreed that the Selectmen in apportioning the Town Rate (that shall be needful for y<sup>e</sup> Defraying y<sup>e</sup> town Charges for this year) shall Lay five shillings on Each Ratable pole to Every hundred pounds and so in that proportion for a Greater or Lesser sum  
voted

3 The Town Allowed to Mr Daniel Clark Eighteen shillings for six mens dinners viz y<sup>e</sup> four Reverend Ministers; and two Mr Osgoods. and also thirteen shillings & six pence for other nescesarys for s<sup>d</sup> Gentlemen on y<sup>e</sup> Day that the Ministers Gave their advice to y<sup>e</sup> Town Concerning Mr Osgood  
voted 1-11-0

4 The Town allowed to Joseph how fifteen shillings for sweeping y<sup>e</sup> meeting house from y<sup>e</sup> Twenty first day of October 1726 till sometime in June 1727  
0 15 0

5 The Town Allowed to Mr Simon Bradstreet for serving school-master in 1727  
1 0 0

6 The Town Allowed to y<sup>e</sup> widow Anne Averill fourty shillings for keeping and Looking after y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averill five weeks some time y<sup>e</sup> Last spring  
2 0 0

7 The Town allowed to Ephraim Willdes three shillings for Carrying y<sup>e</sup> wido Mary Averill from Jonathan Willdes his house to the widow Phebe Goodhalls in y<sup>e</sup> year 1726 0 3 0

8 The Town Allowed to John Wildes Eight shillings for warnning Two Town meetings some time in y<sup>e</sup> summer past  
voted 0-8-0

9 Samuel Howlett & Joseph Dorman are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryalls at y<sup>e</sup> Next Inferiour Court to be holden at Newbery  
voted

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting are hereby Notified And warned to Assemble and meet together at the meeting house in Topsfield On Tuseday the thirty first Currant at twelve of the Clock on said day

1 To Choose a Representative to serve in a Great and General Court or Assembly Appointed to be holden at the Court House in Boston Upon Wednesday the Twenty second

Day of November next Ensuing the Date hereof

2 To allow Bills of Charge

3 To see if the Town will take further Care that the Parsonage Land May be fenced in

Dated Topsfield October 28<sup>th</sup> 1727

Jacob Towne

David Commings Constable of Topsfield

Thomas Gould

Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

Selectmen of Topsfield

At a Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield October 31<sup>st</sup> 1727

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

voted

2 Quartermaster Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman is Chosen Representative to serve at a General Court or Assembly to be holden at y<sup>e</sup> Town house in Boston On y<sup>e</sup> Twenty second Day of November next Ensuing

voted

3 The Town Allowed to Jacob Robinson Jacob Towne & Benjamin Towne seven shillings and six pence for perambulating on y<sup>e</sup> Line between Salem and Topsfield in April 1727

voted 0-7-6

4 The Town Allowed fourteen shillings to Clerk Elisha Perkins for Entertaining Mr White and his horse four Sabbath Days y<sup>e</sup> summer past

voted 0 14 0

5 The Town Allowed to Mr Daniel Clark two pound four shillings and six pence for keeping a minister & his horse Eight Sabbath Days

voted 2 4 6

6 The Town allowed to Mr Daniel Clark one pound for going to Boston and fagintown four Day to prevent sd fagingtown being set off as a township

voted 1 0 0

7 The Town allowed to Thomas Gould Joseph Towne one pound four shillings for going to Desire the Reverend Ministers to meet together in Topsfield to Give their advice to the Town and Church Concerning Mr William Osgood

voted 1 4 0

8 The Town Allowed to Thomas Gould five shillings for Perambulating with Ipswich Men in 1724 & with Boxford in 1727

voted 0 5 0

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Qualified for Voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs are hereby Notified and warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble and Meet together



at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> seventeenth Currant  
at one of the Clock after noon on sd Day

First To see what Method the Town will take to Supply  
y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit

2 To see what y<sup>e</sup> Town will do in order to Clear with Mr  
William Osgood

3 To Allow bills of Charge

4 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Abate the Inhabitants on y<sup>e</sup> south  
side of Nickolls Brook to the Ministers Rate

5 To see if the Town will Joyn with y<sup>e</sup> Non Petitioners in  
Topsfield to try to Prevent their being set off from us

Jacob Towne

Dat<sup>d</sup> November y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1727

Thomas Gould

John Willdes Constable of Topsfield William Redington

Paul Averill

Benjamin Towne

Thomas Robinson

Selectmen of Topsfield

Job Averill

John Commings

Daniel Towne

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield November 17<sup>th</sup>  
1727

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet is Chosen Moderator for this  
Meeting voted

2 The Town agreed to make Choice of one out of the  
three Ministers that have Lastly Preacht with us (viz: Mr  
ffitz Gerald Mr Tappan & Mr Bradstreet) to Preach to &  
among us some time longer upon probation voted

3 The Town having brought in their votes for one of said  
Ministers it appeared that Mr Benjamin Bradstreet had the  
Major part of y<sup>e</sup> votes

4 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter & Mr Elisha Per-  
kins are Chosen a Committe to Inform the Reverend Ben-  
jamin Bradstreet that the Town hath made Choice of himself  
to preach to and Amongst us two months Longer: and also  
the said Committe are to Agree with y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Bradstreet  
for s<sup>d</sup> service voted

5 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter Mr Thomas Gould & Mr Benjamin  
Towne are Chosen a Committe to Agree with Mr William  
Osgood Concerning y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage in Topsfield and also to

git an aquittance from s<sup>d</sup> Osgood to Clear the Town from all Covenants and agreements that are between said Mr Osgood & y<sup>e</sup> Church & Town of Topsfield voted

6 The Town allowed to Samuel Smith two shillings for Timber to mend the Bridge near the Meeting house voted

To David Commings Constable of Topsfield Greeting &c You are Hereby Required in his Majisties name to Notifie and warn the Inhabitance of Topsfield one South Side of y<sup>e</sup> River: such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs: to assemble and Meet together at the meeting house in sd Topsfield On Wednesday the Twenty second Currant at one of the Clock after noon on sd: first To see if the Town will agree to Give Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Bradstreet A Call to y<sup>e</sup> Ministry amongst us: or to seek Some other way to suply Pulpit 2ly: To Allow bills of Charge And make Return of your so doing at time and place as you will answer y<sup>e</sup> Contrary at y<sup>e</sup> Perrill of the Law Jacob Towne

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield November y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1727 Thomas Gould  
William Redington  
Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Novem<sup>r</sup> 22: 1727

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 Whereas the Church hath agreed to give the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Bradstreet A Call to the work of the Ministry in Topsfield The Town Readily Concurs therewith voted

3 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter is Chosen to Joyn with y<sup>e</sup> Committe y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Church hath already Chosen to give the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Bradstreet a Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry in Topsfield voted

4 The Town Agreed that in Case Mr Bradstreet is unable at present or if he doth not incline to preach amonge us any more then Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett Mr Elisha Perkins & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter are impowred to provide some other minister to preach with us the two next Sabbaths voted

5 The Town allowed to John Wilds Constable fifteen shillings & four pence it being an abatement of Nathan Hoods head money to y<sup>e</sup> province & ministers Rates in y<sup>e</sup> year 1726 he being out of Town before y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> rates were made voted



The Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law directs are Notified and warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble and meet together at the meeting house in Topsfield on Monday y<sup>e</sup> fourth Day of December Currant at one of the Clock in the afternoon on s<sup>d</sup> Day

first To see what method the Town will take to Supply the Pulpit Whether By sending a Com<sup>tee</sup> to any Perticular gentleman or to Leave it to a Committe to gitt such an one as they may think fitt for s<sup>d</sup> service

2ly To Allow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield December y<sup>e</sup> first 1727 Jacob Towne

John Willdes Constable for Topsfield Thomas Gould

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town meeting in Topsfield December y<sup>e</sup> 4:  
1727

first Mr Nathaniel Porter is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting voted

2 Whereas The Church have Agreed to Give Mr Bezaleel Tappan a Call to settle with us in y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield; the Town Doth now Concur therewith voted

Notwithstanding y<sup>e</sup> Last vote the Town for some Reasons Did Decline sending a Committe to the sd Mr Tappan

3 Mr Joseph Towne Mr Thomas Gould & Jacob Peabody are Chosen a Committe To procure a Minister or Ministers to Dispencc the word of God to & amongst us in Topsfield the four next Sabbaths: And s<sup>d</sup> Committe are to agree with such minister Or ministers as they shall git for said service voted

The free holders and Other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield such as Are Quallified as the Law Directs for voting Are Hereby Notified and warned to Assemble and meet together at the Meeting House in Topsfield On Tuseday the second Day of January Next at Twelve of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on said day

1 To see what Method the Town will take for y<sup>e</sup> further supplying of the pulpit in Topsfield

2 To see how the Town will Support the Ministry

3 To see if the Town will give Mr Jacob Eliot an Invita-

tion to Preach to & amongst us in Topsfield sometime Longer in Order to his settlement with us in the Ministry

4 To see How much money [y<sup>e</sup> Towne] will order to be Raised to Defray Town Charges

5 To see What y<sup>e</sup> Town will do with y<sup>e</sup> intrest of the Loan Money

6 To Allow Bills of Charge	Jacob Towne
Dated Topsfield December y <sup>e</sup> 28: 1727	Thomas Gould
John Willdes Constable for Topsfield	Benj <sup>a</sup> Towne
	Will <sup>m</sup> Reddington
	Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield Jan<sup>ry</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1727-8

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting voted

2 The Town agreed to give Mr Jacob Eliot an Invitation to Preach to and amongst us in Topsfield sometime Longer in Order to his Settlement with us in y<sup>e</sup> ministry voted

3 Mr Thomas Gould Mr Joseph Towne & Jacob Peabody are Chosen a Committe to Discourse with s<sup>d</sup> Mr Eliot to see if he will see Cause to preach sometime Longer amongst us in Answer to the above written vote voted

4 The Town Agreed that y<sup>e</sup> present Selectmen shall Raise or Levie a Tax of one hundred & Thirty pounds to Defray Town Charges voted

5 The Town agreed that the Town Treasurer shall Receive y<sup>e</sup> Intrest of y<sup>e</sup> Towns Loan Money (for y<sup>e</sup> year past) of the other Trustees viz Cap<sup>t</sup> Gould & Dea<sup>n</sup> Howlett for y<sup>e</sup> towns use voted

6 The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Committee viz Thomas Gould Joseph Towne and Jacob Peabody shall have power to Draw Money out of y<sup>e</sup> town Treasury to pay Mr Eliot for his service in y<sup>e</sup> Ministry as Long as he shall Preach to & amongst us in Topsfield upon y<sup>e</sup> above written vote at Thirty shillings per day voted

7 The Town Allowed to David Commings Constable Eleven shillings for warning three Town meetings in y<sup>e</sup> summer past voted O-II-O

8 The Town Allowed to John Willdes Constable four shillings for warning a town meeting in November Last past

voted 0-4-0

9 The Town Allowed to Mr Elisha Perkins Ten shillings for Entertaining Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Bradstreet four Sabbaths in y<sup>e</sup> summer past

voted 0 10 0

10 The Town Allowed to Thomas Dwinel three shillings for Three Trees to mend y<sup>e</sup> town bridge

voted 0 3 0

11 The Town Allowed to Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne two shillings for Timber to mend y<sup>e</sup> ways in 1727

voted

12 The Town Allowed to Mr Daniel Clark one pound nine shillings & four pence which is for the glass that John Smith set & mended in the meeting house y<sup>e</sup> year past Except Mrs. Bakers pew windo & y<sup>e</sup> glass in the west pew above

voted 1 9 4

13 The Town Allowed to y<sup>e</sup> Assessors viz Jacob Towne Thomas Gould Benjamin Towne and William Reddington for taking y<sup>e</sup> valuation of the Towns Estate in 1727 five pound twelve shillings

5 12 0

Boston June 21<sup>st</sup> 1727

Rec<sup>d</sup> of the Trustees of Topsfield by Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter fifty one pound being the second fifth part of their Proportion of the £ 50 000 Loan

ffor my mas<sup>r</sup> Jer<sup>e</sup> Allen Treasurer

P Geor: Rogers

The Inhabitants of the town of Topsfield such as are Qualified for Voting As the Law Directs are Notified & Warn<sup>d</sup> to assemble and Meet together at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> thirteenth Currant at Eleven of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on sd day

first To see if the Town will Concur with y<sup>e</sup> Church In giving the Reverend Mr Jacob Eliot a Call to the Work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield

2 If the Towne Don<sup>t</sup> see Cause to Concur With the Churches vote in Calling y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Eliot then to Chuse a Committe to supply the Pulpit some other way as they may think best

3 To see If the Town will abate y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of our Town on the south side of Nickolses Brook their Rates or any part

Dat <sup>d</sup> Topsfield February y <sup>e</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> 1727-8	Jacob Towne
John Willdes Constable for Topsfield	Thomas Gould
A True Copy of the Notification	Benja Towne
Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk	Will <sup>m</sup> Reddington
	Selectmen of Topsfield

3 Mr Zacheus Gould is Chosen in behalf of y<sup>e</sup> Town to Joyn with the Committe which the Church hath already Chosen to give the Reverend Mr Jacob Eliot A Call to settle with us in the work of the Ministry in Topsfield voted

This is a True Copy of the Receipt attest Jacob Peabody  
Town Clerk

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield ffebruary 22: Annoq: Domini 1727-8

	Jacob Towne
	Thomas Gould
John Wilds Constable for Topsfield	Benja <sup>a</sup> Towne
	William Reddington

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>  
1727-8

- 1 En<sup>s</sup> Timothy Perkins is Chosen moderator for this meeting voted
- 2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for the year Ensuing voted
- 3 M<sup>r</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter is Chosen Town Treasurer for the year Ensuing voted
- 4 Joseph Dorman & ffrancis Peabody are Chosen Con-  
stables for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 5 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman & Zacheus Gould Quarter<sup>mstr</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup>  
Bordman Ivory Hovey & William Redington are Chosen  
Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 6 Doct<sup>t</sup> Michael Dwinel John Nickols & Luke Averill are  
chosen Tythingmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 7 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen sealer of Leather for y<sup>e</sup>  
year Ensuing voted
- 8 John Dwinel & Ephraim Willdes are Chosen Sirveyers  
of y<sup>e</sup> highways for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 9 John Burton & Joseph Knight are Chosen field drivers  
for the year Ensuing voted
- 10 Mr Daniel Clark & Jacob Robinson are Chosen fence  
viewers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 11 David Balch & Edmon Towne are Chosen Hogreeves  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted
- 12 Richard Town is Chosen Schoolmaster for y<sup>e</sup> year En-  
suing voted
- 13 The Town agreed to take up with y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Minis-  
ters Advice viz Mr ffisk & Others Respecting Mr William  
Osgood & the Church & Town of Topsfield and Ordred  
that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Advice should be Entred on the Town Book voted

The Town Officers that ware Chosen at y<sup>e</sup> above said  
meeting of whom an oath is by Law Required; all appeared  
at the house of M<sup>r</sup> Daniel Clark inn holder in Topsfield im-



mediatly after said meeting was over & tooke the oath Proper for their Respective Offices before the Selectmen & Town Clerk

We the Subscribers being Convened in Topsfield July: 19<sup>th</sup> 1728 Att the Instance & Request both of ye Town & church in this place, to give our advice to them refering to y<sup>e</sup> Difficulty of their Circumstances The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr William Osgood with whom this Town & Church had Agreed to settle with in y<sup>e</sup> Ministry having Left them

Having had their s<sup>d</sup> Circumstances Laid before us together with the Reasons of y<sup>e</sup> Late Conduct of Mr Osgood in Desisting from y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry amongst them Do give our thoughts and advice in reference thereto as follows viz

1 We find there has been a Mutual Covenant Entred into between Mr William Osgood & the Church & Town of Topsfield that he should settle with them in y<sup>e</sup> Ministry

2 We find there have been unhappy and grievous rumours & Reports spread with respect to Mr Osgood that Carry in them great Detrustion: which Rumours & Reports we dont find ever to have been proved against him or that he has been ever Dealt with in an Ecclesiasticale way, or before y<sup>e</sup> Civell Magistrate for y<sup>e</sup> same, which we think Carrys in it a presumptive argument that they are without proof. Otherwise that those who might & whose duty seems to have been Concerned in their setting things in a Clear Light have been to blame y<sup>t</sup> they have not done it: but suffered things for so Long a time to Continue in y<sup>e</sup> Dark to y<sup>e</sup> great Disturbance of y<sup>e</sup> peace and hendrance of y<sup>e</sup> Edification of y<sup>e</sup> People of God in this place

3 We must needs approve & Commend the Church & Town of Topsffeld in the Tender Regard they have manifested both with respect to their own Covenant with Mr Osgood and also with respect to his Reputation

4 Inasmuch as M<sup>r</sup> William Osgood has Pleaded as y<sup>e</sup> Reasons of his Conduct in Desisting from y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry in this place that y<sup>e</sup> Obstructions he has met with as to his being Ordained to y<sup>e</sup> Ministry and the Manifold Reflections that have been Cast upon him are so great a burden upon his mind that upon Experience he finds himself unable to

bear up under it, so as to go on in his ministerial work with that Chearfullness & freedom which he thinks Necessary, for gods glory, the good of this People, & his own Comfort. And for y<sup>e</sup> same Reasons still Moves that the Covenant between him & this Church & Town, May by them be relinquished and disannulled—We do therefore upon the whole Considering the Exhortation Taking y<sup>e</sup> Oversight thereof not by Constraint but willingly—Advise That this Church & Town fall in with Mr Osgoods motion, he repeating y<sup>e</sup> same to them in writing under his hand, and Dismise him from the Obligations he has in Compliance with their Call, brought himself under to serve them in the ministry

Finally Brethren in the Bowells of Christ we do Exhort you seriously to Examine into and humble yourselves Deeply before God, for whatsoever may have been amidst in the Hours of Temptation, that you strive to Abound in Love Each to other, studying and pursueing the things that make for peace & where with one may Edifie another, uniting in your fervent prayers to God that he would give you Peace always & by all means And that in his own due time (& may it be speedily) he would happily resettle y<sup>e</sup> Gospel Ministry Amongst you; Thus Commending you to gracious Care & guidance of our Lord Jesus Christ the great Shepherd of y<sup>e</sup> Sheep & Bishop of Souls We remain your Affectionate friends and servants in Christ Jesus

To the Church & Town  
of Topsfield

Samuell ffisk  
John Barnard  
Benj<sup>a</sup> Prescott  
Daniel Putnam

This is a True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Advice of the above said Reverend Ministers To the Church & Town of Topsfield Attest  
Jacob Peabody To: Cler  
To the Church & Town of Topsfield  
Gentlemen

These may Certifie—you that I do freely fully & forever aquit and absolve you from all Covenants & Agreements that are between you and myself: And I do sincerely Desire & wish your Speedy & Lasting Resettlement in y<sup>e</sup> Ministry: And pray that y<sup>e</sup> god of peace wisdom and Order would be with you and specially aid and assist you for that end as witness My hand



Salem Dec<sup>r</sup> 8: 1727

William Osgood

A True Copy of Mr [Osgood's] Aquittance sent To y<sup>e</sup> Church and Town of Topsfield Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

The freeholders and Other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law Directs are Here by Notified & warned to Assemble and meet together at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> of March Currant at 12 of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on sd Day

1 To Choose Jurymen for Ipswich Court according to w<sup>ar</sup>rarrant

2 To see if the Town will Choose one or Two Men to go to Ipswich Court to be holden on y<sup>e</sup> Last Tuseday of March Currant With a Petition for Money to Defray y<sup>e</sup> Charge of Repairing the bridge & Causeway adjoyning to y<sup>e</sup> sd Bridge which is Comonly Called the Town Bridge in Topsfield

3 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see Cause to reconsider their vote in Concurring with the Church in giving Mr Jacob Eliot a Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of the ministry in Topsfi<sup>d</sup>

4 To Allow Bills of Charge

Amos Dorman

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 14: 1727\*

Zacheus Gould

Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman

Will<sup>m</sup> Redington

Selectmen of Topsfield

A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Notification Attest Jacob Peabody Town Cler

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1727-8

1 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen Moderator for this Meeting voted

2 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> grand jury at y<sup>e</sup> next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

3 Mr Daniel Clark & Thomas Gould are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryalls at the next Inferiour Court to be holden at Ipswich voted

4 Quarter Master Nath Bordman & Mr John Wildes are Chosen to Petition to the Court of general Sessions of y<sup>e</sup> Peace to be holden at Ipswich on y<sup>e</sup> Last Tuseday of March Currant To see if y<sup>e</sup> Honourable Court will Please to allow

any thing towards the repairing of y<sup>e</sup> Bridge which is over y<sup>e</sup> River in Topsfield (Commonly Called the Town Bridge) & the Causway adjoining to it

5 The Town Allowed To Doc<sup>t</sup> Samuel Wallis of Ipswich the sum of five pounds sixteen shillings & six pence for Curing y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averills knee in y<sup>e</sup> year 1726

voted £1-16-6

6 The Town allowed to Doc<sup>t</sup> Michael Dwinell one shilling & six pence for perambulating with Wenham men on y<sup>e</sup> Line between Wenham & Topsfield in May anno; 1727

£0-1-6

7 The Town Allowed to Mr Daniel Clark six shillings for his trouble in keeping and waiting on John Smith when he mended the Meeting house glass in 1727

0 6 0

The free Holders and other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield Such as are Quallified for voting as the Law Directs are hereby notified and warned to Assemble and Meet together at y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>n</sup> Day of Aprill next Ensuing the Date hereof at 12 a Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day

1 To see If the Town will Choose three Trustees, to go to y<sup>e</sup> Province Treasurer for the Towns Proportion of y<sup>e</sup> 60000 pound Bank of Loan Money and to Impower s<sup>d</sup> Trustees to Let out s<sup>d</sup> Money as the Town shall Agree at this present Meeting

2 To See if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Agree upon a Sallary and settlement for the Suport of Mr Jacob Eliot in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry among: us: and to Chuse a Committee to Inform s<sup>d</sup> Mr Eliot of the Towns proceeding Concerning his Sallary and Settlement with us

3 To see if the Town will Provide Plank to Cover y<sup>e</sup> Town Bridge

4 To see if the Town will Agree to Set y<sup>e</sup> swine go at Large this year

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1727-8 Amos Dorman  
Joseph Dorman Constable for Topsfield Zacheus Could  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman  
William Reddington  
Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield Aprill y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 1728

1 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 The freeholders Agreed to Choose Trustees to Receive of y<sup>e</sup> province Treasur this Towns Proportion of y<sup>e</sup> Sixty thousand pound of Loan money Agreeable to An Act Made & Passed in the General Court in 1727  
voted

3 Mr Amos Dorman Mr Eliezer Lake & Jacob Peabody are Chosen Trustees to Receive and Let out sd Money according to such Rules as the Town shall now agree upon  
voted

4 The Town agreed that the said Trustees shall Let out sd Money at six pound percent per annum  
voted

5 The said Trustees shall not Let out above Twenty pound of s<sup>d</sup> money to any person nor under five pound: And s<sup>d</sup> Trustees shall not Keep any more of s<sup>d</sup> Money for their own perticular use then is allowed by this vote to any Other person and not to Let out any of s<sup>d</sup> money to any out Towns person  
voted

6 The Town agreed to give to the Reverend Mr Jacob Eliot one hundred pounds per annum for his sallary if God in his providence shall settle him in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield  
voted

Amos Dorman	Jacob Dorman	John Perkins
Elisha Perkins	David Commings	Jacob Perkins
Benj <sup>a</sup> How	Stebbins Comings	Jonathan Perkins
Nath <sup>l</sup> Bordman	Samuel Towne	Joseph Dorman
Timothy Perkins	Joshua Towne	William Towne
Benj <sup>a</sup> Towne	Edmon Towne	Zacheus Gould
Daniel Towne	John Commings	John Dwinel

These several Persons here above Named All Entered their Contrary Dissent to the Last vote above written

7 The Town agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> Town Bridge over y<sup>e</sup> River in Topsfield Covered with Plank this Summer  
voted

8 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen to Provide Plank two inches & a half thick and fourteen foot long: good white oak Plank to cover s<sup>d</sup> bridge as afor<sup>s</sup>d  
voted

9 The Town agreed that swine should go at Large this year according as the Law gives Liberty  
voted

10 Mr Thomas Gould Mr Zacheus Gould & Mr Joseph Towne & Jacob Peabody are Chosen to Inform the Reverend

Mr Jacob Eliot what the Town has Done this Day Respecting his sallary for his work in the Ministry in Topsfield voted

Amos Dorman Eliezer Lake & Jacob Peabody being Chosen Trustees to Receive & Let out the Towns Proportion of the sixty thousand pound Bank of Loan money: were sworn to the faithfull Discharge of their Duty & Trust in that Capacity before y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> Ninth day of Aprill, Anno Domini 1728

Entred by Order of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen Jacob Peabody Town Cler

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs are hereby Notified and Warned to Assemble and Meet together at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill Currant at Twelve of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on sd Day

first to Chuse a Representative to go to y<sup>e</sup> Great and General Court to be holden at Boston this year According to Warrant

2 To Recive the Answer which Mr Jacob Eliot sent to Zacheus Gould one of y<sup>e</sup> Committe men which Made Return to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Eliot of y<sup>e</sup> Towns proceedings at our Last Town Meeting

3 By the Desire of Ten or More freeholders of our Town to see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Concur with y<sup>e</sup> Church in giveing Mr Bezaleel Tappan a Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry amongst us in Topsfield and chuse a Committee to Inform y<sup>e</sup> said Mr Tappan of y<sup>e</sup> Towns Proceeding in s<sup>d</sup> afair also to see what y<sup>e</sup> Town will give to y<sup>e</sup> sd Mr Tappan for his sallary and settlement with us if he will be pleased to take up with us and if y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Tappan don<sup>t</sup> see cause to take up with us then to Impower the y<sup>e</sup> same Committe to Supply y<sup>e</sup> Pulpitt some other way

4 By the Desire of Ten or more freeholders To see if the Town will give Mr Jacob Eliot a settlement to support him in the work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry amongst us and to Choose a Committe to Accompt with Mr Eliot for his Past service Amongst us

5 To see if If y<sup>e</sup> Town will agree to Repair or Rebuild y<sup>e</sup> Pound and make it According to Law

6 To allow Bills of Charge

Amos Dorman

Zacheus gould

Nathaniel Bordman

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

### Selectmen of Topsfield

This is True Copy of the Notification Attest Jacob Pea-

I Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meet-

2 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen Representative for ye

voted

3 The second & third Perticulars or Articles in y<sup>e</sup> notifi-

4 The Town Agreed to give to the Reverend Mr Jacob

5 Mr Nathaniel Aaveril Mr Elisha Perkins & Mr John

## 6 John Perkins & Jonathan Willdes are Chosed to Repair

voted

8 the Town allowed Eighteen shillings to Dan Clark for

voted 00-18-0



To Mr Joseph Dorman Constable of Topsfield you are hereby Required in his Majesties Name to Warn the freeholders & other Inhabitants on y<sup>e</sup> north side of the River in Topsfield such as are Quallified for voting as the Law directs To Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Munday y<sup>e</sup> sixth day of May Currant at two of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day afternoon

1 To Receive Mr Jacob Eliots Answer to the Town

2ly To see If the Town will see Cause to Choose a Committe to Inform M<sup>r</sup> Bezabeel Tappan that he has a Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield: By the Church and a Concurrence by y<sup>e</sup> Town And to see what the Town will give him for his sallary & settlement if he sees Cause to take up with us to settle here in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry: but if y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Tappan dont see Cause take up with us

To Give the same Committe Power to supply the Pulpit some other way as the Town may think best: or if y<sup>e</sup> town dont see Cause to send to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Tappan then to Choose a Committe to supply y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit as y<sup>e</sup> Town shall Agree

3 To Allow Bills of Charge fail not to make Return of your doing at time & pl

Dat<sup>d</sup> Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1728

Amos Dorman

Zacheus Gould

Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman

William Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

A proper Return was made & the Inhabitants on y<sup>e</sup> south side of y<sup>e</sup> River being likewise warn<sup>d</sup> the meeting was as folows

At a Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1728

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meeting

voted

2 The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> answer which Mr Jacob Eliot has sent to y<sup>e</sup> Town this Day shall be Entred in y<sup>e</sup> Town Book

voted

3 The Town past a Vote to Manifest their minds for Mr Tappan to be our minister by Proxse

voted

4 The Town having brought in their Proxse it Appeared that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Tappan had a great Majority of votes

5 En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Borman & Mr Elisha Perkins are Chosen a Committe to Inform the Reverend Mr



Bezaleel Tappan of y<sup>e</sup> Town proceeding this day Referring To his being our minister & to give the sd Mr Tappan an Invitation to Preach sometime with us in Order to a Settlement in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry In Topsfield voted

6 But in Case y<sup>e</sup> sd M<sup>r</sup> Tappan shall Decline Comming to Preach amongst us then s<sup>d</sup> Committe are Impowered to provide some other Minister or Ministers to preach to and Amongst us the four Next Sabbaths voted

7 The Town allowed five pound to Mr. Tobijah Perkins for keeping Mr Eliot & horse Ten weeks in y<sup>e</sup> winter past  
voted 5 0 0

Mr Eliots Answer To the Church and Town of Topsfield.

Honored and Beloved

After a further and full Consideration of the Call you have given me to the work of the Ministry among you and all the Circumstances thereof: I Cannot see my way clear to accept it; since you were so much divided in your Choice and Remaining so or more so still; as has been Manifested in some Votes Referring thereto. In hopes therefore of greater peace, Love and Union, among yourselves I do by these presents discharge myself of the Obligations I have been under to supply your Pulpit: & shall not upon y<sup>e</sup> Present foundation Continue my Ministerial Labours among you any Longer—so praying that you may fully unite in your Affections to one another and in such an one to be your Pastor as may through the glorious Head of Influences be a happy Instrument of Promoting Peace and Holiness Among you; I Remain a fervent Well Wisher of your Temporal and Eternal Happyness

Jacob Eliot

Boston May y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1728

This is a True Copy of Mr Eliots Answer to the Church & Town of Topsfield Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield such as are Qualified for Voting as the Law Directs are hereby notified & warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> Day of May Currant at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day afternoon

first To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see Cause to make Choice of

Mr John Emerson to supply the Pulpit some time Longer in order to his settlement with us in ye work of the Ministry & to Choose a Committe to discourse with y<sup>e</sup> sd Mr Emerson in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> afair & to make return to y<sup>e</sup> Town if y<sup>e</sup> Town do agree as above sd: but if y<sup>e</sup> Town or Mr Emerson refuses then to Impower y<sup>e</sup> same or Chuse another Committe to supply y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit some other way as the Town shall agree

2ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Impour y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>tee</sup> to draw money out of y<sup>e</sup> Town Treasury to pay y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson for his service with us

3 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Impower y<sup>e</sup> former Trustees to Pay in y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> part of y<sup>e</sup> Towns Loan Money to ye Province Treasurey

4 To Allow bills of Charge

Dated in Topsfield May the 24<sup>th</sup> 1728 Amos Dorman

Joseph Dorman Constable

Zacheus Gould

of Topsfield

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1728  
first Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Reddington is Chosen Moderator for  
this meeting voted

2 The Town have made Choice of the Reverend Mr John Emerson to supply the Pulpit some time Longer in order to his settlement with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry in Topsfield  
voted

3 Dea<sup>n</sup> Daniel Reddington Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett Mr Elisha Perkins Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman & Mr Ivory Hovey are Chosen a Committee to discourse with s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson in s<sup>d</sup> afair and if s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson shall Refuse to Come as afore s<sup>d</sup> the sd Com<sup>tee</sup> are Impowered to supply the Pulpit by some other gentle<sup>m</sup> four Sabbaths next after he so Refuses voted

4 The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>tee</sup> viz Mr Elisha Perkins Mr Amos Dorman & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman are Impowered to draw money out of y<sup>e</sup> Town Treasury to pay said Mr. Emerson for his preaching amongst us four Sabbaths voted

5 The Town agreed & ordred that y<sup>e</sup> former Trustees shall pay in y<sup>e</sup> third: fift part of y<sup>e</sup> Towns former Loan money to the Province Treasurer by y<sup>e</sup> first of June next voted

6 The Town Allowed to Dan Clark two shillings which

with Eighteen shillings that y<sup>e</sup> town hath already allowed:  
Makes one pound for sweeping ye meeting house three  
Quarters of a year in 1727 voted

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Tops-  
such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law directs are here-  
by Notified & Warn<sup>d</sup> to assemble and meet together in y<sup>e</sup>  
meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July  
next at 12 of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day

1 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Choose a Com<sup>tee</sup> to Provide  
Quarters for Mr John Emerson and to agree with him for his  
service with us in y<sup>e</sup> future

2 To see if the Town Chuse a Com<sup>tee</sup> to Joyn with Red-  
ding Committe to Try if they can git a fish Course Cleared  
up Ipswich River

3 To see what the Town will do Concerning the families  
that Petition Not be set of to Wills hill &c.

4 to allow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup>: 1728

Joseph Dorman Constable  
of Topsfield

Amos Dorman

Zacheus Gould

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield July y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 1728

1 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 Mr Elisha Perkins Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman & Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph  
Gould is Chosen Committe to provide Quarters for the Rev-  
erend Mr John Emerson & Agree with him for his service in  
the ministry amongst us for y<sup>e</sup> future—Until the Town shall  
otherwise agree voted

3 Mr Joseph Towne Mr John Hovey & Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne  
are Chosen & Impowered A Committe to Joyn with y<sup>e</sup> Com-  
mitte y<sup>t</sup> Redding hath Chosen to Try if they can git a fish  
course clea<sup>d</sup> up Ipswich River & y<sup>e</sup> Town will stand by &  
defend them in all their Lawfull Proseeding in: & of Pros-  
ecuting the same voted

4 The Town Allowed six pound for Mr Emersons preach-  
ing amongst us y<sup>e</sup> four last Sabbaths & En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman is  
hereby Impowered to draw money out of the Town Treas-  
urey to pay s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson for sd service voted

5 Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne & Mr Zacheus Gould are Chosen agents for the Town to prefer a Petition to y<sup>e</sup> General Court at their next sessions that Mr Thomas Robinson Mr Job Averill Mr Paul Averill Mr John Comings & Mr Daniel Towne & all the Land Excluded within the following bounds May be again Laid & Restored to y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield to which they & s<sup>d</sup> Land did formerly belong  
voted

The ffreeholders & other of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for voting as the Law directs are hereby Notioed & warned to assemble & meet together on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> 23 :Day of July Currant at 12 of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day first to see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see Cause to Concur with the Church in giving Mr John Emerson a Call to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> ministry with us

2 To see what sallary & settlement y<sup>e</sup> Town will agree to give to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson for his support in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry with us

3 To Chuse a Committe to Inform y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson of y<sup>e</sup> Towns proceeding and to Receive his answer and to make Return thereof to y<sup>e</sup> Town at y<sup>e</sup> next Town Meeting

4 To see if Town will Agree to Petition to y<sup>e</sup> Great and General Court with those families that have Latly been Layd to Middleton that they may be Returned to us again

Dat<sup>d</sup> in Topsfield July y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1728

Joseph Dorman Constable

of Topsfield

Amos Dorman

Zacheus Gould

Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Legall Town Meeting in Topsfield July:23:1728

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 Where as the Church did on y<sup>e</sup> 16th of July 1728 agree to give the Reverend Mr John Emerson a Call to settle with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry The Town do now Readily Concur therewith  
voted

3 The Town agreed to give to y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr John Emerson one hundred pound in Bills of Publick Credit or in such other Money as shall be Commonly Passing amongst

us: for his sallary to support him in y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry amongst us s<sup>d</sup> hundred pound to be paid yearly & Every year so long as he shall Continue his Ministry amongst us, and also the Improvement of the Parsonage land in Topsfield during y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Term voted

4 The Town Agreed to give the Reverend Mr John Emerson Two hundred pounds in Bills of Creditt for his Encouragement to settle with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of the Ministry voted

Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter Entred his Contrary dissent to y<sup>e</sup> two Last votes above Entred

5 Mr Elisha Perkins Mr Jacob Towne & David Balch are Chosen a Com<sup>tee</sup> (to Joyn with the Committe which y<sup>e</sup> Church hath already Chosen) to give y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr John Emerson a Call in behalf of y<sup>e</sup> Town to settle with us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Topsfield & s<sup>d</sup> Committe which y<sup>e</sup> Town hath now Chosen are to Receive Mr Emersons Answer to s<sup>d</sup> Call and make Return thereof to the Town at y<sup>e</sup> next Town meeting voted

6 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman are Chosen agents for y<sup>e</sup> Town to Prefer a petition to y<sup>e</sup> General Court at their next sessions that Job Averill Paul Averill Daniel Towne & John Commings with all y<sup>e</sup> Lands Enclued within the following bounds (may be again Laid to Topsfield to which they & s<sup>d</sup> Lands Did formerly belong) viz Beginning at Daniel Townes Corner Bound at Nickolses Brook & so encluding s<sup>d</sup> Towns Land to Comminges Land & so by Comminges Land to Ipswich voted

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for Voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs are hereby Notified & warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday the seventeenth day of September Currant at Twelve of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day

first To Receive y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr John Emersons Answer to y<sup>e</sup> Town by ye Committe that was Chosen for y<sup>t</sup> Purpose

2ly To Choose a Committe to make up Accumpts with y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emerson for the time past

3ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will agree to state a time when y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mr Emersons yearly sallary will begin and how it shall be paid



4ly To Choose Jurymen for Newbery Court According to Warrant

5ly To Choose a Constable for y<sup>e</sup> south side of y<sup>e</sup> River

6ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will take any further Care about Rebuilding y<sup>e</sup> pound

Dated in Topsfield September

y<sup>e</sup> 12th 1728

Joseph Dorman Constable  
of Topsfield

Amos Dorman

Zacheus Gould

Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman

Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington

Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town meeting in Topsfield September y<sup>e</sup>  
17<sup>th</sup> 1728

1 Mr Zacheus Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 The Town Agreed to Receive & accept of y<sup>e</sup> Reverend  
Mr John Emersons Answer that was brought to y<sup>e</sup> Town this  
day voted

3 The Town agreed that the Reverend Mr John Emersons  
yearly sallary for his ministry amongst us shall begin  
on y<sup>e</sup> second day of September Currant & y<sup>e</sup> one half of s<sup>d</sup>  
yearly sallary shall be paid on or before the second day of  
September next following & so yearly voted

4 Luke Averill & Samuel Bradstreet are Chosen to serve  
on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryalls at y<sup>e</sup> next Inferior Court to be holden  
at Newbery voted

5 Samuel Curtis is Chosen Constable for this year En-  
suing until the Annual Town Meeting in March Next voted

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Tops-  
field such as are Quailified for voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law Directs Are  
hereby Notified & warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup>  
Meeting house in Topsfield on Thursday the 24 day of Octo-  
ber Currant at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on s<sup>d</sup> day

first To see if the Town will Concur with y<sup>e</sup> Church as to  
y<sup>e</sup> day Appointed for y<sup>e</sup> Ordination of y<sup>e</sup> reverend Mr John  
Emerson to y<sup>e</sup> work of ministry Amongst us

2 To see what Method y<sup>e</sup> Town will take to make neces-  
sary provision for y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Ordination and to Chuse a Committe  
and Impower them to take care of sd business



3 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Raise any money to defray Town  
Charges Amos Dorman

Dated in Topsfield October y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1728 Zacheus Gould  
Joseph Dorman Coustable of Topsfield Will<sup>m</sup> Reddington  
Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 24: 1728

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 Whereas the Church have agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> Reverend  
Mr John Emerson Ordained on y<sup>e</sup> Last Wednesday of Nov-  
ember Next Ensuing the Town doe now Concur therewith

voted

3 Mr Ivory Hovey Mr Zacheus Gould Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman  
Mr Amos Dorman & Mr John Willdes are Chosen a Com-  
mite to Provide houses and to take Care that suitable provi-  
sion be made at them for said Ordination voted

4 The Town agreed the present selectmen shall Levey a  
Tax of fifty pound (besides Mr Emersons sallary) to Defray  
town charges voted

Mr Daniel Clark Enters his Contrary Dissent to all the  
towns Votes Refering to the Ordination of y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr  
John Emerson

Honoured and Beloved

Forasmuch as it has Pleased y<sup>e</sup> Lord Jesus Christ the glori-  
ous head of the Church; whose I am and whom I desire to  
serve to incline your minds to give me an Invitation to fix  
among you in y<sup>e</sup> very awfull & important work of y<sup>e</sup> Minis-  
try: I have since taken this great affair into serious Consider-  
ation I have also advised with Reverend Elders in y<sup>e</sup> Vicinity:  
and above all have Earnestly applied myself to y<sup>e</sup> wonderfull  
Counsellour, that my way in this Monenteous Article may  
be made Plain before my face: and now after all I find my  
heart disposed to Embrace your Call; tho at y<sup>e</sup> same time  
when I consider y<sup>e</sup> Great Difficulty, the Vast Importance &  
awfull Solemnity of y<sup>e</sup> work; to which you have Called me  
and my own Weakness & Insufficiency, my youth, want of  
Experience &c—When I Reflect upon these things I am  
ready to faint & be discouraged and sigh out the words of  
y<sup>e</sup> Prophet ah LORD GOD I cannot speak for I am a

childe:—and to address y<sup>e</sup> Lord in y<sup>e</sup> words of Moses O My LORD send I pray thee by the hand of him whom thou wilt send. But then, when I Consider y<sup>e</sup> Alsufficiency of CHRIST who (I trust) has Called me to this work: & who has Graciously Promised to be with his Ministers to y<sup>e</sup> End of ye world; when I consider also your unanimity in y<sup>e</sup> Call which you have given me; and further when I Consider the Effectual fervent prayers with which (I trust) you will wrestle with y<sup>e</sup> God of Jacob on my behalf: These Considerations seem to Raise my sinking spirits to Answer my Objections and Constrain me to offer myself with y<sup>e</sup> Evangelical Prophet here am I send me:—As to what you have Offered me for my outward Support I thankfully Accept it: And inasmuch as tis my principle (and I hope my practice will not be inconsistent) That a Minister of y<sup>e</sup> Gospel shoul<sup>d</sup> not intangle Himself in y<sup>e</sup> Affairs of this Life but give himself wholly to his Proper work and Business: I therefore Cannot but hope that you will freely Minister as there shall be Occasion to my Necessity & for my Comfort: If I know my own heart tis with this special view that I Desire to reap of your Carnall things, that so I may attend upon y<sup>e</sup> Business to which you have Called me without Distraction; and be y<sup>e</sup> better inabled to minister unto you Spiritual things, for I trust I can say with y<sup>e</sup> Apostle I seek not yours but you, and am willing to spend & be spent in your service. Aud now I beseech you brethren for y<sup>e</sup> Lord Jesus Christs Sake and for y<sup>e</sup> Love of y<sup>e</sup> spirit that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me that I may be prepared to receive the Awfull Charge of your souls which may in y<sup>e</sup> most solemn manner be given to me—that I may be more & more furnished for, disposed to, Assisted & incouraged in the great work of y<sup>e</sup> gospel ministry Amongst you—that I may from time to time Come to you in y<sup>e</sup> fullness of y<sup>e</sup> Blessing of the Gospel of Christ & be made a rich & Lasting Blessing to you & yours: And that you & your Children may be made Comforte to me here, and a Crown of Rejoycing in that Day: when our Lord shall Come to be Glorified in his Saints and Admired by all them that believe

With these Earnest Desires I subscribe myself yours to serve in y<sup>e</sup> gospell

John Emerson

This is A True Copy of Mr Emersons answer to y<sup>e</sup> Church & Town of Topsfield Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At a Church Meeting in Topsfield October y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1728

The Church agreed to have y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr John Emerson ordained as soon as may be Conveniently Provided he will Consent to Rule in y<sup>e</sup> Church according to y<sup>e</sup> Platform of Church Discipline agreed upon by the Synod Conven<sup>d</sup> at Cambridge in 1648

This is A True Copy of y<sup>e</sup> Churches Vote: Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

To the Church of Topsfield Gentlemen This may serve to Certifie & assure you that in y<sup>e</sup> Government & Discipline y<sup>t</sup> I shall Exercise: I shall by y<sup>e</sup> Grace of God Endeavor as much as possible to Conform myself to y<sup>e</sup> infallible Rule of y<sup>e</sup> word of God and also to y<sup>e</sup> Platform of our Church Discipline agreed upon by y<sup>e</sup> Synod Conven<sup>d</sup> at Cambridge in y<sup>e</sup> year 1648

as witness my hand

John Emerson

This is A True Copy of Mr Emersons Answer to y<sup>e</sup> Church in Reference to y<sup>e</sup> above written note: Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

The above written vote of y<sup>e</sup> Church and Mr Emersons answer to it: were Entered in this Book that they may not be Lost; but remain to after generations.

October 11<sup>th</sup> 1728 Received of Mr Elisha Perkins & Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Commite for y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield: y<sup>e</sup> Sum of thirteen pounds Ten shillings for My Preaching in s<sup>d</sup> Town untill y<sup>e</sup> second day of Sep<sup>tr</sup> 1728 John Emerson 13:10:00

A True Copy Attest Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

By Vertue of a Warrant from y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Topsfield The freeholders and other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for Voting as y<sup>e</sup> Law directs Are hereby Notified & warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Day of December Currant at 12 of y<sup>e</sup> Clock on said day

To see if the Town will agree to or give order for y<sup>e</sup> Raising any more money to Defray Town Charges: And to Allow Bills of Charge: And to see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Choose anybody to take Care of y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averill &c

Dat<sup>d</sup> in Topsfield December y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1728 Joseph Dorman Constable of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield December y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1728

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 The Town Allowed Thirty Eight pounds Eight shillings 38 08 00 To the Committe that were Chosen to provide for y<sup>e</sup> ordination of Mr Emerson namely Amos Dorman Zacheus Gould Ivory Hovey & John Willdes; for what they have been out for s<sup>d</sup> ordination besides there time voted

And then the Town Meeting was adjourn<sup>d</sup> untill y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Day of Decem<sup>r</sup> Currant At one of clock afternoon

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield begun & held on y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1728 And adjorn'd untill y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Day of Decem<sup>r</sup> Currant And then Met

The Town Allowed four pound to En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman for Diating Mr Emerson sixteen weeks in th[e] summer past

voted 4 0 0

2 The Town Allowed Ten pound fourteen shillings & six pence To Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould for plank to Cover the Town bridge over y<sup>e</sup> River And for gitting & Carting y<sup>e</sup> sd Plank in y<sup>e</sup> Summer past

voted 10 14 6

3 The Town Allowed thirteen shillings & Eight pence to Stephen Johnson for mending the meeting house in November 1728

voted 00 13 8

4 The Town Allowed three shillings To Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett for Timber to Mend y<sup>e</sup> bridge near his house in summer past

voted 00 3 0

5 The Town Allowed two shillings to Tobijah Perkins for a string piece to Mend y<sup>e</sup> bridge by Dea<sup>n</sup> Howletts in Summer past

voted 00 2 0

6 The Town Allowed six shillings & two pence to Nath<sup>l</sup> Averill for two string pieces & Eight slabs to mend Mile Brook bridge in 1728

voted 00 6 2

7 The Town Allowed one pound to Jacob Dorman for keeping y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averill three weeks in y<sup>e</sup> Last summer past voted 01 00 0

8 The Town allowed one pound Ten shillings to Ivory Hovey he haveing Expended so much on y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averill in her Late sickness at y<sup>e</sup> wido: Dormans 01 10 0

9 The Town Made Choice of Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman & Mr John Willdes to Petition to y<sup>e</sup> next sessions of the peace to be holden at Salem for some Allowance or help towards the Repairing y<sup>e</sup> bridge over y<sup>e</sup> River in Topsfield voted

10 M<sup>r</sup> Eliezer Lake & Mr Thomas Dwinel are Chosen to take Care of the widow Mary Averill voted

11 The Town Made Choice of M<sup>r</sup> David Balch To Take Care of the Towns Plank & other Timber which now Lyes by y<sup>e</sup> Town bridge (so called) and to keep the same till further order from y<sup>e</sup> town voted

The freeholders & other Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified for Voting as the Law directs are hereby Notified and warn<sup>d</sup> to Assemble & meet together in y<sup>e</sup> meeting house in Topsfield on Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> fourth day of March Ensuing at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> morning on sd day first To Choice Town Officers

2ly To order a highway to be Lay<sup>d</sup> out to Boxford Line Convenient for passing from Topsfield meeting house to Boxford meeting house

3 To see how the Town will Dispose of y<sup>e</sup> interest of y<sup>e</sup> Loan money and to accompt with y<sup>e</sup> Trustees: and to Choose another Trustee in y<sup>e</sup> Room of En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman Late Deceased

4 To see if y<sup>e</sup> [Town] will Lay out a highway for Edmond Towne from his house to y<sup>e</sup> town bridge

5 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see cause to alter y<sup>e</sup> way that goeth through Jacob Reddingtons Land or to see if they will accept of y<sup>e</sup> Committees return y<sup>t</sup> was formerly Impley<sup>d</sup> in s<sup>d</sup> service

5 To see what Improvement y<sup>e</sup> Town will Put y<sup>e</sup> money too which is allowed us by y<sup>e</sup> Quarter sessions toward Repairing our Town bridge

7 To see what y<sup>e</sup> Town will doe Concerning fencing y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage



8ly To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will see cause to try to have some of our Neighbours belonging to Ipswich farms to be Lay<sup>d</sup> to us, Either as to parrish or Township

9 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will agree to order some other Method to warn Town meetings

10 To see if y<sup>e</sup> Town will Chuse a Com<sup>tee</sup> to Discourse with y<sup>e</sup> Reverend mr John Emerson to see if he will Preach a Monthly Lecture to us

11 To Chuse overseers of y<sup>e</sup> Poor

12 to allow bills of Charge

Dated in Topsfield february 17<sup>th</sup> 1728-9

Joseph Dorman Constable  
of Topsfield

By order of y<sup>e</sup>  
Selectmen of  
Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1728-9

first Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 Jacob Peabody is Chosen Town Clerk for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

3 Joshua Towne & Richard Towne are Chosen Constables for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

4 Ivory Hovey is Chosen Town Treasurer for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

5 Mr Joseph Bordman & Mr Thomas Gould are Chosen overseers of y<sup>e</sup> Poor y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

6 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett, Benjamin Towne, Eliezer Lake, David Balch & Jacob Peabody are Chosen Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

7 Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Towne John Prichard Ju<sup>r</sup> & Daniel Reddington Ju<sup>r</sup> are Chosen Tythingmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

8 Mr John Hovey is Chosen Sealer of Leather for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

9 Jesse Dorman Aaron Estey & Jonathan Perkins are Chosen Surveyors of highways for the year Ensuing voted

10 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould & Daniel Gould are Chosen field Drivers for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

11 Isaac Peabody & Jacob Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> are Chosen fence viewers for the year Ensuing voted



12 John Towne & David Commings are Chosen Hogreeves  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

13 William Reddington is Chosen schoolmaster for y<sup>e</sup> year  
Ensuing voted

14 The Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> money which y<sup>e</sup> Court allowed  
towards y<sup>e</sup> repairing the Town Bridge & y<sup>e</sup> intrest of y<sup>e</sup>  
Towns former Loan Money shall go to pay Town Debts  
And the selectmen are hereby ordered to Receive y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>  
intrest money of y<sup>e</sup> Trustees & to Deliver the same to y<sup>e</sup>  
Town Treasurer & Mr John Willdes who had order from y<sup>e</sup>  
Selectmen to Receive y<sup>e</sup> money y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Court allowed as  
afores<sup>d</sup> & is hereby ordered to pay in y<sup>e</sup> same to y<sup>e</sup> Town  
Treasurer: for y<sup>e</sup> use aforesaid voted

15 Mr Tobijah Perkins is Chosen a Trustee in y<sup>e</sup> room of  
En<sup>s</sup> Amos Dorman Des<sup>d</sup> voted

And then y<sup>e</sup> meeting was adjorn untill Tuseday y<sup>e</sup> Eleventh  
Currant at Twelve of a Clock

A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield (held by adjourn-  
ment) on y<sup>e</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> of March 1828-9

16 Quarter<sup>msr</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Docter Michael Dwinel &  
Mr John Curtis are Chosen & Desired to go & discourse with  
En<sup>s</sup> Thomas Tarbox: Mr John Got & Mr Samuel Gott (all  
of Wenham) Concerning y<sup>e</sup> way which Leads from y<sup>e</sup> Town  
bridge through their Lotts to see if they will give Liberty of  
a Convenient way for y<sup>e</sup> Neighbours to go through said  
Lotts voted

17 Quarter<sup>mr</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Mr Eliezer Lake & Mr To-  
bijah Perkins are Chosen a Committee to view y<sup>e</sup> way that  
Leads through Jacob Reddingtons Land in order to turn it  
Giving Notice to all parties Concern<sup>d</sup> to meet them at y<sup>e</sup> Place  
& s<sup>d</sup> Committe are hereby fully Impowered to Lay out a  
way as far as s<sup>d</sup> Redingtons Land goes where they in their  
Judgement shall think most Convenient for y<sup>e</sup> Town & y<sup>e</sup>  
Proprietors Concern<sup>d</sup> & the Neighbours that have most need  
of s<sup>d</sup> way voted

18 Mr Jacob Estey is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

19 Daniel Gould & Thomas Dwinel are Chosen to serve  
on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Tryals at y<sup>e</sup> next Inferior Court to be holden  
at Ipswich within & for y<sup>e</sup> County of Essex voted

20 The Town Manifested by a vote that they were willing & desirous that our Neighbours belonging to Ipswich farms should be Laid to Topsfield as a Township voted

21 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlet Mr Nathanill & Mr William Redington are Chosen a Committe to discourse our s<sup>d</sup> neighbours about y<sup>e</sup> affair to see if they will Joyn with Topsfield in Trying to be set off to us as afore sd voted

22 The Town agreed to fence in y<sup>e</sup> Parsonage Land in Topsfield by way of a Rate And Mr Eliezer Lake is Chosen to make up y<sup>e</sup> sd Parsonage fence by y<sup>e</sup> Last Day of May Next Ensuing to make some wall & some Railfence as he shall Judge Most Beneficial voted

23 Cler. Elisha Perkins Mr Ivory Hovey & Mr Jacob Estey are Chosen a Committe to discourse with y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr John Emerson to see if he will Please to Preach a Monthly Lecture to us & sd Committe are to return his answer to the Town at y<sup>e</sup> next Town meeting voted

24 The Town allowed to Thomas Dwinel one pound fifteen shillings for keeping y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averil seven weeks in y<sup>e</sup> winter past voted 01 15 0

25 The Town allowed to y<sup>e</sup> widow Deborah Dorman & Jacob Byxbe fifteen shillings for keeping y<sup>e</sup> widow Mary Averill six weeks in y<sup>e</sup> begining of y<sup>e</sup> winter past: they having had thirty shillings of Serg<sup>t</sup> hovey for sd service

voted 0 15 0

26 The Town Allowed to Nath<sup>l</sup> Capen five shillings for Cullouring the pulpit before Ordination of Mr Emerson

voted 0 5 0

27 The Town Allowed to Richard Towne Twenty shillings for serving Schoolmaster y<sup>e</sup> Last year voted 1 0 0

All the Town officers y<sup>t</sup> were Chosen for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing of whom an oath is by Law Required were all sworn before y<sup>e</sup> selectmen on y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> & on y<sup>e</sup> 11 day of March 1728-9 Entered by order of y<sup>e</sup> selectmen: Jacob Peabody Town Clerk

At the above said Town meeting March 11<sup>th</sup> 1728 9 Nathaniel Averill Jun<sup>r</sup> & Eliezer Lake are Chosen to finde the bounds & straiten y<sup>e</sup> Lines of y<sup>e</sup> parsonage Land in Topsfield in order to fence it as above said voted

The freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield such as are Quallified according to Law for voting are hereby Warned & Notified to Assemble and meet together at the Meeting house in Topsfield: on Tuseday the first day of April next Ensuing the date hereof at one of y<sup>e</sup> Clock afternoon on sd Day

1 To see if the Town will do anything to mend up any seats that are broken down in the meeting house

2 to give Liberty for swine to go at Large as the Law directs

3 to allow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield March y<sup>e</sup> 22 1728-9  
Joshua Towne Constable

Benja<sup>a</sup> Towne  
} by order of  
} the selectmen  
} of Topsfi<sup>d</sup>

At A Lawfull Towne Meeting in Topsfield Aprill: 1: 1729

1 Dea<sup>n</sup> John Howlett is Chosen Moderator for this meeting  
voted

2 The Towne Agreed that y<sup>e</sup> seats y<sup>t</sup> were broken in y<sup>e</sup> meeting house at y<sup>e</sup> ordination of Mr Emerson should be Repaired at y<sup>e</sup> Towns Cost  
voted

3 The Towne Made Choice of Stephen Johnson to repair s<sup>d</sup> seats  
voted

The Town gave Liberty for swine to go at Large according as y<sup>e</sup> Law gives Liberty  
voted

4 The Town agreed that the Present selectmen should Cast up Mr Zacheus Goulds Rates y<sup>t</sup> were Committed to him as Constable viz the Country and Town Rates to see if they are short of what they are Called  
voted

5 The Town allowed one pound seven shillings to Jonathan Wildes for keeping the Meeting house y<sup>e</sup> Last year y<sup>e</sup> year Ending Last March meeting  
voted 01 07 00

6 The Town allowed to John Willdes Two pounds & six pence for going to Court to git some allowance towards y<sup>e</sup> Repairing the Town bridge  
voted 2 0 6

7 the Town Allowed to John Willdes five shillings & six pence for Joseph Kimballs Rates he being gone out of Town  
voted 0 3 6

8 The Town allowed to Quar<sup>ter</sup> mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman one

pound five shillings for giting some help at Court toward repairing the Town Bridge voted 150

9 The Town Allowed to Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne one shilling he having paid so much for Entering y<sup>e</sup> Warning of Rebeckah Thorp out of Town on y<sup>e</sup> Court Record voted 010

The freeholders and other Inhabitation of the Town of Topsfield duly Quallified by Law for voting: are warned and notified to Meet together at y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house in Topsfield on Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> seventh Currant at Eight of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> morning: To Chuse a Representative to serve at the General Court: and to Chuse a Committee to Reckon with mr Nathaniel Porter our former Town Treasurer: and to Choose a Committe to Repair our meeting house: and To see whether the Town will give Liberty for Mr<sup>s</sup> Mary Baker to hang gates ACrose the way that Goeth allong by her house: And to see if the Town will finde a pew for y<sup>e</sup> Reverend Mr Emerson: And to Receive the Committies Return that was Chosen to discourse with Ipswich farmers and to act upon it: and to order y<sup>e</sup> interest of Towns Last Loan money according to y<sup>e</sup> act: and to Allow bills of Charge

Dated Topsfield May 1: 1729  
Joshua Towne Constable  
of Topsfield

John Howlett  
Eliezer Lake  
David Balch  
Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne  
Jacob Peabody  
Selectmen of Topsfield

At A Lawfull Town Meeting in Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1729

1 Mr Zacheus Gould is Chosen Moderator for this meeting voted

2 Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould is Chosen Representative for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing voted

3 The Town Agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Present Selectmen or y<sup>e</sup> Major part of them shall Reckon with Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Porter our former Town Treasurer voted

4 Mr Ivory Hovey & Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Gould are Chosen a Committe to discourse with Mr<sup>s</sup> Capen to see if she would be willing that ye Ministers Wife should sit with her in y<sup>e</sup> pew that she now sits in till the Town shall see Cause to provide otherwise voted

*(To be continued.)*

# WILLIAM AVERILL OF IPSWICH AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

**1** WILLIAM AVERILL is supposed to have migrated from Broadway, Worcestershire, England, and is probably the ancestor of almost the entire family in this country. He was living at Ipswich, Mass., as early as Mar. 2, 1637, when he was granted six acres of planting ground on the further side of Muddy river. In 1638 he owned a house lot near where the County House is to-day. He was made a commoner in 1641. His will, dated July 3, 1652, and proved in court at Ipswich, Mar. 29, 1653, reads as follows:—

“I William Auerill of Ipswich being weake in bodye but of pfect memorye doe make this my last will and testament first I doe bequeath my body to the earth to be deasently buryed in the Burying place of Ipswich my spirit into the hands of my Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ. And for my outward estate being but small I doe giue vnto my children each of them being seuen in number the some of fiue shillings a peece & the rest of my estate my debts being discharged I giue vnto Abagal my wife whom I make sole execotrix of this my last will in witness heerof I haue heervnto sett my hand and seale the 3th of the 4th mo : 1652.

“Andrew hodge,  
Renold ffoster.

Will  
Aveirell.”

“Inventory of the estate of William Averill, filed 29 Mar., 1653.

It. hous: Lott & house	10—00—00
It. 10 acres of vpland ground & 6 As meddo	10—00—00
It. 2 Kine & 2 two-yer: old	16—00—00
It. 2 shoats	01—00—00



It. 1 Iron pott—1 brass pott—1 frying pan—4 pewtr platt <sup>r</sup> s—1 flagon—1 Iron Kettle—1 brass Kettle— 1 Copp, 1 brass pan & some othr small things	02—17—00
It. 2 Chests—1 fethr bed—1 othr bed—2 payre of sheets —2 bolster—3 pillows—2 blanketts—1 Covlid— 1 bedstead—& othr smal linnen	05—10—00
It. 2 Coats & wearing apparel	03—00—00
It. 1 warming pan	00—03—00
It. A tub 2 pails a few books	00—10—00
A Corslett	01—00—00
<hr/>	
“ what shee oweth	12—00—00
Reginold fost <sup>r</sup> Andrew Hodgs Apprisers.”	

His widow, Abigail, died at Ipswich shortly before Mar. 27, 1655, when the inventory of her estate was returned to court by her son William, in which is mentioned “ the pequitt lot of 7 acres.”

Children :

2 WILLIAM.

SARAH, probably his daughter, m. Nov. 23, 1663, John Wildes of Topsfield. She was executed as a witch on July 19, 1692.

THOMAS, probably his son, m. Dec. 8, 1657, Frances Collings, at Ipswich. He was living in Topsfield, 1663-1668, and had a daughter Sarah, born there Mar. 23, 1666-7.

JOHN, probably his son, was living in Ipswich, 1654-1656.

A child, living in 1652.

A child, living in 1652.

A child, living in 1652.

**2 William Averill** was a carpenter and lived in Ipswich until February, 1663 (he was a surveyor of high-ways at Ipswich in 1661), when he bought of Daniel Clark of Topsfield, a house and other outbuildings, together with one hundred acres of land in the eastern part of Topsfield. A depression marking the former location of the cellar of his house may yet be seen on the left-hand side of the road leading from “Springville” towards “Mile Brook bridge,” just beyond the Wildes-Perley



house. This road was laid out from William Averill's house to what is now "Springville," on Mar. 19, 1666-7. Many of his descendants settled near him, and in after years an Averill neighborhood not far away became known as "The Colleges," from the fact, as the story goes, that the Averills at that time were some of the most intelligent people in the town, being prominent in town affairs and holding public office. They were cabinet-makers and subscribed to one of the three copies of a newspaper that came into the town. William Averill was selectman in 1688, and tithing man in 1682. He married, July 31, 1661, Hannah Jackson of Ipswich, who survived him and was living in Connecticut about 1735. He died April 23, 1691. His will, proved June 30, 1691, follows:—

"The last will and testament of william averell, of Topsfield, sen<sup>r</sup> in the County of Essex in New England. I being weake in body but through gods goodness, yet of Competent understanding and memory, I Commit my body to the dust when god shall take me hence, and my Spirits unto the hands of almighty god and my most mercifull redeemer. And my outward estate as followeth, I doe will unto my Eleven children the sume of six pound a piece for the present to be pd as they are or shall come to age in such specia of moveabls as the estate consists in, not to be prised as money but as upon pay acct. And this rule to be attaded in all other payments hereafter to be mentioned. The remainder of my estate viz. my lands & housing stock & houshold goods moveables and Imoveables, my will is to Leave it with my deare and Loveing wife, to be improved for the mutual releiff, and comfort both of herself & family I shall leave with her, or so many of them whose hearts god shall encline to live together with their deare mother as brethren in peace Love and unity And to be mutually helpfull in improving the Land and stock for their own & each others Lyvlihood that they may by keeping neare together be helpfull to each other in an hour of danger. My will is that if my present dwelling house shall continue in being untill after my wives decease, And also that my sone John and my

sone Nathaniel shall be then liveing that they shall have each of them Ten pounds out of the value of the house before any division be made or if either of you shall survive and not the other then his ten pound shall be his due.

“If they shall both dye before their mother Then this to be void & of non effect. My will is that after my wives decease my lands & houseing shall with the rest of my estate that shall then be in being be equally divided amongst my children that shall be then Liveing, the lands & houseing to belong equally unto my sonns. Yet soe as they shall not make Sale or conveyance unto any stranger of yr proportion, before they have proferred the same to such of yr brethren as may be willing to buy the same, who shall have one full years Liberty to purchase or refuse.

“If any shall doe contraire hereunto he shall forfait his entrest in his share of land and houseing nor shall he hold his proportion at a higher price to his brethren than the same will yeild to a stranger. It. my will is that if the land shall fall short in value that my sones have not yr due in value. What shall be wanting shall be made up out of the stock & moveables. And the like be done if stock & movables fall short. The heires of the Lands & houseing to pay every one his part. My will is that my sone Nathaniell may use the shop tooles not to make any strip nor waste or to deprive the family of the benefit of such as they shall have occasion for, while they shall continue together. I doe hereby give to my wife full power to determine what kynd of houshold goods shall belong to each of our daughters. And also to impart as there may be need either to sones or daughters what may be conveniently spared keeping a true acct. thereof, not exceeding what will be their proportion at the Last division. And what they shall so receive shall be accounted unto them as part of their last proportion out of my estate. (I doe not intend here the first six pounds mentioned in the former part of these Lynes.) I doe also give Liberty to my wife to allow reasonable recompense to such of our children though not yet come to age as shall approve themselves dilligent, faithfull and constant in improving

and & stock for the good of the family after they come to full age which shall be taken out of the estate or income thereof as a due debt before division be made.

"I doe further hereby make my deare & Loveing wife my full and sole executive unto this my last will and testament during the terme of her widowhood. If she shall see cause to change her condition then my will is that she shall take two of her sones whom she shall judge to be best able and most faithfull to Joyne with her in executorship, to the end that no stranger nor sone of a stranger may be admitted into so small a Liveing to the wrong of the proper heires or any of them.

"Lastly my will is that any of my sones as they may be able may and will be helpfull unto their dear mother in what difficulties she may meet withall, and y<sup>t</sup> they live at peace among themselves. And you will have y<sup>e</sup> promise that the god of peace will be with you.

"For consideration hereof I have hereunto set my hand dated the 15 day of April, 1690.

William Auerell.

"As witnesses

John Wills

The marke of

Sarah o8 Wild."

Children, all born in Topsfield except the first:

3 WILLIAM, b. May 1, 1662.

4 NATHANIEL, b. Oct. 13, 1664.

5 JOHN, b. Jan. 1, 1666.

6 JOB, b. Jan. 1, 1666-7.

HANNAH, b. Dec. 18, 1667; d. unm. May 14, 1737.

7 EBENEZER, b. Oct. 14, 1669.

ISAAC, b. Jan. 26, 1671-2; d. June 11, 1680, in Topsfield.

THOMAS, b. Dec. 9, 1672; probably m. Nov. 29, 1712, Abigail Cogswell, in Ipswich; acknowledged a deed in Preston, Conn., May 30, 1724.

ABIGAIL, b. March 8, 1673-4; m., (pub. July 9, 1699) Jonathan Bishop of Beverly. Lived in Beverly until about 1708, when they removed to Rehoboth, where he died in 1752. They acknowledged a deed in Norton, Bristol county, June 2, 1721.

- EZEKIEL, b. July 24, 1675; probably d. young.  
 8 PAUL, b. June 21, 1677.  
 SILAS, b. May 1, 1679; probably d. young.  
 9 ISAAC, b. Nov. 10, 1680.  
 MARY, bapt. May 16, 1697; m. Feb. 16, 1709-10, Silas Titus of Rehoboth. They acknowledged a deed in Norton, June 2, 1724.

**3 William Averill**, born in Ipswich, May 1, 1662. Lived in Topsfield, and married Mary ———. "Widow Mary Averill died March 14, 1728-9."—*Topsfield Records*. He was admitted to membership in the church, May 24, 1685, and Mar. 11, 1688, was disciplined for intemperance and unseemly behavior in Mr. Wise's church at Ipswich. March 1, 1714/15, the selectmen of Topsfield, agreed with William Averill, jun., to sweep the meeting-house and dig graves, for which service he was to be paid 18 shillings a year and to have the use of half an acre of land "some where near among the Hills to ye Norwest of ye Meeting House," during the lifetime of himself and wife. He was also given "the benefite of ye frute of ye parsonage orchard till the Town have occasion for it."

Children, baptized in Topsfield :

ELIZABETH, bapt. April 7, 1695.

JOSEPH, bapt. March 21, 1696-7.\*

MARY (?) who m. July 9, 1719, at Ipswich, Caleb Jackson of Ashford. The m. is recorded at Topsfield and Ipswich.

STEPHEN, bapt. June 6, 1701. He probably removed to Arundel, Me., with his brother Joseph, where he married and had: Phebe, Rebecca, Sarah and Samuel.

JAMES, bapt. April 11, 1703.

REBECCA, bapt. July 15, 1705.

JABEZ, bapt. June 15, 1707; m. Mary Buxton, and settled in Preston, Conn.

MOSES, bapt. Feb. 26, 1709-10.

**4 Nathaniel Averill**, born in Topsfield, Oct. 13, 1664. He was a carpenter and millwright, and lived in

\*1723-4. Benjamin Kimball and Joseph Averill are in the military service.—*Felt's History of Ipswich*. He probably was living at Arundel, now Kennebunk, Me., in 1728, a joint-owner, with Jacob Wildes, of 450 acres of land, and a saw-mill. There he m. Jane McLellen and had 11 children, 7 of whom died with the throat distemper in 1735. He may have had a brother Samuel, who also lived at Arundel and was cast away on Mount Desert in 1747 and drowned.

Topsfield, where he owned a sawmill. Constable in 1702. He married, first, Dec. 13, 1698, Sarah Howlett. She died July 11, 1729, and he married, second, June 17, 1730, Lydia French. She died May 31, 1746, and he died April 3, 1751.

Children, born in Topsfield :

10 NATHANIEL, b. Sept. 6, 1700.

11 JACOB, b. Aug. 17, 1702.

ABIGAIL, b. Aug. 9, 1704 (bapt. July 16, 1704); m. Dec. 19, 1734, Joseph Hovey ; and was living in 1741.

SARAH, b. Feb. 9, 1706; d. unm. Dec. 26, 1784.

MIRIAM, b. July 9, 1709; m. Sept. 17, 1734, Joseph Neland of Topsfield ; and was living in 1741.

DANIEL, bapt. Sept. 16, 1711; d. March 6, 1716-17.

JEREMIAH, b. July 21, 1714; shopjoiner and yeoman ; lived in Topsfield ; tithingman in 1751; constable, 1759; selectman, 1762-1769; treasurer, 1776-1781; he inherited his father's dwelling house, his sister Sarah to have the west chamber so long as she remained unm., which was 33 y. after the probating of the will ; d. unm. Sept. 7, 1785.

**5 John Averill**, born in Topsfield, Jan. 1, 1666, was a yeoman and lived in Topsfield. He was known as "Sarg" in 1701, where he was appointed tithingman and was constable in 1711. On Feb. 1, 1692, he and his brother Nathaniel, bought of Gov. Simon Bradstreet, 200 acres of land lying between Howlett brook and Mile brook, the locality that afterwards became known as "The Colleges." The original deed is still in existence. April 7, 1735 his four children, then under age, were placed under the guardianship of John Wildes. Administration was granted on his estate Apr. 13, 1724, to widow "Anna." He married June 8, 1710, Anne\* Greensleet (Greenleaf) of Topsfield and died in the winter of 1719-20. His widow was living in Topsfield in 1741, and may have removed to Andover that year.

\*In the records of births of her children, the name is recorded "Hannah" and in a record of baptism it is given as "Ann."



## Children, born in Topsfield :

- 12 JOHN, b. April 24, 1711.

THOMAS, b. Dec. 17, 1713 ; husbandman ; lived in Topsfield until his marriage, when he removed to Andover ; m. May 20, 1739, Sarah Neland (Kneeland) of Ipswich and had : (1) John, bp. Oct. 25, 1741 ; (2) Thomas, bp. Sept. 27, 1747 ; (3) Sarah, bp. Nov. 3, 1751.

EMMA, bp. May-Aug., 1715 ; m. Samuel Phippen, Sept. 7, 1738.

KATHERINE, bp. Apr. —, 1717 ; m. Dec. 22, 1736, Nathaniel Moulton of Ipswich.

- 13 EBENEZER, bapt. Oct. 1-, 1718.

ABIAL (dau.), bp. May —, 1720 ; posthumous ; d. Aug. 1, 1786.

**6 Job Averill**, born in Topsfield, Jan. 1, 1666-7, was a yeoman, and lived in that part of Topsfield that was incorporated as Middleton in 1728. Was tithingman in 1708. He married Feb. 1, 1702-3, Susanna Brown of Topsfield, and died in 1730 ; his will, dated Feb. 7, 1729-30, was proved June 1, 1730. Administration was granted on her estate Dec. 16, 1732.

## Children, born in Topsfield:

JOB, b. Aug. 11, 1707 ; husbandman ; removed from Middleton to Arundel, York county, Me., in 1734 ; was of Arundel in 1737, and of Sheepscot, York county, gentleman, in 1742 ; m. Sarah — before 1737. Had : William and Sarah both bapt. Aug. 14, 1748, at Middleton.

JUDITH, b. May 4, 1710 ; m. Apr. 20, 1732, Samuel Foster.

- 14 ISRAEL, b. April 21, 1713.

KEZIA, b. May 6, 1715 ; m. June 27, 1754, Jonathan Whipple of Danvers.

- 15 SAMUEL, b. June 7, 1720.

SUSANNA, bapt. Sept. —, 1722 ; d. Dec. 26, 1736.

EZEKIEL, b. in 1724. On Feb. 26, 1739, at the age of fourteen, he was placed under the guardianship of Francis Peabody of Middleton.

**7 Ebenezer Averill**, born in Topsfield, Oct. 14, 1669, was a husbandman and lived in Topsfield ; was constable in 1701 and selectman in 1704, 1705, 1707, 1708, 1710, 1713, 1715 and 1716. He married, first, Nov. 30, 1697, Susanna Hovey. She died Nov. 11, 1699, and he married, second, Dec. 31, 1700, Mehitable Foster of Ipswich. He died Dec. 22, 1717, and his wife, Mehitable



died Nov. 19, 1740. In the record of his death he is styled "Sarg". His inventory states that some of the things were reserved for "Luke the sunn of Susannah his first wife that came from Engl<sup>d</sup>."

Children, born in Topsfield :

SUSANNAH, d. Nov. 11, 1699.

16 LUKE, b. Aug. 2, 1699.

MEHITABLE, b. Apr. 26, 170—; bapt. May 2, 1703; m. April 12, 1726, Matthew Peabody, and d. June 6, 1740.

SUSANNAH, b. July 22, 170—; bapt. July 23, 1704; d. in Topsfield, unm. Sept. 2, 1749.

RUTH, b. June 9, 1706; d. unm. before 1729.

HANNAH, b. Feb. 13, 1707-8; m. John Howlett of Ipswich, July 18, 1728 and was his widow in 1749.

MARY, b. Aug. 15, 1710; m. Feb. 24, 1729-30, Nathaniel Porter and d. Dec. 23, 1736.

LYDIA, b. Dec. 11, 1712; m. July 28, 1731, Daniel Gould of Topsfield, husbandman, and d. Dec. 22, 1739.

JEMIMA, b. Apr. 25, 1715; m. Feb. 14, 1737-8, John Perkins, jr., and d. March 2, 1749.

PHEBE, b. Nov. 23, 1717; m. 1st, Nov. 13, 1753, Isaac Dodge of Wenham; m. 2nd, — Brown.

**8 Paul Averill**, born in Topsfield, June 21, 1677, was a husbandman, and lived in that part of Topsfield incorporated as Middleton in 1728. He married, first, Mar. 27, 1706, Sarah, daughter of Capt. Joseph and Sarah (Perley) Andrews. She died Oct. 16, 1732, aged forty-seven, and he married, second, Feb. 3, 1736-7, widow Mary Simonds of Wenham. They were living in Middleton in 1747, and were dismissed Aug. 5, 1753, to the church in Killingly, Conn.

Children, born in Topsfield :

EZEKIEL, b. March 13, 1707-8.

HEPHSIBAH, b. Nov. 8, 1709; m. Dec. 13, 1733, Robert Bradford.

17 PAUL, b. Dec. 16, 1711.

SARAH, b. April 2, 1713; d. unm. in Middleton, Jan. 20, 1736.

JOSEPH, b. Jan. 17, 1719-20; m. Feb. 14, 1743-4, Mary Symonds of Topsfield. He was then of Killingly. A Joseph Symonds m. Sarah Mansfield, Dec. 24, 1745, at Middleton, and had Dudley, bp. —, 1746. Joseph Averill, housewright, of Uxbridge in 1741, is mentioned in Essex Co. Deeds.

**9 Isaac Averill**, born in Topsfield, Nov. 10, 1680, married, May 16, 1709, in Rehoboth, Mass., Esther, daughter of Philip Walker, jr., of that town. Isaac Averill was "an ingenious Carpenter," and framed in Providence, R. I., the largest meeting house of his time. As a resident of Preston, Conn., he acknowledged a deed on May 30, 1724, and for many years lived in that town. Before 1748 he removed to Kent, Conn.

Children, all born in Preston, Conn. :

**SAMUEL**, b. —, 1715 ; m. Patience Perry at Rehoboth, Mass. He purchased of the Indians on July 20, 1749, land in Washington, Conn., where he lived and d. April 30, 1786, at 71 years.

**DANIEL**, b. —, 1716; d. Oct. 23, 1785, in New Preston ; m. Lucy, dau. of Edward Cogswell of Ipswich. Lived at New Preston. Miller and public man.

**MOSES**, b. —, 1723-4 ; d. Jan. 22, 1784, in New Preston; m. Martha, dau. of Edward Cogswell of Ipswich. Lived in what is now Washington, Conn. Captain in the militia, deacon in the church and representative in the legislature.

**LUCY**.

**JUDITH**, b. — ; d. May 18, 1774, in New Preston.

**10 Capt. Nathaniel Averill**, born in Topsfield, Sept. 6, 1700, was a housewright, and lived in Topsfield. Selectman in 1747, 1748. He married, Nov. 24, 1743, Hannah Wildes, and died Aug. 17, 1781. She died June 4, 1785, aged seventy-five. At the probating of his will he was styled "gentlemen." After his wife's decease his books were to be divided equally among his two children. Estate inventoried £458.14.10 and included surveying instruments, 36/.

Children, born in Topsfield:

18 **NATHANIEL**, b. April 27, 1747.

**HANNAH**, b. Aug. 17, 1750 ; m. Nov. 18, 1773, John Lovering, 3d, of Ipswich, husbandman; they were living in Ipswich in 1787.

**11 Jacob Averill**, born in Topsfield, Aug. 17, 1702, was a yeoman and lived in Topsfield. He was a tithing-man in 1736, 1742, and 1757; constable in 1746; and

selectman from 1752 to 1755. He married Priscilla, daughter of Ephraim and Mary Wildes, and died June 15 (June 14, church rds.), 1791. By his will he bequeathed to his sons Daniel and Amos, his carpenter's tools "where-soever they may be found." His wife died May 17 (May 22, church rds.), 1799, aged 94 years.

Children, born in Topsfield :

JACOB, b. Mar. 18, 1728-9; cabinet-maker and joiner; lived in Topsfield; m. Nov. 23, 1752, Hannah Bryant. He d. Sept. 14, 1807 and she d. Feb. 24, 1813. "Joanna, the widow of Jacob, struck with numb palsey in the summer of 1785, and remained dead on one side till she died."

19 DANIEL, b. Dec. 3, 1730.

DOROTHY, b. Feb. 24, 1731-2; m. Nov. 8, 1752, David Prichard. He died in 1756, in the French and Indian War, and in her father's will, dated May 30, 1791, she was given the right to occupy "the west chamber . . . till she is otherwise provided for." She d. Jan. 30, 1822.

LYDIA, b. July 2, 1735; m. Jan. 15, 1767, Richard Potter, jr., of Ipswich.

MARY, b. Aug. 1, 1739; d. unm., Oct. 5, 1826, at the almshouse.

PRISCILLA, b. July 1, 1742; d. March 29, 1781.

AMOS, b. March 25, 1747; yeoman; lived in Topsfield; soldier in the Revolution, marching to Lexington and also seeing other service; m. Nov. 6, 1774, Lydia Batchelder of Wenham and d. suddenly April 11, 1805. She d. Mar. 20, 1831, at the almshouse.

**12 John Averill**, born in Topsfield, April 24, 1711, was a husbandman, and lived in Topsfield until about 1740, when he removed to Groton, Mass. In 1751, he again removed to Westminster, Vt., where he died, Sept. 2, 1797. He married, May 7, 1735, Mary Phippen. She died in Westminster, Vt., in 1809, "in the 95<sup>th</sup> year of her age."

Children :

MARY, bapt. March 14, 1735-6, Topsfield; m. — Rockwood.

ABIAL, bapt. Nov. 26, 1738, Topsfield; m. John Abby.

ASA, b. —, 1739; m. 1st, Anna Chaffee; m. 2nd, the widow of Peter Lovejoy; m. 3rd, — Nall.

THOMAS, b. —, 1745; m. Nov. 3, 1774, Elizabeth Robinson.

SAMUEL, b. —, 1746 (?); m. 1st, Molly Barnes; m. 2nd, the widow Washburn.

JOHN, b. —, 1748; m. Olive Estabrook.

ANNA, b. —, 1751; m. Peter Lovejoy. She was the first white child, born in Westminster, Vt.

AMY, m. Robert Rand.

OLIVE, m. William Martin.

**13 Ebenezer Averill**, baptized in Topsfield, Oct. 1—, 1718, was a husbandman, and lived in Topsfield until about 1760 when he removed to Amherst, N. H., where he was living in 1771. He married, April 5, 1748; Mary Towne and she was his wife in 1771.

Children, baptized in Topsfield:

RUTH, bapt. Jan. 1, 1748-9.

EBENEZER, bapt. Dec. 22, 1751; lived in Amherst; pub. Oct. 3, 1775, to Anna Johnson of Danvers.

DAVID, bapt. April 13, 1755.

ELIJAH, bapt. May 29, 1757.

**14 Israel Averill**, born in Topsfield, April 21, 1713, married in Middleton, June 11, 1735, Mary Kenney. He was a husbandman and lived in Middleton until about 1752, when he removed to Topsfield and was taxed there until 1759. An Israel Averil of Pownalborough, Me., yeoman, and wife Mary, sold land in Manchester, Mass., in 1767.—*Essex Co. Deeds*.

Children:

HULDAH, bapt. —, 1736, in Middleton.

MARY, bapt. —, 1739, in Middleton; m. April 18, 1759, Archelaus Kenney.

SUSANNA, bp. —, 1742, in Middleton.

ENOCH, bp. —, 1744, in Middleton; m. Ruth Hilton of Pownalborough, Me.

DAVID, bp. —, 1747, in Middleton; m. Elizabeth Hilton, sister of the above.

RUTH, bapt. Dec. 17, 1749, in Middleton; m. in Pownalborough, Me.

EUNICE, bapt. Feb. 25, 1753, in Topsfield.

ISRAEL, bapt. June 13, 1756, in Topsfield.

**15 Samuel Averill**, born in Topsfield, June 7, 1720, was a blacksmith and lived in Middleton. He married, Sept. 3, 1742, Martha Clemens of Salem, and died about 1756, administration being granted on his estate, Jan. 17, 1757. She survived him, and married, secondly, Nov. 27, 1764, Michael Dwinnell of Topsfield. He died Sept. 19, 1770, and she married, third, April 4, 1774, Samuel Cartor of Manchester.

Children, born in Middleton:

SUSANNA, b. Aug. 8, 1743.

ELIZABETH, b. April —, 1745; probably m. Feb. 20, 1766, John Nichols of Middleton.

20 BENJAMIN, b. Jan., 1747.

EZEKIEL, b. Feb. 14, 1748.

SAMUEL, b. March 18, 1749. In 1765, he is named as a beneficiary in the will of David Balch and is mentioned as a "minor who lived with me." A short time before the making of the will his mother had m. 2d, Michael Dwinell, a cousin of David Balch's wife.

LUCY, b. Dec. 18, 1752; m. May 7, 1772, Abijah Wilkins. They removed to Amherst, N. H., where she d. before Sept. 30, 1788, when he m. 2nd, Sarah Farmer, of Manchester.

ABIGAIL, b. Dec. 10, 1754; d. Sept. 21, 1851, in Beverly; m. 1st, May 30, 1790, Samuel Carter; m. 2nd, William Tarbell.

**16 Luke Averill**, born in Topsfield, Aug. 2, 1699, was a yeoman, and lived in Topsfield. Constable in 1730; tithingman, 1739, 1756, 1760, 1765, 1769; member of school committee in 1751, was mentioned on the town records in 1756, as "Lieut." Luke Averill. In his will he gives to his widow, "half of the dwelling house from cellar to top," and annually, as long as she remains his widow, the following:—8 cords firewood, ready for the fire; 120 weight pork; 50 weight beef; 3 pecks salt; 1 bushel turnips; 1 bushel potatoes; 1-2 bushel beans; 8 bushels Indian corn; 2 bushels rye; 1 bushel winter apples; 8 lbs. sheep's wool; 15 lb. flax; 1 barrell "cyder;" 1 1-2 bushels malt; a small garden; two cows to be well kept summer and winter; use of horse to ride to meeting and elsewhere; 2 gals. molasses; 2 gals. rum, and cost and charge of doctor and nurse in case of sickness. At



the probating of his will he is styled "gentleman." He married Sarah, daughter of Isaac and Sarah Peabody; and died April 16, 1776. She died May 22, 1790, ae. 84 y.

Children, born in Topsfield :

RUTH, b. Feb. 18, 1727-8; d. Jan. 16, 1747-8.

MARY, b. July 14, 1730; d. May 1, 1737.

MOSES, b. Jan. 25, 1732-3; d. May 3, 1737.

EBENEZER, b. Jan. 18, 1735-6. (Eleser, a youth, s. Luke, d. June 8, 1747.)

MOSES, b. Aug. 12, 1738; d. July 7, 1739.

21 ISAAC, b. June 2, 1740.

ELIJAH, b. March 14, 1742-3; d. Feb. 4, 1747-8.

SUSANNAH, b. Aug. 14, 1746; m. March 31, 1772, David Towne, jr.; and d. Oct. 24, 1836.

**17 Paul Averill**, born in Topsfield, Dec. 16, 1711, was a husbandman, and lived in Middleton. He married April 21, 1737,\* Zeruah How, and died in the winter of 1805-6, his will, dated Dec. 9, 1796, being proved Feb. 3, 1806.

Children, born in Middleton :

SARAH, b. July 26, 1738; d. Jan. 20, 1739-40.

JOHN, b. Jan. 2, 1740; m. Mary Bradford; b. 1742 in Middleton and d. Aug. 21, 1815; he d. May 21, 1815. Settled in Amherst, N. H. in 1763. Children : Naomi; Daniel; Mary, m. Benjamin Symonds; Anna, m. ——— McAllister; John; Jesse, m. and had John, who m. Clarissa Peabody of Middleton, and had one son, Nathaniel P. who d. Mar. 17, 1877 in Middleton.

22 PAUL, b. Sept. 27, 1742.

23 ELIJAH, b. April 28, 1745.

24 MARK, b. May 12, 1747.

SARAH, b. July 28, 1750; m. Daniel Stiles, Sept. 25, 1771; d. Sept. 20, 1805, in Middleton.

MARY, b. May 11, 1752; m. Feb. 14, 1771, Stephen Towne, jr. and removed to Sunderland, Vt. in 1786.

25 JOSEPH, b. Oct. 6, 1757.

**18 Nathaniel Averill**, born in Topsfield, April 27, 1747, was a yeoman and wheelwright, and lived in Topsfield. Soldier in the Revolution, marching to Lexington.

\*He may have married, 1st, Feb. 3, 1736, at Wenham, Mary Symonds of Wenham.



Selectmen in 1780-1784. He married, first, Dec. 16, 1766, Dorothy Perkins. She died May 6, 1767 "in her 18th year," and he married, second, Oct. 1, 1776, Hannah, daughter of Ephraim and Hepsibah Wildes. He died May 17, 1811, and his wife Hannah, survived him, dying Oct. 28, 1816, aged sixty-seven.

Children, born in Topsfield :

26 NATHANIEL PERKINS, b. May 1, 1767.

27 AZARIAH, b. Feb. 11, 1778.

AMMI, b. Aug. 17, 1779; lived in Topsfield; yeoman; and d., unm. April 18, 1822. By will dated July 15, 1816, he bequeathed his entire estate to "Mehitable, the present wife of my brother Moses."

LYDIA, b. March 3, 1782; d. Nov. 27, 1859; m. Sept. 25, 1806, Ebenezer Towne of Topsfield.

DOROTHY, bapt. April 2, 1784; m. Feb. 24, 1818, Abraham Gage. Lived in Middleton, where she d. June 5, 1861.

28 MOSES, b. June 5, 1786.

**19 Daniel Averill**, born in Topsfield, Dec. 3, 1730, was a yeoman, and lived in Topsfield. He married Joanna Hood, Feb. 27, 1759; and died March 4, 1801. She died Dec. 12, 1816, "occasioned by falling into the fire."

Children, born in Topsfield :

SARAH, b. June 20, 1760; d. unm. Feb. 8, 1839, of cancer.

29 DANIEL, b. June 12, 1762.

SOLOMON, b. Sept. 1, 1765; d. April 1, 1766.

JOANNA, b. March 7, 1767; probably m. Nov. 23, 1786, Thomas Willis (Wildes?). When her father made his will in 1800 she is mentioned as the wife of "Shays."

30 SOLOMON, b. Aug. 20, 1769.

MEHITABLE, b. Aug. 16, 1774; m. Nov. 15, 1793, Silas Beckford, and d. Sept. 1, 1845.

**20 Benjamin Averill\*** born in Middleton, Jan. 17, 1747, married, 1st, in Ipswich, Nov. 9, 1769, Sarah Blye, she died and he married, 2nd (int. Dec. 21, 1772), Mrs. Mary, widow of John Pitman, and daughter of Dr. Francis and Mary Holmes. By trade a "Leather Breeches maker." He was a soldier in the Revolution, enlisting in

\*1778, John Chapman, glover, was succeeded by his apprentices, P. Rust and B. Averill.—*Felt's History of Ipswich*.

1780 for 6 months. He was 5 ft. 7 in. tall and of a light complexion. He lived in Ipswich and died about 1782.

Children by first wife :

- 31 BENJAMIN, b. Oct. 9, 1770, in Middleton (baptized Dec. 16, 1770 in Ipswich).

FRANCIS HOLMES. His name was afterwards changed to Francis Holmes. Lived in Boston. Married; had 4 children.

Child by second wife :

PEGGY, bp. Nov. 18, 1781, in Ipswich.

**21 Lieut. Isaac Averill**, born in Topsfield, June 2, 1740, was a carpenter and lived in Topsfield. In the inventory of his estate were surveying instruments, buildings and 160 ac. of land and a pew in the meeting house, \$100. Constable in 1771; selectman, 1778, 1779, 1790-1792, 1794, 1795. He was styled "Lieut." in 1791. Soldier in the Revolution, marching to Lexington. He married Dec. 22, 1761, Priscilla Peabody; and died June 23, 1816. She died Feb. 4, 1815, ae. 71 years.

Children, born in Topsfield :

- 32 ELIJAH, b Dec. 21, 1762.

JOSEPH, b. Oct. 28, 1764; m. Dec. 24, 1801, Eunice, dau. John and Anna Lamson. She d. Apr. 8, 1850 aged 77 years and he d. Dec. 31, 1850. Inherited his father's "French gun." Lived in Topsfield and was popularly known as "Neighbor Joe."

ISAAC, b. Aug. 2, 1767; d. Sept. 20, 1800.\*

- 33 MOSES, bapt. Oct. 1, 1769.

PHEBE, bapt. May 3, 1772; m. (pub. March 6, 1796), John Batchelder, jr., and d. Sept. 26, 1839.

- 34 LUKE, bapt. Nov. 21, 1779. "It being the first Child ye Revd Mr Breck Bp. after his ordination."—*Church Rds.*

\*"DIED. At Topsfield, Sept. 20th, after a short illness, *Isaac Averell*, jun. A.M. aged 33—Candidate for the Gospel Ministry. He had received a call for settlement from the church and society in Brookfield, South parish, and had given them an affirmative answer. The 1st day of October next was assigned for his ordination. His numerous acquaintance will long remember him as a man of friendship, sobriety and virtue; and by his death the people whose choice united in him as their servant in the Lord are subjected to a very afflictive disappointment. '*O fallacem hominum spem, fragilemque fortunam.*'"—*Salem Gazette*, Sept. 23, 1800.

**22 Paul Averill**, born in Middleton, Sept. 27, 1742, was a yeoman, and lived in Andover. Soldier in the Revolution, marching to Lexington. He married March 10, 1772, Deborah Foster in Andover; and died in 1804; his wife probably died Dec. 27, 1826.

Children :

JOHN, bp. Nov. 23, 1772 in Andover; d. young.

JOHN, b. Nov. 16, 1776; yeoman; lived in Andover; m. Nov. 13, 1794, Betsey Austin; he d. Dec. 7, 1818; and she d. Nov. 13, 1826, aged 54 years. Had: Elizabeth, b. Mar. 10, 1795.

DEBORAH, m. Moses Wilkins of Middleton, Feb. 19, 1793.

BETSEY, bp. Oct. 24, 1790, in Andover; m. (int. Dec. 20, 1810)' James Pettingill.

**23 Elijah Averill**, born in Middleton, April 28, 1745, was a cordwainer, and bought, in 1775, the farm in Boxford (lately in the occupation of George Perley) on which he settled. He married Jan. 4, 1776, Hannah Perkins. Administration was granted on his estate Nov. 5, 1782; and his wife survived him, marrying, secondly, Joseph Peabody, 2d, May 25, 1790. She died in Middleton, Mar. 17, 1825.

Child, born in Boxford :

HANNAH, b. March 16, 1777; d., unm. in Middleton, Nov. 20, 1801, at the age of twenty-four, being affianced to Jonathan Kenney.

**24 Mark Averill**, born in Middleton, May 12, 1747, was a yeoman, and succeeded his father on the homestead

in Middleton, where he was living in 1798. He married June 8, 1775, Dorcas Foster of Andover.

Children, born in Middleton :

JOHN, b. Feb. 27, 1776; m. Dec. 29, 1825, Sarah A. Porter of Andover, where they lived. No children. He d. June —, 1838, she d. July 8, 1859.

EPHRAIM, b. April 2, 1780; m. May 23, 1825, Sally Tapley of Lynnfield. Lived in Derry, N. H. No children.

ELIJAH, b. Dec. 10, 1789; m. Lived in Litchfield, N. H. Had a son and perhaps other children.

FOSTER, b. Sept. 20, 1792; m. Martha R——, and had Henry (drowned); John, lived in Londonderry, N. H.; Mason, lived in Londonderry, N. H.; Ephraim, lived in Missouri; Dorcas, m. ——— Grant, and lived in Gilmantown, N. H.; Sarah, m. Lewis Stiles and lived in Lowell; Eda Ann, m. ——— Ballou, and lived in Alexandria.

**25 Joseph Averill**, born in Middleton, Oct. 6, 1757, was a yeoman, and lived in Middleton. He married, first Dec. 12, 1780, Susanna Pettingill of Andover. She died in Middleton, Sept. 20, 1813, aged fifty-seven; and he married, second, (int. Apr. 10, 1814), Mrs. Rachel (Lefavour) Pettengill, widow of Moses Pettengill. He died in Middleton, Dec. 9, 1816; and she died Dec. 24, 1846, in Middleton, aged 68 years.

Children, born in Middleton :

35 BENJAMIN, b. Feb. 22, 1781.

MOLLY, b. Jan. 3, 1783; m. Nov. 5, 1805, Moses Stiles of Boxford, and was living in 1816.

BETSEY, b. Oct. 13, 1786; d. in Middleton, unm. Nov. 3, 1814.

SUSANNA, b. Oct. 20, 1789; d. Jan. 16, 1792.

35A JOSEPH, b. Dec. 15, 1792.

SUSANNA, b. March 6, 1795; m. Jan. 11, 1816, Ebenezer Nichols of Reading. Lived in South Danvers, now Peabody.

**26 Nathaniel Perkins Averill**, born in Topsfield, May 1, 1767, was a yeoman, and lived in Topsfield. Selectman in 1801, 1802. He married April 12, 1791, Hannah, daughter Thomas and Margaret Wood. She died Sept. 13, 1816, aged 53 years.

## Children, born in Topsfield :

STEPHEN P., b. Jan. 16, 1792; m. Dec. 13, 1818, at Danvers, Annah Moore of Topsfield. She d. Jan. 16, 1838, of consumption, aged 40 years.

DOLLY, b. Nov. 18; 1794; d. unm. Dec. 3, 1879 at Salem.

36 THOMAS, b. March 21, 1798.

37 NATHANIEL PERKINS, b. Oct. 25, 1803.

38 AARON PERKINS, b. May, 1810.

**27 Azariah Averill**, born in Topsfield, Feb. 11, 1778; married, Sept. 10, 1799, Sarah A., daughter of Jacob and Rachel Towne. She died in Salem, a widow, Sept. 6, 1842. Lived in Topsfield, Beverly and Salem.

## Children :

SARAH, b. Aug. 3, 1800, in Topsfield; m. Feb. 9, 1829, John Sawyer.

HIRAM, b. Aug. 3, 1802, at Topsfield; d. at sea, aged 17.

IRENE A., b. Aug. 23, 1804, in Topsfield; m. Feb. 10, 1833, Humphrey G. Hubbard of Topsfield.

MARY, b. Feb. 25, 1807, in Beverly; m. (int. May 10, 1829), William R. Hubbard of Topsfield.

ELIZA, b. Feb. 25, 1807, in Beverly; d. Nov. 8, 1831; m. July 1, 1830, Humphrey G. Hubbard of Topsfield.

MOSES, b. Oct. 9, 1809, in Beverly; d. June 3, 1848, in Danvers.

39 EPHRAIM, b. Feb. 28, 1813, in Topsfield.

RACHEL, b. April 16, 1816, in Salem; m. Nov. 28, 1832, Samuel Clifford of Topsfield.

**28 Moses Averill**, born June 5, 1786, in Topsfield; married, Oct. 18, 1808, Mehitable Merrill of New Rowley, now Georgetown.

## Children :

MOSES, b. Oct. 8, 1808, in Topsfield; d. Nov. 4, 1808.

SALINDA, b. Aug. 18, 1809, in Topsfield; unm.

40 ROYAL AUGUSTUS, b. May 10, 1811, in Topsfield; m. and lived in Stoneham.

HANNAH, b. June 3, 1813, in Topsfield; m. Mar. 13, 1832, Capt. Simon F. Estey; lived in Middleton.

ELIZABETH B., b. May 14, 1816, in Topsfield; m. Oct. 24, 1841, Joseph N. Pope of Topsfield; no children.

JOHN MERRILL, b. Mar. 22, 1826, in Middleton; shoemaker; d. unm. May 9, 1846, in Middleton; buried in Lynn.



- 41 MOSES ABBA, b. Dec. 20, 1827 (1828. Danvers Rds.), in Middleton.

ENOCH FAULKNER, b. April 13, 1830, in Middleton; m. Anna S. Hatch; lived in Lynn, where he d. in 1906.

MEHITABLE MERRILL, b. Aug. 1, 1833, in Middleton; d. unm. Nov. 3, 1897. Lived in Lynn. "Was a physician of good repute."

**29 Daniel Averill**, born in Topsfield, June 12, 1762, was a husbandman, and lived in Topsfield; soldier in the Revolution. He married, July 7, 1795, Betsey Clinton. She was born in Danvers. He died Jan. 11, 1845, and she died Dec. 10, 1854, at the almshouse, aged 80 years.

Children:

DANIEL, b. Jan. 3, 1796; d. April 6, 1838.

JACOB, b. Feb. 26, 1799; d. unm. Dec. 21, 1837. Was insane the later part of his life.

EUNICE, b. June 4, 1805; m. (int. Oct. 2, 1825), Lieut. William MacKenzie of Waltham, Vt.

NABBY, b. Nov. 18, 1807; m. Sept. 27, 1830, Samuel Beckford.

**30 Solomon Averill**, born in Topsfield, Aug. 20, 1769, was a farmer, and lived in Topsfield. He married, March 11, 1794, Anna, daughter of John and Anna Towne of Boxford, and died Feb. 23, 1855. She died March 24, 1851, aged 83 years.

Children, born in Topsfield:

ANNIS, b. May 6, 1795; m. Oct. 7, 1818, Samuel Blaisdell.

ASA, b. Nov. 16, 1797; m., and lived in Reading.

- 42 CYRUS, b. Oct. 30, 1802.

**31 Benjamin Averill**, born in Middleton, Oct. 9, 1770; married, Oct. 15, 1791, Elizabeth, daughter of David and Elizabeth (Lord) Andrews of Ipswich. Cooper. Lived in Ipswich. At his father's death, Stephen Dutch of Ipswich was appointed his guardian. Served on a privateer during the Revolution, securing \$500 prize money. Was "Ensign" in the militia in 1800. He died in Ipswich, Feb. 6, 1841, and she died Aug. 30, 1843, aged 73 years.



## Children, born in Ipswich :

A daughter, b. and d. Oct. 26, 1791.

ELIZABETH, b. April 15, 1793; d. unm. Aug. 17, 1872, in Ipswich.

43 BENJAMIN, b. June 20, 1796; d. April 9, 1872.

JOSEPH, b. Sept. 11, 1800; d. Sept. 20, 1800.

SARAH, b. Aug. 28, 1801; d. Dec. 3, 1828; m. July 23, 1820, Israel K. Jewett of Ipswich; 7 children.

44 JAMES KIMBALL, b. Mar. 19, 1804.

LUCY ANN, b. May 6, 1807; d. unm. Sept. 2, 1824.

45 WARREN, b. July 6, 1809.

46 WILLIAM TARBELL, b. April 13, 1811.

**32 Elijah Averill**, born in Topsfield, Dec. 21, 1762, was a housewright, and lived in Topsfield. Selectman in 1798. He received, in 1776, by will from his grandfather, "the sword that was my Father's," i. e., Ebenezer Averill, born 1669. He married, May 6, 1788, Mary Gould, daughter Maj. Joseph and Elizabeth Gould. She died Sept. 7, 1797, æ. 36 years, and he died Aug. 4, 1813. In his inventory of estate were pump making tools, \$18.00.

## Children :

MARY, b. Feb. 11, 1789; d. June 26, 1876; m. Nov. 30, 1809, John Gould, 3d.

PRISCILLA, b. May 17, 1792; d. Aug. 12, 1872, in Beverly; m. Sept. 22, 1812, Capt. John Lamson.

ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 4, 1797; d. Nov. 21, 1895; m. (int. Oct. 12, 1834), Dr. John Porter of Wenham. At time of m. she was of Boston.

**33 Moses Averill**, baptized in Topsfield, Oct. 1, 1769, married, Dec. 15, 1796, Sarah Clarke, and died July 29, 1798.\* She married, 2nd, Nov. 6, 1831, Capt. Joseph Sawyer, and died, June 2, 1841, aged 69 years.

## Children, born in Topsfield :

Infant twin children, d. between Oct. 10-Nov. 30, 1797.

SARAH, b. Sept. 23, 1798; living in 1814.

\*DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Moses Averell, aged 29; who, in the various relations of life, exhibited an amiable succession of the social and christian virtues.—*Salem Gazette*, Aug. 7, 1798.

**34 Luke Averill**, born in Topsfield, Sept. 20, 1779; married Dec. 21, 1813, Sally, daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Batchelder) Foster of Rowley; she died April 11, 1873, aged 78. He was a yeoman and lived at "The Colleges." He was run over by a wagon and killed, July 20, 1821. In the inventory of his estate appears the item: "cavalry equipments."

Children, born in Topsfield:

MEHITABLE FOSTER, b. March 28, 1814; d. Jan., 1899 in Reading, Mass.; m. March 28, 1833, Benjamin F. Adams of Topsfield.

LYDIA ANN, b. May 20, 1816; d. Sept. 25, 1847; m. April 22, 1840 in Ipswich, Israel Wildes, afterwards of Topsfield.

ISAAC NEWTON, b. Aug. 7, 1819; m. 1st, May 17, 1849, Mary S., dau. of Asa and Selina Bradstreet of Georgetown. She d. Dec. 28, 1851, aged 29, having had one child: Lydia Ann, b. July 9, 1851; d. Sept. 11, 1851, at Ipswich. He m. 2d, March 19, 1857, Mary E., dau. of John C. and Elizabeth Wilson of Annapolis, N. S. She d. Aug. 20, 1880, aged 62. Shoe operative; lived in Topsfield where he d. Oct. 29, 1906.

**35 Benjamin Averill**, born Feb. 22, 1781, in Middleton; married, June 2, 1808, Hannah, daughter of Andrew and Ruth (Curtis) Peabody of Middleton. She was born Aug. 22, 1783, and died Feb. 4, 1854. He died Aug. 13, 1849.

Children, all born in Middleton:

HANNAH, b. Sept. 23, 1808; d. unm. May 8, 1884.

RUTH, b. Oct. 4, 1810; d. Apr. 21, 1891; m. 1st, Apr. 2, 1835, Barzillai Gould; 2 children. He d. Oct. 24, 1848 and she m. 2d, Dec. 10, 1856, Rev. John Gillingham of Bradford and Warren, N. H.

47 BENJAMIN, b. June 30, 1812.

48 ANDREW PEABODY, b. June 5, 1815.

49 JOSEPH, b. March 31, 1818.

EBENEZER HUBBARD, b. Feb. 4, 1820; d. Sept. 30, 1849.

50 EDWARD PUTNAM, b. Nov. 23, 1821.

ALFRED AUGUSTUS, b. Mar. 8, 1825; m. Mar. 15, 1868, Martha J., dau. of Samuel W. and Polly (Gould) Weston. She was b. June 26, 1838, and d. Oct. 22, 1908 in Middleton.

**35a Joseph Averill**, born in Middleton, Dec. 15, 1792, was a farmer, and lived in that part of Andover that afterwards became North Andover. He married May 23, 1819, Elizabeth Averill, probably daughter of John and Betsey (Austin) Averill. She died Nov. 18, 1851 and he died Mar. 5, 1876.

Children, born in Andover :

ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 27, 1819.

JOHN, b. July 18, 1821; m. Oct. 31, 1854, Fidelia, dau. Jacob and Susanna Berry of Andover.

JOSEPH, b. Aug. 18, 1824; farmer; lived in North Andover; m. 1st, Nov. 18, 1856, Susan M. Perley of Boxford. She d. June 21, 1871, and he m. 2d, July 10, 1873, Eunice B. Perley, sister of his first wife. He d. Sept. 24, 1887 and she d. July 13, 1892. Had: (1) George Leonard, b. July 28, 1859; m. Dec. 20, 1883, Elvira Lake Towne of Topsfield. Farmer and lives in North Andover; (2) Mary Lizzie, b. Mar. 31, 1861; m. Apr. 9, 1895, Charles Walter Paul; (3) Florence Maria, b. Sept. 24, 1865.

GEORGE D., b. Sept. 10, 1830; shoemaker; d. unm. July 9, 1852.

**36 Thomas Averill**, born in Topsfield, March 21, 1798; married, Sept. 6, 1827, Sophronia, daughter of Dominick and Sarah (Perkins) Moore. She died May 2, 1874. Shoemaker and farmer; lived in Topsfield and died May 8, 1846.

Children, all born in Topsfield :

A CHILD, b. Feb. 4, 1828; d. Feb. 6, 1828.

51 THOMAS LEVERETT, b. Nov. 1, 1829.

52 EDWARD AUGUSTUS, b. May 3, 1832.

MARY ELLEN, b. June 15, 1835; m. — Patch.

GEORGE FRANKLIN, b. Jan. 6, 1844; m. Oct. 3, 1866, Lodie A., dau. of Daniel and Fanny (Small) Towne. Farmer and cider manufactnr. Soldier in Civil War; 6 mos. service in Co. B, 7th Mass. Vols. and 100 days service in Co. I, 6th Mass. Vols.

**37 Nathaniel Perkins Averill**, born in Topsfield, Oct. 25, 1803, married Susan S. daughter of William and Jemima Silver.\* He died at Salem of consumption, Nov.

\*The marriage of Nathaniel P. Averill and Sarah Sheldon on June 6, 1819 is recorded at Danvers.

7, 1861. She died at Salem, May 10, 1867 aged 67 years and 4 months.

Child, born in Salem :

53 NATHANIEL S., b. July 4, 1835.

**38 Aaron Perkins Averill**, born in Topsfield, May, 1810, married Jan. 24, 1838, in Topsfield, Julia Ann Eastman. He died at Georgetown, Feb. 7, 1865, aged 54 y., 9 m.

Children, born in Topsfield :

EDWIN WALLACE, b. Aug. 5, 1838; d. Nov. 27, 1845.

MARTHA ANN, b. Sept. 19, 1841.

HARRIET WOOD, b. May 20, 1847.

**38 Ephraim Averill**, born in Topsfield, Feb. 28, 1813; married, first, April 11, 1833, Lydia Simonds Potter of Ipswich. She died Aug. 3, 1850, and he married, second, May 4, 1851, Mary Faulkner, daughter of Ebenezer and Lydia Towne. She became insane and died June 6, 1870, in Ipswich, aged 57. He possessed a fine bass voice and for many years conducted old time "singing schools." He died in Topsfield, Jan. 26, 1898.

Children, all born in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich :

ELIZA MARY, b. June 6, 1834; m. April 25, 1852, Charles Perkins of Topsfield, and d. Mar. 19, 1907.

54 EPHRAIM PERKINS, b. Mar. 9, 1836.

CAROLINE AUGUSTA, b. Jan. 11, 1841; m. 1st, May 10, 1859, Benjamin How of Ipswich; m. 2d, June 5, 1873, Thomas Potter of Ipswich; m. 3d, April 6, 1881, William H. Tozier of Ipswich. Lives in Ipswich.

**40 Albert Augustus Averill**, born in Topsfield, May 10, 1811, married, Sept. 15, 1839 at Danvers, Hannah M., daughter of Timothy and Clarissa Walton. She died at Stoneham, Mar. 3, 1852. He was named at birth Royal Augustus Averill, without doubt for Royal Augustus Merriam, M. D., the Topsfield physician. He went by the name of "Augustus" during his younger days but on attaining his majority he adopted the name Albert Augustus. Lived in Salem and Stoneham.

## Children :

HANNAH JANE, b. June 7, 1841, in Salem.

ARCHANA MARIA, b. ———; m. Mar. 10, 1861, in Middleton,  
Otis M. Clement of Stoneham.

ELECTRA P., b. July 7, 1848, in Salem; d. Aug. 25, 1848 in Salem.

ABBY L., b. Feb., 1852; d. July 28, 1852.

**41 Moses Abba Averill**, born Dec. 20, 1827 (1828. Danvers Rds.), in Middleton, married July 20, 1851, at Salem, Mary Jane Ellis, daughter of Dougal and Caroline C. (Fuller) Campbell, born at Newport, N. S. She died in Salem, Apr. 19, 1885, aged 57 years, and he died in Salem, Dec. 22, 1895. He was a shoemaker while a young man living in Danvers and afterwards removed to Salem when he became a policeman and court officer.

## Children :

MOSES F., b. Mar. 23, 1852, in Peabody; d. Dec. 11, 1868, in Salem.

ARTHUR A., b. Oct., 1853 in Peabody; d. Feb. 19, 1902 in Salem.  
Lawyer.

SALENDIA EVELYN, b. Sept. 23, 1864, in Salem; m. Sept. 10, 1884.  
Robert S. Coblents of Peabody. Lives in Salem.

**42 Cyrus Averill**, born in Topsfield, Oct. 30, 1802; married Dec. 8, 1828, Lavinia, daughter of Darius and Mary (Kezar) Dickenson of Ipswich. She died Dec. 21, 1888, aged 82. Farmer; lived in Topsfield and died March 10, 1891.

## Children, all born in Topsfield :

ELMA LAVINIA, b. Oct. 23, 1830; d. Mar. 7, 1896, in Topsfield;  
m. Aug. 15, 1857, George H. Davison, of Gloucester.

MARIA JANE, b. Oct. 11, 1832; d. Dec. 30, 1900 in Topsfield; m.  
April, 1854, at Danvers, James R. Hobbs.

55 CYRUS AUSTIN, b. Aug. 10, 1834.

SARAH AMANDA, b. Oct. 29, 1836; m. Oct. 7, 1853, at Danvers,  
Nathaniel Foster of Topsfield.

MARY BOYNTON, b. April 20, 1839; m. Feb. 25, 1870, Addison  
Wonson of Gloucester.

JOHN FRANCIS, b. June 9, 1852; unm.; lives in Topsfield.

ELLEN FRANCES, b. June 18, 1843, *Family Record* (Cynthia Ellen,  
Aug. 18, 1843—*Town Record*.); d. March 25, 1864, suicide by  
poison.



**43 Benjamin Averill**, born in Ipswich, June 20, 1798; married April 25, 1821, in Ipswich, Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hodgkins) Jewett. Cooper. Removed to Salem in 1835, where he died April 9, 1872. She died Dec. 4, 1882, aged 81 years.

Children, born in Ipswich and Rowley :

ELIZABETH LORD, b. Aug. 14, 1821, in Ipswich; d. Sept. 16, 1822.

ELIZABETH LORD, b. Sept. 18, 1822, in Ipswich; d. unm., Nov. 8, 1903 at Salem.

LUCY ANN, b. Sept. 14, 1824, in Ipswich, d. Sept. 29, 1825.

SARAH JEWETT, b. June 6, 1826, in Ipswich; d. July 27, 1885 in Salem.

JOHN JEWETT, b. July 25, 1828, in Ipswich; d. July 9, 1897; m. June 14, 1855, Octavia W. Oliver of Bath, Me.; carpenter and foreman. Children: Daniel Webster Dodge, b. Sept. 9, 1860, in Salem; d. Sept. 4, 1875, in Salem; Julia M., b. Nov. 29, 1817, in Salem.

LUCY ANN, b. July 1, 1830, in Ipswich; m. April 1, 1860, Edward H. Randall. Lives in Salem.

HARRIET J., b. Jan. 2, 1832, in Ipswich; d. Nov. 4, 1907, unm., at Salem.

56 JAMES WILLIAM, b. Feb. 22, 1834, in Ipswich.

BENJAMIN, b. Dec. 26, 1835, in Rowley; carpenter and distiller; d. Mar. 2, 1879; m. Lucy J. Redmond. Had: Martha C., b. Sept. 15, 1861.

JOSEPH JEWETT, b. Dec. 13, 1836, in Rowley; d. May 18, 1836.

ELLEN HODGES, b. Jan. 2, 1839, in Rowley; m. at Fall River, June 19, 1902, Capt. Wm. Prescott Powers of Deer Isle, Me.

JOSEPH JEWETT (twin), b. June 10, 1841, in Rowley; painter; m. July 29, 1869, Cassandra D., dau. Thos. and Susan T. Maxfield. He d. at Salem, Feb. 6, 1903.

SAMUEL ANDREWS (twin), b. June 10, 1841, in Rowley; d. Aug. 2, 1842 in Salem.

GEORGE JEWETT, b. June 15, 1845, in Rowley; carriage painter; d. May 28, 1898; m. Jan. 20, 1876, Georgianna P., dau. George M. and Elizabeth (Gray) Saunders of Salem. Had: Harry Webster, b. Nov. 6, 1881.

**44 James Kimball Averill**, born in Ipswich, Mar. 19, 1804, married Nov. 10, 1835, Eliza Howard, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Howard) Brown of Salem. He was a cabinet-maker and learned his trade with Nathaniel



Appleton of Salem. He died Sept. 2, 1855 in Ipswich. She died in Salem, Aug. 1, 1867, aged 65 years.

Children :

HARRIET ELIZA, b. 1839; d. unm. Feb. 27, 1882 at Salem.

GEORGE H., b. 1840; m. Oct. 29, 1872, at Hamilton, Edna Augusta, dau. of Dudley and Ednah (Dane) Porter; d. Nov. 17, 1907; clerk. She d. June 16, 1911 in Salem, aged 72 years.

CAROLINE HOWARD, m. ——— Wheeler.

**45 Warren Averill**, born July 6, 1809, in Ipswich; married May 15, 1832, Elizabeth Jane Knox of Gardner, Me., then resident in Ipswich. She died Jan. 28, 1880. He was a cooper by trade, at one time being engaged in the fishing business. He died Nov. 26, 1884.

Children, all born in Ipswich :

MARGARET E., b. —; d. Feb. 11, 1851.

ABBY JANE GARDNER, b. June 16, 1846; d. Sept. 29, 1851.

A SON, b. July 23, 1853; d. July 26, 1853.

LUENIA, b. Aug. 4, 1855; m. July 20, 1892, Charles L. Perkins of Newburyport.

**46 William Tarbell Averill**, born April 13, 1811, in Ipswich; married 1st, Eliza Winter of Gloucester. She died Aug. 17, 1839 and he married 2nd, July 15, 1841, Harriet J., daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hodgkins) Jewett of Ipswich. She died Apr. 28, 1890. He was a carpenter by trade and lived in Gloucester and Ipswich. Was tax collector for many years and inspector of customs in 1848. He died July 1, 1881.

Child by 1st wife :

WILLIAM, b. Feb., 1839; d. Nov. 19, 1839.

Children by 2d wife :

LYDIA MANNING, b. Sept. 23, 1842; d. Jan. 27, 1870; m. Nov. 29, 1866, Charles W. Bamford of Ipswich.

57 WILLIAM WARREN, b. Nov. 17, 1845.

A SON, b. Nov. 23, 1848; d. Nov. 26, 1848.

**47 Benjamin Averill**, born June 30, 1812, in Middleton; married, Jan. 1, 1846, Lois, daughter of Jacob

and Lois (Lufkin) Proctor of Derry, N. H. She was born April 2, 1822 and died in Middleton, Nov., 1898. He lived in Middleton and died there Aug. 13, 1881.

Children :

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, b. April 15, 1856; m. June 9, 1892, Louise Booker of Howardsville, Va., where they now live. No children.

JOHN QUINCY, b. 1859; unm.; lives in Middleton.

ALVIN PROCTER, b. Nov. 25, 1860; d. Oct. 25, 1862.

**48 Andrew Peabody Averill**, born June 5, 1815, in Middleton; married, May 28, 1840, Elizabeth Stearns, daughter of Peabody and Dolly (Kenny) Russell of Boxford. She was born Dec. 4, 1817 and died Oct. 24, 1890. He died Dec. 17, 1889. Lived in Middleton.

Children :

ALBERT AVANDER, b. Jan. 15, 1842; m. May, 1866, Sarah, dau. of Isaac and Sarah (Peasley) Craig of Newbury, N. H.

BENJAMIN RUSSELL, b. Nov. 14, 1849; d. May 29, 1864.

ANDREW PRESTON, b. July 18, 1856; m. Dec. 25, 1882, Cora S. McKay, b. Apr. 25, 1860, in Bowdoin, Me.; Harvard Univ. Supt. Schools, Martha's Vineyard; 6 children.

CHARLES SIDNEY, b. Feb. 9, 1859; d. unm. Aug. 16, 1885; school-teacher.

**49 Joseph A verill**, born March 31, 1818, in Middleton; married, 1st, Oct. 22, 1884, Martha A., daughter of Joseph Berry and Patty (Elliott) Perkins of Middleton. She was born April 13, 1825 and died, April 24, 1884, in Danvers. He married, 2nd, Oct. 14, 1886, Mrs. Mary J. (Perkins) Greene, a sister of his first wife. He died Jan. 8, 1893, in Danvers.

Children, all by 1st wife :

LEVERETT PERKINS, b. Sept. 14, 1847; d. Aug. 28, 1848.

LEVERETT PERKINS, b. Sept. 4, 1849; m. Jan. 17, 1877, Harriet Putnam, dau. of George P. and Charlotte (Towne) Wilkins of Middleton. She was b. April 11, 1850. No children. He d. Oct. 2, 1894, in Danvers.

HELEN WARD, b. Oct. 8, 1855; unm.; grad. Holyoke Seminary; lives in St. Paul, Minn.

ANNIE M., b. Oct. 11, 1858; m. 1st. — Fiske; m. 2nd, Caleb C. Gardner of Salem.

GEORGE.

**50 Edward Putnam Averill**, born Nov. 23, 1821, in Middleton; married, 1st, Dec. 26, 1849, Lavinia K. daughter of William and Hannah (Moore) Perkins of Andover. She was born Sept. 20, 1829 and died in 1853. He married, 2nd, April 19, 1857, Mary Ham, daughter of William and Martha (Ham) Webber of Sanford, Me. She was born Jan. 27, 1829 and died Mar. 2, 1887, in Lynn. He married, 3rd, Apr. 12, 1888, Abbie A., daughter of Lyman and Synthia (Webber) Butler of Sanford, Me. She was born July 23, 1849. Lives in Lynn.

Children by 2nd wife:

CLARENCE B., b. April 22, 1858; unm.

CERESCO PUTNAM, b. Sept. 13, 1860; d. Sept. 8, 1861, in Middleton.

CERESCO PUTNAM, b. Jan. 24, 1862; unm.

**51 Thomas Leverett Averill**, born in Topsfield, Nov. 1, 1829; married July, 1851, Ruth R. Carr of Newburyport. Farmer and painter. He died June 14, 1889.

Children born in Topsfield:

SUSAN SILVER, b. Dec. 13, 1851; m. Sept. 27, 1875, Frank G. Moore of Dallas, Texas; merchant.

SIDNEY WOOD, b. May 14, 1857; unm.; lived in Topsfield.

**52 Edward Augustus Averill**, born in Topsfield, May 3, 1832, married in Salem, Oct. 16, 1855, Harriet M. W., daughter of Richard Preston, born in Ohio Farmer and engineer. He died of heart disease, Feb. 7 1890, in Salem.

Children:

ELLA J., b. 1856; m. at Lynn, Feb. 10, 1876, George H., son of Edward P., and Adeline D. (Warren) Smith.

MARY F., b. July 3, 1864, in Salem.

GERTRUDE M., b. Oct. 28, 1872, in Salem.

**53 Nathaniel S. Averill**, born July 4, 1835; married Jan. 1, 1867, Mary J., daughter of Alexander and Jane Bowie of Bowdoin, Me.; died Nov. 11, 1906; currier. Child, born in Salem.

NATHANIEL HERBERT, b. April 16, 1878; m. June 10, 1908, Katherine, dau. Arthur D. and Nannie E. (Foster) Morrison. Plumber.

**54 Ephriam Perkins Averill**, born in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich, Mar. 9, 1836; married Dec. 8, 1864, Susan, daughter of William G. and Mehetable (Balch) Lake. Soldier in Civil War; three years in Co. D. 12th Mass. Vols.; corporal. Shoe operative. Lived in Topsfield where he died Nov. 29, 1909.

Children, born in Topsfield:

ELMER PERKINS, b. April 20, 1866; m. Nov. 29, 1889, at Georgetown, Annie P. dau. of Whipple and Charlotte A. (Smith) Ingalls. Children: Eleanor, b. Jan. 2, 1890; d. March 20, 1890; Charles Francis, b. June 3, 1891; Florence Osgood, b. Jan. 13, 1893. Shoe operative; lives in Topsfield.

CARRIE HAMMOND, b. Dec. 2, 1871; m. Dec. 20, 1894 at Pawtucket, R. I., Arthur G. Lunt of Newburyport. Child: Arthur Osgood, b. July 25, 1895.

LULU JESSIE, b. April 3, 1876.

**55 Cyrus Austin Averell**, born in Topsfield, Aug. 10, 1834; married April 6, 1864, Margaret Y., daughter of Charles and Anna Sweeney of Topsfield. Farmer; lived in Topsfield and died there March 26, 1900.

Children, all born in Topsfield:

HERMAN AUSTIN, b. March 7, 1865; d. March 8, 1865.

ALBION FRANCIS, b. May 4, 1866; carpenter; d. Sept. 22, 1896.

CHARLES JUSTIN, b. June 12, 1871.

FREDERICK AUSTIN, b. April 10, 1879.

MARION ELIZABETH, b. Dec. 17, 1880; m. Oct. 18, 1905, John R. Gould of Topsfield.

**56 James William Averill**, born Feb. 22, 1834, in Ipswich; married Dec. 31, 1865, in Salem, Martha J. daughter of Amos T. and Abigail L. Leavitt of Hampton, N. H.; died Nov. 10, 1906. House-painter; lived in Salem.

Child :

ARTHUR LANE, b. Jan. 26, 1867, in Salem; Boston Univ. 1895; lawyer; lives in Salem.

**57 William Warren Averill**, born Nov. 17, 1845, at Ipswich, machinist, married, 1st, Oct. 3, 1866, at Salem, Annie L. daughter of Samuel P. and Sarah L. (Norfolk) Floyd. She died at Salem, of consumption, May 12, 1873, aged 30 years and he married, 2d, Nov. 24, 1886, at Peabody, Mrs. Martha A. (Bruce) Pickering, daughter of Daniel and Mary I. S. Bruce of Marblehead. Lives in Salem; milk contractor.

Children, born in Salem :

ERNEST HOLTEN, b. Apr. 7, 1867; m. June 17, 1908, Mrs. Ada L. (Harrington) Brown, dau. Simon G. and Caroline A. Harrington.

LYDIA M. B., b. May 18, 1870; d. May 18, 1879 in Salem.

EDNAH FLOYD (twin), b. July 30, 1872; d. May 26, 1879.

EDITH JEWETT (twin), b. July 30, 1872; m. Nov. 20, 1895, in Salem, Horace B. Brooks of Salem.

## NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD.

COPIED FROM SALEM NEWSPAPERS

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

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(Continued from Volume XVI (1911) page 144.)

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### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.\*

The Board of County Commissioners has been filled by the appointment of Hon. ASA W. WILDES, of Newburyport, and B. F. NEWHALL, Esq., of Saugus, as County Commissioners, and Dr. R. A. MERRIAM, of Topsfield, as Special Commissioner.

*Salem Gazette, June 14, 1844.*

The following article was mislaid at the time of its reception.

FOR THE GAZETTE.

MR. EDITOR. The subject of the following lines was for more than a century the Meeting House of a religious society in Topsfield. The spirit of improvement, or whatever it may be, which is causing our old churches to disappear so rapidly, from among us, has converted this ancient edifice, into the workshop of a tanner and currier, and it is now, as you are probably aware, occupying the situation of a still more venerable looking building, which a year or two since was standing on Boston street.

Know ye the spot where tapering to the sky  
The Firemen's flag staff lifts its head on high ;  
Know ye the place where leather, hides and tan,  
Are household words, to every Working-man ;  
Then do ye know the House that wandered down  
From Topsfield woods to Salem's ancient town.

As some old horse, to whom in youthful pride  
No praise was stinted, and no care denied,  
Is cast aside when age comes creeping on,  
Kick'd by the traveller, and caressed by none,

\*The following items for the year 1844 were inadvertently omitted from their regular order.—*Editor.*



So now, deserted by its antient friends,  
Topsfield's old Church to Death's dark vale descends,  
Unwept, unhonour'd now, the building stands,  
Its spacious Portals torn by ruthless hands ;  
No more the humble Christian kneels in prayer  
Before his God, and finds acceptance there ;  
No more the sleeping sinner, starts to hear  
The truth he slighted, thundering in his ear ;  
Hush'd is the voice of Prayer, the song of Praise,  
Which formed the light, and life, of other days.

In Scripture times the Tabernacle stood,  
Not cover'd o'er with boards and beams of wood,  
But badger skins, and sheep skins colored red,  
Formed for the Jews a statlier roof instead ;  
With skins of Beasts, like those in antient days,  
Our modern tanners still their structures raise ;  
But wisely differing from the antient Jews,  
They tan the skins and make them into shoes,  
From which, by some strange Alchemy, they pass  
To good pine boards, cut nails, and window glass.

Oh what strange transformations do we find,  
In men and things for nobler deeds designed ;  
Within these walls are drawn, not notes of praise,  
But notes of hand, that run for certain days,  
When down to Boston street the Bosses flock  
For honest tradesman, and the best of stock,  
Where text and sermon, taught the gospel plan ;  
The talk is now, of Hemlock Bark, and Tan.  
And if "Old Hundred" seen to strike the ear,  
You've miss'd the phrase, they're counting cow hides here.  
The sacred Oil, which down from Aaron's race,  
Has marked the Priesthood, and the Holy place,  
Yields in these Courts its glorious meed forever,  
To that vile stuff, that's made from Codfish liver ;  
And old tin cannisters, and casks of wood ;  
Are seen where once the Silver Goblets stood.  
What tho' no Golden Calf is worshiped here,  
To fill the soul with darkness and with fear ;  
Still, if the truth with plainness must be told,  
They'd eat a Calf, and tan his skin, for gold.

Alas, how great the difference must appear,  
A church in Topsfield, and a Tanyard here ;

Yet this great change its present business suits  
Not saving souls of men, but tanning soles of boots.

F.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 6, 1844.*

*EXTENTION OF HALE & CO'S.  
INDEPENDENT LETTER MAIL.*

*Office No. 14 Washington street, Lawrence Place, Salem.*

Postage 6 1-4 cts., or 20 franks for \$1. Postage to Detroit,  
Cleveland, Chicago and St. John and St. Andrews, N. B.,  
12 1-2 cts.

OFFICES are established at Boston, [and many other cities.  
Joel Lake was the agent was Topsfield.]

*Mails close at Salem Office,*

Southern and Western at 10 A. M., and 2 P. M.

Northern and Eastern at 8 1-2 and 10 A. M., and 2 and 5 3-4  
P. M.

Boston 8 1-2 and 10 A. M., 2 and 5 3-4 P. M.

Postage to and from Boston 5 cents, including the penny post.

SYLVESTER PHELPS, Agent.


*Salem Gazette, Aug. 13, 1844.*

[In the advertisement of the Essex Mechanics Mutual Fire  
Insurance Company of Salem, the name of Charles Herrick of  
Topsfield appears among the Directors.]

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 23, 1844.*

**A GREAT MOVE.** Arrangements have been made to remove  
the Topsfield Hotel to the sea shore, in Lynn, near the country  
seat of Mr. Robert Brookhouse, of this city. Mr. Tapley, the  
great clod-compellor, we understand has contracted to deliver  
said Hotel, "in good order and well conditioned," as the bills of  
lading say, at a certain specified date. The distance, we believe,  
is twelve or fourteen miles. The Hotel, which is quite spacious,  
will be removed in detached portions, and put together on its  
projected site.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 3, 1844.*

 The old farmers in Massachusetts are quite astonished  
at the abundance, beauty and excellence of fruit the present

season. We visited not long since a young and thrifty orchard on Washington Street, in Boxford, in that State, owned by the venerable Doctor George W. Sawyer, and such a display of fruit it was never our fortune to witness before. The trees were all young and each limb and twig had as much as it could do to support the weight upon it. The fruit was all of the choicest kinds and the variety quite extensive. This orchard seemed to be a pet of the Doctor's old age. It is situated near his dwelling upon a gravel knoll and the soil is kept loose about the roots of the trees. It struck us as something remarkable that all the fruit not only appeared large but exceedingly fair and plump and beautiful. The Doctor supposes this to result from keeping the soil loose.

We also examined the large barn on the Doctor's farm, and which is said to be, (and we have no doubt of the fact) the best barn in the county of Essex. It is built on the side of a hill excavated for the purpose, with a stone basement of excellent workmanship.— The entrance to the basement is on one side from the barn yard which is enclosed with a beautiful stone wall. There is an entrance to the main floor at one end, and an entrance with cattle and carts in the second story from the other end by means of a part of the remaining hill. The barn is 50 or 80 feet and neither timber, board or plank throughout is spliced. Every piece was cut for the purpose even to the plank, eighty feet long. The barn in all its parts and appointments is in the highest style of neatness, convenience and elegance.

The Doctor is equally famous for his excellent humor and generous hospitality as for his professional skill and his agricultural success. Long may he live to enjoy the good things about him.—*Bangor Whig*.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 24, 1844.*

### TOPSFIELD AWAKE.

The Hon. DANIEL P. KING will deliver a Political Lecture, at the Academy Hall in Topsfield, THIS EVENING, at 7 o'clock. All the voters of each party are respectfully invited.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 8, 1844.*

[R. A. Merriam, M. D. of Topsfield was 1st Vice President of the Essex County Whig Convention held at Ipswich, Oct. 15th.]

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 18, 1844.*

FOR THE GAZETTE.

## TOPSFIELD, UP AND DOING.

TOPSFIELD, Nov. 1.—*Mr. Editor.*—The Whigs of Topsfield had a truly glorious meeting on Saturday evening last. The spacious Hall of the Academy was crowded. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed and every thing went bravely on. Ebenezer Hussey of Lynn, delivered a two hours' speech of thrilling eloquence and great power. It was a complete vindication of his position of the inalienable rights of man—and of the identity of the Whig party with the great principles of human freedom. Mr. Hussey is an eloquent speaker, and will do this state much service. The Topsfield Boys will come up to the Polls on the 11th inst. and if I am not much mistaken, you will see that they know how to appreciate the services of the great Statesmen of the West.

Many ladies were present at our meeting on Saturday evening, to cheer us with their sunny smiles, and invoke the blessing of Heaven on our noble cause.

P.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 5, 1844.*

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

The Petition of the Congregational Parish in Topsfield, in the county of Essex, respectfully shews: That in and by the last will and testament of Daniel Bixby, late of said Topsfield, made and published on the first day of November, A. D. 1811, and duly allowed and approved in February, A. D. 1825, the farm of the testator, situated partly in said Topsfield and partly in Boxford, in said county, after the termination of certain life estates, therein, is given and devised to the Selectmen of said Topsfield and their successors in office forever, in trust, for the support of a gospel minister or ministers, in said Topsfield, of the Congregational denomination; that said life estates have terminated, and that your petitioners are now legally entitled, by the terms and trusts of said will, to the rents, incomes and profits of said estate; and that said estate could be more conveniently administered and the trust in said will could be more beneficially discharged by a board of Trustees to be appointed from time to time by your petitioners, than by boards of Selectmen of the town, changing from year to year. Whereupon your petitioners pray that after due notice shall be given to all parties in interest, for the passage of an act authorizing the said estate to be held and administered and the said trusts to be



discharged by a board of Trustees to be appointed as aforesaid, or in such other mode as shall be deemed just and reasonable, in lieu of the Selectmen of said Topsfield as provided for in said will. And as in duty bound will ever pray, by

WM. N. CLEAVELAND, } Committee  
JOHN WRIGHT, } of  
SAMUEL TODD, } said Parish.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 29, 1847.*

### TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

The Spring Term of this Institution, will commence on THURSDAY, the 25th inst. and continue Twelve Weeks. Application made to

J. H. NOYES, Principal.

Topsfield, Feb. 12, 1847.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 12, 1847.*

### LOST

Between Topsfield and Salem, a bag containing 13 pair of Youth's Shoes. The finder shall be suitable rewarded, at the Salem Gazette Office.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 13, 1847.*

Topsfield Academy!


### FOR BOTH SEXES

The Summer Term will commence on Thursday, the 20th of May next, and continue eleven weeks. Tuition—\$4 00; Languages—\$1 00 extra. Board, within a few steps of the Academy, from \$1 50 to \$2 00.

Application for admission may be made to

J. H. NOYES, Principal

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 27, 1847.*

 We understand there was "considerable of a hail storm" in Topsfield on Monday afternoon.

*Salem Gazette, June 18, 1847.*

### SUMMARY

We copied a paragraph, a few weeks since, concerning a machine for making pegs by steam, in Cincinnati. It was said that eighteen bushels a day are turned out by it. One of these

machines is in operation in Topsfield, worked by a small steam engine, and making as large a quantity of pegs as that referred to in Cincinnati. The machine is the invention of Mr. Richards, one of the most ingenious mechanics of this town. It was to have been expected that a town where so many shoes are made should produce an invention like this.

—*Lynn News.*

*Salem Gazette, June 26, 1847.*

## DEATHS

In Topsfield, Mr. Benjamin Pike, aged 93 years and 4 mos.—a revolutionary pensioner.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 11, 1847.*

Browne's Pectoral Syrup of Cohosh  
for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Brochitis, etc.  
Testimonial of Benj. C. Orne, Esq. Post Master at Topsfield.  
Topsfield, Mar. 6, 1848.

Dear Sir,—I have been afflicted for two years or more with the Asthma, and have tried several kinds of medicine, and found no relief, until I procured a bottle of your Pectoral Syrup of Cohosh. I have taken only one bottle, and have found great relief from using it. I would, therefore, recommend this medicine to those who are afflicted with the Asthma, as being the best medicine I have ever used for that complaint.

Very respectfully yours  
BENJ. C. ORNE.

The above Syrup is sold, wholesale and retail, by F. J. BROWNE, 226 Essex st.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 25, 1848.*

PREMIUM TREES.—For Sale at Lake's Nurseries.

TOPSFIELD, MASS.,

A very superior lot of Fruit Trees, consisting of the following kinds viz:

APPLE, PEACH, PLUM, CHERRY, QUINCE  
APRICOT, &c., &c.

Also—200 extra size Pear Trees, with bearing heads;

700    "    "    Baldwin Apple Trees,

3 or 4 years upon the bud, very straight and handsome, height, average 9 feet.



The above Trees are of the choicest and most approved kinds of Fruit, and have received the 1st and 2d premiums of the Essex Agricultural Society the last two years, and will be sold at wholesale and retail at moderate prices.

—Also—

500 European Mountain Ash ;  
50,000 Seedling Apple Stocks ;  
5,000 Pear ; Hedge Plants ;  
30 kinds Double Dahlias.

W. G. LAKE

Topsfield, April 14, 1848.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 18, 1848.*

Genealogical. The interesting memoranda published in the Gazette on Friday reminded a subscriber that the late Capt. Thomas Baker, of Gloucester, whose death at the age of 86, was announced in the same paper was allied to one branch of the Appleton family, thus—(vide Farmer and other sources:)—John Appleton died at Great Waldingfield, in Suffolk, England in 1436. His son Samuel, born at Little Waldingfield in 1586 came to New England in 1635, and settled at Ipswich. Freeman 1636 ; Rep. 1637 ; died 1670, leaving among other children, a son Samuel born at Little Waldingfield 1625 ; Rep. of Ipswich 1669-75-77 and 80 ; military officer and commander in chief in Philip's war of 1676 ; assistant 6 years, and one of the council under charter of Wm. & Mary, 1692. He died May, 1696. He married 2d, Mary, daughter of John Oliver, Dec. 2, 1656, and had among other children a son Isaac, born 1704, and died at Ipswich 1794, having had sons :—1 Isaac, of New Ipswich, born 1731, died 1806, the father of Samuel, Nathan and Ebenezer Appleton, distinguished citizens of Boston. 2. Francis, of New Ipswich, the father of Rev. Jesse Appleton, D. D. ; former President of Bowdoin College. 3. Samuel. 4. Thomas, who married Lydia, a sister of Hon. Nathan Dane, and settled in Beverly, where his son Daniel now resides. His wife Lydia, aforesaid, died 1845 at the advanced age of 103. 5. John. 6. Daniel. 7. William. 8. Joseph, a clergyman. Several of these sons settled in Maine. The Priscilla Baker named above was daughter of Capt. Thos. B. of Topsfield, who was born Sept. 13, 1636, married Priscilla, daughter of Dep. Gov. Symonds, Nov. 26, 1672, and died Mar. 18, 1718. Freeman, 1669 ; Rep. 1686-89-90. His children were Priscilla, born Dec. 8, 1674, married S. Appleton ; Martha, born Oct. 14, 1682, married ——— Sergeant ; Rebecca, born Nov. 16, 1685 ; Thomas, born Feb. 17, 1688 ; John, born Jan. 6, 1691 ; Elizabeth, born ———. It is

said that upon a visit of some of his legislative acquaintances from Boston, at his home in Topsfield, his children came running into the room with all the freedom and liberty of young democracy, and the honest heartedness of country life, when the dignity of Capt. Baker being offended at this exhibition before his city guests, he asked his wife why she did not send these children to their homes. Simultaneously the children relieved their mother from the trouble of a reply, and taught their father a lesson for the future, by exclaiming in a breath, "Why father! we are at home now!" Capt. Baker was the son of John Baker of Ipswich, who gave his son Thomas a deed in 1661, "of all his lands, housing, &c., in Topsfield, 150 acres more or less." His wife was Elizabeth. Capt. B. willed his son Thomas "my silver tankard and silver spoon yt was my father's, and also a good bed for the use of strangers." The widow of Gov. Symonds was Rebecca, formerly the wife of Deacon Robert Hale, of Charlestown, and mother of Rev. John Hale, the first minister of Beverly. She died 1695, names in her will her kinsman Bennett L. Straine in England, and gives among other legacies, "my grogeram manto and cullered silk petticoat" to "my daughter Baker." Thomas, the son of Capt. T. married Mary, and died 1728, leaving a son John, to whom he gave all his lands at Argylla farm, in Ipswich, and a son Thomas all his lands in Topsfield, adjoining what was then and formerly known as Baker's, but now as Praitchard's Pond. This latter Thomas born 1711, married Sarah Wade, of Ipswich, 1729, and died 1777. He had a large family. Of his children, Thomas and Jonathan settled in the vicinity of Keene, N. H.; John, "Major Baker," resided in Topsfield, military officer in the French war of 1755, and in the Revolution: died 1815; Symonds settled in Andover, where his grandson David Baker, now resides: he was a physician; William, the father of Capt. Thomas Baker, recently deceased, settled in Gloucester; Joseph, married Hepsibah Thorndike of Beverly, where he settled: died 1801: Innholder, Collector, Constable, Justice of the Peace, &c.; Sarah, married John Balch, jr., a currier, and died Jan. 16, 1831; Rebecca, married Sylvanus Wilds; Martha, married Joseph Towne; Mary, married Dudley Smith. Sarah Wade, wife of Thomas Baker, aforesaid, was born May 20, 1711, daughter of Capt. Thomas Wade, who married Elizabeth Thornton of Boston, Apr. 4, 1700. His father was Col. Thomas Wade, who married Elizabeth Coggsell, of Ipswich, Feb. 22, 1670 and died Oct. 4, 1696. He was son of Jonathan Wade, one of the earliest and of the most prominent settlers of Ipswich.

*Salem Gazette, May 2, 1848.*

## UNITED STATES MAIL LINE.

Stage leaves Eagle House, Haverhill, every morning at 6 o'clock, passing through Georgetown, Boxford, Topsfield, and Danvers; arrives at Depot in Salem in time for 10 o'clock Train of Cars for Boston.

Returning leaves Depot at Salem every day, on the arrival of the 2 1-2 o'clock Train from Boston, and leaves Mansion House, Salem, 3 1-2 o'clock, passing through the above-named places for Haverhill.

☞ Office in Boston, City Hotel; in Salem, Mansion House.

BENJ. HILLIARD, Proprietor and Driver.

*Salem Gazette, June 13, 1848.*

## TOPSFIELD AWAKE.

One of the largest and most spirited meetings ever held in Topsfield, took place at the Whig Head Quarters, on Thursday evening last. John G. Hood, Esq., was elected chairman, and B. P. Adams, secretary. A committee of correspondence was chosen, consisting of B. P. Adams, Chas. Herrick, Wm. D. Atkins, R. Phillips, Jr., R. A. Merriam, J. K. Cole, and J. W. Batchelder. Messrs. J. K. Cole, and Thomas L. Lane were chosen delegates to the Worcester Convention.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 9, 1848.*

## TOPSFIELD AWAKING.

We understand that the Whigs of Topsfield had a grand meeting at the Academy Hall, on Tuesday evening. Dr. R. A. Merriam presided, and Mr. Upham, the President of the Salem Taylor Club, delivered an admirable address, which was listened to with the greatest interest and attention.—Reg.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 29, 1848.*

## OLD TOPSFIELD AWAKE

The notice for the Taylor Whig Rally for last Tuesday evening, was duly responded to by a crowded house, to hear an address from the Rev. C. W. Upham of Salem. The Academy Hall was crowded to overflowing, all the space being filled with Taylor men principally, with a few of other sentiments, from Topsfield and the neighboring towns. The Salem Taylor Glee Club, favored us with their presence and Glees.

Mr. Upham by his eloquence, richness of diction, fairness of treatment to all parties, commended the most profound attention

for two hours, interspersed with two or three songs from the Club, which contributed not a little to the entertainment. I have seen no one, friend or foe, who was not deeply impressed with the commanding eloquence of Mr. Upham, and the performances of the Club were highly gratifying.

TOPSFIELD.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 30, 1848.*

## TOPSFIELD NURSERIES

### Premium Trees!

The subscriber respectfully invites his friends and customers to his large collection of

### FRUIT TREES!

embracing nearly all the CHOICEST and MOST APPROVED KINDS to be obtained—consisting in part of the following kinds, viz.:

10,000 BALDWIN APPLE TREES, 2 years old from the bud, being extra growth;

5,000 different kinds APPLE TREES, 2 years old from the bud, and most approved;

1,000 PEAR TREES, 2 years old from the bud, 15 different varieties;

50,000 SEEDLING APPLE STOCKS, 2 years old, very prime;

15,000 SEEDLING APPLE STOCKS, 1 year old;

25,000 SEEDLING PEAR STOCKS, 1 year old, very prime;

400 EUROPEAN MOUNTAIN ASH, extra Size.

Also—a good variety of CHERRY, PEACH and PLUM TREES.

The above Trees received the first premium of the Essex County Agricultural Society the last year, and will be sold on reasonable terms.

Topsfield, Oct. 6.

W. G. LAKE

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 13, 1848.*

## TOPSFIELD

A meeting of the friends of TAYLOR & 'FILLMORE will be held at the Academy Hall, in Topsfield, THIS EVENING, Nov. 3, at 7 o'clock. Addresses will be delivered by Hon. A. HUNTINGTON and O. P. LORD, Esq.

Topsfield, Nov. 3, 1848.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 3, 1848.*



Whig Meeting in Topsfield.—A large and spirited meeting of the friends of Taylor and Fillmore, was held last evening, in the Academy Hall. This large and commodious hall was at an early hour crowded to overflowing, to hear addresses from Mr. North-end of Danvers, and Mr. Huntington of Salem. They addressed the meeting with great force and eloquence for more than three hours. Their speeches were rich in fact, argument, and amusing illustrations. The meeting broke up with three cheers for Taylor and Fillmore and our speakers.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 4, 1848.*

NOTICE. This is to certify that I have sold to my son, ERASTUS H. CLARKE, his time; and I hereby forbid all persons trusting him on my account, as I shall pay no debts of his contracting.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

Topsfield, Jan. 12th, 1849.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 12, 1849.*

An attempt was made to rob the store of Mr. Paul Pearson, of Pearson's Mills Village, Newbury, early last Monday morning. The Newburyport Herald says three persons were discovered in the act of putting goods from the store into a sleigh. Messrs. Elbridge Tenney and Wm. Pearson, having been informed of the fact, proceeded to the spot, and after a sharp conflict, succeeded in obtaining possession of the horse and sleigh, the robbers having fled.

In the conflict, Mr. Tenney received a severe wound in the hand with a knife. Three young men named Shaw, Mallory, and Purrington have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery.

These individuals had their examination on Tuesday morning, before Justice Marston. After the examination had proceeded at some length, Purrington, one of the prisoners, turned evidence for the state, and testified that he hired a horse and sleigh at Mr. G. Boardman's and together with Shaw and Mallory went to Ipswich, where they broke into the depot, and from thence they went to Topsfield, where they broke into a store, but took nothing. Then they went to the place of the robbery.

The prisoners were also indicted for breaking into the store in Topsfield, but the facts did not weigh in the minds of the Court.

The Court required the prisoners, Shaw and Mallory, to give bonds in the sum of \$600 each for their appearance in the Court of Common Pleas, to be holden at Salem in March next for further trial. In default of bail they were committed.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 19, 1849.*



Among the appointments made by the President and Senate was that of Asa W. Wildes (born in Topsfield) to be Surveyor of the Port of Ipswich.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 2, 1849.*

At a meeting held Feb. 5th, Charles Herrick of Topsfield was chosen one of the Directors of the Essex Mechanics Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Salem.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 6, 1849.*

A FARM FOR SALE. IN TOPSFIELD, seven miles from Salem, three from Danvers Plains, and one from a stopping place on the Essex Railroad, on a road from Danvers to Boxford,—containing about one hundred and forty acres, all compact around the buildings; a good convenient house and cellars for two families, with seven other buildings: The whole pleasantly situated with handsome lots of wood near the house, sufficient in growth to support the fires, young grafted fruit bearing trees, and the best of fielding. The farm is fenced almost wholly with stone wall, and is excellently watered with springs and two brooks running through it.

Inquire of

IRA PORTER on the premises.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 9, 1849.*

At a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held at Ipswich this week the petition of Benj. B. Towne and als., for a road in Wenham, crossing Wenham Swamp towards Topsfield, was dismissed. It has been decided to lay down the whole of the Newburyport Turnpike lying in this county, as a highway,—it being understood that the Middlesex Commissioners will pursue a like course with the residue of said turnpike.

*Salem Gazette, May 12, 1849.*

The wheelwright shop of Thomas K. Leach, and the dwelling house of Aaron Kneeland, in Topsfield, were struck by lightning on Thursday morning. The shop was very much shattered; the house was less injured. We are informed that lightning was never known to strike in the village or Topsfield before this instance.

*Salem Gazette, June 2, 1849.*

#### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, on the 20th inst., at the house of Mr. B. P. Adams, Miss Sally Leach, of this city, aged 77.

*Salem Gazette, June 21, 1849.*

*Commonwealth on complaint of Luke Towne vs. Samuel Todd.* This complaint charged against the respondent with an assault and battery committed on the complainant.

It appeared that on the 21st of December last, a meeting of the inhabitants of Topsfield was holden for the adoption of measures to prevent injury from *rabid dogs*. A motion was made for an indefinite postponement of the subject. While this motion was under consideration, the complainant made some observation that induced the respondent (the moderator of the meeting) to say to him that he was out of order, and must sit down. Either I won't or I shan't were his words. He was again told by the moderator, that he must either sit down and keep order, or leave the house. He said I shan't do either. He was then told by the moderator that he should direct the constables to take him from the house, and detain him until the meeting was over. He replied you can do it. Accordingly the constables were so directed. When the constables were about to take hold of him, Mr. T. extended his arm towards them, says, hands off, gentlemen, I appeal to the town. The moderator says, there is no appeal—or it is too late now to claim an appeal—Constables carry him out,—carry him out. Whereupon with a constable at each arm he was conducted from the house—resisting sufficiently to show clearly that it was against his will. The forcible removal from the house was the assault and battery charged. The complaint testified that he was slightly injured in his arm and side by the violence used. No question was made as to the correctness of the decision of the moderator, whether Mr. Towne was or was not in order when he was called to order, and directed to sit down. If Mr. Towne had then claimed an appeal, the Court were of opinion that the question should have been submitted; and if supported by a majority of votes, it would have been the duty of the moderator to have yielded thereto. But inasmuch as no appeal was shown to have been claimed, until peremptory orders for the removal had been given, it was then the duty of the moderator to insist upon obedience or removal.

W. D. NORTHEAD, Esq., Attorney for the Government

O. P. LORD, Esq., attorney for the Defendant.

Trial was had before J. W. PROCTOR, Esq.—*Danvers Cour.*

*Salem Gazette, July 14, 1849.*

**FIRE IN TOPSFIELD.** On Monday night last, an outbuilding, belonging to Asa Pingree, Esq., near his house, in Topsfield, was destroyed by fire. Among the contents destroyed were three chaises, three hundred bushels of corn, two and a half tons of

fine feed, &c. The dwelling house was in great danger, but was saved by the efforts of the citizens.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 31, 1849.*

### DEATHS.

The death of Mrs. H. J. Holmes, of Topsfield, mentioned in your paper of last week, ought not to pass without some further notice. Her friends and the circle of her acquaintance, feel a void which will not soon be filled. The natural powers of her mind were not more conspicuous than her acquired knowledge. From an infirmity, under which she had suffered for many years, she was shut out from the freedom of intercourse with society which was enjoyed by others. Her conversational powers connected with her extensive reading and brilliancy of intellect, fitted her in a most remarkable degree for an entertaining companion.

When a little excited by opposition or otherwise, I have been surprised at the displays of her extemporaneous eloquence. It has frequently exceeded any thing we ever witnessed in man or woman. With her command of language, and the many facts stored up in a very retentive memory, she would frequently fasten the attention of the listener for almost hours together, astonished at the powers of her oratory. She had obtained by her own unaided industry the knowledge of several foreign languages. She read French with great fluency; her pen was the principal source of her amusement, and her poetic compositions were, by no means, small, although her modesty would seldom allow them to be published. Her benevolence and generosity were proverbial. From her infancy she had imbibed a predilection for Catholicism, professed and embraced it, and died in the full faith. Her friends deeply feel her loss and all those who had the pleasure of her acquaintance sincerely sympathize with them in their bereavement.

M.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 28, 1849.*

Topsfield Delegates to Whig State Convention.—E. S. Bixby and B. P. Adams. To the Whig County Convention John K. Cole and John G. Hood.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 29, 1849.*

### COURT RECORD—C. C. P. at IPSWICH.

*Monday, Oct. 22.* In the case of the complaint against Topsfield constables, for forcibly ejecting Luke Towne from a town

meeting under the direction of the Moderator, the Judge intimated that he should rule that if defendants justified under the direction of the Moderator, he should hold the justification good; upon which a verdict for defendants was allowed. O. P. Lord for defence.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 26, 1849.*

*Real and Personal Estate*

Will be sold at Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 19th day of November inst., at 9 o'clock, A. M., at the farm of Col. Porter Bradstreet, late of Topsfield, deceased.

ALL THE PERSONAL ESTATE

on said Farm—consisting of

STOCK, PRODUCE, &c., viz:

1 valuable Iron Grey Horse;

2 pair superior Working oxen;

6 good Cows;

10 tons good English Hay;

15 do Stock Hay;

Lot of Corn Fodder and Rye Straw;

70 bushels Corn; 30 do Rye;

100 do Potatoes

20 barrels Cider;

10 do Vinegar;

20 Vinegar Casks; large size;

3 Sleighs; 1 Chaise; 2 Horse Wagons;

1 Ox Wagon; Carts, Sleds; with all the other Farming Implement and Tools.

Also—1 Turning Lathe and Chisels, with various other Carpenter's Tools.

Also—about 1500 Apple trees, in the Nursery, budded with the best kinds of fruit, and of large size, suitable for setting.

After the sale of the Personal Estate, will be sold the Saw Mill, yard and privilege, and Mill Gearing thereto belonging.

The conditions will be made known at time of sale.

N. B. Should the aboved named day be stormy, the sale will be postponed to the next fair day.

MEHITABLE BRADSTREET, Executrix.

Topsfield, Nov. 6, 1849.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 9, 1849.*

BENJAMIN P. ADAMS, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster of Topsfield, in place of B. C. Orne, Esq., resigned.

*Salem Gazette, Jan, 5, 1850.*



CENTENNIAL. We understand that the people of Topsfield have it in contemplation to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of that town, during the present year. The date of incorporation was Oct. 18, 1650. The place was formerly called *Sheweenemeady*, or New Meadows, was granted to inhabitants of Salem and Ipswich at the session of Nov. 5, 1639, and was settled about this time. The names of many of the first settlers are yet borne in the town by their descendants, and not a few men of note claim Topsfield as the place of their nativity. A very interesting celebration may be anticipated should our Topsfield friends take hold of the matter with their usual energy and spirit.—Reg.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 12, 1850.*

#### COLLECTOR'S SALE.

The following described real estate, occupied by JOHN W. DODGE in Topsfield, will be sold by auction, on TUESDAY, the 12th day of March next, unless the taxes assessed on the same, by the town of Topsfield, are previously paid:—

Said property consists of one half of a Dwelling House, occupied by said Dodge, as above named, with the Land, under and adjoining, and a barn adjacent.

The Sale will be at the store of BENJAMIN P. ADAMS.  
THOMAS L. LANE, Collector.

Topsfield, Feb. 19, 1850.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 19, 1850.*

*Two Hundredth Anniversary at Topsfield.*—The citizens of Topsfield, have had a meeting, and an efficient committee of seven persons have been chosen to make necessary arrangements. Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., of Brooklyn, N. Y. has been invited to deliver an address.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 23, 1850.*

#### COLLECTOR'S SALE.

Will be sold by Public Auction, on SATURDAY, the 30th day of March instant, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at the store of BENJ. P. ADAMS, in Topsfield:

SO MUCH of the REAL ESTATE, near the meeting house, in Topsfield, now in occupation of JOHN W. DODGE, as will pay, together with the costs of sale and all necessary intervening charges, a tax of \$4 65, assessed upon said Dodge.

THOMAS L. LANE.

Topsfield, March 9.

Collector of Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 12, 1850.*



BY S. S. JOHNSON

*Auctioneer and Dealer in Fancy Goods . . . 14 Front St.  
Valuable Farm at Auction.*

Will be sold at Auction, on the premises, on WEDNESDAY, April 10th, at 2 o'clock, P. M.,

The FARM of the late NATHANIEL PORTER, situated in Topsfield, on the road leading from Danvers to Boxford over the Ipswich river, at Rowley Bridge, so called, containing about 54 acres of excellent land, pleasantly situated, and suitably divided into tillage and pasturage, well fenced with stone walls, and well watered. There is a dwelling house and barn upon the premises. Conditions made known at the sale.

DAVID PORTER,  
ALLEN PORTER,  
IRA PORTER.

Reference to IRA PORTER, Topsfield, or  
A. HUNTINGTON, Esq., Salem.

Topsfield, Mar. 30, 1850.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 2, 1850.*

*Topsfield Centennial.* Messrs. R. A. Merriam, Wm. Mundy, W. N. Cleaveland, J. W. Batchelder, J. P. Towne, and Jno G. Hood, are the Committee chosen by the town to make arrangements for the two hundredth celebration of the incorporation of Topsfield, which occurs the present year, on Thursday, the 29th day of August next. An address will be delivered by Nehemiah Cleaveland, N. Y., and a poem by Miss Hannah F. Gould, of Newburyport, will be followed by a public dinner, to be enlivened by sentiments and speeches. It is hoped that all the absent sons and daughters of this small but ancient town will attend this social home gathering.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 30, 1850.*

The Lynn News seconds the proposition for an Essex County Farm School, to be established near the centre of the County, in Topsfield, Middleton, or Georgetown, for instance.

*Salem Gazette, May 14, 1850.*

# UNITED STATES MAIL LINE.

Stage leaves Eagle House, Haverhill, every morning, at 6 o'clock, passing through Georgetown, Boxford, Topsfield and Danvers; arrives at Depot in Salem in time for 10 1-2 o'clock Train of Cars for Boston.

Returning, leaves Depot at Salem every day, on the arrival of the 2 1-2 o'clock Train from Boston, and leaves Essex House, Salem, 3 1-4 o'clock, passing through the above named places for Haverhill.

 Office in Boston, City Hotel; in Salem, Essex House.

ISAAC PINKHAM, Driver.

*Salem Gazette, May 18, 1850.*

### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, 11th inst, Susan Jane, aged 8 years, daughter of Elizabeth H., and Richard Phillips, Jr. Esq. This is the fourth child out of a family of five children, which these parents have been called to follow to the grave within a few years past.

*Salem Gazette, July 16, 1850.*

### Centennial Celebration.

The Inhabitants of TOPSFIELD intend to celebrate, on THURSDAY, the 29th of August, the *Second Centennial Anniversary* of the Town. As there may be persons in other places who wish to attend on that occasion, all such are informed that Tickets for the Dinner, at one dollar each, may be procured until the 20th inst. at Messrs. W. & S. B. Ives' Bookstore and of N. Goldsmith, jr. in Salem, and at Messrs. A. P. Perley & Co's. store, at North Danvers. An early application is desirable.

By order of the Committee on Arrangements.

Aug. 6.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 6, 1850.*

THE TOPSFIELD CELEBRATION. Our Topsfield friends are carrying forward the preparation for their bi-centennial celebration, with great zeal and spirit. The procession is to be enlivened by a division of "representatives of ancient modes and manners," in which, we presume small-clothes, faithingales, cocked-up hats and pillions, will make a figure. In the church besides other appropriate services, an address will be delivered by Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., and an ode will be sung, which has been written for the occasion by Miss H. F. Gould. Tickets for the dinner may be obtained in this city, of N. Goldsmith, Jr., and at the store of W. & S. B. Ives. We think we can promise an interesting day, and a hospitable reception to any of our citizens who may improve this occasion to visit the ancient and pleasant town of Topsfield. We presume that some of our dealers in "horseware" will make a profitable day's work, by arrangements to carry passengers back and forth, at convenient hours.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 23, 1850.*

Topsfield Centennial Celebration,

THURSDAY, AUG. 29th.

MARSHALL'S NOTICE.

The public exercises will be held in the Grove on Centennial Hill, and will begin at a quarter before eleven, A. M. A procession will be formed on the Common, at 10 o'clock, and will proceed from thence to the Grove,—where seats are provided,—to which all ladies are requested to resort and be seated before the arrival of the procession.

At the close of the public exercises the procession will be formed again, and will proceed in the following order to the Pavilion on the Common, where dinner will be served.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Band

Chief Marshal and Aids.

Committee of Arrangements.

President and Orator of the Day.

Officiating Clergymen.

The Clergy.

Visitors, who are natives of Topsfield, or descended from Topsfield ancestors.

The Officers of the Town.

The Choir.

Representatives of ancient modes and manners.

Citizens present from other towns.

Citizens of Topsfield.

NATH'L CONANT

*Chief Marshal.*

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 28, 1850.*

THE TOPSFIELD CELEBRATION. Yesterday was the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the pleasant, and of course ancient, town of TOPSFIELD,—or as it was called by the Indians, before the incorporation of the town in 1650, *Sheweene-meady*, and by the whites, New Meadows. Topsfield was settled by the whites about the year 1642. Among the names of the first settlers, were, Peabody, Perkins, Clark, Cummings, Bradstreet, Gould, Town, Easty, Smith and Wildes; many of whose descendants now cultivate the soil of their progenitors, and have taken an active part in all the preparations of this festival, of which we hope to present a full and detailed account at a future day. We have only time now to say that the weather was

delightful beyond compare. The people of all the neighboring towns flocked in to do honor to the occasion. They were received with warm hospitality.

The services of the occasion were under the shade of trees, on the side of a beautiful hill. The oration, by N. Cleaveland, Esq., was a performance of unsurpassed eloquence and ability. The festivities in the tent were heightened by all the charms which beauty, intelligence, patriotism, and historical sentiment can give to such an occasion. About a 1000 persons of both sexes were assembled at the table, spread by the skill and experience of Mr. Wright. Dr. Huntington, ex-mayor of Lowell, presided, and several speeches were delivered.

In the procession, and on the ground were several very striking memorials of the olden time—particularly three or four couples, in the ancient pilgrim costume, such as marked the higher conditions of life, full wigs, three cornered hats, immense ruffles on breast and wrists, hoods, knee buckles, and the like. The wives rode on pillions behind their husbands, in the procession. There was among other things, a curious display of ancient New England implements of agriculture.

In short Topsfield did the thing in a style never surpassed, and none who participated in the celebration will cease to remember it with pleasure.

The following Ode, was written for the occasion by Miss H. F. Gould and sung in the grove :

The wilderness was deep and drear,  
And mind a savage wild ;—  
Chaotic darkness brooded here,  
O'er man, the forest-child.  
The Spirit, by our fathers, moved  
Upon the face of Night,  
When dawned the Day, that since hath proved  
Two hundred years of light !

Then did a new-creation glow  
With Order's primal rays,  
While here the sons of God below  
First sang Jehovah's praise.  
The desert opened like a flower  
Unfolding to the sun :  
And great the work, for every hour,  
Two hundred years have done !

The earth, beneath the genial sway  
 Of Culture's wand, unsealed  
 The wealth that in her bosom lay,—  
 Her quickening powers revealed.  
 But richer—purer—unconfined  
 To time or earthly sphere,  
 The spirit gems—the wealth of mind  
 With lineal birthright here.

Behold the civil beauty shed  
 In wide survey around ;—  
 The fields with summer's beauty spread ;—  
 The hills with harvest crowned !  
 While finite eye must fail to trace  
 The shining marks of soul,  
 That, dating this its starting-place,  
 Has fixed in Heaven the goal !

To-day upon the spot we stand  
 Where kneeled our Sires of yore,  
 Imploring blessings for the land  
 When they should be no more.  
 To this they bore the ark of God,  
 And left it to their heirs ;  
 They left our Priest the budding rod  
 That blossoms now, and bears.

And while in yonder quiet graves  
 Their hallowed ashes rest,  
 Their children, moving as the waves,  
 Still guard their dear bequest.  
 And lo ! in joyous bands we come,  
 Our votive wreaths to twine—  
 As brethren to a father-home—  
 Round Memory's sacred shrine.

We come their honored names to bless,—  
 Their story to prolong,  
 Who startled here the wilderness  
 With Zion's pealing song ;  
 While, bending o'er the battlement  
 Of Heaven, they now behold  
 The spot whereto their footsteps bent  
 In earthly days of old.



To that illustrious ancestry  
 We'll sing aloud our claim,  
 While marching to eternity  
 In their Redeemer's name.  
 Two hundred years of Gospel beams,  
 Diffusing joy and peace,  
 Have here been poured in swelling streams  
 Of glory ne'er to cease!

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 30, 1850.*

### TOPSFIELD CELEBRATION.

The solemnity, already more than once announced in our paper—the commemoration of the Second Centennial of Topsfield—took place on Thursday the 29th inst. The day was fine and most auspicious for the occasion. At an early hour, every avenue leading to the village, was alive with vehicles and with travellers, all conveying and hastening to the interesting scene. At 10 o'clock, a procession was formed on the common near the Meeting House, and proceeded under the direction of Chief Marshall Conant, to the house of Capt. William Munday where it was joined by the President and Orator of the day and by invited guests. The procession then passed under a white arch, neatly ornamented with evergreens, and inscribed with leafy letters, "Centennial Hill." We now found ourselves in a green lane, which soon brought us to a smooth and open lawn, in the centre of which rose the beautiful mound, which is henceforth to bear the name of "Centennial Hill." It is a conical elevation of remarkable regularity, covered to the top, though not densely, with oak trees. From a staff, which rose high above the tallest of these the nation's banner was waving in the breeze. Upon the north side of this charming mound, we found a spectacle of extraordinary animation and beauty. Upon seats which began at the base and reached about half way up the hill, were seated some fifteen hundred ladies. On the outside of these, and reaching quite to the summit, and far around the convexity, were probably as many more, a mingled throng, standing or reclining on the green sward. In front of this vast assemblage, stood the speaker's rostrum, on a small stage. This little structure was a most interesting object. Its verdant decorations, beautifully relieved upon a ground of spotless white, could be the work only of delicate fingers, guided by woman's unerring eye. A tablet in front bore, in large letters, the words, "New Meadows, 1639—Topsfield, 1650." Directly below this tablet, stood an object of no

common interest—an old oak pulpit. A white tablet in front, told its story. Upon this was written in letters of bright purple amaranth, the names 'Capen,' 'Emerson' and the dates '1703-1759.' This relic of the third meeting house in the place, built 147 years ago, and taken down 91 years since, had been carefully preserved by Deacon George Bixby and his son. Behind it stood a high-backed oaken chair, which once stood, as the orator informed us in the course of his address, in that same old pulpit.

The choir was stationed about half-way up the mound and was under the direction of that excellent singer and chorister, Mr. William Hubbard, now of this city, but a native of Topsfield. The first exercise of the day was a voluntary by the choir, sung with much spirit and effect. The piece selected was a very good anthem, composed fifty years ago, in Topsfield, by that once celebrated singer and teacher, Jacob Kimball. The Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of the Methodist church in Topsfield, then read appropriate selections from the Scriptures. The bible used was printed in 1599 and has probably been in Topsfield 200 years. Rev. J. Augustine Hood of Middleton, next read a psalm written for the occasion by Rev. George Hood, of Southport, New York, a native of Topsfield, and set to music by his brother, Mr. Jacob Hood, of this city.

#### Tune—New Meadows.

O all ye people, praise the Lord  
For all his matchless love and grace ;  
For true and faithful is his word,  
To all the tribes of Adam's race.

Amid the bold adventurous host,  
Our Fathers sought this distant land,  
And chose this spot, our pride and boast,  
As *home* for their true hearted band.

With prowling beasts, and savage men,  
In faith and hope, they dauntless stood ;  
Then sung their anthems yet again,  
And rear'd their altars to their God.

Nerv'd by a living faith, they rose  
O'er ills, and toils, and dangers dire ;  
Disease, nor death, nor savage fees,  
Could quench the fervor of their fire.

They toil'd and pray'd ; we Lord are blest.  
 To Thee, O God, shall praise be given  
 Prepare us now, by Sovereign grace,  
 To meet our sainted Sires in heaven.

There we will render ceaseless praise,  
 To Thee, our *fathers'*, and *our* God,  
 To thee, blest SPIRIT, chant our lays,  
 And Thee, Divine, Incarnate WORD.

The Rev. Mr. McLoud, of the Congregational Society, then invoked the blessing of Heaven, in a short but most appropriate prayer. Benj. A. Gould, Esq., of Boston, next read an ode written for the occasion by his sister, Miss Hannah F. Gould, of Newburyport, who was present ; a portion of which was sung by the choir, to the tune of 'Topsfield,' another of Mr. Kimball's productions.

The address was delivered by NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND, Esq., of Brooklyn, New York, eldest son of the late Dr. Cleaveland of Topsfield. The speaker commanded the deeply interested attention of more than three thousand people, for the space of nearly two hours. He fully met the high expectations of the audience, and the magnitude of the occasion. Every one was delighted. The Hon. Mr. Upham, in his speech at the dinner, remarked that, for eloquence, learning, research, humor, beauty and power, the discourse was unsurpassed.

Judge Cummings, and Benj. A. Gould, Esq., spoke of it in similar language, and the enthusiastic responses to these encomiums showed that the speakers uttered but the general sentiment of the assembled multitude. If the orator was fortunate in having so rich a history for his theme, Topsfield was fortunate in having such an orator to illustrate her history. It is of course quite impossible to give more than a brief and imperfect sketch of this able and elaborate discourse.

After an eloquent exordium, Mr. Cleaveland touched upon the aboriginal traditions of the place, once called by its savage occupants, SHE-WE-NE-ME-DY, and by their European successors, NEW MEADOWS, and afterwards incorporated by the name of Topsfield. The latter name was given, not as many suppose, on account of the hills which enclose the valley, but in grateful remembrance of Topsfield or Topesfield in England, from which place some of the early settlers undoubtedly came. The antiquity of the original Topsfield was ingeniously traced to the time of the Cæsars. The corporation of Topsfield is 200 years old, but the first settlement is several years older, dating back as far probably as 1635.

Mr. C. then went into an interesting investigation of the ancient history of the town. It was no dry detail of statistics, but a most animating and inspiring narrative, flowing on with sparkling humor, touching pathos and eloquence, and a still widening channel to the close.

With a masterly power, the departed generations were made to pass before us in living reality. We saw the venerable forms of Bradstreet (the Governor), of Gould, and of Peabody, and Perkins, of Capen, Emerson, Breck, and Huntington; and we seemed to be carried back to the generations to which they belonged.

Some sketches of characters, customs, and scenes within the memory of most persons present, were conceived in the happiest vein of chastened humor. The effect of the whole was eminently salutary; its moral tone was pure and elevated, and was well adapted to stimulate all who heard it to noble aims, and more vigorous endeavors in the great work of life. We are glad to hear that the discourse is to be published. It will be a valuable contribution to the local history of New England.

During the delivery of this long discourse, the vast audience was remarkably quiet and attentive.

At the close of the address, the Rev. E. L. Cleaveland, originally of Topsfield, and now of New Haven, Ct., read an original hymn, which was sung to Old Hundred, by the choir and the immense congregation.

Here, mid the dense, brown, sylvan shade,  
Humbly the banded exiles stood;  
Here, to the One Supreme they prayed,  
Here, with loud anthems shook the wood.

Stout were their hearts and strong their hands,  
And fast the towering forest fell;  
Soon gleamed the day on cultured lands,  
Soon waved with corn each upland swell.

Then came the pious task to rear  
Meet shrines, Benignant Power, for Thee;  
Schools free as air were founded here,  
And Law, and sacred Liberty.

O Thou, whose arm, all powerful, bore  
Those pilgrims o'er the storm-swept sea,  
And helped them plant along this shore,  
These homesteads of the brave and free:



Here, where our fathers hymned thy name,  
 List to their grateful children's praise,  
 And still be ours the heavenly flame,  
 That warmed their hearts in olden days.

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Samuel Gould, a native of Topsfield, now of Boothbay, Me. Upon or around the stage we noticed many men of mark from other parts of Essex County. The venerable Mr. Braman of Rowley, Mr. Kimball of Ipswich, Dr. Dana of Newburyport were there. There also were the Rev. Messrs. Worcester, Milton, Braman, Field, Thatcher, Taylor, &c., Rev. Asa Cummings of Portland, Me., Nathaniel Lord, Esq., the aged Register of Probate, Hon. Mr. Upham and Judge Perkins of Salem, Hon. Mr. Dodge of Hamilton, and many others not *less* honorable.

The procession was again formed, and marched down as far as the house of John Cleaveland, Esq., of New York, when it wheeled and countermarched, thus giving all an opportunity to see the whole procession. And it was well worth seeing. The long line of respectable citizens, with their wives, and sons, and daughters, was garnished near its centre by a singular spectacle. There were three young men on horseback, dressed in the costume of 1600, each having on a pillion behind him, a comely companion, similarly arrayed. Others followed in tri-cornered hats, with vast, bushy wigs, and other articles of antiquated garb. One individual seemed to be on his way to mill, for he had on his horse's back, two large bags, apparently of corn. Another was evidently bound for market, being mounted, and having on either side, a large pannier. We saw one lady whose costume of antiquated splendor, and whose immensely deep bonnet, drew much observation. This antique cavalcade was succeeded by an old dobbin of a horse driven by Mr. Edward Hood, drawing a wagon load of relics.—It contained a side-board, said to have belonged to Governor Bradstreet, an ancient oak chest made in 1685, with the original date upon it, an old winnowing fan, a large samp mortar, several snow shoes, some of the implements once used in the dressing of flax, and various agricultural tools, of the most ponderous and uncouth character.

The dinner tables were set beneath a pavilion erected on the common. Though provision was made for about 800 guests, nearly every seat was occupied. Directly over the President's seat, we noticed the old Indian name of the place,—She-we-ne-me-dy. Beneath this were arranged several articles, suggestive of the times when wild beasts and savages were the sole tenants



of the Topsfield woods. Two pairs of moose horns (one pair very large), from Mr. Frank Curtis' collection of trophies; numerous arrow-heads, and stone tools of the aborigines—lent by Major Poore of Indian Hill—and a long halberd, once carried by a Topsfield officer, in the Indian wars, and brought down from Amherst, N. H., by Mr. Peabody, who is one of that officer's descendants.

Dr. E. Huntington of Lowell, eldest son of the Rev. Asahel Huntington, formerly minister of Topsfield was the President of the day. The Rev. Asa Cummings of Portland, Me., the descendant of a Topsfield man craved a blessing. When due justice had been done to the liberal provisions on the table, the President, after a few happy remarks, by way of introduction, proceeded to read the regular sentiments. The first was as follows:

"This day of our solemnities, bright with memories of the Past,—with contemplations of the present—and with hopes of the Future." After the second toast, which was a compliment to the old county of Essex, the President put it upon Mr. Upham of this city to reply, which he did, in a strain of prompt and felicitous remark. He supposed that he had been called on to respond to the sentiment, because he happened to be one of the representatives of the county in the State Senate. He had been invited to attend the celebration, but should have come, had it been otherwise, for he took a deep interest in such meetings, and in the object which brought them together. He alluded very happily to Topsfield as being the heart of the county, and said he had early acquired an interest in its history, while investigating the story of the witchcraft delusion. He dwelt, for a moment, with much eloquence on the admirable character and melancholy fate of Mary Easty, a Topsfield woman, who was hung in that dreadful time. The importance of gathering up and preserving the fragments of tradition and history yet within our reach, was strongly urged. He alluded to the statements of the orator, in regard to the votes and acts of Topsfield, at the time, and before the time of the Revolution, as showing what such investigations always have showed, the high and determined spirit of the people, in those days. But we will not do injustice to his remarks by any further attempt to report them.

The next toast, happily introduced by an allusion to the old pronunciation of the name of the most precious metal, accompanied with the remark that we have no need to search for it in California, as there is plenty of it in Topsfield, was as follows: "The Gould of Topsfield—It was a rich vein at first—it has borne working well—and it still yields sterling ore."

This was responded to by Benj. A. Gould, Esq., of Boston, who said, that though not born in Topsfield, he received the rudiments of his education there. He alluded in terms of high eulogy to his old teacher and minister, the Rev. Asahel Huntington. He referred to his brave ancestor, Lieut. John Gould, who was imprisoned in the time of Andros, for his bold speaking,—a circumstance which had been alluded to in the Address, and in regard to which he stated some additional particulars. He referred also to his grandfather, John Gould, who was, for nineteen eventful and successive years the representative of Topsfield in the General Court—and to his own father, Capt. Benj. Gould, of Topsfield, who took part in the events of the 19th of April and of the 17th of June, 1775, and commanded a company at West Point at the time of Arnold's defection. Mr. Gould concluded with a sentiment complimentary to the orator of the day.

Mr. Cleaveland, being thus called upon, replied, that after having occupied so large a share of the day, he supposed he might be excused if he should not say a word,—but in grateful acknowledgment of the flattering manner in which he had been alluded to, he would offer one or two thoughts. Mr. Cleaveland, then addressing the President, in a playful and amusing strain of remark, observed,—we little thought, sir, of such a scene as this, when, in the little red school-house just referred to by the last speaker, we made our first assaults on the English language—nor when we used, at recess, to run up to the old Capen house for a drink of water—nor when we robbed the meeting house of its gravel, and carried it in our aprons to build piers in the pond, in order to accomodate the navigation of that great inland lake—nor when we fished with pin-hooks in the brook—nor when, on Saturday afternoons, we started off with our birch baskets on our arms, to pick whortleberries in the old parsonage grounds; indeed, little did we think of anything ahead.

“No thought had we of ills to come,  
No cares beyond the day.”

After a few more remarks, Mr. C. repeated a couple of stanzas from the poems of Miss Gould, as happily expressive of the emotions naturally excited on such an occasion.

He then said it was not uncommon on such occasions, to call for either a song or a story. He had attempted to tell his story, and he would give them the song. He then read with much effect the song which follows, premising that it was written by one who if not a daughter of Topsfield, is yet a daughter-in-law,

and who could not, in his opinion, better have appreciated the proprieties of the occasion, had she even been a lineal descendant from old Zach Gould himself.

We the relics of ages, have here met together,  
To say how d'ye do ? to the past ;  
And to stop for discourse, Sir, Old Time, in his course, Sir,  
Who once, did not travel so fast.

Then he'd pause on his walk, just to gossip and talk,  
As he shook a few sands from his glass ;  
Now he travels by steam, shouting out with a scream,  
“ Clear the track, for my engine to pass ! ”

Come ! just throw off your steam ; tackle on your old team ;  
And jog on in the foot-path today.  
We have met for “ a talk : ” put your steeds on a walk,  
For, indeed, we've a great deal to say.

We've no victories to boast, and no heroes to toast,  
Save the victors of plough shares and flail :  
The weapons we wield, leave no stain on the field,  
And no cheek in our warfare grows pale.

Well ! as matters of pride, what have we, beside  
Our sires, and our sons, and our soil ?  
We have mothers, and wives, the best gifts of our lives,  
Sent to soften and cheer all our toil.

We have no railroads here, commanding to “ clear  
Off the track, with your cart and your team ! ”  
No thousand mile wire comes to us with its fire,  
More fleet than the sun's swiftest beam.

Our brook flows on still, just to carry our mill,  
And our mill, like our swine, is corn-fed ;  
Our girls work with their mothers, and live with their  
brothers,  
And are to *home* industry bred.

They bloom and they toil, on their own native soil,  
Shedding beauty and fragrance around,  
And no lovelier display, than we see here to-day,  
Could in court or in city be found.

'Tis true, they're not drest in their "blue homespun best,"  
 Once worn more for comfort than show,  
 Our fair modern Jenny—is no spinning Jenny,  
 And our maids are no milk-maids, you know.

Our swains are no more, as their grandsires of yore,  
 Clad in home-spun from head to the heel;  
 They have broadcloth for Mondays, as well as for Sundays,  
 Without mother to spin or to reel.

Our boys too are *shod*—but their forefathers trod  
 The green-sward with feet bare and free;  
*They* could go to a husking without a light buskin,  
 Or their trousers strapped tight o'er the knee.

*They* could catch the old mare, and mounting back-bare,  
 Trot off to the mill and the store,  
 And like Gilpin would ride, with a jug on each side,  
 And a long bag of corn on before.

They'd a very good rule, Sir, which was taught them at  
 school, Sir,  
 Along with their A and their B;  
 When they met with their betters, those small men of  
 letters,  
 How to bend both the head and the knee.

Time keeps jogging along, while I halt in my song,  
 Our Pegasus nags are both lame.  
 I will take off *my* weight, *he* may "gang his ain gate,"  
 'Tis hard his wild coursers to tame.

We have had a good meeting, and a right hearty greeting,  
 With kinsfolk, acquaintance, and friends,  
 So we part not in sadness, but look forward with gladness  
 To a meeting that shall never end.

The following toast succeeded:—"We furnish you to-day, neither *mint* julips nor *anise* cordial:—charge us not with neglecting the weightier matters of the *Law* if we pay our tithe of *cumin*."

This brought up Judge Cummins, a native of Topsfield, who addressed the meeting at some length, in a strain of tender and touching remark. He said he had come hither to see the friends



of his youth. But where had he found them? For the most part, among the dead. He described with much tenderness, his visit, that morning to the family burying-ground—dwelt upon, and commended the increased attention, now paid to rural cemeteries. He urged with much effect, the superior value of moral improvement, as compared with that, which is merely intellectual. He closed with a eulogistic description of his early minister and instructor, the Rev. Mr. Huntington, and advised all the people, who would like to know what sort of man he was, to read, in the ‘Deserted Village’ of Goldsmith, that inimitable description of the village parson.

At this point, the President of the Day was compelled to leave, and called Mr. N. Cleaveland to the chair.

The next toast was as follows: “Lieutenant Francis Peabody—The patriarchal head of a mighty host. There have been few armies better officered.”

The President, after waiting a few moments, remarked that as every descendant of the old Lieutenant, seemed disposed to dodge, he would call upon a gentleman whom he saw at the Table, who though his name might seem to justify dodging, was never known to *Dodge* any responsibility.

This called to his feet the Hon. Allen W. Dodge, of Hamilton, who stated, that since he had been here, he had almost made up his mind to become a *native* of Topsfield. After expressing his high satisfaction with all the performances of the occasion, he spoke of the Topsfield farmers, as ranking among the best and most intelligent in the County, and alluded with much felicity, to the ancient implements of husbandry, in Mr. Hood’s old wagon, and remarked upon the difficulties under which the farmers of former days labored in the hard task of subduing the soil, and concluded with a sentiment complimentary to the Topsfield farmers.

The next toast was this: “The descendants of Mr. William Perkins. They have reason to be proud of their ancestors—and he would not blush, could he now behold his sons.”

The President stated that it had been expected that Judge Perkins, of Salem, a lineal descendant of the old settler, named in the toast, would be present and address us in reply. But instead of being here—he had sent an interesting epistle, full of good thoughts and wishes and concluding with this toast: “*The early Puritan settlers of Topsfield*. May their descendants this day assembled to venerate their memory, imbibe a fresh and copious draught of their spirit—and may the dawn never harbinger the day, when that spirit shall become extinct.”



"The Law Officer for Essex County: a son of Topsfield,—long and well approved by all the friends of order and good morals. We never heard the others praise him.

'What rogue e'er felt the halter draw  
With good opinion of the law!'"

The gentleman, here referred to, who was present a short time before the toast was given, is supposed to have received some sudden and imperative call on official business, for no answer came to the sentiment.

"The mothers and daughters of our town, with their sisters from elsewhere, who grace our festival to-day: They belong to that moiety of the human family, which was once toasted, somewhere hereabouts, as 'the Fair Sect.' If the adhesion to them *sectarianism*, then we are all *sectarians*."

"She-we-ne-me-dy, and the symbols which remind us of our tawny predecessors. We would like to *hear*, as well as see some from *Indian Hill*."

Major Ben. Perley Poore then favored the company with some easy and happy remarks. He began by intimating that the President must have forgotten some portion of his experience, when at Dummer Academy, or he would not now have called upon *him* to say anything. *His* business he said, was that of a *reporter*, rather than of a *maker* of speeches. He alluded to the Indian relics which he had contributed, and spoke of those brave old hunters and warriors to whom those relics once belonged. He spoke of the occasion and of the display which he had witnessed, and intimated that it compared favorably with anything which he had witnessed in other and older portions of the world. A sentiment, complimentary to the hills and the sons, the vales and the daughters of Topsfield, concluded his remarks.

"Topsfield Farmers. Through all the past, they have been a valiant and sturdy race. May their sons, through all the future, maintain the habits, the principles, and the virtues which made their fathers so respectable."

Deacon Joel Peabody of Topsfield, responded. He said he would not contend that the present farmers of Topsfield, are as *sturdy* as their fathers—that they are not as *valiant*, remains to be proved. He showed how the sons might realize the wish expressed in the sentiment, namely: by cherishing habits of industry and virtue, by the cultivation and improvement of their minds, and by showing the same high regard for religion, which distinguished their ancestors.

"The early Batchellers of Topsfield: we of the present day may congratulate ourselves that their name and their practice

were not co-incident." Jacob Batchelder, Esq., of Lynn, being summoned to reply, amused and interested the company, for a few moments, by an account of the perplexity which he had experienced that morning on his first arrival in town. He supposed himself to be on the right road and near the village, when a large flag stretched over the way seemed to intimate that he was in a place called New Meadows. While he was deliberating what to do, he saw another inscription, which re-assured him and he went forward. The next thing that puzzled him, was the crowd of people, which he saw in the street. The Topsfield, which he knew, contained only eight or nine hundred inhabitants. The place he was now in, must have many thousands. Pretty soon he encountered a number of persons, who from the style of their hats, and wigs and dress, must certainly belong to some earlier period of the world. Had the generations, long departed, come again upon the stage? Fortunately, his doubts were at length resolved by meeting several old faces and familiar friends. He ended by a pleasing allusion to an incident in the life of the famous Mungo Park, who, when asked by an African woman, why he consulted his little pocket compass, replied, "Because it always points to where my mother lives." He thought that many long absent sons of Topsfield, whom he saw before him, and who had come from states far distant and widely remote must have been guided by some such little index to their mother-home.

The President held up a small brass box, which he said once belonged to Polin\* Wildes, whose name occurs among the earliest settlers of the town. Mr. Wildes was a surveyor, and was often employed in this and the other provinces. The little box—like that to which the last speaker had alluded, contained a compass—and had undoubtedly been the companion and guide of the old surveyor in many a trackless forest. The following toast was then read." The compass, which guided through these wilds, the first of the Wildeses. Thanks to those hardy pioneers, their posterity requires no such aid." The Wildeses were here called on to speak—but the call did not seem to be heard. "Thomas Perkins, the first of Topsfield. Of his numerous, prosperous and widely-spread descendants, there must be some one here, who can speak for the family." Horatio N. Perkins, Esq., of Boston, came forward to this call. He told us that he claimed the honor of a descent from that good Deacon Thomas Perkins. That his grandfather removed from Topsfield, at a time when it had become comparatively old, into the woods of Maine, settling

\*John?—*Editor.*

in a place which had then no name, but which afterwards became Kennebunk Port; he spoke of the pleasant visits, which he had heretofore made in Topsfield, to look up the homes of his remote ancestors, and to learn something of their history, and concluded with an appropriate sentiment.

*Topsfield Manufacturers—*

A stirring, thriving set are they,  
Who e'er caught them a napping?  
Or passed their busy shops by day,  
And did not hear their tapping?

"Our country? its population, which in 1650 consisted of a few thousands, has swelled to many millions. The small dependent colonies of that day have grown into a great nation; scarcely inferior to any other in numbers and power,—second to none, in the better elements of prosperity, intelligence, good government, and true liberty. In view of a past and present so astounding, will any imagination venture to conceive what will be the grandeur and glory of North America, a century hence! May prosperity attend the old town of Topsfield! God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and long preserve the Union."

In the course of these exercises, a fine ode written by Mrs. S. D. Peabody, of Topsfield, and also a glee, were sung by a quartette, consisting of Messrs. W. R. Hubbard, B. Whitmore, G. H. Smith, M. Horn.

ODE—BY MRS. S. D. PEABODY.

As children long from home away,  
Hail the glad jubilee,  
Which finds them all in fair array,  
Beneath the old roof-tree:—

So we to-day rejoicing come,  
Kindred and friends to greet,  
And give affection's tear to some,  
We would, but cannot, meet.

Here, where our happy childhood sped,  
'Till graver years drew on,  
And, 'till as varying fortunes led,  
We parted, one by one.

Here—where amid primeval shades,  
 But not of classic fame,  
 Our sires, from England's blooming glades,  
 To toil and trial came—

Here meet we—glad, a day's brief space  
 To give to auld lang syne,—  
 And o'er our fathers' resting place,  
 A garland green to twine.

Those fathers' memory we bless,  
 Oft as we hear the tale,  
 Whose hands transformed a wilderness  
 To this delightful vale.

Yet, chiefly, that from them we gain,  
 Through each successive age,  
 A lineage without a stain,—  
 Our noblest heritage.

Their glory this—a virtuous name !  
 Earth has no richer crown :  
 Spotless to us the honor came,  
 Such, let us pass it down.

The last exercise was an original song by a native of Topsfield sung to the air of auld lang syne, by Mr. B. Whitmore. An immense number joined in the chorus, and produced a highly inspiring influence.

#### SONG.

I'll sing a song of other days,  
 A tale of ancient time  
 Come brothers, all, the chorus raise,  
 And lift a shout sublime.  
 For auld lang syne, to-day,  
 For auld lang syne,  
 We've gathered and we'll chant a lay  
 Of auld lang syne.

Praise to our sires, the axe who swung,  
 First on the wooded plains,  
 While wide the forest round them rung,  
 And hills replied again.

For auld lang syne, come out,  
     For auld lang syne,  
 And celebrate the woodsmen stout,  
     For auld lang syne.

In vain, was bent the red man's bow,  
     In vain his arrow sped,  
 For soon repulsed, the savage foe  
     To wilds remoter fled.  
 For auld lang syne again,  
     For auld lang syne  
 We sing those sturdy Englishmen  
     Of auld lang syne.

Long o'er the land which they regained  
     From Nature's ruder sway,  
 Peace, order, justice, freedom reigned,  
     A bright and tranquil day.  
 For auld lang syne once more,  
     For auld lang syne,  
 We con the pleasing legends o'er  
     Of auld lang syne.

When dark<sup>d</sup> Oppression, threat'ning rose,  
     And Might, usurping, grew,—  
 Submission base, the choice, or blows,  
     To arms, our father flew.  
 For auld lang syne, these strains,  
     For auld lang syne,  
 We swell to those who broke our chains,  
     In auld lang syne.

On Bunker's hill of glorious name,  
     And on the Hudson's side,  
 And many a deathless field of fame,  
     They poured their heart's warm tide.  
 For auld lang syne, we shed,  
     For auld land syne,  
 Our tears above the mighty dead  
     Of auld land syne.

Long may the rights those heroes won  
     From Power's reluctant hand,  
 Unmarred descend from sire to son,  
     The glory of our land.



For auld lang syne to-day,  
 For auld lang syne,  
 We've gathered and we've sung our lay  
 Of auld land syne.

The singing, both in the grove and in the Pavilion, was executed in admirable style. The Salem Band under the direction of Mr. Morse, performed their part, in the march, at the grove, and in the Pavilion, to the full satisfaction of all. The thanks of the Assembly were voted with great seeming cordiality to the COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, (Messrs. Merriam, Cleaveland, Munday, Batchelder, Hood and Towne), and well did they deserve the tribute. The unqualified satisfaction, expressed by all, whether citizens or strangers, in the entire proceedings of this delightful day, unmarred as they were by a single disturbance or failure, is the highest testimony, which could be paid to the arrangements of the committee, so well carried out by the chief marshall and his aids and assistants.

In the course of the proceedings, it was announced that answers had been received from several gentlemen to whom letters of invitation had been sent. We have room to give only the names of these gentlemen. The Rev. Josiah Peabody of Erzroom in Persia, Hon. Daniel Breck, member of the present Congress from Kentucky, Rev. George Hood, Southport, N. Y., Rev. Jonas Merriam, Barnerd, Me., N. Cleaveland Bradstreet, Rochester, N. Y. all of whom are natives of Topsfield. One also from Rodney Gove Dennis, of Grafton, Mo., formerly a minister in Topsfield, and one from Hon. Daniel A. White of Salem.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 3, 1850.*

ASSISTANT MARSHALL. Thos. L. Lane, of 'Topsfield, has been appointed Assistant Marshall, to take the census in Topsfield and Middleton.

*Salem Register, Aug. 22, 1850.*

#### FOR THE REGISTER.

CELEBRATION IN TOPSFIELD. Thursday next, the 29th of August, will be a day of much interest to the citizens of Topsfield, who will then celebrate the Second Centennial Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town. Many of their kindred and friends, from Salem and elsewhere, will be present to enjoy the festivities of the occasion; and as there is no regular mode of conveyance thence from this city, by which persons can go and return on the same day, the writer would suggest, to those who

may be interested, that a coach, or perhaps a number of coaches, to leave Salem at an early hour on the morning of the 29th, and to return after the celebration shall have closed, might be well freighted with passengers, if they should be provided for the occasion, and seasonable notice of the fact advertised in the city papers. Will not some of the owners of coaches attend to this matter?  
Y.

*Salem Register, Aug. 22, 1850.*

#### CONVEYANCE TO TOPSFIELD.

MR. S. SPAULDING, proprietor of the North Danvers Stage, states that he will take passengers to Topsfield, THIS MORNING, at a quarter before 8 o'clock, and at a quarter past 10 o'clock, and will return at the close of the exercises. Fare each way 50 cents. Passengers will be taken from the Salem Depot, the Essex House, and the Mansion House.

*Salem Register, Aug. 29, 1850.*

#### BI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

TOPSFIELD, AUG. 29, 1850.

In accordance with a custom which is yearly becoming more and more popular, a few days ago we embraced the opportunity of quitting our usual round of daily toil, for a short season of healthful rusticity among the woods and fields, and rural scenes of this pleasant town, which we are proud to claim as the place of our nativity. Eighteen years of absence have only served to strengthen the memory and enhance the attachment we have ever felt for this home of our childhood. The bustle and excitement, the pomp and pageantry of city life, have only rendered more vivid the sentiment so well and so briefly expressed by Goldsmith—

“Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,  
My heart, untrav'l'd, fondly turns to thee.”

The stirring and extraordinary events of to-day, on which we celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town, evince to what an extent this feeling pervades the hearts of the native-born sons and daughters of this ancient town. At an early hour this morning, vehicles of every description began to pour in from all points of the compass, bringing hundreds, nay, thousands of men, women and children, eager to witness and participate in the festivities of the day. The village presented a spectacle of busy life and bustling activity, such as

has seldom ruffled the quiet of its peaceful borders. The joyful greetings of relatives long separated by time and distance, and the smiling recognition of friends whom no other event would ever have called together, and many of whom may to-day, for the last time, have exchanged mutual and heartfelt congratulations, have given a pleasing and exciting character to the occasion, which must ever remain fresh in the memory of every one present.

The Indian name of this town, as you are aware, was SHEWEE-NE-MEA-DY. The land belonged to the tribes of the Agawams, by whose chief it was sold to John Winthrop, eldest son of Governor Winthrop, in the year 1638 for £20. At the session of November 5, 1639, it was granted to the inhabitants of Salem and Ipswich, and was by the whites called "New Meadows." The place was settled about this time. On the 18th of October, 1650, it was incorporated as the Town of Topsfield—a name which was borne by a small village in the county of Essex, in England, and whose etymology has been traced back, into the dim ages of the past, no less than 800 years. The anticipatory celebration of the bi-centennial anniversary, which would properly occur on the 18th of October next, was rendered necessary for the accommodation of the orator, as well as desirable on account of the season.

At 10 o'clock A. M., a procession was formed on the Common, under the direction of Major Nathaniel Conant, which, preceded by the music of Morse's Salem Brass Band, moved through the village to the grove where the Address was to be pronounced. The entrance to the grove, from the main road—across which was stretched the national ensign—was decorated with an arch, tastefully trimmed with evergreen, and bearing the inscription, "Centennial Hill," formed of oak-leaves. This hill, on land of Edward Hood, Esq., is a beautiful, semi-circular mound, tolerably shaded with a young growth of forest trees, and on its top, from an elevated staff, waved the American flag. On a portion of its eastern side, seats had been erected for the accommodation of about 1000 persons; and at its base stood a canopied pavilion, some 10 feet wide by 12 or 14 high, for the orator and others. This was trimmed on the outside with the savin shrub, the inside being lined with white cloth, relieved in the rear by three arches of oak-leaves, in the centre of each of which was a winter-green star, encircled in a wreath of evergreen, with bouquets of green and flowers beneath. The upper front bore the inscription,

NEW MEADOWS,  
1639  
TOPSFIELD  
1650

The whole was surmounted by an iron weather-vane, some 12 inches long by 5 wide, in which the date 1697 was cut. This ancient indicator of "the way the wind blows" was taken from the second meeting house in the town, erected in the old burial ground, in 1676. Among the ancient relics that adorned the interior of this pavilion, was the paneled pulpit from which the Rev. Messrs. Joseph Capen and John Emerson delivered their gospel messages to our fathers, in the first church erected on the Common (three, including the present neat structure, have been successively built on the same site), from 1703 to 1759. At the left hand side of the pulpit, supported by an iron rod about 2 1-2 feet long, was its former concomitant the "hour glass," which, in the absence of clocks and watches, was then used to indicate the passage of time—the sand requiring just one hour to run from one globe to the other. When the upper section of the glass was empty, it was reversed by the sexton; and thus, by the dropping "sands of time," the good parson would regulate the religious services of the sanctuary. In the rear of the pulpit stood the same high-back, unstuffed chair that kept it companionship, in the church mentioned above, for 56 years, and is now nearly 150 years old.

About 11 o'clock, the procession having arrived at Centennial Hill—the whole eastern side of which, from base to apex, was crowded with a dense mass of human beings, to the number of from two to three thousand—the services were conducted in the following order, viz. :—

1. Voluntary, by a select choir, including several of the best vocalists in Salem, under the leadership of Mr. Wm. Hubbard,\* long known in your vicinity as an able and successful teacher of music.

2. Reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of the Methodist church, from a Bible printed in 1599.

3. Original Hymn, by Rev. George Hood,\* sung to a tune composed by Jacob Hood,\* Esq., of Salem.

4. Some slight delay being occasioned by altering the location of the pulpit, so as to shield the speaker's face from the direct rays of a scorching sun, the choir performed another voluntary, entitled "Topsfield."

5. Prayer, by Rev. Anson McLoud, of the Congregationalist church.

6. An original ode, by Hannah Flagg Gould of Newburyport.

7. Address, by NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND,\* Esq., formerly preceptor of Dummer Academy, in Byfield, and now a teacher in Brooklyn, N. Y.

\*Native, but non-resident of Topsfield.



The address of Mr. Cleaveland was an effort of unsurpassed ability. Although he has had but one month to investigate the records of five or six generations, and prepare himself to meet the demands of the occasion, the result of his labors evinces a very extensive research, and a careful collation and judicious arrangement of materials, which he has presented in a most able, eloquent, and interesting manner. For two long hours he enchaind the attention of that vast audience, in the open air, who seemed to hang upon his words as if under the influence of a mighty spell. His address was eminently patriotic, manly and just; his enunciation bold, powerful, and clear, though somewhat rapid. No mere sketch, however faithful, could convey an adequate idea of the whole performance, and we will not do the orator the injustice to attempt one—especially as the Address is to be issued in pamphlet form. Its principal divisions embraced the civil and municipal affairs of the town; its ecclesiastical history; its schools and schoolmasters; its doctors and lawyers; the genealogy of the first and most distinguished families of the town; its ancient houses; a consideration of the question whether we have made any actual advance upon the past; and a comparison of the superior privileges and advantages enjoyed by the people of the present day over those possessed by their worthy ancestors. The speaker's occasional attempts at pleasantry were peculiarly happy, giving evidence of a rich vein of satirical humor, in the mental strata of his well cultivated mind, seldom to be met with. At the same time that these touches were spicy, and inoffensive, they were, in several instances, highly complimentary to their subject. The address was not only instructive, but intensely interesting throughout.

8. An original Hymn, by the orator of the day, sung by the whole assembly to the tune of Old Hundred, and a Benediction, closed the services at the grove, at half past 1 P. M.

In honor of native genius and talent, the music performed on this occasion, except the first and last tunes, was selected from the works of the late Jacob Kimball, a celebrated teacher and composer of music, who was born in Topsfield, in February, 1761. He was a graduate of Harvard University, of the class of 1780. After completing a course of law studies, he was admitted to the bar, and pleaded at least one case; but he relinquished the pursuit of the law, and devoted himself almost exclusively to the study and composition of music. In 1793, he published a volume of sacred music, of 112 pages, entitled the "Rural Harmony," another in 1800, the "Essex Harmony," of 112 pages, both composed by himself; as also a manuscript volume of sacred music never published. He was likewise a disciple of the poetic



muse, and wrote a volume which he intended for the press ; but dying soon after, the work fell into stranger hands and was lost. He died on the 24th of July, 1826, aged 65 years and 5 months.

The procession was re-formed at the grove, whence it proceeded to a large pavilion on the eastern side of the Common, where a sumptuous dinner had been provided for some 825 persons, by Mr. John Wright of Boston. But before indulging in the luxuries of the table, we will take a brief survey of the procession, which contains some rare and noticeable features. Prominent among them were three young gentlemen and their ladies, dressed in the rich and peculiar costume of the wealthier classes in the early days of New England, and mounted upon pillions—a mode of equestrian travel on which the march of civilization has made no improvement. The general paraphernalia of the ladies consisted of figured and changeable open silk dresses, displaying richly wrought and brilliantly colored skirts, and plain muslin inside handkerchiefs—the sleeves were short, with double ruffles falling over the elbows, and long mits. Over the neck and shoulders were thrown small, colored shawls, trimmed with lace. We believe the bonnet, or hat was of the cottage style, but of its form we can give no intelligible description. The gentlemen wore long, light coats, breeches with knee-buckles, wrought shoes with buckles, light-colored, curled wigs, three-cornered hats, and spectacles. Two or three other gentlemen were arrayed in the more common dress of the laboring classes, mounted on horses, with their bags of corn and market baskets behind them—the mode of “going to mill” and market, before the invention or common use of wagons. In the assembly on the hill, we noticed a lady dressed in a costly habit, that was worn 150 years ago.

Following these was a light wagon, containing a variety of relics, from 100 to 200 years old. Among them was an oak, paneled side-board, formerly the property of Gov. Simon Bradstreet, who emigrated from England and was an early resident of Topsfield, and whose dust now reposes in the Charter street burial-ground, in your city. Also, a paneled oak chest, made in 1685 ; a wooden samp-mortar, in which corn was formerly prepared for samp ; a steel bear-trap ; wool card ; garter loom ; snow shoes ; piggin ; wooden rye-cradle ; saddle bags ; wooden scales, with stone weights of 1 lb. each ; wooden shovels, bound with iron, &c. &c. On a long board, conspicuously displayed, were the following :

A title deed, from “John Gold, jr., and Thomas Gold,” conveying about 3,000 acres of land to John Gold, sen., their father, in 1686.

A printed commission, from "Wm. Stoughton, Esq., Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over His Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New-England," Captain of the Foot Company of Militia in the Town of Topsfield, within the County of Essex, dated August, 1696.

A copy of the Declaration of Independence, printed in 1776, and bought at that time by the late Rev. Daniel Gould, of Topsfield, a soldier of the Revolution.

A sheet of manuscript poetry, written in 1741, by David Stanley of this town.

Also two poetical effusions, printed in 1776, and written by Mr. John Hovey, of Topsfield. The first is entitled, in part, "Oppression: A Poem. Or, New-England's lamentation on the dreadful Extortion and other sins of the Times." The other, "A Short Account of the Troubles and Dangers our Forefathers met with to obtain this land: Shewing the Right their Children have to it at this Day."

A large quarto volume of 778 pages, entitled "A six-fold Commentarie on the Booke of Leviticus," by "Andrew Willet, Dr. of Divinitie," printed in London in 1631.

Three specimens of colonial "shin-plasters," issued in 1775, 1776, and 1778.

An Almanac, by Nathaniel Ames, printed in 1737.

A "Discourse of Housbandrie," dated 1580.

Nearly all the relics in this vehicle are now the property of Edward Hood, Esq. The Gov. Bradstreet sideboard belongs to Mr. William Waite.

The Dinner was equally successful with all the other arrangements of the day. Dr. Elisha Huntington\* of Lowell, presided, and addresses were made by him, by Hon. Charles W. Upham; by the Orator, Mr. Cleaveland; B. A. Gould, Esq., of Boston; Judge Cummins,\* formerly of Salem; Hon. Allen W. Dodge of Hamilton; Maj. B. Perley Poore; Dea. Peabody, and others. Songs, Glees, Instrumental music and Sentiments were freely interspersed—an admirable quartette club from your city, and Morse's excellent band, led by the "silver bugle," furnishing music of a superior order.

Mr. Upham touched very happily upon some incidents which had been alluded to in Mr. Cleaveland's Address, connected with the witchcraft delusion, and with the history of old Gov. Bradstreet. In reference to the Governor, I quote a passage from Mr. U's Fourth of July Oration in 1842, where the same topic is very graphically discussed as follows:

In 1684, the charter was taken away, and Massachusetts re-

\*Native, but non-resident of Topsfield.

duced to a subject Province. But the period of fifty-five years, during which the satisfactions and the privileges of self-government had been experienced, stamped the character of the people forever. Two successive generations had been thoroughly saturated with the spirit of liberty. It had become mingled with their very heart's blood, and ever after naturally descended in their race as a constitutional and inherent element. No oppression could eradicate, and no lapse of time could exhaust it. The tree had taken root deep in the soil, fastening itself inextricably to the primitive granite of the globe itself; its trunk was clothed with a rugged strength that no storms nor hurricanes could break or bend; and branches were put forth which will surely spread until the whole continent reclines beneath their peaceful shade.

The abrogation of the charter of Massachusetts was one of the first fruits of the restoration of the Stuarts to the English throne, on the ruins of the cause of civil and religious liberty. It was resolved by that despotic dynasty to trample out the last spark of freedom on both sides of the Atlantic. Regular troops were, for the first time, sent over to the colonies to overawe and enslave the people. Their several governments were abolished. Their Houses of Assembly were dissolved, and all power was concentrated in the unrestrained hands of a Governor General appointed by the crown. Few in number as the colonists then were, and unbounded as was the arbitrary power of the mother country, such a destruction of their most sacred rights was not unresistingly borne, and it is to the honor of the people of Essex county that no where was the resistance bolder and no where were such heavy penalties incurred in consequence. But open and general rebellion was vain. To attempt it then would have been insanity, and a suffering and indignant people had no alternative but to bide its time.

About three years after this tyrannical system of colonial administration had been established a rumor reached Boston that the Prince of Orange had landed in England to dethrone James the Second, and before waiting for the confirmation of the rumor, or the result of the expedition, the irrepressible spirit of the people burst forth, they rushed from all quarters into Boston, seized the Royal Governor in his fort and imprisoned him there, and with acclamations of unbounded joy, reinstated their charter government, called back old Simon Bradstreet to the chair of state, and again for a brief period enjoyed the sweets of liberty and independence.

This daring movement proves the efficacy of the training the people of Massachusetts had experienced under the old charter. They had become already true sons of liberty, and feared to meet

no danger in her cause. And what a venerable and sublime spectacle it was to see Bradstreet re-appear on the public stage; He had come over to America, then a young man, in company with Winthrop; he had lived, and been a conspicuous actor, through the whole period of the early liberties of New England; he was occupying, by the choice of the people, the chief magistracy of the colony when the charter was abrogated, and now, although eighty-six years of age, the venerable patriot is again at his post. Brave old man! What a spirit must have been enshrined in that aged form! With what a venerable dignity must those white locks have been crowned! Happy the people who were able to command the services, and to appreciate the wisdom, of such a patriarch! It is an interesting circumstance to us that this Nestor of New England closed his life in Salem. He died in 1697, having reached the great age of 94 years. His ashes rest in our soil.

Dr. Huntington resigned the chair at an early hour, and was succeeded by Mr. Cleaveland who discharged the duties very felicitously and acceptably. Letters were read from distinguished natives of Topsfield, who were unable to be present, and a humorous poem, composed for the occasion by a lady. An original ode, also, was sung by the quartette club. Ladies graced the tables by their presence—a novel feature at our public dinners, but one which ought to be more generally adopted. The festivities were prolonged until 6 o'clock, P. M., when the company adjourned with reluctance, having enjoyed a day of uninterrupted pleasure. A ball in the evening closed this glorious Bi-Centennial celebration.

On motion of Asahel Huntington,\* Esq., it was unanimously voted that the Address and a detailed account of the proceedings be published, in a form suitable for permanent preservation.

S. N. Y.

*Salem Register, Sept. 2, 1850.*

## THE TOPSFIELD CELEBRATION.

### CENTENNIAL HYMNS.

We meet to sing this morning,  
Of scenes long passed away,  
In happiness rejoicing,  
That we have met to-day.  
We've met to thank that Father  
Who guards us here below,  
As did our ancient Sires,  
Two Hundred years ago.

\*Native, but non-resident of Topsfield.

We've met, a prayer to offer  
 To Him, who rules the sphere,  
 That we may never wander,  
 But follow, love and fear  
 Our blessed Lord and Master,  
 Where bliss like rivers flow  
 As did our Pilgrim Fathers  
 Two Hundred years ago.

Prepare us Lord, to meet them,  
 In that bright world of joy,  
 With loving smiles to greet them,  
 Where nought can us annoy.  
 To meet, in realms of glory,  
 Our Fathers:—there to know:  
 They lived on earth before us,  
 Two Hundred years ago.

We thank Thee, for this favour,  
 Of meeting here to-day  
 And may it be recorded,  
 When we have passed away.  
 We thank Thee for each blessing  
 That we receive below,  
 As did our Pilgrim Fathers,  
 Two Hundred years ago.

*Topsfield, Aug. 1850.*

F. G. P

Come, Fathers, wives and children,  
 Come—all without delay;  
 Come—celebrate with pleasure,  
 This anniversary day.

Come—with your hearts o'er flowing,  
 With thankfulness and praise;  
 To Him, who guards us daily,  
 To Him, your praises raise.

Our Fathers braved all dangers,  
 And cross'd the Ocean's waves;  
 Then settled in these vallies,  
 Beside the *red man's* graves.



God heard their prayers and praises,  
 And saw their sorrows too !  
 And answered them with mercies,  
 That we to-day do view.

Behold *our* pleasant village,  
 'Twas once a pathless wood :  
 Two Hundred years of changes,  
 Has brought us all this good.

Now let our praise ascending,  
 Be heard both far and near  
 That every son of freedom,  
 In bliss and peace may hear.

May God, who reigns in heaven,  
 Our constant helper be ;  
 And save our land from danger  
 And keep our nation free.

*Topsfield, Aug. 1850.*

O. P. H.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 10, 1850.*

*Administrator's Sale.*

By order of Probate Court, will be sold at Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 14th day of October next, at 3 o'clock, P. M., on the premises, SO MUCH OF THE REAL ESTATE of ELIZABETH TOWNE, late of Topsfield, single woman, deceased, as will raise the sum of four hundred thirty dollars, for the payment of her just debts and incidental charges.

Said estate is situated in the southwesterly part of Topsfield, and consists of about ten acres of Pasture and Meadow—Land bounded by land of Daniel and Sewall Towne, and others.

Also—the right of redemption of about six acres of Pasture Land, with a small house thereon—bounded by the aforesaid lot and land of the estate of Lydia Towne, deceased.

Also—the right of redemption of one undivided third part of about 27 acres of Pasture and Meadow Land—bounded northwardly by the aforesaid lots,—and owned in common with David Towne, and the estate of Lydia Towne, and known as the “Ackley thirds ;” at which time the undivided right belonging to the estate of Lydia Towne will be sold.

Conditions made known at the sale.

JOHN G. HOOD, Adm'r.

*Topsfield, Sept. 21, 1850.*

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 21. 1850.*

At the exhibition of the Essex Agricultural Society held in Salem, Sept. 25 and 26, Messrs. Lake exhibited 102 kinds of fruit, from their nursery, in Topsfield, namely—

*Pears*,—Beurre d'Amalis, Catalac, Dix, Buffum, Vicar of Winkfield, Easter Beurre, Seckel, Duchess d'Angouleme, Beurre Diel, Glout Moreau, Dunmore, Harvard, St. Ghislain, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Andrews, Napoleon Seedling, Golden Beurre, Belle Lucrative, Frederick of Wertemburg, Long Green, Cushing, Winter Nelis, Bartlett, Dearborn's Seedling, Fulton, and several Seedlings. *Plums*,—Black Imperial, Green Gage, New Orleans, Prince's Imperial. *Peaches*,—Jaques, Manning's Red, Yellow, Alberge, Napoleon, Early Crawford, Brown, Jenk's Red, seedlings. *Grapes*,—3 kinds of cultivated native. *Quinces*,—Orange. *Apples*,—Perkin's Sweet, Minister, Danvers Sweet, Golden Russet, Baking Sweet, York Greening, Cart House, Spitzenburg, Red Eagle, Striped Sweet, Kilham Hill, Jenny Lind, (a beautiful new specimen), Fall Harvey, York Russet, Baldwin, Alexander, Winter Green, Yellow Bellflower, Porter, R. Island Greening, Russet Pearmain, Roxbury Russet, Hubbard, None such, Aunt Hannah, White Bellflower, Ribstone Pippen, Golden Queen, Gilliflower.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 27, 1850.*

**GEORGETOWN RAILROADS.** In addition to the two chartered and surveyed Railroad routes, continuing the Newburyport Railroad from Georgetown by one route to the Boston and Maine Railroad at Bradford and by the other to the Essex Railroad at North Andover, we learn that the question of reviving the old Salem and Georgetown railroad route, so far at least as from Georgetown, by the way of Boxford and Topsfield, to the Essex Railroad at North Danvers is again agitated, and that measures are in progress to call an early meeting of the friends of the project with a view to promote its completion.—*Reg.*

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 27, 1850.*

**FIRE IN TOPSFIELD.** About 8 o'clock last evening (Friday), a barn belonging to Miss Mulliken, in Topsfield, near the meeting house, was struck by lightning, and totally destroyed, with all its contents, including ten tons of hay. Six persons were in the barn, when it was struck, but none of them were injured. The loss was about \$500. Insured for \$150 at the Holyoke Mutual Office.

After the above was in type, we received from an attentive correspondent in Topsfield, the following additional particulars :


The barn belonged to Mrs. Mulliken of Salem, and was entirely consumed, together with eight or ten tons of hay, and a quantity of grain and beans belonging to Mr. Allen Gould, and several cords of wood belonging to an occupant of her house. In one end of the barn was a shoemakers' shop, having in it six or eight men at work, but no one experienced any other injury than a severe shock. A considerable quantity of leather was in the shop, belonging to Mr. C. Herrick, which was destroyed, together with the seats and tools of the workmen. At the time of the fire the rain came down in torrents, nevertheless, the inhabitants turned out, to the number of five or six hundred, but could afford but little assistance, as the barn was completely on fire in a few moments.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 28, 1850.*

## HAVERHILL AND SALEM STAGE REGULAR LINE

Stage leaves Eagle House, House, Haverhill, every morning, at 6 1-4 o'clock, connecting with the morning train at Georgetown, for Newburyport, and connecting in Salem with the trains for Marblehead and Lynn.

Returning—leaves Salem at 3 1-2 P. M., and arrives in Georgetown in season for the evening train passengers for Haverhill.

 The subscriber having been many years on this route, solicits the patronage of all who may wish any business transacted between Haverhill and Salem, assuring them that any business entrusted to his care, will be promptly and faithfully attended to.

ISAAC PINKHAM.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 5, 1850.*

DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD. A meeting in favor of this project was held at North Danvers, on the 15th inst., and was well attended by gentlemen from Georgetown, Boxford, Topsfield, North and South Danvers, and Salem.

The meeting was organized by the choice of Samuel P. Fowler as chairman, and W. L. Weston as secretary.

A good degree of interest was manifested, and there was a general expression of opinion that the road could be built and sustained. The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to procure subscriptions for a survey and to cause the same to be made, and also to petition the Legislature for a charter—

namely: John A. Lovering, David M. Winter, Georgetown. Thomas Perley, Samuel Kimball, Boxford. Asa Pingree, John Wright, Topsfield. Joseph S. Black, Daniel Richards, Wm. H. Little, Danvers.

A handsome sum was subscribed at the meeting, and measures will be immediately taken to have a survey made. The meeting adjourned to the 15th of November.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 18, 1850.*

#### FOR THE GAZETTE

### DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

This project, for which a charter was granted five years since and suffered to expire, is again revived, under encouraging circumstances. Recent surveys, by an experienced Engineer, demonstrate that a junction of the Essex and Georgetown Railroads can be made, by building less than *twelve miles* of new road. One route passes from Danvers Plains, easterly of the River Hill in Topsfield, near Topsfield Meeting House, across Hood's Pond, to Georgetown Corner. The other passes westerly of the River Hill, crossing Ipswich River, near Rowley Bridge, thence through South Boxford to the same point. The estimated expense of either of these routes may be set down, on the principles assumed by the Engineers at . \$150,000 to this sum to be added for contingencies . . . 50,000

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the probable cost of proposed road will be . . . \$200,000  
or about \$16,000 per mile.

It is stated, by the Engineers, that no part of the grade on either route need exceed forty feet to the mile; and that there will be no necessity of more than one mile exceeding 30 feet to the mile. If this contemplated route of Railroad can be completed, the County of Essex would then have all Railroad facilities desirable. The energy and ability of those who move in this enterprise, gives assurance that it will be done.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 30, 1850.*

### MARRIAGES

In Topsfield, in the Methodist Church, by Rev. Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Joseph Horton, of Ipswich, to Miss Sarah Ann Robinson, of Topsfield. Also, by the same, Mr. Henry Hindes to Miss Sarah Bly, both of Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 27, 1850.*

**THE TOPSFIELD CELEBRATION.** The address of Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., delivered at the second Centennial Anniversary Celebration at Topsfield, on the 28th of August last, has just been published, with notes appended, and embellishments, in a style of typographical elegance worthy of the very uncommon propriety and completeness which characterized all the details of that celebration. The natives of Topsfield may well be justified in looking back with pride upon the energy, good taste, and enlightened spirit, which animated and pervaded the celebration of their centennial anniversary, in the assurance that their pleasant village will hold a higher rank for at least a hundred years to come, in consequence of their success on this occasion.

The most important feature of the day was the Address by Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., which we think will be cited as a model for discourses of this class. We trust that some of the parties interested will take measures for the preservation of copies in all the public libraries of the Commonwealth.

The pamphlet is enriched by three fine engravings; namely, a likeness of Gov. Bradstreet, now for the first time copied and published, through the kindness of Solomon Wildes, Esq., and others of the Governor's descendants; of the late Mrs. Alethea Huntington, widow of Rev. Asahel Huntington, of Topsfield, and mother of Dr. Elisha Huntington, recently Mayor of Lowell, and of Asahel Huntington, Esq., of this city; of the Hon. Nehemiah Cleaveland; and of Gov. John Endicott, the engraved steel portrait of which was loaned by C. M. Endicott, Esq., of this city.

The Address presents many tempting passages for extract. The grave humor and felicitous description of the old church in Topsfield, will be appreciated by many of our readers.

The date of the fourth meeting-house will never be forgotten by those who were wont in childhood to visit the venerable place. The figures 17—59 separated into two sections by a long hyphen of space, have, indeed, perished with the pillars, whose capitals they adorned. But their image was long ago impressed upon many a mental tablet, from which it will never be effaced, till the tablets themselves shall be no more. It was on the 4th of July, in the year just named, that the frame of this house was raised. The preparations made by the town, and recorded in its books, give some faint idea of what a great raising was in those days. It was, indeed, an event long to be remembered—for the entire population, men, women, and children, with multitudes from the towns adjacent, then came together to perform, or else



to behold and rejoice over the mighty work. To lift those huge oak timbers high in air, and there to place and to secure them, was no child's play, but demanded every stalwart arm for miles around. I find, in the town vote, no mention of derricks, or pulleys, or cordage. They depended, it seems, on their own strong sinews, with, perhaps, some slight assistance from hydraulic power. What amount of it was deemed necessary in the present instance, may be gathered from the instructions given to the Committee, who were ordered to provide one barrel of rum and twelve barrels of cider.

The large and respectable edifice to which I now allude, was in many respects, decidedly in advance of its predecessors. It contained, when first opened for use, a number of pews in the body of the house, and a row of them quite around the side. These were all sold to the wealthier members of the congregation. In the third house there were but three or four pews,—put up by special permission, for as many aristocratic families. The remaining room was occupied by long benches. Upon these the people took their seats—not as accident or fancy led, but exactly where their places had been assigned by a committee, and fixed by the town. This distribution was determined by a rule. With a becoming respect for age, they gave the first and best places to men who were more than sixty years old, without regard to prosperity. To all the rest seats were assigned according to the tax they paid. The men and women occupied opposite sides, and the young were disposed of in the rear. After the erection of the third structure, several attempts were made to seat those who had no pews, according to the old principle; but they were, I believe, all unsuccessful. A new order of things had it seems begun.

To many of us, the image of that old house, where, for eighty years, the Gospel was proclaimed, and its ordinances dispensed, must be ever dear. Venerable edifice! we see thee still, as when in childhood, we gazed with awe at thy vast form, thy towering spire, thy glittering and ever-restless weather cock. What pictures of the past revive, as thy immense interior once more rises on our mental vision! There was thy pulpit—revered and awful rostrum, where, raised high in air, stood the holy man; there thy sounding-board, projecting, seemingly unsupported, like an impending avalanche, there, too, thy velvet cushion—soft as feathers could make it, and sending up, when pounded by a vigorous eloquence, clouds of sacred dust. Shall we ever forget thy lofty and spacious gallery—grand receptacle of all ages and both sexes. How well do we remember its foremost seat,—venerable with wrinkled brows and snowy hair. How well recall

the denser masses in the rear, where sober middle age, and sprightly youth, were seen, distinct in their ascending ranks, like the vegetable zones of *Ætna*. There, too, in one of the angles, marked by his staff of office, sat the terrific tything-man. In front of the pulpit, rose, like some well-manned battery, the singers' seats. What volleys of sound did we not receive, unshrinkingly, from that noisy spot! How anxious was the pause,—relieved only by a slight shuffling and by half-stiffed hems,—which succeeded the reading of the psalm! How like a small thunder-clap, burst upon the ear that preluding note, which brought every voice to the right pitch! And then, who can recount the musical glories which hung clustering round Thanksgiving Day,—when the results of a month's preparation broke upon our heads in a perfect storm of sound? How fearful the strife when flute and clarionet, and viols, great and small, entered the lists with bass, and counter, and tenor, and treble! And oh! how our hearts beat,—let me use another's words—"at the turning of a fugue,—when the bass moved forward first, like the opening fire of artillery,—and the tenor advanced next, like a corps of grenadiers,—and the treble followed with the brilliant execution of infantry, and the trumpet counter shot by the whole, with the speed of darting cavalry:—and then, when all mingled in that battle of harmony and melody, and mysteriously fought their way through, with a well-ordered perplexity, that made us wonder how they came out exactly together!"

Will the pictured memory ever fade of those square pews, with their little banisters, so convenient to twirl—so pleasant to peep through; their uncushioned seats, which were hung on hinges, and raised in prayer time, and which followed up the amen, with a loud rattling, running report, like an old-fashioned militia fire; and the flag-seated chairs, that stood in the centre, for mother, or grand-ma'am, or spinster aunt? There were the long, free seats—there was the Elder's pew, with iron stand for hour-glass and christening basin—and there the Deacon's strait, snug box, where those good men were wont to sit, with their faces to the people and their backs to the minister—"the observed of all observers," and examples of the highest edification, when they happened to be dozy.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 21, 1851.*

FOR THE GAZETTE

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS IN TOPSFIELD.

Several months since, Mr. John Dwinell, in cutting straw, with a cylinder straw-cutter, and conversing at the same time

with a companion, fed in his fingers instead of the straw, nor was aware of what he was doing till his companion hearing the bones crack, told him he had got sticks in the machines. There was no other way to disengage his hand, but by reversing the crank, when he found that three of his fingers had something the appearance of minced meat; the second finger had come in contact with five knives, three above and two below, the others with one less. By the surgical skill of Dr. Merriam, the fingers were all preserved entire.

A few weeks since, Mr. Samuel Todd, who was felling timber in the woods, when a limb struck him on the top of the head, and crushed him into the snow, depriving him of sense and laying the skull bare three or four inches over his forehead. This wound was likewise skillfully dressed by the same surgeon, and Mr. Todd was about his business in a week, having hardly a trace of the wound, by way of a scar.

Two or three weeks since, George Bennett and his companion were in the woods splitting wood for the market, both splitting the same log and facing each other. While Mr. Bennett's axe was fast, and he was trying to raise the handle, it came up suddenly, and the other striking at the same time, came in contract with Bennett's thumb, severing it entirely, with the exception of about one inch of the integuments on the inside, next the hand, somewhat like the thumb of a glove connected by a few stitches only on the inside. This was likewise successfully treated by the Doctor, and the thumb preserved in place and form, so that he has returned to his family in New Hampshire, with his person entire.

Another case, which happened last Thursday, if not an accident, must proved quite a disaster to the young man, the subject.

A stranger, who gave his name as Edward Cullihan, last from Rochester, N. H., twenty-five years old, inquiring for work, and stopping temporarily with Mr. David Towne. About 5 o'clock on Thursday, while chopping wood in the yard, he was seen holding up his left arm with his hand chopped entirely off, and the blood streaming from the stump. This was a case requiring promptness as well as skill, and was successfully dressed and the patient is doing well. In this case, it appears the young man was in a state of Delirium Tremens, and supposed his hand was a black cat coming at him, and he made not less than six strokes with the hatchet before he entirely severed his hand at the wrist, as was evident from the marks on the mangled hand, and on the log where it lay.

We think it fortunate that these several somewhat serious cases, should have fallen into the hands of so safe and experienced a surgeon. The Doctor's surgical abilities have been lying dominant for several years owing to the limited field of operations, and the proximity to the cities of his location. We are glad to know that we have so certain and safe a remedy at hand, for there are, not unfrequently, cases happening which do not admit of delay,—a life or limb is at stake, instance the preceeding cases.

SHE-NE-WEE-ME-DY.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 18, 1851.*

### TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1851.

TOPSFIELD. Town Clerk—J. P. Towne. Selectmen—John Wright, Joshua Wildes, Thomas Gould. Assessors—John G. Hood, R. D. Perkins, Thomas L. Lane. Overseers of the Poor—Samuel Todd, Thomas P. Munday, Josiah Bradstreet. Treasurer—John Wright. Collector—Samuel S. McKenzie. Constables—Isaiah M. Small, Andrew Gould. School Committee—Rev. A. McLoud, John C. Balch, Nehemiah Balch, and two others.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 18, 1851.*

FOR SALE.—A FARM, situated in Topsfield, on the main road to Ipswich, containing eighty acres of land suitably divided,—Tillage, Pasture, and Woodland,—with a good supply of fruit, together with the Stock, Tools, etc., etc. Apply to BENJ. R. ROBINSON

on the premises.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 28, 1851.*

### DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

The first meeting of those named in an Act, passed by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, May 7, 1851, entitled "An act to incorporate the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company and their associates, will be held at BERRY'S TAVERN, in the North parish of Danvers, on TUESDAY, the 3d day of June next, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the following purposes:—

- 1st. To see if they will accept said Act of Incorporation.
- 2d. To organize under said Act.



3d. To do any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

JOHN WRIGHT  
SAMUEL LITTLE  
HENRY POOR  
ASA PINGREE

Persons named  
in said  
Act of Incorporation.

Danvers, May 27, 1851.

*Salem Gazette, May 30, 1851.*

#### DANVERS & GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

The first meeting of those interested in the construction of this road, was held at North Danvers, last Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of organizing under their charter. About forty gentlemen were present from the different towns on the route of the proposed roads. The meeting was organized by the choice of Dr. Merriam of Topsfield, as Chairman, and W. L. Weston, Esq., of Danvers, as clerk. It was unanimously voted to accept the Act of Incorporation passed at the last session of the Legislature, and measures were taken which indicate that the road will be built, and that speedily. Committees were appointed to solicit subscriptions to the stock of the Corporation, to estimate the probable land damages along the line of the road, and settle with the owners, and also to employ an engineer to make the necessary surveys, plans, &c.

The meeting was a very spirited one, and a great deal of interest was manifested in the construction of this road. No doubt was expressed but that the stock could soon be taken up and the road put under contract and completed. We understand that there are no very bad grades on the route, and that the road can be built as cheaply and as easily as almost any road in the State. The distance from the terminus of the Newburyport Railroad in Georgetown, to the proposed point of connection with the Essex Railroad in North Danvers is estimated at 11 1-2 miles.

—Obs.

*Salem Gazette, June 7, 1851.*

#### DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

We learn that the subscription to the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad is progressing very well. This road when completed will form a middle route from Boston to the Merrimac river, between the Eastern and the Boston and Maine roads, and will no doubt fill that section which is now much less thinly settled than the towns below and above, with a busy and dense pop-



ulation. We anticipate no injury by this road to any other interest, but rather that it will benefit the whole population on the seaboard as well as inland, by adding materially to the population and resources of that part of Essex County.—*Newburyport Herald*.

*Salem Gazette, July 12, 1851.*

## DEATHS.

In Topsfield, Miss Phillis Emerson, aged 72, the only colored person in Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, July 12, 1851.*

## DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

The following gentlemen have been chosen Directors of the Danvers & Georgetown Rail Road :—


George Tenney of Georgetown,  
Asa Pingree of Topsfield,  
Daniel Richards of North Danvers,  
Wm. D. Northend of Salem,  
George Osborne of South Danvers,  
J. Colman of Newburyport,  
Edward Crane of Boston,  
Thomas Perley of Boxford,  
I. S. Black of Danvers.

The town of Georgetown has voted almost unanimously, to appropriate the surplus money owned by the town in the Manufacturers' Bank, in payment for fifteen shares in the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad. This town has now taken up all the stock allotted to it.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 12, 1851.*

CAUTION TO MINISTERS. Rev. Mr. Cary, of Topsfield, was yesterday examined before the Salem Police Court, upon a charge of having married two minors without the consent of their parents, and was recognized to appear at the October term of the C. C. P. We believe that the defendant is not charged with anything more than a culpable carelessness, but such an investigation will at all events have the effect of exhibiting the dangerous tendency of the recent law dispensing with the publication of intentions of marriage.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 19, 1851.*

 Joel Lake, Esq., of Topsfield, has been appointed by the Governor and Council, a Justice of the Peace for the county of Essex.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 19, 1851.*

#### DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

The board of Directors for this Company has been organized by the choice of William D. Northend of this city as President, and William L. Weston of Danvers, Treasurer and Clerk.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 22, 1851.*

THE TOPSFIELD NURSERIES are becoming famous. Last week Mr. E. Lake presented to us a specimen of the plums which he raises on his place. They were the Imperial Violets, of magnificent size, and luscious quality. The tree from which they were taken is a great bearer, and has been so loaded with fruit that it has been necessary to prop it up.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 2, 1851.*

TOPSFIELD FRUIT. The Messrs. Lake are doing a great deal to make the good old town of Topsfield famous for fruit and fruit trees. We noticed last week, the reception of some fine fruit from E. Lake, and have now to make our acknowledgements to Mr. J. Lake, for some splendid specimens from his Nursery, consisting of Royal George, Noblesse, and Manning's Red Peaches, Bartlett Pears, Prince's Imperial and Red Gage Plums, and two kinds of native grapes, raised from seed, and which ripen about the 20th of September.

We are also indebted to Capt. J. K. Cole, for some specimens of the Runnels or Iron Apples, from the Crowninshield farm, in Topsfield. They are of the growth of last year, but of perfectly firm flesh, and pleasant flavor.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 13, 1851.*

The Messrs. Lake had a great variety of fruit, from their Topsfield Nurseries, at the Horticultural and Agricultural Exhibitions. Mr. W. G. Lake afforded us an opportunity of tasting some very nice specimens of peaches and plums; and from Messrs. J. & E. Lake we received a variety of apples.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 27, 1851.*

List of Premiums and Gratuities.

*Awarded by the Essex Agricultural Society.*

September 25th, 1851.

*Ploughing—Single Teams.*

Moses Pettingill, Topsfield, plough, Ruggles & Co., 4th premium,	\$2 00
--	--------

*Fruits.*

Moses Pettingill, Topsfield, gratuity,	\$3 00
William Geo. Lake, do. do.	3 00

*Flowers.*

Mrs. Pettingill, Topsfield	\$2 00
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*Salem Gazette, Sept. 30, 1851.*

DEATHS.

In Topsfield, 1st inst., Mrs. Rebecca Hobbs, aged 96—the oldest inhabitant of the town.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 11, 1851.*

ESSEX COUNTY. An intelligent correspondent, in Topsfield, writes us, as follows :

“Our farmers are reaping a rich harvest as the reward of their toils the past summer. Our crops are better than an average. Corn and potatoes are fine in quality, and abundant in quantity. Apples are good in quality, but not so abundant as in some years. Our farmers are giving their attention to raising quinces, which are producing finely. The drought which is so universal in its extent, affects us. Many of the wells are quite dried up, and the small streams have failed to flow for several weeks, so that the cattle will suffer soon, if no rain falls. It is said, by “the oldest inhabitants,” that our river has not been lower for fifty years.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 17, 1851.*

DEATHS

In Topsfield, Mr. Elijah Perkins, aged 85 years 10 mos. 15 days—the oldest man in the town.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 4, 1851.*

## To the Inhabitants of Topsfield.

My address, on the occasion of our two hundredth Anniversary, contained, as you perhaps remember, a few suggestions in regard to the name of our town, and its probable source. That it was derived, in some way, from a parish in England, there could be no doubt; but still there was no positive evidence. It occurred to me that the parochial register of the English Toppsfield might furnish such evidence,—and, in a note to the printed Address, I expressed the wish that some one would find or make an opportunity to investigate the matter.—During the past summer, it so happened that I had, myself, such an opportunity.

In addressing to you this communication, I act, you see, on the presumption that the result of my inquiries will not be wholly uninteresting to you—Without exalting it into an affair of special importance, it may at least, be regarded as one of rational curiosity.

The parish of Toppesfield is situated in the northern section of Essex. The nearest approach to it from London, by railroad, is Braintree, distant about twelve miles. I reached it, however, in a different way—stopping, on my return from Cambridge, at Saffron Walden, from which place I took a private conveyance. The distance is about sixteen miles. I found the ride exceedingly pleasant, along the narrow but excellent road, which winds its way through an unbroken succession of luxuriant corn fields and meadows. As I drew near to the place, I noticed guide-board directing the traveller to Toppesfield—and I hardly need tell you that the sight occasioned a rush of recollections and of strong home-feeling. Could it be that I was more than three thousand miles removed from the familiar guide-posts of Boxford, Ipswich and Danvers !

It was evening when I arrived, and the “Green Man Inn” received me. This is a small, but neat and comfortable tavern, and bears the marks of a respectable antiquity. It is, in fact, just such a place as the ale-house of Goldsmith’s Poem, and has been, I presume the nightly resort of the Toppesfield politicians, for at least two hundred years.

When I went out the next morning, I found myself in a small village, composed of stone cottages, mostly plastered, white-washed and thatched. I saw nothing in them particularly pleasing, beyond that aspect of neatness, and those floral adornings, which rarely desert even the meanest rural home in that beautiful country. My first visit was to the Church of St. Margaret. The body of this edifice, which is of stone, is long, low

and narrow. It has a square, massive, brick tower, erected at the beginning of the last century, and containing a clock and a chime of five bells. The building occupies the centre of a small burying ground, and has around it quite a number of simple head-stones, but none of very ancient date. The interior interested me much. A place of worship more rude in aspect, or less adapted to comfort, it would, I am sure, be difficult to find in all New England. But as I marked its quaint irregularity of shape—as my eye rested on the severe plainness of its architecture and its furnishings—as, with some help of fancy, I read there “tales of the bridal and the bier,”—whole centuries, indeed, of history, that seemed to be written on the walls. I found the place exceedingly picturesque and pleasing. The pews are narrow, upright boxes, with high sides, and with the exception of the Rector’s, are uncushioned and uncarpeted. A few of them, however, were supplied with straw-covered hassocks. Upon the southern side there are four gothic arches, which rest upon short, thick columns. On this side there is a low gallery, erected as an inscription shows in 1833. The pulpit and reading desk are on the opposite side.—These are of oak, and the former resembles, in shape and appearance, that interesting relic, the old Capen pulpit. Its soft cloth cushion, with two depending tassels, is precisely such a one as Parson Dutch—the “Kettle drummler” of my early remembrance—used to pummel so unmercifully in our old meeting house.

I must confess that even the humble monuments inserted in the wall and floor of the edifice, had an interest for me, though I had just before seen, and certainly not with indifference, the sepulchral glories of St. Denis, and Santa Croce, and Westminster Abbey. One of them, a mural tablet, commemorates in Latin, the virtues of Dorcas Smyth, a native of Toppesfield, who died in 1633, aged 76. It is surmounted by a dove, under which are the words “Fida: Simplex.” Beneath the dove is a beehive, with the motto, “Industria Dulcis.”—Small pilasters at the sides represent piles of books, the lettered backs of which proclaim the pious reading of the good dame. On one of the scrolls is a bleeding heart, with the word “Spes” above it.—On the other is an open hand, over which is the word “Charitas.” Below the whole there is a corbel, which supports a clasped Bible, on whose leaves is seen the word “Fides,” while upon it sits a lamb—the words “Humilis:” “Mitis” being inscribed above. The meaning of the Latin words, and the application of the symbols, were elaborately and lucidly explained to me by the aged sexton.



Another small tablet, near the altar, bears an inscription in classical Latin, of which the following is a version: "I Richard King, a native of Hutfordshire—educated at Oxford—a theologian by profession—by appointment a Chaplain to his Majesty, King James, and the unworthy Vicar of this church, cheerfully lay down my mortal remains in this consecrated spot. Glory be to God! To the Church, Prosperity! and to my soul, everlasting rest! Amen."

I noticed there the names of three other rectors. The oldest inscription is on a small brass plate in the pavement. It is an injunction to pray for the soul of John Cracherode. This man died in 1534—more than a hundred years before a tree had been felled upon the plains of our native town, and just about the time when Henry VIII severed the connexions of England with Rome. Two other monuments are evidently still older, having lost every trace of name and date. These may safely be referred to the fifteenth century. But of St. Margaret's, enough.

With the exception of Howlett, on certain stones in the graveyard, I had, as yet, found no name which belonged to any of the founders of our Topsfield. My next object was to look into the parish register. I went to the Parsonage, the Rector being away, I called on one of the Churchwardens. On hearing what I wanted, he kindly accompanied me to the Rector's study, and placed the books before me. The oldest manuscript into which I looked begins with the year 1559. I commenced my search at 1600. The record, being in the cramped and peculiar character of that period, was not easy to decipher—nor could I, under the circumstances, study it with proper composure and care, especially as the good Churchwarden showed some signs of impatience. It was not till I reached the year 1621, that I found anything encouraging. Here was the name of Samuel Symonds, gent., and that of Dorothy his wife. Between this date and 1633, I found and copied the baptisms of ten of their children. I also followed the record some thirty or forty years farther, but found nothing beyond. The question at once arose—was this Samuel Symonds the same man as the Deputy Governor of Massachusetts, and the early Ipswich citizen, mentioned in the Court order for 1643, for settling the village of New Meadows? If so, the problem of our name is solved.—Since my return, I have corresponded on this subject, with Abraham Hammatt, Esq., of Ipswich.—Mr. Symonds, he informs me, is said to have sprung from a respectable family at Great Yeldham. This parish adjoins Toppesfield, and the churches are not more than two miles asunder. A comparison of the names and births, as taken

from the English register, corresponds entirely with what is known of the sons and daughters of the Ipswich settler. I need not go into the particulars. They are such as fully satisfy Mr. H. and myself, that the Mr. Symonds of Toppesfield in England, and the Mr. Symonds of Ipswich in America, were one and the same. When the question of a name for the new village came up in the Court of Assistants, it was very natural that this gentlemen, who was one of the proprietors, should suggest that of the old parish in distant but still dear England, where he had so long lived, and where his children had been born. Nor was it strange that the wish of a man so influential should prevail.

I have not quite done with Toppesfield. It is a parish of about 3000 acres. Its surface is varied by slight inequalities, but there are no hills. The soil is somewhat clayey, and when I saw it, revealed its fertility by the unquestionable token of rich corn-fields ripe for the sickle.

The Rector of this parish is the Rev. Henry John Gooch—a nephew, if I was not misinformed, of General Gooch, who, a few years since, commanded the British forces in India. The parsonage is a charming residence, surrounded by flowers and shrubbery, and smooth-shaven lawns. The present incumbent lives among his people, and seems to be regarded with respect and affection.

I have perhaps dwelt upon the subject in hand, with needless prolixity and minuteness. Have I erred in supposing that even small particulars may interest you, when they relate to one of those places which were familiar and dear to your ancestors, for centuries before our cis-atlantic antiquity began? To me, this visit to Toppesfield was gratifying, not merely because I there saw the Fatherland namesake of my native town—nor only because it enabled me to settle a question of some historic interest. I saw there a fair specimen of the English rural parish. From places just like this came, two hundred years ago, many of our Puritan forefathers. And it was, thought I, amid such scenery that they lived. In fields like this they used to toil. Such were the cottages in which they dwelt, and here is a model of the churches where they were wont to worship. Is it strange that the thoughts of a New Englander in such a spot should dwell with lively emotion on the results of that renowned migration, to which he owes his country? I had seen indeed, much to admire on that old world beyond the sea—and in England, especially, I had found but little to dislike. And yet, as I compared the condition of the great masses of European population, even in the most favored lands, with that of my countrymen at home, I could not doubt where the advantage lies.

And here in this ancient Toppesfield, how could I but think of its Western counterpart? Two hundred years of historic parallel were drawn out before me, as I contrasted the fortune of those who staid with that of those who made their escape. Here I saw your collateral kindred—your far-away cousins—living as you would now be living, had your fathers, like theirs, lacked the spirit to resent oppression, or the courage which it then required to flee from it. Here I was in a community of several hundred people, not a man of whom owns one rood of the land which he cultivates; not an individual of whom possesses the house that shelters him. These skilful farmers are mere tenants at will, and are perpetually struggling under an oppressive burden of rents, and tythes, and taxes, and rates. These hardy laborers think they do well if their toil yields them the average remuneration of a shilling per day. As to religious privileges they had indeed a sitting, hired or free, in yonder rude church. Their rector, sent them by the Queen, may be a good man, or he may not. With the question of his appointment or dismissal they have just as much concern as you have. They are, however, permitted to pay him. From that glebe, which is made so rich by their sweat, he draws an annual stipend three times as large as that which you raise for your two clergymen. And here, in a parish which pays its Rector more than thirty-five hundred dollars a year,—here, within four hours' ride of the grand metropolis of the world, here in the middle of the nineteenth century, a free school is a thing which yet remains to be invented. As to the other picture, you have it at hand, and it needs not my sketching. Can you look at the two, and find no reason for contentment—no incentive to gratitude? Thanks, then, to those good men—our fathers!—thanks, above all, to Him whose favor they sought and found; that they were *not* content with the things around them, and that there *was* that which they dreaded more than ocean storms, or a wilderness life, or death itself!

With the best wishes,

I am yours, &c., &c.

N. CLEVELAND.

BROOKLYN, Nov. 8, 1851.

*Salem Register*, Nov. 13, 1851.

#### FOR SALE

A large and valuable FARM, situated in Topsfield, on the Newburyport Turnpike, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile from the main road from Salem. It is 8 miles from Salem, 21 from Boston.

There is upon the estate a large and convenient house, with wood house, coach house, and other buildings. There are also two very large barns, corn barn, tool house, sheds, &c. All the buildings are in good repair and were thoroughly built, without regard to expense. There are about 190 acres of land, the most of it in a high state of cultivation, enclosed by excellent stone walls. It is conveniently divided into mowing, tillage and pasture lots. There are a large number of apple and other fruit trees of the finest description in full bearing.

This estate is on elevated ground, and for beauty of situation and prospect is unsurpassed. The land is of first rate quality and in the highest condition. It may be examined upon application to J. K. COLE, upon the premises. For terms apply to

FRANCIS B. CROWNINSHIELD,  
Old Colony Rail Road Station, Boston.

May 29, 1851.

*Salem Register*, Nov. 13, 1851.

DEATH FROM INTEMPERANCE AND EXPOSURE.—Moody Balch, a man of intemperate habits, left his home, in Topsfield, on Monday of last week, and was missing until Sunday morning last, when he was found dead, near a stone wall, in a pasture in rear of the house of Asa Pingree, Esq. Constant search had been made for Balch, by his friends, from Tuesday up to the time of finding the body, but mostly in a different direction from the place where it was found, as he was last seen in an opposite part of the town. A jug of rum was found by the side of the body. Mr. Balch was 57 years of age, and unmarried. A coroner was called from Salem, on Sunday, but after a hearing of the circumstances it was adjudged unnecessary to hold an inquest.

*Salem Gazette*, Nov. 18, 1851.

#### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, Jan. 7, Mrs. Susan Cummings, aged 66 years, 10 mos. Extensively known as the excellent landlady of the Topsfield Hotel. Funeral to-morrow from her late residence, at 1 o'clock.

*Salem Gazette*, Jan. 9, 1852.

BILL OF MORTALITY OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD—  
FROM JAN. 1, 1851, TO JAN. 1, 1852.

January	24	Mrs. Abigail Perley	81 yrs.
Febr'y	12	Miss Anna Perkins	65
March	13	Miss Abigail Perkins	63
	16	Mr. George Hobbs	68
	24	Wife of Solomon Averill	83
April	26	Josiah Gould	62
	27	Alfred, son of J. Boardman, jr.	3
May	2	Mrs. Eunice Putnam	73
June	2	Asa Bradstreet	34
July	9	Miss Phillis Emerson	71
	24	Mary Ellen, child of O. Porter	3
August	17	Emma Augusta Crowell	2 mos.
	21	Charles Gould	24 yrs.
	28	Emmaetta, child of A. Gould	1
	29	Miss Ruth Gould	68
	31	Mrs. Sarah Emerson	37
Sept.	8	Amos Perkins	63
	9	Child of S. N. Averill	—
	10	John Riley	63
	12	Mrs. Sally Horne	64
	15	Wm. Arthur, child of E. Peabody	2
	17	Child of Moses Peabody	1
	24	David, child of B. Kimball	2
October	1	Mrs. Rebecca Hobbs	96
	7	Widow of Nathaniel Gould	80
	14	Mary Jane, child of late J. Potter	4
	14	Harriet Josephine Holmes, child of Edwin Foster	2
	19	Mrs. Abigail Wright	45
	31	Elijah Perkins	85
Novem.	4	Mrs. Eunice Esty	77
	10	Moody Balch	58
	23	Mrs. Elizabeth Elliott	27
Dec'r	29	Wife of S. N. Averill	—
Topsfield, Jan. 1, 1852.			[Reg.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1852.*

NOTICE. As my son, GEO. CLARKE, has eloped, I forbid all persons, trusting him on my account, as I shall pay no debts of his contracting.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

Topsfield, Jan. 30, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 30, 1852.*



# Topsfield Academy

*Is now re-opened for the reception of pupils of both sexes.*

The SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 14th of April, and will continue eleven weeks.

Instruction given in the various branches of an English Education, in Vocal and Instrumental Music, Drawing, and in the Latin, Greek, and French Languages.

## TERMS OF TUITION.

English Branches,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$5 00
Languages, each	.	.	.	.	.	.	2 00
Drawing,	.	.	.	.	.	.	2 00
Music, and use of Piano,	.	.	.	.	.	.	8 00

Board in good families, \$1.75 to \$2 per week.

This Institution, it is believed, presents the most favorable opportunities for the acquisition of an education. The situation is easily accessible, by good public conveyances, and in all natural advantages, well adapted for a school. The moral tone of the place is eminently healthy, and the teachers will spare no pains to advance the interests of any scholar that may be committed to their charge.

WILLIAM C. FARNSWORTH, *Preceptor*

MISS ELLEN S. LOVERING, *Preceptress*

Topsfield, March 30, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 30, 1852.*

## Topsfield Nurseries

### PREMIUM

Trees and Scions!

THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully invites his friends and customers to his LARGE COLLECTION of

### FRUIT TREES!

embracing all the choicest varieties worth cultivation—consisting of

APPLE,

PEAR,

PEACH,

PLUM,

CHERRY,

QUINCE,

from three to five years from the bud—thrifty and handsome.

Also—about two hundred extra size Pear Trees, eight to ten years from the bud—all in a bearing state, on pear bottoms.

Also—about fifteen hundred Pear Trees, on pear bottoms, from three to four years from the bud—very thrifty, and of the choicest varieties.

Also—Mountain Ash, Weeping Willows, Arbor Vitae, Fur Balsam, etc.

SCIONS cut to order, from fifteen hundred standard Apple and Pear Trees,—many of which are in a full bearing state, and fruited one hundred and thirty varieties last year,—and delivered free of charge at any of the depots in Salem or Boston.

W. G. LAKE.

Topsfield, March 26.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 30, 1852.*

The Crowninshield Farm in Topsfield was sold last week, for \$9,900, to Mr. Boyden, formerly keeper of the Tremont House, in Boston, who proposes, it is understood, to reside permanently in Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 20, 1852.*

# DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

A meeting of the Stockholders of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company will be held at Berry's Hotel, in North Danvers, on THURSDAY next, June 3d, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the following objects:—

To see if they will accept an act passed by the last Legislature, entitled "An Act concerning the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company," and to take any action thereon;

To see what measures they will adopt to have the road put under contract for construction;

To attend to any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Per order of the Directors,

WILLIAM D. NORTHEND, President.

Salem, May 28, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, June 1, 1852.*

# DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

A meeting of the subscribers to Stock in the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad was held at North Danvers, yesterday afternoon.

The President of the Road, Mr. Northend, made some statements of the prospects of the road and of proposals for its construction, and expressed his belief that by additional effort on the part of the Stockholders, the road could be put under contract within a few weeks.

The Act passed by the last Legislature concerning the road was unanimously accepted, and the following vote was passed :

*Voted.* That the Directors be authorized to lease the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad to the Boston and Maine or Eastern Railroad Cos. for such time and on such terms as they may deem most for the interest of the road and the stockholders, and that they be authorized to take such measures as they shall deem proper to put the road under contract for construction, and they are hereby authorized to put the road under contract in such manner and at such time as they shall deem most for the interest of the road.

The meeting was then adjourned to meet at Munday's Hall in Topsfield, on Tuesday afternoon next, at 2 o'clock.

Great confidence is expressed by the Directors that the road can be constructed this Summer and that thus a direct Railroad communication be opened with the interior of the county and with Haverhill.

*Salem Gazette, June 4, 1852.*

**DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.** The meeting of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad is adjourned to meet at MUNDAY'S HOTEL, in Topsfield, on TUESDAY (This Day,) at 2 o'clock, P. M.

*Salem Gazette, June 15, 1852.*

Among the toasts offered at Fourth of July dinner at Salem was the following :

20. Topsfield—her geographical position, makes her the centre, and her character entitles her to be considered the heart of Essex County.

*Salem Gazette, July 6, 1852.*

BY THOMAS L. LANE—TOPSFIELD.

GUARDIAN'S SALE.

Will be sold, by order of Probate Court, on THURSDAY, the 29th day of July inst., at 5 o'clock, P. M., on the premises, at the residence of Mrs. Mercy Peabody.

ONE undivided ninth part of all the REAL ESTATE of which the late EBENEZER PEABODY died seized,—now belonging

to Ezra Peabody,—the same being subject to the widow's dower.

NATH'L PERKINS, Guardian.

Topsfield, July 13, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, July 16, 1852.*

DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD. The Stockholders of the DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD COMPANY are hereby notified that their Annual Meeting will be held at MUNDAY'S HALL, in Topsfield, on WEDNESDAY, the 4th day of August next, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the following purposes, viz :

1st To choose a Board of Directors for the year ensuing.

2d To transact any other business that may legally come before them.

W. D. NORTHEED, President.

Salem, July 27, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, July 27, 1852.*

#### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, on the 21st inst., Mr. Edward Hood, aged 53 years. He was Postmaster at Topsfield under the Administration of Mr. Van Buren. The deceased was one of those untiring, unflinching Democrats—early enlisting in the cause of Democracy under the Administration of Gen. Jackson, and to which he strictly adhered until after the swerving of many from their first love and uniting with the Abolition and Free Soil Democrats—he then entirely withdrew his action and feelings from the political sphere and since which has taken no lively interest in the political movements.—*Communicated.*

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 24, 1852.*

R. A. Merriam and Samuel Clifford were the Topsfield delegates to the Whig State Convention.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 27, 1852.*

#### DEATHS.

In North Beverly, Aug. 20, widow Abigail Homan, daughter of the late Daniel and Hannah Estey, of Topsfield, aged 71.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 7, 1852.*

In Boxford, 9th inst., Mrs. Mary, widow of the late Mr. Benjamin Hobbs, of Topsfield, aged 80 years 11 days.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 14, 1852.*

FINE FRUITS. "The Lakes" are as liberal in their distribution of their fruits, as they are successful in cultivation, and rich and abundant in varieties. We are indebted to the kind remembrance of Mr. W. G. Lake for assorted specimens of fifty varieties of the finest fruits,—apples, pears, peaches, and grapes,—the product of his extensive Nurseries in Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 8, 1852.*

### Whig Rally at Topsfield

The citizens of Topsfield are invited to meet at Academy Hall, THIS EVENING, Oct. 26th, at 7 o'clock, to listen to addresses from distinguished speakers. The Scott Glee Club, from Salem, will be there. Ladies are invited.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 26, 1852.*

On Friday evening, the Whigs of Topsfield had a full meeting. An excellent address was delivered by Wm. C. Endicott, Esq., after which Leverett Saltonstall, Esq., was called out, and responded in a spirited and animating impromptu speech.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 26, 1852.*

On Tuesday evening the Whigs of Topsfield had another fine meeting and were ably and eloquently addressed by Wm. D. Northend, Esq., of Salem, and A. A. Abbott, Esq., of Danvers. The Salem Glee Club also attended and enlivened the meeting with some of their stirring songs.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1852.*

### To the STOCKHOLDERS of the Danvers & Georgetown Railroad.

THE first assessment of Ten Dollars on each and every share of the Capital Stock of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company has been made by the President and Directors of said Company, and notice is hereby given, that the said assessment will be due and payable at the residence of the Treasurer, in Topsfield, on the 30th of November present.

WILLIAM N. CLEAVELAND, Treas.

Topsfield, Nov. 23, 1852.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 25, 1852.*

NARROW ESCAPE. On Saturday morning last, as Mr. W. G. Lake, of Topsfield, was passing over the draw of Charlestown



Bridge with a heavy load of Apples, the forward axle-tree of his wagon broke in the centre, throwing Mr. Lake between the horses. The animals became frightened, and ran with great speed, and as Mr. Lake attempted to extricate himself by springing between the wheels and the horses, he was thrown down, and both wheels of the wagon passed over his legs, bruising them, if not breaking some bones. He was taken to Webb's Hotel in Elm street, where medical aid was called, and every attention paid by the landlord to his comfort.—

*Traveller.*

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 31, 1852.*

TOPSFIELD, Jan. 6, 1853.

*To the Editor of the Salem Gazette :*

Annexed I hand you a list of Fruits, such as I have in a bearing state and in open field cultivation, without high brick walls or board fences to protect them. I have fruited every variety upon the list, and they all do first rate with me, with the exception of two varieties, which I have not so fully tested as I have the others,—those are the *Northern Spy* and *Spitzenburg* ; yet I feel confident that the *Spy* will do well with us, in good cultivation, and if so, it is one of the best apples in the world, and should be extensively cultivated. The *Spitzenburg* is a very handsome, good, rich flavored, late keeping apple, but has the appearance of being a poor bearer, but it may do better as the tree grows older.

I have many other new varieties of fruit under cultivation, which I shall speak of hereafter.

If you think the annexed list of fruits worth publishing, you can do so, with any remarks you may see fit to make.

Yours &c.

W. G. LAKE.

Fruit for Northern cultivation, hardy and sure :

APPLES. *Winter—Late keeping.*—Baldwin, Roxbury Russett, Rhode Island Greening, Danvers Winter Sweet, Northern *Spy*, *Spitzenburg*.

*Early Winter.*—Hubbardston, Nonsuch, Aunt Hannah, Sweet Baldwin.

Fall,—Fall Harvey, Porter, Minister, Gravenstein, Alexander, Rives apple, Luscomb, Killam Hill.

*Early Summer.*—Williams' Favorite, Early Sweet Bough, Early Juneating, Baking Sweet, Red Astrican.

PEARS, Bartlett, Beurre Bosc, Flemish Beauty, Beurre Diel, Duchess D'Angouleme, Louise Bonne, De Jersey, Andrews, Vicar of Winkfield, Glont Morceau, Winter Nelis, Fulton, Seckel, Rostiezer, Buffum, Van Mons, Leon LeClerc, St. Gislen, Golden Beurre Bilboa, Belle Lucrative, Urbanist, Beurre D'Aremburg, Columbia, Dix Tyson, Beurre D'Anjou, Lawrence.

CHERRIES. Black Tartarian, Black Eagle, Knight's Early Black, Davenport's Early, Danvers Late Red, Yellow Spanish, Arden's White Heart, Large White Bigarreau, American Amber, Early May Duke.

PLUMS. Green Gage, Red Gage, Prince's Yellow Gage, Imperial Gage, Washington, Lawrence Favorite, Jefferson, Black Imperial, Lombard.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 11, 1853.*

## DEATHS.

In Topsfield, Jan. 10th, William G. Lake, Esq., aged 44 years, 8 months :—the well known horticulturist of Essex County.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 14, 1853.*

An able and interesting discourse delivered on Thanksgiving day, by Rev. Mr. McLoud, of Topsfield, has been published, by request of a number of the leading members of his society.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 18, 1853.*

The following article is copied from the New England Farmer of last week :

Death of Wm. G. Lake, Esq.

Died in Topsfield, on the 10th inst., Mr. William G. Lake, aged 45 years.

Mr. Lake was somewhat extensively known as a horticulturist and dealer in nursery trees. He had devoted his whole time and energies for the last fifteen years to the cultivation of fruit and fruit trees. He had spared no pain or expense to procure the best varieties for cultivation. He had made himself practically acquainted with the growing of trees, and of performing the various nursery operations.

For several years past, his tables at our agricultural and horticultural shows have not been surpassed by any other contributor.

He had, for several years, supplied the vicinity with fruit trees, and several parts of the commonwealth, the southern parts of New Hampshire, and even the inhabitants of California will

soon be gathering fruit from trees sent out by Mr. Lake, and which were raised on the soil of Topsfield.

Mr. Lake has sold trees from 25 cents to 25 dollars apiece. He has left on his ground (ten acres) between twenty and thirty thousand worked fruit trees from one to four years old on the bud, for transplanting, besides leaving the grounds supplied with standard trees, just beginning to bear fruit; various ornamental trees have had a full share of his attention.

The town of Topsfield is indebted to Mr. Lake for the building up of quite a village ornamented with a variety of forest trees and shrubbery, where fourteen years ago, but one single dwelling, and a tall pine tree, relieved the monotony of mossy stone walls that bordered the highway.

Mr. Lake has certainly left a growing and enduring memorial of his industry, activity and taste.

About a fortnight before his death, he met with an accident on Charlestown bridge, from which he had very nearly recovered, when he was attacked with inflammation of the chest three days before his death. He leaves a wife and three children, who, for their great and sudden bereavement, have the deep sympathy of the public.

*Topsfield, Jan. 14, 1853.*

M. A. R.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 6, 1853.*

#### GUARDIAN'S SALE.

By virtue of a license from Probate Court, will be sold at Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 7th day of March next, at two o'clock, P. M., on the premises, in Topsfield.

ALL THE RIGHT, title and interest that LEWIS HENRY SYMMES and WILLIAM ALBERT SYMMES, minor, have in and to about twenty acres of land, with a barn and carriage house thereon; being the estate of which Edward Hood, late of Topsfield, died seized.

Conditions made known at the time of sale.

LEWIS SYMMES, Guardian.

Beverly, Feb. 11, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 14, 1853.*

#### GUARDIAN'S SALE.

By virtue of a license from Probate Court, will be sold at Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 7th day of March next, at three o'clock, P. M., on the premises in Topsfield,

ALL THE RIGHT, title, and interest that SAMUEL HOOD, of Topsfield, mariner, has in and to one undivided fifth part of about twenty acres of land, with a barn and carriage house thereon; being the estate of which Edward Hood, of Topsfield, died seized.

Conditions made known at the time of sale.

SYLVESTER CUMMINGS, Guardian.

Boxford, Feb. 11, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 11, 1853.*

TOPSFIELD. The Methodist Episcopal Society in this town have purchased a beautiful site for a meeting house, at the head of the common, on which a church of modern structure will be erected the coming season, at an expence of six thousand dollars, all of which has been subscribed.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 18, 1853.*

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Commonwealth vs. William Munday, of Topsfield, for keeping a public nuisance, in the form of a slaughter house. Verdict—guilty. Harmon for Gov't. N. J. Lord and Northend, for deft.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 22, 1853.*

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on SATURDAY, the 2d day of April next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, the home lately occupied by WM. G. LAKE, in Topsfield,

ALL THE RIGHT and title that WM. G. LAKE, deceased, owned in about eleven acres of LAND, situated on Lake's Hill (so called), in Topsfield; with about twelve hundred bearing Apple Trees, and four hundred Pear Trees, all of the choicest fruit.

Also—a NURSERY, on the same, containing about thirty thousand Apple, Pear, Plum and Peach Trees, of the choicest kind.

Also—one SHED, at the Congregational Meeting House; and a lot of Manure at the stable.

Also—1 Horse, 1 Chaise, 1 Sleigh, 1 Covered Wagon, 2 Buffalo Robes, a large lot of Farming Tools, &c. &c.

Also—1 Ox Wagon, 1 Cart, 1 Wagon, 1 Ox Sled, 2 Harnesses, &c. &c.

THOMAS J. CLARK, Adm'r.

Topsfield, March 25, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 1, 1853.*

TOPSFIELD, Wednesday, April 6.

The ground is being broken today for the making of the Georgetown and Danvers railroad. There will be a new location of railroad from Georgetown to South Reading, which makes a new route from Newburyport to Boston, *through Topsfield*. Will not this be "first rate" for Topsfield?

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 7, 1853.*

### FOR SALE.

At the NURSERY formerly occupied by WM. G. LAKE, deceased, in Topsfield, a large lot of APPLE, PEAR, PEACH, and PLUM TREES, of the choicest kinds.

☞ For further particulars, inquire of JEREMIAH BALCH, on the premises.

Topsfield, March 24, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 19, 1853.*

### Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Notice.

THE subscribers to the stock of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company are hereby notified, that the President and Directors of the Company have made the second assessment of ten dollars per share, on all the shares in said Corporation; and directed the same to be paid to the Treasurer, at his residence, in Topsfield, on the second day of May next; and they are requested to pay the same accordingly.

WM. N. CLEAVELAND, Treasurer.

Topsfield, April 19, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 22, 1853.*

### For the Gazette.

It appears, by the doings of the Legislature that a Normal School is to be established in the County of Essex.

We must be permitted to put in a claim for the good old town of Topsfield. In the first place, the centre of the county would seem to indicate the centre of accommodation for the purity and healthfulness of the air, the hills have nothing to be compared with them in any other part of the county. The scenery in and about the town excels; the drives, for beauty of scenery, and romantic views, are unsurpassed.

The meadows bordering Ipswich river, together with the bridges which span this gentle and peaceful stream, one of them, now erecting, composed of stone, arched, will form a very beau-



tiful feature in the landscape. A railroad is now being constructed, which will be finished by the autumn, which passes through the centre of the town, and all the public highways leading to Topsfield are very smooth and pleasant. The River Hill, which has been somewhat noted for its length and steepness will now be obviated by the new stone bridge on the Turnpike. There are two churches in process of erection and remodeling—a Congregational and Methodist. Fruit, of all kinds, is very abundant in Topsfield. Board will be as reasonable as in any part of the county; indeed, I do not know of any place where so many things combine, as in Topsfield, to form a very desirable locality for such an institution.

With no small degree of confidence, we invite the Commission, or whatever is empowered to select a site for the establishment, to examine our town before they decide upon a spot.

TOPSFIELD.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 26, 1853.*

#### Danvers & Georgetown Railroad.

THE subscribers to the Stock of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company are notified that the following assessments have been made by the President and Directors on all the shares of the Capital Stock of said Company, viz:—

\$20	per share,	payable on	Monday,	8th of June	next.
\$20	"	"	"	4th of July	"
\$20	"	"	"	1st of August	"
\$20	"	"	"	5th of Sept.	"

And the same are ordered to be paid at the residence of the Treasurer in Topsfield, at the times above named; and subscribers are requested to pay the same accordingly. Parties paying the same, or any part in advance, will be allowed interest to the time when they become due.

W. N. CLEVELAND, Treasurer.

*Salem Gazette, May 13, 1853.*

#### DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.

The work on this road, between North Danvers and Georgetown, is making very rapid progress. It is estimated that about one third of the entire work under contract is already completed. The most formidable ledge on the entire line is situated near Putnamville, or "Blind Hole," in North Danvers, and is already taken down to a considerable extent. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that the cost of all the work thus far has been below

the estimates of the Engineer, which were thought, at the time they were first made, to be extravagantly low.

It is now expected, with reasonable confidence, that the road will be entirely graded and made ready for the track before winter, and that the track will be laid early in the spring. The company are making contracts for their iron, as we are informed at the present time.—Obs.

*Salem Gazette, July 12, 1853.*

#### Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company.

THE stockholders of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company are hereby notified that their Annual Meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, the third day of August next, at the Academy Hall, in Topsfield, at two o'clock in the afternoon, to choose a board of Directors; to make such alterations in the By-Laws as they shall deem proper; and to do any other business that may legally come before them.

Per Order,

GEO. F. CHOATE, Clerk.

*Salem Gazette, July 19, 1853.*

FOR SALE—A valuable estate in Topsfield, nine miles from Salem, on the County Road to Haverhill, consisting of a good Dwelling House, two Barns, a Shoe Manufactory, and about two and a half acres of land, with a good variety of fruit and ornamental trees.

Said estate has a front on said County road, of 17 rods and 10 feet, and is within 40 rods of the railroad now building between Georgetown and Danvers.

 Apply to JOHN WRIGHT, on the premises.

*Salem Gazette, July 26, 1853.*

*Directors of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad.*—W. D. Northend, of Salem, G. J. Tenney, Georgetown, Saml. Little, do., Thomas Perley, of Boxford, J. S. Black, of N. Danvers, G. Cogswell, of Bradford, C. J. Brockway, of Newburyport, Chas. Herrick, of Topsfield, Gilbert Tapley, of N. Danvers.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 23, 1853.*

SPUNKY. The people of the town of Essex are talking of building a railroad from that town to the new Road in Topsfield, intersecting the Eastern near the Hamilton meeting house, about six miles. Should that road be build, and those completed that are now already chartered, there will not be a town in

Essex County without a railroad passing through its territory.—  
*Newburyport Union.*

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 21, 1853.*

By John G. Hood, Auctioneer,

**TOPSFIELD**

*Administratrix's Sale of Real Estate.*

By order of Probate Court, will be sold at Public Auction, on FRIDAY, the 18th day of November next,—THE following described Real Estate, now belonging to the estate of JOHN C. BALCH, late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased :—

A parcel of Pasture Land, situated in Topsfield, containing four acres, known as the Copper Mine Lot.

Also, one undivided half part of about two acres of Peat Meadow, situated in Boxford, near the house of Francis Hood.

Also, one undivided half part of about sixteen acres of Wood Land, situated in Boxford, near to Crooked Pond.

Also, one Pew (No. 53) in the Congregational Meeting House, in Topsfield.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock, A. M., with the Copper Mine Pasture, on the premises, and at which time and place the Peat Meadow will be sold ; and at 1 o'clock, P. M., the Wood Land, on the premises ; and at 3 o'clock, the Pew, at the meeting-house.

Conditions made known at the sale.

MARY ANN BALCH, Adm'r.

Topsfield, Oct. 28, 1853.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 28, 1853.*

**DEATHS.**

In Topsfield, Widow Dolly T. Pike, aged 96 ; Austin, son of Mr. Humphrey Wildes, jr., aged 4 years.—His death was occasioned by getting accidentally a kernel of corn in his windpipe.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 6, 1853.*

**BURGLARY.** The shoe store of Mr. Perley Balch, of Topsfield, was broken open on Wednesday night, and shoes and stock to the amount of about one hundred dollars, stolen therefrom.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 9, 1853.*

*Fire at Topsfield.* On Friday afternoon at 5½ o'clock, the barn, with all its contents of hay, grain, &c., of Asa Pingree, Esq., in Topsfield, took fire, and was entirely destroyed. The cause of the fire was not known.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 13, 1853.*

**MAD DOGS.** On the 25th of November the inhabitants of Topsfield were somewhat surprised by the appearance of a large black dog, with a leather collar around his neck, and an iron ring attached to it. The dog both looked and acted strangely, biting every dog he chanced to meet, and, on the day following, was killed in the east part of the town. It was soon known that he had bitten a large number of dogs and one cow. In two weeks, a dog owned by Mr. Moody Andrews was taken sick, and is supposed that he was mad. After raving and frothing a few days he was killed. Also, about the same time, a hog, owned by J. N. Pope, of Boxford, was taken in much the same way, and died in a few days. The next Wednesday a dog owned by Mr. Eleazer Lake was taken in much the same way, and, after lingering a few days, died. On the 9th of December, being just three weeks, a hog, owned by Mr. James Cass, was taken sick in much the same manner as the other hog and dogs, and we think there is no doubt that the hog is mad, as it is known he was bitten by the same dog. All the above, and many other dogs, are known to have been bitten, and in most cases they have been killed.

Since writing the above, we hear that a dog owned by Mr. George Wilkins of Middleton, has become mad by the bite of the same dog ;—also a cow in Middleton.—*Reg.*

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 16, 1853.*

The following petition was left yesterday, at the City Hall :

*To the Honorable Ashael Huntington, Mayor of Salem and those associated with him in the Government of that city.*

The undersigned, citizens of Topsfield, are painfully concerned on account of the prevalence of drunkenness in our town. We have done something, and are now doing, what we can, to stay the progress of this vice, and to reclaim its degraded victims, and restore them to their families and to society. But we find our efforts thwarted to a great extent by the facility with which the evil disposed and weak minded obtain the means of intoxication in your city. So long as such a state of things continues there, many of our young men and boys will become miserable inebriates, and, many of our families, will endure all the wretchedness which a drunken husband and father is sure to inflict—



notwithstanding our best endeavors to prevent drunkenness, and to reform the drunkard.

In our distress we turn to you, and respectfully but earnestly ask that the laws of our Commonwealth, intended to restrict and to prohibit the traffic in intoxicating drinks, may be faithfully and rigorously enforced within the bounds of your jurisdiction. When this shall be done, we believe that a principal fountain whence flow demoralization poverty and ruin to a considerable portion of our fellow citizens, and indescribable anguish to their families, will be dried up. We have no purpose or desire to instruct you respecting your official duties, but deeply feeling and frankly acknowledging our great need of your assistance, if ye can do anything in the way we have suggested, we entreat you as faithful rulers and good men that ye will help us.

Topsfield Dec. 9, 1853.

The above petition is signed by 119 citizens and legal voters of Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 23, 1853.*

### THE SNOW STORM.

On Saturday night and Sunday we had yet another fall of snow, of several inches, making the fourth within a week, and leveling off the heaps for sleighing. Between two and three feet on a level must have fallen in all.

A letter from the Topsfield Postmaster, dated Friday says: "The wind blew from the northeast until 4 P. M., yesterday and heaped the snow, in places 10 or 15 feet deep. After it changed to the northwest, it reversed the order of things, and completely shifted the snow heaps. Not a horse passed my store yesterday—a circumstance which never occurred before, say for twenty-five years. My hogs are completely immersed in snow, and my horses are hemmed in with a bank of snow ten feet around my stable—when I shall get them out remains to be seen. Our farmers are turning out their teams for an old-fashioned "Break-Path," and when a good road is completed I shall visit you."

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 3, 1854.*

[A column-length letter from Asahel Huntington, Mayor of Salem, replying to the petition of R. A. Merriam and 118 others and promising to enforce the laws to the best of his ability, is printed in the Jan. 6th issue of the Salem Gazette.]

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 6, 1854.*



**COLD WEATHER.** At Topsfield, on Sunday morning, at sunrise, the mercury in the thermometer of B. P. Adams, Esq., was at 20 below zero; at noon it rose to 10 above, after which it commenced falling, and at sunrise it stood at zero.—At 9 in the evening, it was 14, and Monday morning, 20 below zero.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 31, 1854.*

For the Salem Gazette.

*Mr. Editor*—I notice, by the papers, that mad dogs are becoming quite numerous of late, and the losses of animals (to say nothing of human life), are far greater than the worth of all the dogs in christendom. Not long since a mad dog passed through Topsfield, and bit a large fat hog, on the farm of Mr. Thomas Cass, and in about two weeks the hog was seized with spasms, making all the attempts in its power to escape from its pen, and in a few hours died. Several dogs were bitten, some of which were killed by their owners immediately, while others were permitted to live; but into about two weeks became rabid, and were either killed, or died (as they were kept confined by their owners), and hundreds of people saw them in this condition.

Another mad dog passed through this town some three or four weeks since, and bit a fine horse, which was (after being bitten), bought by Mr. John S. Whipple, he not knowing the fact at the time he made the purchase. After driving the horse, one day last week, Mr. Whipple discovered that he appeared sick during the evening, though he went perfectly well during the day. Mr. W. had not a thought of the true cause of his complaint at the time, but administered to him a medicine (as he supposed for another complaint), by drawing his tongue from his mouth with his hand and inserting the neck of a bottle in his throat and letting the medicine run down. Think of the danger of Mr. Whipple during this process.

This seemed to deprive the poor animal of all power of government, his ravings were indescribable, he kicked and bit everything within his reach, leaving the print of his teeth in many places, and at last leaped through a narrow glass window, not wide enough for him to pass without scraping his hair from both sides, running at full speed through the town till at last he became exhausted and died. It does seem to me, Mr. Editor, that this, together with the many other instances lately recorded of mad dogs, ought to cause to be destroyed many of the worthless dogs which are so numerous both in Cities and Towns.

Topsfield, April 14, 1854.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 18, 1854.*

## DEATHS.

In Topsfield, 18th inst, Mrs. Lydia Peabody, widow of the late Mr. John Peabody, aged 89. Mrs. P. was the oldest inhabitant of the town, and the last of the Revolutionary pensioners.  
*Salem Gazette, Apr. 21, 1854.*

TOPSFIELD, June 1, 1854.

The new Methodist E. Church, at Topsfield, which was commenced a year ago, is just completed, and is a beautiful ornament to the town. The dedication is to take place on Wednesday, June 14, at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. Sermon on the occasion by the Rev. L. D. Barrows, Lowell.

The house is 75 by 45 and has 70 pews. It has a fine tower, in which is a splendid bell, from the foundry of H. N. Hooper, Esq., of Boston. The bell is the gift of sundry members of the society. The house has a hall, the dimensions of which, are 75 by 45 feet, and all furnished.

The building was erected under the care of a committee, who hired the workmen by the day; the work was executed under the direction of Mr. Jacob Foster, and gives him good credit as an architect. The inside of the church was handsomely frescoed by Bartoll & Henderson, of Marblehead; the painting of the centre piece is admired by all who have seen it. The pulpit, chairs and sofa, were furnished and executed by Messrs. Whipple & Fellows of Salem, and do good credit to these gentlemen, as furnishers of articles of that kind.

The house is finely carpeted, throughout, by the *ladies* of the *society*; and one thing worthy of mention is, that the amount expended for the furnishing of the house was earned by the ladies of the sewing circle, in closing and binding shoes.

*Salem Gazette, June 6, 1854.*

## TOPSFIELD.

TOPSFIELD, June 27th. The new Methodist Episcopal Church in this town was dedicated on the 14th day of this month [June].—And we would remark, that here, as in most places in New England, Methodism had to struggle against overshadowing influence of old and pre-established systems whose selfish and unsympathizing policy has here compelled the little company of founders to exercise in a high degree the sublime virtue of endurance, and to wait patiently for their prosperity.

The exercises commenced at 10 1-2 o'clock in the following order, viz:—Voluntary, by the choir. "Awake, put on thy strength, O Zion," 1. Invocation, by Rev. Mr. Butler, of Lynn; 2. Hymn 964; 3. Prayer, by Rev. Mr. Gordon of Danvers; 4. Anthem, "I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord;" 5. Reading of the scriptures, by Rev. Mr. Dadman, of Ipswich; 6. Hymn 969; 7. Sermon, by Rev. Mr. Barrows, of Lowell; 8. Dedicatory prayer, by Rev. Mr. Crowell, of Lynn, presiding Elder of the District; 9. Anthem, "Now elevate the sign of Judah;" 10. Benediction, by the pastor of the church.

The instrumental and vocal music was conducted by *Sam'l S. Mackenzie, Esq.*, who has been our Chorister for some years, assisted by several well known musical performers, whose music was of the *highest* order.

In addition to what was said in the "Mercury" of the 7th, I would say that the building was erected under the care of a committee, who hired the workmen by the day; Mr. Graves, of Boston, was the Architect, the work was executed under the care of Messrs. Jacob Foster and John H. Potter, and gives them great credit as carpenters, or master builders.

L.

*Salem Gazette, June 30, 1854.*

### INTEMPERANCE AND DEATH.

TOPSFIELD, July 20, 1854.

There was found, the early part of last week, in a secluded place, away from any habitation, in the westerly part of Ipswich, a dead man, with a rum jug lying by his side. The appearance would indicate that he had been dead several days. He was discovered by accident, by a man who was driving cattle from the pasture, and his loathsome remains were taken possession of by the Overseers of the Poor in Topsfield, and buried on the town farm. Such is the end of Aaron Cross, a man of about 60 years, who, but for intemperance, might have been respected in his life and lamented in his death. He was once a keeper of a victualling cellar in Derby Street, at the head of Union wharf in Salem, where he saved a sufficient amount of money to make him independent in his old age; but he long since spent his last dollar, and the last few years of his life were spent in wandering from house to house, drinking rum and cider wherever he could get it, till at last death relieved the community of him.

*Salem Gazette, July 25, 1854.*

## Danvers and Georgetown Railroad Company.

THE Stockholders of the DANVERS AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD COMPANY are hereby notified that their Annual Meeting will be held at MUNDAY'S HALL, in Topsfield, on WEDNESDAY, the 2d day of August next, at two o'clock, P. M., for the following purposes, viz:—

1st. To choose a Board of Directors for the coming year.

2d. To see if the Company will issue bonds, agreeable to the act of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, passed April 13th, 1854, entitled "An Act to authorize Railroad Companies to issue Bonds," and authorize the Directors thereto.

3d. To see if the Company will accept the act of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, passed May 2d, 1853, entitled "An Act concerning the Newburyport, Danvers and Georgetown, and Danvers Railroad Companies," and to take such action as they shall deem proper for the purpose of uniting with the said Danvers and Newburyport Railroad Companies, under said act; and to do any other things which they are authorized by said act to do.

4th. To do any other business that may legally come before them.

Per order,

GEO. F. CHOATE, Clerk.

Salem, July 25, 1854.

*Salem Gazette Aug. 1, 1854.*

**COWARDLY RASCALITY.** We learn that a valuable horse, belonging to Mr. Samuel Janes, of Topsfield, who runs a Daily Express between that town and Salem, was maliciously stabbed in two places, on Tuesday night of last week, by some unknown hand. A rain had recently fallen, and the horse was turned out in the evening for the benefit of his feet, and in company with several other horses, passed the night on or near the Common. On Wednesday morning he was found bleeding freely from the wounds, both of which were evidently inflicted with one and the same knife, and died in the course of the day. There is but one tone of indignant public sentiment in the town in regard to this malicious butchering of a useful and valuable horse, and that is of unqualified reprehension of the cowardly villany that would prompt to so base an act, for the evident purpose of injuring a poor but unoffending fellow townsman. We are glad to hear that some of the most influential citizens of Topsfield are




taking prompt and active measures to remunerate Mr. Janes for at least a portion of his loss.—*Reg.*

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 4, 1854.*

### DEATHS.

In Portland, 3d inst., Capt. Daniel Cummings, a native of Topsfield, Mass., aged 80.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 8, 1854.*

 The Boston Transcript states that the new railroad between Boston and Newburyport over the Danvers Railroad and the Danvers and Georgetown roads, will be opened for public travel next month. The road is nearly completed, the cars and engines are on the line, and but a few weeks are required to complete the track. This line will open a railway communication through a portion of Essex County not accommodated by existing lines. The route will be over the Boston and Maine road to South Reading, near the junction of the Salem and South Reading roads. From thence the new track runs through Lynnfield, Tapleyville, North Danvers, Topsfield, Boxford, Georgetown and Newbury, to Newburyport. On Saturday last, the cars ran, for the first time, into the village of Topsfield, from Georgetown.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 15, 1854.*

The "iron horse" arrived, for the first time, at the railroad station, in the village of Topsfield, on Thursday last; and in the course of this week it is expected it may reach Danvers Plains.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 22, 1854.*

### TOPSFIELD.

Topsfield, Aug. 19.

Our Georgetown, Topsfield and Danvers Railroad, is just drawing to a completion. The whistle of the engine has, for the first time, within a week, disturbed the quiet slumbers of our village. The rails are now laid as far as the Ipswich River, south of the village, one mile. In one week more, the rails will be laid as far as North Danvers; and by the first day of September, the cars will commence running over the road; which will be a day of much interest to the towns, through which it passes.—The distance from Newburyport to Boston



will be, by this route, thirty-four miles, or two miles farther than by Newburyport Turnpike. This road is said to be one of the best graded roads in the country, and from present appearance, promises all that its friends ever claimed for it.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the President and Directors of this company, for the manner in which they have carried the matter so near to its final completion.

L

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 22, 1854.*

### *DANVERS and GEORGETOWN RAILROAD.*

TOPSFIELD, Aug. 31, 1854.

The passenger cars on the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad, ran yesterday, for the first time, between Topsfield and Georgetown, to carry a party of one hundred and fifty to a picnic in Little's Grove.

It is understood that the whole line of the road will be completed on Friday, and that the cars will run to Boston on Saturday.

L.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 1, 1854.*

### *OPENING OF THE GEORGETOWN, DANVERS & SOUTH READING RAILROAD.*

Correspondence of the Salem Gazette.

Topsfield, Sept. 2d, 1854.

*Mr. Editor*—By the polite invitation of the President and Directors of the above companies, I took the cars at Topsfield, early in the afternoon of September 1st, for South Reading, for the purpose of making an experimental trials of the above roads; and believing that a few notes by the way might be interesting to you, and the numerous readers of your valuable journal, I offer them for publication. At the station at Topsfield large numbers had assembled to witness our departure, and to congratulate us on the prospect of the pleasure of the excursion. We glided finely along, and the first place of particular note that we came to was what was formerly called *Blind Hole*, but latterly named *Putnamville*. There we passed through a formidable ledge, of the hardest granite, which has yielded to the influence of the hammer and drill. After little delay at Porter's plain, we passed on to North Danvers, where several hundred had assembled to witness our arrival, which was greeted with cheers.

From North Danvers we started for *Tapleyville*, and on our arrival at the depot we were hailed with much joy. Our demonstration was by a noble fire company, out on duty, waiting our arrival.

From hence we passed on to that famous place, which has been visited by thousands the past summer, called "*Needham's Hill*." Here we had an opportunity to witness what skill, perseverance and industry had accomplished to divide this monster of a hill, and let the *iron horse* pass on without molestation.

The next place of note that we arrived at was that famous place known to the ancient's as the *Devil's Dishfull*, but to modern travellers as *Brook Dale*. The inhabitants must be very much benefitted by this road.

A few puffs of the iron horse, brought us to Lynnfield depot. At this place we found flags flying and numbers had assembled to greet us onward.

From this place we moved smoothly on, and shortly arrived at *South Reading*, where we stopped for the space of an hour, to *wood-up* and to exchange congratulations with the friends, upon the success of this brilliant and successful *enterprise*.

We then started homeward bound, and arrived safely at our destination. It is worthy of note that from the appearances upon the route, the road will be well patronized, and most assuredly it should be for the perservance with which the work has been executed ; for, like all public works, it has had its enemies to contend with, both in single and corporate capacities ; but under the management of its gentlemanly and obliging officers, it must arrive at a good state of prosperity, and be one of the crowning roads of the county.

The gentlemen from Newburyport, who accompanied the excursion train, were well pleased with the appearances of the country, and the road, and the new facilities that it will offer them to enter *Boston* at a *convenient place*.

L.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 5, 1854.*

On Thursday afternoon, a barn owned by Henry Towne of Topsfield, was accidentally fired by a small boy, and the barn with its contents was destroyed. The barn was valued at \$300, contents \$750. No insurance.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 12, 1854.*

### GREAT SALE OF TREES.

From Lake's Celebrated Topsfield Nurseries. Will be offered at Public Auction, on SATURDAY, Oct. 14th, at 10 o'clock A. M.,—

A large variety of TREES, consisting in part of Pear, Plum, Peach, Apple, and Cherry; also, Apricots and Nectarines; also, superior Apple Trees. The Cherry Trees are of a superior variety.

☞ This sale will offer great inducements, as every thing sold will be in good condition and the variety complete.

—Also at 9 o'clock,—

A lot of Furniture, &c.

Cash advanced on consignments.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 10, 1854.*

GREAT YIELD OF APPLES. We learn that there has been gathered the present week, from a single apple, upon the farm of MR. NEHEMIAH PERKINS, in Topsfield, the extraordinary quantity of *one hundred bushels* (40 barrels) of apples; The tree has always been a great bearer, frequently producing from 50 to 60 bushels. The fruit is of a tart flavor and moderate size; the tree is about 50 year old.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 17, 1854.*

THE DANVERS RAILROAD is to be opened on Monday next, agreeably to the notice which will be found in another column, and there will be six trains between Boston and North Danvers daily. Trains between Salem, South Danvers and Boston, will be run in connection with the above trains, via the Salem and Lowell Railroad, connecting at West Danvers Junction. The Danvers and Georgetown R. R. opens the same day.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 20, 1854.*

### OVER THE NEW RAILROADS.

The new railroads, as we have before stated, open a new communication between several of the towns of Essex county, never before visited by the locomotive. By the new route to Boston you first proceed over the Salem and Lowell Railroad, passing the usual stations upon that road, to West Danvers. At this junction the train from Salem is attached to another from Newburyport, and is thus conveyed over the new road to South Reading, where it passes over the Boston and Maine road into

Boston. The intermediate stations between West Danvers and South Reading, are "Brookdale" (the settlement about the woolen factory, and part of West Danvers commonly called the "Dishful" we believe), and Lynnfield Centre—a village of the town of Lynnfield, about two miles from the hotel. These localities have never before been connected by railroad with any other point.

The West Danvers junction is in the midst of woods and thickets, but presents a very business like appearance in the railroad line, to those passengers who have occasion to change cars for Newburyport, or any of the towns in that direction. That part of the line between South Reading and Georgetown is newly built—the new *Danvers and Georgetown* road extending from the latter town to North Danvers, and the *Danvers* road from North Danvers to South Reading, connecting there with the *Boston and Maine* road, to which the Danvers has been leased.

The cars from Boston for Salem over this route are connected with the trains for Newburyport, and are switched off at the West Danvers junction, to the Lowell road, while the remainder of the train, making first a brief stop, continues on the straight course. We have stated this for the information of those who do not thoroughly understand the *modus operandi* of the new arrangement.

Taking a comfortable seat in one of the splendid new cars, in company with a good number of "regulars" and "invited guests," we proceed to the direction of Newburyport. Most of the railroad routes in this State present an attractive scenery to the passenger, characterised, however, by a certain sameness relieved only by an occasional arrival at some thrifty settlement, which may present some particular object worthy of a passing note. As strangers passing over this road in trains which do not stop at every station, sometimes inquire the names of the various settlements, we would state that the first after leaving the junction, is Tapleyville, or "Danvers Centre"—a village devoted, like most of the small towns of Essex county, to shoe manufacturing, and farming. The next settlement is at "Danvers Plains," where you cross the track of the Essex Railroad, the depot of which is but a short distance to the south-east. As you pass on from here, a few settlements and shoe manufacturies may be observed upon the left, which is known to the Danvers "natives," as "Putnamville"—one of those designations given probably in honor of the family whose name is largely in the preponderance in the locality, and another so necessary to



distinguish the various villages embraced in the extensive area of land within the precincts of Danvers town.

The next stopping place is at

#### TOPSFIELD.

As a more extended notice of the before mentioned places has been published in this paper, we cannot forbear jumping out at this station to pass a few hours in the company of those friends whom we occasionally meet in Salem upon their business visits, usually to obtain a supply of the various articles for which their own stores often receive a "call."

Topsfield is a very pretty little country town, abounding in hills and plains, of which one may obtain an excellent and extended view from several of the hills and more elevated roads in the vicinity. A mile and a half to the westward of the main settlement, is the Boyden stock farm—devoted exclusively to the raising of live stock. Horses, pigs, and cattle of all kinds may here gratify the sight of those who delight in these hobbies, and some excellent specimens of these several animals may be here examined. A couple of noble stallions one of which took a prize at the last cattle show, are among the varieties, and the latter of these, is one of the most beautifully formed animals that we ever beheld.

Passing down from this farm upon the Newburyport turnpike you have occasion to pass over the arched bridge over the Ipswich river. This bridge was built a year or two ago at a very considerable expense both to the county, and the town of Topsfield, we believe. It is a very substantial structure, and will undoubtedly endure for ages. "Lake's Hill" is somewhat nearer the village, and is probably so called from the name of the proprietors of the celebrated nurseries in the vicinity. The steep roadway leading from these orchards affords an excellent view of the village and its two spires, so necessary to contribute a sort of "finishing touch" to a New England country town.

Among the neat houses in Topsfield, that of Wm. N. Cleaveland, Esq. would probably strike one's eye as combining a unique and general orderly appearance. The extensive, well enclosed lands possess a peculiar charm, both from their situation, and the neat manner in which they are kept. A new house is being erected near by, also, by John G. Hood, Esq.

Topsfield is possessed of about five public schools, and one academy which qualifies its pupils for college. This academy has been built about twenty years. There are two churches here, one of which—the Methodists'—was dedicated no longer ago than last June. Farming and shoe-making constitute the chief



business of the place, and in the latter branch of industry, Chas. Herrick's establishment is the most extensive. Munday's butchery, near the depot, is probably the largest concern of its kind in the vicinity, supplying, to a great extent, many of the Salem and other dealers. About ten thousand sheep are slaughtered annually at this establishment, and we were informed that no inconsiderable amount of duties was paid annually for the stock brought from the Canadas. The jocular friend who accompanied us insisted upon our taking a sharp scrutiny of the *full* proportions of the chief proprietor of this concern, for the purpose of giving him a "puff;" but, as he would weigh from two to three hundred pounds, extra *puffing* is deemed unnecessary.

There are but two grocery stores kept in Topsfield—one by Mr. Kimball (formerly Kimball & Gould), and the other by B. P. Adams, Esq. It would have afforded us much pleasure to have passed an evening with our friend Adams, enjoying the rich treat which must be afforded in listening to the threadbare yarns and village gossip of the "settlers," who are quite as capable of talking, at least,

——— "with *looks* profound,"

upon the current subjects of political interest. But time would not permit of this; and we have only to keep this entertainment in anticipation, as another opportunity may soon be offered of passing the social evening, as well as bestowing a scrutiny upon the *unvisited* "Long Wharf."

Topsfield is one of the towns never visited by the locomotive previous to the opening of the Georgetown road. With the leisure of the evening, therefore, many of the people, old and young, congregate at the depot to witness the arrival and departure of the trains, as they undoubtedly present the same novelty to many of the good folks of Topsfield that they did to a large portion of the Salemites when the Eastern road was first opened.

Leaving Topsfield, the cars will take you to Boxford, the next station on the route, and a town which sends much ship timber to Newburyport and Essex, and from thence to Georgetown, the terminus of the Danvers and Georgetown road. By the Newburyport and Georgetown road, however, trains connect with Haverhill, Bradford, Groveland, Byfield, and Newburyport.

Several of the depots along the road are as yet unfinished, but will probably be completed in a short time. Those of our citizens who devote a month or two of each year to time-killing at Newport and Niagara, will do well to improve the opportunity now

offered, and bestow a single visit, at least, upon the towns of their own county.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 31, 1854.*

### VALUATION OF TOPSFIELD.

The Assessors of Topsfield for the present year, have made the valuation of the Town, viz:

Real Estate,	\$384,990
Personal Estate,	208,100
Total Value,	<hr/> \$593,090
on which has been assessed at 60 per cent, a tax including State and County of	\$3,558 27
and on 297 Polls at 1.50 each	445 50
making an amount of	<hr/> \$4,003 77
of which am't. the Town taxes are	\$3,079 77
County taxes,	672 00
State taxes,	252 00
	<hr/> \$4,003 77

List of names of those persons in Topsfield whose taxes are \$25.00 and upwards.

B. P. Adams, \$37.35; Sam'l Adams, 28.50; Mrs. Sophronia Averell, 28.01; Mrs. Mary Ames, 42.60; Abraham Balch, 32.37; Perley Balch, 31.80; Joseph W. Batchelder, 25.87; Dudley Bradstreet, 37.89; Wm. Bradstreet, jr., 29.64; Frederic Boyden, 83.07; William Cummings, 32.10; Humphrey Clarke, 26.67; John Dwinell, 54.12; Samuel Gould, 31.98; Charles Herrick, 91.20; John Lamson, 49.60; R. A. Merriam, 34.41; William Mundy, 58.35; Benj. C. Orne, 28.11; Joel R. Peabody, 26.76; Asa Pingree, 346.63; Moses Pettingill, 43.20; Mrs. Molly Perkins, 29.40; David Perkins, 25.77; Richard Phillips, jr., 27.57; Israel Rea, 37.62; Willard Smith, 34.53; Eben W. Towne, 25.36; David Towne, 48.12; Benj. B. Towne, 33.27; Alfred P. Towne, 31.71; Jacob P. Towne, 44.81; Wildes & Bartlett, 27.83; Moses Wildes, 182.22; John Wright, 73.03; Moses Putnam (Danvers), 26.67; John Cleaveland (New York), 33.72.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 7, 1854.*

A MUSICAL CONVENTION, is to be held at the Congregational Church, in Topsfield, on Monday, Nov. 27th, commencing at 9 o'clock, A. M., under the direction of Mr. B. F. Baker, assisted by Messrs. S. B. Ball and Charles Henderson, and Mrs. J. H. Long, of Boston.

The object of the Convention, as set forth in a circular by the conductors, is to impart instruction in Music, and to awaken a more intelligent interest in singing as a part of public worship, to study and practise with reference to skill and taste in musical performance, and to promote a more uniform and consistent style in Singing. A Concert will be given in the evening.

Conventions of this sort are calculated to produce good results for the improvement of musical taste in the community, and it is hoped this opportunity for the furtherance of an object so desirable, will not be neglected by the citizens of

ESSEX COUNTY.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 24, 1854.*

FATAL ACCIDENT. We are informed by Mr. Janes of the Topsfield Express, that an accident of a very painful nature, occurred in that town, on Thursday last. A young man named John Andrews, aged 16 years, son of Mr. Moody Andrews, of Topsfield, was in the fields for the purpose of shooting game, having loaded his gun, he laid it upon the ground, and shortly afterwards seeing a squirrel near by, he took hold of the gun near the muzzle and attempted to draw it towards him, when the hammer struck a stone or bush, causing it to explode, the whole charge entering near the region of the heart, and causing death in a few minutes. He is represented as a young man of much promise, and the bereavement to the family is truly afflictive. The agony of the father who was present with him at the time was agonizing.—*Obs.*

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 28, 1854.*

*From the Plough, the Loom, and the Anvil.*

MR. BOYDEN'S PLACE, TOPSFIELD, MASS.

USE OF HAZEL-RODS BY MR. WILLARD.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Having just returned from a visit to my friend, Fred'k Boyden, of Topsfield, you will please accept some crayon-sketches of his freehold, and some of his animals. It is the old Crowninshield Farm and mansion including some two hundred acres, capable of yielding as many tons of English

hay, beside all that's needed for pasture, tillage, and a spacious garden, with a great and choice variety of fruit trees, shrubbery, and vines, accessible by walks which have been sown with salt, so that not a weed or spire of grass impedes the pleasant rambles. It is one large swell of land. The buildings are on the eastern slope, near the greatest elevation, surrounded by many kinds of ornamental trees, among which the fir and maple are conspicuous on the avenues; apple trees by the walls inclosing and dividing this extensive and princely domain, which was built at the expense of some thousands. The land is generally rich and productive, having suffered little from the drought, so extensively and long prevalent.

It was to designate a spot where to dig for a spring of living water, that I was requested to visit his premises, that might, if possible, be brought to his barns in pipes, where his large stock is now supplied by a chain pump from a well 40 feet deep, requiring the labor of one man a great part of his time. In this I succeeded by the use of mineral rods, finding a vein of water 25 feet deep, running towards the barn, from the height of land, till within 12 feet of the surface. From this point it may be conveyed with a strong pressure to his stable, and after accommodating his large herd of swine in the barnyard under them, waste into a reservoir. I might add, several gentlemen were present during the examination, from several towns, who witnessed the operation of the rod, and the highly satisfactory results. After which I examined the grounds of another gentleman, who had thought he would spare no expense for an aqueduct, if he could bring water into his chamber. After long and carefully traversing his premises, we succeeded in finding a spring sufficiently elevated for his purpose. This took most of the day and demonstrated to the most skeptical the merits of the immense labor-saving operation, as a reliable way of ascertaining these subterranean channels, or springs of living water. In some cases, we would trace a vein by the perpendicular attraction of the rods, occasionally setting stakes, and ascertain its depth by stations on each side, where the attraction would be horizontally according to the distance from the stakes over the vein. In one case we found the attraction towards a single point, from any station within fifty feet; hence we concluded there was a boiling spring.

I was highly gratified by inspecting some fifty of Mr. Boyden's pigs, and by learning their pedigree to be unquestionable. They are pure Suffolk, from the Stickney importation. The best plates I have ever seen are a fair daguerreotype of some of his



boars. He has one, three years old, as nearly perfect as could be desired. Most of his pigs are from this beautiful sire. I could not leave till I had selected a pair from a favorite sow, which I expect soon to receive by the cars, and feed with pleasure. He has sold some to go to Iowa. We must esteem him a "benefactor," who furnishes the sire and dam of a breed gaining two pounds of fat per day, with the same feed that would, in any other breed, gain one, no less than he who does the same in grass.

When we had taken tea, I feared we should miss the cars, as the railroad station of Beaver Brook was three miles distant. He said "No"—harnessed his stallion—19 years old—looked at his watch, said, "Time enough." True; we were there in twelve minutes, under a check rein. He showed me his young stud, "Tricolor." The next day was Cattle-Show at Lawrence, and I noticed since, in the *Massachusetts Ploughman*, "The first premium, \$20, for best stallion, 'Tricolor,' was awarded to Frederick Boyden, of Topsfield." I saw some of the stock of both his old and young horse, two year old colts, that he said could not be bought for \$200 each!

Yours truly,

BENJAMIN WILLARD.

*Lancaster, Mass., Oct. 4, 1854.*

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 30, 1854.*

☞ The last of the old stage drivers,—Mr. Isaac Pinkham,—who has for so many years kept up the reputation of the craft for fidelity and obliging attention to business, has at last surrendered, and commenced yesterday the conveyance of the mail between Salem and Haverhill, by the way of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad. He will continue as heretofore to attend to any business that may be entrusted to him.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 2, 1855.*

MR. PINKHAM.—This venerable and faithful old stager, who has run a carriage between Haverhill and Salem, about 29 years, has concluded to take off his nags, and hitch himself on to cars drawn by iron horses on the Newburyport and Danvers railroad. He is a faithful, honest, and trustworthy carrier and will do errands as usual.—*Banner*.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 2, 1855.*



### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, Mr. Jacob Symonds, aged 72 years, 10 mos.—he has been a market man to Salem for the last fifty years, and was highly esteemed as an honest man and worthy citizen.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1855.*

[Mail arrangements at Salem. Haverhill and Topsfield mail arrives at 12 M.; closes at 2½ P. M.]

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1855.*

### SALEM and HAVERHILL.

MR. PINKHAM, having given up his stage line, now passes daily over the road to Haverhill, by the way of the Danvers and Georgetown Railroad, leaving Salem at half past 2 o'clock, P. M., and Haverhill, at half past 7, A. M. He will continue, as heretofore, to attend to any business that may be entrusted to him.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1855.*

The passage of the cars upon the Newburyport Railroad, which has been interrupted since the late freshet, by the destruction of the bridge over Ipswich river, in Topsfield, was regularly resumed yesterday.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 2, 1855.*

### DEATHS.

In Topsfield, Mr. Solomon Averill, aged 85 years, 7 months. Mrs. Rebecca Lake, aged 89 years and 6 months, the oldest person in town. She was a specimen of that class of persons who were raised at a time when the physical constitution was formed capable of endurance. She was never sick with a fever during her long life and her last illness were the four last days of her life. She had been able to move about with comparative ease and visited her friends at a distance from her home a few weeks before her death.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 6, 1855.*

### TOPSFIELD.

Correspondence of the Salem Gazette.

The annual Town meeting was held in Topsfield on Monday, when the following list of officers was chosen.

*Moderator.*—Joel Lake.

*Town Clerk.*—Jacob P. Towne.

*Selectmen.*—Andrew Gould ; S. S. Mackenzie ; B. B. Towne.

*Overseers.*—Andrew Gould ; E. F. Perkins ; L. H. Gould.

*School Committee.*—J. H. Healey ; Rev. S. G. Hyler ; Josiah Bradstreet ; Israel Ray ; Alfred P. Towne.

*Assessors.*—John G. Hood ; R. D. Perkins ; John Wright.

*Treasurer.*—Benj. Kimball.

*Collector.*—Samuel Adams.

*Constables.*—Joel Lake ; R. D. Perkins ; M. P. Towne.

By the “underground telegraph” I learn that the K. N. party met last Saturday evening, for the purpose of nominating a list to be voted for, but the “Wilson element” entering into their deliberations broke them up, without making any nomination. So that our election passed off on the old fashioned principles, and the result was that we chose a board of officers from among our best citizens, who are capable of discharging their duties. Our friends, who were so numerous last fall, have been in—“seen Sam” and find him the same old impostor that has been about for several years.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 9, 1855.*

**THE OSIER WILLOW.** Mr. J. Lake, of the Topsfield Nursery, brought to our office, yesterday, a rod of the Osier or Basket Willow, 8½ feet in length, a specimen of thirty stocks, grown in the space of eighteen square inches of well cultivated land.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 27, 1855.*

**ACCIDENT IN BOXFORD.**—On Monday, as Mr. Moses P. Towne of Topsfield, was tending a circular saw at Kimball & Sawyer’s mill, in Boxford, his hand came in contact with it in turning carelessly round, taking off all his fingers on one hand, at the second joint. The saw was revolving at a speed of 1600 revolutions a minute.

This mill was formerly a peg factory, owned and conducted by Mr. Wm. Sawyer. A steam engine has been recently introduced into it, to aid in carrying on a new branch of business which has been substituted—that of sawing, and making boxes.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 30, 1855.*

### FRUIT TREES.

For sale, at the TOPSFIELD NURSERIES, the following kinds of Trees :—

29,000 Apple Trees, smooth and handsome, from \$10 to \$25 per hundred ;

500 Peach Trees ;

300 Cherry Trees ;  
 1,000 Dwarf Pear Trees ;  
 900 Standard Pear Trees, extra growth and beauty ;  
 200 Plum Trees ;  
 200 Sugar Maple.

☞ All orders, by mail or otherwise, promptly attended to.  
 Some of the above Trees are for sale at the store of A. Kaine,  
 No. 35 Exchange street, Boston.  
 Topsfield, March 27, 1855.

LAKE & CO.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 30, 1855.*

### DEATHS.

In Dorchester on Friday evening, Hon. David Cummins, formerly of Salem, for many years a Judge of the C. C. Pleas, aged 69. Mr. C. was a native of Topsfield, Mass.; he graduated at Dartmouth College; studied law in Salem, where he established himself in the practice of law, and for many years was one of the leading members of the Essex bar, in connection with such men as Pickering and Saltonstall, and for many years probably did the most extensive law business in the county.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 3, 1855.*

### MAY DAY IN TOPSFIELD.

Correspondence of the Mercury.

May day was celebrated by the scholars of the Topsfield Academy, by a social gathering in the evening, at the Academy Hall; and we have seldom seen a collection of handsomer ladies or more gallant gentlemen. Everything was conducted in the most orderly manner reflecting great credit upon the managers, Messrs. G. W. Atherton and J. P. Peabody, and they have for their reward the assurance, that it was a source of unalloyed pleasure to all present. This school was never in a more prosperous condition. The number of scholars this term is 102. The Principal, Rev. J. W. Healy is a model Teacher. We wish him success. The examination is to come off on Wednesday, the 16th inst. A general invitation is given.

S. R.

*Salem Gazette, May 11, 1855.*

TOPSFIELD ACADEMY. We have been favored with a catalogue of this institution, which was founded in 1828, and is located in one of the pleasantest towns in Essex County. It contains the names of 77 females and 76 males, as pupils for the Academ-

ical year 1855. The Classical Department numbers 34, and the English 150. The aggregate for the past year was 293, viz : Summer Term, 50 ; Fall, 69 ; Winter, 72 ; Spring, 102. The principal is Joseph W. Healy, who has a strong and numerous corps of assistant teachers.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 15, 1855.*

For the Essex County Mercury.

*TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.*


Under the successful administration of the present Principal, Rev. J. W. Healey, this school has attained a character which deserves the most decided commendation.

The examination which came off on the 16th inst., was very pleasant and satisfactory. Music has been introduced this term as a regular exercise, under the instruction of J. P. Peabody. Some fine pieces were sung at the examination, which did them great credit. We were much pleased with the class in English Composition. This was a large class, and every question was answered correctly. This class has been under the charge of Mrs. Healey, and has evidently made much progress. The manner in which the parsing class acquitted themselves was with credit to themselves and teacher. The scholars were evidently much attached to their teacher. There was life and energy on the part of both teacher and scholars, which rendered the exercises highly interesting. The presence at the examination of a goodly number of the town was a pleasing evidence of the regard had for the principal and his labors. The summer term commences on the 23d inst.

S. R.

Topsfield, May, 1855.

*Salem Gazette, May 22, 1855.*

 The Salem Association of Ministers held a convention at Topsfield on Wednesday, at the Congregational Meeting House. Reports were made on the condition of the churches and on the contributions of Missions, and remarks were offered by Rev. Dr. Worcester of Salem, R. P. Waters, Esq., of Beverly, and others. A sermon was preached in the afternoon, by Rev. Mr. Allen of Marblehead.

*Salem Gazette, June 22, 1855.*

On Friday last, a lad named Joseph Dana Weed, while playing about a car standing at the depot, in Topsfield, accidentally fell and broke his leg. The boy is now doing well.

*Salem Gazette, June 29, 1855.*



THE WEATHER continued comfortably cool till yesterday, and on Sunday we had a very pleasant little rain, commencing at about twelve o'clock; but although the surface of the earth was moistened the *drought* is unbroken. We hear complaints of it from all parts of the county. In Topsfield it is considered to be as great as was ever known. The inlet and outlet of Hood's pond are perfectly dry,—a circumstance not remembered by "the oldest inhabitant" to have occurred before. Pasturage is short, on account of the drought, but crops are not suffering. The appearances of rot have entirely gone from the potato fields.

We are sorry to learn that the fire which was set in the swamp grounds in Topsfield, Hamilton, and Wenham, known as Bunker's Meadow, is still spreading in the dry peaty ground and among the woods in that region.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 14, 1855.*

A few days ago Messrs. Francis Gould and Hiram Wells, while returning to Topsfield, in a hand car, from some repairs which they had been making on the Newburyport and Georgetown railroad, were seriously bruised by being thrown from the car. The disaster was caused by the accidental dropping of a crowbar from the front of the car, which falling in front of the wheels caused an instant stoppage of the car, causing them to be thrown violently several feet in advance. Fortunately, they both escaped broken bones.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 12, 1855.*

A correspondent in Topsfield complains that some evil disposed persons have poisoned the dogs of Messrs. Pettingill, Milton, Wyatt, and others.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 16, 1855.*

Hay, Oxen, Bull, Cows, Heifers, Farm tools, &c.

The subscriber, having recently purchased the Real Estate owned by ABRAHAM BALCH, in Topsfield, and the Personal Estate upon said premises, will sell at Public Auction, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th day of November next, at 12 o'clock, M., at the aforesaid premises,—

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES, to wit:

About 8 tons English Hay; 15 do. Meadow Hay; 5 do. Salt Hay; a lot of Oat Straw; a lot of Corn Stalks. Also, 2 yoke Oxen; 1 Bull; 6 cows; 5 superior Heifers; 1 Ox Wagon; 2 Carts; 2 Sleds; 1 Iron-Toothed Harrow; 1 Road Scraper or Shovel; and all the Ploughs, Yokes, Iron Bars, Chains, Forks, &c.; upon the said premises.



—Also, at the same time,—

2 four-wheeled Chaise ; 100 to 200 bushels Potatoes ; 50 to 100 do. Corn ; and a variety of other articles.

Conditions made known at the time and place of sale.

JOHN WRIGHT.

Topsfield, Oct. 16, 1855.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 16, 1855.*

For the Salem Gazette.

**TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.** The semi-annual examination of this Institution took place on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 19 and 20th.

We were present during the entire exercises, all of which were of a high order.

The several classes showed that they had been subject to a judicious and thorough discipline. There are several young men in this Academy, in a course of preparation for College.

The compositions and declamations were excellent. We were peculiarly interested in the spirited and elocutionary declamations of Messrs. Clark, Pierce, Gleason, Putnam and Hardy.

In the evening, the students gave a Levee, which was attended by some 200 students and invited guests.

Judging from the character of the exercises, and the vast number of citizens and other friends of the Institution, we should judge that this school had never a stronger hold upon, or better deserved the sympathy and patronage of its friends, than at present.

And we believe, under the judicious management of its popular Principal, Mr. Healey, it will, as in the past, rank among the first Academies in our States.

AN OBSERVER.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 23, 1855.*

#### FARM for Sale.

A FARM pleasantly situated in Topsfield, on the main road leading from Salem to Boxford, about half a mile from the village and railroad depot. Said Farm consists of about seventy acres of land, suitably divided into tillage, mowing, pasture, and meadow land, and a valuable peat meadow ; a two-story house, in good repair, and a barn, 60 by 30 feet, with a cellar under a part of it ; shoemaker's shop, grainery, and other out-buildings. The Farm is fenced with a good stone wall, and contains a variety of fruit trees. There are two wells of water—one at the house, the other at the barn.

Said Farm will be sold on reasonable terms.

For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber, on the premises.

SILAS LAKE.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 5, 1856.*

### Topsfield Tax-Payers.

The following list of tax-payers in Topsfield comprises those who pay a tax of \$20 and upwards. The rate of taxation is 60 cents on \$100. The whole number of polls in the town is 321. Poll tax, \$1.50.

Benj. P. Adams	\$ 37 87
Sam'l Adams	34 33
Sophrona Averill	27 57
Mary Ames	21 19
Abraham Balch	32 56
Dudley Bradstreet	39 08
Perley Balch	29 36
David B. Balch	51 85
J. W. Batchelder	25 28
Wm. Bradstreet, Jr.	30 10
Frederick Boyden	76 34
Wm. Cummings	32 38
Humphrey Clark	27 01
Isaac J. Clapp	20 67
John Cleaveland, N. Y.	33 78
John Dwinell	35 72
Andrew Gould	24 23
J. P. Gould	30 47
Sam'l Gould	38 51
Charles Herrick	113 00
Wm. E. Kimball	25 09
David Lake	21 50
John Lamson	51 68
R. A. Merriam	34 59
Wm. Munday	55 80
Moses Pettengail	44 23
Joel R. Peabody	27 19
Marcia Peabody	20 09
Asa Pingree	248 58
Estate of Jacob Perkins	21 86
Daniel Perkins	25 67
Molly Perkins	29 09
Dudley Perkins	24 97

Judith Perkins	\$22 48
David Perkins	24 01
A. S. Peabody	36 69
Richard Phillips, Jr.	23 66
Israel Rea	37 53
Willard Smith	32 78
David Towne	49 72
Benj. B. Towne	33 54
Alfred P. Towne	55 72
Jacob P. Towne	44 83
Wildes C. Bartlett	27 69
Moses Wildes	200 12
Humphrey Wildes	21 50
John Wright	78 55

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 7, 1856.*

#### Guardian's Sale.

By order of Probate Court, will be sold at Public Auction, on MONDAY, the 31st day of March inst., at 1 o'clock, P. M., on the premises,

All the right and title that MARY J. TUCKER and ARTHUR R. TUCKER, minors, have in and to one undivided fourth part of all the Real Estate of which JOHN CONANT, late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, died seized.

Said estate consists of the Farm, containing about ninety acres of land, with a good dwelling house, barn and other buildings thereon, all in good repair. Said farm being well apportioned into tillage, pasturage, and wood land, the latter having a fine growth of oak and pine wood thereon.

Also, one undivided fourth part of about twelve acres of Pasture Land, situated in Topsfield, near the house of H. B. Perkins.

Also, one undivided fourth part of about ten acres of Meadow, and Wood Land, situated in Ipswich, near the house of Israel Wildes.

Also, the undivided fourth part of two parcels of Salt Marsh, situated in Ipswich—one containing about four acres, the other three acres.

Also, the undivided fourth part of the residue of ten acres of Wood Land, situated in Topsfield.

The sale of the several parcels of the outlands will be at the dwelling-house, after the sale of their portion of the farm.

Conditions made known at the time of sale.

RICHARD TUCKER, Guardian.

*(To be continued.)*

## VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1911.

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### BIRTHS.

1910.

Dec. 7. Dorothy Graves, dau. of Fred C. and Jessie M. (Killam) Burnham.

1911.

Jan. 8. ——— son of Malcom N. and Miriam (Tenney) Huse.

Jan. 29. Alexander, son of Thomas and Maria A. (Spiridiliozzi) Longo.

Feb. 3. Douglas Cameron, son of John R. and Bertha E. A. (Mellish) Mac-Cormack.

Mar. 3. Margaret Naomi, dau. of Ottis T. and Abbie N. (Longacre) Martin.

Mar. 26. Harland E., son of Harland S. and Maude (Fuller) Pierce.

Apr. 11. Thomas E., son of Thomas A. and Annie V. (O'Donnell) Pierce.

Apr. 29. Richard Wentworth, son of Ernest H. and Marion W. (Peirce) Pentecost.

June 2. Muriel Dorothy, dau. of Forrest W. and Alice L. (Perkins) Rust.

June 3. Ciriaco, son of Pietro A. and Emmanuella (Matteo) DeCissi.

June 11. ——— dau. of Max and Mildred (Morrill) Scovill.

July 31. Charles Carey, son of T. Jesse and Edith A. (Smith) Fuller.

Aug. 3. Margaret E., dau. of Rollin and Sadie M. (Barnes) Winters.

Aug. 7. Anne, dau. of Thomas L. and Lucy M. (Garbutt) Jenkins.

Aug. 9. Philomena, dau. of Alphonse and Grazia (Paglia) Roberto.

Aug. 13. Domenico, son of Antonio and Philomena (Santo-Nicolo) Scoozlio.

Aug. 27. ——— son of Arthur F. and Leonie A. (Cruchet) Perkins.

Sept. 8. Florence Marsh, dau. of Eugene M. and Daisy L. (Dow) Dow.

Sept. 12. Florence Maud, dau. of Harold and Maud A. (Leaper) Keywood.

Dec. 9. Annie Louise, dau. of Melvin W. and Bessie E. (Welch) Smerage.

Dec. 21. Virginia Irene, dau. of George P. and Freda M. (Welch) Parlin.

**MARRIAGES.**

1911.	
May 18.	{ Charles H. Langhill, (Fitchburg), son of Leonard and Annie (Fogo) Langhill. Elizabeth McFarland (Topsfield), dau. of William and Mary (Girvan) McFarland.
June 3.	{ Harry W. Perkins (Topsfield), son of Justin W. and Emma F. (Scates) Perkins. Elsie V. Tarbox (Sharon), dau. of Horace W. and Lizzie E. (Lane) Tarbox.
June 7.	{ Henry B. Northey (Salem), son of William and Margaret F. (Anthony) Northey. Jane B. Price (Topsfield), dau. of Richard and Mary E. (Phippen) Price.
Aug. 9.	{ Russell C. Smith (Lawrence), son of William S. and Ida (Blake) Smith. Elizabeth M. Ferguson (Topsfield), dau. of Edward E. and Mary (Andrews) Ferguson.
Aug. 14.	{ William Scahill (Ipswich), son of Thomas and Cornelia (Senior) Scahill. Sadie Campbell (Ipswich), dau. of Jack and Jessie (McDonald) Campbell.
Aug. 19.	{ Manuel F. Castle (Topsfield), son of Joseph and Frances (Ter-rera) Castle. Josie MacDougall (Topsfield), dau. of Murdock and Anna (Mac-Kenzie) MacDougall.
Aug. 28.	{ Earl L. Brown (Topsfield), son of Clarence L. and Julia M. (Wot-ton) Brown. Gertrude A. Young (Topsfield), dau. of Thomas J. and Almira A. (Bassett) Young.
Sept. 27.	{ Horace E. Gibbs (Haverhill), son of Jacob S. and Roancy J. (Rowe) Gibbs. Lucy E. Frost (Haverhill), dau. of Leonard F. and Martha J. (Harris) Frost.

**DEATHS.**

1911.	
Jan. 10.	Amanda D., wife of Edwin S. Clifford and dau. of Benjamin and Hul-da (Damon) Pike, aged 72 yrs., 2 mos., 15 days.
Jan. 19.	Hazen Rogers, Jr., son of Hazen R. and Mary E. (Deickhoff) Wildes, aged 10 mos., 7 days.
Feb. 24.	Ann C., (Elliott) widow of Edward Heckman and dau. of Frederick and Cathrine (Heneger) Lantz, aged 79 yrs., 1 mo., 12 days.



- Mar. 6. Ann, widow of Stephen J. Palmer and dau. of Orsamus and Eunice (Shattuck) Hodgkins, aged 84 yrs., 7 mos., 14 days.
- May 2. William G. Pray, son of Ruel B. and Caroline E. (Galloup) Pray, aged 47 yrs., 9 mos., 9 days.
- May 14. John Cotter (unknown).
- July 2. Stephen Masury Pierce, son of Thomas and Hannah (——) Pierce, aged 75 yrs., 25 days.
- July 11. Michael O'Connor, Jr., son of Michael and Margaret (Mahoney) O'Connor, aged 56 yrs., 6 mos., 15 days.
- Aug. 14. Eliza Ann, widow of Daniel Willey, and dau. of Jewett and Mary (Perkins) Pingree, aged 76 yrs., 5 mos., 8 days.
- Aug. 28. ———, son of Arthur F. and Leonie A. (Cruchet) Perkins.
- Sept. 16. ———, son of Willard and Anita (Paine) Emery.
- Oct. 26. Lucy Ann Gould, dau. of Josiah and Betsey (Gould) Gould, aged 80 yrs., 7 mos., 10 days.
- Oct. 27. William Buckner Taylor, son of ——— and Martha (Massey) Taylor, aged 71 yrs., 8 mos., 13 days.
- Nov. 4. Richard Ward, son of Alfred A. and Hannah S. (Osborne) Ward, aged 74 yrs., 3 mos., 14 days.
- Dec. 24. Abijah B. Richardson, son of Ezra and Eliza Ann (Wilkins) Richardson, aged 75 yrs., 6 mos., 17 days.
- Dec. 29. ———, son of Joseph Howard and Delia Rose (Baker) Burnett.

## Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1911.

- Feb. 23. Anne Bradstreet, died in Boston, Mass., aged 63 yrs., 11 mos.
- Feb. 25. ——— Bell, died in Georgetown, Mass.
- Mar. 20. Mary E. Wallace, died in Tuftonboro, N. H., aged 69 yrs., 4 days.
- July 1. William A. Small, died in Salem, Mass., aged 72 yrs., 9 mos., 28 days.
- July 23. Darius A. Putnam, died in Worcester, Mass., aged 82 yrs., 4 mos., 23 days.
- Oct. 31. Sarah M. Cotton, died in Danvers, Mass., aged 65 yrs., 8 days.
- Nov. 5. Waldo Dickinson, died in Wenham, Mass., aged 76 yrs., 9 mos., 10 days.
- Feb. 6, 1895. John P. Allen, died in Beverly, Mass., aged 32 yrs., 4 mos., 1 day.

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN TOPSFIELD IN 1911.

1911.

- January. Legislative authority asked by Salem, Beverly and Peabody to take water from the Ipswich river. Much opposition from Topsfield and other towns in the river valley.
- April 24. Barn and storehouse, formerly I. M. Woodbury's piggery, off Haverhill St., belonging to Connolly Brothers, destroyed by fire.
- May 28. Mess. Glidden and Van Valkenburgh, sailing from Lowell, landed from a balloon near the Methodist Church, where they afterwards attended service, it being Sunday morning.
- June 8. Carriage house and shed of Charles F. Jordan, Main St., destroyed by fire. The Methodist Church, about 25 feet distant, much endangered.
- Sept. 19-20. Annual cattle show and fair of the Essex County Agricultural Society held on the grounds of the Society.

## BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1911.

- Fred W. Dingle, Central St.; dwelling-house.
- Albert W. Stevens, Central St.; dwelling-house.
- Everett Carr, Central St.; dwelling-house.
- Charles P. Potter, Central St.; dwelling-house.
- John L. Fiske, Washington St.; garage.
- Charles P. Poor, Main St.; garage.
- James D. Phillips, Hill St.; dwelling-house, garage and pump-house.
- James P. Hale, High St.; garage.
- Elmer B. Thomas, Ipswich St.; dwelling-house, garage and farmer's house.
- James M. Jackson, M. D., Mill St.; garage.
- Oliver Thayer, High St.; dwelling-house remodelled.
- Bradley B. Palmer, Asbury St.; Wildes barn remodelled.
- William Agge, High St.; addition to dwelling-house.
- George L. Gould, Washington St.; large enclosed piazza.
- William E. Baxter, M. D., River St.; bungalow.
- F. L. Smith, River St.; bungalow.
- T. L. Jenkins, M. D., Prospect St.; piazza.
- Ralph Perkins, High St.; dove cotes,
- Pool-Peirce barn, South Main St.; taken down.



