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Town Papers.

DOCUMENTS

RELATING TO

TOWNS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE,

“A” TO “F” INCLUSIVE,

WITH AN

APPENDIX,

EMBRACING COPIES, IN FAC SIMILE, OF THE FIRST CONSTITUTION OF THIS STATE AS ADOPTED JANUARY 5, 1776; THE PROCLAMATION SENT OUT TO THE PEOPLE DECLARING THE SAID CONSTITUTION TO BE IN FORCE; AND A CONSTITUTION FRAMED IN JUNE, 1779, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY THE PEOPLE. ALSO, OTHER INTERESTING AND VALUABLE DOCUMENTS.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

VOLUME XI.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

ISAAC W. HAMMOND.

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1882.

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

1136870

In 1878 and 1879 the editor of this volume, then deputy secretary of state, assorted a large mass of ancient manuscripts which he found in the various vaults and in the loft of the state-house, selected such as were of value, historical and otherwise, and placed them in volumes in the secretary's office. They attracted the attention of citizens who were interested in the history of the state, and in the preservation of everything appertaining to it, many of whom expressed a desire to have them published as a continuation of those edited by the late Nathaniel Bouton, D. D.

In June, 1881, Gov. Charles H. Bell, deeply interested in the history of New Hampshire, called the attention of the legislature to these papers in his message to that body, and advised their publication. The result was the passage of the following resolution :

JOINT RESOLUTION relating to the preservation and publication of portions of the early state and provincial records and other state papers of New Hampshire.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened :

That his excellency the governor be hereby authorized and empowered, with the advice and consent of the council, to employ some suitable person—and fix his compensation, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated—to collect, arrange, transcribe, and superintend the publication of such portions of the early state and provincial records and other state papers of New Hampshire as the governor may deem proper; and that eight hundred copies of each volume of the same be printed by the state printer, and distributed as follows: namely, one copy to each city and town in the state, one copy to such of the public libraries in the state as the governor may designate, fifty copies to the New Hampshire Historical Society, and the remainder placed in the custody of the state librarian, who is hereby authorized to exchange the same for similar publications by other states.

Approved August 4, 1881.

In accordance with the foregoing resolution, the governor, with advice of the council, on the 12th day of October, 1881, appointed and commissioned Isaac W. Hammond as "Editor and Compiler of State Papers;" and this volume is the result of his labor as such.

It is similar, in the character of its contents, to Vol. IX, and contains documents of great value concerning the early history of the towns herein represented. These documents have been carefully copied from the original manuscripts, scrupulously preserving the orthography, punctuation, capitalization, etc. Much of it will be found of interest even to the general reader. It contains a large number of names of early residents, which are being much inquired after of late, some papers having been published mainly for the purpose of giving the names signed to them. All these names have been carefully indexed, in every place in which they occur, involving much time and great labor. They are thus placed where the historian and genealogist can readily refer to them. The editor has compiled an introduction to each town, containing in brief many facts relative to its grant, settlement, incorporation, origin of name, etc., the authority for most of them being obtained from original records. Great care has been taken to verify them where they conflict with other writers. Notes have also been appended to most of the petitions, giving legislative action, and, when practicable, their final disposition. They have required considerable research, but the editor believes they will add materially to the value of the work, and be of much use to town historians. The editorial notes, with the exception of the introductions, have been inserted in brackets, to prevent any possible misunderstanding. In copying names from original petitions, great care has been exercised, many of them being badly written, some almost illegible, and others incorrectly spelled; but the editor has spared no pains to obtain a correct solution, and believes that most of them are printed as they were written. He submits this volume to the public, trusting its decision will be that he has done something to rescue from oblivion some valuable material pertaining to the early history of the towns of New Hampshire.

I. W. H.

CONCORD, October 27, 1882.

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EARLY TOWN PAPERS.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

EARLY TOWN PAPERS.

ACWORTH.

This town was first granted by Gov. Benning Wentworth, Dec. 28, 1752, to Col. Sampson Stoddard, of Chelmsford, Mass., and sixty-nine others, by the name of Burnet, probably in honor of Gov. William Burnet. At this time white people could not live safely in this vicinity at any great distance from the fort at No. 4, now Charlestown, on account of the Indians; and the town, with others, was probably granted by Gov. Wentworth with a view of asserting New Hampshire's claim to the territory, which was also claimed by Massachusetts, and at that time in dispute. No attempt was made to settle under this grant, and it was regranted, Sept. 19, 1766, to Col. Stoddard and sixty-four others, by the name of Acworth, probably in honor of the governor's friend, Lord Acworth, of England.

In 1767, three young men from Connecticut—William Keyes, Joseph Chatterton, and Samuel Smith—located here, and commenced clearing farms. The grant of 1766, being forfeited by the non-fulfilment of some of its provisions, was extended by Gov. John Wentworth, May 30, 1772, and was bounded as follows: "Beginning at a stake and stones & runs North two degrees West six miles and an half to a stake and stones, the South West corner of Unity, from thence running East by the needle five miles & three quarters to a stake & stones, from thence South by the needle six miles & an half to a stake & stones, from thence West by the needle five miles & $\frac{3}{4}$ to the bounds first mentioned."

Documents relating to the matter may be found in Town Papers, vol. 9.

In 1772 the town contained fourteen houses.

[1*] [*Reasons for not wanting to be Classed for Representative, and Vote of Town.*]

The reasons why we do not join with Towns of Unity, Acwoth, Lemster, Saville, Croydin & Newport as we did the last year in chusing a Representative is this : viz : then we Supposed they was to act only upon the present Exigencies of the Government, but now the case is much altered, the Honourable Contintal Congress has declared their independence of Great Britain therefore we think that the present assembly has not taken right methods in issuing out their precepts for the choice of Representatives and Counsellors for the year Ensuing, for in the first place they have as to Representatives in Some incorporated Towns allowed two or three representatives, to others they have joined five or six towns together, whereas we think every incorporated town ought to be represented by themselves. Then as to Consellors in one Conty they have ordered five, in Some others two, and in one County but one, which we Look upon not according to liberty, for as this State is but one body we think they ought to be Chose by the people at large, and also they have ordered that neither of these Shall have a Seat in the assembly without they have Real estate to the value of two hundred pound Lawfull money, whereas we think every Lawfull elector is a Subject to be elected.

Voted that the above resons be Sent to the Counsell and assembly of this State which is to Convene together at Exeter the third wednesday of this instant and that the town Clerk Shal Sign it in behalf of the town. This done at a Legal town meeting.

Acwoth December 9th A D 1776

Tho^s Putnam Mod^r

A true Cobby attest Sam^l Silsby town Clerk.

[2] [*Certificate of non-receipt of Precept by the Selectmen.*]

To Whome it may Conciern.

This may Sertifey that there wase No precept Come to us or to this town So fare as we know to rais one of the New Emmission taxes for the year 1781 also one of the specie taxes & there wase no act come to us or to this town to rais aney beef in the year 1781.

attest
acworth febu^{ry} ye 12th 1781

Daniel Grout } Select
Isaac Foster } men.

* The number at the commencement of each article refers to the page of the manuscript volume from which it is copied.

[3] [*Petition of John Duncan, in behalf of the Town.*]

To to Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives for the State of Newhampshire Convened at Exeter Feb^{ry} 26th 1783.

The petition of John Duncan of Ackworth in said State in behalf of said town Humbly Sheweth.

That Whereas your Petitioner finds That there is an Extent issued against Said Town for nonpayment of a New Emmision Tax for the year 1781 as also for a specie Tax for the Same year Likewise for a Beef Tax for that year, for all which your Petitioner beg Leave to inform the Hon^{bl} Council that we never Received any Precept for assessing any of said Taxes: as will more fully appear by a Certificate under the Hands of the Selectmen of Said Town.

Wherefore your Petitioner prays That new precepts may Issue to the Selectmen of Said Town for the assessment of the above said Taxes and as in Duty Bound Shall pray.

John Duncan.

State of }
New Hamp. } In the house of Representatives Feb. 26th 1783

Upon Reading & considering the foregoing Petition Voted that the prayer thereof be granted.

Sent up for Concurrence.

John Dudley Speaker.

In Council the same day read and Concurred

E Thompson Secy.

[4] [*Memorial of John Duncan relative to Taxes of 1781.*]

To the Hon^{bl} the Council & House of Representatives for the State of Newhampshire Convened at Concord on the third wensday of December 1783. The memorial of John Duncan in behalf of The Town of Acworth in Said State humbly Sueth That your memorialest on Feb^{ry} ye 26th 1783 Did Petition the Hon^{bl} Court Laying before them the Dificulties we Labor under in having Extents isoued against Said Town: when we Never had aney act or Precept to inable the Selectmen to asses the Town in Said tax.

One New Emmision tax for the year 1781 also a Specie tax for the Same year Likewise for a Beef tax for the Same year, all that your memorialest then praid for wase to heave the present Selectmen inabled to asses the town in the above three taxes all which wear granted, as will apair Reference being had as to

the above petition which is Now in heand & we proceeded accordingly & ordered the Colector to pay unto the tresurar of Said State the three aforesaid taxes but altho we heave Colected State Securities to pay Said beef tax with interest according to Law yet the treshurar says he is Not willing to discount Said tax untill we fetch a resolve of Cort to inable him to take the State Securities in Lu of the beef & if this resolve is Not granted to us we shal be obledged to take the State Securites from the Colector & rais another tax in Specie to pay for the beef tho we Never had aney pour to rais it which we are in Now ways able to do at Present altho our wills weare ever so good.

Therefore we pray your Honors to take our Case into your wise consideration & grant us Releef and as in duty bound Shall Ever pray.

Acworth Dec^{mr} ye 13th 1783.

John Duncan

[5] [*Petition for the Right to Tax Non-residents for Repair of Highways, etc.*]

State of New Hamp } To the Hon. the Council & House of
Ches^{hr} ss. } Representatives in Genneral Assembly
at Concord Convened.

The petition of us inhabitants of Lemster, Unity and Acworth humbly Shews that your petitioners Living in a hill country where there is several Large Streams to Bridge and Roads to be made and maintained at a Verry Great cost and charge Several of which is made through large tracts of Unimproved lands the Owners of S^d lands must Reap Great advantage by our labor in advancing their interest yet they are freed by law from aney tax to highways whil your Petitioners Unimproved lands is Subjected thereto which is Surely unjust and oppressive.

Wherefore we pray your Honners to take the matter under your wise consideration and Grant us Relieff by Passing an Act that S^d Unimproved lands pay their proportion of all Highway taxes, otherwise that Roads and Bridges may be made and maintained through Unimproved Lands at the Charge of the Owners or in Such other way as to your hon^s may appear just &c — and your Petitionars as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

John Duncan
in behalf of the petitioners.

[6] [*Selectmen's Petition about Beef, 1786.*]

Acworth June ye 1 1786

To the Hon^{bl} the Senate and House of Representatives Convened at Concord The first wednesday in June instant

The Petition of the Select men of Acworth in behalf of said Town Humbly Suet that in obedience to an act of Law Passed in this State the 27th of June 1780 calling on the Towns to furnish the States Collector with beef for the use of the army And on delivering S^d beef & taking the Collectors recpt for The same (which is to S^d Acworth 3,415 pounds) we should be Credet for the Same in the Next years tax of New Emision Accordingly we Delivered 3425 pounds of beef and prodused Our Recpts to the Tresurar But he tels us that the Collector Did not Return aney But 1925 pounds of beef and he will not Give us Credet without an order from this Hon^{bl} Cort and as we in obedience to your Hon^{rs} did deliver the full Sum of 3425 Pounds of Beef as doth apear by Recpts Now in hand and Likewise John Hubbard Esq^{rs} Testemony Theirfore We pray your Honers to take our Case into your Serious Consideration and as we are not to be accountabl for the Neglect of the States Collector in not Returning all the Beef he Collected, theirfore we Trist your Honers will Direct the Treshurar to Give us Credet for all the Beef we delivered and for the Remendar of the beef more than setls the Newemision tax we desier To have it Reducted from the Beef we ow in the Next year which is the year 1781 or aney other way in your wisdoms you shall think proper and we as in duty bound Shall Ever pray.

John Duncan }
Daniel Grout } Select
Amos Kiyes } men.

[The allowance was granted.—ED.]

[7] [*Petition for Authority to Tax Non-resident Lands.*]

Acworth September 18th 1787

To the honorable Senate and house of Representatives now sitting at Charlestown. The petition of James Campbell in behalf of the inhabitants of the town of Acworth Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner has been at great Expences in repairing roads and Building a Meeting-house which has greatly Increased the value of lands belonging to Nonresidents, Granting this to be the Case your honors will Conclude they Ought to contribute

a small moiety to defray the Charges that has or may arise. And we are further encouraged to ask, and expect your honors hearing and Assistance, as we had one bridge over Cold river burnt with fire, And another Carried off by Water, the buttmanes of which cost us Sixty pounds, as we have been great Sufferers, therefore we pray your honors to consider our case and Grant that we may be enabled to asses and Collect Two pence on the acre of all lands lying in said Acworth belonging to Nonresident Owners. And we as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

James Campbell in behalf of the
inhabitants of the town of Acworth.

[In H. of Rep., Sept. 21, 1787. The matter was considered, and a hearing ordered for the next session; but I fail to find any record of anything done in the matter at that session.—ED.]

To the Honorable General Court of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of Matthew Wallace of Acworth humbly Sheweth that he was committed to Goal in Keene the tenth day of June last and not being able to pay the contents of the Execution—the Honorable the Justice of the Superior Court in October last admitted him to the Oath prescribed in an Act entitled an act for the ease and relief of Prisoners for Debt and ever since your Petitioner hath been and is now detained in the Goal in Keene aforesaid by his Merceliss creditor—and that your Petitioner hath a large family of small children who are in a suffering condition even for the Necessaries of life and your Petitioner in his present situation can afford no relief which must be peculiarly depressing to a Husband and a father and more easily felt than described—and your Petitioner is worth nothing and never like to be in his present situation and without a friend to pay the Debt and no one to Shew mercy to him in that way—Wherefore he most earnestly prays that this Honble court would pass an act to relieve poor prisoners in this Situation after they have paid the uttermost farthing that creditors may not be suffered to triumph in the distress of an honest Debter and in the entire destruction and Deaths of his Wife and Children ——— and as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Keene prison June ye 1st day 1792

[8]

Matthew Wallace.

ALBANY.

This town was granted by Gov. B. Wentworth, Nov. 6, 1766, to Clement March and sixty-three others, seven of whom bore the name of Senter. Among the first settlers were Orlando Weed, Jeremiah Gilman, and Benjamin Knowles. A dispute about the line between this town and Tamworth was settled by a committee, consisting of Simeon Olcott of Charlestown, Josiah Little of Newbury, Mass., and Russell Freeman of Hanover, who were appointed for that purpose in 1796. They employed Henry Gerrish, surveyor. Henry Weed acted as agent for Burton; and the line was run in December of that year.

Burton was severed from Grafton county, and annexed to Strafford, November 27, 1800.

By an act approved July 2, 1833, the name of the town was changed to Albany.

[9] [*Petition to have a Meeting called to choose Town Officers, 1785.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Representatives for the State of Newhampshire Humbly Shews. The inhabatance of Burton in Said State that they are annualy Called upon for State taxes That they have no officers to asses or Collect Said Taxes and they know not of any way to obtain a meeting without great cost & trouble there being no Justice of the Peace for Said County within more than forty miles of said Burton.

Wherefore we Pray the Hon^{ble} Court to appoint Some Person in or near Said Burton to Notifie & call a meeting of the Inhabatance of Said Burton for the Purpose of Chooseing all necessary Town officers so as they may be enabled Legally to assess and collect Said taxes & transact other necessary Business of said Town and as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

Burton June 18th 1785

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Joseph Crosby | Elisha Weed | Isaac George |
| Benjaman Crosby | Ezekiel Gilman | Nathaniel Head |
| Orlando Weed | Hanery Allard | |
| Nathaniel Hayford | Benjamin Mead | |

[10] [*Petition of Selectmen about Taxes, 1788.*]

To the Honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire.

The petition of the Selectmen of Burton in behalf of Said Town humbly sheweth that there were Precepts sent to the

Town of Burton for Taxes in the year 1784 & in 1785 there being at that Time only seven Families in the Town & they chiefly very poor and no Town meeting had ever been held in the Town, neither were they qualified to hold any and had they been able to pay a Tax it could not be collected. In the year 1786 the Town petition'd the General Court to enable them to collect Taxes should any more be sent, the Prayer of which Petition was granted and David Gilman Esq^r was impower'd to call a meeting in said Town, which he did the same year, since which time we have assesed such Taxes as have been sent to us for, and are willing to pay the same, but are of opinion that it is not in the power of the Town to pay the aforesaid two years Taxes as they remain few in number and in general very poor and your Petitioners therefore pray that the Honorable Court will abate the Town of the above mentioned two years Taxes and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

Burton November 5th 1788.

Benjamin Meed } Select
Orlando Weed } men.

[11] [*Petition in favor of Benjamin Weeks, 1789.*]

To His Excellency the President and the Hon^{bl} his Council Humbly Sheweth the Inhabitants of Burton in the County of Grafton that they Labour under many defecaultys for the want of a Justice of the Peace being appointed in Said town as there is no Justice of the Peace within and for Said County within fifteen miles of us where we Inhabit and our town business is done, we would therefore Recomend Benjamin Weeks of Said Burton as a Suitable Person to be appointed to that office, or some other Suitable Person in said Burton as your Exellency and Honour Shall See fit and your Petitioners as in duty Bound pray.

Burton April 1789.

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Orlando Weed | Nathaniel Head. | Theophelus Brown. |
| Benjamin Meed. | Nathaniel Hayford. | Caleb Brown. |
| Levi Rundlet. | Elisher Weed. | Isaac George. |
| Orlando Weed Jr. | Ezekiel Gilman. | Jere. Gilman. |
| Daniel Head. | Ambros Hinds | Joseph Crosbe. |

[12] [*Petition to be severed from Grafton, and annexed to Strafford County, 1800.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Learsature of the State of New-Hampshire convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June A. D. 1800.

The Petition of the inhabitants of Burton in the County of Grafton, humbly Sheweth, that the God of nature has so formed a Chain of Mountains as to cut us of from all convenient communication with said County of Grafton, & we have to travel a large distance through the County of Strafford, to get to any Court that is, or ever will, be holden in Said County of Grafton, we have withheld this Petition for several years, thinking there would be a new arrangement in Counties, & did not wish to give your Honor any trouble in the matter but we see no likelihood of any olteration taking place in the Counties, therefore we pray your Honor to take the matter under your wise consideration & annex us to the County of Strafford, & your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray. This by a unanimous Vote in Town Meeting.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Orlando Weed. | } Selectmen of Burton. |
| John Chase. | |
| Nathaniel Knowles | |

[Granted by act of the legislature, passed November 27, 1800.—ED.]

ALEXANDRIA.

This town was granted by the Masonian Proprietors, March 13, 1762, to Jos. Butterfield, Jr., and others, and incorporated November 23, 1782. The first settlements were made in 1769, by William, Jonathan, and John Moor Corliss. A portion of the town was taken off February 11, 1788, and, with a part of New-Chester, now Hill, incorporated into a town by the name of Bridgewater.

Another portion of the town was set off June 18, 1795, and incorporated as a town by the name of Danbury.

By an act of December 7, 1820, a tract of land was severed from the town of Orange and annexed to Alexandria; and by an act passed on the 20th of said month a tract of land was severed from Alexandria and annexed to the town of New-Chester.

In consequence of so many changes, the shape of the town at present bears little resemblance to the original grant.

Alexandria Addition, referred to in some of the following papers, was incorporated into a town by the name of New London, June 25, 1779.

[13] [*Jeremiah Page's Statement, Alexandria Addition, 1773.*]

June ye 1st 1773, by the Desire of Mathew Thornton Esq. and Mr. Robert MacMurphy Boath of Londonderry. I have been and Took a Survey of all the Land Lying between Alexandria and fishersfield and Part of Parytown on the Easterly Side of the Pattent Line as is Shewn by the Plan herein Inclosed, and according to the Best observation I could make of the quality of said Land in Generall it appears to be more Ruff and Poor Land than any I saw in the Neighbouring Towns it being very mountainous and Rocky the Lower Land Generally Cold and Sprucy Boggs I did Not See a Grate Deal of Alexandria but Perrytown is according to the Best of my Judgment much Better Land in Generall than the Adition to Alexandria which I Lotted out. Gentlemen Mr Minot Desired my Judgment and to take Pirticular Notice as to the Goodness of the Land, and to Send it in wrighting with the Plan. Gentlemen your most Humble Sev
Jeremiah Page

The above written, is a Copy of a Certificate wrote by Jeremiah Page Surveyor, on the Back of a Plan of Alexandria Addition rendered by him upon oath and returned to sd Grantors by a Com^{tee} of the Grantees June 1773

attest, Geo : Jaffrey Proprs Cl

[14] [*Petition of Inhabitants about Taxes.*]

State of New Hampshire To the Honourable Council and House of Representitives in General Court Assembled At Exeter For the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Township of Alexandria in Said State — who Humbly Shews that they Aprehend the Sum Required to be Assesed on Said Proprietors and Inhabitants is a Burthen Insuportable for them in their Present Infant State and is a much heavier Tax than What is Laid on other Towns of their ability in Said State and they Pray that the Honourable Court Would Appoint A Time when They May be heard on the Premises—and as in Duty Bound your Petitioners Shall ever Pray.

Proprietors

Robert MacMurphy Joshua Tolford Jonas Minot
John Tolford

The Inhabitants

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| James Russell. | Moses Johnson | Ebenezer Wells. |
| Eliphalet Gale. | Asa Hastings. | William Powell. |
| John Moor Corliss. | Jonathan Merrill. | Anthony Taylor. |
| Josiah Emerson. | Jonathan Corliss. | John Tolford. |
| George Corliss. | David Atwood. | William Palmer. |
| David Cross. | Jeremiah Ladd. | Jonathan Palmer |
| William Patterson. | Nason Cash. | Jonathan Palmer Jr. |
| Daniel MacMurphy. | Joseph Atwood. | Ebenezer Farrar |
| Cristopher Bartlet. | Jonathan Farrar. | John Champney. |
| Benjamin Hoyte. | Jonathan Taylor. | John Fravier |
| Thomas Hoyt. | James Taylor. | |

[15] [*Petition of Inhabitants about Representative, 1775.*]

Colony of New Hampshire to the Honourable Congress to be heald at exeter on the twenty first Day of December Instant at three of the Clock in the afternoon—Wee Pray That the Congress Will Consider our Grevinces in not Having any fear Chance in Voting for a Person to Represent us in general Congress after the Warant Come to the town the town met and thought it might Answer to Send two of their Selectmen to act for the town For this Reson Because it was So fare for the Whole Town to attend they had all Near thirty Miles to gow and the Traviling So Bad to Whear they apointed the election to be Held and the two Selectmen met at the time and Place And the Modretar Refused to Let them Cerrey in Vots for the Legal Voters of S^d town Without evir Putting it to Vot to Se Whither the Rist of the towns Wood consent of it or not and ther is Number of the Voters of the other towns is Verey much Dissetisfied With His Presedings and the Selectmens of Plymoth and we the Subscribers Do Beg that the Honourable Congress Will Let us have New choice of a person to Represent us in Congress or wee Shall think that wee are Very hardly Imposed upon By the Congress

Alexandria December ye 15th 1775

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Nason Cass Jr. | Jonathan Palmer | Eliphalet Gale. |
| Anthony Taylor. | Jonathan Palmer Jun | Josiah Emerson. |
| James Taylor. | William Palmer | Joseph Basford Jr. |
| William Morrow | Daniel M ^c Murphy | John Moor Corless. |
| Jonathan Taylor. | John M ^c Murphy | William Corliss. |
| Robert Morrow. | Asa Hastings | William Polee. |
| Ebenezer Farrar | Benjamin Hoyt | George Corliss. |
| William Powell | David Cross. | Thomas Hoit. |
| Jonathan Clark | Nathaniel Lad. | Joseph Hoyt |

[16] [*Request for Guns and Ammunition, 1776.*]

Alexandria June 28 ye 1776

To the Coloney Committy of New Hampshire Gentlemen, this may Inform you that our Distress Seems Great, We hear that the French & Indienes are Coming Down upon us & We are In Poor Surcomstances as to Guns and Ammunitions, We are Ready to help Defend our Selves & Cuntry as far as Is in our Power If your Hon^{rs} Would help us to the above articles for the Best Security that we Can make We are In Want of 18 Guns & ammunition for a town Stock for 36 men, We the Suscribers Do Engage to Return the above articles or Pay for them as witness our Hands

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| George Corliss | David Atwood | Joseph Atwood |
| Jonathan Farrar | David Cross | Jonathan Taylor |
| William Polee | Asa Hastings | William Powell |
| Nathaniel Lad | Benjamin hoit | Anthony Taylor |
| John Lad | Jonathan Palmer | John Tolford |
| Jeremiah Lad | Ebenezer Wells | Jonathan Clark |
| Josiah Emerson | William Morrow | John Champney |
| William Corliss | Benjamin Rowell | James taylar |
| Eliphalet Gale | Rob ^t McMurphy jun | Robert Murrey |
| Daniel McMurphy | Ezenezer Farrar | |

made choice of Mr. Eliphalet Gale to Go after the Sade Guns & ammunition.

[17] [*Inventory of the Town, 1777.*]

| | |
|--|----------|
| No. of Polls 18 years old and upwards | 36 |
| No. Acres of arabal or Tilage & Mowing Land | 93 |
| No. of Horses & Mares | 12 |
| No of Oxen 28 No. Cows 42 No. Cattle 3 years old 10 | |
| No. of Cattle two years old | 15 |
| No of Cattle one year old | 14 |
| One Saw Mill & One Corn Mill | |
| Sum total of Money on Hand or at Interest | £100 |
| Sum total of the Value of all Real Estate not Included | |
| Before in Lands No. acres 21358 | 640.7.1¾ |
| | <hr/> |
| | 320.3.14 |

Alexandria April 1777

S^d Inventory is Given in on Oath By us Ebenezer Farrar Eli-phalet Gale Select Men

Bee Fore mee John McMurphy Town Clark

[18] Inventory of Addition to Alexandria, So Called.

Taken by Ebenezer Farrar Selectman of Alexandria

But that said Inhabitants Refuse to answer to said Alexandria being in the County of Hillsborough—and that the Court will Direct Said Addition to pay Said Farrar for Three Day Taking s^d Invoice

| | |
|--|----------|
| Number of Polls 18 years old and upwards | 12 |
| No. Horses & Mares 1 No. of Cows 6 | |
| Sum Total of the Value of all Reatable Estates Not included Before in Wile Lands 20230 acres | 606.9.0 |
| | 303.4.10 |

No Cattel 3 years old 4 No. Cattel 2 years old 2

To Esq^r Thompson Secretary In the State of Newhampshier.

[R. 1*] State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{bl} the Council and Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of said State of New Hampshire, in General Assembly Convened June 14th 1781,

Humbly Shews Daniel M^eMurphy of Alexandria in the County of Grafton in said State Gentlemen—That your Petitioner was a Lieutenant in the army and was wounded at the Battle at Bennington in 1777 whereby he was rendered Incapable of Labour to earn his Living and was accordingly Enrolled as a Pensioner in this State. That by reason of the Depreciation of the Present Currency his half pay is rendered of Little or no Value to him as to his support.

Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly prays your hon^{rs} to take into Consideration his Deplorable Circumstances, and relieve him by making up the Depreciation of his half pay, or in any other way that your hon^{rs} shall think best—and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will pray &c

Daniel M^eMurphy

[R. 2] State of New Hampshire.

To his Excellency the President & the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in general court convened, Humbly shews Daniel M^eMurphy of Alexandria in the County of Grafton Gentleman.

That your Petitioner is entitled to a Lieuts. half pay agreeable to the resolves of the hon^{ble} general Court to be paid in State notes; which will neither pay taxes, nor purchase the necessaries of life, except by a great discount on said notes. Where-

* R. refers to Revolutionary papers, collection of 1881, in office of Secretary of State.

fore he humbly prays your honors, that you would grant him his said half-pay or a part in an order upon the treasurer that may be received in payment of taxes, and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Daniel M^eMurphy

Concord, Feby. 11th 1785.

[20] [*Remonstrance of the Inhabitants of Alexandria against Building a Road, and Petition to be Incorporated.*]

To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives for The State of New Hampshire in general assembly convened at Concord June y^e 1782.

The Petition of the inhabitants of the Township of Alexandria Humbly Sheweth that whereas the Inhabitants of Cockermouth have Petitioned the Honorable Councill and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire Praying that the town of Alexandria May be compelled to make them a good waggon road through said Town which is about seven miles, with only four settlers on said Road—we the Inhabitants of said Alexandria beg leave to say that it will be a Burthen Insupportable in our Present Infant State of which we Beg Leave to offer a few things to your Honours consideration which are Real facts. first—That Cocermouth have never Requested us to Make or mend said Roads—That there is no more than Forty Inhabitants Freeholders in Alexandria—That we have above Forty Miles of Roads in said Alexandria. That said Roads are very uneaven Rocky and wet—Several Large Streams to Bridge—we have already built Three Bridges over Smiths River more are needed over the same—That there must be Two over the Branches of Fowlers River one of which we suppose will cost at least one Hundred Hard Dollars the Stream not being fordable at many Seasons of the year—That our settlers are much Scattered it being about Fourteen Miles from one Extream to the other—that we are not Incorporated therefore Cannot Lay out any Roads at present.—That our Settlers in general are in low Circumstances a great part has been obliged to buy great part of their Provisions Hay &c from the Neighboring Towns that has Run them Considerably in Debt So that they have not for four years past been able to pay Their Taxes otherwise than by Hiring Money for which they are now In debt and by no means able to pay—We the Petitioners Therefore Humbly pray that your Honors will take the Matter into Consideration and grant us an Incorporation by the name of Alexandria. Beginning at A Maple in Masons Patent Line about Forty Rods from New-found Pond thence over part of said Pond South Twelve Degrees East Five Miles and an half more or less to the Place where A Hemlock Tree formerly stood and Marked for the Easterly Cor-

ner Bounds of Alexandria, from thence South fifty Three Degrees west Eight and half Miles more or less to A Beach Tree Marked—From Thence North Twelve degrees west Four and half Miles More or Less to the Pattent Line aforementioned, from Thence Easterly on said Line to the Place first Mentioned, which Transcript is agreeable to Charter—and that as soon as we are Incorporated The Select Men or a Committee from Alexandria May be ordered to Lay out all Necessary Highways, or Roads to Cocermouth in order to make the Same Passable as soon as may be, and that the Cost may be assessed on Residents and Non Residents as State Continental and war Taxes are—that your Petitioners be not Distressed till such order Can be obtained and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray &c.

Dated Alexandria June 10th 1782.

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Alexander Craige | Jeremiah Lad | Ebenezer Williams |
| William Powell | Joshua Tolford | Jonathan Farrar |
| Jonathan Corliss | John M ^c Murphy | Jonathan Clark |
| Josiah Emerson | Hugh Campbell | Nason Cass |
| George Corliss | Joseph atwood | James Wood |
| Eliphalet Gale | John Putnam | Ebenezer Clefford |
| Nathaniel Lad Senr. | Israel Putnam | Christopher Bartlet |
| John Lad | Jonathan taylor | Nathan Bartlet |
| Nathaniel Ladd | James taylor | David Atwood |
| Nathan Barker | Ebenezer Farrar | Simeon Merrill |
| Enos ferrin | Jonathan Palmer | Benjamin Hoyt |
| David Cross | John Tolford | |

State of New Hamp^r. In the House of Representatives Nov. 20th, 1782. Upon hearing and considering the foregoing Petition. Voted that the prayer thereof be granted and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly. Sent up for Concurrence

Timothy Walker Speaker P. T.

In Council Nov. 21st 1782. Read and Concurred

E. Thompson Secy.

[In answer to the foregoing petition, an act was passed, Nov. 23, 1782, incorporating the town, and authorizing the selectmen to lay out and make the said road, and assess a tax upon all the land in town to pay for the same.—ED.]

[21] [*Petition about the Road from Boscawen to Dartmouth College, 1786.*]

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire Convened at Portsmouth Feby 1786.

The Petition of the Select Men of Alexandria in Behalf of said Town—Humbly Sheweth, that your Petitioners are Informed that the Honourable Court have Sent a Committee to Look and Lay out a Road from Boscawen to Dartmouth College which Road we hear is laid through the South westerly part of Alexandria about Seven Miles, which Road through Alexandria we think unnecessary for the Publick and very injurious to us—as we have been at great expense in making a Road through s^d Alexandria and part of New Chester [now Hill] to accommodate the Publick and some of our Inhabitants, which Road we have Lately Laid out and have made many alterations, much for the better—and find that from Capt. Hoyts in Grafton to Capt Wiers in Andover is but Ten Miles and an half by measure with the Alterations we have made through sd Alexandria—which we think may be made a good way with Labor.—and five Miles nigher than the other way our Inhabitants are few Much burthened with Making Publick Roads, most of them in Low Circumstances, much Scatered it being Fourteen miles from the Extreme parts of Settlement—Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray, That a Committee may be sent to view the Road which we have Laid out which we Doubt not will appear to be for the Public good and ours we therefore pray we may be Excused from Makeing the Road Laid by the Committee through Alexandria, where we have no Settlers nor any prospect of any at present.

And as in Duty Bound your Petitioners shall Ever Pray &c
Alexandria February y^e 2^d 1786

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Simon Merrill | } Select Men |
| Hugh Campbell | |
| David Atwood | |

[22] [*Petition of Selectmen relative to Taxes.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened at Concord the first Wednesday of June A. D. 1787. we the Subscribers in behalf of the Inhabitants of Alexandria Humbly Sheweth that the former selectmen of Alexandria have neglected to Return the Constables for the years 1781,—1782—& 1783 by which means an Extent hath issued against us the Present Select men for a Ballance of £270, which sum we are by no means able to Collect at present, great part of our Inhabitants having their provisions to buy and nothing to spare wherefore we Humbly pray that your honors will give orders that the Treasurer Receive what we have collected and stay all Extents against us till the Last of october Next—that we may have time to collect our Non-Resident Tax by sell-

ing their Land if they will not pay without, it being owing to our lenity to non-residents that our Town is so much in arrears—we having never sold an acre of non-residents land since the war Commenced. in the meantime we will make every possible Exertion in our power and hopes to be able to pay up with other townes of our ability—and as in duty bound your Petitioners will Ever pray.

Dated Alexandria June 2^d 1787

Simon Merrill } Select
David Atwood } Men

[The foregoing petition was considered by the legislature, June 19, 1787, and the prayer thereof granted.—ED.]

[23] [*Petition of Inhabitants of New-Chester and Alexandria for a new Town.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives
Convened at Charlestown the Second Wednesday of Sept^r
A. D. 1787.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of a part of New-Chester Lying Between Newfound Pond River and Smiths River so called—and the Inhabitants of the North Part or first Division of Alexandria, Humbly Shews that we your Petitioners for a number of years have Laboured under many difficultys by reason of our Scattered Situation it being as much as fourteen Miles from one Extream part of our Settlements in Alexandria to the other Extream.—and the situation of that part of New Chester above mentioned is nearly as inconvenient to either of the Centers of New Chester which makes it extremly Dificult to assemble either to transact Town Business or for Public Worship—Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that your Excellency and Honours would grant us an Incorporation by the name of Beginning at the mouth of Smiths River so called thence westerly up s^d River to the Range Line between the first and Second Div^{ns} of Alexandria thence North 12 Deg^s West to the Pattent Line as lately Run—thence North Easterly by s^d Pattent Line to the Easterly side of Newfound Pond thence down the Easterly Shore to the outlet of s^d Pond thence South Easterly by the Range Line Between the Second and third Divisions of New Chester to the corner of the River Lott N^o 56, thence Easterly on the Line Between 56 and 57 to Pemigesawasset River thence Down Said River to the mouth of Smiths River first mentioned and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray.

N. B. it was always expected and intended By the Proprietors

of Alexandria and New Chester to make four or five Towns or Parishes of the two, and to Divide Nearly according to the vote of the Inhabitants of New Chester and this Petition

Alexandria Sept^r 3, 1787.

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Joshua Tolford. | Theophilus Sanborn. | John Sleeper |
| thomas fuller | John tilton | Moses Johnson |
| Hugh Campbell | Joseph Hoyt | Benj ^a Basford |
| Sanders M ^c murphy | Moses Worthen | Timothy Simonds |
| George Corlis | Moses Sleeper | David Cross |
| Simon Merrill | John simond | Sherburn Tilton |
| Alex ^r M ^c Murphy | Josiah Emerson | Sherburn Tilton Jr. |
| William Corliss | John Moor Corliss | Sherburn Sanborn |
| Ebenezer Ferren | John M ^c Murphy | Israel Ingalls |
| Asa Hastings | Eliphalet Gale | Eleazer Taylor |
| William Simonds | Joshua Taylor | William Morrison |
| Alexander Craig | Ebenezer Simonds | Isaac Ladd |
| Benjamin Emerson | Nath ^l Bartlet | William M ^c Murphy |
| W Willerd | Peter Smith | william Ladd |
| Nathaniel Ladd | Jeremiah Ladd | peter Ladd |

N. B. the following are the Inhabitants of New Chester that are petitioners as they have signed their names in this Petition.

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Theophilus Sanborn | John Sleeper | Thomas Fuller |
| John Tilton | Joseph Hoyt | Moses Worthen |
| Moses Sleeper | Sherburn Tilton | Sherburn Tilton Jr |
| Sherburn Sanborn | William Corliss | Ebenezer Ferren |
| Asa Hastings | William Morrison | Alexander Craige |
| William Boyd | John Smith | |

[The foregoing petition was before the legislature, September 14, 1787, and a vote passed granting a hearing on the third Wednesday of their next session. February 11, 1788, an act to incorporate the new town, by the name of Bridgewater, passed the house. The senate concurred the next day. See Bridgewater.—ED.]

[24] [*Petition for Right to Tax Land for Repair of Highways.*]

State of New Hampshire.

to the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives
Convened at Concord on the first wednesday of June A. D.
1790.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the township of Alexandria in Said State Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners have

been and still are at great cost to Clear and Maintain Highways in said township and by Reason of Great freshits have been obliged to alter Clear and Make New Roads in Many places and have built Several large Bridges which are Costly to Maintain which Makes the Burdens heavy upon us as our Number of Rateable polls is but small therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honours would grant that all the lands in said township may be taxed one Penny upon an acre for three years Next in Ensuing for the Purpose of Clearing and Repairing Highways in said township and your Petitioners in Duty Bound will ever pray

Alexandria June 12th 1790.

Simon Merrill } Selectmen for and in
Joseph Atwood } behalf of said town

[The foregoing petition was before the house, June 14, and a hearing ordered for the next session. Act granting permission to levy the tax, passed January 14, 1791.—ED.]

[26] [*Petition for a Division of the Town.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Honb^l the Senate and House of Representatives for said State Convened at Concord December 24th 1794, Humbly Shew

The Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Alexandria that they labor under many Inconveniencies by reason of the disagreeable form or manner in which said Town lies also by reason of a Large mountain that crosses said Town about midway of the length thereof—Said Town is nine miles in Length and about Six miles in breadth which makes it large enough for two Towns, and the mountain in the middle of said Town renders it almost impossible for the Inhabitants of the South part and those of the North part to assemble on any occasion whatever without travelling a great length of way to get by said Mountain.—They therefore pray that your Honours would take their case under your wise consideration and grant them relief by making a division of Said Town at or near the middle thereof which your Petitioners conceive would be of public utility as well as greatly contribute to relieve the embarrassments of your Petitioners, and as bound shall pray

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Anthony Taylor | Peter Smith | Levi flanders |
| his | George Niles | Samuel Pingry |
| Athmore x hosking | Samuel Pilsbery | Jonathan Tolford |
| mark | John Tolford | Joseph Atwood |
| Daniel Reynolds | Isaac Favour | Obadiah Judkins |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ezenezer Williams | Benj ⁿ Pinter | Eben Carleton |
| Daniel Weare | William Martin | Sandrs M ^c Murphy |
| John simonds | Eleazer Taylor | Josiah Emerson |
| Benjamin Emerson | Timothy Emerson | John Moor Corliss |
| Daniel Corliss | William Simonds | Timothy Simonds |
| Enos Ferren | David M ^c Murphy | Jorg Corliss |
| Samuel jr Simons | Moses Simonds | Isaac Ladd |
| David Atwood | Ebenezer Simonds | Jeremiah Ladd |
| Peter Ladd | Joshua Tolford | Peter Ingalls |
| thomas Reed | Jonathan Burpe | Stephen Gale |
| Robert M ^c Murphy | William M ^c Murphy | David Morse |
| Christopher Bartlet | Ziba Townsend | John Emons |
| Jonathan Clark, | James Taylor | |

[25] [*Votes relative to Division of the Town.*]

Alexandria March 30th 1795

then met agreeable to said warrant

1ly voted Joshua tolford Modrator to govern said Meeting.

2ly voted to Divid the town.

3ly voted to Divid the town between the first and second Ranges of the second Divishion

4ly voted to Divid the town begining at New Chester Line between the first and second Division from thence to Run westerly at Right angle from New Chester Line to the Patten Line

5ly voted to Divid the town between the second and third Ranges of the second Divishion

6ly voted to Reconsider the two Last votes in Respect of Dividing the town and that the first vote shall stand that is to Divid the town between the first and second Ranges of the second Division—

a tru Cooppey Attest Nason Cass town Clark

[In H. of Rep., December 29, 1794, a hearing was ordered for the next session ; meanwhile, a notice was to be published in the *New Hampshire Gazette*, and one posted in some conspicuous place in the town. June 18, 1795, an act passed dividing the town and incorporating the southerly part into a town by the name of Danbury. For boundaries, see Danbury.—ED.]

[27] [*Petition for a Committee to Run the Line between Alexandria and New Chester.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives for said State Convened at Hanover June 10th 1795. Humbly Shew—The Subscribers Selectmen of Alexandria and New Chester in behalf of themselves & Inhabitants of s^d Towns beg leave to Represent that the Line between said Towns is not a Straight Line agreeable to the charters of said Alexandria or New Chester—that in the fall of the year 1793 the Selectmen of the s^d Towns Employed a Surveyor to Run & Perambulate the s^d line and found it very croked—in one place crossing the old Line, in other places more than 60 Rods Distant The Lotts in Each Town is Laid out as tho there was a straight Line the Settlers on the one side & on the other are got into a Quarrell some contending for a straight Line & some for the crooked Line & the worst consequences is to be feared.—Wherefore your Petitioners pray that your Honours would take their case under your consideration & grant them Relief by appointing a Committee to settle & establish said Line according to the true intent & meaning of both charters—or as your Honours shall think best—and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Obadiah Judkins | } Selectmen of Alexandria | Samuel Wells | } Selectmen of New Chester |
| Anthony Taylor | | Peter Sleeper | |
| | | Anthony Taylor | |

[In H. of Rep., June 11, 1795, a committee was appointed to look into the matter and report, but I have not been able to find that they made any report.—ED.]

ALSTEAD.

This town was first granted by Governor B. Wentworth to John Towle and sixty-three others, by the name of Newton, December 28, 1752;—about the same time the first grant was made of Acworth, and probably for the same reason, as I believe no attempt was made to settle the town under this grant.

It was re-granted August 6, 1763, to Samuel Chase and sixty-nine others, by the name of Alstead, and settlements commenced soon after. In 1771 there were twenty-five or

more families in town, but some of the provisions of the charter not having been fulfilled, it was "extended" by Governor John Wentworth, January 25, 1772, in answer to a petition from the inhabitants. [See vol. 9, p. 5.]

The governor's reservation of five hundred acres was located in the north-west corner.

Among the prominent men prior to 1800 were General Amos Shepard, Nathaniel Sartell Prentice, Absalom Kingsbury, and Rev. Levi Lankton. Captain Jason Wait commanded a company in Col. Bedell's regiment in the Revolution.

[29] [*Petition for a Grant of the Township, 1750.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Captⁿ General & Governour in Chief in and over his Majestyes Province of New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of us the subscribers for ourselves and our associates being in number Fifty one Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are desireous of Setleing a Township in some of the unappropriated Lands in said province.

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that your Excellency will be pleased to grant to your Petitioners a Township of the Contence of Six Miles Square in some of his Majestys Land, in said Province of New Hampshire that are not allready appropriated, Subjected to such orders and restrictions as Your Excellency in Your Great Wisdom Shall See Meete. And as in Duty bound they will ever pray &c,

John Fowle
Seth Blogget

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Josiah Convers | Unite Moseley | John Skinner |
| John Fullton | Will ^m Maxwell | Jon ^a Bradish |
| David Whiteing | Sam ^l Servise | Benj ^a Bellknap |
| Thos. Draper | Benj ^a Furness | R. Cotton |
| William Fild | William Crombie | John Hill |
| Samuel Winship | Nath ^l Wales | Isaac Kidder |
| Samuel Smith | Joseph Scott | W ^m Dunlap |
| John Botherick | Ebenezer Field | Caleb Brooks |
| David Comee | Arch ^d McNeill | John Martin |
| Jonathan Briant | Robert Hill | Noah Richardson |
| Nathan Newhall | Jason Winship | John Douglass |
| Francis Whitmore | Joseph Newhall | Fran ^s Shaw |
| Ebenezer Frances | Jacob March | Will ^m Fisher |
| William Whittemore | Tho ^s Bennett | Tim ^o Winship |
| Abiel Richardson | John Bishop | Th ^o Lambert |
| Ebenezer Shattuck | James Pierce | Isaac Fillebrown |

[The grant was made December 28, 1752, to the foregoing persons and several others, but I think no settlements were made under it, and none of these appear in the grant of 1763 —ED.]

[30] [*Statement of Grievances, 1777.*]

The Inhabitants of the Town of Alstead in Town meeting assembled Feb. 4, 1777 to consider of matters of grievance to themselves and others to lay before the Hon^{bl} Committee of the Council and House of the State of New Hampshire: Do mention the following articles as grievous to them and needing redress.—That the present assembly was not called according to the direction of the Hon^{ble} Continental congress by a full and free representation thro. the State: for a number of Delegates from a part of the Towns of the State did without any previous notice, and before the advice of the Continental congress came to hand did set up a plan of representation, in our opinion, partial and defective, curtailing and abridging, the privileges of many of the Towns in this part of the state, as the natural right of one Town is equal to that of another

Further the present assembly in our opinion is not set up as the great Lawgiver and Author of Government requires: His order is that Rulers be fearers of *Him*, haters of covetousness: whereas the present plan requires no religious or moral, but only pecuniary qualifications for posts of office, which serves to discourage virtue and to promote vice as conjoined with wealth: The method of choosing Councillors and Representatives has a tendency this way likewise, as by just implication every person paying rates man woman or child, however immoral and wicked, may vote in the choice of members of the assembly, by which means if the majority are evil, as like approves of its like, the vile will bear rule over a state professing true religion. The present plan of Government was set up while we were under the King of Britain, but now we are independent of him, and therefore a new form of Government ought as soon as may be to be erected, by a full and equal representation of every incorporated Town thro the State, and that the plan of the same be sent to each Town for their approbation, and that which the majority agree to, be considered as the constitution of this State. The act past Septemb^r 19 1776, we view as unintelligible, and by no means calculated to answer the end pretended of having an equal representation. The last assembly did not act a disinterested party or for the good of the State, in confining all places of trust as much as they could among themselves: or in rejecting Coll Hunt from being High Sheriff of this county, after his

appointment, even before he refused to accept, which, with the putting in of Coll Hale we suspect was done by the influence of a certain well known member in these parts.

Lastly the giving commissions for war, is another article of grievance, which is a thing unprecedented in any free state, and s^d commissions are kept from the eye of the people, and they are unacquainted with the unlimited powers given officers thereby, we have expressed these matters in a way to be understood, and hope that they will be attended to by your Honors as their importance and the Public good requires.

At y^e aforesaid meeting was chosen Absalom Kingsbury & Jonathan Shepherd Jur. a committee for s^d Alstead to present y^e above to y^e Hon^{ble} Committee.

Test Absalom Kingsbery Town Clerk

The foregoing is a True Copy of y^e voate of the Town of Alstead as Matters of Grievances to be laid before y^r Hon^r Committee from y^e Hon^r Assembly of y^e State of New Hampshire

Test Absalom Kingsbery, Town Clerk

The Committees of Marlo Surry & Westmoreland concur with ye within matter of Agreevencis.

[30½] [*Prudence, the Wife of Simon Baxter—Petition.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Counsel and assembly for the State of New Hampshire—the humble petition of Prudence Baxter of Alstead in the County of Cheshire humbly shews and gives your Honours to be informed that your petitioner dos not send this prayer to your honours for riches nor honours—but for mercy and I may say forfeited mercy might be extended to Simon Baxter the husband of your petitioner—who did in July 1777 go over to the enemy—but has ever sence the day he joined them been sorry for his fault—and has Repented his Erro with a flood of Tears—I dont mean to trouble your patiences with any thing but the Truth, and Capt Holmns of Walpole and Capt Gilbert of Littleton Can and will if Called upon Testify that the s^d Baxter has for a Long Time past ben a friend to america and Capt Wait of this Town who is now in the army and has ben a prisoner with the enemy Can Testify the kindness y^e s^d Baxter shew to the prisoners of the united states and ever sence has had a Desire to Return and sware aligence to the united states and is now Detained in a flag in Boston harbour—and their does earnestly pray for mercy—and as their is none that is guilty has Less then he so none a fairer plea for pardon—o spair him I humbly pray—I ask not for his Estate—only for his Life under such Limitation as you in your wisdom shall see proper to alow—the s^d Baxter did while hear do his part in the war as my familey has

sense without complaining—suffer him I humbly pray to be once more a subject of this state and have the Liberty of the oath of aligence to the united states—I Cair not how we Live or how we are fed, if he can but have authoritative Liberty to Live in this state, the small [property] that we did possess shall with pleasure go only spair him—and as mercy is the Dealing of god and the Brightest Virtue of the human mind—o Let Baxter be one subject of your mercy—the glory of a merciful Deed is in proportion to the Crime for which the Deed of mercy was Extended.

The arms of america has spread Terrow thro the world—o that their mercy might not be Confined or Limeted—I do in my husband name Lay myself and him att the foot stool of this state for mercy and if we must perish we must perish there—as in duty bound shall ever pray

Alstead December ye 14th 1778.

Prudence Baxter

[Capt. Lemuel Holmes of Surry, and Capt. Jason Wait of Alstead, the men referred to in the foregoing, were prisoners of war in New York when Simon Baxter and his son William were with the enemy, and, being old neighbors, probably received favors from them.

Simon Baxter's property was declared confiscated to the state; and Isaac Temple, Timothy Fletcher, and Absalom Kingsbury were appointed commissioners on the same, with the latter as trustee, who made an inventory of his estate, which includes the following: "A part of the 5th Lot in the eighth Range, about 100 Acres, and one half of Lot N^o 17 in the North Range of Lots in Alstead, and two acres in the Citidale [?] Lotts—one Dwelling House in the Highway." Mrs. Baxter petitioned, May 13, 1778, with the "approbation of Abra^m Brown, Nath^l S. Prentice selectmen of Alstead," stating that she had a large family of children, some of whom were small, and asked that the forfeiture of the estate might not be exacted.

It seems that Simon Baxter left the flag ship in some way, as he and Benjamin Baxter were taken from Alstead to Exeter about January 21, 1779, and delivered to the Committee of Safety by Absalom Kingsbury, and was there confined in jail for some time.

In my boyhood I have often heard my grandparents speak of "Simon Baxter the tory."—ED.]

[31] [*Confession of William Baxter.*]

I left home 28th of March 1778 & went to Cambridge there I found my father and he was to be exchanged and said I must go with him I told him I Did not Love to Leave my mother he said I had better go with him & I finally concluded to go with him to Rhode Island which I Did when I got to Rhode Island I worked with one seaven or Eight Days my father Did not Do any Business that I know of then he and I went to N York and had the Small pox together and was in N. York about A month then he told me I must go to Long Island and look out for myself and Dr. Pomroy [Doctor Josiah Pomeroy was an "absentee" from Keene] would get me a place to live at and I went to Long Island with Dr. Pomroy and left my father at N York and I Lived with one Abraham Brinkroff about a week and then my father come to me and told me he Intended to Return to Cambridge for they Meaning the Regulars would not exchange him unless he would go into their servis & he said he would not Do that—he had Drawn Rations till then and because he would not go into the Regular Servis they stopt his Rations then he worked in the same house with me till we went on board the Carteal that lay at newtown and went to N York before we went from Newtown my father & Dr Pomroy went Somewhere and then my father Gave me five hundred £ N York Currency and told me he had it of Dr Pomroy for which he told me he gave Dr Pomroy a note for twenty Pounds in hard money and my father told me to put it where the people of the house could not find it and said when we got back to Cambridge we could live well I told him we should be found out he was very angry with me & said he brought me to be a help to him but instead of that I was nothing but a plague and said he wished I was at home again—then we went to York and while we were wating for the flag to come of I went to work to help Lode the Vesel and my father went Back to Dr. Pomroy at Newtown and when he came back he brought about A thousand Dollars More as near as I Can Remember and told me to hide it and said he was to have some more as soon as it was struck of and Signed—the Next Day he went of again and brought so much as with what he told me to hide the Day before Made up A thousand pounds that I saw but how much more I Dont Know then he had some hard money and with that bought Cloathing to send by me to his famely—while we lay at N York one evening Benjⁿ whiting Sam^l Tarbull Will Stark Robt L. Fowle — Blair two Cummins Benjⁿ Trow my father and myself ware together at Jn^o Strouts in New York and I see Benjⁿ Whiting have one thousand Dollars in forty Dollar

bills and offered my father if he would take the Money and put it of att Cambridge or anywhere in y^e Country he would give him five hundred Dollars of it which my father took but told me he Returned it Back then the said Benjamin Whiting Said if he could not get any Body to fetch it Meaning the money he would fetch it himself for all the D^d Rebels would be overcome before Next year was out—the next Day we Sailed for Boston and after we had got to Boston I told my father I would not go back he said he believed I had as good go home and told me to take the Cloathing with me and carry it home to Mother and he counted some money to me vis ten forty Dollar Bills & Seaventeen twenty D^o and about Ninety five Dollars in good Money and told me to be carefull I said I was afraid it would hurt me he said the money would do him no good and if I was like to be hurt by it I might burn it—and then I set of for Cambridge and went to Joseph Welches and he was going to Boston and said he wanted some paper money and Asked me if I had any that I could spare I told him yes and I gave him fifty six Dollars for a Joannes and he went to Boston and came and told me he had got a hors for me and a boy to Carry me to Littleton for twenty dollars and said if I would give him twenty more he would find another hors for my baggage and said he had some more hard money & if I would change fifty paper Dollars he would let me have another Joannes which I Did and if I would give him fifty six Dollars he would Let me have two Guinnes which I Did I saw a hessian in Cambridge and changed fifty Paper Dollars for two Guinnes then I left Cambridge and went to Littleton and Cap^t Gilbert & I went to boston to Get my father out of the flag but Gen^l Heath would not Permit him to come out & there I bought 3 yd^s of Salloon & 3 yds of Lace & Exchanged 3 twenty Dollar bills then I returned to Cambridge and there I Met a Negro fellow with a watch and I gave him four twenty Dollar bills and 2 Eight Dollar bills & one four Dollar bill for y^e watch then I returned to Littleton & from there to Keen and got to Benjⁿ Halls and his Son Annanias asked me if I had got any Catchett meaning counterfit money I told him yes he Looked on it and told me he would put it of for me & Return me two thirds of it in good money which I consented to Do after that Zibia Hall his Brother asked me if I had any Catchett I told I had not for Anna' had got it he said he was the wrong Person to give it too for he would be to Ventersome I saw Anny after that he told me that Zibia wanted it for he had put of A large Some of it which if I mistake not was four Hundred Dollars & that 30 Dollars was returned Back which he could not put of So I went home and was Immediately taken up and then I sent my Brother Joseph to Anna hall for the money I left with him and he brought 7 forty Dol Bills & 1

twenty Do & 1 good Do & Keep^t two I had Left ten forty Dollar Bills with him & one twenty—My Brother Joseph & I hid the money he brought from Anna^s Hall in the barn Namely 7 forty Dollar bills & 1 twenty Do all the Money I mentioned in the foregoing Account that I have not Called good I suppose was Counterfit—while I was at Cambridge at Joseph Welches Welch Inquired of me About the Monmouth Battle & about y^e Brittish troops I told him they Suffered A Good Deal he said the Rebels had it in there papers that they ware beat but he Did not Believe it and said he wished to God that he was at New York with his famely and Enquired if there was any Houses to be Let I told him yes but they ware very Dear he Repeated he Wished he was there Dear as they was—while I was in New-York I saw one Timothy Lovell of Rockingham and one Hubbard of Windsor in y^e State of Vermont two Refugees and they have both stole out since and I saw Lovell in Littleton and he told me not to Mention to any Body that he was out of New York for it might hurt him and would not Do me any Good and he enquired where Maj^r Joseph Blanchard Lived & said he was going there to Holles but nobody suspected that Hubbard had ben to N York that I know of and he now Lives peaceably at home as I have heard I Likewise saw one Joseph Durfey of New London in y^e State of Connecticut in New York He said he Did not know what the Rebels would Do to him when he came out nor Did not care a D^d t—d.

the foregoing Relation is to the Best of my Remembrance the truth the whole truth and Nothing but the truth which I can attest before the Almighty God.

January 8th 1779.

William Baxter

N. B. Said Baxter confessed that his brother Joseph told him that annanias Hall told him he put off a 40 Dollar bill to one Hall a sadler in Keen, in the following way the Sadler gave a good 40 Dollar Bill to said annanias to change into small Bills—and ann^s said after taking the good Bill & could not change it, and then gave him a Counterfeit in Lieu

[See State Papers, vol. x, p. 503.—ED.]

[William Baxter was arrested by Joel Chandler, constable, on a warrant from Nathaniel S. Prentice, taken before said Prentice, November 11, 1778, examined, and sent to the general assembly. At the examination before "Squire Prentice," Capt. Lemuel Holmes testified as follows:—ED.]

I Lemuel Holmes of Lawful age Testify and say, That as I was Prisoner on Longisland when William Baxter who Left his home in Alstead came their with his father who came from Bos-

ton to Newyork s^d William Baxter whilst he continued Their Lived with a farmer on Longisland & Laboured for him for hier and did not join in the British servis or Draw Either Money or Provision from them to my knowledge but Lived in a Peacable Retired manner with a farmer that appeared To be a friend to america : I further say that Simon Baxter father to ye s^d William Declared to me that he ordered his son away, and as he found it more Difficult to support him their Than he Expected he thought Best for him to Return : S^d William Baxter came to Longisland some time in June Last Past according to my Best Remembrance—further this Deponent saith not.

Alstead Nov.^r ye 11, 1778.

Lemuel Holmes

[Sworn to before Nathaniel S. Prentice.—ED.]

[In H. of Rep., Nov. 18, 1778. William Baxter was ordered to be delivered to the sheriff, in order to be "sent back to New York by the first conveyance." It seems that he was not sent, however, but was admitted to bail, the bond requiring him not to go beyond the limits of Exeter. In May following he had a pass to go to Alstead and return in twenty days. In July he was granted a permit "to pass and repass from Portsmouth to Exeter on Business for the printers;" and in April, 1780, he was employed by the Committee of Safety to carry letters "to the County of Cheshire to call the General Court together," for which he was paid one hundred dollars. I think some allowance should be made for his conduct, on account of his age, and his having been influenced by his father, although I think his statement relative to Dr. Ziba Hall was not true. Dr. Hall was a respectable physician in Keene for many years.—ED.]

State of New Hampshire, Cheshire ss.

Alstead Nov. 26, 1781.

Whereas the major part of the Selectmen of Surry refused to obey the within precept, being under oath to the State of Vermont, and having sent the same to the Selectmen of Alstead, the major part of whom likewise refused to obey the same on the same account. We the subscribers Selectmen for Alstead and Surry, and all the Selectmen in said Towns that acknowledge the jurisdiction of New Hampshire, did on the ninth of this instant November notify all the legal inhabitants of the towns of Surry, Alstead and Marlow within mentioned to meet at the house of Mr. Timothy Fletcher in Alstead on Monday the 26th day of this instant Nov. at ten o'clock in the forenoon for the

purpose within mentioned. Who being accordingly met made choice of Mr. Absalom Kingsbury to represent them in the General Assembly within mentioned

Timothy Fletcher, Selectman for Alstead.

W^m Russell, Selectman for Surry.

[R. 4]

In Committee on Claims }
 Concord June 13, 1783 } The Bounty paid by Alstead to &
 which has been deducted from David Abrahams account amounts
 to Thirteen pounds Thirteen shillings

Attest Josiah Gilman Treas.

[David Abraham served also for Gilsum.—ED.]

[33]

[*Petition about Taxes.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the council and house of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire

The Petition of the Town of Alstead within said State Humbly Sheweth That considering the great Scarcity of a medium of currency we feel the greatest Impracticability of Discharging our Legal Taxes to the State to which we belong by cash. And as there is a number of Soldiers from amongst us that have Serv^d in the continental Service and a great part of there wages is yet due—the greater part of whom are Nescesetated for present Relief and the produce of our Husbandry would be that that would grant them Relief perhaps as well as the cash—the former of which is in our Power to Relieve them with when the Latter is utterly out of our Power to Supply with at present—Therefore your Petitioners pray that they may be directed in a mode that your honours in your great wisdom Shall point to pay our Quotas of Taxes in arrears Imediately to the Soldier for the reasons above mentioned and your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray.

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Alstead 29 th Sep ^r , 1783 | Amos Shepherd | } Selectmen of Alstead in behalf and by order of the Town |
| | Nathan Fay | |
| | John wood | |
| | Tim ^o Fletcher | |

[General Amos Shepherd was one of the leading men of Alstead from 1777 until his death. He was noted for industry, economy, honesty, and fidelity, and acquired a fortune for those days; frequently held positions of trust in the town; was elected state senator in 1786, and reelected fourteen times; was president of that body from 1797 to

1804; was a member of the council in 1785. He died January 1, 1812.—ED.]

[32] [*Petition of Nathaniel Shepherd, Deer-Reeve.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the council and house of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire,

The Petition of Nath^l Shepherd of Alstead in the county of cheshire state aforesaid.

Humbly Sheweth

That whereas your petitioner was chosen by the Town of Alstead Deer reife for the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred & Eighty and your Petitioner in Prosecuting his trust in that office under oath complained of one Elnathan Jenning as a person that had Broke the Law of the State in that case made and provided—Unto Nath^l S. Prentice & Thomas Sparhawk Esqs* Two of the Justices of s^d county as Directed in said act and your petitioner at a Large Expense of his own pursued the steps of the Law and made it appear to the said Justices that the said Jennings was actually guilty of killing Deer contrary to Law; there Judgment accordingly was that he should pay a fine as the Law Directs which the one half thereof was promised by said act to the Prosecutor which relying on the faith of the State he Expected, but to his great Surprise one of the said Justices Received a Special order from the President of sd State forbiding him in any way or manner to Demand the Said fine of the said Jennings whereby he was and hath been ever since kept out of his Right as promised in s^d act with an additional cost of his own Now your Petitioner prays that the aforesaid order may be Revoked or that your Petitioner may be Releived in some other way which your Hon^{rs} in your great wisdom shall think proper which your Petitioner Supposeth he hath an undoubted Right to Expect. And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will Ever pray

Nathaniel Shepherd

Alstead 23^d Oct^r 1783.

[The said Jennings proved that he was in the continental army three and one half years, was driven from Long Island by the British on account of his loyalty, came to this state in July, 1779, did not know anything about the law, and was poor and needed the meat for the subsistence of his

* For sketch of Nathaniel Sartell Prentice, see State Papers, vol. X, p. 36. Mr. Sparhawk was of Walpole. Sketch will be inserted in papers relating to that town.

family. For these reasons President Weare issued a special order to stay proceedings —ED.]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} general
Cheshire ss. } Assembly

the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Alstead in the County of Cheshire humbly sheweth that whereas there was in the year 1780 a Large sum of Continental money Due from this Town to the state aforesaid—but for several Reasons (which would be irksome to us, as well as Disagreeable to your Honors, to mention at this Time we pass them) the aforesaid money was not paid into the Treasury in season as it ought to have been—but not out of any ill intention in us, in regard to the money, or in any manner to Defraud, or keep Back, what was really due from us, to the said state, the truth of which will appear, by reciting one or two paragraphs in one of our Town Meetings about that time.

the 1st is this—that this Town will make a settlement with New Hampshire respecting all Debts that we have been with them in contracting

the second—Voted to chuse a Committee of three men to receive accounts from soldiers—(Viz) those that served the last campaign (meaning under the Authority of New Hampshire) as three months men, and six months men, and to take the said soldiers Receipts for the same money so paid. this last as far as the money amounted, was to answer the first, and from which we humbly conceive, your honors will be Led to see, that the people in this Town have not been so opposed to the Laws and orders of the general Assembly, as has been represented, and that the people have been, was then. and Now are, willing to pay there full Quotas of money to Defray the public charge—for in that great hurry, and heat of the people those two votes before Recited were obtained—Your Honours are as sensible of the Extreem scarcity of money thro the state as we can be, and if the Treasurer should be directed to call upon those two men in whose hands the aforesaid money now remains for so large a sum of hard money—your honours may Easily judge. the fatal consequences it would prove to them and there families.

We your petitioners therefore in the most humble manner prostrate our selves at the feet of the general Assembly humbly praying that your Honours would not in your wisdom and goodness by misrepresentation impute too much iniquity to the good people in this Town—but make some proper allowancies for human frailty by extending compassion to those two men, and receive the money they had collected before the time Expired

for receiving Continental money as has been done for other Towns in this county those two men aforesaid (viz) Nathan Fay, and Zebulon Crane are men of veracity who are at this time betruſted with public honours from New Hampshire—and whoſe affidavits in all matters may be relied on—this petition is not the prayer [of] one individual, but the voice of the people at Large in this Town—who with Confidence in your Clemency, and Contriſhon in our ſelves preſent this petition to your wiſe Conſideration as in Duty bound ſhall ever pray

Signed by order and in behalf of the inhabitants of the Town of Alſtead

Alſtead September 29th 1783.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Amos Shepherd | } Selectmen |
| John wood | |
| Tim ^o Fletcher | |

Accept^{td} & voted that the Select men Sign the Same in behalf of y^e Town

Atteſt Nath^l S. Prentice Town Clerk

[The H. of Rep., December 26, 1783,—

“Voted, That the prayer of ſaid petition be ſo far granted as to receive the money which is now in the hands of Nathan Fay, one of the conſtables, amounting to £1536. 18^s. 0. Continental Currency & that the treaſurer diſcount the ſame out of the taxes called for from the Town of Alſtead in the year 1780.”

The council concurred the ſame day.—ED.]

[35] [Certificate of Selectmen about Taxes.]

theſe may Certify that it appears by Samuel Kidders Tax bill for 1783—that Lot N^o 5 in the Eighth Range was Taxed in the war Tax two ſhillings and tenpence and N^o 4 in the Tenth Range three ſhillings and nine pence to the ſame tax—and to the ſtate tax N^o 5 in y^e Eighth Range 3/10—and N^o 4 in y^e 10th Range 5/2—and in ye County Tax N^o 5 in y^e 8th Range 1/——all in the ſaid Kidders Tax bills who was conſtable for 1783 which ſaid Lots belong to the Confiſcated Eſtate of Simon Baxter an Abſentee

£0.16.7.

Alſtead January 21st 1786

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Isaac Temple | } Select men of Alſtead |
| Benj ^a Wood | |
| Reuben Hatch | |
| Joel Chandler | |

Portsm^o Feby 14. 1786.

Received an order for ſixteen ſhillings and ſeven pence
Amos Shepherd

[In 1789, Gideon Delano and Eli Snow killed a wolf each in Alstead, for which they received a state bounty.—ED.]

[36] [*Petition for authority to Tax Non-resident Land.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in general Court Convened at Portsmouth on the 8th day of January A. D. 1790.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Alstead humbly sheweth that said Town hes a Large Shair of roads and Bridges to Support it being a Veri mountainous town and to ad to these burdon the County have lately laid out a Road through the Southeast-erly part of said Town through the non-residents Land about three milds which is no advantage to said inhabitants therefore your petitioners pray that the Selectmen of said town lay a Tax of two pence per acor on all the nonresidence Land in Said town to be Laid out on the roads through there own Lands, or other ways as you in your great wisdom Shall see meet.

and we as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Oliver Shepard } in behalf of
the Selectmen
of Alstead.

[January 11, 1790, the matter was before the H. of Rep., and a hearing ordered for the next session.

January 21, 1791, a bill granting the authority asked for was passed and concurred in by the senate.—ED.]

[40] [*Remonstrance against setting off a Parish.*]

To his Excellency the Governor and Hon^{ble} General Court of New Hampshire.

We the subscribers inhabitants of the Town of Alstead, being this day informed that a petition is circulating in the east part of this Town to the general Court praying to be set off as a Distinct parish; Now we would inform the Hon^{ble} General Court, that the situation of this Town is such that a Division would be hurtfull to the whole on many reasons that might be given as the matter is suden and unexpected to us till this date, and the Notice we had accidental and the voices of the inhabitants have not been asked, and a day of hearing on the said petition might be a Large bill of Cost to this Town—we pray therefore that the petition aforesaid might not have a hearing as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Alstead may 31.th 1793.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Reuben Hatch | Judah Hatch | Amos Shepard |
| Job Thompson Jr | Phinehas Hatch | William Simons |
| Joel Chandler | Joshua Crane | Abel Hebbard |
| Asa Hatch | Asa Grant | Jacob Cheever |
| Absalom Kingsbery | Chr ^s Williams | Sam ^l Slade |
| Edward Waldo | Jonas Parke | James Brown |
| Isaac Brown | Mason Hatch | Nathaniel Right Junr. |
| John Robbins | John Fletcher | Azel Hatch |
| Joshua Wood | Jonathan King | Jacob Wardner |
| Josiah Robens | Michel Grant | Thomas Root |
| William thompson | James Kingsbery | Josiah Cook |
| John Burroughs | Elias Brown | Dan ^l Williams |
| Benj ^a Baxter | Nath ⁿ Man | Joseph Cady |
| William Slade | John Worster | Josiah Cook Jr |
| Elisha Kingsbery | Ebenezer Palmer | Joseph Peck |
| Richard Emerson | Paul Robins | John Ladd |
| Daniel Perin | Josiah Crosby | Rich ^d Beckwith |
| John Slade Jr | Ephraim Kingsbery | Luke Harris |
| Daniel Waldo | Noah Vilas | Benj ^a Cutter |
| Elkanah Stephens | Moses Farnsworth | Jesse Watts |
| Nath ^l Rust | Lemuel Barker | David Hodgman |
| David Hale | Nath ^l Clark | Josiah Brooks |
| Frederick wardner | Tho ^s Farnsworth | Roswell Waldo |
| Isaac Cady | Nath ^l Cooper | Gideon Delano |

— 1136870

[41] [*Remonstrance of Selectmen.*]

To his Excellency the Governor, the Hon^{ble} senate and house of representatives in General Court Assembled, may it please your honors.

We the Subscribers Selectmen of the Town of Alstead, beg Leave to inform your Honours that this day we ware inform^d that a Petition is now Circulating in the East part of this Town praying to be set off as a distinct Parish or otherwise as the General Court may think proper—this matter has twice been before the inhabitants of this Town and twice Rejected by a Large majority, as a division of this Town at present would be very injurious to this Town in General, and they have not brought there petition before the inhabitants to know their minds on the matter—as selectmen and Guardians of the public affairs we pray the petition aforesaid might not have a hearing.

Alstead may 31th 1793

Isaac Temple } Selectmen
Oliver Shepard } of Alstead

[38] [*Petition for the Incorporation of a Religious Society.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Town of Alstead in said State.

Humbly Sheweth—That whereas your Petitioners being a compact Society in one part of the Town and some years past built them a meeting-house and settled them a Minister when there was no other settled minister in the Town, and have ever since paid a tax towards the support of their Society by themselves without being called upon to support the ministry any other way: but still we find ourselves under some embarrassments not having legal authority to call on one another for the taxes so made, and having got the approbation of the Town by their Vote in Town-meeting legally appointed therefor—Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that all those now paying taxes or that may hereafter choose to pay taxes towards the support of the ministry & meeting-house with us may be incorporated into a Society solely for that purpose.—And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray.

Alstead 26th Nov^r 1793.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Nath ^l S. Prentice | John Wood | Elijah Holbrook |
| Isaac Kent | John Bridgham | Jon ^a Newton |
| Abel Phelps | Daniel Newell | Benj ^a Wood |
| Oliver Brown | Nathan Fay | Asa Whitcomb |
| William Wood | Thomas Taylor | Abra ^m Brown |
| Laban Johnson | Jedidiah Johnson | John Brooks |
| Spencer Brown | Thomas Wait | John Kent |
| Solomon Prentice Jr | James Arch | Jesse Fay |
| Eli Harrington | Larnard Mann | John Brimmer |
| Samuel Smith | John Wait | Eph ^m Barnard |
| Amaziah Wheelock | Stephen Bridgham | Sartell Prentice |
| Elisha Gale | Moses Blanchard | Phineas Olds |
| Sylvester Partridge | Paul Gale | Samuel Ball |
| John Bryant | Sardis Miller | Abel Childs |
| Jonathan Atherton | Thomas Wood | Jonas Newton |

[The original was signed also by Abel Dutton, William Richardson, Aristides Huestis, Timothy Child, Eleazer Miller.

In H. of Rep., December 31, 1793, a hearing was ordered for the second Wednesday of the next session; meanwhile the petitioners were to post a copy of the petition in some public place in the town, and deliver a copy to the town-clerk, which the following certificates show was complied with.—ED.]

Cheshire ss. March 11th 1794. This petition and order of Court thereon was delivered to me this day—and this day I read it in open Town meeting in the Town of Alstead.

Isaac Temple T : Clerk

Agreeable to the order herein contained this Petition and order of Court has ben Posted up in the Town of Alstead.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Tho ^s Taylor | } Selectmen. |
| Simon Brooks Jr. | |
| Job Thompson Jr | |
| James Kingsbury | |

[37] [*Vote of Town in Favor of the Incorporation of a Religious Society.*]

In a warrant Legally executed for calling a Town Meeting in the Town of Alstead on the nineteenth day of Nov^{br} Last past was the following article (viz) article 3^d

To see if the Town will approve of the persons paying Taxes to the Rev^d Levi Lankton to be incorporated into a society by themselves for the purpose of Maintaining their minister and Meeting house.

In Town Meeting Nov^{br} 19th 1793, article 3^d the Question being put wheather the inhabitants of this Town will approve of the persons paying Taxes to the Rev^d Levi Lankton to be incorporated into a society by themselves for the purpose of Maintaining their minister and Meeting house passed in the affirmative.

A true copy of Record

Attest—Isaac Temple T : Clerk

Alstead Dec^{br} 20th 1793.

[44]

At the annual Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Alstead holden March 10th 1795.

Article 16th To see if the inhabitants aforesaid will vote that the persons that now do or may hereafter pay Taxes to the Rev^d Levi Lankton may be Incorporated into a Society for the purpose of Soporting their Minister and Meeting House.

Past in the affirmative

Alstead
May 13th 1795.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Moses Hale | } Select Men of Alstead |
| Daniel Perin | |
| Abel Phelps | |
| Jn ^o Brigham | |
| Ephraim Kingsbery | |

The above is a true copy of record

Attest Daniel Perin Town Clerk

[The foregoing petitions, etc., resulted in the incorporation of a society by the name of the Second Parish in Alstead, the act passing the house June 15, 1795, the senate the next day, and receiving the approval of Gov. Gilman June 18, 1795.—ED.]

[43] [*Petition of Elisha Kingsbery for Loan.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Amherst in said State on wednesday the fourth day of June 1794.

Humbly Sheweth your Petitioner.

That your Petitioner did in the year 1792 at great Expencc build a Linseed Oil Mill, and in the year 1793, on his own Expencc & on the same Dam build a Paper Mill both which mills are nearly finished and do good business to the great advantage and benefit of the Public in this part of the State—That your Petitioner finds a great demand for his Paper, not only in this but in the Neighbouring State of Vermont so that not only the saving of the importation of that valuable article in this part of the State is made, but is also likely to bring a considerable Quantity of money into this part of the State.—That the demand for paper has increased so much that he finds himself unable to procure Stock sufficient to supply all his customers by reason of this great expence in Constructing his works

Therefore prays that your Honors would grant him the Loan of two hundred pounds for one or two years upon security of the Mortgage of the Mill to the state that he may be enabled to carry on his works to the better advantage of the publick and save the Importation of those articles into this part of the state. And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Alstead May 31st 1794.

Elisha Kingsbery

[The foregoing was before the legislature June 9, 1794, and a committee appointed to consider the matter, but I am unable to find any record of their report.—ED.]

ALLENSTOWN.

This town was granted in council May 11, 1722, to the children of Governor Samuel Allen, and to their heirs, and described as follows: "A Tract of land of four miles square adjoining to Chester side line, and Nottingham head line." A part of this was incorporated with Pembroke in November, 1759. It was named Allens-Town, in honor of the deceased governor. Among the first settlers were John Wolcutt, Andrew Smith, Daniel Evans, and Robert Buntin, who with others were there previous to 1748.

In June, 1815, some territory east of Merrimack river, which had previously belonged to Bow, was annexed to this town. It was incorporated July 2, 1831.

[R. 3] [*Certificate of Three Soldiers liable to have their Tax abated.*]

Allenston.

this is to searty that george wins John Jedkins and Jeams megoy [McCoy] was in the Continentle serves agrebel to the vote of thes province past in the year 1775 should be teaken of John heyas By us

that the pole tax is

o4o6 p^r head

to the state

Benj matthes

Select men

13/6

Sworn to June 12, 1777, before

W^m Parker Jus. Peace.

Joseph Dennet Constable for 1776.

[45] [*Return of Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

In obedience to the Order of the Hon^l General Court we the subscribers Select Men of Allenstown have made the Following to be the Exact Number of Rateable polls from Twenty one years old & upwards in the bounds of said Allenstown viz. thirty Polls

George Evans } Select
Samuel Webster } men

Allenstown

December 9th A. D. 1783.

To the Hon^{le} the General Court of the State of New Hampshire at Concord.

[The above was sworn to before Samuel Daniell, of Pembroke, justice of the peace.—ED.]

[46] [*Petition for Abatement of Tax.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened the 14th day of June A. D. 1786.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Allenstown in the County of Rockingham.

Humbly Sheweth That said Allenstown in the year 1781 was called upon by the authority of said State to raise one man to serve in the Continental Army three years or during the war between Great Britain and the United States of America at which time it was supposed by s^d Town that there was then serving in the Army aforesaid a Man for said Town, which if it had been true would have prevented said Demand, but on trial before the Committee of safety it was determined against them, by means whereof s^d Town lost a large sum of money which was paid him for engaging as aforesaid. Your Petitioners afterwards hired one Samuel Kennistown and went with him to the Muster Master, who Informed them that a few days before he was ordered not to Muster any more—since which an Extent hath been issued against the Select Men of said Town by the Treasurer for Seventy two pounds twelve shillings, and is in an officers hands to execute—As the said Town has ever procured their quota of Men during the late War, tho' but an Handful compared with the greatest part of the Towns in the State, and were unfortunately deprived of a Man they supposed that they had a right to, and who they paid for his Service, beg this Hon^{ble} Court would take their case under their Consideration and relinquish the whole or part of said sum.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

George Evins } one, and in behalf
 } of the other Selectmen
 } of said Town

[In answer to the foregoing petition the legislature abated forty-two pounds.—ED.]

[47] [*Petition for Justice of the Peace.*]

State of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Sullivan Esq
Rockingham ss } and the honourable Privy Council
for said State.—Humbly shews that the Inhabitants of Allenstown in said State—That your Petitioners tho' small in Numbers Consider themselves Entitled To Common Privileges with other Towns in general in said state, that Ever since the settlement of

said Town, the Inhabitants thereof have been destitute of a Civile Magistrate To Transact the Nessary business of said Town, and have ever been Oblaged annually To apply at least six miles and some times more Distance from said Town To a magistrate To qualify Town officers, and frequently upon other business which Proves very inconvenient, and as they humbly Conceive that there is a Person who is a Reputable free holder in said Town, well quallified To sustain such a Commission and the most likley To give general satisfaction as a magistrate, therefore humbly Pray that Capt. George Evins may be appointed a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, and your Petitioners as bound &c.

Allenstown Nov. 1787.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Robert Bunten | Samuel webster Junr. | John Hayes |
| Samel Kinstone | Philip Sargent | Nathaniel Smith |
| Clement M ^c Coy | Zablon Davis | Garshom Dugan |
| Danel Daves | Josiah Johnson | Ichabod Clark |
| Ede Hall Bergin | Riley Smith | Charles Bamford |
| Samuel ^{his} X fisk | Roger Dugan | Samuel Rowe |
| Samuel ^{mark} X fisk | Leonard Harrington | Hall Bergin |
| Josiah Allen | Ichabod Clark | Samuel kinneson |
| Jacob Gay | James kinniston | Samel york |
| John Trefethen | John Tomson | John Jonson |
| Moses Leavett | Jerimiah Jonson | John Robinson |
| farik Lucas | | |

[This petition was not granted. See document next but one following.—ED.]

[48] [*Petition for Authority to Tax Land for Repairing Highways, etc.*]

State of } To the Hon^{ble} General Assembly for said State
New Hamp^r } convened at Exeter January 7th 1789.

Humbly Shew the Inhabitants of Allenstown in said State— That from the first settlement of said Town, the Inhabitants thereof (who are very few in number, not exceeding forty rateable polls) have been at the sole expense of maintaining all public roads in the same—that from the roughness of the land, the many streams running through said Town, and the small number of Inhabitants, they find it exceedingly burdensome to keep the roads and bridges (some of which are long and very often carried away by freshets) in barely passable repair—that unless said Inhabitants can have some assistance from the Non-resident Proprietors or owners of lands in said Town, (who are by far the greatest part of the propriety,) they cannot possibly keep

said roads & bridges in proper repair. they therefore pray your Honours to take this their petition under your wise consideration, and alleviate their distress by granting them liberty to assess one penny per acre on all the lands in said Allenstown improved and unimproved for the term of three years, for the purpose of repairing and making passable and convenient the roads and bridges in said town, and as bound &c.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| John Leonard | } Select Men for and in behalf of the Inhabitants of Allenstown. |
| Josiah Allen | |
| Nathaniel Smith | |

[The foregoing petition was before the legislature January 7, and a hearing ordered for their next session. June 18, 1789, an act passed granting the request.—ED.]

[49] [*Petition for the Appointment of George Evans.*]

To His Excellency the President of the State of New Hampshire and the Honorable Privy Council Convened at Exeter May 1790.

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Allenstown in said State Humbly Shews—

That your petitioners are desirous that a Justice of the peace may be appointed in said Allenstown (as they never have as yet had the privilege of having one in said Town) and they beg leave to recommend to your Excellency & Honors Capt. George Evans as the most suitable person in said Town for that office and we pray that your Excellency & Honors would take the matter under your wise Consideration & appoint him y^e said Evans a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Rockingham. And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Allenstown 5th Feby. 1790.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Ede Hall Bergin | Walter Bergin | Joseph Y. Bergin |
| Josiah Morse | Hall Bergin | Robert Bunten |
| John Clark | Amos Carlton | Philip Sargent |
| John Woodward | Capt. Staren Sargent | Theod Shackford |
| John Bergin | John Leonard | Josiah Allen |
| John Leonard Juner | John Hayes | Samuel webster |
| Nathaniel Smith | John Hartford | Samel fisk |
| John Johnson | federch Luies [?] | Samuel gooken |
| Benjamin Mathies | James Hartford | Nathaniel Smith |
| Zebilon Daves | Samuel york | Charles Bamford |
| Joshua Cates | Daniel Daves Jr | Samuel Kinneson Jr |
| Samuel Kinneson Sr | Ichabod Clark Sr | |
| Ichabod Clark Jr | | |

[This petition resulted in the appointment of George Evans justice of the peace for the county of Rockingham, he thus becoming Allenstown's first magistrate.—ED.]

[50] [*Petition relative to Building Bridges over Suncook River.*]

To the Hon^{ble} The Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Hopkinton on the first Wednesday in June A. D. 1798.

Humbly Shews The Inhabitants of Allenstown in the County of Rockingham that in the year 1759 a Township was incorporated in said County by the name of Pembroke bounded westerly by Merrimac & Sowcook Rivers, Northerly upon Chichester & Epsom, & Easterly & Southerly by *Suncook River*: that when said Pembroke was incorporated, about one mile was taken off from the Westerly part of Allenstown & included in Pembroke: That the Inhabitants of Pembroke have unreasonably refused and still neglect and refuse to build or keep in Repair any part of the Bridges over Suncook River under pretence of their not being liable by Law to build said bridges nor any part of the same, said Town being bounded by *Suncook River* in the act of Incorporation; by reason whereof your petitioners are in danger of being Compelled to build & keep in Repair all the Bridges across said Suncook River, a burthen which your petitioners in their present situation are wholly unable to bear on account of the fewness of their Number & the great expence of maintaining & keeping in repair the other Roads & Bridges through their town—that the public have a long time suffered much inconvenience and Danger for want of good Bridges over *Suncook River*, and that said Bridges are now in a Ruinous Condition, the lives of passengers being daily endangered in passing the same: Your petitioners further shew that if that part of Pembroke which was taken off from Allenstown with the Inhabitants was to be Re-annexed to said Allenstown it would not be more than their Just proportion of the Highway tax of said Town to Build and keep in Repair the bridges over Suncook river;

Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that that part of Allenstown with the Inhabitants thereof, which is included within Pembroke, by said Act of Incorporation, may be Disannexed from Pembroke, and Joined again to that Tract of land known and called by the Name of Allenstown, That they may Thereby be Enabled to build & keep in repair the Roads and Bridges aforesaid,—or that such other relief in the premises

may be afforded to your Petitioners as your Honors shall think Just and proper, And they as in Duty bound will ever pray
 Allenstown June 6th 1798.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Israel Marden | Theod. Shackford Jr. | James Clark |
| John Leonard | Simon Johnson | Daniel Kinneson |
| Samuel Webster | David Webster | Nathaniel Smith |
| Samuel Fisk | George Evens | John Cate |
| Phillip Sargent | John Hayes | Samuel Davis |
| John Johnson | Theod. Shackford | Nathaniel Smith Junr. |
| Robert Bunten | John Fisk | Hall Burgin |
| John Leonard Jr. | James Bunten | Samuel Wells Jur. |
| Moses Leavitt | John Hartford | |

[The result of this petition was an act extending the easterly and southerly line of the town of Pembroke to the easterly and southerly bank of Suncook river. This act was approved December 24, 1798.—ED.]

ALTON.

This town was called New Durham Gore until it was incorporated by its present name, June 16, 1796, with the following boundaries: "Easterly on New Durham, northerly on Wolfeborough, northwesterly on Winnipisiokee Pond, westerly on Gilmanton, and southwesterly partly on Gilmanton, and partly on Barnstead." A description of the boundaries (1794) may be found in one of the following documents. In a petition for incorporation, dated 1794, the inhabitants asked to have it named Roxbury; but it was finally called Alton, by one of the proprietors, after a town in Southampshire, England. It was first settled about 1770, by Jacob Chamberlin and others. Barndoor island was annexed to the town in 1799. A portion of the town was severed and annexed to Barnstead in 1840, and a portion to Wolfeborough in 1849.

[51] [*Jacob Chamberlin, relative to Election of Representative, 1778.*]

To the honorable the house of Representatives for the State of
 New Hampshire gentlemen

I who am an Inhabitant of the gore have by Accident heard

your Honours had sent a precept to Wolfborough the gore and New Durham requiring these three towns to meet and make choice of some man to Represent them att the next general Court and as the Inhabitants of the gore had no Kind of notice or warning that there was to be such a choice—I applied to one of the select men of said New Durham to know the Reason why we were not notified and he told me it was no matter whether we knew it or not as there would be no choice though I thought it Very unreasonable that a New Durham selectman should Determine whether we in the gore should be represented or not I cannot think why we were not notified unless it was for this Reason that as they know Wolfborough never attends the meetings they might chuse whome they pleased and it seems they think they have no one in their town fit they must pitch upon a man near forty miles Distant who we think very little acquainted with the Circumstances of the gore what ever he may be with Wolfborough and we Desire to submit it to your honors whether such a person chosen in such an illegal manner—and as I have been informed only by 5 or 6 men—is a suitable person to Represent three towns—if we have no man among us fit for a Representative we had much rather confide in the wisdom and justice of your honours to Represent us than that any person chosen in such an illegal manner should presume to Do it—we upon the whole think we are slighted and very ill treated in this mater and hope that your honours in your great goodness will see we have Justice Done us—I am in be half of the gore your most humble Servant

Jacob Chamberlin

Gore December the 11th 1778.

[52] [*Petition of the Inhabitants concerning the same matter.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire.

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Gore in the County of Strafford in Said State, Sheweth

That we have been informed, their Honours the Late General Court had Sent a precept to the Select Men of New Durham Directing them to Notify the Inhabitants of Wolfborough and the Gore to Meet at Said New Durham for the Choice of a Representative to attend this present General Court and that notwithstanding the Same Direction we never had any kind of Notice or warning of such Meeting but the Inhabitants of said New Durham met and Chose a Representative which appears

to us to be illegal and Pray the Said Choice may be set aside, that we may have the priviledge of Voting at any future Meeting for the Choice of Representatives which we think we have a just Right to Claim—And that the Inhabitants of Wolfborough have never attended Such Meetings on account of the Great Distance they are from New Durham Meeting House

That they have intimated to us their Great Desire to be present at Such Meetings if the Place appointed was such as would Be Convenient for the three towns and That Lieut. Charles Rogers at Merrymeeting Bay would be the most suitable at which Place they would punctually attend. And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray &c.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | | Joseph Roberts | } Select men |
| | | Charles Rogers | |
| | | Timothy Davis | |
| George Horn | Olivah Reave | Benj ^m Bennett | |
| Jacob Chamberlin | Ephraim Chamberlin | Ephraim Roberts | |
| Eleazer Davis | John Barker | | |

[Col. Thomas Tash was the man elected. The matter was before the H. of Rep., March 10, 1779, and a hearing ordered for the 24th; but in the Journal of the House for that day no mention is made of the matter, and I think it was dropped.—ED.]

[53] [*Petition relative to Roads through the Gore.*]

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| State of New Hamp ^r | } To the Hon ^{ble} Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened |
| Strafford ss. | |

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of a Place called the Gore adjoining New Durham and Wolfborough. Humbly Shew that upon a certain Petition preferred to the General Court praying that a Waggon Road should be made & repaired from New Durham by Merry Meeting to Wolfborough through said Gore & another Road from said Merry meeting to Gilman-ton at the Cost of the owners of the Land through which said Road should run: upon which Petition on the 23^d day of June 1780—it was enacted that said Road should be made & repaired as aforesaid at the Cost of the Inhabitants & owners of said Gore, in the same Proportion as the State Tax, and that the said Inhabitants & owners shall be liable to the same Pains and Penalties as any Town in the State for not repairing Highways—by which act your Petitioners the Inhabitants of said Gore humbly conceive, that they are laid under greater Inconveniences & Disadvantages than any other Inhabitants of this State, by being

subjected to large Costs ; or to Pains and Penalties, for large Tracts of Land that your Petitioners never had any the least civil or political Connection with : Your Petitioners the said Inhabitants being few in number living upon the Borders of said Gore, owners only of the small Parcels of Land they severally live upon, without the Benefit of any Incorporation ; being obliged to make all necessary Roads to their own abodes ; esteem it a great Hardship which they are unable to go through in being obliged to make and maintain Roads through Land of others that your petitioners can receive no Benefit by : If such part of said Gore as would accomodate your Petitioners was Incorporated into a Town or Parish, your Petitioners would then esteem it reasonable to be made liable, with the owners of Land within such Incorporation to perform everything necessary for Highways ; or as that is not the Case your Petitioners are willing that their Lands should be rated in common with other Lands in said Gore, to all Necessary Highways. In which Sense your Petitioners humbly conceive to be the Prayer of the first Petition upon which the aforesaid act was made otherwise your present Petitioners would have taken Benefit in shewing Cause why the Prayer of the same ought not to have been granted. Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray your Hon^{ble} Court to take under Consideration their present Circumstances & inability to fulfil the Requisitions of said Act & to order that the Lands only in said Gore be taxed towards said Roads, and your Petitioners shall ever pray

October 12th 1780.

Joseph Roberts } Select
Eleazer Davis } Men

[I have searched the Journal of the House for the next session, and find no reference to the matter.—ED.]

[54] [*Relative to Procuring Men for the Army.*]

Gore adjoining New Durham March 26th 1781.

At the anual meating held in said Town by the inhabitants by law Qualified to vote in town affairs.

Voted that the said meating stand adjourned to monday 30th Day of Ap^l to see if the Hon^{ble} Court will consider ous in our Proportion of Taxes for the present year, we the s^a inhabitants think we are agreed—therefore beg your Honours would Consider ous being but few in Number & Likewis Poor & it is out of Power to get those men sent for to serve in the Continental servis as being more than our proportion according to other Towns

attes

Joseph Roberts Town Clark

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Joseph Roberts | Eleazer Davis | Silas Buzzell |
| Nathaniel Smith | Oliver ^{his} X Pevey | Robert Buzzel |
| Josiah Smith | _{mark} | Moses Gilman |
| John Glidden | Jonas thanlaffin | Charles Rogers |
| W ^m ^{his} X more | James Dudley | |
| _{mark} | George Horn | |
| Daniel Rogers | Eph ^m Roberts | |

[55] [*Representation of Inability to Furnish Men for the Army.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire or in their Recess To the Hon^{ble} the Committee of Safety of said State. The Representation of the Select Men for themselves, and other Inhabitants of the Gore in the County of Strafford. Sheweth—

That there is no more than thirty seven rateable Poles in the Gore, and those in general very poor and necessitous—and dispersed over a large Tract of rough wild Land, that we are much in Arrears for our Beef and Men supplied last year, & the year before, & that but a small proportion of the Inhabitants have paid their last years taxes, and say they are not able to do it.

That there has been demanded from us by the Hon^{ble} Court four Men to serve in the Continental Army for three years or during the War, when it is a common thing in other Towns for forty Men, much more able than we are, to be classed in one Class, to get one Man.

That we have as we conceive been always much over rated, and altho' the Hon^{ble} Court have ordered a considerable Abatement in our Taxes, yet the Treasurer constantly sends his precept to us for the whole Sum demanded, and we are this year charged a high price, for the Deficiency of Beef not supplied last year, which we suppose ought not to be the case, as it is contrary to a Resolution of the Hon^{ble} Court.

And that notwithstanding we Labour under so many peculiar Disadvantages, we have exerted ourselves to the utmost to get two Men, hoping if we could have succeeded in the Attempt, we might have been favored as to the other two, but we are sorry to say that after spending a great deal of Time and Money, we have not been able to get one Man at any Rate, we have offered our Cattle, part of our Lands, or any other Thing within our Reach, to no purpose.

We thought it our Duty to make this Representation hoping

that we might be alleviated of some of our Difficulties, and that you might take such further order herein, as you in your great Wisdom should think fit.

Gore July 8th 1782.

Joseph Roberts } Select
Jonathan Coffin } Men

The Select Men beg leave to note further, That if their whole proportion of Men are four the number now required of them ; allowing the above mentioned abatement their just proportion would be but about three, altho. they have heard that the Sheriff has a precept for the whole Sum in Lieu of the four Men.

[56] [*Certificate of Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

Strafford ss. Pursuant to A Vote of the General Court, This may Certify that there is forty Rateable Pools From Twenty One years Old and Upward Living In New Durham Gore

Taken by Order of the Select men

Gore December 3^d 1783

Joseph Roberts Town Clerk

Strafford ss.

New Durham Gore Dec^r 3^d 1783. Then the above named Joseph Roberts made Solemn Oath to the above Certificate by him signed that it Contained the full number of Rataeble Polls living in said Town

Coram Matth^w T. Parker Jus. Peace.

[58] [*Petition asking to have the Annual Meeting, held in March, 1784, legalized.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire.

The petition of the Subscribers chosen Select-men of the Gore in the County of Strafford in said State Humbly Shews.

That the Inhabitants of the Gore aforesaid, held an annual Meeting in March last past, when they chose Select-men Collector &c. as usual at such meetings ; but as their power of holding meetings ceased with the late proportion Act, their transactions were void of Course.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that the Choice of Town Officers, and other proceedings at said annual Meeting may be established, and the trouble and expense of another prevented.

And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

Joseph Roberts
Joseph Peirce
Eleazer Davis

[This petition resulted in the passage of the following resolution.—ED.]

[57] [*Resolve legalizing Annual Meeting.*]

State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives Octo. 29, 1784.

Whereas the Selectmen of the Gore (so called) in the County of Strafford have petitioned the General Court setting forth that the inhabitants of said Gore in March last held a meeting & chose all officers as usual to assess & collect their Taxes, but as their power of holding meetings ceased with the late proportion act their proceedings were void—wherefore they prayed that the choice of officers & other proceedings at said Annual Meeting might be established.—

Therefore Resolved, That the meeting held in said Gore in March last be established and the officers chosen to assess & collect their Taxes are hereby fully authorized & empowered to transact the necessary business of their respective offices as fully as if said Proportion Act had continued in force through the current year.

And the officers chosen at said meeting are hereby empowered to call a meeting for the purposes aforesaid sometime in March next: And the officers for the respective years to call meetings annually to choose such necessary officers until a new proportion of the State Taxes shall be made. Sent up for Concurrence.

Geo : Atkinson, Speaker.

In Senate October 30, 1784, read & Concurred

M. Weare, President.

[64½] [*Petition of Strafford County People for an Act of Incorporation.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly convened—

The Petition of the Subscribers who are Inhabitants of a certain Tract of Land within the following Towns in the County of Strafford in said State viz'. Rochester, Barnstead, New Durham and the Gore adjoining New Durham—Humbly Shews

That said Tract described within the following Bounds, (Namely Begining at the northeasterly part of half moon pond so called in said Gore, then running North about one mile to

the South Side Line of Thomas Packer's Lot of Land n^o three in said Gore then running east about two miles to said New Durham Line, then running North by said Line about forty Rods to the Southwesterly Corner of Samuel Gilman's Land in said New Durham then running North 48° East about half a mile to Taskers River, then running easterly by said River as that runs about three miles to Rochester Line, then continuing by said River about one mile, or so far as to take two Ranges of third Division Lots in said Rochester then running South 48° West about three Miles to Barrington Line, then running northwest by said Line to the Northerly Corner of Barnstead, then running South 48° West upon said Barnstead foot Line so far as to contain four Ranges of sixty Acre Lots, then running Northwest or as the Range Line of said Lots run, about three miles, then running North about three miles to said Pond, and from thence across said Pond to the Place began at,) is a large Ridge of Land situate at the Extremities of the above said Towns and would be very convenient, and seems by Nature to have been designed for a Town or Parish by itself, as it is detached from the Center of said Towns by Rivers, low meadows, and other natural obstructions by means of which the said Inhabitants your Petitioners, are exposed to great Difficulties in attending the annual and other public meetings so that your Petitioners are led to suppose they do not stand altogether upon so good a footing, nor partake of equal advantages with the other Inhabitants of said Towns by reason of their your Petitioners remote situation from the Center of said Towns.

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that the above described Tract may be erected into a Town by the Name of . . . and that an Act of Incorporation may be passed vesting the present and all future Inhabitants of said Tract with such privileges and Immunities as the Inhabitants of other Towns within said State do enjoy.

And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c
Dated May 20th 1788

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Jacob Chamberlin | Benjamin Bickford | Zachariah Boodey |
| Joseph Evans | Abraham Bickford | Ichabod Russell |
| Nathan kinson | Joshua Pevey | Thos Young Jr. |
| Solomon Drew | John Roberts | Chas Young |
| Zebulun Davis | David Roberts | andrew Bickford |
| Daniel Evans | Benj ^a Pevey | Ebenezer Horn Jr |
| John Jorden | Thomas Canney | John akers |
| Nathnel Stevens | Moses Hayes | Henry Buzzel |
| Thomas Lanch (?) | Joseph Jackson | Thomas Buzzel |
| David Killey | Joseph Canne | Joseph Allard |
| Ebenezer Killey | Benjamin Dow | John Murrey |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| John Wingate | Moses Avery | Jonathan Folsom |
| Joseph Emerson | Winthrop Ayers | Timothy Davis |
| Theoder Richards | Thomas Ayers | James Jewett |
| Thomas Leathers | James Lock Jun ^r | Thomas Dame |
| John Glidden | Solomon Crocket | John Benor |
| Jeremiah Palmer | Ephraim Chamberlin | Joseph quint |
| Daniel Durgin | Joseph Chamberlin | Stephen meder |
| Abraham Chamber- | Clement Pinkham | moses meder Jun |
| lin | John Pearl | Dan × Benson his |
| Isaac Chamberlin | Sam Demeritt | mark |
| Eleazer Davis | Edmund Tebbets | James × ^{his} Palmer |
| Lemuel B. Mason | Elemuel × ^{his} Richard- | Joseph × ^{mark} Jackson |
| Paul Chamberlin | mark [son] | Abraham Lebbey |
| Benj ^r Avery | Nelson D. Nutter | moses meder |
| Sam ^l Avery | Ichabod Pearl | Nicholas Glidden |
| Iseral × ^{his} Avery | William Winget | Benjamin Libby |
| mark | David Elkins | |
| John Avery | Eleazar Bickford | |
| Ebenezer Nutter | | |

[In H. of Rep., June 17, 1788, hearing ordered for next session.—ED.]

[59] [*Petition of the Inhabitants to have New Durham Gore Incorporated, 1794.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives, for the State of New Hampshire, to be convened at Amherst in said State on the first Wednesday in June next.

The petition of us the subscribers Freeholders and Inhabitants of a place called New Durham Gore, in the County of Strafford and State aforesaid.

Humbly Sheweth—That your petitioners have a long time labored under many inconveniencies, for want of an incorporation, in their not having legal power, to lay out and make roads for the accommodation of the Inhabitants and public, to build a meeting-house for public worship, settle a minister of the Gospel, raise money for the maintenance of schools, and to transact and do many other things relative to town affairs, which the Inhabitants of incorporated towns in this State by law, exercise and do, notwithstanding which difficulties they have always cheerfully contributed their full proportion toward the support of Government and been firmly attached to the Laws of the State. Your Petitioners therefore pray that the abovementioned Tract of Land, now called New Durham Gore, and bounded as follows—to wit—Beginning at the south westerly corner of New

Durham and running north by the side line thereof about nine miles and three quarters, to the north westerly corner of said New Durham, then running North forty eight degrees East, by said New Durham line about two miles and three quarters to the southerly corner of Wolfborough, then running north west to winnipeseoke pond, then running by the shore of said pond as that runs a westerly course as far as Gilmantown line, then southerly upon said Gilmantown line as far as the line of the town of Barnstead, then running south east or as said Barnstead line runs to the Bounds first mentioned.—may be erected and incorporated into a township by the name of* Roxbry, and that the inhabitants thereof may be erected into a Body politic and corporate to have continuance and succession forever and invested with all the powers and enfranchised with all the rights, privileges, and immunities which other towns, in this State hold and enjoy, to hold to said inhabitants and their successors forever—And that Mr Eleazer Davis may be authorized to call a meeting of said inhabitants to choose all necessary and customary town officers, giving such notice and under such regulations, as your honors may deem necessary and that the officers then chosen may be invested with all the powers of such officers in other towns in this State. And that every other meeting, which shall be annually held in said Gore, for that purpose, may be on the second Monday of March forever, or otherwise point out any other mode of relief to your petitioners in the premises, as your honors in your wise consideration shall think best, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

New Durham Gore March the 31st Anno Domini 1794.

| | | |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Lem ^l B. Mason | Samuel mc cluer | Charles Rogers |
| Micajah Hanson | Ebenezer Place Jr | Jonathan Coffin |
| James M ^c Duffee | Stephen Fall | Samuel Rogers |
| Ebenezer Wentworth | Jonathan Molton | Simon Clamp |
| Jun. | Moses Meader Jr. | Thomas flanders |
| Joseph Roberts | Nicholas Glidden | Thomas Lanchlen |
| Thomas Edgerley | Thos. Bennett | George Walker |
| Jon ^a M ^c Duffee | Samuel Elkins | Ebenezer Went- |
| Ephraim Chamberlain | Eleazer Davis | worth |
| Jr | Benj ^a Bennett | Elisha Drew |
| John Rawlings | Dan ^l M ^c Duffee Jr. | Israel Stockbridge |
| Thomas Dutton | Robert E. Buzzel | [name illegible] |
| Silas Buzzell | William M ^c Duffee | Jacob Chamberlin |
| Aaron Allard | Lemuel Durrell | Jr |
| David Glidden | Ephraim Chamberlain | Richard flanders |
| Moses Gilman | Jonathan Laighton Jr | John Folsom |

*The names New Dover and Liberty had been inserted next, and crossed off.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Benjamin Shepard | Ichabod Rawlings | Stephen Drew |
| Jonathan Leighton | Jonathan Laighton 3 ^d | James Woster |
| Thomas Edgerly Jr | Ithamar Buzel [?] | Theoder Richards |
| James Roberts | James Rogers | Jeremiah Wood- |
| Joseph Chamberlin | paul Leathers | man |
| Joseph Buzzell | Paul Chamberlin | Reuben Smith |
| Andrew Edgerly | Eph ^m Roberts | |
| Anthony Rawlings | Tristram Hurd | |

[61] [*Petition of Joseph Peirce, 1794.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House
 County of Strafford } of Representatives in Gen^l Court
 to be convened at Amherst in said State.—The Petition of Jo-
 seph Peirce of New Durham Gore in said County

Humbly Shews—That a petition signed by sundry of the Inhabitants of said New Durham Gore has been presented to the General Court, praying that the Tract of Land called New Durham Gore in said County might be incorporated, and have such Privileges as other towns of said State enjoy—That it is not convenient said Tract should be incorporated as the form of the same is such, that the Inhabitants never can without much difficulty meet together for public worship, for the doing the necessary town business, or for any other public or social purposes, as said Tract is not six miles wide in the widest part, and that Part is separated and divided for several miles together by a large Arm of Winnepisiokee pond called merry meeting bay, that said tract is nearly sixteen miles in extent from the most southeasterly to the most northwesterly part of the same, and the difficulty of passing from one to the other is greatly increased by the intervention of large and almost impassable Mountains low wet grounds and swamps that the most southeasterly part of said Gore is an acute angle, and your petitioners farm is so situated as to make said Angle, and is removed further from the Centre of said Gore, than any other farm in the same, is, or can be. That your Petitioners said farm which contains about fifteen hundred Acres is about seven miles from said Centre, and the roads leading to the same go over very high hills, and are in general very rough, and ever will be very uneven, That your Petitioner has left the employments he formerly pursued, and has for several years last past engaged himself in cultivating waste Lands, making public roads, and advancing the general good of said State, That your Petitioner never had any thought that said Tract of Land would be incorporated, more especially as said Inhabitants have heretofore at

a public meeting held for that purpose, voted that they would not petition the Legislature for such Incorporation—That such incorporation if had, would evidently lessen the value of your Petitioner's Interest in said Gore—and would place him in a situation much worse than he now is.—Therefore your Petitioner asks of your honours, that, if the Legislature should pass an Act incorporating said New Durham Gore, that the said farm of your Petitioner may not be included in said Incorporation, or that his said farm may be made into a separate corporation, or that your honours would take such other order thereon, as you in your great wisdom shall think fit.

New Durham Gore May 27th 1794.

Joseph Peirce

[62] [*Memorial relative to Incorporating the Town, 1794.*]

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to be convened at Amherst in and for said State on the first Wednesday in June next.

The petition of the Subscribers, freeholders and Inhabitants of a certain tract or parcel of land called New Durham Gore.—Humbly Sheweth That whereas we understand sundry Inhabitants of said Gore are about petitioning the General Court of said State, for an incorporation, which if granted without the liberty herein after exprest will greatly distress the undersigned petitioners as well as the Inhabitants of the other remote and attenuated parts, of said Gore, by reason of its being so extensive in length and running into sharp peaks and narrow corners, which lap over, cover and lye behind almost impassible Mountains—and your petitioners living in the southerly peak of said tract and so far distant, from the intended center as to render it utterly inconvenient for them to be connected or embodied with the aforesaid applicants and would greatly lessen their property. But they are of opinion that a town or parish might be formed and erected out of the middle of said tract of land by cutting off the several corners of it agreeably to a plan thereof herewith exhibited.*

Your petitioners therefore pray, that in case said incorporation should take place, your honors would reserve liberty, for your petitioners and such others as now do or may hereafter live in the aforesaid extreme parts or corners of said tract of land, at any time when either of them may think it convenient to be set of with their estate and be annexed to any other towns adjoining, as they may see fit and which shall be willing to re-

* This plan may be found in the office of the secretary of state, Town Papers, Vol. 1, No. 60.

ceive them, in such way and manner and under such regulations as your honors shall think fit—otherwise we shall forever be debarred from town privileges merely because it has been our misfortune to settle in this tract of land, which was left out in the running the other towns adjacent, for the owners of Masons right and which we never expected would be incorporated in its present form, but would be annexed to other towns—which might have been obtained without difficulty or objection had it been seasonably requested, but we are sorry to say that we have every reason to believe, our Brethren are too much biased to consult the Benefit of their Neighbours as well as themselves—but we are convinced, that a bare suggestion of our situation to your honors, to whom we look up for protection as to our Fathers, will be sufficient.

New Durham Gore May the 27th A. D. 1794.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Timothy Davis | Zebulon Glidden | John Penny |
| Nicholas Glidden | Zebulon Davis | Moses Meder |
| Gideon Davis | Thomas Norton | |

[63] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1796.*]

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Exeter in & for the State of New Hampshire on the first wednesday of June Anno Domini 1796—Humbly Shew

The subscribers, your petitioners, inhabitants of a place called and known by the name of New Durham Gore in the County of Strafford in said State. That your petitioners are by means of their present situation subjected to many disagreeable inconveniences, being unincorporated, and of course deprived of those privileges and immunities enjoyed by the neighboring towns. That the land on which your petitioners are settled and that which remains as yet in a state of nature is good and capable of rapid improvement, was settlement further encouraged by an incorporation.

That we are already more numerous than many places, within our knowledge, which have been admitted to the enjoyment of town privileges; and that a speedy augmentation of numbers can only be retarded by the want of an incorporation. That we are deprived of the speediest and most eligible method of raising money for the support of the Gospel ministry, schools, and for the laying out, making and repairing highways. That your petitioners conceive an incorporation would remedy many evils besides those above enumerated; be a means of disseminating knowledge and contentment among the inhabitants,

conduce to a speedy settlement of unimproved lands, and finally add a respectable town to the State of New Hampshire.

Your petitioners, therefore, pray your honors that they may be ranked among the happy citizens of this State by being admitted to an incorporation; and as in duty bound will ever pray.

June 6th 1796.

Jacob Chamberlin }
James M^cDuffee } Select
Daniel M^cDuffee } men

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Jonathan Leighton Jr. | Lem ^l B. Mason | Charles Rogers |
| Jonathan Leighton 3 ^d | John Rawlings | Joseph Chamberlin |
| James Rogers | John Plumer | Hezekiah Davis |
| Ebenezer Wentworth | Thomas Jewett | Jonathan Leighton |
| Benj Bennet | Silas Roberts | David Hayes |
| Thomas Edgerley Junr | Thomas Lanchlen | Aaron Allard |
| George Walker | Oliver Peavey | David Wentworth |
| Paul Chamberlin | Ebenezer Wentworth Jr. | Thos Bennett |
| David M ^c Duffee | Joseph Roberts | Andrew Edgerley |
| Jacob Chamberlin Junr. | Esq ^r | James Roberts |
| | Thomas Edgerley | Eph ^m Chamberlin Junr. |
| | Samuel Rogers | Jon ^a M ^c Duffee |
| | W ^m M ^c Duffee | Ichabod Rawlings |
| | Anthony Rawling | |

[The foregoing petition was before the H. of Rep., June 13, and a vote passed granting the petition; the Senate concurred, and an act of incorporation received the approval of the governor, June 16, 1796.—ED.]

AMHERST.

The town was granted by the general court of Massachusetts, in 1728, to the officers and soldiers then living, and the heirs of those who had deceased, that served in the Narraganset war in 1675, and was called Narraganset No. 3; afterward Souhegan West, until it was incorporated January 18, 1760, and named Amherst, in honor of Lord Jaffrey Amherst, commander-in-chief of the British forces in America at that time. The first meeting of the grantees was held in Danvers, Mass., July 17, 1734. Samuel Lamson and Samuel Walton settled there about 1735. They came from Reading, Mass.

A large portion of the town of Monson was annexed in 1770; the largest part of the town of Milford was taken from it in 1794; and the whole of Mont Vernon, as originally constituted, in 1803. Amherst had some 275 men, in the war for independence, in the regular army and in the various militia expeditions; was represented in the "Boston Harbor tea-party," December 16, 1773; and in the "Concord fight," April 19, 1775; had a full company at Bunker Hill, and one at Bennington. It was made the shire town for Hillsborough county in 1771.

[65] [*Inhabitants' Petition for Incorporation, 1753.*]

To his Excelency the Governor and to the Honourable Council of the Province of New Hampshire.

This humbly sheweth that we the Subscribers Inhabitants of a New Plantation or Township called Souhegen West or Narraganset No. 3, being Invironed with many irremidable Difficulties under our present situation as the Barer will Inform earnestly pray that his Excelency with your Hon^s would incorporate us that we might enjoy the valuable Liberties and priviledges of a Town, and we Beg that the Charter of the Town may Bound us westerly on the Township commonly called Salem Canada Northerly on New Boston so called Easterly on Bedford and part of Merimack Southerly on Souhegan River so called.

All which is humbly Submitted to your Excellencies and Honours wise Council as we in Duty Bound shall ever pray.

Dated at Souhegan West January y^e 26th 1753.

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Daniel Wilkins | Ebenezer Ellinwood | beniamin Wilkins |
| Ebenezer Lyon | Ebenezer Ellinwood Jr | Israel Towne |
| Andrew Bixbe | John Smith | John Everden |
| Joseph Steel | Andrew Seetown | Robert Read |
| Hugh Ross | Josiah Sawyer | Joshua Abbott |
| Josiah Abbott | Ephraim Abbott | Samu ^l Lamson |
| beniamin Lovejoy | Solomon Hutchinson | Caleb Stiles |
| Samuel Lamson juner | Benjamin Taylor | Joseph Boutell |
| Joseph Ellinwood | Robart Stuard | Sameul Steward |
| Beniamin Chevar | William Stewart | Josep Clark |
| Daniel Wilkins | William Bradford | |

[Extract from Journal of the House, January 31, 1753:]

Whereas there are sundry persons inhabiting within the Province of New Hampshire, upon a tract of land called and known by the name of Souhegan west, the major part of which lies

within no township * * * therefore *Voted*, that part of Souhegan west not within any township be one District, * * and that an act be drawn up to oblige them to pay their proportion of the Province tax, and to enable them to raise the same.

[Extract from Jour. of C. and Ass., January 18, 1760, p. 372 :]

His Excellency ordered the Secy to read at the Board the Petition of the Inhabitants of a Place called Sowhegan West, praying for a charter of Incorporation, and asked the Council whether they advised him to grant the same by a charter for some limited time, to which the council did advise & consent and accordingly the charter was read & advised to by the Board.

[Under date "Amherst Dec^r y^e 15, 1761," the selectmen applied for an extension of their charter, which seems to have been limited to two years, and appointed Col. John Goff to attend to the matter.

(Town Papers, vol. ix, p. 13.) January 7, 1762, the council advised the governor to "continue to the said inhabitants the privileges and immunities in the aforesaid charter until his Majesty shall be pleased to signify his approbation or disallowance of the same."—ED.]

[R. 5] [*Abstract from Lieut. Ebenezer Lyon's Petition, Soldier, 1760.*]

[In a petition to the governor and council, dated Amherst, May 9, 1760, Lieut. Ebenezer Lyon states that while in the province service his gun burst and wounded his hand badly, for which cause he was laid up at Oswego and Albany, and asks to be remunerated for his expenses at those places, amounting to £24, old tenor, and for the following surgeons' bills :]

Hollis April 15, 1760. Lieut. Ebenezer Lyon of Sowhegan Dr. to me for 2 visits & attendance while Lame with his hand is ten pounds thirteen shillings and fore pence old tenor.

a true account errors excepted

John Hale

Amhirst May y^e 3^d 1760.

Lieut. Ebenezer Lyon D^r to me for salves and Oyntments and attendants when Lame in his hand Eighteen pounds old Ten^r—a true account attest

Israel Towns

[February 4, 1763, he was allowed two pounds two shillings sterling, money of the last emission.—ED.]

[66] [*Petition relating to Division of Monson, 1763.*]

To His Excellency Bening Wentworth Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire, and the Honourable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled—The memorial of Ruben Mussey and others Inhabitants of the Town of Amherst in the Province aforesaid Humbly Sheweth that latly an advertizement was published in Monson in the Province aforesaid signed by the clerk of the House that not only a petition was preferred to the General Court aforesaid by the Inhabitants of Monson aforesaid; wherein they prayed that the south side of Monson consisting of about a Mild and an half might be annexed to Hollis by an act of Court, but that the said Petition was considered in the Assembly and Concurred in Council that the day appointed for hearing and considering said Petition is the first wednesday in April next if the Court be then sitting if not the second day of the next session—and that any person concerned may then shew Reason if any they have why the prayer of that Petition may not be granted—May it please your Excelency and Honours if we should presume to give Reasons why the Prayer of said Petition may not be granted perhaps some may say that we are busying ourselves in other mens matters—But we are well assured that your Excelency & Honours will see otherwise when you take the Circumstances of Monson under your wise Consideration when the south side is annexed to Hollis; viz that then their designs point directly at us, for we are well assured that your Exelency and Honours will see that they are then brought into Distressing Circumstances not only by the smallness of their numbers which will consist at most with not more than twenty Settlements but also by the smallness of their Town—which will be but bearylly three Milds wide one Mild of which is Reputed very poor Broaken Land not fit to make many if any good Settlements; so that it will be necessary that they be annexed to us or part of us to them—the consequence of which will be very fatal to us; for it will remove our Meeting House and Consequently our Minister and if it should be a means of his leaving of us, as he declares he will if these Designs are effected for he thinks it very hard, and unreasonable that he who began with us in our Infancy and Spent the Prime of his life attended with the greatest fatigues in building up a flourishing

Town to be turned out of Doors with a numerous family in the Decline of his life to begin the world anew—and further with the lowest submission we beg leave to shew your Excelency and Honours that if our Minister leaves us, by those means we apprehend that we shall be thrown into the utmost confusion and a quarrel will commence that will be handed down from generation to generation and never end, and it is easily seen that such quarrel and confusion will effect the Government as it will obstruct the future growth and prosperity of the Town—Therefore being well assured upon former experience that your Excelency and Honours in your great wisdom and clemency will lay no plans to anoy the peace and prosperity of your most Dutifull subjects, so your Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Dated at Amherst the 2^d day of March annoq Domini 1763.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Reuben Mussey | James Seetown | Jonathan Lyon |
| Josiah Abbott | Andrew Bixbe | Moses Brown Jr. |
| Hugh Ross | Hezekiah Lovejoy | Samuel Seetown |
| David Burns | Jacob hildredth | Joshua Abott |
| John Mitchell | William Bradford | Thomas Clark |
| John Burns | Moses Truel | David Truiel |
| Timothy Smith | Benimien Davies | Ephraim Lund |
| John Harwood | Oliver Sanders | william odel |
| Amos Truel | Kendal Bouttell | William Melendy |
| Andrew Shunan | Daniel Weston | John Davis |
| James Cochran | Jon ^a Lamson | Benj ^a Lovejoy |
| Ebenez ^r Weston | Joseph Lovejoy | Elisha felton |
| William Melendy | Nathan Fuller | Benjamin Taylor |
| Junr | Thomas Towne | Tho ^s Wakefield |
| Jacob Curtice | John Patterson | Oliver Carlton |
| Abijah Lovejoy | Benjaman Lovejoy | Nathan Phelps |
| William Felton | Junr | Benjamin Clark |
| Samuel Bradford | Jacob Dresser | John Seecomb |
| Joshua Patingall | francis Eliott | Rowlandson Ellin- |
| Ebenezer whettimer | Ezekiel Holt | wood |
| Ebenezer Ellinwood | Simeon Flecher | Jedediah Ellinwood |
| Ebenezer Holt | Abner Hutchinson | John Steward |
| Timothy Mackintier | Eben ^r Ellinwood Jr | William Hogg |
| John Cole | Solomon Hutchin- | John Averill |
| Joseph Ellinwood | son | Caleb Stiles |
| Joseph Bouttell | David Heartshorn | Thos Averill |
| Andrew Seetown | Joseph Prince | |

[See next paper.—ED.]

[67] [*Memorial of Rev. Daniel Wilkins,* 1763.*]

To His Excelency Bening Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire & the Honorable his Majesties Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

This memorial humbly sheweth that the Towns of Hollis and Monson was lately notified of a Petition preferred to the General Court, to annex the South Side of Monson to Hollis by an Act which when done I humbly conceive will leave the Remainder under such circumstances, as that they cannot subsist alone (their Town then being but three Milds in wedth and very small in number not exceeding Twenty settlements) so that it will be necessary that they be annexed to us or part of us to them the consequence of which will not only prove fatal to our Town, but to me also; it will not only throw an immense cost upon them in pulling down our present Meeting House (which is as large as Meeting Houses commonly are in the Country lately finished & situated to accommodate more people than any one Meeting-House can in the Town or in Monson) and cause them to build two instead of one (too heavy a burden at present for Amherst) and also this scheem will prove very fatal to me; for it will remove the Meeting-house far from me at least two Milds, the travil of which will be too great a fateugue for me now in the Decline of life; and to purchase & build again I am not able—and besides the present scheem will doubtless kindle a fire that will not go out in this age if ever; so that if the Difficulties of travil could be removed, yet may it please your Excelency & Honours I must conclude to live in the flames of Contention or else pull up stakes with a numerous famely now in the Decline of life the latter of which I shall choose. In a word I am aware of one great Argument they will use to inforce their Petition, and it is this (*Viz*) that the centre of their Town is such a broaken piece of Land that they cant without a great—be accommodated with Roads, to this with submission I reply that within half a Mild of the north side of our Meeting house there begins a Brake of Land and extends to the north line of our Town, across which a great number of families must travel if we have two Meeting houses in the Town; which Brake of Land I am so well acquainted with that it appear as practicable to me to make a road over the eminence of Jo-Englishes Hill as to make roads

* Rev. Daniel Wilkins came from Middleton, Mass.; graduated at Harvard college in 1736; was ordained minister of the township, Sept. 23, 1741, and remained there until he died, Feb. 11, 1784. Among his descendants were Hon. James McKean Wilkins, George Wilkins Kendall, founder of the New Orleans *Picayune*, Gen. John A. Dix of New York, and Rev. E. R. Wilkins of New Hampshire.

feasible for travilling over said Brake of Land; that this may more plainly appear to your Exelency and Honours the Select men of our Town went to look out a Road across part of it the better to accommodate some of our Inhabitants and found it impracticable—Now when your Exelency and Hon^{rs} in your great wisdom consider how I began with this people when they were small in number, but fourteen families and also the great fateugues and Dificulties that I endured for many years to build them up such a flourishing people especially in the Last War before this in encouraging a small number of families not exceeding Thirty to keep their Possessions which if I had deserted the whole Town would have disbanded and perhaps had been a howling Wilderness to this day as in the case of other deserted places whereas now it is a flourishing Town, capable of bearing a considerable part of the Province Taxes and would be a place of great unimimity were it not for the schem of splitting to pieces to satisfy the avaritious desire of some particular Gentlemen—as also the Miserable condition that my self and my numerous famely will be in if I am obliged to leave the people by this means, I am well assured that your Exelency and Hon^{rs} in your great wisdom and Clemency will favour no schem that has any tendency to make your most dutifull subject Miserable and so your Memorialist as in Duty bound will ever pray

Daniel Wilkins

Dated at Amherst the 28th March 1763.

[The petition from Monson which caused these remonstrances will be found with Monson papers. It was granted a hearing in the house, June 3, 1763, and “dismissed.”—ED.]

[70]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and Over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire, The Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened

The Petition of us the Subscribers, Freeholders of the Respective Towns of Amherst, New Ipswich, Nottingham West, Dunstable, Litchfield, Merrymac, Bedford, Derryfield, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Weare, Mason, New Boston, Lyndeborough, Wilton, Temple, Boscawen, and Henniker, all in the County of Hillsborough in said Province which said Petitioners are Agents Legally Chosen and Constituted for the said Towns whereof they are Inhabitants, *Humbly Shew*, That in the month of July

A. D. 1772 An Action was brought by one John Holland against Joseph Kelly of said Nottingham West Returnable to the then next Inferior Court to be held at Amherst aforesaid in October 1772 and said Kelly was Committed to Goal for want of Bail.

That at the same Court the said Cause was Called upon Tryal and said Kelly then a Prisoner and under the Power of said Court did (as your Petitioners are well informed) Move the said Court by his Council, that he might be present at the Tryal of said Cause, or that it might be Continued, neither of which were granted, but it was Ordered that said Kelly should be Defaulted: and Entered up Judgment against him in favor of said Holland for the sum of seventy five pounds Lawful Money Damage, and Cost of Court taxed at about Three pounds.

That on or about the 14th Day of October aforesaid said Kelly made his escape from said Goal, and at the Court of General Sessions of the Peace held at Amherst for said County by adjournment in June last upon application made by said Holland, the Justices made a Grant to said Holland of the said sum of Seventy Five pounds and Cost on Account of his said Judgment; Obtained as aforesaid, to be paid out of the moneys of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of said County; without giving the Liberty of a Jury to inquire into the same, and wheither there had been any negligence in the Sheriff in the said Escape.

That your Petitioners (as soon as they were Apprized of these matters) Agreed in the most Dutiful manner to make a Remonstrance to the said Court, and did accordingly Petition said Court in August last past, Humbly Praying to be heard on the Premises by Council, and that the Court would reconsider the Judgment aforesaid and Reverse the same as being Erroneous and that the Treasurer of said County might be Directed not to issue the said Sum of money on Account of said Kellys Escape; But it was carried by *one* that the Court had not Power to reverse the said Judgment, after the Court in which it was obtained had been Dismissed without Day, and rejected the prayer of said Petition, and said County is now Liable to pay the said Money.

That your Petitioners apprehend that the said Sheriff was very negligent in his Duty not attending the Goal himself, and suffering all Deputys and servants to be out of Town on the Day of said Kellys Escape.

That your Petitioners are Determined upon every Occasion to Testify their Duty and Loyalty to his Majesty, and all in authority under him; but think that in duty to the County they ought not to give up the point, without Petitioning Your Excellency and Honours as the last Resort.

That they Humbly Conceive they have been hardly dealt

with, that if Kelly had been permitted to have appeared in Court and his Case Committed to a Jury the said Holland would not have Recovered more than Five pounds (if any thing).

Wherefore your Petitioners Most Humbly Pray Your Excellency and Honours consideration of the matters aforesaid, and that they may have redress therein, either by Tryal of said Kellys Case by a Jury, or by such ways and means as to your Excellency and Honours may seem most meet.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.
Amherst December 1st 1773.

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Benj ^a . Kenrick | } | Agents for |
| Daniel Campbell | | Amherst. |
| Isaac How | } | Agents for |
| Tim ^o Farrar | | New Ipswich |
| John Hazeltine | | Junr. Agent for Nottingham West |
| Jon ^a Lovwell | } | Agents for |
| Joseph Whiting | | Dunstable |
| Jon ^a Blanchard | } | Agents |
| John Neal | | for |
| William Alld | } | Merrymac |
| Daniel Kendall | | Agent for Litchfield |
| James Martin | | Agent for Bedford |
| James M ^c Calley | | Agent for Derryfield |
| Caleb Page | | Agent for Dunbarton |
| Stephen Harriman | | Agent for Hopkinton |
| Sam ^l Caldwell | | Agent for Weare |
| Archibald M ^c Millan, Jas. Caldwell, | | Agents for New Boston |
| David Blodgett | | Agent for Mason |
| John Stephenson | | Agent for Lyndeborough |
| Jon ^a Martin | | Agent for Wilton |
| John Cragin Jr. | | Samuel Howard Agents for Temple |
| Henry Gerrish | | Agent for Boscawen |
| Jonas Bowman | | Agent for Henniker |

In Council Jan^y 20, 1774, Read and ordered to be sent down to the Hon^{ble} Assembly.

Geo: King D Sec^y.

[In the House, January 21, 1774, the foregoing petition was dismissed.

See Town Papers, vol. ix, p. 21.—ED.]

[R. 6]

This Certifies that Esq. Shepard in Ap^l 1775 Went with a Detachment of the Melitia Consisting of about one hundred men from Amherst to Cambridge aided assisted & Comforted them, & at Cambridge left with them two Spanish Milled Dollars.

Josiah Crosby

[R. 7] [*Petition of Peter Robertson, wounded at Bunker Hill.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Council & House of Representatives In
General assembly Convened at Exeter Sept. 7, 1776.

Humbly Shews Peter Robertson of Amherst in said State Taylor That your Petitioner on the alarm of the Battle at Lexington In April 1775. Immediately Repaired to Cambridge where he did Duty as a Soldier That in may following he inlisted himself as a private Soldier into The Service of This Colony in The Company Whereof Archelaus Towne was Captain That on y^e 17th of June Following the Company was ordered to Repair with all speed To Bunker Hill to Defend the Lines, That in passing the Causeway a Cannon Shot took off part of your Petitioners Right Arm and by That means he is Rendered almost Incapable of providing for himself and family (having entirely Lost his Trade) That your Petitioners Relations & friends Live in England. that He has been in This Colony but a few years. That He has no Person to expect any Support from. That as he was Brave altho unfortunate he Entreats & Solicits your Honours Compassion and Charity and for whose Prosperity & happiness with that of This State he will ever pray
Peter Robertson

The Deposition of Ephraim Hildrith of Lawful age Testifies and says, that on or near about two months before Benjamin Whiting Esq^r absconded & went to the enemy, he was at my house & in conversation he said M^r Jonathan Smith had formerly given him a piece of Land adjoining To the goal in Amherst, which land he the s^d Whiting Said he would give it back to the said Smith. & if he had, had The Deed about him he would then settle the land on s^d Smith except there was a prospect of his Comeing into his office again.

Ephraim Hildrith Jun^r Deposes to the above

Ephraim Hildrith
Ephraim Hildrith Junr.

Hillsborough ss. May 21st 1778. Personally appeared Ephraim Hildrith & Ephraim Hildrith Jun^r & after due Caution and Careful Examination made Solemn Oath to the Truth of the above Deposition by them Subscribed

Coram Moses Nichols, J peace.

[R. 8] [*Abstract of Susanna Munroe's Petition, 1779.*]

[Susanna Munroe, of Amherst, wife of Josiah Munroe, a lieutenant in Col. Cilley's regiment, states in a petition to

the general assembly, convened at Exeter, June 25, 1779, that her husband is absent in the army; that there is due to him \$560, depreciation money, which she needs to support herself and family, and asks that it may be paid to her; which request was granted, and the money ordered to be paid accordingly.—ED.]

[R. 9] [*Joseph Wilson's Receipt, 1779.*]

Amherst 1779 In June

Rec^d of John Bradford and others the Sum of Six Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence L. M. after the Rate of Indian Corn at three Shillings and Six Pence a Bushel for which Sum I Promise to serve one year in the Continental army

Joseph Wilson

[R. 10] [*Abstract of Petition of William Hastings, Jr., wounded Soldier.*]

[William Hastings, Jr., of Amherst, in a petition dated March 8, 1779, says he received a dangerous wound in one leg while fighting in Col. Peabody's regiment, in Rhode Island, and asks for an allowance to pay his doctor's bill, and a further sum to enable him to place himself under the care of Dr. Kittridge of "Tukesbury." Signs his name with a cross.

He was wounded by a cannon ball, August 29, 1778. The committee on sick and wounded soldiers reported that he was entitled to half-pay, and his name was placed on the pension-roll.—ED.]

[72] [*Relative to raising Men for the Army—no date, probably 1779.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable Gentlemen, the Council & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The prayer of your Humble petitioners Sheweth that whereas the Gen^l Court of this State hath Repeatedly sent to the Town of Amherst for their Quota of men for three year or during the war, but without any effect, the Town of Amherst have neglected to Rais their men until the authority have justly sent an Extent against the Town for the same faillure—

We your Humble petitioners are so unwilling to be numbered

amongst those who neglect delay or Refuse to maintain and support the present war as long as the United States thinks it necessary, and whereas the method that this Town hath lately taken has not answered the purpose to Raise the men, and this Town Refuses as a town to take any other meathord to Raise their men, than by a Rate we therefore your humble petitioners pray that your Honours would grant to us to Class ourselves according to our poles and Estates in order to Rais our proportion of the Men which this Town has lately ben sent to for, for three years or during the war. And likewise to Excuse us from paying any part of a fine or Extent that Shall Come against this Town, Realative to these men lately sent for Provided that we git our Quota of the Men Immediately, which purpose may and Shall be affected without delay. And your petitioners as in duty bound Shall Ever pray.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| John Bradford | Enos Bradford | William Lamson |
| Joseph Perkins | William Bradford Jr | John Cole |
| Jos ^{ha} Wilkins | Richard Goold | Abijah Wilkins |
| Eli Wilkins | Daniel Goold | Nathan Jones Jr |
| Joseph tuck | Joseph Langdell | John Averell |
| Oliver Carlton | Jonathan Wilkins Jr | Ezekiel Upton |
| Nathan Flint | Enos Upton | Nathan Flint Jr |
| Thomas Carlton | Peter Woodbury | Alien Goodridge |
| James Ray | James Hopkins | James Marvel |
| Andrew Bradford | Joseph Steel | Robert Parker |
| James Woodbury | Benjamin Simonds | Joseph Farnum |
| John Mills | William Bradford | |
| Moses Nichols in behalf of himself & Class. | | |

[73] [*Selectmen relative to raising Men, 1779.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and Assembly of the State of New Hamp^r

May it please your Hon^{rs}

The prayer of your Humble Petitioners Sheweth That whereas there is a call upon this Town for a Number of Soldiers as their quota for the Continental service during the war, and whereas at the request of the Militia Officers an article was inserted in a late warrant for a Town Meeting To see what method they would take to raise said men and at said Meeting it was voted That the selectmen in behalf of the town should Petition the legislative authority of the state (as some persons have heretofore refused to do anything Toward carrying on the present war and have not done anything to forward our Cause since the commencement of this war) That they would be

pleased to point out some method whereby those persons might be made to do their equal proportion with others—Wee therefore pray That you would be pleased to point out some method for the same and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Amherst June 11th 1779.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stephen Peabody | } Selectmen of Amherst. |
| Timothy Smith | |
| Tho ^s Wakefield | |
| James Seetown | |

[R. 11] [*Capt. Archelaus Towne's Petition, 1779.*]

To the Hon^{ble} The Council & House of Representatives & General assembly to Convene at Exeter on Wednesday the 16th Day of June Current—

The Petition of Archelaus Towne of Amherst *Humbly Sheweth* That your Petitioner with his son Archelaus Towne Did on the 24th day July 1777 Set out from Amherst as Volunteers & marched & Joined the Continental army Commanded by Gen^l Gates. Went Scouts & Did duty as other soldiers—and was in the battle of the 19 of Sept. Near Stillwater—& Continued in s^d army untill about Four Days before Gen^l Burgoin Surrendered, being Very Sick I was obliged to Return homeward—for all which Service I have not Rec^d any Recompence of any Person for me or my Son—your Petitioner prays an allowance for his Time & sons as others had That went as Volunteers & your Petitioner as in Duty bound Will Ever pray

Dated Amherst ye 15th June 1779.

Arch^s Towne

[R. 12]

This may Certify that I saw Capt. Archelaus Towne of Amherst in the front of the battle on the 19th of Sept^r 1777 at Bemis's heights and spake with him in the height of the battle—I saw his son Archelaus the next day & he told me That he was in s^d Battle which I believe altho' I did Not se him in it—

Robert B. Wilkins

Sargent in Capt. Isaac Frye's Comp'y

[Sworn to before Moses Nichols.

Dr. John Hale, of Hollis, "Surgeon to Col^o Cilley's Reg^{mt}," also certifies to having seen them both there.—ED.]

[87] [*North-west Parish Protest, recorded in Town Records.*]

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of the North Westerly Part of the Town of Amherst having Repeatedly Petitioned the

Town of Amherst to be set off as a Distinct parish and we think have made very Reasonable offers of Doing our parts of Defraying the Charge of Maintaining the Gospel and other Necessary charges while We Congregate with this Town but our petitions have been Hetherto Rejected we therefore hearby Enter our protest against Mr. Jeremiah Barnards being settled in this Town as our Minister or any other Ministers while we Remain in Conjunction with this Town and our Request not Granted.

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Nathan Flint | Samuel Stearns | John Cole |
| Larraford Gilbert | Peter Woodbury | Lemuel Winchester |
| Oliver Carlton | Night Nichols | James Woodbury |
| Alien Goodrige | John Mills | Abijah Wilkins |
| Isaac Weston | Joseph Tuck | Joshua Wilkins |
| Joseph Farnum | Joseph Perkins | Josiah Dodge |
| William Lamson | Joseph Langdell | Thomas Weston |
| Benjamin Starns | Eli Wilkins | William Bradford Jr |
| Nathan Cole | Joseph Lovejoy | John Harwood |
| John Averell | Enos Upton Jr. | James Smith |
| — Weston | Jacob Smith | |

[This document has no date, but was probably signed sometime in the year 1780.—Ed.]

[R. 13]

[In a petition dated Amherst, Oct. 14, 1780, William Bradford, Jr., states that he served as lieutenant in Capt. Jason Wait's * Co., Cilley's regiment, until Aug. 24, 1778, and asks for his depreciation money, which was granted.—Ed.]

[R. 14]

[January 25, 1780. The town presents bill for supplies furnished by James Woodbury to "those women whose husbands are in the Continental Army."

Mrs. Tuttle, wife of Nathan Tuttle, £112—12—10

Mrs. Cochran, wife of James Cochran, £39—4—4.—Ed.]

[R. 15]

[January 1, 1781. The town presents bill for supplies furnished during the past year to the families of John Mitchell, William Brown, Nathan Tuttle, James Cochran, Farrow Miller, Ebenezer Williams, and Richard Hughes, continental soldiers.—Ed.]

* Jason Wait was of Alstead.

[R. 16]

[The following is a detailed bill, which will show the prices of those days :]

| | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| The Town of Amherst to Dan ^l Campbell | | Dr. |
| To the following articles purchased for & Delivered to the wife of John Mitchel one of their Continental Soldiers | | |
| 1780 oct. 30. | to 2 Bushels Turnips at 18 Doll ^s | 10—16—0 |
| 31. | to 1½ “ Potatoes at 20 “ | 9—0—0 |
| | to 3 “ Apples at 12 “ | 10—16—0 |
| Nov. 10 | to 175 w ^t of Beef at 4 Doll ^s | 210—0—0 |
| 14 | to 3 Bushels of Potatoes at 20 Doll ^s | 18—0—0 |
| 25 | to 1 Peck of Salt at | 20—0—0 |
| 27 | to two Bushels of Potatoes at 20 Dolls | 12—0—0 |
| Dec ^r 6 | to 60 w ^t of Pork at 5 Dolls | 90—0—0 |
| 15 | to three Bushels of Rye at 70 Dolls | 63—0—0 |
| | to keeping a Cow six Weeks | 36—0—0 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 479—12— |
| | Stated price taken out | 4—15 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | True Errors Except | 474—7 |
| | | Dan ^l Campbel |

[88] [Petition for North-west Parish, 1780.]

To the Hon^{ble} The Council and House of Representatives in Gen^l Court Assembled at Exeter in the State of New Hampshire

The prayer of your Humble Petitioners Sheweth That in our Judgment The Town of Amherst is of so great an extent and its Inhabitants so numerous and scattered That it is more than any one Minister can take charge of and Properly doe his duty to so great and scattered a Congregation and that many People who live at so great a distance as four five six and some more than six miles distance from meeting and cannot Conveniently attend there with their families might be much better Covened to attend the worship of God at meeting with their families. If there were a Parish sett of in the Northwesterly part of the Town of Amherst in the manner following (Viz) Beginning at the Northwest corner bounds of said Amherst which is a great Rock at New Boston line from thence runing southerly on Lyndeborough line about two Degrees east four miles and an half to a Pine tree marked which is the southwesterly corner bounds of the lot of land on which Thomas Town Jr. now lives

Then nearly an east point Two miles lacking eleven rods to the southeast corner bounds of the lott of land on which Amos Green now lives Then runing about north on the east line of said Greens land half a mile to land of Elisha Felton to a stake and stones Then east sixty five rods to a Maple tree blown Down Then north about Two Degrees west half a mile on the easterly line of said Feltons land to a small heap of stones which is the northeast corner of said Feltons land Then nearly east by land of Ephraim Abbott fifty eight rods to a stake and stones which is the southeast corner of the lott of land on which said Abbott now lives Then north about Two Degrees west partly by said Abbotts land partly by the Highway about half a mile to the corner of a stone wall which is the southwest corner Bounds of Nathan Jones's land Then runing east half a Degree north Eighty five rods by land of said Jones Then north Two Degrees west nearly about Three miles to New Boston line. Then westerly on said New Boston line Two miles and an half and about fifty rods to the first mentioned Bounds and as there are some persons living within the Bounds above mentioned who are unwilling to be set off as a Parish We pray That you would be pleased to set us off as a Parish with Town Privileges, or otherwise if it might as a Town with such part of the Town of Lyndeborough as by Petition appear to be Desirous to be set off to us, According to the Bounds above discribed allowing those persons who living within said Bounds and are unwilling to be set off the Priviledge of being Considered as Inhabitants of and belonging to the Town of Amherst and the first Parish.

Your Honours Compliance will greatly oblige your Petitioners who as in duty bound shall ever pray.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Enos Upton | Samuel Stearns Jr | Richard Gould |
| Oliver Carlton | Nathan Flint Jr | Thomas Carlton |
| Stephen Peabody | Nathan Tuttle | Alien Goodridge |
| Joseph Langdell | Isaac Smith | Abijah Wilkins |
| Ezekiel Upton | Daniel Smith | Jeams Hopkins |
| Thomas towne | Timothy Smith Jr | Eli Wilkins |
| Joseph Dunclee | Stephen Washer | Joshua Wilkins |
| James Woodbury | Nathaniel Heywood | John Averel |
| Robert Parker | Amos Stickney | James Smith |
| Daniel Gould | Richard Ward | Jacob Smith |
| Josiah Dodge | William Wilkins | Henry Campbell |
| Solomon Kittridge Jr | Peter Woodbury | William Bradford Jr |
| Joseph Perkins | John Cole | Nathan Jones Jr |
| Nathan Cole | Enos Upton Jr | Joseph Tuck |
| John Mills | Zephaniah Kittridge | Daniel Wilkins |
| Joseph Farnum | James Ray | Timothy Jones |
| Knight Nichols | Daniel Simonds | John Harwood |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sam ^l Stearns | Daniel Simonds Jr | Lemuel Winchester |
| Isaac Weston | Nathan Flint | |

[The foregoing is not dated, but was probably 1780.—ED.]

[75] [*Petition of sundry Inhabitants to be set off and constituted a new Parish, 1781.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Exeter in the State of New Hampshire on the 14th of March 1781.

The Humble Petition of the Several parsons whose names are hereto set and subscribed Inhabitants of Amherst in the County of Hillsborough Chiefly in the North west part of said Town. Sheweth that your Petitioners Labour under very Great Difficulties Respecting our attending the Publick worship at the Stated place in Amherst Besides the Dissatisfaction which your Petitioners have manifested with thare Settling of M^r Jeremiah Barnard as a Minister of the Gospel in this Town and In as much as your Petitioners have Requested Repeatedly of this Town to be set off as a Parish but have been as often Denied ; we have likewise Repeatedly Petitioned this honourable assembly to be set off as a Distinct Parish but the Honourable Court did not think meet to Grant our Petition we therefore your Petitioners are Still Left under the Same Disagreeable Circumstances and besides our other Grievances, our Local Scituation is Such (as your Petitioners think) Calls for a Separation. we therefore your Petitioners Pray that this Honourable Assembly would be pleased to Grant us a Committee to View our Local Scituation and other circumstances and make Report to this Honourable Court as soon as may be that this Honourable Court may be more fully Informed of our Local Scituation and other Circumstances. In Patient Expectation of which your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever Pray

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Nathaniel Haywood | Nathan Jones Jr | John Averill |
| Oliver Carlton | James Smith | Jos ^a Wilkins |
| Joseph Langdell | Jacob Smith | Daniel Wilkins Jr |
| Josiah Dodge | Joseph Lovejoy | Joseph tuck |
| John Cole | Abijah Wilkins | timothy Smith Jr |
| William Lamson | Eli Wilkins | Nathan Flint |
| Peter Woodbury | Daniel Simonds | William Bradford Jr |
| Daniel Smith | Isaac Smith | John Mills |
| Joseph Farnum | Lemuel Winchester | Andrew Leavitt |
| Knight Nichels | James Woodbury | Samuail Starns |
| John Harwood | Enos Upton | Ezekiel Upton |
| Hannah Peabody | William Wilkins | James Hopkins |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Thomas Calton | Joseph Perkins | Amos Stickney |
| Joseph Dunckle | John Dunckle | Richard Gould |
| Alien Goodridge | Thomas Towns Jr | Nathan Cole |
| Richard Ward | Jeremiah Burnam | Daniel Gould |
| Robert Parker | Joseph Steel | Timothy Smith |
| | Nathan Flint Jr | |

We the Subscribers Living in the Southwesterly Part of Amherst Humbly Pray that your Honours would Grant us the same favor that the above Petitioners Pray for & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Stephen Burnam | Andrew Bradford | Ebenezer Averill |
| Elijah Averill | William Peabody Jr | John Bradford |
| Will ^m Wallace | Elisha Hutchinson | John Wallace |
| Ben ^j n Hutchinson | Nathan Hutchinson Jr | Josiah Crosby |
| Nathan Hutchinson | William Peabody | John Burns Junr |
| Caleb Jones | Bartho ^l Hutchinson | Joshua Burnam |
| Abner Hutchinson | W ^m Crosby | Joseph Crosby |
| Thomas Spiller | Josiah Crosby | Israel Burnam |

[79] [*Copy of a Remonstrance which was laid before the Council which ordained Mr. Barnard, 1780.*]

To the venerable the Ecclesiastical Council now convened for the purpose of setting apart and Ordaining M^r Jeremiah Barnard to the Pastoral Charge of the Church of Christ & People of the Town of Amherst.

The Memorial and Remonstrance of us Inhabitants of s^d Amherst humbly sheweth: That your Memorialists think themselves much aggrieved and are highly displeas'd with the Proceedings of that part of the Church and People of this Town of Amherst who have taken it upon themselves (against so much opposition) to call and invite the s^d M^r. Barnard to take upon himself the sacred Office & Character of a Gospel Minister in this Place who (strictly speaking) has never even been heard a Day on Probation for settlement here, As also with the Conduct of the s^d M^r. Barnard Consequent thereupon.—First then we are not (now) about to object to the legality of the Towns Proceedings: But however Legal their Proceedings may have been: We do aver that they have been by no Means justifiable: (In our humble Opinion) the Measures that they have adopted have been rash, hasty, Ungenerous & Imprudent: & in the room of having a Tendency to promote that Brotherly Love & Affection, which for a long time past have been the Strongest Bands of our Union, have a direct tendency to promote Division Malice Ill Will Dissention Animosities & heart Burnings one against

another Which horrid train of evils we humbly deprecate and earnestly pray God to avert.—It is to be observed that at the Time the several Church & Town Meetings were called relative to these Transactions, or for the Purposes aforementioned, the Severity of the Season was such & the great & extraordinary falls of Snow about that Time rendered a general attendance of the Town morally impossible: In these circumstances, Gentlemen (with submission) what ought to have been the Conduct of the Town; on a Matter of so much Weight and Importance; Ought they not to have adjour^d their Meetings from Time to Time, untill the true sense of the People could have been deliberately taken—On the other hand how have they conducted those most weighty Matters, have they not push'd them forward with the greatest precipitation: & notwithstanding they had but a small Majority of Votes on their side, have Lawyer-Like grasped hard at a Point of Law: not considering that *extreme Right* is often times *extreme wrong*; paying no manner of attention to the opposition which altho' they are rather the Minority as to Numbers are the Majority in the Pay of the Town & in Case M^r Barnard should be settled here; we must be compelled to pay the Major Part of his Settlement & Salary. which we humbly conceive will be a grievance which cannot be justified either upon the Principles of civil or Religious Liberty.

With Regard to M^r. Barnard our personal Acquaintance with him is but slender, neither have we sought every Means & Opportunity for a more intimate and perfect knowledge of his Character & Abilities which we might have done & should have done perhaps had we really esteemed him as a Candidate on Probation for Settlement among us—We alledge therefore nothing against his moral Character Life or Conversation—neither do we mean to accuse him of delivering anything contrary to Sound Doctrine. But however we must say that he is not the Man of our Choice. that he is not the Man that we should choose for our Spiritual Guide: for our Instructor in the great & deep Mysteries of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Neither do his Discourses (however doctrinally sound they may be) appear to us to be delivered *in Demonstration of the Spirit*. & with that Life Power & Energy that we could wish for: nor yet with that Clearness & Perspicuity, that we think we should have a right to expect from a Man thoroughly furnished to every Good Work, & from one that might come to us in the fulness of the Blessings of the Gospel of Peace—It is such a Man that we want. And we think we have a right to covet earnestly the best Gifts *Ap^t to teach*. To conclude we hope that the sight of so many names as will be annexed to this Memorial will be sufficient to convince M^r. Barnard that he ought not think of Settling where there is so little Prospect of his being Beneficial unto the People

or comfortable to himself. But (with due submission) Should Mr. Barnard be so much mistaken as to think differently, & should *even* this venerable Council (in such Case) proceed to Ordination; Candor obliges us (however disagreeable the necessity of dissenting from so worthy a Body) to say that we cannot (in Justice to our own feelings) patiently aqiesce in a Decision (in our opinion) so manifestly injurious both of the Rights of civil & Religious Liberty—We shall however rest satisfied, that the venerable Council will lay hands suddenly on no Man: & that the Prayer of this Petition will be fully granted by their refusing to ordain (under the present Circumstances) Mr. Jeremiah Barnard to the Pastoral Charge of the Church of Christ & People of this Town. In patient Expectation of which your Memorialists as in Duty bound will &c.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Stephen Burnham | Capt Andrew Brad- | Joseph Lovejoy |
| Lt. Joseph Farnum | ford | Timothy Nichols |
| William Wallace | Solomon Kittridge | Richard Gould |
| Lemuel Winchester | Samuel Henay | Darius Abbott |
| Abner Hutchinson | Lt. William Brad- | Lt. John Mills |
| Elisha Hutchinson | ford Jr. | John Stewart |
| James Woodbury | Nathan Flint | Timothy Smith Jr |
| Solomon Kittredge | Joseph Dunkle | Thomas Carleton |
| Caleb Jones Jr. | Isaac Abbott | Abijah Wilkins |
| John Burnes Jr | Robert Parker | Ephraim French |
| Benj ^a Sternes Jr | Oliver Carleton | Timothy Smith |
| Enos Upton Jr | Ezekiel Upton | Nathan Cole |
| Thomas Burns | Jeremiah Burnam | Benj ^a Temple |
| Nathaniel Heywood | Joseph Langdell | W ^m Melendy |
| John Patterson | Peter Woodbury | John Harvel |
| Daniel Smith | James Smith | John Arbuckle |
| Benj ^a Hopkins | Jacob Smith | W ^m Lamson |
| Daniel Symonds Jr | Ebenezer Averill | John Burns |
| John Averil | Jonathan Graham | Daniel Symonds |
| John Harwood | Joshua Wilkins | George Burns |
| Joshua Burnam | Capt William Pea- | Capt John Bradford |
| Samuel Dodge | body | Richard Ward |
| Caleb Jones | John Cole | William Wilkins |
| Amos Stickney | James Hopkins | Daniel Wilkins Jr |
| W ^m Peacock | Joshua Clark | Nathan Jones Jr |
| Knight Nichols | Daniel Lovejoy | Josiah Kidder Jr |
| Thomas Town Jr | Benjamin Hutchin- | Allen Goodridge |
| James Russell | son | Nathan Hutchinson |
| W ^m Hogg | Joseph Tuck | Jr. |
| Laraford Gilbert | Samson Crosby | Josiah Dodge |
| Samuel Sterns | Daniel Gould | Eben ^r Hopkins |

A true copy

attest

Jacob Burnap, Scribe to the Council

[80]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & Gen^t of the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Exeter in the State of New Hampshire, 14th March 1781.

The Humble petition of the Several persons whose names are hereto set and subscribed, Inhabitants of Amherst in the County of Hillsborough, living Chiefly in the Northwest part of s^d Town Sheweth that the Rev^d M^r. Daniel Wilkins the former Minister of Amherst Being By age and infirmitites Rendered incapable of Duty the Town Choose a Committee to hire preaching until another minister should be ordained. By which Means the Reverend M^r. Jeremiah Barnard was introduced into the Church there, only By way of Supply, the Town not being in a proper situation for settling a Minister, however the s^d M^r. Barnard Officiated there for some time.

That your petitioners for Reasons hereafter mentioned Could By no Means Rest Satisfied under his ministry, and openly Disapproved of him Notwithstanding which a party was form^d In favor of s^d Barnard which party taking advantage of Calling Church and Town meetings, when the Severity of the season was such and at times when such abundance of snow had fallen that it was Extremely Difficult (if not morally impossible) to have a general attendance of the Town inhabitants, it was Carried By a very small Majority to give the s^d M^r. Barnard a Call, and an Ecclesiastical Council was Convened at Amherst on the first Day of March 1780, for the purpose of ordaining him. That although your petitioners were Convinced to their great grief and sorrow, (by being outvoted) that they were not the greatest part of the inhabitants of said Town yet Being Conscious of their weight and Importance (as paying a greater part of Taxes, than those that Voted in favor of M^r Barnards settling) they did think themselves agrieved in having the s^d M^r. Barnard *imposed* upon them, in that *unfair manner*, and they did (previous to said ordination) sign and adress a Memorial and Remonstrance Couched in the strongest, But most modest Terms to the said Council, setting forth amongst other things that with Regard to M^r. Barnard they must say, that he was not a man of their Choise, that he was not the man that they should Chuse for thire Spiritual Guide, [here follows an extract from the document next preceeding this—ED.] and praying the Venerable Council that the said M^r. Barnard might not be ordained. To which said Memorial your Petitioners pray leave to refer themselves, and that it may be taken as part of this Petition. That Notwithstanding there are some few of your Petitioners who did not sign said memorial yet did they oppose the said M^r. Barnard's being Settled as their minister

and did in the strongest (though) modest terms, Manifest to the said Council their disapprobation of the said M^r. Barnards being ordained as a minister of the Church and People of this Town.—That notwithstanding the said Memorial & Remonstrance, Council thought fit to ordain and did accordingly ordain the said M^r. Barnard. In consequence whereof; for the reasons aforesaid and also because the said M^r. Barnard and his Party Carry the advantage they have gained in manner as before set forth with a high hand, your Petitioners cannot in conscience resort to the now place of Public Worship in Amherst, nor Can they joyne in prayer nor in communion with the said M^r. Barnard, nor reap any benefit by his discourses, so that they wholly absent themselves, and may be said to be without any settled Minister. Moreover under all these difficulties and hardships, which they labor under, your Petitioners are liable to be rated their Equal proportion of rates towards the support of the said M^r Barnard and as under the foregoing Circumstances your Petitioners think Hard of paying them, it seems to open a doore of Contention & Law suit which they would avoid.

That your humble petitioners in Expectation of being set of, as a separate parish, did sometime ago at their own proper Charge build a Commodious Meeting house at the said N : W : part of said Amherst and have hired preaching for some time past hoping at the same time to have enjoyed the priviledge of a minister of their own Chusing our Local sittyuation Being such as Required the same. But that not Being granted by the then Hon^{ble} Assembly Your Petitioners now have Recourse to your Honours, praying that you would take their most unhappy Cases into your Searious Consideration. And that they may be at liberty to bring in a bill whereby they may be severed from the said now meeting house and Minister, and from any future Minister there and from paying any rates for the repairs of the said meeting house or support of the now minister, or any future minister of the same, and that your Petitioners may be Invested with the Power of assessing levyng and Raising money for keeping their said meeting-house in Repair when the same shall be in want thereof and for seteling and constant maintaining a Gospel minister in said N : W. Meeting house. And that it may and shall be lawful for any now minor Children or Servants of your Pet^{rs} as soon as they shall Come of age to pole off if they see fit, and join such future Minister or ministers of the Gospel at the said Northwest Meeting House, and may in like manner be declared Independent of said M^r. Barnards Meeting House, and seperate therefrom & from all rates whatsoever Incident to the support of that meeting house or minister.—Provided that Such Child or Children servant or servants, so be-

coming of age do signify to the Town Clk. of Amherst, in writing, his, her, or their, desire of Joyning and becomeing Members of the said N. W. Society, or parish. or that your honours will grant your Pet^{rs} Relief in such other manner as you in your Great Wisdom shall see Most meet. and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever Pray.

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Nathaniel Heywood | Joseph Langdell | Oliver Carlton |
| Josiah Dodge | Amos Stickney | William Lamson |
| John Cole | Abijah Wilkins | John Mills |
| James Smith | Joseph Farnum | Jacob Smith |
| Daniel Wilkins | John Averill | Joseph Lovejoy |
| Nathan Jones Jr | Thomas Calton | Josh ^a Wilkins |
| Joseph Perkins | Eli Wilkins | Joseph Dunckle |
| John Duncklee | Joseph tuck | Alien Goodridge |
| Timothy Smith Jr | Richard Guld | Nathan Flint |
| Thomas Towns Jr | Nathan Flint Jr | Nathan Cole |
| Daniel Simonds | Richard Ward | Peter Woodbury |
| William Bradford Jr | Jeremiah Burnam | Daniel Smith |
| Isaac Smith | Daniel Gould | Lemuel Winchester |
| Robert Parker | Andrew Leavitt | Joseph Steel |
| Knight Nichols | Timothy Smith | James Woodbury |
| Samuail Starins | John Harwood | Enos Upton |
| Ezekiel Upton | Hannah Peabody | William Wilkins |
| James Jenkins | | |

[In answer to the foregoing, an act was passed June 30, 1781, setting off the petitioners and their estates from the old parish, and erecting them into a distinct parish for ministerial purposes.

The matter was contested, and some of the testimony may be found in Vol. I, Town Papers, collection of 1880, also a plan of Amherst and surrounding towns. The final result was the incorporation of the north-west parish as a town, by the name of Mont Vernon, in 1803.—ED.]

[74] [*Petition to Poll Off to Another Parish, 1781.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable the Council and house of Representatives in General Assembly Convened at Exeter the 14th day of June anno D. 1781

The Petition of us the Subscribers inhabitants of the north-westerly part of the Town of Amherst with those in the old Town in the County of Hillsborough and State aforesaid—Humbly Sheweth, that whereas a number of the Inhabitants of

said northwest part of Amherst with those in the old Town have petitioned that they may have liberty to pole off and be Released from paying ministerial taxes to the present meeting house & minister in s^d Town for Reasons set forth in s^d petition. Wee therefore your humble petitioners pray your honours, as we had no opportunity to sign said petition, that we together with them may have liberty to pole off from s^d meeting house and minister, and this our petition may be Considered as a part of that Petition in as full and ampel a Manner as if our names were subscribed thereto, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will Ever Pray &c

Amherst June 13th 1781.

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| James Ray | Jonathan Wilkins | Zeph ^r Kittridge |
| Robert Parker Jr | Jun ^r | Henry Codman |
| Timothy Jones | Benjamin Simonds | |

[76] [*Petition of the Inhabitants of the Old Parish to have the New Parish set off as a Town, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire. Hillsborough ss.

To the Honorable the Gentlemen of the Council—and the Honorable the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives in general Court Assembled. The Petition of sundry Persons Inhabitants of the old Parish in Amherst whose Names are hereunto subscribed—*humbly sheweth,*

That at the Sessions of the general Court held at Exeter in May Anno Domini 1781,* obtained an act of the said Court discharging them from that time, the Polls of their respective families & Estates, from any future support of the Gospel Ministry & other expense attending public worship at M^r. Barnards Meeting House as particularly mentioned in said Act, and erecting them into a distinct Parish with incidental Powers:—Still leaving the said Parishoners to act with the remaining Part of the Town of Amherst in all other matters proper to such a corporate Body.

And whereas the disuniting a Body corporate in some things most commonly does (and probably always will, while human nature remains the same) disunite them in other matters—and such a particular disunion is little else; but to set them at perpetual variance and discord:—a most unhappy situation! which the unfortunate Sufferers lament in vain—while such particular Laws, perhaps too little adapted to the general good; made to gratify a minority; on the Spurr of present heat & opposition;

* The names of the fifty-two who were set off are inserted here, and as they may be found on page 79, I think it is unnecessary to repeat them.

always against the great rule, *that the Majority must govern*; chain each struggling Party to the unrelenting Enemy of human happiness CONTENTION.

And it is the misfortune of these partial separations that they *do* not redress, but increase, the evils they are intended to remedy. This we find to be our unhappy case in common with all those Towns where such Divisions have been encouraged by Law. Instances would be burthensome to your Honors.

Your Petitioners do not presume, in this instance, to counteract what their Legislative Body have thought proper to pass into a Law: but their unhappy Situation compels them to seek redress in your power and wisdom, and thereby to extricate themselves from the Bondage of continual Discord, party Factions, and those little uneasy arts, which are but too easily practiced by disunited Spirits. Those separate interests so established *by Law* in this place, make our Town Meetings Scenes of confusion Irregularity and vexation. Permit us to part with one of them—and to ask your Honors that the Persons above named who have thus chose to be separated in part, may be separated from us wholly. We therefore your Petitioners do humbly pray that your Honors would cause it to be enacted, that the Polls & Estates aforesaid so set off in Ministerial matters, may be wholly separated from us in ALL MATTERS WHATSOEVER—

Your Honors have ample Power to confer on them any Privileges necessary for their welfare UNCONNECTED with us, and we do not wish to retain them to our *mutual Vexation*. (Nothing herein to alter the present method of paying Rev^d Mr. Wilkins salary) and we do hereby empower Mess^{rs} Daniel Campbell, Samuel Wilkins, Thomas Wakefield, and Ebenezer Weston, or any two of them, to prefer this Petition to the General Court and to carry the same into effect—with full power to appoint one or more Agents on our behalf for the same purpose. all which is humbly submitted by your Petitioners who as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Amherst Feby. y^e 24th 1783.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Will ^m Bradford Jr. | Saml. Wilkins | Jacob Curtice |
| Samuel Taylor | Stephen Washer | Nathan Fuller |
| Thomas Woolson | James Hartshorn | John Hartshorn |
| Timothy Hartshorn | Jon ^a Taylor | Nathan Phelps |
| Francis Eliott | John Steward | Amos Flint |
| Amos Flint Jn ^r | Ebenezer Weston | Joshua Atherton |
| Nathan Kendall | William Howard | Nathan Kendall Jr |
| Joshua Kendall | Robert Read | Israel Towne |
| Joseph Boutell | David Williams | Daniel Stevens |
| Phinehas Upham | Jedediah Ellinwood | William Steward |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Ralph Ellinwood | David Steward | Ephraim Hildreth |
| Rolandson Ellinwood | Elisha Felton | David Hildreth |
| William Walker | Nahum Baldwin | Jeremiah Hobson |
| Benjamin Wilkins | Thomas Stevens | Timothy Nichols Jun ^r |
| William Dana | Robert Means | Stephen Kendrick |
| Samuel Dana | John Seetown | Thomas Wakefield |
| Kendall Boutell | William Odell | John Lovejoy |
| John Eaton | Eleazer Cole | Benjamin Davis |
| Andrew Davis | Amos Boutell | Aaron Boutell |
| John Tuck | Joseph Boutell | Amos Truell |
| Joseph Jewett | Benjamin Wilkins Jun ^r | Ben Wilkins |
| Samuel Seetown | Samuel Standley | Henry Kimball |
| William Odell Jun ^r | Bartholomew Dodge | Jacob Standley |
| William Hartshorn | Benjamin Clark | Aaron Nichols |
| Benjamin Clark Jun ^r | Samuel Stearns Jr. | John Hartshorn |
| Samuel Twiss | Jacob Lovejoy | Joseph Prince Jr |
| Abel Prince | Reuben Mussey | Reuben Diamond Mussey |
| Benjamin Merrill | Edward Lyon | Moses Barron |
| Hezekiah Lovejoy | William Fisk | Samuel Henry |
| Ebenezer Ellinwood | William Walton | Daniel Campbell |
| Joseph Small | Joshua Patingill | William Small |
| Francis Lovejoy | Benjamin Pike | Enos Bradford |
| Timothy Jones | Ephraim Barker | John Twiss |
| Reuben Holt | Benjamin Pike Jun ^r | Jonathan Lamson Jr |
| Ebenezer Holt | Joseph Rollings | Joseph Cogin Jr |
| Joseph Cogin | Ebenezer Batchelor | John Batchelor |
| Timothy Hill | James M ^e Keene | Aaron Wilkins |
| Isaac Jaquith | John Roby | Moses Kimball |
| Moses Kimball Jr | Andrew Wilkins | William Taylor |
| And ^w Thomson | Eben ^r Weston Jun ^r | Tho ^s Weston |

[92] [*Petition of some of the Inhabitants of the South-west Part, 1781.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened at Exeter in the State of New Hampshire on the 20th day of June 1781.

The humble Petition of the persons whose names are hereto subscribed—Inhabitants of the sutherly part of Amherst (formerly Monson) Sheweth—That your Petitioners have a desire of being set off and have the same Privileges granted with the petitioners that petitioned to your Honours in March 1781 liv-

ing in said souther part of Amherst, and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Augustus Blanchard Isaac How | Daniel Lovejoy |
| James Russell | Israel Towne Jun ^r Joel How |

[The petition above referred to has not been found. One for the same purpose, dated May 23, 1782, may be found in Town Papers, vol. ix, p. 24.—ED.]

[90] [*Petition of the Inhabitants of the South-westerly Part of Amherst to be set off as a Parish, 1782.*]

To the Honourable the Council and the Gentlemen of the House of Representatives in general Court convened at Concord in and for the State of New Hampshire on Wednesday the 13th day of March A D. 1782.

The Petition of the subscribers Humbly Shew That your Petitioners are Inhabitants of the extensive Town of Amherst and the most of your Petitioners live in the south-westerly part of said Town—That their local situation renders it impracticable for some of your Petitioners and many of their Children to give a general attendance at the stated place of public Worship in Amherst. That your Petitioners conceive that it is of great importance that youth as well as the aged should be instructed in Morality and piety—That the settlement of the present Minister in Amherst was disagreeable to many of your Petitioners, and that some of your Petitioners previous to his ordination did sign a Memorial and Remonstrance setting forth their sentiments of the matter and that he was not a man of their choice—That your Petitioners conceive that where there is dissatisfaction in some and an impossibility of a general attendance of others the great and important designs of Publick instructions in Morality and piety are frustrated. That your Petitioners being of the Opinion that Amherst might well spare them there being nearly three hundred rateable Poles that are now Taxed to their present Minister and when a sufficient number to support a Minister desire to be set off from so large a number as there are in Amherst no reasonable objection can be offered against their request being granted. Provided they leave as large a number to support a Minister in the former Parish especially if the Petitioners have lately assisted in erecting an elegant house for Public Worship in the Parish they desire to leave and have paid their proportion (by constraint) towards the settling a Minister there.

Your Petitioners did sometime in the Month of March A. D.

1781, Petition the Honourable the general Court to be severed from the society that attended the Public Worship in Amherst meeting house to be set off as a Distinct Parish, and the Honourable Court granted us a day of hearing, but through inattention the Town of Amherst was not served with a copy of the Petition and order of Court thereon, and of course we could not have a hearing—Therefore your Petitioners pray your Honours to take our Case under your wise Consideration That we your Petitioners may have leave to bring in a Bill severing us from the society that attend the Publick Worship in the present meeting house in Amherst and discharging us from any future taxes for the erecting or Repairing a Meeting house in that Parish or for the support of their present or future Minister, and erecting us into a Distinct Pole Parish with power to levy, assess, and collect taxes for the Building a house for the Publick Worship of God and for the settlement and support of a Minister of the Gospel, and granting to us all other Parochial powers Priviledges and immunities proper for Pole Parishes, and also directing that the present inhabitants of Amherst that are or may be desirous of joining in Public Worship with us within the term of one year from our incorporation shall enter their names and such desire with the Clark of the said Parish and shall also produce to the Town Clerk a Certificate thereof and enter the same with him, Those that shall hereafter inhabit said Town that within the term of one year after they become inhabitants shall enter their names and their desire of joining with us in Publick Worship to the Clark of the Parish and shall produce to the town Clerk a Certificate thereof and enter the same with him and also all those that are or may be minors that shall within the term of one year after they shall come of age residing in said Amherst enter their names and their desire of joining with us in Publick Worship with the Parish Clark producing a Certificate thereof to the Town Clerk and enter the same with him Shall be deemed and taken to belong to the Pole Parish incorporated by this act and Rated there to all Parochial charges accordingly and be exempted from any other Parochial Charges Whatsoever during their Residence in said Amherst—or to grant us Relief in such other way as your Honours shall think proper and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Amherst Feb. y^e 25th 1782.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Nathan Hutchinson | Moses Averill | Andrew Bradford |
| Joshua Burnam | Josiah Crosby Sr. | Stephen Burnam |
| Israel Town Jr | Jonathan Hutchin- | Caleb Jones |
| Abner Hutchinson | son | William Peabody |
| John Burns Jur. | Samson Crosby | James Gilman |

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Benj. Hopkins | Elijah Averil | Ebenezer Hopkins |
| Isaac Abbott | Tho ^s Burns | Elisha Hutchinson |
| Joel How | Jonathan Grimes | William Peabody Jr |
| Daniel Lovejoy | Isaac Howe | Stephen How |
| Josiah Crosby Jr | Benj ⁿ Hutchinson | George Burns |
| John Wallace | Jonathan Lund | William Grimes |
| Darius Abbott | Stephen Crosby | Samuel How |
| John Burns | Augustus Blanchard | W ^m Crosby |
| Henry Codman | Jonathan Towne | William Melendy |
| thaddeus Grimes | John Bradford | Samuel Dodge |
| John Grimes | Israel Burnam | Nathan Hutchinson |
| Bartholomew Hutch- inson | Bartholomew Towne | Sr |
| Benj ⁿ Hopkins 3 ^d | Benj ⁿ Hopkins Jr | Benj ⁿ Conant |
| Samuel Graham | David Burnam | Arter Graham |
| | William Wallace | Ebenezer Averill |

[89] [*Remonstrance of Inhabitants of that part of Monson which was annexed to Hollis, against reëstablishing the ancient Town of Monson.*]

To the Honorable the Council and house of Representatives to be Convened at Concord in the State of New Hampshire in September Anno Domini 1782.

The answer of the Subscribers to the petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Amherst and Holles, praying that your honours will take the said petition in all its parts under your Consideration and give them Leave to bring in such a bill as will place the Ancient Town of Monson in its former situation as to boundaries, and invest them with such immunities as other Towns in this state hold and enjoy.

We the said subscribers being Inhabitants of Holles, but within the lines of what was formerly Called Monson, pray your honours not to Grant the Prayer of said petition for the following reasons Viz. First—because that long before the incorporation of Monson the greatest part of said Monson did belong to Holles, and the Inhabitants thereof did assist in building a Meeting house and settling a minister to their mutual satisfaction.

Secondly ;—because said Monson was incorporated without the desire or consent of the inhabitants thereof.

Thirdly—because that after said Town was incorporated they never could agree about their Town affairs (and in particular in settling the Gospel) but were always in Confusion.—

Fourthly—because the Annihilation of said Monson was caused by the majority of the then Inhabitants thereof.—

Fifthly—because said petition sets forth, that the contents of

said monson is at least five miles square, whereas in fact said Town is about eight miles in length and ab^t four miles in wedth and the principal part of the Inhabitants thereof, especially those who pay by far the largest proportion of taxes are situated upon the North westerly, and South easterly Corners of said Town, being the two Extremes thereof, and the Center and the other two Extremes of the Town is very thinly Inhabited, and the land in the said two Extremes last mentioned is not Capable of Settlement—and the Inhabitants in the South easterly & Northwesterly part, who would pay a large proportion of taxes Could never be accommodated with roads to the senter of said Town, more especially in the winter season, being no publick road within two miles of the senter through the Town—

Sixthly—because that instead of peace and harmony being promoted it is probably the Contention which will be occasioned thereby will be much greater, than ever it was before—

Seventhly—because a very few of the Inhabitants of the Northwesterly & Southeasterly Corners of the Town, which cannot be accommodated as before mentioned, pay as much or more taxes than all the petitioners.

Eighthly—because there are near thirty of the inhabitants in that part of Holles which was formerly Monson, who attend publick worship at Holles, are by far better accommodated in that Respect than they Can be Elsewhere, and many of them have to travell at least as far to meeting as the principal part of the petitioners.

Ninthly—because the said Town formerly Called Monson Continued to be a Town more than Twenty Years, and during that time they never settled a minister, nor hired one days Preaching, but attended the public worship at Holles and Amherst in general without any expense as a Town, and tis highly probable that will be the Case again should the prayer of the petition be Granted.

Tenthly—because a number of the petitioners inconsiderately subscribed the same, who now are Convinced that should the prayer of said petition be granted it would be pregnant with the Greatest Mischief.

Holles Sept 13th 1782.

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Robt Colburn | William Nevens | Dan ^l Bayley |
| Samuel Hayden | David Kendrick | Thad ^s Wheeler |
| Jonas Willoughby | Eben Farley | Joseph Nevens |
| Oliver Sanders | Benjamin Nevens | Robert Colburn Jun ^r |
| Nathan Colburn | Daniel Bayley Jr | Thomas Powars |
| Josiah Parker | Daniel Kendrick Jr | Josiah Parker Jr |
| Joseph Esta-brooks | Joseph Stearnes | Zack ^r Shattuck |
| Elnathan Blood Jr | Zack ^r Shattuck Jr | Joel Bayley |
| Benj ^t Colburn | | |

[86] [*Deposition of Thomas Wakefield, 1782.*]

Thomas Wakefield of Amherst Depos on oath that he has resided in Amherst for these twenty years passed, and for these three years last passed has acted in the Capacity of Town Clerk and was at the Chief of the Town meetings when the affair of Monson uniting with Amherst was adjietated, and he very well Remembers that a great Majority of Amherst Inhabitants were averce to their Joining least a division of the Town might in-sue, and well Remember that when Monson made public application to be Received they were Rejected by the Town but still they were uneasy and often shew a desire of Joining Some few Inhabitants of Amherst seamed to Favor them Espcialy the Family of Coloⁿ Shepard and Capt. Peabody and the matter was again brought in question and Considirably Fowarded by Mr. Wilkins their minister and out of Complisance to him and the Solom promises some leading men in Monson made maney People ceased to oppose them the promises were that they would in no case promote a division or aney alteration in Town

This deponent very well remembers that Josiah Crosby was very urgent for Joining and on its being observed that it would be a means of breaking up Amherst he said it would not and himself Solomly promised never to move nor promot any Such Thing or words to that purpose.

That not long after the Town had agreed to Build a meeting house they were alarmed with the news that some of Monson People with others of this Town were about applying for a Small Town or Parish to be made out of the whole upon which the Committee for Building the meeting house Stop^d proceed- ing Maj^r Robert Read was desired to wait on the Govenor and Lodge Some Reasons against aney such Request this Deponent went with the Maj^r and after the Business was made known to the Govenor Col^o Atkin[son] and others of the Council they said no such thing should Take place and the Committee then went on with building as was before Determined had aney such Petition taken place as they heard was in adjatation the meeting house would have been smaller and at considerable Distance from where it now is—as this Deponent thinks—

This Deponent further says that at a meeting called last June to see if the Town would oppose the Petition in question the Petitioners and Parrisoners Living in said Town Claimed a right of Voting on that article and prety Generally assembled with an Intent (as this deponent believes) to outvote those who would oppose it and then obtained an Entry in the Town Book not to oppose the said Petition and at a second meeting Called for the same purpose those persons again appeared and acted the same part and urged as they might be Called on for a part

of the Expense to be incurred in Defending they had a Right to Vote and Did Vote in every question of that kind, tho. not so generally as at the begining. and when the Petition last preferred by Monson People was acted upon there People vizt Petitioners and Parrishoners Voted to oppose the prayer of it but was Negatived by the Rest of the Inhabitants of the Town.

Ques. Was that Promise which Mr. Crosby made relating his never doing anything to divide the Town made before or after the meeting held in Amherst in which the Petition of Monson People to join with Amherst was rejected—Answer—I do not remember.

Ques. Was there any persons that Voted relating to not opposing the said Petition First mentioned besides Petitioners and Parrishoners.

Answer—I remember only two
Dated at Amherst Sept. 14, 1782.

Tho^s Wakefield

[The foregoing was sworn to before
Nahum Baldwin, Just. Peace.]

[93] [*Remonstrance against reëstablishing Monson, 1782.*]

To the Honourable the Council, and House of Representatives
within & for the State of New Hampshire

Your Petitioners, Inhabitants of the Southerly part of Amherst in the same State, which was lately distinguished and known by the Name of *Monson*—Beg leave to observe (as we are informed) a Petition was lately preferred to your Honours signed by a number of Persons, praying to have the Inhabitants of the Land not long since known by the name of *Monson* as aforesaid Reincorporated into a Body Politic—which we humbly Conceive would be utterly Subversive of the real good and Benefit of said Inhabitants collectively considered—to enumerate all the Evils that might be consequent thereon we think unnecessary. May it suffice for us to say, that during the existence of said *Monson* various fruitless attempts were made to Continue it. It was adjudged that the Land in & near the Center, was so *Barren Broken* and *Uneaven* and its local Scituation such as to render the making and repairing of Roads exceeding difficult—this Representation (founded in truth as appears to us now) being made. *Monson* was no more. And we earnestly pray that it may not now be reanimated or Revived,—And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

John Grimes

Dated August 1782.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| John Burns | Nathan Hutchinson | Thomas Burns |
| Caleb Jones | Bartholomew Hutch- | David Burnam |
| Josiah Crosby | inson | James Gilman |
| Jonathan Towne | Samson Crosby | thaddeous grimes |
| Nathan Hutchinson | Ebenezer Hopkins | Jonathan Grimes |
| Jr | Stephen Crosby | Isaac Abbott |
| Josiah Crosby Jr | Ezra Baldwin | Isaac Southwick |
| Benjamin Hutchin- | William Graham | Benja. Kendrick |
| son | George Burns | Stephen Kendrick |
| Augustus Blanchard | Samuel grimes | Isrel Burnam |

[The foregoing documents were before the legislature, Nov. 20, 1782. The matter was sharply contested, several depositions were presented, and considerable bitterness ensued. The petition for reestablishing the town of Monson was refused, but by an act passed Nov. 23, 1782, Nathan Hutchinson and forty-six others, with their families and estates, were erected into a "Poll Parish," for ministerial purposes. This new parish was in the south-west part of Amherst, and was, with a portion of Hollis, the Mile Slip, and Duxbury School Farm, incorporated in 1794 as a town by the name of Milford.—ED.]

[95] [*Petition of Jonathan Smith relative to Land given to Benjamin Whiting.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council and Assembly of the State of New Hampshire convened at Concord Sept. 10, 1782.

The Petition of Jonathan Smith of Amherst in the State aforesaid. Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioner on the 31st day of Jan^y 1772 gave a Deed of half an Acre of Land to the County for to set the jail on as a Present. Also at the same time gave a Deed of half an Acre of Land adjoining to Benj^a Whiting of Hollis as a present with a promise that he would never sell the said Land nor let any Person set any Buildings thereon. About 2 Moths before he absconded & went to the Enemy he called and told said Smith as he never gave him anything for the above half Acre of Land that if he was not restored to his office again he w^o: [ould] return the said Land back again by a Deed to the said Smith and desired said Smith to improve it as his own property. And as your Petitioner has certain Depositions to prove as aforesaid prays this Hon^{ble} Court to take it into their Consideration that the said Deed given by the said Smith to the said Whiting might be null and void that your Pe-

tioner might come into full possession of the said Land according to said Whitings promise to him. And y^r Petitioner shall ever pray as in Duty Bound

Jonathan Smith

Amherst Sept 5th 1782.

[103½] [*Returns of Ratable Polls, Amherst, 1783.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire.

Pursuant to a vote of the late General Assembly of this State Directing the Selectmen of the Several Towns in this State to Return the number of all male Polls paying Taxes for themselves, to the General Assembly of this State at their first Session in obedience to which—the Number of all male Polls paying Taxes as aforesaid in the Town of Amherst is 339.

By order of the Selectmen,

Tho^s Wakefield,
Town Clerk

Amherst December
y^e 15th 1783.

[103] [*Vote of Amherst on the Eighth Article of Confederation.*]

At a legal meeting of the Town of Amherst in the State of New Hampshire held Oct^r 20th 1783.

Among other things—Voted with Reference to the proposed Alteration of the 8th Article of *Confederation* and Perpetual *Union* between the thirteen States of America that the reasons for the proposed Alteration do not preponderate with us (with due deference we say it) as they did with the Honourable Congress, as appears by their address to the several States respecting this matter, nor are We the same in sentiment with our own Legislators who appear to be Convinced of the expediency and Utility of the Measure as by their address to this State of the 20th of June last past.

We are Humbly of Opinion, that a strictly equal and just Data or Rule for taking a Valuation is almost, if not wholly impracticable. Yet we think no Rule can be devised subjected to fewer objections than from Valuations of the Soil &c, taken in and by each State. We therefore hereby INSTRUCT & IMPOWER OUR REPRESENTATIVE to use every decent and Laudable means in his power to prevent the said proposed *Alteration*

True Copy Attest

Tho^s Wakefield Town Clerk

[102] [*Memorial in favor of making Goods, Chattels, etc.,
Legal Tender for Debts.*]

To the Honourable Council and house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire, in General Court assembled at Exeter on the Second Wednesday of February 1783.

The prayer of your humble petitioners Inhabitants of Amherst, and others in the county of Hillsborough. hereby Sheweth that your petitioners have beheld and do still behold with great concern and resentment the numerous needless Lawsuits that have Commenced in the year past, and that are still commencing and carrying on in this State; and more especially in this county; purely for private debts, it being a time of Great Scarcity (not only of the necessaries of life) but also of the Silver courrancy in this State, when all the money that can be found in this State, is Scarcely Sufficient to pay our Publick taxes, and procure the absolute necessaries of life. Therefore private debts cannot be suddenly paid (in money) without great neglect of Publick debts and damage to the Publick cause. Neither are private debts often recovered (at this day) by sueing, for all the money that can be procured is little enough to Satisfy attorneys and under Sheriffs (which your petitioners think are too numerous in this county;) So that the creditors often take notes for their dues after the debts are sued and leave said notes in the hands of their attorneys where their debtors are exposed quickly to pay the same (or a greater) cost over again. for as though the cost of Sueing in the county where both debtor and creditor reside were too little, the Practise is begun of Sueing to another county where neither debtor nor creditor reside which augments the cost and is a practice which your petitioners view as very unjust and unreasonable in common cases.

Your petitioners are of opinion that if this extraordinary Sueing be not Seasonably prevented it will have a very bad effect on our Publick affairs as it hath a tendency to disunite imbitter and allinate the affection of the good subjects of the State from each other, in a time when peace harmony and congruity are very needful, yea the Greatest part of our humane Strength. this excessive sueing (if it be not prevented) will fill our Goals with honest Laborious husbandmen and Mechanicks, and therefore leave our Soil (in a measure) uncultivated and our manufacturies damaged. it will Starve our army in the field, and our civil and Ecclesiastical officers at home. it will starve the poor and needy and Greatly debilitate the wealthy. it will Greatly Encourage and Embolden our external and internal enemies, but discourage and dishearten our sincere (but injured) friends. It will build up Lawyers and Sheriffs only, and that upon the

ruins and destruction of their fellow men. Therefore it appears (to your petitioners) needful that Something (constitutional) be Speedily done in order to prevent this increasing Calamity. otherwise we may expect that Something will be done, unconstitutionally, the dangerous tendency and consequence of which your Petitioners would Greatly deprecate. Therefore (for the above reasons) your Petitioners hereby pray that this Honourable Court would take the above Case into their most Serious consideration and by a wise and prudent act prevent this Extraordinary cost of lawsutes: and establish some more reasonable way for the recovery of private debts, in this time of publick calamity, by making such lands Goods chattels lumber &c as the debtor is possessed of to be a Lawful tender for Debts at such a price as shall be set upon Such Goods &c by faithful men chosen for that purpose, or such men as the Debtor and creditor shall choose themselves. which may be done with little cost and without the cost of any lawsutes. However your petitioners submit the particular method of procedure in the matter to the Wisdom and Prudence of this Honourable Court, (trusting as you rule for God and are Interested in the common Welfare and happiness of your country, and are touched with a fellow feelling of the calamities of the meanest of your Subjects) That you are able and willing to point out and establish a method, far Superior to any pointed out by your petitioners, both for the redress of our present Grievances, and for the safety of this State. In patient expectation of which your humble Petitioners (as in duty bound) shall ever pray

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Robert Parker | William Wallace | Richard towne |
| Thomas Carlton | Benjamin Curtis | Samuel Town |
| Richard Gould | John Case | Richard Ward |
| William Wilkins | James Hopkins | Elisha Hutchinson |
| John Bradford | Zacchus Walker | David Goodell |
| Joshua Lovejoy | Elijah Averill | W ^m Walker |
| Nathaniel Heywood | Amos Eliot | Ephraim Hildrith |
| Jon ^a Taylor | Benj ^a Pike | Elisha Felton |
| Joseph tuck | Isaac Weston | Aaron Smith |
| Solomon Kittredge | John Patterson | Sam ^l Standley |
| Benj ⁿ Davies | Benjamin Pike | Hezekiah Lovejoy |
| Henry Kimball | Arthur Dennis | John Harvell |
| Eli Wilkins | James Woodbury | major Raby |
| Oliver Carlton | Nathan Flint | Daniel Kendall |
| Isaac Smith | David M ^c Quig | James Marvel |
| Timothy Kendall | James Ray | John Cross |
| Rob ^t Darrah | James Nahor Junr. | Samuel Chase |

[See Atkinson papers for disposition of the matter.—Ed.]

[104] [*Memorial against M. Thornton's having an Exclusive Right to ferry people over Merrimack river.*]

To the Honorable the Council & house of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Exeter on the last Tuesday of March 1784, the Petition of the Subscribers Humbly Shew That we are Informed that Matthew Thornton Esq has petitioned your Honors that he may have the Exclusive right of ferrying people over Merrimack River where Col^o Lutwych formerly kept the ferry and that a hearing is appointed the 2^d Wednesday of your next session.

We humbly pray that his petition may not be granted first Because it would be unjust that he should have the Benefit of the ferry when the owners and proprietors of Brentons Farm have been at so much cost and expence in Reserving Lands on both sides Merrimack River keeping proper Vessels for & tending the ferry 2^dly because that Col^o Thornton sence he has lived there has paid little or no attention to serve the publick in that way and if your Honors Grant his petition the publick as well as your petitioners will be much Injured as all that are acquainted with him know that he never did attend to such matters neither can it be expected he ever will—Therefore we Humbly pray your Honors not to Grant his said petition, all which your petitioners as in Duty bound sencerley pray

March 4, 1784.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Benjamin Clark | Benj ^a Davies | William Steward |
| Peter Goss | David Hildrith | Timothy Hartshorn |
| Francis Eliott | Thomas Woolson | Nathan Jones Jr |
| James Hartshorn | Jacob Curtice | Nathan Cole |
| Elisha Hutchinson | Henry Codman | John Eaton |
| Nathan Fuller | Nathan Kendall Jr | Joshua Kendall |
| Benj ^a Clark Jr | Joseph Small | Jacob Hildrith Jr |
| William Small | Rolandson Ellin- | Joseph Prince Jr |
| Sam ^l Standley | wood | Jeremiah Hobson |
| Nathaniel Haseltine | Thomas Towne | Eben Weston Jr |
| Barthol ^w Dodge | Francis Lovejoy | Timothy Smith |
| John Seetown Jr | Samuel Stevens | William Walker |
| Jonathan Smith | Samuel Shepard | Edward Ellsworth |
| Phineh ^s Jones | Israel Weston | Richard Ward |
| Peter Woodbury | Oliver Carlton | Joseph Perkins |
| Joseph Langdell | Richard Gould | Abijah Wilkins |
| John Mills | James Woodbury | Abner Hutchinson |
| William Lamson | William Bradford Jr | James Smith |
| John Averill | Ebenezer Fisk | Jacob Smith |
| James Stickney | Alien Goodridge | Michael Keef |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Andrew Wilkins | Jonathan Wilkins | Nath ^l Henchman (?) |
| Philemon Perkins (?) | Josiah Crosby | — Symes |
| Eben ^r Weston | Eph ^m Crosby | |
| Ephraim Hildrith | Ebenezer Odell | |

[Notwithstanding this, the legislature, by an act passed April 14, 1784, granted to said Matthew Thornton the exclusive right of keeping a ferry for two miles above and two miles below his house.—ED.]

[The five documents next following are abstracts from original documents.—ED.]

[R. 18]

[Amherst, Dec. 23, 1784. Joseph Perkins requests that what money is due him for services as a soldier in 1779, be paid to Joseph Blanchard.]

[R. 19]

[By petition, dated June 7, 1785, "Hannah Peabody Widow & Relict of Lieut. Col^o Stephen Peabody late of Amherst Deceased," states that her late husband served in the army in R. I. in 1778, and asks to have the depreciation of his wages made up and paid to her ; which was granted.]

[R. 20]

[Amherst, January 20th, 1786.
Henry Harris sends an order to the treasurer for wages due him for services in the war.
Granted £20.]

[R. 21]

[Ebenezer Odell, of Amherst, petitioned the general court, under date Feb., 1786, stating that he served in Capt. Daniel Runnels's Co., Col. Peabody's Reg't, in R. I., in 1778, never received anything but nominal wages, was aggrieved because "stated prices" were not maintained, and wanted an allowance.

Attested by
"Tho. Wakefield Town Clerk for 1778.
Hezekiah Lovejoy Captain"]

[R. 22]

[Abr^m Littlehale states, in an order dated Nov. 28th, 1787, that he was hired for one year by the town of Amherst, and served in Capt. Dustin's Co., Col. Read's Reg't, in 1779, that the town has relinquished his hire to him, and requests the state treasurer to pay the same to Capt. Daniel Warner.]

—

[107] [*Petition to have the North-west Parish set off by "Metes and Bounds," 1788.*]

To the hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire, the petition of the Subscribers humbly Sheweth

That your petitioners labor under great Disadvantages on account of their great Distance in a roade rough & uneven from Amherst first parish Meeting House, and that we are all inhabitants of that part of Amherst hereafter described by meets and Bounds and Can be better accommodated by being Anexed to the Second parish in Amherst, that Some of us were minors belonging to the familys, that were set off to said Second parish at the time of their incorporation and were Entitled to the priviledge of being members of that Body had we seasonably entered our names with the Town Clerk, as the law directed but through forgetfulness or Inattention, we omitted it and can have no help, but by your honours Direction—we therefore pray that your honours would take the matter into your wise Consideration, and set us off as a parish by meets and bounds as follows (Viz) beginning at the northwest Corner bounds of the Town of Amherst thence runing southerly on the west line of said Town about four & half miles to the southwest Corner of the lot of land formerly owned by Joseph Dunkle thence Easterly on the line between Deacon Elisha Hutchinsons & Richard Gould & about two miles to the Southeast Corner of the lot of land Amos Green now lives on, thence runing Northeasterly on a direct line about one & half miles, to the Crotch of the roads between the houses of Lieut. William Bradford & Samuel Wilkins Esqr. thence runing more Easterly on a direct line about three quarters of a mile to the Southeast Corner of Benjamin Pike Jun^r land thence runing North-erly on a Direct line to the East line of Henry Spalding land & so continuing its course about two miles & three quarters, to New Boston line, from thence runing westerly on the Town line between Amherst & New Boston, about three miles to the first mentioned Bounds—and as all your petitioners live within the

limits aforesaid, Should we be so happy as to Communicate to your Honours an idea of our disagreeable situation we Doubt not we Shall Receive your honours approbation and as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| James Ray | Jacob Curtice Jr | Jonathan Wilkins |
| Jacob Kendal | Thomas Weston | William Cogin |
| Isaac Manning | Moses Kimball Jr | John Fiske |
| John Damon | James M ^e Keen | Didymus Pearson |
| Ebenezer Batcheller | John Batcheller | John Peabody |
| Aaron Wilkins | Benjamin Sterns | Isaac Weston |
| Henry Trivett | Amos Flint | Eliphlelet Simonds |
| William Barron | Stephen Gould | Joseph Cogin |
| Isaac Jaquith | Ezenezer Odell | Enoch Carlton |
| Ezekiel Holt | Sam ^l Stearns Jr. | Daniel Kendal |
| Peter Jones | Daniel Weston | Peter Abbott |
| Moses Kimball | Zephaniah Kittridge | Benjamin Simonds |
| Nathan Jones | Hutchinson Flint | Moses Peabody |
| Henry Spaulding | Samuel Peabody | Henry Campbell |

[The foregoing petition is in the handwriting of Henry Campbell. It was before the H. of Rep., June 11, 1788, and a hearing ordered for the third Wednesday of the next session. A committee was appointed, who reported June 10, 1790 (see House Journal, June 12), fixing different bounds from those asked for in the foregoing petition. The report was accepted, and an act establishing the same passed the house, June 18, 1790. The legislature adjourned the next day, the senate taking no action in the matter: the document following will perhaps explain why. The matter came up at the next session, and an act was passed January 25, 1791, defining the boundaries between the old and the north-west parishes.—ED.]

[109] [*Protest against being set off with the North-west Parish, 1790.*]

State of New Hampshire. To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives in general Court now convened at Concord in s^d State.

The subscribers humbly shew, that by the Report of the Committee for setting the Line between the old or first parish in Amherst and the northwest parish made to your Honours this Session. they are to be set off to the s^d northwest parish—and whereas we your petitioners did most solemnly and voluntarily

contract with the Rev^d M^r. Barnard for the annual payment of his salary together with the rest of the Inhabitants of the Town of Amherst, more especially with those who were active in Fav^r of his settling with them as their Minister, we cannot but esteem it a great Grievance that we should be set off and compelled to worship with a Society with whom we never joined in public worship, and to support a Minister with whom we never made any contract for such a purpose, while the solemn contract we made with the Rev^d M^r. Barnard, and his adherents, is set aside and rendered null and void—Those who have no right, thereby *claim our Money*; Those to whom we are under the most solemn obligations to give it; *loose it*—while every sentiment and Feeling of our Hearts in the strongest manner impel us to remain under our former connection, and the full Force of our Contract made with M^r Barnard.

Wherefore we humbly request your Honours that we with our estates may be permitted to remain to M^r Barnard's Parish, that we may have the double pleasure of worshipping the Supreme Being with the Society of our Choice; and at the same time of fulfilling our Engagement which the Laws of god and our Religion have pronounced inviolable—and your petitioners as in Duty bound &c.

Amherst June y^e 14th, 1790.

Ebenezer holt
John Roby

Jonathan Lampson Jr
Amos Flint Jr.

Timothy Hill

[R. 23] [*Jonathan Wilkins's Petition, 1790—Marine.*]

To the Honorable Senate and house of Representatives For the State of New Hampshire in General Court Convened. Your petitioner humbly shews That in the Month of January 1783 on board The Frigate Hague Commanded by John Manley Esquire your petitioner was wounded in his Right Leg by a Shot from the then Common Enemy, which has greatly disabled him, and he has never received any Compensation therefor, prays your honors To take the matter into Consideration, and Grant your petitioner some relief in the Manner your honors may think proper. And your petitioner in duty bound will ever pray

Amherst June 14th 1790—

Jonathan Wilkins

[R. 24] [*Petition of Robert B. Wilkins, Soldier at Bunker Hill.*]

To the honble the Senate and house of Representatives in General Court Convened at Concord Feby. 11th 1791.

Humbly Shews Robert B. Wilkins that on the Seventeenth of June 1775 at the Battle at Bunker hill he received a wound [musket ball through his right elbow joint] which has rendered it impossible for him to perform the Common and necessary business of life in Such a manner as to gain a comfortable Subsistence—that your petitioner with a firm Resolution of not being burthensome to that Country which he thinks he had Sum hand in preserving from the Ravages of an inveterate Enemy has never asked for any assistance before but finding it nessary for his own Subsistance and that of a family to look up to his Country for Support he begs leave to lay his Case before your honours fully Convinced that you will Compassionate his Case. he therefore prays this Honorable body to grant him such Relief, or to direct him to Such Methods for obtaining it as your honours in your Wisdom Shall think proper and your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Robert Bradford Wilkins

[R. 25] [*Abstract from Isaac Baldwin's Petition, 1791.*]

[Isaac Baldwin, of Amherst, in a petition dated June, 1791, states that he belonged to a company of matrosses in General Lovewell's brigade; that, at a meeting for drill at Hollis, October 4, 1790, he was assigned to the duty of ramming the cartridge, and by premature explosion of the same he was severely wounded and Lieutenant Emerson was killed. He asks for an allowance. Simeon Shurtleff, captain, and John Eaton, lieutenant, certify that he was wounded as he states. He had been allowed twenty pounds before, and was granted a further allowance of twenty pounds.—ED.]

[R. 27] [*Letter from Daniel Warner to Governor Bartlett, 1791.*]

Amherst Sept. 26th 1791.

Sir: Being Desired by some of the Hon^l Council to forward a statement of the standing of Captains W^m Bradford and Henry Fields in Military Rank—have made Inquiry and find (although

I have not seen Captⁿ Bradford sence I returned from Exeter, but am Informed) by Brigadier Lovewell that in February 1776 he was appointed Ensign in Col^o Bedels Regiment to go to Canady—And in 1778 was appointed Lieut. in the Continental Army and in both Campaigns was taken prisoner and Detained some time—that in 1780 he was appointed first Lieut. of second Company in the fifth Regt. of Militia and in Sept. 1781, his Capt. Resigned and he was appointed to the Command of the Company by a warrant from the Brigadier Gen^l and was Commissioned to the command of said Company in Jany, 1782, and a 2^d Capt^s Commission in Dec^r 1786—

Capt Henry Fields was appointed Lieut. in Col^o Baldwins Reg^t Sept. 17, 1776—Second Lieut of the 4th Comp^y of Militia in Dec^r 20th 1776,—and Capt. of the 15 Comp^y Jany. 8th 1782, and Capt of the 12 Comp^y Decr. 10, 1786. * * * *

Your Excellencys most obed^t
and Very Hum^l Serv^t

Dan^l Warner

His Excellency Josiah Bartlett.

[110]

State of New Hampshire. }

Hillsborough ss. }

Pursuant to an order of the Hon^{ble} General Court passed December the 8th, 1791, appointing the Subscribers a Committee to view the situation of certain Petitioners living in the Southwesterly part of Amherst in s^d County; we have viewed said premises and beg leave to report as our opinion that the said Southwesterly part of said Amherst, be, erected into a Parish by the following lines, viz, Beginning at Lyndeborough line at the corner of the Northwest Parish in said Amherst, thence Easterly to the northwesterly corner of Amos Greens Lott, called the Mill Lott, thence southerly on a straight line to the southwesterly corner of the Lott numbered Twenty—thence Easterly on the Range line to the Northeasterly corner of William Peabodys land, thence Southerly on the Easterly line of the said Peabodys land, to land belonging to Jotham and Daniel Shephard; thence easterly to the northeasterly corner of the said Shephards land, thence Southerly by the said Shephards land to Souhegan River, thence down the middle of said river to Land belonging to Benjamin & Stephen Kendrick, thence Southerly by the said Kendricks land to the Road leading from David Danforths to William Crosbys, thence crossing said Road & running a South Point to Hollis line, thence Westerly on said Hollis line, to the Southwesterly corner of said Amherst, thence Northerly on the said Amherst line to Souhegan River aforesaid, thence down said River to the

Southeasterly corner of Duxbury School Farm (so called) Thence northerly on the said Amherst Line to the bounds first mentioned.

Which is humbly submitted

Eph^m Robinson

Joseph Badger Jr.

Charles Barrett

[I do not find any petition or remonstrance, but think there must have been both. There is a plan with the Amherst papers (Vol. I, 1880, No. 108) in the secretary's office on which is the following: "The Figure B. describes the tract on which the present petitioners dwell excepting about 3 families who live near the middle of Amherst. The act establishing the parish A., [the north-west parish] was a great injury to the town by altering its center—but should the second petition succeed, a total breaking up of the Town immediately takes place. The meeting house when built was by Universal consent of all these disaffected persons it is a large House and well finished which must be rendered useless if Amherst Charter is to be destroyed in the manner proposed by the petitioners."—ED.]

[III] [*Resignation of Hon. Samuel Dana, 1792.*]

His Exc^y the President and the Hon^{ble} the Council of The State of New Hampshire.

May it please your Exc^y & Hon^{rs} to accept the Subscribers resignation of the office of Judge of Probate for the County of Hillsboro: hereby made (the Comⁿ is enclosed)—Accept also his unfeigned thanks for every mark of respect and confidence shown him by the government of said State, and believe him sincere when he assures you that he does not resign said office from any dissatisfaction with the administration of the government in said State or want of affection and respect to the inhabitants of said County but principally from a conviction, founded in experience, of the impropriety of his holding said office, while he is obliged, for the support of his family, to practice as an attorney, there being danger that he may not always distinguish rightly between a *Fee* to the attorney and a *Bribe* to the Judge.

And equally sincere when he assures you that he wishes all happiness to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} as citizens of the State, the highest success to your Public Administration, and the most uninterrupted prosperity to the State of which he esteems it a peculiar felicity to be a subject.

And is with the sincerest affection, esteem and respect your
Exc^y & Hon^{rs} most obedient &c. &c.

Sam^l Dana

Amherst Dec^r 21, 1792.

[The foregoing resignation was accepted, and on February 13, 1793, Ebenezer Champney, of New Ipswich, was appointed to the position. Hon. Samuel Dana was from Groton, Mass. He settled in Amherst in 1781, and was soon after admitted to the bar. He filled many important offices, and died April 2, 1798. Among his descendants were James F. and Samuel L. Dana, Hon. Samuel Dana Bell, Hon. James Bell, and Dr. Luther V. Bell.—ED.]

[R. 31] [*Petition of Revolutionary Soldiers for Remuneration for Losses Sustained on Retreat from Ticonderoga.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Convened, at Concord on the first Wednesday in December Anno Domini 1795,

The petition of John Mills and others of Amherst *humbly Sheweth* that in the late war between the united States and Greate Britain in the year 1776 was in the action at the Cedars so called, where they were taken prisoners by the Enemy and suffered the Loss of all their baggage accoutrements and property then in their possession, and that your petitioners never having received any Compensation for those losses, they Carried in their accounts of them to the Committee appointed to Collect those accounts and which have since, as they have been informed been transmitted to a Committee of Congress, upon which and others laid before said Committee they Conceive a Considerable ballance in favor of this state has been Carried to its Credit. your petitioners does not found their Claim to a remunerative for those losses which they sustained in the defence of our Common Country altogether upon the same being allowed by Congress although they cannot but think that circumstance fortifies the Justice of their claim: they are ready and able to Come forward and to substantiate their demand by incontestible Evidence if the aforesaid losses were in fact Sustained your petitioners cannot find any satisfactory reason why they should not in some degree be recompensed, others whose Claims were certainly not preferable to your petitioners been relieved and have had an opportunity to speak of the Justice and gratitude of their Country; your petitioners wishes that they

may have the same opportunity and that they may have reason to say that the Claims of Justice at all times indispensible will sooner or later prevail. your petitioners therefore prays the honourable Court to take their Case under their Consideration and that such remedy may be granted them as in Justice and Equity they are intitled to and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| John Mills | Joseph Lovejoy | Tho ^s Melendy |
| Daniel Wilkins | Obediah Holt | Amos Boutell |

[On other petitions of same date, and for the same purpose, are the names of William Bradford and John Purple. In a petition dated Dec., 1796, John Manning, of the same town, says he was taken prisoner at Hubbardton, "on the retreat from Ticonderoga in the year 1777," and lost his baggage; and Joseph Boutell, of the same town, says he lost his baggage when the British took Fort Lee, in the Jerseys, Nov. 20, 1776.—ED.]

[112]

State of New Hampshire,—To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Convened.

The petition of part of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Amherst and Lyndeborough Humbly Sheweth, That a very considerable part of us live at such a distance from the Court House in said Amherst (the place where all our Town meetings have hitherto been held) as makes it very inconvenient to attend publick Town meeting at any season of the year, and whereas we are laying on the outsides of said Towns in such a manner as would not be hurtful or injurious to either of said Towns to have us seperated from them—but be very convenient for your petitioners to be set off into a seperate Town agreeable to the following lines (Viz.) beginning at the southwest corner of the second parish in Amherst thence runing eastwardly between land of the heirs of Dⁿ Elisha Hutchinson & land of the heirs of Nathaniel Raymond about two miles to the southeast corner of land that Amos Green now lives on, thence runing Northerly about one and a half miles to the crotch of the roads between land formerly owned by Lt William Bradford & land formerly owned by Samuel Wilkins Esq. thence more easterly on a direct line about three fourths of a mile to the southeast corner of land formerly owned by Benjamin Pike, from thence Northerly on a direct line to the east line of Henry Spaulding Lott, and so continuing about two miles and three quarters of a mile, to New Boston Town line, from thence

runing westerly on the Town line between Amherst & New Boston to the northwest corner of Amherst, thence more westerly, crossing Amherst Town line about half a mile into Lyndeborough, to the Northwest corner of Abraham Frenches land; thence runing southerly on a parallel line with Amherst Town line about four and an half miles in said Town of Lyndeborough, untill it Comes directly opposit the southwest corner, of said Amherst Second parish, then runing easterly about half a mile to the bounds first mentioned.

Therefore we pray your honours to incorporate us into a Separate Town agreeable to and with the aforesaid lines with the privileges of other Towns within this State, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Alien Goodridge | James Ray | Robert Parker Jr |
| Abijah Wilkins | John Ray | Benjamin Stearns |
| Ebenezer Mills | John averill Jr | Enos Bradford |
| William Bradford | Zeph ⁿ Kittridge | Nathan Flint |
| Ezekiel Upton | Henry Codman Jr. | Aaron Peabody |
| Lambert Bradford | Benjamin Darker | John Harwood Jr |
| John Fisk | Ben J ^a Durant | Isaac Weston |
| Josiah Dodge | Tha ^d Kendall | Benj ⁿ Nurse |
| James C. Mace | Solomon Kittridge | Nehemiah French |
| Jacob Smith | John Harwood | Daniel Averill |
| Abraham French | James Smith | Jesse Smith |
| Cyrus Stiles | Edmund Perkins | John Averill |
| Jeremiah Smith | William Wallace | Isaac Smith Jr |
| Daniel Smith Jr | W ^m Bradford Jr | Nathan Green Jr |
| Samuel Mitchell | Isaac Smith | John Fuller |
| Ezekiel Upton Jr. | Abel Stickney | John Peabody |
| William Hastings | Amos Green Jr | Josiah Colburn |
| Ezekiel holt | Jake Peabody | Jesse Avrill |
| Joseph Farnum | Timothy Hill | Thomas Weston Jr |
| Benjamin Pik jr. | W ^m L. Kidder | Daniel Smith |
| Ebenezer Batchellor | John Batchellor | Josiah Kittridge |
| Thomas Towne | John Batchellor Jr | William Cogin |
| Timothy Smith | Joseph Dodge | Jacob Curtice |
| Josiah Herrick | Isaac Manning | Jacob Kendall |
| Lot Conant | Eli Wilkins | John Rollings |
| Joseph Cogin | John manning | Eben ^r Holt |
| Daniel Kendal | Peter Jones | John Lamson |
| Benj ^a Pike | Jon ^a Lamson | Israel Farnum |
| Jesse Lamson | James Hopkins Jr | Joseph Langdell |
| James Hopkins | Thomas Cloutman | Elisha Felton |
| Henry Trivet | Jonathan Conant | Thomas Weston |
| Jonathan Wilkins | Nathan Cleaves | Mark Burnam |
| Eli Brown | Wil ^m Wilkins | Moses Peabody |

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| John Carleton | John Weston | Joseph Trow Junr. |
| Nathan Jones | James Woodbury | Timothy Austen |
| Joseph Perkins Jr | Abijah Spafford | Enoch Pike |

[*Committee Agreed upon by the Agents.*]

We the subscribers have agreed that Rob^t Wallace, Rob^t Alcock, and Danl. Emerson, Esquires, be appointed a committee at the expense of the petitioners to Report proper lines to be established in the Town of Amherst as it respects a new Town petitioned for by the Northwest inhabitants of s^d Amherst.

Danl Warner for Amherst.
 William Bradford } on behalf of
 Joseph Perkins Jr } the petitioners.

[In the H. of Rep., June 8, 1803, the foregoing named gentlemen were appointed a committee to view the premises and report at the next session. The committee reported, under date Oct. 5, 1803, in favor of incorporating a town with bounds substantially as petitioned for, which included a portion of Lyndeborough; but the legislature, by an act passed December 15, 1803, incorporated only that part which had belonged to Amherst, and made the town of Mont Vernon. Other papers relating to Amherst may be found in Town Papers, vol. ix.—ED.]

[Among the prominent men of Amherst in the latter part of the last century, besides those already named, were the following :

Gen. Moses Nichols, a native of Reading, Mass., settled in Amherst about 1761—a physician by profession. He was an ardent patriot in the Revolution, commanded a regiment at Bennington, and also at West Point in 1780; was a general in the militia after the war, member of the council in 1779, and register of deeds until his death, May 23, 1790, aged 50.

Hon. Robert Means, a native of Stewartstown, Ireland, settled in Amherst prior to the Revolution. He was born Aug. 28, 1742; came to this country in 1764; was member of the general court in the years 1783, '84, and '89; was elected senator in 1787, '89, and '91; and was a member of the council in 1786. He was a man of influence, and widely known. One of his grand-daughters was the wife of Franklin Pierce.

Hon. Joshua Atherton settled here in 1773. He was a loyalist at the commencement of the Revolution, and was for a time imprisoned at Exeter, but took the oath of allegiance to the state in 1778. Was a member of the convention which ratified the federal constitution in 1788, member of the senate in 1792, representative to the general court several years, and attorney-general.

Hon. William Gordon, born about 1763, graduated at Harvard college in 1779 at the age of 16, commenced the practice of law in Amherst in 1781, was register of probate several years, state senator in 1794 and '95, and resigned on being elected representative to congress in 1796. He succeeded Joshua Atherton as attorney-general in 1801. Died May 8, 1802.

Stephen Peabody was an active and ardent patriot, and a distinguished soldier. He was adjutant of Col. Poor's Reg't, on Winter Hill, 1775; major in Col. Wyman's Reg't, raised in June, 1776; volunteer captain on the Ticonderoga alarm in June, 1777; was on Gen. Stark's staff at Bennington; and Lt. Col. commanding in Rhode Island in 1778. He died in 1779.—ED.]

ANTRIM

Was a part of a large tract of land belonging to the Masonian Proprietors, formerly called Cumberland, and afterward Society Land, from which several towns were formed.

Antrim was incorporated March 22, 1777, and named from a town in the north-east part of Ireland. It was settled by people from Londonderry, the first one being Philip Riley, in 1744. He left through fear of the Indians, two years later, and the town had no inhabitants until he returned in 1761. Dea. James Aiken and others settled in 1766; he was in the battle of Bunker Hill. According to Rev. W. R. Cochrane, the town had twenty-six men in the Revolution.

[121] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1776.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives in the Colony of New Hampshire at Exeter Assembled—The

Humble petition of us the Subscribers being a Committee Chosen by the Inhabitants of a part of the Society-land (so called) in the County of Hillsborough

Humbly Sheweth—That your honours petitioners have been these two years past waiting for a Reconciliation between Great Britain and the Colonies. Rather than to assume the boldness to trouble any person or person's Invested with power or authority, to Grant our Request in such Troublesome times, we your honours petitioners being Ready and willing to pay our proportion of all the Reats Collected within this Colony these three years past, yet being Destitute of the priviledges laws or Customs Granted to other Towns by their Charters. Now as your honours hath wisely plan'd a form of Government, agreeable to any Good Meaning person or persons, we your petitioners do Request an Incorporation from your honours of a Township In Said Society, the bounds of which being as follows (Viz) Begining at the North-East Corner of said Township, which is the Northwest Corner of Diring, and Runing South-erly According to the Course of Contacook river, Which River is the west line of said Diring, so as to make five Miles 'pon a Strait line, Thence westerly on the North line of N^o three in the original plan of Said Society to the East line of peckers-field, [Packersfield, now Nelson] thence Northerly on said peckers-field and Stoddard to Camels-gore Thence Easterly on Camels-gore and Hillborough to the bounds first Mentioned we your honours petitioners being Destitute of the priviledges before Mentioned can't oblidge a man to work one hour upon the Highways, which is a Great Damage to our-selves and to the publick, therefore doe Desire your honours Serious Consideration on the Contents of this petition and we will as in Duty bound for ever pray—

Maurice Lynch }
 John Duncan } Committee
 Sam^l Moore }

[122]

Society Jen.ry the 14th 1777
 this may Certify the genneral Cort of this State of New Hampshire that the Inhabitants of s^d Society Living on the South part are willing the North part Should be incorporated the half being Left to us which is found upon misuring to be the Line betwixt Number 3 and 4 mentioned in ther petiton

Moses Morrison George McClourg John Moor
 Jonathan Barnet Thomas Miller

[127] [*Memorial Relative to Incorporation of Antrim, 1776.*]

To the Honourable Council and house of Representatives in and for the State of New Hampshire The memorial of us the subscribers Inhabitants of Part of a tract of Land Called the Society land Laying between the townships of Hillsborough and Peterborough in the state aforesaid *Humbly Sheweth* that whereas there has been a Petition prefered to your honours praying that five miles wide west of Contoocook River might be incorporated and vested with town priviledges this memorial humbly Shews that if your honours should condeseend to grant the prayer of said Petition or any other of the Like nature that we the Inhabitants of the South part of said Society land will be left utterly incapable of acting in any manner as a body politic a Narrow Strip of land only being Left extending west of Peterborough North west corner on Dublin line with a Jogg and cannot be connected with any part of the Society Land on the east side of Contoocook River s^d River being a great part of the year Impassable and cannot be bridged by reason of mountains and vast platts and that part which Lays on the west side of the River is more than six miles in Length and said west part to the River does not extend to Peterborough North east corner by Near two miles and will Never be annexed to Peterborough as they will Not Nor cannot accept of us unless to their great disadvantage we your memorialists or Petitioners must be Left in capable of forming into any Society or acting upon any Social plan we your memorialists humbly pray as a Remedy for those inconveniences that said Society Land west of said River may be equally divided in the middle or that nothing may be done at present untill matters may be better adjusted as Several of our Small Number now in their Countries Service—Your honours Compliance will greatly oblige your memorialists and they as in duty bound will ever pray

Society Land August 29th 1776.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Moses Morison | Thomas Einglaes | Thomas Miller |
| Sam ^l mitchel Junr. | John Young | John Espie (?) |
| John Moore | Jonathan Barnet | William Laken |

[The foregoing was before the H. of Rep., Sept. 13 1776, and a hearing ordered for their next session; meanwhile the petitioners were to post notices in the locality, and publish one in the New Hampshire State Gazette, or Saturday Circulating Chronicle.—ED.]

[120] [*Reasons why Society Land should be Incorporated,*
1776.]

Whereas we the Subscribers have been Chosen as a Committee, to prefer a petition to your honors for an Incorporation of a District of Land in the Society (so called) Butted and bounded as in said petition, which bounds is less than what is Granted to other Towns, and have Left more unincorporated land than what we have petitioned for, which we can Make appear, and whereas your honours have Been Delegated to Redress our Grievances, and we have Just Reason to Complain of it as a Grievance, that we have Been Taxed to support Government and called upon for our quoto of men to Defend our priviledges, and yet Destitute of the priviledge Granted to other Towns by their Charters. Therefore if the Request of their petition is not Granted, that we will take it very hard to pay any of our Taxes till we have the same priviledges of other Towns, but yet is ready and willing, to Defend the priviledges expecting to Injoy them in the whole hereafter

Society Aug^t 30th 1776.

John Duncan

Maurice Lynch

Samuel Moore

[In the H. of Rep., Sept. 13th, 1776, the matter came up, and a hearing was ordered for the next session. Council concurred; and on March 22, 1777, an act was passed incorporating the territory named into a town by the name of Antrim.—ED.]

[R. 32]

State of New Hampshire, September 10th 1776.

To Nich^o Gilman Esq. R. G.*

Pursuant to a vote of Council and Assembly pay James Aiken for a coat lost at Bunker Hill Fight Three Pounds L. M.
M. Weare President

[R. 33]

Concord January 4th 1778. this may Cartufi the Honorabell Cortt that m^r Jeams Akin Saured as a Sholder in the Contanenttel Sarves under me in Coll John Stark Regiment at venter hill in year 1775 Entered may 8 and was Discharge the 11 Day of July and he was not made up in my muster Rol Becose the paymarster at that time whar at medford and he said He would go and geet His wagers himself By the virter of the Discharge the Coll gave Him But he Saes he has not got

*Receiver-General of taxes.

this wagers But Has Lost the Righting the Coll gave Him and now Desired me to give from under my hand to the Corte the tim he served with me as witness my Hand

Aaron Kinsman Capt.

[R. 34]

Derryfield 3^d Feby 1778

Sir Understanding that the Bearer James Aiken Served in the Army at Winter Hill as a soldier in your Company & was not made up for his wages if so would be glad you would Give him a Certifycate how long & how much wages is Due to him—

& you will oblige

John Stark

Capt Aron Kinsman Concord—

[R. 35]

In H. of Rep. Feby. 17, 1778.

Voted that James Aiken have and receive out of the Treasury the sum of four pounds two and eight pence lawful money in full for two months & two days wages at the Camps at Bunker Hill &c, and for his expenses to recover the same the sum of four pounds more.

Senate concurred same day.

[R. 37]

State of new Hamp^r—To the Treasurer of said State

Sir pleas to pay John Duncan Esq^r the Bearer all that may appear Due to me for wages & Depreceation for my Service in the contenental army & this shall be my Rect. for the same

Moses George

[R. 38]

Antrim march y^e 9th 1784.

this may certify I with lieut. John McCleary being Select men for s^d Antrim in the year 1776 Drafted a Gune from Capt John Duncan prized at twelve Dolars old way for James Dickey who was killed at white plain & s^d Gune lost

att^t Sam^l Moore town clerk

[John Duncan petitioned for pay for the gun above mentioned, under date March 30, 1784.—ED.]

[R. 41] [*Men's Names who were in the Army in 1775—Society Land.*]

Mens names Who ware in the Army Last year and according

the Best Enformation we can get are gone into the war this year also, who belong to the Societe Lands, in the County of Hillsborough their names are as follows

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|---|
| Viz } | Charles Covender | the tax | } |
| | solom ⁿ Lenord | 0—1—8 | |
| | adam Nicholes | 0—1—8 | |
| | George M ^c Clurg | 0—1—8 | |
| | | £0—6—8 | |

James acan John M^cClarey Select Men
Sworn to May 8th 1776 before
Isaac Andrews Just. Peace

[Directed to Col. Nicholas Gilman, Receiver-General of taxes.—ED.]

[128] [*Copy of Record of Town-meeting in Antrim, 1779.*]

Antrim March 9th A. D. 1779. In annual Town meeting—*Voted* Three Thousand Dollars to be worked out on the high Ways at Ten Dollars per Day for the present year.

Voted Two Thousand Dollars be raised towards preparing for building a meeting house the wages the same as for high ways.

Antrim April 20th A. D. 1779.

Town Meeting by adjournment—*Voted* that the 4th article in the March Warrant is reconsidered—*Voted* that 2000 Dollars which was Reconsidered in the 4th article be worked out on highways excepting three days work of each man to be worked out at the Center for the preparing for a meeting house

Voted the Surveyors warn the Inhabitants work out the above three days at the Center.

A true Copey per = Sam^l Moore Town Clerk

[130] [*Petition of Antrim, Deering, and Society Land, respecting owners of Non-resident Lands.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives in
General Assembly Convened.

A. Petition in Behalf of the Inhabitants of Deering Antrim and Society-land, *Humbly Shews*, that your petitioners being few in Number are greatly oppressed, by working Roads through Large Tracts, of nonresidents Lands, to the great advantage of

the owners, while they are Exempted from assisting; also in being obliged to advance money to hier men and purchases Beef, in proportion to said lands, which at the low Rate of one Half per cent, will be assessed in nigh one third of said proportion, and in some Towns much more, while by Law they are Exempted from payment for seven months after the quotos is Demanded, so that we are Deprived of the means to Enable us to Comply with the Courts Demands.

Wherefore we your petitioners Relying on your Honnours protection and Justice, to Redres this our Greavence by Causing said nonresidents to Defend their Extencive Interest, by finding their Respective proportions of said quotos; or Ease your petitioners by Exempting us from finding their proportion of said quotos, untill after the time by Law prescribed, for the Recovery of the taxes assessed on nonresidents Lands. And your petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever pray

| | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| John Duncan for Antrim | } | Committee |
| Nath ^l Sweetser D ^o Deering | | |
| Robert Dinsmoor for Society-land | | |

[129] [*Memorial of Non-residents about Taxes, 1779.*]

State of New Hampshire—To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.

The humble Petition of the Nonresident Proprietors of Antrim in said State shews that your Petitioners with others are proprietors of the Town of Antrim in said State, that we have ever paid the strictest attention to the acts of Government for raising money to defray the necessary expenses of the present war, and whereas your honors had for the ease and benefit of the nonresident proprietors of new lands, as well as for the public good, made an act directing the collectors of all such taxes to deposit their lists with your Receiver General at Exeter in consequence thereof we expected to have paid the Taxes for the year 1778 at the same office, but that the Collector of Antrim in direct opposition to the act, and your honors intention & encouraged by the designing inhabitants of said Town did designedly neglect to lodge the list of Taxes at the receivers office, and advertize the same in the Exeter paper, which we never expected, fully relying on the benefit of said act, and he availing himself thereof loaded us with enormous charges & proceeded to sell great part of our interest there at the very low price of eighteen pence per acre—Your petitioners would further suggest to your honors, That the Selectmen of said Antrim misconstruing your honors acts for the support of the warr have not only assessed the lands of the nonresident proprietors with much more than

their proportion of the war tax, but have also laid on us a grievous Town Tax, as will appear by the list now in the receivers office thereby Easing themselves of the greater part of their Town charges, a part of which is to be appropriated to defray the expense of building a bridge which was completed many years ago and have by said list directed us inhabitants of Portsmouth to appear and work out our taxes on the roads in Antrim knowing the improbability of our attending, have affixed such prices to labour as they think proper—

Your petitioners would still further humbly suggest that the laws of this State point out a mode whereby proprietors might raise money on unimproved lands in which we should be entitled to a vote, but by the mode the Town of Antrim has adopted, we are entirely excluded from that great privilege—Your petitioners having discharged the sums demanded for the expenses of Government & relying on your honours protection & justice pray your honors would be pleased to take the matter into your most serious and wise consideration & make such immediate order as may redress our grievances & prevent the sale of our lands for non payment of said Town taxes thus illegally assessed,—and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Portsmouth October 20th 1779.

Mark H^{rs} Wentworth
John Pierce

Geo. King
Geo: Jaffrey
Th^o Martin

John Penhallow
Daniel Rogers

[The foregoing was before the H. of Rep., December 29, 1799, and a hearing ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[*Remonstrance to Memorial of Non-Residents, 1780.*]

State of New Hamp^r } To the Hon^l the Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened at Exeter Feby. 17th 1780—

The Petition and Remonstrance of us the subscribers—Selectmen of the Town of Antrim in s^d State in Behalf s^d Town *Humbly Sheweth*—That we understand that there was a Petition Preferred to your Hon^{rs} at your Late Session on the 29th of Dec^r Last past; by the Non Resident Proprietors of s^d Town of Antrim among other things setting forth that their Property had been unfairly taken from them for the nonpayment of Taxes in s^d Town aleging that the Colector of Taxes in s^d Town ought to have Lodged a List of the Non Resident Taxes with your Receiver General according to Law and that the said Colector Neglected to Do the same—We your Hon^{rs}

Petitioners and Remonstrants beg leave to observe to that Previous to our Receiving the order of Court for the above said Purposes, and Colector had Advertized the Non Resident Land for sale as speedy Payment of the Taxes was Demanded

They also observe in their Petition that we Loaded them with Enormous Charges and sold their land for the low price of eighteen pence per. acre—in answer to which we say we Taxed them No more than their Proportion and sold the Land to the Highest Bider by fair sale.

They further alledge to your Hon^{rs} that the Town Not only Loaded them with much more than their Proportion of the War Tax, but also with a Greveios Town Tax which we suppose to be a Highway Tax—We Beg Leave to observe to your Hon^{rs} that all New Settlements Labour under the Greatest Dificualtys with Respect to making and Repairing Highways and our town in Particular as there is two Large streams; and a Large tracts of Non Resident Land which they Refuse to sell or settle to the Great Damage of our Town and state. They further observe to your Hon^{rs} that the aforesaid Charges was to be appropriated to the Building a Bridge which had been Completed many yerrs ago; which suggestion we Beg Leave to observe to your Hon^{rs} is groundless as we are able to Prove that the Bridge alluded to is yet unfinished and Dangerous to Pass; for these and many other reasons we pray your Hon^{rs} would Dismiss the aforesaid Petition; we your Hon^{rs} Petitioners and Remonstrants flatter ourselves that upon Due Consideration of the Premises your Hon^{rs} will put us upon an Equal footing with our fellow subjects in this state and we shall Ever Pray

John Duncan } Select
Thomas Nichols } men

[125] [*Deposition relative to some Bridges, 1780.*]

We Joseph Boyd Alexander Jameson and Alan Anderson of Lawful age Testefyth and saith that the two Great Bridges in Antrim Began in June 1777 over the south and west Branch^s of Contoocook River is yet unfinished & Dangerous to pass. that on the south Branch was Rebuilt the last November and made much higher and Cover^d a new but the Reach being more than fifty feet between Butmans and no king posts to support the string peaces the bridge is Likely to be Lost for said bridges being built at the expense of but few inhabittance as there are but few in the town antrim—and further saith not

feb^r the 2st 1780.

Joseph Boyd
Alexander Jameson
Allan Anderson

Sworn to before Isaac Andrews Jus^t Peace.

[The foregoing petitions, remonstrances, &c., resulted in the passage of an act, March 16, 1780, authorizing the selectmen of the town to assess all unimproved lands owned by non-residents their just proportion of all taxes for the following purposes: The continental, state, and county taxes; charges for hiring soldiers for the service of this state, or of the United States; and for supporting the wives and families of those officers and soldiers who are in the service.—ED.]

[133] [*Petition for leave to assess Lands for the purpose of building a Meeting-House, 1783.*]

State of } To the HONOURABLE COUNCLE and house of
New Hamp^r } representatives in general assembly Convened.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Antrim in s^d State humbly shews that whereas this Town was not granted to any Set of men nor Any Land given for the Publick Use of this town Notwithstanding the great benefite the Nonresident Proprietors of Land in this Town Receives or may expect to Receive By our labour from the advancement of s^d Lands which they Do not incline to sell nor settle which is a great damage to this Town therefore your Petitioners being unable to settle the gosple A prevelige we must be deprived of which Towns in general Enjoy and no Prospect of ever being otherwise untill the Non-residents shall think fit to sell or settle their Land—Your petitioners Pray that your Honours would take our Dificult Circumstances under your most wise Consideration and grant us a tax upon all the Land in this Town as your Honours shall think Proper for the Sole Purpose of Building A Meeting house and buying a Ministerial Lot of Land.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray &c
James Dike Ja^s Dinsmoor Thomas Nichols
Com^{tee}

[131] [*Non-Residents consent to foregoing Petition.*]

State of New Hamp^r } To the Hon^l the Concel & house of
Hillsborough ss } Representatives in General Assembly
Convened.

THE MEMORIAL of us Non Resident Owners of lands in Antrim *humbly shews* that whereas a Petition was prepared at the last Sitting of the Court at Concord setting forth that s^d town was not Granted to aney seet of men nor aney land Given for

aney publick use & large tracts of unimproved lands lying near the Centor &cc

AND Prays that a small tax may be Grainted on all the land in s^d town for the sole purpose of building a Meeting house and purchessing a lote for a minister which privelage hath been Grainted to other towns in like Sircomstances—

Wherfor we humbly Request your Hon^{rs} that the subject matter prayed for in s^d petition may be grainted as it would advance our interest and promote the settlement of the town & the public Good, and your Memorialests as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray

| | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| John m ^c Kean Ju ^r | William Boyd | Daniel Moor |
| Abijah hadley | John Patten | James Hopkins |
| Hugh Orr | James Eaton | Samuel Dodge |
| Robert M ^c kean | | |

[December 31, 1783, an act was passed granting the selectmen authority to assess a tax of one penny per acre upon all the lands in Antrim for three years, for the sole purposes of building a meeting-house and purchasing a ministerial lot.—ED.]

[132]

Antrim Dec^r 15th 1783.

The No of Poles in the town of Antrim of 21 years old & upwards paying taxes Is 57

Attest

Daniel Nichols } Select
James Dinsmoor } men

Sworn to before me

John Duncan J. peace

[134] [*Petition for Authority to assess a Tax to make and repair Roads and Bridges.*]

State of New Hampshire—Hillsborough ss.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives at Exeter Convened—

The Petition of the Selectmen in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Antrim *Humbly Sheweth*: that we being situate near the height of land between Connecticutt and Merrimack Rivers; where the land is verry Mountaineos; which makes our Roads verry Dificult to make Passable; on account of the Rough ground it being verry Rockey. also, we have seven large Bridges to Maintain over the south and west Branches of Contoock River, Some of which must be Rebuilt Next Sum-

mer. in a special Manner one on the south Branch, on the Road Leading to Amherst, and Boston which is of great Public utility—we being unable to make and maintain said Road and Bridges, so as to make them Passable, and as there is large tracts of unimproved lands which some of said Roads pass through—we your Petitioners Pray ; that a tax of two pence p^r Acre ; may be granted on all the land in said Town under such Regulations as your Honors may see fit ; for the sole purpose of making and Repairing said Roads and Bridges, and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Antrim Nov^r 14th 1792.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Jonathan Nesmith | } Select men |
| Daniel Nichols | |
| Arthur Nesmith | |

[In H. of Rep., Dec. 8, 1792, the matter of the foregoing petition was considered, and a hearing ordered for the next session.

June 19, 1793, an act was passed granting the authority asked for.—ED.]

ANDOVER.

This town was granted in 1746, by the Masonian Proprietors, to Edmund Brown and fifty-nine others, and named New Breton, in honor of the captors of Cape Breton, some of whom were among the grantees. The town was incorporated June 25, 1779, by its present name, the derivation of which is unknown. For bounds, see document No. 117.

The first inhabitant was Joseph Fellows, who moved from Boscawen and settled in this town in 1761. He died in 1811, at the age of 84. Elias Raino and William Morey moved in soon after. The following is a list of the Revolutionary soldiers, as given by Dr. Jacob B. Moore :

John Chandler, Nathaniel Call, Thomas Sleeper, Ezekiel Fellows, Paul Smith Marston, Joshua Danford, Edward Danford, Josiah Hains, Joseph Tucker, Benjamin Fellows, Joseph Fellows, Robert Wise, John White, Thomas Welch.

A church was organized in 1782. Rev. Josiah Badcock was ordained as its minister, and preached there until 1809.

[115] [*Order of Selectmen for Allowance of Ammunition.*]

To the Honorabel general Cort of New Hampshir, Ples to Deliver to the Barer her of the Poudr and led and flints that is aloued for the town of New britton and in so Doing you will oblige your Humbl Sarvnts
New britton Juley the 8, 1776.

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Paul S. Marston | } | Assessors |
| Nathan Rowe | | |
| Peter Weare | | |

[116] [*Petition in Favor of Jonathan Weare.*]

To the Honourable Council and house of Representatives In the General Court Now Sitting at Exeter the humble petition of the Inhabatants of the township of New Britain Whereas the Inhabatants of Said town being Desirous of haveing a Jestices of the peace in said town the Inhabatants of said town of New Britain meet on the fourteenth Day of June Currant and made Chose of M^r Jonathan Weare for a Jestices of the peace and your humble petitioners humbly Pray that M^r Jonathan Weare might be appointed as he is aman Well Qualefied for Said office and as the Eyes of the people are on him for a Jestices of the peace and as it Will Give Great Contentment to the Inhabatants of the whole town of New britain and We your humble Petitioners humbly pray that M^r Jonathan Weare may be appointed a Jestices of the peace at said Court Now Setting as we are in want of a Jestices of the peace in said town and Will save us a Great deal of Truble and Expence as your humbel petitioners beges your honours Will Grant our Reasonable Request as your petitioners Shall Ever humbly Pray

New britain June y^e 16—1779.

| | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Samuel Blake | } | Selectmen of New britain |
| Joseph Philbrick | | |
| Jabez morrill | | |

[I am pleased to be able to record that Jonathan Weare received the appointment. He was a man of integrity, and much respected; was a magistrate many years. He died January 18, 1816, aged 60.—ED.]

[117] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives of the

State of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened
March 10th 1779.

The Petition of the Inhabitants & Freeholders of the Township Called New Britton in the County of Hillsborough in said State, *Humbly Sheweth*—That the Inhabitants of said Township Labour under many Disadvantages on account of their not being Incorporated into a body Politic & Corporate with Priviledges Powers and Immunities as other Towns Incorporated within this State have and enjoy—More especially with respect to their Levying and Collecting the State & County Taxes, making roads, Highways &c &c in said Township—Wherefore yours Petitioners Pray that your Hon^{rs} will consider their circumstances and Pass an act to Incorporate Said Township and the Inhabitants thereof into a Body Politic & Corporate by the name of Andover to have succession forever, with all the Powers, Priviledges and Immunities that any other Towns in this State Have and Enjoy—and your Petitioners Shall Pray &c &c

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Thomas Blake | Jonathan Robards | Samuel Blake |
| William Emery | John Rowell | Nathan Rowes |
| Jonathan Stevens | Josiah Scribner | William Blake |
| Ebenezer Tucker | Nathaniel Danford | John Row |
| Moses Clough | Peter Weare | Robert Wise |
| Jabez Morrill | Joseph Philbrick | Richard nuton |
| Simeon Rawlings | Jonathan Celey | William Morey |
| Jonathan robards Jr | Simeon Connors | Joseph Chandler |
| Philip Mitchel | Samuel Rano | Benjamin Sweat |
| Ezekiel fellows | Paul S. Marston | William Morey Jr |
| Jedediah Sleeper | Benjamin Selley | Elias Rano |

[The foregoing petition was in the H. of Rep., March 11, 1779, and a hearing ordered for the next session, at which the matter came up, and an act was passed incorporating Andover with the following bounds: "Beginning at a great Rock on the Westerly side of Pemigiwasset River which Rock is the Northeasterly Bounds of Salisbury then Running West Seventeen Degrees South Ten miles then beginning again at said Rock running up said River so far as to contain four miles upon a Strait Line thence West seventeen Degrees South ten miles thence on a Strait Line to the End of the first ten mile Line." The council concurred June 25, 1779.—ED.]

[118]

[*Oaths of Allegiance, 1782.*]

I Thomas Blake, I Samuel Blake, I Moses Clough, I Jona. Silla, I Joseph Fellows, I Joseph Chandler, I Joseph Philbrick

& Benjamin Silla—Do Solemnly Swear that I Do Renounce Refuse and abjure any allegiance or obedience to George the third King of Great Briton and that I will Do to the utmost of my Power Support maintain and Defend the Independence of all the united States of America as the same was set forth by the Continental Congress in their Declaration of the fourth of July 1776 and I Do promise that I will bear faith, and true allegiance to the State of New Hampshire During my Residence therein and will Disclose and make known to some majestrate acting under said State all Treason and Consperaioces which I shall know to be against the united States or any one of them as Independent of the Crown of Great Britain and these things I Do Sweare according to the plain and Common Sense of the words without any Equivocation or Secret Reservation whatsoever upon the true faith of a Christian. So help me God.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Thomas Blake, | Samuel Blake | Moses Clough |
| Jonathan Celey | ioseph fellows | Joseph Chandler |
| Joseph Philbrick | Benjamin Seley | |

Hillsborough Andover June 11th 1782. This is to Certify that the above named have taken the above Oath of Fidelity and Subscribed thereto In presents of Jonathan Weare
Just. Peace

[119] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-residents.*]

To Hon^l Senate & house of Representatives—In General Court Convened, at Exeter—December 25th 1793.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Town of Andover in the County of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire Humbly Sheweth—

That the Inhabitants of s^d Andover labour under Many disadvantages, by Reason of bad Roads, Highways, Bridges &c in s^d Town. Wherefore your Petitioners Pray, that your Hon^{rs} would Consider their Situation, and Pass an act to enable the Selectmen of s^d Town to Lay a tax on all the nonresident Land, in s^d Town, of one Penny pr. acre for two years successively, for the Purpose of Repairing Publick highways, bridges &c In s^d Town—and your petitioners in duty Bound will ever pray.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Signed in behalf of } said Town } | Silas Barnard } Joseph philbrick } James Tucker } | Selectmen of Andover |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|

[This petition was before the H. of Rep., Jan. 27, 1794,

and leave was granted to bring in a bill to levy a tax of one penny and two farthings per acre on all the lands in Andover for the above mentioned purposes.—ED.]

ATKINSON.

This town was a part of a tract of land which was purchased by the inhabitants of Pentucket (Haverhill, Mass.), of the Indians, Nov. 15, 1642. It was deeded to them by Passaquo and Saggahew, with the consent of Passaconaway, their chief. Settlements were made in 1728 by Benjamin Richards, of Rochester, N. H., and Jonathan and Edmund Page and John Dow, of Haverhill, Mass.

The town was set off from Plaistow by an act passed Sept. 3, 1767, and incorporated by its present name, in honor of Hon. Theodore Atkinson, who was for some years a member of the governor's council, secretary of the province 27 years, and a large land-holder in the town. Its first settled minister was Rev. Stephen Peabody, who was chaplain of Poor's regiment at Winter Hill, and whose second wife was the sister of the wife of President Adams. He died May 23, 1819.

[135] [*Warrant for assessing County Tax, 1774.*]

Province of } To the Selectmen of Atkinson in said County
 New Hamp^r } Greeting you are hereby Required in his ma-
 Rockinghamss } jestys name forthwith to make an assessment
 according to Law on the Polls and Rateable Estates within
 your Precinct for the sum of nine pound one shilling and six
 pence—Proclamation or other currant money of Equal Value,
 being their Proportion of six hundred Pounds Voted and Re-
 solved by the Court of general sessions of the Peace held at
 Portsmouth in and for said County the tenth Day of may 1774
 to be Raised on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the
 several Towns and Parishes in the said County for the purposes
 of Building a Goal in Portsmouth and other County Charges
 and you are to cause the same to be Collected according to Law
 and Paid to me, or the Treasurer of the said County for the
 time being on or before the twenty-fifth Day of December next,
 Hereof fail not as you will answer your neglect under the Pen-
 alty's of the Law in that case made and Provided.

Given under my hand and seal at Exeter the tenth Day of June in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's Reign Anno Domini 1774.

£ 9 .. 1 .. 6.

Peter Gilman; County Treas.

[136] [*Petition in favor of Col. Nathaniel Peabody, about 1776.*]

To the Hon^{ble} General Assembly of the Colony of New Hampshire now convened & sitting at Exeter.

Gentlemen—Whereas it has been represented to us, as the Minds of the general Court of this Province that the Inhabitants of each Town should nominate some Person properly qualified for a Justice of the Peace who might be most agreeable to y^e generality of the People—We the Freeholders Inhabitants of the Town of Atkinson beg leave to recommend Col^o Nathaniel Peabody for a Justice of the Peace in this Place, as a Person well qualified and most agreeable to the Minds of the People in general.—And as he has sustained the office of a Justice of the Peace, and of the Quorum to the universal satisfaction of the People of this Vicinity (except a Small Number of Personal Enemies) we flatter our selves that it will be agreeable to your Minds to confer upon him those offices as we apprehend him likely to promote the Peace and Happiness of this Town and the Interest of this Coloney

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ezekiel Belknap | Enoch Knight | Nath ^l Cogswell |
| Jesse Page | John Dow Jr | John Dow |
| John Ingalls | Daniel Page | John Knight Jur. |
| Asa Page | Jonathan Page | Nathaniel Noyes |
| Stephen Page | Daniel Richards | Joseph French |
| James Noyes | Benjamin Emery | Jesse Sawyer |
| Tho ^s Noyes | Jonathan Page Jr | Jonathan Whitaker |
| Enoch Noyes | Bradlee Richards | James Little |
| Joshua Knight | Joshua Emery | Humphrey Noyes Jr |
| Samuel Little | John Atwood | Joseph Knight Jr |
| Stephen Dole | Stephen Dole Jur. | Micah Chaplain |
| Benj ^a Hale | Ebenezer Parker | Joseph Little |
| Benj ^a Stone | Benjamin Philbrick | Moses Belknap |
| Daniel Poor Jr | David Atwood | Joseph Chandler |
| | John Knight 3 ^d | |

[Col. Peabody received the appointment.—ED.]

[137] [*Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire } In Pursuance of a Vote of the
County of Rockingham } General assembly of said state we
the undersigners select men of Atkinson in said County have
taken the exact number of all male polls of twenty one years
of age and upwards paying for themselves a poll tax within the
said town of Atkinson and find there to be eighty one—

December 13th 1783

Peter Clement }
Humphrey Noyes Jr } Selectmen
for
Atkinson

[Sworn to before

“Nath^l Peabody Jus^t Paice.”]

[140] [*Action of Atkinson concerning Paper Money, 1786.*]

State of New Hampshire.

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of Atkinson in the County of Rockingham in said State held by adjournment at the meeting house in said Atkinson, on monday the 21st day of August Anno Domini 1786.

Upon reading and considering the subject matter of a petition from sundry inhabitants of said Atkinson to the Selectmen exhibited, and on account of which this meeting was called. . . . The following memorial and petition was reported &c. for consideration (*viz*)—To the honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire to be convened at Exeter the sixth day of September next—The memorial and petition of the Inhabitants of Atkinson in town meeting assembled, in behalf of themselves and their distressed fellow Citizens in said State, beg leave humbly to make known & request.—When the patriotic Citizens of this State take a retrospective view of the vast variety of complicated fatigues and hardships, through which they have with unremitting ardor, amidst every embarrassment cheerfully toiled during the late necessary and unavoidable opposition to the Tyrannic strides of the king of Britain and his emissaries—the unparralleled patience, resignation and assiduity with which they endured every species of accumulated distress, in anxious hopes, trusting to the righteousness of their cause, that the great Father of mankind and merciful disposer of human events, would in due time, crown their feble efforts with success, and establish their feet upon the stable mountain of peace, plenty, liberty, and happiness—and lay a pleasing foundation for the future freedom and glory of unborn millions, their progeny.—

When they reflect upon the immense Treasures that have

been expended—the hosts of their beloved fellow Citizens that have fallen and the rivers of human blood with which the earth hath been wantonly crimsoned in the glorious conflict—when they consider that the sovereignty and independence of these, nominally, united States and every of them have been acknowledged, and now stand Guaranteed—that peace hath been proclaimed, and the clamor and din of war no more heard within our borders,—they are naturally led to look around them and search for the golden prize,—the dear earned promised happy day—But alas to their chagrin and disappointment they find it not, though they have sought it diligently with tears, but instead of enjoying the blessings of peace heretofore predicted, and with confidence accepted, the Citizens of this State now find themselves in a labyrinth of difficulty and distress, like Issachar of old crouching under the weight of complicated burdens, an enormous public debt far beyond their ability immediately to discharge, even if furnished with a medium of trade competent for transacting their other common and ordinary affairs of life.—

Silver and gold hath taken wing and flown to the other side of the Atlantic, without leaving a substitute or even its shadow, beside which to support the late war, the private debts of individuals have in many instances been augmented—that they are called upon to pay large taxes in silver and gold which is not to be obtained—that neither the united States or this State have a single shilling to call money, but for which they are beholden to foreigners—the silver and gold heretofore in circulation in this State, being English, French, Spanish, Portugal, or other foreign coin—

That for want of a suitable medium of trade the Citizens of this State are altogether unable to pay their public taxes, or private debts, or even to support the train of needless and expensive lawsuits, which alone would be an insupportable burden—To require the making of brick without straw, was formerly esteemed arbitrary in rulers—In this deplorable situation, attended with a variety of other embarrassments, the distressed Citizens aforesaid, do with great confidence look up to your honors, being the Guardians and civil Fathers of the people, as the only constitutional appeal and resort, under God for relief—Notwithstanding the Inhabitants of this Town in particular place high confidence in the wisdom and integrity of those in authority—despise a spirit of faction tumult and disorder, which tend to weaken the reins of Government—are fully determined to yield every exertion in their power to support the Constitution and Laws of the State, until regularly altered or abolished, to promote manufactures, agriculture, economy and industry, and in a word to restore and establish public credit, and the

practice of that justice and righteousness which alone exalteth a Nation, and without which, vain will be the help of man.— And notwithstanding the said Inhabitants of Atkinson are fully sensible of the difficulties naturally attending partial attempts to remedy the evils complained of, and the variety of other embarrassments consequent upon issuing paper money in the present situation of affairs—that it would be difficult if not impossible to devise a plan that would not be liable to objections, as either debtor or creditor of some supposable description might thereby be injured, nor do they once imagine themselves capable of proposing the most unexceptionable plan that might be devised.— Yet nevertheless upon mature consideration of all circumstances, and having been informed that it was the wish of the Hon^{ble} Court to know the sentiments of the several Towns respecting so hazardous an undertaking—the said Inhabitants without dictating to your Hon^{ble} Court, beg leave to suggest as their opinion and request, That the Hon^{ble} Court cause one Hundred and fifty thousand pounds lawful money to be emitted in paper bills, of such sums and denominations, as may be most for the convenience of the people at large in this State, to be issued on the faith & credit of the State, solemnly pledged for the redemption of said bills, according to the face and tenor thereof,—without any deduction or depreciation whatever, being hereafter allowed or demanded, that the said bills bear an interest of Five p^r Cent to be paid annually if demanded in like money or in silver or gold,—that a law be enacted to punish with death any person, or persons, who shall be convicted of counterfeiting any of said bills, or of altering or increasing the sum originally mentioned therein: with a proportionable punishment for those who shall be convicted of knowingly uttering or passing any such counterfeit or altered bills,—That a solemn ordinance be passed & sacredly observed, for granting a tax justly proportioned, on the polls and estates, within this State, equal to one Tenth part of the principal and the arising interest of the aforesaid sum, to be assessed, levied, and collected, and paid into the public Treasury of this State, on or before the 25th day of December Anno Domini 1789; and for one other tenth part of the principal and interest of the whole sum so emitted to be paid into said Treasury, in each & every succeeding year on or before the 25th day of December, annually, until the whole sum issued shall be redeemed and paid in by ten equal annual assessments & payments—That the tax being so proportioned and assessed, any person or persons liable to pay the same, or any part thereof, may pay his her or their respective proportions either in the said bills according to the tenor and face recning and adding the interest due thereon, or in like sum in coined gold or silver at the respective rates and value already established by Law, or in

well wrought bar iron, or steel, Merchantable wheat flour, pork, beef, hemp, flax, sheeps wool, tobacco, pitch, tar, fish, oil, potash, pearlash, flax-seed, cordage, sailcloth, all kinds of materials of the manufacture of this Country necessary for rigging ships; boards, and various other kinds of lumber, to be delivered at such places, and at such reasonable rates and prices as the Hon^{ble} Court shall previous to issuing said paper money adjudge equitable, affix and determine.—That as soon as the said paper money shall be struck off and compleated, the money be issued for circulation as follows, & in all payments where receivable the principal & arising interest due on said money to be considered equal to gold & silver,—(Viz) That all public officers & servants of the State, be paid their respective salaries, fees & wages, for all kinds of public service arising within the State, in the said paper money, at the same sums and rates as though paid in gold & silver,—That the Interest now due, or shall hereafter grow or become due, on the public notes of this State, be paid & discharged in said paper money, as also such parts of the principal of said State notes as the respective proprietors may request to receive. That all other debts due from this State to individuals, and for which notes have not issued, and where the mode of payment hath not been particularly agreed upon & determined, be paid & discharged in said paper money.

And whereas this State is vastly in arrears in the payment of their quota of the principal & Interest of the foreign debts, due from the united States, and no means left in their power to pay and discharge the same, but by the exportation of such articles & commodities as by attending to industry & economy this State is capable of producing, and which bear such prices in foreign markets as will admit of the cost and charge of transportation, and it is impossible this should be effected without paying a particular attention to ship building, navigation, and commerce, which can't be carried on to advantage without a circulating medium of trade sufficient to purchase the produce and manufactures of the Country, & for other expenditures necessary to negotiate foreign commerce,—and in the present situation of affairs how shall such medium of trade be procured without drawing into use an Emission of paper money?—Therefore it is humbly propos'd as a further method of putting the said money into circulation, giving life and vigor to business, and open a way to discharge at least a part of our foreign debt, that the surplussage, or remainder of said paper money, that shall not be so drawn out of the Treasury and gone into circulation on or before the day of next be taken out in such sum or sums, as may be most convenient for the Citizens of this State, who may apply for the same, and will contract to

pay & discharge within Two years from the time of taking out such money an equal sum of this States quota of the foreign debt, either to France, Spain, or Holland, as may be most for the advantage of the State, and convenience of the respective contractors; the said contractors, not to be charged with any further interest than what shall arise and grow due on said money, until the said Two years shall have expired,—the respective contractors, to give permanent security of three times the value of the sum taken out, faithfully to pay, and discharge the sums by them respectively received in the manner and in the time aforesaid.

In order that the said paper money when issued and put into circulation may have credit, and sarve better to relieve the people under their present embarrassments.—That Laws be enacted making the said paper money a tender and receivable in all payments due to the State from the Citizens thereof not heretofore particularly agreed upon & determined,—that the said paper money be received in payment and discharge of all fines & amerccements that may accrue by virtue of the penal Laws of this State.—That the said paper money be a tender to pay, satisfy and discharge all judgments already recovered or that may hereafter be recovered in any Court of Law, or before any justice of the peace in this State, whether said judgment be for debt, damage, cost or otherwise, and for all fees, and emoluments of any and of all the said Courts and their officers, and for the ballances of all such judgments & emoluments, where partial payments may have been made, & to pay satisfy and discharge all executions issued, or to be issued, from any of said Courts, or Justices of the peace, whether in whole or in part due, and also to redeem all lands or other real estate, on which execution hath, or shall be leyved or extended within the respective terms allowed by Law—

And when and so often as difficulty and inconvenience shall arise with respect to the debtor or debtors, his, her, or their agent or Attorney making tender and payment to the creditor or creditors to satisfy and discharge any such judgment or execution, or for the redemption of any such real Estates, that it may be lawful for the debtor or debtors, his, her, or their agent or attorney, to lodge with the Clerk of the respective Court, or Justice of the peace, before whom any such judgment hath been, or shall be recovered, or from whom any execution hath already, or shall issue, of the said paper money sufficient to pay satisfy and discharge any such bill of cost, judgment, or execution; or for the redemption of such Estates respectively, and that the said Clerks of the s^d respective Courts, and said Justices of the peace respectively may be ordered and directed, to receive the said money, and for customary fees to enter on record, payment,

satisfaction, and discharge of any such judgment or execution ; or in full for the redemption of such real estate, and give the said debtor, or debtors respectively a proper certificate thereof. —And that the said paper money be a tender to pay satisfy and discharge all bills, bonds, notes, covenants, contracts, debts, dues, damages, or demands of every kind, name, or nature, immediately, upon, and ever after any action, suit or process shall be commenced, or brought forward, against any person or persons, for the recovery of the same, or demand of payment made, and that the debtor or debtors be in no case liable to pay or be taxed for any costs that may arise, or accrue by reason of any action, suit or process that may be commenced, brought forward, or continued by any creditor or creditors respectively after the full amount of what may be justly due with the legal costs so far, shall be tendered to pay and satisfy the same.

Which memorial and petition having been several times publickly read and well understood.—*Voted* that the same be received and considered as containing the sentiments of the Inhabitants of said Atkinson, in Town meeting assembled, respecting the several matters therein contained.—*Voted* that the Town Clerk make out a fair copy thereof duly certified, and cause the same to be transmitted to the Hon^{ble} General Court at their next Session.

Attest John Dow Town Clerk.

A true copy taken from the Town book of Records of Atkinson.

Attest John Dow Town Clerk

[Petitions relative to issuing paper money were sent to the legislature from various towns. The matter was debated in committee of the whole, Sept. 8, 1786, and consideration postponed until the next day, at which time a sub-committee, consisting of the President, John Sullivan, Col. John Bell, Londonderry, Col. Amos Shepard, Alstead, and Col. John Bellows, Walpole, of the Senate, and Col. Runnels, Col. Welch, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Bettan, and Mr. McMurphy, of the house, were appointed to “report the best plan they can devise for emitting paper money,” with directions to report the next Wednesday. The committee reported, and the report was ordered to be printed, and sent out to the several towns for their consideration. The following is the report, as copied from the original :—ED.]

The committee appointed to report the best Plan they can devise for emitting paper money beg leave to report—

That fifty thousand pounds be Emitted in bills of Credit

the one half in bills not exceeding twelve shillings and none so small as six, the other half in bills of six shillings & Downwards all car[ry]ing an Intrest of four p^r Cent p^r annum this money to be Deposited in the Treasury and ten thousand pounds thereof appropriated to the Discharge of specie orders on the Treasury & for Defraying the Expence of Government; That the money be received in all Duties Imposts Excise fines forfeitures & other money Demands of Government with an allowance of the Intrest Due on the face of the Bills to the payer but not to be a tender in any other Case; That the remaining forty thousand pounds be Loaned on landed security of Double the ammount of the sum Loaned to the Inhabitants of this State on Intrest of six p^r Cent p^r annum; not more than one hundred & fifty or less than fifty pounds to any one person the Mortgages to be payable in six years in said Money or in silver & gold but if paid in the aforesaid bills the Intrest is to be reckoned as so much in Discharge of the Mortgage any person may at any time within the six years make payment or fully Discharge his Mortgage not less than ten pounds to be received in any one payment unless in that which fully Discharges the Mortgage; That no lands be received in Mortgage unless it be improved lands and so Certified by the selectmen & that the Mortgagor is in possession thereof & that it is reputed to be his land & shall also Certify on oath the value thereof in their judgement & that they know of no incumbrance on the same; and the person so offering the land as security for money on Loan shall further produce a Certificate from the Register of Probate or Register of Deeds in the County where such land lie that the same is recorded as lands belonging to such person & that no conveyance thereof from him appears on record & he shall make oath before the Treasurer that such lands are his property & that he knows of no incumbrance or Defect of Title on or respecting said land and in case of his being Convicted of swearing falsely he shall be Deemed Guilty of willfull & Corrupt perjury & be punished accordingly and that the persons living in the remote part of this State may have an opportunity of receiving a proper proportion of said money your Committee recommends that the Treasurer shall not Loan to the Inhabitants of any one Town more than the Rate or proportion of such Towns Tax untill after the next Session of the Gen^l Court Each person taking such Bills out of the Treasury shall allow for the Intrest Due on the face of said Bills. The Charge of writing & acknowledging of all Mortgages and all other Expences attending the same to be Defrayed by the Mortgagor And in Order to secure the Credit of said paper Bills and to render silver and Gold less necessary, your Committee Beg leave further to report;

That a State agent be appointed to receive such articles as may be Collected by Tax of the produce or manufacture of this state and to Draw bills for the proceeds according to orders received from the President with advice of Council agreeable to the Votes & Resolves of the Gen^l Court That the several Towns have liberty to Collect what remains Due of the ten thousand five hundred pounds granted to Congress in part of the Requisition of the 27th of Sep^r last in potash pearlash fish flaxseed and such other articles as the Gen^l Court may think proper provided the same is Collected & Delivered to said states agent at or before the first day of Jan^y next at such places & prices as the Gen^l Court shall Direct & the said agent is to Dispose of the same for the purpose of Discharging that Demand And that all Taxes shall be made in future in the following manner (Viz) one Tax in state notes to Draw in a twentieth part of the notes outstanding secondly an annual Tax in Intrest Certificates of such notes sufficient to Draw in the whole of the Intrest on such securitys

3^{dly} a Tax in Certificates of the Liquedated Debt of the united States so as to draw in so much of said securities annually as will in twenty years bring into the Treasury a sum in those Certificates sufficient (with what may be in the Treasury) to produce an annual Intrest Equal to the Quota of Indents assigned by Congress to this State.

4^{thly} a Tax in Indents for Intrest on such Liquedated securities which with the Intrest of those in the Treasury will amount to this States Quota of the Intrest of the Domestic Debt of the united States.

5^{thly} a Tax annually in the specific articles before mentioned to be put into the hand of the States agent & Disposed of for Discharging the Requisitions of Congress for payment of the foreign Debt & Intrest & for supporting our Delegates in Congress.

6^{thly} a money Tax for Defraying the Expence of Government payable in those bills or in silver and Gold at the Election of the payer. The Collectors allways allowing the persons in his list the Intrest of said Bills up to the Day affixed in his warrant for payment of his Tax & the Treasurer is to allow the Collectors Intrest on said Bills up to the time the money should have been paid into the Treasury but no longer, and all paper Bills paid into the Treasury towards Discharge of Mortgages to be stop^d in the Treasury & not to be reissued but by special order of the General Court; The whole of the ten Thousand pounds appropriated to the Discharge of the Demands against the State to be Drawn in by Tax in four Equal payments in the years 1789; 1790; 1791 and 1792 and Cancelled & Burned. That the specie part of the Tax granted the

4th of March Last for ten thousand pounds be Collected & paid
in those Bills or in silver and Gold at the option of the payer
all which is humbly submitted by
Jn^o Sullivan for the Committee

[It is due to the memory of General Sullivan to state that the foregoing document is not in his handwriting, signature excepted. The document was printed and sent to the towns for their consideration, and at a "very full and legal meeting," held in Atkinson, Nov. 20, 1786, the plan, reported by the committee of the legislature, was unanimously rejected, and the foregoing plan of their own adhered to, with the exception of the matter of interest, which was recommended to be fixed at 4 per cent. instead of 5. In H. of Rep., Dec. 21, a committee was appointed to examine the returns from the towns of the votes cast on the paper money question, and said committee reported, January 4, 1787, as follows: "That 400 persons voted for the plan, 697 against it, 837 for various alteration and amendments and 131 the various alterations and amendments—and 1238 against paper money on any plan." Whereupon, "On motion, can the legislature consistently with the Constitution and their oaths pass an act making paper Bills of Credit a tender to discharge private contracts made prior to the passing such act, the motion being put, voted unanimously in the negative. On motion whether paper money be emitted on any plan that has been proposed—Voted in the negative." And thus the scheme ended, and wisely. Historians say that the first paper money issued in the American colonies was by the government of Massachusetts in the year 1690: having no money to pay its troops, it issued bills of credit. Considerable amounts were issued in the province of New Hampshire at various times. Hard money was scarce, and at times the resort to bills of credit was seemingly necessary, yet they invariably depreciated in value, and became troublesome.—ED.]

[143] [*Recommending Joseph Cogswell for Surgeon, 1786.*]

Atkinson Decembr 3^d 1786.

Sir I understand by the Orders of Congress there is a number of troops to be raised from this State for the western Country, consequently there will be wanted a Surgeon or Mate to

attend them—I have a Brother Joseph Cogswell who has made a regular study in the Science of Physic & Surgery during which he was in the Hospital at West Point for near two years with my Brother Doctor William Cogswell who had charge of the aforesaid Hospital—he the s^d Joseph now offers himself as a Candidate for the office of Surgeon to accompany the troops; If agreeable, I wish he might receive the appointment; for further particulars I refer you to the Hon^{ble} Judge Calfe

I am Sir, Your Excel^{rs} Most Ob^t & humble serv^t
 Thomas Cogswell.

His Excel^y John Sullivan Esqr.

[144] *Sundry Inhabitants of Atkinson and Plaistow Consent to be Classed with Hampstead for Representative, 1786.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court to be assembled at Exeter on the First Wednesday of September Current—

The Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Towns Plastow and Atkinson in said State and each man paying a Poll Tax for himself therein, *Humbly Sheweth*.—That whereas the Inhabitants of Hampstead Have Petitioned the General Court Setting forth there desire to be annexed to the aforesaid Towns, Plastow and Atkinson in Sending a Representative to Represent said Towns at the General Court in said State.—We your Petitioners Considering the Situation of the Inhabitants of said Hampstead They being unrepresented in said General Court by reason of there not having a Sufficiency of Polls for that purpose and it being Disconveni^t for said Hampstead to be classed with any other Towns than those above mentioned, for the Purpose aforesaid. We therefore Freely give our Consent too and Desire you would annex said Hampstead with said Plastow and Atkinson, and that those Three Towns make but one Class for sending a Representative for the Future—and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray.

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Daniel Poor | Samuel Littel | John John Son |
| James Merrill | Daniel Poor Jur. | John Knight Jur. |
| Stephen Hayes | John Gilbert | Enoch Knight |
| David Noyes | Jona Poor | Moses Greenough |
| Joseph Webster | Enoch Noyes | Humphrey Noyes |
| William Webster | Jonathan Eaton | Joseph Noyes |
| John Merrill | Eben ^r Green | Joseph Knight |
| Eliphalet Knight | John Knight | Joshua Emery |

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Stephen Page | Jonathan Page Junr. | Joseph Little |
| Samuel N. Little | John Atwood | Jacob Stevens |
| James Noyes Junr. | Moses Belknap | Joshua Knight |
| Ezekiel Belknap | James Knight | Benjamin Emery |
| Joseph French | Thomas Little | Samuel Webster |
| Moses Emery | Nathaniel Morrill | Ruben Mills |

Atkinson September y^e 9: 1786.

[141]

[*Action of Town Meeting.*]

State of New Hampshire, } At a legal meeting of the male
 County of Rockingham } inhabitants of Twenty-one years
 old and upwards belonging to Atkinson in s^d county; Paying
 each one for himself a Poll Tax therein having been Duly
 warned and held at y^e meeting-house in s^d Atkinson on monday
 the 2^d day of Jan^y A. D. 1786, at one o'clock P. M. The s^d
 inhabitants having assembled & meeting opened & M^r Hum-
 phrey Noyes Jun^r Chosen moderator of said meeting.—The Se-
 lectmen produced in town meeting & laid before s^d inhabitants,
 a copy of a petition from sundry inhabitants of the town of
 Hampstead in said County, lately prefered to the Hon^{ble} General
 Court praying that s^d Town of Hampstead might be classed
 with the town of plaistow and Atkinson for the purpose of
 Representation &c. with the order of Court thereon as mention-
 ed and refered to in the warning for this meeting, the subject
 matter of which petition & order being read, considered, and
 well understood, whereupon voted, That notwithstanding the
 inhabitants of said Atkinson Ardently wish at all times to live
 in the most perfect amity & friendship with their brethren Citi-
 zens of the Town of Hampstead and are fully sensible it would
 be saving expence and tend to expedite public business if y^e ag-
 gregate body of y^e people Could on principles of equality be
 constitutionly Represented by a less number of members than
 what now composes the Hon^{ble} General Court of s^d state yet
 when they reflect that Justice & Equality in taxation depends
 intirely on all parts of y^e community being duly & equally rep-
 resented in legislation, and at the same time view a number of
 small Destricts not larger than Hampstead entitled to the priv-
 ilege of sending a member to the general Court, and not at all
 Doubting but that y^e inhabitants of said Town of Hampstead
 might obtain the like privilage if Requested, they cannot think
 it their Duty to consent that y^e s^d Town of Hampstead should
 be annexed to the Destrict of plaistow & Atkinson and the
 whole made into one Destrict for the purpose of Electing only
 one Representative until the happy time shall arrive when y^e
 good people of this State finding it for their interest shall make

some wise alteration upon general principles to enlarge the Destructs for Representation in all parts of the State. Therefore voted as the opinions of the s^d inhabitants of Atkinson not at this time to acquiesce in the prayer of the aforementioned petition, of sundry inhabitants of Hampstead being granted, and that the Selectmen cause a Copy of the fo regoing votes to be transmitted to the Hon^{ble} General Court as an answer to s^d petition.

A true extract taken from the Town Book of Record
Examined, pr John Dow Town Clerk

[In town-meeting, Nov. 20, 1786, the town voted to adhere to the foregoing vote, and chose Peter Clement, Esq., Capt. Moses Greenough, and Maj. William Cogswell a committee to oppose the granting of said petition.—ED.]

[145] *Petition for Incorporating Atkinson Academy, 1791.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened at Concord, January 1791—

The petition of the Subscribers, *humbly sheweth*—That in the year 1787 a number of the inhabitants of the Town of Atkinson in the State aforesaid—being sensible of the importance of encouraging morality and literature; did at their own expense erect a large and commodious house for the purposes of establishing an academy in said Town, elected as their trustees the subscribers, with the Hon^{ble} Nathaniel Peabody Esq^r, and by the benevolent and generous assistance of the aforementioned Nathaniel Peabody Esq^r have been enabled to keep a public school for several years last past, where students have been qualified for the neighboring Universities, and considerable numbers have received such education as to be now employed as instructors of youth in various parts of the State. And such have been the advantages there enjoyed, as to induce gentlemen at a distance in this State and from the Massachusetts to improve the academy for the instruction of their sons.—That there are now near forty students, and at present it is in flourishing circumstances.—That lotteries are now established in the Massachusetts, for raising funds to support academies and for various other purposes by means whereof considerable sums are daily drawn from the citizens of this State.—That a spirit of enterprize, and a desire to become adventurers having generally prevailed; as the academy is situated near the borders of the Massachusetts; your petitioners doubt not but large sums of

money may be drawn from thence, and that the tickets will meet with a ready sale.—

We therefore, encouraged by our constitution, and presuming upon the known generosity of this Hon^{ble} Body, to countenance every exertion to promote literature and virtue; request that an act of incorporation may be past in favor of the institution by the name of the *Atkinson Academy* under such restrictions and regulations as in your wisdom may be judged expedient. And that we might have liberty to raise by lottery one thousand pounds, or such other sum as may be tho't proper, to be disposed of for the accomplishment of the above laudable purposes—which together with one thousand acres of new lands given upon the establishment and organization of said Academy, that in future may so increase in their value as to enable us to support a literary institution which may be extensively useful to the inhabitants of this State, and to the public in general.—

As in duty bound shall ever pray.—

Stephen Peabody
Benjamin Stone

William Cogswell
Peter Clemment

[In H. of Rep., Jan. 22, 1791, the committee reporting in favor of granting the petition, leave was given to bring in a bill. The senate concurred Feb. 3, and an act passed Feb. 17, 1791, incorporating the academy.—ED.]

[142] [*Petition to have the Boundary Lines Established, 1794.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & house of Representatives in General Court, convened at Exeter in & for the State of New Hampshire, on the 25th of December 1793.

Agreeable to a vote of the Town of Atkinson, passed on the 17th of January 1794. Your petitioners do in their behalf beg leave humbly to shew that on the third day of September 1767, by a solemn Act of the Legislature of the then Province of New Hampshire, a Parish by certain lines & boundaries was set off from the town of Plaistow in said State, & incorporated by the name of Atkinson, to have continuance & succession forever, with all the privileges and immunities usually enjoyed by an incorporated Town. That on the 16th day of March 1768, in consequence of a petition prefered to the legislature of the then said Province of New Hampshire by James White, Samuel Kimball & others, then inhabitants of the said incorporated parish of Atkinson, setting fourth their desire for

particular reasons of polling off from the said parish of Atkinson to the said parish or town of Plaistow.—And in consequence of an agreement between the then committee of Atkinson and the said White and Kimball for them to poll to Plaistow during their natural lives with their estates; a resolve & vote passed that the said White & Kimball should have liberty to poll *accordingly*. Since which time the Justice of the Hon^{ble} Superior Court in the county of Rockingham in said State, have construed the purport of the said resolve & vote, in a different manner from what was then understood; in consequence of which, the town of Atkinson has been put to much expense, & many serious difficulties are likely to ensue.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray this Hon^{ble} Court to pass an Act for removing said difficulties, by establishing & confirming the lines & boundaries of the said town of Atkinson agreeable to its original Charter. Your petitioners in duty bound will ever pray.

Atkinson 18th January 1794.

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------|
| Jona Poor | } | Committee |
| James Noyes | | |
| William Cogswell | | |
| Samuel N. Little | | |

[146] [*Memorial of Peter Clement, 1794.*]

[This memorial bears the same date as the one next preceding, and is the same as far as the word “accordingly,” in the twenty-second line, and then proceeds as follows :—ED.]

That on the 6th Day of January A. D. 1777 your petitioner purchased the farm on which the said Kimball lived at the time when the above said resolve was passed, under a full persuasion of its belonging to said town of Atkinson, That the said farm is situated almost entirely within said Atkinson, and cannot without the greatest inconvenience to your petitioner be annexed to or united with the said town of Plaistow. That he is situated much more conveniently to attend public worship in said Atkinson than in Plaistow, is a very considerable proprietor in the meeting house & also in the Academy erected in said Atkinson, is connected with and well situated for the private schools in said town, and is most closely interested in the welfare thereof. That he has remained in possession of his said farm ever since his purchase in perfect peace and security, That he has ever paid taxes in said Atkinson, has largely contributed towards the support of the gospel and schools in said town;

and for fourteen or fifteen years last past has had the honor of officiating as selectman in said town.—

That by a late most extraordinary and unaccountable decision of the Justices of the hon^{ble} Superior Court in the County of Rockingham in said State, in a cause wherein the estate of the aforesaid White was concerned, doubts have arisen in the minds of some whether your petitioner was a legal inhabitant of said Atkinson or his estate taxable therein—That he is perfectly contented in his situation as an inhabitant of Atkinson aforesaid, and conceives it the greatest of hardships that the resolve respecting the said Kimball, his predecessor, should subject his said estate to the payment of taxes in a town to which by the lines and boundaries in the aforesaid charter, he does not belong. Wherefore your petitioner humbly prays this honorable Court to pass an act for removing said doubts, and for establishing the lines and boundaries of the said town of Atkinson, so as that it may forever hereafter include and comprehend the lands and farm afores^d, * * * * and as in duty bound will ever pray

Peter Clement.

Exeter 3^d January A. D. 1794.

[In H. of Rep., January 3, 1794. the matter of the foregoing petitions came up, and a hearing was ordered for the next session. Senate concurred.—ED.]

BARNSTEAD.

This town was granted by Lieutenant-Governor John Wentworth, May 20, 1727, to Rev. Joseph Adams, of Newington, and 105 others, with the following bounds: "To begin on the Head of the Town of Barrington on the South West side of the Town of Coulraine and runing by the said Town of Coulraine eight miles & from the said Town of Coulraine to run on the Head of Barrington Line South West forty Two Deegrees six miles & then North West eight miles then on a straight Line to the head of the first eight miles." It was impracticable at that time to fulfil the conditions of the grant, and but few settlements were made until 1767. The town was well represented in the Revolutionary war, and in the war for the suppression of the Rebellion.

[2-13] [*Petition concerning Boundaries, 1764.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened May 9th 1764

The Humble Petition of John Knight & Rich Downing Esq. & Dea. Francies Jenness

That the Boundaries of Towns of Chichester & Barnstead are for want of due care become uncertain or rather unknown where they Join and they are as your Petitioners apprehend incroached on by the Towns below them which makes the matter more Difficult and the Com^{tees} of the said Towns are too much Interested to adjust an affair of this nature as more than a mere parambulation is necessary in this case—as in many places the Original Marks and Limits cannot be found—

That Besides the objection above hinted to Such Com^{tees} performing the Service Desired—your Petitioners Conceive that this Affair cannot come under the Rule of the Province Law directing that the Boundaries of Towns shall be parambulated & Renewed by the Selectmen & because the Property of the Lands is in the Proprietors and the Selectmen are Officers of the Town a Body of Men Distinct from The Proprietors & many of them have no property in the undivided Lands and if they might Lawfully renew boundaries their authority Ends where the old marks End

Wherefore they Humbly Pray that a Committee may be appointed and Duly authorized to fix the Boundaries of the said Town on every side to prevent those Disputes & other Inconveniencies which necessarily arise from Such uncertainties And they will as in duty bound Pray &c—

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| John Knight | } | a Committee in the |
| Rich ^d Downing | | behalf of Barnstead |
| | | } |
| francis Jenny | in the behalf of | |
| | | Chichester |

[January 9, 1765, Meshech Weare, John Wentworth, and John McDuffey were appointed a committee to perambulate and fix the lines between the said towns, and report to the general assembly.—ED.]

[2-14]

Strafford ss } To the Honourable Council and Committee and
 } Representatives at Exeter Convened in General
 Assembly

We the Humble Petitioners Inhabitants of Barnstead in the

Colony of New Hampshire in the County aforesaid Humbly Sheweth that Whereas the Said Towns is Taxed in Proportion to other Towns to the Colony Tax & under the Necessity Chusing Town officers as the Law Directs and to be Quolified for their Office and having Received Orders and Instructions from time to time which Require a oath Administered which Cannot be Had without Trouble and Cost So we Your Humble Petitioners Praye your Honours in your Great Pity woud Commissionate a parson for a Justis of the Peace for the Said Town and we your Petitioners Doth Recommend John Tasker—of said Barnstead for a Justis of the Peace and Good Order and Safty & Pray he may be Commissionated and we your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Do Ever Pray

Barnstead June 18 Day 1777

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Capt. Richard Sinkler | Tim Davis | John Weaks |
| | Lyman Colbath | Ben Edgerly |
| Leut Jonathan Emerson | John Hawkens | Joseph Bunker |
| | Joseph Nelson | Jonathan Jacobs |
| Leut Samuel Pitman | John mudget | Dodavah Bunker |
| Insin Benja Nutter | Edward Sanborn | John Sanborn |
| John Nelson | Bradbury Sinkler | Nathaniel Pease |
| nicholas Dudley | Isaac huckins | Jethro Batchlor |
| Jonathan Bunker | Stephen Pickren | Benjamin Brown |
| John Furber | <u>John Clark</u> | John hook |
| Winthrop Smart | Samuel Eastman | Samuel Drew |
| John Bickford | John Elliot | John Edgerly |
| Thomas Snell | William Lord | Nicohlas Wiggin |
| Samuel Drew | Samuel Stephens | |
| Samuel Chesle | Joseph Sanborn | |

State of New Hampshire }
 Strafford ss } Barnstead June y^e 17th 1777

at a Legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Barnstead M^r John Tasker was chosen by a Large majority of votes to be a Justice of Peace for the County afores^d and as he is the Town Clerk of s^d Town it was thought proper it should be certified by the moderator of s^d meeting

attest

Winthrop Smart moderator

[John Tasker was appointed.—ED.]

[2-15] [*Number of Ratable Polls in 1783.*]

Having Received Orders from the Honourable the General Cort for the Number of Pole Paying taxes for them Selves be-

ing Twenty One years of age and upwords we the Select men find on the Rate List Ninty four atest

in Barnstead. 94

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Charles Hodgdon | } | Selectmen |
| Benja Nutter | | |

Strafford S^d Barnstead November y^e 26 Day 1783

Then Charls Hodgdon & Benjamin Nutter appeared and mad Solom Oath to the above Number of Pole Paying Taxes in Said Town and by them Subscribed Befor

John Tasker Jus Peace

[R. 42] [*Petition of Jonathan Bunker, 1782.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & house of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened the 12th of November 1782.

Humbly sheweth Jonathan Bunker of Barnstead in said State that in April 1778 his son Joseph Bunker then a Minor, enlisted in one of the New Hampshire Regiments for & during the war, and continued in said service almost three years when he died. In which time he never Received but one suit of Cloaths. That his son in law Samuel Williams enlisted in said service in the year 1777 and was detained (by mistake) one year & eight months after s^d three years were expired, during which time he never received but one suit of Cloaths, notwithstanding they had the faith of the State pledged that they should receive a suit of Cloaths yearly, therefore your Petitioner prays that the Cloathing due for the afores^d services may be delivered (or the value in money paid) to your Petitioner & his said son in law—and as in duty bound will ever pray

Jonathan Bunker

Ordered to lay

[R. 43] [*Bounties Paid to Barnstead Soldiers, 1785.*]

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| John Sanborn | 12— 6—0 | John Mudgett | 22—18—3 |
| Joshua Sinkler | 27—13—6 | Samuel Sinkler | 27—13—6 |
| Bradbury Sinkler | 9—12 | Jon ^a Judkins | 9—11—5 |

£109—14—8

Allowed to Barnstead for bounties to their first 3 years men—as good money—

Account dated March 15th 1780 Signed by Richard Sinkler and Jon^a Emerson Selectmen and sworn to before John Tasker Justice of the Peace.

The above appears by the Committee of Claims Books—Attest
 Jos Gilman

Exeter April 23^d 1785.

The above is for bounties & Supplies.

April 23^d 1785. Recd. an order on the Treas^r for the above sum—

Richard Sinkler

[2-16]

[*Concerning John Tasker.*]

To His Excellency Meshech Weare Esq^r President of the state of New Hampshire Humbly shew the subscribers inhabitants of Barnstead and in the County of Strafford that the Conduct of John Tasker Esq^r one of the Justices of the peace for said County has been such that we Humbly pray the said John Tasker Esq^r may not in Future be appointed But that some other person who may be thought more Worthy by the people in General and more desirous of doing Justice may supply his place—

all of which the subscribers without prejudice humbly beg leave to submit to the Discretion of you Excellency—and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray June 7th 1784

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Rich ^d Sincler | Ebenezer Nutter | Jethro Batchelder |
| Eph ^m Tebbets | Samuel Avry | Georg Bunker |
| Joshua Sincler | Benjamin Brown | John Bunker |
| John Mason | Nathaniel Pese | Daniel Jacobs |
| David Jacobs | John Clark | James Brown |
| Jos Brown | Jonathan Clark | Daniel Jacobs Juner |
| Sa ^m Williams | David Rolings | thomas Edgerly |
| thomas Brown | William Brown | John Nutter |
| Samuel Jacobs | William Melard | Eben ^r Adams |
| Stephen Bunker | Edward Sanborn | Daniel Jacobs |
| Rufus Ewer | Volentine Chapman | Daniel Jacobs 3 ^d |
| Rich ^d Sincler Juner | Nathaniel Dockham | Mark Dame |
| Charles Hodgdon | Samuel Eastman | Joseph Bunker |
| Samuel Pitman | Jonathan Young | Thomas Bunker |
| Benjamin Avery | John Hook | Samuel Drew |
| Moses Avery | Benj Egerly | John Clark Jr |
| Solomon Crocket | Ezekiel Eastman | William Hawkins |
| Thomas Ayers | Samuel Stevens | |
| Lem ^l B. Mason | Jonathan Jacobs | |

[2-17]

[*Recantation of two of the Foregoing.*]

To his Excellency Masheck Weare Esq^r President of the State of New Hampshire—we the Subscribers Inhabitants of Barnstead in the County of Strafford humbly Sheweth that a Petition hath been Sent to your Excellency baring Date y^e 7

June 1784—Praying that John Tasker Esq^r may Not be appointed any more and we the Subscribers have Sind the Same petition being Pe^r Swaid to Sine the Same which we onestly Declare that we the Subscribers Never Saw or Kow to our own Knowladge any thing that we Can tax him of his unlawfull Proceeding as to his Post as a Justis of the Peace and Look upon him Capble of that Post Praying that our Names may Not opperate again the S^d Tasker and your Petitioners in Duty Bound Doth ever pray.

Barnstead September y^e 26—1784

Nathaniel Docham
Samuel Stephens

[2-18] [*Relative to the Foregoing Petition.*]

To his Excellency Masheck Weare Esq^r President of the State
of New Hampshire

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of Barnstead in the County of Strafford humbly Sheweth that a Petition hath been Sent to your Excellency baring Date y^e 7 Day of June 1784 Praying that John Tasker may Not be apointed for the said Town in Said County as Justis of the Peace and Repsenting his Conduct hath Not been agreeable in that Post and finding our Names in Said Petition we Declare upon our Word and honour with Onesty we Never Signed Nor Gave any Orders for any Person to Sign the Same Petition and we are Content in the administration of Justis by the Said Tasker in that Post of Justis of the Peace we hartly wish them that Sot our hands to the Same Petition may be Brought to Justis and Convicted for the Same which your Petitioners in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Barnstead September y^e 23 Day 1784

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Thomas Edgerly | Nathaniel Peas | William ^{his} hawkins |
| thomas Bunker | ^{his} Voletine X Chapman | ^{mark} Jonathan X Clark |
| Jethro Bachelder | ^{mark} John Bunker | ^{his} John X Clark |
| Joseph Bunker | ^{his} Jonathan X Jacobs | ^{mark} John X Clark |
| Ebenezer Adams | ^{mark} Jonathan X Jacobs | |
| David Rllings | | |

[2-19] [*Another concerning John Tasker.*]

To His Excellency mesheck Weare Esq^r President of the State
of New hampshire—

Humbly Shewes the Subscribers inhabitants of Bearnstead and in the County of Strafford that the Conduct of John Tasker

Esq^r one of the Justices of the peace for Said County has been Such that we Humbly pray the said John Tasker Esq^r may Not in futer be appointed but that Some other person who may be thought more worthey the Said Petition Barning Date y^e 7 of June 1784—Now we your Petitioners finding by Expearance that the Said Tasker is very Tender in Prosecuting Sivel actions and very Redy to bring Cremelel actions to Speady Trial and for Peace in the Town and County in the Poste as a Justis of the Peace So we your Petitioners Pray he may be apointed again So your Petitioners in Duty bound to Ever Pray—

Barnstead September y^e 26 1784.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| John Drew | Thomas Snell | Ebenezer Adams |
| Thomas Peirce | David Rand | Isaac kenerson |
| Israel Peirce J ^r | Jonathan Bunker | Nichlas wiggin |
| Jeremiah Davis | Eli Bunker | William Davis |
| Samuel Davis | William Lord J ^r | John Hawkens |
| Stephen Pickeren | William Hill | David Rollings |
| James Lamos | Depandance Colbath | Samuel Snell |
| Samuel Chesle | Joseph Bryant | John Elliot |
| Samuel Nelson | Arthur Danielson | Solomon Muncy |
| John Marsh | Timothy Davis | Israel ^{his} × Peirce |
| Samuel Drew J ^r | Benj ^a Nutter | _{mark} |
| Benjamin Emerson | Jon ^h Chesley | Nathaniel Hall |

[2-20] [*Petition in favor of Charles Hodgdon.*]

State of New Hampshire } To his Excelency the President and the Hon-
 Strafford ss. } ourable Council for said State to be convened at
 A. D. 1788 } Exeter on the twenty fourth Day of December

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of the Town of Barnstead in said County and State Humbly Sheweth that there is No person appointed in the westerly part of s^d town as a Justis of the peace and your Petitioners Labour under the Disadvantage of going to the Easterly part of the town to have our Business Done or be Put to the Disadvantage of going into other towns—we therefore pray your Excellency and honours would appoint and Quallify Capt. Charles Hodgdon as a Justis of the peace as we Beleave him to be a person of the Best Quallifications In Said town Except the present Justic in the Easterly part of Said town and in granting the prayer of Said Petition your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray—

Barnstead December y^e 23^d 1788

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Samuel Snell | Benj ^a Nutter | Josiah Davis |
| William Hawkins | Sam ^l Nelson | Stephen Pendergast |
| John Clark | Rufus Ewers | John Elliot |
| Enoch Clark | Joseph Tasker | Dennes Pendergast |
| John Clark J ^r | Paul Tasker | William Davis |
| Jonathan Clark | William Green J ^r | Samuel Davis |
| Ebenezer Adams | William Green | James Davis |
| Aaron Hanscom | James Lamos | Jonathan young |
| Jacob Wille | Nathaniel Pease | Nelson Chatman |
| Rich ^d Sincler J ^r | Thomas Edgerly | Aaron Chesley |
| Samuel Edgerly | Scammon Hodgdon | Daniel Dudley |
| Benj ^a Edgerly | Niclos wigens | John Tuttle |
| — Chesley | Nathan Meserve | George Bunker |
| Joseph Jackson | Stephen pickring J ^r | John Hook |
| David Jacobs | John Eastman | John Stevens |
| Nathan Hatch | Edward Sanborn | Joseph Sanborn |
| Ezra Clark | Samuel Hodgdon | John Smith |
| Samuel Langmaid | Corn ^s Kirby | |
| Thomas Snell | Jeremiah Davis | |

—

[2-21] [*Petition in favor of Jonathan Chesley.*]

State of New Hampshire } To his Excellency the President and The
 Strafford ss } Honourable Counsel of the State aforesaid We
 the Subscribers your Humble Petitioners Inhab-
 atance of Barnstead in Said County Humbly Sheweth that as
 their is but one Justice of the peace in the Town of Barnstead
 & he is in one corner of the Town which makes it Very Incon-
 veanent for the inhabatance to Git business Done. We are frea-
 quantly Obliged to go out of the Town to git our Business
 Done. We therefore Humbly pray Your Honours That Jon^a
 Chesly may be appointed a Justice of the Peace and we your
 Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray—
 Barnstead Nov^r 11th Day A. D. 1788

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| John Drew | Benj Emerson | Ezekiel Eastman |
| James Lock Jun. | Samuel Pitman | Nathaniel Dockham |
| Thomas Ayers | Eph ^r Tebbets | Daniel Dudely |
| Winthrop Ayers | Mo ^s Rand | voltine Chtman |
| Ebenez Nutter | Jonathan Emerson | Samuel Stevens |
| William Hill | John Green | Rufus Ewers |
| John Beckford J ^r | William Green J ^r | Nath ^l Meserve |
| Samuel Chesle | John Bickford | John Meserve |
| Thos. Peirce | Corn ^s Kirby | Samuel Avery |
| John Drown | Aaron Chesley | John Tibbets |
| Jn ^o Nutter | Jetho Pendel | thomas Bunker |

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Nicolas meder | John Bunker | William Jones |
| Anth Nutter | George Bunker | William Brown |
| Joseph Place | Thomas Brown | |
| Depand Colbath | Robart wells | |

[2-22] [*Relative to Jonathan Chesley and Charles Hodgdon.*]

State of } To His Excellency the President and the
New hampshire } Honourable Council for Said State Conven-
Strafford ss. } ed—

A Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Being Inhabitants of the Town of Barnstead in Said County of Strafford Humbly Sheweth that a Petition the year past was presented to his Excellency and the Honourable Council Praying that Mr. Jonathan Chesley of Said Barnstead Might be appointed and Commisioned as a Justice of the Peace for said County

Likewise another Petition Signed by a Number of the Inhabitants of Said Town praying that Cap^t Charles Hodgdon might Be Commisioned we your Humble Petitioners Not having an oppertunity of Seing or Signing in favor of the Latter we therefore Pray your Excellency and honours would appoint & Comission the Said Hodgdon as a Justice of the Peace, as we Believe he is a man of the Best Quallifications and give the Best Sattifaction In Said town and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Barnstead Dec. y^e 22^d 1789

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Ezekiel Eastman | John Stvens | William Messer |
| Edmon green | Ezekiel Edgerley | Stephen pickring Jun |
| John Sincler | timothy morel | William Colbath |
| John hook | Samuel Wilkins | David Sinclar |
| Nichlas Wiggin | Stephen Piepier | Samuel Chesle |
| Nathaniel Dockham | Isaiah Bunker | Stephen Langmaid |
| John Eastman | David avery | |
| Samuel Stvens | James Brown | |

[2-23] [*Relative to Bridge over Suncook River.*]

To the Honourable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Exeter on the Last wednesday of December Next

The Inhabitants of the Town of Barnstead in s^d State Humbly Shews that an act passed the Legislature in June 1792 Au-

thorizing the Selectmen of said Barnstead to asses a tax of two pence per acre on all the lands in said Town Improved and unimproved for the purpose of Building a Bridg across suncook river and for Repairing public Roads in said Town but by Reason of said acts not allowing but sixty pounds to be laid out on said Bridge, the good purposes thereby Intended will not be answered they therefore pray that they may have Liberty to bring a bill for the purpose of altering the aforesaid Act in such a manner as that they may have liberty to lay out Ninety pounds on said Bridg and the remainder as by said Act directed and that a Further time of two years be allow^d for making the assessment and Completing the Business as said Act directs and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Peter Hodgdon | Charles Bickford | William Brown |
| John Bunker | Joseph Place | James Brown |
| Robert Wills | James Stokes | John Bickford Jun |
| Jn ^o Nutter | Rufus Ewers | William Adams |
| Benj ^a Nutter | Edward Sanborn | John Bickford |
| Samuel Nelson | Jon ^o Young | Dudley G. Adams |
| Richard Sinkler | george Bunker | Aaron Chesley |
| David Rand | Mo ^s Rand | Nath ^l Tasker |
| Henery Munsey | William N. Ayers | Moses Dennet |
| David Sincler | Corn ^{es} Kirby | John B ——— |
| Samuel Williams | Nicholas Meder | Ebenezer Nutter |
| Timothy Sanborn | Jonathan Bunker Jun | Ezekiel Eastman |
| Benjamin adams | Richard Joy | Stephen Pickering |
| Nath ^l Adams | Joseph Bunker | Anthony Nutter |
| Joseph Adams | Enoch Bunker | Eph ^m Tebbets |
| Ezekiel G. Adams | David Jacobs | John Tasker |

[2-24]

The State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of said State convened at Concord the fifteenth day of June Anno Domini 1791.

The petition of John Tasker Esquire Charles Hodgdon Esquire & Jonathan Chesly all of Barnstead in the County of Strafford, Humbly sheweth, That whereas a Bridge nine rods long and Eighteen feet high hath been supported in Barnstead across Suncook River for the Convenience of private and public Passengers in the road from Coass to Dover—and as the same is by the effect of use and time almost worn out—it appears absolutely necessary to build a Bridge in the same place anew, of the aforesaid dimentions—and the Structure thereof to consist (considering the rapidity of the stream) in its substantial part of Stones as we have had to build it in s^d Town twice within six

years and in repairing said Bridge we have been put to great Cost—Therefore the humble prayer of your Petitioners in behalf of the Town of Barnstead is, that your honors would take the premises into your wise Consideration and pass an act empowering them to asses and raise by a tax two pence p^r acre on all the lands in said Barnstead to be appropriated to the use of building the Bridge aforesaid and to the use of Clearing and finishing two roads one of which is on the north side of said Barnstead running from Gilmanton to Barrington the Other from Gilmanton through the Centre of s^d Barnstead to Barrington which road the Inhabitants of s^d Barnstead are compelled to cut out, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray

June 15th 1791

John Tasker
Charles Hodgdon
Jon^a Chesley

[In H. of Rep., June 13, 1792, *Voted*, that the prayer of the petition be granted.—ED.]

BARRINGTON.

The grant of this town was made by Gov. Samuel Shute, May 10, 1722, "To our Loving subjects the Present Proprietors of the Iron works lately set up at Lamprey river (viz) The Hon^{ble} John Wentworth Esq. George Jaffrey Esq. & Archibald Macphedris Esq. & hon Robert Nellson [?] for their encouragement & accommodation to carry on & maintain the aforesaid Iron works." The first settlements were made in 1732.

June 26, 1742, an act was passed to enable the proprietors to more effectually conduct town affairs. The town was originally about 13 miles long by 6½ miles in breadth. By an act passed June 17, 1820, the town was divided, and the westerly part incorporated into a town by the name of Strafford. Several families of Quakers resided in town in 1760, who, with their brethren in Dover, Durham, and Somersworth, held monthly meetings at "Cochecho."

[193] [*Petition for Abatement of Taxes, 1744.*]

TO HIS EXCELLENCY Benning Wentworth Esqr. Capt. General & Governor in Chief In and over his Majestys Province of

New Hampshire. The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council & House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened December 19th 1744. THE HUMBLE PETITION of William Cate one of the Select men of the Town of Barrington in said Province in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Town *Shews*—that the number of Inhabitants in said Town was atmost not above fifty Families most of which were but in poor circumstances just beginning their Settlements on a Soil not the most Encouraging but since the war with France near half the said number is gone to other Towns & have Settled there. That the Summer last past the Said Inhabitants being in Garrisons could do no business to Earn any thing Excepting the Raising their Corn by Reason of fears they were under from the Indians Considering their Exposed Situation and upon the whole of their Circumstances apprehend that they will do their part of Public Duty if they Maintain their Ground & prevent the total breaking up the Said Settlement which it is easy to see must be attended with bad Consequences to other places—That the Select men of said Town have Received two Warrants from the Treasurer to Raise about fifteen pounds old Tenor in the whole upon the Polls & Estates of said Inhabitants for the Current year as their proportion of the Province taxes which all things considered they are very unable if at all capable of paying—Wherefore your Petitioner In behalf of the said Inhabitants humbly Prays y^e attention of this Court to the Case of said Inhabitants in this Particular and that they may be Exempted & discharged from Paying the said Taxes & he will as in duty bound Pray &c

W^m Cate

[In H. of Rep., Dec. 19, 1744, the foregoing was considered and dismissed.—ED.]

[R. 44] [*Ephraim Lock's Deposition, Soldier in 1749.*]

August the 27th 1753.

Ephram Lock appered Before me and mad oth that he had sarved as a Soldger under Cap^t Clamns* at Barenton one month and three Days in the year 1749 as to the Beast of his Remembernce ti was the month of august and never Reseved any Pay yet

Richerd Jennes Just. Peace

[R. 45]

Province of New Hampshire
To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General

* Capt. Job Clements.

Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province aforesaid—The Hon^{ble} His Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened May 26, 1761—

The Humble Petition of Thomas Johnson of Barrington in said Province husbandman for himself and on the behalf of his son John Johnson about eighteen years & half old. That the Said John was a Soldier belonging to the Company Commanded by Capt. Berry in the Regiment Raised in this Province in the year 1760 for the Total Reduction of Canada—and marched and did his duty in said Company and Sometime in the Latter end of June he being in Camp above the Block house at Wentworth Ferry about five miles as they were Clearing a Road over from thence to Crown Point the said John was putting his Ram-Rod in the proper place of his Gun By accident and Great misfortune his said Gun then fired, she being Loaded with a Ball and Small Shot, the whole of which Load went through the Left hand of the said John and Greatly hurt & Damaged the same put the said John to Great pain and notwithstanding as good Care was taken of him as the Circumstance of the place would allow by Doct^r Cahoon of the Regulars, yet so it is that said hand is Ruined & Spoiled and he can do very Little if any service therewith as one of his fingers is quite gone and two others are Intirely useless, and as there is Two years and half he still hath to Serve his said Father who is a poor man & he having had much dependence on the said sons assistance he is entirely disappointed thereof and if the said John should live to be free he can do very Little if any thing towards his own Subsistance—

Wherefore the said Thomas aforesaid Humbly prays as the same misfortune happened in the immedite Service of this Province that your Excellency & hon^{rs} will take the said Case into your Consideration and Examine the Same and make the said Thos. Such allowance for the Loss of the help of his said Son as to you shall seem Equitable and make Such Grant to the Said John in whole or annually as you shall think best, or Grant them such other aid and assistance Relating to the aforesaid premises at his arrival at full age as you in your Great Goodness and Justice shall deem right, and as in Duty bound your petitioner will ever pray—

Thomas Johnson.

[In answer to the foregoing petition, he was allowed eight pounds sterling, which was to be placed in the hands of Thomas Westbrooke Waldron, who was to pay the father a yearly interest of ten per cent. on the same during

the son's minority, and turn over the principal to the son when he became of age.—ED.]

[R. 46] [*Petition of Henry Hill, 1761.*]

[*Addressed same as the one next preceding.*]

The humble Petition of Henry Hill of Barrington in the Province aforesaid Husbandman on behalf of Henry Hill, Robert Hill and John Hill all Infants—*Sheweth*—That Joseph Hill the late Son of your Petitioner and Father of the aforesaid Infants, Inlisted in the last Expedition to Canada, in Capt Berry's Company, in the New Hampshire Regiment: That the said Joseph was an active and forward man in the attack and taking of the Island of St. John, and in doing his Duty there as a Soldier in the said Regiment, he was slain by a Cannon Ball shot from the Enemy, which almost divided his Body. That the said Infants have neither Father nor Mother and your Petitioner being in Indigent Circumstances can afford them no relief, and the eldest of the said Infants is no more than five years of age.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly hopes, that as their Father fell fighting boldly for his Country, the helpless state of these Infants will be thought a proper Object of the Pity and Consideration of this Hon'ble Court—and That such Provision may be made for them and that, in such due time as you in your great Wisdom shall deem most meet. And your Pet^r as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c.

Henry ^{his} X Hill
mark

[In council. Jan. 28, 1761, read, and sent down to the house. In the H. of Rep., June 18, 1761, "Voted, That it be dismissed."—ED.]

[R. 47] [*Abstract of Petition of Moses Caverly, Jr., 1761.*]

[In a petition dated May 26, 1761, Moses Caverly Jr., of Barrington, states that his son Charles Caverly, enlisted in Capt. Eph^a Berrys Co., Col. John Goffs Reg., April 9, 1760; that in crossing the lake, the "Battoe" in which he was, upset, whereby he the said Charles was drowned, and his gun lost. He asks to be paid for the *gun*, and receives therefor the sum of 25 shillings sterling.]

[It seems that the assembly allowed a man pay for his

son's gun, lost in the service, but nothing to infants who lost their father in the same service.—ED.]

[R. 47½] [*List of Capt. William Cate's men, relative to Quakers, 1759 to 1761.*]

Men that Inlisted.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Ezekiel Willey | John Johnson | Josiah Frost |
| Josiah Brown | Thomas Foss | John Brown |

Men that are Draughted

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Ephraim Holmes | William Fowler | Benjamin Young |
| Joshua Sloper | Jacob Horsom | Jonathan Daniels |

N. B. of the 80 men in Barrington fit to bear arms 14 are Quakers whose proportion would be between 2 & 3 of the 14 I was ordered to raise.

W^m Cate.

Barrington Apr. 17th 1759.

Barrington february y^e 4th 1761.

This is a List of y^e sons [sons of Quakers] who Listed in his Majesties Servis out of my Company of the people called quakers sence y^e Commencement of y^e present war In the Canady Expeditions

John Brown Jun. in y^e years 1758 & 1759 & 1760

Josiah Frost in y^e year 1759

Daniel Swaine in y^e year 1758

one Ran Sarvent to John Renels in y^e year 1758.

David Johnson in y^e year 1758

John Johnson in y^e year 1760

Josiah Brown in y^e years 1759 & 1760

these may certify that y^e People under y^e Denomination of quakers in my Company has always ben as Redy to obey orders as y^e Rest of my Company

W^m Cate

[194] [*Petition in favor of Joshua Foss, Jr., 1773.*]

The most humble petition of

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Joshua holmes | James foss | John more |
| William Stanton | Joshua Otes | Isaac huckins |
| Isaiah Felker | Joseph Gray | Sam ^l walise |
| John Brown | Jeremy foss | Isaac Runnels |

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joseph Brown | Benjamin hall | Charles Bamford |
| Thomas Johnson | perry hix'n | Charles Bamford |
| Thomas How | James Drew | Junr. |
| John Babb | Isaac Hall | Jabez Smith |
| Samuel Brown | mark foss | Stephen foss |
| Jacob Daniels | Abijah pinkham | Samuel Holmes |
| Jacob Daniels Junr. | James Shurburn | John parshley |
| John Berry | Jacob Shepherd | Will ^m runnels |
| Jethro Lock | Abraham Allis | John Ham |
| Simon Lock | Robert Bamford | John hall |
| Nathl. Berry | Robert Bamford Jr. | Joseph Daniels |
| Peletiah Daniels | Nath ^l foss | Levi Daniels Jr. |
| John macDaniels | mark foss Junr. | Daniel foss |
| Jeremy macDaniels | Benjamin Jackson | Samuel foss Jur. |
| Will ^m macDaniels | Peter Robinson | Nath ^l Hanson |
| Michael felker | Ebenezer Spencer | Ebenezer young |
| Samuel Berry | william gray | micajah otes |
| Samuel Stiles | Charles felker | Elijah otes |
| William Lock | John Row | Joshua Sloper |
| Obadiah Drew | John Young | Joseph hall |
| James Leighton | William Lock Jur. | Benjamin pearl |
| Thomas Evens | Isaac Leighton | Abraham row |
| Sam ^l Buzel | Azariah Boody | Joseph Pevey |
| James Durgen | Aaron Waldron | Thomas foss |
| John Boody | Joshua foss | John Bickford |
| Richard parshley | Daniel Smith | Ephraim foss |
| Samuel Starbord | Cunningham mac- | Garland Smith |
| John Banfel parshley | kutchin | James Huckins |
| Nicholas otes | Nicholas Brown | Noah Holmes |
| James gray | Stephen otes | Michael felker Jur. |
| Jeremy gray | George parshley | |
| Stephen Berry | Jacob Allise | |

To his Excellency John wentworth Esq Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over his majestys province of New hampshire in New England and vice admiral of the same—May it please your Excellency the Liberty and peace which we Enjoy under your Excellencys administration induces us to Believe that your Excellency wishes our welfare we your Excellencys most humble petitioners pray that your Excellency will not Deny this our humble Request that M^r Joshua foss Junr. may Be a Justice of the peace for this our town of Barrington as we Esteem him the said Joshua Foss Junior to the most Suitable person in the town of Barrington And for the granting this our request your Excellencys most humble petitioners doth most Earnestly pray

Barrington July 19 1773—

In Council “ordered to lay.”

[195] [*Petition Respecting Election of Representative, 1774.*]

Province of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the House of Representatives of the Province aforesaid, convened at Portsmouth this Seventh Day of april Anno Domini 1774.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Town of Barrington in the County of Strafford in s^d Province, qualified by Law to vote in the Choice of Representatives, most humbly shews—

That on wednesday the Thirtieth Day of March last past, a Meeting of the Inhabitants of said Barrington was holden for the Choice of a suitable Person to represent them in the General Assembly, of which Meeting, M^r Joshua Foss was Moderator.—

That by reason of the Irregularity and Confusion at said Meeting many of your Petitioners had not and others could not have an opportunity of voting before M^r Joshua Foss Junr. (son of the moderator) was declared to be duly chosen to represent said Barrington in the General Assembly, which appearing doubtful to your Petitioners, it was desired by more than seven of them “presently after” that the same be decided by the Pole—It being granted, the Electors withdrew for that purpose—but it being falsely reported that your Petitioners had waved all Exceptions to the illegality of the Choice aforesaid, the said Joshua Foss Jun^r was Entered by the Clerk as duly elected and the Meeting dissolved before the same was determined—by means whereof your Petitioners think themselves greatly aggrieved, and many of them deprived of a Liberty & Priviledge which others at said Meeting (not qualified) were allowed Wherefore your Petitioners pray this Honorable House to take the matter into their wise Consideration and order them such Redress as is agreeable to Law, and which, in like Cases hath hitherto been granted—and your Petitioners will ever pray &c.

Barrington April 7th 1774.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Paul Hayes | John Garland | Samuel Hayes |
| Henery Sevy | Elijah Sevy | Benjamin Hayes |
| Daniel Ham | Clemt. Ham | Hezekiah Hayes |
| Jonathan Church | George Waterhouse | John Drew |
| Ichabod Bodge | John Sherburne | Ebenezer Jackson |
| Isaac Sherburne | John McDaniel | Peletiah Daniels |
| Robert Bamford Jr | William McDaniel | Richard Swain |
| William Cate | Julius felker | nathan foss |
| John Cotter | Joseph Hayes | ephrai[m] holmes Jr. |

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| ephraham holmes | John Leighton | John foay |
| James Swain | Samuel Buzzell | Benjamin Buzzell |
| Isaac Leighton | John Buzzell | George Seaward |
| Jabez Smith | Philip Caverly | Moses Caverly |
| Reuben Tuttle | James Clark | Jonathan Clark |
| Paul hayes Juner | John garland Juner | Steven hawkens |

Province of } In the House of Representatives May 12th
 New Hamp^r } 1774. The within Petition being Read and the
 Parties heard thereon It appears to the House that the Election
 of Joshua Foss jur. to Represent the Town of Barrington is il-
 legal and Voted That said Election be set aside and that a Pre-
 cept issue from the Speaker of this House to the Selectmen of
 said Barrington to Call a Meeting to Choose a Representative
 for said Town of Barrington Giving Proper Notice.

M. Weare Cl^r

[On the 25th of May the sheriff made a return on the precept issued by the speaker, "That M^r Joshua Foss was returned by the selectmen of said Barrington as legally chosen to represent said town," and Mr. Foss was admitted, and sworn in May 26.—ED.]

[196] [*Petition of Inhabitants in favor of John Garland, 1776.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council & house of Representatives for the Colony of New Hampshire Convened,—At Exeter on wednesday the 6th of March 1776.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Barrington *Humbly Shews* that your Petitioners Was Greatly alarmed at the News of John Garland Esq^r of Said Barrington being omitted in the Late Appointment of Magistrates for the County of Strafford He Being a person in the opinion of your Petitioners of The Best Natural Capacity for Such an office in Said Town & of Equal acquereiment to any other & while In that office Performed to General Satisfaction and More Especially Considering how much he has Exerted himself In the Glorious Struggle for Liberty in which america is Now Contending wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray That the Said John Garland may be appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County afoursaid which we conceive Will Be a Benifit conferred not only on the ton of Barrington But the County afour^d & your Petitioners As in Duty Bound Will ever Pray

Capt. Mark Hunking Ensn. John Bickford Simmon Starbord

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Capt. William Cate | John foey | Mark Foss |
| Capt. Samuel Bruster | Azariah Boody | Nathaniel Foss |
| John Waterhouse | Ichabod Bodge | Lieut. William hayes |
| Samuel Winkley | Ebenezer young | Samuel Brown |
| Julius felker | Jabesh Smith | William howard |
| Richard Swain | Garland Smith | Paul Bruster |
| James howard | Ruben Davius | Stephen foey |
| James pevy | Lt. John Cate | Thomas tuttle |
| James foey | Ruben tuttle | Nicholas Brown |
| timothy perkins | John Persley | Stephen Drew |
| Joseph pevy | Mark Foss Jur. | Daniel Clark |
| James Clark | Jonathan Clark | Ebenezer Jackson |
| John foey Jun ^r | Joseph Boodey | Isaac Sherburn |
| Josiah Monson | John Sherburn | James Church |
| Mark Ayers | James Wodiar | gidon Laighton |
| Isaiah Felker | Joseph Cate | george ham |
| Left. william babb | william ham | mickel fulker |
| Jeams Row | Stephen otes | wintrupt young |
| mickel fulker Jun | paul young | timothy waterhouse |
| william pearl | benjamin babb | Joseph gray |
| Richard babb | John cater | |
| Lieut. George Waterhouse— | James Leighton | |

[He was subsequently appointed.—ED.]

[R. 48] [*Anne Runals's Petition—Husband died in the Service, 1778.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} Council and Assembly of said State now sitting at Exeter.—

The Petition of Anne Runals of Barrington in said State, *humbly shews*.—That your Petitioners late husband Isaac Runals was a Lieutenant in Col^o Stephen Evans Regiment in the Continental service in October last—that owing to indisposition of Body he was unable to continue in the service, and was about to return home—that on his way at Chesterfield his disorders encreasing, he was entirely confined, & there died—that the expense of sending there after him, together with the Doctor & Nurse's Bills amounting in the whole to fourteen pounds six shilling (as may appear by the ac^{ts} and vouchers herewith exhibited) has been paid by your Petitioner—Wherefore your Petitioner requests that your Hon^{rs} would take the matter under your consideration & cause the sum she has expended to be

reimbursed—or otherwise, grant her such compensation as you in your wisdom shall think meet, for which She as in duty bound will ever pray

Anne Runals

Barrington May 20th 1778.

[The amount was allowed May 22, 1778.—ED.]

[197] [*Petition for Authority to dispose of Parsonage Lot, 1779.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Council & House of Representatives in General Court assembled at Exeter the 20th day of October A. D. 1779.—

The petition of John Garland Esq. & James Marden Yeoman both of Barrington in the County of Strafford & State aforesaid in behalf of the parish in said Barrington humbly shews That in the Charter of said Barrington two hundred acres of Land were reserved for a parsonage which have in consequence thereof been laid out at such a Distance from their Meetinghouse as renders the Design useless.—That the said parish are about settling a Minister, but feel themselves unable to raise his Support without the benefit of said parsonage and as the said parish conceive themselves not duly authorized to appropriate said Land to any other purpose than is directed by said Charter—your petitioners therefore pray that said parish may be authorized by Act or Resolve to sell said Lands or to exchange them for others that may better accomodate their Minister & fully answer the original Intention of the Reservation in said Charter—& your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Barrington Oct^o 20th 1779.

John Garland

James Marden

[The foregoing resulted in the passage of an act, November 11, 1779, authorizing John Garland and Deacon James Marden to exchange the parsonage lot for one more convenient, or sell it and purchase another.—ED.]

[R. 49, 50, 51] [*Abstract from Petition of Nathaniel Church, wounded Soldier, 1779.*]

[Nathaniel Church, of Barrington, in a petition dated November 5, 1779, states that he “was a soldier in Capt

Peter Drowne's Company in Lt. Col. Stephen Peabody's Regiment, and was wounded in the action on Rhode Island on the 29th of August 1778, by which wound he lost his Leg & part of his Thigh." He asks to be put on half pay, and that his expenses for nursing, and the expenses of John Church and Josiah Felker for going to Providence and getting him home, amounting to £59-12-0 in all, may be allowed him.

The bill was allowed, and also half pay, commencing January 1, 1779.—ED.]

[R. 52]

[Oct. 24, 1780. John Garland, at the request of said Church, states that Church lost his leg by a cannon ball; that he is on the half-pay roll; but, owing to the depreciation of the currency, the amount he receives "will scarce pay his expenses of travelling to Exeter to receive it," and asks for further relief.—ED.]

[198] [*Petition of Non-Resident Proprietors concerning Taxes, 1781.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened at Exeter June 25th 1781

The Petition of Mark Hunking Wentworth Geo. Jaffrey Jonathan Warner and George Atkinson *humbly shews*—That the Collector of Taxes for the Town of Barrington, having called on your Petitioners for their Taxes in said Town, they find on inspecting his list, they are respectively taxed more than twice as much on their Lands, as any Resident in said Town is taxed on his—They have demonstrated this to be the case to the Selectmen, who are not disposed to afford them any relief; and as this has been the case not only the last but the preceding years, and in all probability will continue, unless prevented by your Honors. they humbly request, that a stop may be put to such flagrant injustice, and that they may not be compelled, to pay more than their equal proportion of Taxes, according to the value of their Lands—And your Petitioners shall ever pray &c.

Mark H^s Wentworth

Jonathan Warner

Geo: Atkinson

Geo. Jaffrey

[In H. of Rep., a committee was appointed on the foregoing, who reported that, in their opinion, the petitioners

had been much overrated, but should make their application to the court of quarter-sessions.—ED.]

[R. 53] [*Papers relating to Thomas How, a Soldier, 1781.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire.

The petition of Thomas How most *humbly sheweth* that whereas he was at all times prepossessed with a firm attachment to the States, in 1777 he enlisted in the three years service under Capt. John Drew* and quit his farm his family his connections and what was most dear to him and cheerfully marched as a soldier for the defence of his Country having an obligation from the Committee of Barrington for £34. L. my. as a Bounty only and he to receive his full wages without any deduction whatsoever on account of the foresaid Bounty. he faithfully performed his duty during the foresaid term of three years but has not as yet received but an inconsiderable part of his Bounty Clothing and wages for want of which his expenses fitting out for the service and the Misfortunes he had while he was there have Reduced him to very low circumstances—He has therefore at this time presumed to lay these his grievances before your honours relying and Depending that you will be fully sensible of this his situation and grant a satisfactory answer to his request—He does therefore ardently and humbly request and pray that you will be pleased to remedie the Matter in such a way as to procure to him his just due, and your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

Barrington Nov^r y^e 6th

A. D. 1781—

Thomas How

[R. 54.]

[The Barrington committee to hire soldiers in the year 1777, consisting of William Cate, Jr., John Hill, Joshua Foss, Jr., and Silas Drew, signed a certificate dated January, 1781, substantiating the above statement.]

[R. 55]

[Josiah Gilman (August 23, 1782), one of the Committee on Claims, states that the town of Barrington had been allowed for the bounty the selectmen charged to Thomas How.]

* 5th Co., 2d Reg't.

[R. 56]

[The town refused to pay the said How his bounty, and he brought suit, but was defeated, as he says, for want of means to prosecute the suit. How also introduces the following certificates :—ED.]

[R. 58]

M^t Independence July 6th 1777.

I Thomas How the subscriber do here say and certefy that on the 6th Instant orders came for us to turn out and get the powder out of the Magizien after Cap^t Buckland ordered me and a nother man John Doe by name to Carrey a Chest down to the landing he sent the weater to Conduct us down It Being dark he led us out of the way and the other man soon left me I having strict orders I was obliged to see it on Bord the Scuner which Brought it all most to sun rise Before I could Get back to my Tent again and when I came there my Gun pack Beding and Clothes and all that I had except what I had on my back was lost.

Bemus's Heights Oct^r 11, 1777.

This is to Certify that the Bearer Thos. How was ordered as within mention by

Stephen Buckland
Captain of artillery

[R. 59]

Moses Creek July the 31^d 1777—

I Thomas How Doth testify and make it apeer, That orders Came for is to Retrate for Sarrey Toge we had not marched More Than 40 Rod Before The Enemy Came in Sight in order to Cut of our Retreat Which obliged us to Return Back and Take the Hill in order give them Battle The Artillery Men woas ordered to Put their Packs in the Bagige Wagin Purpared for That Purpose we had Wounded Men The Wagoner was ordered to Throw our Packs out and take in the Wounded I being one of The train and By The Means I Lost My Second Pack

Thomas How

The under mensend Thomas How Lost is Pack by wittness of uss Siners—John Neal, Clark Sarjent, Paul Otis, Ebenezer Crommet

[R. 61]

[December 13, 1784, Margaret Pitman asks the treasurer to pay Daniel Cook all that was due her late son, Joseph

Pitman, soldier in the 2d N. H. Reg't. The order is attested by "Ralph hall, Solomon hall," and certified by "John Cate, Town Clerk."—Ed.]

—

[199] [*Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

Barrington Dec^r 12, 1783—

Pursuant to orders we have took the No. Polls which is 287 of Twenty one years of age and upwards—

Given under our Hands this 12th Day of Dec^r 1783.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Peter Young | } Select Men |
| George Waterhouse | |
| Eliph Cloutman | |

Sworn to before

"John Garland Justes Peace"

[200]

Diepotion of Samuel Brewster of Lawful age testefieth and saith that he was apointed as a Commitee man with others by the general Court to Lay out Roads in Barrington Did Lay out three Roads through said town one through or near the first Range agoing to Rochester one through or near the third Range and one on the west side of said town Called the Provence Road and several other Roads in said town.

Samuel Brewster

Sworn to February the 13, 1786, before

Joshua Foss Jr. Justice Peace

BARTLETT.

This town was incorporated June 16, 1790, and comprised the following grants: The grant to Lieut. Andrew McMillan of 2,000 acres, made Oct. 25, 1765; to Capt. William Stark, same day, of 3,000 acres; to Lieut. Vere Royse, September 6, 1769, 2,000 acres; Adjutant Philip Bayley, August 9, 1770, 2,000 acres; and to Major James Gray, June 12, 1772, 3,856 acres. It was named in honor of Josiah Bartlett, who was then President of the State.

By an act passed June 19, 1806, the town received a grant of 600 acres of land belonging to the state, situated in the town of Adams, 300 of which was for support of

schools, and 300 for the support of the gospel; and by an act passed June 22, 1819, 50 acres was severed from Adams, and annexed to this town. July 3, 1822, a tract of land belonging to Nathaniel Carlton was severed from Bartlett and annexed to Adams; and by an act passed July 1, 1823, a large tract of land westerly and southerly of the original town was annexed. June 18, 1836, a tract of land belonging to Jonathan McIntire was annexed to the town. July 3, 1839, the farm of Nathaniel Tufts and Stephen Carlton, 2d, was severed from Bartlett and annexed to Jackson. January 5, 1853, the town was severed from Coös county and annexed to Carroll. June 30, 1869, a tract of land was severed from Chatham and annexed to Bartlett; and July 2, 1878, a small tract was severed from Hart's Location and annexed to this town.

[R. 62]

To John Taylor Gilman Esq.—Treasurer of the State of New Hampshire—Please pay to Andrew McMillan Esq^r all the arrearages due Serg^t Jonathan Tasker of the New Hampshire Line, Gen. Poor's Brigade, Col. Reeds Regt. & Capt. Clays Co. for services done his Country in the late war, in the years 1777—1778 & 1779, and this order shall discharge the state from the same

Jon^a Tasker

Bartlett Nov^r 16th 1792.

[2-25] [*Petition for an Addition to the Town.*]

To the Honourable the senate and house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in general Court convened at Exeter on Wednesday the 25 Day of December 1793.—

The Petition of Andrew McMillan Esq. for & in behalf of the town of Bartlet humbly sheweth that in Consequence of a Petition from the Inhabitants of Starks, McMillans, Royes, Baileys and Greys Locations they obtained an Incorporation of said Location into a township by the name of Bartlet in the month of June 1791; but it is well known that the whole of said Location don't contain a tract of Land more than twelve thousand Acres a great part thereof very Mountainous and broken, and there can be had no privilege for a Minister or school Right or other public uses as other new towns have and enjoyed in consequence thereof places then in a worse situation than they were in before their incorporation all which is a grievance and burthen on the Inhabitants; but as there are

Locations; together with some unlocated Lands, altho mountainous joining on or near to the town of Bartlet, your Petitioner prays that a tract of Land located and unlocated may be granted and incorporated with the town of Bartlet including Rindges & Pierces Locations: together with a number of hundred acre Lots laid out by the Committee for making and repairing the Roads from Conway to Coos agreeable to the Plan herewith exhibited giving unto said town a tract of unlocated Land to the first settled Minister, for a school and all other public Uses as may be thought proper, and agreeable to what is customary in all other towns in this State, under such Conditions & Regulations as you in your wisdom may think proper and your Petitioner as in duty bound will pray

Andrew M^cMillan.

State of New Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Dec 29th 1793

Upon reading and considering the foregoing Petition of Andrew MacMillan Esq^r for and in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Bartlett, Voted that the Petitioner be heard thereon before the General Court on the Second Thursday of the Next Session and that in the Mean time the Petitioner cause that the Substance of the petition and Order of Court thereon be published three weeks successively in the Exeter News paper & in the Independent Chronicle printed in Boston commencing Six weeks prior to said day of hearing—also cause that a copy of said petition and Order be posted up in some public place in the Town of Bartlett the Same term of time, that any person or persons may then appear and Shew cause if any they have why the prayer thereof May not be granted—

Sent up for Concurrence—
Nath^l Peabody Speaker

In Senate December 28th 1793 Read & Concurred
Nath^l Parker Dep^y Sec^y

[The plan referred to may be found in Vol. II, doc. No. 26½, Town Papers, 1880, in secretary's office.—ED.]

[2-26]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened; at Concord on the first Wednesday in June A. D. 1793

The petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the Town of Bartlett in the County of Grafton—Humbly sheweth—That

whereas, your petitioners being few in number and very poor, and the whole Town consisting of Locations formerly granted to officers in the Service of the King of Great Britain, in the French war (so called) and the greater part of the land in s^d Town, being still owned by the original Grantees, or their assigns, who do not live in the Town, and in consequence of our incorporation, we are at the expense of making and repairing all public roads through the Town. And those Gentlemen, who own by far the greater parts of the lands in said Town, are in consequence of their being Non-residents exempted from the cost of making and repairing those useful and necessary roads in the Town—And as there is a road lately laid out, from Conway to Shelburn, by order of Court, which must go nearly five miles in Bartlett, and this too, at the expence of the Inhabitants, which they must make through an uncultivated wilderness, together with the cost of keeping in repair, the road leading to Lancaster, North of the White Hills, with other necessary roads in Town, All which your petitioners view as a great grievence—Therefore, your petitioners pray that one penny per acre may be laid on all the lands in the Town of Bartlett, for the purpose of making and repairing the roads in s^d Town and appropriated to that use as soon as may be, under such order and regulation, as you, in your wisdom shall think fit :

And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Ralph Hall | Jonathan Hutchins | John Scribner |
| Anthony Emery | John Pendexter | James Rogers |
| Miles Thompson | Levi Chubbuck | isick Stanton |
| John wooster | Thomas Spring | Samuel Fall |
| Joseph Hall | Enoch Emery | John weekes |
| Levi Sevey | Thomas Rodgers | Humphery Emery |
| Simon Seavey | Joseph Thompson | Joseph Pitman |
| Jonathan Seavey | Samuel Stratton | george woodes |
| Jonathan Place | Richard Garland | Timothy Walker |
| James Basset | Obed Hall | |
| Jonathan Tasker | Samuel Seavey | |

[Granted by an act passed December 28, 1795.—ED.]

[2-27] [*Petition for an Addition to the Town.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Honourable General court of said State to be convened
at Amherst on the first wednesday of June next—

Humbly Shews your Honor's Petitioners that whereas a petition was preferred to the Honourable General court of said

State at their last Session by Andrew McMillan Esq^r in behalf of the Town of Bartlett praying—that a tract of land might be aded to said Bartlett and the Town being notified of the order of court thereon appointed a commitee to examine the premises and on examining the same found that Burton covered all the good land on which the prayer of said petition was founded—excepting a Small tract of Located land—therefore your petitioners pray that an addition be made agreeably to the plan accompanying this petition—it being all that is fit for settlements on that part of the Town—Said grant to be under such orders and regulations as you in your wisdom Shall think fit and your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

Bartlett May 25th 1794

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Enoch Emery | } Committee for Bartlett |
| George place | |
| John Scribner | |
| John weeks | |
| Joseph Thomson Jun. | |

[2-28] [*Petition to be severed from Grafton County and annexed to Strafford.*]

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New hampshire in General Court conven'd, at Concord on the first wednesday of June 1793.

The petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Bartlet and locations humbly sheweth; the many difficulties they now labour under; in consequence of their Being a remote part of the Extensive County of Grafton; and particularly your petitioners being nearly Ninety miles distant from any place where Courts are held: Excepting Justices Courts, for the tryal of any Cause whatever: and nearly one Hundred miles from the registers Office, for recording of deeds; all which is a verry great grievance, which can be plainly made appear, therefore your petitioners pray, that the town of Bartlet and Locations Northerly of Bartlet may be sot of from the County of Grafton and anexed to the County of Strafford, or make a new County in the Northerly part of the State, or otherwise relieved as you in your Wisdom may think proper and your petitioners as in duty Bound will Ever pray.

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Richard Garland | James Rogers | Humphrey Emery |
| Enoch Emery | Jonathan Place | John Pendexter |
| Joseph Hall | isick Stanton | Joseph Pitman |
| Obed Hall | James Baset | Levi Chubbuck |
| Levi Seavey | Samuel Fall | george woodes |

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Samuel Seavey | Jonathan Tasker | Thomas Spring |
| Simon Seavey | John weeks | Timothy Walker |
| John Scribner | Jonathan Hutchins | Joseph Pinkham |
| Jonathan Seavey | John wooster | Joseph D. pinkham |

BATH.

This town was granted by Gov. Benning Wentworth, September 10, 1761, to Rev. Andrew Gardner and sixty-one others. The conditions of this grant were not complied with, and on petition of Nehemiah Lovewell and others a new grant was made by Gov. John Wentworth, March 29, 1769.

The first settlement was made in 1765 by John Harri- man, of Haverhill, Mass. Moses Pike and John Sawyer settled in 1766 or '67.

Among the distinguished men of the last century was Col. Timothy Bedel, an officer in the Revolution, who did good service in command of troops on the frontier and else- where. He was chosen to represent Bath in the convention at Cornish, in 1781, that town being one of the sixteen which attempted to unite with Vermont.

[R. 63] [*Relative to William Grimshaw, Soldier, 1786.*]

The Committee to whom was referred a Petition in behalf of the Town of Bath having considered the same beg leave to report that the said Town be credited for William Grimshaw a Continental Soldier, late belonging to Hazens Reg^t the sum of sixty pounds with the interest thereof that the same be allowed in settlement of the charge against said Town for deficiency of soldiers, and that the Treasurer take order thereon and govern himself accordingly—The committee further report as their opinion that the said Town of Bath is intitled to receive a Twenty pounds bounty for procuring the said soldier.

submitted by Josh. Wentworth,
for the Committee.—

[In H. of Rep., March 1, 1786, report received and ac- cepted; senate concurred.—ED.]

[2-1]

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r

Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the same and to the Honourable his Majesty's Council of the said Province,

The Petition of Jacob Bayley Esq^r
in the Province of New York in behalf of himself and associates

Most Humbly Shews

That
your Petitioner being a great Sufferer by his Land falling into the Government of New York (which were Granted by his late Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r) your Petitioner being very desirous of being under the Jurisdiction and Government of the Province of New Hampshire—

Your Petitioner therefore in behalf of himself and associates—

Humbly Requests

That your
Excellency and Honours would be pleased to grant unto him and them a Certain Tract of Land Lying on the North side of Connecticut River adjoining to Haverhill in Cohoss granted by his late Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r by the name of the Township of Bath, which said Grant is become void and the same Reverts and is forfeited. because the Grantees never Performed the Conditions of said Grant or Charter. there being not more than five or six family's on said Town and no Prospect of Increasing—

In case your Excellency and Honours should be Pleased to Grant the Prayer of this Petition—

on Condition your Petitioner and associates give proper Security to those already settled on said Township he and they as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Jacob Bayley

Preferred 8th September 1768

Oct^o 19th 1768 Granted on the Terms stipulated in the Petition

[2-2]

Memrandom

account of what Families there is in the Township of Bath
Improvements

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lt. Richardson Two Sons & Famaly | 10 acers cleared land |
| Lt. Sawyer Two Sons & Famaly | 20 acers |
| John Sawyer & Famaly | 7 acers |

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Moose Pike & Family | 5 acers |
| Andrew Gardner & Family | 4 acers |
| Daniel Been & Family | } 25 acers |
| Enoch Hall & Family | |
| Samuel Martain one Son & Family | 10 acers |

the Single Men in Bath

W^m Belnaps

Luther Richardson

Jacob Pratt

W^m Dodge

Robert Bedel

Deliverance Sawyer

The names of Sundry Persons now improving in the Township of Bath lodged in the Secretarys office by M^r Andrew Gardner the 25th Oct 1768

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Samuel Whittemore | Daniel Jones Esq |
| | Elijah Wells |
| | Josiah Jones |
| | John Arms |
| | Thomas Baker |

[2-3] [*Proceedings of Town-meeting, 1777.*]

At A Legall meeting held at the House of Cap^t Oliver Sanders in the Township of Bath on monday the 3^d Day of february one thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven acted as followeth (viz)

1st Choose M^r Elisha Cleaveland moderator

2^{ly} Chose Col Timothy Bedel Committe man

3^{ly} Voted the Committe M^r Elisha Cleaveland Col Timothy Bedel M^r william Eastman Capt Sammuel Titus Should Be our Committee to act in Conjuncun with the united Committee of the County of grafton whose meeting now Stands ajurned to the 13th of february to Be Held at Lebanon, this Town acknowledging the Letter from the Assembly Committee of this Stat and refer them to our Committee for an answer which are to act in Conjunction with the united Committe of grafton County at their above ajurnd metting and that the above Vote Be transmitted to the Assemblies Committee as quick as may Be

test

Aaron Bailey

Clerk

of s^d meeting

[2-4]

Bath June the 8th 1779

Esq. King sur it is the Desier of us the selecmen for S^d Bath that you would Draw a Petition and sine it or git some one to sine it in our behalf to the General assembly seting forth that we are over Rated as it may Be seen by the invoice and by the information that we hear give as folors that more than one half of the inhabitance of this town Do not Rais thare provision and are abligd to work for it by the Day in other towns and tharefor unabel to cultivate thare one lands and many have no land attole beside the fortogs of the war who have mose of us ben mor or les in the war for sence the commencement of the war and many widows by Reson of war so that we have many orphins to maintain and also that we are a frunteer place whear we have often ben cold out in Scouts &c &c

from your humble sarvants

Elisha Cleaveland
Samuel Titus

[2-5]

The Ratable Estate of the Inhabitants of Bath Exclusive of thare Wild Land as it is in April 1779

Heds 29 Oxen 18 Cows 41 3 year olds 12 2 year olds 27 1 year olds 11 horses 13 mowing & plowing land 137

Bath June the 8th 1779 then parcinably appeared Elisha Cleaveland and Sam Titus selecmen for Bath and solomly gave thare attest to the above invose to Just according to the best of thare Judgment

Befor me David Weeks } town
Clerk

[2-6]

[*Remonstrance concerning Doomage.*]

To the Hon^{bl} the Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Concord in S^d State on the third Wednesday of Instant Dec^r

Humbly sheweth

We petitioners Proprietors and other Inhabitants of the Towns of Bath Landaff Lyman Concord alias Gunthwait and Apthorp in the County of Grafton and State afores^d that at the Commencement of the late Revolution the said Towns had very few settlers, and the most part of them were very poor Notwithstanding they sem^d willing and ambitious to turn out in Defence of the Country and the most of the Inhabitants of one or more of s^d Towns Did actually turn out the first of the war some of which Died in the service some others Continued in the war until the close thereof &c. that they have Hired scouts to Reconnoiter the woods on the frontier at a great Ex-

pense and also Built a Number of forts for a Retreat in Case of an Invasion; all of which with many other services are not Recon^d as any part of our proportion of the Expence of the late war as your Petitioners are Inform^d, that we have not had the order of Cort to make Returns and Never Knew the method by Reason of not having any Representation that by mean of which we have been Doom^d and if obliged to pay according to their Doomage their whole Estates are not sufficient to pay the Debt

Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Honours to take the matter into your wise and serious Consideration and grant such Redress of grievances as may seem Just—

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c
John Young
 in behalf of said Petitioners

Dec^r 12th 1783

[2-7] [*Vote of Town concerning Paper Money.*]

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Bath held on November 21st A D. 1786 agreeable to both Branches of the Legislature on the 14 Septem—1786 for emitting a bank of paper Money—

Voted to reject the plan of the sub-committee for emitting paper Money. No. of votes against Said plan Eighteen. No. of for Said plan, none.

and the following plan was adopted Viz to emit so much paper Money as will Call in all the publick Securites that is against the state and that said Money be a sinking fund to run out in twenty years, to sink Six pence in every twenty shillings at the end of every six months, and to be atender in all Cases.

No. of votes for it Seventeen

One vote not to have it a tender only for Debts hereafter Contracted

Bath 21st November 1786

Jeremiah Hutchins } Select
 Ezra Child } men of
 Henry Hancock } Bath.

2-7½ [*Report of Committee on Allowance for Soldiers.*]

State of }
 New Hamp } In the House of Representatives June 22, 1786

The Committee on the petition of Ezra Child agent for Bath. Reported that the Town of Bath be credited & allowed the

sum of Seventy Two pounds for one Sam^l Parker, Matross in the third Artillery Regiment, not allowed to any Town in this State—and that they be allowed and abated out of their outstanding Taxes the sum of Forty pounds in full of their accounts for services in Scouting, building of Forts, and for Alarms &c, in the late war—That all Taxes up to the valuation taken in 1783—be laid on the land, in said Town exclusive of the Polls & other ratable Estate in the way & manner provided by a Resolution of the Gen^l Court in march last, and that the petitioners be heard before the Gen^l Court some day in the next Session respecting the Taxing the lands of Nonresidents for making & repairing highways Sign'd E. Payne for the Committee—which report being read & considered—Voted, that it be received & accepted, and that the petitioners cause that the substance of the petition respecting said Tax & order of Court thereon be published three weeks Successively in one of the New Hampshire News papers that any person or persons may then appear & shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer thereof may not be granted—

Sent up for Concurrence

John Sparkawk Speaker P. T.

In Senate June 24th 1786 read & concurred except the Forty pounds for building forts &c

J Pearson Sec^y

[2-8] [*Enoch Bartlett against Taxing the Non-Resident Land.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and Representatives of the State of New Hampshire now assembled at Charlestown in Said State.

The petition or Memorial of Enoch Bartlet in behalf of himself and others who are Nonresident proprietors of the township of Bath in Said State humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner was ever willing to pay his just proportion of all public charges, and having a due sense of the favour intended by the legislators to the proprietors of new towns by directing that all taxes and assessments on their lands, Should (unless known) be taxed in the name of the original Proprietors and that the taxes Should be loged in An office in Exeter now kept by M^r. Odiorn where the proprietors might on notice given pay their Several assessments—and I also acknowledge their favours toward the town of Bath by waiting So long. But we are informed by M^r Odiorn who has advertised an assessment, that the lands in the town of Bath are not asses^d in the name of the original Proprietors but according to their

number by Lotts and Ranges which has prevented many from paying them under the present Situation of Said town; and we would also inform your Honors that the affairs of Said town are in a very perplex'd Situation; and that the town was first granted to one Gardner and others in December 1762 in 68 equal Shares, and was called about Six miles Square or 23500 acres; But at present according to its boundaries and plan it does not contain 21000. And Said first proprietors laid out the town and a first division lot of 100 acres to each right, and voted at Sundry times that to the N^o of 34 of the proprietors might enter pitch their rights and clear lands—till they had many Settlers in the town, when the then Governor of the province arbitrarily excluded the greatest part of the proprietors of Said first grant and Issued a new grant to his favorites and others to be divided among s^d 100 Sharers in that Scanty town, by which a 68th part was allowed to 26 only who had Settled, and the town on division was found to contain but 260 acres to a first Setler and 160 acres to other Sharers with a remainder of about 1600 acres of common lands to be divided in that proportion and that the township and lotts were laid out accordingly in 1770 but was never allotted to each proprietor. But the proprietors have since in 1770; 1772 and 1773 voted that they who should pitch their lots and cut down 5 acres on 100 acre lot or 3 on a 60 acre lot by a certain day or till December 1773, in one year, Should have those lots: and that no right has been given Since to pitch any Lot; yet we find that in 1775 there was about 20 lots entred by the Clerk as pitched lots and that some of them were on lots pitched in 1773 for which the duty was done, and that since 1775 they have freely entred and fraudulently pitched on all the best Lots in Said Town, and in a very perplex'd Situation when the town was taxed for all arrearage for Many years past when the Settlers to cover their frauds, when application was partially and artfully made to the General Court and by a misrepresentation of the case (as I apprehend) Procured (as they Say) a resolve of Said Court on the first day of March 1786 directing the Select men of Bath to tax their Unimprov'd lands by Lots—whereby they cautiously endeavored to exempt all their pitch'd lots and intrusions by improvements (tho' Illegally obtained) from being sold or coming to a just allotment among the proprietors and thereby destroy all right of redemption by law as it cannot be known to whom their lands was sold; And it may be Queried whether we can expect to fare better if we Shall pay our taxes on our rights in the name of the original proprietors and whether we can expect to have any other lots than the refuse of the whole town for our Share.

And tho I have Six rights in Said town that I purchased according to the first Charter and need not complain on that

account, yet I know that there are many complaints made by the original proprietors of that and other towns against the arbitrary proceedings of the late Governor and their exclusion without any process by law against them, The validity of which may yet be determined by an action at Law or Quieted by the power of the General Court; and as the taxes in the town of Bath are equal to about Six mill'd Dollars, on such last granted rights; it would be very hard on them to pay such taxes unless their title is confirmed.

Wherefore we pray your Honors to take the matter into your wise consideration and if thought needful to Disanul Said resolve of the first of March 1786 and afford us such further relief as you may think best.—I do not move in the affair for any delay of payment but that the town which have been much embarrassed and have neglected to draw their lots for many years and even till they are in danger of loosing them for the taxes; may have time to warn a meeting and make a proper enquiry what Lotts are legally pitched and to make a draught or appropriation of the remaining lots to the Several proprietors with their proportions of the common lands.—and I hope that the title of the lands may be more fully ascertained soon. And as our wise legislators have been so good as to favour us for more than ten years; I also hope they will yet wait till our Lotts are drawn, or till our difficulties may be removed; as the town will ever be able to pay taxes or make good the damages, and I as in Duty bound will ever pray

Enoch Bartlet

[2-9] [*Relative to legalizing the sale of Lots for Taxes, &c.*]

To the Honorable Senate & House of representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court to be convened at Portsmouth on the fourth wednesday of December 1789

Humbly sheweth the Selectmen of Bath in said State, that said Town hath been twice granted & that the land is chiefly laid out into lots, but the lots are not appropriated amongst either of the grantees & the selectmen knows not to what rights either the settled or unsettled lots belong, nor do they know the owners of but very few of the lots, as some may doubtless have bad titles & some none at all, and many who have deeds of lots cannot affix their lots to any particular right, as they mention only the number & range of the lot: for which reasons it hath hitherto been utterly impossible for the selectmen to assess a tax either upon the proprietors or owners of the lots, as the law directs. Wherefore the selectmen some years past petitioned the

General Court setting forth their difficulties & praying that some method might be pointed out to enable them to assess & collect the outstanding taxes charged against said Town whereupon the General Court in March 1786 passed a resolve directing that the unimproved lands should be taxed by the number & range of the lots, the law notwithstanding, and that all the outstanding taxes should be assessed in one bill, distinguishing each years tax by itself—In obedience whereto the then selectmen immediately made & committed a tax bill to the constable with a warrant for collecting the same accordingly—A copy of which bill the constable sent to Mr Odiorne & had published in due form and said taxes not being paid said constable proceeded to advertise the lots of the delinquents for sale—Whereupon Major Enoch Bartlet of Haverhill in the Massachusetts in behalf of himself & other prop^{rs} of said Bath petitioned the General Court praying that said resolve might be disannulled & thereupon the Gen^l Court on the 8th day of February 1788 (a considerable part of said taxes not being then collected) passed a vote that, “ all sales of non resident lands (in said Bath) be stayed until the decision of said Court ” which decision hath not yet been had—And said vote or order hath hitherto utterly prevented said Constable from proceeding any further in collecting said tax—And altho said Constable had paid a considerable part of said tax into the treasury yet notwithstanding all the foregoing premises, extents for the remainder have diverse times been issued against said town & they have been obliged to pay large sums for sheriff's fees upon them.—

And an extent now lays in the officer's hands against them, & they are every day liable to be committed to gaol or have their property seized & disposed of thereby; and all as they humbly conceive, with out any wilful or criminal default of theirs; they having no controul over said proprietors; there being but few if any in said town, they think they ought not to suffer for their neglect or misconduct Wherefore your petitioners pray your Honors that some way may be devised for their redress; so that the remainder of said taxes may be collected by authority of law & that they may not be obliged to pay the same out of their own estates, or their bodies be imprisoned while the same authority that orders out the extent, prohibits the collection of the tax—

Your petitioners beg leave further to represent that toward the latter part of the year 1787 the Constable of Bath published the sale of the delinquent lands in the Freeman's Oracle instead of the Gazette owing to the general report in this distant part of the State that the clause of the law confining such advertisements to the Gazette was repealed by the General Court at their session in June preceeding & that the Citizens of the State were

at liberty to improve what printer they pleased or could be the easiest come at—

That by the sales of land under that advertisement a considerable part of the taxes were collected & paid into the Treasury: And your petitioners are fearful that great & insurmountable difficulties may arise on account of said mistake, That all the trouble & charges will be lost, That the Town will be obliged to refund all the money that hath been collected by such sale—That the purchasers will lose their expected advantage in laying out their money & the Constable exposed to many harrassing suits upon the deeds he hath given, unless sales can be established—

Wherefore your petitioners pray your Honors to take their case into your wise consideration, & establish the sale of such lands as legal & valid—or otherwise grant your petitioners relief in the premises as in your great wisdom may appear wisest & best & your petitioners as in duty bounds shall ever pray &c

| | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Henry Hancock | } | Selectmen of said Bath |
| Jeremiah Hutchins | | |

Bath December }
15th 1789 }

—

[2-10] [*Memorial of Daniel Bayley relative to Selling Non-resident Land for Taxes.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the hon^l Gen^l Court to be convened at Concord on the first
wednesday of June 1791—

Humbly Sheweth Daniel Bayley of Bath in s^d State, That s^d Town of Bath has been twice Granted That the General Court in order to relieve the inhabitants of s^d Bath from many inconveniences in Collecting Taxes which they were subjected to by means of s^d Town having been twice Granted as aforesaid; on the first day of March 1786 passed a Resolve directing the Collection in a different way & manner to that by law pointed out for collecting Taxes—That doubts have arisen whither s^d Resolve can Supercede the law for collecting Taxes.—

That your Petitioner was Constable for s^d Bath for the year 1788 and not in the smallest degree doubting until of late the force, power and virtue of s^d Resolve & relying that no difficulty could arise in collecting the Taxes of s^d year, paid into the Treasury of his own money; with what small sum he could collect from the inhabitants all the Specie part of this Tax for

s^d Bath for s^d year and a very considerable part of the paper Tax—& has caused the Lands to be Advertized by the State Collector according to law—that inasmuch as s^d Tax was made by the Selectmen of s^d Bath agreeably to said Resolve, your Petitioner is in doubt whither he will be safe in selling the Lands of the nonresident owners, for the payment of a Tax made by force of s^d resolve—

Therefore your Petitioner prays your Honorable body to take his case & the case of s^d Town in General respecting levying & collecting Taxes, into your wise & serious consideration and Grant them such Relief as the nature of their case may require, so far as may appear just and reasonable & your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Daniel Bayley

Bath May 17th 1791—

[The matter was referred to a committee, who reported as follows :—ED.]

[2-10½] [*Report of Committee on Bayley's Petition.*]

Your committee upon the petition of Daniel Bayley in behalf of himself & the Town of Bath, having considered the prayer of said petition, beg leave to state the following facts as they appear to your committee Viz. That the said Township is chiefly laid out into lots the greater part of which are unimproved & belong to non-residents That the proprietors have not appropriated the lots in said Town to particular rights—so that the settlers know not to what particular rights their lots belong & know them only by the number of the lots & the ranges & therefore the selectmen cannot tax the lots of non-residents to the owners—because they are not appropriated—For which reasons the selectmen have never been able to make a tax according to the present laws of this state—which require that the taxes on the unimproved lands of non-residents, shall be set either to the owners thereof or to the original right to which they are appropriated—That under the foregoing circumstances the said Town have not been able to collect their taxes from the unimproved lands of non-residents for more than ten years past, neither are they now able to collect them—That some relief ought to be afforded them by this Court. This committee therefore report as their opinion that the most expedient way to grant them & others that may be in like circumstances, redress, will be to pass an act in addition to an act now in force, directing the mode for assessing & collecting taxes upon the un-

improved lands of non-residents—Impowering the selectmen for the time being to levy & assess all the outstanding taxes against their respective towns & places, not already assessed as the law directs in one tax bill, distinguishing each years tax by itself and commit the same with a proper warrant, directing the collectors for the time being, to collect the same—and the said selectmen shall set a just proportion of said taxes upon the buildings & unimproved lands owned by non-residents both for state and county taxes—And in case neither the owners of said lands, nor the rights to which they belong shall be known by said selectmen it shall be lawful to assess said taxes by the number & range of the lots or other known & particular description—And said collector shall proceed in all respects to notify & advertize said taxes & the sales of said lands, vendues conveying, &c as in & by said act is directed—and the same mode in the redemption shall also be observed. * * * *

Sanford Kingsbury

[The committee also recommended that a vote be passed directing the treasurer to return to Mr. Bayley the amount he had paid in out of his own money. The report was accepted, and a bill ordered to be brought in accordingly.—Ed.]

[2-11] [*Petition of Stephen Couch for Assistance to Build Iron Works.*]

To the Hon^{bl} the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened—

Humbly Shews Stephen Couch of Bath in the County of Grafton & State aforesaid that at his own risque & expence he has erected works for the manufactory of Iron conveniently situated in the vicinity where he lives, and within the said works has already manufactured Iron which proves of a quality superior to any ever made within this State, and for the necessary uses to which Iron is appropriated within this State, equal perhaps to any in the world. That the expence of bringing the said works even to their present utility has been great, and to perfect them will cost considerable more. The utility of said works to this State when perfected, if properly attended to, will be very great, particularly to the Inhabitants of the County of Grafton who are obliged at a great expence to transport their Iron from Sister States, whereas the money yearly paid therefor, might be saved in our own State; and the purchaser besides will obtain his Iron at a reduced price.—That within a

Short distance from his said Works there is the best of Iron Ore in great abundance, and in various places. That the expence however of carrying on the business, even after the completion of the Works, is greater than the pecuniary resources of your Petitioner will afford without the greatest inconvenience to himself and family. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honors (having hitherto been totally unassisted in this expensive & arduous undertaking) to grant him the use of the sum of One thousand pounds for the term of Ten years free from Interest, your Petitioner giving Bond with good sufficient Surities for the repayment of said sum to the Treasurer of this State, or to his Successor in said Office, at the expiration of said Term; and that so much of said sum as is necessary for the completion of said Works shall be appropriated for that purpose. Or that your Honors would pass an Act Authorizing a Lottery under such Managers as your Honors may see proper to appoint for the raising of said Sum to be by them paid over to your Petitioner for the purpose aforesaid, he giving Bond in manner aforesaid. It is to the Patronizers of useful Arts and whatever may redound to the Public good that your Petitioner applies for assistance. The yearly Interest of One thousand pounds is comparatively trifling when put in competition with the benefit that will yearly redound to the State from said Iron Works. And if your Honors shall see proper to raise said Sum by Lottery it will in fact reduce nothing from the Treasury of this State nor burthen any Person. The purchasers of Tickets will some of them be the Public Spirited, and the rest, those will be benefited by the Works of your Petitioner. But if your Honors shall suppose the Sum within your Petitioners Request more than ought to be Loaned to him, or shall suppose the means aforesaid not the best that may be devised for his assistance, Your Petitioner, in that case begs leave to pray your Honors to take his case under your wise consideration & grant him in some other way such other assistance as shall seem to your Honors most proper, and your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray—

Stephen Couch.

Portsmouth 4th Nov^r 1797

B E D F O R D .

This town was one of the Massachusetts grants of 1733, made to the surviving soldiers of the King Philip war, including deceased soldiers' heirs, and was called Narraganset No. 5, also Souhegan East, and was under the

government of that Province, until the settlement of the line in 1741. It was incorporated by the government of New Hampshire, May 19, 1750, and named in honor of the Duke of Bedford, who was at that time secretary of state in the government of George the Second, and for many years Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

The first settler was a man named Stebbins, from Braintree, Mass., in 1736. Robert and James Walker settled in 1737, and Matthew and Samuel Patten the year following. The settlers from that time on were principally Scotch Presbyterians, usually called Scotch-Irish, because they or their ancestors emigrated to this country from the province of Ulster, in the north part of Ireland. The following are the names of Bedford men who served in the "French wars:" Col. John Goffe, William McDougal, George Orr, Robert Holmes, Thomas McLaughlin, Samuel Patterson, James Patterson, Nathaniel Patterson, John Orr, and John Moor, the latter being taken prisoner at Fort William Henry, and carried to France.

Among the leading men of the town was Col. John Goffe, who was born in Boston in 1701, came to this town from Londonderry, and settled at the place now known as Goffe's Falls—a man of commanding presence, and an able military officer. He was in command of a scouting party of forty-four men, in April and May, 1746;* was an officer in 1757, at which time he joined the army under General Webb at Albany; commanded a regiment raised by New Hampshire, under General Amherst in Canada, in 1760; was at Ticonderoga in 1761, and at Fort William Henry when it was surrendered. He was too old to take an active part in the Revolution, but was a member of the town com-

*[The following is a list of the names of the men composing the party, as copied from the original roll, recently presented to the state by Hon. Frederick Chase, of Hanover:

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| John Goffe Com'd | Josiah heath | James Vance |
| Nath'l Smith Liet. | Sam'l Heath | William McAdams |
| Phillip flanders Sarg't | abner Wheeler | thomas Rodgers |
| W'm Walker Sarg't | nath'l watts | Robert alexander |
| Corp Phillip Kimball | Josiah Kent | William McKen |
| C. James Sticknee | Solom'n goodwin | James Anderson |
| Cl'r Sam'l Harriman | Edm'd Morse | Joseph Calf |
| Cent's Ezekiel Diamond | Jonath'n Stevens | John Sargent |
| humphrey Clough | Lemuel tucker | William Craford |
| Sam'l Goald | Ebener. Martin | Joseph Mcferson |
| John harvey | John Johnson | Sam'l Boys |
| tho's Greenfield | thomas wyman | John Cromey |
| Jon'a Currier | Benoni Rowell | William Rodgers |
| Stephen flood | John hastings | James Gregg |
| Jos : Gile | halbert Morrison | James mcCormick |

They were out about 25 days.—ED.]

mittee of safety in 1778; was appointed judge of probate of Hillsborough county on its formation in 1771, and held the office until 1776. He died about 1789. His daughter, Hannah, married Thomas Chandler, and their grandson, Samuel, born May 28, 1774, married Margaret, daughter of Hon. John Orr; they had seven children, one of whom was the late Senator Zachariah Chandler, who was born in Bedford, December 10, 1813, and moved to Detroit, Mich., in 1833.

[R. 64] [*John Moor's Petition, Soldier, 1757.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq, Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire. The Honorable his Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened.

The Humble Petition of John Moor Jun^r of Bedford in the Province aforesaid *Humbly Shews*. That he Inlisted a Soldier in Captain Richard Emery's Comp^y, the Eighth of March A. D. 1757. Was Taken Captive, at Fort William Henry, from there Carried to Montreal, from there to Quebeck, there Lay Seven Weeks of the Small-pox, from thence sent to Old France, There Confined in the Goal & Hospital, Ten Months, from there Sent to Old England, from thence Transported to New York.—Before I got on Shore pressed on board a man of war, from there to Cape Britain, from there to Quebeck, from there To Boston, & the first Day of Nov^r 1759, Had Liberty (as a sick man) to return home, from the time I was taken Captive untill this Day, I have not received one peny from King or Contry, & Lost Sundry Things by the Enemy as will appear by the annexed acc^t & Suffered too many hardships to be Here Enumerated—For all which, Time, Loss & Suffering, Your Petitioner prays Such recompense as in your great wisdom & Usual Clemency you think Sufficient, & your Petitioner, as in Duty bound will ever pray,

John Moor

Nov^r 20th A. D. 1759.

Taken from me by the enemy at Fort William Henry—a Good Gun—Good Coat, a West-coat, a Good Shirt & breches, Shoes & Stockings, a Hatt—

John Moor

Sworn to before Mathew Thornton Justice of Peace

[In council, January 10, 1760, read, and sent down to the assembly.

In H. of Rep., next day, voted to allow John Moor £127-10, new tenor in full for this petition. Council concurred, and Governor Wentworth "consented" to it.—ED.]

[202] [*Communication Relative to Counties, 1769.*]

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Capt. General Gov^r &c. of the Province of New Hampshire The Honourable his Majestys Council and General Assembly of said Province—

We the Inhabitants of Bedford in said Province Return our most Hearty thanks to your Excellency and Honours for the wise and Prudent Measures you have taken in Dividing this Province into Countys Especially the Middle County the particular lines whereof it appears to us were formed by natural ones And we doubt not but this County have ability sufficient to Defray the Necessary Charges of the same Notwithstanding anything that may be made to the Contrary. We therefore beg that no alteration may be made That nothing may be added or taken from this County That is so beautifully formed and we as in Duty bound will ever pray

Bedford April 12th 1769.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Math ^w Patten | John Goffe Jr. | James Walker |
| Obahdiah Marsh | John Clark | John Moor |
| Richard Ward | Robart Morall | ffrancis Barnett |
| Nathaniel petterson | Math ^w Little | Hugh Morrell |
| Sam ^l Patten | Sam ^l Vose | Hugh Campbel |
| John Aiken | James Caldwell | Robart Gillmor |
| Thomas murdough | John mcLaughlin | John Gillmor |
| Daniel Moor | Junr. | James Gillmor |
| Joseph Scobey | Richard m ^c allster | Samuel Patterson |
| John moor 2 ^d | Joseph wallace | James Patterson |
| John Wallace | James Vose | Wil ^m Caldwell |
| William Boys | Charles Black | William Moor |
| Robart Matthes | Thomas wallace | William White |
| James Matthes | William averill | Moses Barron |
| William Holms | Thomas Boice | Robert Walker |
| forgees Kennedy | William White Jr. | James Aiken |
| Sam ^l moor | James Little | John Brown |
| John m ^c Kinney | Daniel m ^c kinney | Jonathan Currier |
| Gan Ridell | Joseph Houston | |

[R. 66] [*Bedford Soldiers, 1775 and 1776.*]

This is to certify that the men whose names are hereunto annexed (being Taxed in the Town of Bedford) Did Serve as Soldiers in the Continental army in the year 1775 and also this present year and that their poll Tax to the Colony for the year 1775 was Two Shillings per man,—the names of the men above mentioned are William Barnett, Jonas Cutting, John Callahan, Thomas M^cCleary, Thomas Ennglish, Patrick Fling, John Goffe, Calvin Johnson, Hugh Matthews, Joseph matthews, James Moore, patrick murphy, John Manahan, William Newman, James Orr, John Oniel, John patten.

Given under our hands this 18th day of September 1776.

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| John Goffe | } Select Men |
| Daniel Moor | |
| John Orr | |

[R. 67, 68] [*Abstract of John Goffe's Petition, 1778.*]

[Under date November 3, 1778, John Goffe states that he went on horseback in the expedition against Rhode Island, and lost his horse and saddle, which property was prized by John Griffin, Stephen French, and Samuel Moor—the horse at £45, and saddle at £9—and asks to be paid therefor.—ED.]

[R. 69] [*Abstract of Robert Morrill's Petition, 1779.*]

[Robert Morrill states, in a petition dated March 13, 1779, that he has been in the service nearly two years for the town of Bedford, left a wife in said town, and the town will not do much for her subsistence; wants something done about it.—ED.]

[203] [*Petition of Goffe and Martin, 1778.*]

To the Hon^l Council and Hous of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire the Humble Petiton of John Goffe Esq^r and James Martin—Selectmen and Committee of Safety for the Town of Bedford Humbly Sheweth Whereas your Petitoners having Attempted to Putt an act of the Hono^l Court into force are Involved in the Law We Pray you would take this

Our Cause into Consideration and Defend the Same and your
Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

Bedford Nov^r the 3 1778

John Goffe James Martin

[205]

[*Petition of John Goffe, 1779.*]

To the Hono^l Council and House of Representatives of the
State of New Hampshire.—

The Humble Petision of John Goffe Esq^r in said State *Humbly Sheweth*—Whereas at the Begining of the Present War the Congress thought it Necessary to Pass severall Resolves thereby Impowering the Commitees of Safety and Selectmen and other Town officers to apprehend and take up all Persons Suspected of Being Enemical to this Country. also to stop and secure all supplies of all kind of stores which they suspected to be going to our Enemies, to which Resolves this State Did Conform, and Passed maney other Additional Acts of the Like Nature.

And by Vertue of which acts of Congress they have done maney things for the Benefit of the People in stopping of Cattle and Grain and all other Sorts of stores that ware Driving and Carring to the Enemy—also in apprehending and Confining maney Persons that ware Enemical or Supposed to be Enemical to this Country—But at Length the Court thinking fit to Establish the Original Laws of this Land in its Primitive Purity whereby these former Commitees and other officers are Liable to be tryed by a course of Law, and some are actually engaged and maney others Exposed to be Brought in Question for their former Complying with those Resolves of Congress and acts of this State,

All which your Petitioner Desireth you would take Into your wise Consideration, and Pass some Act to Prevent these Troubles which impending over the Good People of this State.

also your Petitioner Humbly Sheweth that their is Maney Persons in almost Every town in this State that have shewed an unfriendly Disposition to the Cause of America in this Present war and they are still allowed to Sett in our Juries in Courts of Judicature By which means maney of our Caises that Belong to the State are in Danger of Being Lost and maney other Injuries done to the Good People of this State. Therefore your Petitioner Desireth that the Towns be ordered to Purge the Jury boxes of all such Suspected Persons—and likewise that all Juries of Tryal Shall first take the Oath of Alegance to these States Before they be allowed To Try aney Caises that be Brought before them—All which your Petitioner Humbly Pray-

eth May be provided for as you in your Great Wisdom Shall think fit.—and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Every Pray

John Goffe

Bedford March 8th Day A. D. 1779—

[I fail to find that any action was taken on the above. The following will explain Col. Goffe's grievance:—ED.]

[206]

To the Hon Council & House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire held at Exeter—The Petition of Maj^r John Goffe of Bedford Humbly Sheweth that in the Beginning of the contest with Great Britain and the Colonies, I thought it my Duty to take the part of my Country and to Defend it against all its opposers to the utmost of my Power even to Life and Fortune and I knew that we could not stand against such a powefull an Enemy without Strict Adherence of the People in General to the orders of Congress & the Laws of this State & the Town Making choice of me with others to take up all Suspected Persons that Did not conform to the Laws of the State I thought it my Duty to see the Laws & orders of this State put in Execution & Many complaints being made to me of Michal Dolton & John O. Dobbin going about the Country Buying up all the Cattle, and Hay & Grain, that they could Get at any Price & about this time there came an Law from this Court to stop such Proceedings. Except such as had a Permit from the Committee of Safety of some Town or of the State. I then proceeded as I thought agreeable to that Law and finding that they Defied the Authority of that act. I applied to this Honourable Court for Direction in that cace but Got no other but to try the Law out.

But I finding a Faitier in the Law I thought it Best to Let him have the oxen again & so I did but soon after he Brought A writ against me for Trespass but I Thought it my Duty to Defend the Honour of the States Law, and have Been held from Court to Court for the space of Three years to my Great cost & Damage & at Last said Dolton has Recovered Judgment against me for the sum of 888 £ & I Pray your Honours would take it into your wise consideration and Judge whither Individu- als ought to suffer for your Misdating of your Law or not, and I Pray your Honours would make some Restitution for my cost & Damage as you in your Wisdom shall think fit & as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Bedford March 3^e 14th A. D. 1781.

John Goffe

[R. 71] [*Abstract of Lieut. John Orr's Petition, 1779.*]

[In a petition dated March 22, 1779, Lieut. John Orr, of Bedford, states that he was wounded in an engagement on the 16th of August, 1777, near Bennington, and by reason of said wound was detained there until the next February, when he hired "Capt. John Parker who was there with a sley and span of Horses to bring him home to said Bedford;" that Capt. Parker charged him £31-19-4, which he wants the state to pay.

Allowed by the committee.

Lieut. Orr was in Capt. McConnell's Co., Col. Stickney's Reg't, was on half-pay roll, by virtue of report of a committee, in which the council concurred March 4, 1778. (R. 70.) He petitions again, January 6, 1781, stating that "by reason of the rapid Depreciation of our paper currency your petitioners half-pay has been vastly insufficient to Countervail the Damage sustained by the wound;" that he was confined to his bed in July and August, and had to employ Doctor Kittridge, to whom he paid one hundred and eighty-five pounds eight shillings, for which he wanted an order on the treasurer. (R. 73.) And again, June 23d, 1781, stating that he has not received all of his half-pay; that he is indebted to the confiscated estate of Stephen Holland, and wants the collection of it from him postponed until he gets his pension.—ED.]

[R. 74] [*Relative to James Bell, Soldier, 1782.*]

[In a petition, dated March 15, 1782, James Bell, of Bedford, states that he "entered into the service of this Country at the Commencement of Hostilities at Lexington, and became an Inlisted soldier in the Continental service, and Continued in that service for the space of three years & nine months;" that while he was absent in said service the justices of the inferior court of common pleas for Hillsborough county rendered judgment against him by default, in an action in favor of William Gordon, which he believes to be "Contrary to a Resolution of the General Assembly of New Hampshire passed the 19th of Sept, 1776, for the benefit of soldiers in actual service." He asks to have said judgment set aside. (R. 75) In support of his claim he introduces a deposition of Simeon Foster, of Hollis, who

testifies that "he was a soldier in the Continental Army in January 1778," and knew "that James Bell was at that time a soldier in the Continental Army." (R. 76) And also one of Capt. Thos. Burkmar, of Shirley, who testifies "that I saw James Bell a Continental Soldier at the White Planes at the oupnen of the Camppan in the year of our Lord 1778;" that he endeavored to obtain a furlough for Bell to go home to attend a lawsuit, but did not succeed.—ED.]

[207] [*Vote of Town relative to Lawsuits.*]

State of New Hampshire Oct. A. D. 1782.

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives To be
Convened at Exeter on the Second Tuesday of November
Next.—

We your Humble Petitioners beg Leave to lay before this Hon^{ble} House our Grievances Respecting the Numerous Lawsuits that are Daily Commencing among us for Private Debts and Nothing but hard Money will Satisfy Said Debts which is not among us and by that Reason our Cattle and other Movable Estate must be Sold to Pay Debt and Cost at vendue for Perhaps one Tenth Part their Real value.—THEREFORE your Petitioners Humbly Prays that you in your wisdom would make and Enact Some Law whereby Creditors may Receive their full value (from Debtors) in specific articles or this or the United States Security and that no Creditor Have leave to Commence any action for Debt until He Shall have made a Proper Demand on the Debtor for the Same Which we think will Prevent much Unnecessary Cost which we Suppose Hath been for this year Past at Least Equal to the Support of the Publick War we are Engaged in and finding ourselves Entirely unwilling to Support So many Gentlemen of the Law to the Entire Destruction of this State is One Principal Cause of this our Petition—We also pray your Honors That the Journals of the House of Representatives may be Printed and Sent to the Respective towns within this State, to the Intent we may know what we Pay our Money for—*Your Compliance* will greatly oblige your Humble Petitioners and they as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c.—

At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Bedford held at said Bedford on Thursday the Thirty-first Day of October A. D. 1782. The above Petition being Read and the Contents thereof Duly Considered in Meeting Vote (Nemine

Contradicente) That the Same be Considered as the Petition of said town of Bedford and be forwarded to the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives as Such.

Attest

Thomas McLaughlin Town Clk.

[209]

Bedford Aug. 27, 1783.

Wednesday Aug. 27. Town Meeting—The following Questions were put—

Qⁿ Do you approve of any alteration of the Eighth Article of confederation of the 13 United States

Voted in the negative—

Qⁿ Is it your Minds that the Representative of Bedford govern himself by this Vote.

Voted in the affirmative—

A true Copy from the Records of Bedford

by John Rand Town Clark

To Lieut John Orr.

[208]

State of New Hampshire Hillsborough ss.

Bedford Dec. 13, 1783.

Pursuant to a Vote of the House of Representatives on Nov. 5 last—we have numbered the male Poles of 21 years old & upward, paying Pole Tax for themselves, the number of which is one hundred & thirty eight—

John Rand } Select Men
John Wallace } of Bedford

Bedford Dec. 16, 1783.

The Justice of the Peace of Bedford is not at home & there is no passing at Goffes Ferry therefore we send this without making oath to it, but are ready to do opportunity offering.

John Rand

John Wallace

Select Men—

[R. 77] [*Abstract of Samuel Fugard's Petition, 1784.*]

[In a petition from Samuel Fugard, of Bedford, dated June 8, 1784, he states that he was a soldier in the war in the first New Hampshire regiment, "and on account of the Asthma & being worn out in long service your Petitioner was discharged from the service of the United States, & a Certificate given him by his Excellency General Washington Esq^r showing that he was entitled to the Provision

made by Congress in such Cases, By their Resolve of April 22, 1782." He says that he has not received what said resolve entitles him to, and asks to have the same granted to him.

James Martin, representative from Bedford and Merrimack, certifies to the truth of Fugard's statement.

In H. of Rep., February 23, 1785, it was voted that he be enrolled in the invalid list and paid accordingly.—ED.]

[R. 78]

[In December, 1791, Abigail Fugard states that her husband, Samuel Fugard, is dead, leaving her with a family of children unable to support themselves; that for the time between July 31, 1888, and March 4, 1789, no pension was paid him, and asks that it may be paid to her.—ED.]

[R. 79] [*Petition relative to Soldiers sent to Coös, 1785.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} The Senate and House of Representatives to be convened at Portsmouth The first Wednesday in June Next.

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Bedford in said State *Humbly Sherweth* That in the year 1782 the said Town of Bedford was Required by the Said State to send two men as Soldiers to Coohas whereupon the said Town at a very Extraordinary Expense did hire and send one Robert Jones & John George Covenanteeing with them at the same time that The said Town should draw their wages from the said State when it Became Due, yet when the said Town did Call upon the State for the said wages the said State Refused to pay the same Because some Person or persons had Taken or Stole some of the States powder, of which crime Neither the said Jones or George was ever Convicted. Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that you would order the said wages to be paid to the said Town of Bedford,—and they as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Bedford May 23^d 1785.

Zackariah Chandler } Selectmen of
Josiah Gillis } Bedford

[R. 80]

[James Martin had petitioned, February 15, 1785, for this allowance, presenting an order from Jones and George, on the treasurer, for pay for five months' service in Capt. Eben-

ezer Webster's company: amount due Jones, £9-11-2, due George £8-10-6, which the House allowed, but the Senate did not concur. The account was allowed June 14, 1785.—ED.]

[R. 83]

[Barnard McKeen, of Bedford, who signs his petition with a cross, states in said petition, which is dated 1787,—“That your Petitioner in Sept. 1776 inlisted in Capt. McConnells Company in Col^o Baldwins Regiment as a private soldier & marched as far as East Windsor in Conne-
c ut,” was there taken with a fever “and put to great Charge,” which he desires the state to pay, as he is poor and has a wife and six children depending on him for support. September 27, 1787, he was allowed £4-16.—ED.]

[R. 84] [*Abstract of Petition of Samuel Remick, 1788.*]

[In a petition dated Bedford, December 24, 1788, Samuel Remick states,—“That your Petitioner enlisted as soldier in the late Continental Army under Capt McConnel on an expedition to Bennington, and in Bennington Battle, so called, your petitioner received a shot from the Enemy in his left thigh, and by reason of which wound your petitioner was put to great trouble and expense.” He asks for relief.—ED.]

[R. 85]

[Said Remick's case was before the legislature March 5, 1778, and the committee reported in favor of his receiving half-pay until further order, and be paid £23-1, for doctor's bill and nursing; which report was accepted by the house and concurred in by the council.—ED.]

[210] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1786.*]

At the annual meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Bedford March Twenty ninth A. D. 1786,

Voted To Petition the General Court to have the time of holding the Annual meeting in Said Town of Bedford altered from the last wednesday in March to the first wednesday in March—

Voted That the Representative of said Town Petition the said Court in behalf of the Town for the said alteration—

Attest Josiah Gillis Town Clerk

At the same meeting

“*Voted* M^r Stephen Dole to be Select man.”

[Mr. Stephen Dole petitioned, “in behalf of said town,” that the annual meetings might be held on the first Wednesday in March, which was granted by the legislature June 14, 1786.—ED.]

[213] [*Certificate of Nails made by James Martin.*]

State of New Hampshire, Hillsborough ss.

Bedford Jan^y 31st 1791. We the Subscribers being the Selectmen (or the Major part of the Selectmen, as the case may be) of Bedford do hereby Certify that James Martin of said Town has bona fide made or caused to be made in his work Shop within this State one hundred thousand of ten penny wroat Nails since February 7th 1789.

Will^m Moor }
Stephen Dole } Selectmen

Attest, Stephen Dole Just Peace—

Feb^y, 1791. Received an order on the Treasurer for five pounds
Stephen Dole

[A bounty was paid on nails manufactured in this state, by act of the legislature.—ED.]

[R. 87] [*Abstract James Houston, Blacksmith, Petition, 1790.*]

[In a petition dated Bedford, June 10, 1790, James Houston, blacksmith, states,—“That your Petitioner served as an Armourer in the year 1775 in the Regiment commanded by the then Col. now General Stark ; for which service your Petitioner has never received any Recompence.” He asks to be paid.—ED.]

[214] [*Memorial relative to Fish Wardens, 1797.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire, convened at Concord the first Wednesday of June 1797.

The petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of this State, *Humbly Shews*—That your Petitioners live near the River Merrimack, and have some knowledge of the benefits arising to this part of the Community, from Salmon, Shad & Alewives, taken in said River and the waters falling thereinto. That this privilege has been abused by many who have, unduly, obstructed the passage of Fish in said Streams, whereby they have been much decreased for many years past. That although the Legislature in the year 1795 passed an Act “to prevent the destruction of Salmon, Shad & Alewives in Merrimack River” which has had a tendency to increase the fish, yet it is so deficient that it has not fully answered the salutary ends therein intended. Wherefore your petiti^{rs} pray your Hon^{rs} to take the matter into consideration and enlarge the Powers of the Fish Wardens that their authority may extend, severally, as far as the law is intended to operate. That they be empowered to command assistance (if necessary) in the execution of their office, & any person resisting pay a fine of 30 dollars. That if any person be found dragging any Net in any of the waters aforesaid at any time when fishing is prohibited by Law he shall forfeit & pay the sum of 10 dollars. That every net found in a Boat, or on the Stages or places of fishing, at any time, when fishing is prohibited by law, be forfeited. Or otherwise make such alterations or amendments as to your Hon^{rs} appear to be for the public Good.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Zechariah Chandler | Sam ^l Moor | John M ^c Intosh |
| Joseph Patten | Nath ^l Baker | David Patten |
| Thomas Wallace | Nathaniel Merrill | Sam ^l Houston |
| Parmenter Honey | Samuel Chandler | Tho ^s Macloughlin |
| James Walker | Isaac Townsend | Ebenezer Hadley |
| James M ^c Intosh | Thomas Chandler | Pat ^k M ^c Laughlin |
| Samuel Smith | Joseph Harvel | Samuel Dodley |
| Joseph Moor | Alx ^r Caldwell | Robert M ^c Intosh |
| Sam ^l Allison | Joseph Bell | Alex ^r Gilmor |
| Sam ^l Smith | David Riddle | John M ^c Gilvary |
| Tho. Griffen | George Clagett | David M ^c allister |
| Jonathan Wood | James Black | Stephen Dole |
| Dan ^l Gould | James M ^c Laughlin | John Cushing |
| James Wallace | Isiah Row | John Blaisdel Jr |
| Abel Kimball | Nicholas French | Jon ^a Bagley |
| Reuben Hall | Theophilus Sargent | Simeon Simons |
| Phillip Ferren | John Parker | Levi Colby |
| Sam ^l Abbott | W ^m Parker Jr | timothy Johnson |
| Robert M ^c Gilvery | Nathaniel Moor | Amaziah Vickere |
| Josiah Wallace | Samuel Moor | Nath ^l Clark |
| Samuel Eaton | William Parker | Tho ^s Saltmarsh |

BETHLEHEM.

This town was incorporated December 27, 1799, with the following bounds: "Beginning at the northeast corner of Franconia, thence running north fifty eight degrees west, about nine miles and three fourths of a mile to the southeasterly corner of Littleton; thence north fifty six degrees east, about six miles and one half, to the southwesterly corner of Whitefield; thence south, fifty eight degrees east, about five miles and ten rods, to the line of Britton Woods; thence southwardly about three miles, and thirty rods, on the line of Britton Woods to the south west corner of said Britton Woods; thence on a straight line about three miles and one hundred rods, to the bounds first mentioned." An addition was made to the town in 1848, and another in 1873.

[215]

[*Petition for Grant of Land.*]

State of New Hampshire, } To the honorable senate and
 County of Grafton ss. } house of Representatives in General
 Court Convened at hopkintown in and for said state on the
 first wensday of June one thousand seven hundred and Ninety
 Eight—We your humble petitioners Desirous of Becoming
 Setlers and inhabitants on a tractt of Land Laying in a place
 Called Bethlehem a part of the same was sold by a Committee
 appointed for makeing a Road through Britan woods Down
 ammonusick river to Littleton and in Loting out said Lands
 there is a smal quantity of Land remaining unsold in such Gore
 as would not admit of Laying out Hundred acre Lots and is
 chiefly Broken and Mountanous nevertheless their is some good
 Lands interpare^d in it that has given us a Desire to become
 settlers on the same could we obtain a title—and we your peti-
 tioners beg leave to state to your honours that we some time
 past went on and made improvements under Franconia but we
 find the same not to be within their limits and being imprest
 with a full sence of our situation we your Petitioners pray that
 you would make a grant to us who shall Become settlers and
 Continue the same as your honnours shall Direct of one hun-
 dred acres Each on the gores westerly of a strait Line Drawn
 from the South west Corner of Britan woods to the North East
 Corner of franconia included within the black lines Drawn on
 a plan hereunto annexed being the lines of littleton whitefield

Britan woods and franconia—and we your petitioners beg leave further to state to your honour that we Conceive that those Lands being settled and fited with inhabitants will in futer Contribute something towards the support of Government and be much more advantageous to the state than to have the same sold into the hands of speculators and Land Jobers which heretofore has been a very great Detriment in the Settlement of this part of this state and as this Cuntry is very Mountainous and uneven a great Deal of Labour is necessary to be Done on Publick Roads and the greater number of inhabitants the better they will be made and kept in repair—and we your Petitioners pray that your honours will take under your wise consideration this our Petion and grant us the Lands herein mentioned as in Duty Bound we shall ever pray

Dated at Bethlehem May 25th A. D. 1798

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Abraham Taylor | John Taylor | Nathaniel Snow |
| Ezra Snow | Tim ^y Taylor | |

[The plan referred to is on the document.—ED.]

[216] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation.*]

To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives to be Convened at Concord on the third Wednesday of November A. D. 1798.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of a Place called Bethlehem in the County of Grafton in the State of New Hampshire *Humbly Sheweth*, that whereas the said inhabitants are settled on a tract of land Formerly Belonging to said State and lately sold by order of said State for the Purpose of making and Repairing the Road From Conway to the upper Coos and down ammonnusick River to Littleton, and that the Number of Settlers being increased to more than Forty it becomes highly Necessary for the Peace and Good Order and Prosperity of the said inhabitants that they be vested with Lawful authority to Govern themselves and transact such Business as Respects them as a People which is Nearly impossible to be done without—Therefore the said People of Bethlehem from the above Considerations Sincerely Pray the Honourable Court that so much of the aforesaid Land be Formed into a Town and incorporated by the Name of Bethlehem as lies between the following Towns and adjoining the said tract of State land Littleton on the west Whitefield on the North Britton Woods on the East Franconia & Concord on the South Containing about

twenty-seven thousand acres. And as in duty bound will ever pray

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Nathaniel Snow | } Committee For Bethlehem |
| Amos Wheeler | |
| Stephen Houghton | |

[In H. of Rep., December 1, 1798, a hearing was ordered for next session; meanwhile notice was to be given. Senate concurred. December 27, 1799, the town was incorporated.—ED.]

BENTON.

This town was granted January 31, 1764, to Theophilus Fitch, Esq., and sixty-four others, by the name of Coventry. Eleven of the grantees bore the name of Weed. Settlements were made during the Revolutionary war, but the town contained only eighty inhabitants in 1790. By an act passed December 4, 1840, the name of the town was changed to Benton, in honor of Hon. Thomas H. Benton, U. S. Senator from Missouri for many years.

[R. 89.] [*Petition for Allowance for Soldiers furnished, 1786.*]

To the Hon'ble Gen^l Court of the State of New Hampshire now sitting at Portsmouth.

Humbly shew the Inhabitants of Coventry in said State that when called on they hired one Jacob Whittier, & one Edward Clark to answer as soldiers for said Town in the Continental army during the war & gave them a generous bounty—That said town are so far remote from the seat of Government & not organized with town officers, never made a regular return of them and that there is an extent now against them for delinquency, wherefore your petitioners pray that they may be credited for said Whittier & Clark & have an order to discharge said extent & your petitioners as in duty shall ever pray &c.

Moses Dow in behalf of said Town

Portsmo. Feb^r 1786.

[R. 90] [*Edward Clark's Certificate.*]

October y^e 20, 1788, this may certify that I have served During the war in Cor^l Hazen Rigerment for the Town of Coventry and have Rec^d full Satisfaction of Sam^l Atkinson in Behalf of said Town for my hire or Bounty and they are Intitled to Receive all that the State of New-pshire allows me as Such Rec^d per me

Amos Fisk

Edward Clark

[R. 91]

[He presents a certified copy of a discharge, signed by George Washington, which states that Edward Clark has been honored with a badge of merit for four years' faithful service. In H. of Rep., March 1, 1786, the town was allowed £60 for Edward Clark's service. Senate concurred.—ED.]

[215] [*Petition in Favor of Obadiah Eastman, 1788.*]

To the Honorable General Court for the State of New Hampshire.—The Honr^l Petition of great Part of the Inhabitants of the Township of Coventry* in said State Sheweth their Desire for a Justice of Peace in said Township and Desire your Honours would Grant a Commission for that Purpose to M^r Obadiah Eastman of s^d Coventry which your Honr^l Petitioners in Duty Bound will ever pray

Dated Coventry Dec^r y^e 11th 1788.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Ephraim Lund | Josiah Burnham | Ebenezer Bailey |
| Jerimiah Bown | Joseph flanders | Samuel Bowdy |
| roBed Eellet | Timothy LoCkwood | Nathan Meed |
| Daniel Doty | John Mastin | Silas Lund |
| Onesipherus flanders | | |

[Mr. Eastman was appointed.—ED.]

BOSCAWEN.

This town was granted by the government of Massachusetts Bay, June 6, 1733, to John Coffin and eighty others, citizens of Newbury, in that province; it was named Con-

* Now Benton.

toocook, and bore that name until it was incorporated as a town, April 22, 1760, for a term of two years, by the government of New Hampshire, and given its present name in honor of Admiral Edward Boscawen, of the British navy. This charter was continued for an indefinite term, by the same authority, Oct. 7, 1763. The first proprietors' meeting was held in Newbury, Mass., in 1733, and thirty-three of the proprietors commenced settlements in the town the following spring.

By an act passed July 4, 1860, the town was divided, and the westerly part incorporated into a town by the name of Webster, in honor of the great statesman. This division of the town was attempted as early as 1791, when the inhabitants of the west part petitioned to be set off and incorporated into a "separate town by the name of Bristol."

Boscawen has been the birthplace of many eminent men, and others who received their early training in the town have gone to other places and made their marks in various walks of life. It did its full share in the French, Revolutionary, and other wars, and has a record to be proud of.

[221]

[*Petition for a Guard, 1755.*]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r

Captain General & Governour in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire.—To the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council; & To the Hon^{ble} Assembly of this Province of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Contoocook in the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid *humbly sheweth*—That whereas your humble Petitioners (at least many of them) have their fields lying at two, or three miles Distance from the Garrisons; and if the enemy should come down early this spring upon us (as we humbly think we have just Cause to fear they will) and should hinder us from plowing our Ground, & putting in our Seed, we shall not be able to subsist ourselves & families, but must of necessity break up and leave the Place, and consequently be reduced to poverty, if we should escape Death, or Captivity by the Hands of the enemy—We therefore your humble Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency, & your Honours to take our Case into your wise Consideration, & to grant us so many

Soldiers, for our Guard & Defence as your Excellency & your Honours in your great wisdom shall think necessary & sufficient for us; & to send them to us so as to guard us in Season to plow, & put in our Seed—And that your Excellency & your Honours would grant us such Guard & Defence thro' the ensuing Summer as in your great wisdom you shall think our Circumstances shall require—

For which Goodness, your humble Petitioners for your Excellency & your Honours, as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Dated at Contoocook March 20th 1755.—

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Andrew bohonen | Stephen Gerrish | John Webster |
| Jacob flanders | Ezekiel flanders | Joel Manuell |
| Joseph Easman | Jacob flanders | William Danford |
| George Jackman | Nathaniel Danford | Moses Call |
| John Fowler | Edward Emery | |

[222] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1757.*]

Province of New Hampshire, In New England.

The Humble Petition of the Proprietors & Inhabitants of a Township or Plantation now called Contoocook in said province & now residing & Inhabiting there—To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief under his Majesty in and over said Province And to the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council & To the wor^t

The Representatives for the s^d Province now assembled at Portsmouth in y^e Province afores^d *Humbly Sheweth—That whereas*, It hath Pleased almighty God since our Settlement in this place to take from us by Death our Late Rev^d Minister M^r Phineas Stephens whereby we are now deprived of having the Gospel preached to us here, And whereas we Dwell in the wilderness and are exposed to the Insults and Barbarities of Salvage & cruel Enemies & have for a great many years as well in former wars as in the present; have been and now are so exposed and have been at a great expense & Charge to erect Forts & places of Safegard for ourselves & Families most of our Time being obliged to dwell in them; whereby we are not (to our great damage) able to Live on & Improve our lands as otherwise we might have done, and divers other Difficulties & hardships have attended us and still continue so on account of our having no Regular order amongst us, and a great many of the non-resident Proprietors refusing or neglecting to contribute or pay any Thing towards our Necessary Charges as well towards

y^e Supporting the Gospel Ministry amongst us as other necessary charges relating to the Township or Plantation afores^d which is a very great Burden on us the proprietors and Inhabitants residing & Dwelling in s^d Township or Plantation, whereby we are greatly exposed & Impoverished—*Therefore* we your Humble Petitioners being yet a young, weak, and poor Township or Plantation Occasioned mostly by the Means Hardships & Difficulties afores^d & having no power or authority vested in us Hereby Humbly pray your Excellency respectively together with his Majesties Hon^{ble} Council & y^e wor^l House of Representatives for s^d Province now assembled at Portsmouth in s^d Province That they would Severally & respectively Take our deplorable case and circumstances into their serious Consideration, and would be so well pleased to Incorporate us into a Town with such Town privileges powers and Immunities In as full manner & to all Intents and purposes as are or have been granted to all other Towns granted in s^d Province and also that you will please to make us an Act to enable us to chose officers in s^d Town when Incorporated as afores^d & to made such rates or assessments for support of the Gospel and other Town charges as shall be imposed on s^d Town as shall be deemed necessary according to y^e laws of said province for executing y^e same And that the name of y^e Town when Incorporated may be called Newbury, or any other name your Excellency & Honours shall think fit

In granting us the above petition we shall forever Humbly pray as in Duty Bound for y^r Excellency The Hon^{ble} Counsel & Representatives afores^d who subscribe ourselves with y^e most profound respect your most obedient Humble Servants.

Dated and signed at Contoocook afores^d y^e 21st of December in y^e 31st year of his Majesties Reign Annoque Domini 1757—

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Joseph Coffin | Henry Rolfe | Joseph Willet |
| Cutting Lunt | Enoch Rolfe | Sam ^l Moody |
| Benjamin Lunt | Benjamin Rolfe | Joel Manuel |
| Enos Bishop | Benjamin Eastman | Joseph Eastman |
| William Emery | Timothy Easeman | William Danford |
| George Jackman | Richard flood | John fowler |
| Stephen Gerrish | Joseph Easman | Nathaniel Danford |
| Cutting Moodey | Moses Burbank | William Courser |
| Oliver Fowler | Joseph fellows | Andrew Bohonnon |
| Jacob flanders | Joel Manuel Junr. | George Jackman |
| John Webster | Nathaniel Danford | Junr. |
| | Junr. | Moses Call |

The mark of Jesse × flanders
The mark of Edward ○ Fitz Gerald

Ezekiel flanders

[223] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1758.*]

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire in New England and to the Honorable his Majestys Council for said Province.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of that Tract of Land lying & being in the Province of New Hampshire (by the late Settlement of the Line between said Province & the Province of the Massachusetts Bay by his Majesty in Council) Called and known by the Name of Contoocook most humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners labor under very great Difficulties for want of Power to levy & collect such sums of Money as are necessary for Supporting the Gospel Ministry and other Charges necessary for the promoting Said Settlement—Wherefore your Petitioners Pray your Excellency & Honours to Incorporate into a Township that Tract of Land Bounded as follows Viz. Beginning on Rumford Line at the mouth of Contoocook River where the same falls into the Merrimack River & thence Extending on a Course West Seventeen Degrees South Seven Miles & one Hundred Poles thence North seventeen Deg^s West Seven Miles thence East Seventeen degrees North to Merrimack River thence it is bounded Easterly with said River to the Mouth of Contoocook River the Bound first mentioned And to give the Inhabitants Such Powers & Privileges as other Towns in this Province have and Enjoy And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

June 20th 1758

Joseph Coffin } Committee in behalf
Stephen Gerrish } of the Petitioners

[In answer to this the town was incorporated by the governor and council, April 22, 1760, for two years. At the end of that time the grant of incorporation was revived, "to have continuance until we shall approve or disallow the same."—ED.]

[R. 93] [*Moses Call's Petition, 1776.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives for the Collony of New Hampshire in General Court Now Assembled.

The petition of Moses Call of Boscawen in said Collony Humbly Sheweth that His Son Silas Call Inlisted Himself into the Continental Army in the year 1775 and continued in Said

Sarvice till august the 4 at which time he Returned Home by a Furlo upon his Brother Moses Call's Supplying his place During the time Specified in Said furlo, and that the Said Silas Call Falling Sick at Home and Not able to Returne againe That His other Son Moses Call continued in Said Sarvice till Sept^r the 29 in the Said year 1775

Your Petitioner Therefore prays your Honours would take the matter under your wise Consideration and allow Him wages for His Son Moses Call During the time of His Continuance in said Sarvice and also the cost of Doctring and Nursing the said Silas Call who lay sick and Not able to Joyne the armye for that Campayain—and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray.

Moses Call

May 27, 1776

[R. 94] [*Petition of John Hale, 1778.*]

To the honourable general Court of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of John Hale of Boscawen in the State aforesaid, humbly sheweth that my Son Aaron Hale, a minor, enlisted during the war into the continental Service, in the Beginning of Dec. 1776, and came home to me the last Day of said month unable for Service, having been in the Hospital three weeks at Albany, his Pack, Gun, & eighteen Dollars, being stolen from him, while in that circumstance. He was under the Doctor's hand, till the last of April, 1777, when he was called to join his Regiment, at Exeter, where he was confined, with the Fever & Ague, eight Weeks, at the expense of sixteen Dollars.

My Son having never drawn any continental Clothes, I went to Col. Poor, and he sent me to the hon^{ble} Committee of Safety of this State; I spake with some of the Members, concerning s^d Clothes, & they said, that if I would find my Son, the suit of Clothes, & come to them,—they would pay me the continental Money therefor, and consider me also for boarding & nursing my Son.—Now hereupon I communicate unto your Honours, the inclosed Bills of my own Charge, & also of the Doctor, humbly praying that I may receive according to the above Encouragement, if your Honours, shall see meet to hear me.

So prayeth your humble Petitioner

John Hale

Boscawen Feb. 13, 1778.

[Following are the bills referred to:—ED.]

[R. 95]

Boscawen January y^e 1, 1776.

Received of John Hale four pound ten shillings Lawful money in Full For Four visits & medicine to Aaron Hale, for me

Daniel Peterson

[R. 96]

Boscawen April the 12, 1777 Rec^d my father John Hale one Coat one Jacket one pair Leather Briches two Shurts 2 pair Stockens one pair Shoues one Hat which I Receive for the first Suite of Clothing I was to Receive from the State as a Solder in the Continal army

Aron Hale

[R. 97]

The Account of Clothing John Hale found for his Son Aaron Hale who was inlisted in the continal army

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| one Coat & Jacket homspun Cloth | 35.. 0.. 0. |
| to one pair Leather breches | 24.. 0.. 0. |
| 2 pair Stockens | 4.. 0.. 0. |
| 2 Shurts 16.. 0.. 0 | 19.. 0.. 0. |
| 1 pair Shoues | 1.. 0.. 0. |
| | <hr/> |
| | 93.. 0.. 0 |

John Hale

[R. 98]

[In 1780 John Hale sends in the following to the honorable general court of the state of New Hampshire:—ED.]

Humblely Sheweth John Hale that Since the war first Begun in this Cuntry he has had four Sons in the army and two of their wives & children has been to a great expence to maintain them in their Husbands absence & Have one son after beeing Sixteen months in the army came whome sick and almost Naked I nursed & Doctored him four months till he was able to Joyn his Rigerment again but had no Cloths I mad a Journey to Exeter to his Colonal to no what I must do for he was enlisted in the Continal army During the war he told me there was no Clothing in the Continal Store But if I would Cloth him I should have the money for it agreeable to the act of Congress & further sent me to the Committee of Safty & Several member there told me the same I came whome & Clothed my son but have not Received for his Clothing nor for his hire from the

town nor for his wages one Dollar to this Day which Very much Distress my famerly & now have Large taxes to pay Wherefore your petitioner prays he may be allowed the Clothing his son & the Doctors Bill & you will greatly oblidge him who has ever been a friend to his Cuntry

John Hale

[R. 99]

[The committee on above reported that said Hale be allowed the full amount of the clothing and doctor's bills.—ED.]

[R. 100]

[In a petition, dated January 19, 1781, Joshua Danford states that he is a "soldier in Maj. Whitcombs Core;" has received no wages for last year's service, or anything from the town for his family; wants some money to procure provisions for his family, so that he can "Return to his Core."

By the following bill it seems the town furnished his family some provisions the next year:—ED.]

Boscawen May 2, 1781.—

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----|-----------|
| Joshua Danford & Family | To the Town of Boscawen | Dr | |
| | To 30 ^{lbs} of Salt Pork at 9 ^d pr. pound | | 1.. 0.. 6 |
| June | To Rum Sugar Coffe molasses & Salt Sundry times | | 17. 7 |
| | To two pair Shoes one pair mogersons | | 1.. 2.. 6 |
| | To one pair Shoes | | 6.. 0 |
| July | To one Cow | | 4. 10. 0 |
| | To 22 ³ / ₄ pound of Salt Pork at 9 ^d | | 0. 17. 0 |
| | To pasturing a Cow | | 0. 9. 0 |
| | To 4 ¹ / ₂ Bushels of Rye | | 1. 7. 0 |
| Aug ^t | To one Bushel of Wheat | | 0. 8. 0 |
| Nov. | To 3 ¹ / ₂ Bushels of Indian Corn at 4 | | 0. 14 0 |
| | To 6 ^{lbs} of Pork | | 0. 3. 9 |
| | To one Bushel of Indian Corn | | 0. 4. 0 |
| | To two Bushels Potatoes | | 0. 3. 0 |

£12. 2. 4

| | |
|--------------|---|
| overcharge | } |
| in Pork 9. 7 | |
| in Rye 4. 6 | |
| in Wheat 6 | |
| o. 14. 7 | |

George Jackman }
Peter Kimball } Selectmen
Cutting Noyes }

Sworn to before Henry Gerrish Dec. 12, 1782

[R. 104]

[In 1782 his family was furnished, by the town, with provisions to the amount of £27. 1. 2.—ED.]

[R. 102] [*Soldiers' Depositions relative to their Discharges, 1781.*]

Boscawen Jany. 1, 1782.

Then Daniel Shepard personally appeared and Declared that He had lost the discharge which he Received from his Commanding officer at his Dismission from his six months service in the Continental army in the year 1780—and made solemn oath that the said Discharge Bore Date the fourth Day of December 1780

before me George Jackman Justice of peace.

[R. 103]

[Joseph Little makes oath to the same, with regard to himself, and William Jackman testifies that his was dated December 18, 1780.—ED.]

[R. 105] [*Benjamin Sweat's Petition, 1782.*]

[Addressed to the assembly in the usual form.—ED.]

Humbly Shews Benjamin Sweat of Boscawen in the County of Hillsborough. That on the first orders for enlisting soldiers for three years or during the war, he advanced fifty dollars as a Bounty to one Matthew Holcom, who enlisted in the Company commanded by Cap^t Morrill. That the said Holcom served one year & then deserted, as will appear by the pay roll now in your Honors files; and being afterward taken prisoner and carried to New York, he there died.—That the widow of the said Holcom, (who is the daughter of your Petitioner) & one child have been supported solely by him, from the time the said Holcom first enlisted.—That your Petitioner having had one Son three years in the army, two others five months each, and having himself voluntarily turned out at the time of General Burgoyne's capture, is under the necessity humbly to request your Honors, that he may be repaid the fifty dollars advanced to the said Holcom as aforesaid, and may also be permitted to receive the pay which appears due to said Holcom on the rolls, & your Petitioner shall ever pray &c

Benj^a Sweat.

[220] [*Petition for Lottery, &c., 1783.*]

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives
Now Convened at Concord in and for the State of New
Hampshire.

The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth that we being owners of Timber in Merrimack River and Well Wishers to Good and Wholesome Laws Humbly Pray that your Honours would make Such Laws as will prevent or put a Stop to any person or persons Taking Masts Logs or any other timber (without obtaining leave of the owners) or Altering marks; which crimes are now become very common, owing as we conceive to the small penalty affixed to the Laws now in force against such offenders—We also Pray that your Honours would Grant a Lottery to Raise a certain Sum of Money to be laid out on the falls in Said River for the more easy and Safe Conveyance of Timber Down Said River But in all matters herein Contained, for your Hon^{rs} to act as you in your Great Wisdom Shall think most condusive for the Public Good, and we as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray—

Boscawen february 23^d 1783—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Joseph Tilden | Samuel Fowler | Sam ^l Atkinson |
| Jonathan Virgin | John Chandler | Nath ^l Rolf Jr. |
| Abiel Blanchard | Caleb Buswell | Isaac Chandler |
| Joseph Atkinson | Nicholas Nicolle | Benj ^a Rolfe |
| Simeon Atkinson | Daniel Gale | Thomas Shepherd |
| Junr. | Aaron Kinsman | Jacob Carter |
| Isaac Pearson | Thos. Stickney | Joseph Gerrish |
| Isaac Pearson Jr. | Thomas Cross | Reuben Kimball |
| Benja Hannaford | Nathan Waite | Jacob Green |
| David Webster | Joseph Chandler | David Carr |
| Jonathan Rollins | Henry Moore | Daniel Chandler |
| David Norris | Sam ^l Ham | Joseph Dunlap |
| Nath ^l Rolfe | Joseph Rogers | Joseph Clough |
| Rev ^d E. Fletcher | Thomas Callahan | Obadiah Clough |
| Ephraim Colby | Jere ^h Clough Jr. | Isaac Dimond |
| Nath ^l Green | Jonathan Stickney | Thomas Lacy |
| W ^m Jackman | Will ^m Walker | John morrill |
| Joshua Abbott | John Bowin | Benj ⁿ Noyes |
| Jeremiah Bowin | John flanders Jr | Aaron flanders |
| Robert Davis | John Elliot | Jonathan Hoyt |
| Samuel Cleford | John Bradley | Samuel Corser |
| Rich ^d Hazn Osgood | Joseph Akinson | Benj ^a Emery |
| Sam ^l Robie | W ^m Chamberlin | James Eaton |
| Thos. Shirla | Jonathan Eastman | Enoch Sawyer |
| Sam ^l Thompson | James Vose | Jesse Johnson |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Jere ^h Page | Eben ^r Duston | John Hogg |
| John Neal | Moses Kelly | Samuel Sanborn |
| Jon ^a Martin | Enoch Page | John Neele |
| Jonathan Stevens | Moses Burbank Jr | asa herrick |
| Nathaniel Noyes | Mathew Scales | Jonathan Burbank |
| Humphrey Jackman | Henry Gerrish | |

[R. 109] [*Samuel Fowler's Petition about Fire-arms, 1783.*]

To the Honourable the Council And House of Representatives
in General Court Assembled at Concord this 30th Day of
Dec^r 1783.—

The petition of Samuel Fowler of Boscawen Humbly Sheweth that in march 1776 He entered the service of the State as a Lieut in Col Beedle's* Regiment—that there were Not a Suficiency of arms and other Acoutrements at Orford the place appointed to Receive them your petitioner Received Varble order from Col Beedle and Capt osgood of said Regerment to purchas the Arms Necessary as soon as I arived in Canada with a promis that I should be paid by the State for the same at my arival in Canada I purchased Five Guns amounting to to thirteen pound Four Shillings in the whole which ware Delivered to the soldiers then Destitute your petitioner has Not Received aney pay For the Same Sence that time Wherefore your Petitioner prays your Honours to take the matter under your wise consideration and Grant him the money so paid if you in your wisdom see fit and your petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Sam^l Fowler

[224]

Boscawen February 21, 1780

This may certify that M^r Nathaniel Clement of Canterbury served me with a coppie of a petition and order of court thereon which he preferred to the General Assembly Relative to the Keeping A Ferry across merrimacke River between Boscawen and Canterbury.

George Jackman
one of the Selectmen for Boscawen

[A ferry over Merrimack river was granted to Nathaniel Clement, of Canterbury, June 19, 1780.—ED]

* Bedell's.

[225] [*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

The Exact Number of male Poles of twenty one years old and upward paying pole tax in the Town of Boscawen for April 1783 No. 128

Boscawen Decr. 18, 1783—

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| George Jackman | } Selectmen for Boscawen |
| David Corser | |
| Isaac Pearson | |

[Sworn to before Henry Gerrish, Justice Peace.]

[227] [*Petition for Representation, 1784.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of said State in General Court Assembled

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boscawen *Humbly Sheweth* that by there Returns they had not a Sufficient Number of Ratable Poles to Entitle them to A representative agreeable to the New Constitution and there Situation being Such as to leave them without being classed with any other Town—and whereas by the New Constitution Liberty is Granted To petition the General Court For Relief in Such Cases—Wherefore your Petitioners pray your Honours To take there Case under your Wise Consideration and Grant them the liberty of Sending a Representative if you shall think fitt and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray—

Boscawen March 2, 1784.

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Henry Gerrish | Isaac Pearson | Peter Coffin |
| Joseph Gerrish Jr. | Moses Burbank Jr. | Simeon Atkinson |
| Joseph Lunt | Silas Call | Jeremiah Hidden |
| Sam ^l Fowler | John Fowler | Eben. Hidden |
| Sam ^l Ames | John Corser | Humphrey Jackman |
| Sam ^l Corser | John Atkinson | John Chandler |
| Joseph Atkinson | John Manuel | Moses Morse Jr |
| Benj ⁿ Noyes | Mich ^l Sargent | Ones. Flanders |
| Amos Mills | Daniel Peterson | Jonath. Thurston |
| Timothy Call | Benj ⁿ Day | Will ^m Danford |
| Daniel Prichard | Nath ^l Atkinson | William Marsh |
| John Rolfe | Jacob Flanders | John Morrill |
| Jonath. Corser | Peter Stevens | John Muzzey |
| David Corser | George Jackman | Peter Kimball |
| David Burbank | Daniel Carter | Sam ^l Morrel |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Hezekiah Colby | thos. Bedel | R. Morrill |
| John Hale | William Osborn | John Ilsley |
| Samuel Jackman | Sam ^l Atkinson | Thos. Elliot |
| Eben ^r Moody | John Gerald | William Jackman |
| Wells Burbank | Sam ^l Burbank | Daniel Clark |
| Cutting Noyes | Abraham Sweatt | Moses Jackman |
| Edmund Chadwick | Samuel Jackman | Joseph Hoit |
| James Uran | Sam Muzzy | |

[In H. of Rep., March 31, 1784, voted that the prayer of the foregoing petition be granted, and that a precept be issued accordingly.]

A duplicate of the foregoing, dated June 1, 1784, was before the house June 10th, upon which the same action was taken, the senate concurring.—ED.]

[229] [*Petition of Henry Gerrish for a Ferry, 1875*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & house of Representatives in General Court Convened.

The petition of Henry Gerrish of Boscawen in said State *Humbly Sheweth*—That about three years since He purchased a Farme in the Town of Northfield which was formerly owned by Jonathan Heath which Farm lyes adjoining Merrimacke River where there has been a Ferry kept by the Said Heath across said River from Northfield to Salisbury For Nearly twenty years which has been found very advantageous to the public and the Inhabitants of said Towns who travel that way—that your petitioner Since He purchased s^d Farm Has kept a Ferry at said place and lately has been at Considerable Expense in Building a New Boat and making Necessary preparations Sutable For transporting teams or Horses across said River—Wherefore your Petitioner prays your Excellency & Honours would grant to Him His heirs & assigns the Exclusive Right of Keeping a Ferry at said place under such limetations & Restrictions as you in your wisdom may think meet—and your petitioner as in Duty bound will pray &c

Henry Gerrish

[In H. of Rep., October 22, 1785, petition read, and a hearing ordered for the next Thursday.]

October 28, 1785, the house voted that the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill.

“ In Senate Feb^y 17th 1786,
Read and non-concurred ”

The matter came up again in June, 1787, and the grant was made on the 23d of that month.—ED.]

[R. 110] [*Jeremiah Carter and Joseph Hoyt, Jr., orders, 1785.*]

Boscawen Feb. 17, 1785.

To the Treasurer of the State of New Hampshire.

Sir Please to pay the Bearer Nathan Carter what is due to me from the State as witness my hand

Joseph Hoit Jun

£5—6—6 Capt Heads Co.

[R. 111]

[Jeremiah Carter's order is the same, and for the same amount.—ED.]

[R. 112] [*Petition of Reuben Middleton, 1786.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June A. D. 1786.

The Petition of Reuben Middleton of Boscawen in the county of Hillsborough, humbly shews, that in March 1776 he inlisted in Captain James Osgood's Company and Col. Beadle's Regiment for the term of one year and had just performed his tedious march to Canada, when in May following he was captured by the Savages and carried, in spite of all his Indeavours to escape some hundred Miles into the Desert, the sport of unfeeling Monsters, whose “tender Mercies are Cruelty” and thus confined was your Petitioner for more than two years, when his bloody Masters sold him to the French in Montreal, where, with Seven years Servitude he purchased his freedom, and permission to return. And now your Petitioner humbly prays your Honours would hear his Sufferings, and grant him his pay for the year for which he inlisted or give order for his obtaining it, and also to grant him such pay for the Time in which he

was in Captivity as others have received, or such Relief, and in such manner as to your Honours may seem meet—and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Sam^l Fowler
In behalf of the Petitioner

[He was allowed £48 and interest.—ED.]

[R. 113]

[The next week he presented another petition, over his own signature, acknowledging “a grant of two years pay for which your petitioner returns humble thanks,” and asks that he may be allowed at least half pay for the other seven years he was in captivity.—ED.]

[R. 115] [*Petition of Peter Roswell Stevens, addressed to the Legislature, Dec., 1786.*]

The Petition of Peter Roswel Stevens of Boscawen in said State Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioner Inlisted in the Sarvice of the united States in the late American War in which Sarvice he continued faithfully to Sarve his Country for more than Eight years from his First Inlistment that when the News of peace was published in the Army your petitioner Suposing His time was Expired being Inlisted for During the war Inadvartuntly left the army without obtaining a Discharge for want of which he has Not been able to Draw His bounty Clothing Rations and such part of His wages as ware then Due—your Petitioner therefore Humbly Prays your Honours that as he has faithfully Sarved His Country so long and under Gon so many Hardships in the Defence thereof that your Honours would be pleased to take His Case under your wise Consideration and Give order that He may be Intitled to what he has merited by so Arduas a Task or other wise Relieve your Petitioner as you in your wisdom may think meet and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Pray &c—

Peter Roswell Stevens.

[218] [*Petition for a new County, 1788.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and house of Representatives in General Court convened at Portsmouth Janu^r A D 1788.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Boscawen in said State Humbly Sheweth that some time since the said Town

made Choice of Henry Gerrish and George Jackman Esqr^s to meet several other persons at the Town of Warner, in pursuance of Circular letters from Robert Wallace Esq. of Hanniker for Consulting a removal of the Inferior Courts of Common pleas in the County of Hillsborough as in said letters was mentioned. accordingly the above persons met with Instructions from the Inhabitants of the Town aforesaid to use their Influence to petition the General Court of this State for a new County but as that could not, at that time be obtained by a Majority of the persons then assembled—they did Sign a Petition to the General Court aforesaid praying only for a removal of said Court of Common pleas as in said petition is Expressed, and as the Granting the prayer of the Said petition will by no means redress our Grievances in the manner we Could wish,—We therefore most Humbly pray your honours that a new County may be Erected and properly Organized, Composed of the North End of the County of Rockingham Hillsboro and Strafford Or in such other form as to your honours may seem best and we your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

January 17th 1788

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Henry Gerrish | } Committee in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boscawen |
| George Jackman | |
| Nath ^l Green | |

[219] [*Petition to have the West Part incorporated into a Town by the name of Bristol, 1791.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled.

The subscribers inhabitants of the westerly half of the Town of Boscawen in said state, Humbly beg leave to show That the Easterly Half of said Town was first Settled, and the Meeting House built to accommodate that part of the Town only, giving the westerly part which was then thinly inhabited encouragement for a parish when their Numbers were Sufficient, but as that is not agreeable to the Laws of this State, your petitioners are Exposed to great inconvenience & hardship in attending public worship Town meetings &c. Especially in the winter season—it being more than five miles from the Meeting House to the Center of the westerly half of said Town, and that from the Combination of Ponds Hills Swamps &c. which Lie between the Easterly & westerly half, will Ever render it inconvenient to remain in one district, and in our present Situation can have no redress without the aid of this Court, your petitioners Therefore pray that the westerly Half of said Town may be Sett of from the Easterly half & incorporated into a Separate

Town by the Name of Bristol with the Same privileges as other Towns in this State, or otherways relieved as your honours in your wisdom shall see meet & your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—

Boscawen June 1, 1791

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| John Thorla | Thos. Thorla | Caleb Knight |
| Samuel Atkinson | Jon ^a Corser | Benj ^a Stickney |
| Joseph Hills | Jedediah Kilburn | Jeremiah Gerrish |
| Moses Coffin | Joseph Cass | Jedediah Danford |
| Ben Cass | James Corser | Joseph Gerrish |
| Nicholas Severance | Friend Little | Eldad Austin |
| James Trussell | Benj ^a Little | Asa Day |
| William Danford | Joseph Little | Benj ^a Day |
| Benj ^a Austin | Enoch Little Jr | Simeon Jackman |
| Moses Gerrish | Jesse Little | Edward Gerrald |
| Noah Little | Nath ^l Barnard | David Carter |
| Tristram Barnard | Saml. Jackman 3 ^d | Jon ^a Knight |
| Philip Barnard | Benj ^a Fisk | Samuel Corser |
| Thomas Barnard | John Gerald | Benj ⁿ Severance |
| John Asten | Sam ^l Googin | David Burbank |
| Nathan Stevens | Stephen Corser | Samuel Roby |
| George Stone | Samuel Beverly | Benj ⁿ Sweat |
| William Corser | Joseph Little | Thomas Corser |
| Enoch Easman | Samuel Jackman | Timothy Easman |
| Tho ^s Easman | John Jackman | James Colby |
| Moses Jackman | Moses Calf | Eliphalet Little |
| Benj ^a Couch | Sam ^l Morss | Eliphalet Kilburn |
| James Little | Simeon Corser | Nath ^l Kilburn |
| John Corser | Dan ^l Colby | |

[In H. of Rep., June 9, 1791. Read, and a hearing ordered for the second Tuesday of next session. The inhabitants of the easterly part, fearing a division, held a meeting and voted to build a meeting-house in the westerly part, at the expense of the town, of the same size as the one in the easterly part, and proceeded to put up the same; and this put a stop to the matter of division until 1860.—ED.]

B O W .

This town was granted by Lieut.-Gov. John Wentworth, with advice of council, May 20, 1727, to Jonathan Wiggin and many others, including the members of the council and the governor's friends. It was to contain eighty-one square

miles, and received its name in consequence of the bend in the river within the limits of the grant.

This grant was on territory then claimed by Massachusetts, and covered lands which had been granted by that government, and led to a bitter controversy which lasted many years.

November 1, 1759, a part of Bow, Suncook, and "a place called Buckstreet," were incorporated "by the name of the Parish of Pembroke." Concord was set off from Bow, and incorporated June 7, 1765.

By an act passed December 13, 1804, two tracts of land were severed from Bow, one of which was annexed to Concord and the other to Pembroke; and June 22, 1815, a portion of the town was annexed to Allenstown, leaving the town at present about 16,000 acres.

Among the early settlers were Timothy Dix, grandfather of Gen. John A. Dix, and Col. Aaron Kinsman, an officer in the Revolution, who owned "Bow Mills" in 1767. He was a man of little education, but possessed a good amount of common-sense and integrity. He was at Bunker Hill under Stark, in command of a company of men, one of whom (John Manuel) was killed, and was a resident of Concord in 1777.

[148] [*James Cochran's Petition to have a Sale of Land for Taxes annulled, 1759.*]

State of New Hampshire } To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
 his Majesties Prov. of New Hampsh^r } Governor & Commander in Chief in and over
 The Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council & House of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly
 now convened. *Humbly Shews* James Cochran of London-
 dery in said Prov^e yeoman That your Petitioner was Seized in
 Fee of a certain Tract of Land in y^e Township of Bow in s^d
 Prov^e containing forty acres more or less & is a first Division
 or Home Lot (so called) in Bow afores^d & is y^e Seventh Lot
 in y^e Second Range of Lots there & was originally granted &
 laid out to one John Leavit late of Stratham in y^e Prov. afores^d
 yeoman Deceased & which I purchased of one David Connor
 of Bow afores^d yeoman as may appear by his Deed to me Due-
 ly executed & filed to be recorded—That one Francis Carr of
 Bow afores^d yeoman frequently applied to your Petitioner in y^e
 Winter last past & proposed to purchase s^d Lot at Length your
 Petitioner consented & agreed to sell him y^e same for the sum
 of four hundred & thirty Pounds old tenor Currency of y^e

Prove aforesaid & should then have executed a Deed accordingly if I'd had y^e above mentioned Deed by which y^e s^d Lot was Conveyed to me about me but for want of that & other Reasons y^e s^d Carr & your Petitioner agreed to defer the Execution of a Deed for s^d Lot 'til we should meet again or 'til a more convenient season & your Petitioner thinking that he had fairly & lawfully divested himself of all Right and Title to s^d Land by y^e above mentioned Bargain & that y^e Property was y^e s^d Carr's & at & about y^e time of s^d Land's being advertised to be sold agreeable to a Law of s^d Province for that Purpose your Petitioner was out of y^e Province & necessarily detained to take care of some valuable Masts which he by Contract was obliged to procure for his Majesties use. That y^e said Carr taking y^e advantage of your Petitioners absence & Inattention as aforesaid attended y^e Vendue for sale of y^e delinquent Proprietors of s^d Bow their Lands held at Stratham in s^d Province in July last past agreeable to y^e aforesaid Law & finding your Petitioner absent & no other person present to represent him, & y^e taxes still unpaid desired that said Lot might be Exposed to sale & that he would bid for it insinuating at the same time that he as a Suncook Settler was living upon or improving of s^d Lot & that it would be vastly disadvantageous to him if s^d Lot should be sold from him & by these as well other wrong (not to say false) repres[ent]ations prevailed not only with y^e Collector to set up said Lot but also with y^e Company not to bid upon him for y^e same and accordingly s^d Lot was sold at said Vendue to s^d Carr for fifty one Pounds ten shills old Ten^r money of s^d Province (which is vastly less than y^e Value thereof) & a Deed given by Walter Bryant Esq^r Collector duly executed and filed to be recorded—yet the s^d Francis Carr (Notwithstanding his afores^d Bargain with your Petitioner & y^e small purchase sum paid y^e s^d Collector for y^e s^d Lot of Land) refuses to pay your Petitioner y^e Consideration agreed for as afores^d or any Part thereof or to restore him y^e s^d Lot of Land tho he offers to reimburse him his expenses on s^d Land but unjustly witholds both—Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly prays your Excellency & Honours to take his Case into your Consideration & to order the s^d Carr to pay him the Sum agreed for or to reconvey the s^d Lot to y^r Petitioner (he reimbursing s^d Carr his Expenses in purchasing said Lot at s^d Vendue) or to order that y^e s^d Vendue sale may be annulled or otherwise help your Petitioner in such a manner as to you in your Great Wisdom shall seem best and that he may have Liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly & your Petitioner shall as in duty bound ever Pray

James Cochran

Portsm^o Jan. 4th 1759

[149] [*Petition of sundry Citizens about Rates, 1766.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor and Commander in Chief In and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire to the Honorable his majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly—

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabatants of the town of Bow not within Concord *Humbly Sheweth* that Great Difficulty & hardship hath Arose By our being Rated with old Arrairgges (in years past) with Concord People and some Difficulty arises with our being Rated with them now and it hath ben a Great hendrance to many more Settlements being made in s^d Bow—Wherefore your s^d Petitioners Humble Pray your Excellency and Honnors to take their Circumstances under Consideration and Relieve them from Being Rated with Concord any Longer as your Excellency & honnors shall in your Great Wisdom, and Clemency See fit and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| James moor | Thomas Eatton | Elisha Clough |
| Joseph Rogers | Elisha Clough Junr. | Edw ^d Russell |
| James Buswell | Francis Carr | Thomas Chandler |
| John Chace | Solomon Heath | Ephraim Foster |
| antony mannuell | Ed ^w Carlton | John Robertson |
| Eliezer Emerson | William Parker | John Grushe |
| Will ^m Robertson | David Merrill | Ephraim moor |
| Samuel Rogers* | Joseph Baker Jur. | Benjamin Noyes |
| John Noyes Jr. | Samuel Smith Juner | |
| Samuel Alexander | Samuel Welch † | |

In Council July 2, 1766, Read and ordered to be sent down to the honorable house.

T. Atkinson Jr. Sec^y.

[147] [*Selectmen's Remonstrance to Petition of John Noyes, 1758.*]

Province of } Pursuant to an order of Court made in the
New Hamp^r } Honorable House of Representatives & Con-
curred by his Majestys Council February y^e first 1758 upon the
Petition of John Noyes of Bow in Said Province by which order
we the Subscribers Select men of the town of Bow afore-

* Samuel Rogers was one of the early settlers of Bow (about 1758); was son of James Rogers of Dunbarton, and brother of Major Robert Rogers of ranger fame; was a prominent man.

† Samuel Welch was born in Kingston, September 1, 1710, and died in Bow, April 5, 1823.

said have Liberty Granted us to Shew Cause why the prayer thereof Should not be granted which are as follows. first that a very great majority of Said Noyes his Constituents are Persons that came on there without Right and have Indevered to with hold the Lands from the Proprietors of Bow the Lawful owners thereof as appears by many actions that have ben Brought against them & many more now Depending and as there is proposals of acomadation made on Both Sides we Humble Conceive that If they Should be favored with there Request it would Strengthen them in their Error & weeken our Just Right & prevent the proposed agreement from being viguously pursued—Secondly we humbly conceive that If there was an agreement finished between the Inhabatance & the Proprietors of Bow that they ought not to be so fully Disunited from the town of Bow & Exempted from Subjection to it as they ask But that they be a parish in the town of Bow for we Can not Conceive what end it can answer to make a township & grant priviledges to a Society to Regulate them selves according to the Laws of y^e Land when we Look upon to be an Eragular Society and we are putting the same Laws in Execution to Dispossess them for these and many other Reasons that might be offered we humble Beg the prayer of the Said petition may not be granted—and this being the Day of our anual meeting the proprietors when Convened talk'd of the affair hearing the petition afore said Read & Let us know their minds to the same purpose as above

Dated at Stratham, this 6th Day of april 1758

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Abraham Tilton | John Dearborn | } Sel ^t } men |
| John Stockbridge | Joseph Clark | |

[The following is from the town records:]

The Concord Parish having been set of from Bow in 1765 and those living outside not yet acting in the capacity of a town—a Petition of which the following is an answer was Presented to Jeremiah Page Esqr of Dunbarton

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Province of Newhampshire | } In answer to a petition to me Presented by fourteen of the inhabitants of Bow who are not set of into any Parish; Humbly Sheweth that they, Inhabitants of Bow who are not in any Parish Should be warned to meet at the Dwelling House of William Robert- son of s ^d Town on Wednesday the eleventh Day of march next att Ten o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following affairs—Furthermore all the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of s ^d Bow that are not in any Parish are Hereby Notified and |
| | |

warned to meet at the Dwelling House of William Robertson on Wednesday the eleventh Day of March at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and to act on the following Particulars viz :

1st to choose a moderator to Govern s^d meeting

2^d to Choose Town Officers if the Town sees Cause

3^d to see if the Town will subscribe to build a Meeting House

4th to See if the Town will agree on a place to set s^d house

Dated y^e twenty first Day of February 1767

Jeremiah Page Justice Peace

At said meeting they made choice of Sam^l Rogers for Moderator—William Robertson Town Clerk—Sam^l Rogers Ep^h Moor and Samuel Welch Selectmen—Francis Carr Constable—Edward Russell Elisha Clough & John Robertson Committee to Examine Selectmens accounts James Moor John Grushee Edward Carlton Thomas Chandler & Benj^m Noyes Surveyors of Highway

Voted to build a Meeting House by Subscription

Voted to adjourn s^d Meeting to the 1st Tuesday of May next to meet at the House of Ephraim Foster met and adjourned to the 1st Tuesday of July then met and adjourned to the 13th of s^d month at which time the aforesaid officers made oath to be faithful in the discharge of their offices according to law—This was the first Town meeting of the *Inhabitants* of Bow a notice of which being served on the Proprietors

At a meeting of the Proprietors of Bow at Stratham on the first Thursday in April 1767 agreeable to Charter we find the following viz. Whereas it is signified to this meeting under the hand of William Robertson signing as a Town Clerk for the Inhabitants of the Town of Bow that s^d Inhabitants Exclusive of such as are sett of into Parishes have Lately held a Town meeting Legally called and voted the Persons Hereafter Named to the following offices in s^d Town of Bow viz.

William Robertson Town Clerk—Sam^l Rogers Eph^m Moor Sam^l Welch Selectmen Francis Carr Constable &c and as it may be Nessecary that s^d Inhabitants should act in Town affairs separate from the Propriety it is therefore by s^d Proprietors voted that as much as in them Lies they approve of and accept of s^d Inhabitants choice of s^d Gentlemen to their Respective Offices aforesaid

Attested by Samuel Lane
Proprietors Clerk

[From this time the inhabitants managed their own affairs, which had been previously controlled by the proprietors who resided in the easterly part of the state, many of them members of the N. H. government.—ED.]

[151] [*Caveat against swearing E. Russell, Justice of the Peace, 1776.*]

This Petition Humbly Sheweth, that we the Subscribers Inhabitants of Bow having Received Information that M^r Edward Russell of this Town is appointed a Justice of the Peace By the Honorable House of Representatives—Humbly pray your Honours would Defer Commissioning the s^d M^r Russell untill Such Time as we shall have Opportunity to lay Before this Honourable House such Reasons as we think will Be sufficient to Prevent it, and the Town have Opportunity to make Choice of some other man to Recommend to this Honourable House to be appointed and Commissioned if their Honours should think Fit

Bow February y^e 3th 1776.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Benjamin Bean | John Noyes | Selectmen of Bow |
| John Bryant | Benjamin Bean | } Committee of Bow |
| John Noyes | James Moor | |

To the Honourable Commitee appointed to swear into office the several Justices appointed for the County of Rockingham

[152] [*Petition for changing date of Town-Meeting, 1780.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and Gentlemen of the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Assembly at Portsmouth convened 24th Oct^o 1780.

The humble Petition of John Bryant Esq^r on behalf of himself and others Freeholders and Inhabitants of Bow in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire. *Sheweth*—That by Charter, the annual Town Meeting in said Bow is appointed to be held on the first Thursday in April in every year, which is found to be very inconvenient and too late for the Selecimen to Enter into office, as the Inventory is to be taken in said Town in that month,—Wherefore your Pet^r in manner as afores^d prays leave to bring in a Bill That in future the said Town Meeting (instead of said first Thursday of April) may in each year be held on the first Tuesday of March.

And your Pet^r shall ever Pray &c

Jn^o Bryant

[The foregoing petition was granted, and an act passed November 3, 1780, providing that the annual town-meeting should "be held on the first Tuesday of March annually for ever hereafter."—ED.]

[153] [*Petition of Inhabitants concerning a Ferry, 1782.*]

State of New Hampshire } A Petition to the Honourable House
 Rockingham ss } of Representatives together with
 the Hon^{ble} Council Convened at Concord in this State

Humbly Sheweth—Whereas there is a place on Merrimack River very Convenient for a Ferry for the Public Between Dunbarton and Chester Beginning at the Falls on said River known by the name of Isle a hookset, and to Extend Down said River as far as shall be tho't proper to Convene said Ferry. And whereas John Robertson of Bow has a view of having Lands adjoining said Ferry, where he would give Constant attendance with good Botes for the public good.

Therefore we your Humble petitioners Beseech that your Honours would take this our Petition under your Mature Consideration, and grant said Ferry to the s^d John Robertson, for which great Privilege towards us your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

Dated Bow March y^e 13th A. D. 1782.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reuben Currier | Jonathan Currier | edward Smith |
| Reuben Currier | Elisha Clough | Benjamin Kimball |
| David Closh | James Busel | Timothy Simonds |
| Ezra Badger | Philip Carrigain | William Simonds |
| Daniel Carter | Samuel Rogers | Thomas perrin |
| Ebenezer Simonds | John Carter | William Walker |
| Elisha Clough Junr | Joseph Carter | John Robertson |
| Samuel Smith | Joseph Carter Junr. | Junr. |
| Samuel Gault | William Currier | John Merrill |
| Bartholomew Hop- | Leonard Harriman | Anthony Manuell |
| kins | Joseph Baker | John Moores |
| John Dow | Francis Mitchell | David Car |
| Isaac White | Jacob Green | Jonathan Sargent |
| Hazen Osgood | Aarin Kinsman | Nathan Waite |
| Nathan Noyes | Aaron Noyes | James Moor |
| Joseph Rogers | John Noyes | Ephraim Kingman |
| Benj ⁿ Bean | Will ^m Robertson | Will ^m Fifield |
| woodman Carlton | Dunlap Bean | Ja Robertson |
| Joseph Rogers Junr | Enoch Noyes | |

[The foregoing was in the H. of Rep., March 26, 1782, and a hearing ordered for the next session. A petition was presented by Timothy Walker and others, asking that Joshua Abbott might have the grant of a ferry near "Isle a Hucksett-falls," and on June 19, 1782, a committee was appointed to consider the two petitions and report whether

one or both were necessary. There is no record of any report at that session. An act was passed February 23, 1785, granting to James Robertson the right of a ferry over Merrimack river anywhere between Moor's brook and "Sow-cook" river.—ED.]

[154]

The Number of Polls in Bow from 21 years of age & upwards, paying taxes in s^d Bow is seventy nine, taken Dec^{br} 12th 1783.

By James Robertson, Select Man Bow

Sworn to before Sam^l Daniell Jus^t peace

[R. 119] [*Petition of David Carr and others, soldiers, addressed to the General Court, February, 1785.*]

The petition of David Carr Trader and Williby Colby, Richard Clough, David Clough, Benjamin Bean, Peter Manuel, John Dow, and Samuel Manuel all of Bow in the county of Rockingham Husbandmen Humbly Sheweth That your petitioners in July A. D. 1777 were draughted by Captain Bean of Bow aforesaid to march to Ticondaroga in the Service of this State, and that your petitioners at their arrival at Charlestown received counter orders and returned, being seven days on their march, and that soon after, the said Cap^t Bean died, which has rendered it necessary for your petitioners to apply to this honourable Court for their pay for their said Service and their necessary Expenses at that time— * * *

David Carr In behalf of the petitioners—

[In June, 1786, David Carr "of Boscawen" sent in a petition substantially the same as the foregoing, except that the name of Moses Noyes is inserted and the name of Benjamin Bean left out.—ED.]

[R. 116] [*Papers relative to Benj. Jenness, a Bow soldier.*]

The Deposition of Jeremiah Abbot of Lawful age Testifies and says, that he was a soldier in the New Hampshire Line in the year 1781, and Benj^a Jenness was a soldier at the same time, and to the best of my knowledge the said Jenness was Discharged on or about the middle of December in said year.

Jere^h Abbott.

[Sworn to, Pembroke, June 11, 1784, before Richard Bartlett, Justice of the Peace.]

[R. 117]

Exeter June 28th 1784

There is due to Benjamin Jennes a six months man for the town of Bowe in the year 1781 Eight pounds one shilling and four pence.—J Gilman

[R. 118]

Bow august 1th 1781 for value Rec'd to the Paymaster for the Six months men Please to Pay to the Selectmen of Bow my wedges for the Six months Servis & I remain your Very Humble Servant

Moly Brown

Sally ^{Hur} × Hukker [?]
mark

Benj^a ^{his} × Jennes
mark

Bow June y^e 24th 1784.

Sir Please to pay the contents of the within order to the Bearer & you will oblige yours

James Robertson } Selectmen
Enoch Noyes } Bow

[155] [*Benjamin Noyes concerning a Ferry, 1791.*]

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in general court convened.

Humbly Shews Benjamin Noyes of Bow in the County of Rockingham gentleman, that he has kept a ferry in said Bow on merrimack river near the mouth of suncook river ever since the year 1764, in all which time he has endeavored to give constant & satisfactory attendance, which he conceives has been greatly for the benefit of the people of this State; and likewise thinks that a continuance of said ferry will be of general utility. And as your petitioner from long occupancy hath acquired as he humbly supposes a natural right to the privilege of owning and keeping said ferry, he humbly prays your honors to grant him his heirs and assigns a right to said ferry exclusively and as in duty bound will ever pray

Benj^a Noyes

Concord Jan^y 11, 1791.

[In H. of Rep., January 11, the foregoing was read and

referred to a committee, who reported favorably, and an act was passed February 14, 1791, granting said Noyes the exclusive right of a ferry over Merrimack river in any place within one mile either above or below the mouth of Suncook river.—ED.]

BRADFORD.

The township was granted to John Peirce and George Jaffrey, and the first settlement was made by William Presbury in 1771; three years later several families from Bradford, Mass., settled here, and called the town New Bradford.

In answer to a petition of the inhabitants the town was incorporated September 27, 1787, and given its present name. The act included New Bradford, Washington Gore, and a portion of the town of Washington, and provided that it should be annexed to Hillsborough county. By an act approved December 6, 1796, a tract of land was severed from Fishersfield (now Newbury), and annexed to this town, and another June 22, 1859.

[R. 120] [*Thomas Perry, soldier from Bradford, 1784.*]

To the Treasury of the State of New Hampshire

Pleas to Essue all my son Thomas Perry Wagers that is Due or ma Be Cum Due Ebenezer Perry or order it Being for value Received by me as witnes my hand

obediah Perry

Bradford January the 2 1784

[Benjamin Thurston certified that Obediah Perry had a son "Thomas Parrey, who went into the army of the State & who is said to be dead."—ED.]

[156] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1787.*]

| | |
|---|---|
| State of New Hampshire) | To the Senate and House of Rep- |
| Hillsborough ss.) | resentatives of Said State to be Con- |
| May y ^e 30 th 1787.) | vened the first Wednesday of June next. |

your Honours petitioners most *Humbly Sheweth* Being Inhabitants of Said State in the Township of New bradford so called Labouring under many and great Inconveniencies for want of Being Incorporated into a Town we your Honours Humble petitioners Earnestly Desire that Said Township of New bradford together with a part of the Town of Washington and a part of Washington Goar So Called be Incorporated into a Town by the name of Bradford with all the priviledges and Immunities of a Town and be annexed to the County of Hillsborough, Containing all the Lands within the following Bounds (Viz) Beginning at a Beach tree on Hillsborough Line thence running north eighty two Degrees East on Hillsborough Line Six miles and eighty four Rods to a Hemlock tree thence the same point of Compass to the south west corner of warner thence north seventeen Degrees west by said warner four miles and two hundred and thirty one Rods to Sutton south Line thence westerly by said Sutton Line to fishersfield East Line Sixty Rods from Said Sutton south west corner Being a white oak tree marked thence by fishersfield Line to a Beach tree marked Being the north east corner of washington Goar thence north seventy eight Degrees west three miles three hundred and ten Rods to a Small Beach marked on fishersfield Line thence South two degrees west two miles one Hundred an fifty Rods to a Black ash tree marked thence South twenty seven Degrees East two miles and one Hundred Rods to the Beach first mentioned and in granting these our Desires your Honours will much oblige your Honours Humble petitioners and we as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Eben ^r Eaton | James Presbury | W ^m Clements |
| Eben ^r Colby | John Brown | Daniel Eaton |
| Daniel Cresey | Abram Smith | John Stanley |
| Joseph Presbury | Neh ^r How | Isaac Davis |
| Stephen Ward | Peter How | Joshua Andrews |
| Nathaniel Presbury | Nathaniel Presbury | Abnar Ward |
| Jr | Enoch Hoyt | Moses Bailey |

May y^e 30th 1787.

We the subscribers being Inhabitants of that part of Washington Included in the within petition Desire the prayer thereof may be granted

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Samuel Crane | Uzziel Bachelder | Simeon Hildrith |
| Martin Brockway | Asa Brockway, | |

[In H. of Rep., June 19, 1787, the foregoing petition was read, and a hearing ordered for the next session; and on

the 27th day of September, 1787, the town of Bradford was duly incorporated.—ED.]

[158] [*Line of Town defined.*]

State of New Hampshire.

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 12th 1788.

Whereas by an act to incorporate a Township in the County of Hillsborough, by the Name of Bradford passed the twenty-seventh day of September Anno Domini seventeen hundred & eighty-seven, there appears to have been a mistake in describing the bounds thereof; for Remedy whereof Resolved that the following shall be considered as part of the bounds of said Township—Viz beginning at a beach Tree at Hillsborough line thence running north eighty two Degrees East on the said line six miles & eighty four Rods to a Hemlock Tree & from thence Running by Henniker Line, the same course to the south west corner of Warner, anything in the aforesaid act of Incorporation to the contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for Concurrence

Tho^s Bartlett, Speaker

In Senate the same day read & concurred

J. Pearson Sec^y

[157] [*Petition for Authority to raise Money to build Roads.*]

To the Hon. Seanate and House of Representatives in Jeneral Court Conveaned at Concord on the first weadnesday of June 1788

The Petticion of the in Habitants of Bradford in the State of New Hampsh. and County of Hillsborough *Humbly Sheweth* that they being but fue in Number that thare Roads are extremely bad not with Standing thay have Dun much Labor on them therefore the Prair of your Pettioners is that you would grant us Liberty to tax all the Land in Bradford one Penny Per acre for the Space of three years which money Shall be Laid out for the purpose of Repairing and making Roads in Bradford and we as in Duty Shall ever Pray

Bradford June the 2, 1788

Eben^r Eaton } Select men
Enoch Hoyt } for Bradford

[The foregoing petition was granted by an act passed January 20, 1789.—ED.]

[163]

in Annual Metting, Bradford March 10th 1789.
 Voted Samuel Crane moderator to regulate this meeting
 Voted Eben^r Eaton Town Clerk
 Voted Eben^r Eaton 1 Select man for the Present year
 Voted Isaac Davis 2 Select man for the Present year
 Voted Simeon Hildrith 3 Select man for the Present year
 Voted John Brown Tithing man
 Voted Peter How Tithing man for the present year
 a true copy Attest

Isaac Davis } Select men
 Simeon Hildrith } for Bradford

[160] [*Petition for Appointment of a Justice of the Peace, 1789.*]

To His Excellency and Honourable Council

As a majority of the in Habitants of this Town Petitioned the last year to your Honours for a Justis of the pease & we find that it was Not granted we Pray your Honours to grant that petetion for we find great Nead of a Justis as well as other Towns Notwithstanding we ar Small But we Donot see the harm that it Can Do But be to our Benefit in general as a town and to the pease and good order of the town and in so Doing you will oblige them that are In Duty Bound to Serve

Isaac Davis } Select men
 Simeon Hildrith } for
 } Bradford

Bradford June y^e 6 1789—

[159] [*Inhabitants' Petition for Justice of the Peace, 1789.*]

State of New Hampshire } To His Excellency the President
 Hillsborough ss. } and Council of Said State your Pe-
 December 16th 1789 } tioners *Humbly Sheweth* Being In-
 habitants of Said State in the Town of Bradford Being Desire-
 ous of Peace and good order Earnestly Desire that Ebenezer
 Eaton of Said Bradford may be appointed a Justice of the Peace
 in s^d Town and Desire that this may be Annexed to a Petition
 Presented to your Honors in June 1788 and we as in Duty
 Bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

Neh^h Howe Samuel Cheney Jacob Blanchard
 Abraham T. Sweatt moses Baley
 Jacob Abbott William Brown

[Ebenezer Eaton was appointed January 12, 1790.—ED.]

BRENTWOOD

Was set off from Exeter, and constituted a parish by the name of Brintwood, June 26, 1742. It was, however, not entirely separated from Exeter in town matters, as they were to "remain with Exeter as to choice of representatives till further order of this Court," and by act of November 30, 1742, the selectmen of Exeter and Brentwood were to join "in making their province rates until otherways ordered by this Court."

Under date May 26th, 1744, "Andrew Gillman, Nicho. Dudley & Humphrey Willson" petitioned in behalf of the inhabitants of Brentwood for an act of incorporation, and in council, October 1, following, it was voted to advise the governor to grant the same, but I fail to find any record of the grant of incorporation.

The west part of the town was incorporated into a parish by the name of Poplin (now Fremont), June 22, 1764.

[162]

[*List of Rates, 1743.*]

The within is a List of the Rates of those that have Petitioned the Gen^{le} Court to Pole to a house in the Parish of Brintwood to settel a minister there by them selves. Whither they be able is to be Determined or whither Somthing Else is not Desired Which may Prove fatal

The Whole Sum money Raised in the Parish of Brintwood this year 1743 as it is sit Down in the Cons^{ble} warrant £187-^s8-^d10

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| The widow maryDudley | 0- 1 -6 | Stephen Leavit | 2- 4- 7 |
| Jeremiah Bean | 1- 7-19 | Samu ^l Edgerley | 1-17- 3 |
| Joshua Bean | 0-18- 4 | mathy Bean | 0- 1- 6 |
| Caleb Brown | 0-13- 6 | Jonathan Quimby | 1- 1- 9 |
| Edward Colcord | 2- 5- 1 | Daniel Quimby | 0-14- 8 |
| Sam ^{el} Dudley Jr | 1-18- 8 | Samu ^l Smith | 1- 1- 6 |
| Nicholas Dudley | 3-10- 2 | Haley Stevens | 1- 5- 6 |
| nicholas Dudley Jur | 1-11- 6 | Edwd thing | 0-15- 0 |
| John Dudley | 3- 7- 3 | Jonathan thing | 1- 5-11 |
| Sarah Gordon Wd | 1- 0- 8 | Josiah thing | 2- 4- 3 |
| Jeremiah Gillman | 1- 3- 3 | Daniell wormall | 1- 1-11 |
| Andrew Gillman | 2-12- 1 | Humphrey wilson | 2-14- 6 |

| | | | |
|---|---------|-------------------|---------|
| Benj ^a Gillman | 0-14- 6 | Jonathan wadleigh | 1- 5- 6 |
| Jonathan Gilman | 0-13- 6 | thomas flanders | 0- 0- 0 |
| John George | 1- 8-11 | timothy Leavit | 3- 5- 7 |
| Antipas Gilman | 1- 8- 6 | John Holon | 0-13- 6 |
| Joseph hoite | 1- 2- 6 | John Leavit | 1- 8- 6 |
| Dailey Kelly | 1- 5- 6 | John Morgan | 1- 1- 4 |
| Sum total £51-3-7 thirteen shillings Six Pence on the hund. | | | |

[161]

Province of New Hamp^r Nov^r 30th 1743.

We the subscribers haveing reconsidered the affair of Brentwood, & think it will be Best, & make most for Peace, for them to be made two Parrishes according to the within request only allowing the Eight Persons hereafter named to Pole of to the South Part (viz^t) Jonathan Cram Jon^a Robinson Jonathan Taler Nath^l Prescot Jer: Rowe Dan^l Tilton John James John Mudget if they desire it, wh^{ch} the Parties when we were there seemed to Consent to—& that the South Part may have Liberty to come to this House for four years on free Cost if they are not otherwise Provided for before

Eleazer Russell }
Mark Langdon } Committee

The remonstrants desire they may be set off as follows (viz^t)
Beginning where Brentwood lower line Strikes the river then to run up the River to the little falls next above Pickpocket mill then on a Strait line to the head of David Robinsons land then on a Strait line to Deer hill mill Pond then on a Parralel line wth Kingstown line to the Extent of Exeter town bound.

[For petition, and other documents relating to this matter, see Town Papers, vol. 9, p. 77.—ED.]

[R. 121] [*Petition of John Waldron Smith, soldier, 1757.*]

Province of } To the Honourable The Generall Court
New Hampshire } or assembly of the Province aforesaid This
Humbly Sheweth That I the Subscriber your Petitioner was a
Soldier in Cap^t Isaac Smiths Company in Col Miserves Ridge-
ment of Troops that went in y^e Expedition against Crown Point
in y^e year 1756, & I went to fort Edward and there was Taken
Sick & Returned Down To y^e half moon In a Waggon & there
Laid Sick Three weeks & Senceless in which Time my Gun

was Stolen from me : & from thence was Carried To y^e flats in a Battoo & there Laid Sick three months att y^e Point of Death in which tim my Brother obediah Came up to see if he Could Gett me home If I was alive But I was so Bad I could not Come for which I paid him fifty five pounds old Tenor & now I humbly Beg of your Honours To Take my Grate Deficuelty & Cost Under your Wise Consideration and in your Grate Wisdom and wonted Goodness alow me Something for these Exter-oadanery Expences as you Shall See fitt In Which If your Honours Compley as your Petitioner Releys & Confides in your fidility you will Exceedingly oblige your Humble Servant

Dated at Brintwood Novbr y^e 22^d 1757

John Waldron Smith

N. B. my humble Request and fervent Charity for you Gentlemen is that you will alow me for my Gun & longer pay for my Time—N. B. after a long & Tedious sickness & Grate Expenc I Came Home January y^e 19th 1757.—

[The foregoing was sworn to before Benjamin Veasey. In H. of Rep., May 26th, 1758, voted that the treasurer pay said Smith nine pounds, and allow him for the gun. Council concurred, and the governor consented to it.—ED.]

[R. 122] *Abstract of Jonathan Pulcifer's Petition, 1758.*]

[In a petition dated Brentwood, December 18, 1758, Jonathan Pulcifer states that his son Jonathan was a soldier in Capt. Somersby Gilman's company, was taken sick near Sheffield, on his return from Lake George, and there died. He asks for an allowance to pay expenses of said sickness, &c., and is allowed fifty-four shillings sterling.—ED.]

[R. 123] [*Petition of Josiah Bean, soldier, 1758, addressed to the Governor and Assembly in due form.*]

The Petition of Josiah Bean of Brentwood in said Province Laborer.

MOST HUMBLY SHEWETH, That your Petitioner was a Souldier in the Canada Expedition in the year 1757, In the Service of this Province under the Command of Capt. Richard Emery, and as such Proceeded to Fort William Henry, where after the

seige he was Taken and made Prisoner by the Indians & carryed to Canada where he remained about the space of four months and was from thence Transported to Several parts of France & from thence to Plymouth In England where he took Passage to Newfound Land & from thence to New York where he arrived the Tenth day of November last and Got home about the thirteenth of the same month.

That the Indians who took him prisoner Stripped him of Sundry Cloaths Viz : Two Jackets, Two Shirts, Two pair of Stockins, a pair of Buckskin Breeches & one hatt, Napsack and Gun—That your Petitioner in the time of his Captivity had the Small Pox in Canada & the Fever In France which was both Grievous & Expensive to him—and During his Captivity had hard fare and Ill Treatment from the Enemy.—

[He asks for an allowance of such an amount as the assembly shall see fit to grant him. The matter was under consideration March 14, 1759, and said Bean was granted £75, new tenor.—Ed.]

[R. 137]

A List of the men belonging to the People called Quakers living within the limits of the companys of Capt. John Dudley and Capt. James Robinson as Returned to me by the said Captains or the Clerks of their Companys in April 1759.

In Capt. Robinson's Company, effective men

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Stephen Dudley | Jon ^a Beady | Enoch Bean |
| James Bean Junr. | Jeremiah Glidden | Dan ^l Stevens |
| Thomas Gordon | Benj ^a Scribner | Dan ^l West |
| Junr. | Dan ^l Gordon | Job Kenniston |
| Joseph Judkins | Moses Magoon | Joseph Dudley |
| John Kenniston | Joseph Kenniston | John Scribner |
| Ithiel Smith | Jacob Smith Junr. | |

Non Effectives

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| James Dudley | James Bean | Thomas Gordon |
| Jon ^a Glidden | James Young | Dan ^l Ladd |

Effective men in Capt. Dudleys company

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Will ^m Bean | Joshua Bean | Will ^m Chase |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|

Province of New Hampshire, Exeter Oct^o 6th 1761.

Examined per Sam^l Gilman Col^o of fourth Redgmt of foot in Said Province

[R. 138]

To the honourabel Cort this is to Sigenyfy that these men has Don thair Equel proportion In going in the Serves—Jeames Dudley one turn Joseph Judkins two turn in the Servis Daniel Gorden one turn Job Kinesons Son has bin out two years in the Searves under him Joseph Kineson to years for himself in the Searves—and also Benj^a Scribner has paid as a foin £16,—Jacob Smith has paid £16 Daniel West £16.

Brintwood November 3^d 1761—Jeames Robinson Capt.

[R. 139]

An account of the sum or sums of money paid by ye friends at Brentwood, and how many years servise has Been Done by them—Daniel West 16 £ Jacob Smith 16 £ Benj^a Scribner 16 £ James Dudley one years servise—Jeremiah Glidden one months servise a scouting—Daniel Gorden one years servise—Job Kenniston two years servise and Lost a gun in the Capitulation prize thirty seven pounds ten shillings—Joseph Dudley had a servent out one year—Joseph Kenniston two years Servise—John Kenniston one years servise Joseph Judkins two years servise—Daniel Stevens one years servise—Joshua Bean had a son one year in y^e ranging servise

[R. 124] [*Daniel Moody's Petition, 1760, soldier, addressed to the Governor and Assembly.*]

[In a petition dated Brentwood, January 23, 1760, Daniel Moodey, laborer, states that he enlisted with Capt. Jonathan Blunt, of Chester, for the Canada expedition, was taken sick before they marched, and was left behind; that on his recovery he applied to Capt. Blunt and to Capt. James Robinson to be sent to the army; had held himself in readiness to go at any time, but had received no order to do so; wants an allowance to pay his doctor's bill, which he says he is too poor to pay himself. He further says,—“N. B. your petitioner has been in The service two Campaigns before and stands Reddy to go again.”—ED.]

[R. 125] [*Widow Bridget Clifford's Petition, 1762, addressed to the Governor and Assembly.*]

[In a petition dated Brentwood, March 19, 1762, Bridget

Clifford states that her son, Nathan Smith, enlisted "when about twenty years old under Capt. Jacob Tilton ye last Summer and went to Crown Point with said Tilton;" was taken sick and left behind "when the company was released," in care of her grandson Jonathan Judkins, who finally came home, leaving Smith at Albany without means to return. She asks for assistance to get him home. Petition "ordered to lay."

(R. 132) Nathan Smith got home July 3, 1762, and the next January asked the assembly to give him an order for his pay up to July, which was granted February 4, 1763. —ED.]

[R. 126] [*Petition of Job Kenniston, Quaker, addressed to the Governor and Assembly, June 15, 1762.*]

Humbly Sheweth Job Kenniston of Brintwood in said province—That the Selectmen of said Brintwood for the year 1760, Taxed this petitioner & his Two sons John Kenniston & Joseph Kenniston towards the Warr Rate So Called which was then assessed (by an act of the General Assembly) on the people Called Quakers, By means whereof this Petitioner is greatly aggrieved, For that in his opinion he has done (by his said sons) his and their full share of Duty in supporting & carrying on the Warr, his said son John having been two years in the warr at Oswego & his said son Joseph having been four years in the Kings service under the pay of this province, in which time he was Robbed by the Indians of his Cloaths & of a Valuable gun & was held a prisoner by them untill Redeemed by the French General.—

[He asks relief from paying the said tax. The selectmen were notified of a hearing, which occurred December 8, 1763, at which the assembly voted to grant the petition. —ED.]

[R. 127] [*Petition of Selectmen concerning Small-Pox, 1762, addressed to the Governor and Assembly.*]

The Humble Petition of the Select Men of the Parish of Brentwood in said Province, In behalf of said Parish Humbly Shows.

That Joseph Moody of said Brentwood was bound in his majesties Servis in the year 1760 under the Command of General Amherst & in Col. Goffs Rigiment in which Servis said

Moody took the Infection of the Small Pox which he secretly brought home to his family where he was taken sick and died of the same, which sickness & Burials in his family Cost our Parish Six hundred & five Pounds old tenor Besides his Leaving a poor family of Children with the Small Pox which he brought to them & Leaving them naked and nothing for their Support which Cost a considerable sum to our Parish to get them under care and nursing—and his Seecretly bringing the Infection in amongst us notwithstanding our diligent care & Pains to Prevent its spreading has so far spread that it has gone through three Poor Families besides said Moodys and also several other Poor Persons which have not wherewith to pay the Cost the s^d Parish are obliged to bare the same which amounts to the sum of abought nineteen hundred Pounds old Tenor—and also several other famelies have ben at Great Cost In there famelies by said sickness In which 17 of our Parisheners dyed—and otherwise our Parish has Greatly Suffered & ben at Great Charge by our ways being Shut up & our being obliged to agree with People to Let their fields Lay open for y^e Public Passing & by our Mills & Iron Mill being shut up &c—Wherefore Inasmuch as these things Came upon them by the means of a Soldier In the Comon defence they humbly Pray that they may be heard on the Premises & allowed an oppertunity of makeing their Case more fully known and a proper Remedy applied and they shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| James Robinson | James Bean | } Select Men of Brentwood |
| Daniel Beede | Hawley Marshall | |

[They presented the following bills, which they asked the province to pay,—all charged “old tenor money:”

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|
| Daniel Beede | £22..17..6. | Nathaniel Whittier | £30..14..6 |
| Widow M ^c Clenen | 100.. 5..— | Joseph Bean | 124..—..— |
| Jonathan Smith | 95..—..— | James Merrill | 228.. 0..6 |

I will copy Merrill's bill entire, that the people of this generation may know what was considered necessary to carry a family through an attack of small-pox one hundred and twenty years ago. As it seems that two of the family died under the treatment, I do not wish to be understood as recommending its adoption.—Ed.]

[R. 131]

1761, Dec. 6. D^r The Parish of Brentwood to James Merrill for Sundrys provided & expended for the Family of Joseph Moody late of said Brentwood deceased a Soldier who brought the Small Pox into said Parish

| | | |
|---|------|-------|
| To Rum & Sugar at sundry times | £14- | 8— |
| “ building a house to remove said Family | 10- | 9— |
| “ refuse bords 800 ftt. Joist for s ^d house 900 ftt. | 27.. | 12..— |
| “ myself 2 Days in fencing up said house | 6.. | 0..— |
| “ Bord nails 8..16 To Rum 50/ | 11.. | 6..— |
| “ Expense on the house 50/ To refuse bords 9..12.0 | 12. | 2..— |
| “ a Coffin 40/ Sugar 12/ To 12 ^{lbs} Beef @ 6/-3.12/ | 6. | 4.— |
| “ Rum 40/ to bord Nails & turneps 8/6 | 2. | 8. 6. |
| “ Pork Beef Sugar butter Coffee Bread Meal &c | 9. | 7.— |
| “ Bread Rum Sugar Beef & Pork | 11. | 1.— |
| “ Pork 11½ ^{lb} 5£ Sugar 24/ Rum 4£ Rum & But ^r 22/ | 11. | 6.— |
| “ Rum 4£ Sugar 24/ Rum 20/ Do. 40/ | 8. | 4.— |
| “ Potatoes Turnips & pork | 2. | 17.— |
| “ Beef 43/6 To Cheese for the nurses 16/6 | 3. | —.— |
| “ Butter 15/ Coffee 16/6 Rum 4£ Sug ^r 24/ | 6. | 15. 6 |
| “ Tobacco Beef Pork Meal & Coffee | 12. | 11.— |
| “ Coffee Sug ^r & Butter 23/ Rum 4£ | 5. | 3.— |
| “ Rum Sug ^r & fish 68/ halling wood 4.10 | 7. | 18.— |
| “ a Porringer & 2 Coffee Cups 20/ | 1. | 0.— |
| “ M ^r Jeremiah Beans Expense in attendance | 4. | 5.— |
| “ Rum 40/ To cheese for the nurses 43/6 | 4. | 3. 6 |
| “ Attendance on said Moodys Family 40 Days | 50. | —.— |
| | | 6 |
| Old Tenor | 228. | 0. 6 |

[The accounts were sworn to before Benjamin Veasey.

In H. of Rep., January 27, 1763, *Voted*, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and that the amount of the several accounts presented, amounting to twenty-three pounds, nineteen shillings, and eight pence sterling be paid to the selectmen of Brentwood out of the money for paying off the troops. The council concurred, and the governor consented to it.—ED.]

[167] [*Quakers' Petition about Rates, 1769.*]

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hampshire } Governor in chief and over said Province,
 The Hon^{ble} the Council, And House of Representatives in
 General Assembly convened 20th March 1769.

The Humble Petition of Joshua Bean and William Bean both of Brentwood in said Province, Yeomen, *Sheweth*; That your Petitioners now are and for a long time have been of the People called QUAKERS. In the year 1757 the said Joshua give a Considerable Bounty to a man to inlist in the Provincial Ser-

vice in the War against the common Enemy ; and the very next year following a son of the said Joshua then a Minor about seventeen years of Age inlisted and went in the said Service, and continued therein for the Space of thirteen months. In his return home, said Son was taken and Continued Sick for a long time, by means whereof the said Joshua was at great Cost in defraying the Expences of his Said Sons Sickness ; in cloathing him (who returned almost naked) and in hiring other Persons to perform the service and labor which his said son might have done, during his Absence.

That the other of your Petitioners now is and for thirty years has been a Cripple by Reason of a very bad wound which he then received in his back—that a son of the said William in or about the year 1758 was impressed into the war, who was then obliged to give a very considerable Sum of money to procure another Man to serve in his stead—Notwithstanding, the Select Men of said Brentwood well knew all the Premises, they have assessed and rated your Petitioners towards the Expenses of last War, as much or more than would have been their proportion, if your Petitioners had not done or contributed anything in Manner above mentioned.

All which Rates and Assessments your Petitioners esteem grievous inequitable and oppressive.

WHEREFORE your Petitioners humbly pray that they may be Exonerated, discharged and exempted from the Payment of said Rates and Assessments in such Manner and by such Means as you shall think most expedient, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Joshua Bean

William Bean

[164]

Brentwood April the 20 1769

This is to Acquaint the honnourable house of Representatives the year when this Rate was Raised which was in the year 1760 A Tax Laid on the People Called quakers Called a war Rate which i give hear a coppe of under my hand

Jeremiah Rowe

Joshua Been 62 : 13 : 6

Wiliam Been 84 : 13 : 6

147 : 7 : 0

[165]

thes fu lins Is to Sertfy thee Jenrll Cort that Abner Bean Paid me an hundred Pound old tener for goen Into the War for him as witnes my hand

Darby Kelly

[166]

Brintwood apriel 18th 1769 We y^e Subscribers Being Desired by Joshua Been to signify to y^e general Court that we are fully Sadsfyed that he Has Been his prepotion in y^e Late war his Son Being in the Kings Sarves in y^e year 1758 and that we think it unreasonable for him to pay this rate laid on him

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Aaron Rawlings | David Sanborn | Jeremiah Sanborn |
| John Sanborn | Timothy Gorden | William Graves |

Province of } In the House of Representatives Apr^l 19th
New Hamp^r } 1769. The Parties being fully heard on this Petition and it appearing Reasonable that the Petitioners Should be Relieved from paying the tax mentioned in the Petition Voted and Resolved That they be Each of them Discharged from Paying their Respective part of said assessment Namely the said Joshua Bean the Sum of 62-13-6 old Ten^r And the said William Bean the Sum of 84-13-6 old Ten^r The whole Equal to Seven Pounds Seven Shillings four Pence one farthing Lawfull Money and the Treasurer of said Province is hereby authorized to Charge the Province with said Sum in his next acco^t as so much Received of Outstanding Debts.

M. WEARE Cl^r

In Council 29th April 1769
Read and Concurred

T. Akinson Jun. Sec^y.

Consented to

J. Wentworth

[168] [*Quakers' Petition about Rates, 1769.*]

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hampshire } Governor in Chief in and over said Province. The Hon^{ble} the Council and the House of Representatives in general Assembly convened February 21st A. D. 1769.

The Humbly Petition of *John Scribner* of *Poplin* in said Province Yeoman in behalf of himself and *Jacob Smith* of said *Poplin*, *Daniel West*, and *Jeremiah Glidden* both of *Deerfield* in said Province yeomen (all being of the People called QUAKERS) *Shews*, That they apprehend they have been rated illegally and inequitably relating to the Tax towards raising Men to serve his Majesty in the last War.

Your Petitioner humbly conceive that the Act by which the Men were levied was never designed to tax any of the People called Quakers who were always ready to contribute towards the Public Expense, By Sending their Sons, Servants or by

paying their fines if unwilling or unable to Serve in person or sending other person in their Stead. That the above named Glidden and West were imprest to serve in the last War who were obliged to pay a fine for not serving, and that your Petitioner was then a Miller, which he understood exempted from other public Duty of that kind. And your Petiti^r then offered to pay his part or Proportion towards Sending Some other Person but was then informed by *James Robinson* who was then Captain, of Brentwood, that your Petitioner was not liable to pay any thing. But afterwards the Select Men of *Brentwood*, in said Province Assessed and rated your Petitioner and the others in behalf of whom he petitions, towards the Charges of the then Expedition and your Petitioner and the above named Quakers daily are threatened to be distressed for the Payment of the said Tax

WHEREFORE your Petitioner in behalf of himself and others above mentioned humbly prays that they may be exonerated And discharged from the Payment of the whole or such Part of said Tax, as you in your great Wisdom shall think most proper and expedient And your Petiti^r as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

John Scribner

February 23^d 1769.

[In H. of Rep., February 24, 1769, a hearing was ordered for the next session, of which the selectmen of Brentwood were to have due notice. Council concurred.—ED.]

In the House of Rep., Ap^l 19th 1769.

The petitioners and Selectmen of Brentwood being heard on this Petition and it appearing Reasonable that the Petitioners should be Discharged from the tax assessed on them by the act mentioned in the Petition. *Voted and Resolved* that they be Each of them Discharged from Paying their Respective assessments to said tax Namely the Said John Scribner the Sum of 55-6-0 the said Jacob Smith the Sum of 35-14-3 the said Daniel West the Sum of 23-0-10 and the said Jeremiah Glidden the Sum of 44-18-9 all Old Ten^r the whole Equal to Seven Pound Nineteen Shillings Lawful Money And the Treasurer of this Province is hereby authorized to charge the Province with said Sum in his next acco^t as so much Received of Outstanding Debts.

M. Weare Cl^r

In Council 29th April 1769. Read and Concurred
T. Atkinson Jun. Sec^r
Consented to J. Wentworth

[R. 140] [*Petition of Selectmen about Soldier, 1776.*]

[In a petition dated November 28, 1776, Ebenezer Colcord, James Robinson, and Jedediah Robinson, Selectmen of Brentwood, state that "in July Last one John M^cGoon (son of John M^cGoon late of Raymond Deceased) a soldier in the Northern Army, and not an inhabitant of said Brentwood, did come into s^d Parish & was taken sick of small pox," and that they were at an expense of £7-13-0 in his case, which they ask the state to pay.—ED.]

[R. 142]

Brintwood the 6th Feb^y 1782.

Received of W^m Morrill Esq eight shillings L. My. it Being For Corn he let my wife have towards her support while I was in the army. s^d Sume I order to be allowed s^d Morrill Esq or his order out of my wages from the Treasurer

William Cutler—

[Said Cutler also orders six shillings and sixpence to be paid to Dr. Thomas How Ranney.—ED.]

[R. 144]

Brintwood December y^e 9th 1782.

then Rec^d of the Select men of s^d Brintwood seven pound one shilling Lawfull money on my husbands wagers William Cutler Now a Continental solger in y^e army I say Rec^d by me
Betty Cutler

[R. 143]

Brentwood December y^e 30th 1782.

Then Rec^d of the town of s^d Brentwood twelve pounds of my wagers for the Support of my family for y^e year past to this Date I say Rec^d by me as witness my hand

Abel Morrill

[169] [*James Bean's Petition to be Released from Jail.*]

State of New-
Hampshire } To the hon^{ble} The Council and House of
Rockingham ss. } Representatives in General Assembly con-
vened at Exeter Nov. 1779

The Petition of James Bean of Brintwood in the said Coun-

ty, *humbly sheweth*. That your Petitioner has for Thirty years past been a public teacher of the Gospel of God our Saviour among the Sect of Christians called Quakers—That he himself is a Quaker in principle and by profession, and has in the course of his labours preached to more than twenty different Societies of the same principles, notwithstanding which he was by the Constable of said Brentwood, cast into Prison at Exeter for taxes while all public preachers of other persuasions are ever exempted—

He therefore prays that your honors would take his case into your consideration—and order him to be liberated from his said confinement—and as in duty bound he will ever pray—

Exeter—Prison y^e 10th November A. D. 1779.

Sherburne Sleeper
in behalf of s^d Bean—

[In H. of Rep., November 12, 1779, it was ordered that the petitioner be brought before the house for examination; council concurred.

In H. of Rep., November 12, P. M., the petition of James Bean being read and considered, voted that it be dismissed.—ED.]

[170] [*Selectmen about furnishing Soldiers, 1779.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives of the
State of New Hampshire.

The petition of The Select Men of Brentwood (at y^e Desire of their Constituents) *humbly sheweth* That the people of Brentwood did Seasonably and at great Expençe provide their proportion of Continental Soldiers, and now a further requisition is made for Eight men more in order as it is said, to fill up the Batallions which is said to be Brentwoods proportion of Six hundred men, which appears to us to be greater than that was proportioned to us before, for our proportion of the Three Regiments was but Twenty Six, and now Eight are required as our proportion of Six hundred, and further more the people want to be satisfied in this, whether the new levies are to fill up the Regiments who lost men by y^e Sword or Sickness, or whether it is thro y^e defect of Some of y^e Towns who have not provided their proportion of men, if the latter, we think it very hard to be an Equal proportion in filling up the regiments with those who heretofore had not done their proportion. Therefore we think That every Town Should furnish

their first proportion of men, and then what is wanting to complete the whole to be proportioned among all y^e Towns. This Seems to be y^e mind of our Constituents, and what they will willingly submit to. Thus we have signified to you the minds of y^e people when assembled together, and pray you to take these things into your wise consideration and to grant us y^t relief y^t you in your wisdom Shall Think belongs to us and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

June y^e 25th 1779.

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Robert Rowe | Levi Morrill | } Select Men of Brentwood |
| Joseph Johnson | Samuel thing | |
| | Thomas Gorden | |

[I fail to find any action of the legislature on the above matter.—ED.]

[171] [*Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

Agreeable to Directions to us sent From the Hon^{ble} the General Assembly of this State wee have taken the Number of Male Poles From 21 years of age and upwards Paying Taxes which is 196

Brentwood the 8th of Decemb^r 1783

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Tho ^s Stow Ranney | } Select Men of Brentwood |
| Levi Morrill | |
| Rich ^d York Jun ^r | |

Sworn to before William Morrill Justice Peice

[R. 146] [*Daniel Philbrook's Order.*]

Brentwood Nov. 26th 1784.

To the Treasurer of the State of New Hampshire

Sir—Please to pay Jn^o Nichols or order all that is due to me I having been a Soldier in the 3^d New Hampshire Regiment. Value Rec^d Witness my hand

Attest

Susannah philbrick

Danil philbrock

[172] [*Proceedings in Town-Meeting about Paper Money, 1786.*]

At a Legal Town Meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of Brentwood this 20th day of Nov^m 1786.

1st Voted Sam^{el} Dudley Esq^r Moderator

2^{dly} Put to vote to see if the Meeting will have paper Money upon any Plan and Twenty six votes for it and thirteen against it—

3^{dly} Put to vote to see if the Meeting will accept the plan Sent to this Town [see Atkinson papers] by the General Court for paper money, as it now stands, and past in the Negative by Twenty Six votes—

4^{thly} Voted to Chuse a Committee of five men to make such Alterations and amendments upon Said Plan as they think Necessary—

5^{thly} Voted Capt James Robinson Sam^l Shaw Deacon Levi Morrill Sam^l Dudley Esq^r Ens. Tho^s Gorden to be a Committee, to Revise the Said plan for paper money, and make such amendments thereon as to them appears Necessary, and make report thereof to this meeting at their next adjournment—

6^{thly} Voted to adjourn this Meeting to the present place to wednesday, the 29th of this present Novemb. at Two o Clock in the afternoon—

Met according to adjournment, to Receive the report of the Committee—which is as follows that in their opinion there ought to be the following amendment upon said plan (Viz) that the said paper money Shall be a lawful tender so far as to satisfy Judgment upon all executions.

7^{thly} Put to vote to see if the meeting will approve of the above amendment Recommended by the Committee to be made in Said Plan. and there appeared Eighteen for, and Two against it—the Meeting Dissolved—

a True Cobby attest

Thos. Stow Ranney T. Clerk

[For the action of the legislature upon this matter, see Atkinson papers.—ED.]

[173] [Certificate of Nails made, 1791.]

State of New Hampshire }
 Rockingham ss. } Brintwood March 5th 1791.

We the subscribers, being the major part of the Selectmen of Brintwood, do hereby certify that Levi Morrill of said Town has bona fide made, or caused to be made in his work shop within this State one hundred thousand of Ten penny Wrought nails since the 7th day of February 1789—

Josiah Hook }
 Winthrop Dudley } Selectmen

Attest Thos. Stow Ranney Just^e Paies

March 18, 1791. Received an order on the Treasurer for five pounds—

Levi Morrill

[The foregoing was for a bounty offered by the legislature.—ED.]

BRIDGEWATER.

This town was part of New Chester (now Hill), until it was set off, February 12, 1788, and incorporated by the following bounds: "Beginning at the mouth of Newfound River (so called) thence running by the southerly Bank of said river to Newfound pond thence by the easterly shore of said pond to Plymouth line thence by said line to Pemigewasset River thence down said river to the bounds first mentioned including all the Islands in said river against said tract."

Thomas Crawford settled on that portion now included in the town in 1766; Jonathan Crawford and others soon after.

By an act approved June 24, 1819, the southerly part of the town was severed, united with the northerly part of New Chester, and erected into a town by the name of Bristol.

[174] [*Petition of Selectmen about Representative, 1798.*]

To the Honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire; to be convened at Concord on the third Wednesday of November A. D. 1798.

Your Petitioners *Humbly Shew*, that the District of New-Chester, Bridgewater, Alexandria, and Danbury Contains about three Hundred Legal Voters, and that the Distance from the upper part of Bridgewater to Danbury is about twenty miles which makes it extremely inconvenient for the freemen to attend Election Meetings, they therefore Pray your Honors to Divide the said District into two Representative Districts, or grant them such relief as you in your wisdom shall think fit; and as

in Duty bound will ever Pray. Signed for and in behalf of the Town.

Nov^r 13, 1798.

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Thomas Crawford | } Selectmen of Bridgewater |
| Daniel Morse | |
| John Harriman | |

[175] [*Petition of Inhabitants Relative to the Same.*]

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| State of New Hampshire | } To the Honorable the general Court of our Said State |
| Grafton ss. | |

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Bridgewater, New Chester, Alexandria & Danbury, *Sheweth*, that whereas, Said Towns, At Present Contain a Sufficient Number of Inhabitants, to Send two Representatives to the General Court of our Said State.—Therefore we pray your Honors would Divide Said District for said purpose and class Bridgewater, & Alexandria together, & New Chester & Danbury, and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Nov^r 19th 1798.

Theophilus Sanborn Selectman of New Chester
Stephen Gale Selectman

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Joshua Talford | william martin | Jonah Tirel |
| Moses Lewis | Moses Sleeper | Eben ^r Kelly |
| Christopher Bartlet | Alexander Craig | Peter Ingalls |
| Benjamin Kidder | Nathan Sleeper | |
| Peter Ladd | Eliphalet Gale | |

[The result of the foregoing petitions was the passage of a resolution, December 24, 1798, classing Bridgewater and Alexandria, and New Chester (Hill) and Danbury.—ED.]

[177] [*Petition of Daniel Burley for Charter for a Ferry.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate And House of Representatives in
General Court Convened June 5th 1799.

Humbly Shews Daniel Burley of Bridgewater in the County of Grafton that he and the publick labour under Great Inconveniences by Reason of not having any Bridg or Ferry over Pemagawassett River between the Towns of Bridgewater and New Hampton and the local situation of said Towns renders it almost

impossible to Cross said River with horses unless they are Swimed by the side of Conoes.—

Therefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Hon^{rs} to grant him the previledge of keeping a Ferry a Cross said River near pine hill in Bridgwater This place in s^d River being within a Grant of a Bridg Call^d Bridgwater & New Hampton Bridge your Petitioner further prays that he may have the grant of a Ferry only till such times as said Bridge is built and in no way to Infringe the Grant of said Bridge for which Favour Granted as in duty Bound shall ever pray

Daniel Burley

[176]

May y^e 20, 1799.

This Certifies that we the Subscribers are proprietors of a Grant of a Bridge Call^d Bridgwater and New Hampton Bridge and that we are Intirely willing that Daniel Burley of Bridgwater should have a Grant of a Ferry within the Grant of the Bridge till there is a Bridge Built so as not to Infringe the Grant of the Bridge
all Concerned

Daniel Kelly
Benj^a Colby

[The foregoing petition was granted December 11th, 1799.—ED.]

BROOKLINE.

The most of the territory included in this town was a portion of the Dunstable grant of 1673. The town was incorporated by the name of Raby, March 30, 1769. It included the westerly part of Hollis and the "mile slip," so called, and Samuel Farley was appointed to call the first meeting of the inhabitants. A portion of the town of Hollis was annexed to this town by an act passed February 17, 1786. In 1798 the town voted to have the name changed to "Brooklyne," and the legislature made the desired alteration by an act passed December 1 of that year.

The "mile slip" referred to was a strip of land lying between the westerly line of old Dunstable and the township of Mason, the grant of the latter town being made by the Masonian proprietors, October 1, 1749.

[178] [*Certificate of Men enlisted, 1776.*]

Raby* July 18, 1776

Pursuant to orders from the Hon^{ble} Nathaniel Folsom Esquire Maj^r Gen^l to me directed to raise Six men in the Company under my Command to march and Reinforce the army under General Sullivan In Consequence of said Order I have Raised & Caused to muster & march in to said service five Men. Exclusive of one belonging to the Town of Raby who had Inlisted into said service & passed Muster.

Robert Sever Capt.

To the Hon^{ble} Committee of safety }
for the Colony of New Hampshire }

[179] *Memorial to Massachusetts Legislature about Soldiers, 1778.*

State of Massachusetts Bay: To the Hon^{ble} Council & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Court Assembled The Petition of Robert Server & Alex^r MacIntosh in behalf of the Select men & Town officers of Raby In the State of New Hampshire *Humbly Shews*—That in the month of Jany. y^e Last past that Benj: patten of Said Raby in the State of N. Hampshire aforesaid did inlist himself a soldier & mustered by James Barrett Esq muster master for the County of Middlesex as appears upon said muster masters Returns now lodged in the Secretarys Office of this State.

that in the month of February 17th Day Last past that Benj. Osgood of said Raby In the State of N. hampshier aforesaid Did inlist himself a Soldier & was mustered by James Barrett Esq.—muster master For the County of middlesex as appears upon Said muster masters Returns Now Lodged in the Secretary office of the State y^e Petitioners therefore humbly Request this Hon^{ble} Court Would Direct Some Suitable person to Receive of your Petitioners this State Bounty & Likewise the Continental Bounty if this Court Shall think fit so that said Patten & said Osgood may Be Returned as Continental Soldiers for said Raby In said State of New Hampshier.—And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever pray &c—

Raby march 3, 1778.

Robert Server Capt.
Alex^r Mac Intosh

Benj. Patten is Listed into Capt. Maxwells Company in Co^l Balley Regement.

* Now Brookline.

[The foregoing petitioners were given leave to withdraw.—ED.]

[180] [*Memorial concerning Osgood and Patten.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Select men of the Town of Raby *humbly Shews*—That Benj^a Osgood & Benj^a Patten two privates belonging to the train band in the said Town of Raby in the year A. D. 1777 inlist into the Service of Massachusetts in the Continental Army for three years or during war which men were claimed by the town & were returned by the commanding officer of s^d Train band in favour of said Town and applied to the General Court of the Massachusetts for an order whereby your petitioner might have relief, but upon the principal that by a general resolve they had made Sufficient provision already for relief ordered the petition to be withdrawn, as may appear by the certificat accompanying this petition. whereas the Town of Raby have been fined for a delinquency of said two men when they supposed they had fully complied with the requisitions laid upon them Seems to your petitioners not founded in Justice your petitioners therefore humbly pray your honors to take their case under your wise consideration and remit the fine layed on the Town or grant such relief as you in your wisdom may see fit.

And your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray.

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Swallow Tucker | } Select men of Raby |
| Robert Sever | |
| Daniel Tyler | |

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This may Certify that in April 1778 the Town of Raby presented a petition to the General Court to pass an order whereby the said Town of Raby might have the advantage of two men inlisted into the Massachusetts forces, (Viz) Benj^a Osgood & Benj^a Patten the Court committed the petition to a Committee who reported that as there was a general resolve of the then State of Massachusetts which fully took up the matter, that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition

James Locke Chairman of said Committee

This may Certify Benj^a Patten & Benj^a Osgood both of Raby in the County of Hillsborough & State of New Hampshire

were & are the proper Inhabitants of the said Town of Raby & belonging to my Company as private soldiers & belong to the Regiment whereof Moses Nichols Esq^r is Colonel who have lately enlisted into the — — — — Continental service as privates in the same for the space of three years or during the present war (Viz) the s^d Benj^a Osgood under Lieut Jonas Parker of Acton under the command of Capt. Ballard in Col^o Aldens Regt. and the said Benj^a Patten in Capt. Maxwells Company Col^o Bayleys Regt. both in the State of the Massachusetts Bay by means whereof we are or possibly may be deprived of two men which we ought not to be by the resolves of the State with regard to inlistments in this case made & provided

Raby May 5th 1777

To Col^o Moses Nichols

A True Cobby attest Robert Sever Capt.

[185]

This may certify that the hire of Benj^a Osgood was paid— and the hire of Benj^a Patten was tendered.

Raby May 31, 1784.

Swallow Tucker } Select
Robert Sever } Men

[181]

[*Memorial about Taxes, 1783.*]

To the Honorable the Counsel and Hous of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire—

The petishon of the town of Raby *Humbly Sheweth* that as the Constable for s^d town for the year 1782 having solde his farme and moved out of town and has not Collected more than one half the taxes Cometed to him and we your petishoners have sense the Removal of s^d Constable chosen and agreed with Mr. Clark Brown to collect the Remand^r of s^d taxes, but cannot finde any Law of this State which we think enables s^d Colector to colect the same becos the Constabel Did not move out of town til the year was Expired for which he was Chosen. We your petitioners theirfore humbly pray that they may be an act or resolve past to anable s^d Colector to Colect s^d taxes or grant us Relief in Such other way as you in your wisdom may think best—as in Duty bound We Ever pray in behalf of the town of Raby

Waldron Stone } Select
Randel M^cDanelis } men

Raby June 10, 1783

[In answer to the above a resolve was passed, June 20, 1783, authorizing Clark Brown to collect the taxes.—ED.]

[R. 147]

To the Hon^{ble} y^e General Assembly of y^e State of New Hampshire—The Petition of William Spaulding *Humbly Sheweth*—That he was wounded in the battle at Bunker-hill by which he hath lost the use of his right hand—that he is on y^e roll for half pay—that he hath lived in Raby in s^d State upward of twelve years—that the loss of his hand & his poll Taxes & a large family to maintain hath much reduced him—and that he was chosen by s^d Town of Raby a Constable for y^e year 1782—and beg'd to be excused but was not released—that his own Taxes with some small Debts which he ow'd have brought him into such surcomstances that he in the arear the sum of £25—7—3—3 to the state Tres^r and that he hath one state note of £20, & one order of £12 from y^e president both of them herein which is all he hath to pay with that he is about to remove to Norrigwalk in on Kenebeck river—Therefore he prays your Honours to except of the only means he hath to satisfie y^e Tres^r & Grant that y^e Tres^r may be Directed to receive so much of s^d note & order as you in your great wisdom & Justice to my necessities shall se fit & as in Duty bound shall pray

Will^m Spalding

April 1784.

[The foregoing request was granted by the legislature, April 16, 1784.—ED.]

[187] [*Memorial asking for part of Hollis to be annexed to Raby.*]

To the Town of Hollis

the Petition of the Town of Raby humbly sheweth that we your Petitioners have for a Considerable Number of years Labored under maney Disadvantages by Reson of the Town being So Small which we belong to and we so fue in Number that we are not able to Settel a minister nor to hier preaching but a Small part of the year. Nor to carre on town affairs without great cost and as their is a part of the inhabitants of the westerly part of Hollis that have a Desire to be Set of to the town of Raby which we Sopose mite be very advantageous to us your petitions and those that Desire to be set of and not a great Damage to the town of Hollis We therefore beg you to take our Case into your wise consideration and if you can see fit that you would give your Consent that a part of the Westerly part of Hollis be set of to Raby—(Viz) begining at the Sandey bank So Call^d on Nissitiset River and from thence a North pint

acrost Hollis to amherst Line—which Line we think would Divide the towns of Hollis and Raby much more to the advantage of the whol then wheir the Line now is—

Jan 18— 1784.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Robert Sever | } in behalf of | |
| Swallow Tucker | | the town |
| James Campbell | | of Raby |

[188] [*Petition for Annexation of Part of Hollis.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To Honourable the Senate and house of Representatives of Said State in General Court assembled at Portsmouth in said State June 1785.

The petition of Swallow Tucker Robert Sever and James Campbell Committee in behalf of the Town Raby—*humbly Shews*—

That the Town of Raby is of Small extent N. & South consisting of about four and a half miles in lenth and E. & W. two milds $59\frac{1}{2}$ in bredth and much of the land unfit for cultivation and more unfit for settlement and consequently thinly inhabited and unable to Settle or Support the Gospel or necessary schools for the instruction of youth (so necessary in Society) and other Town charges, and such is the unhappy Scituation of y^e Town that should we be anexed to other Town our difficulties would not be remided. the inhabitants are So Sensible of the importance of the education of youth that they can by no means rest easy to have their children brought up in Savage ignorance unfit members for Scociety either in Church or State—that the Town of Hollis is a large Town both in quantity of land and Number of inhabitants & can well spare a part to build up the Town of Raby. the Town of Raby have repeatedly applied to the Town of Hollis to vote off to the Town of Raby some part of said Town which they refuse to doe, the Town of Raby therefore find themselves constrained to apply to your honors as to our civil fathers humbly praying your honors to take their difficult case under your wise consideration & set off from the Town of Hollis and annex to the Town of Raby the following tract of land with the inhabitants consisting of nine families (Viz) beginning at the great Sand bank (so called) and running parralell with east line of the town of Raby untill it comes opposite to Northeasterly corner of the s^d Town of Raby thence to said Northeasterly corner, in width about three Quarters of a mile that the inhabitants Settled on said tract of land are desirous to be Sett off to the Town of Raby (one excepted), we beg

leave further to represent to your honors that nature seemed to design the abovesaid tract of land for the Town of Raby as the proposed line will run thro. a tract of poor land unfitt for cultivation and the Town of Raby at their incorporation had reason to expect some further help from the town of Hollis—these reasons (with many more which may be given if opportunity therefor) we submit to the wise consideration of this honorable Court—praying your honors to grant us relief and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Swallow Tucker James Campbell Robert Sever

[A plan of Hollis and Raby, showing the proposed alteration, and a plan of Raby, accompanied this petition. They are papers Nos. 183 and 184, Town Papers, vol. 1, collection of 1880, in office of secretary of state. The latter locates the houses of the residents on the land, which they ask to have annexed to Raby, with the names of the residents, as follows: Senters House, James M^cDanels, Purkins, Ezekiel Proctor, John Cummings, Mr. Farley, Phin^s Bennet, Joshua Smith, Joshua Smith Jr. Also the following as living in Raby on the side next to Hollis: Jonas Shead, R. M^cDanels, Capt. Sever, Widdow Dickey, R. Cutts Shannon Esq^r, James Dickey, Greg, Thos. Asten.

In H. of Rep., June 9, 1785, the foregoing petition was read, and a hearing ordered for the next session; senate concurred same day.

February 17th, 1786, an act passed annexing a part of Hollis to Raby.—ED.]

[189] [*Relative to locating a Meeting-House, 1788.*]

At a Leagal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Raby holden on the 14th of April Last Past the Town Voted to Petition the General Court for a Committee to Perfix a Place for us to set our meeting house

A True Coppy

Raby May 30, 1788..

Randel M^cDonald T Clark

[190] [*Petition for the Appointment of a Committee to locate the Meeting-House.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and house of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Subscribers Select men of the Town of

Raby in the County of Hillsborough in said State, *Humbly shews* That the Inhabitants of said Town have voted to build a meeting house in said Town, but cannot Exactly agree on any particular spot of Ground to set it upon, and have agreed to petition your honours to send a Committee to find a Suitable place for that purpose. Your petitioners Therefore humbly pray your honours to Interpose and Grant us such a Committee as your honours in your Great wisdom shall think fit and they as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Raby May 29th 1788.

Sampson Farnsworth,
Randel M^eDonald

James Campbell

selectmen of Raby

[This petition was granted June 7, 1788, and Timothy Farrer, Abial Abbott, and John Goss were appointed a committee to locate the meeting-house, the town to pay the expenses incurred.—ED.]

[192] [*Relative to Changing the Name to Brookline, 1798.*]

Att a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Raby held on this Day, Voted to have the Town of Raby changed from said Raby and Called by the name of Brooklyne

May 30th 1798

test R. M^eDonald T. Clerk

We order Benjⁿ Farley to Draw a petition to the General Court for the within purpose and to sine our names as selectmen to the same

R. M^eDonald

James M^eIntosh

[And Benjamin obeyed orders by presenting the following :—ED.]

[191]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives for said State Convened at Hopkintown.

Humbly Shews—The Subscribers Select men for the Town of Raby that it is the earnest desire of the Inhabitants of said Town that the Name thereof may be changed as by their vote in Town meeting may appear—We therefore pray your Honors to pass an Act whereby said Town of Raby may take and hold

the Name of Brookline in future—and as in duty bound shall pray.

Hopkintown June 11th 1798.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Randel M ^c Donald | } select men of Raby |
| Benja. Farley | |
| James M ^c Intosh | |

[The foregoing was granted by an act approved December 4, 1798.—ED.]

CAMPTON.

This town was granted October 9, 1761, to Christopher Holmes and sixty-three others. By the terms of the grant Mr. Holmes was appointed moderator of the first meeting. The conditions of the grant not being fulfilled, the town was re-granted January 5, 1767. When the surveyors went up to lay out this and some other towns in the vicinity, they built a camp, and from that circumstance the town derives its name.

A family by the name of Taylor, and one by the name of Fox, commenced the settlement of the town in 1765.

The first meeting of the inhabitants was held December 16, 1771.

A dispute having arisen relative to the boundaries of the towns of Campton, Rumney, Warren, Wentworth, Plymouth, Piermont, and Orford, a committee was appointed by the legislature, October 27, 1780, to settle the matter, their report to be conclusive. (For report see Appendix.)

The town was annexed to Grafton county September 14, 1782.

By an act approved June 27, 1860, a tract of land was severed from Campton, and annexed to Plymouth.

Campton and Plymouth were connected by telephone in 1881.

[2-31] [*Petition for Arms and Ammunition.*]

To the honourable General Court of the Colony of New Hampshire The Petition of the town of Campton in the Colony aforesaid humbly sheweth,

That whereas by a reverse of fortune (we have it from good

authority) that Canady is in possession of the enemy so far as St Johns;—That being a frontier town we are in danger of being attacked by the Canadians;—

That our deficiency in arms & amunition is such that renders us unable in case of an attack to make any resistance;—there being 25 stands of arms wanting for the number of inhabitants able to bear them;—& with regard to amunition there is none worth mentioning.

These are therefore humbly to pray your honors in this exigence of affairs to furnish us with 25 stands of arms;—80 pounds of powder;—320 pounds of lead;—& 200 flints from the Colony store & we will be accountable for the same.—

Signed by order & in behalf of
Town of Campton

Dated at Campton
June 27, 1776

By us
Samuel Cook } Select
Jonathan Cone } Men

P. S. please to deliver the above articles to Capt. Benjⁿ Hickcox & Lieu^t Tho^s Bartlet or either of them taking their Receipts for the same

Samual Cook } Select
Jonathan Cone } Men

[2-32] [*Petition to be Annexed to the County of Grafton, about 1782.*]

State of New }
hampshire } To the Honourable Councill and house of
Representatives for said State. The Petition of the Subscribers being inhabitants of the town of Campton in the County of Strafford humbly sheweth that the said town of Campton joins to the town of Plymouth in the County of Grafton where one Sup^r Court & two Inferior Courts & two Courts of Gen^l Sessions of the peace are annually to be held. And that they are situated about sixty miles from Dover where the Courts are held for the County of Strafford.—Wherefore they pray the said town of Campton may be annexed to the aforesaid County of Grafton. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

August 24th 1782.

Jonah Chapman
Samuel Holmes
William Page
Samuel Cook
Jonathan Cone

Darius Willey
oliver Taylor
Abel Willey
John Clark
Moses Baker

Joseph Palmer
Samuel Cook Jur.
Edward Taylor
William Baker
Selden Church

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Thomas Bartlet | John Holmes | John Southmayd |
| Jesse Willey | Elias Cheney | Nath ^l Tupper |
| Gershom Burbank | Joseph Palmer Jur. | Isaac Fox Junr |

[The petition was granted by an act passed September 14, 1782.—ED.]

[R. 148] [*Campton Soldiers' Orders, 1784.*]

Sir Please to pay what is due for my son John Holmes Wages & arrearages for service in the Continental Army to Maj^r Moses Baker of Campton, & you will oblige your humble Serv^t

John Holmes

Campton Oct^r 6th 1784.

The hon^{ble} John T. Gilman Esq^r Treasurer.

[Samuel Holmes and John Southmayd, selectmen of Campton, certify that John Holmes is heir to said John Holmes, who was in Capt. Stone's Co., Scammel's Reg't, and died in the service.—ED.]

[R. 149] [Edward Marsh ordered what was due to his son, Christopher Marsh, to be paid to Moses Baker. Said Christopher was in the same company and regiment, and also died in the service. (R. 150.) Isaac Fox ordered what was due to Joel Fox to be paid to said Baker. Said Joel was in same company and regiment, and also died in the service.—ED.]

[R. 151] [*Abstract of Petition of Joseph Homans.*]

[Joseph Homans, of Campton, in a petition dated November 28, 1789, states that "on the 15th day of April 1781 he enlisted himself a Soldier for three years for one of the Quota of the Town of Kingston, and served in the first N. H. Regiment until the 20th of December 1783, then your Petitioner received a Discharge;" states that he was lame in his ankle, which grew worse, until March, 1788, he applied to Daniel Peterson, of Boscawen, surgeon, and was under his care until November, when he had his leg amputated. He asks to have some notes, which he received for

his pay, cashed, and a further allowance of such sum as the legislature deem right.

In H. of Rep., December 31, 1789, a grant of £18 was voted to be paid from the specie tax; senate concurred.—
ED.]

[2-33] [*Return of Ratable Polls, 1785.*]

Campton 17th October 1785

To all whom it may Concern, This may Certify that there is Sixty Ratable Polls in the Town of Campton Twenty one years of age & upwards

attest Jabez Church Town Clerk

[2-34.] [*Concerning Election of Representative.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives in Gen^l Court convened—The petition of Campton, Thornton and New Holderness humbly Sheweth that your petitioners are subjected to great difficulty and inconvenience by being connected with Lincoln and Franconia for the purpose of chusing a Representative, as there is no road by which a Notification for a meeting of the district can be transmitted to them short of sixty or seventy miles travel—and if we cross the woods it is not less than 30 or 40—And your petitioners would further shew that they have a sufficient number of legal voters to entitle them to the choice of a Representative without the addition of Lincoln and Franconia—and that the said Lincoln and Franconia can be better accommodated in the district of Gunthwaite Bath and others—Therefore your petitioners humbly request that the said Lincoln and Franconia may be set off from the district of your petitioners and annexed to some other district as in duty bound will pray—

Noah Worcester for the Petitioners

Concord Oct. 31 1785

[2-35] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-resident Lands for repairing Roads.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the General Court
Grafton ss. } of the State of New Hampshire

The Petition of John Southmayd, Abel Willey and Edmund March Select men of Campton in said County,
humbly sheweth

that there are a number of rapid streams in said Campton which require expensive bridges.—

That by reason of great floods, the town of Campton has sustained considerable losses in the distruction of bridges, and by a necessary removal of the roads to a greater distance from the rivers which runs through the town.—

That this has necessitated the assessment of very heavy taxes on the Polls & other rateable estate, merely to make the roads passable,—and that it is still necessary that there should be considerable more expended in order to make the roads in said Campton in any measure convenient for passing.—

We therefore pray your Honors to take our case under your consideration & if it may consist with your wisdom grant us permission to assess all the unimproved lands which are laid out in said Campton, one penny per acre yearly for two years to be expended in making & repairing roads in said town—

And we shall as in duty bound ever pray &c

Campton January 14th 1791—

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| John Southmayd | } Select men of Campton |
| Abel Willey | |
| Edmund Marsh | |

[Granted by an act passed June 16, 1791.—Ed.]

[2-36]

[*Extracts from Town Records.*]

At a Meeting legally warned and held in Campton on the 16th Day of December 1771 Agreeable to Notification from Moses Little Esq^r for Calling the first Town Meeting in said town James Harvell was Chosen Selectman—

By a warrant for Calling a Town Meeting Dated the Eleventh day of March 1772

Signed

James Harvell Selectman—

At an annual meeting held in Campton on Tuesday the Seventh day of March 1772 Voted James Harvell Selectman

Extracts from the Records of the Town of Campton

attest John Southmayd T. Clerk

CANAAN.

This town was granted July 9, 1761, to Thomas Gustin and sixty-one others, most of whom were from Connecticut, and the town took its name from Canaan in that state. John Scofield was its first settler, in the winter of 1766-'67; George and Joshua Harris, Thomas Miner, and Samuel Meacham settled soon after. The charter of the town, which had been forfeited, was extended in February, 1769. March 28, 1781, a committee, consisting of Jeremiah Page, Henry Gerrish, and William Chamberlin, was appointed to settle the boundaries of the town, in answer to a petition of George Harris, as agent for the proprietors. (See Acts, 1781, p. 220.) The report of that committee was made valid by an act approved June 18, 1802. By an act approved July 2, 1846, a tract of land called Dame's Gore was annexed to the town; and by an act approved July 4, 1851, a tract called "State's Gore," or "Gates's Gore," was annexed. Jonathan Duston, who died here, July 4, 1812, at the age of 93, was grandson of the celebrated Hannah Duston.



[2-37] [*Petition of George Harris for new Grant of the Town.*]

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r;
 New Hamp } Captain General & Commander in Chief in and
 over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice Ad-
 miral of the same in Council—

The Petition of George Harris of Norwich in the Colony of Connecticut Husbandman in behalf of Himself and the other Grantees of the Township of Canaan, unto your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council humbly shews—

That y^r Petitioner and his associates have expended large sums in bringing forward the settlement of said Township, which (on acc^t of the many Obstructions & Difficultys they have met with for want of necessary Roads and Mills) they have not been able to effect, till his Majestys Grant to them was expired, and as the settlement of New Land is a heavy & weighty Work, y^r Petitioners pray they may be indulged with a New Grant of said Township for such time longer as y^r Excellency may judge necessary and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

George Harris in
 behalf of Himself & associates

Dec^r 3^d 1768

[An extension of the charter was granted by the governor and council, February, 1769.—ED.]

[2-39] [*Petition for Arms and Ammunition.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Comitty of Safety For the Colony of New Hampshire A Request from The Comitty of Safety for the Towns of Canaan And Enfield alias Relhan in s^d Colony ; Whereas we Being in Eminent Danger of being Ravaged and Destroyed by the Savages, and other of our Unnatural Enemies And we Being Unable to Defend our Selves in The Lest ; for the want of guns and ammunition We therefore Humbly Request that your Honors Would send us Sixteen guns forty two pounds of Gunpowder and 168^{lbs} of Lead 21 Dozen of flints By Lieut^t Sam^l Jones of s^d Canaan and M^r Elisha Bingham of Enfield Which men are Chosen for the Said Purpose. Gent^l your Compliance with this Request will Greatly Oblige and Enable us to Defend our Selves in these frontier Towns

Eben^r Eames }
 Sam^l Meacham } Comitties
 Tho^s Baldwin } of Safety

Canaan July 1st A. D. 1776.

The Reasons Why this Paper Was not Sign^d By two of the Committe is Because one is absent and the other is the Bearer
 S. Meacham

[2-40] [*Vote of Town relative to Taxes.*]

State of New hampshier
 at a Legall meting, held in Canan voted Leut W^m Ayer make aplycation to the General Assembly of s^d State for an abatement on the Several Taxe biles Sent by the treasury of s^d State to this town & to inquire into what conserns this town & to agree on anything he shall think proper

attest thomas Baldwin Town Clerk

Canaan June 11th 1779

[2-41] [*Petition relative to Taxes.*]

State of New }
 hampshire }

To the Honourable council & House of representatives of said state

The petition of William Ayers of Canaan in the county of Grafton in said state in behalf of said town humbly sheweth

that by means of the unsettled state of said County & the claim of Vermont they have never made their state tax; but are now desirous to make the said taxes & to discharge the same; but the said town being much too high in the proportion of the state tax the petitioner prays the same may be examined & set right and said town will immediately proceed to make & discharge their taxes, and as in duty bound shall ever pray

W^m Ayer

Exeter June 17, 1779

[R. 152]

A Pay Roll Made for part of Captⁿ Joshua Wellse's Company in Col^o Chases Regiment of Militia who were Called forth in an alarm Oct^o 20, A. D. 1780

| | Days | milds | | Days | milds |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------|--------------------------------|------|--------|
| | out | travel | | out | travel |
| Capt Joshua Wells | 9— | 90 | Nathaniel Bartlett | 9— | 74 |
| L ^t Sam ^l Jones | 9— | 90 | Caleb Clark Jr | 9— | 74 |
| Ensy ⁿ Thos. Baldwin | 9— | 90 | Jonathan Sprague | 9— | 90 |
| Sergt. Caleb Welch | 9— | 90 | Daniel Blasdel | 9— | 90 |
| Saml. Hinkson Private | 9— | 90 | Josiah Clark | 9— | 90 |
| John Scofield Jun ^r | 4— | 30 | Thos. Miner | 9— | 90 |
| John Jones | 9— | 90 | Sam ^l Gates | 9— | 90 |
| Sam ^l Meacham | 9— | 90 | Ezek ^l Gardner | 9— | 90 |
| William Ayer | 9— | 90 | Benj ⁿ Robert Birts | 4— | 30 |
| Robert Barber | 9— | 90 | Joshua Harris | 9— | 90 |
| John Bartlett | 9— | 74 | Francis Smith | 9— | 90 |

N. B. Thirty Mild allowed out of said Travail on the account of Drawing Provisions on the way for the Distance of Thirty milds—

A. True Return Errors Excepted—Signed in Behalf of the Company

Joshua Wells Capⁿ

Canaan Dec^r 15th A. D. 1783.

[R. 153]

In Com^{tee} on Claims—Concord Oct^o 28th 1785

There appears to be due to the Town of Canaan Twelve Pounds five shillings & seven pence for supplies to Benjⁿ R. Burts, which sum has been deducted from his depreciation to Jan^y 1781.

£12, 5, 7.

Ex^d per Josiah Gilman Jun^r

[2-42] [*Relative to Scouts employed by the Town.*]

To the Hon. the General Court of the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of the town of Canaan Humbly Sheweth, that we the Inhabitants of Said Town the Summer past Conceived Our Selves in Danger From the Canadian and other Savages; (our Frontier being in a great measure Neglected) and therefore by a Vote of the Town Did agree to Raise and pay Three men for Six months to Scout and Guard &c to which men we have paid and are obligated to pay ten pounds Each—the men were Raised by No order nor by the authority of No State but only by the Vote of the Town—Altho they went into a Regiment Raised by The authority of Vermont but Should your Honors think they Rendered any Service to This or the United States your Petitioners pray that their Money Paid s^d Soldiers may be Reimbursted them or abated on thier Taxes All which is Humbly Submitted and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Signd

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Tho ^s Baldwin | } | Com ^{ee} in be- half of Said Town |
| W ^m Ayer | | |

Canaan State of New Hampshire June 8th A. D. 1782

[Read, and ordered to lay.—ED.]

[2-43]

Canaan January 22th 1782

To the Honorable and Generable assemble of the State of New Hampshire greeting—

we haveing for a Long time bin under a broken situation the pretended state of vermont pretend to Exercise athority over us which causis a great confusion among us & there being more than one half of the inhabitence of this town that have bin & now are willing subjects to this state pray that we mite be put in sum regulasion that we may have a Justise of the peace & militare officers that we may be in a way to defend our selves against the Enemies of the united States for we think our selves in great danger having no athority amongst us but the pretended athority of vermont which we are not willing to be under if we can have any other N. B. we the subscribers beg the privilege that the Honorable Cort wold commisonate Willian Ayer as Justise of the peace & that we mite be led to the choyce of miletery officers.

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Joseph Stickney | Benjamin Burt | Samuel meacham |
| Joseph flint | James woodbery | Robard Barber |
| Daniel farnum | henry springer | Jonathan Stickney |
| Samuel Chatman | Jaspur barber | Ezkel wels |
| Nath ^l Bartlet | thomas miner | David fogg |
| Joshus wils | Damrell Carr | John Bartlet |
| Samuel josen | William Smith | Samuel Hinkson |
| Mathew Man | Leonard hor | |
| Josiah hall Bartlet | Bejaman Sawer | |

[2-45]

State of New Hamp^r } A true Inventory of the Polls and
 Grafton ss } rateable Estate in the town of Canaan in
 said State in the year Anno Domini 1783—

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of Polls | 50 |
| N ^o of Horses | 28 |
| N ^o of Cows | 62 |
| N ^o of Oxen | 29 |
| N ^o of 3 years old | 14 |
| N ^o of 2 years old | 20 |
| N ^o of yearlings | 10 |
| N ^o of Acres of Pastering | 118 |
| N ^o of Acres of Mowing | 127 |
| N ^o of Acres of Tillage | 34 |
| N ^o of Acres of wild land fit } for improvement } | 12000 |
| A true copy Attest— | |

William Ayer } Selectmen
 William Richardson } of Canaan

[2-46]

[*Relative to Justice of the Peace.*]

To his Excellency the President & the Hon^{ble} the Council for
 the State of New Hampshire

May it please your Excellency & Honors We the Subscribers beg leave to inform you that as we the Inhabitants of the Town of Canaan are not Represented in the House, to our satisfaction, we cannot rest easy to have advice taken from that quarter in your Hon^{ble} board, respecting the appointment of officers, Civil or Military, as the peace & well-being of the State depends much on satisfactory appointments, we take the liberty to inform you that Caleb Clark Esq^r of s^d Canaan will give much the best satisfaction to s^d Town for a Civil Magistrate of any

man in the Town, we therefore pray your Excellency & Honors that if consistant, he may be appointed to that office & the favour will be gratefully acknowledged by your Hum^{ble} servants—

Canaan Jan^y 26th 1785

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Asahel Wells | George Harris | Samuel Hinkson |
| Josep Stickney | Turner Peterson | William Smith |
| Benj Harris | Samuel meacham | William Douglass |
| Robart Barber | benjamin burts | Elias Lothrop |
| Joseph Flint | Jonathan Stickney | Thaddeus Lothrop |
| Jehu Jones | Zebulon Gates | Humphrey Nichols |
| Ezekiel Gardner | willam Richson | Abel Hadley |
| Caleb Welch | James woodbury | Benja Sawyer |

[2-48]

To his Excellency the President & the Hon^{ble} the Council for the State of New Hampshire—

May it please your Excellency & Honors—We the subscribers beg leave to inform you that as we the inhabitants of Canaan, in s^d State are not Represented in the House, to our satisfaction, therefore cannot rest easy to have advice taken from that quarter, in your Hon^{ble} board, respecting the appointment of officers Civil or Military, as the peace & well being of the state depends much on satisfactory appointments we take the liberty to inform you that Cap^t Robart Barber, of s^d Canaan, will give much the best satisfaction to the inhabitants of s^d Town for a Field officer, of any Person in s^d Town, we understand a certain M^r Jones, has been mentioned, who will not answer the valuable purpose of peace in s^d Town we therefore pray your Excellency & Honors that if consistant, Cap^t Barber may be appointed the field officer for the Town of Canaan & the favour will be gratefully acknowledged by your Hum^{le} Servt—

Canaan Jan^y 26th 1785—

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Turner Peterson | Joshua Harris | William Richardson |
| Samuel Mechum | Isaac Walker | Elisha Lathrop |
| benjamin burts | Benj Harris | Elias Lothrop |
| Ezekiel Gardner | Asahel Wells | Richard Clark |
| George Harris | Ezekiel Wells | William Douglass |
| Samuel Hinkson | Jehu Jones | |

[2-47]

State of New Hampshire } At a legal meeting holden in Canaan on tues-
 day the eight day of august. A. D. 1786 the in-

habitants of s^d Town unanimously voted to have paper money made

Attest David Fogg } Town Clerk

[See Atkinson papers.—ED.]

[R. 154]

[*Selectmen's Order.*]

Canaan March 13th 1790.

To William Gardner Esq, Treas. Pleas to pay to Jehu Jones or bearer the sum of twenty pounds with the Interest due thereon being a Town bounty paid by the Town of Canaan to one Jon^a Lock a Recruit in 1782.

Samuel Jones William Richardson Selectmen
To be allowed on M^r Jones tax for 1788.

CANDIA.

The town was set off from Chester, in answer to a petition, dated March 22, 1763, of thirty-eight of the inhabitants, and agreeably to a vote of the town of Chester of January 26, same year, and incorporated by an act of the provincial assembly, passed December 17, 1763. It was named by Governor Wentworth from an island in the Mediterranean sea, where he was once a prisoner. Samuel Emerson was authorized to call the first meeting. Settlements were commenced in this part of Chester by William Turner in 1748, John Sargent and others in 1755. The line between this town and Raymond was established by an act approved June 23, 1848.

[R. 155]

[*William Hilton's Order, Soldier, 1780.*]

Camp New Hampshire Village, Dec. 22, 1780.

May it please your honors—I inlisted into the service of the State of New Hampshire at Ticonderoga in the year 1776—under the encouragement of ten Dollars per month, since which have not had an opportunity of being in the State consequently

could not reinlist under the second encouragement—You will please to settle with Cap^t Moses Dustin, (to whose company I belong,) for the Deficiency thereof & his Rec^t shall be a Discharge from

Gent. Your h^l Serv^t

To the Hon^{ble} the William Hilton
Council & House of Representatives for N Hampshire

[2-44]

[*Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

Agreeable to Directions we have taken the number of the Polls in the parish of Candia of twenty one years of age and upwards paying for himself a poll Tax and find them amount to one hundred and fifty and five

Sam^l Buswell } Selectmen
Ephraim Eaton } of Candia.

Candia Nov^r 18th 1783

Rockingham ss } Decem^r 5th 1783 then Samuel Buswell and
Ephraim Eaton the Signers of the above written Personally
appeared & made Solemn Oath to the truth thereof

Before Sam^l Moore Jus

CANTERBURY.

This town was granted May 20, 1727, to Richard Waldron and a large number of associates, and comprised the territory now in the towns of Loudon and Northfield. Settlements commenced soon after, but for many years they were occasionally harassed by the Indians, and had to maintain a garrison, notwithstanding which some of the settlers were killed, and others taken prisoners and carried to Canada. An act granting the inhabitants town privileges was passed March 19, 1741. An addition was made to the town on the south-west side, June 13, 1765. The township of Loudon was set off January 23, 1773; and by an act passed June 19, 1780, the north-westerly part of the town was set off, and incorporated into the town of Northfield. A small tract of land was severed from this town and annexed to Concord, June 2, 1784, and another annexed to Loudon, January 7, 1853.

In 1774, Ann Lee, the founder of a religious denomination called Shakers, came to this country from England, and a branch of the denomination was established in this town in 1792. Their first minister was Elder Job Bishop, who occupied the position many years. They are a frugal, industrious, and temperate people, intelligent and successful tillers of the soil, and breeders of stock, and are at present a prosperous community.

[2-49] [*Concerning Trade with the Indians.*]

In the House of Representatives X^r the 22^d 1743

Voted That M^r Jotham Odiorn Jun^r & M^r Hunking Wentworth be a Committee to Purchase thirty pounds worth of Goods to Send up to Canterbury for a Supply to Trade with the Indians which Shall be laid out in the following Manner viz^t

| | |
|---|--------|
| for Rum — — — — — | £3,,15 |
| for Blankets — — — — — | £10,, |
| for Cloth Suitable for Indian Stockings — — | £3,,15 |
| for Linen for Shirts — — — — — | £5,, |
| for Powder Shot Bullets & flints — — — — | £5,, |
| Knives Pipes and Tobacko — — — — — | £2,,10 |

£30

And that the Treasurer pay the Said Sum of thirty pounds to the Said Committee for the Ends aforesaid out of the Money that Shall be in the Treasury for Contingencies after the first day of february Next, And when Said Committee have purchased s^d goods they Shall Convey the Same to the Town of Canterbury & Deliver them to M^r James Scales, who is hereby impowred to Sell the Same to the Indians, and receive the Pay in furs &c at Such Prices as Shall be Set by Said Committee, and that the Committee be Governed in Rating the Goods & Furs by the Prices that are Set by the Massachusetts Governm^t and that Said James Scales Render an accomp^t of the Sale of all Such Sales of the Said Goods as he shall Dispose of to the Indians as aforesaid to the General assembly Some time within Six Months of the Date hereof, and all the Produce of Said Goods Shall be by him paid & Delivered to the Treasurer, and to lye there for the use of the Governm^t as Shall be Ordered by the Gen^l ass^m And that Said Scales be under oath for the faithfull discharge of his Trust, and to have Such allowance made him for his service as Shall be Tho^t reasonable by the Gen^l ass^m at the Time of his rendering his acc^t of the Sales & Returns of Such Goods—

James Jeffrey Cler^r ass^m

[2-50] [*Vote to set off a Parish, 1772.*]

At a Reaguler Town Meeting held at the Meeting House in Canterbury on Monday y^e 5th day of October 1772—Then Agreeable to the fourth article in the above Warrant—

Voted that the Southeasterly end of the Town of Canterbury be Set off as a distinct Parish, begining at the corner of the Town, at the buckshorn beach tree, then runing Southwest acrost the Easterly end of Said Town to that corner bound—then Northwest upon the Line between Canterbury and Bow, five Miles, then Northeast to Gilmantown Line—then Southeast to the first bound Mentioned.

A True Coppy taken from Canterbury Town Records
 Pr Me Archelaus Moore Town Clerk
 Canterbury December y^e 26th 1772

[2-51] [*Petition for a Parish in the South-East Part.*]

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Honorable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened the 5th day of January, 1773

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the North East part of Canterbury in said Province humbly sheweth

That your Petitioners live at the distance of ten and twelve Miles (as the Roads now go) from the Meeting House in said Town That the Roads are very bad and therefore they can't without great difficulty attend the public worship of God there nor any public affairs of the Town for which reason they have petitioned the said Town for their leave to be set off into a distinct parish in consequence of which the said Town have voted at public Town meeting as follows viz^t. "Voted that the South Easterly end of the Town of Canterbury be set off as a distinct parish begining at the Corner of the Town at the Bucks-horn Beech Tree then running Southwest across the Easterly end of said Town to that corner Bound then Northwest upon the Line between Canterbury and Bow, five Miles then North East to Gilmanton Line then South East to the first Bounds" Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that your Excellency and Honors would give your Petitioners liberty to bring in a Bill for erecting a distinct Parish with the Privileges of other Parishes in the Province within the Limits aforesaid. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

John Danforth Ezekiel Morrill, Jun^r Eliphalet Rollins
 Daniel Bachelder Marston Morrill Nath^l Batchelder

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Samuel Danforth, | Solomon Sias | Jonah Rines |
| Henry Moulton | Benjamin Sias | Samuel Carter |
| Jethro Bachelder | William Davis | Jonathan Smith |
| Samuel Morrill | William Boynton | John Smith |
| Isaac Morrill | Charles Sias | Samuel French |
| Moses Ardua | John Glines | Gershom Mathes |
| Moses Ardua Jun ^r | Jethro Bachelder | Stephen Perkins |
| George Barnes | Jun ^r | Nathan Bachelder |
| Dudley Swanzey | Samuel Rogers | Jonathan Clough |
| Amasa Dow | Abraham Bachelder | Joseph Tilton |
| Samuel Dow | Abraham Bachelder | John Drew |
| Samuel Lock | Jun ^r | Abel French |
| Joseph McGoon | John Sanborn | Thomas Drake |
| Jacob Towle | Philip Judkins | Thomas Swett |
| Enoch French | Samuel Sargent | |

To the Honourable his Majestys Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly—

Whereas we the Subscribers have been notify'd according to your Honours Directions we therefore shew no Cause why the South Easterly End of Canterbury should not be set off as a Distinct Parish according to the Petition Laid before your Honours for that purpose—

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| John Hoyt | } Selectmen for Canterbury |
| William Ellison | |
| Jonathan Clough | |

Canterbury Jan. 12th 1773

[The parish was set off by an act of the general assembly passed January 23, 1773, and erected into a parish by the name of Loudon.—ED.]

[2-52] [*Records of Town-Meeting.*]

At a meeting of the Proprietors of Canterbury Held at the Meeting house In s^d Canterbury on Day of may 1773

Mr Ezekiel Merrill chosen Moderator for s^d Meeting David Forster Chosen Clerk to s^d Proprietors—

Voted To Chuse a Committee to Serch the Proprietors Books of Records to See if there be any omission or Mistakes in them & to Collect any Papers Relative to s^d Proprietors that aught to be recorded & to get them Recorded & to make Report to s^d Proprietors & that the s^d Committee apply to the General Court if it shall be found Necessary for Power to Record any of s^d Proprietors Papers which have heretofore been neglected—

Voted Col^o John Gage Archelaus Moore & m^r Asa Forster Committee for that purpose—

Voted Jeremiah Clough Esq^r Cap John Gage & m^r Asa Forster be a Committee to Settle accompts with any person or Persons who have Transacted any business for s^d Proprietors which have not yet been Settled with—

The meeting adjourned to Second wednesday in June Next at one o'clock afternoon—

at a meeting of the Proprietors of Canterbury held by adjournment at the meeting house in s^d Canterbury on wednesday 9th of June the following Votes ware pas^d—

Voted that John Gage Jun^r Esq^r be Chosen a Committee man in the Room of his honrd Father Col^o John Gage who is unable to attend the business for which he was Chosen.

Voted that archelaus moor Esq^r m^r Asa Forster & David Forster be a Committee to Call Proprietors meetings for the future—

Voted that Meeting of s^d Proprietors Shall be Called upon Application of Sixteen of s^d Proprietors—

Voted that a Warrant for s^d meeting Shall be Published in the New hampshire Gazzettee & also at the Meeting house in s^d Canterbury—

Voted to Raise four Shilling on each original Right to De-fray the Charges of the above mentioned articales into Execution—

Voted that the Committee for Calling meetings be also a Committee to Raise the above mentioned Rate—

Voted that m^r Ephraim Clough be a Collector to gather the above mentioned Rate—

Voted to give the Collector Six Shillings on the hundred for Collecting s^d Rate—

The meeting adjourned to the 4th of August next two oclock afternoon at the meeting in s^d Canterbury on the forth Day of August the Proprietors for s^d met at the meeting house according to adjournment & adjourned to the twenty fifth Day of August 8 oclock the forenoon at the meeting house in s^d Canterbury—

On the 25 of August the Proprietors met according to adjournment & Voted that the meeting of s^d Proprietors be further adjourned to the first wednesday in october next at one oclock afternoon—on the Sixth Day of october instant the Proprietors of Canterbury met according to adjournment & Voted as follows Viz.

Voted to Except their Book of Records as they now stand & Confirm & Establish all Entries therein made by the Committee appointed for that purpose—

The meeting adjourned to the first wednesday of Janewary Next ten o'clock in the afternoon

On the fifth day of January the Proprietors afor^{sd} met according to adjournment & Voted as followeth

Voted that the Rev^d Abiel Forster be a committee man or agent to Present a Petition to the General Court & to lay their Proprietors Books before s^d Court in order to get the Same Established—

The meeting adjourned to the first wednesday of April Next at one o'clock afternoon

A True Copy Test David Forster Prop C l k

[2-53] [*Power of Attorney granted to John Melony.*]

Whereas an advertizement has appeared in the New Hampshire Gazette of the 30th of July 1773 Notifying the Proprietors of Canterbury to meet at the Meeting House in said Canterbury on the 25th of august next and among other things to See if the Proprietors will vote to prosecute a Writ of Review in the Action originally brought by Richard Melony of the County of Clare in the Kingdom of Ireland against George Kezer of Hampstead in the County of Rockingham for Two Forty Acre Lots in Said Canterbury and (if voted then) to vote how they will raise Money for that Purpose. The Subscribers being Proprietors and owners of as many Rights of Land in Said Canterbury as set against our Respective names, having Considered the above mentioned Notification and think the Same if voted will be prejudicial to the Interest of the Proprietors, And not being able to attend said meeting personally. Therefore we do appoint John Melony of Canterbury aforesaid yeoman to be our Lawful Attorney in our Behalf & stead to attend Said Meeting, and there to vote according to our Interest (in the same manner as if we were personally present) against the proprietors undertaking to Prosecute said Review or raising any money for that purpose or being anyways concern'd therein In witness whereof we have hereunto Set our hands & Seals August the 9th and in the Thirteenth year of his Majestys Reign George the third King of Great Britain France & Ireland Annoque Domini one thousand seven hundred & Seventy three—

witness for Jon^a Warner Esq^r

Chas. E. Warner

N^o rights

Tho Davis 1

Seth Jacobs for Nath^l Lomex 1
right

Sam^l Emerson 1 right

James Davis 1

Samuel Davis 1 D^o

Sarah Hicks } 5 Rights

Joseph Hicks }

John Woodman 2½ Rits

Jonathan Woodman 1½ rights

Smith Emerson 1 right

Ephraim Davis 1 right
 Geo : Jaffrey 1 right
 H Wentworth 2 Rights
 Jonathan Warner 2 Rights
 John Penhallow 2 Rights
 E Russell two Rights
 Peter Gilman 1 right
 W^m Appleton 1 right

Simon Rendel one Rit & a
 half
 Benj Jones three Rights
 W^m Jenkins one Rit
 Rich^d Jenness one Right
 Robert Leathers 1 Right
 Joseph Stevens 1 Right

Province of } August y^e 10th 1773 Then Jam^s Davis Sam^l
 Newhampshire } Davis Thom Davis Seth Jacobs Sam^l Emer-
 Strafford ss } son Ephraim Davis Widdow Sarah Hicks &
 Joseph Hicks all above and Within Subscribed Personally Ap-
 peared Before me the Subscriber and Acknowledged the With-
 in Written Instrument to be their free act and deed

Sol Emerson Just peace

Province of } augst 16th 1773 Then John Woodman,
 New Hampshire } Jonathan Woodman, Smith Emerson, Si-
 Strafford ss } mon Rendell, Benjamin Jones, and William
 Jenkins acknowledged the above and within Instrument to be
 their free act and deed

Before Ebenezer Thompson Jus Peace

Province of } Then George Jaffrey, Hunking Went-
 New Hamp^r } worth, Eleazer Russell Esq^r, and John Pen-
 Rockingham ss } hallow Personally appeared before me and
 acknowledged the above and within Instrum^t to be their vol-
 untary act and Deed—

before me Daniel Rogers J^s Peace

augst 12th 1773

Then Jonathan Warner and Peter Gilman Esq^r and W^m Ap-
 pleton personally appeared before me and acknowledged the
 within Instrument by them Subscribed to be their free act &
 Deed

Daniel Rogers Just Peace

Province of }
 New Hamp^r } Aug^t 20, 1773 then Richard Jeness and Rob-
 ert Leathers appeared Before me and acknowledged their In-
 strument to be their free act and Deed

Joseph Atkinson Jus^t Peace

Province of } August the 21st 1773 Then m^r Joseph Stevens
 New Hamp^r } personally appeared & acknowledged the forego-
 Strafford ss } ing Instrument to be his act and Deed

before me Jn^o Sullivan Jus^t peace

[2-54] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1773.*]

On the Twenty fifth Day of August instant the Proprietors of Canterbury being Legally Warned Met at y^e meeting house in Said Town and Pas'd the following Votes Viz—

Voted That John Gage Esq^r be Moderator for s^d meeting

Voted To Prosecute a writ of Review in the Action originally Brought by Rich'd Melony of the County of Clare in the Kingdom of Ireland against George Kezzer of Hampstead in the County of Rockingham for Two forty acre Lots in Canterbury So far as Sixty Dollars will go—

Voted To Raise Sixty Dollars Toward Defraying Charges of the above Lawsuit—

Voted that John Gage Esq^r be a Committee man or agent to Prosicute the above said action & to take Care of the above s^d money—

Voted that John Gage Esq^r hire said Money and the Proprietors pay him the Interest for the same till it Can be Rais'd— Then the Meeting adjourn'd to Wednesday the Sixth Day of October Next two o'clock afternoon—

The Same Day John Melony Objected To the Foregoing Proceedings in Behalf of himself and a number of Proprietors absent as Illegal

Canterbury august y^e 25th 1773

A True Coppy

Pr me David Forster Prop Clk.

On the Sixth Day of October the Proprietors affor s'd Meet at the meeting house afforsaid according to adjournment and Voted as followeth Viz.

Voted that Lot N^o 5 in the forty acre Lots shall be Returned to Daniel Davis for his first Division Lot—

Voted To Establish & Confirm The Transactions of former Votes and former Committees Except those Employed in Chichester Lawsuit—

Voted That Ephraim Clough be a Collector to gether the above Rates—

Canterbury October y^e 6th 1773—

A true Coppy Pr me

David Forster Prop. Clerk.

[2-55] [*Report of Committee Relative to Line between Canterbury and Chichester, 1779.*]

The return of the division Line between Canterbury old Town & a Parish proposed to be set off at the North west part

of s^d Town, run by the Subscribers a Committee chosen for that purpose.—Begining at a Beech Tree standing by the south-east corner bound of a hundred acre Lot in the second hundred acre division laid out to Joseph Dearborn numbered forty two : runing south seventy seven degrees west, to a White Pine spotted standing by the turn of the River above Gerrishes Ferry—

Canterbury June 24th 1779

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Josiah Miles | } Committee |
| Edward Blanchard | |
| Arch ^s Miles | |
| David Foster | |

A true Copsy attest

Archelaus Moore Town Clerk

[2-56]

At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of Canterbury on the first day of July A. D. 1879

Voted to accept the return of the Committee appointed to run the Line for a Parish at the Northwest part of the Town as they have exhibited their proceedings in s^d affair

A true Copsy attes^t

Archelaus Moore Town Clerk

[R. 156] [*Abstract of Abner Miles's Petition, Soldier, 1778.*]

[In a petition dated November 2, 1778, Abner Miles, of Canterbury, yeoman, states that he "Turned out as a Vol- untier in the service of his Country on the Expedition to Rhode Island under the Command of Capt. Benj^a Sias & served there untill the Company Came off the Island;" was taken sick, and confined at the house of Joseph Goffe, at Rehoboth, and remained there until September 24, 1778. He asks that the bill of said Goffe, amounting to £39-14 lawful money, and the bill of Dr. Jos. Bridgham of £9-6, may be paid by the state, and the said bills were allowed by the committee on sick and wounded soldiers. Miles also states that he lost a horse valued at \$250 in the service at Rhode Island, and Capt. Sias certifies to said loss; and Miles introduces the following to prove the value thereof, which was sworn to before Archelaus Moore.—ED.]

[R. 162]

Canterbury March y^e 8th 1779

We Jeremiah Hacket and Obediah Clough both of Canterbury being appointed by the select men of said Canterbury, to apprise a Horse which Abner Miles of said Town Rode to Rhode Island and Lost Last august when he went a Volenter in Cap^t Siases Company under Col^o Moses Nichols in Gen^l Whipples Brigade—We therefore agreeable to the trust Reposed in us do truly honestly and Impartily apprise said Horse to the best of our Judgment at £75, Lawful Money as witness our hands

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Jeremiah Hacket | Obadiah Clough | } | Selectmen for Canterbury. |
| Consented to. | Nehemiah Clough David Forster | | |

[2-57]

At an Annual Meeting held at Canterbury on the 18th of March 1779—

Upon application of the Inhabitants of the Northwest part of the Town to be set off as a separate Parish—Voted to set off the s^d Inhabitants accordingly, and that Cap^t Josiah Miles, David Foster, Cap^t Edward Blanchard & En^{sn} Archelaus Miles be a Committee to run a Line of division, & make return to the Town at the adjournment of this Meeting for their acceptance

A true Copsy attes^t

Archelaus Moore Town Clerk

[2-58]

The Number of Polls in Canterbury 21 years old & upwards paying for themselves a Poll Tax for 1783—143

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
| David Forster | } | Selectmen for Can- terbury. |
| | | |

[2-59] [*Petition for a Division of the Town.*]

State of New Hamp^r Rockingham ss. Canterbury March 30th A. D. 1780 The Humble Petition of y^e Subscribers Inhabitants of y^e North part of s^d Canterbury to y^e Honourable y^e President and members of Council & house of Representatives of Said State, we your Humble Petitioners Living at a great Distance from y^e Center of y^e Town Some of us at nine or ten Miles, & Consequently at a very great disadvantage in Joining with them in all Publick Town affairs, being encouraged Partly

by our Living in that Part of y^e Town that was Laid out for what was called y^e upper Parish & Partly by y^e Kind Reception our Request mett with which we made to y^e Town for a dismission but more Particularly by our Confidence in your Honours desire to Promote y^e Happiness of every Part of this State Humbly Pray that your Honours would take our Case into your Serious Consideration and grant that we together with all who Live in s^d upper Part may be Erected & Incorporated into a body Politick & Corporate to have Continuance by y^e name of Northfield—with all such Powers & Authorities Privileges Immunities and Franchises which other Parishes or Towns in this State in General hold & Enjoy which your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall forever pray

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Will ^m Kenistone | Shubal Dearborn | Will ^m Hancock |
| James Blanchard | Jacob Morrill | Nat ^l Perkins |
| Will ^m Williams | Aaron Stevens Jun ^r | James Lid Perkins |
| Jerem ^b M ^c Daniel | Sam ^l Miles | Archelus Miles |
| Ben ⁿ Blanchard | John Forrest | Edward Blanchard |
| Tho ^s Clough Jun ^r | Nat ^l whitcher | Will ^m ad Perkins |
| Joseph Carr | Tho ^s Clough | David Blanchard |
| Richard Blanchard | John Cross | Aaron Stevens |
| Simon Sanborn | Jon ^a Wadleigh | Reuben Whitcher |
| Tho ^s Gilman | Abnor Miles | Will ^m Sanborn |
| Charles Glidden | Jacob Heath | John M ^c Daniel |
| John Dearborn | George Hancock | Eben ^r Kimball |
| Joseph Levitt | John Simons | Gedeon Levitt |
| Shubal Dearborn | Joseph Hancock | Mathias Hains |
| Jun ^r | Benj ⁿ Collins | |
| Will ^m Forrest | Abra ^m Dearborn | |

[The petition was granted. The north-west part of the town was set off, and incorporated by the name of Northfield.—ED.]

[2-60] [*Petition to be annexed to Hillsborough County.*]

State of } To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Repre-
New Hampshire } sentatives of said State in General Court
convened

The petition of the Subscribers being Inhabitants of the town of Canterbury in the county of Rockingham humbly shews; that they labour under great disadvantages, by reason of their distance from Portsmouth & Exeter where the Courts are held & publick records kept for said County—Wherefore they pray that the town of Concord in said County together with the said

town of Canterbury may be annexed to the County of Hillsboro, & that for the future half the Courts for said County of Hillsboro may be held at said Concord, and your petitioners, as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Jeremiah Clough | Jere ^h Clough jr | William Hazeltine |
| Archelaus Moore | John Sutton | Obadiah Hall |
| Thomas Clough | Ezekiel Moore | Simon Eames |
| David Morrill | John moore | John Bean |
| Sam ^l Eames | Joshua Weeks | Joseph Clough |
| Laben Morrill | Nath ^l Glines | John Moore jr |
| Gideon Bartlett | Benjamin Sanborn | William Foster |
| John ^{his} × Forrest | Zebadiah Sargent | Jonathan Bradley |
| David ^{mark} Foster | Shubael Sanborn | Masten Morrill |
| | Elijah Sargent | Jesse Stevens |
| | John Carter | |

[R. 163] *Orders from several Soldiers, 1781 to 1785.*

Canterbury March 7th 1781.

To Nicholas Gilman Esq^r Treasurer for the State of New Hampshire. S^r please to pay the Select Men for Canterbury the Sum Total of what shall be made up to Us in the pay Roll as Soldiers in the Six Months Service the Summer past and their Receipt shall Answer the same to the Subscribers

Thomas Hoyt Ebenezer ^{his} × Chandler
_{mark}

Benjamin Glines Ebenezer foss

Thos. Hoyt £9..17.6—order granted & Roll signed by A Foster
—J Pearson

Please to pay the ballance of the within order to Abiel Foster Esq^r

David Foster } Select Men
O Mooney } for Canterbury

[R. 164]

[John Sutton, of Canterbury, in a similar order, directs his wages to be paid to Capt. Laban Morrill,—amount £5-5-2.—ED.]

[R. 165.]

Canterbury March y^e 31st 1783

To the Honorable Nicolas Gilman Esq^r State Treasurer for the State of New Hampshire, Sir Please to pay my Honoured

father John Glines of Loudon the wages Doe to me on muster Role; made up by Cap^t Ebenezer Webster of Solsbury, for five months serving as a Soldier under him at Coass, in the year A. D. 1782, and this Indorsed shall be a Discharge for said wages p^r yours to Serve

Eli Glines

[R. 166]

[Samson Bates orders the amount due him for three months' service in Capt. Nathaniel Head's company, to be paid to James Norris. Date, January 15, 1785; amount, £4-16-4.

(R. 167.) Thomas Curry orders the amount due him for three months' service in 1781 to be paid to David Foster. Date, Nov. 7, 1785; amount, £5-15-5.—ED.]

[R. 168] [*Noah Sinkler's Petition, Soldier, 1786.*]

[In a petition dated June, 1786, Noah Sinkler of Canterbury, states,—“That when he was in the Continental Army at St. John's in June 1776 he received two musket Balls through his wrist, by means of which he then lost the use of his hand.” He asks the legislature to “grant him such relief as a faithful soldier may dare to ask, or his ill fortune may demand,” &c.

The committee reported that he be enrolled at the rate of fifteen shillings per month, from the time his pay ceased, which report was accepted.—ED.]

[R. 169]

[Abiel Foster petitions, December, 1788, to have the wages of William Ervine, who was three months in the service as a ranger, in Capt. Ebenezer Webster's company, at Coös, in 1782, and who had deceased, paid to him for the benefit of the town of Canterbury. Amount, £8-19-0.—ED.]

[2-61] [*Vote concerning Paper Money.*]

At a Legal Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitation of the Town of Canterbury held at the Meeting House in said

Town on Munday the fourth Day of September A. D. 1786,
 Proceeded as follows Viz—

Voted M^r Gideon Bartlet moderator for the well Regulating
 Said Meeting—

Then it was put to Vote to See Wheather or no they would
 have a Paper Currancy Made or not, and better than two Thurds
 of the people Voted in the affirmative to have a paper Currancy
 made on Such footing as the General Court in there Wisdom
 Shall think best,—and the other part in the negative not to have
 a paper Currancy.

A True Copy attest

Archelaus Moore Town Clerk

[2-62] [*Number of Ratable Polls, 1787.*]

These may Certify whom it may concern that the Number of
 Polls, paying Taxes in the Town of Canterbury being carefully
 Numbered by us the Subscribers do find the Amount thereof to
 be Two Hundred and Six as may more fully Appear by the In-
 ventory of said Town for the Year 1787—

Obadiah Mooney } Selectmen for
 Obadiah Hall } Canterbury

Canterbury Feb^r 9th 1788

[2-63] [*Petition for a New County.*]

To His Excellency John Sullivan Esquire, President of the
 State of New Hampshire: The Hon^{ble} the Senate, & House
 Representatives in General Court convened at Portsmouth the
 twenty-third day of January A. D. 1788.

Humbly shews
 Abiel Foster Esq., David Morrill, & David M^cCrillis Gentlemen
 (a Committee chosen & authorized by the Town of Canterbury
 for the purpose) that the Inhabitants of said town are subjected
 to considerable inconvenience, and to unnecessary expence by
 reason of their remote situation from the County Courts—That
 they apprehend the like inconvenience is felt by a number of
 Towns in the Counties of Rockingham, Hillsborough, and
 Strafford, which Towns formed into a New & distinct County
 might be sufficiently large and the Inhabitants thereof much bet-
 ter accommodated, than they are at present, And being fully con-
 vinced of the disposition of the Legislature to promote, to the
 utmost of its power, the convenience & happiness of the Citi-
 zens of the State—They are encouraged to Pray, in behalf of
 the said Town of Canterbury, that the following Towns may be

formed into a new County—Namely, Concord, Pembroke, Bow, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Heniker, Hillsborough, Fishersfield, Perrystown, Warner, Salisbury, Andover, Sanbornton, Northfield, Canterbury & Loudon, and invested with the powers and privileges which are enjoyed by the other Counties in said State: And as in duty bound will ever Pray.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Abiel Foster | } Committee in behalf of the town of Canterbury |
| David Morrill | |
| David M ^c Crillis | |

[Hon. Abiel Foster was born in Andover, Mass., 1735; graduated at Harvard in 1756; and was ordained to the pastorate of the church in Canterbury in 1761, which position he held until 1779. He was a member of the H. of Rep., 1780, '81, '82, and '83. Elected to congress in 1783, he held the position three years under the first confederation; was state senator during the years from 1791 to 1795, and president of that body in 1793. Reëlected to congress in 1789, he was a member of the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sessions of that body.]

Mr. Foster was eminent also for honesty and integrity, and much esteemed by all who knew him. He died in February, 1806 —ED.]

[2-64] [*Petition for an Act incorporating a Library.*]

To the Hon^l the Senate & House of Representatives for the State of New hampshire Now Convened at Portsmouth

Humbly Sheweth
the Subscriber that he with others his associates—inhabitants of Canterbury have Purchased a Considerable Number of Books for the Purpose of a Social Library in s^d Town—therefore pray that they may be incorporated a body Politic with Such Powers and Previliges as are usually granted in Such Cases—and as in Duty bound will ever pray

Nehemiah Clough

Nov-29-1797

[The library was incorporated by an act approved December 12, 1797. The grantees were John Sutton, David Morrill, David Foster, John Ayers, Abiel Foster, Jr., and Nehemiah Clough.—ED.]

CENTRE HARBOR.

This town was set off from New Hampton and incorporated by an act approved December 7, 1797. The locality of the present village was known as "Centre-harbour" for some years previous to the incorporation of the town. Moultonborough harbor, now called Moultonborough bay, being east, and Meredith harbor, now Meredith bay, being on the west, made this the centre harbor, and the name was transmitted to the town on its incorporation.

Nathan Hoit was authorized to call the first meeting.

By an act approved July 3, 1873, an addition was made to the town, of territory taken from the town of Meredith.

The village is located on and commands a fine view of Lake Winnipiseogee, making it a delightful summer residence.

[2-65] [*Petition for Incorporation, 1788.*]

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives for said State in General Court convened—

The petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of a tract of land called Meredith neck, of the northern district of New Hampton and New Holderness, and of the Southern district of Moultonborough,—Humbly shews that the lands aforesaid are so surrounded with ponds and impassable streams running into & out of the said Ponds, and so remote from the *Centers* of the respective Towns to which they belong that we have hitherto found the greatest inconvenience in attending public worship and ordinary Town meeting, And that the said Districts are so situated as to render a Communication between their respective Inhabitants extremely convenient, and contains about twelve thousand acres, a sufficient number to make an ordinary Township—

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the District aforesaid bounded as follows—beginning at Col Smiths Mill (so called) in Meredith aforesaid from thence by the West side line of Measley pond (so called) to the mouth of the Brook running into said pond, from thence on a direct course Romseys Mill (so called) in New Holderness afors^d from thence over Squam pond (so called) to the Northwest corner of Red Hill (so called) from thence on a strait line to the Baron (so called) and from thence to the bound first mentioned, the said

Meredith neck included may be severed from the respective Towns to which they now belong, and incorporated into a Township by the Name of Watertown. And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c—

New Hampton June 1788

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Benning Moulton | John Black | Bradbury Gilman |
| John Pain | Samuel Jenness | Robeart Glines |
| Ezekiel Morse | John Roberds | James Lock |
| Moses Kelsa | Amos Pain Jun | Samuel Spiller |
| Joseph Senter | Robert Kelsea | Sam ^l M Senter |
| Tho ^s Warren | Daniel Page | Daniel Cass |
| Enoch Cate | James Moor | Levi Towle |
| Daniel Chamberlain | Israel Glines | James Black |
| H. Kelsa | John Been | John dockham |
| Moses Morse | Moody Bean | Samuel Genness Jun. |
| Abel Morse | Jon ^a Frost | Richard Paron |
| Asa Foster | Ephraim Doten | Ephraim Chamberlin |
| Church Sturtevant | John Sturtevant | James Tebbits |
| Amos Pain | Moses Senter | Benj ^a Batchelor |
| Winthrop Robinson | Edmund Black | Mark Blake |
| David Robinson | Weare Leavitt | Jon ^a Moulton |
| Jacob Bunker | Gideon Robinson | Peres Sturtevant |

State of New }
Hampshire } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 1, 1789

Upon reading & considering the Petition of Benning Moulton & others, voted that the Hon. Joseph Badger Esq^r Daniel Beede Esq—Capt Abraham Burnham, be a Committee, at the expence of the petitioners, to view the situation of the premises petitioned for, to be incorporated into a Town & report their Opinion thereon to the General Court at their next Session

Sent up for concurrence

Tho^s Bartlet Speaker

In Senate Jan^y 2^d 1789 read & concurred

J Pearson Sec^y

Copy Exam^d

Joseph Pearson Sec^y

[2-66] [*The following is the Report of the Committee.*]

Center harbour may y^e 28th 1789

We the subscribers appointed a Committee to Consider of the within petition of Benning moulton Esq^r and others and

to Report our opinion thereon have met and heard the Parties Concerned and viewed the situation of the Premises Petitioned for and upon due Consideration Report as our opinion that the petitioners Labour under some disadvantages as they now are and that the Lands petitioned for would make a very convenient small town but at the same time we are of opinion they are too young to be set off at present and that it would be a great Damage to holderness and meredith to have them taken off at Present for it is our opinion it will make them all so small that Neither of the towns would be able to support Public worship

Joseph Badger
Daniel Beede
Abrah^m Burnham

[2-67] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation, 1797.*]

To the Honorable General Court of the State of New Hampshire now sitting at Concord,

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the North East part of New Hampton humbly Sheweth, that whereas many Inconveniences arise in our present Situation with respect to our Transacting Town Business we your Petitioners, humbly pray—That your Honours would sett off such a part of Said Town as is Included in the Bounds following, as a Town, that it may be Incorporated, by the Name of Centre Harbour, Viz To begin at the Northeasterly Corner of New Hampton, thence on the Line between Meredith and New Hampton, to Measly Pond so Call'd thence to Measly Pond Brook, thence, up the middle of said Brook to Long Pond, thence up the middle of Said Long Pond, to the Inlet at the Head of Said Pond, thence North thirty five Degrees West to New Holderness, thence East on s^d Holderness Line, to the South East Corner of said Holderness, thence North on said Holderness Line to the Westerly Corner of Moultonborough, thence on the Line between Moultonborough & New Hampton, to the Bound first mentioned, the aforesaid Bounds being agreeable to a Vote of the Town of New Hampton in the year one thousand seven Hundred & Ninty Six and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray—

New Hampton June 8, 1797

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Ezekiel Morse | Jesse Sturtevant | John Knowles |
| Church Sturtevant | John Sturtevant | Abram B. Glines |
| John Pain | Hosea Sturtevant | Nehemiah Lee |
| John Hawkens | Amos Pain Jun | Benning Moulton |
| Chase Robinson | Stephen Hawkins | Daniel Page |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Moses Morse | William Berrey | Benjamin Sturtevant |
| Hugh Kelsea | Jonathan Robinson | John Pain Jun. |
| Joseph Kenney | Joshua Pain | Isaac Morse |
| Daniel Norris | Jeremiah Towle | James Towle |
| Robert Kelsa | Pelham Sturtevant | Wadleigh Cram |
| James Tebbets | Jos. Moulton | Joseph Senter |
| Caleb Towle | Jon ^r M. Pain | Ephraim Chamberlain |
| Perez Sturtevant | Abel Morse | Clement Hawkins |
| James Little | Moses Kelsa. | Stephen Kenney |
| Winthrop Robinson | Smith Cram | Amos Pain |
| Walter Pain | Joshua Norris | |

[The foregoing petition was granted by an act passed December 7, 1797, incorporating the territory asked for into a town.—ED.]

CHARLESTOWN.

The first grant of the township was made by the government of Massachusetts, December 31, 1735. Samuel, David, and Stephen Farnsworth made the first settlements in 1740. Capt. Phineas Stevens, Lieut. Ephraim Wetherbee, and Stephen Farnsworth were the only original grantees who settled in the town. The first meeting of the grantees was held at Hatfield, Mass., April 5, 1737, at which a committee was appointed to lay out sixty-three house lots. The township went by the name of No. 4, until it was re-granted by the government of New Hampshire, July 2, 1753, by the name of Charlestown, in honor of Commodore Sir Charles Knowles, of the English navy. This grant was made in answer to a petition from Capt. Phineas Stevens and others, and the name was probably suggested by him in consequence of his having been presented with an elegant sword by the English officer, as a tribute to his bravery in defending the fort at No. 4, April 4, 1747.

The town suffered greatly by Indian and French depredations for some years, on reading an account of which we may well be surprised that any of the settlers had the courage to remain. During the Revolution a depot of supplies was kept here, and the fort was a general rendezvous for New Hampshire troops sent to Canada or northern New York. Charlestown has been the residence of many eminent men, biographies of whom may be found in Saunderson's history of the town.

A portion of the town was severed January 11, 1787, united with a portion of Walpole, and erected into the town of Langdon. Hon. John Langdon being at that time speaker of the house, accounts for the name.

By an act approved June 20, 1810, three families were severed from Unity and annexed to this town; and by an act approved the same day, the town was divided into two parishes for parochial purposes.

[2-68]

Whereas in the year 1742. A Certain Number petitioned to His Excellency the Governor of the province of New Hampshire and to His Majesties Honourable Council there praying for a certain Track of Land for a Township on Connecticut River above number four as by said petition may appear &c and the said petitioners being meet at Lunenburg January the 9th 1748 then Choose M^r Jonathan Whitney and Cap^t John Spofford to wait on His Excellency and on His Majesties Honourable Council above said to have the prayer of the petitioners granted.

attest Edward Hartwell Clerk

[2-69] [*Petition of William and Joseph Willard.*]

Province of } To his Exelency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
Newhampshire } Govener In & over his Majestys Province of
Newhampshire—

The Petetion of William Willard and Joseph Willard of a Place Called N^o 4 on the East Side of Connecticut River Humbly Shueth that your Petitioners own Two Rights In Said Township under the Masschusetts Grant and Built a House & Cleard Sundery acers of Land & Improved the Same & In y^e Inden War the House was Burnt But Sence the Sesition of arms have Improved the s^d Land & Paid thare Part to Rebuilding the Mill that was Destroyed* and Ben thare Part to all other Charge that has arissen toward the Bringing forward s^d Township all which by the Late Runing of the Line are found to be In the Province of Newhamp^r Wharefore y^e Petitioners Humbly pray In Case that your Exelency Shall Proceed to make a Grant of those Lands that thay may be Favared with the Kings

*The mill was destroyed by Indians, with fire, April 19, 1746.

Grant of the Said two Rights In the Same Lands as to be Equal to thair former Expectation and your Petitioners In Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

March y^e 5th 1750

William Willard
Joseph Willard

[2-70] [*Simon Sartwell's Petition.*]

To His Exelency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governour and Commander in Chief In and over his Majestys Province of New hampshire &c

The Petition of Simon Sotwell of N^o 4 Humbly Sheweth That your humble petitioner hath three Rights In Said township of N^o 4 which he purchased for himself att a considerable sum of money & att y^e time thought that the Province of Masschusetts had a Good Right to y^e Said Land But Sence the Running of the Line Between the Provinces that the Land Lyeth In the Province of Newhamp^r your Petitioner Disires that your Exelency would Grant to him the s^d three Rights on Such Terms as your Exelency Grants to others the King Subjects Furdermore your Petiⁿ would Inform your Exelency that he Is Adminstrators to the Estate of Obediah Sotwell Late of s^d N^o 4 who was Killed by the Indins att s^d N^o 4 & that there Is two Rights that Belong to s^d Estate which he disires may be Granted to the Heirs of the Said Sotwell when your Exelency Shall See cause to make a Grant of S^d Land In S^d N^o 4 upon y^e Like Conditions that others the Kings Subjects have the s^d Land & your petitioner disires that If the s^d Land be Granted that they may be the Same Land that was Layd to the above s^d Rights thare being a grate deal of Labour done on S^d Land and your Petitioner In Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

N^o 4 March y^e 4th 1750

Simon Sartwell

[2-71] [*Benjamin Bellows for Heirs of Captain Ephraim Weatherbee.*]

Prov: of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq.
N. Hamp^r } Govon^r &c in & over his Majestys Province of New
Hamp^r

The Petiⁿ of Benj^a Bellows of Lunenburg Humbly Shews.

That your Petⁿ & the Heirs of Capⁿ Ephraim Wetherbe Late deceased do Own under the Massachusetts Grant Six Shares

being One tenth part of the Township Called N^o 4. On Connecticut River that they Built the tenth part of the fort there & have Spent much Labour in Improvements & Building on s^d Rights now in part destroyed by the Indians

That they like wise Own three Rights in N^o 2 Called Gouldings town the West Side Connecticut River Ag^t the S^d N^o 4— all which by the Late Runing the Province line are found to be in the Province of New Hamp^r—

Wherefore y^r Pet^r Humbly prays in behalf of Himself & the s^d Heirs, that in Case your Excellency Shall proceed to make grants of those Lands that they may be favoured with the Kings Grant of So many Rights in those Lands as to be Equal to their former Expectations & in the Same Land and your Pet^r Shall Ever pray &c

Oct 5th 1750

Benj^a Bellows

[2-72] [*Joseph Wood, by Jonathan Whitney.*]

Province of }
New Hamp^r } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r
Cap^t General Governor & Commander in Chief in and Over
his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{ble} His
Majesty's Council for Said Province—

Humbly Shews—

Joseph Wood of Lunenburg in the County of Worcester in the Province of the Mass^a Bay Yeoman—That One Ephraim Withersbee Late of Said Lunenburg Yeoman Deceased Died Intestate on whose Estate your Petitioner had Administrⁿ part of which was three Rights in a Township Called N^o 4—the House or Home lots were N^o 32, 33, 36 on the East Side of Connecticut River in the Province of New Hampshire which part your Petitioner Sold by Virtue of a Licence for that purpose and the Money Raised thereby Applied to the Payment of the Debts of the Deceased—Which Land your Petitioner afterwards was Obligated to Repurchase at the Price of five hundred pounds old Tenor Because the Title of the Deceased was Doubtful & the purchaser from your Petitioner Dissatisfied which Lands are now in the Possession of your Petitioner and he has Subdued & Settled part of the Same & is Still proceeding & Carrying on three Settlements one on Each of Said Rights

Wherefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays That whenever your Excellency Shall See Cause to make a Grant of the Lands Called by the Said Name of N^o 4 your Petitioner may be Let in as a Grantee and have the Particular Settlements & Improvements made by him & Others under him & in the Right of his

Intestate (the Expence of which has been very Considerable) assigned to him that he may not Sustain the Loss of that Expence and of the Purchase afores^d by being Turned off & the Said Lands Granted to others—

And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Jonathan Whitney | } | by order of |
| | | & in behalf |
| | | of S ^d Jos. Wood |

[2-73] [*Capt. Phineas Stevens's Letter to Secretary Atkinson.*]

When I Left Portsmouth It Was My Full Intent to have Returned thither again Long before this time but our people ware so Started att the Change of Taking a General Plan that they Ware for finding out sum other Way of Proceeding which has been a Clogg to the affear But they are Now Pritty well Convinced that there Is no other way and the Plan Would have ben In a grate forwardness by this time but the man I depend- ed upon to Do the Work met With a hurt and has not ben fit for Bisness for sum time past But I Shall forward the matter With the utmost Expedition & Shall be att Portsmouth as soon as the matter will admit So Remain your Most Humble Serv^t
Phinehas Stevens

No 4 Jen^u y^e 31th 1753

To the Hon^{bl} Theodore Atkinson Esq^r att Portsmouth

[Two plans of Charlestown, with the boundaries described, follow this letter in the manuscript volume.—ED.]

[2-74]

A List of The Names of the present Owners of Land at N^o 4

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joseph Wells | John Sawyer | John Sawyer Jun. |
| Stephen Farnsworth | obadiah Sartwels | Isaac Amsden |
| Nathaneal Parker | heirs | Silvanus Hastings |
| Seth Putnam | M ^r Andrew Gardners | Obadiah Dickinson |
| John Hastings Jun ^r | James Porter | Isaac Parker |
| William Heywood | James Kellogg | Ebenezer Putnam |
| Moses Willard | Jonathan Hubbard | Joseph Billings |
| Thomas Adams | Joseph Willard | David Farnsworth |
| Seth Walker | James Johnson | Eben ^r Hinsdel |
| Thomas Putnam | John Hastings | John Spafford |

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Moses Wheeler | Simon Sartwel | Isaac Holden |
| ——— Dene | Lemuel Hastings | Benj ^m Allen |
| Phinehas Stevens | Peter Labaree | |
| James Farnsworth | Jon th Page | |

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Eph ^m Wetherbes | } | Jonathan Wetherbe |
| | | Abijah Wetherbe |
| | | Samuel Wetherbe |
| | | Joseph Woods |

[2-75] [*Petition for a Grant and Incorporation from New Hampshire.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq Capt General Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and to the Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council for Said Province—

The Humble Petition of Phineas Stevens of a place called Number four in Said Province in behalf of himself and others Settlers there, Shews That the Tract of Land called N^o 4 was Granted by the Government of the Massachusetts, to one Jonathan Wells & others about the year 1735 who proceeded to do Something towards making a Settlement, but Soon after the Grant began to Sell their Supposed Rights—That the present Inhabit^{ts} there, are Purchasers under the Said Grantees, not knowing when their Purchases were made but that the Rights under them Were good, upon which Supposition they have enter'd, and made Considerable Improvements, there being about fifty Men, Settlers on the Spot & all purchasers, and others Coming Daily, So that in Case the Peace Continues, there will Soon be a Great Number of People there, which will be a great advantage as it extends the Frontier, & is a Security to Many Settlements within.—

That there is not one of the Grantees aforesaid, who is now a Claimer there (they having all Sold) and the Present Settlers under them, have Defended themselves & kept their possession thro the Last War, at a Great Expence & Loss, by which they apprehend the Enemy were much disheartened and other Settlers & Planters Spirited to Proceed.—

That your Petitioner & his Associats lay no Claim in Point of Right by virtue of their Said Purchases, nor make any other use of them than to suggest that they did not Enter on Said

Lands Conscious of a Tort in So doing, and that as they were Inadvertently Induced to part with their Money for Nothing, they think their Case Deserves Pitty—Moreover they Humbly Conceive the Stand they made during the War aforesaid, the Subdueing & Settling a Wilderness Country So far from help, the General Benefit arising hereby many ways to the Public, are Considerations which Intitle them to all that favour and Regard, which those who do their Country Eminent Services may Reasonably Expect—

Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of himself & associats Humbly Prays that your Excellency & Honours would in your Great Goodness Consider their Circumstances—That your Excellency Would be Pleased to make them a Grant of Said Tract of Land on Such Easy Terms as their Circumstances Seem to Claim, and as Will Encourage the Progress of said Settlement, That they may be Incorporated into a Township, that this be done with as much Dispatch as may be Consistent with your Excellency's more Important affairs, or That Such other matters & things may be done In favour of y^r Petitioners as your Excellency and Honours in your Wisdom & Goodness Shall Judge proper & your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Phineas Stevens

[The charter was granted by the governor and council, July 2, 1753.—ED.]

[2-76]

[*John Spafford's Petition.*]

Province of }
New Hamp^r } To His Ec^{cy} Benning Wentworth Esq Gov^r
&c

The Petitⁿ of John Spaufford of N^o 4; Humbly Sheweth— that your Peti^r was one of the first Settlers in s^d Township Under the Grant of the Massachusetts which we then Tho^t was by Good Right and that after a great feateague in Gitting there Making Settlement with a Considerable Improvement Common Charges my full Share in all the fortifications besides. Building of two mills at the Expençe of at Least a Thousand Pounds Since burnt by the Indians the Irons Carry'd away & the Stones Destroyed with fire the Cheif of all which Expençe and Hardships are Rendered almost useless, besides in Defence of the Cuntry while there was Captivated by the Indians and Carryed to Canada upwards of 15 months kept in Jail Suffering Great Loss in all his affairs as well as the great Difficulty and Hardships of his Tedious Captivity. That Since his

Return at a very Great Expence, and Rebuilding the s^d mills, that for his Encouragement was by the former prop^{rs} given him and Hundred acres of Land, and by his own purchass one whole Right and part of a Second Right & Inasmuch as Contrary to our then Expectation, the title, fails and becomes Liable to the Kings Grant—I would begg your Excellencys Consideration and Favour in the Premises & that I might have the Grant of two Rights in s^d Town with One Hundred acres more, formerly Granted, for my Service on acc^t of the mills and those parts before Severed to be the Same again, and y^e Peti^r as In Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c—

John Spaffard.

[2-77] [*Petition of the Selectmen for a Hospital.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & Assembly of the State of New Hampshire

The Petition and Memorial of the Selectmen of Charlestown in said State humbly Sheweth & gives your Hon^{rs} to be Informed: that this Town, for Some Months past having been the general Rendezvous of the Troops of s^d State and a place to which the Sick, wounded &c have been generally sent, by reason whereof the Invalids in s^d Town are become considerably numerous and likely to be more so. And as there is no Hospital in s^d Town and all private Houses being filled by the owners or those poor and distressed Families that have been drove from their own Habitations by the Enemy, whereby no Convenient & Suitable Accommodation can be had for s^d Sick &c. Wherefore your Memorialists beg leave to Suggest to your Hon^{rs} whether it may not be necessary that a Building be erected for the purposes afores^d and to pray your Hon^{rs} to make such order thereon as in your wisdom may be Judged best, and your Memo^{ts} as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Charlestown 12th Sept^r 1777

Elijah Grout } Selectmen of
Peter Labaree } said Charlestown

[A committee to take the matter into consideration was appointed September 25, 1777.—ED.]

[2-78] [*Jacob Bayley to Committee of Safety, 1780.*]

Charlestown 14 April 1780.

Gentleⁿ—

A few days since I Rec^d a Letter from his Excellency Gen^l

Washington In which he says that in case of Danger from the Enemy on our frontiers we should apply to the state we Belong to but such is our Situation at Present that we know not what state we Belong too as this frontier is most contiguous to your state and we Expect the Desition of Congress Respecting the Grants will be in your favor. I think myself Bound in Duty to Represent to you that (Except an Expedition is undertaken in to Canada) this whole Frontier will be exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy and as soon as the middle of may, and I think unless an Expedition takes Place or some other measure is taken to secure the People we shall not be able to keep them in the Country—

A very large Party of Enemy Last Feb^r advanced up Onion River more than twenty miles, nothing saved us but our Being Prepared for them.

I am Gentⁿ your most Humble Servant

Jacob Bayley

To Committee of Safety Exeter

[2-79]

[*Concerning Simon Powers.*]

Charlestown August 26th 1782.

Sir We the Subscribers Selectmen of this Town hereby certify that it appears unnessary to us, to Support our claim to Simeon Powers a Soldier who was hired for the Town of Acworth as others in Similar Circumstances have been determined against us

Hon M. Weare Esq
Chairman of Com^{tee}

Samuel Hunt
W^m Heyward
John Hubbard

[280]

At a Town meeting held Charlestown on y^e 2^d day of March 1784, a moderator chosen, y^e 4th article in the warrant. To see if the town are desirous that the Rev^d Bulkley Olcott be dismissed from his ministerial services, and to Choose a Com^{tee} to Confer with him for that purpose—y^e 5th article. To see if the town will exempt any person or persons from paying taxes to M^r Olcott who by reason of their Distance from meeting or Different sentiments Cannot be benefited by his ministry.

Voted on y^e 4th article that it is not the desire of the town to dismiss the Rev^d Bulkley Olcott from his ministerial services in the town

A true copy of record

W^m Heywood Clerk

[2-83] [*Vote of Town about setting off a Parish.*]

At a legal annual Town meeting held in Charlestown on the 4th day of March 1789, a moderator chosen—

7th article in the warrant—To see if the Inhabitants will Vote that a town or Parrish be set of at the north end of the town—

Voted, that there be a town Parish or Precinct set of at the north end of this town—

Voted, that the line be as follows beginning at the southwest corner of James Farnsworths farm on the east bank of Connecticut river, and proceeding easterly on said south line to the road, then easterly in said road & crossing the bridge by Markhams mills & crossing Simⁿ Alvords land & taking the road leading to Acworth and following said road to the east line of the town—

a true copy of record

W^m Heywood Town Clerk.

[2-84] [*Vote at Meeting held September 20, 1784.*]

Voted, that those persons & there estates that live in Charlestown that shall poll off, by giving in there names to the town clerk be a poll parrish, and that the General Court be petitioned to confirm the same at the expence & cost of the petitioners—

a true copy of record.

W^m Heywood Town Clerk

[2-85] [*Petition of North Part to be set off, 1785.*]

The Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Concord the third wednesday of this Instant october 1785—

The petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the town of Charlestown Humbly Sheweth, our situation in General is Verry Inconvenient as to attending the place of public worship it being near eight miles from the meeting house to the north line of the town, besides our sentiments not agreeing with our Now Rev^d Pastor, we are no ways accomadated with Preaching only what we Git at our own Expence other ways, we finding it an Hardship Petitioned the town for a devision, accordingly at a Legal meeting it was Granted by a majority of Votes and the Devision line agreed on, but their seem^d some perticular persons dissatisfied, we then petitioned to be a poll parish, by

that hoping to Remove Every difficulty, accordingly at a Legal Town meeting it was unanimously Voted and agreed to by most of the Inhabitants by far, and a vote to have the General Cort petitioned for the establishment of the same, Nevertheless some being disaffected have proceeded so far as to obstruct our proceeding although so Legal and Just,—which seems a Hardship and cruel, therefore as free born Subjects we once more petition to your Honours and Humbly pray we may have the priviledge as such, and be made a poll parish as heretofore voted and petitioned for but if your Honours think it not equitable we pray we may be set of as a town precinct, parish, or District with such Bounds as heretofore Voted or may be, before the hearing this Petition as your Honours may or shall think best, by which the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives will Greatly oblige your Honours Humble petitioners who in duty Bound shall ever pray—

october 15th 1785—

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Isaac Putnam | Eben farnsworth | Levi farnsworth |
| Timothy Holding | David Hubbard | Oliver Farnsworth |
| Levi Putnam | Mathew Walker | Rich ^d Glidden |
| Elijah parker | Constant Hart | John Harper |
| Sam ^l Harper | Simeon Hart | Asa Nichols |
| Timothy Newton | John Grow | John Convis |
| Job Johnson | Nath ^l Powars | deliverance wilson |
| Seth Putnam | Chandler Porter | Jr. |
| Joseph Farwell | David Lynd | Jonathan Grout |
| oliver Farnsworth Jr | Rich ^d Holding | Calvin Judevine |
| Seth Walker | Jeremiah Johnson | Jabis Walker |
| William Henry | Robart Henery | David Henery |
| Asa Walker | Robart Hill | Jeremiah Parker |
| Benj ⁿ Allen | W ^m Farwell | Moses Wheeler |
| David Cross | Jonas gould | Abner Powars |
| Joseph Powers | Noah Porter | Sol ⁿ Grout |
| Paul Cushman | William Henry Jr | W ^m Farwell Jr |
| nathanel holden | Isaac tucker | Samuel Weatherbe |
| Thos. Farnsworth. | Deliverance Wilson | |

[In H. of R., Nov. 9, 1785, hearing ordered for next session.]

[2-86] [This document is a list of the tax-payers in town, and the amount of each person's tax. It bears date June 2, 1787, and is signed by Wm. Heywood, Abel Walker, Simon Sartwell, selectmen of Charlestown.—ED.]

[2-87] [*Selectmen's Petition to have West Bound of Town extended to West Bank of Connecticut River.*]

State of New Hampshire—To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire aforesaid now Convened at Charlestown in said State—Humbly Shews—The Selectmen of Charlestown beg leave to inform that there is two small Islands lying in Connecticutt river against said Charlestown — — one of said Islands may Contain nearly two acres and an half, and the other about half that quantity, and the said Islands were formed by reason of the breaking of the banks of said river, & others are forming in like manner, which is to the detriment of said Town—Your petitioners pray that the said Islands and all that may be formed hereafter against said Town may be granted to the Inhabitants of said Charlestown, or that the bounds of said Charlestown may be extended to the western bank of Connecticutt river so as to Include said Islands—& your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

W^m Heywood } Selectmen of
Abel Walker } Charlestown

Charlestown, Septem^r 17th 1787.

[The petition was granted, and an act passed February 13, 1788, extending the bounds of the town to the west bank of Connecticut river.—ED.]

[2-89]

At a Town Meeting held in Charlestown on y^e 9th of March 1790—a moderator chosen 6th article in the warrant, To see if the town will admit of those preachers who profess to hold universal salvation to preach in the meeting house in the absence of M^r Olcott—

Voted, that the universalists have the priviledge to improve the meeting house in the absence of the Rev^d Bulkley Olcott
a true copy of record

W^m Heywood Town Clerk

[2-90] [*Academy Petition for Lottery, 1791.*]

To the honourable Senate and house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire convened at Concord June 4th 1791—

The Trustees of Charlestown Academy beg leave to inform

your honours, that they have attentively considered of, and attended to, the duties of their appointment; and are duly impressed with the importance of it; The obtaining a fund sufficient to support the institution, is the principal difficulty they have, or expect to meet with, in discharging their office. A number of the principal inhabitants in this town built a house and have supported a school at their own expence, for upwards of four years past; They found the number of schollars and spirit of literature increase to that degree, that it became necessary, in their opinion to enlarge the plan. The situation of the place, and the benefits that resulted from the exertions of a few, encouraged them to attempt it; they therefore associated and have erected another large and convenient house, for the purpose of a public school or academy. Not doubting but the Legislature of New Hampshire would encourage so laudable an undertaking, they instructed their representative to apply to the Legislature for an incorporation, and leave to raise a sum of money by Lottery. The application was made and considered at the two last sessions of the Legislature.

The incorporation was granted and leave given to raise one thousand pounds by Lottery; but when the bill was brought in according to order, it was rejected. The Trustees conceive, that the rejection of the bill must have arisen, either from a conviction that the Legislature was wrong in the first instance, or from a competition of interests among the members; the first we cannot and the latter we are very unwilling to believe. However, with regard to the last we beg leave to observe, that the situation of this place is such that it doth not, in our opinion, interfere with any other institution of the kind. That the raising the sum proposed by Lottery, would not be disagreeable or burdensome to this part of the Country; so far otherwise, that were it submitted to the wishes of the people, they would readily grant it. We are further of opinion that the raising said sum under the direction of the trustees might be so managed as no wise to hinder or obstruct the raising of any sums that might be granted by your hon^{rs} for similar purposes We will only add, that if no assistance is given to establish a fund for the encouragement and support of the Academy, as proposed by Lottery, or otherwise; that the incorporation, together with the great expence and exertions of the said inhabitants, will become useless to themselves and to the public; and an infant seminary die, for want of that nourishment which we conceive you, as parents of Literature, ought to give. We therefore humbly pray your Honours that the said bill, which was rejected at the last session, may be passed, or one similar thereto, empowering said trustees to raise one thousand pounds by Lottery for the purpose afores^d or otherwise relieve your

petitioners in such way as your honours, in wisdom, shall think just—and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Sim. Olcott, at the request
and in behalf of the Trustees.

Charlestown May 25, 1791—

The committee on lotterys, report that the prayer of the aforesaid petition be granted in part, that they have leave to introduce a bill enabling them to raise the sum of five hundred pounds by lottery for the aforesaid purposes under such restrictions as the Court shall direct, which is submitted by Daniel Emerson Jr for the Committee.

[Charlestown Academy was incorporated February 16, 1791, and Hon. Simeon Olcott, Benjamin Bellows, John Hubbard, Sandford Kingsbury, Samuel Hunt, William Page, Rev. Bulkley Olcott, and Rev. Thomas Archibald were appointed trustees.—ED.]

[2-91] [*Academy Petition for Grant of Land, 1792.*]

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire convened at Dover June 15, 1792—

The petition of William Page of Charlestown for and in behalf of the Trustees of Charlestown Academy Humbly Sheweth That said Academy has been brought forward and supported at the expence and by the exertion of a few individuals—That they have nearly completed a large and convenient building which will cost upwards of one thousand dollars—That they have contracted with a Preceptor for five years one half of which time is Expired, That there is now & has been for more than two years past upwards of forty scholars at said Academy, and there is every prospect of its being one of the most useful Seminaries of the kind in the state if it can be supported. And that your Petitioner is authorized to say it will not be in the power of the generous founders of said Academy to maintain and support the same if no assistance can be obtained from Government, And your petitioner conceiving it to be the design and wish of the Legislature to give every encouragement to Institutions for the promotion of Learning ageeably to the spirit of the Constitution, altho they are not disposed to do it by way of Lottery—Therefore your Petitioner prays your Honors to grant to the Trustees of said Academy for the sole use thereof a Tract of unlocated land lying and being in this state westerly of the lands Petitioned for by Judge Cogswell

meaning a line reported by a Committee of the Legislature at their last session and adjoining the Townships of Thornton, Lincoln, Franconia, & Breton woods under such regulations and restrictions as your Honors shall think proper & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

W. PAGE—

Dover June 16th 1792—

[2-92] [*Petition for the Division of the Town, 1793.*]

To the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire now sitting at Exeter—

The subscribers Inhabitants of Charlestown in the County of Cheshire in said State—Humbly Shew

That this Town extends in length from north to south about thirteen miles; that it would be very inconvenient for the Inhabitants to assemble at any one place for transacting the business of the Town, were they well united in sentiment; but unfortunately for them there is a total want of that harmony without which, the public business of a Town cannot be conducted with pleasure dispatch or advantage—That the Inhabitants at the north part of the Town are in general of a different religious denomination from those in the south, that they have a Minister settled with them; that the Inhabitants of the south part of the Town now destitute of a Minister wish to settle one, which it is out of their power to do as a Town while connected with their northern neighbors—For these and many other reasons your Petitioners are fully persuaded that a division of the Town at such a place as the Inhabitants should agree on or as should be ordered by a Committee appointed by the assembly would conduce much to the peace and prosperity of those interested. They therefore pray that this Town may be divided and a new one incorporated—

Charlestown Dec^r y^e 31, 1793

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Sim. Olcott | Abel Walker | Oliver Hall | |
| Ephraim Carpenter | Jonathan Arms | John Hubbard | |
| David Taylor | Samuel Garfield | M. W. Hastings | |
| Roswell Hunt | Elihu Dickinson | Benjamin More | } Selectmen |
| Jonas Parks | W. PAGE | Sam Stevens | |
| Samuel Crosby | James Bowtell | Asahel Hunt | |
| Joel Cooley | James Johnson | Obadiah Wells | |
| Sylvanus Hastings Jr | Aaron Dean | Charles Bowen | |
| Timothy Putnam Jr | Phineas Stone | Timothy Carlton | |
| Benj ⁿ Clark | Amos Silvester | George Kimball | |
| Hazael Simonds | Lemuel Hedges | Amos Burnham | |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Samuel Carlisle | Peter Page Jr. | Noah Porter |
| Jason Wetherbe | Jesse Hill | Josiah White |
| Elisha Putnam | W ^m Heywood | John Hodgkins |
| John Converse | J. Parker | Abel Fling |
| Richard Gliden | Isaac Toker | Joseph Brown Jr. |
| Benj ⁿ Brown | Jabez Walker | William Bond |
| Sam ^l Willard | Levi Brown | John Hastings Jr |
| Oliver Coomes | John Willard | Benj ⁿ Billings |
| Thos Geer | Thaddeus Nott | John McMurphy |
| Henry Perkins | Ebenezer Hart | John Grow Jr. |
| Julius Silsby | Benj ^a Jones | John Hastings |
| Stephen Hasham | Sam ^l Reymentown | John Hewitt |
| Joseph Johnson | John Harper | David Pierce |
| Osman Baker | David harmon Enos | Jonathan Baker |
| Paul Cushman | David Hubbard | Parker Cushman |
| Jon ^a Hubbard | Asa Nichels | Christopher Crofts |
| Philip Nichels | Abel Putnam | Abiah Walker |
| Mathew Walker | thomas Johnson | Benj ^a West |
| Samuel Perry | John Grow | Horatio Bingham |
| Sam ^l Harper | Isaac Hill | Peter Page |
| Tho ^s Putnam | Levi Kimball | Walter Bingham |
| Daniel Brown | Ebenezer Nickels | Simeon Church |
| Joseph Brown by desire & in presence of | | Nabby Lines |
| Benj ^a Allen | | |
| Sam ^l Hunt | | |

State of New Hampshire—at a Legal town meeting held by adjournment in Charlestown on Tuesday y^e 25 march 1794 The Vote being Called for, for a division of the town, (agreeable to an article in the warrant for that purpose) was taken by yeas, and nays, for the Division yeas 112, nays 52.

A true copy of record

attest W^m Heywood Town Clerk

[In H. of Rep., January 20th, 1794, a committee, consisting of Bezaleel Woodward, Sanford Kingsbury, and Joseph Burt, was appointed to "view the situation," etc., and report at the next session. They reported as follows:—ED.]

To the honorable General Court of the State of New Hampshire—Your committee within named having viewed the situation of the Inhabitants of Charlestown and heard their committee on the subject *report* That it is the opinion of your committee that it is expedient that said town of Charlestown be divided into two towns; and that the following be the divisional line viz beginning at the northeast corner of the lot number twenty one of hundred acre lots on the east line of said

Charlestown—thence running westerly on the north lines of the hundred acre lots number twenty one in the eighth, seventh and sixth ranges to the northwest corner of the said number twenty one in the sixth range—thence westerly a strait line to the northeast corner of the lot number fifty seven in the second division—thence westerly on the north line of the said lot number fifty seven to the northwest corner thereof—thence a strait line to the northeasterly corner of the lot number forty nine in the second division—thence on the northerly line of the last mentioned lot to the northernmost corner thereof, and thence in the last mentioned course viz of the northerly line of the last mentioned lot to Connecticut river

Which is humbly submitted by

Charlestown }
May 2^d A D 1794 }

B. WOODWARD
Sanford Kingsbury
Joseph Burt

[2-95]

[A plan of Charlestown accompanied the foregoing papers. It is partially lotted, and shows the proposed divisional line.

At the next session of the legislature petitions were presented (June 11, 1794), to annex the north part of Charlestown to the town of Unity. Unity people remonstrated, the project failed, and the town of Charlestown was not divided. The territory which was to compose the new town is now known as North Charlestown. Other papers relative to this matter will be published with Unity papers.—Ed.]

—

[2-97] [*Petition in favor of Annexing Part of Charlestown to Langdon.*]

To the Honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire to meet at Hanover the first Wednesday of June next—

We the Inhabitants of that part of the Town of Charlestown which lies between the west Line of the Town of Langdon and Connecticut River, Humbly Shew, that the Town of Charlestown, and the Town of Langdon having voted that the north Line of Langdon be extended to Connecticut River, your Petitioners Therefore Humbly pray that said north Line of Langdon may be extended westerly to said river, and that all the Lands and Inhabitants of that part of Charlestown which lies west of Langdon west Line may be annexed to the Town of

Langdon, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Charlestown May 27th 1795.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Peter Bellows Jr— | Elisha Putnam | Samuel Guild |
| Asahel Hunt | Peter Bellows | Samuel Bellows |
| Asahel C. Porter | Rufus Guild | John Hodgkin |
| M. W Hastings | W ^m Drown | |

[Langdon subsequently voted against the annexation, and the project failed.—ED.]

[R. 170] [*Page Harriman, ferrying Soldiers, 1776.*]

Charlestown—Province New Hampshire July 30th 1776.

this may Sertify that Page Harriman Has ferried over Connecticut River on their way to Crown Point fifty seven men Belonging to Capt Joseph Dearben Company in Col. Wymans regiment

Capten Joseph Dearben

[R. 171]

[Eighteen more of the same company were ferried over August 2, as certified by Timothy Worthly.—ED.]

[R. 172] [*Selectmen's Petition about a Soldier who died of Small-Pox, 1776.*]

[In a petition, dated Charlestown, August 31, 1776, Samuel Hunt, Enos Stevens, and William Heywood, selectmen, state that a discharged continental soldier, by the name of Nathaniel Hatch, came to that town from Ticonderoga on July 23, and was taken sick with small-pox; that they furnished the services of Doctor Stevens, and otherwise provided for him, until August 17, when he died; that the man had neither friends nor money. They ask the general assembly to grant an order to pay the bills.—ED.]

[R. 173] [*Petition of Captain Samuel Wetherbee, 1778.*]

To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives now Convened at Exeter in the State of New Hampshire—Humbly Sheweth, The Petition of Samuel Wetherby of

Charlestown, did as a Volenteer upon the defeat at Quebec, march a Company of forty men into Canada to assist General Arnold, in which your Petitioner, underwent great Fetigue and was exposed to before unknown Hardships, and was at unavoidable Expence amounting to Ten pounds Twelve Shillings L. M.y paid at That time for Transporting the soldiers packs &c, for which your Petitioner hath never received any Compensation, and on my returne by reason of some diffiulty arising between the State of New York and Coll^o Warner (under whose Command I was while in Canada), was obliged to make three Journeys to Albany before I could obtain money to pay my Company for which your Petitioner hath never had any allowance, and your Petitioner beg Leave to suggest to your Hon^{rs} That in Consequence of orders rec^d from the Commanding Officer was obliged to Halt his men (at Otter Creek) Consisting of Thirty which your Petitioner was obliged to support & pay for the same while there. Also your Petitioner paid Two Sergeants sixteen shillings, the Muster Master (Mr Grout) paying their first months pay as privates.—And your Petitioner according to the best of his Capacity have Endeavored to answer your Hon^{rs} Expectation with respect to the Command given and Trust reposed in him, and the Campain being over made returne to the Hon^{ble} Committee of Safety respecting some Soldiers who were enlisted in your Petitioners Company & had rec^d their Bounty and first months pay but never Joined the same, and the Hon^{ble} Committee Tho^t it best I should wait their Further Orders and direction upon the same, when unhappily for your Petitioner he received a Citation from the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives to appear at Exeter to answer a compl^t Exhibited against him, Supposing your Petitioner Guilty of Fraudulent Conduct, which your Petitioner Humbly Conceives could have been set in a clear point of View to your Hon^{rs} Full Satisfaction without his loss of Time and Expence Therefore your Petitioner prays your Hon^{rs} allowance for the account annexed or such part thereof as your Hon^{rs} in your Great Wisdom Shall Think Just and meet, and your Petitioner as in duty bound will Ever pray

Sam^l Wetherbe

Exeter Feb^y 21, 1778

[Samuel Wetherbee was appointed captain, June 18, 1776.—ED.]

[R. 174] [*Selectmen of Charlestown to Selectmen of Lempster, 1778.*]

Gentlemen

There is one William Laiton of this town that is gone into

the Continental army to do a turn for Lemster said Laiton has left a family that has become chargeable to this town agreeable to an act of this state every town is to bear y^e charge of those families whose Husbands are gone in y^e army for said town. These are to desire you, would immediately Take into your care s^d Laitons family That this town be no longer burdened with them—Gentlemen with all due respect we remain your very Hum^{le} Servants

Charlestown April 20th 1778.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| To the select men of Lemster | W ^m Heywood } Elijah Grout } Peter Page } | Select men of said Charlestown |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|

[R. 175] [*Relative to Nathan Spafford, Soldier, 1779.*]

[In a petition, dated March 15, 1779, Bradstreet Spafford, of Charlestown, states that his son Nathan, a minor, was in the service in October, 1777, in Capt. Abel Walker's company, Col. Bellows's reg't, and had his leg broken; was left at Saratoga, and he had to go after him; pay expense of care, etc., in all amounting to £23-19-0, which he wants the state to pay.

Sworn to before William Heywood.—ED.]

[R. 177]

Rec^d of the Selectmen of Charlestown from Jan^y 1780 to Jan^y 1781 Inclusive In sundry Articles of Provisions eight Pounds nine shillings and Two pence Estimating Indian Corn at Four shillings per Bushel and other articles Proportional thereto I say Rec^d

Charlestown May 8th 1781.

Lydia ^{her} X Powers
mark

Att. Lucy Newton
John Hubbard

[R. 178] [Lucy Newton acknowledges the receipt of provisions to the amount of £18-7-4, for the same time. She was the wife of Timothy Newton, and in the year ending January, 1782, she was helped to the extent of £15-16-9.—ED.]

[R. 179] [*The Case of Tyler Spafford and Eleazer Heywood, Soldiers.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives we the Subscribers Beg Leave to Lay before your Honours our Distrest situation we engaged in the service of y^e united states To serve Two years and No longer we think we have served our Times out faithfully after surmounting many Fatigues, we Then applied for a Discharge and were Denied after Long importunity to no avail we came home without a Discharge we like the service and the cause but we think it ungenerous that after we have punctually serv^d out our Times according to agreement we should be treated as Deserters we apprehend it is not the intention of our Rulers in whom we place much of our Confidence under God we Beg your Honours to take the matter under your wise consideration and if you shall think Proper Relieve the Distresses of your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound we shall ever pray—

Tyler Spafford

Eleazer Heywood

Charlestown y^e 3^d June 1780—

P S we have Drew no clothing for more than Two years nor Received Continental none

[R. 180]

These may Certify that we Tyler Spafford and Eleazer Heywood in the Town of Charlestown who engaged in the Service of the United States for the term of two years in Capt waits Company Col^o Cilleys Reg^t Never Drew Cloathing for more than Two years nor Drew any Continental Bounty

Attest Tyler Spafford Eleazer Heywood

Charlestown 5th June 1780—

[Sworn to before Tho^s Putnam.]

[R. 181]

These may certify when I inlisted Eleazer Heywood & Tyler Spafford I agreed with the Towns for their hire The True intent of their engaging was for Two years only and Likewise gave them certificates for the same and Likewise that Capt wait when they arrived at Camp Returned them for the same Term of Time

Peleg Williams

[R. 182] [*Statement of Col. Bellows relative to the foregoing matter, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

Hon^d Gentlemen

A regard to Justice the faith of Government and the Public

Tranquility are the inducements to the making the following representation to your Honors, which you will make such use of, and follow with such Resolution as in your Great Wisdom may be thought necessary for the Publick weal—a number of men among whom are Tyler Spafford and Eleazer Heywood both of Charlestown engaged as soldiers in the service of the United States, by agreement with the Towns for which they went, for the Term of two years only from the time they enlisted, they have Faithfully served out that time. At the expiration whereof they applied for a Discharge: some obtained it others were refused; and sought to be held one year Longer. They therefore improved the first opportunity which Presented to leave the service and return home, and are now sent for as Deserters, and if taken will be forced back to the army and be liable to be treated as such—such a measure must be productive of the most serious consequences, to the peace of the State, and to the recruiting of the Army—They will be rescued by their friends at home, as one has already been from the officer that took him at Claremont. And men will entertain hard thoughts of Government if it Countenances any Deceitful or Fraudulent methods to retain men in the Service beyond the time for which they Designedly engaged—For my own part I cannot be assistant in taking and sending to the army those men, till I am better satisfied of the Justice of the measure, and its conduciveness to the Publick utility—I have refused to assist to retake those men when applied to by Cap^t Dustin a Continental officer. Nor do I suppose it in my Power (were I desposed which at present I am not) to accomplish the thing without the most violent and Hostile Exertions, which must be more Detrimental to the Publick than the service of many forced and involuntary soldiers can be Profitable—Your Honors will maturely weigh those things in your minds, and speedily come into such resolutions thereupon as will be most conducive to the Credit an Safety of the State and the maintainance of the Common Cause—And in so doing you will ease the minds of the men above specified, and of all friends to our Independence, and of none more than your Honors most obedient and Humble Servant in all things for the General Good—

Benj^a Bellows—

Walpole June 9th 1780

[R. 183 and 184] [In 1795, Tyler Spafford for himself, and Samuel Stone and Francis W. Willard for Eleazer Heywood, Tyler Spafford, Sylvanus Hastings, and Joseph Wright, petition the legislature, making statements similar to the foregoing, with the exception of stating that they

“left the army publicly in open day, of all which s^d Captain was not a stranger,” and were not returned deserters until the command of the company fell on Lieut. Joseph Perkins. They were in Stark’s regiment, in the company commanded by Captain Jason Wait, of Alstead. In this petition they ask to have their depreciation of pay made up to them. (R. 185) The committee of the H. of Rep., to whom it was referred, reported by Christopher Toppan, chairman, against granting it, and they were given “leave to withdraw.”—ED.]

CHATHAM.

The town was granted by Governor Benning Wentworth, February 7, 1767, to Peter Levis and seventy-two associates, and named in honor of Lord Chatham. It was laid out ten miles long and four miles wide. Governor John Wentworth, by a grant dated July 2, 1772, conveyed 1,829 acres of land, near the centre of the township, to Thomas McDonough, his private secretary, who caused twelve acres to be cleared the following year. The locality is still known as McDonough’s Location. He was an educated man, and being a loyalist fled to Canada on the breaking out of the Revolution. His property was confiscated, and a few families settled on the grant. After peace was declared he returned as British consul to New England, and, his land being restored to him, attempted to establish a colony of his countrymen, built three houses, but, becoming somewhat discouraged, abandoned the project. According to information obtained from Ithiel E. Clay, Esq., the first settlers moved their families into Chatham in the year 1781; their names were Samuel Phipps, Increase Robinson, and Isaac Cox. The wife of the latter was something of a civil engineer, and run many of the lines in the vicinity, often camping out several nights in succession. She is represented as being a woman of much physical force, and somewhat educated.

By an act approved June 23, 1817, a tract of land north of the town, containing two thousand acres, which was granted to Lieut. Samuel Gilman, March 1, 1770, was annexed to Chatham. In the year 1823, the town was sev-

ered from Coös county and annexed to Strafford, and so remained until the formation of Carroll county in 1840, when it was included in the latter. The farms of Jonathan Hardy and Edward Shirley were severed from Conway and annexed to Chatham, June 26, 1823. The farm of Judah Dana, containing 500 acres, was annexed to the town July 2, 1838; June 30, 1869, a tract of land was severed from Chatham, and annexed to Bartlett. The westerly part of the town is mountainous, and covered with a heavy growth of timber. Mountain pond, situated in a basin on the aforesaid mountain, is one of the clearest and loveliest bodies of water in the state. Surrounded by dense forests, a pure and invigorating atmosphere, it could be made one of the most healthful summer resorts in New England.—ED.]

[2-98] [*Inhabitants' Petition for Authority to tax Non-Resident Lands.*]

To the Honorable General Court of the State of New Hampshire, convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June next, the Petition of the Inhabitants of Chatham sheweth: that the Town of Chatham was granted, A. D. 1767, by Benning Wentworth the then Governor of New Hampshire, to Walter Bryant and others; and afterwards regranted by John Wentworth Esq^r a later Governor of the State of New Hampshire, to Jonathan Warner Esq, Rev^d Samuel Langdon, and others; that Doct. Langdon, and Esq^r Warner, some years since, encouraged a number of persons to settle in Chatham, and cleared Roads to their Land; but the whole of the roads cleared by them in the Town do not exceed three miles and a half, which are almost impassible. About six or seven years since, the original Grantees ran the Town into Lots; encouraged a number of Settlers to the amount of twenty or more, who from that time have been considered as Settlers for the Proprietors of Chatham: the said proprietors have never been at any expence in making roads in said Town, alth^o the value of said Township is greatly enhanced by the Settlers, who suffer the greatest inconveniencies for want of Roads; they therefore pray your honors to grant a Tax of two and a half cents per acre upon all the Lands in said Town, for the purpose of making Roads in said Chatham; and to appoint a Committee to see the same effected, or point out any other way that your Honors may seem meet: and your petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray—

Chatham May 25th 1797.

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Richard Walker | Samuel Bradley Jr | Asa Eastman |
| Stilson Hutchins | Jonathan Hazletine | John Hazletine |
| Jonas Wyman | William Abbott | Abiel Chandler |
| Jonathan Hardey | Nathaniel Hutchins | Jonathan Shirley |
| Jeremiah Hutchins | Joshua Hazeltine | Abraham Hazeltine |
| Samuel Hazletine | John Robbins | Isaac Cox |
| Isaac Robbins | John Robbin | Paul Chandler |

[2-99]

This may certify all whome it may concern that we have been well equainted with the town of chatham from the time It was first Granted untill now ; and are certain that there has been no Rode made in said town, Excepting what Doctor langdon and Jonathan Warner Esq^r made only what the inhabitants who lived in said town made from house to house at their own expense

Conway May the 10th 1798.

David Page

Richard Kimball

[June 13, 1798, the H. of Rep. "Voted that the prayer of the petition be granted and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly taking care in said Bill to exempt the lands owned by Doct Langdon and Jonathan Warner Esq^r—" The senate concurred.—ED.]

[2-100]

To the Honorable General Court now convened at Hopkinton humbly sheweth Obed Hall in behalf of the Inhabitants of Chatham that whereas the said Inhabitants have obtained leave to bring in a bill for raising a tax of two and one half cents per acre on all the lands in said Chatham public Rights excepted and also the exception of the lands owned by Jonathan Warner, and the heirs of Samuel Langdon, and whereas difficulties have arisen in consequence of said exemptions of the lands of the said Warner, and Langdons heirs said bill has been dismissed—therefore your Petitioner prays that a tax of two and one half cents per acre be granted on all the lands in said Chatham public Rights excepted for the purposes set forth in said Bill—And in duty bound will pray—

Obed Hall

Hopkinton June 15 A. D. 1798.

[The foregoing was granted by an act passed December 27, 1798, Samuel Bradley, Isaac Waldron, and Asa Eastman being appointed by said act as a committee to assess

and collect the tax on all lands in Chatham, except public rights. The act provided that the proprietors might make the same void, by paying seven dollars on each and every right, on or before the 15th day of July, 1799.—ED.]

CHESTER.

The town was granted August 26, 1720, and was known by the name of Cheshire until it was incorporated by its present name May 8, 1722, by Governor Samuel Shute, to Captain Henry Sherburne and 123 others, in answer to a petition dated September 24, 1719, signed by about 100 members of the "Society for Settling the Chestnut Country." This society had held meetings and chosen officers as early as October 15, 1719. The boundaries of the grant were as follows: "To begin at Exeter south'y corner bounds, and from thence run upon a West by North Point Two miles along Kingstown Northerly Line to Kingstown North corner bound then upon a South Point three miles along Kingstown head line to Kingstown South corner bounds and from thence upon a West North West Point Ten miles into the Country then to begin again at the afores^d Exeter South'y corner bounds & run seven miles upon Exeter head line upon a North East Point half a Point more Northerly Then fourteen miles in to the Country upon a West North West Point to the river Merrimack & from thence upon a straight Line to the end of the afores^d Ten mile Line."

The first meeting under the charter was held March 28, 1723, and town officers were chosen. December 15, 1763, that portion of the town known as Charming-fare was set off and incorporated by the name of Candia. May 9, 1764, Freetown was set off and incorporated by the name of Raymond. A considerable territory was also set off, which is now part of the city of Manchester. July 2, 1822, a portion of the town was set off, and with portions of other towns incorporated by the name of Hooksett. June 23, 1845, Auburn was set off and incorporated. Notwithstanding all this territory has been set off, the town remains of a respectable size; but being off from any line of railroad, and having little water-power that can be used for manufacturing purposes, it is not increasing in population.

[2-101] [*Ecclesiastical Council to consult about the Settlement of a Minister at Chester, 1734.*]

At an Ecclesiastical Counsel held at Salisbury [Mass.] August 13, 1734 consisting of y^e Elders & Messengers of y^e Churches following (viz)

| from y ^e Churches | Elders | Messengers |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Salisbury 1 Chh | M ^r Caleb Cushen | M ^r Justice Bradbury |
| Salisbury 2 ^d Chh | M ^r Joseph Parsons | Deacon Jabez True |
| Exeter | M ^r John Odling | Deacon Joseph French |
| Hampton falls | M ^r Joseph Whipple | Deacon Onezipt : Page |
| Bradford | M ^r Joseph Parsons [Jr] | Deacon Thomas Wilson |
| Newbury | M ^r John Lowel | Deacon Jonathan Woodman |
| Kingstown | M ^r Ward Clark | M ^r Jonathan Fyfield |
| Amesbury 2 ^d Chh | M ^r Pain Winget | Deacon Edward Emerson |
| | | Deacon Moses Elkins |
| | | Deacon Joseph Bartlett |

Being regularly assembled by virtue of Letters from y^e Church of Chester to y^e aforesaid Churches to hear advise & direct y^e said Church of Chester what may be most proper for them to do under their present difficult circumstances by reason of y^e Rev^d : M^r : Moses Hale their Pastor being wholly disabled from serving them in y^e work of y^e Ministry & having made due Enquiry Into y^e Estate & Case & Circumstances of y^e Said Minister and people they find y^t y^e said M^r Hale having done little or no service among them & being by y^e Providence of God brought under great disorder of body & Distraction of mind & for a long time beraved of his reason & understanding & thereby rendered incapable of Discharging y^e work of y^e Ministry among them & so remaining without any present appearance or prospect of being restored to his ministry & therefore we Judge and determine y^t it is y^e wisdom & duty of y^e Chh & people of Chester to proceed in y^e regular steps to call & settle a Gospel minister among them y^t so they may no longer be destitute of y^e word & ordinances of Christ & could also devise & direct y^e

said Chh & people of Chester y^t besides allowing y^e said M^r: Hale y^e town right w^{ch}: accrued to him upon settlement and what then was else given him to encourage his settlement they should not forget their obligation to be ready to contribute to his support & relief according to their power & ability & so commending them to y^e God of Grace & peace we subscribe your Brethren in Christ

Caleb Cushen Mod^r:
John Odling Clark

In y^e name & behalf of the Counsel
Copia va Attest per Thos: thomson

[2-102] [*Notice of Invitation to Ordination, 1734.*]

that whereas a call has been presented by y^e Presbyterian Inhabitants of Chester to y^e Rev^d M^r John Willson these are to notify all persons concerned y^t if they have any valid reasons why said M^r: Willson shall not be ordained to said Inhabitants they are desired to lodge y^e same in writing with y^e Rev^d M^r: Thomas Thomson at Allan Anderson's in Londonderry on or before y^e seventh day of October next for if nothing appears to y^e contrary y^e Presbyterie will proceed to ordination as soon as shall be convenient Subscribed according to order by

Thos: thomson

September 28 1734
Copia va Attest per Thos: thomson

[2-103] [*Certificate of Ordination, John Willson, 1734.*]

these are to certifie that I the subscriber together with y^e assistance of y^e Rev^d Mess^s: Andrew L= Mercier John Moorehead & John Harvey did by y^e appointment of y^e Rev^d Presbyterie in N: England ordain y^e Rev^d: M^r: John Willson in Chester to y^e Presbyterians there according to y^e method of y^e Church of Scotland & way proscribed by y^e Westminster Assembly in their directory to y^e Confession of faith given under my hand at Londonderry this 8th day of March 1737

Thos: thomson

this ordination aforesaid was performed y^e 16th of october 1734

[superscribed] For M^r James Campbell or M^r John Talford occasionally at Portsmouth per M^r Calfe

[2-104] [*Ecclesiastical Council, Chester, 1735.*]

At an Ecclesiastical Council met at Chester June 4th 1735 to consider and determine of y^e case in controversy between y^e Rev^d Mr. Moses Hale & the people of Chester as proposed Febr 6th 1734/5: We having met upon y^e desire of s^d parties & having heard their several pleas & allegations and duly considered the same,

We do judge and declare

1 That we do not find y^e objections brought against the said Hale sufficient grounds to remove him from the Pastoral office among them meerly upon the acco^t of his Incapacity to exercise his ministry it being hopefull that any present indisposition appearing in him may in time be removed and we find his character unblemished But

2 In as much as we find y^e present [word illegible] & prejudice in this people against his ministry and impatience to wait any longer upon him which threaten to render his ministry useless and unprofitable among them, We Judge it may be most for the interest of Religion and comfort of both parties, That the s^d M^r Hale should Quit his pastoral Relations to this people upon y^e following reasonable terms and conditions (viz)

1 That y^e s^d Town of Chester beside allowing him y^e Town Rights w^{ch} accru^d to him upon his settlement, and what they further advanc^t towards his settlement. They shall & do seasonably & punctually pay and make up to y^e s^d M^r Hale all the arrears that are behind and Justly Due to him upon y^e acc^t of his whole salery yearly untill this day of which they have been greatly negligent in time past &

3 That in considerations of the low & difficult circumstances w^{ch} the s^d M^r Hale will be left in upon his laying down his ministry the s^d people of Chester shall be obliged to pay the whole arrears within 3 months and Int till s^d whole is paid and until such time as they shall fullfill the payment of y^e afores^d arrears for y^e time past & Finally That upon the said M^r Hales relinquishing the pastoral office or the peoples accepting y^e aforesaid conditions we do direct and advise them speedily to take proper steps in order to a regular settlement of a Gospell minister among them.—

So wishing the God of Grace & peace to be with you we subscribe our selves yo^{rs} in the Faith & fellowship of y^e Gospell; Voted in the affirmative

Caleb Cushing Moderator
Jos: Parsons John Odlin

Jabez Fitch
Joseph Whipple

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nath ^l Weare | W ^m Bradbery | John Lord |
| Jonath ⁿ Fifield | Joseph French | Thom ^s Wilson |

[One name illegible.—ED.]

A True copy attest Caleb Cushing Moderator
 John Odlin Scribe

[2-105] [*Copy of Record of Town-Meeting, 1736.*]

Advertisement

These are to warn the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chester to assemble and meet at the meeting house in Chester on Wednesday the twenty third Day of June Instant at one of the Clock in the afternoon—to give the Rev^d mr. Ebenezer Flagg a call to the work of the ministry

1 By Vote to make choyce of him to be the minister of the town (2) Vote what sallery he shall have—

Dated at Chester June 1st 1736—

Jacob Sargent Ephriem Hesselstine Select men

at the meeting Pursuant to the above warning held June the twenty third 1736—

Voted Moses Leavite Esq moderator for said meeting

Voted That the Rev^d m^r Ebenezer Flagg shall be the minister of the town of Chester—

Voted that there shall be one hundred and twenty Pounds Paid to the Rev^d mr Ebenezer Flagg as silver at twenty shillings an ounce per annum During his ministry in Chester

A true Copy taken out of Chester town book of Records page 206th as attest

Sam^l Emerson town clerk

[2-106] [*Vote of Town electing Assessors, 1741.*]

At the anneuel meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Chester held at the old meeting house in Chester on the Last Thursday in March 1741, Capt Sam^l Ingalls moderator, amongst other things Voted mr John Tolford and James Varnum Invoice men; to take the Invoice of the poles and Estates of the whole town—a true copy taken out of Chester town book of Records as attests

Sam^l Emerson town Clark—

[The following is a list of tax-payers, as returned by
 "James Varnum, John Tolford, Invois Men," 1741.—ED.]

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Moses Hills | John Karr | Hugh Willson |
| Henry Hall | John Webster | Sam ^l Hills |
| Robert Willson | Francis Towle | Wintrop Sergant |
| James Willson | William Crawford | Sam ^l Brown |
| Benj ^a Derbon | Andrew Crage | John Moore |
| William Karr | John Karr Jr | Jonas Clay |
| Thomas Derbon | Paul Mcfasen | Joseph Taylor |
| Charles Moore | Nathanal Wood | Sam ^l Powell |
| Jonas Clay Jun ^r | James Bassford | Robert Graham |
| John Robie | Sam ^l Robie | Patrick Melvin |
| William Powell | Titus Wells | Eliphaz Sanborn |
| Robert Graham Jun ^r | William Graham | Jonathan Hall |
| John Allen | Thomas Worthen | James Calfe |
| Ithamer Berrey | Joseph Clark | Daniel Calfe |
| Benj ^a Bachilder | Page Bachilder | John Ambross |
| King Calfe | Robert Calfe | William White |
| Joseph Calfe | John Foss | John Orr |
| Henry Ambross | Mark Karr | Nathan Huse |
| Jacob Sergant Jun ^r | William Leach | Adam Dickey |
| Daniel Macfarline | Ebenezer Gial | Edward Crage |
| John Clement | James Macfasen | James Willson |
| James Shirley Jur. | Michael Derbon | Thomas Richardson |
| James Quainton | James Shirley | Nathan Webster |
| John Dickey | John Underhill | James Varnum |
| Bradbury Karr | Jonathan Sanders | John Boyd |
| Daniel Webster | Stephen Webster | Thomas Wasson |
| Widdow Elizabeth | Widdow Elizabeth | Robert Gillerees |
| Underhill | Rowell | Mathew Forsaith |
| David Crage | Samuel Aken | Lieut. Ebenezer Der- |
| Timothy Ingals | Moses Richardson | bon |
| John Wodwell | William Turner | John Calfe |
| John Mills Junr | Robert Mills | Ephraim Hesseltime |
| John Carswell | Capt. Sam ^l Ingals | Thomas Wells |
| Ens. Jacob Sargent | Nathan Webster | John Shirley |
| Benj ⁿ Hills | William Wilson | James Campble |
| Thomas Hesseltime | John Hesseltime | Jonathan Blunt |
| John Talford | William Talford | Ebenezer Derbon |
| Anthony Towle | Thomas Smith | Jun. |
| Benaiah Colbe | Sam ^l Emerson | Peter Derbon |
| Isaac Foss | Jonathan Moulton | Joshua Prescott |
| Silvanus Smith | Paul Smith | Ebenezer Blunt |
| William Healey | Robert Runnals | Robert Gorden |
| Jacob Bassford | Joseph Bassford | Daniel Macaphee |
| Stephen Clay | John Smith | Alexander Crage |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Hugh Ramsey | Archibald Macaphee | Isaac Foss Jun. |
| Alex Temlington | Robert Crage | Nathan Colbee |
| Nathaniel Hall | Jethro Tilton | Thomas Hill |
| James Wodwell | James MacClure | William Grims Junr. |
| Peter Clifford | Joseph Davis | Archibald Delaph |
| Thomas Crage | David MacClure | |
| widdow Mary Cars- | Thomas Glinn | |
| well | John Aken | |

[2-108] [*Petition for Road between Chester and Londonderry, 1742.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Gov^r & Commander in Chief In and Over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and to the Honorable His Majestys Council & House of Representatives in General Court assembled June the ninth 1742—

The Humble Petition of the Select men of Chester on the Behalf of themselves and Constituents Sheweth—That there has Never been any Road opened between the Body of the Town of Chester and Londonderry—That the want of Said Road Is a very Considerable damage to your Petitioners—That your Petitioners have several times spoke to and once Petitioned the Town Select men of Londonderry for the opening of a convenient Road but have never been able hitherto to obtain our End.—May it therfore please your Excellency & Hon^{rs} to take the Premises under consideration and to grant that said Road may be opened by John Carr's Mills and from thence to run to the dwelling house of James Caldwell of Londonderry there being but about one Hundred and twenty Rhods of said Road to be opened which Road will (as far as we can learn) be most pleasing to the greater part of the Inhabitants both of Chester and Lon: Derry and your Petitioners Shall ever pray &c.

Ebenezer Dearbon }
 Nathan Webster } Select
 John Karr } men

[2-109] [*Another Petition for Road, addressed to General Court assembled on Tuesday, the 16th day of November, 1742.*]

The Humble Petition of the Selectmen of Chester in behalf of themselves and Constituents Earnestly prayeth for a hearing of our former petition which your Excellency and Honors Received June the 10th 1742 Requesting for a Road or highway

Joyning to our Road that Goes by John Kar's Mills and from thence to Run straight past the East End of James Caldwell's Dwelling house to the open Road in Lo : Derry which is about an hundred and Twenty Rhods and is also fit and suitable land for a highway and may be purchased on ease and Reasonable Terms—And we your Petitioners together with some of the Select Men of Londonderry have viewed and tryed the Road that Lieut. Andrew Todd of Lo : Derry made mention of to your Excellency and Hon^{rs} in opposition to our petition and find that said Road is altogether unfit to be made a highway of neither can we of Chester find convenient and suitable Land Joyning to said Road, which in our Humble oppinion Renders it almost if not altogether Impossible to have any Tollerable Road there at all, and in our viewing of it we found it not opened nor Repaired and allowed to be but Two Rhods wide which is contrary to the laws of the Province.

We also have spoke to the Selectmen of Lo : Derry in order to have the highway to Run by John Kars Mill as above Requested and they tell us that they cannot Do it by Reason of a vote that is in their Town Book to the contrary (viz) That no highway shall be laid out within a mile of another in their Town, nor can they either change or stop the other because it is upon Record.

May it therefore please your Excellency and Hon^{rs} to take this our Humble Petition under your Consideration, and Grant that the Road may Run as above supplicated for, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray

Select { John Karr
men { Nathan Webster

[The foregoing, with a plan (vol. 2, p. 110), was before the H. of Rep., May 26, 1743, and a committee, consisting of George Walton and Richard Jenness, to which the council added Jos. Sherburne and John Downing, was appointed to view the situation, and report which was the best place for a highway. Report not found.—Ed.]

[2-111]

At a meeting of the Presbyterian Parish in Chester held September y^e 14, 1753.

1ly voted Samuell Akin moderator of s^d meeting

2ly voted this meeting is to be caryed on by hand vote

3ly voted three hundred Pound Cellery old tennor to Be settled to the Reverant mr. John willson a year

Jun the 27 1751 at a meeting of the Presbyterian Parish

1ly voted Capt Andrew Jack moderator of s^d meeting
 2ly the meeting is to Be Caryed on by handy vote
 3ly voted the meeting house is to be moved to a proper senter.
 8ly the Parish Excepted of the Commites report for the senter
 Between Capt John Tolfords house and Decon William
 Leaatchs house.

At another meeting of the Presbyterian Parish held at Chester
 march the 12 1750

1ly voted Andrew mcfarland moderator of s^d meeting
 then voted Capt John Tolford Hugh Cromeey Thomas Crag
 william Leatch James Quenton a Committee to find a Place to
 move the meeting house too

a true cobby taken out of the Parish Book By

James Quenton Parish Clark

[R. 186]

[Jonathan Blunt, of Chester, presented a bill for boarding and nursing one "Benjamin York a soldier in the Honourable Col^o Misservey Regiment." The bill amounts to £271-12-0, old tenor. Among the charges is this: "To Eight Gallons of Rum to Dress his wounds with a 4£ 10 pr. Gallon £36. o. o." In H. of Rep., March 21, 1758, he was allowed £25. Council concurred, and the governor "consented."—ED.]

[R. 187]

[Jonas Clay, of Chester, gunsmith, in a petition dated December 26, 1758, states that he was a soldier in Capt. John Hazzen's company; that at Fort Edward he was ordered by Col. Hart "into the Kings Yard to do duty as an armorer," and filled that position until discharged; for which he asks extra compensation, and is allowed forty shillings sterling.—ED.]

[R. 188]

[James Quenton, of Chester, in a petition dated August 10, 1761, states that his son James "was in the Province Service in Col^o Goffs Regiment in Capt. Todds Company in the year 1760, and being discharged as a sick man, Came Home some time in December and in two days broke out with Small Pox." He further states that his wife and two children took it, one of whom died. He presented a bill amounting to £178-2-6, old tenor, which he asked the

Province to pay. Sworn to before Matthew Thornton.
The bill was allowed, amounting to £6-16 sterling.—ED.]

[2-113] [*Petition of Samuel Blunt, Postrider, 1776.*]

Colony of New Hampshire } To the hon^{ble} the Council & house of Rep-
resentatives for the Colony aforesaid The
petition of Samuel Blunt of Chester in the County of Rocking-
ham in the aforesaid Colony Sheweth—That your petitioner
intends if properly encouraged to Ride post from hence to
Canada in order to Carry Letters and bring them from thence
together with all news to and from thence, and he thinks he
shall not be able to Go thro' with the matter so as to save him-
self from expence unless your honours will Grant him some
encouragement therein—Wherefore he humbly prays your hon-
ours to Countenance him in his intention herein and make him
a Grant of a little money towards defraying his Charges for the
present and he hopes, in future, that he shall have such en-
couragement from the People as will enable him to serve the
public, without troubling your honours for any Further Re-
lief—And your petitioner as he is in duty bound will Ever
pray &c.

Samuel Blunt

Exeter June 20th 1776—

[R. 189] [*Petition of the Shirleys, Bunker Hill Soldiers.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council & House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened—

Humbly Shews, Alexander Shirley in behalf of himself &
his Brother John Shirley Both of Chester in the county of
Rockingham, that the s^d John & Alexander ware in the Battle
at Bunkers hill in Cap^t Kinsmans Company where they ware
so unfortunate as to Loose one coat & Jacket of Johns valued
at Eight Dollers and one Coat of Alexanders valued at Eight
Dollers & one Knapsack valued at half a Doller—to the am^t in
the whole sixteen Dollars, which your Petitioner Prays your
honors would be Pleased to order them Pay therefor or Relieve
them in any other way your Honors shall think Proper—and
your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

Alexander Shirley

“Dismissed”

Exeter June the 8th 1776

[R. 190] [*John Knowles's Petition, Bennington Soldier.*]

[In a petition dated February 13, 1778, John Knowles, of Chester, states that he was "a soldier in Capt. Stephen Dearborn's company," and was "wounded in the Battle of Bennington by a Balls Passing thro' his Body by means of which he was unable to Git home for two months after his time was out." He presented a bill amounting to £18-18-3, of which £12 was for nursing, and £2-2-6 for rum, wine, and brandy.—ED.]

[R. 193] [*Susannah Emerson's Petition, 1779, addressed to Council and House of Representatives.*]

Susannah Emerson of Chester in said State, Humbly shows, that your Petitioners Husband Amos Emerson Cap^t in the service of the United states of America was home on Furlow last winter, but Joyn^d y^e army very early and since he went away your Honors at a late Session of the General Assembly voted a sum of money, to the officers Toward making up the Depreciation of money, and as your Petitioner is left with a Large Family, of children and the Necessarys of life is very expensive, your Humble Petitioner prays that your Honors would pay the whole or part of said money Due to your Petitioners Husband, as to your wisdom shall seem meet, and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever Pray &c

Susanna Emerson.

Chester June y^e 17th 1779

[By vote of the House, she was allowed \$800. Amos Emerson was promoted from lieutenant to captain in the first battalion, Nov. 8, 1776, at Ticonderoga.—ED.]

[2-114] [*Letter from Selectmen to President Weare, 1780.*]

Chester July the 11th 1780

Sir: As Lieutenant Jonathan Robins was appointed as an officer to serve in the corps destined to the Westward and he refusing to go and his Commission being sent back by Lieut. Eliot we humbly beg leave to recommend to your Honor John Webster son to Col^o John Webster of this Town as a Person well qualified to serve in the Capacity of a Lieut. in that Corps, if your Honor thinks fit to grant him a

Commission, Lieut Eliot who waits on you with this Recommendation will receive it at your Hands and leave it with Col^o Webster

The Hon. M. Weare
President

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------|
| Isaac Hills | } Select Men | |
| Josiah Forsith | | of |
| Josiah Flagg | | Chester |

[2-115] *Joshua Wentworth to Committee of Safety, about Tax.*]

Portsmo' Mar. 30, 1782.

Gent^{l^m} The Selectmen of Chester have apply'd twice for my receiv'g Rum in lieu of Cash On the first application I desired the Sheriff' to postpone leveying the warrant 'til the last day of this month, for the Town to have an opp'y to obtain leave of the General Court,—The Selectmen apply this day to have a further time allow'd, that they may have an opp'y of apply'g, to your Honors for reasons they will suggest Was it in my power to settle the matter I sh^d receive good Rum in lieu of what was provided & offer'd, because I suppose they were deceived in the Quality by the person employ'd by them to procure it & I think any Town w^{ch} had made any provision to pay their tax, ought to be indulged.—I have lengthened the time again to the 15th April next—

I am Gent^{l^m}
Your Obt Serv

Josh. Wentworth

Hon^{ble} Committee of Safety for State of New Hampshire

[2-116] [*Petition of Selectmen about Rum Tax, 1782.*]

To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly Conven^d the second Tuesday of June Instant—

The Petition of the Subscribers the Selectmen of the Town of Chester—Humbly Shews that the Town of Chester was asses^d the Quantity of one Hundred and Ninety Seven Gallons of west India Rum for the use of s^d State and ordered to Be Deliver^d to Joshua Wentworth Esq. the States Receiver of that article at the Places mentioned in the Act for that Purpose—That the Selectmen of s^d Chester for the year 1781 Purchas^d the Rum but it Did not Prove of such a Quality as the s^d Receiver could Receive it consistant with his Duty and order^d an

Extent to Issue against the Town for as many Silver Dollars As the Town was to pay Gallons of Rum but the Selectmen have hitherto obtained so much Indulgence from Col^o Wentworth that the money Has not as yet ben Leave'd and the Receiver is still Willing on his part to Receive it into Store Provided he can have the Direction of this Honorable Assembly so to Do and he Further adds that no Injury has arose to the Publick service by Reason of the Rums not being Deliv^d as Directed by the s^d Act—That the said Town of Chester has ever exerted themselves to the Utmost of their Power in Promoting The Service—

That in this Extreame scarcity of money ocationed in a Great Measure by Raising men for the Continental Service it will be almost Impossible for the Present Selectmen to Raise the money ordered by the s^d extent without Distressing the Inhabitants to a Great Degree and Much more so than by Providing the Rum—Your Petitioners Therefore most Humbly Pray that this Assembly will Consider the Premises and the Great ease it will be to the Town still to have Liberty to Deliver the s^d Quantity of rum in Lieu of the money any cost that has arose on the Matter your Petitioners will Cheerfully Pay and Procure the Rum as your Honours shall Direct—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray &c—

Jabez Hoit } Selectmen
 Jos. Blanchard } of Chester

Chester June 12th 1782.

[R. 195] [*Petition of Peter Haseltine and Simon Berry, 1783.—Addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The Petition of the subscribers Humbly Shews That whereas Nathan Berry and Paul Clarke minors Both Inhabitants of the Town of Chester were Inlisted on the twenty ninth Day of July 1782 by the Selectmen of said Chester to serve as soldiers in the States service under Capt Titus Salter untill the Last Day of the December following unless sooner Discharged said soldiers were mustered by Col^o John Webster and Marched & Joyned the Company agreeable to the General Courts orders for that purpose where they served faithfully untill the twenty-third day of November which was but a few Days before said company were all Discharged then said Soldiers came away without orders from their Capt who has returned them as Deserters—

Your Honours Petitioners therefore most Humbly pray that

This Assembly will consider the premises and Grant to said Nathan Berry and Paul Clark wages for the time they served the state and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c.—

Peter Hasseltine
Simon Bery

Chester october 25th 1783—

[2-117]

Instructions of the Town of Chester to their Representatives.
To Jacob Chase Esq^r and Maj^r Will^m White—

Gentlemen—Altho' we have full confidence in your Fidelity, and conceive that your publick virtues would lead you (without sinister views) to pursue such Measures only, as you suppose would tend to the public Good; yet it may be no Disadvantage to have your Sentiments fortified, by those of your Constituents; particularly as the hon^{ble} Gen^l Assembly have, in justice to the People, called on them to instruct and impower their Representatives, respecting a proposed alteration of the Eighth Article of Confederation and perpetual Union between the thirteen United States of America—We having duly considered this Matter, do recommend the alteration of said article, according to the proposals of the Hon^{ble} Continen^l Congress—When we consider the different Produce, the different method of building, together with the varying qualities of Land, and varying values fixed to Lands of the same quality in the different States; any other Method we can devise is likely to be attended with more Difficulty and greater Expence; and considering the States collectively will not answer the ends proposed better; at the same time we are not sure, but that some Inequality may arise, from too small a Number of Slaves being taken into the estimate. You are further instructed, not to give your consent to invest any one Man with divers offices of Profit Trust & Honor; You are to endeavor likewise, that no Person or Persons of whatever denomination, whom you have just Cause to suspect, have been, or are enemical to American Measures; have aided her enemies, or been Idle Spectators during the Contest with Great Britain shall sustain, or hold any office of Trust, Profit or Honor, in the State; & if any Persons of this Character have crept in by art, or been inadvertently admitted, you are to endeavor their Removal: and in all appointments, you are to use your Influence, to promote men of try'd fidelity, & strict attachment to their Country; always consider-

ing, that none but such ought to be accounted worthy to bear Rule in this Land, that has doneso much to secure the precious Liberties & Independence thereof—It is with Concern of Mind we consider the uncomfortable Circumstances we are in by reason of high Taxes, the scarcity of Cash, & the surprising number of Law-Suits, which have an evident Tendency to distress the good People of this State; you are therefore to endeavor that something be done either by cutting down the Table of Fees, by making States Security, or Produce a tender for Executions; or making a Small Bank of Money, which may enable the People to pay their Taxes; and thereby prevent the growing Evil; or what else you in your wisdom, & Prudence shall think best adapted to that Purpose; that their Land may emerge, as soon as possible from that state of Distress into which it is plung'd, by a long & expensive war

Chester Sept: 30, 1783,

Sam^l Emerson town clerk

[The "Articles of Confederation" of the United States were signed by Josiah Bartlett and John Wentworth, Jr., in behalf of New Hampshire, August 8, 1778. The eighth article, referred to in the foregoing document, was as follows: "All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defence or general welfare, and allowed by the United States, in Congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of the common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several states, in proportion to the value of all land within each state, granted to or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated according to such mode as the United States, in Congress assembled, shall, from time to time, direct and appoint. The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the Legislatures of the several states, within the time agreed upon by the United States, in Congress assembled."—ED.]

[2-118] [*Number of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire } The Town of Chester Being by
 Rockingham ss. } Vote of the General Court Directed
 to Return under oath to the Assembly at their next session the
 exact number of Male poles of Twenty one years of age and

upwards paying for themselves a pole Tax within said Town
 which is as follows (viz.) 362
 a true account Errors Excepted
 Chester Decem^r 1st 1783

Joseph Linn } Selectmen
 Isaac Blasdel } of
 Jabez Hoit } Chester

[Sworn to before John Webster.

The number of ratable polls in 1879 was 296.—ED.]

[2-119] [*Petition in favor of Anthony S. Stickney.*]

To the Honerbel Presedent and Council Surs it appers to
 us that anthony Somerby Stickney is a Parson as Sutubel For
 a Justes of the Pease For this County and the End of the town
 Whare He Lives or in the Longmedow Parish so coled as eany
 Parson thare. and we your Humble Petoners would Request
 his Being appinted

Chester ianery the 15—1785

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Samuel Sharley | Arthur Dinsmore | James Sharley |
| Thomas Sharley | Aren Burbank | John Grimes |
| William millor | James Hunter | Thomas Fowler |
| obadiah Hall | Samuel aiken Jun. | James Witherspoon |
| Mansfield M ^c Duffey | Josiah Hall | Samuel Peirce |
| James Witherspoon | John m ^c Duffey | |
| Jun. | Peter Akin | |

[2-120] [*Petition relative to Paper, etc., 1786.*]

State of New Hamp^r } To the Honb^l General Cort for said
 State to be Convened at Concord on the first Wenesday of June
 Instant Humbly Shews The Subscribers Inhabitants of the
 town of Chester in the County of Rockingham in Said State
 That your Petioners Labour under many and very Great Diffi-
 culties on account of the great Scarcity of a Circulating me-
 dium of trade also a grate uneasiness hes arisen in the minds of
 your Petioners and many others on account of a Claime lately
 maid to the uncultivated Lands within this State and as your
 Honours are the Guardians of the Rights and Priviledges of
 the peopel and as we Have no other regular way of Redress
 than by aplying to you therefore we Humbly Request that your

Honours would take our case under your wise Consideration and grant us relief by acting on the following Particulars—

1st That you would not allow those Persons Purchasers of the allen Claime So Called any part of their Claime within this State

2^{ly} That not any of those Persons that are Purchasers of Said allens Claime Hold any Commission of profit or Honour within this State for the space of one year

3^{ly} that the general Cort take up the matter Respecting the Masonian Title to Sertain Lands in this State (which we thinke their titel is not good) and that those Lands Claimed by them be converted to the youse of said State

4^{ly} That there Might be a Banke of Paper Money made to Redeem this States Securities.

5^{ly} That the General Cort Petition Congress to Redeem the Continental paper Currency that is in the Treasury in this State the same being more than our proportion of the same

6^{ly} That the Ports and Harbours in this State be Opened and a free traye [trade] for all except the Refugees

Chester June 1st 1786.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alex ^r Campbell | Sam ^l Hoyt | Pearley Chase |
| Benj ⁿ _____ | Thomas Sever | Hugh Tolford |
| Jacob Blasdel | Peter Hasseltine | Joshua Bradshaw |
| Ichabod Davis | Richard Hasseltine | Rob ^t Forsith |
| John Hasseltine | Joseph Dearben | Joseph Copps |
| Joshua Copps | Sam ^l Jack | Jonathan Jack |
| James Shirley | John Shirley | David Mills |
| Hugh Shirley | William Mills | Simeon Currier |
| John Mills his mark | Robert Graheme | Amos Emerson |
| Robert Graham Jr | Abraham Silver | Hail Stevens |
| William Shirley | Eliphalet Poor | David Knox |
| James Stevens | Sherben Dearben | W ^m Knox |
| Samuel Gault | William Gault | William Brown |
| Joseph Brown | James Brown | Robert Gordon |
| James oterson | James Brown | Robert Davis |
| David hildack | Laban Harriman | Nath ^l Martin |
| Ezra Badger | Jonathan Carlton | James Harper |
| Daniel Harper | John Evens | Arthur Dinsmore |
| Samuel Davice | Peter Akin | Nathaniel Linn |
| Robert Dinsmore | Roson M ^c Alpine | Daniel Aiken |
| Thomas Fowler | Adam Dickey | David Wetherspoon |
| Josiah Hall | Archibald mackafe | Stephen Heath |
| Samuel Akien | David C. Bean | Thomas Shirley |
| William Hodgkins | Obadiah Hall | William Gilcrest |
| mathew tempelton | John Shannon | John Dickey |
| John Giffin | Thomas M ^c Master | James miller |
| Hugh Miller | Willime miller | Pearson Richardson |

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Samuel White | Edward Pressen | Reuben Clark |
| Benj ⁿ Hall | Joseph Hills | mansefeld m ^c Dufe |
| Sam ^l Sharley | James Sharley | John Brown |
| Alexander Sharley | thomes Sharley | John Brown Jun |
| Benj ^a Bean | Francis Carr | |
| James oterson | | |

[For matter relative to paper money, see Atkinson papers, *ante*.—ED.]

[R. 196]

[Joseph Davis, who signs his name with a cross, orders all that is due him for service in 2d N. H. Reg't, to be paid to Jno. Nicolle. Dated Chester, Dec. 20, 1784. Attested by Burton Pollard, Jr., and Anna Underhill.—ED.]

[R. 197] [*Isaac Tucker's Petition, 1786.*]

a humble Potiscion of Isaac Tucker to the honnerible Court, gentelmen my son Inlisted in the year 1782 for the town of Chester in the Contenentle sarvice for three yers and as your honners verry well knows there was a Bounty of twenty Pounds Lawful money Provided by Court to Be Payd in four years after their Inlestment for Every Solger Sent for that year and Insted of money in hand or cattle as maney other solgers had for incurrigement to Inlest my son a greed to take that Bounty for his incurrigement as will apper By M^r Locks order on the trasure and also from the Select men of Chester—and as my son was Proceeding to the army according to his orders he was taken sick and Died at Bennington as will appear By Esq^r hathaways Deposition—and now the four years is Expired your Potiscioner Prays your Honners to provide some way to give him that Bounty Justly Dew to his son—and I Pray the god of all wisdom to give you wisdom and Knolige to Deal in Justis and murcy with your humble Potiscioner

Isaac Tucker

[R. 198] [*Jeremiah Towle's Petition, Soldier, 1788.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the house of Representatives in General Court convened at Exeter in and for the State of New Hampshire on wednesday the 24th of December 1788—

The petition of Jeremiah Towl of Chester in said State humbly sheweth—

That your petitioner served as a Soldier in the Continental

army for the term of three years, and that on the 19th of September A. D. 1777 at Bemuses Hight your petitioner in fighting in defence of his Country received a wound in his arm and body, and by reason of which your petitioner has been but [put] to considerable expense in procuring physicians to take care of said wound, of which the said Jeremiah can produce the physicians bills—and likewise that one of said bills was for taking care of your petitioners wound when he was at said Chester on furlough, wherefore your petitioner Humbly prays your Honors for to grant him an order on the Treasurer for the sum of the said bills amounting to £18. 2. 3—in present currency, or grant him such other relief as your Honors in wisdom shall esteem more eligible—And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

Chester December 15th 1788.—

Jeremiah Towl

[He was attended by Dr. Benjamin Page, and the legislature directed the bill to be paid.—ED.]

[2-121] [*Petition concerning the Western Boundary of the Town.*]

To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened humbly shew the Inhabitants of the Town of Chester, that the westerly line of said Town intersects Merrimack River in two places so that a small part of said Town is on the west side of the river in the county of Hillsborough, the principal part thereof being in the County of Rockingham: which renders it more difficult and expensive for your petitioners to perambulate said line, than if the river was the bound between Chester and those Towns which are situated to the west thereof—They also shew, that there are three small slips of land, belonging to the Masonian proprietors, so called, or their assigns, situated between the westerly line of Chester and Merrimack River which are not in any town—Wherefore your Petitioners pray that the River Merrimack may in future be the westerly Line of Chester and the aforesaid slips of Land be annexed thereunto.

Will^m White, Stephen Chase, A. Livermore,
Committee on behalf of the Petitioners.

Chester June 1, 1794.

[This committee was appointed by vote in town-meeting, March 13, 1794. The matter was before the H. of Rep.

June 12, and a hearing ordered for the next session, and I presume a law was passed in accordance with the request, but I fail to find it.

A plan accompanied this petition, which shows the southwest corner bound of old Chester—"the three pines"—to have been a little south of opposite the mouth of Piscataquog river. Gen. Stark's house is located, and passing north is Whitaker's, Stark's, Emerson's, Stevens's, Carr's, Dolton's, and Head's,—the latter in the north-west corner of Chester, above "Patucket falls."—ED.]

[2-122] [*Petition for Incorporation of West Parish, 1796.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the senate & house of Representatives in General Court to be convened at Exeter on the first Wednesday of June A. D. 1796—

The Petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of that part of Chester near masabesick pond Humbly Shews that in the year 1753 the town of Chester at an anual meeting voted that a Tract of land in the westerly part of Chester might be Incorporated into a parrish by certain boundary lines which are as follows (Beginning at Londonderry line at a stake and stones being the S W bounds of Land sold to Thomas Cochran by the Proprietors of s^d Chester & run straight to a pich pine tree being the S W bounds of Nath^l Halls land by Penicook path then N N E by said Halls land so far as that goes & straight to the S W corner of the 39th lott in the second part of the second division then north 29 degrees E to the N W bounds of the 43^d lott in the aforesaid division & then N N W to Towerhill pond then straight to the N E corner of Derryfield then S by Derryfield to Londonderry line and so by Londonderry line to the first bounds mentioned) accordingly a parsonage lott was laid out within said lines by the proprietors of said Chester and that in March 1793 there was a vote to sell all the parsonage lotts in s^d Chester reserving to the Longmeadow parrish (so called) the proceeds of the sale of the Hundred acre lotts to their use Provided they should be Incorporated as a Parrish on or before the year 1801 that your Petitioners together with some other persons in the lower part of s^d Town belonging to the Presbyterian Society, have lately erected a meeting house within the lines aforesaid but are in no Capacity to avail themselves of the Benefit of s^d lott without the assistance of your Hon^{rs}. Wherefore they Pray that the Inhabitants within the lines afores^d may be Incorporated into a body Politic by the name of Chester west

parrish for the sole purpose of setting & maintaining the ministry within said lines and be Infranchised with all the Powers priviledges & Immunities incident to Corporations of a similar nature they Giving liberty to all persons living within said lines to poll to the other parrish that Please & Likewise to Persons living in any other part of the Town to poll into said parrish that shall choose so to do, & your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

Dated at Chester this 15th day of March A. D. 1796—

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Joseph Blanchard | David Carr | Will ^m Letch |
| David Currier | James Wason | William Willson |
| Joseph Linn | Caleb Hall | David Witherspoon |
| Adam Wilson | Sam ^l Crombie | John Grimes |
| Robert M ^c Kinley | Jonathan Davis | David Patten |
| Robert Dinsmore | Thomas Anderson | Hugh M ^c Duffee |
| Stephen Merrill | Thomas M ^c Master | James Hunter |
| William Brown | Peter Akin | George Russell |
| Alexander Shirley | Thom ^s Sherley Jun | William Crombie |
| Archable M ^c Duffee | James M ^c murphy | David Hall |
| John Wetherspoon | Benjamin Brown [?] | Alexander Eaton |
| William Hoyt | Micah Phillips | Joseph Calfe |
| David Calfe | Henry Read | Amos Crombie |
| James M ^c Farland | Barnard merrill | Samuel Peirce |
| Joshua Hall | Thomas Fowler | Stephen worthen |
| James Eaton | Samuel Dresser | Sam ^{el} Aken |

[The matter was in the legislature June 8, 1796, and a hearing ordered for the next session, but no act was passed granting the request at said next session.—ED.]

[2-123] [*Petition for Incorporation of Library, 1797.*]

To the Honour^{ble} the senate & house of Representatives in General Court convened at Concord June 1797.

The Petition of the subscribers humbly sheweth that they & their associates have formed themselves into a company under the name of the Proprietors of the social Library in Chester and have purchased a collection of useful books to be kept under certain regulations for the common benefit of said society and as no society can well subsist without the aid of civil authority therefore we pray this honourable court to incorporate those who now are or may hereafter become proprietors of the s^d social Library in Chester invested with all the powers priviledges

& immunities incident to corporations of a similar nature & your
Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Chester June 8, 1797—

Benjⁿ Brown
Tho^s Sargeant

John Emerson
Simon Towle

Will^m White

[The said library was incorporated by an act passed June
16, 1797.—ED.]

CHESTERFIELD.

The town was granted by Governor Benning Wentworth, February 11, 1752, to Col. Josiah Willard and 63 others. No settlements were made under this grant, and, the conditions not being complied with, it would have been forfeited, but an extension was granted June 11, 1760. Indian hostilities having ceased in the vicinity, the first settlements were made by Moses Smith, William Thomas, and their families, in the fall of 1761. Simon Davis and Abel Emmons settled the following spring, and for ten years the growth was such that there were about 150 families in town in 1772.

Mary Thomas, born in 1762, is said to have been the first white child born in the town. She married Lemuel Stoddard.

There are several ancient plans of the Connecticut townships in the office of the secretary of state, showing the boundaries of Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4—Chesterfield, Westmoreland, Walpole, and Charlestown; these show also the towns of Winchester, Hinsdale, and Upper and Lower Ashuelot. Very little change has been made in the boundaries of this town since the original grant.

Chesterfield has creditably performed her part in war and in peace, and has been, and is, a substantial farming town; contains one of the finest bodies of water in the state, which is becoming noted as a summer resort. The town is connected with Keene, and Brattleborough, Vt., by telephone.

[2-124] [*Petition for Grant of Town of Chesterfield, 1751.*]

Province of } To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq
New Hamp^r } Gov^r in and over His Maj^{ty}s Province of New
Hamp^r &c. the Hon^l his Maj^{ty}s Council

The Petition of the Subscribers Humbly Shews that Sundry of your Petitioners some years before the last Indian War had entered on a tract of Land Called N^o One on the Easterly Side Connecticut River and adjoining to the same next above Winchester, under the Grant of the Massachusetts Bay, but since the Dividing line Between the s^d Massachusetts & the Province of New Hamp^r has been ascertained by his Majesty, Wee find that the same falls within the Province of New Hampshire and are Desirous to pursue our former Intention of making a Settlement there if we may be favored with a grant from his Majesty of that township, under Such Restrictions as other Towns Holding under his Majesty in this Province

Wherefore your Petitioners pray that a Grant may be made them of the said Township N^o one In Such a way and manner as y^r Excellency & Hon^{rs} See meet, & y^r Peti^{rs} as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray—

| Dated y ^e | of | 1751— |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Josiah Willard | Nathan Willard | oliver Butler |
| John Armes | John Armes Jun | Josiah Willard Jr |
| Oliver Willard | Oliver Willard Jr | John Moor |
| Nathan Willard Jr | Wilder Willard | Caleb Trowbridge |
| William Willard | Billy Willard | Simon Hunt |
| William Lawrence | John Hunt | Solomon Willard |
| Jonathan Hubbard | Samuel Kennady | William Deen |
| Simon Cooly | Joseph Willard | David Hubbard |
| Simon Stone | Peter oliver | Natha ^l Wheelright |
| Thomas Pain | John Wheelright | Simon Willard |
| Joseph Wheelright | Jeremiah Wheelright | Silas Spafford |
| Benj ⁿ Lynde | John Spafford | Joanna Wetherby |
| Lemuel Davis | Pheneas Wait | James Whitney |
| Elias Alexander | John Brooks | Josiah Brown |
| Abraham Kendel | Benj ⁿ Frentch | Samuel Greley |
| Ebenezer Day | John Frentch Jr | William Down |
| William Spaulding | Moses Gould | Samuel Field |
| Robert Fletcher | David Field | Daniel Kendel |
| David Stevens | John Kendel | |
| James Stoodley Jr | Volentine Butler | |

[This grant was made by Gov. Wentworth, February 11, 1752.—ED.]

[2-125] [*Petition of Jeremiah Wheelwright, 1771.*]

Prov: of New Hampshire ss:

To his Excellency John Wentworth Cap^t Gen^l & Gov^r in chief
&c, and the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council of s^d Province

The memorial of Jeremiah Wheelwright of Boston

That your Memorialist by great accident came to the sight of the New Hampshire Gazette of 31st of May last in w^{ch} to his surprize he read a Notification w^{ch} was by order of your Excellency & Honors inserted therein, in consequence of a Petition of Josiah Willard* of Winchester in s^d Province Esq: therein setting forth that there were sundry Grantees in the Township of Chesterfield in s^d Province, & among the rest John, Joseph, Jeremiah, & Nath^l Wheelwright & others, who have, as he very groundlesly suggests, to say no more of it, been totally delinquent in the conditions stipulated in the charter of said Township &c, and, if your Excellency & Honors would take his word for it, that he has been at considerable expence in improving some part of the s^d Rights, as no doubt was his Duty so far as concerned him to do; but has not been so particular as to mention the total sum of this his considerable expence: and goes on and prays that s^d Rights may be vacated &c, and then with great modesty proceeds & still prays that s^d shares, as he calls them, may be regranted to him the s^d Willard—for what? viz—that he may be reimbursed the Rates & Taxes w^{ch} by the same Charter he was oblig^d to pay & without w^{ch} he must have forfeited his shares—

Your Memorialist begs leave just to mention that he is apprehensive that he has been at as much charge as M^r Justice Willard, & that he has very amply paid (as to his knowledge his Brother Joseph Wheelwright, who is now in London, also has) a Gentleman of this your Province, & who in Consideration thereof has obligated himself in all Respects to comply with every Injunction of the afores^d Charter, viz—one M^r W^m Dawes: Nor was your Memorialist ever apprehensive till he saw the afores^d M^r Dawes that he or his Father & Brothers were in arrears on acco^t of any Rates or Taxes &c. he therefore humbly prays that his land may not be regranted to M^r Willard, as by him is so earnestly prayed for. Your Memorialist will immediately see that every thing on his part shall be, pursuant to the Charter afores^d comply^d with, & prays that M^r Willard may be allow^d to withdraw his s^d Petition; and your Memorialist, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray &c

Jer. Wheelwright

Boston June 15th 1771—

*See Town Papers, Vol. IX, page 122.

[2-127] [*Justice of the Peace elected.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Counsell & House of Representatives

Gent^{lm} these are to Inform you that the town of Chesterfield being Leagely warned assembled and made a unanims choice of Lu^t Ephraim Baldwin for their Justice of the Peace
Chesterfield February y^e 22 : 1776.

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|--|
| test | Nath : Bingham | } Select men for s ^d town |
| | Eph ^m Hubbard | |
| | Moses Smith Jr | |

Voted that this Petition Lay for Consideration

[Appointed June 28, 1776.—ED.]

[2-126] [*Instructions to Representative, 1776.*]

To Mr Michael Creasy Representative for the Town of Chesterfield in the State of New Hampshire—

Sir Whereas it having pleased Almighty God to humble the People of this Land, by permitting the Tyrant of great Britain & his Minions in the Fulness of their Rage, to prevail against them by Subverting the civil Constitution of every Province in his late American Dominions affecting thereby the activity of Law and Justice, and the Introduction of Vice and profaneness attended with Domestic Confusion and all the Calamities attendant on a Dissolution of the Powers of Civil Government, which in this alarming progress have made it absolutely necessary for each state to separate itself from that Land, from whence their Fore Fathers were exiled by the cruel hand of Tyranny; and to form for itself under the Ruler of all the Earth, such a plan of civil Government as the People thereof should think most conducive to their own safety and advantage. Notwithstanding the Importance of an Equitable system of Government as it effects ourselves and our Posterity we are brought to the disagreeable Necessity of declaring that it is our candid opinion, that the State of New Hampshire instead of forming an equitable plan of Government, conducing to the Peace and safety of the State have been Influenced by the Iniquitous Intregues and secret Designations of persons unfriendly to settle down upon the Dregs of Monarchical and aristocratical Tyranny in Imitation of their late British Oppressors.—We can by no means Imagine ourselves so far lost to a sense to the natural Rights and Immunities of ourselves, and our fellowmen as to Imagine y^t the State can be neither

safe nor happy under a Constitution formed without the knowledge or particular authority of a great Part of its Inhabitants, a Constitution which no man knows the Contents of, except that the whole legislative Power of the State is to be entirely vested in the will and Pleasure of a House of Representatives and that chosen according to the Sovereign Determination of their own will by allowing to some Towns sundry voices in the said house, others but one, and others none, and in a Council of Twelve men, five of which are always to be residents of Rockingham County, who by the assistance of two others of said Council have the power of a casting voice in all State affairs; Thus we see the Important affairs of the State liable to be converted to the advantage of a small part of the State, and the emolument of its officers by the reason of the other part of the State not having an Equal or Equitable share in the Government to counterbalance the Designs of the other, you are therefore authorized and instructed to exert yourself to the utmost to procure a Redress of the aforementioned greivences, and in case they will not comply to return home for further instructions

Chesterfield December y^e 12th 1776

Solomon Harvey—per order Com.

[R. 201] [*Thomas Gibbs's Losses at the "Cedars."*]

I the Subscriber whose name is hereunder written was in Coll^o Timothy Beddell Regement But more espeshaly under the Command of major Butterfield Commander at the Seaders and was Captivated and Stripped by the Savage of the following Articles in y^e year 1776

Thomas Gibbs

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| Thomas Gibbs Lost | 1 gun | 1 Coat | 16-16-0 |
| | £21- 0-0 | 1 pr Shoes | 2- 2-0 |
| 1 New Bever Hatt | 12-12-0 | 1 Snap Sack 1 Bag | 1-18-0 |
| 1 Brace Ink Stand | 0-14-0 | 1 Canteen | 0- 7-0 |
| 1 Powder horne | 1- 1-0 | | |
| 1 Comb | 0-3-6 | | £56-13-6 |

[Sworn to before Heber Miller.]

Dismist.

[2-128] [*Petition of Richard Coughlan.*]

To the Honourable Council & House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of Richard Coughlan of Chesterfield in the

County of Cheshire & State afores^d humbly Sheweth—That whereas Kimbale Carleton of the Town & State afores^d & Divers other Persons on the night of the twenty seventh Day of January last past with Force & Violence in a Riotous Manner attacked & Broke open the House of y^r Petitioner & Destroyed about twenty Gallons of Rum & as the wife of y^r Petitioner in a Peaceable Calm Manner went to appease the Fury of the People & prevent the Rum being Destroyed they in an abusive Manner flung a Billet of Wood at her which hit her in the Breast and knocked her against the Chimney & also threatened & swore in a prophane Manner & the said Kimbale Carleton desiring your Petitioner to go with him to Town y^r Petitioner answered he had no business in Town & if he went he must be compelled thereto, whereupon said Carleton replied and told your Petitioner that if he would not go willingly he would bind him & at the same time took his straps from his saddle & ordered those with him to assist in binding your petitioner.

Your Petitioners wife endeavoring to reason the Matter with said Carleton he the s^d Carleton (though being an officer of the Peace) swore by the living God he would lay her on the fire.

Your Petitioner not choosing to risque the abuse he may receive consented to go with them & after being Detained about the space of Five Hours without order or Complaint Ephraim Baldwin of said Chesterfield Esq^r granted a warrant against y^r Petitioner & the time of Trial being adjourned to the eleventh Day February last past at nine o'clock before noon y^r Petitioner appeared & no Person appearing to prosecute the Complaint y^r Petitioner was Discharged by s^d Ephraim Baldwin Esq.—whereupon y^r Petitioner made application to s^d Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r desiring that Justice may be done him for the Damage & abuse he sustained s^d Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r absolutely refused.

Therefore y^r Petitioner in order to get redress (tho' not without Reluctance) is under the Necessity of making application to this Honourable Court & prays they would appoint him a Day of hearing or act thereon as they in their wisdom shall think fit & y^r Petitioner will ever pray

Rich^d Coughlan

N. B. y^r Petitioner prays that M^r Micael Cressy Representative for s^d Town of Chesterfield may not be heard on this Petition or act thereon he being a party concerned as your Petitioner apprehends—

[2-129] [*Relative to the Governor's Lot.*]

To the Honourable Council & general assembly of the State

of New Hampshire to be convened at Exeter within and for said state on the second wednesday of march inst A Dom. 1777 —is humbly presented the memorial and petition of *Aron Smith* and others of the town of Chesterfield in the state abovesaid who beg leave to shew that Aron Smith abovesaid about ten years ago by an agreement with Benning Wintworth Esq^r then Governor of this state settled on 500 acres of unimproved Land in the town of Chesterfield afores^d the property of the said Benning Wintworth Esq^r with a promis of having a title to 50 acres of said Land given to him as a setler notwithstanding which promis your petitioner hath not had a title to said Land neither from the said Governor Wintworth or his heirs; Having ben at great Cost in subduing and cultivating said Land & building thereon with the Disappointment of remaining at uncertainties with regard to any security for the Land he hath cultivated or the cost of doing the same—*Moses Smith* another of your petioners begs leave to shew that since the settlement of Aron Smith on the Land above said that John Wintworth Esq^r a late governor of this State Declaring that the said tract of Land abovesaid had reverted to the Crown and manifested a design of regranting the same upon which your petitioner last mentioned applied to the said John Wintworth Esq^r for a grant of said Land in hope to secure to Aron Smith abovesaid the premises he was upon being sone to your last mentioned petitioner as well as procure Lands for his other sones and upon applycation to the said Governor John Wintworth had the promis of said Land and ordered by him to apply to Collⁿ Josiah Willard to apprise the Land who did accordingly and had orders or liberty from the said John Wintworth Esq^r to posses said Land and accordingly gave his sones orders to Labour on said Land one of which viz Benjamin Smith hath ben in four years actual Possession by subdueing and bringing forward said Land for Cultivation; since which time W^m Thomas one of your Last mentioned petioners sons in law hath acquired a considerable property in said Land by Labour and money expended in clearing and subdueing the said Land yet notwithstanding all the Circumstances relative to said Land as here enumerated it seems to appear to your petitioners that the said Land had not reverted to the Crown as was supposed which reather adds to our disappointment with regard to procuring it wherefore we find it Necessary to Apply to Wisdom & justice of the Honourable Council & general assembly of the state having ben informed that since the Commencement discord between Great Britain and the states of America that the proprietors of the said tract of land have withdrawn themselves from the Continent and that the said Land is or is likely to become the property of the State in case it has or should so happne your several petitioners whose

Names are hereunto subscribed Humbly pray that the Honourable Council & General Assembly would grant to your petitioners the said tract of Land upon such terms as may in your wisdom seam most fitting or otherways releave your petitioners as in your wisdom you shall think most proper and as in duty bound shall ever pray

Chesterfield March y^e 6th A Dom : 1777

Aron Smith
Benjamin Smith

Moses Smith
William Thomas

[2-130] [*Town Committee to Committee of Safety.*]

To the Honourable Committee of the General Court of the State of New Hampshire for promoting peace and harmony through the State to be Convened at the house of Col Wyman in Keene on monday the third day of February next—

Gentlemen we repose much confidence in your abilities to serve the important purposes for which you have the honour to be appointed to by the General Court should esteem ourselves happy indeed to find the State freed from Commotions & Domestic Confusions abstract from all caus of complaint through your kind interposition—the town of Chesterfield have duly considered your precept Directed to the selectmen bearing date at Exeter January y^e 10th 1777; which being altogether unexpected and the time for consulting the Numerous and greatly oppressed inhabitants of a great Number of towns being so short as render it impracticable: we beg therefore to be excused from holding any personal conference with you on the subject: as we deem it highly inconsistant with the Nature of adjusting greivances of any kind to oblige the agrieved individuals to make separate and unconnected appearances to confer & make answers to matters respecting the whole: unless the assembly consider us as a number of captious individuals without connection or caus of complaint—we have the pleasure to be Gentlemen your Honours sincere friends and most humble servants

Chesterfield January y^e 30th 1777

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Phinehas Brown | } Committe of the | |
| Solomon Harvey | | town of Chesterfield in |
| Silas Thompson | | the State of New Hampshire |

To the Honourable Meshech Weare to be Communicated to the Committe—

[The committee referred to in the foregoing was appointed December 30, 1776, "to take under consideration the dif-

faculties and Grievances Subsisting & complain'd of by sundry Towns & People in the County of Grafton & any other Towns, respecting the present Form of Government, and also concerning ascertaining the Election of Councillor for said County of Grafton, and to report thereon." The members of said committee were Samuel Gilman, Jr., of Exeter; John Wentworth, Jr., Dover; Joseph Whipple, Lancaster; Benj. Giles, Newport; Geo. Gains, Portsmouth; Timothy Ellis, Keene; Daniel Brainard, Christopher Webber, Walpole; Thos. Odiorne, Exeter, on the part of the house; and Messrs. King, Blanchard, and Thompson, of the council. —ED.]

[2-131] [*Chesterfield Committee to President Weare, 1777.*]

To the Honourable Court of the State of New Hampshire

The Committee of Safety of Chesterfield in the above s^d Humbly Sheweth this Honourable Court that Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r of s^d Chesterfield hath of late much Displeas'd many persons that are steady friends to the American Cause and In-
trist: Very soon after the Retreat from Ticonderoga s^d Justice Baldwin procured to himself one of Burgoins Proclamations and it plainly appeared by his conduct and especially by his words that he would have us lay down our Arms and Petition for Peace with Great Briton and having Dispensed with one Proclamation s^d Justice quickly Procures another; and from time to time Improved Burgoynes Language in treating with the Committee; and according to his Ability Defended the Part that the enemies of this Land take: and says with regard to the Persons Carried to Keene Court last June and there tried, there want anything of Toryism found in them; and that they were fined and confined to their farms for y^e sake of y^e Rabble: Said Justice being a member of s^d Court has made it his business and care to set all those confined Persons at Liberty Conterary to the Advice of the Committee of Safety of s^d Town: great Patience extended towards s^d Justice & Improved many appointed times for accomodating the matter with said Justice yet all Proved fruitless and when the Committee and good people could no longer endure his conduct then the above s^d Committee Advised with Genl^{em} of office and Distinction that belong to this State and their advice to Justice Baldwin was to make satisfaction to the Comm^t if it was in his Power the Com^t have waited Times and again upon said Justice: and sometimes were treated with Naeglect and sometimes with Contempt, and the Comm^t apprehending a delay in the cause very

dangerous Have therefore Improved Esq^r Miller of this State to Administer the oath to the Deponents having first Notified s^d Justice Baldwin of our doings and place and time: Justice Baldwin Being Present at the several administrations; Great care and Pains was Improved with s^d Justice to Convince him, and after Certain days the s^d Justice signed a Piece acknowledging to the Com^t and all good People that he s^d Justice had given the greatest Reason Imaginable to his friends and Neighbors to view him as unfriendly to his Country: and signing said Piece and Delivering it to the Chairman of the Committee y^e said Piece being on the Table before them s^d Justice takes the Piece without so much as asking the Comm^t or either of Them and Betakes himself to another room and erases out some words and was Putting in others and being enquired of why he did thus and so; he said Justice after some words moved that all the matters of Dispute then depending between him self and Committee might be Transmitted to the General Court and Particularly the Piece that he s^d Justice signed at that time (being y^e 26th of Sept^r last) this Comm^t Calling to mind the many motions or rather Challenges the s^d Justice has made to have the matter laid before the State Court Do now Humbly take the Freedom and Beg the Favour of the Honourable Court to take this Cause (with the Depositions Relative thereto) and enquire of the said Justice Baldwin and deal with him as you in your great wisdom shall see fit; and this the Committee as in Duty Bound shall ever Humbly Pray. Signed by order of the Committee
Sam^l Fairbank: Chairman

Chesterfield November y^e 3: 1777

To the Honourable Meshech Weare President

[The following are copies of the documents and depositions referred to:—ED.]

[2-134] [*Letter—N. S. Prentice to Baldwin.*]

Alstead Sep^t 5th 1777—

S^r I am informed by Sam^l Fairbank of your Town that you have thro Inadvertancy or good will been endeavoring to Instill into the minds of your Neighbors to Lay Down their arms and to accept of Burgoyns proclamation; which I could not have thought could ever have entered your mind by the Little acquaintance I have had with you much more a man in your Station must have known it being very detrimental to the peace and good order of our very much oppressed and Injured Country and further more that you take it upon you [to] release those persons from their confinement which were put by the Court at

Keen of whom you was one : which was done for the safety of the State and not to satisfie the Rabbel (as I understand you are please to say) notwithstanding their Refusing to take upon them the oath of allegiance which your Com^{ee} are favored with a copy of and which was made on purpose for the Benefit of them very men Laid under them Bonds which upon their accepting & performing they were to be Released from their bonds and Not otherwayse and ought strictly to be kept to them as it is a still further proof of their being enimies—Now Sr as I have Laid the matter briefly Before you my further advise is that you make a publick & free Recantation of the oppinion that it seems you have advanced by the Depositions Before me & make full and ample satisfaction theirfor if it be in your power otherways I shall & do advise the Comitte of your town to take proper depositions of the matters of complaint & transmit them to the Gen^l Court for their determination theiron that that Iniquity that you have Indeavored to Distill into the minds of people which is of Dangerous Consequence and ought at all adventures to be stopped without any loss of time which I doubt not if done & a steady and firm mind amongst the friends of America duly cultivated that under God we shall in due time see this Land an Asylum of Liberty & Religion therefore my prayer and Desire is that all unfriendly ones may be Displaced from places of trust & power & even from society from true friends to her cause.

Nath^l S. Prentice

To Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r

Sir Having perused the Foregoing Letter I find it agreeable to my mind

Benj^a Bellows

To Ephraim Baldwin Esq

A true cobby of a Letter Esq^r Prentice and Esq^r Bellows to Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r and to the Comite of Safety of Chesterfield this to be given to Justice Baldwin of Chesterfield forthwith

Sam^l Fairbank Comiteman of
Chesterfield

[2-138]

The deposition of Anne Snow and Abial Johnston being at the House of Eben^r Harveys in Chesterfield on Sabbath day y^e 6th of Aug 1777 the deponent saith that she heard Ep^h Baldwin Esq^r say that if the People did not say less about that Proclamation which he had (meaning Burgoins Proclamation) he would get one and set it up at the meeting house and set his name to it—this deponent further saith the Esq^r said what sig-

nfy's to fight till there is but a Small Posterity left without Law or Regulation, no, let us send out our ambassadors for Peace and not hold out sword of war forever and said if we was in the right of the case why did they come down from Westmoorland a sabbath day night in a riotous way and manner and take People that were Peacible in their houses and carry them of which was a Breach of Sabbath and they that regarded not the Sabbath regarded nothing and said that Burgoine was a man of Honour and a Gen^lman and that he offered America peace and Pardon and all Liberties & Priviledges they were Born under if they would come and take Protection under him Answer was made what do we fight for then he said because they loved to fight and chose war rather than peace and s^d Abial Johnston further saith that said Ep^h: Baldwin said that it would be Better to make application to God and further saith Not

[Abial Johnson was sworn before Heber Miller, September 12. Mrs. Anne Snow was sick, and not sworn,—so say "Sam^l Fairbank James Robertson Elisha Rockwood Committee."—ED.]

[2-136] [*Deposition of John Sargent and Fear Sargent, his wife.*]

Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r Being at my house y^e Next day after his Return from Exeter Did then say that he thought it best for y^e people to y^e Northward to Lay down thare arms & Says that it was the advice of Coll^s Bellows & Hunt Likewise this conversation was quick after y^e Avacuation of tianteroga & mount Independent funder adds the Sq^r & Says that he had ben a jorney & had had conversation with y^e begest & best of men therefore he had mor Knowlege about them matters than I or others at home could have I then said to y^e sq^r I was shure that it was not y^e minds of y^e people to y^e Northward to Lay down there arms for I had this day bin with maj^r Wait & mr Robarson who told me that there people ware Determined to to stand farm in their cause and that they had Sent of Capt Storrs & other for to git them a full supply of arms & amonition—To which y^e Sq^r Replied & said I am very sorry to hear that: I had rather heard that they had given up what arms they had before: for so seartin as they Dont Leave of meddling with guns & warlike wepons they will all get cild, for if wee should Now all exart owre selvs to build a fort at No 4 & there make a stand it would not be foure days before the Reguliors would cum and take it: for owre people could Not stand Brittons fire I then said is it Not a pittey that we ever undertook to fight

them To which y^e Sq^r said I never could tell what it was that begun this Warr Nether could he tell what would end it & his advise was for us all to take to plow y^e hoe y^e ax y^e sythe &c and mind owre owne business

[Sworn to September 12, before Heber Miller. A deposition by Phinehas Brown was included, but because of its similarity it is not copied.—ED.]

[2-139] [*Ephraim Baldwin's Acknowledgment.*]

September y^e 25th 1777—

These may certifie y^t I Ephraim Baldwin of Chesterfield Do hereby acknowledge that I have been the Instrumental cause of Disaffecting the minds of my friends and Neighbours and by my conduct of Late have given the greatest Reason to them to suspect y^t I am unfriendly to the American cause all which I Now Confess I am sorry for, and promis hereby to Improve the utmost of my power and skill in y^e Defence of America Estimating it my duty so to do ; but I would Remark this I have not as yet meant or Desired any Hurt to the United States and all that has been don by me has been entirely throug Inadvertancy and Not from any good will to georg the Brittish King : But as my outword conduct hath been such as that I have Justly provoked and moved the commitee of y^e said town to Deal with me as they have Don and I thank them for their great tenderness in Dealing with me ; and Do not Blame None of y^e evidences, Nor at all Dispute the truth of what they Do affirm and I hereby Ask forgiveness of the Committee : and all Boath public and private that I have offended and promise further to pay the s^d comitee for the unnecessary trouble I have put them to In dealing with me, they being obligated in their office so to do for y^e safety of y^e state—and as there is much Difficulty in officiating in y^e office of a Justice of y^e peac I should be free to Resign if ye principall part of people are free for it and this confession of mine shall and may be made in a publick manner

Eph^m Baldwin

witness

Sam^l Fairbank James Robertson

[2-140] [*Chesterfield Committee to Legislature, 1778.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Court of assembly of y^e State of New Hampshire—we the subscribers Having in y^e month of September

Last past Remonstrated to y^e Hon^{ble} Court our greivences and Improved means to Inform that Assembly of the Inconsistant and very Imprudent Administration of Justice Baldwin of our town: Now Having been Informed that y^e said Remonstrance is Neglected: we beg your Hon^{rs} patience with us and pray that y^e said petition may be heard and considered—We are confident that if we had Improved some artfull Gentⁿ to Indite our petition with the several agravated circumstances Relative thereto; it might have been of more force in y^e Best and wisest Courts in America: but we can say that with y^e very Simplicity of our hearts we have endeavored to Lay the matter open to the View of y^e Court with as much Reservation of ye said Justics character as we can find Consistant of the safety of our much oppressed Land: and we your Humble petitioners in this cause Desire nothing but the peace and safety of y^e State and the good will and Harmony of y^e Court and all its Constituents and do now Subscribe ourselves your obedient and Humble Servants and petitioners—Signed by order of ye Committee of Safety and Select men.

Chesterfield February the 6th 1778

Saml. Fairbank Chairman

[March 2, 1778, the House voted "that Ephraim Baldwin Esq^r of Chesterfield be cited to appear before the Gen^l Assembly on the second Friday of their next session to answer to a complaint exhibited to this Court against him by the Committee of Chesterfield," &c. The Journal of the House for the next session has no reference to the matter.—ED.]

[2-141] [*Tories recommended to be discharged from Bonds.*]

Chesterfield April 6th 1778—

Whereas Ebn^r Harvey Eleazer Pomeroy & Sam^l King were Put under Bonds By the Court Held at Kene Last June and whereas the Last years Committee Rote Some thing to the Committee of Safety att Exeter Concerning their Taking the oath of fidelity and as others Taken with them we understand are Discharged We as the present Committee and select men of this Town are willing That the said Eben^r Harvey Eleazer Pomeroy and Sam^l King should be Discharged without Their Taking said oath

Jonathan Hildreth

Chairman of the Committee for the Town of Chesterfield

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Samuel Hildreth | } Select men for the Town of Chesterfield |
| Moses Smith Jr | |
| Kimball Carleton | |
| Jacob Hinds | |
| Abner Johnson | |

[They were under bonds in £500 each for good behavior toward the United States, and not to go beyond the limits of their respective farms. April 7, 1778, in answer to the foregoing, they were discharged by Justices N. S. Prentice and Isaac Wyman.

Jacob Hinds was a captain in Reed's regiment at Bunker Hill.—ED.]

[R. 200] [*Benjamin Kimball's Receipt.*]

January 2^d 1778 Then Received L^t William Lee one hundred and twenty Two pounds Lawfull money which Sum he Received to Recruit men in Cap^t Emersons Company in Col^o Cilleys Regiment—which Sum I have Received in the following manner (Viz) by his account of eighty four pounds paid fourteen Soldiers as a Continental Bounty and Twenty four pounds Twelve Shillings allowed him for Recruiting men and five pounds Twelve shillings for the eight shillings allowed for In-listing each man—and in cash seven pounds sixteen shillings and eleven pence The whole of which makes one hundred and Twenty Two pounds—I say Received per me

Benjⁿ Kimball
paymaster of Col^o Cilleys Regiment

[R. 202] [*Petition of Lieut. William Lee for Allowance.*]

To the Hon^{ble} The Council and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly convened at Portsmouth on the twelfth of Oct^r A. D. 1780—

The Petition of William Lee of Chesterfield Humbly Shews ; that your Petitioner was appointed a L^t in Col^o Cilleys Regiment on the eleventh of Novem^r A. D. 1776, and continued in the Service of the United States until Janu^{ry} 8th 1778, when he was honourably discharged, that he now finds himself deprived of that consideration, as to the depreciation of Money, which your Hon^{rs} have tho't fit to allow to other Officers of the Continental Army, and to which he thinks himself justly entitled.

He therefore humbly prays that your honours would take his case into your wise consideration, & grant him such relief in the premises as in your wisdom & goodness you shall see fit, and as in duty bound shall ever pray

Nath : Bingham

At the desire & in behalf of y^e Petitioner

[2-143] [*Petition for appointment of Civil Officers, 1781.*]

To the Honourable Counsel & house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire—

Gentlemen—Whereas by the Late unhappy Revolt of a greater part of this town and County from their Allegiance to the State of New Hampshire whereby we who still maintain our Allegiance to you are wholly Deprived of officers of all Kinds Both Civil and Military we a Respectable Number of the Inhabitants of the town of Chesterfield humbly Pray your honours for the safety of the State & good order of society that we may have some Civil officers appointed amongst us & for that Purpose as your Honours are Unacquainted with those Persons who are Qualified for Civil Magistrates have assembled in the best manner we were capable & 1st Voted & chose Phinehas Brown Moderator & Eph^m Russell Clark, 2^{ly}: Voted to Nominate & Recommend two suitable Persons for Justices of the Peace 3^{ly} Voted that Lieu^t Michael Cresey & Lieu^t Will^m Lee be Recommended as Persons suitable to be Commissioned as Civil Magistrates & whereas the Persons Nominated & Unanimously Chosen by us appear to us to be Persons Suitably Qualified for Civil Magistrates therefore Pray your Honours to Commission them accordingly if your Honours in your wisdom se fit—

Signed by order

Eph^m Russell Clark

Chesterfield Nov^r 5th 1781

[They were appointed Nov. 17, 1781.—ED.]

[R. 203] [*Petition of Francis Crane, Soldier.*]

Chesterfield April y^e 7th 1783—

Francis Crane of Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire of Lawfull age Deposeth & saith that he the Deponent having enlisted into the Continental Servise for s^d Chesterfield about the first of July in the year 1780 after which he the Deponent went & Pased muster at Winchester then going to Joine the army according to his orders, and being at Glasgo in the Bay State on or about the Twentieth of s^d July he the Deponent Did by misfortune & axcident Cut off two of his Fingers and was thereby Disabled to go forward to the army and was under the care of Doc: Primous a noted and approved Doctor & Surgeon near four months and further saith not—

Francis Crain

[Sworn to before Michael Cresey, as is also a deposition

of Adonijah Crain, Jr., of similar import. Following is the doctor's certificate.—ED.]

[R. 204]

East windsor June the 27 1782

whereas I was imployed to Doctr francis Crain of said East windsor for the Los of too fingers and a weakness in his Breast which Said Crain was unfit for Soldiers Duty from July 1780 till January given under my hand

Primous Manamit Doctor

—

[2-144] [*Petition for the Privilege of choosing new Magistrates.*]

New Hampshire ss.

To the Honorable Meshech Wear president of the General Court to be holden on y^e second Tuesday of June at Concord or Exeter

We the Inhabitants of y^e Town of Chesterfield humbly beg leave to inform y^e Court of our present State & Circumstances—'Tis true there was a General Revolt of the People throughout the N: H: Grants in y^e year 1781, and the Inhabitants of our said Chesterfield, were very much engaged in forming a Union with y^e Grants on y^e other side Connecticut River did compleat the same, but many Difficulties and Illconveniences attended that matter, which caused a Dissolution of the said Union, and since that Time the people have in General consented to subject themselves to the Government and Authority of this State; And agreeable to y^e Charter of our s^d Town, and in obedience to Authority of N: H: a meeting was warned to be holden on the fifth Day of March Last past;—The Inhabitants being meet and formed in order; a Petition was exhibited to the Moderator, Signed by a Number of Inhabitants, Informing their desire to prefer a Petition to the General Court, praying their Hon^{rs} to drop the two Justices that pretended to act; and Grant Orders to y^e Town to chuse them as in the plan first proposed by the Authority of this State in y^e year 1776. The motion being made it passed in the affirmative and but two Negatives, also voted that the Town Clerk signed s^d Petition, In behalf of the Town—And now as to the Character of Esq^r Cresy or Esq^r Lee—We Don't pretend to bring any Railing Accusations against them, but the method and manner of their coming into office—It was done in the Night & void of public notice by not more than Eleven Persons; and they not being men of the Law, and many other Impediments perhaps

would be thought too barefaced to mention ; The greatest part of their Administration is so preposterous that their very Friends are put to y^e blush, and the minds of the Inhabitants are so sowered against their Administration, that it keeps us in Confusion.

We therefore pray your Hon^{rs} to suspend each of them from their office, and Grant the Inhabitants Liberty to chuse them, such men as they can with confidence Repose special Trust in and submit to be Judged and Governed by.

We beg your Hon^{rs} to take our Cause under Consideration and dispose the same as you in your great wisdom & Prudence see meet—Your Compliance with this our Request will greatly indulge us, Your Constituents who as in Duty bound shall ever Humbly pray

Attest Eph^m Baldwin Town Clerk

Chesterfield June 2^d 1783

[2-145] [*Number of ratable Polls, 1783.*]

N^o of male Polls of Twenty one years of age and upwards paying a Poll Tax For themselves in said Town—273

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Eben ^r Hervey | } Select men For Chesterfield |
| Eleazer Pomeroy | |
| Sam ^l Davis | |

Chesterfield Dec^r 16 1783

[Sworn to before Michael Cresey, Justice Peace.]

[2-147] [*Nomination of Men for Magistrates.*]

| | |
|---|---|
| State of New Hampshire | } To his Excellency and the Honourable Council of said State— |
| Chesterfield October y ^e 20 th 1784 | |

We the subscribers beg Leave to Inform your Honours that the Town of Chesterfield Being Legally met unanimously Anominated by Ballot two Persons to be Recommended to your Honours for Justices of the Peace Viz : Col : Sam^l King and Ensign Eleazer Jackson ; which Persons if your Honours should see fit to Appoint ; it is our opinion they would give good satisfaction to the Town and Perhaps no Dishonour to the County, we therefore Pray they may be Appointed if your Honours should not think it any Infringement upon your Pre-rogative we would further Beg Leave to say that if any of your

Honours should suppose that the Reason of our Desire to have new Justices was on Account of the Vermont Dispute we wish to Inform your Honours, that is not the case for we Look upon that to be Buried in oblivion altho this Town after they Supposed they Belonged to Vermont were almost unanimous for a while under it yet one of the above Named Persons that is now Anominated always very much opposed the rest of the Town Respecting Vermont. we therefore have no Rafferance to them Disputes Either way—So we Beg Leave to Subscribe our selves your Honours humble servants

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|
| Benj ^a Haskell | } | Select men |
| Peter Stone | | For |
| Amos Hubbard | | Chesterfield |

[2-146]

To the General Assembly of the State of New hampshire Now Setting—

I do hereby Certify to your Honours that the Select men of Chesterfield were Petitioned by a Number of Inhabitants of said town to have said town Appoint Justices of the Peace & the Inhabitants being met at a Legal meeting the 27 of September last for that Purpose Did Appoint Co^l Samuel King & m^r Eleazer Jackson for said Justices as above mentioned

By order of the Select men

attest Eph^m Baldwin town clerk

October 26 Day 1784.

[2-148] [*Petition for a Lottery to Build a Road.*]

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled at Portsmouth on the second Wednesday in December A. D. 1786.

The Subscribers Committees appointed by the Towns of Winchester and Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire, for and on behalf of those Towns humbly shew—

That the Road leading from the Meeting house in said Winchester to the Meeting house in s^d Chesterfield would be if properly made and put in repair, the best, and nearest way from a Number of Towns Southward & Eastward to the Towns of Walpole & Charlestown, that the travelling therein by Horses & footmen is considerable, but being almost impassable for Teams, the Lading which they bear is obliged to be carried in a circui-

tous rout, about eight miles further than would be necessary if said Road was made passable as it ought, That about five miles of s^d Road is thro' an unsettled Wilderness, so remote from the settlements in those Townships as to render it a burthen too heavy for the Inhabitants to put the same in a passable state in the usual manner. That the Inhabitants of s^d Towns, with some Assistance from Hinsdale have laid out a Road from the Furnace in s^d Winchester on the North side of Ashuelot River to Sangars Bridge so called, and have cut the same through and done considerable labor thereon, but find themselves unable to complete the same although it would be the best, and the nearest Road yet found to pass, from Petersham, in the Massachusetts State to the Connecticutt River at Fort Dummer—

That the Inhabitants of Winchester have laid out & cut a Road from s^d Furnace to the former road leading from Winchester to Northfield, through a Wood of more than two miles extent which will make a Road equally good with s^d former Road—and a considerable nearer and will tend greatly to comode a number of promising settlements in said Town—as well as serve the public but with the heavy burthens already upon them they are unable to complete s^d Road in the common mode of making Roads—That the several Roads aforesaid would if completed be not only advantageous to the Community by rendering the necessary intercourse more easy & expeditious, but tend to encourage the settlement of large tracts of Lands in those Towns, which otherwise will long remain uninhabited as at present—Wherefore your Petitioners pray your honors to take the premises into Consideration, and Pass an Act for raising by Lottery the sum of Nine Hundred Pounds lawful Money to be appropriated to making and repairing s^d Roads, in the following Proportions, Viz^t Six Hundred and fifty Pounds for the Road first described to be applied Principally or in the whole upon that part thereof which lieth between Cap^t Willards in said Winchester & Cap^t Pratt's in s^d Chesterfield, and Two Hundred and Fifty pounds be applied to making and repairing the other two Roads afore described—

Your Petitioners, to avoid increasing the difficulties which they are fully sensible already rest upon their Constituents on account of the present scarcity of Cash, have proposed that the sum to be raised by the s^d Lottery, shall be received in grain of every kind and in Cattle—and the Ticketts in each and every Class thereof Paid for, and the Prizes paid off in the same Specific articles—except such Low prizes as may be made payable in Ticketts in a succeeding Class—And as the making of said Roads as proposed will be of essential service to the Inhabitants of a considerable part of the Massachusetts State, particularly the County of Worcester, and of a Large Part of the State of

Vermont, many of whom have expressed their desire and readiness to promote a Measure of this kind your Petitioners have reason to expect large numbers of the Ticketts will be sold into those States—

Relying in the Wisdom & Justice of your Honours and on the necessity & propriety of their request that the same will be granted your petitioners in duty bound will pray

Eben^r Fletcher
Oliver Cobleigh
Elisha Rockwood } Committee for
Chesterfield

Dan^l Hawkins
John Follet
Simon Willard } Committee for
Winchester

[Petition not granted.—ED.]

[2-149] [*Petition for Allowance for Soldiers.*]

To the Honorable Senet and Honorable House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire to set at Concord the first Wednesday of June Instant.

The Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth, That whereas the Town of Chesterfield suffered the Fate of a large Fine for our Deficiencies in the last Cota of Men,—As to that Point we are consious to ourselves if the honorable House had been Rightly Informed of what we as a Town have done and performed in the war our Fines might have been much abated; But not casting y^e blame on y^e Honorable Court, we blame ourselves for defects in y^e Returns made by y^e officers then improved; We would humbly inform this House, that we hired one Merifield Vicory who served in Coll: Hazell's Regt, and we have obtain'd his Discharge. we also hir'd one Nath^l Merrild for three years and also one Silas Ray who served during y^e war,—and your humble Petitioners beg we might have credit for what service we have done in y^e war,

Your Honors Compliance with this our Request will greatly Indulge us your humble Petitioners, which as in Duty Bound shall ever pray

Chesterfield June y^e 1st 1786

Martin Warner
William Hildrith
Ezra Day } Selectmen
For y^e Town of
Chesterfield

[Allowed £72 on account of Silas Ray.—ED.]

[2-150] [*William Thomas's Petition for a Ferry, 1786.*]

To the Honourable the Senate & House of Representatives in general assembly of the State of New Hampshire when next Convened after the date hereof, is humbly offered the petition of William Thomas of Chesterfield in y^e state aforesaid who begs Leave to shew that whereas your Humble petitioner doth live on the East bank of Connecticut River in said Chesterfield at a certain place near the South End of Catsbain island where a public Road Leading from Chesterfield meeting house doth intersect said stream and Directly oposite to the spot where two Roads will ever Center on the west bank of the said stream which will be of great importance to the publick and your petitioner having been at a considerable cost in making fords & building vessels & giving tendance at the Request of travellers for several years past which your petitioner has improved to the satisfaction of the publick and as no other person has in any way or manner whatever occupied the said premises, or at present presumes in any wise to claim or improve the same your petitioner therefore prays that the privilege of improving a certain space in said River extending one mile and a half from the North end of Catsbain island down said River for the purpose of ferriing travellers &c over the aforesaid stream may be granted to him and his assigns under such regulations as you in your wisdom se meet and as in duty bound shall ever Pray

Dated at Chesterfield June 6th 1786

William Thomas

we the selectmen of the town of Chesterfield are fully of opinion that granting the request of the within petition would be highly advantagious to the public and no ways injurious to any individual

Paul Eager Reuben Graves Selectmen for Chesterfield

[In H. of Rep., September 20, 1786, the petitioner was granted leave to bring in a bill; the journal of the senate of that session contains no record of the matter, and there is no act on record granting a charter to said Thomas.—ED.]

[2-152] [*Petition of Eliphalet Hale for a Ferry, 1786.*]

To the Honorable Senate and house of Representatives in General Court Conveaned at Concord June the 8th 1786—

The Petition of Eliphalet Hale of Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire and State of New hampshire humbly shews that

your petitioner lives and owns land adjoining Connecticut River where there is great need of a Stated ferry to accomodate travelers and as your petitioner owns the land and lives the most Convenient of any person in Chesterfield to tend said ferry he therefore prays that he may have the exclusive right of keeping a ferry accrost said River from the North end of Catsban island so called to the line of Westmoreland which is about two miles in the hole as there is no other ferry way occopyed or improved within said limits therefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Honors to Grant the Exclusive Right of the ferryway heretofore Described to him and his heirs forever upon Conditions as your Honours in your Wisdom shall see fit as in Duty shall Ever Pray

Chesterfield June 4th 1786

Eliphalet Hale

[On a copy of the above is the following certificate:—
ED.]

this May Certify that the Within petision And the order of Cort Has Ben posted at the House of Andrew Hastings In holder In Chesterfield as the Law Directed

Chesterfield August 30 / 1786

Andrew Hastings

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| In presents of Martin Warner | } Select Men of 'Chesterfield |
| Ezra Day | |
| W ^m Hildrith | |

[This petition was granted, and an act passed January 10th, 1787, granting said Hale the exclusive right of keeping a ferry between Catsbane island and the south line of Westmoreland.—ED.]



[2-153] [*Ephraim Baldwin's Claim, 1786.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives Convened at
Concord the 7th day of June 1786

The Petion of Ephraim Baldwin Humbly Shueth that your Petitiner was Detaind in the service of the Late war Fourteen Days at the charge of my own Expences it being in the year 1777—at the time when Ticontaroga was avaqated I was at Charlestown & by Desire of Col. Ashley I assisted in Dealing out stores to men going on Alarmes to said ticontaroga & Drawing of Coppyes that come from Conolls then at & between [be-

tween, probably] said Charlestown & ticontaroga & sent Express to forward the men &c which is as follows

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--|--------|
| one to Swanzey | £0: 13 | one to Chesterfield | £0: 13 |
| one to Brattleborough | 0: 14 | one up as far as Co ^l meads | 0: 15 |
| myself 14 Days at 6/ pr Day | | | 4: 4 |

And your Petitioner has not Rec^d anything for said Sarvices and am obliged to pay Said foure Expresses above mentioned out of his own pocket and as your petitioner is in Low Circumstances Humbly Pray your Honours to take his case into your wise Consideration and grant him shuch Relief as you in your Wisdom shall think proper as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray
Eph^m Baldwin

[Sworn to before Jonathan Hildreth. The house ordered it "to lay."—ED.]

[2-160] [*Petition relative to Support of William Loudon, wounded while firing a salute.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Court of General Sessions of the Peace within and for the County of Cheshire—

Humbly Shews the select men of Chesterfield that on the eight Day of November Last William Loudon a tranchant Person and Not an Inhabitant in this or as we can learn in any other town or Place in this state or any of the united States of america being a Native of Scotland and one that served the united States in the Late war, was grievously Wounded in attempting to fire a cannon on the arrival of his Excellency Gen^l Sullivan in this town and being a stranger and Not of Known abillity to Defray the charges of his care the s^d select men were obliged to engage for the same and accordingly the several Bills herewith exhibitid are charged against them, and it still appearing that the s^d Loudon has Not ability to Discharge the s^d Bills either for his Doctoring Nussing or Boarding which are as follows (viz)

| | |
|---|----------|
| Josiah Goodhue surgeon Bill as sworn to | £12, 5.0 |
| Doc: Oliver Athertons Bill ————— | 10, 5.2 |
| Doc: Joshua Tyler Bill ————— | 6, 10.2 |
| Amos Hails Esq ^r Bill for Board s ^d Loudon & wife at Putney | 6, 15.2 |
| Abner Harris Bill for Board and Nussing &c at Chesterfield | 5, 5.8 |

total 41, 1.2

the s^d men therefore Humbly Pray that your Hon^{rs} would be Pleased to take the foregoing matters under consideration that after your Hon^{rs} have adjusted the foregoing accounts & made such allowance as to your wisdom shall seem mete your Petitioners may be able to Lay the same Before his Excellency for Payment as the Law Directs and as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

Chesterfield June y^e 21th 1787

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Eleazer Jackson | } Select men for Chesterfield |
| Michael Cresey | |
| Benj ⁿ Haskell | |

[The accompanying bills show that Loudon was at Amos Hail's, in Putney, Vt., ten weeks, under the care of "Josiah Goodhue Jun^r," who amputated his arm; and at Abner Harris's, in Chesterfield, ten weeks and five days, under the care of "Joshua Tyler Surgeon," and "Oliver Atherton Physician." The Putney bills were sworn to before Noah Sabin, and the others before Michael Cresey, and the documents were forwarded, with the following certificate, to the legislature, the account allowed, and the amount paid to Solomon Harvey.—ED.]

[2-159]

To his Excellency John Sullivan Esq

This may certify that the Selectmen of Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire, exhibited the inclosed accounts, to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for said County in June last, which accounts were, by said Court, adjusted and allowed, and the Court ordered, that a Certificate thereof should be sent to your Excellency

Walpole Aug^t—1—1787

Attest Tho Sparhawk Clerk

[2-161] [*Petition for Incorporation of School.*]

To the Honab^{le} the Senate & House of Representatives in general Assembly Convened at Portsmouth on the 23^d Day of Decem^r instant within and for the State of New Hampshire—

Being sensible of the importance and advantage of promoting good literature among the youth And as we in this part of the State live at a Considerable Distance from any Semenary of Learning being encouraged by the Constitution we your humble petitioners beg leave to lay the following Petition before you,

Would inform you that a sufficient sum of Money has been raised by free Donation of the Petitioners to erect a House of sufficient bigness in the town of Chesterfield in which a Seminary may be kept and still have encouragement of further Assistance from the Liberality of many of the inhabitants of the Neighborhood towards forwarding the Design and therefore pray your Hon^{rs} to incorporate the subscribers hereto and their several Associates into a body corporate and politic subject to such regulations and form of Government as is Common in other Academies—As in Duty bound your Petitioners shall ever pray.

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| Abraham Wood | Solomon Harvey | } Committee |
| Moses Smith | Silas Richardson | |
| Zur Evans | | |

Subscribers Names

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| William Farr | Sam ^l Soper | Zur Evans |
| Simon Willard | Moses Smith | John Pratt |
| Abner Johnson | Solomon Harvey | Benjamin Wheeler |
| Eleazer Marble | Ol ^r Brown | Aaron Fisk |
| Arthur Latham | Jon ^a Fairwell | Zenas Fairbank |
| Abraham Wood | Silas Thompson | Will ^m Fairwell |
| Eleazer Pomeroy | Eph ^m Hubbard | John Bishop |
| Th ^o Metcalf | Abel Fletcher | Sam ^l Fletcher |
| Nath ^l Bingham | Martin Pomeroy | John Hooker |
| Ol ^r Atherton | Antipass Bouker | John Darling |
| John Brown | Willis Secomb | James Robertson |
| Will ^m Robertson | Paul Eager | Peter Hone |
| Oliver Hubbard | Martin Hildreth | Jesse Ware |
| Oliver Cobleigh Ju ^r | Amos Hubbard | Silas Richardson |
| Benj Haskell | Elisha Rockwood | Jarib Jackson |
| Ebn ^r Fletcher | | |

[Chesterfield Academy was incorporated by an act passed January 12, 1790, and Rev. Abraham Wood, Dr. Solomon Hervey, Moses Smith, Esq., Silas Richardson, Zur Evans, Simon Willard, and Abner Johnson, all of Chesterfield, were appointed trustees by the act.

In January, 1791, the trustees petitioned for the privilege of raising £1,000, by lottery, for the support of said academy, which was not granted, but an act was passed in 1808, and extended in 1814, allowing them to raise \$5,000, by lottery, for that purpose.—ED.]

[2-164] [*Petition of Josiah Hastings for a Ferry.*]

To the Honourable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of Josiah Hastings of Chesterfield in the County of Cheshire Humbly Sheweth That he has for several years last past kept a ferry over Connecticut River at a place a little below the southerly bound of Thomas his ferry and about one mile above the mouth of West River which has been and still is of great advantage to the publick and your petitioner conceives would still be of increasing advantage to the publick in general and the Town near in particular, provided a grant of a ferry should be made over that part of Connecticut River against said Chesterfield which runs between said Thomas's and the mouth of said West river it being in length about one mile and a half—

Your petitioner therefore prays your Honours to grant to him his heirs and assigns the exclusive Right of keeping a ferry over the part of s^d River above mentioned, forever hereafter under such Limitations and restrictions as to your honours may seem meet—and your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Chesterfield May 28th 1791—

Josiah Hastings

[June 14, 1792, the legislature granted “leave to bring in a bill,” and one granting the right was passed June 20th. —ED.]

—

[2-166] [*Relative to a Bridge over Connecticut River.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the General Court of the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition & Remonstrance of us subscribers Humbly shews that having been Informed by the Newspapers Printed at Keen that Rufus Graves & others Have Petitioned the Hon^{able} General Court for the exclusive Privilege of building a toll bridge over Connecticut River In Hinsdale against Brattleborough in the state of Vermont we Humbly confess that such a bridge over s^d River at the most Convenient Place would be of great Public utility But Beg leave to say that In our Humble opinion the place mentioned in the aforesaid Petition is not by far the most Convenient Place for s^d Bridge best to serve the Public But that a bridge over s^d River near Lt: Josiah Hastings Ferry in Chesterfield against s^d Brattleborough would much more convene the Public and therefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays that the s^d Hon^{able} Court would be Pleased to Grant unto

us your Humble Petitioners the exclusive Priviledge of building a toll Bridge over s^d River in s^d Chesterfield within such Limits and under such restrictions as shall be thought Proper : and that they may be Incorporated a body Politic and Invested with Powers necessary to carry the same Into effect

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Josiah Hastings | John Sergeant | Joseph Fuller |
| Benj Butterfield | Nathaniel Sartwell | Jonth ⁿ Hastings |
| Oliver Hastings | Pearley Harris | And ^w Hastings |
| Eldad Granger | Ebenezer Safford | Charles Wiggins |
| Jonathan Colburn | Moses Farr | Daniel Page Jr |
| Martin Warner | Jonathan Farr | John Harris |
| Amos Daws | Oliver Wheeler | Abner Johnson |
| Ezekiel Powers | Zur Evans | Amos Thomas |
| Eli Sergeant | Levi Sergeant | Levi Hastings |
| Noah Emmons | Noah Emmons Ju ^r | Jonathan Merril |
| Edman Farnsworth | Enoch Streeter | Eli Davis |
| Abel Stockwell | Israel Johnson | Zebediah Johnson |
| Jonah newhall | John Cobleigh Jr | Amos Smith |
| Moses Johnson | Eph ^m Wheeler 3 ^d | John Wheeler 2 ^d |
| Jon ^a Wheeler | Jonathan Davis | |

[A hearing was granted, and the petition "dismissed."
—ED.]

[Among the prominent men of Chesterfield was Hon. Levi Jackson, born June 29, 1772; graduated from Dartmouth college in 1799. He was a member of the state senate from 1812 to 1816, at which time he was elected a member of the governor's council. He died August 30, 1821.
—ED.]

CHICHESTER.

This township was granted May 20, 1727, to Nathaniel Gookin (Googins in the grant) and others, including the governor, council, and other state officers, the grant being signed by Lieutenant-Governor John Wentworth, and included territory, according to the charter, to the extent of eight miles square. See copy of charter in Vol. IX, p. 125.

By an act passed March 27, 1782, the northerly portion of the town was set off and erected into the town of Pittsfield. Union School District, comprising portions of Chichester and Epsom, was incorporated November 30, 1842, and an addition made in 1847.

Traces of Indian settlements were visible within fifty years, and stone implements have been frequently found. The land on the banks of the Suncook river was once a favorite place of the Penacooks for raising corn.

The first white settler is said to have been Paul Morrill, in 1758.]

[2-167] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1776.*]

Colony of New }
Hampshire } Chichester June the 10th 1776

At a Legal Meeting of the freeholders and Inhabitation of the Town of Chichester Met according to Notification Date of Warrant June the 1st 1776—

1^{ly} Voted Leut. Jonathan Stanyan Moderator to Govern s^d meeting—

2^{ly} Voted to have a Justice of the peace in s^d town—

3^d Voted Cap^t John Cram to Be a Justice of the peace in the County of Rockingham—

furthermore we whose names are here under written Being appointed a Committee of Safty for the town afores^d do Recomend the Said John Cram as a man Sutible for that Important Trust and we beg the honourable Court would Quallifye him for the Same

David Knowlton } Comitee
Jonathan Stanyan } of
Simeon Hilyard } Safty

[2-168] [*Capt. John Cram recommended, 1776.*]

Colony of New } To the Honourable President of the Con-
Hampshire } gress we your humble pettioners whose
names are here under written Being fully Sensable of the necessty of having a Justice of the peace in Chichester in the County of Rockingham for the due and impartial administration of Justice therein and that Cap^t John Cram of Said Chichester is fully quallified and accomplished for that important trust we humbly Beg Leave to Recommend him to your honours for that purpos and most Earnestly pray that your honours would be pleas^d to Constitute and apoint him a Justice of the peace for the County afors^d and your pettioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Chichester march 13th 1776

Nehemiah Leavat Wadleigh Cram Joseph Marston

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Nathaniel Tebbetts | John Chase | john Libbe |
| Thomas bickford | Jeremiah Garland | Willem Burgin |
| John Libbe juner | Ebenezer Carter | Jabez Tucker |
| Thomas Blake | Benjamen Lamper | Ebenezer Knowlton |
| Benjamen Thuston | John Blake | Jonathan Eaton |
| Dainel Eaton | Thomas Mason | Nathaniel Chase |
| HuBarT Smith | Joseph Clark | Jonathan Stanyan |
| Samll Philbrick | Isaac Libbee | Job Haskell |
| David Knowlton | Aquila Moffatt | John Fullonton |
| Dudley Lyford | John Worth | Samuel Daves |
| John Loverin | John Blake | Thomas Johnson |
| Jeremiah Sanborn | Joseph Purinton | |
| Ithiel Clifford | Jonathan Green | |

[2-169]

[*Resmonstrance to foregoing.*]

To the honourable Diligates of the Colony of New hampshire now seting at Exater we the subscribers Being freeholders and others Inhabitants of the town of Chichester humbly pray that you would not act apon A petition sent to you for Cap^t John Cram to Bee A Justis a pees in the town of Chichester Except he Bee Chosen by a vouat of the town
Chichester march 15th 1766

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Benjamin mason | Simeon Loverin | Simeon Hilyard |
| Benjamin Jackson | John Hilyard | Benjamin mason Jr |
| Elijah Ring | Stephen Lang | Samuel James |
| John Brown | Amos Blaso | Jonathan Leavitt |
| Edmund Rand Leav- | John Langmaid | Paul morrill |
| itt | Micaiah Merrill | Samuel Langmaid |
| James Morrill | masack haines | Edmund Rand |
| William Langmaid | Jacob Sanborn | Jedediah Stanyan |
| Theophilus Sanborn | Jonathan Edmans | Smith Morrill |
| Nathan Marden | David Brown | Jeremiah Sanborn |
| Dyer Hook | Nathan Brown | |

[2-170] [*Concerning Election of Representative, 1779.*]

A Petition.

To the honorable general assembly of the State of New hampshire Convened at Exeter on wednesday the 15th Dec^r Instant humbly Sheweth the Legal Inhabitants of the town of Chichester that whereas your honors Issued a precept to the

Selectmen of Epsom directing them to legally notify the Inhabitants of Epsom Chichester & Allenstown giving them fifteen Days notice to meet in Some Convenient place in their town to Ellect a Suitable person to Represent them in general assembly yet your Petitioners have not been notified agreeable to Said precept whereby we conceive ourselves greatly Injurd therefore humbly pray your honors would take this our petition under your wise consideration and order another precept to be Isued whereby your petitioners may Be legally notified to Chose a suitable person to represent us in general assembly for the year Current and your petitioners in Duty Bound will ever pray—

Chichester 20th Dec^r 1779

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Simon Knowles | Paul Morrill | James Morrill |
| micaiah morrill | Samuel Langmaid | William Langmaid |
| masack haines | Jonathan Leavitt | Jedediah Stanyan |
| Nathan Brown | Ezekiel morrill | William Chase |
| John Langmaid | Dyer Hook | Thomas Johnson |
| Theophilus Sanborn | Stephen Fellows | Joseph morrill |
| Smith Morrill | Richard Sargent | Joseph morrill J ^r |
| John Worth | Edmund Rand | Samuel Davis |
| Levi Stanyan | Samuel Davis Jun ^r | Daniel Sanborn |
| Caleb Davis | george Sargent | Nathaniel Wells |
| Moses Davis | william moses | |

[2-171] [*Concerning Class for Election of Representative.*]

State of Newhampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the Council and
 Rockingham Ss— } House of Representatives for said
 State in General assembly Convened at Exeter 18th Feb^r 1780
 The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the
 Town of Chichester in the County of Rockingham and State
 aforesaid Sheweth—

That the Said town of Chichester for a Number of years Last past have been Coupled or Joyned with the Towns of Epsom and allens Town in Choosing a member to Represent them at the General assembly and notwithstanding the town of Chichester is Larger and has more familys living in it than there is in Epsom and allenstown, both The precept has always heretofore been diverted to the town of Epsom and the meetings always held in Epsom and many of the Inhabitants of Chichester could not attend and so the Representative has ever been Chosen in the town of Epsom and we are Humbly of opinion that we have not had the priviledges in voting we ought to have had or what was the Design of Hon^{ble} Court

when we were coupled. had the precepts been sent to the towns of Chichester and Epsom alternately we should have Been Content Wherefore your petitioners Humbly pray that whereas the town of Chichester Consists of upwards of one hundred twenty Families they may have Liberty of sending a member by themselves without being Joyned with any other town or otherwise Relieved as your Honours in Your Great Wisdom shall Judge Best and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray &c

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| James Cram | Reuben Cram | James Garland |
| Daniel Sargent | John Blake jun ^r | John Eaton |
| [Illegible.] | Jonah Garland | Stephen Lang |
| Elisha Eaton | Samuel Robie | Simeon Loverin |
| Simeon Hilyard | Benj ^m Nudd | Benjamin Jackson |
| Jeremiah Sanborn | Sam ^l Jackson | John Blaso |
| Benj ^m mason | Benj ^m mason Jun ^r | Asahel Green |
| John Kenney | Isaac Libbee | Jonathan Eaton |
| Jacob Bachelder | Job Haskell | Edward Sargent |
| Daniel Eaton | Nathan White | Samuel Ring |
| Jonathan Fogg | Sam ^l Philbrick | Richard durgain |
| Timothy sanborn | Samuel James | Jonathan fogg Ju ^r |
| Nathanael Page | John Cram | Benjamen thusten |
| Thomas Blake | David Knowlton | Joshua Berry |
| Jabez Tucker | Benjamin Lamprey | william Durgen |
| Jeremiah Dow | John Tilton | Nath ^l Wells |
| Theophilus Brown | Aquila moffatt | eBanezer Barter |
| Joseph Yeaton | Jonathan Sargent | Elipheleat marston |
| wadligh Cram | Joseph Marston | Josiah white |
| Joseph mason | Hubartus Smith | Abraham Sanborn |
| Jon ^a Leavitt ju | thomas Bickford | |

[2-173] [*Selectmen requested to call a Town-Meeting.*]

Rockingham ss Chichester November y^e 24th 1781

To the Select men of the town of Chichester

Gentlemen wee the Subscribers Inhabitants and Free holders in the town of Chichester Desire you would be pleased to warn a meeting of all the Inhabitants of said town Quallified according to Law to vote in town affairs to meet at some Convenient place in said town as soon as may be to act on the following particulars (viz)

1st To Chuse a moderator to Govern said meeting

2^{dly} To see if the town will vote that the second and third

Division in said Town Shall be Sett off from Said town in a parish to be Invested with town priviledges as other towns in this State

3^{dly} To See if the town will Chuse a Committee to prefer a petition to the General Court of this State to Confirm the above vote

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Edward Sargant | John Cram | Jobe Haskel |
| Daniel Eaton | Nathan White | Robert Tibbets |
| Isaac Libbee | winthrop Smith | william munsey |
| Edmon Sanborn | James Sanborn | Reuben Cram |
| Josiah White | James brown | Jona garlon |
| Jonathan Brown | Jonathan fogg | Thomas Bickford |
| Daniel gilmon | Joseph morstan | Jonathan Dow |
| Ebenezer Barton | Josiah Barton | Benjamin Thurston |
| James Drake | John. Eaton | John Tilton |
| Elishar Eaton | willam Chase | John Blaso |
| Joseph goss | Jonathan Tinkers | Benjamin Nudd |
| Reuben towl Leavitt | Samuel Ring | Ithial Cliford |
| Ebenezer Prescott | Joshua Bery | |
| wadligh Cram | Samuel Philbrick | |

—

[2-172] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1781.*]

State of Newhampshire }
 Rockingham Ss } Chichester December 26th 1781 at a
 Leagal meeting of the Inhabitance of the town of Chichester
 met according to notyfication Date of warrant Decm the 12th
 1781

1Ly voted John Cram Esq^r be a moderator to govern said meeting—

2Ly voted that there Be a Commity Chosen on both Sids of the town to Divide Said town

voted that william Chase John Cram Esq^r Joseph morril Simeon Hilyard Dyer Hook Elijah Ring and Captm Jonathan Leavitt be a Commitee to Divide the town of Chichester—

Chichister Decr 26th—1781 then we the Subscribers a Comitee have agreed in Dividing the town into two Parishes

1Ly that the whole of the Land in the Second and third Division below the River and all the third Division above s^d River Shall be to the north Side of the town

2Ly that the South Side and north Side of the town Shall Prefix the Centers for their meeting houses within three weeks from this Date

3Ly that those People that Live on Either Side of the Dividing Line Shall have Liberty to Poal themselves and their Estates into Either Side of the Dividing Line that they Shall think best any time within three months after that the Centers are to be Perfix^t in the South and north Parts of the town as above Dated

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| John Cram will ^m Chase Simeon Hilyard Jonathan Leavitt Jun. | } | Committee to Divide the town into two Parishes |
|---|---|--|

2Ly Put to vote to see if the town will Except of what the Commitee hath agreed upon and Signed in Dividing of the town and Past as a vote

3Ly voted that the Second Division of Land beloo Suncook River in S^d Chichester with that Part of the third Division beloo S^d River and the Six Ranges in Said third Division above Said Suncook River with the Priviliges and Preportion of Publick Lands belonging to Said Divisions may be incorporated into a Town or Parrish by themselves and invested with all town Priviliges as other towns in this State—

4Ly voted that their may be three months Liberty allowed for any Person or Persons to Pool themselves and their Estates Either Side of the Dividing Line that way they shall see best after the Centers are Prefixed—

5Ly voted that John Cram Esqu^r william Chase and Captn Jonathan Leavitt a Committee to Prefer a Petition to the General Court of Said State to Confirm the above votes

a trew Cobby from the minutes

per Dyer Hook town Clerk

[2-174 [Concerning a Division of the Town.]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire, in General Assembly convened at Exeter January A Dom. 1782—

The Petition of the Inhabitants freeholders, residing in the first & fourth Divisions in the Township of Chichester Humbly Sheweth—That a meeting of the Inhabitants of Chichester was called by the Select Men of said Town in consequence of a petition of the Inhabitants who reside in the Second and third Division in said Town for the purpose of severing or dividing the

said Town into two distinct Parishes—That at said Meeting a Major vote was obtained in favour of said Petition—That for the conveniency of the Town, your Petitioners humbly conceived and do conceive that an equal division of the Town into two Parishes would be necessary if the same could be properly effected—That those said Petitioners have obtained by the aforesaid vote more than an equal division without the voice of the Propriety of said Township who have never been consulted thereon, and have not as yet given up the reins of Government into the hands of said Town—

That if a Petition should be preferred to your Honours in order to confirm the aforesaid Vote, that your Honours would take this our Petition under your wise consideration and direct Such Measures as shall be most conducive to the Interest and welfare of said Town—And Your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray &c

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| John Worth | Edmund Rand Leav- | Edmund Rand |
| Levi Stanyan | itt | Nathan Marden |
| Jonathan Edmunds | John Langmaid | Simeon Loverin |
| Joseph morrill | Smith Morrill | Dyer Hook |
| Peter Hook | william moses | Danill Sanborn |
| Paul morrill | Ezekiel morrill | william Langmaid |
| Samuel Langmaid | Jonathan Leavitt | James morrill |
| Samuel James | William Seavey | Samuel Daves |

[2-175] [*Concerning Division of the Town.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened at Exeter Jan^{ry} 3^d 1782.

Humbly Sheweth John Cram Esq^r William Chase and Jonathan Leavitt a Committee for and in behalf of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Chichester in the County of Rockingham in Said State—

That the Said Freeholders and Inhabitants of Chichester have at a Legal Town meeting Voted that the Second Division of Lands in Said Township below Suncook river with That part of the third Division below Said river and the Six ranges in Said Third Division above Said Suncook river with the Priviledges & Proportion of Public Lands belonging to Said Divisions may be Incorporated into a town or Parish by themselves, and Invested with all Town Priviledges as other Towns in this State, and that there may be allowed three months Liberty for any Person or Persons to Poll themselves & their Estates to

Either Side of the Dividing Line that way they Shall Se best after the Centres of Each Town or Parish are Prefixed Wherefore Your Petitioners Humbly Pray your Hon^{rs} to Pass an Act to Incorporate the Said Lands and Inhabitants thereof into a Distinct Town or Parish by the Name of PITTSFIELD—and to Invest & Enfranchise them with all the Powers, Priviledges and Immunities that any other Town or Parish in this State Have Hold and Enjoy, with the Liberty of Polling as aforesaid; and Your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

John Cram
William Chase
Jonathan Leavitt Jun^r

State of }
New Hamp^r } In the House of Representatives March 22^d :
1782—

Upon hearing and considering the foregoing Petition

Voted that the prayer thereof be granted with the following alterations and amendments (viz) instead of Six ranges in the third Division above Suncook River to allow only five ranges in said third Division, and that no polling shall be allowed and that the Tract of Land which they Petitioned to have set off by the name of Pittsfield be sett off as a Separate Town and called by that name and to have all Town priviledges distinct from Chichester except in the Choice of Representatives, and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

Sent up for Concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In Council the same day read & concurred

J Pearson D Sec^r

[The result of the controversy was the setting off of the north part of the town, and incorporating the same into the town of Pittsfield, by an act passed March 27, 1782.—ED.]

[2-176] [*Request to be Classed with Pittsfield for Representative.*]

State of New hampshire

Rockingham Ss—

To the Honorable Counsel and general Court of Said State the Humble Petition of us the Subscribers Selectmen for Chichester and Pittsfield whereas according to the establishment of the new Constitution or Plan of government it was agreed up-

on that that town that hath one hundred and fifty Leagal votters Should have the Liberty of Choosing and Sending a member to the general Court and whear one town hant that number of Leagal voters it was agreed upon that two towns Shall be Cuppled together we your Humble Pettisonars Select men for the townes of Said Chichester and Pittsfield humbly Desire according to the Desire of the inhabitance of Said towns that we may be Joyned together and have the Liberty of Choosing and Sending one member for both towns and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray and So forth

Chichester December the 30 Day y^e 1783

| | |
|------------------|--|
| William Seavey | } Select men for Chichester and Pittsfield |
| Dyer Hook | |
| Jonathan Perkins | |
| James Drake | |

State of }
New hampsh^{re} } In House of Representatives Jan^y 2^d 1784

Upon Reading & Considering the foregoing petition
Voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that Northwood proposed to be joined to Pittsfield be Class^d to Epsom & Allens-town

Sent up for Concurrence

John Dudley Speaker

In Council the same day read & Concurred—

E Thompson Sec^y

[R. 207]

Concord June 15, 1786.

The Bounty advanced by Chichester to Zebulon Colbie a private 6th Co, 1st Reg^t amounts to eighteen pounds eighteen shillings, which has been deducted from his depreciation to 1780.

Ex^d per Josiah Gilman Jun^r

[2-177] [*Elijah Ring recommended for Justice of the Peace.*]

State of New }
Hampshire } To his Exelancy the president the honor-
Rockingham ss } able Councle in and for the State of New
hampshire for the year 1786 whereas your humble petitionars
Inhabitants of Chichestere are Distitute of a Justice of the
peace to tranceact that business in the aforesaid town of Chi-

chester therefore your humble petitionars humbly Desire your Exelancy and honors Would appoint and Commision Ensign Elijah Ring as Justice of the peace In and for the aforesaid town of Chicher and in this appointment your humble Petiti- onars as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Dated at Chichester this thirteenth Day of July in the year 1786.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nathaniel Batcheldor | Abraham true | Jacob Sanborn |
| thomas Lake Jun ^r | Joseph Sanborn | Jeremiah Sanborn |
| Benjamin Jackson | John Fellowes | Jonathan fellowes |
| thomas Lak | Edmund Rand | John Langmaid |
| Simeon Loverin | Samuel Daves | Samuel Daves Jun ^r |
| Caleb Daves | Jonathan Edmunds | |

[2-178] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-Resident Lands.*]

The State of New Hampshire.—

To the Honorable Senate & house of Representatives of Said State convened at Concord the tenth Day of June Anno Domini 1791.—

The Petition of Abraham True & Nathaniel Morrill—Selectmen of Chichester in the County of Rockingham, humbly sheweth that the Inhabitants of the Town of Chichester labor under a number of disadvantages;—arising from the newness of their incorporation and scarcity of money;—one of which disadvantages is their inability to carry on and finish a house lately began in Said Chichester for publick worship—and at the same time to make a publick road necessary for the convenience of the Inhabitants of Chichester;—as well as for other Citizens from Capt Reuben Kimbals, in Concord leading through Chichester, to the Portsmouth Road, thro' Epsom.—

Wherefore your Petitioners, in behalf of the Town of Chichester, pray your Honors to take their Circumstances into your wise Consideration; and pass an Act to empower them to assess and raise by a Tax of two pence P^r Acre, on all the Non-Residents Lands laying in said Chichester:—which would enable them, both to go on with building their meeting house, & to make and finish the aforesaid Road.—

and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Abraim True | } Selectmen for the Town of Chichester |
| Nathanil morrill | |

State of New Hampshire—

In the House of Representatives Dec. 7th 1791

Upon hearing and considering the within petition voted that the prayer thereof be granted & that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly provided the money be laid out for repairing the highways only—

Sent up for Concurrence

William Plumer Speaker

In Senate the same day read & concurred

J Pearson Sec^y

CLAREMONT.

The town was granted October 26, 1764, to Colonels Josiah Willard and Samuel Ashley, of Winchester, and sixty-seven others, among whom were Colonel Joseph and Jonathan Hammond, of Swanzey, and others from that vicinity. Colonels Ashley and Hammond were officers in the French and Indian war, the former of whom settled in the town.

Settlements were made here by Moses Spafford and David Lynde, in 1762; in 1767 others came from Farmington, Hebron, and other towns in Connecticut. The early settlers were about equally divided between the Episcopal and Congregational denominations. Of the adherents to the former was Samuel Cole, a graduate of Yale college in 1731; he was a prominent teacher, and conducted Episcopal service in town until the settlement of Rev. Ranna Cossit in 1773.

The governors' reservation, in the south-west corner of the town, was by him granted to Col. Joseph Wait, who was a captain in Rogers's Rangers in the French war, and commanded a regiment in the Revolutionary war until he died, in October, 1776.

Some of the other prominent men of the town in the latter part of the last century were Hon. Sanford Kingsbury (see following papers); Hon. George B. Upham, Rep. 7th Cong.; Hon. Caleb Ellis, Rep. to 9th Cong., the latter of whom died in 1816, aged 49. Hon. William Jarvis, U. S. Consul to Spain 1810 and 1811, imported the first Merino sheep into this country, with perhaps one exception.

By an act approved December 29, 1828, a tract of land was severed from Unity and annexed to Claremont

The town is favored with railroad accommodations, and is a substantial farming and manufacturing place.

[*Charter Records, vol. 4, p. 171.*]

[*Rev. Ranna Cossitt collated to the Church in Claremont.*]

Province of New Hampshire.

By His Excellency John Wentworth Esq. Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in & over said Province & C.—To the Reverend Ranna Cossitt first ordained minister of the Gospel in Communion with the Church of England at Claremont in the Province of New Hampshire aforesaid.

By virtue of his Majestys Royal Commission appointing me Governor and Commander in Chief of this Province and the special authority thereby given me to collate any Person or Persons to any Churches Chapell or other ecclesiastical Benefices within said Province.—I do hereby Collate you the said Ranna Cossitt to the Church of Claremont aforesaid with all ecclesiastical Benefices to the same by law & right appertaining—*To Have & to Hold* the same during your said ministry—

In Testimony whereof I have caused the Seal of said Province to be hereunto affixed this 28th Day of June in the 13th year of His Majestys reign Anno Domini 1773.

J. Wentworth.

By his Excellencys command

Theodore Atkinson Sec'y.

[He was also collated to Haverhill the same date. Rev. Mr. Cossitt was ordained by the Bishop of London early in the year 1773, he having sailed for England in December, 1772, for that purpose. He settled at Claremont as the first Episcopal minister of that place, and remained until sent to the island of Cape Breton in 1785. He died at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, in 1815, aged 75. At the time of his settlement in Claremont there were but few church people in the western part of this state; meetings for the reading of the service, and printed sermons, had been held in Alstead, Claremont, Springfield, Vt., Haverhill, and Hanover. At Claremont the service had been under the charge of Samuel Cole, Esq., a schoolmaster, who gave good instruction in the service, and in singing. (Rev. Mr. Cossitt's letter, 1773.)—ED.]

[2-179] [*Claremont Committee of Safety to the General Court, 1776.*]

To the Worthy and Honourable Members of the State of New Hampshire, The Committee of Safety of the Town of Claremont Beg leave to acquaint your Honours that there are Thirty or more Men that are of the Inhabitants of s^d Town that are as they say Neuters in the affairs of the present day with respect to the Contest Between Great Britain and the Coloneys and under this pretence they do not attend on any Military Duty among us nor Bear any part in the War—

We beg leave further to inform the State that althoug Cap^{tn} Benjⁿ Sumner was by Order of the Committee Chozen by the Congress of New Hampshire Confined to the Limits of the Town of Claremont yet the s^d Sumner doth frequently go from Town to Town upon his own and others Buisness without leave from any Committee and in Open defiance of the Committees and the Congress.—and Furthermore we beg leave to Inform your Honours that the abovementioned Neuters have not paid any Regard to the Proclamation for Fasts or Thanksgivings for years past as we know of and the Rev^d M^r Cosset has not thought fit to read them to his people—

But these Neuters have many of them been seen about their work on Such solemn days, and these Thirty or more did utterly refuse to Sign the Resolves of the Congress when offered them and gave no Reasons for their refusal but they would not Fight any way yet are not quakers but chiefly of the church of England Except Cap^{tn} Sumner, and all the reason that he has seen fit to give the Committee is that when the Committee that Confined him were Chosen the Government acted as a Congress

But now that they act as a free State and so he says that he is free from that Order—

And we are sorry to say that we see no reason to think that any of the persons that were confined to s^d Town by the Committee appointed by the Congress, are now any more friendly to the cause of America than they were before they were Confined to the Town

The Committee of Safety of the Town of Claremont in the State of New Hampshire, Beg leave to present the following Petitions to this State and beg that they may be considered at the next Session or as soon as may be—

First your Humble petitioners Desire that something may be don by which those Neuters in s^d Town may be brought to do their Military Duty at Home, and also to Bear their Just part in the War abroad either in their own Persons or by hiring others or by paying A fine on their refusal, or any way or

ways that in your Wisdom and Goodness your Honours may think fit—

there being so many that Excuse themselves from Serving their Country under such pretences that it proves a Temptation to others to plead neutrality and neglect the Interest of their Country and so weaken the common cause

Secondly we Humbly desire that some measures may be taken by which such persons may be brought to pay due Regard to the Authority of the State with respect to Fasts and Thanksgivings that the Godly may not be grieved nor the wicked grow bold in Sin by such bad examples.

Thirdly your Humb^e Petitioners desire that something may be done as in your Wisdom and Goodness you shall think best to prevent the Prophanation of the Holy Sabbath of the Lord which is much Prophaned at this Day in this part of this State not only by wayfaring men, but by Persons traveling on the publick Roads from place to place on the Sabbath and bearing Burdens & driving Teams on their own private Buisness—to the dishonour of God, & the grief of the Godly and we have reason to think that this is one of the morral Causes of Gods Controversy with this People at this day thus we rest nothing doubting but wise and Just measures will be taken to Relieve all our Grievonses—

Claremont Decem^{br} y^e 9, 1776

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Stephen Higbe | } Committee of Safety |
| Barnabes Ellis | |
| Lemuel Hubbard | |
| Elihu Stevens | |
| Mathias Stone | |
| Thomas Goodwin | |
| Jacob Rice | |
| William osgood | |

[2-182]

[*Relative to Elihu Stevens.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the General assembly of the State of New Hampshire

The Subscribers Inhabetents of the Town of Claremont Humbly Shews that the Publick affairs of Said Town are in a Grate measure Retarded for want of a Proper Officer the method that Some Town in this State have Taken for Remedy in Such a Case and there Success Semed fairly to Point out to your Petitioners that to be the best Mode of Redress the Inhabetents of Claremont Assembled to Gather for the Like Purpose and agreed in a Very Large majority To Nomenate M^r

David Baits to be a Just^s of the Peice for the County of Cheshire; M^r Baits was soon Informed of the Nomination and Desired Som time to Deliberate What Answer to Give the Town Consented att the Expiration of Ten Days M^r Baits Returned for Answer that he Could Not Accept of Said Trust and Desired the Town to Proseed to a New Nomination the Town Proceeded and Nominated our Worthy Representative Elihue Stevins whoo after being much urged by the Inhabetents Was Pleased to accept of our Nomenation and Was Desired to Lay the Same before the Honor^{bl} General Assembly Expecting to have him Quallefyd for a Justis of the Peice for the County of Cheshire but to oure grate Sirprize as well as Grate Dam- aige wee find our Request Not Granted and are Alarmd to hear that an Opposition arose from a Quarter to us so unexpected we Cannot account for Such Conduct unless from a Desire in the Opposer to Occupy the Birth wee think him Totally unfitt to fill Wherefore youre Petitioners Humbly Pray that our Last Nomination may Stand and that oure Representative may be Quallefyd for Said office as Soon as may be; and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Pray

Claremont may 11—A D 1777

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| John west | Olever Ellsworth | Lemuel Hubbard |
| Beriah murray | Jonas Stewart | Oliver Cook |
| John Spencer | Samuel Lewis | Ephraim french |
| Ben ^m Towner | Sam ^l Ashley | T Sterne |
| Benj ^a Sumner | Asa Jones | moses Spafford |
| Joseph hubbard | Jer ^m Spencer | Gidion Luis |
| John Sprague | Edward Goodwin | Barnabas Ellis |
| jonathan packer | Daved Adkins | Gideon Kirtland |
| Joseph Clark | Patricke field | Joseph Taylor |
| Seth Lewis | John Peake | Thomas Goodwin |
| Stephen Higbe | Ebenezer Fielding | Amasa Fuller |
| W ^m Sumner | W ^m m ^c Coye | |

[2-180]

[*Record of Marriage.*]

M^r Henry Stevens and the Widow Martha Wait was married in February the 26, 1777 the above is a true Coppy of Records from the Town Book of Claremont

Att David Bates Town Clerk

[2-181]

[*Relative to David Bates.*]

To the Honb^e the General Assembly of the State of New-hampshire Genteelmen

We have been informed By our Worthy Representative; that

the Honb^{le} Gen^l Assembly have Lately ben informed that the Nomination of M^r David Bates was Renued by the Inhabitants of the Town of Claremont Last March; which in some measure is Absolutely faults and Absurd; thair was Nothing said in the Warning Realitive to that affair Nither in Town meeting; till our Town affairs were all transacted and peopel Cheifly Dispersed; it is truth the affair was mentioned after the meeting was over; and we believe we may say their was Not more than Eight Votes; for to have the Nomination Renued which was Contrary to the minds of the peopel in General; these are undeniabel facts We therefor Leve it with your Honnours to do us Justis in this affair We are with Submtion your Honnours most Humble Servants

Lemuel Hubbard Comit^{es} Clark

Claremont Oct^r 11th 1777

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Barnabas Ellis | } | Committee for the Town of Claremont |
| Stephen Higbe | | |

[R. 208]

These are to certify, whom it may concern, that Lieut Joseph Taylor of Claremont, being a Gentleman well acquainted with the Canadians, understanding both their manner and language, entered the service of the United States of America by the desire of Lieut. Col. Joseph Wait, & did actually go to Canada where he was of great service as an interpreter, & continued there untill after the retreat from Quebec as his pass from Gen^l Arnold will show; for which service he has never received any reward.—Therefore by his desire we whose names are under written send this Certificate to the Gentlemen Committee of War, Submitting of it to their Superior Judgment, whether s^d Taylor is not justly entitled to a reward for his good services

Claremont May 26th 1777.

A Hibbard. Joseph York J^r Reuben Spencer
Jeremiah Spencer

To the Committee of War for the State of N. Hampshire

[R. 209] [*Joseph Taylor's Petition, 1778.*]

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire.

The memorial of Joseph Taylor of Claremont in the state

aforesaid humbly sheweth,—Whereas your humble Petitioner induced by the encouragement of Colonel Wright [Colonel Wait, probably] of Claremont did engage in the year 1776 on an expedition to Canada with a view to enlist a Company of Canadians, as your humble Petitioner was acquainted with the People and language of s^d Province. In prosecution of which plan He exerted Himself and doubtless should have been successful had not affairs in that Province taken such a sudden & unexpected turn, which entirely defeated the aforesaid design—And whereas your humble Petitioner was five Months in the service of the united States, in which He sustained considerable expense and damage, which, tho' Col. Wright, engaged to see compensated; yet his death has prevented, and nothing as yet has been received—This is therefore humbly to solicit the Honorable Assembly to take y^e matter aforesaid under your consideration and attention and in your prudence and wisdom judge what may be an equivalent compensation for s^d services.—And your humble Memorialist as in duty bound shall ever pray—

Claremont February 5th 1778—

Joseph Taylor

The above named Joseph Taylor appeared and made Solemn oath to the above memorial before me

Elihu Stevens Justice peace

[In H. of Rep., March 6, 1778, a committee was appointed to consider the matter; they reported that Mr. Taylor ought to be "Alowed and paid for four and an half months service at 40/ per month," but the house voted that it should lay until next session.—ED.]

[2-184] *Relative to Town Officers, Taxation, etc., 1782.*]

The Honorable the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire. We Your Humble Petitioners Inhabtants of the Town of Claremont would Beg leave to represent to Your Honors, that We ever had, and still have a disposition to Demean ourselves as Peaceable Citizens of the State and are desirous to Afford every Assistance in our Power that shall tend to the Weal and Tranquility thereof, and that shall best serve to promote the Common Cause in general, but sensible we are, that the several Requisitions from the Honorable Court of New Hampshire, wherein We were called upon for Men and Moneys have not and cannot at present be complyd with as

their is no proper Officers in s^d Town to take Charge of and Prosecute them to Effect. Your Petitioners would further beg leave to represent to Your Honors, that before the Usual Time of Holding our Annual Town Meeting, their was Suitable Application made to proper Authority to Warn a meeting of s^d Town for the purpose of Chusing Town Officers, the Town met at time and place specified in the Warning and proceeded to the Choice of Officers as the Law directs, and with much difficulty after several Adjournments had our Officers Elected; when s^d Officers were call'd upon to Qualify themselves to serve as Selectmen for the Town, they declined taking the Oath that is required by Law as a Necessary Qualification for a Man to serve in that Office, and still do decline taking s^d Oath. And Your Petitioners would further beg leave to represent to Your Honors, that at present their appears a majority in the Town that would Act in favour of those that would not Qualify themselves to Serve as Town Officers they thinking or Supposing that the Oath that is required to be Unconstitutional, for which reasons We have not nor cannot have any proper Officers in s^d Town to Transact our Publick Matters relative to the State, and thereby are Utterly Unable in and of themselves to Afford that Assistance that is required, and would Voluntarily be complyd with, if their could be any Measure or Measures Pointed out to them whereby a Just Estimate of their Estates might be Taken, their Proportions Ascertained, and proper Officers to receive them. We Ask for Ourselves, we Ask not for the Town as We have not their Voice in the matter. Therefore Your Petitioners begs that Your Honors would take the Above matter into their wise Consideration and Grant them relief by pointing out to them some way or other whereby their Proportionable part of the Taxes may be paid and they properly secured therefor. All which is submitted to Your Honors Wise Consideration, and Your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray

Claremont June 1st 1782—

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gideon Kirtland | Elihu Stevens Ju. | Rowell Stevens |
| Thomas Jones | Henry Stevens | Patrick Field |
| John West | Joseph Ives | Joel matthews |
| Gideon Ellis | Abner Matthews | Jesse matthews |
| David Matthews | Timothy Pearsons | Josiah Rich |
| John Sprague | T. Sterne | Gideon Lewis |
| Elihu Stevens | Barnabas Ellis | Sam ^l Ashley |
| San ^d Kingsbery | Nath ^{el} Goss | Oliver Cooke |
| Jeremiah Spencer | John Peckers | Levi Higbe |
| R. Hinds | Stephen Marks | Benj ⁿ Towner |

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Stephen Higbe | Joseph Taylor | Ebenezer Fielding |
| Daniel Ford | Oliver Ellsworth | |
| Beriah murray | Josiah Stevens | |

[2-185] [*Relative to the Charter of the Town.*]

The Honorable the General Assembly of the State of New Hamshire. Your Humble Petitioners would beg leave to represent to your Honors that in Consequence of an Act of this State that was Passed in March 1780 wherein it was required that the several Charters of the Towns in the State should be carried in to the Secretary's Office in Order to be recorded, their has been frequent applications made to the Proprietors Clarke of the Town of Claremont for the Charter of s^d Town and never has nor could be Obtained since s^d Act was passed it being mislaid, or by some Illminded Person Conveyed away, by which means the good People of s^d Town are liable to be Injured in their Property and no remedy to be had by Law. Your Petitioners therefore begs that your Honors would take the above matter into their Wise Consideration and Grant them relief by Establishing the Copy of s^d Charter now in the Proprietors Clark's Office untill the Original can be found, All which is submitted to Your Honors wise Consideration And Your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray

Claremont May 30th 1782

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Beriah murray | Elihu Stevens | Josiah Rich |
| John Peckers | Jeremiah Spencer | Nath Goss |
| Jacob Roys | Sam ^l Ashley | Moses Spafford |
| San ^d Kingsbery | Barnabas Ellis | |

[2-186] [*Barnabas Ellis's Deposition concerning Charter.*]

The Dipposition of Barnabas Ellis of Lawfull Age testifieth and Saith that Sumtime in the month of october or November in the year one thousan seven hundred and Eighty I went to Cap^t Benjamin Sumners with others to Serch for the propriaters charter of the town of Claremont but found Nothing but the propriaters book of Records furthermore the Deponant Saith not

Claremont September 16 AD 1782

Barnabas Ellis

Cheshire ss } September the Sixteenth AD 1782 then the above Named Barnabas Ellis Personally appeared and made Solum oath to the above written before me

Elihu Stevens } Justice peace

[2-183] [*Joseph Hubbard's Deposition, 1782.*]

Joseph Hubbard of Lawful age Testifieth & Saith that Sum time in the month of November in the Year one thousand seven hundred & Eighty acordind to the Best of my Remembarance I Went to Capt Sumner with Esq Stephens & Barnibas Ellis & my Brother George Hubbard to Get the Charter of Said town of Claremont in order to Get it Recorded aGreable to an act of this State But Cap^t Sumner was Not at Home wee Asked mrs Sumner for the Charter & She went & Brought the Propriertors Book of ReCords wee told Her that it was the orignal Charter that We Wanted She Said that there Was No other Charter in the House But that & Had Not Been for Sumtime Wee then Serched the Book to See If the Charter was Not in the Book But Could Not find it for it was Not in the Book & furthermore the Deponant saith Not

Claremont September: 16 AD 1782

Joseph Hubbard

State of New
hampshire }
Cheshire ss }

September the Sixteenth AD 1782

then the above Named Joseph Hubbard personally appeared and made Solum oath to the above written before me

Elihu Stevens } Justice peace

[2-187] [*A List of Ratable Polls, 1783.*]

A Return of the Inhabitants of Clermont of twenty one years of age & upwards paying for themselves a Poll Tax Made this 20th of Decbr 1783

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Stephen Higbee | Charles Higbee | Levi Higbee |
| Dan ^l Ford | Stephen Marks | Tho ^s Goodwin |
| Cap ^t Cook | Paul Cook | John Peck |
| Joseph Taylor | Ashbel Dickinson | William Jones |
| Francis Beaty | Josiah Rich | John Pickins |
| William B. Sumner | Daniel Warner | Daniel Warner J ^r |
| Assa Jones Ju ^r | M ^r Eddy | Amos Snow |
| Benj ^a Sumner | Jacob Rice | Jacob Rice Jun ^r |
| Benj ^a Towner | Levi Pardie | Ashur Robinson |
| Beriah Murray | Josiah Hatch | Ol ^r Ellsworth |
| Jonas Steward | Jeremiah Spencer | Barnabas Ellis |
| M ^r Fielding | Tho ^s Sterne | Sanford Kingsbury |
| Gideon Lewis | John Spencer | Joseph York |
| Christopher York | Gershom York | Patrick Field |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Samuel Ashley | Samuel Thomas | Eleazer Clarke |
| Ol ^r Ashley | Samuel Ashley J ^r | Moses Spafford |
| Asa Jones | M ^r Meacham | M ^r Meacham J ^r |
| David Bates | Matthias Stone | Samuel Stone |
| David Stone | Edward Ainsworth | Edward Ainsworth |
| John Goss | Nath ^l Goss | J ^r |
| Amariah Ainsworth | Eleaze ^r Clark J ^r | Ezra Jones |
| David Bucknam | M ^r Bucknam | Benj ^a Clark |
| Jo ^s Willson | M ^r Osgood | ——— Holmes |
| Amos Conant | W ^m Strobridge | M ^r Osgood J ^r |
| Ol ^r Tuttle | Abner Mathews | George Strobridge |
| M ^r Cleveland | Joel Mathews | Ambrose Cossitt |
| James Alden | Ebenez ^r Judd | John Sprague |
| Reuben Petty | M ^r Mathews | Benj ^m Alden |
| ——— Warner | Jo Holmes | M ^r Mathews J ^r |
| M ^r Twichell | M ^r Judd | M ^r Green |
| Enoch Judd | Benj ^o Tyler | M ^r Judd J ^r |
| W ^m M Coye | Abel Batchelor | John Strobridge |
| Jo ^s Ives | John Hitchcock | Tim ^o Grannis |
| David Dodge | Moses Russel | John West |
| Henry Stevens | Roswell Stevens | Elihu Stevens] |
| Ichabod Hitchcock | Tho ^s Jones | Elihu Stevens J ^r |
| M ^r Sperry | Abner Meigs | M ^r Fisher |
| Abel Munross | M ^r Washburn | Ebenez ^r Edson |
| Benj ^a Leets | David Rich | Doct ^r Steel |
| Jon ^a Parker | Sam ^{ll} Atkins | Bill Barns |
| Dan ^{ll} Atkins | Tim ^o Atkins | M ^r Belfield |
| Cap ^t Catlin | Dan ^{ll} Curtis | M ^r Atkins |
| Abel Rice | Gideon Ellis | Amaziah Knights |
| Tho ^s Duston | Tim ^o Dustin | Samuel Bates |
| Nehemiah Rice | Jeremiah Peck | Eben ^r Rice |
| Asa Leets | M ^r Judd | Eph ^m Tyler |
| Eph ^m Peterson | Benj ^a Peterson | Isaac Morgan |
| Zebel Thomas | Seth Lewis | Amasa Peterson |
| Z. Thomas | Cornelius Brooks | Jn ^o Thomas |
| M ^r Andross | Amasa Andross | Raynor Leets |
| John Clark | Ethan Clark | Jo ^s Clark |
| Ebenz ^r Brewer | Asa Stearns | Dan ^{ll} Stearns |
| Jon ^a York | W ^m York | M—Andross |
| Sam ^{ll} Lewis | James Goodwin | M ^r Walker |
| Comfort Towner | M ^r Sison | Hezekiah Rice |

The before gowing Names are Inhabitants of said and all that I Can Recollect Returned by me the Subscriber one of the Inhabitants of said Town

Concord 20 Dec^m 1783

Ben Sumner

[R. 210]

Received of Cap^t Sam^l Ashley a Hire of 100 dollars for a Soldier During the war in the Servis of the New Hampshire Line for the Town of Claremont

Jan^y 17—1880

Joseph Gilman

[R. 211]

Claremont March y^e 26th 1784.

To the Treasurer of the State of N. H.

Kind Sir pray send me by y^e hand of Ben Sumner Capt & Representative of y^e Town of Claremont—the whole of the Wages Due to me from the State for my service in the Continental Army & his Receipt shall Discharge you for so much as you send me

Solomon Harris

[R. 212] [*Abstract of Reuben Spencer's Petition.*]

[In a petition to the general assembly, dated Claremont, May 28, 1784, Reuben Spencer states that he was a soldier in Capt. Oliver's Co., Reed's Reg't, in 1776, and, while on guard, fell on the ground, injuring his left knee in such a manner that it was incurable, and he was obliged to have his leg amputated. He asks for an allowance, and was placed on the half-pay roll.—ED.]

[R. 216] [*S. G. Allen's Order,—Soldier.*]

To the Committee on Claims for N. Hampshire,

I was a Recruit in the first battallion in the N. Hampshire Line Cap^t Gilmans Company and Recruited for the Town of Claremont have Received what is my due as by my Receipts will appear—except from the State of N. Hampshire—you will be pleased to pay to Cap^t Benjamin Sumner all my back arer-eges and his Receipt shall be your Discharge from your

Test Samuel Green Allen

Claremont Nov^m 16th 1784

paid him all that is due from the State

[R. 217]

To the Honorable Senit and House of Representatives of the
State of N. Hampshire—

Humbly Sheweth Benjamin Sumner of Claremont for and in
behalf of the Town; that Sam^l Green Allin; and Amos
Ames, ware Recruits During the late war Hired into serves by
the Inhabitants of said Town and as they are Returned for no
other Town, Begg's the above named soldiers may be Counted
and Placed to the Cota of said Claremont as your Petitioner in
Duty Bound Shall Pray

Benjⁿ SumnerConcord Oct^o 28th 1785—

[The town was credited for Samuel Green Allen, by the
legislature.—ED.]

[R. 214] [*Jeremiah Spencer's Scouting Party, 1780.*]

The Honorable the General Court of the State of New
Hampshire Your Humble Petitioner would beg leave to rep-
resent to your Honors that in August in the year 1780 it was
reported to your Petitioner that there was a number of the En-
emy from Canada in this and the adjacent Towns, and that they
had taken as a Prisoner an Inhabitant of the Town of Windsor,
In consequence of which report He took under his Command
(being then a Lieut of the Militia) Twenty four men and went
in pursuit of the Enemy and after three days search in the
woods, found Bewil & Johns, Two Lieutenants in the British
Army who fell into His Hands as prisoners of War, with whom
he was detained Three days after they were taken with the men
under his Command, and that your Petitioner never has direct-
ly nor Indirectly rec^d any Pay for his aboves^d Service, therefore
begs that your Honors would order him a Sum of Money that
shall be adequate to his said Services and Expences—and your
Petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray

Claremont Jan^{ry} 29th 1785

Jeremiah Spencer

[R. 215] [*Roll of Jeremiah Spencer's Scouting Party.*]

| Mens Names | N ^o | Days | Horses | Mens Names | N ^o | Days | Horses |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------|--------|---------------------------------|----------------|------|--------|
| Lieut. Jer ^m Spencer | 6 | | 1 | Priv ^t S. Waterhouse | 4 | | 1 |
| Serg ^t O ^f Cook | 4 | | | Eb ⁿ Petty | 6 | | |
| Corp ^l Jermr Loomis | 4 | | 1 | Chas. Higbee | 4 | | |

| | | | |
|---|-----|--|-----|
| Garshom York | 4 | Levi Higbee | 4 |
| Sam ^l Spencer | 4 | Comfort Towner | 6 |
| W ^m York | 3 | Asa Sterne | 4 I |
| Henry Stevens | 2 | John Spencer | 4 |
| Joseph Clark | 6 I | Asa Jones | 2 |
| Alarm men | | | |
| Maj ^r San ^d Kingsbury | 2 I | Cap ^t Sam ^l Ashley | 6 I |
| Doct ^r Sterne | 6 I | Cap ^t Taylor | '6 |
| L ^t Jones | 2 | L ^t Ellis | 6 I |
| Ens ⁿ Jones | 4 I | M ^r Rich | 3 |

The within is a true Return of the men under my Command in the taking of Bewil & Johns In Aug^t 1780

Jer^m Spencer L^t

[R. 218] [*Order for Money due Joel Rice.*]

Claremont Janⁿ 26, 1785—

Be pleased to pay to Benjamin Sumner what Ever is Due from the State of N. Hampshire or otherways in your hands to the Late Joel Rice Dec^d of Cap^t Duston Company for which this shall be your Suficiant order

To the Com^{tt} on Claimes for s^d State

£7, 15, 11

Jacob Roys

Administrator on s^d estate

[R. 219] [*Martha Wait's Petition, 1786.*]

To the Honorable the Senet and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire—

Humbly Sheweth Martha Wait; Relick and widow to the Late Joseph Wait* Esq^r Late Lieut. Col^o in the Contenatal army in the New Hampshire Line; that in the year 1776 in the month of September the 28th Day he the said Wait Departed this Life being then in the servis of His Country; and Left your Petitioner and a Large famely of small Children in Distressed Sircumstances and what added to my sorrow the estate he left was soon Incumbered with a Lawsuit which ended in the Loss of all the Real and Personal estate he Left for oure suport—

*Joseph Wait, "of Windsor, county of Cumberland, Province of New York," received a grant of 500 acres of land in the south-west corner of Claremont, and three islands in Connecticut river, from Governor John Wentworth, February 12, 1772.

Therefore your Petitioner Prays she may have the Benefits usually Granted to widows of officers of his Rank that Lost their Lives in the servis of the united States which your Petitioner in Duty Bound Shall Pray

Jan^u 17th 1786

Martha Wait W D

[R. 220]

[The legislature voted "that she receive half pay agreeable to a Resolution of Congress passed the 24th of August 1780, from the time of her late Husbands Death until the time of her Inter Marriage with her second Husband," and the children to receive the same for seven years from the time of said second marriage.—ED.]

—

[R. 222] [*Thomas Hutchinson's Order.*]

Claremont April 3^d 1790

To the treasurer of the State of Newhampshire

Sir please to pay David Quinton or Bearer all my wages due for services I having served as a Serjeant in the Second N. Hampshire Reg. also all the arearages of ———— that may be found due to me—and this order shall be your Discharge from me

Attest Tho^s Hutchinson

—

[2-188] [*Relative to Inventory of 1779.*]

To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire Convened att Concord—June 1784

Humbly Sheweth Benjamin Sumner of Claremont in behalf of Said Town that the inventory Returned by the Select Men of the Town in the year 1779 was not Exsepted as Returnd and a Damage was added of £36, 11, 11—and thare Taxes mad out accordingly; which Laid an Unequal burden on the Subjects of that Town; and when the order of Cort was made for the Late Assessment; or Prepotion through the State in the year 1783 there being No Select men in the Town, the order of Court was Not Complied with; and att the Late Session of Assembly att Exeter, the Town was by Domiages Placed in thare Tax bill att £350,0,0, Since which for the Corent year; the Select men of the Town have Made out there Invoice; and is Redy to be Delivered in Court with a Deduction of one years

groath on the same ; itt being made in the year 1784 and of Corse one years groath of Said Town added more than ought to be ; all which Damages your Petitioner Prays your Honors, to take under Consideration and grant such Relief as shall be found Propper Which your Petitioner in Duty bound Shall Pray

Benj Sumner

[2-189] [*Inventory of Taxable Property, 1784.*]

The N^o of Poles from Eighteen Years Old and Upwards—196—N^o of Male Negros and Malatto Servants from 16 to 45 Years of Age—1—N^o of Female Negros and Malatto Servants from 16 to 45 Years of Age—2—N^o of Acres of Orchard —N^o of Acres of Mowing Land—565—N^o of Acres of Arable or Tillage 569—N^o of Acres of Pastureland 1190—N^o of Horses and Mares 123—N^o of Colts 3 Years Old 2—N^o of Colts 2 Years Old 8—N^o of Colts 1 Year Old 4—N^o of Oxen 158—N^o of Cows 254—N^o of Cattle 3 Years Old 31—N^o of Cattle 2 Years Old 74—N^o of Cattle 1 Year Old 95—Yearly Rents of Mills Wharfs and Ferries ; repairs being deducted £40,000 Sum total of the Value of all Buildings and Real Estate unimproved owned by the Inhabitants £7979,000 Sum total of the Value of all unimproved Real Estate not Owned by the Inhabitants £1823,000 Sum total of the Value of Stock in Trade —Sum total of the Money at Interest in the Public Fund —Sum total of Money in Hand or at Interest not in Public Fund —

The within is a true Bill of all the Rateable Estate of the Town of Claremont Taken in April 1784 by Us the Subscribers

| | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| Asa Jones Sanford Kingsbery Elihu Stevens Ambrose Cossit Josiah Rich | } | Select Men |
|--|---|---------------|

Cheshire ss } Claremont May y^e 28 AD 1784

then the above Named Asa Jones Sanford Kingsbery Ambrose Cossit and Josiah Rich Select men of the town of Claremont Personally appeared and Made Solom oath to the within written before me

Elihu Stevens } Justice peace

Cheshire ss Claremont May 28th 1784 Personally Appeared the Above Named Elihu Stevens One of the Selectmen of s^d Town of Claremont and made Solemn Oath to the truth of the within Written Bill

before me Sanford Kingsbery Justice
Peace

[2-190] [*Concerning Bridge over Sugar River.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Gen^l Court of the State of New Hampshire
Humbly Sheweth—

That Your Petitioners Who Were appointed a Committee by a Number of the Inhabitants of the town of Claremont, assembled on the first day of November 1783 for the Purpose of Laying a plan for building a bridge Over Sugar River, to Accomodate the Main Country Road; Subscriptions Were Open'd in the Town aforesaid And the Generous Donations Came in to the Am^t of Sixty Pounds Chiefly by Y^r Petitioners (Except a few Individuals on the Great road who Expected to be Accomadated by Said Bridge) Which Money Was Carefully Laid Out by y^r Petitioners in procuring timber Which is Now on the Spot. And in the Meantime When Said Work Was Carried on Subscription papers Were forwarded to the Principal Gent^m in Each Town From Walpole to Haverhill, begging their assistance in So Public & Important A Matter. We had Many kind Ans^{rs} from these Gent^m We Adressed, And Wrote to, but When a return of the Subscriptions Were Come in found the Whole Am^t to be but About one pound ten Shill^s—

That your Petitioners have Since in public Town Meeting in Said Claremont Urged the Assistance of the town but to No purpose; therefore y^r Petitioners beg leave to Represent that there is Sixty pounds Worth of timber on the Spot, and the Cost of Building Said bridge Will be According to the Judgm^t of the best Artificers two Hundred pounds—therefore y^r Petitioners beg y^r Hon^{rs} to Grant a Lottery that Shall Neat free of the Needfull Expen^{ce} two Hundred pounds, to be appropriated to the Use afores^d And Appoint Such Directors as y^r Wisdom Shall think fitt And y^r Petitioners as in duty bound Will pray—

Fran^s Beatty
John Cook
Josiah Rich

San^d Kingsbery
Elihu Stevens
Asa Jones

John Spencer
T Sterne

[An act was passed June 23, 1785, authorizing them to set up a lottery, and thereby raise £300 for the aforesaid purpose. Samuel Ashley, Jr., Sanford Kingsbury, and Francis Beatty were appointed managers.—ED.]

[2-191] [*Relative to Elihu Stevens.*]

To the Honorable Council of the State of New Hampshire we the Subscribers Select Men for the Town of Claremont Humbly Sheweth

That whereas Elihu Stevens Late Justice of the Peace for the

County of Cheshire was Dropt in the New Appointment of Civil Officers for Rasons best known to Your Honors and as it is Highly Necessary that Some Person Should be Appointed to that office in that Vicinity for the benefit of the Said Town of Claremont as the other Justices in Said Claremont Live on the Main Road at Least five miles from the East line of Said Claremont and as Said Stevens has Heretofore Given General Satisfaction in that Character we your Humble Petitioners Beg that the Said Stevens may be Appointed to that Office all which is Submitted to your Honors wise Considerations and Your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Claremont May the 2nd 1785

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| John Cook | } Select Men |
| Ambrose Cossit | |
| Eben ^r Rice | |
| Joseph Ives | |

[2-192] [*Vote of Town concerning Paper Money.*]

Agreeable to an Order of the General Court of Sept^r 14th 1786 a Legal Meeting was Warned of the Inhabitants of the Town of Claremont to take under consideration the Plan purposed for emitting fifty Thousand pounds in Paper money Votes in favor of s^d Plan 19 against it 3—

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Asa Jones | } Select Men |
| Eben ^r Rice | |

[2-193] [*Councillor Sanford Kingsbury to President Sullivan.*]

Claremont July 8th 1789

Sir

I Rec^d Your Excellency's Letter desiring me to meet Your Excellency and Council at Portsmouth on the 15th of this Instant shall ever feel myself in duty bound to Obey your call so long as I remain One of your Council when in my power to Attend Your Excellency is not Unacquainted of the Reasons why I left Concord before the rising of the Court, am exceedingly sorry that I have the same Reasons for not Attending the Council at Portsmouth at the time prefixed, M^{rs} Kingsbery is still in a very poor state of Health, and the greater part of her time bereaved of Her Reason, but a hopefull Prospect of her Recovery—

Your Excellency is not Unacquainted with the exertions of One particular Gentleman against Esq^r Hubbard's being Ap-

pointed to the Office of Judge of Probate for the County of Cheshire, this I can say that I have not heard One discenting Voice against him since my return from Concord

I am Your Excellency's most Ob^t and very Humble Serv^t

His Excellency

Sanford Kingsbery

John Sullivan Esq^r

[Sanford Kingsbury was a prominent man in his time. He was a member of the council in 1789; of the state senate in 1790 and 1791; and of the convention to revise the constitution, 1791-92.—ED.]

[2-194] [*Elihu Stevens recommended.*]

Claremont Dec^r 17th 1789

Honorable—

Sanford Kingsbury Esq^r

Whereas the Town of Claremont is becom settled Universally with Inhabitants and it in our Opinion is Needfull that we should have more than One Justice of the Peace and as Elihu Stevens is a man well quallified in Our Opinion for that Office therefore would Wish you to Use your Influence with his Excelecency the President and Council that He may be Ap- pointed in to that Office Your Compliance will Oblige your Humble Serv^{ts}

Bill Barnes
James Alden
Amaziah Knight
Roswell Clapp
Joseph Sperry
Gidⁿ Handerson
Moses Russell
John Hitchcock

Abner Matthews
Enoch Judd
Phine^s Parker
Jonathan Parker
Jacob Fisher
Thomas Jones
John Dunkin
Ambrose Cossitt

Oliver Tuttle
Joel Matthews
Preserved Clapp
Abraham Fisher
Eben^r Sperry
Ichabod Hitchcock
Henry Stevens

[2-195] [*Ambrose Cossitt recommended.*]

Claremont Dec^r 17th 1789

Honorable

Sanford Kingsbury Esq^r

Whereas the Town of Claremont is becom Universally Set- tled with inhabetants and it is Needfull in our Opinion that

there Should be more than one Justice of the Peace in s^d Town and as Ambros Cossit is a man well qualified in our Opinion for that Office therefore would Request you to use your influence with his Excelency the Presedent and Council that he may be appointed in to that Office your Complacency will Oblige your humble Serv^{ts}

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Christo ^r Erskine | Benj ⁿ Alden | Elisha Sheldon |
| Joel Matthews | Joseph Whiston | Phin ^s Parker |
| Jacob Matthews | Abel Rice | Eben ^r Edson |
| Preserved Clapp | Roswell Clapp | Alex ^r Peckens |
| Phineas Cowl | Gideon Ellis | Gershom Hyde |
| W ^m Strobridge | martin Andrews | Asa Leach |
| Moses P. Russell | Roswell Stevens | James Alden |
| John moore | Amos Conant | David Stone |
| Georg Strobridg | James Strobridg | Josiah Fisher |
| Ephraim Tyler | Ebene ^r dodge | Sam ^l Atkins |
| Daniel Atkins | Samuel Whittle | And ^w Wilkins |
| Abraham Livermore | Benj ^a Cleveland | Abner matthews |
| Oliver Tuttle | Jesse matthews | David Judd |
| David matthews | hubbard matthews | John Sprague |
| James Alden | Ezra Jones | Nath ^l Goss |
| Bill Barnes | John Goss | Asa Mecham |
| Moses Stone | Matthias Stone Jun | Lemuel Ainsworth |
| William Syms | David Bucknam | David Bucknam Jun ^r |
| Solomon Putman | Lemuel Wright | Gershom Tuttle |
| Isaac Cleavland | Jesse Matthews Jun ^r | Gershom Tuttle Jr. |
| John Alden | Enoch Judd | Meigs Stevens |
| Eliakim Stevens | Abraham Fisher | Jeremiah Fisher |
| Joseph Sperry | Jacob Fisher | Eben Sperry |
| Ziba Stevens | Henry Stevens | John Dunkin |
| Jabez Lewis | John Hitchcock | Elihu Stevens |
| Solomon Tuttle | | |

[2-196] [*Petition for Incorporation of Episcopal Society.*]

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened Humbly shew

Benjamin Sumner & Ebenezer Rice—Members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Claremont in the County of Cheshire that said Church has laboured under many and great inconveniences for want of an incorporation, they therefore pray your honors to incorporate said society by law and make them a body politic capable of receiving & holding property both real and personal and to have & enjoy all the privileges and

immunities belonging to a corporate body, and as in duty bound will ever pray

Claremont December 26th 1793

Benj^a Sumner } In behalfe of the
Ebenezer Rice } Church

State of New } In the House of Representatives Jan^y 21
Hampshire } 1794

Upon reading and considering the foregoing petition & the report of a Committee thereon, Voted that the prayer thereof be granted and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly—

Sent up for Concurrence

Nath^l Peabody Speaker

In Senate the same Day Read & Concurred

Nath^l Parker Dep^y Sec^y

[2-197] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1794.*]

State of New } At a Legal Town meeting holden at Clare-
Hampshire } mont on Monday the Ninth day of June in the
Cheshire ss } year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred
and Ninety four of the People belonging to the Congregational
Order

1st Voted & Chose Capt Josiah Stevens Moderator

2^{dly} Voted to Petition the General Court of New Hampshire, for an Act, of Corporation, to incorporate the Congregational People in said Claremont agreeable to the Law, in that Case made & provided

3^{dly}—Voted to Chose one Person to present said Petition to the General Court

4^{thly}—Voted & Chose Elihu Stevens Esquire, to be agent to present said Petition to the General Court, And attend to the same, as acation may require

5^{thly} Voted to dissolve this meeting

Josiah Stevens Moderator
attest Ambrose Cossit Town Clerk

A true Copy of record

attest Ambrose Cossit Town Clerk

[2-198] [*Veto of Act Incorporating the Congregational Society.*]

The Bill Entitled “an act to incorporate the Congregational Society in Claremont” having been presented to the Governor

this day, is now Returned to the Honorable the House of Representatives with the following Objections—

That it has not been usual in any Town or Parish Incorporations for Religious purposes, to authorize them to keep a Common Seal and it does not appear to the Governor to be particularly Necessary in the present case

The Bill purports that the Society may hold Real or personal Estate to the amount of Three hundred pounds neat yearly income, but for what purpose, is not Expressed—

The Bill purports, they may consider persons coming of Age, or moving into Town as belonging to this Society which has the appearance of giving preference to them when compared with the other Society in Said Claremont Incorporated by an Act passed Febuary 19: 1794.

That it Expressly authorizes them to Tax persons moving into Town or coming of Age, but no mention is made of Taxing the Society.—

That the Bill does not appear to the Governor to be perfectly consistent with the Sixth Article in the Bill of Rights—

State of New Hampshire }
June 18: 1794 }

J. T. Gilman

[2-199] [*Petition for Incorporation of Congregational Society.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Amherst on the Third Wednesday of June 1794 Humbly Shews

Elihu Stevens of Claremont in said State in behalf of the Congregational Society of said Town, that said Society has laboured under many and great inconveniencies for want of an incorporation He therefore prays your honors to incorporate said society by law and make them a body politic capable of receiving & holding property both real and personal & to have and enjoy all the privileges and immunities belonging to a corporate body—and as in duty bound Will ever pray—

Claremont June tenth 1794

Elihu Stevens

[2-200] [*James Erskine's Memorial,—Universalist.*]

Claremont Nov^r 14th 1800

May it please your Excellency

Your Catholic and benevolent attention, to the good of the

people of the State of New hampshire induces me to lay before you the following Statement. In the Year 1789 the people of Claremont being destitute of any Settled Minister, I attended on such Religious Meetings as happened to come in my way and after hearing diferent opinions, and diferent doctrins, respecting Religion, and due consideration had thereon I joined myself to a Society of people in Charlestown, known by the Name of the Universal Society who held to the doctrine, of Salvation for all men, in March 1796 the people of Claremont, Settled for their Minister, the Rev^d John Tappen, I being of a diferent Sentement, from him & those people which he was set over, I took a Certificate from the Clerke of the society in Charlestown, in February preceding the time of M^r Tappens Ordination, and presented said Certificate to the Selectmen, in order to give them a perfect knowledge, that I cold not Join them, and had Joined myself to a society in Charlestown, the Town of Claremont did not proceed to Tax me to the support of their Minister untill the Year 1799, when they taxed & others, that never did Join with them, I never attended on M^r Tappens meeting more than half a day, during his Resedence here, and the Collector come & took my property & sold to pay said Tax, I Commenced my Action against the selectmen and the Same was appealed to the superior Court, and in May Term 1800 the Cause after being fully investigated went to the Jury, who returned their verdit not agreed so the Action was put over to October Term 1800, when I appeared, ready for trial, by some means or other the Action was quashed, and a Bill of Cost recorded against me, now if I am obliged to pay taxes to Support a Religion which I think is rong, & Contry to the holy Scriptures, or the Doctrine contained in them, my Case is a hard Case, & not the freedom which I served the United States for I should view, and shall take it a great favour, if your Excellency would be kind enough to direct me in this great affair what to do.

Am your Excellency's most obedient
humble Servant

James Erskines

To his Excellency John T. Gilman Esq^r govnor & Commander
in Chief in & over the State of New Hampshire

COLEBROOK.

The township was granted December 1, 1770, to Sir George Colebrooke, Sir James Cockburne, and John Stewart, Esq., of London, England, and John Nelson, Esq., of

Grenada, in the West India islands, by the name of Colebrooke Town. The town was incorporated by its present name, by an act approved June 11, 1796—John Farmer says December 1, 1790, which must be a mistake, as I get my date from the original manuscript. The petition for an incorporation follows this. Previous to 1800 the town contained but few inhabitants, numbering 160 at that time. It is now in a flourishing condition, with about 1600.

[2-201] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation.*]

State of
New Hampshire } To the honorable Senate, and house of
Representatives in general Court assembled—

The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of a place called Colebrook in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, humbly sheweth, that your petitioners have with much difficulty effected a settlement in said Township, and the Inhabitants thereof are so increased that about thirty rateable polls are resident and settled therein: that they suffer many inconveniences on account of their unincorporated State, the want of authority to lay out highways and raise money to make and repair them, to maintain regular Schools for the instruction of Youth and to conduct many other matters necessary to promote the interest of the inhabitants and encourage the settlement of said Township: Therefore your petitioners pray this honorable Court to incorporate them, and vest them with all that power and authority which other Towns in said State do by law exercise and enjoy, and your petitioners shall ever pray—

Colebrook 15th December AD 1795

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Andrew M ^e Allan | Moses Smith | Joseph Griswold |
| Josiah King | Ebenezer Brainerd | Will ^m M ^e Allaster |
| And ^w M ^e Allaster | Joseph Goddard | Nehemiah Spencer |
| | Isaac Covil | |

C O L U M B I A .

The township was granted December 1, 1770, to the same men to whom the grant of Colebrook was made, and named Cockburne Town, in honor of Sir James Cockburne, one of the grantees. It was incorporated by an act of the legislature, approved December 16, 1797, and named Cockburne.

By an act approved November 30, 1804, a tract of land called Wales Location was annexed to the town. This tract, said to contain 5822 acres, was granted May 4, 1773, to Seth Wales and 17 others. The name of the town was changed by an act approved June 19, 1811, to Columbia, the derivation of which is obvious.

[2-202] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-Resident Lands.*]

To The Honorable Senate and House of Representatives When at Hopkinton Convened

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Township of Cockburne Humbly Sheweth that they Labor under great Inconvenience on account of Roads and Whereas said Township hath been settled a Considerable number of years and no establish^d Road through said Town renders the traveling extremely irksome as well as dangerous for persons on horseback—and your Petitioners not being able (together with what is now allowed by Law for taxing the unimproved Lands of nonresidents) to make said Road passable—fit for wheel Carriages And whereas the neighboring Towns suffer great Inconvenience by the badness of the main Road leading through said Township—as well as other travellers We your Petitioners Pray the Legislature of this State to take the matter into Consideration and grant us relief in the premises by passing an Act granting three Cents on each acre of Land in said Township for making and repairing said main Road—or otherwise as you in your wisdom shall think fit as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Abel Hobart
Jacob Terry Junor } Select
Noah Buffington } men

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Com ^s Buffington | Abige ^r Lennard | John Jorden |
| Julus Terry | Jacob Terry | Philip Jordan |
| Wil ^m Jorden | And ^w G. huntington | Sylvanus Larned |
| William Wallis | Abel Larned | Perly Wallis |
| Nath ^l Wales | Bradford Hammond | |

[2-203] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation.*]

Grafton ss } To the Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives to be Convened at Concord June 1797

Humbly Sheweth that there is a Considerable number of

Inhabitants in the Township of Cockburne who Daily experience the inconvenience of being in an unincorporated state Wherefore we Pray to be incorporated with all the Priviledges and Immunities as other incorporated Towns in this State as in Duty bound will ever Pray

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Abel Larned | Ebn ^r Larned | Abel Hobbart |
| Philip Jorden | Jacob Terry Jun ^r | Ahaz Friench |
| Julius Terry | Jacob Terry | William Wallis |
| Nath ^l Wales | Abner osgood | Abijah Learnard |

[The foregoing was granted by an act approved Dec. 16, 1797.—ED.]

[2-204] [*Elihu de Forrest for a Ferry.*]

To the Hon^l Gen^l Court of New Hampshire to conveen at Concord on the first Wenesday of June next

The petition of Elihu de Forrest of Lemington in Vermont humbly showeth, that there is no ferry on Connecticut River from Canada line for nearly forty miles down said River & that there is great need of a ferry On said River between the Towns of Cockburn in New Hampshire & Lemington in Vermont both for the Accommodation of travilers as well as the Inhabitants of said Towns; therefore your petitioner prays your Honors to grant unto him his Heirs and assigns for ever the Exclusive right of keeping a Ferry over said River any where from the head of Blackmans fall to the mouth of Simstream which is a Distance of about five miles

That your Hon^{rs} would grant the above request is the constant prayer of Elihu de Forrest

Lemington

May 30th 1799

[2-205]

Cockburn Nov^r 27th 1799

This may Certify that we have been served with an Attested Copy of the Petition of Elihu D. Forrest Praying for the Exclusive right of a ferry on Connecticut River between Cockburn and Lemington as set forth in said Petition together with the Order of the General Court of New Hampshire thereon, and being well acquainted with the said D. Forrest & the Place he Proposes (in his application to us) to keep the said ferry, it is our oppinion the Prayer of the said Petition ought not to be granted

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Lyndon Hebard | } Select Men | |
| Noah Buffington | | of |
| Eben ^r Brown | | Cockburn |

[2-206] [*Bailey and Hibbard for a Ferry.*]

To the Hon^l the Senate and house of Representatives for the State of Newhampshire in General Court Convened at Exeter on the first Wednesday in December A D 1799

The Petition of the Subscribers Humbly Showeth That there is no Established Ferry Across Connecticut River from Canada Line for Nearly Sixty Miles Down Said River That your Petitioners in the Month of May Last Built a Boat Sufficient to transport Loaded Teams and Passengers which Was Done at Considerable Expence to your Petitioners, that your Petitioners Owners and Possessors of the Land on Each Side of the River Where Said boat has been used That the Publick have Been Much Benifited by using Said Boat—that your Petitioners not having a Grant of a Ferry are Not Authorized to Collect a Compensation for Carrying Passengers Over Said River—They therefore Pray that your Honours Would Grant to them their heirs and assigns forever the Exclusive Priveledge of keeping A Ferry from Cockburn in Newhampshire to Lemmington in Vermont Beginning at Blackman falls to Andrew Griswold Huntington in Cockburn Being About two Miles and one half under such Restrictions as to Your Honors Shall Seem Meet and as in Duty bound will Ever Pray—

Cockburn Nov^r 27th 1799

Christopher S. Bailey
Luther Hibird

[2-207]

To Mess^{rs} Lyndon Hibbard Noah Buffington Ebenezer Brown Selectmen for the Township of Cockburn we the Subscribers whose names are under written think that M^r Elihu De Forest is the most Suitable place for a ferry to accommodate the public which is the only object to be looked at wish you to take the matter into Consideration and give your approbation in favour of his Petition if you as we Do Consider it as the most Convenient place

Cockburn November 25—1799

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Abel Larned | Bradford Hammond | An ^d w G. Huntington |
| Hez ^k Parsons | Eliphaz Hibod | Chancy Curtis |
| David Curtis | W ^m Jordan | Orlan Wales |
| [Name illegible.] | Comens Buffington | John Burke |
| Jacob Terry Jun ^r | Sylvanus Learned | John Jorden |
| Benjamin Jorden | Abel Hobart | William Wallis |
| William Wallis Jun ^r | Danfred Wallis | Almerin Wallis |
| Julius Terry | Jacob Terry | |

[The ferry was granted to Elihu de Forest Dec. 24, 1799.—ED.]

CONCORD.

The township was granted January 17, 1725, by the government of Massachusetts, to Ebenezer Eastman and others, by the name of Penacook, which name the locality received from an Indian tribe, and had borne many years. Captain Eastman and others moved into the place and made settlements in 1727. The town was incorporated by the government of Massachusetts, February 27, 1733, and named Rumford, the derivation of which is unknown.

May 20, 1727, the government of New Hampshire made a grant of the township of Bow, which covered a large portion of the Penacook grant, and these conflicting grants led to a lengthy and expensive controversy, which was carried to the Court of St. James, by the Hon. Timothy Walker as agent for the Rumford proprietors, and decided in their favor by the king in council, December 27, 1762.

By an act of the legislature of New Hampshire passed June 7, 1765, the town was incorporated as a parish with town privileges by the name of Concord, probably with a hope that thereafter the inhabitants might live in peace and *concord* with their neighbors in Bow. By an act approved January 2, 1784, a gore of land containing about one thousand acres was severed from Canterbury and Loudon and annexed to the "parish of Concord;" and by an act approved December 13, 1804, a tract of land was severed from Bow and annexed to the town of Concord.

The first state-house built in Concord was commenced in 1816, and first occupied by the legislature in June, 1819. It was remodelled in 1865.

Concord was incorporated as a city July 6, 1849, but the charter was not adopted until March 10, 1853, the first election under it being held on the 26th of that month.

Water was introduced from Penacook lake in January, 1873; and the Horse Railroad, running from Concord (south end) to West Concord, in 1881.

[2-208]

[*Petition for a Guard, 1747.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General & Governor of His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire—To the Honourable His Majesty's Council & Assembly of Said Province—

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Rumford Can-

terbury & Contoocook humbly Sheweth—That we especially at the two last mentioned places are greatly distressed for want of Suitable grist Mills. that M^r Henry Lovejoy has att great Expence Erected a good Mill att a place the most advantageously Situated to accomodate the Three Towns, that it is the only Mill in all the Three Towns that stands under the Command of y^e Guns of a Garrison—That the ill consequences of abandoning the s^d Garrison the year past has been severely felt by us, That the s^d Lovejoy appears Desirous of Residing there again, Provided he might be favoured with Such a Number of Soldiers as Just to keep his Garrison with a Tolerable Degree of Safety & That as an Additional Encouragement to us to appear as Petitioners on his Behalf & to Your Excellency & Honours to grant our S^d Petition, He will become Engaged with all Convenient Speed to erect a Forge for the making of Barr Iron which may also Stand under the Command of the Said Garrison which Undertaking would probably be vastly advantageous to all the Towns & Plantations up this way as well as to the general interest of the Province. We therefore pray as well on behalf of our Selves as the Said Lovejoy that Your Excellency & Honours would Take the Premises into your wise Consideration & Grant unto the S^d Lovejoy Such a Protection as may Encourage him to reenter & posses his at present abandoned Garrison for the ends and purposes above mentioned & Your Petitioners Shall, as in duty bound ever Pray.

Rumford January y^e 2nd 1747

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ebenezer Eastman | Ephraim farnum | Daniell Chase |
| Juner | Philip Eastman | Jeremiah Eastman |
| Nathanel Eastman | Joseph Eastman | Daniel Anis |
| Nathan Stevens | Ebenezer virgen | Stephen Gerrish |
| John fowler | George Jackman | Richard Jackman |
| Richard flood | Jacob Flanders | William Peters |
| philop Caul | John Corser | William Emery |
| Joel manuel | John flanders | Phillip flanders |
| Stephen Call | Phineas Stevens | Nath ^l Malloon |
| William Danford | Henry Lovejoy | James Scales |
| Jeremiah Clough | William Miles | William Forrest |
| Thomas Clough | Josiah Miles | John Gipson |
| Archelaus Moor | Moses Danforth | John Forriast |
| Thomas Danforth | James Head | Benjamin Blanchard |
| James Gipson | William Moor | Samuel Moor |
| William Forrest jun ^r | Sam ^{el} Shepherd | John Chandler |
| Ebenezer Eastman | Jeremiah Stickney | Aaron Stevens |
| Stephen farrington | Stephen Hoyt | George Hull |
| Samson Colbe | Ezra Carter | Nath ^a Abbott |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Isaac Waldron | Amos Eastman | Edward Abbott |
| Isaac Chandler | James Osgood | Seborne Peters |
| Abraham Kimball | Joseph Pudney | Ben fifeld |
| Jacob Hoyt | John Burbank | Caleb Burbank |
| Amos Abbott | John Chandler | Benjamin Abbott |

[2-209] [*Decision of the Lords Justices at Whitehall, relative to Controversy with Bow, 1755.*]

Seal

New Hampshire

Crown

Lion Unicorn
Thistle

Merrill agt.
The Proprietors
of Bow

} Order in Council
on hearing the
appeal June 1755.

Secretarys Office 1756. Filed by the Rev^d M^r Tim^o Walker—
T. Atkinson Sec'y

AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER WHITEHALL

the 24th day of June 1755

PRESENT

THE LORDS JUSTICES

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lord Chancellor | Lord Steward | Duke of Dorset |
| Sir Thomas Robinson | Lord President | Duke of Queensberry |
| Earl of Buckingham-shire | Lord Berkeley of Stratton | Lord Chief Justice Ryder |
| | Sir George Lee | |

UPON reading at the Board, a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council, for hearing Appeals from the Plantations, dated the 27th of last Month, in the Words following—Viz .

“ His Majesty having been pleased, by His Order in Council of the 28th of March 1754, to referr unto this Committee the humble Petition and Appeal of John Merrill, Setting forth, amongst other Things, That in 1725, at a General Court or Assembly for His Majestys Province of the Massachusetts Bay, Benjamin Stephens, and others, having applied by Petition for a Grant of Land at Pennycook, on the River Merrimack, and the said Petition having been referred to a Committee of both Houses, the said Committee made a Report thereon, to the Assembly, That the Lands Petitioned for should be assigned and set apart for a Township, to contain Seven Miles Square, and to begin where

Contacook River falls into Merrimack River, which Report was agreed to by both Houses of the Council and Assembly of that Province, and concurred in by the Governor—That, on the 10th of May 1726, a Committee proceeded to that Place, with Surveyors and Chainmen, and laid out One hundred and Three Lotts, on the said River Merrimack, agreeable to the said Resolution, and in February following they admitted the several Settlers, amongst whom the Petitioner was one;—That the Petitioner together with several others of the said admitted Settlers, in the Spring of the Year 1727, went to the said Place to bring forward the said Settlement of a New Town, and pursued their Purpose with such Vigour, that in 1730 they had a Church built, and a Minister ordained, and in 1733 they were incorporated into a Township, by the Name of Rumford, by An Act of Assembly of the said Province of the Massachusetts which was confirmed by His Majesty; And the Petitioner, and the said other Settlers have been at very great Costs and Labour, in clearing and cultivating the Lands, and improving the same by Buildings, and otherwise, for almost Thirty Years past That the Petitioner, and the said other Settlers, at the time of their entring on, and settling the said Lands, had not the least Doubt but that they were quite safe in so doing under the said Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay,

The said Town of Pennycook, otherwise Rumford, being scituate upon the said River Merrimack, and included, as was then generally understood, within the Boundary of that Colony—That some Years since, upon a Dispute about the Boundary Line, between the Provinces of the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire, His Majesty was pleased to issue a Commission to mark out the Dividing Line between them, but with an express Declaration against Private Property being affected thereby—And upon hearing of the Report of the Commissioners appointed to settle the said Boundarys, His Majesty was pleased, by His Order in Council made in 1740, to adjudge and order the Northern Boundarys of the said Massachusetts Bay to be a Similar Curve Line pursuing the Course of the said Merrimack River at three Miles Distance on the North Side thereof beginning at the Atlantick Ocean and ending due North at a Point called Pantuckett Falls, and a streight Line drawn from thence cross the said River till it met with His Majestys other Governments—Which Adjudication, determining the Boundary Line of the said Province of the Massachusetts to Pursue the Course of the said River no further than the said Falls, thereby excluded out of the Massachusetts great Part of the said River Merrimack, with the Lands thereon adjoining, and particularly the said Town of Pennycook, otherwise Rumford, which had formerly been reputed to lye within that Province, and throwed

the same into the said other Province of New Hampshire— That notwithstanding His Majesty had been pleased, at the time of issuing the said Commission to fix the said Boundary, to declare the same was not to affect Private Property, and in which all Persons acquiesced for several Years since elapsed. Yet very lately certain Persons of New Hampshire being minded to disturb the Petitioner, and others the said first Settlers of the said Town of Pennycook otherwise Rumford, and take from them the Benefit of all their Labours, On the 14th of November 1750, brought an Ejectment, by the Name of the Proprietors of the Common and undivided Lands lying and being in the Town of Bow in New Hampshire, against the Petitioner, in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas holden at Portsmouth for the Said Province, by which they demanded against the Petitioner Eight Acres of Land (being part of the Premises the Petitioner had settled and improved in the said Township of Pennycook alias Rumford as aforesaid) with the Edifices and Appurtenances, alledging the same to lye in Bow aforesaid, and laid their Title back as far as 1727, and alledging that the Petitioner had within Twenty Three Years then last past entered thereon, and dis-seized them, and withheld the Possession from them; To which the Petitioner Pleaded Not Guilty; And on the 7th of March 1750, the said Cause was brought on to Tryal in the said Court before a Jury, who gave a Verdict for the Petitioner with Costs of Court, and Judgment was entered up for the Petitioner accordingly, From which Judgment the Plaintiffs Appealed to the next Superior Court; And at the said Superior Court of Judicature held the Second Tuesday in December 1752, The said Cause was brought on to Hearing again, before another Jury, When (amongst other things) the Plaintiffs produced a Grant, dated the 20th of May 1727, made by John Wentworth, as Lieutenant Governor of New Hampshire, for the Encouragement of settling a New Plantation to sundry of His Majestys Subjects whose Names were entered in a Schedule thereunto annexed, that inhabited or should inhabit within the said Grant to whom he thereby granted a certain Tract of Land beginning on the South East Side of the Town of Chichester and running Nine Miles Square, as therein mentioned, and to be a Town Corporate by the Name of Bow, To hold to the said Grantees and such Associates as they should admit, for ever, upon several Conditions therein mentioned, and, amongst others, upon Condition of building Seventy five Dwelling Houses thereon, and settling a Family in each House, and clearing Three Acres of Land within Three Years—And the Plaintiffs also Produced a Return of laying out the said Town of Bow, in the latter End of 1728 in such Manner as to interfere with a considerable Part of the said Town of Pennycook, but it appeared by such Re-

turn, That, instead of beginning the same on the South East Side of the Town of Chichester, according to the Direction of the said Grant, they had begun it at the South West Side of that Town, which was quite contrary thereto, and otherwise it is apprehended there would not have been any interfering between the said Towns; And the Pl^{ts} also produced some Oral Evidence to show, that they the said Grantees of Bow, in 1728 and 1729, after the Petitioner, and the rest of the said Settlers at Pennycook, had begun their said Settlement, and were carrying on thereof, had made some Objections to their Proceeding therein, but had not pursued any Course of Law against the said Pennycook Settlers, in respect thereof, till since the said Boundary Line, between the said two Provinces, was settled by His Majesty, Yet the Jury, on the said Tryal, in the said Superior Court, gave their Verdict for the Plaintiffs, and found for them a Reversion of the former Judgment, and the Premises sued for, and Costs of Court; And Judgment was thereupon entered up, that the Proprietors of Bow recover against the Petitioner the

Premises sued for with Costs, taxed at $\overset{\text{£}}{50} : \overset{\text{s}}{18} : \overset{\text{d}}{8}$ New Tenor—From which last Judgment the Petitioner, on the 4th of June 1753, brought a Writ of Error before the Justices of the said Superior Court; And on the First Tuesday in August 1753 the said Cause was brought on again to Tryal, and the Jury gave their Verdict for the said Original Plaintiffs, and Judgment was thereupon entered up, Affirming the said former Judgment in the said Superior Court against the Petitioner, and that the said Proprietors should recover Costs of the Petitioner, taxed at

$\overset{\text{£}}{18} : \overset{\text{s}}{5} : \overset{\text{d}}{0}$ New Tenor That the Petitioner conceiving himself to be greatly aggrieved, by the said last mentioned Judgment, moved the said Superior Court for an Appeal therefrom to His Majesty in Council, which was rejected, for that the Premises, for which the abovementioned Suit was prosecuted, was not of sufficient Value for which an Appeal might be granted:—But upon the Petitioners Application to His Majesty, setting forth, that though, in this Instance, the Premises sued for are only a few Acres, Yet the Question determined therein affecting the Petitioners Right to several other Lands, held by the Petitioner, under the same Title, of very considerable Value in the Whole, and much exceeding the Sum limited by the Royal Instructions, and also affecting the Rights of many other Persons who are in the like Circumstances with the Petitioner, and hold under the same Title, and being intended to settle a general Question of Right, and for avoiding a Multiplicity of other like Suits, His Majesty was graciously pleased, by His Order in Council of the 28th of March 1754, to admit the Petitioner to an appeal from the said Judgment of the Superior Court—And the

Petitioner humbly prays, that the said Judgment of the said Superior Court, on the said Writ of Review, Affirming the Judgment of that Court on the Appeal thereto from the Inferior Court, may be reversed, with Restitution of the Premises to the Petitioner, and of the Costs thereby awarded against the Petitioner; And that the said Judgment of the Inferior Court may be affirmed:—The Lords of the Committee, in Obedience to His Majestys said Order of Reference, did, on the 15th of this Instant, and again upon this day, take the said Petition and Appeal into their Consideration, and heard all Partys therein concerned by their Counsel learned in the Law, and do thereupon agree humbly to Report as their Opinion to Your Excellencys, That the said Judgment of the said Superior Court, on the Writ of Review, of the First Tuesday in August 1753, affirming the Judgment of the Superior Court, of the Second Tuesday in December 1752, should be reversed, in regard it did not appear, that the Premises in Question are comprized within the Respondents Grant, And that the Appellant should be restored to what he may have lost by Means of the said Judgment.”—

The Lords Justices this day took the said Report into their Consideration, and were pleased, with the Advice of His Majestys Privy Council, to Approve thereof and to Order, as it is hereby Ordered, That the said Judgment of the said Superior Court, upon the Writ of Review upon the First Tuesday in August 1753, affirming the Judgment of the Superior Court, of the Second Tuesday in December 1752, be reversed, And that the Appellant be restored to what he may have lost by Means of the said Judgment. Whereof the Governor, or Commander in Chief, of His Majestys Province of New Hampshire for the time being, and all others, whom it may concern, are to take Notice and Govern themselves accordingly.—

W. SHARPE

[2-210] [*Petition for an Incorporation of the Town.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captⁿ General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, The Honble His Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly Convened.

April 11th 1764

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Timothy Walker on behalf of himself and the Inhabitants of RUMFORD (so Called in said Province SHEWETH, THAT the Affairs of the said Inhabitants (so far as relates to Town matters), have been in great Confusion Ever since the Year 1749, for want of the Power which

they had 'till then Enjoyed ever since the Year 1741 by the District Act (so called) which this Honble Court say in July 1746 when it was received had been found "*Convenient both for the Government of this Province in General, and also the Inhabitants incorporated thereby in particular.*"

THAT altho' it has been pretended that they might still have Enjoyed the same Priviledges (as Inhabitants of Bow) yet they never understood Matters in that Light; And for this their Opinion and Practice consequential thereupon, they humbly conceive they could give reasons which wo^d be satisfactory to this Court, were they permitted.—But to pass over all this—This Power or the Exercise of it has been lost to them (if Ever they had it) Ever since March 1756, for want of a first Meeting—

THAT by the Year 1760 they were so heartily tired of such an unsettled State that they would have been glad to have acted Even under the Incorporation of Bow, if they could (altho' highly inconvenient for them as it blended part of three Towns together whose Interests had always been seperate, and would Consequently be apt to create Strife and Contention).

THAT this Court was apprized of their utter Incapacity of doing any Corporate Act (Even as Bow) by a Letter signed "JEREMIAH STICKNEY, on behalf of himself and others, now on File, together with their dutiful & ready disposition to Comply with every motion of this Court to the utmost of their Powers.

THAT the said Inhabitants conceive themselves greatly agrieved by a late ACT of this Government, imposing a heavy Tax on the Inhabitants of Bow as Arrears &c—a Tax which Nobody has Power to assess and Collect at y^e Time when y^e s^d arrears became due and which if now done, must be laid in many Instances on wrong Persons.

THAT what they suffered for want of the Powers they HAD Enjoyed by the first mentioned District Act, was unspeakably more to their Damage, than to have paid their Proportion of the Province Expence.

THAT the Incapacity complained of all along, still continues and yet the People are subjected to pay their part of the Current Charge but nobody has power to assess or Collect it.

THEY therefore most humbly Pray That your Excellency and Honours will take the Matters complained of under Consideration, and either revive the said District Act so far as relates to Rumford, or (which wo^d be much more satisfactory to the said Inhabitants) INCORPORATE them by a standing Act, and by their former known Boundaries That the said Inhabitants may Be abated at least one half part of said Arrearages, And that with respect to their part of the Current Charge of the Prov-

ince, they may be subjected to pay no more than their just proportion with the other Towns in this Province, or grant them such other Relief as in your great Wisdom and Goodness you shall see meet

AND Your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever pray &
Timothy Walker

[The township was incorporated by an act passed June 7, 1765.—ED.]

2-211] [*Moses Eastman for a Ferry.*]

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq Governor of his Majesty's Province—of New Hampshire—

We the subscribers Selectmen of Concord in said Province beg leave to Inform Your Excellency that there is great need of an Establish'd Ferry across merrimack River at or near the Place where the Small Brook which Issues from Sewels Farm so Called Empties into said River not only for the conveniency of the Inhabitants of said concord but also for Strangers who have occasion to Travel through the same and we would hereby recommend M^r Moses Eastman as a suitable person to have said Ferry settled upon & who on Several accounts has by much the fairest pretentions to it of any person whatsoever. We are Your Excellencies most Dutiful and obedient Servants

Concord 28th Sep^{ber} 1767

Richard Hasseltin } selectmen
Amos Abbott } of
Philip Eastman } Concord

[2-212] [*John Merrill for a Ferry.*]

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
New Hampshire } Governor & commander in chief of s^d Province

The Petition of John Merril Humbly Sheweth That he (Merrill) at y^e general desire of the Settlers of y^e Plantation then called Pennicook now *Concord* undertook to tend a ferry across merrimack River at a Place commonly called Merrils Ferry in s^d concord as Early as about y^e year 1730 That for many years the Profits did not near answer y^e Expence of Boats & attendance notwithstanding which your Petitioner has constantly kept a good Ferry at y^e s^d Place from that Time to

this—That within y^e Limits of y^e Plan herewith exhibited to your Excellency there is not nor ever likely to be any need of another Ferry across y^e s^d River—He therefore humbly prays that your excellency would be pleased to Grant & confirm y^e s^d Ferry to him his Heirs & assigns for ever in y^e manner & on the conditions usual on y^e like occasions—

and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray

John Merrill

[The ferry privilege asked for in the foregoing petition was chartered February 6, 1773.—ED.]

[2-214] [*Summons from General Assembly.*]

State of New Hampshire } To Daniel Chase & John Chase both of Concord in Said State Husbandmen

You are hereby Required in the Name of the Government & People of said State to make Your Appearance before the General Assembly of said State as Soon as may be, to give Evidence of what you know Relating to any Treasons Conspiracies or Misdemeanors Committed by any Inhabitants of the said State against the Same: hereof fail not as you Will answer your Contempt at your Peril.

Given at Exeter the 10th day of June 1777.

E. Thompson Sec^{ry}

[2-215]

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly convened at Concord June the 10th 1783

The Petition of John Hoyt and Others Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners live upon a gore of Land formerly claimed by the Proprietors of Rumford and Canterbury, that when said Rumford was incorporated in the year 1765 by the name of Concord your Petitioners were left to said Canterbury since which time said Proprietors of Rumford & Canterbury have amicably settled said Dispute. Your Petitioners would further shew that by the late Division of Canterbury, they were all (except one) set off to the Parish of Loudon, that they are situated at a great Distance from the Meeting House in said Loudon which makes it very inconvenient for them to be connected therewith—

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray that the above-mentioned Gore of Land containing about one Thousand and

fifty Acres, lying at the northeasterly corner of Rumford, with the Inhabitants thereon may be dissevered from said Canterbury and Loudon and annexed to the Parish of Concord.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c—

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| John Hoit | Stephen Crossman | Simon Trumbel |
| Abner Hoit | Henry Lovejoy | Jeams Glins |
| Samuel goodin | Philip Eastman | Amos Heath |
| Timothy Bradley | Timothy Bradley | Eben foss |
| John Chandler | Jun ^r | Benjamin bradley |
| William Virgin | Phinehas Virgin | William Stickney |

[The foregoing petition was granted by an act passed January 2, 1784.—ED.]

[2-216]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives, of the State of New Hampshire convened at Concord Decem^r 17th 1783

The Petition of John Hoit and Others

Humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioners preferred a Petition to the late General Assembly in November last praying to be dissevered from Canterbury and Loudon and annexed to the Parish of Concord, the Prayer of which Petition was granted and leave given to bring in a Bill for said purpose, but the General Court adjourned without day before said Bill could be passed in due form—

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray that they may be allowed to bring in a Bill to perfect said Business agreeably to said Petition and order of Court thereon herewith exhibited—and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Timothy Walker

In behalf of the Petitioners

[See preceding document.—ED.]

[2-217] [*Petition to be severed from the County of Rockingham and annexed to the County of Hillsborough.*]

To the Honourable the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly convened at Concord Feb^y the 10th 1785—

The Petition of Timothy Walker in behalf of himself and the Town of Concord humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioners live at a great Distance from the several

Courts of Law which are held in the County of Rockingham, that they apprehend said County is so large that they might well spare Concord, Northfield, Canterbury Loudon Pembroke Allens Town & Bow.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays that the above mentioned Towns may be dissevered from said County of Rockingham and annexed to the County of Hillsborough, and that part of the Courts may be held in the Northerly part of the County last mentioned.—And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Timothy Walker

—

[2-218] [*Lemuel Tucker for a Ferry.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the honourable the Senate, and house of
 } Representative in General Court convened at
 Concord on the second Wednesday in Feb^r AD 1785 The petition of Lemuel Tucker of Concord aforesaid Yeoman humbly sheweth That your petitioner some Years since purchased a Ferry in said Concord, known by the Name of *Eastmans Ferry*, not knowing at the time of said purchase but there was a proper Grant made by Authority of the said Ferry, to the person of whom he purchased, but has since learned no such grant has been ever made—It is his preyer, therefore, that this honourable Court would grant said Ferry to your petitioner, as it is the only way in which he at his Age can hope to support himself and family the unhappy circumstances of which, he prays may plead in his favour, and induce your Honours in your Goodness and Wisdom to grant his prayer.

And your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray—

Peter Green At^r

for said Tucker

[This request was granted February 22, 1785.—ED.]

—

[2-219] [*Relative to Representative, 1786.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives
 } in General Court convened at Concord June
 26th 1786

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Concord qualified by Law to vote for a Representative, humbly shews—That at a legal Meeting held at said Concord on the day of March last, Col. Peter Green was chosen to represent said Concord for the

present year—Since which another Town Meeting has been warned, to meet in said Concord, on the twenty fourth day of June current, at which last meeting, a Vote being repeatedly called to know if said Town would again choose a Representative for the remainder of the present Year, the Moderator of said Meeting, absolutely refused to put said Vote although the same was several times legally moved and seconded; Whereupon, your Petitioners, still considering their former Choice as legal and unwilling to proceed in another, without a Vote of the Town therefor, which was not in their power to obtain,—Your Petitioners therefore pray that this Hon^{bl} House would reconsider the Choice of the said Col. Green and grant him a seat, as Representative for said Town the present Year,—And as the Inhabitants of said Town at their said Meeting in June current, contrary to the pressing and repeated motions as aforesaid, and contrary to all Order or legal proceeding, went on to choose a Representative, in the most partial manner, as a large Majority of the said Voters had left the House—And then and there chose M^r John Bradley to represent said Concord the remainder of the present Year—in a manner they judge unjustifiable and altogether illegal, 'Tis therefore prayed this Hon^{ble} Court would consider the premises, and not allow said Bradley to take a Seat in Consequence of said Choice—

And as in Duty bound shall ever pray

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jn ^o Roche | Jn ^o Stevens | Rich ^d H Osgood |
| William Duncan | Thomas Willson | Daniel Carter |
| Aaron Kinsman | Dan Stickney | Joseph Abbott |
| John Currier | Moses FiField | David Stickney |
| Daniel Stickney | Samuel Bradley | John Gage |
| Rob ^t Duncan | Dudley Ladd | Nath ^l Kimball |
| Daniel Barker | | |

June 25th 1786

[2-220] [*Request for Appointment of a Surveyor of Potash.*]

State of New Hampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives in general court convened—

Humbly sheweth the subscribers being Inhabitants of the town of Concord & y^o adjacent towns in the County of Rockingham. That they labour under great disadvantages by reason of there not being a surveyor of pot & pearl ashes in said town, or any where in the vicinity—

Wherefore your petitioners humbly prays your honors that a

surveyor of pot & pearl ashes may be appointed in said Concord agreeably to law—And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

Concord June 20th 1787—

Robert Harris W^m Duncan Sam^l Duncan
 Stephen Harriman John C: Gale

[2-221] [*Relative to Settlement with Proprietors of Bow.*]

State of } To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of
 New Hampshire } Representatives in general Court convened
 the tenth Day of June 1788

Humbly shews Thomas Stickney of Concord in the County of Rockingham and State aforesaid, that the whole of the Town of Concord was originally granted in the Year 1725, by the late Province of Massachusetts Bay to certain Proprietors and Incorporated by the Name of Rumford, and in the Year 1727 the greatest part of said Township was granted by the then Province of New Hampshire to certain other Proprietors by the Name of Bow; that the Right to the soil was disputed by the Proprietors on each side for upwards of twenty Years; that in the Year 1771 they came to an agreement which was that the Proprietors of said Rumford should have the whole of said Township, except one Hundred and sixty two Acres of Land, which was to be laid out by them in some part of the Town, and the Proprietors of Rumford were to pay ten Pounds to said Proprietors of Bow for each Hundred Acre Lot which was laid out by said Bow in said Rumford: Whereupon your Petitioner with Andrew M^cmillan Esq^r and one Abiel Chandler who is since deceased, was chosen a Committe by said Proprietors of Rumford to give security for said ten Pounds for each Hundred Acre Lot as aforesaid, and receive a Quit Claim Deed from a Committee of the Proprietors of Bow chosen for that purpose: Whereupon your Petitioner with said M^cMillan and Chandler met the Committee of Bow, received a Quit Claim Deed, and gave a Bond upon Interest for the ten Pounds for each Hundred acre Lot. And in March 1773 at a Meeting of the Freeholders and Proprietors of said Township of Rumford alias Concord, it was voted to assess the several divisions in said Township the sum of five Hundred Pounds, which sum would at that time (it was supposed) pay for each Hundred Acre Lot and also sixty Pounds voted by said Proprietors and Freeholders to give the Masonian Proprietors for their pretended Right to part of said Land,—Whereupon Benjamin Emery Joseph Hall Jun^r and John Chandler Jun^r were chosen Assessors, and

Timothy Walker Jun^r was chosen Collector, an assessment was made and committed to the Collector, who collected near two thirds of said Assessment, which was paid to said Proprietors of Bow, but as it was doubtful whether said Collector could, by law, compel any one to pay his Tax, the remainder is unpaid until this Time. The Bond lies now against your Petitioner on Interest, and he is liable to be sued for that he never received a farthing for—Wherefore he prays this Honourable Court would enable said Collector to finish collecting said Assessment, and also to enable said Proprietors of Rumford to call a legal Meeting and vote what sum they shall think necessary to discharge said Bond and assess the several Divisions in said Rumford alias Concord therefor, in the same way and manner the former Assessment was made; and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Concord June 10th 1788.

Thomas Stickney

[In H. of Rep., June 11, 1788, the matter came up, and a hearing was ordered for the next session. January 17, 1789, an act was passed authorizing Timothy Walker to collect the remainder of said assessment.—ED.]

[2-224] [*Petition for Charter for Concord Bridge.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened, The Petition of the Subscribers humbly shews

That public convenience requires that a Bridge be erected over Merrimack River within the Town Concord—The rapid increase of the country renders it necessary that travelling should be facilitated—For this purpose they apprehend, that the erection of a suitable Bridge will meet with the encouragement of the General Court, Your Petitioners therefore pray that they & their associates may have a grant of the exclusive privilege of erecting a Bridge at the rocks below Butters ferry, so called, and they pray for this grant under such regulations as to your honors shall appear proper—And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Peter Green | Thos Stickney | Tim ^o Walker |
| Moody Dow | Samuel Fowler | William Duncan |
| Robert Harris | Thomas Wilson | Tim ^o Chandler |
| John Thorndike | William A Kent | Rich ^d Ayer |
| W ^m Partridge | W ^m Manley | Eben ^r Duston |
| George Hough | | |

[An act was passed January 16, 1795, incorporating the signers to the foregoing by the name of the "Proprietors of Concord Bridge," and the structure was erected the following summer, where the "Lower Bridge" now stands.—ED.]

—

[2-223] [*Petition for Charter for Federal Bridge.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Concord Dec^r 15th 1795—

Humbly Shew—The undersigned that a Bridge across the River Merrimac at or near Tucker's ferry (so called) in said Concord would in their opinion be of great public utility—and as the Country is fast increasing in population they humbly conceive the Hon^{ble} Court will encourage every attempt to facilitate the communication between the different parts of the state—They therefore pray your Honors that they, with such others as may associate with them may have the exclusive privilege of erecting a Bridge over the river Merrimac at the place aforesaid and that they may be erected into a Body politic and corporate for the purpose aforesaid, under such regulations as your Honors think proper—and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Tim^o Walker, Benj^a Emery, William Partridge,
Jonathan Eastman, Joshua Thompson,

[2-222]

Concord Dec^r 15th 1795.

This may certify that I the subscriber have agreed with the petitioners for a Bridge over Merrimac River at my ferry—to relinquish my right to the Ferry for four hundred and fifty dollars, payable when the Bridge shall be passable,—provided said Bridge shall be finished in three years.

Eliphalet Tucker

P. Green

[An act was passed December 28, 1795, incorporating the signers of the foregoing petition, and their associates, by the name of the "Proprietors of Federal Bridge," and the bridge was soon after erected near the present site of the bridge leading to East Concord.—ED.]

[2-227] [*Petition for Grant of a Township.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Concord Decem^r 1796.

The Petition of the undersigners most humbly sheweth,—That there are Large tracts of Land unlocated in the Northern and Northeastern parts of this state—That there are many citizens who are good and loyal subjects who are obliged to seek for land to cultivate and places of residing without the bounds of the Union in the provinces of Lower & Upper Canady—whereby the state of New Hampshire is Deprived of our young men the flower and pride of the state—That no encouragement has as yet been given, nor leave obtained to settle those Lands which we humbly conceive is the cause of the above mentioned emigration—We therefore pray that we and our associates may have a grant of a Township of Land in some part of the above mentioned Tract under such restrictions and regulations as to your Honors may seem just and reasonable, and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Concord Decem^r 7th 1796.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Richard Herbert | Richard Herbert J ^r | James Flanders |
| Philip Flanders J ^r | Calvin Flanders | Jonathan Herbert |
| James Herbert | Jonathan Chase | Aaron Greeley |
| Tim ^o Walker | Tim ^o Walker Ju ^r | Charles Walker |
| Abiel Walker | Isaac Emery | Nath ^l Abbott Jr. |
| Joshua Abbott | Rob ^t Choate | Moses Hale |
| Aquila Davis | | |

[2-229]

[This document is an elaborate plan of Merrimack river, from Federal Bridge to some distance below Hooksett falls. It was presented with a petition from Jonathan Dix for a ferry, 1774.—ED.]

[R. 225] [*William Walker's Petition, 1753.*]

Province of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable General Assembly for said Province—The Petition of William Walker of Rumford in said Province humbly sheweth; that there is a mistake in the Petitioners Muster roll lately passed in said Assembly which is as follows viz^t: John Rawlings is born on said Roll beginning april 25th & on untill July 1st then Enoch Webster beginning with July

1st served in his place untill July 27th as per said Roll appears, then John Rawlings resumed his service & served untill October 3^d: being nine weeks & five days for which service and subsistence he is not made up or born on said Roll and your petitioner therefore prays that your Honours would take the Premises into your wise consideration & grant to the Heirs of said John Rawlings lately dec^d wages for his said nine weeks & five days service & also subsistence money for the respective person or persons who billeted him the said term & your Petitioner shall as in Duty bound ever pray.

Rumford June 13th, 1753.

William Walker

[Sworn to before Ezra Carter. The assembly granted him £6-13-7 for wages, and £4-5 for billeting, "new tenor."—ED.]

[R. 226] [*Joshua Abbott's Certificate, 1776.*]

This may sertifye that John Roberson did not draw any money For his Coat or blanket that was Promised Him During His stay in my Company.

Joshua Abbott Cap^t

[R. 227] [*Ezekiel Carter's Petition for Timothy Johnson, 1778.*]

State of New Hampshire.—

To the Hon^{ble} The Council & the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire convened at Exeter August 18th 1778.—

The Petition of Ezekiel Carter of Concord in the County of Rockingham in the State of New Hampshire.—Humbly Sheweth—That your Petitioner's Son in Law Timothy Johnson engaged in the service of this State in July 1777 in Cap^t Peter Kimball's Company in Col^o Stickney Regiment in General Starks Brigade, that he marched to Bennington and was there taken sick, that he was sent to N^o 4 under the care of John Peters of Concord where he languished for several weeks and then and there died That your Petitioner expended Four Pounds Six Shillings and six Pence, according to the Bill herewith exhibited, in taking care of said Johnson—The said Carter therefore humbly prays that your Honours would take his case into consideration and make him a grant of the above sum.

and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray—

Tim^o Walker Jun^r in behalf of s^d Carter

[The amount was allowed August 19, 1778.—ED.]

[R. 228] [*Sarah Pitts's Receipt.*]Concord May 31st 1782.

Receiv^d of the Select Men of Concord by the Hand of Tim^o Walker Jr: Fifteen Spanish Mill^d Dollars for supplying my Family in the absence of my Husband Thomas Pitts who engaged as a Soldier during the War, for said Concord, in the Continental army

I say rec^d by meSarah ^{her} × Pitts
markTes^t Rob^t Harris

[R. 229]

[September 5, 1782, Sarah Pitts acknowledges the receipt of £7-4, lawful money, attested by Mehitabel Harris.—ED.]

[R. 230] [*Jonathan Elliot's Petition.*]State of New Hamp^r

To the Honb^l the Senate and House of Representatives for said State in General Court convened, Feb^r 1785.

Humbly Shews. Jonathan Elliot of Concord in said State—That your Petitioner engaged in the service of the United States in the year 1776 in Cap^t William Stilson's Company in Col^o Wymans Reg^t, and served in said Company until discharged, that at the time of his being discharged there was one months pay due to said Company that at the Captains return he drew from the Treasury of this State the money due to said Company and left the State—The Lieutenant of said Company with almost all the Company Petition the then Honb^l Assembly for their pay & had their Petition granted. but your Petitioner living at a Distance from the Petitioners before mentioned had not the opportunity of then Petitioning—and has laid out of his just due to this time and your Petitioner is informed that the said Cap^t Stilson has since returned and paid the money into the Treasury Wherefore your Petitioner prays that your Honours would take his case into your wise consideration and give him an order on the Treasurer for said months pay or otherways relieve your Petitioner as to your Honours shall seem meet—and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall pray

Jonathan Elliot

Concord Feb^r 11th 1785

CONWAY.

The township was granted October 1, 1765, to Daniel Foster and others, to contain 23,040 acres. Settlements had been made the year previous; and between the time of the grant and 1766, James Osgood, Benjamin Osgood, Ebenezer Burbank, and John Dolloff settled in the town.

The first proprietors' meeting was held in Chester, December 10, 1765, at which Thomas Merrill was chosen proprietors' clerk, and held the office twenty years.

April 6th, 1772, ten of the original rights were regranted to other parties, for conditions broken. Col. Andrew McMillan, one of the grantees, moved into the town, from Concord, in 1774; he was a lieutenant in the French war, and for his services as such, in accordance with a proclamation of the king of October 7, 1763, he received a grant of 2000 acres of land north of Conway, and now within the limits of Bartlett, said grant being dated October 25, 1765. He was a prominent man there until his death, November 6, 1800, at the age of 70.

November 10, 1778, the town was severed from Grafton county and annexed to Strafford, and so remained until the formation of Carroll county in 1840. By an act approved June 14th, 1800, the following territory was annexed to the town:

Grants of 2000 acres each to Lieutenant Hugh Sterling of Londonderry, Lieutenant Samuel Stark of Derryfield, and Lieutenant Archibald Stark of Dunbarton, made in consideration of services in "our Independent Company of rangers" in the French war, and dated October 31, 1765.

June 26, 1823, the farms of Jonathan Hardy and Edward Shirley were severed from Conway and annexed to Chatham.

[3-2]

[*Vote of Town-Meeting.*]

At a meeting of the proprietors of Conway at the dwelling house of Mr. Joshua Heath inholder in S^d Town on the 30th of March 1773 Unanimously Voted, The Thanks of the Proprietors of Conway to His Excellency the Governor & the Honorable his Majestys Council for their Care and kindness to Said Town in their Endeavors to Promote the Settlement of it

by making a regrant of Such rights as belong^d to those that would Settle them to other of his Majestys Subjects as would Ingage to do it—And that the Moderator & Clark be desir^d to Signify the Same to them—

Timothy Walker Moderator

Thomas Merrill Prop^r Clk.

[3-1] [*Thomas Merrill recommended.*]

Province of }
New hamp^r } To His Excellencie John Wentworth Esq^r Govern
or and Commander in Chief in & over His majestys Province of New hampshire & vice adm^l of Same the Humble Petition of Sundry of y^e Proprietors & Inhabatance of y^e town of Conway in S^d Province & others adjacent—Whereas Said town of Conway hath a great number of Inhabatance & no person in the Commission for y^e Peace within forty miles of S^d town & Such a person being Greatly wanting among us we Humbly Beg your Excellence would Commission a person according to your Great wisdom to act in S^d office among us (and we would Humbly Beg Liberty to Let your Excellency know that we Should Be Glad & Rejoyce If your Excellency Should appoint to that office Lieu^t thomas Merrell of Said Conway) & as In Duty Bound your petitioner Shall ever pray &c—

Walter Bryent
Ezekiel Walker
James gay
James Cochran

James osgood
Richard Ayer
Samuel Bodwell
Daniel Foster

Joseph Eastman
And^r M^cmillan

29 Apr. 1769

We the Subscribers of His majestys Council In New hamp^r Beg Leave to Recommend to your Excellency the Person with in Named (vis Lieu^t thomas merrell) as a Suteable Person to be in the Commition for y^e Peace &c—

D^l Warner
Theodore Atkinson
T. Atkinson Jun^r
Geo. Jaffrey
Jonathan Warner

[3-3] [*List of ratable Polls in Conway, as sworn to May 9, 1773, by Abiel Lovejoy and John Webster, Selectmen.*]

Cap^t Tim^o Walker
David Page

Ezekiel Walker
Benj^a Heath

Tho^s Merrill Esq^r
Tho^s Merrill Jun^r

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| W ^m Merrill | Enoch Merrill | Ja ^s Osgood |
| Jeremy Page | Rich ^d H. Osgood | Joshua Kelly |
| Jeremiah Farronton | John Dolloff | Eben ^r Burbank |
| Joshua Heath | Eben ^r Farnum | Benj ^a Farnum |
| John Willson | John Webster | Peter Chandler |
| Leonard Harriman | And ^w M ^c Millan Esq ^r | Enoch Webster |
| Jona. Cochran | Anthony Emery | Abiel Lovejoy |
| Abiather Eastman | William Knox | Levi Carter |
| Tho ^s Russell | Nath ^l Smith | Nathan Davis |
| Cap ^t Henry Brown | John Dolloff Jun ^r | Abraham Colby |
| Joseph Odell | Daniel Butterfield | Richard Eastman |
| John Osgood | Benj ^a Osgood. | |

Total number polls 43—arable land 120 acres—mowing land 57 acres—Horses 6—Oxen 34—Cows 43—3 y^r olds 28—2 y^r olds 12—1 y^r olds 9—

[3-4] [*Relative to delinquent Grantees.*]

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth
New Hampshire } Esq^r Captain General Governor and Com-
mander in chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New
Hampshire aforesaid &c. In Council—

The Petition of Andrew M^cMillan Esq: In behalf of himself and associates most humbly Shews—That the Township of Conway in said Province was granted by his Majesty's Charter bearing date the First day of October, 1765 in Sixty-nine Shares on certain Conditions of Settlement to be performed and fulfilled by the Grantees thereof in Five years from the date of said Charter.

Also That certain of said Grantees, namely Moses Eastman, Nathaniel Eastman, Richard Ayers, Jacob Ayers, Nathaniel Peasley, Peter Ayers, William Ladd, Samuel Ayers, James Ozgood, Moses Foster Jun^r John Carr Samuel Ingalls, John Lang, Asa Kimball and Andrew Buntin, have not performed the Conditions of settlement agreeable to Charter

And your Petitioners have been at great Expence in settling said Town building Mills and making Roads into the Country at a Time when provision was very dear and to be transported many miles through an uninhabited Country.—

Your Petitioners therefore Pray the Said Rights or Shares of the aforesaid delinquent Grantees, may be granted to your Petitioners under such Conditions as to your Excellency shall seem meet; and they as in duty Bound shall ever Pray &c.

Portsm^o 29th January 1771

And^r M^cmillan

[The rights were regranted April 6, 1772.—ED.]

[3-5] [*Petition to have the Town annexed to Strafford County.*]

State of New Hampshire }
 Grafton ss. } To the hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives for said State

The Petition of Thomas Chadbourn, Andrew Mcmillan & David Page, a Commitee of the town of Conway in the County of Grafton and State aforesaid, humbly sheweth, That at a legal meeting of the inhabitants of said Conway on the 21st day of May A D 1778 the petitioners where chosen to petition the General-Court for said State, to disjoin said Conway from Grafton and annex it to the County of Strafford In pursuance of which trust we do in behalf of the inhabitants of said Conway humbly pray that your honors would take into your consideration the peculiar circumstances and situation of that Town—that it is 50 miles distant from any inhabited Town in the County of Grafton—a still greater distance from the nearest shire Town in that County and almost 100 miles from the furthest, to wit Haverhill. That it lies more contiguous to the incorporated Towns of Strafford, which County is now in a settled, connected State with the other parts of New-Hampshire, which cannot strictly be averred of the s^d County of Grafton, add to all this, that it is no new start, but was proposed and voted in the year 1774 to present a petition to the then Gen^l Court to the same purport with this, but the times put a stop thereto for all these Reasons your petitioners in behalf of said Conway pray your honors w^d take the matter into your wise and deliberate consideration, and grant the prayer of their petition if you sh^d think it promotive of the good of said Conway, and not inconsistent with that of the State.—and y^r petitioners as in duty bound &c

Conway July 7th 1778

Thomas Chadbourn }
 Andrew McMillan } Commitee of
 David Page } Conway

[The above was granted by an act passed November 10, 1778.—ED.]

[3-6] [*Concerning Authority of Civil Officers.*]

Conway June 14th 1779

Sir—When the town of Conway was annexed to the county of Strafford by an act of General Court there was no mention made in the act Respecting those Persons in Commision where they should be Renewed or otherwise; Esq^r Page is one of

those Esq^r Page was made a Justice of the Peace in the year 1776 and has Remained Ever sence in that office to the acceptance of the People but by said act is Scrupelous of his authority and Prayes to be set Right by the General Court—in behalfe of the Town of Conway I am Sir your obliged Humble Servant—

Thomas Chadbourne

To the Honb^l John
Langdon Esq. at Exeter — —
or in his absence to Hon^{bl}
John Dudley Esq^r—

[3-7] [*Relative to Taxes, Defence of Frontier, etc., 1780.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Honourable, The Council and House
Strafford ss. } of Representatives of said State.

The Petition of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Conway in the County & State aforesaid; At a Legal Town Meeting assembled:

Most humbly sheweth,

That the Circumstances, & Situation of said Town are very peculiar; that it is a Frontier Town, Ninety Miles distant from Sea-Port, Fifty Miles whereof are through a Wilderness almost uninhabited; that the great Distance from Market, & Badness of Roads (especially in the Winter Season) render the Transportation of Produce & other Articles of Commerce exceeding difficult, & costly; that your Petitioners have no other Means to raise Money but by the common Produce of the Land, & transporting the Same to Market, and for the Reasons aforesaid, the neat Proceeds thereof are not more than one Third Part of the current Price at market; that the incidental Casualties & Charges of settling a new Township, together with the Distresses of the present War, have rendered your Petitioners extremely poor; that your Petitioners have always been chearful in paying their Quota of Taxes, when demanded, excepting the present Continental & State Taxes: and your Petitioners beg Leave to affirm as their Opinion, that there is not now, nor hath been since the Payment of said Taxes being due, One Fourth Part so much Money owned by the Inhabitants of said Town as will discharge the Same: Therefore your Petitioners earnestly pray that your Honours would take the Premises into your Consideration, and abate them in Part of the present Taxes and favour them for the Future, or as you shall think fit. And your Petitioners farther humbly Shew, That whereas the Town of Conway with the few adjacent

Inhabitants have always been considered as an Independent Company of Militia, have been at great Expence in equipping themselves with Implements of War, agreeable to the Law of said State, & the Rules & Order of said Company, and have ever defended themselves against their Frontier Enemies; and their remote Situation is such, that it must render it extremely difficult & costly for them to be joined to any Regiment whatsoever; Therefore your Petitioners further pray that your Honours would take these Matters also into your serious, wise, & deliberate Consideration, & grant that said Company may continue in their former State, if your Honours shall think it promotive of the Good of your Petitioners, & not inconsistent with that of the State. And your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, will ever pray.

Conway, Decemb^r 12th 1780

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Tho's Chadbourn | } Selectmen of Conway. |
| Hugh Sterling | |
| Richard Eastman | |

In behalf of the Inhabitants

[3-8] [*Petition for Help to build a Road to Coös.*]

To The Hon^{ble} the Council and assembly of the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Conway—

Humbly Shews That your petitioners being anxiously concerned for our Brethren & Neighbours the Inhabitants of the upper Cohos who altho' our near Neighbors are cut off from an easy communication with us by an almost inaccessible pass at the Heighth of the land which divides the River Saco from the River Connecticut—

This pass which is mountainous & interrupted by several Brooks & small Rivers is not contained within the bounds of any Located Tract of Land & therefore remains to the State— & is of small extent—all other parts of the road between Conway & said Cohos having lately (at the expence of the owners of the Lands) been repaired. Our concern on this Occasion arises from an apprehension that an Enemy may at some time & Probably this Summer make an attack on Connecticut River & shou'd such attack be made below said upper Cohos all means of Retreat for the Inhabitants above will be cut off saving by the said Road which is so difficult of passage that it would be almost impracticable to remove with safety Women, Children or effects of any kind and it would be equally difficult for the Inhabitants of Conway or the Neighbouring Towns to

repair to the relief of our said Neighbours on Connecticut River

Therefore your Petitioners Humbly pray that your Honors woud take the matter under your Wise Consideration & order that the said Road Shall be completed by the State in Such Way & manner as your Honors shall think best—and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray—&c

Tho^s Merrill in behalfe
Conway

(See Northumberland papers.)

[3-9] [*Relative to raising Men for the Defence of the Frontiers.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Honourable the Com-
Strafford ss. } mittee of Safety for the State of
New Hampshire.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Conway, Sheweth, That the Town of Conway is a Frontier Town & exposed to the cruel Depredations of the Savages who have lately made Inroads in the neighbouring Towns;—That they have already sent out as a scouting Party all the Men that can possibly be spared from said Town, but said Party is much too small to answer any Purpose; That immediate Succour is absolutely necessary for the Safety of the Frontiers of this State;—That they have exerted themselves to their utmost to raise men on the Terms offered by the Honourable Committee, but all to no Effect: your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that the Premises may be taken in to your prudent & deliberate Consideration, that some other Method may be devised for the speedy Raising of Men for the Defence of the distressed Frontier.

And your Petitioners will ever pray &c
Conway, August 20th 1781—

Richard Eastman, Town Clerk.
By Order of the Selectmen—

[3-10] [*Colonel Joseph Whipple relative to raising Men for the Army.*]

Conway Augst 17, 1781

Sir—On my arrival here this day I find that the order of the Committee of the 10th Instant for raising 30 Men cannot be complied on the terms proposed of Continental pay &c—The officer appointed to the Command & sent out by Col. Page has

been 3 days in the Business & has not procured a single Man—The Liut^t is still out but there is no prospect of his Succeeding better—Not having myself been acquainted of late with the business of raising men it was not for me to suggest the impracticability of raising them on these terms when I had the honor with M^r Page to receive the Committees orders—but I find that every Town who hath lately raised men for the Service hath been obliged to add greatly to the Wages in order to obtain them, & even then they have been obliged to class & draught, in some cases at least—I conceive that no method can be fallen upon to raise the Men immediately for this service but to draught them from the neighbouring Towns Vis, Conway, Tamworth, Wakefield, Leavittstown, Wolfb^o Moultenbor^o say such of *them* or such others as the Committee shall think fit Conway hath lost more than 200 days already, since the late alarm in scouting &c which may be a good plea for excusing them—The circuitous rout of lower Cohos is so intirely out of the way, besides its being in the heart of the disaffected part of the State I think renders it of little effect to call for them there—

The Hon^{ble} Committee will see the necessity of imediately raising the men—I think the number before ordered inadequate to the occasion but if the Committee do not think proper to encrease it; when these are raised there will be time to see what better can be done—We know there are three parties of the Enemy on the Frontiers of 9 to 11 each & their numbers may be much increased—the success that each of these parties met with will be the greatest encouragement to their future attempts, & to other adventures.—It is my humble opinion that there ought to be an establish'd force on the frontiers subject to such regulations as to be speedily encreased when the season of the year admits of the Enemys travelling the Wood with ease, & deminished when that season is over—at no time to be totally dismissed, but a party stationed for Militia to collect to as occasion may require.—The Committee will have heard that the Inhabitants of Shelburn have come in and a single murder on Connecticut River will send in all the Inhabitants of upper Cohos—we are endeavouring to form a small scout for a few days till the Bearer shall return—I am using my endeavours to prevail on the inhabitants of Shelburn to return & take care of their Crops, but have not yet succeeded with those I have seen—I shall not fail of my exertions to keep the people from removing in (if they once break there is no knowing where they will stop), for that purpose contrary to the Remonstrance of everybody here I am determ^d to go forward myself in hopes that by being on the spot, I may calm the minds of the people till some force shall arrive—If the men are ordered

to march as above proposed, I think they should be directed to take 6 Days allowance with them, provision could be raised soon after their arrival agreeably to the Committees appointment—

I cannot find that the 13 men raised in Col. Websters Regiment are arrived—The Bearer Mr Abiather Eastman is the person appointed to the Command of the party ordered to be raised & is approved of by the people here—I have the Honor to be with great respect

Your Honors most Obed^t & most
Hb^l serv^t

J. Whipple

Cap^t Eastmans Family being
sick he cannot wait on you
as was intended—the Bearer is Cap^t Heath

[3-11] [*Relative to Refugees from frontier Towns.*]

State of New Hampshire. } To the Honourable, the General
Strafford, ss. } Court of the State of New Hamp-
shire.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Conway, Sheweth, That they have been at considerable Expence in assisting & relieving the distressed Inhabitants of the Frontiers of this State, who have suffered by the Ravages of the Savages of the Wilderness. That they have made out a just and exact Account of said Expence & sent it by Col. David Page their Representative, who is to exhibit it to the Honourable Court, Your Petitioners humbly pray that the Premises may be duly & equitably considered, that the said Expence may be reimbursed to the said Town. And your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, will ever pray.

Conway Sept. 15th 1781. Thomas Chadbourn } Selectmen in
Richard Eastman } Behalf of
Enoch Webster } said Town.

[3-12] [*Relative to a Bridge over East Branch.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Honourable the General
} Court of Said State

The Humble Petition of The Inhabitants of a place called Starks Location & the Neighboring Locations Sheweth

That they have been at a considerable expence in Makeing Roads trough Said Location that there is a Rapid River on S^d

Location called the Eastering Branch, Great part of the year unpassable that your Petitioners are unable to build a Bridge over the Same and have a long time Suffered and Endangered their Lives and properties for want of S^d Bridge That about two years agoe this Honourable Court did apoint Coll. Mc. Millan and others as a Committee to Make or Repaire a Road through S^d Land in Conjunction With other Land, and Sell So much of S^d Land as Would pay for the Same that the S^d Mc-Millan did take one Hundred acre's of the best Land of S^d Location to Himself for that purpose but hath not built S^d Bridge or laid out one farthing on the Road Wherefore your Petitioners Pray that this Honourable Court Will Take the Premises in their Wise & Deliberate Consideration and Direct the S^d M^r Mc. Millan to Make s^d Bridge or otherwise as they Shall judge Proper—and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

Pickwacket, Sept. 18th, 1781.

Signed Tho^s Rickard in
behalf of Himself and the
Petitioners — — — —

Vere Royse
Enoch Emery
Josiah Copps
Samuel Wooddes
Nathaniel Smith
Joseph Pitman

Benjamin Copps
Richardson Emery
George Wooddes
John Pendexter
Humphrey Emery
Thomas Spring Peter Coffin

[3-13]

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives
for the State of New hampshire in General Court assembled

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Conway Sheweth That the situation of the Town is Such that by the River (called Saco River) Runing through Said Town Divides it in two parts which makes it Dificult (especially in freshets) to pass from one part of the Town to the other—

Wherefore your petitioners humbly prayeth that a patent may be granted for a ferry over Said River to M^r Stephen Coffin and his Heirs for ever agreeable to the proposels of David Page Esq^r our Representative—and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray—

Richard Eastman } Selectmen of
Ezekiel Walker } Conway

in behalfe of the Inhabitents

June 5th 1783.

[3-14] [*Number ratable Polls, 1783.*]Conway December the 12th 1783

An Inventory of the Number of male Polls of twenty one years of age and upward in the township of Conway and Locations adjacent

The N^o of Polls in Conway—72the N^o of Polls in the Location—36

N. B. the township of Eaton and Burton consists of forty one Polls upward of twenty one years of age as near as we can collect

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Richard Eastman | } Select men |
| Ezekiel Walker | |
| James osgood | |

Strafford ss conway December the 12th 1783

the with Named Select men made solum oath that the with in In Ventry taken and subscribed by them was done according to the best of there knoledge and under standing

Before me David Page Just peace

—

[3-15] [*Town Inventories.*]

A Ccopy of the Sum total of all the Real and Personal Estate in the town of Conway as was taken by the Selectmen (by which they have made their taxes) in the years 1779 & 1780 & 1781 & 1782 & 1783

| April | | A D. | 1780 |
|-------|---------------------------------------|------|------|
| 1779 | | | |
| 63 | Number of Pols | | 67 |
| 185 | N ^o of acres of arble Land | | 241 |
| 265 | N ^o of acres of mowing | | 339 |
| 34 | N ^o of acres of Pastureing | | 67 |
| 32 | N ^o of Horses | | 37 |
| 72 | N ^o of oxen | | 88 |
| 103 | N ^o of cows | | 110 |
| 41 | N ^o of three years old | | 35 |
| 35 | N ^o of 2 year old | | 52 |
| 41 | N ^o of 1 year old | | 37 |
| £6223 | Value of Real Estate | £ | 7081 |

| Ad 1781 | | AD | 1782 | |
|---------|------------------------------------|----|------|-------------|
| 73 | Number of Pols | | 77 | |
| 227 | N ^o of acres of arable | | 242 | |
| 322 | N ^o of acres of mowing | | 340 | |
| 70 | N ^o of acres of Pasture | | 74 | |
| 43 | N ^o of Horses | | 37 | 5 ..0. |
| 90 | N ^o of oxen | | 75 | 11.. 5..0.. |
| 123 | N ^o of cows | | 113 | 11.. 6..0.. |
| 34 | N ^o of three year old | | 33 | 2.. 9..6.. |
| 45 | N ^o of 2 year old | | 27 | 1.. 7..0.. |
| 37 | N ^o of 1 year old | | 24 | 0..12..0.. |
| £7590 | Sum total of the Real Estate | £ | 6375 | 32..10..6.. |

The Sum of all the Real and Personal Estate taken in April 1783

| A D | 1783 | |
|--|------|---------|
| Number of Pols | 73 | |
| N ^o of acres of arable Land | 239 | |
| N ^o of acres of mowing | 359 | |
| N ^o of acres of Pasturing | 74 | |
| N ^o of Horses | 37 | 5. 0.0 |
| N ^o of oxen | 75 | 11. 5.0 |
| N ^o of Cows | 111 | 11. 2.0 |
| N ^o of three year old | 33 | 2. 9.6 |
| N ^o of 2 year old | 27 | 1. 7.0 |
| N ^o of 1 year old | 33 | 16.6 |
| the Sum total of Real Estate | 5595 | |

the Several inventories within this Paper is a true copy taken from the original inventories that the Select men of Conway have made their taxes by yearly

Richard Eastman } Select
Ezekiel Walker } men

[3-16] [Concerning Abatement of State Tax.]

To the Honourable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Select men of Conway in behalf of said Town humbly sheweth, that when the State was proportioned for a new Tax in 1779, the town of Conway was doomed; and the Sum was greater than their just proportion—said Town immediately petitioned the General Court for an abatement of their Tax but to no purpose. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honours will take their Case under your

wise consideration and abate so much of their Taxes, since said proportion was taken, as you in your wisdom shall think meet & your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

Conway June 1st 1784

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Richard Eastman | } Select men |
| James osgood | |
| Ezekiel Walker | |

[3-17]

The Deposition of Nath^l Merrill of Lawful age testifiet^h and saith that he surveyed all the Land that is Laid out in the Town of Conway and is well acquainted with what is left as Common or undivided, and that according to the best Estemation your Deponant can make their is more than the one half of the Town of Conway, that is Mountains Pine Plains or Wast Bogg, and that a Bout three Thousand Eight Hundred acres of that half is in one Mountain and further saith Not

Nath^l Merrill

Commonwealth of Massachusetts } Personally appeared
York ss. Brownfield October 8th 1784 } Nathaniel Merrill & made
Solemn Oath to the Truth of the above Deposition by him subscribed taken at the request of the Selectmen of the Town of Conway in the State of New Hampshire to be used in the General Court—

Coram Josh B. Osgood
Just Pacis

[3-20 [Concerning Freshet of October, 1785.]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire convened at Portsmouth the second Wednesday of December A D 1786

Humbly sheweth Andrew McMillan Esq^r in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Town of Conway in the County of Strafford in said State: That said Town is situated on Saco River about twenty miles South East from the White Hills;

That it is often flowed by sudden and heavy Rains, which cause great damage; That in the month of October 1785 an unusual Rain fell, which raised the River to a much greater height than was ever known before; The Water overflowing the Banks, deluged the surrounding Country, greatly injured many Farms, totally ruined others, drowned many of the Cattle, carried off almost all the Fences, damaged some Buildings,

destroyed others, and swept away or ruined great part of the produce of the Town—the Inhabitants sole dependance for support, or for the payment of Taxes—

The said Andrew therefore prays the Hon^{ble} Court that they would take the distressed situation of the Town of Conway under their wise consideration and abate the Taxes of the Lands that were destroyed for the present year and untill a new valuation is taken; and on account of the extraordinary losses sustained, abate for this year so much of the Taxes of the Town as to their wisdom shall seem meet. And as in duty bound will ever pray

Andrew McMillan

The following is an Estimate of the losses sustained in the Town of Conway by a grate Freshet in October 1785 About three hundred and twenty seven Acres of Arable and Mowing Land totally spoild two Barns carried away With all the Hay and Grain in them Seven Dwelling Houses and four Barns so much Damaged as Obliged the Owners to Rebuild them again—and as the most of the Barns stood on the Interval a grate part of the hay was lost ten Oxen twelve Cowes Eighty sheep two Horses and twenty-five swine Drowned; a large Quantity of Flax which was spread in the Interval, a greater part of the Corn then in the fields: allmost Every rod of Fence in the Town and Every Bridge great and small two of which Cost the Town About one hundred pounds also one Tun and a half of Potash Consumed Besides many other losses—

the above is agreeable to an account taken by the Selectmen of Conway August 1786 and Sworne to before

Andrew McMillan Justis peace

N B One Saw Mill and one Grist Mill together with Dams Carried off

[3-19] [Concerning Election of Representative.]

to the Honourable House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire the Petition of David Page of conway in Said State in behalf of the town of Eaten burten conway and Locations Sheweth that the above mentioned Places were formed into a Destrict for the purpose of sending a member to the General Court & it fell by Rotation to burten to Notify the Destrict this year which they went to Doe but upon exammenation

it was found that they had not mentioned all the Places in the Destrict in there Notification by which means the meeting was not agreable to the costitution and consequencele there was no Person chosen to Represent the Destrict, your petitioner therefore prays that an order may pass this house Impowering said Burten to call a meeting and if the Destrict think fit make choyse of some Person to Represent them in the General court—and your petitioner as in duty bound will pray

concord June the 7 1786

David Page

[June 12, 1786, H. of Rep. voted to grant the petition.
—Ed.]

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[3-21] [*Concerning the formation of a new County.*]

To the Honourable The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New-Hampshire, in General Court convened at Concord, the first wednesday of June 1791—

The Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Conway by their Selectmen in this petition, humbly beg leave to shew, That your petitioners being informed that a new arrangement of the counties throughtout the State is likely to take place, would, with submission, give their opinion with regard to the northerly part of this State. It is needless to observe to your Honors, that the town of Conway is the most northerly town in the County of Strafford, and nearly seventy miles distant from where the Courts are held in and for said County which is no small inconvenience on many accounts; and as your petitioners conceive the northerly part of the County of Grafton labours under similar difficulties—they therefore humbly pray that a new County may be formed in the northerly part of this State in such a manner as to include part of what is now the County of Grafton, and a small part of the County of Strafford, which would greatly encourage the settlement and population of the northerly part of the State; an object truly desirable with every wise Legislature—

Your petitioners further beg leave to suggest, that, in their opinion it would be convenient that the bounds of the new County be as follow: Beginning on the line between the District of Maine and the State of New Hampshire to the South of the Locations which are situated on the South of Conway near Ossipee River thence running northerly on said line to Connecticut River or Canady line thence down said River to the Southerly bounds of Lyman; from thence easterly to the

bounds first mentioned; including Eaton, Burton, and Tamworth;

Or to be limited otherwise, as your Honors, in your wisdom shall think fit.—And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Richard Eastman | } | Select- men of Conway |
| Stephen Webster | | |
| James Osgood | | |

[3-23] [*Concerning Representative Class.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in general Court convened at Portsmouth Novem^r 30th 1791—

The Petition of the freeholders and other Inhabitants of Conway, Bartlett and the Locations to the North of Bartlett—Together with Sterlings, Archibald Starks and Samuel Starks Location South of Conway—Humbly Sheweth—

That your petitioners finding it very inconvenient for them to be classed with Eaton and Burton for the choise of a Representative among the many inconveniences attending it with submission point out That the scattered, and Remote Situation of the Inhabitants, from the places where their Meeting are held, being nearly thirty miles distance—and in the month of March when s^d meeting is held the Roads are so bad and Rivers high, That Renders it almost impossable for the greatest part of Conway and the whole of Bartlett to attend when the Meeting is held at Eaton or Burton altho Conway and Bartlett, have three times the number of Reatable polls there are in Eaton and Burton—In consequence of the foregoing inconveniencies together with many others—your petitioners conceive themselves in some measure, deprived of a voice in the Choice of a Representative, that they as Citizens are intitled to and of course a greivance, your petitioners pray may be Removed, by classing Conway, Bartlett, & Locations aforesaid for the choice of a Representative or otherwise Releaved as you in your wisdom shall judge Expedient—and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray—

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| John Pendexter, | Samuel Willd, | Elijah Densmore Ju ^r |
| Ralph Hall | Joseph Pitman, | Josiah Thompson |
| Samuel Wooddes, | Jonathan Hutchins, | Samuel Carlton, |
| Enoch Emery, | Timothy Walker, | George Wooddes, |
| Joseph Hall Juner, | Thomas Spring, | Joseph Pinkham, |
| Isaac Stanton, | Joseph Hall, | Josiah Hall, |
| James Rogers, | Jonathan Tasker, | James Bassett, |

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| levi Sevey, | Simon Seavey, | John Scribner, |
| Samuel Fall, | Jonathan Place, | Jonathan Sevey |
| John Dollof, | Richard garland, | Joseph Seavy, |
| Obed Hall, | Josiah Dollof, | Levi Chubbuck, |
| Josiar wekes, | Samuel Straten, | Stephen Densmoer, |
| Joseph tompson, | Humpary Emery, | mark Pitman, |
| Ja ^s Harrold, | miles thompson, | Jerimeah whitam, |
| Ben ^j osgood | John Wilson, | John ——— |
| Samuell Howard, | Moses osgood, | James osgood |
| Stephen Coffin, | Samuel Howard | Dean osgood |
| John Boswell Juner, | Juner, | James Howard, |
| Caleb Smith | Jeremiah Osgood, | John Boswell, |
| William Webster, | Daniel Em ^r Cross | Vere Royse, |
| Stephen Webster, | Thomas Newman, | Isaac Edes |
| William Chadbourn, | Nat. Porter, | John Webster, |
| Joshua Heath, | Barnet Walker, | Jeremiah Abbott, |
| William Knox, | James M ^c Millan, | Eben Burbank, |
| James Emery, | Joseph Odell, | John Spear, |
| Eben Bean, | Abiel Lovejoy, | Ebenezer farnam, |
| Benjamin Canna, | Ephraim Abbot, | John Thompson, |
| Daniel Leary, | Douglas Gean, | David George, |
| Thomas King, | Amos Barns, | William Lovejoy, |
| Abiather Eastman, | Tho ^s Merrill | Amos Merrill, |
| Noah Eastman, | Austin George, | Joseph sias, |
| Elijah Densmore | Jon ^a A. Merrill, | Richard Eastman, |
| Seno ^r , | Hezekiah Randel, | Moses Randel, |

—

[3-24] [*Dr. Chadbourne, concerning Small-Pox.*]

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened at Exeter December fourth 1792—

The petition of William Chadbourn of Conway in the County of Strafford Physician. Humbly Sheweth,—Whereas many people in Conway and other places thinking themselves in danger of taking the small Pox the natural way, have frequently applied to your petitioner to inoculate them for the Small Pox. But your petitioner declines doing anything in that way without being duly authorized as the Law directs. That on Sunday the 25th Day of November last one Person namely Joseph Frye came to the House of Andrew M^cMillan Esq^r in Conway and there Broke out with the Small Pox, and was conveyed from thence to the House of Samuel Stark, in Stark Location south of Conway—and also two other Persons has scince been attack'd with the Small Pox & removed to the

aforsaid House, and Committed to the care of your petitioner by the select-men of Conway—said Starks House is out of the bounds of any Township & is nearly one half Mile from any other Inhabitant & two Miles from any publick roads a very pleasant and proper place for Inoculation—Therefore in Consequence thereof your petitioner prays that Liberty may be granted to him to Inoculate for the Small Pox at the House of the said Stark, from the first Day of March next untill the first Day of November next ensuing the date hereof, under such Restrictions & Regulations as you in your great Wisdom shall think proper and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

William Chadbourn

December 7th 1792

[3-25] *Petition of Inhabitants of several Locations to be annexed to Conway.*]

To the honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of Newhampshire in general Court convened June 1799. The Petition of y^e Subscribers humbly sheweth that your Petitioners Inhabitants of Sterling's Location have encountered the first Difficulties & hardships which commonly attend the Settlement of new Plantations—have cleared Some of the Land on Said Location, & reduced them to that State of Cultivation which affords us the pleasing Prospect of a comfortable Subsistence—That after enduring the intense Labor & fatigues of Subduing a Wilderness thus far, we do not enjoy the priviledges common to other new Settlements—We have none of the advantages of Town Order—no Benefit of Schools nor any regular Method of Repairing Roads—That this is not only our present Situation; but that s^d Location being unconnected with any other Lands, we can have no Prospect of enjoying the Priviledges of incorporated Towns or Districts—that, whereas Said Location lieth adjacent to the Town of Conway on the South Line of Said Town, we might enjoy the Priviledges of incorporated Society, as fully as we could wish, or as amply as we or our Successors can ever expect, if we were annexed to Said Conway—That the two Locations west of Sterlings Viz. Archibald Stark, Samuel Starks Locations are precisely in the Same Predicament with this, all adjoining the South Line of Conway—that the three Locations are of equal extent with Said South Line, & capable of enjoying all Town Priviledges in a connection with the Said Town more fully & amply than could be by being annexed to any other Town, or Lands in the State. Your Petitioners therefore pray that the

Said Sterlings Location may be annexed to the Town of Conway; also that the three other Locations herein above mentioned may be equally annexed to the Said Town; or, that Such other Proceedings may be had for the Benefit of your Petitioners & y^e Said Locations as to the Wisdom of this honourable Court shall seem meet. And your Petitioners, as in Duty bound shall pray.

June 1st A D 1799

Arch^d Walker
James Coffin
Steven Coffin
Samuel Stark
Jams Starling
Joseph Meed
Stephen Whitaker

Joseph Walker
John Boswell Jun—
Hugh Sterling
Archibald Stark
James Meed
Theodore Combs
Stephen Webster

[3-31]

Conway May 28th 1800

this may Certify that we have ben Served with a Ccopy of the order of Court upon the Petition of Archabld Walker and others (Respecting Sterling Archabald Stark and Samuel Starks Locations being annexed to Conway) in Season and Cannot find that there is any objection against Said Locations being annexed to Said Conway

Noah Eastman } Selectmen
Leavit Hill } of
Jeremiah Page jr } Conway

[The locations of Hugh Sterling, Archibald Stark, and Samuel Stark were annexed to Conway by an act approved June 14, 1800.—ED.]

[3-26] [*The Baptist Society asks to be Incorporated.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened at Concord in June A D. 1800 Humbly sheweth your Petitioners; that we formed ourselves into a society in the year 1794 by the name of the Baptist society in Conway, and have ever since been in regular standing in the Baptist Meredith Ascociation: and laboring under many difficulties for want of an Incorporation—

We therefore, Humbly pray your Honors to take our case in-

to your wise consideration, and grant us an Incorporation by the name of the Baptist Society in Conway, and we your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Conway May 23^d 1800

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Elijah Densmore | Phillip Hariman | Johathan Runels |
| Elijah Densmore Jun | John Hariman | Thom F. Odell |
| Stephen Densmore | Isaac Chase | Samuel Bickford |
| Thomas Densmore | Thomas King | Samuel Knox |
| John Densmore | Thos merrill | Daniel Burrows |
| James Daniels | William Knox | William Brotton |
| Hezekiah Randel | Moses Harriman | Enoch Merrill Jr |
| Amos Merrill | Sarah Thompson | John Hariman |
| Hubbard C. Harri- man | John Hart | |

[In H. of Rep., November 25, 1800, the petition was granted.—ED.]

[3-27] [*Remonstrance against the Incorporation of the Baptist Society.*]

To the honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire convened at Concord the twenty fifth day of Nov^r 1800—The memorial and petition of a number of the freeholders of Conway in said State humbly sheweth, that there was an Article inserted in the warrant for the annual Meeting in March last, to see if the town could by any means compromise the disputes between the Baptist and Congregational therein which article together with a number of others, was not acted upon untill the adjournment of the said Meeting and was then the last article acted upon and at a late hour when one half or more of the People & voters were necessarily retired to their homes at this juncture the Baptists (so called) moved for that article to be considered and acted upon, which was accordingly done, in an ungenerous way while a great majority of the town were necessarily absent, which vote and proceedings were transmitted to your honours, and it is worthy of remark that altho' the persons calling themselves Baptists were all present, and but few others, yet the vote was passed by a majority of two only; they then drew a petition for an act of incorporation and took every method to procure signers, and obtained five, of whom four have uniformly paid taxes toward the support of our congregational Minister; the other has always professed himself a member of the Church of England and has been exempted from taxation—On the sixth of this instant Nov^r the Select Men called a Meeting to see if the Town would oppose

the aforesaid petition, but a great rain falling at this time, and sweeping away Bridges and boats, this meeting could be but thinly attended, and indeed the River was rendered impassable for two weeks so that even public worship could not be attended as usual, and indeed by this mean it was not known by many that a Meeting was warned—Your Memorialists therefore wish that the prayer of the abovementioned petitions of the people stiling themselves Baptists in this town may not be granted, in the first place because they have not paid up their arrearages of minister taxes for two or three years past assessed to them and committed in due form of law to the Collectors who are charged with the same; and also because they have taken undue methods in procuring signers who in reality are not Baptists from principle—

We submit this our memorial to your honors firmly persuaded that you will grant us such relief as our peculiar circumstances require and your wisdom may direct—

And as in duty bound shall ever pray

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| James osgood | Joshua Heath | Henry Sherburne |
| Stephen Webster | Samuel Heath | Rich ^d Odell |
| Tho ^s Newman | David Badger | John Dollof |
| Josiah Dollof | Nathan Whitcher | Barnet Walker |
| Sam ^l Emerson | Joseph F. Chase | Joseph Lewis |
| Marchel Lewis | Daniel Roberts | Nicholas Coffin |
| Caleb Page | William osgood | Samuel osgood |
| Jeremiah Page Jr | John Osgood | Moses Wilson |
| Jeremiah Page | James Walker | |
| Benjamin Coffin | Moses osgood | |

[3-28] [*Deposition of William Steele concerning the foregoing.*]

William Steele, on oath, Says that there was an article inserted in the warrant for the annual meeting in march, Left to see if the Difficulty could be Settled which subsided between the Baptists and the Congregationalists which article together with some others was not acted upon untill the adjournment; and at that adjournment it was the Last article acted upon, at a late hour of the Day, when a considerable number of the voters had left the meeting, it was then moved that the above articles Should be put up; which was done, and carried by a small majority; that the Baptists Should be exempted, from all past minister taxes if they petitioned for an incorporation.

Some time after, I saw Elijah Densmore, who presented the petition that the above mentioned Baptists had prepared; and Desired me to Sign it; and then told me he was after Signers; and he was determined to get as many as he could.

when the petition and order of court was brought back ; to my Surprise I found that Cap^t John Hart, William Knox, Stephen Densmore, and Fletcher Odel were in the petition ; who always said they were no Baptists, and who have as I understand always payed their minister tax.

Some time after I saw Cap^t John Hart and I asked him, how he come to Sign the petition ; his answer was, that if the Town were such fools, as to vote them off, he would go with them

I was constable for the year 1799 and all those four men paid me their minister tax without hesitation and further saith Not

W^m Steele

State of New Hampsher

Strafford ss November the 21—1800

The above named William Steel, appear'd and made Solumn oath to the truth and Justice of the above Deposition by him Subscribed Befor me

David Page Just pece

[3-29] [*Certificate of the Selectmen.*]

Conway Nov^r 10th 1800

this may Certify that we have been Served with a copy of the Petition of Elijah Densmore and others and the order of court thereon, and have Laid the matter before the town at a Publick Meeting and find that the Majority of the town is in favour of the incorporation Pray^d for in Said Petition

Noah Eastman } Select men
Leavit Hill } of Conway

[3-30] [*Action of Town-Meeting on foregoing.*]

Conway May 6th 1800.

The Inhabitants of Conway met at the adjournment of their annual Meeting and Passed the following vote Voted to exempt the Baptist from all the Minister tax that now Stands against them in Conway provided the s^d Baptists Petition the General Court the next Session to be Incorporated into a separate Society and that the town will give their Approbation to the above proceedings

Attest Jeremiah Lovejoy. Town Clerk—

[The Baptist society in Conway was incorporated by an act approved December 10, 1800.—Ed.]

[R. 232] [*Nathaniel Hutchins's Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the hon^{ble} the Council & assembly of said State,

Humbly Sheweth Nathaniel Hutchins late a Cap^t in the New Hampshire line in the Continental Service, that he engaged in the service of his Country at the very beginning of the contest with Great Britain & Continued therein until the last arrangement of the army, when he was deranged. That in the course of the war he hath suffered peculiar hardships & difficulties, & hath exposed himself to the most severe service on all occasions, that he hath ruined his constitution, & bro't on himself a Large Debt to support himself in the army & his family at home. That he is now called on by his Creditors, whom he is unable to pay & is in most distressing circumstances. Wherefore he prays the Hon^{ble} Court to pay him some part of what is due to him for the depreciation of his wages while he was in the service, to enable him to discharge such debts as he contracted in passing to & from the army.

He further begs leave to desire (that provided there is not money in the Treasury to pay him) that he may have an order on the selectmen of the Town of Conway for a Sum Sufficient to answer the exigences of his affairs, who he has reason to believe will pay the same.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Nath^l Hutchins

Exeter March 22^d 1781.

[R. 233] [*Lieut. Ezekiel Walker's Scouting Party.*]

The following is a List of a Scouting Party Employed by the town of Conway for the Defence of the Northern Frontier who engaged in that service the 16th of Aug^t 1781. Carried of against each mans Name the time he was Discharged

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Lieut Ezekiel Walker | Philip Page | Joshua Kelley |
| Peter coffin | John Chase | Austin George |
| charles Hills | John Chase Jr | John Wilson |
| Jeremiah Lovejoy | | |

the first ten dismissed the 31 of August 16 days each

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Elijah Densmore | Seth Spring | Steven Merrill |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|

the next three dismissed August y^e 25 ten days each

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Capt James osgood | Ebenezer Hawl |
|-------------------|---------------|

Next two dismissed September y^e 6 22 days each

Stephen Webster Jonathan Philbrook

Next two dismissed September y^e 12—28 days each

The above accout^t is toatel time of service Just and true Er-
rors Excepted of men and officers 290 days

Conway october the 1st 1781

David Page

in behalf of the Selectmen of Conway

[R. 235]

The State of New Hampshire to the Town of Conway Dr.
for supplying the scouting party under Captains Osgood Walker
& Dinsmore in 1781—

To their Rations of Beef 1½ ^{lb} per day for 302 days

@ 4^d pr lb.

7.11.0

To 1½ ^{lb} Flour p^r day @ 27/ hun^d w^t

6. 2.0

To 1¼ bus. Salt 1.4.—To 9 galls & 1 q^t Rum 2.15.6

3.19.6

£17.12.10

Dec^r 1781 Errors Excepted per

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tho ^s Chadburne | } Select Men of Conway |
| Rich ^d Eastman | |
| Enoch Webster | |

[R. 236 [Petition of Benjamin Heath, Soldier.]

To the Honourable the General Court of the State of New
Hampshire.

The Petition of Benjamin Heath of said State humbly sheweth that your Petitioner inlisted a Soldier in the service of this and the united States in the year 1775. Your Petitioner has continued in the said service without once returning Home or absenting himself from his Duty until he was discharged; your Petitioner served six years and six months of said time in Col^l Hazens Regiment and was told he should be paid in the same manner as the soldiers in the New-Hampshire Line were. Your Petitioner waited (at a considerable Expence) on the late General Court in Oct^r last to see if he could get any relief, but was told he could not at that time; Your Petitioner is drove to great straits for want of his money and humbly prays that your Honours would grant him his pay as the other Soldiers of the State have had theirs.

Your Petitioner would further suggest to your Honours that

as he has been returned as one of this States Quota and has not been returned for any particular Town; and whereas fines have been paid by some towns for being deficient; your Petitioner hopes that your Honours will consider his almost singular Case and grant him such relief in the Premises, as you in your Wisdom shall see meet, and your Petitioner as in duty bound will pray.

Dated at Conway March 1784

Benjamin Heath

[R. 237] [Benjamin Heath again petitions, Oct. 19, 1784, and states that he was in the service from 1775 until the end of the war, and closes with the following appeal: "Your Petitioner therefore prays he may receive his pay or sum part thereof without which he must go to jail or leave his Cuntry."]

He petitioned in January, 1791, and ascertained that his pay had been drawn by one Daniel Cook on a forged order; and again the following June stating: "That in the year 1775 your memorialist inlisted in Cap^t Osgoods Company, in the service of this State, for the defence of the northern Frontiers, and went to Canada where said Company was ordered, and remained in said Company during the term of my inlistment—I then inlisted in Cap^t Nelsons Company for the winter; and in the spring inlisted for one year in Cap^t Sartels Comp^y, Col^o Ellmores Reg^t, after which I inlisted in Cap^t Sartels Comp^y in Col^o Hazens Reg^t, during the war, at the conclusion of which I received an honourable discharge for six years and six months faithful service."—ED.]

CORNISH.

The township was granted June 21, 1763, to Rev. Samuel McClintock, of Greenland, and 69 others. A proprietors' meeting was held in Greenland in August following, and the first meeting of the inhabitants was held in the town March 10, 1767. In 1765 several families, who came from Sutton, Mass., settled in the town. Capt. Daniel Putnam and a family by the name of Dyke had lived there the winter previous, in a camp built for the use of men who had

been cutting masts for the royal navy. At a meeting of the inhabitants, held June 2, 1778, they voted to join the state of Vermont, in accordance with a vote of the convention held at Lebanon, May 2, 1778. The first meeting-house was erected by the town in 1773, and occupied by the Congregational and Episcopal societies.

By an act approved Dec. 3, 1808, the line between this town and Grantham was established; and by an act approved June 24, 1809, some territory was severed from Croydon and annexed to this town; Dec. 25, 1844, the town was enlarged by the annexation of a portion of Grantham.

General Jonathan Chase was for many years a leading citizen of this town. He was muster-master for the men raised from his regiment for the Continental service, and held many important offices in the town.

[*James Vinton's Enlistment. From General Chase's Papers, N. H. Historical Soc. Library.*]

I James Vinton due Voluntairly Ecknowledge my Selef to have Inlisted as a Solgear Sarve in the State of New hampshear under the Command of Cap^t Sam^l Pain for the team of Sex munth and acknowleg my selef to bee under the Rules and Regelation of the mearlity Laws as wetness my hand this 28 day of June 1780

James Vinton

S^d Vinton is seventeen years of age 5 feet 5 inches high Jug^d to be fit for the sarvis by Jonth Chase Col^o

[*Cornish men at Saratoga, from the Same.*]

A Return of Officers and men with their Names Inrol^d Belonging to Col^o Jonth Chases Rig^t which marched from Cornish Sept. 26th 1777

| | | | |
|--|---------|------------------------|---------|
| Lieu ^t Abel Spalden | Cornish | Caleb Plastridge | Cornish |
| Seg ^t Sam ^l Chase | do | James Cate | do |
| Seg ^t Joseph Spalden | do | John Chase | do |
| Corp ^l Step ^h Childs | do | Sol ⁿ Chase | do |
| Jos ^h Vinsin | do | John Morse | do |
| Jabez Spiser | do | Sim ⁿ Chase | do |
| Sol ⁿ Wellman | do | Capt Dyar Spalden | do |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|-------------------------|----|
| Jona th Higgins | do | Ebe ^r Brewer | do |
| James Wellman | do | Daniel Waldron | do |

Total 19 Abel Spalden Lieu^t—

Oct^r 2nd 1777—set out from home

Capt Abel Stephens
Ebez^r Janney

Jonth Craw
W^m Richardson

Joined y^e 10th Oct^o 1777

[R. 243] [*Gen. Jona. Chase, concerning Western Frontier.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the honorable, the Council and House of Representatives now convened & holden at Exeter in and for said State. Humbly Sheweth your Petitioner living on the western Frontiers of said state, that your Petitioner and others the Inhabitants on said Frontiers, have had, and still have, the greatest reason to fear the inroads & depredations of savage Enemy upon them,—that they have the fullest reason to believe and assert that the Enemy have several times prepared & even attempted the same that in the month of October last they came upon and almost totally destroyed the Town of Royalton, & spread their horrid devastation within less than twelve miles of Connecticut River. That unless some speedy and effectual measures are taken to prevent it, it is more than probable we shall be distressed with another visit from them the present winter.

That the Frontier is near one hundred and fifty miles, in an entire defenceless situation.—And that unless some speedy relief & assistance present, we have the fullest assurance that many principal Inhabitation will remove to places of better security; as that Frontier is now the only object remaining within the power & worthy the attention of the northern Enemy.—In this unhappy situation; defenceless as we are, where can we look for relief & assistance but to your Honors? a body possessed with every feeling of humanity, and sensible that in defending that western frontier, you secure the state at large from the dangers arising from that quarter. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your honors to take the dangerous situation of that Territory under your wise & serious consideration & grant such number of men for the defence of that Frontier, as your honors may judge necessary, or grant such other orders on the Premises as in your wisdom may seem best.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Exeter 12th Jan^y 1781

Jonth Chase

[3-32]

[*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

According to order of the general assembly These may certify that the Exact number of the male poles in this town of twenty one years of age and upwards paying taxes for themselves is one hundred and twenty

Cornish Decem^r y^e 13 1783

| | | | |
|--------|---|---|-------------------------|
| Attest | Wil ^m Ripley Reuben Jerald Daniel Chase Caleb Chase | } | Selectmen of Cornish |
|--------|---|---|-------------------------|

[3-33]

[*Relative to Vermont Controversy.*]

Benjamin Giles of Lawful age testifieth and Saith that being sundry times in Company with Sam^l Chase Esq^r of Cornish in or about the Month of Febuary also in or near the Month of April A. D. 1781 did hear him s^d Chase very engagedly encourage the Union of Cheshire and Grafton Counties with the State of Vermont so called and upbraided those with Cowardice, as not persons of resolution who made any objections against the Expediency of s^d Union and wondered that any persons should oppose it, for he s^d Chase s^d he viewed it as a remarkable step in divine Providence which he thought worthy of notice, that the people were so United even beyond expectation and that the voice of the people was the voice of Gode and he appeared to me as I had free conversation with him respecting said Union to be as much for uniting with Vermont and Exerted himself to accomplish it (in my opinion) as any person in Cheshire or Grafton Counties, and never in the time above mentioned did I hear him speak any ways discouraging respecting s^d Union, until the Civil Authority was appointed in County of Windsor so called, and s^d Chase being left out in said appointment, I perceived he was disgusted, because a little after I came into his house, he expressed himself somewhat warmly as I thought and said I should not been so served if Esq^r Giles had been there or been present or words to that Amount after which I do not remember that I Ever heard him say one word in favor of the aforesaid Union and further saith not

Benjⁿ Giles

Quesⁿ by Dudley Chase. What did you understand by Sam^l Chase saying that I should not have been so served if Esq^r Giles had been there—

Ans^r From the Conversation that followed I understood that Esq^r Chase was disgusted at his not being appointed as Judge

of the Inferior Court—tho I did not hear Esq^r Chase say that he was displeas'd at not being appointed a Judge

Cheshire ss Sep^r y^e 4th 1782 Then Benj^a Giles signer to the within Deposition personally appearing made solemn oath that the said Deposition was the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth (Sam^l Chase & Dudley Chase being present) before me

Sam^l Hunt Just peace

This Deposition opened by me

M Weare

[3-34] [*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

These are to Notify and warn the freeholders and others inhabitants of the town of Cornish to meet at the Meeting House in s^d Cornish on tuesday the twelfth Day of March next at ten oclock in Morning to act on the following articles Viz—

- 1st to Chuse a Moderator to govern s^d meeting
 - 2^{dly} to Chuse a town Clerk—
 - 3^{ly} to Chuse Selectmen and Constable or Constables and other town officers as the town shall think proper
 - 4^{ly} to see what money the town will Raise for to be Worked out at the Highways this present year
 - 5^{ly} to see what money the town will Raise this present year for Schooling
 - 6^{ly} to see what money the town will Raise this present year for to Defray other town Charges
 - 7^{ly} to Chuse a Committee for the Sole purpose of Settling with the men who went up in the 2 alarm
 - 8^{ly} to see if the town will allow horses to Run at large
 - 9^{ly} to see if the town will allow swine to Run at large
- Feb^{ry} 26th 1782

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Thomas Hall | } Select Men |
| Sam ^l Comings | |
| Elea ^r Jackson | |
| Daniel Chase | |

Persuant to the foregoing warning the Town met and Chose Moses Chase Esq^r Moderator Voted to adopt the following Protest against the proceedings of a minority acting under a warning Signed by Sam^l Chase Esq^r—

Voted to adjourn to the House of M^r Francis Batey to meet immedeatly met according to adjournment—then Voted to adjourn to the House of M^r Sam^l Comings met according to adjournment and there proceeded to Chuse Town officers and do other acts agreeable to the above warning and the Laws of New Hampshire as may appear upon Record

Attest Thomas Chase T Clerk

Cornish September y^e 12th 1782

[3-38] [*Certificate of Town Clerk.*]

This may Certify all whom it may concern, that Moses Chase Esq^r Lieut Reuben Jerrald William Ripley were legally chosen a Committee to remonstrate to the Court of New Hampshire against the unrepresented proceedings of Sam^l Chase Esq^r and others

Test Thomas Chase Town Clerk
Cornish May y^e 27th 1782

[3-41] [*Protest against the Action of a Town-Meeting.*]

Voted to adopt the following protest against a minority acting under a warning Signed by Samuel Chase Esq^r—

Whereas an annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Cornish was legally warned by the Selectmen of Said Town who was legally elected to that office in order to choose Town officers for the insuing year—and whereas another warning for a Town Meeting has been set up for the like purpose Signed by Samuel Chase Esq^r—and a Small minorriter of the Inhabitants presume to act thereon which we are fully assured is directly Repugnant to the peace of the Town and Contrary to Law—We therefore the inhabitants of the Said Town of Cornish think fit and do hereby Solemnly and unanimously enter our protest against the proceedings of Said meeting as wholly illegal and destructive of the peace and tranquility of Said Town—

The above was Voted in a legal Town Meeting held March y^e 12th

Test Thomas Chase—Town Clerk
Cornish May y^e 28th 1782

[3-36] [*Relative to Union with Vermont.*]

The Deposition of Matthias Stone of Claremont of lawful age on oath saith that about three or four years ago Esq Sam^l Chase did send a letter to the select men of Claremont myself being one that a meeting of the Town should be called to see if the Town would chuse a man to go the Convention held at the House Moses Chase Esq to come into measures to unite with Vermont—but as I did not see the letter till it was to late to warn a meeting it was not laid before s^d Town but attended myself as a private person at Convention of which Esq Sam^l Chase was moderator at which time in Convention with

the s^d Sam Chase he manifested a great desire that the grants on both sides of the River should be united into one Government—after the adjournment of s^d Convention I rec^d another Letter of like import desiring that the Town would Choose a man to attend the adjournment but rec^d to late—Further about one year ago last Decem. another letter was sent to the selectmen of Claremont sign^d Sam^l ashley and Ben Bellows to see if the Town would Choose a man to attend the Convention held at Walpole for the purpose of uniteing the grants on both sides of the River—which the Town comply^d with & sent a man that Convention being adjourned to the Jan following, the Town was call^d upon to send Two men which they did at which Convention the said Sam Chase was Choose President accepted & serv^d & altho, there were Ten that protested against the proceedings at that time for special reasons Yet the s^d president would not sign the protest at which tim s^d Con[vention] was adjourned to Cornish and there continud for som time till the minds of the Town were fully known & the union Completed the s^d Sam Chase did accompany the Representative from East sid of the River to windsor and see them admitted as members of the Court of Vermont and approved thereof and I have offen heard the s^d Sam Chase both in public & private conversation say in transport that there was a hand of Providence in Disposing the people to unite

Matthias Stone

Cheshire ss : Sept^r 4th A. D. 1782 then Matthias Stone signer of the above Deposition personally appeared & made solemn oath that the same was the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, Sam^l Chase & Dudley Chase being present

before Sam^l Hunt Justice Peace

This deposition opened by me—M. Weare

[3-37] [*Deposition of Nathaniel Curtice.*]

The subscriber of lawful age deposeth on oath & saith that sometime about the begining of April last past, he being perusing some of his own affairs fell in Company with Benjⁿ Hall, of Cornish, one of the selectmen chosen at a meeting warned by Sam^l Chase Esq^r, And said Hall taking me aside said to me if you will join us & vote for us you will be eased of your taxes and exempted from raising a Continental soldier which I refused and then be enjoined on me to keep what he had said as a secret and further saith not

Nathaniel Curtiss

Cheshire ss Sept^r y^e 4th 1782 Then Nathaniel Curtis signer to the within Deposition personally appearing and made solemn oath that the within Deposition was the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth, (Sam^l Chase and Dudley Chase being present) before

Sam^{ll} Hunt Just Peace

This Deposition opened by me M. Weare

[3-39] [*Deposition of William Pain.*]

The subscriber of lawful age on oath deposeth & saith that at the annual meeting for the Town of Cornish in March last, warned by Sam^l Chase Esq^r your Deponent was chosen one of the Selectmen But the Conduct and proceedings of the said Sam^l Chase Esq^r and the other select men chosen by the said Meeting has ever since been such your Deponent could not serve in that Capacity with them, I had therefore neglected to take the Qualification by Law directed and farther saith not

William Pain

[3-40] [*Deposition of Eleazer Jackson.*]

The Subscriber of lawful Age deposeth on Oath, that a short time before the union was effected between the Counties of Cheshire & Grafton with the state of Vermont, Sam^l Chase Esq^r of Cornish urged your Deponent to vote in favour of said Union, alleging that if I knew the advantages of it as well as he I should have no Objection. He said we were at a great distance, from the seat of Government in New Hampshire & that we were not considered as anything when we were there, therefore it was best to join the state of Vermont, & if they (the state of Vermont) would not receive us, we would form a State by ourselves for the Government of New Hampshire over us here on the Grants was only an assumed Government & ought not to be regarded

and farther saith not

Eleazer Jackson

[Sworn to before Sam^l Hunt.]

[3-42]

Cornish November 12th 1782

These may Certify that Samuel Chase Esq^r Was Settled With for his being imprisoned under the authority of the State of

Vermont by paying him all damages to the full of his Demands as We the Subscribers are able to attest when called too

John Weld
Josiah Stone

[3-43]

Cornish Sep^r 9th 1782

These may Certify all whom it may Concern that the Legal voters who attended the annual meeting in march last under Esq^r Chase^s Warrant were (after the other party had withdrawn) thirty Eight in number all whose names were taken down and Counted when present

attest Jn^o Morss town Clerk

[3-44]

[*Deposition of William Ripley.*]

The Deposition of William Ripley of lawful age on oath saith that as he was Town Clerk for the annual march meeting, adjourned to the april following in the year 1782—Esq Sam^l Chase being moderator for said meeting did once & again motion it to me in private, if it would not be for the benefit of the Town to have it motioned to the meeting and put to vote that all Town Officers should govern themselves by the Laws of Vermont to which I objected as being unnessessary—but the said Sam^l Chase toward the Conclusion of the meeting did put it to vote, upon his own motion and it was carried in the affirmative

William Ripley

Question by Sam^l Chase Esq^r

How did you know that I put the above vote upon my own motion. Ans^r there was no other person Motioned it publickly

Quesⁿ How do you know that no other person mentioned it—Ans^r I served as Clerk was present the whole Meeting and I did not hear any other person motion it—

[3-45]

[*Deposition of Francis Smith.*]

I the subscriber of Lawful age depose on oath & say that about the time of forming the Union of sixteen Towns in this state with the State of Vermont Sam^l Chase Esq^r of Cornish was at my house in Plainfield, when a discourse was Introduced

between the said Chase & myself concerning the Expediency of forming the above union when the said Chase said much in favor of it and against being subject to the State of New Hampshire he said he had much rather be subjected to the servitude of digging Pine Tumps under a good master than have a seat in the court of New Hampshire. And farther saith not

Francis Smith

[3-47] [*Deposition of Nathaniel Stone.*]

The Subscriber of lawful age deposeth on oath that some time in the Winter of A. D. 1781 Sam^l Chase Esq^r of Cornish came to the House of your Deponent & said many things in favour of forming a Union with the State of Vermont. said he tho't it would be much best to perfect that Connection From the whole tenor of his Conversation your Deponent supposed the said Sam^l Chase Esq^r to be engaged to have that event take place. And farther saith not

Nathⁿ Stone

Taken and sworn, at Claremont, the adverse party being duly notified to attend, this 4th day of Sept^r 1782

before Sam^l Hunt Just peace

Questⁿ by Sam^l Chase—Did I propose to have the grants on both sides the River unite and then petition Congress, to settle and establish them as a State—Answer. Yes

[3-47½] [*Relative to Proceedings of Town-Meeting.*]

We whose Names are under written being of Lawful age on oath depose. That we being selectmen legally chosen & sworn under the State & agreeable to the Laws of New Hampshire for the last year for Town of Cornish, did previous to the time for holding annual Town meetings in said Town, give Notice in writing & otherwise to the Inhabitants of said Town—on what day we should meet for the purpose of drawing a Warning for the Annual March meeting at which time & place we were met by Sam^l Chase Esq & Dudley Chase when the s^d Sam^l Chase told us he came in a friendly manner to advise us not to proceed—That we were not Select men—but Rebels by Virtue of Proclamation which had been given out by the Gen^l Court—That he had put up a warning when we might attend if we would, but should not Vote & if we did,

he would throw our Votes aside for we were not qualified to Vote being Rebels the State and outlaws, for which we should be called before the Gen^l Court—Yet we proceeded to put up a warning according to Law—And the Town very generally met when Esq. Chase proceeded to open the Meeting he had warned by reading his Warning but refused to proceed to Business tho frequently requested, ordering the people to disperse Declaring at the same time that they should not act with him, for they were Rebels & unless they left the House he would read the Riot act—That after waiting about two hours for Esq Chase to proceed with his meeting—We opened the meeting we had warned Chose a Moderator & adjourned to a private house where we proceeded to Chuse select men and other Town Officers according to Law.—and in the mean time Esq Chase proceeded with his Meeting as we understand to Chuse Selectmen, and other officers—

Which Selectmen did in the month of April last warn a Town meeting for the purpose of Choosing a Representative for the Gen^l Court and a Delegate for Convention—when the Town met—They were requested to shew their Precept which Esq Chase refused & after some time adjourned the meeting (before it had been opened) for half an hour without the voice of the Town—They met again but refused to open the meeting Esq Chase & Deacon Dudley Chase forbidding it saying at the same time that more than half the Town should not vote & afterward the said Esq Chase as an Individual without the voice of the Town adjourned the meeting to a future Day and farther saith not

Thomas Hall
Samuel Comings
Daniel Chase
Eleazar Jackson

Question asked by Samuel Chase Esq^r

Did you sign a Warrant for committing me to Goal for not paying a Tax assessed under the Authority of Vermont?

Answer. Yes.

Did you insert an article in the Warrant for March Meeting to chose a Delegate to attend a Convention at Lebanon

Answer we do not remember

was there one Anser. we think there was

[3-48] [Chapman and Stone's Deposition.]

We the subscribers of lawful age testify and say that as we were on the 15 Day of april last accidentally at a Town meeting of the Town of Cornish we did then and there hear it

motioned second, and third, once & again to have the Meeting open agreeable to law, but was forbid by Esq Chase and Deacon Chase who positively said that one half or more of the people should not vote or act in said meeting—Finally they adjourned, the meeting for half an hour (before it was open) without the voice of the whole—Again having met it was motioned a second & third time to have the meeting open^d but was forbid by the aforesaid men—motioned & Requested of the Town Clerk to read the warning but he would not—motioned a second & third time that the precept sent for the Town to Choose a Representative might be seen but was denied—Motioned a second & third time that all Town Officers might be flung aside and new ones chosen, but refused Lastly the meeting was adjourned by Esq Chase as an individual without the voice of the meeting

Benjamin Chapman
Caleb Stone

N. B. The said Chapman was not present at the last adjournment above mentioned

[3-49] [*Selectmen's Statement.*]

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire—

We the Subscribers Select Men of the Town of Cornish for the Current Year, in reply to a Memorial against us signed by Moses Chase Reuben Jerald & William Ripley, and presented to this house at their last session, beg leave to suggest, that at the annual Meeting in the Town of Cornish held in March Anno Domini 1781—the Town Officers were chosen in common form that in April following, at an adjournment of the same Meeting the Town did vote that all Town Officers then in Office shou'd act under and Govern themselves by the Laws of Vermont; accordingly they assessed & endeavor'd to Collect the Taxes called for by Vermont, and took and imprisoned some who refused to pay them, by which vote and the subsequent Conduct of the said Officers it was the general Opinion that they ceased to be Legal Officers under New Hampshire, in consequence of this Opinion an application was made by a sufficient number of the Inhabitants of said Town to Samuel Chase Esq^r as a Justice of the Peace to warn a Meeting of said Inhabitants in March last for Choosing Town Officers for the present Year according to the laws of New Hampshire—which was accordingly done, and the Officers Chosen: without regarding a Warrant for a Meeting for the same purpose: signed by the Select Men chosen A Dom. 1781—

We wou^d further observe that as the principle complaint in s^d Memorial is against the Officers last chosen: for what they have done in the execution of their several Offices, it seems unnecessary to answer furthur untill the legality of their appointment shall be ascertained—

We would beg leave furthur to suggest that the situation of the Inhabitants of the Town of Cornish is unhappily such at present, owing to the divisions and animosities which subsist amongst them that a determination of the Master now before the House however just wou^d be but a partial remedy, & wou^d not put the Town in such a situation as wou^d be most for the benefit of the State, or for the peace, interest & happiness of the said Inhabitants—And anxious to restore peace & good order in the Town, We wou^d on the behalf of those who are in the Memorial called the Minority propose a general settlement of all difficulties in said Town that respect the Town in general by Arbitration in the following manner (viz) That this House appoint a proper number of Persons to be nominated by the Speaker, to hear the Parties fully, & report to this or some future General Assembly & that some of the principle Men of Each party enter into Bonds to abide & perform the award so made, & that the whole expence be paid by that party that shall be found most faulty—

We do not mean to dictate the House by the above, but should be willing to comply with any direction or orders which the House shall think proper to give——

Cornish Sept^r y^e 6th 1782

Sam^l Chase
Jn^o Morse
Benjⁿ Hall
Dudley Chase

[3-50] [*Representation of the Inhabitants by a Committee.*]

The Hon^{bl} the Council & House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in general Court convened on the Second Tuesday in June A D 1782.

We the Inhabitants of Cornish in the County of Cheshire in said State beg leave humbly to Petition & Shew to your Honors, That at the annual Town Meeting held in said Cornish in the Month of March last by virtue of a Warrant from the Select Men of Said Town they did proceed according to the Laws of New Hampshire to Choose and appoint Select Men and other Town Officers for the current Year—and that Sam^l Chase Esq^r one of the Justices of the Peace for said County having also warned a meeting of said Inhabitants at the same time

and place and for the Same purposes with that of the Selectmen at which Time and Place the Inhabitants being assembled, did proceed to open the Meeting under the Warrant of the Select Men and Chose a Moderator, and by Vote adjourned the meeting from the Meeting House where it was then held to a private House and there proceeded to Choose Select Men and other Town officers according to Law; and the said Samuel Chase Esq^r with a few others (being a great Minority of the Inhabitants entitled by Law to vote in Town Meetings) continuing in the Meeting House, did also proceed to Choose Selectmen and other Town officers: which Select Men last mentioned have since taken on themselves said office & proceeded to call Town Meetings and assess said Inhabitants and do other Acts, to which your Petitioners humbly conceive they have no legal Authority or just right And your Petitioners beg leave farther to shew, that the Selectmen last mentioned did receive the orders from this honorable assembly to call a Town Meeting. and choose a Representative for said Town and detained the Same from those Select Men chosen by the Town; and did themselves warn the Inhabitants to meet for said purpose as well as to Choose a Delegate to Convention for framing a Constitution &c; and Said inhabitants endeavouring to avoid all controversies & party dispositions, did assemble and meet according to said warnings and for the purposes therein mentioned; But the said Select Men refused to open said Meeting or transact any thing for which said Meeting was called; and the said Samuel Chase Esq^r without any act, or Vote of the Town declared the Meeting adjourned to a future Day, and also declared the said Inhabitants to be Rebels, outlaws & disqualified to vote, and that they never should vote or act in their meetings; and the said Samuel Chase Esq^r with those who adhered to him did afterwards proceed to Choose and Appoint a Representative and delegate for said Town such as not one fourth part of said Inhabitants did or ever would have Chosen, or assented to, Wherefore your Petitioners pray, that said Person so chosen may not be admitted as a representative for said Town; But that a new Writ may be sent to said Town, and that such order may be taken with respect to Town officers as to you shall seem good, or such other relief granted as your Honors may think fit,—

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Moses Chase | } A Committee for this purpose chosen by the Town of Cornish |
| Reuben Jerald | |
| William Ripley | |

[In H. of Rep., June 12, 1782, a hearing on the foregoing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[3-51] [*Concerning Election of Representative.*]

State of New } To the hon^{bl} the Council and House of Rep-
Hampshire } resentatives in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Samuel Chase in behalf of the Town of Cornish humbly sheweth That the said Town of Cornish, (when the present mode of Representation was adopted) was coupled with several other Towns for Choosing a Representative and that by Reason of the late disturbances respecting jurisdiction &c, the said Town of Cornish hath not been represented in the Assembly of this State, and cannot be at present, as the Towns Coupled with said Cornish as aforesaid, are at present as they say, very much in a State of Nature, your Petitioner therefore prays the Hon^{bl} Court that a precept may issue empowering said Cornish to Choose a Representative to represent them in the General Assembly and your Petitioners shall as in Duty bound ever pray

Concord March 21st 1782

Sam^l Chase

[In H. of Rep., March 21, 1782, a precept was ordered to be issued.—ED.]

[3-52] [*Dudley Chase's Memorial.*]

State of New } To the honourable Council and House of
Hampshire } Representatives for said State in General As-
sembly convened, at Concord the 17 of Decem-
ber 1783—

Humbly shews the Inhabitants of the Town of Cornish— That whereas the difficulties and disputes, so long subsisting in this Town not being settled by the General Court as was expected are by no means abated, but rather increased, for the People do not meet or Act in Town Affairs, or pay Rates, as they think they are not on a legal footing, by reason of there being still two setts of Officers in Town; which occasioned there not being more than five or six Votes for the present Representative and a great part of the People refusing to act with either party—we therefore most humbly pray that something may be done for our relief as in your wisdom shall be thought proper Your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Dudley Chase In behalf of
the Selectmen, and by the desire of a great Part of the Inhabi-
tants of said Town—

[3-53] [*Petition of Selectmen, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable General Assembly convened at Concord on the second Tuesday of June A D 1783.

The Petition of the Select men in behalf of the People of the Town of Cornish humbly sheweth,

That whereas the Honourable Assembly at their session in December last did divide the District to which we formerly belonged, by reason of which, it became necessary that a new Precept should be issued to each as they now stand, to appoint Members to represent them in General Assembly; it so happened that no Precept was received by the District of Cornish, owing, (as we suppose) to some neglect in the person whose business it was to transmit said Precept, or to the Person to whose care it was intrusted. And it appears, however, that the said Precept was in the hands of Cap^t Ebenezer Green of Lime who refused to deliver it to your Petitioners, the Select men of said Town of Cornish, legally chosen, and qualified, or to any other Inhabitants of said Town; untill we should make a settlement of the Difficulties, heretofore, and now subsisting in said Town.—

By reason of which, it became impossible for us regularly to proceed to elect a Representative to sit in General Assembly.— Notwithstanding which, certain Persons who were but a very inconsiderable part of the people of this Town, did proceed to warn a meeting, and to appoint Col^o Jonathan Chase to represent this Town in General Assembly.—

Contrary to the mind of a very large majority of the proper Voters in said Town. In consequence of which, your Petitioners in behalf of the People of this Town, did make proposals, to the People of said Town, with whom we have been at variance, for an accomodation viz, submitting all controverted matter to the determination of indifferent men to be mutually chosen; a compliance with which, they entirely neglected.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that the said Col^o Jonathan Chase may not be admitted to a Seat as a member of your Honourable Assembly:—But that another Precept may be issued, and that it may be sent, by some person who shall deliver it to the Select men, that they may be enabled to notify a meeting according to Law, and common usage, that a Representative may be elected agreeably to the mind of the major part of the qualified Voters, that this Town may no longer suffer the inconvenience of Non-representation: but that under your care and direction, they may enjoy that priviledge to which they humbly conceive they are entitled, (with other their fellow Citizens) in having a free and legal Representation.—We

would beg liberty also to inform, that unhappily from some cause or other, the Orders of the General Assembly from time to time to this Town have not been received by us, and we are very Jealous they have been surreptitiously detained, even the late Act for a new proportion we have not received:—But as the Inhabitants in general are free and willing to bear their Proportion of Taxes, they have to the number of ninety Inhabitants given in an Invoice, and only nineteen refused, and some of that number upon this only principle, that they knew not who were legally (as they say) the Selectmen. This fact, we humbly conceive, demonstratively shews the State of this Town, and therefore in a case so evident, cannot doubt of your Honour's compliance in granting our reasonable request, or otherwise in your great Wisdom grant relief and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| William Ripley | } The selectmen of Cornish for and in behalf of the Town |
| Reuben Jerald | |
| Daniel Chase | |

[For documents relative to the aforesaid controversy, see Vol. X.—ED.]

[3-54] [*Petition of Moses Chase.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the hon^l the council and house of Representatives of Said State The petition of Moses Chase of Cornish in the county of cheshire in said State Humbly Sheweth—That in the year 1780 there being an alarm for the people, Releive Inhabitants of Rooyalton being then Besett by the Enemy—At the Special Request of Gen^l Benjamin Bellows—Who was proceeding for their Relief with Part of his command I Issued provisions to a Considerable amount as per Receipt herewith Exhibited which your petitioner hath never since Received any Compensation for and in no way heretofore pointed out by the Legislature therefor—as a Dernier Resort Your petitioner therefore prostrates himself with this application to your honours for some way to be pointed out for his accompt to be Satisfied And prays that he may have an order on the Treasurer of Said State for the amount of his Issues—or in any other way, that your honours in your great Wisdom Shall think most Just and Equitable—And your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Exeter 9th April 1784

Moses Chase

[3-55] [*Daniel Putnam relative to Chase's Ferry.*]

Cornish March 26 1784

I Daniel Putnam of Lawful Age Do testify & say that I was one of the first Settlers in the Town of Cornish and for many years (in the Infant State of the Town) there was not any Road on the west side of the River from Charleston up the River to Winsor and it Became Nesesary that there should Be a ferrey to Cross the River from Cornish to Winsor and the Select men of Cornish (Having the Honor to Be one of them myself) Conclud that the most proper place for said ferrey would be to Cross the River from Colⁿ Jonathan Chases in Cornish to Lieut David stones at Winsor and so Consequently the ferry Road must go through Colⁿ Chases Medow and Did go through said medow for many years to His great Damage the Colⁿ applyed to the Town for assistance abought makeing the Road and Build Boats for the purpose But thay Granted him no Releaf the Colⁿ made a Boat and Canoe Told Lieut. stone if he would tend the ferry faithfully he should have the use of them. Lieut. stone Did Tend the ferry Very Regular for a Number of years and as the Contrey increased with inhabetence Consequently Cattle increased and in such Doves that I have known them Lay in the medow for half a Day at a time Before thay Could posably get them across the River and indeed Did great Damage to the grain as well as grass Colⁿ Chase aplied to the Town for Recompence as he suffered so much Damages without one farthing of any advantage But they would not grant him any Releaf, only told him that he should have the ferry to himself and it would Become profitable enough in a short time to make up his Damages and Consequently the Colⁿ moved the ferry a Little further up the River and with great Cost made an Exceeding good Road and Landing place

further the Deponant saith not

Daniel Putnam

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| State of New Hampshire, ss | } Cornish march ye 27 th 1784. parsonaly appeared Daniel Putnam the subscriber to the fore Going Decleration and made Solemn oath to the same to be the truth the wholl truth and Nothing but the truth— |
| before me— | |
| | Sam ^l Chase justice of peace |

[R. 244] [*Memorial of General Jonathan Chase.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives for said State in General Assembly convened at Concord the 18 of December 1783.

The humble Petition of Jonathan Chase of Cornish in the

County of Cheshire and State aforesaid Esq^r humbly shews— That whereas your Petitioner in the beginning of the late war was appointed Col. of a Regiment, and having repeatedly been called upon by the Court of said State, to muster his Regiment, and to march on sudden alarms and on other services, to all which calls he ever chearfully complied with, for a part of which services he received public securities (a part of which your Petitioner thinks himself greatly injured by reason of the Courts prefixing different depreciations on said securities) and also for a months provision for his Regiment being called upon by the General of the army for the same, in the fall of the year when General Burgoin was captured—and likewise to furnishing (the then) Col. Hazen with Teams and Carriages to and from Co'os, with Beef and Flour to the amount of several Hundred Pounds silver money for which your Petitioner has not received pay or security—after this being apply'd to by *General Washington* and others with the authority of the State of New Hampshire and the Massachusetts to lay up a Quantity of grain in order for an Expedition to Canada which your Petitioner did to the amount of upwards of a Thousand Pounds silver money, for which grain your Petitioner was called upon for, and did make a return of to the Commissary, which grain was kept in store till it was greatly damaged by weavels, and almost intirely ruined—applying to the Commissary he gave orders as it would not speedily be wanted for public use for your Petitioner to make the best he could of it—a part of which your Petitioner sold for paper money for about one half the prime cost, shortly before said money was of no value, a great part of which remains now on hand—the remainder of said wheat was violently taken from your Petitioner to supply the Forces on the northern Frontiers for which your Petitioner has not received pay—Besides all this your Petitioner has been at great Expense with his Regiment upon sudden and frequent alarms, for all which your Petitioner has not received pay or security, and now is indebted and called upon for large sums of money in Boston and elsewhere which your Petitioner borrowed in order to prosecute and carry on the above orders; which is not in his power to answer unless some relief may be had from the state. And further as your Petitioner in the first settlement in this Country has been at great trouble and Cost in fixing a Ferry over Connecticut River from Cornish to Windsor and in making a road through his own land to said Ferry for public use which is now arrested out of your Petitioners hands by the authority of Vermont which may appear by their doings thereon.

Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays that your Honours in your wisdom would see fit to grant your Petitioner a Charter

of said Ferry—and also that your Honours would in your wisdom grant relief to the above Petitions—Your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Jonth Chase

[The exclusive right to a ferry over a certain part of Connecticut river was granted to General Chase in 1784.—ED.]

[3-57] [*William Deming's Recommendation.*]

To His Excellency the Presedent and Honorable Privy Council of the State of New Hampshire.

Whereas there is but one Justes of the Peace in the town of Cornish and very Remote from the Major part of the Inhabe-tance we your petitioners Humbly Desier that M^r William Deming may be appointed into that office

Cornish Sep^r 9—1786

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Nath ^l Carpenter | Reuben Jareld | Samuel Pike |
| David Smith | Eben ^r Deming | Moses Chase |
| Elisha Herrick | Seth Deming | Sam ^l Hildreth |
| Ebenezer Rawson | Joseph Chase | Caleb Chase |
| Solomon Chase | Nichols Cady | John pike |
| John Pike Jun ^r | Ephriam French | Peter Chase |
| Joshua page | James spaulding | Robert Willson |
| Elias Cady | Joseph stark | Sam ^{ll} Wickwire |
| Benjamin Jackson | Sam ^{ll} Wickwire | David Orvis |
| Dier spaulding | Daniel Putnam | Stephen Chase |
| Joseph Bartlet | Luther Hilliard | Joseph Edmons |
| Jabes shapley | Sam ^{ll} Hilliard | William Choat |
| John Bartlet | James Fitch | Zebediah Fitch |
| Sam ^{ll} Fitch | Hezekiah Fitch | Eleazer Cate |
| William Pain | David Higgins | Jonahan Higgins |
| Eleas. Bingham | Lovel Kimbal | James Cate |
| James Freeman | | |

[3-58] [*Relative to Vermont Controversy.*]

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the General Court of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened—

Humbly sheweth the Petition of the Subscribers Subjects of s^d State. That the Inhabitants of a certain territory of Land West of Connecticut River on the Western Borders of this

State, and within the boundaries of the United States, have associated together and Assumed Jurisdiction by the name of the State of Vermont; Independent of any One of the States in the confederacy, and without the consent of the United States in Congress Assembled; do Exercise many and various Acts of Oppression Injustice and cruelty towards the good Subjects of the State of New Hampshire by seizing and embezzling our property which lies within their Limits, and under pretence of dues to them Assessing and levying contributions on our Lands for pretended Services whereby we derive no benefit, but much real, and Essential injury, and such Acts of Extortion and Oppression they Sanctify by Laws of their own formation, in Violation of the Laws of Nations and the principles of the confederation of the United States. The most Oppressive of which are the Survey Act and the quieting Act so called; by the former their Surveyor-General is directed to Survey s^d Territory, and exhibit his Accompts to their Council of his demands for Surveying each Town to be by them Adjusted, and if within thirty days after s^d Adjustment the Sum Allowed is not paid in hard money Extents are Issued, and Sufficient Land sold for Paying the Same, with cost of Levying without any Equity of redemption. And the lines of s^d Towns that have been Settled upwards of Twenty Years so Altered and Curtailed by the Mere Opinion of s^d Surveyor or his Deputy without the right of Trial by Jury, that a new Allotment is Necessary, and by the latter a possession of Land however wrongfully Obtained and kept eventually Affects the Title—

Farther the Inhabitants of s^d Territory do in a Lawless and Riotous Manner make Inroads on the Frontiers of this State, and take from hence the peaceable Subjects of New Hampshire to their Prison, in Open Violation & contempt of the Good and wholesome Laws of this State which they set at defiance, and Scream themselves within s^d Territory—

Your Petitioners therefore Humbly Pray that the Honourable Legislature of this State will be pleased to interpose in behalf of the Persons and properties of the Good Subjects of this State, and defend them from the Above mentioned and other injurious measures of the Inhabitants of s^d Territory and protect them from the pernicious Influence of their iniquitous Acts of Legislation in such way and Manner as the Wisdom of this Honourable Court shall direct as the most proper and Effectual to Obtain the desired End. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray—

Cornish May 1786

Sam^l Chase
Robert Willson
John Morse

W^m Deming
Solomon Chase
Joshua Crosman

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| David Orvis | Ithamar Chase |
| Daniel Putnam | Seth Demming |
| Sam ^l Putnam | Joseph Taylor |
| Jeremiah Morse | Sam ^l Chase Jun ^r |
| Joseph Holland | Abner Rawson |
| Eben ^r Demming | Jonathan Chase |
| Matthias Stone | John Cook |

[3-63] [*Petition for a Poll Parish.*]

To the Hon^{ble} General Court of the State of New Hampshire to convene at Concord on the third day of June instant—

The petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Cornish and Plainfield in the County of Cheshire in said State, Humbly sheweth That the great diversity of Sentiment, in matters of religion, and the jarring Opinions concerning the most suitable place for buildings for religious worship, renders it impossible ever to effect such union in either of said Towns as to enable them happily to settle and maintain the Gospel Ministry amongst them with that harmony which ought ever to reign in religious Societies, without a division of said Town into Parishes.—And whereas the inhabitants of different sentiments are so intermixed in their Settlements that Parish lines would not effect the desired end—Your petitioners therefore pray the General Court to grant the Subscribers with such others as may hereafter join with them such privileges and immunities of a Poll parish as may enable them to erect and maintain in proper repair a place for Public Worship and to raise and apply money for the support of the Ministry among them and with such other privileges as may be necessary for the well ordering of parish affairs.—

Cornish, November the 1st A D 1788

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Elisha Read | Joseph Kinyon | Samuel Bartlet |
| James Hunter | Simon Blanchard | Joel Hildreth |
| Walter Foss | Joshua Woodward | Samuel Mackres |
| Thomas Hall | Abel Stone | Abel Johnson |
| Nathaniel Higgins | Moody Hall | James Ripley |
| Thomas Lewey | Will ^m Ripley | David Read |
| Abel Stone Ju ^r | Jesse Johnson | Levi Stone |
| Daniel Freeman | John Cady | Joseph Smith |
| Jabez Spicer | Chester Chapman | Daniel Cole |
| John Bartlett | Nathan Hains | Nathan Whiting |
| Benj ^m Read | Hezekiah Fitch | James Fitch |
| John Lucas | Nath ^l Bartlet | Andrew Tracy |
| Jonathan Read | Samuel Read | Elisha Herrick |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| John Spaulding | Lovil Kimball | James Ladieu |
| Reuben Jerald | Josiah Stone | Moses Chase |
| John Whitten | Will ^m Lewey | Samuel Fitch |
| Eliphalet Kimball | Moses Barrows | David Smith |
| Jun ^r | Moses Barrows Jun ^r | |

This Certifies that a Copy of the within Petition and order of the Court thereon was posted up in a public place in the towns of Cornish and Plainfield and also a Copy of the same delivered to the Selectmen of each Town on the first day of December A D 1788 agreeable to the order of Court—

| | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| In behalf of the Petitioners | Attest | Will ^m Ripley |
| Cornish December 20 th A D 1788 | | Reuben Jerald |

[In H. of Rep., Nov. 8, 1788, a hearing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]



[3-62] [*Objections to a Poll Parish.*]

To His Excellency the President of the State of Newhampshire, and the Honorable Senet & House of Representatives in General Court convened,

The Objections of the Town of Cornish against the Petition for a Poll Parish sheweth as follows: First—That the Town in full Meeting Voted almost unanimously (except the petitioners,) to oppose said petition—

Secondly—That there is a prevailing disposition in the People of this Town, (except the aforesaid) to accommodate the Town by building a Meeting House in the center thereof, and there is fair prospect of a general union taking place as there is a committee now appointed for the purpose of forming a plan of liberal principals, to be laid before the Town at the next annual Meeting, by which the afore said union may be more effectually completed—

Thirdly That a Poll parish established here would throw the Town into confusion; distroy the peace & hermony thereof; promote discord & strife and lay a foundation for futur controversy & disorder, and for the afforesaid reasons we humbly desire that there may not be a Poll Parish established in this Town—And as in duty bound shall ever pray

Cornish Dec. 17, 1788

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Dudley Chase | } Town Committee |
| Samuel Comings | |
| Daniel Chase | |
| Eleazer Jackson | |

[3-61] [*Relative to paying Ministerial Rates.*]

Cornish Decem^r 19th 1788

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Cornish held the 25th of June A D 1783 the following Vote was pas^d—
Viz—

That from and after the 29th of Sept next no person Shall be held or bound by Civil Contract, to pay any taxes for the Support of the Gospel, unless he Shall previously Consent thereto.

a true Coppy attest

Caleb Chase Town Clerk

[3-60]

We the subscribers having formerly signed a petition to the General Court for a Poll Parish in the Towns of Cornish and Plainfield having by more mature deliberation considered its pre-nitious affects and finding there is a promising prospect of this Town generally uniting in one Society and being persuaded that a Pole Parish established here would grately impead said union—do hereby resind from the above mentioned petition

As witness our Hands

Cornish Decem : 21st 1788

David Smith
John Lucas
Samuel Mackres
Moses Burrows

[R. 247] [*Documents relative to Nathaniel Curtice, Soldier.*]

The diposition of Moses Chase Jur. of lawful age testifys and says—that I was in the Continental service in general gates Department and was knowing to Nath^l Curtice's being a soldier there in Capⁿ Waits Company and belonged to the artillery

Moses Chase Jr.

[R. 248.]

The Diposition of Nathaniel Bartlet of lawful age testifies and says—that I was in the army in general gates Department and in the year 1777 had knowledge of Nathaniel Curtises belonging to the army and Did the Duty of a soldier in the artillery

Nathaniel Bartlet

(R. 249) [Daniel Chase testifies in a similar manner. They were in General Stark's command. Curtice was ruptured in the scrotum, so say "David Hall Sol^o Chase Physicians" of Cornish.—ED.]

[R. 250] [*Memorial of Andrew Wilkins, Soldier.*]

[In a petition dated 1794, Andrew Wilkins, of Cornish, says that he was a soldier in Col. Bedel's regiment in Canada in 1776; was taken prisoner at the Cedars by the British and Indians, and the Indians "striped him of all his clothes except one shirt and one pair of Breeches, also a very valuable gun," etc., all of the value of £10-10, which he asks the state to pay.—ED.]

[3-65] [*Petition for Lottery.*]

To the General Court of the State of New Hampshire now convened at Concord.

The Petition of Nathan Smith of Cornish in said State humbly sheweth.

That whereas it is a thing much to be deplored that the health & even lives of the good people of this State have heretofore been much endangered thro the unskilfulness of ignorant Physicians with whom the Country has abounded and with whom it is highly probable it ever will be embarrassed untill some encouragement is given by the Legislature in order that the Study of Physic may be pursued with advantage—and whereas the strict regulations of the neighboring States have caused many, who have not been regularly approbated, to intrude themselves into this State; & who by their ungrounded pretentions to the knowledge of Physic have imposed on the incautious.—Your Petitioner therefore with deference humbly conceives it to be a matter of high importance to the community at large as well as to the safety of individuals, that something be done to remedy those evils and that no method will be more effectual than the encouragement of the regular study of Physic & surgery And whereas your Petitioner has by assiduity and a long study obtained the approbation of the Medical Societies & a degree of Bachelor of Physic from the university of Cambridge & has for some years been a Practitioner in the Town afores'd—And whereas a number of young Gentlemen are desirous of pursuing, under his derections a course of studies & of being regularly introduced into the profession—Your Petitioner being deeply impressed with a desire to alleviate the burdens of the sick & distressed and confidentially relying on your patronage to promote so benevolent a purpose & being unable to furnish his young Students with a library for their improvement, most humbly prays that he may have liberty, by a Lottery to raise the sum of one hundred pounds which he will become obligated as the general Court may direct to lay out in purchasing a Li-

brary of Physic & surgery for the advantage of Students in that part of the State. and will chearfully become bound with sufficient sureties that said Library shall be considered as public property and appropriated soley for the benefit of those who are by study in a regular way accomplishing themselves for the afores'd profession. And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Nathan Smith

Jan^y 18th 1791

[3-66] [*Jonathan Chase for Charter for Canal from Connecticut River to Merrimack River.*]

State of Newhampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Amherst the first Wednesday in June AD 1794—

The petition of Jonathan Chase Esq^r of Cornish humbly prays. That whereas your Petitioner has been at considerable expence in looking out a convenient place for conveying boats from Connecticut river to Merrimack by means of locks and sluices being encouraged thereto by a number of Gentlemen in Boston and elsewhere; and as the practicability of such conveyance cannot be ascertained without considerable expence in surveying the waters and grounds; your Petitioner prays for the exclusive privilege to him and his associates, of cutting a canal from Connecticut River to Merrimack by way of Sannipee pond, if such a thing should be found practicable on further examination.—

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

Jonth Chase

[3-67] [*Jonathan Chase for a Toll-Bridge.*]

State of New hampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court convened at Amherst the first Wednesday in June AD 1794.

The petition of Jonathan Chase Esq^r of Cornish humbly sheweth, that some time since your Petitioner obtained a grant for a ferry over Connecticut river, between Cornish and Windsor; and the inhabitants of Cornish, Windsor, and the adjacent towns are desirous of having a bridge built over s^d river—

Your Petitioner desires the privilege of building s^d bridge, in

such place as will best accomodate the public, between Cornish and Windsor. And as he must be at great expence for the same before it can be any ways profitable, your Petitioner requests the exclusive right for the same, for a certain number of years with the price of toll stated, as your Honors in your wisdom shall think proper; and also the exclusive right of building a bridge on s^d river, for twenty miles on s^d river, extending ten above and ten below s^d bridge. And as in duty bound will ever pray—

Jonth Chase

[The foregoing was granted by an act approved January 14, 1795.—ED.]

[3-68] [*Episcopal Church for Incorporation.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, in general court assembled. The petition of the subscribers members of the Episcopal Society in Cornish, in said State, humbly sheweth

That for many years, we who once composed the original society in said Town, have been subjected to great inconveniences, for want of public religious worship and instruction, by the desertion of a large part of the people of said Cornish, but are now unitedly associated, without infringing upon the peace or prosperity of any other society, and hope by the divine blessing, to become a regular & well ordered congregation.

Encouraged by the Hon^{ble} Legislatures indulging other religious societies, with acts of incorporation, we hereby request that we may also be incorporated, by an act of General Court, by the name of Christ's Church, with power to receive, and hold property both real and personal, and to have and enjoy all other privileges and immunities belonging to a corporate body. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—

Cornish May 20th

1794

Caleb Chase }
Nathaniel Hall } Wardens

Dudley Chase }
Dier Spalding } Vestrymen
Jonathan Chase }
Andrew Wilkins }
Solomon Chase }

[The church was incorporated December 24, 1795, by the name of Trinity Church.—ED.]

[3-70] [*Relative to Lands reserved for Glebe, etc.*]

To the Honourable the Legislator of the State of New Hampshire to be Convened at Concord the first Wednesday of December.

The Petition of the Select Men of Cornish Humbly Sheweth That there is two rights of Land in the Town of Cornish one Called the Gleab the other the propegating right which remains uncultivated: Consequently are no Income to the town or any other person and your Petitioners Conceive that Said Rights of Land was Granted for the benefit of the town.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honours would take the matter under your wise Consideration and Grant unto the Said town of Cornish the priviledge of appropriating one or both of the aforesaid Rights of Land to the Support of Schooling in Said town or Some other publick use for the Benefit of Said town as you in your Wisdom Shall think best and your Petition^{rs} as in duty bound will Ever Pray

Dated at Cornish first Day of December 1795

Joseph Chapman }
 Eleazar Jackson } Select Men
 David Read }

[3-71] [*Relative to Removal of Dead Persons.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Gen^l Court to be conven^d at Exeter on the first wednesday of June

Humbly sheweth that whereas the dead have been molested & the body of one man removed from a public Burying ground in Cornish & in compliance to directions received at our March Meeting by a unanimous vote of the Inhabitants of the town, we your petitioners in behalf of the Inhabitants & ourselves humbly pray you to take the matter into your wise Consideration & pass an act whereby perpetrators may be punished & the dead securly rest—In duty bound shall ever pray

Cornish 27th May 1796

Moody Hall }
 W^m Deming } Select
 Benj^a Dorr } Men

[3-72] [*Petition for Incorporation of Library.*]

To the Honorable General Court of the State of Newhampshire
now conven^d at Portsmouth

Humbly sheweth the petetion of the subscribers That they with a number of others inhabitants of the town of Cornish, have purchased a considerable number of Books for the purpose of a social Library in said Town, therefore pray that they with their associates may be incorporated into a body politic, with such privileges as usually granted in such cases

And as in duty bound will ever pray

Lyman Spalding
Ith^r Chase

Nov^m 27th 1797

[The library was incorporated December 11, 1797.—ED.]

—

[3-73] [*Petition for Incorporation of Congregational Society.*]

To the Hon^{ble} General Court of the State of Newhampshire

The petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Cornish in the County of Cheshire in s^d State Humbly Sheweth—That the diversity of sentiments in matters of religion (there being an Episcopal and a Baptist Society in s^d Town) renders it difficult to build a Meeting house & settle and maintain the Gospel Ministry among them as a Town. And whereas the People of different Sentiments are so intermixed in their Settlements, that parish lines would not effect the desired purpose—your petitioners therefore pray the General Court, to incorporate the Subscribers with such others as shall be disposed to join with them, into a Society by name of the *Congregational Society* in Cornish, with such privileges and immunities as may ennabe them to erect and maintain in proper repair a House for public worship, and to raise and apply money for the support of the Gospel Ministry amongst us—and with such other privileges as may be necessary for the well ordering of parrish affairs,—

And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Cornish November the 21st 1798

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Andrew Tracy | Asa Coburn | Elias Martindale |
| James Gage | Lemuel Tracy | Joshua Wyman |
| Moses Harrington | Philip Taber | Jacob Whipple |
| W ^m Choate J ^r | Ichabod Smith J ^r | James Hunter |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Thomas Williams | Joseph Smith | Samuel Whitton |
| Dudley Coburn | Timothy W. Hall | Edward Kimball |
| Simeon Butterfield | Thomas Luey | Clement Chase |
| Josiar Stone | Moody Chase | W ^m Ripley |
| Daniel Chase | Reuben Jerrold | Eben ^r Cobb |
| David Davis | James Ripley | Eliphalet Kimball Jr |
| Moody Hall | Benj. Corning | Nathan Rand |
| David Smith | Jonath ⁿ Bingham | Aaron Harrington |
| Thomas Hastings | Nath ^l Huggins | Lovell Kimball |
| Elisha Herrick | Eben ^r Martindale | Hezekiah Fitch |
| Samuel Fitch | Jabez Spicer | Samuel Wickwire |
| Benj ⁿ Smith | Samuel Bartlet | Thomas Hall |
| Samuel Paine | W ^m Bartlet | Joseph Tabor |
| Benj ⁿ Dorr | Asa Coburn 2 nd | Isaac Simons |
| Nathaniel Pierce | Nathaniel Curtis | Abel Fairbanks |
| Samuel Bartlet 2 nd | James Harlow | W ^m Lane |
| Robert Nevins | Frederick Bingham | W ^m Choate |

[Incorporated by an act approved June 14, 1799.—ED.]

[From General Chase's Papers.]

A List of the Foot Militia Company in Cornish May the 25th
A. D. 1776.

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Capt. Solomon Chase | Simeon Chase | Isaac Wellman |
| Lieut Daniel Chase | Francis Dana | Solomon Wellman |
| Serg ^t Robert Wilson | Nathaniel Dustin | Joseph Vinson |
| “ Eleazer Jackson | Zebediah Fitch | John Well |
| “ Stephen Cady | Samuel Fitch | Josiah Stone |
| “ Samuel Chase 3 ^d | Jona. Huggins, | Eben ^r Dresser |
| Corp ^l Stephen Childs | David Huggins | Caleb Pleastrig |
| “ Benj. Commings | Moses Hall | Nathaniel Good- speed |
| “ Peter Chase | Moody Hall | Joseph Bartlet |
| Drummer Sam ^l Hill- yard | William Payn | Richard Hawley |
| Ebenezer Brewer | Joshua Page | Joseph Spaulding |
| John Chase | William Ripley | Abel Spaulding |
| James Cate | Azariah Spaulding | Jabez Spicer |
| Thomas Chase | Andrew Spaulding | John Moore |
| Salmon Chase | Andrew Spaulding Jr. | Elijah Carpenter |
| Moses Currier | John Widen | W ^m Darling |
| Nicholas Cady | James Wellman, Jr. | |

Larm men.

Elias Cady
Capt Dier Spaulding

Samuel Chase Jr.
Briant Brown

[*From General Chase's Papers.*]

A return of whole Quota of Continental men belonging To Cornish in Col^o Jonth Chase Ridgerment

| Names. | Age. | Names. | Age. |
|---------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Curtis Cady | 22 | Jon th Currier | 38 |
| Nath ^l Curtis | 42 | Loring Tomson | 21 |
| Daniel Putnam | 39 | W ^m Richardson | 22 |
| Moses Brown | 20 | David Currier | 36 |
| Peter Spicer | 21 | Gail Cole | 21 |
| Nath ^l Bartlet | 21 | John Bartlett | 19 |
| Moses Chase Jur. | 19 | | |

[The foregoing were mustered January, 1777, for three years, and were in Colonel Cilley's regiment.—ED.]

CROYDON.

The town was granted May 31, 1763, to Samuel Chase and others, in seventy-one equal shares; and probably derived its name from an English town. Settlements were made in 1766 by families from Grafton and Sutton, Mass. It was re-granted Dec. 21, 1768, in consequence of conditions broken.

By an act approved Dec. 3, 1808, the line between this town and Grantham was established, whereby some territory, which had been under the jurisdiction of Croydon, was declared to belong to Grantham. By an act approved June 4, 1809, some territory was severed from this town and annexed to Cornish. Croydon was one of the towns which joined Vermont, and was represented in the convention at Cornish, April, 1781, by Moses Whipple.

[3-74] [*Petition for a re-grant of the Town.*]

Province of New Hampshire } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 } Captain Gen^l Governor and Commander in
 Chief of the Province aforesaid and Vice Admiral of the
 same, in Council—

The Petition of Ephraim Shearman of Croydon in behalf of himself and the Grantees of said Township Humbly Shews

That your Petitioners have so far complied with the Conditions of the Charter of said Township as to make a settlement

of Fifteen Rights, with familys upon them, besides five others that are now improving, together with Two mills—tho' with great inconvenience, Expence & Difficulty—having cut a good Passable Road to about the middle of said Township—and have now the pleasing hopes of a fine Settlement, if your Excell^{cy} and Honors will please to grant them some further indulgences, by continuing their Charter some reasonable time, as to your Excell^{cy} & Honors shall seem meet & necessary. And your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Ephraim Shearman

Portsm^o } for self and the other Grantees of Croy-
Novem^r 10th 1768 } don aforesaid

[The town was re-granted December 21, 1768.—ED.]

[3-75] [*Mary Howe's Petition.*]

To the Hon. Council and House of Representatives of the
State of New Hamshire in general Court assembled

The Petition of widow Mary How of Croydon in Said State wherein She humbly Sheweth that in the month of September last her Husband James How died leaving three Children: one Son about Six years old and two daughters younger that the homestead Farm he died Seized of Contains 150 Acres with a Small dwelling house and about thirty Acres of improved land under Such circumstances that it is impossible for her to improve to the advantage of the heirs, and it is the opinion of the principal men of the Town it will be best for said heirs to have said Farm Sold as the paper annexed will Shew: and She humbly prays She may be impowered by the Honorable Court to Sell Said Estate for the benefit of the heirs and as in duty bound Shall pray

Mary Howe

Croydon July 28th 1778

[3-76]

We the Subscribers inhabitants of the Town of Croydon are of the opinion it will be much best for the heirs of M^r James How (late of this Town deceased) to have the homestead Farm he died Seiz'd of Sold

Croydon July 28th 1778

John Cooper
William Winter
David Powers

Ezra Cooper
Benjⁿ Swineton
Moses Whipple

Timothy Fisher
Joseph Hall

[3-77] [*Relative to Election of Representatives.*]

State of)
New Hampshire } To the Honorable the Council and House
Third Wednesday of Dec^r 1779 of Representatives Conven^d at Exeter the

We your Hon^{rs} Petitioners Give your Hon^{rs} to understand that thro' some inadvertance or neglect of the Select Men of Unity the District of Croydon Newport Saville Unity Lemster and Ackworth were not legally notified to Meet for the Choice of a Representative and Counsellors altho' the Precept from your Hon^{rs} was Seasonably Brought into Unity we are inform^d as by the Notification hereto Annexed will appear which Notification bears Equal date with those that were sent to the other Towns in said District and none of the Towns rec^d Notifications but about 6 days at most before the day of Choice altho' 15 days is the time Provided by the precept Nevertheless Ten Persons from the Towns of Ackworth Lemster Saville Croydon and Newport and Ten only with a Number from Unity Mett at Time and Place for Choice &c and made Proclamation that a Representative was Chosen but we your Petitioners Confiding in your Hon^{rs} Integrity and Steady adherence to our Present Necessary Constitution we cannot doubt but if any Person presumes to offer himself to be qualified as a member of your hon^{bl} Body as Representative for the district afores^d your honors will refuse him Admission the notification not being Legal your Petitioners presume your Hon^{rs} Stand in Need of no other Evidence to Judge the Proceedings of said Meeting Void We would also Give your hon^{rs} to understand that if the Towns aforesaid had been Properly notified the bigger Part would not have attended by Reason the district is so Large that Travil and Cost and the Ill Convenience of bad roads so Cloggs the Priviledge that under our Circumstances we think it will not Countervail the difficulties we are exposed to nor is it more than the bare Name of a Priviledge and as the aforesaid district tho' Large and Contained Near about 150 families when Class'd by the hon^{bl} Assembly for Peace and order Sake readily acquiesced in y^r Hon^{rs} appointment and Have till this time and Being Assured by the then Plan of Government which was out of mere Necessity Adopted in our infant State and remains still the foundation of the Authority of this State that as the Numbers in any district encreased so Representation should be enlarged in Equal proportion and the aforesaid District being now increased to 250 families or more Pray your hon^{rs} that said District may be Divided Namely Croydon Newport and Saville be Classed together and Lemster Ackworth and Unity and Pray your honors to Issue Precepts accordingly that we may enjoy a Privilege which we

Doubt not y^r Hon^{rs} will Judge we are intitl'd to and which we highly Prize, and altho' there Some popular towns which may Clame a Larger representation than they now Enjoy as well as the afores^d District yet there is a great Difference in 250 Families being Scattered all over the Extent of 216 Square Miles and the Same or a greater Number Living Contiguous, who may and can upon any occasion meet at Some Central Place without Ill Convenience but Relying that y^r hon^{rs} will Do what is right Just and Equitable in the Prammises we rest the whole affair with your Hon^{rs} Superior Wisdom and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound &c

Dated at the afores^d Town Dec^r 8th 10th 11th 1779

Moses Whipple } Select men of
John Cooper } Croydon

Aaron Buel } Select men of
Ezra Parmele } Newport

Joshua Gage } Selectmen of
Sam^l Gunnison } Saville

W^m Cary } Selectmen of
Elijah Frink } Lemster
Allen Willey }

Henry Silsby } Select men of
Daniel Mack } Ackworth

[The foregoing petition was granted, and precepts issued.—ED.]

[3-79]

[*Relative to Town-Meeting.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^l Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled to be Holden at Concord the third Wednesday of December next.

A petition of the Selectmen of Croydon wherein they humbly Shew that on the Second Tewsday of March last the Said Town of Croydon meet agreeable to warning by order of the Selectmen and the Town by a great majority chose Town Officers but not more than four men belonging to the Town had Taken the Oath of fidelity without which no man is allowed to Vote in Town Meetings; by an Act of the General Court of this State we therefore expect to be embarrassed with respect to Collecting the Taxes Called for by the State and County therefore we your petitioners pray your Honors so far to

establish said meeting as to enable us to Assess and the Constable or Constables to Collect Said State & County Taxes and as in duty bound Shall ever pray

Croydon Sep^r 15 1783

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| John Cooper | } Selectmen of Croydon |
| Jonah Stow | |
| Lemuel Powers | |
| Ezra Cooper | |

[3-80]

[*Inventory of 1783.*]

Polls 18 years old & upwards 53—No of Acres of Tillage Land 35—No of Acres of Mowing Land 186—No of Acres of Pasture Land 316—No of Horses 20—No of Oxen 18—No of Cows 43—No of Horses & Cattle 3 years old 19—No of Horses & Cattle 2 years old 19—No of Horses & Cattle one year old 18—Value of Real Estate £2232—Money in hand & on Interest £32 8s—Value of Nonresident Land £1796 3s.

The above is a true Copy of the valuation of the Polls & Ratable Estate of the Town of Croydon taken by the Selectmen in december 1779 by order of the General Assembly and was by them Sent Seasonably but did not reach Said Court as we are informed a few days Since if this failure has Accumulated our Taxes we humbly pray for redress

Croydon December 20th 1783

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| John Cooper | } Selectmen of Croydon |
| Lemuel Powers | |
| Ezra Cooper | |

[3-81]

[*Relative to Invoice of 1779.*]

To the Hon^{le} the Council and House of Representitives of the State of New Hampshire now Conven^d at Concord the Petition of Stephen Powers in behalf of the town of Croydon in s^d State Humbly Sheweth That the town of Croydon Did in the year 1779 make up there Invoice and Sent it By there Representatives and they Never Know but that the Same went in till very lately but now understand thay were Doomed at about thirteen Pound more than thare Invoice was at that time as may appear by a true Coppy of said Invoice and therefore Pray your Honors to take the matters into your wise Consideration and grant Such Relefe as you In your wisdom Shall Se fit and your Petitioner as in duty Bound shall Ever Pray

December 27th 1783

Stephen Powers

[3-82] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting.*]

Croydon December y^e 4th 1786

at a Legal Town meeting Called agreeable to Orders from the Honourable Court and the Vots Being Called for upon the Report of the Court Committee Concerning Emitting Fifty Thousand Pound of Paper Money and the Number for it 3 and the Number against it 12

Secondly the Votes Being Called for to See if they Would accept of the Report of the Courts Committee with this alteration that the abovesaid Fifty Thousand Pounds Shall Be a Lawfull Tender for Debts and the Number it 12 and against it 3

Attest Stephen Powers Town Clerk

—

[3-78] [*Petition for Authority to assess a Tax for repair of Roads.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire now setting in Portsmouth :

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Township of Croydon in the County of Cheshire Humbly sheweth.—That we your petitioners Labour under peculiar disadvantages and difficulties on account of the badness of our roads, there being a large mountain over which we are obliged to maintain two high-ways beside several large bridges to build and maintain over the river which runs through said Town, which burthens we conceive too heavy for the inhabitants of said Town to bear without the Assistance of the nonresident proprietors. We therefore Pray that this Legislature would empower the Select Men of said Croydon to tax all the lands in said Town one penny on the acre annually for the term of four years to be expended in making and repairing roads and Bridges in said Town or otherwise to grant such relief as your wisdom may see fit—and your petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray—

Dated Portsmouth Feb^y 10th 1788

Stephen Powers in behalf of
s^d Town

[The foregoing petition was granted.—ED.]

[3-83] [*Relative to Election of Representative.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened at Concord on the First Wednesday of June AD. 1793

A Petition of the Votable Inhabitants of the Town of Croydon in the County of Cheshire. Humbly Sheweth. That in former Years the Said Town of Croydon was Classed with the Town of Newport and Jointly Sent a Representative to the General Court untill the Said Newport had a Sufficient Number of Voters to Send a Member Seperate from us which was in February 1791. Ever Since we have been Deprived of that Enestimable Priviledge of a Seat in the General Court. And as it would be very Difficult for us to be Classed with any other Town that hath not a Sufficient Number of themselves And likewise it appears by the Return of our Selectmen that we have now One Hundred and Ten Voters and by all Probability we shall have the full Number the Constitution Requires in a very few Years. We therefore humbly Pray your Honr^s would take this our Petition into your Wise Consideration and so Order that we may have a Constitutional Right to have a Member Sit with that Venerable Body at their Next Session and in future and your Petitioners in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

Jesse Lane In behalf of the
petitioners

Croydon April 22nd 1793

At a Legal Town Meeting held this Day for the Purpose of Petitioning the General Court for Liberty to send a Representative. Voted Unanimously that the foregoing Petition be Sent Agreeable to the Tenor thereof.

Edward Hall Ju^r Moderator

Attest Jesse Green T. Clerk.

[3-84] [*Number of Ratable Polls.*]

This may Certify that thair is one Hundred and fifty four Rateable male polls in the Valuation of the town of Croydon for the year 1799

Croydon November 29th 1799

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Samuel Powers | } Selectmen of Croydon |
| Simeon Partridge | |

[R. 251] [*Selectmen relative to Soldiers furnished.*]

To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court assembled—The petition of the Selectmen of Croydon in the Name and on behalf of the Town wherein they humbly shew that in the year 1778 the said Town was called on to recruit four men for the Continental service: in pursuance of said demand among others we hired William Sisco of Savell and Perez Richardson of Acworth to serve three years in the Continental Battallions and gave them an ample reward therefor—before the expiration of said Term the said Sisco & Richardson inlisted during the war receiving no bounty from any other Town—Your Petitioners beg leave likewise to shew that sometime in the month of April last we received an act of the General Court wherein we were required to recruit four men our quota to fill up the Continental Battallions and in said act the several Towns in the state had leave to put in their claims for any they had already in the war by the tenth of may following: through Misunderstanding said act we neglected putting in our claim for said men until sometime in September when it was to late for the Committee of Claims to receive them.

We therefore your petitioners pray your Honors to consider us in the matter and receive the said Sisco & Richardson two recruits during the war in favor of this Town and as in duty bound shall pray.

Croydon December 19th 1782

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| John Cooper | Moses Whipple | } Selectmen of Croydon |
| Phinehas Sanger | Abijah Hall | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Croydon paid W ^m Sisco | Apr. 1778 | £18, 18,—good money |
| Perez Richardson | | 17, 13,—4 do |

Perez Richardson claimed by Acworth May 24, 1782—

[May 20th, 1786, John Cooper, Edward Hall, and Benjamin Powers, selectmen, petitioned again in the matter, and presented the following in support of their claim:—ED.]

[R. 252]

It appears by the Returns from the Army that Perez Richardson Engaged in the month of Feb^y 1778 and born on the Rolls for the years 1778, 1779, 1780, & 1781—It further appears that he rec^d a Bounty of the Town of Croydon in April 1778—Whether he was claimed by and answered for any other Town I cannot say, not having the Books.

Jos. Gilman

December 29th 1786.

[Acworth presented the following claim :—ED.]

[R. 253]

To whome it may concern This may certify that Perice Richareson now in Despute between Croidan and Acworth was & is an inhabitant of the town of acworth he was Returned for a solger for s^d acworth in Legal Time & never disputed and sins the time that Croidon had forfeited their Right to claim him we have Paid him sixty four bushel of rye for serving in the army during the war for s^d acworth and as he was not cleamed by aney Town but free acording to Law, so we hiered him & paid him & Trust this is our Right to him & that your honors will not interfier with our contract with a free man, and as he was disabled in the sarves and we ar obledged to suport him & family we trust this with what we have paid will be considered

| | | |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| John Duncan | } | Sellect Men |
| Daniel Grout | | |
| William Mitchell | | |

[Croydon was allowed £60 for Sisco. Their petition for allowance for Richardson was “dismissed.”—ED.]

—

[*The three Documents following are from Gen. Chase's Papers.*]

The Return of the men for the town of Croydon

Jabes Bride of New molborough Inlisted with Joseph Poller Lieut in Co^l Hales Rigerment

Croydon Sept^r y^e 20 1777

Moses Whipple Capt

—

A Muster & Pay Rool of Croydon men being part of Col^o Jon^a Chase's Rigaretment of Militia who marched to Saratoga in the Sarvice of the United states of America in September 1777.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Moses Whipple Capt. | £15. 2. 0— | Jacob Hall Sarg ^t | 7. 11. 3 |
| Seth Chase Sarg ^t | 2. 1. 11— | Phin ^s Newton Corp ^l | 7. 7. 1 |
| Aaron Whipple Priv ^t | 7. 3. 0— | Aaron Warrin Priv ^t | 7. 3. 0 |
| Moses Warrin | d ^o 7. 3. 0— | John Sanger | d ^o 7. 3. 0 |
| John Druce | d ^o 5. 16. 0— | Moses Vinson | d ^o 7. 1. 10 |
| David Stockwell | d ^o 7. 6. 0 | | <u>7. 1. 10</u> |

Sum Totle £80. 18. 1

Col Chase Sir threw forgitfullness Benjamin Thompson of Croydon was not taken off of your Pay Role who sarved the

whole of the time wee went to Saletoge if his Name is not put in the moster Role Pleas to put him in when you go down agene with som others that was Left out from your Homble Sarvent

Moses Whipple

Croydon Febury 23 1778

State of New Hampshire—we the subscribers do hereby enlist ourselves as soldiers in the sarvis of the United States of America to sarve three months from the time of the meeting at first place of Randovoes in one of the Regerments Latly Revised by the Hon^{bl} assembly of New Hampshire an act Passed June 27, 1780 and do hereby engage obedience to the officers set over us: and to be subject to the Rules and Regelations of the army—

Croydon July 5th 1780.

Amos Dwinel Edward Hall Jur. Rufus Kimpton

[Sherman Cooper signed a similar paper, same date. James Hall and John Hall enlisted June 24, 1780, to serve on the frontier.—ED.]

DALTON.

This town comprises a portion of the territory granted November 17, 1764, to James Avery and 46 others, by the name of Chiswick.

The most of the grantees having been bought out by Moses Little, of Newburyport, Moses Little, Jr., of Newbury, Mass., Israel Morey, of Orford, N. H., and Alexander Phelps, of Hebron, Conn., a new grant was made January 18, 1770, to the said purchasers and their associates, one of whom was George Apthorp, of London, Eng. The township was re-named for him, and bore the name of Apthorp until November 4, 1784, when it was divided, and the north part incorporated into a town by the name of Dalton, in honor of Tristram Dalton, one of the proprietors, and the south part into the present town of Littleton. Mr. Dalton was from Newburyport, Mass., and was one of the grantees of 1770. The first settlers were Moses Blake and

Walter Bloss. In 1773 the whole township, comprising what is now Littleton and Dalton, contained but 14 inhabitants.

[3-85] [*Petition for a Division of the Town.*]

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court assembled—

Humbly shew the Subscribers owners of the Town of Apthorp in the County of Grafton within the said State, that the said Town of Apthorp is large and capable of making two Towns by a proper division of the same; that in its present undivided situation the settlement and cultivation thereof must be attended with very great difficulty if practicable; that the subscribers are greatly desirous to settle and improve their lands there as well for the benefit of the State & the country adjacent as for themselves—That Tristram Dalton and Nathaniel Tracy Esquires two of the Subscribers own in fee simple in severalty from the other proprietors of that Town the following part thereof that is to say beginning at the Easterly corner of said Town. thence running South fifty six degrees west eighteen hundred rods adjoining on the South East side line of said Town thence running North twenty six degrees west about six miles or be the same more or less until it comes to Connecticut River; thence by Connecticut River Easterly till it comes to the Northerly corner of said Town then North twenty six degrees East adjoining on the North Easterly side line of said Town about five miles until it comes to the Easterly Corner of said Town. That your petitioners apprehend that the lands owned by said Dalton & Tracy are sufficient to form one Town & that the residue of the lands in said Apthorp are sufficient for another Town—and that a division of the Town in that manner into two Towns would be exceedingly beneficial to the proprietors and the public—Wherefore the Subscribers humbly pray that your honours would in your wisdom and goodness divide the said Town as aforesaid and of the lands therein owned by the said Dalton and Tracy erect and incorporate a Town by such name as shall be agreeable to your honours; and of the residue of the lands in said Apthorp your Honours would erect and incorporate a Town by the Name of Apthorp—And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

June 1783

Tristram Dalton, Nat Tracy

[The word "Franklin" is pasted under the word Apthorp. The town was divided November 4, 1784.—ED.]

[3-86] [*Consent of Proprietors to foregoing.*]

Newbury 18th June 1783

This is to Signefy that we the Subscribers owners of more than one Half part of the Township of Apthorp, that whereas Tristram Dalton and Nath^l Tracy Esq^{rs} owners of a part of Said town, have petitioned for a divition of Said township Into two towns with privileges of Incorporation, that we do consent that it is done provided that Said Divition do not Effect property any way

witnes our Hands

Moses Little
Jacob Bayley

To the Hon^{bl} the Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hamp^{re}

[3-87] [*Moses Blake for a Ferry.*]

State of Newhampshire Grafton ss

To the Hon^l General Court to be convened & holden at Portsmouth on the last wednesday of November 1791

Humbly Sheweth Moses Blake of Dalton in said State, that there is, adjoining his land where he lives in said Dalton, a convenient place for keeping a public ferry across the River Connecticut, & that the keeping thereof will very much comode the public. Therefore he prays your Honors to Grant him his Heirs & assigns forever the Sole & exclusive priviledge of opening & keeping a ferry over said River, begining at the head of the fifteen mile falls, so called, & so far up said River as may appear proper to your Honors & he as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Moses Blake

Dalton Sept^r 23^d 1791

[The ferry petitioned for was granted June, 1792.—ED.]

[3-88] [*Recommendation of Selectmen of Littleton.*]

State of New-hampshire County of Grafton ss We the Subscribers Selectmen of Littleton in the County aforesaid—hereby certify—that we have been informed that M^r Moses Blake of Dalton Petitioned the General Court of this State at there last Session, for the Grant of a Ferry over Connecticut River at the place where the said Blake lives in said Dalton—and we are of

opinion that a Ferry at said place would accomodate the public, and further that he is the most proper person to attend a Ferry at that place—and pray your Honors (in behalf of the Public) to grant the prayer of Said Blake—

Dated at Littleton the 27th day of April 1792

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Eben ^r Pingree | } Select Men |
| Eph ^m Bayley | |
| James Williams | |

[3-89] [*Recommendation of Selectmen of Lancaster.*]

State of New-hampshire County of Grafton ss We the Subscribers Select of the Town of Lancaster in the County aforesaid hereby Certify—that Information has been given that M^r Moses Blake of Dalton, adjoining said Lancaster, Petitioned the General Court of said State at their Session at Portsmouth last winter, for a Grant of a public Ferry over Connecticutt River at the place where the Said Blake lives in said Dalton, and it is our opinion that Granting the prayer of said Petition would be of public utility—and said Blake is the most proper person to attend to, and take care of the Same.—therefore pray Your Honors that a Grant be made accordingly

Lancaster the 26th day of April 1792

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Emmons Stockwell | } Selectmen of Lancaster |
| John Weeks | |
| Jeremiah Willson | |

[3-90] [*Walter Bloss's Recommendation.*]

State of New-hampshire County of Grafton ss

This may certify that Information has been given that M^r Moses Blake of Dalton Petitioned the General Court at their last Session for a Grant of a Ferry over Connecticutt River, where the said Blake lives in said Dalton, and it is my opinion that the said Blake ought to have the priviledge, and that he is the most proper person to attend the Same—and pray Your Honors to Grant the Prayer of s^t Blake—

Dalton April 27th 1792

Walter Bloss

[3-91] [*Petition for Authority to assess a Tax for repairing Roads.*]

To the Honorable General Court of the State of New Hampshire to convene at Exeter on the third Wednesday of Nov^r next

The Petition of the Inhabitants of a Place called Dolton, and Others of a Place called Uper Coos Humbly Sheweth—That about four Years past the Honorable General Court granted a Small land Tax on all the lands in said Dolton Public Rights Excepted, for the purpose of Making and Repairing roads and Bridges in said Dolton. That by some unforeseen fatallity the business was not Accomplished but a Considerable part of the road through said Dolton from what is called Uper Coos to our nearest Shire Town (viz Haverhill) is yet almost unpassable, That the principle part of the Township of Dolton is now own'd by persons unknown to us who do very little or nothing to the Roads and only two Families living in said Township the repairs of the said Roads and Bridges are almost entirely neglected to the almost incredible hardship and distress of those who are obliged to travil through the same—Wherefore your Petitioners pray that your Honors would grant a tax of three pence on each Acre of land in said Township of Dolton for the purpose of making & Repairing Roads Bridges &c in said Dolton in such way and manner as your Honors in your wisdom may think proper,—and that a Committee may be appointed in or as near said Township as may be to Superintend said Business, with full power to Collect said Tax—and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Walter Bloss of Dolton

October y^e 4th 1792

Inhabitants of Uper Coos

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Daniel Spaulding | Jonas Wilder | Emmens Stockwell |
| Elisha Wilder | John Wilder | Will ^m Moore |
| Joseph Wilder | David Page | Isaac Darby |
| Jonas Baker | Joshua Lamkin | Benj ^a Twombly |
| Walter Philbrook | Abijah Darby | John Rosbrook |
| Asaph Darby | John Rosbrook Ju ^r | Jer ^h Eames |
| Fortunatus Eager | Jonathan Cram | Titus O Brown |
| Asahel Biglow | Benjamin Orr | Charles Rosbrook |
| Abr ^m Gile | John Holmes | Silvanus Cheesman |
| Jeremiah Stickney | Isaac Mann | David Stockwell |
| Nathan Lovewell | Robert ——— | Zadock Samson |
| Elisha Gustin | Edw ^d Spaulding | Moses Page |
| Joseph Brackett | Will ^m Johnson | Dennis Stanley |

[3-92] [*Walter Bloss for a Ferry.*]

To the honorable the General Court of the State of Newhampshire to be convened at Concord on the first Wednesday of June A. D. 1799

The petition of Walter Bloss of Dalton in said State humbly shows

That at a place called Stillwater in Connecticut river about two miles from the head of the fifteen mile Falls is a suitable place for a ferry, he therefore prays the priviledge of keeping a ferry any where from the head of said Still water down said river the distance of two miles to be granted to him under such regulations as the Legislature shall think proper, and as in duty bound he will ever be duly thankful—

Walter Bloss

[The foregoing petition was granted December, 1799.—
ED.]

DANBURY.

This town was set off from Alexandria by an act of the legislature, approved June 18, 1795, in answer to a petition from the inhabitants (see page 19), with the following bounds :—"Beginning at the beech tree on the southwesterly corner of Alexandria and New Chester [Hill], southwest of Ragged mountain; thence north, twelve degrees west, on the line between Alexandria and New London, about four miles and a half to a beech tree marked, standing on the west line of Mason's patent, otherwise called the curve line; thence northeasterly on said curve line, about seven miles, to the range line, between lots numbered nine and ten, in second division; thence south, twelve degrees east, about four miles and a half to the line between New Chester and said Alexandria, between lots numbered one and eighteen on said line, in said second division; thence south, fifty-three degrees west, to the bounds first mentioned, about six miles, on the line between Alexandria and New Chester." June 10, 1808, the legislature appointed "William Webster, Broadstreet Moody, and Enoch Colby Esquires, to determine the jurisdictional lines between the towns of New-Chester, Alexandria, and Danbury."

December 19, 1848, land of George W. Dudley and Archibald Ford was severed from Wilmot, and annexed to Danbury.

June 26, 1858, several lots of land were severed from Hill, and annexed to this town.

July 10, 1874, this town was severed from Grafton county, and annexed to Merrimack.

July 26, 1878, another lot of land was severed from Wilmot, and annexed to this town.

For matters concerning the earlier history of the territory now comprised in the town, see Alexandria papers.

[3-93] [*Relative to a Tax for repair of Roads.*]

To the Honorable Senate and house of Representatives in General Court convened,

Humbly shews, The Petition of sundry of the inhabitants of the Town of Danbury in the County of Grafton, that, "An act for laying a Tax on the lands of Danbury" aforesaid passed to be enacted by the Honorable Senate and Honorable House of Representatives June 15th and 16th A D 1796 agreeably to an attested Copy of said act herewith exhibited, and that the Selectmen of said Danbury, by virtue of said act, assessed said Tax, and directed a warrant for collection thereof to the Collector of said Town for the time being, and that a part of said Tax has been collected and appropriated to the beneficial purposes intended by said act; and that certain clauses of said act not being sufficiently explicit and defined, your Petitioners are apprehensive that the said Collector has not proceeded according to the true spirit and meaning of said Act, whereby he is now unable by law to enforce the collection of the remainder of said Tax: Wherefore your Petitioners pray that the said Collector may be further empowered according to law to proceed in the collection and appropriation of the remainder of said Tax agreeably to the true meaning and intent of said Act. As in duty bound your Petitioners shall ever pray—

Danbury Nov. 26, 1798—

Anthony Tayler } Selectmen of
Samuel Pilsbury } Danbury

[In answer to the foregoing, an act was passed Dec. 7, 1798, authorizing the completion of the collection of the tax, and directing that it should be laid out on the road through "twelve mile woods."—ED.]

DANVILLE.

The town was formerly a part of Kingston, and was set off and incorporated as a town by the name of Hawke, Feb. 22, 1760; named in honor of Admiral Hawke of the British navy. Settlements were made there previous to 1739 by Jonathan Sanborn, Jacob Hook, and others.

By an act of the legislature passed June 20, 1783, Daniel Brown and twenty others were severed from Poplin (now Fremont) and annexed to the "Parish of Hawke," for parochial purposes. The town went by the name of Hawke until it was changed to Danville by an act approved June 18, 1836. June 28, 1877, a small portion of land was severed from Hampstead and annexed to this town.

[3-94] [*Relative to Taxes, 1777.*]

State of New Hamp^{re} Rockingham ss

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives for said State in General Assembly conven'd at Exeter, 23^d December A D 1777

Humbly Shew the Inhabitants of Hawke in the County of Rockingham afores^d That the Selectmen of Hawke afores^d for the current year exhibited to the last General Court for this State an INVENTORY containing (even to the Extent) all Orchard, Tillage, Mowing and Pasture Lands & other rateable Estate in said Hawke, yet your Petitioners find added to the Amount of said Inventory fifteen pounds Lawful money by way of Doomage, which Addition they conceive must be founded upon a mistaken apprehension that the Inventory rendered was deficient—Your Petitioners are now confirmed in their Opinion that the Addition must proceed from mistake, when they consider what they are taxed in Proportion with other Neighbouring Towns whose ability they know—Tho' your Petit^{rs} would cheerfully pay their just Proportion of the public Tax yet they are unwilling to pay more than their proportion, or for what they have not. Wherefore they humbly pray that your Honors would examine into the Grounds of their Petition and abate said additional sum of fifteen pounds and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Jonathan french
Elisha Bachelder

Edward Eastman
Josiah Tuxbury

Joseph Clifford Sanborn

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Tho ^s Stow Ranney | Joseph Brown | Israel Hook |
| Amus Campbell | Jer ^e Towle | John Solly |
| Henry Elkins | Samuel Pingry | Abijah Blake |
| William Buswel | John Sanborn | henery Dear Bon |
| Samuel fellows | Caleb towl | James, towl |
| James Lowell | Hezekiah Blake | George Bartlett |
| Jethro Sanborn | Samuel Eastman | Jonathan Blake |
| Samuel Quimby | Jabez Eaton | joseph true Eaton |
| Henry Morrill | Ithel fellows | Nah : Sleeper |
| Stephen Eastman | Elias Burisel | Nathan Jones |
| Jonathan Clough | Timothy Worth | Nathan Jones Jr |
| Jonathan Jones | Jabez Page | Jedidiah Philbrick |
| Samuel French | Humphry Hook | |
| Israel Dimond | Reuben True | |

[R. 254]

[*Petition of Mary Fellows.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and Assembly for the State of New Hampshire, now convened at Exeter; The Petition of Mary Fellows wid^w of the Parish of Hawk; in said State Humbly Sheweth; that your Petitioners Husband enlisted him self as a volunteer Last august, and went to the State of Rode Island; and there served as a Soldier in the Regiment commanded by Lieut. Col^o Jacob Gale; and in Cap^t David Qunbys Company; untill he was discharged by said Col^o Gale and on his Return home he was Seized with a violent Dysentery at a place called Wrentham in the Massachusetts State where he continued untill the 11th of Sep^t at which time I having Sent a man with a Horse and Chair for him; they sett out for this State and Got home the 15th Day of s^d Sep^t—but he being verry weak, and the disorder enraging in an uncommon manner he Expired within a few hours after; and has left your Poor Petitioner a wid^w with seven small children; under very low circumstances as to the things of this life.

* * * * *

mary fellows

Hawke Oct^r 29th 1778

[She asks to have the expense of his sickness, &c., paid, which was granted to the extent of £33 7s.—ED.]

[3-96] [*Relative to Election of Representative.*]State of New Hamp^r Rockingham ss[To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representetives for

Said State in General Assembly Convened at Exeter 30th Dec^r 1779 Humbly Shew the Selectmen of Hawke in the County aforesaid—that their Annual meeting for Hawke and Sandown for Chusing a Representative for the year Ensuing hath not been Carried into Effect—therefore they Pray your Honours to Cause a warrant to Issue to Call a Meeting for that Purpose and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Mark Emerson | } Selectmen for Hawke |
| Thomas Page | |
| Israel Hook | |

[3-95] [*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

The Exact Number of all the Male polls of Twenty-one years of age & upwards paying for themselves a poll Tax within the Town of Hawk is Seventy

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| George Bartlett | } Selectmen for Hawke |
| Jer. Towle | |

15th Dec^r 1783.

Rockingham ss Decem. 15th 1783 then gorge Bartlett & Jer. Towle above named personally appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the above account

before me David Tilton Just^s Peace

[3-97] [*Vote of Town relative to Annexation of Poplin People.*]

State of New Hampshire

At a Legal meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Hawke held by adjournment this 18th Day of Dec^r 1782

Voted—that if the Inhabitants of Poplin mentioned in the warning of Said meeting Should Petition the General Court of Said State to be annext to the Town of Hawke in Parotial affairs—that the Selectmen of Hawke afores^d be Impower^d to appear in behalf of Said Town and Desire that their Prayers may be Granted.

Attest Tho^s Page Town Clerk

[Certain people were severed from Poplin and annexed to Hawke, for parochial purposes, June 20, 1783.—ED.]

[3-98] [*Petition for Justice of the Peace.*]

State of Newhampshire

To his Exelancy the president and Executive Council for said State the petition of the Subscribers freeholders and Inhabitants of Hawke—humbly pray we may hav a justice of the peace apointed in Hawke and beg leav to Nominate Thomas page as a sutable pearson and pray your honors he may be apoynted and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever pray

January the 19—1785

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Joseph Williams | Israel Dimond Jun ^r | Asa flanders |
| ananas witcher | Nathan Jones | Benjamain Eastman |
| Stephen Eastman | Nathaniel Brown | Hezekiah Blake |
| Joseph true Eaton | Samuel Plummer | Nathanael Morrill |
| Jonathan Blake | Henry Morrill | William Rusel |
| Peter Sweet | Dudley Kinrick | moses woodman |
| Josiah Tuxbury | Joseph fellows | Benjamin Page |
| Samuel Sargent | Richard Collins | Israel Hook |
| Stephen Barnard | Jedidiah Philbrick | Jonathan french |
| Humphrey Hook | Jonathan French 4 | Jabez Eaton |
| Samuel Quimby | Henry Darborn | Benjamin Collins, |
| Jonathan Jones | david flanders | Jur |
| John Kent | Daniel True | Jonathan french |
| Joseph Elkins | David Bachelder | Juner |
| Jonathan Heath | Enos Colbey | George Bartlett |
| | | David Quimby } Selectmen for |
| | | Samuel Eastman } Hawke |

[3-99] [*Petition for Paper Money, and Relative to Allen's Claim, etc.*]

To the Hon^{ble} General Court of the State of New Hampshire the Petition of us Subscribers Inhabitants of Hawke—humbly Prays that your Honours would take into Consideration the following articles viz—

1st That you would not allow those Persons Purchasers of Allens Claim (So Called) any part of their Claim within this State—

2^{ly} That none of those persons who are purchasers of s^d Allens Claim be Suffered to hold any Commission of Honour or Profit in Said State for the Space of one year—

3^{ly} That the Gen^l Court take up the matter Respecting the Masonian title to Certain Lands in this State, which Title we

Humbly think is not good and that the Said Lands by them Claimed be Converted to the use of this State—

4^{ly} That there might be a Bank of Paper money made to Redeem the State Security—

5^{ly} That the Gen^l Court petition Congress to Redeem the Continental paper Courancy that is in the Treasury in this State the Same being more than our proportion of the Same—

6^{ly} That the Ports and harbours in this State be opened and a Free trade given to all Except the Refugees And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Humphrey Hook ju ^r | Dudley Kindrick | Jabez Eaton |
| Neh. Sleeper | Caleb Chase | David Flanders |
| Benjamin Colins j ^r | Joseph True Eaton | Jon ^a Sanborn jun ^r |
| Elisha Bachelder | Nathan Bachelder | Daniel True |
| Jon ^a French jun ^r | Reuben True | David Quimby |
| George Bartlett | Jeremiah Bean | Josiah Tuxbury |
| Jedidiah Philbrick | Aaron Quimby | John Sanborn |
| Jonathan French 3 rd | David Bachelder | Jon ^a Jones |
| Jethro Sanborn | Joseph Elkins | Nath ^l . Brown |
| Stephen Eastman | Asa Flanders | Henry Morrill |
| Elisha Bean | Nathon Jones | Peter Emerson |
| Hezekiah Blake | Jon ^a Blake | Edward Eastman |
| Daniel Morss | Israel Dimond Jun ^r | Sam ^l Kindrick |
| Israel Dimond | Sam ^l Plummer | Humphry Hook |
| Peter Sweat | Henry Dearborn | Nath ^l Morrill |
| Parker Tande | Sanborn Blake | Jon ^a Sanborn |
| Enos Colbey | Joseph Fellows | Will ^m Busel |
| Sam ^l Quimby | Joseph Colins | Sinon Page |
| Benj ⁿ Page | Ezekiel Chales | |
| william gorge | Joseph Williams | |

[For action on the matter of paper money, see Atkinson papers.—ED.]

DEERFIELD.

The town was formerly a part of Nottingham, and was included in the charter granted in 1722.

In a petition dated February 23, 1756, the inhabitants, to the number of 25, asked to be set off and incorporated with parish privileges. Failing to obtain it at that time, they petitioned again in 1765, having obtained the consent of the town. They were successful this time, an act of incorporation passing the legislature January 8, 1766.

The town was named Deerfield, it is claimed, on account of the large number of deer found in the vicinity. Among the first settlers, in 1756 to 1758, were Isaac Shepard, Benjamin Batchelder, Jacob Smith, and John Robertson. It is stated that eighteen persons from this town died in the Revolutionary service.

[3-100] [*Vote for Tax to build a Meeting-House.*]

Att A Legal Meeting of the freeholders & Inhabitants of the Parish of Deerfield held att s^d Deerfield the Sixteenth Day of Nov^r 1769 Richard Jenness Esq^r was Chosen by s^d Parish to Apply to the General Court of this Province for A Tax to be Laid on all the Lands within s^d Deerfield for the building a Meeting house & Parsonage house in s^d Parish

Deerfield Jan^r y^e 9th 1770
A True Coppy Attest

Thomas Simpson
Parrish Clerk

[3-101] [*Nominations for Magistrates.*]

Colony of New Hampshire Rockingham ss
to the Honourable Counsel and House of Representitives for s^d Colony Conven^d at Exeter Humbly Sheweth that at an anuel Meeting Held at Deerfield this Ninteenth Day of march 1776— We proceeded and Chose Cap^t John merrill es moderator and after Having transacted the most of our buiseness We proceeded to Look out Suitabel person or persons for magistrats for this parish and after Som Consultation M^r Jeremiah Easman and Mr. Daniel Lad Was Nominated and unanemesely Voated for and if your Honours Will See fit to appoint s^d Easman and Lad We doubt Not but it Will be a means of keeping pease amongst us

Deerfield March 19: 1776

Nathan Sanborn } Select men
Benja Page } for
Robert Page } Deerfield

[3-102] [*Relative to Thomas Perry.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Congress for the Colony of New Hamp^r now sitting in Exeter Humbly shews

Thomas Burley of Deerfield in said colony that there was

one thomas Perry a stranger Comitted to his majesty's Goal in Exeter afores'd for counterfieting an order on a shopkeeper in Londonderry, who at september court, held in s^d town the Last Year Pleaded Guilty & hove himself on the mercy of the Court, who Fin'd him five Pounds Lawful money, and he being unable to Pay s^d sum or any Part thereof, or any Part of the Prison charges, the said Perry appearing to be a man of Learning and an Excellent Penman, & your Petitioner with a Number of his Neighbors Living Very Remote from any school, was Induc'd to Give his security for the Payment of Eighteen Pounds Lawful money for the Liberating of the said Perry, (which Included the said fine & Prison Charges), for the sake of the Instruction of his, and his Neighbours Children—the said Perry after tarrying about a week with your Petitioner Diserted his service & altho' he has taken the utmost Pains & been at Great Expense to find him yet has never been able to Do it whereby your Petitioner is Liable to Pay the whole of the s^d fine to the King & all the Prison Charges amounting to the s^d sum of Eighteen Pounds—Wherefore your Petitioner Prays Your Honors wou'd be Pleas'd to take his case into Consideration & Grant him such Relief as you shall think meet, and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c.

thomas Berley

Exeter Sep^t the 1st 1775.

[R. 255]

[*Lieut. Joseph Hilton.*]

[In H. of Rep., Oct. 31, 1778, the committee on sick and disabled soldiers reported, "that Lieut Joseph Hilton, who was wounded while fighting with the enemy on the 7th of Oct. 1777, near Stillwater ought to be enrolled and receive half pay from the first day of Oct. 1778." He was ordered to be enrolled accordingly.—ED.]

[R. 256] [*Abstract of Israel Clifford's Petition.*]

[In a petition dated Dec. 21, 1779, Israel Clifford, of Deerfield, states, "That in the year 1777 his son Tristram Clifford then a Minor engaged under Cap^t Nathan Sanborn in the Expedition against Gen^l Burgoyne at Saratoga." He further states that his said son was taken sick in the army, and he had to go and get him home. He wanted pay for his expense and nursing. The petition was "dismissed."—ED.]

[R. 257] [*Petition of Dr. Edmund Chadwick.*]

To the Honourable the Counsell and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire—the petition of Edmund Chadwick of Deerfield in said State Humbly Sheweth that your petitioner was appointed a Surgeon mate in the third New Hampshire Regiment about the 5th day of June, 1777; your petitioner Remained in the Service untill about the 28th of September 1778 and your petitioner Humbly Conseves He is Entitled to the Depreciation for the time He Continued in the Service tharefore your petitioner Humbely prays your Honours to take His case into your wise consideration and allowe Him the sam Depreciation as is allowed to others of the same Rank and merrit (or otherwise as your Honours shall see meet) and your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Edmund Chadwick

Deerfield June 8th 1780

[Dr. Chadwick, son of John and Sarah Chadwick, was born in Boxford, Mass., March 10, 1751; settled in Deerfield in 1779; married Elizabeth Gookin in October of that year. He was with the army more than three years, including the winter at Valley Forge; was member of the convention of 1788, and representative in the legislature. He died Nov. 8, 1826.—*History of Deerfield.*]

[R. 258] [*Selectmen of Deerfield concerning Paul Cook.*]

[In a petition dated Deerfield, June 22, 1782, Andrew Freese, Thomas Jenness, and Joseph March, selectmen, state "that the said Parish of Deerfield in the month of March 1779 Hired one Paul Cook to Sarve as a Soldier for said Parish for three years—that the said Cook was claimed by the Town of Dover, and that a trial was had on the claim without your petitioners being Notified before a Committee of both Houses, by the Report of Said Committee said Cook was set to the Town of Dover." They ask for another trial, and present the following deposition:—ED.]

[R. 259]

the deposition of Amos morrill testefieth and saith that on or about the month of march in the year 1779 I being at Home at Epsom & Hearing of one Paul Cook being in those parts

and it was said He was a deserter from the army I took the first Convenient opportunity to Examine Him and finding He Had a Certificate from Varick the mustermaster Setting Forth that He was Excluded in mustering I then thought I Had no Right to apperhand Him as a deserter some time after that in the same year I inlisted Him for the Parish of Deerfield from whance He Received His bounty &c

A. Morrill

Sworn before John McClery J. P. April 26, 1782.

[July 19, 1782, the committee of safety decided that Paul Cook belonged to Dover.—ED.]

[R. 263] [*Nathan Sanborn's Petition, Soldier.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives Convened at Portsmouth June 1st 1785.

Humbly Sheweth Nathan Sanborn of Deerfield in the county of Rockingham in said State Gentleman that your Petitioner Sarved as a Captain in Col^o Stephen Evenses Regiment of Melitia for the Defence of the united States in the year 1777—that in the Battle at Bemouses Heights on the seventh of October he was wounded by a Musket Ball in his Shoulder which put him in Great Paine that he was at Great Cost to Surgeons for to have said wound Healed besides the Loss of his time & that he has Ever since and Now is Very Lame in said Shoulder and unable for to Git his Livelywhood by Leighbour by Reason of said wound wherefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays that the Honourable Court would take his unhapy Caise into there wise Consideration and grant him such Releafe as to your Honours May Sceme Meet, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Nathan Sanborn

Deerfield June 1st 1785

[Lieut. Col. Thomas Bartlett certifies to Sanborn's having been wounded as stated, and the legislature ordered him to be enrolled as an invalid pensioner.—ED.]

[R. 264] *Captain Simon Marston's Petition addressed to "General Court."*]

Humbly Sheweth that Simon Marston of Deerfield in the County of Rockingham, state aforesaid, that your Petitioner

Serv'd as a Captain in Coll. Stephen Peabodys, Regm^t at Rhode Island in the year 1778, that when your Petitioner engaged in said service, By the orders that he received for inlisting men, he was promised For to have, the same Wages and Depreciation that other Officers of the Continal army were to receive, that your petitioner has never Received only the nominal sum in Continal money. * * *

Simon Marston

Deerfield June 6th 1785

[He asked to have the depreciation of his wages made up to him, which was granted.—ED.]

[R. 265]

These certify that the Town of Deerfield's acc^t for supplies to the family of Barnard Serjent in 1781 was Twelve pounds eleven shillings & six pence, which sum has been deducted for the depreciation of his wages, as appears by the Depreciation Books

Ex^d by Josiah Gilman one of the Com^{tee}

£12, 11, 6

[3-103]

[*Relative to Paper Money.*]

Deerfield June y^e 9th 1786

At a Meeting (legally warned) of the Inhabitants of the Parish of Deerfield; held on the Sixth Day of June Current. It was unanimously Voted that the following Petition be laid before the General Court; by their Representative.

To the Honourble Senate, & house of Representatives, of the State of Newhampshire.

The Petition of the Parish of Deerfield Humbly Shews

That your Supplicants have great cause to Mourn, when by Reading and Information they are Convinced of the happiness, those People enjoy (in some of the States in the Union) Whose Legislative Bodies have emitted a Paper Currency, or Medium, whereby they are not only enabled to Transact the Common Business between Man & Man, but likewise is a Grand Means of preserving Peace & Tranquility through the whole.

We Your Supplicants; therefore humbly beg, That the same Method may be adopted by Your honors, that this State may never More be looked upon as Inferior to the other States in the Union.

We are fully persuaded that Your honors Abilities and

Knowledge (in the Art of Governing a free People) are not inferior to any Legislative Body throughout the State in Union.

We then thus humbly Supplicate, Your honors speedily to endeavour to Redress the Grievances the People in general Labour under in this State, Then We doubt not but Your honors will be fully sensible of the Spirit it will animate the Whole with.

We therefore humbly request that your honors will endeavour to Cause a fund to be Established that may have the Desired Effect, and make for the honour of New Hampshire Viz. a Paper Currency

And Your Supplicants as in duty bound Shall ever Pray.

Signed in behalf of the Parish

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Nath ^l Maloon | } Comm. |
| David Batchelor | |
| Tho ^s Robinson | |

[For legislative action, see Atkinson papers.—Ed.]

[3-104] [*Surveyor's Certificate.*]

These may Certefye that I the Subscriber Have this Day Surveyed the Lot ; no : 25 in the First Range in Deerfield and it appears by meshurment there is in s^d Lot 250 Acres & 110 Rodds

Deerfield Novemb^r 16 : 1786

Pr : Jeremiah Eastman Surveyor

420 Rods Long
95 2-5 Wide

[3-105] [*Relative to Lot No. 25.*]

Whereas We the Subscribers being Referes to determine a Matter of Dispute between Robert Page & David Bacheldor sometime in the year 1782 Respecting the overpluss Land in the Lot No 25 in the first Range in Deerfield &c are fully satisfied that the Quantity of Land handed to us by the Partys by which we made up Judgment was larger by a Number of acres then what it appears to be By a late Measurement but we Cannot assertrain the exact quantity as we have not the Memorandum Papers &c

Deerfield Jan^y 31st 1788

Jeremiah Eastman
Edmund Chadwick

[3-106] [*Petition for Incorporation of Public School.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened.

The petition of Joseph Mills in behalf of himself and others Proprietors of the public School, so called, in Deerfield humbly shews that said proprietors have at their own expense erected and compleatly finished a school house in said Deerfield—that they have provided and actually employed an able and well qualified Master to teach said School—that they have already been at very great expense and that the sums of money still to be advanced by said proprietors will be large: Wherefore they pray that they may be incorporated into a society for the purposes of maintaining said school by the “Name of the proprietors of the public school in Deerfield” that they may have power to assess said proprietors, and others who may join them, such sums as may be necessary for defreying the expenses of said Corporation and to collect the same with other powers usually granted to Corporations of a like nature. And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Mills

Exeter Dec^m 7th 1799

DEERING.

This town was a portion of that tract of land formerly known as “Cumberland,” and afterward as “Society Land,” belonging to the Masonian proprietors. It was chartered by Gov. John Wentworth and council, Jan. 17, 1774, and named in honor of Lady Wentworth’s maternal relatives. Lady Wentworth’s maiden name was Frances Deering Wentworth, taking her middle name from her mother. The petition for incorporation may be found in vol. IX, p. 759.

Settlements were made in 1765 by Alexander Robinson, and soon after by William McKean, William Forsaith, Thomas Aiken, Francis Grimes, William Aiken, and others. Of the Revolutionary soldiers from Deering, Nathaniel Graham served in the First N. H. Regiment from Feb. 19, 1778, to December, 1781. Moses Sweat George was in Col. Nathan Hale’s battalion; was reported missing at Hubbardton.

[R. 266] [*Nenian Aiken to Col. Daniel Moor, 1775.*]

Worthy friend—after due Regard I take this opportunity to let you know my Sentiments with Regard to our field Officers who was put in arbitrarily Contreary to our Choice as allso the Minds of those who was Nominated and Chosen at the same time with myself: We understand Col. Stark was set aside by the Hon^l Congress which maid a vacancy for the Rest of our Choice which vacancy was maid up by yourself & Col Gillman only: our next choice was L^t Caldwell, who was seet aside and by what we can lern for no other Reason but because he was not there Present and others put in that place which we Dont so well affect: for which Reason we chuse to Decline having any Concern under any other that is put into his Room—Sir we Desire you would use your Influence to have that affaيرة Rectified and s^d Caldwell put into the vacancy that was maid by the advancement of the Rest: which if Done we will Chearfully Serve: this from sir your friend and Hum^l Serv^t

Dering October y^e 14th 1775

Nenian Aiken

To Colonal Daniel Moor

N. B. a certain person asked a Delegate what was the Reason that Caldwell was seet aside to which he answered the only reason was because he was not there

[Superscription] To the Hon^r Col Daniel Moor Bedford

[R. 267] [*Col. Moor's Letter transmitting the foregoing.*]

To the honorable Matthew Thornton Esq^r President of the Provincial Congress at Exeter

Bedford 30th Oct^r 1775

Hon^d Sir—The inclosed papers appear to me of Consequence; If you are of the same opinion, be pleased to lay them before the Congress.

I am Sir your most humble servant

Daniel Moor

[3-107]

[*Concerning Mrs. Hogg.*]

Deering June y^e 18th 1780

To to Hon^{ble} Committee of Safety for the State of Newhampshire—

Gen^{tl}: I would inform you that their is one Miss Hogg in this town hous husband is in the States's Servis Duering the

War, and while this and outhere Towns is Disputeing ware she belongs she & number of small Children is Suffering, should be glad of your orders what must be Dun ither by the Town or private purson in this Case your writ'g me may releve the Distress'd and Oblidge a friend to the States

Nat. Sweetser.

[3-108]

[*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

To the Hon:ble General Court for the State of New Hampshire

Pursuant to Orders Recev'd we have Numbered all the Polls of Twenty one Years of age & upwards paying for themselves a poll Tax and find the N^o to be Eighty Six

Polls 86 in the Town of Dearing

Attest Evan Dow } Select Men of
 Abraham Gove } Dearing

Dearing Decem^r ye 16; 1783

Gentlemen

N B Not having time to go before A Justice Opeace as the is not one within Eight Mills we must pray to be Excused as this Return we are Able to make Oath too

[3-109] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-Residents.*]

To Hon^{ble} General Court For the State of New Hampshire
Now Assembled

We Your Humble Petitioners For and In behalf of the Town of Dering in the County of Hillsborough And State of New Hampshire Humbly Sheweth

Whereas we the Inhabitants of the Town of Dering Afore-said have for a Number of years Suffered for want of Roads, and there Remains Large Tracts of Land Belonging to Gentlemen Not Residing in the Town and the Value of there Lands Increasing Continually And some of the Aforesaid Gentlemen have been at no Charge With Respect of Settling the Town

Therefore we pray your Honors to be Pleased to pass an Act that all Lands Belonging to Nonresidents Of this Town May pay their Equal part Towards Cutting Roads and Maintaining Bridges and Mending Roads In this Town According to the Value of their Lands—or Act any Other way Your Honors

May think proper As Your Petitioners are in Duty Ever Bound to pray

Dering March y^e 9 : 1783

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Evan Dow | } Select Men of Dering |
| James Whiticker | |
| Abraham Gove | |

[3-110] [*Petition relative to laying out a Road.*]

To The Honorable Great and General Court for the State of New Hampshire now Assembled Your humble Petitioners Most Ardently Sheweth

Whereas this State Increaseth Daily as to her Inhabitants Especially in the Westerly parts thereof, and passing with Stores and Travelling in many places very Difficult, And a great Embarasment for want of a good Publick Road Leading from Chester in the County of Rockingham to Charlestown in the County of Cheshire, And Especially in the Town of Dearing in the County of Hillsborough where there is no passable Road to Convene the Road Aforesaid—Therefore we humbly Pray your Honors to be Pleased to pass an Act that there be a Road Laid Through Said Dearing to Accomodate said Road From Chester to Charles Town And Lay a Tax on the Lands of The Nonresidents of Dearing Aforesaid (as there is Large Tracts of Such Lands in Said Town) that the said Road may be made passible for publick Travelling or Act any Other Way your Honors May Think best for the Publick Weal, as your Petitioners are in Duty Ever Bound To Pray

May y^e 21st 1783

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Jacob Tuxbury | Jonathan Dow | Zephaniah Breed |
| Ebenezer Breed | Ithamar Eaton | Ezekiel Carr |
| John Robie | Sam ^l Philbrick | John Hodgdon |
| Sam ^l Caldwell | Elijah Purington | James Emerson |
| Timothy Worthly | Caleb Atwood | Asa Sargent |
| Samuel Bayley | Jonathan Atwood | Jesse Clement |
| Moses Eastman | Daniel gove | John Worth |

[On another petition of the same import, dated May 22, are the following names:—ED.]

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Stephen Dow | Richard Bayley | Levi Hadlock |
| Evan Dow | Wm McKeen | John Muzzey |
| Benj ^a Rolf | Thomas Aiken | Robert ferson |
| Timothy Wyman Jr | Bray Wilkins | Janes Sherrer |
| Will ^m Forsith | James Whiticker | Nenian Aiken |

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Ebenezer Blood | Timothy Wyman | William Codman |
| William Bradford | Andrew Aiken | Frances grimes |
| Ephraim Clark | Samuel Aiken | Nathan Carr |

[Ordered to lay until next session.—ED.]

[3-112] [*Petition for Committee to locate a Meeting-House.*]

To his Excellency the President The Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Assembled—Your Petitioners in Behalf and by order of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dearing In the County of Hillsborough Most Humbly Sheweth—

Whereas it is of Great Importance to all Societies and Bodies Corporate, whether great or Small To have Union an Oeconomy Subsisting Among them Especially in a Protestant Land to have The Order of the Gospel Established Being Greatly Conducive To Confirm peace and Harmony in Every Town and for Strengthening And Confirming the Reins of Government in this State—

We therefore in behalf of the Inhabitants of Dearing Afore-said being Destitute of a House of Publick Worship and being Greatly Desirous of Erecting one, In Order that the Gosple may be Settled among us. But being so Unhappy as Not to Agree on a place to build said House on, as having Assembled Divers Times for Said purpose but all in vain—Therefore we would Humbly pray Your Honors To be Pleased to Appoint a Committee and Send to Our Town that They may Fix and Appoint a piece of Ground as Near the Centre of the Town as they Shall Judge Convenient to Erect a Meeting House on. Also we would pray that Said Committee may be Appointed as Nigh as Your Honors Shall Think best or Act any Other Way Your Honors Shall Judge best—As Your Petitioners are in Duty Ever Bound to Pray

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Evan Dow | } Select Men of Dearing |
| James Whiticker | |

Dearing June y^e 2^d 1784.

[Capt. Joseph Simonds, John Duncan, and Robert Wallace were appointed June 12.—ED.]

[3-13] [*Report of the Committee.*]

Dearing July y^e 5th 1784

then the Committee appointed to settle the place to build a

Meeting house in s^d town meet & Upon vewing the Premises and Considering Arguments Report that the place agreed on is East of the centor; about 15 Rods South East of James Shearors house on Elifelet Merrills lote, and about five Rods South of the Road through the Centor of Ranges Right said place being Marked which is submitted by the Committee

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------|
| Joseph Symonds | } | Commety |
| John Duncan | | |
| Robert Wallace | | |

[3-114] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-Resident Land to build a Meeting-House.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court Convened—

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Deering in Said State Humbly sueth—That whereas the Inhabitants of this Town are Destitute of a House wherein to meet Either for the worship of GOD or other Public Meetings and whereas said Inhabitants have Carreyed on the Settlement of said Town at their own Proper Charge without Receiving any assistance from the Proprietors for makeing and Repairing Highways Bridges or Mills (which being Done by the Inhabitants have greatly inhanced the Price of the Proprietors lands in said Town) and your Petitioners not having the privilege of a School and Ministerial Reight of land in s^d Town which most of the Towns throughout the state have had—& the want of which Disenableth your Petitioners from Settleing the Gosple among them &c—your Petitioners Pray that your Honours would take the matter under your wise Consideration and Grant us a tax upon all the Lands in this Town as your Honours Shall think proper and for the Sole purpose of Bulding a Meeting House and Purchasing a Menesterial Lot of Land—and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Deering May y^e 24th 1785

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------|
| Nenian Aiken | } | Selectmen of Deering |
| Alexander Gregg | | |
| Samuel Anderson | | |

[In H. of Rep., Oct. 27, 1785, leave was granted to bring in a bill; senate concurred, and an act passed, November 4,

granting a tax of one penny per acre on all lands except those owned by Quakers.—ED.]

[3-115] [*Relative to Tax on Land given to Weare.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Senate And House of Representatives in and for the State of New Hampshire—Your Petitioners humbly Sheweth

Whereas the Proprietors of the Town of Deering in the County of Hillsborough have Given up To the Town of Weare a Certain Tract of Non Improved Land and Said Proprietors of Deering have Denied paying the Taxes on said Land for the year 1786 And Said Land Being Inventoried and Returned To the Hon^{ble} General Court as Belonging to the Town of Deering as it may Appear hereafter Therefore we humbly pray Your Honours would be pleased to Abate the Taxes for the years 1786: 1787 on Said Land or any part thereof as your Petitioners are in Duty Ever Bound to Pray—

Evan Dow } Selectmen
Alexander Willson } of
Thomas Merrill } Deering

Deering June 4th: 1787

[3-116] [*Certificate relative to foregoing.*]

This May Certify all persons Concerned that a Tract of Land Lying Between Deering and Weare in the County of Hills^{bo} in Dispute by the proprietors of Said Towns has Been Inventoried by the Selectmen of Said Deering as Belonging to said Deering & Returned to the General Court Being by the Best Estimation Two Thousand and Eight hundred Acres, The Tax on said Land to the State for the year 1786 is to the State in Specie £2-13-8 in State Certificate £1-3-4 in Continental Certificates £3-10 For the year 1787 in Specie £4-13-4 in Continental Certificates £2-11-4 in State Certificates £1-3-4
A True copy Errors Excepted Attest per

Evan Dow } Town Clerk of
 } Deering

[3-117] [*Relative to Road from Hillsborough to Amherst.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened at Amherst on the First Wednesday of June in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven Hundred and Ninety Four.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dearing Humbly Sheweth, That whereas a Committee was appointed by the Honorable the Court of Sessions, in order to lay out a Road from Hillsborough Meeting House, to Amherst Court House, the said Committee in passing through the Town of Dearing, Deviated greatly (as we Conceive) from the purport of their Commission, by not laying out said Road by the nearest and best way that might be, and have created such Damage in laying out said Road as greatly Injures Individuals in said Town of Dearing, as also the Town in General, by the Enormous Expence which will arise to the Town in Opening said Road, we also Conceive by Examination of said Road (as laid out) that notwithstanding the great expence which will arise to the Town, yet the said Road from the nature of the ground never will admit of so good a Road as the old Road (so Called) may be made, which old Road your petitioners are willing to put into the best possible repair.

We your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honors would Appoint a Committee to Examine the premises, and make such report thereon as to them seems meet, that so your Honors may take such Order thereon and disannul said Road or grant such redress to your Petitioners, as you in your Wisdom shall think Fit, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall forever Pray

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Robert Alcock | } | In behalf |
| Joshua Folsom | | of the |
| William Forsith | | Town of Dearing |

[In H. of Rep., June 19, 1794, "Voted that the prayer thereof be granted with this proviso that the Petitioners be at the expence of the Committee above requested, & that Major Oliver Holmes, Mr. Jonathan Fisk & Timothy Taylor Esq^r be a Committee for the purposes above-mentioned." Senate concurred.—ED.]

[3-118] [*Petition for Incorporation of Library.*]

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives in general Court convened at Portsmouth November 1797 Humbly sheweth, That Robert Alcock Thomas Merrill Thomas

Aiken William Forsith James Sherrier and others their Associates Inhabitants of Deering have purchased a number of Books, for the purpose of a social Library in said Town, but finding it necessary to be Incorporated, in order to realize the Advantages thereby Intended, by purchasing books in common, your petitioners therefore pray that they may be Incorporated with such priviledges as are usually granted in such cases, and they as in duty bound will ever pray

Robert Alcock for himself and Associates

[The foregoing petition was granted Dec. 6, 1797.—ED.]

DORCHESTER.

This town was granted July 8, 1761, the first year of the reign of George the Third, to "Henry Thomson" and others. It was re-granted Nov. 21, 1766, to Samuel Hobart and others, and they failing to comply with the conditions of settlement, it was again granted May 1, 1772, to John House and others, in seventy-two equal shares. For petitions, see vol. IX, p. 187.

Settlements were made under the latter grant by Benjamin Rice and Stephen Murch, of Hanover, formerly from Connecticut.

By an act passed Dec. 21, 1791, a special tax of two pence per acre was authorized for the purpose of repairing highways, and in 1801 the town was authorized to assess a tax of three cents per acre for the same purpose.

[3-119]

[*Names of Proprietors.*]

april 1st 1771 acco^t of the Number of Each Proprietors Lott of 200 acres in the first Division in Dorchester

| Grantees names | No. of Lot | Grantees names | No. of Lot |
|------------------|------------|---|------------|
| Samuel Hobart | 40 | Sam M ^c clanathan | 24 |
| Benjamin Abbott | 1 | Barnard M ^c Nutt | 21 |
| John Thompson | 22 | Ab ^m Hunter | 38 |
| Jonathan Johnson | 7 | Isaac Hunter | 8 |
| Noah Thompson | 12 | Ab ^m Hunter Jun ^r | 23 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---|----|
| Amos Fisk | 19 | Jacob Smith | 26 |
| Rufus Thompson | 39 | Jn ^o Quanton | 39 |
| John Atwell | 57 | Tim ^o mucklewam | 11 |
| Matthew Thompson | 56 | James Smith Ju ^r | 31 |
| Stephen Powers | 33 | William M ^e Mitchel | 5 |
| James M ^e clellan | 13 | W ^m Scott | 32 |
| Noah Worcester | 54 | Rob ^t Ferrit | 50 |
| Henry Thompson | 3 | Edward Cutt | 16 |
| James Shannon | 51 | Isaac Williams | 18 |
| Seth Shaw | 47 | John Marsh | 28 |
| Daniel Emerson | 29 | Hall Jackson | 55 |
| Robert Hunter | 52 | Joseph Welch | 15 |
| Benjamin Stevens | 43 | T. Atkinson Ju ^r Esqr | 46 |
| Solomon Blackmore | 45 | Sam ^l Hobart Ju ^r | 4 |
| Benjamin Thompson | 27 | James Hobart | 34 |
| Lemuel Blackmore | 37 | Thos Pratt | 17 |
| Samuel Cumings Jr | 35 | Joshua Smith | 2 |
| Zechariah Foss | 20 | Hugh Smith | 49 |
| Samuel Cutt | 30 | Henry Thompson Ju ^r | 9 |
| James Lambertson | 14 | John Hobart | 6 |
| M H Wentworth | 53 | Glebe Lott | 48 |
| T. Atkinson Esq | 41 | Ministerial Lott | 42 |
| John Nelson | 25 | School Lott | 10 |
| Society Lott | 44 | | |

N B Eight Rights belonging to his Excellency John Wentworth Esqr are not Drawn to him being Reserved for the Proprietors they having agreed with him to Give him Twelve hundred acres Lying in one body or piece for his s^d Eight Rights and he having accepted of Said twelve hundred acres in Lieu of his said Eight Rights—

Attest Isaac Fellows Clark

a copy examined

[3-120] [Relative to State Tax, etc.]

State of New Hampshire County of Grafton—

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives of the State aforesaid in General Court convened & to be held at Exeter by Adjournment on the 20th Day of october next, Humbly Sheweth Your Petitioners the Inhabitants of the Town of Dorchester in the County and State aforesaid—That in the Year 1777 when the Invintory was Sent for to each Town through the State, to Proportion the State Tax to the Several Towns in the State, No direction for such Invintory Arriving to the Town of Dorchester we knew nothing thereof till after

the proportion was Settled which we conceive to be much too Great for said Dorchester, being a Town Scituated about half way between the two Rivers Pemegiwasette & Conecticut and not more than Middling Good considering as a Town Unsettled & Unimproved, and the Settlements & improvements being very Small when the proportion was made & also remain so not having but Seven Families at that Time nor not Ten families at this Day That we Labour under many disadvantages not having any Mills of any Sort in Town at this Day—That your Petitioners by reason of the Smallness of their Number & differing Sentiments among themselves respecting Incorporation, Neglected to be Incorporated agreeable to an Act of the General Court and therefore unable to assess & Collect any of the Taxes heretofore laid upon us—And the Authority for Incorporating as aforesaid being ceased and we being willing & agreed to pay what will appear to be our just proportion of the Public Expence upon an Inventory of the Ratable Estate at the Time when said Proportion was made which Inventory we herewith Exhibit, We therefore shall leave it with Your Hon^{rs} to make out such Just & equal proportion which when You Consider our Circumstances, Scituation & Estates we doubt not but it will be much less than the proportion heretofore made, and also to put us in such a way to Assess & Collect the same as Your Honours in Your Wisdom shall see most Convenient, Reminding Your Honours also that as the Year will be so far advanced it will be Impossible if we are Incorporated, to assess; Collect & pay said Tax into the State Treasury by the first Day of January next we therefore would leave it with Your Honours to allow us such further Time to pay the same into the State Treasury as your Honors in Your Wisdom shall see reasonable, and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray—

Dorchester 15th July 1779

Inventory of the Rateble Estate in Dorchester when the Inventory was to have been taken in the Year 1777

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Number of Heads—9 | Cattle 2 Years old—4 |
| Horses—4 | Cattle 1 Year old—1 |
| Oxen—10 | Acres of Improved Land 35 |
| Cows—11 | Acres of Pasture land 1 |

Sum Total of the vullue of unimprov^d Land—£2040

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Junia Ingraham | Jesse Flanders | Andrew Hicock |
| Sam ^l Fellows | John Woodworth | |
| Junia Ingraham ju | Benjamin Rise | |

[3-21] [*Relative to State Tax, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire Grafton ss

To the Honorable Council, and House of Representatives setting at Concord in the State Aforesaid, The Petition of the Town of Dorchester in said County And State humbly sheweth;

That a settlement was begun in the Township aforesaid, Some Years ago. That at the Commencement of the War, there Were but about seven Families in said Town That this Honorable Court did send a Committee in the Year 1780, to said Town, which enabled the Town to levy and collect one Years Tax That Part of the Inhabitants of said Town did soon after joyn With what was call'd the New State. That this Union Divided said Town in such a Manner as render'd it impossible To levy and collect any Taxes. That therefore the said Town Is in Debt to this State for a considerable Part of their Taxes From the Year 1780, to this present Day. That a Precept For one Years Tax never came to Dorchester. That such is the Scarcity of Money with us at present, that we do not See any Way that we can pay our Taxes provided we could Levy them.

That if this Honorable Court does demand the Taxes of us, We must for ought we can at present See, deliver up our Settlements to this Honorable Court. Your Honors, will Be pleased further to observe, that we are willing to pay our Proportion of Taxes, if we had ability. May it please your Honors, our Ability is very small, some of our Settlers are Almost wholly dependant upon others, and but few of us Able comfortably to support ourselves. Furthermore, may it please your Honors, There are but Seventeen Families in our Town at present and many of them Poor, our Roads are lenthly and uncommonly bad for a New Settlement, and we have not had much, if any help of Late from the Proprietors of said Town, to mend our Ways. Therefore, your Petitioners humbly pray, That the Proprietors may be compelled to assist us in making & repairing The high Ways through the several Parts of our Town. We trust, that your Honors are convinced that our Situation On many Accounts is remarkably Difficult. Therefore we pray that your Honors, would take our pitifull Case, into your deliberate Consideration, and enable us to levy And collect Taxes, to make and repair high Ways in Manner aforesaid, or, do that which in your Wisdom & Clemency you May think most proper, and as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

DORCHESTER JUNE 19th 1783.

Jesse Flanders

Junia Ingraham

Benjman Piper

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Sam ^l Fellows | Benj ^a Harris | Benjamin Rise |
| Samuel Piper | Junia Ingraham J ^r | Thomas Folsom |
| John Woodworth | David Flanders | David Clark |
| David Folsom | Andrew Harris | Joseph Clark |

[3-122]

[*Relative to Tax, 1786.*]

To the Honorable the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of New Hampshire to be holden at Portsmouth Feb^r next, The Petition of the town of Dorchester Humbly sheweth

We your Honors Petitioners conceive ourselves to be over Taxed in a Just proportion with Other Towns in the State and whereas there is considerable sums in back rearages which we are now called upon for; which at present appears impracticable For us to pay and support our Families in this uncultivated Wilderness—In the Year 1777 we were called upon for £13: 18-0 at which Time we had only six Ratable Polls in Town LITTLE or no Ratable improvement in Town and but very few Cattle or Horses and them supported at a Great expence; in the Year 1778 for £19: 17: 0 at which Time we had only seven polls & a small addition of improvements: in the year 1779 we Were called on for £41: 14: 0 at which Time we had only Eleven polls and our income No ways addequate to our Support but a Great part of our provisions we purchased and Brought from a considerable Distance Which much retarded our settlement; and never till the Year 1780 had any Town officers so as to be in a capacity to Collect any Tax, we wish here to observe that altho There was a valuation taken by the selectmen of Cockermouth Dec^r 1779 we conceive by reason of our unquaintance with them things that our improvements were set Much too high, and we have been rated until the Year 1784 on that valuation—We would here observe that the Dispute In these parts about Jurisdiction rose so high in the Year 1781 That we acted no way and thereby Lost our Meeting which was Not revived till y^e Year 1784 by which means no Taxes were assessed, (which neglect we readily acknowledge)—We sensibly Feeling the Before innumeraed Difficulties together with our Arduous Struggles in Begining and settling this Rugged Wilderness Our Lands Being something Broken and not so fertile as most Towns round about us—Therefore we pray Your Honors to take our Difficult Scituation into Your Wise Consideration and Grant us such releaf in the Premises as in Your Wisdom You may think fit, that thereby our heavy burthen May be lightened and we encouraged to exert ourselves in every Possible way to discharg what

may be found to be our Just proportion—and we Your Honors Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray.

Dorchester Jan^y 21 A D 1786

Benj^a Norris } Select Men
Joseph Burley } in behalf
Ja Ingraham Jr } of the Town

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Gideon Bridgman | Sam ^l Fellows | Junia Ingraham |
| Samuel Piper | Benjamin piper | |
| Silvanus Wood- | John Woodworth | |
| worth | Jesse Flanders | |

[Another petition of same import, dated May 30, 1786, is signed "John Woodworth, David Flanders, Joseph Burley, Selectmen," the other signatures being the same as the foregoing.—ED.]

[3-124] [*Petition for Justice of the Peace.*]

To his Excellency the President of the State of New Hampshire—

The petition of the inhabitants of the town of Dorchester, humbly Sheweth, that your petitioners labour under many disadvantages, being destitute of a Justice of the Peace in this town;—therefore your petitioners most humbly request that your Excellency would supply that defect by granting a Commission of the Peace to M^r Joseph Burley, of this town—And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| David Flanders | John Clark | Ezekiel Sanborn |
| Benjamin Rise | Edward Sanborn | Samuel Piper |
| David Folsom | Jun | Andrew Norris |
| bengman piper | Benj ^a Norris | Jesse Flanders |
| Thomas Norris | Nickles Davis | Roson M ^e Alpine |
| Moses Flanders | Jacob Willes | |
| Thomas Folsom | Uriah Howard | |

[3-125] [*Petition for Abatement of Taxes.*]

State of Newhampshire—

To the Hon^{le} Senate and House of Representatives to be convened at Portsmouth on the fourth Wednesday of Jan^y 1788

The petition of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of Dorchester Humbly Sheweth That in the year 1779 in December the Select Men of Cockermonth took an Enventory of said town of

Dorchester not being in a capacity thus to do Allmost all the Inhabitants of Dorchester were then from Connecticute the custom was there to give in as many Acres of Pastering as they had by measure thus we did in regard to Pastering—Respecting mowing land we gave in as many Tuns of hay as we cut whether good or bad But we find upon enquiry the rest of the good Citizens of this State have not done thus All our hay was exceeding course cut upon new Land the Year following after sown with Grain two lods of which was not equal to one of common hay so it was in regard to our pastering—Respecting our Buildings which were return'd by the said Select Men, tho' not given in by us then there was not one framed Building in the Town enclusing and estimating our effects thus we find our Enventory then amounted to near double in proportion to any town in the State—Having about £240 to pay in four years in which four years there were but ten or twelve Familys in the town and but very little Improvement—and the major part of those Familys were obliged to purchase their provision from adjacent towns And we wou'd further observe that the Inventory taken by said Cockermouth Select Men in the year 1779—our proportion upon the thousand pounds in consequence of their Inventory was one Shilling & four pence more upon the thousand than the proportion which was sett to us in the Year 1784 in which time we were double in income than what we were in 1779 which last proportion we find to be full equal to the rest of the adjacent town—We further wou'd observe that we were doom'd in the year 1777 the General Court for the year 1786 saw fit upon petition to make some abatement upon the Years 1777, 1778 and 1779 which favor we gratefully acknowledge We pray your Honors to take our case into your wise consideration and appoint a Committee to examine into the matter and if it shou'd be found upon examination we are agreived to make such abatement as to your Honors shall seem Just And as in duty bound will Pray

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Janiah Ingraham Ju ^r | } | Committee directed to sign in behalf of s ^d town of Dorchester |
| Joseph Burley | | |
| David Flanders | | |

[3-126] [*Relative to Representative, 1791.*]

State of Newhampshire—

To the Honourable the Senate and house of Representatives in General Court Conven^d at Portsmouth on the last wednesday of November A D 1791

The petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dorchester in the County of Grafton Humbly Sheweth—

that agreeable to an act of this State for Classing towns for

Representation Said Dorchester was Classed with the town of Lyme and have Continued so till after the Issuing the precepts for Calling the last Convention at which time the Inhabitants of said Lyme finding themselves to be of Sufficient Numbers to Send a member agreable to the Constitution assumed the right of Chusing a member by themselves and notified us of their Sufficiency accordingly in Consequence of which your petitioners are wholly deprived of being Represented in the General Court without the interposition of your honors

Wherefore your petitioners pray that they may be Classed with the towns of Cockermonth and Orange for Representation or otherwise Relive your petitioners as you in your wisdom Shall See meet and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Benjⁿ Norris for the petitioners

Portsmouth Dec^r y^e 24th 1791

[3-127] *Petition for Change of Day of Annual Meeting.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the honb^{le} the General Court of said State convened at Concord on the first wednesday of December 1795.

Humbly shews

Your petitioner, That the annual town meeting in Dorchester in the County of Grafton, is now by the existing Law holden on the last Monday in March.

That many inconveniences arise to said town from holding said Meeting on so late a day in said Month That the inhabitants of said Town in order to avoid such difficulties in future, have, in legal town meeting manifested their desire of having the day of the annual town meeting altered from the said last Monday to the first Tuesday in March forever.

Wherefore, your petitioner, prays leave to introduce a Bill for making such alteration in said annual Meeting. And as in duty bound will ever pray.

Joseph Burley Town Clerk & Agent.

Concord Dec^r 5th 1795.—

[By an act approved Dec. 19, 1795, the time of holding the annual meeting was changed from the last Monday in March to the first Tuesday in said month.—ED.]

DOVER.

Edward Hilton was the first settler of Dover, in the spring of the year 1623, his brother, William Hilton, either accompanying him or soon following. This appears by the positive and explicit statement of the historian Hubbard (who graduated at Harvard in 1642, and was minister at Ipswich), and by a deposition of a son of the first William Hilton, viz., William Hilton, who himself came here in 1624. Edward Hilton, for himself and associates, procured the "Dover and Swamscot Patent," March 12, 1629-'30, which covered the lower part of the present Dover and Newington, with a small part of Stratham.

Thomas Wiggin, for persons in England who purchased this patent, in 1633 brought over "about thirty" colonists, with a minister, and the first parish dates from that autumn. In 1641 the people of Dover, then an independent government, consented to be annexed by Massachusetts.

Dover never had any special incorporation, it being a corporation from its original settlement. When the boundaries of Dover were defined, the town covered the territory of the present Dover, Somersworth, Rollinsford, Durham, Madbury, Lee, and apparently the whole of Newington. Newington was separated from Dover, as a parish, in 1713, and had full town privileges in 1764. Somersworth, including Rollinsford, was set off as a parish Dec. 19, 1729, and made a town April 22, 1754. Durham, including Lee and part of Madbury, was set off May 15, 1732. Madbury, part from Dover and part from Durham, was set off as a parish May 31, 1755, and received full town privileges May 26, 1768. Lee was separated from Durham, Jan. 17, 1766, and Rollinsford from Somersworth, July 3, 1849. Dover was long the frontier town in the Indian wars, and suffered severely. It was incorporated as a city June 29, 1855.

[The foregoing article was contributed by Rev. Alonzo H. Quint, D. D.]

[3-128] [*Precept for the Election of Assemblymen, 1694.*]

Hampsh^r To the Constables of the Towne of Dover

[Seal] Pursuant to a writt from the Presid^t & Council to me directed these are in their Majestys names to Require both of you upon Receipt hereof to give public notice

to the freeholders of the s^d Towne that they convey on Monday y^e 31st Ins^t by 10 of the clock in the forenoon of y^e same day at the usual place of meeting freely & Indiferently to elect & chuse three fitt & discreet men of y^e s^d Towne (being freeholders thereof) wth full & sufficient power for themselves and the Community of the s^d Towne to be a Generall Assembly for the s^d Province to be held at New Castle on thursday the first of 9^{br} next ensuing; at one of the clock past meridiem it being for their Majes^{ts} Service and to return the names of the persons soe chosen to me one day before the sitting of s^d Assembly as you will both of you answer the Contrary at yo^r perils.

Given und^r my hand & Seale at Ports^m° this 24th October 1694 in the sixth year of their Majes^{ts} Reigne

Richard Jose Sheriff

This warant excicuted acor[d]ing to the tenor of it; and Cp^t John woodman: william furber: John hall are chosen:

atest

hattevill Robbards

Tho: Edgerly

Constable of Dover

[3-129] [*Thomas Edgerly's Acknowledgment.*]

To the Honourable Edward Cranfield Esq^r Govern^r and Commander in Chieff of this his Maj^s Province of Newhampshire.

The humble Petition of Thomas Edgerly once more humbly supplicates yo^r Honours Pardon for Speaking that rude & hasty word to Stephen Willey, which comeing to your hono^{rs} ears hath Justly provoaked yo^r Hono^r to y^e prosecution of his former offences your Petition^r Humbly prays for mercie fav^r and pardon, yo^r petitioners weakness is still discovered By there behaviour but can Treuly say was Lifted up with Joy Received by your honors pardon, Just then received so graciously from yo^r Hon^r yo^r pardon shall ever be acknowledged by yo^r petition^r and to have regard to his behaviour for time to come

Thomas Edgerly

[3-129½] [*Return of Assemblymen, 1695.*]

Att a townd meeting held att Dover by the freeholders of the Townd on the thirteenth Day of may 1695 they have made Choyce of by writt for their asembly men: Ca^{pt} John Woodman En^{sn} W^m flurber and John Hall by a faire choyse

Witness John Walker Debety Sherreff.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|---------------------------|----|
| Voitts—Cap ⁿ Woodman | 87 | Ens ⁱⁿ flurber | 85 |
| Jn ^o Hall | 45 | Lef ^t tuttell | 38 |
| — Clemens | 6 | Cap ⁿ Gerrish | 1 |
| Cap ⁿ Cromell | 1 | | |

[3-130] [*Return of Assemblymen, 1697.*]

December the twentieth 24 1697

The men so chosen bi the mager part of the freholders of the Town of Dover for esemblemen are Joshua crommel william forber James Davis

Nathaniell Meder
Constable of oyster river

[3-131]

The Inhabbitanes that are Nerer y^e New Meten house then y^e old

Cochecho Pint

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Howard Hendrson | Paul Gerrish | Benj ^a Hanson |
| Thomas Pots | John Waldron | Nathaniell Young |
| Sam ^l Cosen | John Hame | Mark Giles |
| Eleisheo Clark | W ^m fföse | John Hayes |
| W ^m Stiles | Thomas Horen | Peter Hayes |
| Benj ^a Wamoth | John Horen | John Hame |
| Silvanes Nock | John Harde | Richard Hamock |
| Silvanes Nock Jun ^r | Benj ^a Wintworth | Jonathan Young |
| fileon Stagpool | Efream Wentworth | Joseph Evenes |
| Jeames Stagpool | Benj ^a Wentworth | Benj ^a Evenes |
| Daniel Gooten | Jur. | Na th Hanson |
| Zac : Nock | Gersom Wentworth | — |
| Thomas Nock | John Rickerd | back river |
| Lt Hatefel Robbards | Meturen Rickerd | John Drew |
| Thomas Tibbets | James Hard | ffranses Drew |
| John Tibbets | Thomas Downes | Isrell Hodgson |
| En ^s Paul Wintworth | Jeareemiah Rolenes | Zack. ffeeld |
| Love Robbards | Jabes Garlon | John ffeeld |
| Sam ^l Smith | John Eles | Daniel Missarve |
| John Wintworth | Mores Hobes | Joseph Ginkenes |
| W ^m Clark | Sam ^l Crumell | Jeames Pinkham |
| Col. Waldron | Jeames Gupy | Solomon Pinkham |
| W ^m Tombly | John Winget | Edward Evenes Ju ^r |
| Joseph Hame | John Tomly | John Croseby |
| Lt Harde | Edward Evenes | 72 fameleys |
| Tim ^o Gerrish | | |

Indiferent famleys

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| John Bickford | Sam ^l Carell | } uncertain to w th meeting house they live nearest |
| Thomas Ash | Richard Husey | |
| Sam ^l Kenney | Edward Cloutman | |

The list of seventy two persons being householders & Inhabit^s on the other side according to our best understanding live nearer to y^e New meeting house at Cochecho than the old on Dover Neck given under our hands this 25th of April 1715

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Richard Waldron | Joseph Roberts | } Selectmen |
| John Downing | Joseph Jones | |
| | Thomas Tebbets | |
| | Tim ^o Gerrish | |

[3-132]

These are the Inhabertance that Live the nearest the old metting houes on Dover neck as followeth

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Cap ^t Tuttle | Richard ackling | Thomas Roberts |
| Cap ^t Tebbets | Lt Joseph Roberts | Samuel Tebets |
| John Hall | Thomas Roberts | Samuel Wille |
| John foay | nathaniell Roberts | nathaniel purkines |
| Joseph Hall | John Roberts | Thomas Young |
| Nicholas Harfut | Joshua Crumell | E ⁿ Joseph Bean |

the Back River men

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| m ^r Samuell Emerson | Thomas Starbord | Samuel nute |
| Richard pinckham | James nute | |

Dover in New Hampshire

The above list of twenty ffour persons being householders & Inhebit^s According to our best understanding live nearer the old meeting on Dover Neck than the New at Cochecho given under our hands this 25th April 1715

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Richard Waldron | Joseph Roberts | } Selectmen |
| John Downing | Joseph Jones | |
| | Thomas Tebbets | |
| | Tim ^o Gerrish | |

[See vol. III, p. 730.]

[R. 268] *Dr. Thomas Alden's Petition, addressed to the General Assembly.*

The Petition of Thomas Alden of Dover Physician, most humbly sheweth—That at the request of Joseph Pompery who

was a Souldier then in the Province Service at the garrison of Cap^t Benjamin Wentworth in Dover yo^r Petitioner did administer to him the s^d Pompery in the month of September last, who then was taken with a Malignant Fever, of which he dyed, and your Petitioner is left without any satisfaction for that his Services which amounts to Seven pounds Three Shillings and Sixpence—

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that this honourable Gen^l: Assembly would please to order that yo^r Petitioner be paid out of the Treasury of this Province in whose Service the s^d Pompery dyed And your Petitioner Shall ever pray as in duty bound &c

Thomas Alden

Portsm^o 18th Novemb^r 1724.

[3-133] [*Samuel Tibbets's Deposition.*]

Capt. Samuel Tibbets aged sixty seven years who hath Lived in Dover, in New Hampsh^r all His Days & never knew old Tho^s Nock but hath heard his Mother say he was Killed with a Cart that year he the said Tibbets was born & that he remembers Tho^s Nock Jun^r to be his reputed son and that Silvanus Nock of Somersworth is the Reputed son of Silvanus the Sun of the old Tho^s Nock Sworn in Court

Febr^y 9th 1733/4

John Penhallow Clerk

[3-136] [*Remonstrance against the North-East Part of Town being set off.*]

To His Excellency William Burnet Esq^r Cap^t Gen^l & Gov^r in Chief in & over his Majesties Pro: of N Hampsh^r &c and To the Hon^{ble} y^e Council & Representatives Convened in general assembly—

The Inhabitants of y^e Town of Dover their reasons why the Petition of sundry of y^e Inhabitants of y^e N. E. part of s^d Town praying they may be set off as a Distinct parish ought not to be granted according to ye boundaries therein mentioned—

The Respondents are sensible of y^e Inconveniences y^e Petitioners are under by being obliged to go so far to y^e public worship & y^e more so because many of y^m are under y^e same unhappy Circumstances & must always remain so if this petition be granted in all respects for if y^e dividing line should come so far South Easterly as y^e Petitioners desire y^e first parish of Dover would consist of a long square of ab^t Ten miles one way &

ab^t a mile & half the other & there would be then no prospect that those of y^e Respond^{ts} that live at the greatest distance from y^e meeting house could ever be better accommodated so that the respond^{ts} are humbly of opinion y^t the benefit y^e Petitioners would reap by having their Petition granted would not be so great as the damage y^e respond^{ts} would sustain thereby for tho y^e reason given by y^e Petitioners for y^r being set off is because of their being so far from the meeting house yet if y^e dividing line should run where they desire many of them would have much further to go to meeting than before

The Respond^{ts} therefore humbly pray that if they are set off the dividing line may be but half way from meeting house to meeting house w^{ch} seems most reasonable or that a Committee of impartiall & disinterested persons may be appointed to go upon the spot & after having viewed the places & considered all circumstances make report to your Excellency & the hon^{bl} Court where they think it most reasonable the dividing line should be also where y^e dividing line shall run between Dover & oyster river that line having never as yet been fully settled

May 13th 1729

Nicholas Harford

May the 13th 1729 In the house of Representatives upon Reading the Petition of the North East Part of the Town of Dover for their Being set off a Distinct precinct as per the Petition Read in the house ap^l 25th 1729: and on a Second Reading the same Petition may y^e 13th & the within answer: to the said Petition—The Petitioners appearing by their agents: and being heard by their Councill: and the Respondents Likewise: and the agents of each Part of the Town of Dover making choice of M^r Speaker Wiggans: Natt Weare: Theo: Atkinson Maj^r Nicholas Gilman Esq^r & M^r Eph^m Dennett as a Comittee to goe upon the spot and first to settle and Run a Dividing line Between the Precinct of oyster River & Dover old parish and that the Inhabitants of y^e Precinct of oyster River Be notified of y^e order of the Gen^l ass^m by Serving them with a Copy hereof and that the said Precinct of Oyster River precinct may Make Choice of one or Two Indifferent persons to Joyn with those persons before Named (if they See Cause) to Settle & Run the line afore Said: and after that line be Settled that then the Comittee above Named Do view the old Town of Dover: & The District Petitioned to be Set off: and to Settle a Dividing line Between the Two Precincts last mentioned according to the Best of their Judgm^{ts}, And That oyster River Dover and the North East District pay the Comittee in Equall Proportion: And that the Said Petitioners in the mean Time be free from being Rated to the Ministers Rates of the old parish till the line be Settled—

And the Maj^r Part of Said Committee agreeing & Signing a Return Shall be accounted Sufficient: and that it be Bro^t to the Gen^l ass^m at their Next Sessions for approbation & Confirmation as the Gen^l ass^m Shall See meet

In Coun^l May 14th 1729
Read and Concurred

James Jeffry Cl^r ass^m

R. Waldron Cler^r Cou^l

[3-137] [*Relative to Boundary Line between Dover and Oyster River Parish, which Parish was established May, 1716.*]

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Goven^r and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties province of New Hamp^r to his Majesties Council and Representatives of the s^d province in Gen^l Assembly convened this 24th day of September, 1731.

The Adresse and Petition of the Subscribers doth humbly Shew—

That Joseph Jones of oysterriver in the Town of Dover in the province of New Hamp^r with Sundry others Inhabitants of the s^d Parish of oysterriver, by their Petition made to the Honourable Jn^o Wentworth Esq^r Lieut Goven^r and Commander in Chief in and over the s^d province of New Hamp^r to the Honourable his Majesties Council and the Representatives of the s^d province, did humbly Petition, that whereas the s^d Petitioners have always been constant hearers & paid their rates to the Minister of oysterriver as by the Rate List of Assesment did appear, and that Sundry of them had been at considerable charge in Building a Meeting house in s^d Parish of oysterriver being nearer and more convenient for them to attend upon the pubhck worship of God at oysterriver Meeting house than at Cochecho Meeting house which is a great way further for them to goe, and that they were in danger of being excluded from their s^d privilege of going to oysterriver by an Unequal line of Boundary about to be Settled between Cochecho and oysterriver, which if being so Stated will tend extremly to their prejudice, and did therefore humbly crave Liberty of a more Mature consideration of the premises by his Honour and Gen^l Assembly and that there might be a more equal Line of Boundary for land between them than what was proposed—and upon the Hearing of which humble Petition it was ordered that it should be heard upon the third day of this present sitting of the Gen^l Assembly notwithstanding which by some carelesness and Mismanagement of the

persons concerned in and about the s^d affair it so happens that the s^d Petition is not yet heard and in danger of dropping through, to the extream injury of the afores^d Petitioners, and whereas we the Subscribers at a publick Parish Meeting of oysterriver are chosen and appointed as a Committee in the behalfe of the s^d Parish concerning the s^d Line between Dover and oysterriver we do humbly pray that Yo^r Excellency and the Honourable Assembly will not determine the Line afores^d before you have had an hearing of the s^d Petition but that you will please to appoint a day certain at the next Gen^l Assembly for that end and make orders that both parties be duly Warned thereof—& so You^r Petitioners shall ever pray &c

24th September
1731

Stephen Jones
Hubbard Stevens
John Woodman

[In H. of Rep., "7^r the 25th," a hearing was ordered for the next session. May 15, 1732, the "Precinct of Oyster River" was constituted a parish by the name of Durham.—ED.]

—

[3-138] [*Relative to a Parish in the Westerly Part.*]

TO THE SELECT MEN of the Town of Dover in the Province of New Hampshire—

Gentlemen—

We the Subscribers Pray you to Insert a Clause in your warrant or notification for Calling or Warning The Next Town Meeting to See whether the Town will pass a vote Signifying Their Consent that a new Parish may be made in the westerly part of the Town of Dover afores^d agreeable to Boundaries Set forth in a Petition of those who Desire it to The Inhabitants & freeholders of Said Town—

Septem^r 1st 1743—

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| William Hill | John Tasker | William Bussell |
| Job Demerrett | Joseph Jackson | Joseph Daniel |
| John Roberts | Henry Bussell | Paul Gerrish |
| Joseph Hicks | Timothy Moses | Nath ^l ^{his} o Davis |
| David Daniel | Solomon Emerson | ^{mark} |
| Sam ^l Chesley | | Jn ^o Huckins |

Vera Copia as on Dover Town Book of Records

Attest Jos : Hanson Jun^r Town Cler

[R. 271] [*Gov. Wentworth's Order to Maj. Thomas Davis.*]

Portsm^o 24th May 1744

Sir You are hereby directed to Inlist as Volunteers, forty men to march under your Command to Canterbury & the pond, where I shall order a Company of forty more, under the Command of Cap^t Ichabod Tibbits to Joyn you. If you find any difficulty in raising Volunteers, you are to apply to Coll^o Smith for his orders to Impress the said forty men out of his regiment as soon as you have Completed your [number] you are to come and Receive your orders from me in what manner you are to proceed

I am S^r your hu^t Ser^t

B. Wentworth

The men are allowed twenty shil^s per month lawfull mony half a pound of powder to a man Soldiers allowance 20 Musket balls & three flints each soldier

To Major Thomas Davis at Dover

[R. 269] [*Abstract of Salathiel Denbo's Petition.*]

[In a petition dated "9^r y^e 27th 1730," Salathiel Denbo, of Dover, states,—“That your Petitioner was Imprest into the service of the Province of Newhampshire on the Canada Expedition and under the Comand of Cap^t James Jeffrey and for want of Saylor, and by request of those persons apointed to fix out the vessels for Transport & by Leave of the s^d Cap^t Jeffrey Did Service as a Saylor under Cap^t Clem^t Deareing the Master of the Transport wherein our Company was. Your Petitioner in the s^d Service under the then Comand of the said Cap^t Dearing getting of Coales for firing had his thigh broken.” He further states that he is incapable of laboring, and asks for relief, and was allowed ten pounds for one year, and five pounds a year for the next seven years.—ED.]

[R. 270] [*Abstract of Eleazer Young, Jr.'s, Petition.*]

In a petition dated Dover, Dec. 14, 1744, Eleazer Young, Jr., states,—“That your Petitioner Did on the last Summer past Voluntarily Enlist My Self into his Majestys Service to March Into the woods as far as Winnipe Sauke Pond under the Command of Cap^t Ichabod Tebbetts and when

near the Pond firing off my Gun on an Necessary Occasion Providence so ordered that the Gun split all in Pieces By which means your Petitioner Received a very bad wound." He asks the assembly for an allowance.—ED.]

[3-139] [Warrant for Town-Meeting, 1745.]

PURSUANT to a Precept from the Sheriff to us Directed for to Cause the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover to be Convened together for the Choyce of assembly men—

To the freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Such as are quallified by Law to Vote for the Choyce of assembly men These are to give Notice that there is a Publick Town meating to be held at the meeting house at Cochecho in Dover on Tuesday the fourth Day of June next Ensuing at one of the Clock in the afternoon to Choose three fit persons to Represent Said Town of Dover in General assembly to be Convened and held at portsmouth on wednesday the fifth Day of Said June next at Ten of the Clock in the forenoon all persons Concerned are Desired to give their attendance Punctually at the Time and place abovementioned

Dated at Dover
may 18th 1745

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tho ^s Millet | } Select Men |
| John Winget | |
| Tho ^s Wallingford | |
| Eph: Ham | |

At a Publick Town meeting held at the meeting house at Cochecho in Dover on Tuesday the fourth Day of June 1745 first a motion was made by Some Gentleman in Said meeting that Some things had been wrongly Represented and that it was reasonable that the matters or things So Represented Should be Examined into and bro^t to Light to which two Justices one of which was a Selectman and many others Rising up and upposed the Same Saying that it was always Customary when any Town meeting was Called that the Notification had been usually first to be Read and a moderator Chosen and after that to hear and answer to any matter and Debate that Should then arise to which the major part of the meeting Insisted on as well as the two Justices before named with great vehemency but Some of the Select men still Insisting that those affairs above mentioned Should be heard and Debated on before the notification was Read and moderator Chose and one of the Select men Said that the meeting should be broken up unless it were So or words to that Purpose and So moved out of the meeting house for awhile and the people still pressing and Insisting that

the Town Clerk Should Read the notification and Proceed to the Choice of a moderator To which the Clerk thought Proper So to Do in order to prevent any further Disturbance in Said meeting and when the notification was Read Votes was bro^t in for a moderator which were as follows—

| | |
|---|-----------|
| for Thomas Wallingford Esq ^r | 149 votes |
| for Thomas Millet Esq ^r | 60 votes |

Tho^s Wallingford Esq^r being Chosen by the majority of 89 Votes

When the moderator was thus Legally Chosen he Comanded Silence and Desired that If any person had any thing to Relate Touching those matters or things above mentioned and would Draw near they Should be heard—however no one appearing altho near half an hour was allowed them for that end then the moderator Desired the people to bring in their votes for the first assembly man Saying it was usual to Choose first at that part of the Town Call^d Dover the votes bro^t in were as follows—

| | |
|---|-----|
| for major Thomas Davis | 100 |
| for Thomas Millet Esq ^r | 1 |
| for Thomas Wallingford Esq ^r | 2 |

Major Thomas Davis being Chosen by the majority of 98 votes

Then four of the Select men namely Thomas Millet Esq^r Cap^t John Winget m^r Eli Demerit & m^r Ephraim Ham appeared after the hour of five of the Clock and ordered the Clerk to Read the notification and proceed to the Choice of a moderator to which the moderator before Chosen Refused to have Done and Desired the people to bring in their votes for a Second assembly man—which was for John Gage which was Chosen by 102 Votes—

Then the four Select men above named half an hour after five of the Clock removed into a pew on the other Side of the meeting house and begun to Carry on a meeting by themselves altho Silence was Comanded by the moderator; Thomas Wallingford Esq^r was Chose the third assembly man by 93 votes then the moderator Dismised the meeting at half an hour after five of the Clock and the Town Clerk gave out a Summons and the three men above named was Summoned to appear at the Court house in portsmouth on the fifth Day of June Instant at ten of the Clock in the forenoon and a return of y^e Summons made to the Clerk

A true Coppy of the Notification together with the proceedings of the Town Meeting

Attest Jos: Hanson Jun^r Town Cler

Province of New Hamp^r

To Thomas Varney Constable of Dover

you are hereby required in his Majestys Name to Summons Maj^r Thomas Davis John Gage and Col^o Thomas Wallingford Esq^r to appear at the Court house in Portsmouth on Wednesday the fifth Day June Instant at ten of the Clock in the forenoon to attend on the General assembly on being Chosen Representative this fourth Day of June—1745 & make return of your proceedings therein unto myself—

Jos: Hanson Jun^r Town Cle^r:

Province of New Hamp^r

By virtue of the within Summons I have Summoned the Men within Mentioned to appear at the time & place within Mentioned per me

Dover June 4th 1745

Tho^s Varney

[3-140] [*Town Clerk's Declaration concerning Election of Representatives, 1745.*]

Whereas the Town of Dover hath Done me the honour as to Choose me their Clerk in which place & Trust I have officiated with Justice & fidelity—and in our Last town meeting for the Choice of assembly men I was in no wise Desirous of any mutinies or Contentions in the meeting but to the Contarary Desiring the People Should agree and accord in Love & unity and when Some Gentlemen Saying at the first assembling of the meeting that they had Something to offer to the people with Respect to Lies or false Reports which they said had been spread abroad to Disaffect the people with Respect to the Common Cause: I was of the Same opinion that the greatest part of the people was finding by the words of the notification that the freeholders of the Town of Dover was not Call^d together at that time to hearken to any Lies or false Reports If any Such thing had Even been—but was notified to appear there punctually at the hour of one of the Clock to Choose three fit persons to Represent them in General assembly and Consulting the Law of this province which Did not Say that the Select men had power Either to regulate or break up the meeting—but Said in plain words (that at Every Such meeting a moderator Shall be Chosen by a majority of votes &c) and I must needs Confess and Say that I think the Town of Dover never Stood in greater need of a moderator then at that time and according to the usual Custom I Read the notification and Desired the people to bring in their Votes for a moderator which was Done in a very fair manner—

Before I Conclude I would add and Say that when the opposet partie Set up a meeting by themselves on the other Side of

the meeting house I Dont Remember that they Said one word about Informing the people about any Lies or false Reports Spread abroad as aforementioned but went on in their Choice of men—If I have Err^d or Said one word amiss I beg forgiveness of Almighty God and this honourable Court

Dover June 4th 1745

[There is no signature to the foregoing, but it is in the hand-writing of Jos. Hanson, Jr.—ED.]

[3-143] Dover Part for the Year 1753 Parish Rates.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| Thomas Millit Esq ^r . | I | 19 | Richard Hussey | 14 | 3 |
| Lieu ^t Stephen Roberts | | 12 | John Bickford Jun ^r | 13 | 9 |
| Thomas Roberts & Moses | | 14 | Samuel Chesley | 11 | 6 |
| Howard Henderson Jun ^r | | 8 | John Leighton | 5 | |
| John Bickford | | 3 | Daniel Misarve | 9 | |
| Richard Hussey Jun ^r | | 7 | John Field | 9 | 6 |
| Joshua Perkins | | 5 | Henry Tebbetts | 9 | |
| Samuel Starbird | | 7 | Timothy Moses | 11 | 3 |
| Shadrach Hodgdon | I | | Jonathan Daniels | 1 | |
| Daniel Titcomb | | 6 | Eli Demerit | 11 | 9 |
| Job Demeritt | | 17 | John Titcomb | 5 | |
| John Ham Jun ^r | | 15 | Joseph Drew | 10 | 6 |
| Ephraim Tebbetts 3d | | 6 | Stephen Pinkham | 8 | 6 |
| Howard Henderson | | 6 | Jacob Daniels | 9 | |
| Henry Bussell | | 9 | Vincent Tarr | 14 | |
| Robert Wille | | 3 | Hetevel Leighton | 11 | 6 |
| John Misarve | | 10 | Aaron Roberts | 10 | 6 |
| Clement Misarve | | 7 | Benjamin Roberts | I | |
| James Pinkham | | 11 | Joseph Crumwell | 7 | 3 |
| Benjamin Wille | | 5 | Daniel Jacobs | 7 | |
| James Jackson | | 9 | William Hill | 18 | |
| Wid. Eliza Young & Tho ^s Young | | 14 | John Roberts Jun ^r | I | |
| Trustirm Pinkham | | 9 | James Brown | 6 | 6 |
| Josiah Tucker | | 9 | Cap ^t Joseph Hicks | I | 5 |
| Samuel Davis | | 17 | Lieu ^t Solomon Emerson | I | 5 |
| Thomas Bickford | | 18 | Ens ⁿ John Tasker | I | 9 |
| Bedfield Plummer | | 10 | Lieu ^t James Davis | I | 6 |
| Maj. Tho ^s Davis | | 16 | Zechariah Pitman | 15 | 6 |
| Ephraim Tebbetts Jun ^r | | 9 | Reuben Chesley | 9 | 6 |
| Joseph Rankins | | 7 | Daniel Misarve Jun ^r | I | 6 |
| Thomas Roberts Jun ^r | | 4 | James Huckens | 5 | 6 |
| | | 6 | Nathaniel Davis | 8 | 6 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----|---|---|
| John Smith | 5 | Joseph Daniels | 17 | 9 | | |
| Samuel Drew | 6 | William Bussell | 6 | 9 | | |
| Joseph Rines | 5 | James Clemens | 5 | 3 | | |
| Zebulun Drew | 6 | 9 | Reuben Gray | 6 | 6 | |
| John Giles | 10 | Samuel Crumwell | 5 | | | |
| Timothy Perkins | 6 | Benjamin Body Jun ^r | 5 | 6 | | |
| Samuel Tasker | 5 | Ebenezer Demerit | 8 | 6 | | |
| Charles Bickford | 5 | 3 | William Tasker | 10 | | |
| John James | 9 | William Brown | 5 | 6 | | |
| Derry Pitman | 10 | John Tuttle Jun ^r | 5 | 6 | | |
| Jonathan Pinkham | 7 | 6 | Samuel Emerson | I | 1 | 3 |
| Timothy Clemens | 5 | 6 | Samuel Starbird Jun ^r | 6 | 6 | |
| John Huckins | 11 | John Bickford third | 6 | | | |
| James Jackson Jun ^r | 7 | 6 | Patience Pooler | 3 | | |
| Nathaniel Perkins | 4 | 6 | Joseph Buzzell | 6 | | |
| William Fowler | 5 | Levi Tuttle | 4 | 6 | | |
| Francis Drew | I | 3 | Philip Crumwell | 4 | 6 | |
| John Tasker Jun ^r | 9 | 6 | William Alen | 9 | | |
| Richard Jones | 8 | 3 | Lemuel Drew | 6 | 6 | |
| William Gletten | 7 | Joseph Jackson | 4 | 6 | | |
| Richard Causewell | 6 | 6 | Anthony Jones | 6 | 9 | |
| Ezeriah Boody | 5 | 6 | Benjamin Leathers | 4 | 6 | |
| John Demerit | 17 | 6 | William Gerrish | 7 | 6 | |
| Zechariah Edgerley | 16 | 3 | Benjamin Lebbey | 5 | | |
| Paul Gerrish | 11 | 6 | William Leighton Ju ^r | 6 | 3 | |
| William Demerit | 8 | 9 | John Leighton | 10 | | |
| John Bussell | 15 | 3 | | | | |

The Cast of the List £57 : 10 : 0

Due back or abatement £0 : 17 : 0

Copy Compar'd With the original per T W Waldron one of the Selectmen Exclusive of any abatement

The Westerly Part of Dover for the Year 1753 Parish Rate.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------------|---------------------------------|----|---|---|
| Maj Thomas Davis | 16 | 6 | Lieu ^t James Davis | I | 6 | 6 |
| John Leighton | 5 | John Demerit | 17 | 6 | | |
| Henery tibets | 9 | Zachariah Pitman | 15 | 6 | | |
| Jonathan Daniels | 1 | Ruben Chesley | 9 | 6 | | |
| Henery Bussell | 9 | 3 | Daniel misarve Jun ^r | I | 6 | 6 |
| Stephen Pinkham | 8 | 6 | James Huckens | 5 | 6 | |
| James Pinkham | 11 | 6 | Nathaniel Davis | 8 | 6 | |
| James Jackson | 9 | 9 | John Smith | 5 | | |
| William Hill | 18 | Samuel Drew | 6 | | | |
| John Roberts Jun ^r | I | Joseph Rines | 5 | | | |
| James Brown | 6 | 6 | Ebenezer Demerit | 8 | 6 | |
| Lieu ^t Solomon Emerson | I | 5 | William Tasker | 10 | | |

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|---|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| William Brown | 5 | 6 | Charles Bickford | 5 | 3 |
| Derry Pitman | 10 | | John Bickford 3 ^d | 6 | |
| John Huckens | 11 | | Joseph Busell | 6 | |
| James Jackson Jun ^r | 7 | 6 | William Fowler | 5 | |
| Samuel Chesley | 11 | 6 | William allen | 9 | |
| Job Demeret | 17 | 3 | John Tasker Jun ^r | 9 | 6 |
| Timothy moses | 11 | 3 | Richard Jones | 8 | 3 |
| Eli Demerit | 11 | 9 | William Glidden | 7 | |
| Robert Wille | 3 | 9 | Richard Causewell | 6 | 6 |
| Jacob Daniels | 9 | | Nicules Brock | 5 | |
| Benjamin Wille | 5 | 9 | Joseph Young | 5 | 9 |
| Daniel Jacobs | 7 | | Daniel Young | 5 | 6 |
| Samuel Davis | 17 | | Joseph twombly | 7 | |
| thomas Bickford | 13 | 9 | William Twombly 3 ^d | 9 | 3 |
| Ca ^p Joseph hicks | I | 5 | Robert Evans & his son | | |
| Ens ⁿ John Tasker | I | 9 | Thomas | 13 | 9 |
| azariah Boodey | | 5 | francis Drew | I | 3 |
| Zachariah Edgerley | 16 | 3 | Joseph Jackson | 4 | 6 |
| Paul Gerrish | 11 | 6 | anthony Jones | 6 | 9 |
| William Demeret | 8 | 9 | Benjamin Leathers | 4 | 6 |
| John Bussell | 15 | 3 | Daniel hyes | 7 | 6 |
| Joseph Daniels | 17 | 9 | Ebenezer Garling Jun ^r | 6 | |
| William Bussell | 6 | | Elezer Young | 17 | 9 |
| James Clemons | 5 | 3 | John Evens | 12 | 6 |
| Ruben Gray | 6 | 6 | Isaac twombly | 11 | |
| Benjamin Bodge Jun ^r | 5 | 6 | John Winget Jun ^r | 7 | 9 |
| Timothy Perkens | 6 | | Robert Huckens | 9 | 3 |
| Samuel Tasker | 5 | | Samuel Davis Jun ^r | 9 | 3 |

A Counterpin of the Parish Cochecho Part.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|---|---|----|----|
| John Gage Esq ^r | 2 | | John Horn | 10 | 3 |
| John Gage Jun ^r | 8 | 3 | Daniel Titcomb | 13 | 9 |
| Daniel Plummer | 7 | 6 | Benjamin Lebby Ju ^r | 4 | 6 |
| Widow Lydia Harford | 1 | 3 | Ebenezer Horn | 14 | 6 |
| James Guppy | 4 | 6 | William Ham | 6 | |
| Andrew Horn | 5 | 9 | John Hartford | 6 | 6 |
| Robert mase | 5 | | Spencer Wentworth | 17 | 9 |
| Ens ⁿ Richard Waldron | I | 6 | Grant Wentworth | 6 | |
| Benjamin Conour | 6 | | Nathaniel Horn | 14 | 3 |
| William Door | 4 | 6 | Thomas Witheren | 5 | |
| John Waldron & his Son | | | William forst Jun ^r | 13 | 3 |
| John | 17 | | John Herd | 14 | 9 |
| Ephraim Kembal | 8 | | Joshua Winget | 4 | 6 |
| John whitehouse | 5 | 6 | Andrew Gerrish | 9 | 3 |
| Will : Horn 3 ^d & James | | | Cap ^t Tho ^s W : Waldron | I | 12 |
| Horn | 16 | 6 | Samuel Herd | 4 | 6 |

| | | | |
|--|-----|--|------|
| Ephraim Plummer | 66 | John Winget Jun ^r | 79 |
| Samuel Ham | 66 | Robert Huckens | 93 |
| Wid. Hannah Willard & her Son William | 119 | John Kille | 46 |
| Samuel Herd Jun ^r | 153 | Lew : moses Winget | 93 |
| James Chesley | 166 | John Church | 113 |
| William Gage | 59 | John Tebbets | 12 |
| Richard Kemball | - | Thomas Hays | 96 |
| Nehemiah Kemball | 153 | Samuel Watson | 53 |
| John Horn Jun ^r | 123 | Samuel Gerrish | 9 |
| Wid : Martha Hayes | 113 | Peter Cushing | 5 |
| Widow Esther Horn | 2 | Isaac Young | 46 |
| Isaac Horn | 89 | William Twombly J ^r | 166 |
| Benjamin Lebby | 5 | Benja : Hanson Jun ^r | 66 |
| William Gerrish | 73 | Otis Baker | 63 |
| John Hanson Jun ^r | 6 | David Watson | 46 |
| Wido : Abagail Went- worth | 23 | Leu ^t John Ham | 6 |
| Nathaniel Willard | 83 | Joseph Roberts & — Lebby | I 6 |
| Ephraim wentworth | 116 | Daniel Hayes | 76 |
| William Wentworth Jun ^r | 6 | Aaron Hayes | 70 |
| James Wetheren | 96 | John Twombly Ju ^r | 73 |
| William forst | 89 | Jonathan Young & Sons James & Nathaniel | I 36 |
| Benjamin Herd | 109 | Nicholas Brock | 5 |
| Cap ^t John Winget | 173 | Joseph Young | 59 |
| Nicholas Canada | 46 | Ebenezer Young | 69 |
| William Evens | 56 | Noah Young | 56 |
| Benjamin Hanson & his Son George | 16 | Joseph Twombly | 7 |
| George Hern | 76 | William twombly 3 ^d | 93 |
| Wido : Jonna Watson & Joseph Watson | 14 | Robert Evens & his Son Thomas | 139 |
| Doughles Baker | 46 | Samuel Davis Jun ^r | 93 |
| Cheney Smith | 149 | Ebenezer Hanson | 10 |
| Andrew Marshal | 50 | Edmond winget | 6 |
| John Rendel | 69 | William Emerson | 5 |
| James Kielle | 59 | Joseph Hall | 8 |
| Ichabod Hayes | 126 | Dudley Watson | I 6 |
| William Twombly | 183 | Tobias Rendal | 103 |
| Ralph Twombly | 14 | Daniel Horn and His Son Daniel | I 23 |
| Daniel Evens | 166 | Reuben Hayes | 113 |
| Ebenezer Garlin Jun ^r | 6 | Josh : and Ephraim Ham | I 73 |
| Elea Young | 179 | John Hayes Jun ^r | 66 |
| Daniel Young | 116 | Ephraim Hanson | 53 |
| John Evens | 126 | Samuel Hodge | 96 |
| Isaac Twombly | 11 | Jonathan Watson | 46 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|
| George Horn | 4 6 | Cap ^t Joseph Hanson | 18 |
| William M ^c cullock | 4 6 | Stephens Evens | 12 3 |
| Joseph Brown | 4 6 | Cap ^t Trustirm Coffin | 1 |
| Andrew Frink | 4 6 | Joseph Abbot | 4 6 |
| Ephraim Alley | 5 0 | Benjamin Ham | 10 6 |
| Wido : Abigail Garlin | 7 9 | Daniel Waden | 4 6 |
| Elijah Bunker | 9 | Jonathan Evens | 5 3 |
| James Young Jun ^r | 4 6 | Samuel Alley | 8 6 |
| Benjamin Horn | 6 6 | Samuel Tod | 4 6 |
| Peter Hayes | 10 | Job Clemens | 1 |
| Daniel Ham | 17 3 | Wentworth Hayes | 5 3 |
| Dea John Hayes | 18 | Jonathan Gerrish | 4 6 |
| Benjamin Evens | 11 6 | John Tebbets | 12 |
| John Winget Jun ^r | 7 9 | Thomas Hayes | 9 6 |
| Robert Huckens | 9 3 | Samuel Watson | 5 3 |
| John Kille | 4 6 | Jonathan Winget | 5 3 |
| Leu : Moses Winget | 9 3 | William Hanson | 15 9 |
| John Church | 11 3 | | |

Copy Examined per Original

Tho^s W Waldron

All abatement on this List as followeth Viz :

| | s | d | | s | d |
|-------------------------|---|---|------------------------|----|------|
| Lydia Hartford | 1 | 3 | W ^m Gerrish | 7 | 3 |
| Benj Lebby | 5 | | Aaron Hayes | 2 | 3 |
| Abigail Wentworth | 2 | 3 | Daniel Wading | 4 | 6 |
| Eben ^r Young | 4 | 9 | Daniel Titcomb | 13 | 9 |
| Sam ^l Tod | 4 | 6 | | | |
| Samuel Heard | 5 | | | 2 | 19 4 |
| Esther Horn | 2 | | | | |

£

Cast of this Counterpin is 69- 7-6

Drawbacks 2-19-4

£66-8-2

[R. 272] [*Depositions Relative to Israel Peirce.*]

These certifie whome it may concern that in the year 1748, I the subscriber was appointed Commissary to the Company under the command of Cap^t Job Clements, & in dealing out the

allowances to the soldiers, Israiel Peirce appeared & Received forty two Days allowance, with the Rest of the soldiers & I don't Remember that I heard of his Runing or going away without the Cap^{ts} Leave

Joseph Walker

Rochester 20th July 1753

To the Honorable mr Speaker Ware

Sir by the Desiare of mr Isaril Peirce I found by my accompt that I Deliverd to him s^d Peirce fourteen Days alouance at my hous in april 1748 and I understood he was a Listed Solder

John Gage

July 28th 1753.

[R. 274]

The Deposition of Isaril Peirce a solder under the Command of Cap^t Jobe Clement at Rochister I the Deponant well Remember that I faithfully sarved Two months at s^d Rochister in the year 1748 under the Command of s^d Cap^t Clements and when I went a way from s^d sarvice it was By Cap^t Clements leve

Isaril ^{his} X Peirce
mark

[Timothy Roberts, of Rochester, testifies to Peirce's having been regularly discharged in his presence. Sworn before John Gage, justice of the peace, at Dover.—ED.]

[3-147]

[This document is a plan on which is the following certificate :] "By order of the Parish of Dover—The Plan hereto annexed was Run From Johnsons Creek to Jos Jenkins house & then N. W. & by N to Dover head line by Thos W^k Waldron Moses Winget & Jn^o Tasket [Taskar?] the other lines are laid down from Durham & Somersworth charters the whole Plan'd by Tho^s W^k Waldron Sur^v July 10, 1753.

"Jan. 28 1754 Copy Examined

"pr. Tho^s W^k Waldron"

Mr. Cushing's meeting-house, Johnson's Bridge, Green Hill, Beach Hill, etc., are located on the plan.—ED.]

[3-148] [*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

To the free holders and Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Quallified to vote in Publick Town meeting

This is to give notice that there is a Publick Town meeting to be held at the meeting-house at Cochecho in Dover on monday the third Day of June next at two of the Clock in the afternoon—first to Chose any Town officer or officers that Shall be necessary for the present year. 2^{ly} to hear what M^r Samuel Emerson has to offer Consarning any part of the Estate of Mary Saunders Dec^d Supposed to be in his hands and to act as the Town shall think proper thereon 3^{ly} to hear Sundry Persons Requesting to have another minister Settled in the Town with full power to act on said request as shall then appear to have the best tendency to promote Love peace & unity amongst us all Persons Consarned are Desired to give their attendance at time and place

Dover May 22^d 1754

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Tho ^s W ^k Waldron | } Select Men |
| Jos Hanson | |
| Sol ^o Emerson | |

[3-150] [*Petition of the Inhabitants of the Westerly Part to be set off.*]

TO HIS EXCELLENCY Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor & Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for Said Province in General Assembly Convened January 17th 1754

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of Dover in Said Province SHEWS

That your Petitioners Living at a Considerable Distance (some of them Seven Miles & upwards) from the Meeting House at Cochecho So Called in which the Reverend M^r Cushion Preaches found it very Inconvenient for them and their Families to Attend the Public Worship at Said Meeting House & have therefore Built a meeting House & for Several Years last past Maintained Constant Preaching at their own Expencc besides paying their Proportion to all Town Charges.—

That they Requested the Town to Consider their Situation & Exempt them from paying towards the Support of the Minister of the Town, as they are well able to do it themselves. That your Petitioners might be the better able to Support the Preaching of the Gospel So that not only their Women & Children might have more frequent Opportunities of Attending

but that your Petitioners might be in a Condition to Settle a Minister among themselves: which in Public Town Meeting has been Denied tho' the Voters almost to a man Singly wou'd acknowledge Said Request to be Reasonable—That Your Petitioners humbly Conceive, The Granting that Request wou'd have been for the Honour as well as advantage of the Town tho' they Should thereby have been obliged to pay twelve pence a man more Annually to their Minister, as it would have Encouraged the Settling of the Lands above & bro't a great Current of Business to the Town below & Servd them many other ways—But as they woud not voluntarily do it themselves, the thing will appear So Reasonable as to Ingage Your Excellency & Honours on the Part of Your Petitioners in this Particular, & Oblige the Town to Submit to the Terms they Refuse to Grant.—Wherefore Your Petitioners Humbly Pray they may be Set off from Said Town by a Line runing from a Pine Tree (or where that Stood) on Cedar Point so Called to the Westerly End of the Dwelling House of Joseph Jenkins & from thence on a N. W. & by North Course to the Head of the Township and that all the Poll & Estates on the Westerly Side Said Line may be by a Special Act Exempted from Paying towards the Minister of Said Town & Incorporated into a Parish and Invested with the usual Parish Powers and Privileges that they may Enjoy the Benefit of a Settled Ministry nearer home than otherwise they can and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray &c

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| James Davis | Ens ⁿ John Tasker | Thomas Bickford |
| Joseph Rians | Samuel Davis | Daniel young |
| William Tasker | John Roberts | John Buzzel Jun ^r |
| Joseph Daniels | Henry Buzzel | Azariah Boodey |
| William Fowler | John Demerit | John Winget Jun ^r |
| Noah young | Joseph Libbey | John Huckins |
| Nathaneel Tibbets | Zachariah Pitman | Eben ^r Demerit |
| Samuel Chesle | John Tasker Jun ^r | James Jackson |
| Job Demerit | Eli Demerit | James Jackson Jun ^r |
| Timothy Moses | John Smith | Cap ^t Hicks |
| Robert Huckins | Charles Bickford | Eben ^r Tasker |
| Lieu ^t Emerson | Zachariah Edgerley | Reuben Gray |
| John Buzzell | Joseph Buzzell | William Twombly |
| John Evens | Joseph Twombly | Jun ^r |
| Isaac Twombly | Benjamin Leathers | Timothy perkins |
| James Huckins | John Demerit | William Gliden |
| William Buzzel | William Demerit | Eben ^r Buzzel |
| Thomas Bickford | John Demerit Jun ^r | Jacob Buzzell |
| Joseph Jackson | James Crown | James Clemons Jun ^r |
| William Brown | Anthony Jones | Benjamin wille |
| Thomas Glovier | Paul Gerrish | |

[In H. of Rep., Jan. 18, 1754, a hearing was ordered for February 13, next following; meanwhile customary notices were to be served on the selectmen of Dover. In H. of Rep., February 22, Zebulon Gidding and John McMurphy were appointed a committee, to which the council added John Downing, "to take a view of such parts of Dover as may be necessary in order to Judge whether the prayer of the petition ought to be granted or not, and report to the Gen^l assembly as soon as may be." The following is their report:—ED.]

[3-151]

Portsmouth April y^e 24th 1754

Province of New Hampshire

We the under Subscribers with M^r Zebulon Giding Being appointed as a Committee to go to Dover, and take a view of the Situation and Circumstance of Said Town, and Make Report whether that part of Said Town Called Madbury May be Sett of as Parish agreeable to a Plan Presented to the Generall assembly &^e

Do make our Report as follows :

That it is our opinion after our Having been upon the afores^d Business, and have viewed the Several parts of the Town of Dover afores^d Give as our opinion that Every Circumstance Considered Relateing the Premises that the Prayer of the Petition Relateing to that affair is Reasonable &c

John Downing
John MacMurphy

[An act passed the assembly, May 31, 1755, incorporating the west part into a parish by the name of Madbury, and Solomon Emerson was authorized to call the first meeting.—ED.]

[3-152] [*Request to have a Town-Meeting called.*]

Province of New Hamp^r

To Thomas Millett Es^r Thomas Westbrook Waldron Solomon Emerson & Joseph Hanson Jun^r all of Dover in Said Province & Selectmen of Said Town for the Current Year

Gentlemen We the Subscribers being freeholders of Said Town Require & Desire you to Call a meeting of the free-

holders of Said Town to be held In Said Town as Soon as may be Done with Conveniency & to Insert into the Warrant for Calling the Same a Clause Sufficient to Authorize those of them who Shall be Present at Said Meeting to Vote whether they will Consent to Settle & Maintain at the charge of the Town tow Ministers of the Gospel in Said Town (that is to Say another Besides the Reverend M^r Jon^a Cushing already Settled) one to Preach Constantly at the Place in Said Town Called Madbury to Cause a Committee to Agree with such Ministers for that purpose & to agree with him for Salary

Dover May 2^d 1754

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| John Tasker | John Roberts | Zachariah Edgerly |
| William Demerit | Job Demerit | Timothy moses |
| Eben ^r Demerit | John Tasker Jun ^r | James Jackson |
| John Huckins | Samuel Chesle | John wingate Jun ^r |
| Joseph Twombly | Robert Huckins | Samuel Davis Jun ^r |
| Robert Evins Jun ^r | azariah Boodey | John Demerit |
| John Evins | Daniel Hayes | Joseph Hicks |
| James Davies | Paul Gerrish | Frances Drew |
| Joseph Rynes | Nathaniel Davis | Williamin Tasket |
| Zachariah pitman | Joseph Mesherve | James Huckins |
| Timothy perkins | Benjamin wille | Thomas Bickford |
| James Jackson Jun ^r | Charles Bickford | Henry Bozey |
| Samuel Davies | | |

[3-153]

[*Action of Town-Meeting.*]

At a Publick Town Meeting held at the Meeting house at Cochecho in Dover on the third Day of June 1754—

Voted 3^d^y In Relation to the Petitioners—Requesting to have another Minister Settled in the Town—The Moderator made the following Proposals to them Viz^t Whether or no in Case they Should be Exempted from Paying Rates to the Rev^d M^r Cushing—they would oblige themselves to Keep Constant Preaching amongst themselves to which their agents Refused—the Moderator also Proposed to them whether or no they would be Content to accept of as many as would willingly pole off in Said Destrict and So to Maintain a Minister to which their agents also Refused to accept of—

A true Cobby as on Dover Town Record

attest—

Jos: Hanson Town Clerk

This may certifie that the within is y^e whole of the votes recorded with respect to the affairs of Madbury Petitioners of the meeting of that day

Attest

Jos: Hanson Town Clerk

[R. 278] [*Capt. John Titcomb's Petition addressed to the General Assembly, convened Jan. 7, 1757.*]

Humbly Sheweth, John Titcomb of Dover in the Province of New Hampshire, That your Petitioner hath always in time of war been forward to inlist himself a Volunteer in the pay of this Province, and at the Glorious Expedition at Louisbourg, your Petitioner was then wounded & had the honor to Gain a Good Character, and in the Expedition against Crown point in 1755—your Petitioner was an officer and did his duty therein, and in the Late Expedition against Crown point in which your Petitioner had the honour to be Captain Lieu^t your Petitioner on the Second day of August (Going to Reenforce Coll: Hart who was that night to be attacked by a Supe^r Number of the Enemy), was attacked by the Enemy and in the Skirmish was shot down where he lay untill morning and then Could not assist himself by reason that the shot went thro' his breast and Shoulder and cut of Nerves and Sinews which caused a Great Effusion of Blood and your Petitioners life Greatly dispaired off but thro' divine goodness he is Restored to a Comfortable state of health in body but his hand arm and shoulder are Rendered Intirely useless and very painfull unto him and he apprehends his wound will never be well, nor that he shall ever have any use of his right arm so that he shall ever be able to do anything in his business towards maintaining himself and family—Wherefore your Petitioner Prays your Excellency and honours to take the case of your Petitioner in Consideration and make him such grant for smart money and maintainance as in your wisdom you shall see meet, and your Petitioner shall as in duty bound ever pray

his
John X Titcomb
mark

[He was allowed £50 out of the money in the treasury for the Crown Point expedition.—ED.]

[3-155] [*Relative to Assemblymen.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chife (& the Honerble His Majestys Council) of the Provviance of Newhampshire In New England the petition of Freeholders (Inhabitance) of the Town of Dover

Humbly Sheweth—

That the Previlidge of Sending three Persons to Represent Said Town in gen^l assembly had been Enjoyed By Said Town

from the Convening the first assemble in the Province To the year 1755 that the Number of our Inhabitants are More then when the town was so Priviledged by the Crown which privilege we Never Heard our sovereign had Reassumed or the Town had Forfeted & Taking it for granted that Neither of them is the Case We Most Humbly Implore your Excellency & Honours that so ancient & Dear a liberty May No longer be Discontinued & that a precept May be Issued Requiring the Town aforesaid to Elect a fit Person to Represent Them In the present general Assembly (Many Reasons to Enforce the favour Might be offered but Rather than Make a prolix Intrusion on your time at This besey season) we add No More Save that we Shall allways as In Duty bound Ever Pray

Dover November y^e 28 : 1757—

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| John Gage | Tho ^s Davis | Stephen otis Jun |
| John Drew | Eben ^r Demerit | Sam ^l Emerson |
| James Kielle | Ichabod Canney | Thomas Tuttle |
| John Tasker | James Davis | Job Demeret |
| Solomon Emerson | John Roberts | James Jacksons |
| Eli Demeret | Samuel Davis | Zak ^h Pitman |
| Thomas Bickford | Daniel Young | Daniel Hayes |
| John Wingett Ju ^r | Robert Huckins | Elijah Estes |
| Ralph Twombly | Benj Evens | Tho ^s W ^k Waldron |
| Benj ^a Hanson | Zechariah Edgerly | William Demerit |
| Stephen Evens | Vincent Torr | Daniel Evens |
| John Evens | Silas Hanson | |
| Stephen Hanson | Jo ^s Hanson ju ^r | |

[R. 279] [*Samuel Wentworth's Petition.*]

[In a petition to the general assembly, March 23, 1759, Samuel Wentworth, of Dover, states,—“That your Petitioner was an enlisted soldier last year in Canada Expedition under Cap^t Tash in Col^o Hart's Regiment.” He further states that he had not been paid. William Evans, “one of the volunteers in the expedition to Crown point in 1758 testi-fieih and saith that I wall knew that Samuel Wintworth under aige was sick a coming home last fall and he lay sick fourteen days on the Roade and furder saieih not.” He was allowed thirteen shillings sixpence, sterling, which was probably for the time he was sick. He entered the service April 12, 1758, and was discharged the thirty-first of the following October.—ED.]

[R. 281.]

[*Ensign Joseph Hall.*]

[In a petition dated March 12, 1759, Joseph Hall, who was ensign of Capt. Thomas Tash's company, in Col. John Hart's regiment, states,—“That about the first day of August pursuing a party of the enemy y^r Petitioner fell over a log which caused a rupture in his belly.” He further states that he was under the care of a doctor ten days at Fort Edward; then removed to Albany, where he was discharged Aug. 19, 1758. He asks for an allowance, which was granted to the extent of £7 17s. sterling.—ED.]

[3-127½]

By the Select men 5. 10 m^o 1652

Given and granted unto William ffurber William Wentworth Henry Langstar Thomas Canny the accomodation of fresh Creek for the erectting and setting up of a saw mill The bounds of the Timber are from the head of the Creek from the flowing of the Tide three miles up into the woods betwixt the two freshets the southermost freshett comeing out of the marsh beside the great hill at Cochecho the northermost freshett bounding Cap^t wiggins and M^r broadstreets grant at Quomphegon and also what Timber Lyes in Common that they shall make use of betwixt fresh Creek and Cochecho—they are to pay five Pounds P^r year so long as they Continue Possession thereof Provided that the Inhabitants have Libertie for Cutting of Timber according to the order bearing date with these Presents and also in Case they make any use of any Trees for masts above Twenty fower Inches Threw that they are to pay Tenn shillings for every such mast as they make use of the Time of the Rent to begin the first of march next Com Twelve months in the year 1653—

A Trew Coppo Taken out of ouer Town Book Augst 25th
1719

Per Jn^o Tuttle Town Clerk

it is to their heirs and assigns as other grants

[R. 288] [*Petition of Capt. Samuel Gerrish, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The petition of Sam^l Gerrish of Dover, Humbly Shews that your petitioner was a Captain in Col^o John Goffe Esq^r Regim in this Governm^{ts} Service the Last year, & when at portsm^o,

preparing his Muster Roll was obliged to go home, & left all his papers Inlistments &c, at M^r Stoodlys In this town, & before his return to portsm^o wh^{ch} was In a day or two, the said Stoodlys house was Burnt, & therein all your petitioners papers Relative to the Expedition was burnt, by which means three of his Company was left out of his Roll, Viz^t Sam^l Stagpole Thomas Wentworth & John Peavy, who Inlisted the Eighth Day of March 1760, John Peavy Deserted Immediately the other two proceeded with said Regim^t, did their duty as faithful soldiers & stayed out the whole time w^{ch} your petitioner is Ready to affirm to, Wherefore he humbly prays that your honours would take this matter under your wise Consideration, and that the said Stagpole & Wentworth may be allowed their wages. * * *

Samuel Gerrish

[The petition was granted, and a warrant issued for their payment. Said Wentworth and Stagpole are not on Capt. Gerrish's roll, as printed in adjutant-general's report, 1866.—Ed.]

—

[R. 289] [*Petition of Ichabod Bussey, addressed to General Assembly, May 27, 1761.*]

The petition of Ichabod Bussey [probably Buswell] of Dover Humbly Shews, that your petitioner Inlisted himself In said province Service In Col^o Jn^o Goffe Esq^r Regiment, In Cap^t Eph^m Berrys Company, & went with said Regiment & Did the Duty of a faithfull soldier therein till the 6th Day of Octobr^r, when the provision was short & being over persuaded by some fellow soldiers I came away not thinking it any determent to the Governm^t as the Grand Design we went on was the Total Reduction of Canada & Looking on that as over, did not think it a crime, & your petitioner having been a soldier In this Province Service for five years Last past & behaved as a good Soldier both to King & Country, Viz^t In 1756, under the Command of Cap^t Sam^l Gerrish, In Col^o Nath^l Meserves Regim^t, In 1757, under the Command of Cap^t John Titcomb In Col^o Nath^l Meserves Regim^t In the year 1758, under the Command of Lieu^t M^cDuffy, In said Meserves Regiment In the year 1759 served as a Rainger under the Command of Cap^t W^m Stark & In the year 1760, your Petitioner Inlisted & was as before mentioned, & In the year 1759, was one of those unhappy number of fourteen who came thro' the Wilderness from Canada to escort Mont Meserve a Lieut. of the artillery to carry dis-

patches to Gen^l Amherst at New York from Governor Mury of Canada for which your petitioner & each one of the fourteen was promised twenty Guineas Each, but as for my part I never Rec^d one farthing for the officer we Conducted through, when we arrived at the Eastward, we asked him for the twenty Guineas for Each man, & all the answer we had was Dam you &c.

Wherefore you petitioner humbly prays the Consideration of your Honors, & that if possible the sin of Ignorance might be winked at In him for such it was as to any Desertion In the last years Campaign, & humbly prays that the matter may be taken under Consideration & grant him such Reliefe In the premises as you In your Great wisdom may think proper & your petitioner as In Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c

Attest

Ichabod ^{his} X Bussey
mark

A. Clarkson

[He is on some of the rolls as Buswell, and on others as Buzzell.—ED.]

[3-158] [*Relative to Madbury Affairs.*]

Province of New Hamp^r To the Hon^{ble} The House of Representatives Conven^d In General Assembly att^t Portsmouth In Said Province—

Whereas the Parish of Madbury have Presented a Petition To His Excellency the Governor His Majesty's Council & Assembly Praying that an additional act may be made to their Parish Priviledges—& after Reading of said Petition a Vote of Said Assembly was Pass^d that the Select Men of Dover should be serv^d with a Cobby of Said Petition Which Said Cobby we Rec^d But In the afternoon of this Day & therefore have not time to Consult the Town on Said affairs—& Pray that Said Petition may not be acted on until the Town Can have Time to Consult thereon So that they may Shew Cause if any they have why said Petition may Not Be Granted—

Dover Feb^y 29, 1768

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| John Gage Jun ^r | } Select men of Dover. |
| Nath ^l Horn | |
| Eph ^m Ham | |

[The foregoing is addressed to the "Speaker of the General Assembly, Portsmouth."—ED.]

[3-159]

[*Relative to Bridges.*]

To His Excell^y the Gov^r the Hon^{ble} His Majesties Council and House of Representatives of s^d Province May it Please

Whereas by Misunderstanding and a Party Spirit Prevailing among the Inhabitants of Dover in s^d Province they have Built Two Bridges over the River one above the other Below the Cochecho Falls in Dover (so called) the one by Vote of y^e Town the other by Your Petitioners and the Dispute Running so High Which should be the King and Countrys Bridge Each Party Strenously Contending for their own they having the Town Vote in their Favour and we Antiquity and Convienien- cy on ours to End or Determine which We Petitioned your Excell^y and Hon^{rs} to say which shall be the Established Bridge for the use of His Majesties subjects which you were Pleased to Determine in our Favour Which we Gratefully acknowledge and Return our Sincere acknowledgements for said Favour But by your Act or Determination you Enabled the Select Men of Dover to assess the Poles and Estates in s^d Dover as for other Town Charges to Pay the charge of the Lower Bridge which has been Done and Paid and no Provision is Made by s^d act or other ways for Payment of the Established Bridge we petitioned the Select Men But they Deny^d then we Petitioned Two Justices Unus Quorum to call a Town Meeting of the Inhabitants of Dover to see if they would Vote to Pay for the Building Established Bridge a Meeting was Called by said Justices and the Town Voted in y^e Negative—

Therefore We Pray you will Direct and Enable the Select Men of Dover to assess the Poles and Estates in the same as for other Town Charges for Payment of said upper Bridge above the Falls on their Receiving a True and Reasonable account of the Charge of the same and we as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Dover 23^d May 1772

Signed by us Inhabitants of said Dover

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| John Heard | Paul Varney | William foss |
| Daniel Heard | Timothy Varney | Silas Hanson |
| John Waldron Jun ^r | John Kimball | Eph ^m Kimball |
| John Whithouse | Tim ^y Roberson J ^r | Ebenezer Horn |
| Nath ^l Horn | Samuel Ambros | Daniel Heard Jun ^r |
| John Hayes | Samuel Hurd | John Ham |
| John Varney | Richard Waldron | Ezra Kembal |
| John Horn | Tho ^s Hanson | John Waldron |
| Joseph Robarts | Stephen Hussey | Timothy Hussey |
| John Varney J ^r | Jediah Varney | Nathan Varney |
| moses Rand | Ephraim Wentworth | Reuben Wentworth |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Thomas Goudy | Elisha Purinton | Joshua Varney |
| Thomas Varney | Paul Welland | Stephen Varney |
| John Conner | Jethro Heard | John Waldron 3 ^d |
| Paul Hussey | John Harford | Ben Hanson Ju ^r |
| James Chesley | Josep Waldron | Tho Hanson Ju ^r |
| Nehemiah Kimbal | Paul Kimball | Joseph Peaslee |
| Isaac Horn | Isaac Horn Jun | William Horn |
| Timothy Robinson | Elijah Tuttel | James Varney |
| Ichabod Varney | Elijah Varney | Mordacai Varney |
| Moses Robert | Timothy Clemens | John Pinkham |
| James Tuttle | Samuel Tuttel | |

[3-160] [*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

To the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Notice is hereby Given that a Publick Town meeting is to be held at the Dwelling house of John Titcomb Esq^r Inn-holder in s^d Dover on monday the 22^d Day of Jan^r Ins^t at 10 o^clock In the forenoon 1st to Chuse a Moderator to Regulate Said meeting— 2^{dly} to Se if the S^d Freeholders & Inhabitants then Conven^d will vote to Build a New Bridge over Cochecho River So Call^d 3^{dly} if voted to Build a New Bridge, then to vote what place Said Bridge Shall be Erected at to pass over Said River & after Said votes are past to vote any matter Relating the Building Said Bridge In Each Particular as the Conven^d Shall then think proper & also to act & vote at S^d meeting what may then Be thought Needful Relateing the Inhabitants & others Passing & Repassing over S^d River until S^d New Bridge may be Erected & Passable—all Persons Concern^d are Desired to attend at time & place afores^d—By ord^r of the Select men

Dover Jan^r 13th 1770

Eph^m Hanson Town Cler

a true Copy

attest

Eph^m Hanson Town Cler

[*Action of town-meeting Relative to Building a Bridge.*]

At a Publick Town Meeting Legally warn^d & held at the house of John Titcomb Esq^r In Dover y^e 22^d Day of January 1770—

Voted 1st Lieu^t Joshua Wingate moderator to Regulate S^d meeting—

2^{dly} Voted that a New Bridge be Built over Cochecho River—

3^{dly} Voted that S^d New Bridge voted to be Built be Built over the upper ware so Call^d Next Below Cap^t Tho^s W^k Waldron^s mills at Cochecho Below y^e Lower falls. So Call^d 4^{ly} voted

that S^d Bridge be Built by Labour 5^{ly} voted that Thomas Tuttle, Eph^m Hanson & Nath^l Horn be a Committee to Carry on the Building S^d Bridge—6^{ly} voted that Each Common Labourer have two Shillings Lawful money Each, per Day finding themselves—

7^{ly} voted that the Peers of S^d New Bridge be Built of white oak timber—8^{ly} voted that the String pieces of s^d Bridge be Timber pine So Call^d, & white oak timber—

9^{ly} voted two hundred Pounds Lawful money be raised by a tax to Defray the Charge In Building Said Bridge—10^{ly} voted that the Covering of S^d Bridge be of hemlock plank four Inches thick—11^{ly} voted that the Inhabitants & others passing & Repassing over S^d River until S^d New Bridge be Built & passable be appointed & Stated at the Discretion of the Select men of S^d Town for the time Being—12^{ly} voted that S^d New Bridge be Built as Soon as may be Conveniently Done—13^{ly} voted that the Committee for Carrying on the Building S^d New Bridge have two Shillings Lawful money per Day finding themselves

Then the moderator Dissolv^d the meeting
a true Copy attest

Eph^m Hanson Town Cler

[*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

To the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Dover Pursuant to a Petition of Sundry of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of Said Town of Dover to the Selectmen of said Town Directed—Requesting them to Call a meeting of Said Town as Soon as may be To Se if Said Town will Reconsider the vote past at a meeting held In Said Town the 22^d Day of January Last Concerning the New Bridge then voted to be Built over Cochecho River—In Regard To the abovementioned Petition—The Said Freeholders & Inhabitants of Said Town of Dover Qualified by Law to vote In Publick Town meetings are hereby Notified that a Publick Town meeting is to be held at the Quakers old meeting house at Cochecho In Dover on monday y^e 26th Day of February Ins^t at 1 °Clock afternoon to act and vote agreeable to the aforesaid Petition viz. to Se if Said Town at S^d meeting will Reconsider Said vote past for Building Said Bridge—& to act & vote any matter Relateing the Building a New Bridge (if S^d vote be Reconsidered or Not) as the Town at S^d meeting may then think Needful—all Persons Concern^d are Desired to attend at time & place afores^d

Dover Feby 17th 1770

By ord^r of the Select men

Eph^m Hanson Town Clerk

a true Copsy attest

Eph^m Hanson Town Clerk

[*Action of aforesaid Meeting.*]

At a Publick Town meeting Legally warn^d & held In Dover at the Quakers old meeting house y^e 26th Day of Feb^y 1770

voted 1st Lieut. Joshua Wingate moderator—

2nd voted by poleing that the vote past y^e 22^d Day of Jan^y Last for Building a New Bridge over Cochecho River at the upper weare So Call^d next below Capt. Tho^s W^k Waldrons mills at Cochecho below the Lower falls So Call^d Should not be Reconsidered & So Enter^d by ord^r of the moderator—Then the moderator Dissolv^d the meeting without any other vote being past—

a true Cobby attest

Eph^m Hanson Town Clerk

It Being Expedient for the Benefit of the Inhabitants of Dover & others that the New Bridge voted to be Built over the River at Cochecho In Dover be Spedily Built & as the Committee Chosen for the Carrying on the Building Said Bridge have Let out the timber to Sundry of the Inhabitants of Said Town to Get to Build Said Bridge with, Considerable of which has not as yet Been Brought by those that undertook to Get it, These are therefore to Desire all those Persons that have Not, Brought the timber that they Ingaged to Get to Bring the Same within the term of Seventeen Days from the Date hereof & Deliver it to S^d Committee at a Convenient place near S^d River at the Place where S^d New Bridge was voted to be Built at the upper ware So Call^d Below Cochecho Lower falls, or otherwise the S^d Committee will be obliged to procure timber of other Persons for the Speedy Carrying on the Building S^d Bridge, & Shall not accept of any Timber Let out as afores^d Brought after Said term, if Bought of others as afores^d after S^d term & those Persons that have hall^d Timber for S^d Bridge & have Left it a Considerable Distance from where S^d Bridge is to be Built as afores^d it is hereby Desired that they Convey Said Timber within the afores^d term to a Convenient place Near where S^d Bridge is voted to be Built at the ware afores^d, otherwise they may Expect that the Charge thereof if Done by S^d Committee will be Deducted out of the wages for halling Said Timber.

Dover April 14th 1770

Eph^m Hanson }
Nath^l Horn } Committee

a true Cobby attest

Eph^m Hanson

[3-162] [*Petition relative to aforementioned Bridges.*]

To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire The Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council and House of Representatives for said Province in General Assembly Convened the 13th day of November 1770

The Humble Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the Town of Dover in Said Province—Shews

That the Inhabitants of Said Town were divided in Sentiments about the Place of building a new Bridge over Cochecho River at the Falls and tho' there was a vote of the Town for placing it below the Falls Your Petitioners apprehend the Vote would not have been so passed had the meeting been General (many Persons being then absent in the Woods) or could they have Obtained a Second fair meeting so that those who were for having the bridge placed below the falls proceeding on the authority of Said Vote have built a Bridge below, and the Place where the old bridge stood, being in an Ancient highway and most convenient for travellers, the Inhabitants who were for having the bridge there, Supposed the Town to be under a Necessity of Building one there also, which was done in the course of the last Summer and there are now two Bridges at Said Falls which your Petitioners apprehend to be needless—

That the Lower Bridge is not so Convenient for travellers, nor so well approved of by them, nor can the Town dispence with the duty of maintaining a bridge above, where there has been One for near One hundred Years past and therefore a Vote for changing or altering and placing a New bridge so far out of the way or at Such a Distance from the old place, was utterly Illegal & had it been ever so fairly obtained could not have been valid without a Greater authority than Such a Vote Wherefore your Petitioners Most Humbly Pray that the whole proceeding in this case may be examined by the Legislative authority and the following Questions Resolved viz. whether the Town had a Right by their Vote to change the Place of Building a bridge so as to be exempted from Building & maintaining one where it used to be—whether their proceedings have been fair & Legal upon Supposition they had a right to Determine the matter by the agreement of the Town whether the Bridge below or that above will be of the most General Service & best answer the Public Good whether there is any Necessity of maintaining both said Bridges and if not which the Town shall be at the Expence of Building and maintaining for the Future—with Such other matters & things as in your great wisdom & Goodness you shall find incidental & necessary to be determined in

order to the regular proceeding of Said Town in making their Rates which is not yet done & for the Settling Peace & good order in said Town and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever pray &c

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| How ^d Henderson | Timothy Robinson | Ezra kimball |
| John Cenney | Jun | Timothy Clemments |
| Silas Hanson | John Waldron | John Waldron Jun |
| Thomas Hanson | James Varney | Nehemiah Kimbal |
| Eph ^m Kimball | William Hussey Ju | thomas hanson Ju |
| John Kimball | Paul husey | William Hussey |
| Joseph Varney Ju | Tobias Varney | Daniel Varney |
| Ephraim Wentworth | Spencer Wentworth | Stephen Varney |
| John Whitehouse | Samuel Ambros | Ruben Wintworth |
| Moses Roberts | aron Roberts | John Heard |
| Stephen Varney Ju ^r | John Harford | Joseph Roberts |
| Moses Horn | John Horn | Nathan Varney |
| John Pinkham | James Chesley | William Robinson |
| Jn ^o Hayes | William Forest | Paul Kimball |
| Jethri Heard | Joshua Varney | Tobias Randel |
| Zacheus Purinton | John Ham | Jacob Sawyer |
| Eliphalet Coffin | Nathaniel Horn | Benjamin Ham |
| Thomas Varney | Paul Varney | Paul Welland |
| Timothy Varney Ju ^r | Benjamin Hanson | Daniel Heard |
| Isaac Horn | S ^r | Solomon Varney |
| James Tuttles | Jeddiah Varney | John Horn Ju ^r |
| Samuel Ricker | Timothy Robinson | ELijah Tuttles |
| Thomas Goudey | William Horn | Elijah Varney |
| George Young | moses Rand | Ebenezer Horn |
| Joseph Waldron | Joseph Peasley | Jeremiah Tebbits |
| George Horn | Timothy Hussey | Elsha Purrinton |
| Jonathan Door | Nicholas Harford | David Rand |
| John Gage 3 ^d | Amos Varney | Stephen Ham |
| Isaac Horn Ju ^r | William Gage | Phinehas Ricker |
| Timothy varney | Daniel hains | tho ^m Shannon |
| mordecai Varney | John Varney Ju ^r | Ichabod Varney |
| Thomas Horn | John Varney | Ebenezer Varney |
| John Conner | Richard Waldron | Richard Kimball |
| Ephraim Tebbits | John Estes | Josiah Wille |
| Joseph Clemments | Samual mills | Daniel Heard Ju ^r |
| William Waldron | Samuel Tuck | Dusie Downs |

[3-163]

[*Relative to locating Roads.*]

Province of } Her Majestys Gen^l Sessions of the Peace this 6th
 New Hamp^r } Day of march 17 10-11

Present John Plaisted, Sam^{el} Penhallow, Cha. Story Joseph Smith, George Vaughan, Theo: Atkinson, James Davis, Theo. Dudley Esq^r, Justices, Shr. & Clr.

There haveing Sev^{el} Complaints been made about the want of roads from Town to Town being Laid out thro'out S^d Province

Ordered that a Committee be appointed out of Each Town to run Such road ways as they shall think fit & Convenient where there is none already Laid out from Town to Town in Each Town of this Province & y^t they make return unto ye Next Sessions of their Proceedings Laying them Each four Rod Broad the Selectmen of Each Town Paying the Persons So going five Shillings per Diem Every Day Spent in Such Service

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------|--|
| For Portsm ^o | { Cap ^t Hunking Cap ^t Vaughan Cap ^t Pickerin | Dover | { Cap ^t Tuttle Cap ^t Davis Joseph Jones |
| New Castle | { Jotham Odiorne Cap ^t Jona. Thing | Hampton | { Maj ^r Smith Jn ^o Gove Cap ^t Wingate |
| Exiter | { L ^t Jona Wadleigh | | |

Vere Copia Benj^a Gambling,

and from Lampereal River as Strait as it may be to the old Bridge by y^e moat so as y^e way goes to Graves his Land thence to the falls to make the whole four rod wide and there y^e way is to open on y^e Left near Stimsons & at Robert Huggins his house So. at w^m Jacksons pasture to y^e head of Jacksons Creek Strait as y^e old Road went then Joseph Jenkins to open on y^e Left & all others to make y^e way four Rods wide to Fields Garrison & to Cap^t Gerrishes Grist mill as y^e way goes to Cochecho till it goes to Eben^r Varneys Corner against Tristram Heards house where the way turns which is to be Cut of to make it four Rods wide till it goes to Ezekiel Wentworths Garrison So along the open Road Both to Quonphegon & Salmon falls—

The beforegoing is a Copsy of Part of a Copsy of the ord^r & Laying out roads y^e taken from a Copsy on file with the Records of Dover

Eph^m Hanson Town Clerk

[3-164] [*Depositions relative to foregoing matter.*]

The Deposition of John Horn aged upwards 83 years Testifieth & Saith I well Remember that about forty & near fifty years past I being at Col Waldrons at Cochecho Bridge & Seeing Some men Coming over Said Bridge I asked my unkel Joseph Ham who was there present what them men were about

who answered they were Laying out the Kings Highway I knew none of the men but m^r James Jaffrey & I Remember I used to pass over that bridge Seventy years ago & Ever sinc when I had occasion to pase that way & I never heard any way being Laid out over the River below the falls but Sometimes people waded over below the falls with their oxen & Sometimes Led them over above over the bridge & that the Town of Dover has Ever since my Remembranc been at the Cost of Supporting said bridge by mending & making new ones at that place & further Saith not

the mark of John Horn X

m^r Benj^a Ham aged 76 years well Remembers that he pased over the Bridge above mentioned Seventy years ago which was a foloating Bride only for men & horses to pase & when people wanted to pass with teams they used to wade over below the mill but never knew or heard of any way being Laid out below the falls & I well Remember that many years ago I heard a Committee was Sent to Lay out the Kings Highway through the Town of Dover to Salmon falls & always heard the way was Laid out over the River where the Bridge now is above the falls & further Saith not

Benjamin H Hams mark.

Samuel Heard aged 75 years Testifies & Says he well Remembers that he pased over the Bridge by Coll^o Waldrons above the falls near 70 years past which was a floating Bridge & that the Inhabitants of Dover as well as other Towns used to pass & Repass over Said Bridge & others built sence to this Day Exept when out of Repair & that he knew of no other way Exept wadeing over below the falls with oxen & further saith not

His
Sam^l 8 Heard
mark

Province of } the Deposition of Major Tho^s Davis being
New Hampsh^r } as old as any beforementioned Testifies & Says that he well Remembers he pased over the Boom at Cochecho above the falls 70 years ago which Boom was mad of 3 or 4 hewed pieces Layed side by side wide Enough for horses to pass & oxen unyoaked but in that day when people wanted to cross the River to haull loads they used to wade over below the falls

Tho^s Davis

[These depositions were sworn to before John Wentworth, Justice of the Peace.—ED.]

[3-171] [*Petition of Selectmen relative to Bridge.*]

Province of } To his Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r
 New Hamps^r } Captain General Governour & Commander in
 Rockingham ss } Chief in and over his majestys Province of
 New Hampshire & To the Honourable his majestys Council

Humbly Shews the Select men of Dover in Said County That a Certain Petition was Exhibited at the present Session of the General Court by a number of persons praying an allowance for Building a Bridge at Dover & yesterday there was a hearing thereon before the House of Representatives who voted to allow them forty pounds by which vote or Determination your Petitioners apprehend themselves greatly aggrieved & Doubt not to make it plainly appear to your Excellency & honours That this Determination will have a great Tendency to Destroy order & Regularity among the Inhabitants of Said Town & Incourage an Obstinate Minority To assume the Rule & government of & over the Majority Wherefore they most Humbly pray your Excellency & honours not to Concur the Said vote untill they are Indulged with a hearing before your Excellency & honours Thereupon & your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray

Portsm^o June 6th 1772.

Jn^o Sullivan attorney
 to the Said Select men

[Documents Nos. 168, 169, and 173 are plans showing the locations of the two bridges, on one of which is the following :

“A Plan of two New Bridges Lately Built over Quochechaw River and the road Leading to and from said Bridges in the Town of Dover in the Province of New Hampshire—Taken at the request of M^r John Horn and others—Inhabitants of said Dover, Jan^y, 11th 1771.

per James Gowen Survey^r.”

Another shows the location of the meeting-house, Hanson's house, Titcomb's, Waldron's, Cochecho Landing, etc.—ED.]

[R. 294] [*Joanna Chase's Receipt.*]

Capt Enoch Chase wife Received of John Waldron for the year 1778 one hundred weight of Beef at 2 /— per pound

£10,—

I say Received by me

Joanna Chase

[R. 307] [*Lydia Wallingford's Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{bl} the General Court for said State convened at Portsmouth—Humbly Shews Lydia Wallingford alias Cogswell late widow of Sam^l Wallingford Esq^r deceased that your Petitioners late Husband Served as Lieut. of Marines on Board the Continental Ship Ranger in the Service of the United States that on the 24th of April 1778 being in an engagement with the British Ship Drake he fell in battle while exerting himself in the glorious cause of freedom by which means your Petitioner was left with one child to seek their fortune in a wide world but as by a Resolve of Congress the widows of officers who were slain in their Countreys cause are entitled to half pay for seven years—Your Petitioner prays that your Honours would take her case into your wise consideration and grant her the priviledge allowed by said Resolves and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall pray

Amos Cogswell

in behalf of the Petitioner

to lay

[3-172] [*Moses Harris's Petition.*]

State of } To the Honourable the Council and House
Newhampshire } of Representatives Conveaned Att Exeter on
Tuesday the 12th Day of November 1782—

The perticion of moses Ham of Dover Humbly Sheweth that In the year 1780 I Served the Town of Dover as a Collector of Taxes and I went on and gathered the taxes according to my Warrent. that was in paper money and in Soldiers Bounties notes And there being at that time a Number of officers and Soldiers at Home on furlow and their furlow was out that they was to go onto The Army But they had not any money at all to bear their Expences And Capt Enoch Chase applyed to the Treasuery for money for to Billet Himself and men to the army, but the Treasuery told him That their was no money in the Treasuery at all, and the Treasuery Told Cap^t Chase that he had Better Call on the Collecior of his town And get the money of him, and the State Security would answer to Pay taxes as well as the money, and also the Soldiers wives and families Was upon Suffering for want of Subsistance and upon what Capt. Chase Said they applyed and I gave them the paper money in lue of their notes And I thought I was a doing good to my

Country and I was in hopes No Damage to my Self and I am Sure that I had no View of making Any thing to my Self at all for I gave them all the Intrust that was Due on their notes, and I Sent the notes with a Considerable Sum of old Emision Money to Exeter By our Representative and the Treasuery took the old Emision money and Refused the notes Because there was no order of Court To Receive them at that time, and then I Did not know what to do I Seed I Should be undone and I metioned to Some of my friends about The matter and they advised me to get my notes Renewed or Else I should Loose them. So I sent and got them Renewed and took a Surtificit for The Intrust I am willing to Reduct the Intrust out from the time That I was to make up with the Town for the Treasuery sent an Exstent To the Select men of the town for the money and then they Came upon me And atatched all that i had in the world for their Security and that will not Discharge half the Det at this time, and within a few Days after What I had was atatched my family accidentally took the Smallpox there I with my family was Confined forty two Days and Every thing that I had Was in a Distroying no Body to take no Care of nothing thirteen of us Down with the Smallpox all at once or Else I Could Exchanged the notes for New Emision money my action was Called when I Lay Sick with The small pox and was Continued on that account to the october Court and Then I appealed to the Superior Court in Nov^r that I might have an oppertunity to Perticion to your Honours to see if you would take the Notes in Lieu of the New emision money for which I see no other way that I can discharge the det for if you take what little intrust I have away from me when I Have the States Security in my hands What shall I do I can do nothing with them at all for they will lay Dead in my hands And for which peculiar favour Granted your Petitioner As in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c.

Dover 12th Nov^r 1782

Moses Ham

[3-173] [*Petition for a Lottery to build a Bridge, addressed to the General Court.*]

Humbly Shew the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants of Dover & other Towns Adjacent—That by the great Freshet the last Fall both the Bridges at the Falls at said Dover having been swept away the Inhabitants of said Town set about the Business & early erected one in the Place of the lower Bridge being Contiguous to the Landing & the most beneficial & Convenient for Trade—That the said Bridge is with difficulty

kept in Repair on account of the Multiplicity of Teams & Horses which daily pass it, having of late so increased as many Times wholly to obstruct the Passage and impede the progress of Travellers in their Journies—That the want & indeed the absolute necessity of having a Bridge immediately Built in the place of the upper one (especially for the accommodation of Travellers) are more & more Discoverable—But as the present scarcity of cash would render the Task of Building said Bridge as early as necessity requires too chargeable to the Inhabitants of said Dover—your Petitioners pray your Honours to authorize the Inhabitants of said Town by an act of the Legislature to raise by Lottery the sum of three Hundred pounds for the purpose of Building said Bridge—The Plan of said Lottery and the Direction for the management thereof to be such as your Honors shall see fit to give.

and as in Duty Bound will pray &c.

August 30th 1786.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Edward Varney | John Henry Heinre | John Kimball |
| Elijah Varney | Joseph Knight | John Wentworth |
| John Baker | Joseph Tebbets | Francis A Drew |
| Joshua Wentworth | Daniel Heard | David Langley |
| Elijah Tibbitts | James Waldron | Ep ^m Kimball |
| Samuel Ricker | Ebenezer Varney | Jed ^r Varney |
| Jon ^a Norris | thomas varney | David Corser |
| Amos Wallingford | Eph ^m Ham | The ^o Dame |
| Richard hoyt | Henry Rust | Sol ^o Clark Jn ^r |
| Heard Roberts | Matth ^{ws} Parker | John Heard |
| Reuben Ricker | Paul Pinkham | Stephen Twombly |
| John Ham | Richard Tripe | Isaac Horn |
| George Ricker | James Varney | John Foss |
| William Foss | Richard Kimball | Wentworth Twom- |
| Thomas Shannon | Solomon Loud | bly |
| George Watson | John Varney | David Wingate |
| Richard Waldron | Moses Hodgdon | Stephen Tebbets |
| James Burnham | Aaron Roberts | W ^m Trickey |
| Noah Goodwin | Jonathan Twombly | James Young |
| John Ham | George Burnham | John Knowles |
| Samuel H ^d Horn | W ^m More | Solomon Varney |
| John Perkins | Gershom Lord | Samuel Downing |
| Isaiah Gould | Gideon Walker | Moses Varney |
| John Purinton | Tho ^s Cushing | James Bickford |
| Ebenezer Plumer | Nathaniel Ham | Josiah Folsom |
| Joseph Dow | Richard Downs | moses Ham |
| John Heard Jun ^r | Andrew Gilman | John Trickey |
| John Gage Jun ^r | Noah Kimball | Hatevil Knight |

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| William Watson | Thomas Roberts | Isaac Watson |
| Joseph Holmes | Benjamin Varney | Joseph Drew |
| Richard Walker | Jacob Chamberlin | Richard Place |
| Timothy Corey J ^r | Richard Waldron | James Calef |
| Jotham Ham | Anthony Peavey | Jonathan Horn |
| Ichabod Corson | John Sandford | |

[3-176]

[Another petition of same tenor, dated December, 1786, contains the following names :—ED.]

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Isaac Wentworth | william Henderson | W ^m Waldron |
| Hanson Varney | James McDuffee J ^r | Samuel Downing |
| Benj ^a Dame | Jon ^a Richards | Hatevil Knight |
| Joshua Knight | Moses Baker | Ebenezer Hanson |
| Moses Hodgdon | Paul Pinkham | Gideon Walker |
| John Remick | Stephen Varney | Wentworth Twombly |
| Peter Horn | Th ^o Shannon | Jedediah Varney |
| Jon ^a Norris | Joshua Merrow | Benjamin Palmer |
| Eleazar Davis | Tobias Twombly J ^r | Josiah Folsom |
| Moses Roberts | Moses Ham | Peter Cushing |
| Hunking Colbath | Charles Knight | Sam ^l Chamberlain |
| Joseph Leavitt | William Rogers | Isaac Watson |
| Richard Waldron | George Watson | |
| Daniel garlling | Ephraim Tebbets | |

[3-174] [*Concerning Navigation and Port Act.*]Dover June 8th 1786

We the Subscribers certify that during the last Summer from June untill the Fall Lumber was in so little Demand (occasioned as we conceive by the Navigation & Port Acts) that we could in all that Time but Seldom purchase Rum for Boards &c: In Consequence of which we have not dispos'd of half the Quantity of Rum either by Retail or Wholesale we should otherwise have done had the Ports been open and our Lumber in Demand—

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| W ^m Horne | Nathel Cooper | Sam ^l Bragg |
| Janvrin Fisher | Isaac Watson | Mich ^l Reade |
| John B ^m Hanson | Ebenezer Tebbets | Benj ^a Peirce |
| John Tibbets | Amos Cogswell | Jon ^a Gage |
| Thomas Shannon | | |

[3-177]

[*Elisha Thomas's Petition.*]

State of New } To his Excellency the President & the most
 Hampshire } Honorable the Privy Council for said State of
 New Hampshire.

The Petition of Elisha Thomas now a Prisoner in the Gaol at Dover in the County of Strafford in said State—humbly Sheweth—That at the Supreme Court of Judicature for said State, holden at Dover in said County of Strafford, on the third Tuesday of April instant, your petitioner was convicted upon an Indictment for the Murder of Captain Peter Drowne of New Durham upon the fourth day of February last, upon which conviction the Hon^{ble} the Judges of said Court passed upon your petitioner the Sentence of Death & appointed Thursday the twenty second day of May next for carrying into execution the dreadful Sentence. The love of life implanted by the Supreme Creator & disposer of it, in the breasts of all his Creatures, the anxious sollicitude each Child of Nature discovers to grasp one short space more; added to a full conviction of the necessity of a serious & solemn preparation, to meet the Judge of Judges, Empires & Worlds—induces him most humbly to implore your Excellency & Honors to respite for a space, that to you may appear reasonable, the execution of the awful Sentence,—that thereby in the fragment that yet remains of a life, like that of other Mortals, greatly sullied & dishonored by frailty & imperfection; he may have an opportunity of importuning an all merciful God for the pardon & expiation of his many Sins, of Securing an interest in the sufferings of his Redeemer, and of obtaining that peace which the World cannot give, & without the attainment of which, he and all his fellow Mortals must forever be miserable—

Your Petitioner might here suggest, that he has an Innocent Wife, & two remaining Children, whom the hand of public Justice is about to bereave of their only hope of Support.—for whom he feels the most earnest Sollicitude—& whom he should wish might be so left, as to be above necessity—or compulsion to depend upon the cold hands of Charity,—that as he is about to quit the World, he would also wish to do justice to his fellow Mortals & thereby be enabled to die in peace with all men.—From the Benevolence Humanity and mercy, which constitute so conspicuous a part of the Characters of your Excellency & Honors, he is fully sensible, that your Goodness will add a few to the days of life now allotted him; and while he approaches the throne of Grace and most devoutly implores the pardon of all his Sins, he shall not cease ardently to pray, that Heaven will be pleased to bless your Excellency and Honors—with

Wisdom Health & long and uninterrupted happiness, and his latest breath while employed in requesting Mercy for himself will also implore the benediction of Heaven upon you & your Posterity—

Dover April 18th 1788.

Elisha Thomas

[3-176] [*Petition for Reprieve of Sentence of Elisha Thomas.*]

State of New } To his Excellency the President & the Hon^{ble}
Hampshire } the Council for said State Humbly Show the
Subscribers and Inhabitants of the Town of Dover—

That actuated by those general principles of humanity which belong in common to every child of Nature, touch'd with the regard they each have for Life, however rendered wretched, they would approach your Excellency & Honors & endeavour to excite your commiseration in behalf of the unfortunate brother of Humanity now under the Sentence of Death in said Town they would request you to prolong the period of his life for a few days, from a thorough conviction that even misery itself will grasp with anxious sollicitude for one short space more, of time, & at last quit its hold with reluctance—they do not pretend to dictate to your Excellency and Honors the propriety or impropriety of their request—but rest assured that your own Wisdom will lead you to such measures as may be deemed the best for the public weal—such as are consistent with Justice tempered with Humanity—& such as your own Hearts can approve.—But should their request be granted, it will afford them great & sensible pleasure, while it will fill with tears of transport the unfortunate Convict.—

Dover May 19th 1788

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Robert Gray | Ezra Green | Nathel Cooper |
| Joseph Allen | Otis Baker | Jon ^a Gage |
| Benjamin Pierce | John B ^m Hanson | Eben ^r Tebbetts |
| Peter Man | John Odiorne | John Remick |
| Janvrin Fisher | Benj ^a Hanson | Thomas Jewett |
| Doglis Stacpole | Daniel Perkins | Isaac Watson |
| Charles Waldron | J. S. Gilman | Will ^m Twombly |
| Joseph Burham | Benj ^a Dean | David Hanson |
| Jon ^a Simond | Abraham Hanson | Caleb Johnson |
| Caleb Hodgdon | Peter Hodgdon | William Watson |
| George Watson | Dominicus Hanson | Ebenezer Hanson |
| Sam ^l Bragg; | Jon ^a Hanson | James Libbey |

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Enoch Chase | Aaron Roberts | Elijah Hodgdon |
| Henry Mellen | Josiah Gilman | Jon ^a Rawson |
| Chas. Clapham | Jacob Kittredge | John Lindsey |
| Thomas Shannon | Gideon Walker | Will ^m King |
| Michael Reade | W ^m Shannon | W ^m Pitt Moulton |
| Mark Walker | Tho ^s Young | |
| W ^m Horne | Ben ^a Titcomb | |

[3-178]

[On a petition for the same purpose are the following names of "ladies of Dover :"—ED.]

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Tamsin Baker | Rebekah Gage | Mary Walker |
| Bethiah Evans | Lillath Shannon | Sarah Ham |
| Deborah Reade | Eleanor Shannon | Susannah Hanson |
| Margaret Wentworth | Polly Johnson | Rebecca Tibbets |
| Lydia Cogswell | Mary Watson | mary pierce |
| Lydia Gray | Elizabeth Swan | Susanna Green |
| Lydia Tibbets | Elizabeth Watson | Abigail Cooper |
| Lucy Watson | Rebekah Sawyer | Polly Remick |
| Mary Tappan | Mary Bragg | Kezia Hoag |
| Hannah Kittredge | Lydia Peaslee | Betsey Gilman |
| Polly Shannon | Nabby Waldron | Elis ^a gage |
| Peggy Wentworth | Betsy Wentworth | Sukey Hanson |
| Peggy gage | Sally Hanson | Betsy Peirce |
| Prudence Guppy | Nancy Watson | Polly Watson |
| Patty Cooper | Lydia Watson | Sukey Toppan |
| Lucy Gerrish | Nabby Watson | Nabby Bragg |
| Betsey Bragg | Betsey Watson | Betsey Hanson |
| Nabby Gage | Elisabeth Hanson | |
| | Abra Wentworth | |

[R. 308]

[*Lt. Col. Benjamin Titcomb.*]

[In a petition dated January, 1790, Lt. Col. Benjamin Titcomb states, "That while in the Service of his Country he was several times badly wounded—and was for sometime upon list of Invalids—but altho at the last call, he applied to the Committee, by this Hon^{bl} Court appointed for examination of Invalids, & said committee pronounced him entitled to received half pay—yet by some unaccountable mistake his name was not sent forward in the list." The legislature voted, January 21, 1790, to "write to Congress" to have his name placed on the roll.

Benjamin Titcomb was appointed Lt. Col. of the First N. H. Reg., March 24, 1780, and was "deranged" (retired on account of wounds) January 1, 1781. He had been a captain in Col. Poor's regiment, and a major in Col. Reid's; was severely wounded at Hubbardton, and twice wounded in other battles; and was retired January 1, 1781, on half-pay.—ED.]

[R. 309]

[Ebenezer Tibbetts states that he "marched on the ninth day of August 1778 as major of Col^o Stephen Evans Regiment upon the expedition to Rhode Island;" that he was transferred to Col. Wingate's regiment, and served until September 8 following, for which he asks to be paid.—ED.]

[R. 311] [*Noah Levans and Joseph Chandler, soldiers.*]

State of New Hampshire—

To the Hon^l Gen^l Court of s^d State convened, and now sitting
at Dover

Humbly Sheweth Noah Levans, and Joseph Chandler Soldiers in the late war with Great Britain in a Corpse of Rangers Commanded by Maj^r Benjamin Whitcomb—that they inlisted in said Corpse at the times hereafter to be mentioned, namely, the s^d Noah on the fifteenth day of March 1780, and the said Joseph on the eighth day of November 1776—that by some fatal mistake, without the interposition of your Honors, he the said Noah was not put upon the books of this State in which the soldiers thereof were inroled till the first day of Jan^y 1781—which was the time the said Noah Joined the main Continental army and was put into another corpse, or Regiment, by reason that the s^d Whitcomb was deranged—that he was in actual Service from the time he inlisted till he Joined the main army aforesaid, that by reason of said mistake, he never received any pay from the time of his Inlistment to the s^d first day of Jan^y—that the s^d Joseph served as a faithful Soldier from the time of his Inlistment till the 15th day of June 1779, at which time, owing to the depreciated state of the then money, he was constrained either to leave the said service or his family must, as far as he could then see suffer accordingly; from a consideration whereof he left the said Corpse, and was from that time returned a Deserter but from a desire to do all he possibly could, in support of the war, and being called upon to Join the army; and upon a

Proclamation of pardon signed by Gen^l Washington, your Petitioner hired and sent one Will^m Kimball, who was accepted in his place & stead and continued in the army till the close of the war, and was then honorably discharged therefrom—that by means of all which he never had it in his power to obtain any of the Depreciation due to him while he was in actual service—wherefore your Petitioners pray your Honors to take the premises into consideration, and take such orders thereon as may appear Just and reasonable and they as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Dated at Dover June 16th 1792—

Benj^a Whitcomb
in behalf of the Petitioners

[The committee on the above reported that Levans be allowed his depreciation from March 15, 1780, to January 1, 1781, and that Chandler be allowed his wages from November 8, 1776, to June 15, 1779, provided their names appeared on the original roll in accordance with their statement; which report was adopted.—ED.]

[3-180] *Petition for Authority to raise Money by Lottery to build a Bridge.*]

To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened, at Concord, the first Wednesday of Jan. 3, Anno Domini 1791—

The petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the Towns of Dover, Rochester, Somersworth, Barrington, & others Humbly sheweth, That more than 50 years ago, a Bridge was built over the River at Cochecho (so called), in Dover near & above the lower falls in said River, on the direct public Road, leading from Portsmouth to Rochester, & the upper Towns in the County of Strafford, That said Bridge continued till the year 1772, when it was carried off by a large Freshet; but soon afterwards another was built in its Place, which was approved & confirmed by the General Court of the then Province & the expence of building the same defrayed by a Tax granted by their authority—That the Bridge last mentioned remained till the memorable Freshet of October 1785, when it was swept away, in common with most others in this eastern part of the State, That travellers through Dover have since that time been obliged to go round over the lower bridge by the Landing, which makes the distance much greater, besides their going over a large Hill, which was entirely avoided while the Bridge above

the falls was standing. But in addition to these inconveniences, it very frequently happens, from the great Quantity of Lumber haled to the landing, that the lower road is in fact so crouded with Teams, that it is difficult for horses & almost impracticable for Carriages to pass that way. These disadvantages, while they have been the subject of the repeated Complaints of casual Travellers, ever since the Bridge has been gone, have been more severely felt by your petitioners & others whose business has more commonly led them that way.

The Road which led over the old Bridge, is as well the most antient, as the most direct road, to the upper Towns, as it was laid out soon after the Town of Dover had become well settled & (previous to the building of the Bridge) had been always passed by means of a Boom which was placed across the Stream for that purpose.

Your Petitioners are very desirous that a bridge which would be of such general Advantage to the public, & so particularly accomodate the Towns in which they live, might be erected in such a way, and manner, as your Honors, ever attentive to the *public Good* may think proper They are of Opinion that a good bridge would cost about £300 & might be completed for that Sum, and with due Deference beg leave to propose, that the most practicable, and expedient way of raising that sum would be by a Lottery well regulated & with good Managers & they request that your honors would grant a Lottery for that purpose & appoint 3 or more suitable persons as Managers of the same & as in Duty bound your petitioners will pray.

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Otis Baker | Theop ^s Dame | Henry Mellen |
| Charles Clapham | Michael Reade | Sam ^l Estes |
| Joseph Estes | John Richards jun | Samuel Knowles |
| James gerrish | William Brewster | Will ^m Atkinson |
| Joseph Clark | Josiah Folsom Jun | Edward Varney |
| Jonathan french | James Stevens | Stephen Twombly |
| Otis Baker jun | William Watson | Simeon Jenks |
| Will ^m Twombly | Eliphalet Coffin | John Remick |
| Joseph Leavitt | George Watson | Joseph Bickford |
| Joseph Evans | John Harford | W ^m P. Moulton |
| Jonathan Twombly | John Hill | Jacob Joy |
| Samuel Heard | Caleb Tappan | John Riley |
| Peter Cushing | Sam ^l Wentworth | John H. Hiner |
| James Adams | Moses Varney | Jonathan Hogg |
| Benj ⁿ Hussey | Miles Hanson | James Libbey |
| Micah Emerson | John Heard | John Heard jun |
| John Lindsey | Nathaniel Swazy | Nathaniel Ham |
| Daniel Libbey | Peter Man | Ham Libbey |
| Ahiman Watson | John Wentworth | Eph ^m Bickford |

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|
| John Gage 3 ^d | David Wingate | Joshua Merrow |
| John Palmer | Edward Rollins | Zacheus Purinton |
| Benj ^a Wingate | Silas Tebbets | Rich ^d Nutter |
| Benj ^a Hanson | David Hanson | Tho ^s Footman |
| Albert Dennis | David Copp | James C. Hayes |
| Jacob Kittredge | Josiah Folsom | Aaron Varney |
| John Varney ju | George Roberts | Jacob Hanson |
| Daniel Heard | James Burnham | William Foss |
| Eph ^m Ham ju ^r | Nathaniel Watson | John Baker |
| Stephen ^{his} × Harford _{mark} | | |

[3-184] [*Petition for Incorporation of a Library.*]

State of New Hampshire } To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened at Exeter Nov^r 1792

The Petition of the Subscribers in behalf of a Library Company in Dover humbly Shews.

That for the diffusion of useful knowledge, and for the cultivation & improvement of the mind in polite literature; said Society at a very great expence, have established a Library in the town of Dover; which consists of several hundred Volumes upon various subjects—that they have formed themselves into a Society for that purpose, but are fully sensible of their weakness in many extensive & important matters, without the helping hand of the Legislature. They would therefore pray this honorable body, that the Society aforesaid by an Act of the Legislature, may be incorporated, by the name of the “Social Library Company in Dover”—that they be therein empowered to pass good & wholesome by laws, for the regulation & government thereof, to sue or be sued in their corporate capacity; and to be invested with all the powers & privileges that bodies corporate, ought necessarily to have and enjoy.

As your Honors have nearly at heart, the encouragement of that knowledge, which serves to illumine the mind, & better the heart; they have not the least doubt, but their petition will most readily be granted—And as in duty bound they will ever pray.

Jon^a Rawson Agent for said Company

Dover Nov^r 26th 1792.

[3-185] [*Record of Meeting of Library Society.*]

At an Annual Meeting of the Social Library Society in Dover, holden at Dover, June 26th 1792—

Voted, That this Society will make application to the Legis-

lature, at their next Session, for an Act of Incorporation with bye Laws—and that Col Jonathan Rawson be desired to prepare and present a Petition for that purpose.

The Names of the Society.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| William Hupper ju ^r | Ichabod Rollins | Jonathan Rawson |
| Jonathan Hamilton | Joseph Haven | Shadrack Hodgdon |
| Eben ^r Tebbets | Timothy Emerson | Thomas W ^k Waldron's Heir |
| Eleazer Davis | John Plumer ju ^r | Nath ^l Cooper |
| Robert Gray | Asa Tufts | John Wentworth's Heir |
| Caleb Hodgdon | John Kielle | James Calef |
| John B ^m Hanson's Heir | Benjamin Peirce | Theophilus Dame |
| Ezra Green | Charles Clapham | |
| Stephen Evans | Otis Baker | |
| Joseph Allen | Daniel Hayes | |
| | Eben ^r Demerit | |

A true Copy—Attest—Nath^l Cooper, Clerk

[The library was incorporated December 15, 1792, by the name of "The Social Library Company in Dover."—ED.]

[3-179] [*Petition for a Law against Billiard-Playing.*]

To the Honorable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire. The petition of the subscribers inhabitants of the town of Dover in said State & the towns adjacent thereto—Humbly Sheweth That by an act of the Legislature of this state passed June 14th A. D. 1791 entitled "an act regulating licensed houses" It is among other thing enacted that no licensed person shall suffer any person or persons "to play at any unlawful game or sport, such as cards, dice, nine pins, or billiards within his house or houses, out houses, yards, gardens, or places to him belonging on penalty of paying a fine of forty shillings for each offence," but that almost all the evil consequences, which the well meaning projectors of said act (so far as it respects billiards) designed to prevent are experienced in some part of this State by the permission which said act tacitly gives to unlicensed persons to erect or suffer to be erected billiard tables in their own private possessions. That, by this tacit permission, persons, who seek their own emolument in preference of the public good, & a life of dissipation in preference of a life of sobriety erect billiard tables for the purpose of playing themselves and encouraging others to play at one of the unlawful games mentioned in said act, That by the said infatuating game of billiards the Husband is induced to spend not only long evenings, but nights & days at those resorts of iniquity,

leaving his solatary wife, whom it is his duty to cherish and support, no other consolation, than to regret his folly & its cause. That by said pernicious game of billiards, the son is tempted to leave his home by stealth, in violation of his parents injunctions and spend much of his time and money to no better purpose, than that of becoming a sott, a gambler & a first rate proficient in the school of imorality. That by the said illicit game of billiards, the apprentice is inveigled to leave his masters service & spend his time & *masters* money in preparing himself for a pest, instead of a valuable member of society, Nor are these but a part of the baleful consequences which flow from the game of which we are speaking, For even the day dedicated to the service & worship of almighty God is not suffered to pass unprofaned by the votaries of these unhalloved tables—The immediate cause of our troubling your Honorable body at this time is, that many of the inhabitants of this vicinity have heretofore severely suffered under the scourge of the above game & another table has been lately erected in our neighborhood, which threatens all the baleful consequences above described—We therefore pray for your Legislative interposition & that a law may be made which shall render it equally penal for an unlicensed as a licensed person to play at or suffer to be played at in his house, or houses, or out houses, yards, gardens or places to him or her belonging, or that some other means may be devised as you in your wisdom may think proper to prevent this growing evil—as in duty bound shall ever pray—

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Benj ⁿ Peirce | Dan ^l Hanson | Ezra Green |
| Sam ^l Bragg | Philemon Chandler | Ezekiel Hayes |
| Ezra young | John Wheeler | Tho ^s Footman |
| Stephen Patten | George Watson | Paul Horn |
| Ichabod Tebbets | Winthrop Watson | Elisha Pike |
| Joseph Gage | Amos Wood | Sam ^l Gerrish Jun. |
| W ^m Shannon | John Hurd | Reuben Twombly |
| Daniel Pierce | Nath ^l Horn | W ^m Twombly |
| Moses Wingate | John Kielle | Joseph Howard |
| Israel Hanson jn | Andrew Torr | Samuel Shackford |
| David Ham | thomas Burrows | |

 D U B L I N .

The township was granted November 3, 1749, by the Masonian Proprietors, to Matthew Thornton, Sampson Stoddard, and others, by the name of Monadnock No. 3. Set-

tlements were made about 1762 by Thomas Morse, John Alexander, Henry Strongman, and William Scott. These men were natives of Ireland, and named the town for the capital of that country, which name was established when the town was incorporated, March 29, 1771. The petition for an act of incorporation may be found in volume IX, page 188.

Dr. Amos Twitchell, an eminent physician residing in Keene for many years, was born in Dublin, April 11, 1781; he died May 26, 1850.

June 13, 1818, "certain persons and their estates" were severed from this town, and annexed to Marlborough.

In 1793, Benjamin Mason, Capt. Reuben Morse, and Robert Muzzey were each paid a bounty for killing wolves in town.

[R. 315]

State of New Hampshire, to the Town of Dublin Dr.
1781 for paying 2 soldiers in Col^o Daniel Reynolds Regim^t
their travel money to Springfield—Moses Mason & Asa Bul-
lard per Rec^t £1, 6, 8

Errors Excepted per Stephe^m Ames

[This bill was allowed in committee on claims, June 15, 1786, and paid to Stephen Ames.—ED.]

[R. 316 to 320]

[The following named soldiers ordered what was due to them for service in the continental army to be paid to Reuben Morse, by orders dated May and October, 1784.

Jonathan Morse, for service in 1781.

Wilard Hunt, for service in 1778 and 1779.

John Wight, for service one year from June 25, 1779.

Elisha Adams, for three months in 1781.

John Stone, for the year 1781.

The latter was in the 1st N. H.,—entered April, 1781. He was discharged the following December, but probably served through 1782.

Francis Mason, age 35, Caleb Hunt, age 17, and Jno. Swain, age 39, were in Blodgett's Co., of Col. Nathan Hale's 2d Bat. Hunt was wounded at Hubbardton.

Nathaniel Belknap was enlisted for service in Rhode Island, July 9, 1779. (Revolutionary Papers).—ED.]

[R. 314] [*Petition of Abigail Bates.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives assembled and Conven^d at Exeter: State of Newhampshire &c.

The memorial of abagil Bates widow of the Late Nathaniel Bates of Dublin Dec^d Humbly Sheweth that y^r memorialist was Left a widow with two small children and only a New Lot of Land containing forty one acers only and but five acers Improved Labour and Provisions being scarce and Dear Renders it Imposable to manetane hir self and children without selling said Land—These are therefore humbly to Solicit your Hon^{rs} to take it into your wise Consideration and give order that the same might be sold. * * *

oct^r 28-1778

Abagill Bates

N. B. Said Nathaniel Bates was killed at Stillwater Last year By Generall Birgines army.—

[R. 321] [*Bartholomew Goyer's Petition.*]

State of New hampshire

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Convened at Dover on the first wednesday of June Anno domini 1792

The petition of Bartholomew Goyer of Dublin in the County of Cheshire humbly shew's that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty one he Inlisted into the Continental army in Captain Dustins Company and Col^o Reads Reg^t and served a soldier in said Company till June 1782 at which time being on Command at mohawk River he was surprised by a party of Indians and carried into Canada where he remained a prisoner untill September 1783 and as it was reported that he was killed by said Indians Return was made accordingly and your petitioner was not made up in any roll and Consequently drew no pay dureing the whole time of his Captivity—and also after his return out of captivity he being poor and also not possessed of that knowledge which was requisit to direct the proper way to obtain a recompence for his servises in

behalf of his Country both he and his family hath greatly suffered on that account

Wherefore your petitioner Humbly prays your Honours to take his Case into your wise Consideration and grant him the pay for his serveses in the Cause of his Country for which he has Received no Compensation and your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Dover June ye 11th 1792

Bartholomew Goyer

[R. 323]

I certify that sometime in June 1782 the Indians attack'd carried & burned a mill on Mohawk river in which was a Sergeants party belonging to the Regim^t then under my Command that the bearer Bartholomew M^cGoyer being in the party instead of being taken was supposed to have been killed, and was accordingly returned dead in consequence of which his pay ceased—

Given under my hand at Londonderry this 6th day of June 1792—

Geo. Reid then L^t Co^l Comd^t
2^d N Hamp^r Reg.

[He was allowed £30, and interest.—ED.]

DUNBARTON.

The township was granted by the Masonian Proprietors in 1751 to Archibald Stark (father of Gen. John Stark), Caleb Page, and others, and was called Starkstown until it was incorporated, August 10, 1765, by its present name, in memory of the town of Dumbarton, Scotland, whence Stark, Stinson, and others of the first settlers emigrated.

Joseph Putney and James Rogers made settlements in town prior to 1746, and in that year were driven away by Indians. In 1749 they returned, and made permanent settlements.

About 1751 William Stinson, Thomas Mills, and John Hogg settled in the westerly part of the town. Capt. William Stinson, who came from Londonderry, was an energetic and useful man. James Rogers was the father of Major Robert Rogers, of ranger fame. The first settled min-

ister was Rev. Walter Harris, D.D., in 1789. He was a graduate of Dartmouth in 1787, and died December 25, 1843, at the age of 82. Capt. Caleb Page was proprietors' clerk for many years, and delegate to the provincial congress in 1775. In Stark's history is a list of 27 revolutionary soldiers, but it does not contain the names of William Wheeler and Abel Hadley, who were mustered July 20, 1779, for the defence of Rhode Island.

July 2, 1822, the town of Hooksett was incorporated, and included a portion of Dunbarton.

January 7, 1853, an act was passed establishing the line between this town and Goffstown.

[3-188]

[*Request for Powder.*]

The humble portition of the Select Men of Dunbarton to the honourable Counsell and house of Representatives now Seting in Exeter humbly Sheweth that the town of Dunbarton Stands in Need of Sum Powder tharefore Prayes that the honorable Court wold Suply them With a half a Barrell or about fifty wate for a Small Stock if granted we will be accountable for the Same for Which Wee Ever Pray—

Dated Dunbarton October y^e 12 : 1776—

Jeremiah Page } Select men of
John Hogg } Dunbarton

[3-187]

[*Answer to above.*]

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 18th 1776

Voted, That there be delivered to the Town of Dunbarton one half Barrel of Powder to be by them accounted for, And that the President give order accordingly—

Sent up for Concurrence

P White Speaker

In Council Eodem Die read & Concurred

E Thompson secy

[3-189]

[*Relative to Confiscated Estates.*]

To the honor^{ble} Counsel and house of Representatives now Seting at Exeter in the State of Newhampshire; the humble Portision of the Selectmen of Dunbarton humbly sheweth that your Portitioners Did last march Take into Custody the Real and Personal Estate of Col^l William Stark and John Stinson of

Said Dunbarton who went over to the Enemy (as is supposed) Sum time in September; 1776 and have made a Return of Said appraisal to the Secretary office at Exeter, Said Stark and Stinson Left thare wives and Children on Said Estates who have ocepied and improved Said Estates Ever Sence they Left home Said Stark Let out Part of his Estate before he Left home to one Joseph Oardaway (as he Sayeth) who Refuses to Pay the Rent of s^d Estat to us for this State or to move off and Leave it, altho Being thare unto Requested by your Portishners, and your Portishners Pray your hono^{rs} would propose Sum method for Taking Care of Said Estats as the Personal Estate now Layeth upon hand they Gave Bonds to Deliver it to your Portisheners when Requested, and further Prayeth to your hon^s to Give us orders what to do with said famelies now on said estats the season of the year Being so far advanced they have Planted and sowed there Grane, and hath not given any security to your Portisheners for this years rent, as your Portisheners as in Duty Bound Do Ever Pray

Dated at Dunbarton this 23: Day of may: 1778

Samuel Burnam } Select men
Jacob Green } for Dunbarton

[R. 337]

[*Soldiers' Receipts.*]

Dunbarton April y^e 15; 1777—this day Rec^d the sum of fifteen Pounds Lawfull money of Nathaniel Hutchins for the town of Dunbarton to Sarve in the Continatle army for three years to Come I say Rec^d Per me

Jonathan Sterns

[R. 328]

March y^e 15, 1778—Received of John Hogg the sum of nine pounds Lawfu mon for Going in the Continental army for three years for the town of Dunbarton I being this Day mustered for that purpos

John Dorman

[Said Dorman had been paid £36 the day before.—Ed.]

[R. 329]

[*John Hogg's Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{bl} The Council & House of Representatives Convened at Exeter 5th March 1778

Humbly Sheweth—Your Petitioner, agent for the Town of Dunbarton, Setting forth that said Town in obedience to a

Resolve of January 2^d 1778, Chose a Committee to Raise & Engage the Proportion of Continental Troops for said town—the Comm^{tee} Took the meaning of said resolve to be, the raising of said Men for two years, & they to Receive Cloathing, Bountys &c—upon these Terms said Com^{te} inlisted six soldiers For the Term of two years, Likewise gave them a reward From the town; & marched s^d soldiers to Concord to pass Muster—the mustermaster Declin'd mustering said Men on them terms—the Com^{tee} of said town has used all their Influence to Engage those men for one year More; but Cannot obtain them—Wherefore your petitioner prays in behalf said Town, that the s^d six soldiers now Engaged may answer for s^d Town, and That they may be mustered & Receive their Bounties Cloathing &C, & your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

John Hogg

[The committee on the foregoing reported that men enlisted for two years should receive two thirds the bounty and clothing promised to three years men, which report was adopted.—ED.]

[R. 331]

[*Soldiers' Orders.*]

Dunbarton July y^e 6th 1781

for valu received of the Select men of Dunbarton please to pay to them or their order the whole of the wages that shall be allowed to me for service which I now engage to do in the Continental army for the term of Six months for the Town of Dunbarton to commence from the date hereof as witness my hand

William Ordway

to Nicholas Gilman State treasurer or his successor in office.

[R. 332]

Dunbarton July y^e 10th 1781 for value received of the Select men of Dunbarton, please to pay to them the whole of my wages which shall be allowed to me for Service which I now engage to do for the Town of Dunbarton untill the Last day of December Next unless sooner discharged.

Andrew Kaughow

To Nicholas Gilman State treasurer

[R. 333]

To M^r John Gilman Esq^r treasurer for the State of New-hampshire S^r please to pay or Deliver to the Selectmen of

Dumbarton or their order, Six months Wages Due to me for Service Done in the Continental army for the year 1780 and this shall Be your Rec^t for the Same—

Robert ^{his} X Cunningham Jun^r
mark

Merrim^e March 6th 1784

Test Jonathan Gillis James Darrah Sam^l Jackson

[3-190] [*Petition of John Hogg relative to School Lot, etc.*]

State of Newhampshire.

To the Honorable the Counsel and House of Representatives in
General Assembly Convened March y^e 17th A. D. 1779

The Humble Petition of John Hogg Agent for the Town of Dunbarton Sheweth that when the Lands in said town were allotted Lot number nine in the third Range was Laid out to the use of the school forever, afterwards in the year 1760 Cap^t William Stark mooved on with his Famaly on said School Lot afterwards on the tenth day of June 1761 the Proprietors of said Dunbarton voted to exchange the School Lot with William Stark of said Dunbarton if he would purchase Lot number Twelve in the fourth Range for the use of the School forever—which Lot number Twelve wee are told the said Stark afterwards purchased for his own use but hath never Conveyed the same for the use of the School according to the condition of said vote and Lickwise your Petitioner apprehends that if the said Stark hath purchased Lot No 12 it is of them that have no Legal Title to the same. afterwards at a supposed meeting of the Inhabitance of Dunbarton afores^d which meeting was called within six days after the warrant therefor issued and the same warrant put up in a vary private place it was voted by a few of the Inhabitance that James Stinson of said Dunbarton should have the Lot number Twelve Called the School Lot in exchange for fifty acres off the easterly end of Lot number eleven in the third Range and the half of the easterly end of Lot number twelve in the same Range in Consequence of which vote obtained in an unfair and private manner the said Stinson Petitioned the General Cort setting forth the Purport of the same Vote and that an exchange of the same Lots would be a mutual Benefit Whereupon the General Cort Resolved that upon the said Stinsons making and executing to the Selectmen for the use of the Town of Dunbarton aforesaid a Deed of the aforesaid Fifty acres of the easterly end of the Lot number eleven in the third Range and half of Lot number twelve in the same

Range for the use and Support of a School in said Dunbarton forever that then the town aforesaid should Be impowered to appoint some person or persons to make the said Stinson his Heirs assigns forever a Good and valid Deed of the said Lot number twelve in the fourth Range since said Resolve the inhabitation of said town have at two legal meetings Voted not to Exchange said lot No 12 as they apprehend they have no Legal Titel to the same but that the Lot number nine in the third Range remains the School Lot in said Town ase it was Laid originally for that Purpose and that if they were the Owners of the Lot N^o 12 in the forth range called the school Lot would not exchange the same because it is much Better situated and of Double the value of the Lands preposed to be given by said Stinson in exchange But as every Measure at that time was taken to proswead & terify the town of Dunbarton to vote an Exchange of said Lot agreabel to said resolve which so mutch Desturbed the Peace of s^d town that on May y^e 11 AD 1774 Cap^t Caleb Page of said Dunbarton Petitioned the General Cort in behalf of him self and a number of the inhabitation of said town Praying that the before mentioned resolve might be maid nul and void and for an order thereon to stop any further Proseedings thereon the Petition Being read & Votead to hear the Petitioner on the Second Day of the setting of the General asambly next after the tenth Day of June next But the Cort Being Desolved and the Petitioner wase not heard and the said Stark still Continued in position of the School Lot in said town till he Obsconded and went over to the Enemy and Left his family in position of the same which still continues in said position to the Great Damedg of said town therefore your Petitioner Humbly prays in Behalf of said town for your order hereon to anebel said town to injoy their school Lot ase you in your known Wisdom shall think Just and your Petitioner ase in Duty Bound shall ever pray

John Hogg
in behalf of said Town

[3-191] [*Robert Smith's Letter to the General Court.*]

Londonderry Dec^r 18th 1781—

The Subscriber Begs Leave to Make Use of this Method to Inform The Honb^l the Gen^l Cort Assembl^d at Exiter That In the Month of october Las I was at Boston & there Being Inform^d of one John Stinson an Absentee Late of Dunbarton in this State, then & there Being upon Parrowl in the town of Boston & Noddles Island I Well Knowing By the Information of Gentlemen of Probetty That s^d John Stinson Had often Pass-

ed & Repassed Between the Enemy at Newyork & Dunbarton I then Drew a formal Complant Gainst s^d Stinson which was exhibited To the Govenor of Masetusets, signifying that s^d Stinson had often Ben In Dunbarton and at other Places in the State of New hampshier Within Two years Last Past The Gov^r: then ordered said Stinson to Be Emediately Confined Who Now is in Boston Goal Your Honours Will Consider of The Matter Whilest you Have this Information from your Hum^{le} Ser^t,

Rob^t Smith

[3-194] [*Selectmen relative to Stark and Stinson, addressed to the Legislature, February 15, 1785.*]

State of New^h Hillsborough ss

To his Exelance the Presede^t the Hon^{oble} the Senet and house of Representatives Conven^d at Concord Feb^r y^e 15 : 1785—

the Petition of the Selectmen for Dunbarton in Said County of Hillsborough humbly Sheweth—

that one John Stinson and one John Stark ; who Left Said Dunbarton some time in the year 1776 and Joyned ower Enemys then at Newyork ; and with them took armes against the United States are now Residing in Said Dunbarton that the Said Stinson hath for about Nine months Last Past mad his home at Said town ; and by his insults the People of Said town not only by his Personal appearance but with his abusive Language and thrattening words and as thare is foure more of Such Persons now with the Britons of the Same Class ; that formerly Belonged to Said town that are Expected hear Very soon if Said Stinson and Stark is Promited to Stay among us which is Very alarming whareby the Peace of Said town hath been and we fear will be much Disturbed ; and your Petitornors fear it will Cause a fusion of Blood : Except Provented by Sum order of your horners—

Wharefore your Petitioners Prayes your Exalancy and honors would take this matter under your wise Consideration ; and Pase Sum order thareon ; So that the Said Stinson and Stark may be Removed and that none of those Parsons may be Promited to Reside among us who in the Late war fought against us ; unless Liberty furst had from the Legislative body of this State, and your Portisherns as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray—

Jere^h Page } Select men
David Story } for
 } Dunbarton

[3-195] [*Petition for a Coroner.*]

Dunbarton June y^e 27th 1787

Sir

I Would Beg Leve to inform your Exelency that there is no Currener in this town nor hath not Been Since I Had the Honer to Hold that Offis and as one Seems to be Wanted I Would Mention Jaremi Page Juner as a Proper Parson to apoin Should Your Exelency and their Honers the Council See Fit to Mack any appointment I Have the Honer to be With Grat respect your Very Humble Sarvent—

John Hogg

NB the parson above mentioned is a son to his Honer Jaremi Page Esq^r and there is another Jaremi Page in this town So that the Man I meen is the third

[3-196] [*Agent Appointed.*]

Dunbarton April 12th 1791

at a legal town Meeting holden by adjournment Voted that Jere^h Page Esq^r Petition the General Court that the holding of the annual Meeting of Said town May be altered from the Second Tuesday of March to the first Tuesday of March for the future true Coppy

David Story Town Clerk

[3-197] [*Petition for a change of day of Annual Meeting.*]

To The General Court of New-Hampshire The Petition of the Inhabitants of Dunbarton in said State humbly Sheweth

That the annual Meeting of said Town for Chusing Town Officers &c hath ever heretofore been held by Charter on the second Tuesday of March annually & Your Petitioners have found that it would be much more agreeable to, & convenient for, them to have said Annual Meeting appointed to be holden on the first Tuesday of March Annually for the future—Your Petitioners therefore pray that a Stature be made by which said Meeting May be altered & established for the future to be holden on the first Tuesday March annually & as in Duty bound shall Pray

Dunbarton
Nov^r 25th 1791.

Jeremiah Page
in behalf of the Town
appointed

[The foregoing was granted by an act passed December 14, 1791.—ED.]

D U R H A M .

This town was formerly a part of Dover, and was called Oyster River until it was incorporated, May 15, 1732, by its present name. It included Lee in its incorporated limits. (Vol. IX, page 234.) January 16, 1766, the town was divided, and the westerly part incorporated as "a Parish by the name of Lee," with full town privileges.

Settlements were made on Oyster River early in the seventeenth century, and, being on the frontier, the inhabitants suffered severely from Indian depredations for many years.

The town furnished its full share of men for the Canada and Revolutionary wars; among the latter were Maj. Gen. John Sullivan and Col. Winborn Adams, and the names of many others will be found in the following documents.

Hon. Ebenezer Thompson was a resident of this town. He was the first secretary of this state after the adoption of a state government; member of the committee of safety from May 19, 1775, to January 31, 1781; and justice of the supreme court in 1795-6. He died May 17, 1802, aged 65.

By an act passed July 2, 1870, a portion of the town was set off, and annexed to Newmarket.

[3-198] [*An Answer to Oyster River Petitions, 1715.*]

TO THE HONOURABLE GOVERNOUR COUNCELL AND REPRESENTATIVES CONVENED IN GENERALL ASSEMBLY

Whereas there is a petition Laid before your honours By part of the Inhabitants of oyster River Expecting thereby to Serve their own Interest though it be with much hardship to their Neighbourns

We the Subscribers being Residents or free holders within those districts as in petition mentioned do humbly Referr to your Consideration these things as Reasons of obiection against the said petition

1 That we ought to have had knowledge and to have Confered with them about the said petition and whereas they keep it private from us it Showeth a Secret plotting and Contriving against our Interest

2 That Some of their Subscribers as we Suppose are neither Residents nor freeholders within the said districts

3 That Some of their Subscribers do denye part or all the petition

4 That if your honours Should See good to grant the Said petition we being farmars Shall then be So bound up within those districts not haveing Room to advance our Estates—that we Shall not be able to subsist our families and to mentain a minister honourably

5 That a Settled Schoolmaster will be of no Service to us in teaching our Children because we do Live So Remote and are also divided with a River and Creeks—but rather as we have hitherto done to hire a Schoolmaster for ourselves and our adiacant neighbours

6 We are very well Satisfyed with our towns generall Election of Select men Seeing we have two within our districts who are well aquainted with our affairs and we do account it hardship to be denyed our former privildg

these Reasons we give haveing many others which we are Loath to trouble your honours withal—we humbly hope that you will not grant their petition—Except it be only to the petitioners and pleas to grant us the Libertyes that our fathers had that first Settled this place

WE REMAIN YOUR MOST HUMBLE SERVANTS

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Thomas Edgerley Sen | 23 Moses davis Juner | 44 John Rand |
| 2 John Meder Sen | 24 John daves Sen | 45 Samuel Egerley |
| 3 Edwerdus Wakeham | 25 timothy davis | 46 Joseph Kent |
| 4 Thomas Drew | 26 Stephen Jonsones | 47 Thomas footman |
| 5 John Daniell | 27 John Bickford | 48 Joseph Stevenson |
| 6 Joseph Meder | 28 beniamin mathes | 49 William Glines |
| 7 Ichabod follet | 29 Joseph Edgerly | 50 Bartholomew Stevenson |
| 8 Joannes bunker | 30 John willes Senior | 51 James ^{his mark} Lingley |
| 9 John Williams | 31 John Rand | 52 william wormwood |
| 10 Nathaneal Laimos | 32 John wille juner | 53 Eleazar Bickford |
| 11 william hill | 33 John Pender | 54 Amos pinkham |
| 12 Henry Rines | 34 Beniamen Pender | 55 James Davis |
| 13 John Edgerley | 35 John footman sener | Juner |
| 14 Francis Mathes | 36 John Smith jun ^r | 56 John ^{his} M Mondro ^{mark} |
| 15 Richard denbo | 37 william ^{mark} X durgin | 57 Thomas Davis |
| 16 thomas Rines | 38 James Thomas | 58 Danel Mishorne |
| 17 Samuel Williams | 39 Sellathan denbo | 59 Daniel Davies |
| 18 Beniamen bodge | 40 John : Smith Jun ^r | 60 Joseph ginkens |
| 19 Sam ^l Smith | 41 Samuill wille | 61 James Davis the Son of Moses Davis |
| 20 John meder Ju | 42 francies Mathes Jun ^r | |
| 21 nicoles meder | 43 william pitman | |
| 22 Jn ^o ambler | | |

[3-199] [*Rev. Hugh Adams's Complaint.*]

To His Excellency Jonathan Belcher Esq^r Cap^t General & Commander In Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire In New England, To the Honourable the Council & Representatives In General Court Assembled The Complaint & Petition of HUGH ADAMS Clerk the Gospel Minister and Pastor of the Church at Durham within s^d Province—
HUMBLY SHEWETH

Forasmuch as your Complainant Petitioner hath been more than one and twenty years last past a Labourer In the Word & Doctrine of Christ sincerely to the utmost of his Ability amongst that People, altho the good Laws of this said Province so far have requir'd of them; and their own Contract or agreement with him, Voted by them in the first week of the Month of April Anno 1717; as by a copy of the record of Oyster River Parish or s^d Town, as also by the Evidences of some of their then Select Men & Committee may appear in order for his support with a competent salary of one hundred and four Pounds dureing his ministry there, even then when silver money was not of more Value than ten shillings per Ounce annually to be paid as then understood in the real value thereof and not only in the bare name of so much & unanimously agreed by their then Committee to be paid punctually each year, one half of s^d Salary I : E : £52 at the end of or within each six months I : E : the first week in October & April with other material Articles of s^d Agreement for his maintenance among them which also hath obliged them thereunto, yet have they not in any one year of s^d time of Three Apprenticeships since their s^d Contract been honest nor faithfull by the payment thereof in the just value nor in due season, so that the hire of his ministerial labours so much & long being kept back by their sacrilegious fraud hath been crying in the ears of Christ the Lord of sabbaoth so to expose them & their Covenant & silent Neighbours in this s^d Province unto ye Curse denounced which hath been so long and often executed in such a variety of destroying terrifying & impoverishing Judgments of God too many herein to be enumerated & so much thereof evidently occasioned by said Parish & Town, being therein so long tollerated with impunity, as an Achan in the Camp & As the seven sons of Saul in the days of King David; and as Jonah in the ship of the Commonwealth of this Province aforesaid. And especially whereas the principal Article in the said Contract insisted on by their said Minister whereunto their then Selectmen & Committee Agreed by manual vote & voice (*Nemine Contradicente*) but was not enter'd by their then Parish Clerk John Smith who deceased Anno 1722 with or after the other Articles thereof in the Record Rolls

of their then Parish of Oyster River or since Town of Durham since yearly or very fervent intreatys to have the same Articles enter'd upon their s^d Records and observed for the yearly performance thereof for the future, whereunto nevertheless they have been inexorable beyond all reason & Justice, hitherto in disregarding said above hinted Article, viz. That Each year one half of s^d Salary of £104 which is £52 should be paid in to him or his Order at or before the End of Each six months or half year I : E : the first week in october & April which Committee Vote or vow of theirs has never yet in any one year of the twenty-one years of my ministry amongst them been perform'd : but mostly defer'd until at least three months after said former half year's Harvest was ended ; when the Price of provisions was raised at least 25 per Cent Dearer than at the Harvest or Ingathering thereof, which Delinquency of theirs in s^d 21 years hath been to the damage of said minister above £520 in said Parish & Town especially where he has been necessitated, rather than starve, to borrow considerable sums of money upon 6, 10, 15, & 20 Per Cent Interest yearly, & running on Interest upon Interest, yet unto this day, to his impoverishing oppression & sinking discouragement, and reduced his Salary of £104 of late years to the name thereof when in present Value as the alter'd prices of all necessarys for livelihood are about 200 Per Cent dearer than when their s^d Contract was made his Salary now is scarce more in real worth than £36 each year altho their ratable heads, Familys Cattle and lands have increased treble their ability more than at first Agreement. Also this year 1738 the Majority of S^d Durham Inhabitants have stopt their Ears at the Cry of the poor at their two publick Town meetings altho it's threaten'd they shall Cry themselves but shall not be heard.

THEREFORE now the oppressing necessity's of the Complainant Petitioner constrain him to pray he may be regarded by this Great and General Court Assembled in these his following requests as CHRIST JESUS IMMANUEL to encourage Each of his faithfull Ministers testifyeth Saying "He that heareth You, heareth me"—

I Request that the Records of s^d Parish then named Oyster River & now Charter'd Town of Durham may be so far impeached as that the said Article may be enter'd by the present Town Clerk Lieu^t Samuel Smith & accordingly that he may be summon'd to bring Durhams Town Book of Rolls & likewise Cap^t Francis Mathes the former Town Clerk to bring the record Rolls of s^d Oyster River Parish if yet in his Possession ; & likewise Lieu^t Abraham Bennick & m^r Sampson Doe then of the Select Men & Committee for said Parish in that year 1717 to give in or renew their Oaths or affidavit Each of them for confirming the Truth of said Article.

2 Request that the Petitioners Salary of £104 may be Enacted for the future during the Remainder of his Ministry in s^d Town to be made good in full value as really as in name & to be paid in due season according to the request & Article aforesaid with sufficient Penalty for any Delinquency thereof which as written in the Divine Law moral is the 5th part of the principal to be added unto it as Evident from Lev: V: 15: 16. Num. V: 6, 7, 8.—

3 request That Delinquents from the payment of any lawful settled Ministers Salary within s^d Province may be Enacted a criminal Case or matter Presentable by any Grand Juror upon Complaint made to him at Each or any Court of Sessions Quarterly as in the Massachusetts Province Government, which I perceive by Psalms 41, 1, 2, 3 is the Principal reason why they have been hitherto proportionably spared from the *throat Pestilence* & other impoverishing more than New Hampshire.

4 Request That Daniel Davis of s^d Durham may be summoned & Judged by this most Honourable Court of New Hampshire Province afores^d for his sundry years trespassing upon & inclosing within his fence & detaining so forcibly from s^d Minister several years previous Possession thereof, Sundry Acres of Upland, & salt Marsh & Thatch bed, belonging to the Glebe Land or Parsonage, possessed by, Improved for, as also granted to, the Minister of said Parish or Town at least sixty years, & for Evidence thereof That Cap^t Francis Mathews & his next Neighbour Jonathan Willey the Eldest & Joseph Stevens his son & W^m Willey may Each of them be summoned, moreover the s^d robbed & defrauded Minister prays that it may be likewise ordered, That the Select men of said Each year may rescue s^d Parsonage land from him the said Daniel Davis and Every other unjust Incroacher thereon and on Each other Parcel of Glebe land or Parsonage (as viz) the Long marsh & that Parcel of Ministerial land lying on the highway leading S. & B W toward Lamperreel River & bounded E & by S. on Potter Masons land & S: & B. W on Rich^d Denbow's Land Each of which is incroached upon by one or other of adjacent Neighbours & altho their Minister as their spiritual father so long seeking their welfare in gathering of a Church first amongst us on March 26, 1718 his prevailing as the Dresser of their Church Vineyard with Immanuel Christ Jesus the Lord thereof—for his Grant of four years Probation whether the barren Figg Trees might by a Ministerial Husbandry Expended on them be prevailed with to bare fruit proportionally that it might be well with them as in the Gospel Parrible thereof Luke 13—7, 8, 9, and when the Indian War began anno 1722 that it might Continue no longer than 3 years as written In Isa.

16, 14 which punctually Ended in 1725 & that 5 Persons were cut down thereby in our Parish; who hath likewise prevailed with the Heavenly Prince of Peace to make & keep his Covenant of peace with & for us as written in Ezeikel 34 25 yearly pleaded & Granted these thirteen years hitherto

Notwithstanding the so repeatedly many Rumours of Wars free from the reallity thereof. Likewise in the year 1729 when Cap^t Sam^l Emerson & Lieu^t Jonⁿ Thompson and Hubbard Stevens Dea., harress'd their Minister with an Antichristian Council Ecclesiastical countenanced by the then Commander In Chief after which the s^d Emerson & Korite Company by their negative clandestine Votes robbed him of the 50£ addition to his Salary they granted him the preceding year 1728. In his so provoked Subjection to Passion as Elias In James 5th 17, 18, he the said Minister while it was yet more than three months to the Harvest prayed it might not rain, and it rained not untill three months after; when in regard to the Importunity of some friendly Brethren he appointed & Conscientiously Sanctified a Church Fast, from evening to evening, abstaining three meals from *Eating Drinking & smoking* any thing. In beginning of September that year 1729; & the LORD CHRIST was pleased to hear in Heaven & grant such repeated plentifull and warm Rains, as recovered the languishing Corn & Grass & Fruits of the Trees, unto a considerable Harvest thereof; so as was then remarkable. And in that year 1733 when the said Parish by the General Court was chartered into the Township of Durham in answer unto their said Ministers Petition for its Privileges & said name as therein pleaded for, and the Inhabitants of s^d Town proceeded by their Chosen Committee at their most General Meeting to divide their Commons voting their Minister aforesaid should as he did draw Lots for them all, yet he cant prevail with the Lot Layers to survey his Lot of 25 Acres, nor inform him where he may have it laid out for him, neither have said Inhabitants fulfilled their Condition of honourably supporting their Minister—And since no Inferior Court in this said Province hitherto could do Justice to your Petitioner; He is therefore now necessitated to flee for refuge to this supreme Legislative Court of nursing Fathers; in each of which requests, Your so long oppress'd Petitioner importunately asketh for Justice, firmly believing *after that* God will be Intreated for the land In New Hampshire

So Complaineth & prayeth the above named Petitioner

Hugh Adams

[3-200] [*Petition and Remonstrance of Rev. Hugh Adams, 1740.*]

At Portsmouth In New Hampshire Feb^{ry} 6th 1739/40

To His Excellency The Governour Jonathan Belcher Esquire,
And The Honourable The Council, And The Representatives
In General Court Assembly.

The Remonstrant-Petition of Hugh Adams Cler^s Minister OF
CHRIST Yet Sojourning At Durham, Humbly Sheweth, as
following.

That Forasmuch as There hath been a Party of the Inhabitants of Said Durham in the 14 months past, which (Evidently to Revenge themselves on Him their Said Minister for His Recovering A Judgment against them In the Supreme Court of Appeals, November 7th 1738,) Did immediately Call An Ecclesiastical Council against Him, To Turn Him away After He had been 22 Years In His Gospel Ministration amongst them. The Only Advisive Result of Which Council of Pastors & Delegates Is Ready to be Produced.

Which Result, and The Said Party's of's male-content people's non-compliance with their Share of S^d Result has been so long an intollerable Oppression And Aggrievance to Your Petitioner and His Church Flock Yet Adhering To's Ministration, and To's Distressed Family which are yet in hopes of some Redress of Said Aggrievance to be had from Such Political Fathers, As His Excellency and Their Honours In Said Legislative Court of Equity.

And Therefore Your Petitioner humbly Pray's For A Day of Audience To be Granted and Appointed, And a Summons for Needfull Evidences Likewise In Said Case. Wherein I Must Beseech Ye Men In Authority Hearken unto Me! That GOD OUR SAVIOUR May Hearken unto You! So Prayeth Your Petitioner

Hugh Adams.

In the House of Representatives—The above Petition Read, and the Petitioner called in to Explain his Petition, and after hearing—Voted the Petition be Dismiss'd—James Jeffry Cl^r Ass^m the 6th: A. D. 1739-40

In Coun^l feb: 9th 1739-40—Read and Concurred unanimously

Rich^d Waldron Sec^y

[3-201] [*Sheriff's Warrant against the Town.*]Province of New Hamp^r

Seal

George the Second by the Grace of God of
Great Britain France & Ireland King Defender
of the faith &c—

To the Sherriff of our Province of New Hamp^r His under
Sherriff or Deputy Greeting

Whereas Hugh Adams of Durham within our Province of
New Hampshire Clerk By the Consideration of our Governour
& Council as a Court of Appeals holden at Portsm^o for and
within our Province of New Hampshire afores^d (by Adjournm^t)
on the 23^d Day of May Last pas^d recovered Judgm^t Against
the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in the Province of
New Hampshire afores^d for the Sum of fifty Six pounds five
Shillings Lawfull money Debt or Damages & Ten pounds
Three Shillings like money Cost of Suit as to us appears of
record whereof Execution remains to be done

We Command you therefore that of the goods Chattles or
Lands of the Inhabitants of the s^d Town of Durham (within
your Precinct) you Cause to be paid & Satisfyed unto the s^d
Hugh Adams at the Value thereof in money the afores^d Sums
being Sixty Six pounds Eight Shillings in the whole with Two
Shillings more for this Writ & thereof alsoe to Satisfy your
Self for your own fees & for want of Goods Chattles or Lands
of the Inhabitants of the s^d Town of Durham to be by him
Shewn unto you or found within your Precinct to the Accept-
ance of the s^d Hugh Adams to Satisfy the Sums afores^d We
Command you to take the Body of the s^d Inhabitants of the s^d
Town of Durham & them Commit unto our Goal in Portsm^o in
our Province of New Hampshire afores^d and Detain in your
Custody within our s^d Goal until they pay the full Sums above
mentioned with your fees or that they be Discharged by the s^d
Hugh Adams the Creditor or other ways by order of Law
Hereof fail not & make returne of this writ with your Doings
there in unto our S^d Court of Appeals to be holden at Portsm^o
within our Province of New Hampshire afores^d upon the Sec-
und Tuesday in October next

Wittness Benning Wentworth Esq our Governour & Co-
mander in Chieff in & over our S^d Province of New Hamp^r the
first Day of September in the Seventeenth year of our reigne
Anno Domini 1743

Theodore Atkinson Sec^{ry}Octo^{er} 4 1743—

The within Execution came to my hands too Late to Serve
 Tho^s Packer Sher
 Copy Exam^d :
 Per Theodore Atkinson Sec^{ry}

[3-202] [*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

To all the Inhabitants of the Town of Durham

These are to Give Notice of a publick Town meeting to be holden at the meeting house at the falls in Durham on monday the 19th Day of this instant September Curant at ten of the Clock in the forenoon then and there to See if the Town will be free to Pass a vote to impower The Select Men To Raise the money for Mr. hugh adams that he Recovered Judgment for before the Governor and Councill and to Chuse a constable or Constables to Colect the same and Likewise to Receive m^r Hugh adamses Proposals and all Persons Concerned are Desired to Give there attendance at time and Place Dated at Durham this 30th Day of Sep^{tr} 1743

A TREW Copy Test

Sam^l Smith Town Cler

At atown meeting Caled the 19th Day of Sep^{tr} 1743

Then the Meeting was adiourned to monday the 3^d Day of october 1743 at a Publick town meeting held at Durham falls at the meeting house on the third Day of october 1743 by adiournment Voted Joseph Jones Cler Contempromery Voted that the select men Lay assessments on the inhabitants to Raise one Hundred Pounds new tenner for the Use of the Town Joseph Jones Cler P tem and Sworn before me Sam^l Smith Jus of Peace

Atrew Copy Test

Sam^l Smith Town Cler

[3-203] [*Warrant for Town-Meeting.*]

TO ALL THE FREEHOULDERS AND INHABANTANCE OF THE TOWN OF DURHAM These are to Give notes of a Public town meeting to Be holden at the meeting house at the falls in Durham on mounday the 26 Day of this Instant December Curant at 10 of the Clock in the founnoon then and there to Pass such Votes as shall be thought Proper in said meeting in order to Rase such sum or sums of money as the Inhabatance shall think fitt to Defray any Charge that have a Risen or shall a

Rise or to Discharge any Execun : that shall Be thought Lawfull aganst the Inhabanatace of said town or any outhr matter as Shall Be thought fitt Concerning the same and to Impower the select men to Raise the same and all Parsons Concerned are Desired to Give there Attandance at time and Place

Dated at DURHAM
THIS 17th DAY of DE-
CEMBER 1743

Joseph Atkinson } Select
Epreham Davis } Men

[3-204] [*Action of Town-Meeting.*]

At atown Meeting holden at the Meeting house at the Falls in Durham on Monday the 26 Day of Decemb^r 1743

Then John Woodman Chose moderator for the Regulating Said meeting

Then Voted that a Sum of money be Raised

Then Voted that ONE Hundred Pounds of the new tenner to be Raised Then Voted that the Select Men have full Power to Raise the said sum on the Inhabitants of Durham afors^d for the use of Said town—then there was the Decents Entred of

Sam^l Smith
W^m Bruce
W^m Drew
nicolas meder
Eli Clark

against all The Work of the said Day
a trew Copy Test

Sam^l Smith Town Cler

[3-205] [*Daniel Meder, relative to collecting Tax.*]

To HIS EXCELLENCY Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor & Commander in Chief in & Over His Majesty's Province of New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council & House of Representatives for Said Province in General Assembly Convened the 22^d Day of Feb^y 1743, 4

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Daniel Meader of Durham in the Province of New Hampshire in behalf of himself & the People Called Quakers Inhabitants of Durham afores^d SHEWS

That your Petitioner was Chosen Constable of the said Town at their Annual Meeting in March last for the Current Year and at the same time one Isaac Clarke was Chosen a Constable or Collector of the Minister's Rate thereby Intending to Exonerate the Constable of the Town (properly so Called)

from that Service—That Since that there being a Judgment of the Court of Appeals Enter'd, against the said Town in favour of M^r Hugh Adams & they obliged to Raise Money to Satisfy it they Called a Meeting & in a Covert disguised manner worded a vote for the Raising of money to Satisfy the said Judgment purposely Concealing the use & Design to which it is to be Applied with an Intent as your Petitioner Conceives both to Oblige him to Collect it and the Quakers to pay a part of it who are Really exempted by Law from paying any part to the use the said Money was truly designed for, and in Committing the List of Rates whereby the said Money is to be Raised the Selectmen or Major part of them made use of Contrivance & Artifice to Impose on yo^r Petitioner to get it into his hands—in which all Denomenations are Taxed—That as the Laws of the Province do not Oblige any Man or Men, to pay towards the Support of any way of Worship, but that which he, or they attend, much Less will they Compel any Man, to be a Collector of money, which is to be Applied, to the Support of that worship, from which he Dissents. And the Money Adjudged to M^r Adams, Comes as fairly under these Rules, as any Sums to be Raised for M^r Gilman, whom they look upon to be their Legal Minister of the Gospel—WHEREFORE your Petitioner Humbly Prays, That he may by a Special Act, or a Resolve of the Gen^l Assembly, be Discharged & Exempted from Collecting the Rates Committed to him for the purpose aforesaid, That the Quakers living in the said Town who are Rated in the Said List & for the End afores^d may be Discharged & Excused from paying any part thereof, as they are Illegally & unjustly Assessed thereto, and that the whole matter Respecting the premises may be Determined by the Authority of the General Assembly, as it will be preventive of Law Suits, & the Expen^ce of much Money & time and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

Daniel meder

[3-205] [*Petition for a Grant of Land, 1749.*]

TO HIS EXCELLENCY Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council for Said Province—

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Durham in Said Province SHEWS THAT your Petitioners are Persons Desirous of Cultivating and Improving of Lands and would Exert themselves Industriously for that Purpose if they might Obtain a Suitable Spot which would Incurage & Spirit

their Industry THAT Some of Your Petitioners have been long in Waiting for Such a Season as would be proper to make Grants of the unappropriated Lands within Said Province which Your Petitioners humbly Hope Your Excellency will Judge this to be—

WHEREFORE your Petitioners Humbly Pray that Your Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Council will be pleased to Grant to them & their associates A tract of Land of Six Miles Square in Some place where you shall think best & where the Land is good & your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| y ^e Reverant John | William Parker Esq ^r | abraham Benick |
| Adams | Ebnezer Smith | John Drew |
| Joseph Chesle | Joseph Drew Junir | Samuel Buss |
| Jacob Tash | winborn Adams | william Durgain |
| Francis Drew | John Bickford Junir | Joseph wheeler |
| David Davis | Jeremiah Drisco | James Durgain Junir |
| Benjamin Benick | Elifalet Daniels | { James Davis Junir |
| Paul Chesle | Joseph Baker | { Son to David Davis |
| John Durgain | Benjamin Jenkins | Teworthy Durgain |
| Jonathan Durgain | John Cromit | Sam ^{ll} Joy |
| Sam ^{ll} willey 3 ^d | william Shepard | Sam ^{ll} Bickford |
| James Burnnum | James Smith | Sam ^{ll} Durgain |
| Eliezer Bickford | Ebenezer Davis | Benjamin Mathes |
| Eliacum Bickford | Winthrop Smith | Jur. |
| Thomas Bickford | Stephen Wille | William Wille |
| Ebenezer Durgain | Benmore Dudy | Benjamin Mathes |
| John Kent | Daniel Rogers | Robert M ^e Daniels |
| Nickalus Gogin | Sam ^{ll} Adams | Valintine Mathes |
| Robert Mason | Job Runals Junior | Miles Randel |
| Joshua Durgain | Simon Randel | Thomas Young |
| Nathanael Randel | James Drisco | Junr. |
| Joseph Smith son to | Col. Smith | Sam ^{ll} Warner |

[R. 336] [Dr. Samuel Adams's Petition.]

Province of New Hampshire.

To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t Gen^l & Governor in Chief in and over his Maj^{ts} said Province to the Hon^{ble} Council & House of representatives of said Province in Gen^l Assembly convened June 1753—

The Petition of Samuel Adams of Durham Physician humbly Sheweth—

That in the year 1748—The souldiers in his Majestys Service within said Province under the Command of Cap^t Jon^a Ches-

ley were many of them very sickly with y^e yellow feaver & other distempers Contagious and Mortall—and having no Physician appointed by the Government to administer any thing unto them Your Petitioner at y^e desire of said Captain Chesley took many and very dangerous Journeys to visit y^e said soldiers at Nottingham and did administer to them in their sickness such medicines as was suitable and Necessary by means whereof many recovered after long and tedious Sickness The Medicines which your Petitioner used were his own Purchase & Several months attendance with y^e same has been very Expensive to your Petitioner & for all which he has had nothing— * * *

Sam^l Adams

[He asks to be paid the amount of the following bill out of the province treasury. The petition was "Dismissed."—Ed.]

[R. 337]

The Account of what I Did in Doctring Soldirs under the Command of Cap^t Jonathan Chesle from y^e first of July to the Last of September 1748

| | |
|--|----------|
| Derbon Black D ^r to 15 Journeys or visits to him at Nottingham at 15/0 p ^r Journey | £11. 5.0 |
| To Medesons & tendance | 6. 0.0 |
| Eleazer Bickford D ^r for Ditto | 8. 0.0 |
| Benjamin Davis D ^r for Ditto | 7.10.0 |
| John Mondro D ^r to Ditto | 3. 0.0 |
| Ezekiel Lethers Junir D ^r to Ditto | 4. 0.0 |
| John Jenkins D ^r to visits tendance & medesons | 5. 0.0 |
| Joseph Ellis D ^r to Ditto | 2. 0.0 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 46.15.0 |

Errors Excepted

Sam^{ll} Adams

meaning new tenor

[R. 339] [*Hercules Mooney's Petition, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The Petition of Hercules Moony Humbly Sheweth

That your petitioner had a son Viz^t Benjamⁿ Moony who is a Minor, that Inlisted himself a soldier, in the Late Expedition to Crown point under Cap^t John Shepherd in Col^o Nathan^l Meserve Esq^r Regiment, who had the Misfortune to be Captivated by the Enemy, (with his Cap^t) who took from him his Gun

Cloaths &c, & by said Misfortune Lost all his other Cloathing &c, which was Left at the Camp, a particular acc^t of the sundrys is herewith exhibited. By which your Petitioner is a very great Sufferer, & is more than your Petitioner at present is able to bear—Wherefore your petitioner Prays an allowance for said acc^t, or such an allowance as you in your great Wisdom shall think proper, and your petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray &c

Hercules Moony

[The account presented amounted to £73, and he was allowed £18.5.—ED.]

[3-208] [*Proceedings of Town-Meeting, 1755.*]

At a town-meeting held at the falls In Durham on monday the 20th Day of october 1755

Then Lieut Philip was chosen moderator for the well Regulating of said meeting then liut Jones had 29 vots & Left Thomas had 28 vots then the moderator Declered that Lieut Jones was the man chosen but then there appeared Seven men that Desired a pole which was granted and accordingly thay had a pole & then as it was Reported that Lieut Thomas had 39 vots or polers, and Lieut Jones had 32 vots or polers whereupon The moderator Directed me to enter Lieutenant Thomas a Representative and emedetly Desolved the meeting a trew copy
Sam^{el} Smith Town Cler

[3-209] [*Relative to the Line between Durham and Nottingham—addressed to the General Assembly.*]

THE HUMBLE PETITION of Samuel Smith & Ebenezer Smith Esq^r and Ephraim Davis yoeman all of Durham in said Province as Agents for and in behalf of the said Town of Durham SHEWS That there is a Dispute between the Inhabitants of said Town and the Inhabitants & Proprietors of the Town of Nottingham part of which joins on said Durham concerning the Dividing Line between them for the Settlement of which several attempts have been made by Committees which have hitherto been Ineffectual for that Purpose and there is Reason to think that all essays of that kind will hereafter be so (if any were to be made) as such Committees are Parties in the Dispute & Interested in the event. That your Petitioners apprehend the Line of Durham at the head ought to be the same that was the Line of Dover before Durham was Incorporated which began at a Certain Red Oak Tree which was formerly Fixed as the Westerly cor-

ner bounds & from thence runs on a Strait Line to a Pitch Pine Stump which is a Corner Bound of Barrington the course of which Line will be now found North about forty Degrees and half East in which Line many old marked Trees are Still to be found to which Durham ought to come & to hold—but the Agents for said Nottingham Deny it and alledge the course of said Line from said Red Oak ought to be North forty two Degrees East by which many of the Lots of Land laid out by Durham will be Curtailed & the Possessors under Durham Ousted—Wherefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that as there is no Probability the said Line will ever be otherways settled a Committee of a suitable Number of Disinterested Persons may be appointed and authorized to hear the Parties Concerned & finally to settle & Determine how the said Line shall be Run, & to Run & mark out the same and that your Petitioners may have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Pray &c

Sam^l Smith Ephraim Davis

We Sn. In the behalef of Ebenezer Smith

[April 20th, 1758. In H. of Rep. the parties were heard, and Jeremiah Webster, of Kingston, and Samuel Emerson, of Chester, were appointed a committee, to which the council added Joseph Newmarch, to “examine into the matter and report.” They reported as follows (Town Boundaries, p. 166) :—ED.]

Prov : of New-Hamp Sept. y^e 24th 1759—We the subscribers being a Com^{tee} appointed by the General Court to hear the Parties & examine into the matters in Dispute, relative to the within Petition; have accordingly so done, & from what appears from the evidences laid before us, do report, That the westerly corner bounds of Dover, before Durham was incorporated; begins at a certain Red oak Tree & from thence to run Northerly on a straight line to a Pitch Pine Stump which is the corner bound of Barrington & which line so far we adjudge to be the true head line of Durham

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Jos : Newmarch | } | Com ^{tee} |
| Jeremy Webster | | |
| Sam ^l Emerson | | |

[In H. of Rep., Jan. 18, 1760, the report was accepted. Council concurred.]

[R. 341] [*Abstract from Jonathan Bunker's Petition.*]

["John Mathews servant Boye" to Jonathan Bunker, cordwainer, was impressed and sent to Charlestown in

Major Thomas Tash's company, in August, 1757, had his gun broken by the fall of a tree, and asks for an allowance, which was granted to the amount of forty shillings.—ED.]

[R. 338]

[Hezekiah Marsh was in Crown Point expedition, 1756.—ED.]

[R. 343.] [*George Barns's Petition, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The Humble Petition of George Barns of Durham in said Province humbly shews—That your Petitioner was a Soldier in the Pay of this Province in an Expedition to Crown Point in Col^o Meserveys Regiment in the year 1756 and in the month of June [August] in said year was taken prisoner by the Indians near Lake George and Carried to S^t Francis by the Indians aforesaid and suffered many severitys and hardships being striped of his Cloaths and beat with Staves and Clubs &c—where he Tarry'd till Major Rogers Surprized, and took the aforesaid Place when he returned with him to Crown Point in November 1759 wherefore your Petitioner Prays the Consideration of the General Assembly in making him such allowance as they in their Great Wisdom shall think adequate to his Losses and Sufferings and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

January 21st 1761.

George Barns

[In H. of Rep., Feb. 10, 1761, voted that George Barns be allowed one hundred and seventy-two pounds, new tenor, in which the council concurred.—ED.]

[R. 344] [*Abstract from Petition of Hercules Mooney.*]

[In 1761, Hercules Mooney petitioned for an allowance for care of and getting home his son Jonathan, who "was a Soldier in the Canada Expedition in Coll. Goffs Regiment." He states that he was taken sick with a fever at Crown Point, taken to Albany, and there had the small-pox. He was allowed £13-6-3, York money, and £8-5, sterling.—ED.]

[R. 347] [*Abstract from John Layn's Petition.*]

[In a petition dated May 26, 1761, John Layn, of Durham, gunsmith, states, "that he inlisted in the service of

this Province in the Late Expedition for the Total Reduction of Canada, with Cap^t Samuel Gerrish, under the Command of Coll: John Goffe, and was promised by them that if he would work as armorer for the Reg^t he should have pay as such." He further states that he furnished his own tools, worked as armorer, and had received no extra pay. He was allowed £4 sterling.—ED.]

[R. 346] [*Petition of Major Thomas Tash, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The petition of Major Thomas Tash Esq^r

Humbly Shews, That your petitioner being in the service & pay of this Governm^t, In the year 1757, & being appointed to the Chief Command of that party of the provincial Troops, that were posted at N^o 4, on Connecticut River, & by reason of the great Desertion of the Troops under my Command found myself under a necessity to send an Express to Inform his Excellency the State & Condition of the Forces under my Command there (& knowing it to be my bounden Duty as well as for the Interests of the Governm^t) I Imprest a horse belonging to Cap^t Trueworthy Lad. & sent an Express to His Excellency to Inform him of all the Deserters, & the State of the Forces there, & In Coming back the Horse by hard riding & fell lame, & the Express was oblig'd to leave him at the Tavern at peterbourour & get another. The person with whome the horse was left makes his Demands on me for Eight pounds Old Tenor, & Cap^t Ladd Likewise for Thirty pounds old Ten^r more for the use of his horse, which was much Damaged, & your petitioner Is oblig'd to pay said money & has no way of Relief unless aided by your Honours: Wherefore your petitioner humbly prays this matter may be taken into Consideration, & that you would In your great Wisdom & known Clemency Grant him such Relief as may appear to your Honours most reasonable & Just & your petitioner shall as In Duty bound ever pray &c—

Tho^s: Tash

Dismissed June 18th 1761

[R. 347] [*Benjamin Mooney's Petition, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The petition of Benjamin Mooney of Durham—

Humbly shews that Your petitioner being a Lieu^t in Cap^t Samuel Gerrishes Company of the New Hamps^r Regiment In the Year 1762, While In Said Service was appointed by R. Elliot L^t Col^o of the 55th Regiment to Carry S^r Jeffrey Amherst

Dispatches to Cannada, to His Excellency Governour Gage there, & to wait his Excellency's order for Returning back, As may more fully Appear by Said orders Given me, which is herewith presented, On which Embassy Your petitioner was at Great Cost & Charge, Viz^t thirty five dollars & a half, by being placed at a house In Mountreal where their Extravagant Demand was a dollar a day for thirty three days, for Victuals Only, & at the Isle of Nox at the Charge of two & a half Dollars for Victuals for himself & men all which your petitioner is still out off to this Day as he Could have no Compensation therefor, & which money Your petitioner borrowed to pay Said Extraordinary demand of one Malcum of Boston, & which is not paid him yet Altho he demanded it of your petitioner, he being not Able to discharge the same besides a Large Charge of Expence at s^d time for myself WHEREFORE your petitioner humbly Prays Your Excellency & Honours that you'd be pleased to take his Case under your Consideration, & Grant him Such Relief therein as You In your great Wisdom Shall think proper & Your petitioner as In Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c

Benj^a Mooney

Memorandum of Benj^a Mooneys Expences at montreal

| | |
|---|------------|
| To provision Boug ^t for myself and three men at the Isle Nox | 2½ Dollars |
| To 33 days board at montreal he borrowed this money of Malcum | 33 dollars |

[R. 348]

Orders to Lieu^t Mooney to carry the Mail to Montreal unopen^d

This with a letter for General Gage & one for His Secretary
N. B. the party is victuld to y^e 3 March Included

J Wilkins
maj^t of Brigade

By Lieut. Colonel Robert Elliot commanding His Majestys Forces in the Northern district, To Lieu^t Mooney of New-hampshire Troops

Agreeable to The Generals S^r Jeffery Amherst Orders of this Ins^t You will take charge of the mail for Canada containing His Excellency's dispatches for Governor Gage & letters from England for the Troops in Canada, and proceed on your march early tomorrow morning with the four men order^d to carry the mail to Montreal, which you will deliver to Gabriel Maturin Esq^r

And as this mail may require the most convenient Speed, all Officers are desired to forward you Accordingly with Horses

&c, In this case you will leave your four men at the place you take Horse till you return from Montreal, Otherwise you will march your party there, and wait His Excellency General Gage's Orders to return to this place.

All Officers are hereby required to assist you with provisions &c

Given under my hand at Crown point this 20 Feb^r 1762

R : Elliot

L^t Col : 55th Reg^t

[3-211] [*Relative to a Division of the Town.*]

Province of Newhamp^r at a Publick Town meeting, (Legally Notified) held at the Meeting house at The Falls in Durham, on monday The Third day of September AD. 1764—Joseph Atkinson Esq^r was Chosen Moderator, for the well Regulating Said Meeting—Voted That There Should be a Committee Chosen To Run a Line across Said Town of Durham, from Paul Chessley^s house, near madbury Line; to the house of John Smart upon Newmarket Line being according to The Request of Sundry of The Inhabitants of Said Town, Requesting That; all the upper or western end of Said Town, above the afores^d Line, may be voted, to be Sat of as a Parish—Voted That Leiu^t Joseph Sias, m^r Miles Randel, and, m^r Nicholas Duda of The Petitioners and Capt Benjamin Smith, Cap^t Stephen Jones, and M^r Thomas Chesley, of The Lower Part of The Town, be The persons, to be Employed as a Committee for The afores^d purpose—Voted, Likewise, That if the Said Committee, Dont Think The Line petitioned for to be Suitable to fix any other Line That They may Unanimously agree upon and make Report Thereof accordingly to The town on The 24 Inst. The meeting adjourned To The 24 day of September Instant, to 2 of the Clock in The afternoon. Met according to adjournment, Sep^t 24th and The Committee made The Following Report in writing, under their hands, To the Town.

Whereas, we The Subscribers, were Chosen, at a Publick Town meeting, of The Inhabitants of Durham, the 3^d Ins^t To Run a Line, across Said Town, agreeable to a Petition, Exhibited to Said Town, by Sundry of the Inhabitants Requesting, the western part thereof, to be Sat of into a Parish, it was Likewise voted—That if we The Subscribers, Dont Think the Line Petitioned for proper, to fix Some Other Line, that we might agree upon, and make Report to the Town accordingly. Pursuant Thereto, we have Run the Line petitioned for, and indeavored to Veiw, and Inform ourselves, into the Circum-

stances of Said town, and Do Unanimously agree, That a Strait Line; Beginning one hundred and Twenty four Rods, above the Dwelling house, of paul Chesley, on madbury Line, and So to Run a Strait point across to Newmarket Line, to one mile and a half, above the Dwelling house, of John Smart may be a Suitable Line.

N B it is the intent of the above Resolve, that the Line Fixed upon, Run from the house of paul Chesley, North 6 degrees East, to Madbury Line, & then to Measure up 124 rods, by Said madbury Line.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Stephen Jones | Miles Randel | } Committee |
| Benjamin Smith | Joseph Sias | |
| Nicholas Dudea | Thomas Chesley | |

The meeting adjourned, to the 8th day of October next, to 2 of the Clock in the afternoon. October 8th met according to adjournment, and Voted That Cap^t Benjamin Smith And Leiu^t Joseph Sias, be appointed, a Committee, to draw a Vote in writing for the western part of the Town to Be Sat of as a parish and Bring it to the Town, at Some publick townmeeting—the Town meeting Dissolved.

November 18th 1765—at a Publick Town meeting, (Legally Notified) of the Inhabitants of Durham, held this day at the falls in Durham—Joseph Atkinson Esq^r Chosen moderator, for Said meeting—Cap^t Benj^m Smith Esq^r and Cap^t Joseph Sias Brought the following Vote to the Town in writing—That The western End of Said Town of Durham, be voted, to be Sat of as a parish, Agreeable to the Result or a Report of a Committee, (Chosen and appointed for that purpose,) and Brought into publick Town meeting, the 24th day of Sep^r 1764—with this addition, thereto, that the Said parish, (when an act may be Obtained for that purpose,) Shall take Their proportionable Part of the poor now Supported by the whole town, and Likewise That the Said parish Shall not in any Respect Interfere with any Lands belonging to the proprietors in Said Town—Voted, that the above vote, Brought By Cap^{ts} Smith and Sias, is agreeable to the Sense of the Town, and that it be Recorded accordingly.

The above, & within, are True Coppyes, as on Durham Town Records.

attest—Eben^r Thompson T Cler

[The west part was set off and incorporated as a parish by the name of Lee, Jan. 16, 1766.—ED.]

[3-212] [*Petition for a Division of the Town.*]

Province of New Hamp'r To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his majesty's Province of New Hampshire to the Honourable his majestys Counsel and the House of Representatives in General assembly Convened—*The Petition* of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Durham most humbly *Sheweth* That in said Town of Durham there are Inhabitants Sufficient for two Parishes and to maintain and support the Charge thereof That many of the Inhabitants lives more then Eight miles from the Place of Publick Worship and where all Town meetings and the Publick of Affairs are holden and Transacted which Renders it very Difficult for them to Attend there at any time but more Especially in the winter Season that the Consequence thereof it is Probable will be that many of the Youth in said Town will be brought up in great Ignorance unless the Difficulties be removed and the Petitioners are in a great measure prevented the use of their Privilidges in their present Situation—*Wherefore* your Petitioners most humbly pray your Excellency and Honours, that there may be two Parishes in said Town and that the Dividing Line between the Two Parishes Beginning at Paul Chesles house at Beech Hill so (Called) then North Six Degrees East to the line Between said Durham and Medbury then running westerly on said line one hundred and twenty four Rods then Beginning and Running from thence to New Market line to one mile and half above the Dwelling House of John Smart which Line was agreed upon by a Committee Chosen by the Said Town of Durham in the year one thousand Seven hundred and Sixty four and Voted in Publick Town meeting and so to Include the whole of said Durham above this line *We therefore humbly* pray your Excellency and your Honours to take our Case into your wise Considerations and Set said Parish off by said Line with the Powers and Privilidges of Other Towns or Parishes in this Province and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever pray—

Dated at Durham November 18th 1765

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Hercules Mooney | Joshua Woodman | Israel Randel |
| Gideon Mathes | Jun ^r | Francis Durgin |
| Winthrop Durgin | John Giles | Joshua Burnam |
| Elijah Denbo | Joseph meder | Samuel Carter |
| Samuel Jackson | Thomas Huckins | Thomas huckins jr |
| Joseph Thomson | Nicholas Duda | Solomon Sias |
| James Hall | Eben ^r Lethers | frances Allen |
| Jonathan runnels | William Renely | William Cashey |
| Samuel pitman | francis Eliot | Edward Scales |

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| John follett | Benjamin Bickford | Samuel bickford |
| Benjamin Bradly | mason Rendel | william Rendel |
| Joseph Jackson | Joseph Clay | Job Runels |
| Josiah Johnson | Nathaniel Stevens | John Clark |
| Timothy Davis | Jun. | David Davis |
| thomas Yourk | Bartholomew Smart | Gorge tutle |
| stoten tutle | Nichole Tuttel | Jonathan Stevens |
| Miles Randal | Samuel Burley | Zaccheus Clough |
| Samuel Langley | Nathaniel Randal | John Davis |
| Moses Davis Jun ^r | Reubin Hill | James Giles Bunker |
| Will ^m Waymoth | Clement Davis | Robert York |
| James Davis | James Watson | Jonathan Stevens |
| Hanary tufts | Nathaniel frost | Ebenezer Dow jun |
| nathanel Watson | Samuel watson | Nathaniel Watson Jun ^r |
| Andew watson | Josiah Durgin | Joseph Huckins |
| Isaac Small | John Durgin | John Shaw Jun ^r |
| Joseph Hicks | John Shaw | Ichabod Denbow |
| John Sanborn | Benjamin Woodman | Thomas Wille |
| Edward Hill | Samuel Sias | John Snell |
| Thomas Snell | David munsey | Eli Clark |
| Eli Clark Jun ^r | Benj ^a Clark | hunkin Dam |
| Eben Randel | Moses Dam | Thomas Noble |
| Micah Emerson | joseh doe | Ebenezer Jones |
| Joseph Clark | Benj ^a Durgin | Nathel Sias |
| Joseph Sias | Ebn Jones Jun ^r | Nathaniel Stevens |
| John Elliot | | |

[See preceding document.—ED.]

[R. 350] [*Account of Blankets furnished Soldiers.*]

1775—Acc^t of the Blankets provided by the Selectmen of Durham for the Soldiers gone in the Army—

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 3 at 9s | | £1,, 7,, 0 |
| 12 at 10s | | . 6—0. |
| 3 a 11s | | . 1—13— |
| 20 a 12s | | 12— 0 |
| 3 a 13s | | 1—19— |
| 12 a 14s | | 8— 8 |

53 in Numb £31— 7—0

The Names of the Men who had the Blankets are as follows—Cap^t Winborn Adams Lieu^t John Griffin, Ens Zebⁿ Drew — Robert Leathers, Nicholas Tuttle — William Smart — Sam^l Demerit Isaac Tuttle — James Thompson — Joseph Rendal — Charles Bamford Tim^o Davis — John Collins — John Drisco — John Starboard — Eliph^a Durgin ; John Buss — Sam^l H

Clark—Tobias Leighton—Joseph Bickford—Solomon Runals—John Colbath—Dudley Davis, Lemuel Nutter—John Neal—John Shepard—James Leighton, David Cops—Abijah Blassdel—Will^m Adams—Stephen J. Thomas, Joseph Smith—Jon^a Williams—James Thomas—David Rand; Eb^a Chesley Thomas Polluck—Robert Willie—Sam^l Sawyer—Thomas Davis—Enoch Green—Nath^l Jenkans—Moses Medar J^r Jerem^y Young—Sam^l Runals, Sam^l Thompson—John Clough—Trueworthy D Durgin Sam^l Clough John Glover, Micah Davis, Thomas Footman & Philip Durgin—

The two last belong to Cap^t Shortridge's Company, the others to Cap^t Adams's—

Samuel Chesle } Select
John Smith— } Men

Exeter Septem^r 20th 1775

Received the Contents in full of Sam^l Brooks

John Smith

[R. 351] [*David Cops's Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Councill & the Honourable House of Representatives now Convened at Exeter for the State aforesaid—

The Humble petition of David Cops in said State Wheel-right—

That the Said Cops has from the Beginning been in the Service of the United States, Untill the 11th October past—The s^d Petitioner was in the Action on the Lake, Under the Command of General Arnold, at which time & place the Said petitioner received a Shot in the Knee, which he Can't have Extracted, Besides the loss of his Cloaths, and the Expences of thirty & a half Dollars in geting home, so that your Petitioner by no means Cannot Work, at his Trade, by means of all which said Petitioner, is Reduced to the lowest Ebb of poverty, that he Can't procure the Necessaries of Life, for himself, Wife, & two Children, which Oblidges him to make his Case known, to your Honours, That your Honours in your great Wisdom, may see Cause to Relieve this Object of Charity So doing your Petitioner will ever pray &c—

David Cops

Durham 7th Jan^y 1777

[R. 352]

These certify that the Subscriber, Surgeon of Col^o Wingate's Regiment the last Summer at Mount Independence has by more than fifty Men's Testimony Reason to think that L^t

David Copps of Durham in the State of New Hampshire was wounded by a Musket Ball on Board the Fleet late commanded by Gen^l Arnold on Lake Champlain, the last Fall, and the Subscribers (after said Copp's Return to his Reg^t) dressed his Wound untill the Reg^t was dismiss'd, and the Subscribers likewise knew that said Copps had the Articles specified in Captⁿ Arnold's Acc^t as he was in absolute Necessity of them by Reason of his loosing almost all his Cloathing in the unhappy Affair of the Defeat of our fleet—

Sam^l Wigglesworth

N. B. The Shirt tore mentioned in Captⁿ Arnold's Acc^t was to dress L^t Copp's Wound—

Durham Jan^y 13, 1777.

MEMORANDUM of the Articles Lost by David Cops aboard the fleet—

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Blanket | 3 Pair Stockings |
| 3 Shirts | 2 Pair of Breeches |
| 2 Pair Shoes | 1 Jacket— |
| Catrouch Box & powder Horn | |

David Cops

[R. 353] [*Town's Account for Bounties.*]

1778 The State of New Hampshire to the Selectmen of Durham Dr.

Aug^t 5th To Cash advanced to the following persons who engaged as volunteers in the Rhode Island Expedition Viz^t Timothy Emerson, John Smith, James Thomas Trueworthy Davis Durgin, Benjamin Smith, Jon^a Chesley Jeremiah Pindar, John Spencer, Thomas Applebee & Arthur Bran^scomb at £10 each

£100, 0, 0

Errors excepted

J. Smith

Committee on Claims } Jon^a Chesley is made up in Col^l
Exeter March 1st 1780 } Wingates Staff Roll; the others served in Captⁿ Hiltons Comp^y the 10£ is stop^d for each of them in the Rolls

J. Gilman

Rece'd an Order on the Treasury for one hundred pounds in behalf of the Selectmen of Durham

J. Smith

[R. 354]

[Account of Valentine Mathes for supplying soldiers' families from April, 1778, to March, 1779:]

James Edgerley's family,
Edward Burnham's family,

£209-7-6
36-9-0

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| John Mitchell's family, | 10-11-6 |
| John Drisco's family, | 5-8-0 |
| Samuel Thompson's family, | 5-8-0 |
| David Copp's family, | 5-8-0 |

The accounts are itemized, and he charged £11-8-0 for his trouble.—ED.]

[R. 355 to 358] [*Accounts for Supplies to Soldiers' Families.*]

[These documents are detailed bills against the town for supplies furnished soldiers' families. The editor thought it unnecessary to copy them entire. The following are the names and amounts :

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| John Clough, supplies furnished Mrs. Durgin, | £60, 0, 0 |
| Jonathan Woodman do do John Hull | 630, 2, 9 |
| do do do do Stephen Noble | 556, 15, 0 |
| do do do do John Neel | _____ |
| do do do do John Mitchel | 368, 1, 0 |
| do do do do James Edgerley | 439, 19, 10 |
| do do do do John Drisco | |
| | "Widor" 42, 13, 0 |
| do do do do Samuel | |
| | Thompson 23, 5, 0 |
| do do do do John Colings | 10, 18, 0 |
| do do do do Downing | |
| | Colbath 193, 13, 6 |
| do do do do Samuel Will- | |
| | iams 50, 8, 0 |
| do do do do Henry Durgin | 6, 0, 0 |
| do do do do John Smith | 120, 16, 0 |

The foregoing are in 1779 & Jan'y, 1780.

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Jeremiah Folsom, supplies to Mrs. Noble, 1782, | 21, 5, 7 |
| do do do to Mrs. Henry Dur- | |
| | gin, 1782, 17, 8, 8 |

—ED.]

[R. 359] [*Samuel Ward's Certificate.*]

This may certifie all whom it may Concern that I the Subscriber was in the service of the United States as a Soldier in the Second Regiment of New Hampshire and continued in Said Regiment till the army was disbanded

Samuel Ward

Durham Jan 27th 1786.

Sworn before Geo: Ffrost Ju^s Peace

[3-214]

[*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

Pursuant to an order from the General Court of Newhampshire we the Subscribers have taken an Inventory of all the polls of twenty one years and upwards paying taxes in the Town of Durham and find them to amount to 190.—

December 10th 1783—

| | | |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|
| John Griffen | } | Selectmen of Durham. |
| Ebenezer Smith | | |

Durham December 15th 1783 Then the above named John Griffin & Ebenezer Smith personally appeared before me the Subscriber and made solemn oath that the foregoing Inventory was truly and impartially taken to the best of their knowledge
Before Eben^r Thompson Jus peace

[R. 360]

[*Henry Durgin's Certificate.*]

I Henry Durgin of Durham hereby Certify that while I was a Soldier for said Town & engaged during the war in Cap^t Fogg's Company—I received a Wound in one of my Feet, when at home on Furlough in or about the year 1782—& that Doct^r Nathaniel Kidder of Newmarket had the care of s^d wound until it was healed—

Durham Jan^{ry} 30th 1786—

Henry ^{his} × Durgin—
mark

Sworn before John Smith 3^d Jus. Peace

[3-215]

[*Petition in favor of John Smith, 3d.*]

To his Excellency The president and the Honorable The Council of the State of New Hampshire.

Although we are convinced That in General the Multiplying of Officers while it only serves to gratify the ambition of Individuals Tends to bring Contempt upon Government & Injury upon the Subjects yet we flatter ourselves that your Excellency and Honors will pardon an application in behalf of a Gentleman who has not only distinguished himself as a patriot but from his Early youth by an upright & irreproachable Conduct gained the Esteem & Confidence of all his fellow Citizens who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance. we beg leave humbly to suggest that although the number of Justices in the Town of Durham may be more than proportionably Equal to that of the other Towns in the State—an Acting Justice near Durham Falls may still be usefull to the publick & for that office we

humbly recommend John Smith the Third Esq^r This Gentleman at the Commencement of our Contest with Great Britain took a decided part in favor of his Country was in its Councils till he saw freedom & Independance Established in America—The proficiency he has made in Literature is not equalled by many, his Love of Justice & Talent of discernment has occasioned his being appointed as a referee in the most important Disputes & procured him the Honor of being appointed a Special Justice of the Inferior Court. If therefore an additional Justice can consistently be made in this Town we rest assured that your Excellency & Honors will not only pardon but applaud our Endeavors to promote a man of unblemished reputation of inflexible Integrity whose patriotism has been conspicuous amidst the greatest and most Threatning Distresses of his Country whose services have been so Essential and whose fortune has been much injured by his attention to the public Interest and permit us to add a Gentleman to whose Decision we can with the highest confidence submit the most important Disputes which we may be involved in—We have the honor to be with the most unfeigned respect—Your Excellency & honors most obedient Servants—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Joseph Thomas | Joseph Chesly | Henry Tucker |
| David Davis | Tho ^s Taylor | Daniel Davis |
| Benmer Duday | Benjamin Doe | Benjamin Doe J ^r |
| Reuben Bickford | Ephraim Clough | John Clough |
| Ephraim Clough J ^r | Eleazer Bennick | John Langly |
| Jabez Langley | David Davis jun ^r | John Stevenson |
| Samuel Chesle | Phillip Chesle | John Libbey |
| Joseph Stevens | Rob ^t Lapish | Jn ^o Colbath |
| John Blydenburgh | Isaac Medar | Nath ^l Demerit |
| Lemuel Jackson | Eben ^r Thompson | Ebenz ^r Crummett |
| Samuel Pinkham | Jun ^r | volintine Laighton |
| Ephraim Davis | James Wille | James thomas |
| Zebulon Durgin | James Gilman | Ebenezer Thompson |
| Robert Leathers | Jn ^o Sullivan | Enoch Jackson |
| William Jackson | Patrick Furness | George Knight |
| Samuel Rogers | Stephen Jones | Eph ^r Folsom |
| Eben ^r Perry | Geo. Chesle | James Laighton |
| Abednego Leathers | Tho ^s Pinkham | Tim ^o Emerson |
| Thomas Wille | Step ⁿ Cogan | John Pendergast |
| Thomas Rolins | Truworthy Durgin | John Monrow |
| Thomas Crommett | Edmun Pendergast | Joseph Wormwood |
| Eben ^r Sullivan | Joseph Wormwood | J ^r |
| Jeremiah Bunam | Step ⁿ Parker | Aaron Chesley |
| Robert Wells Jun ^r | Sam ^l Wigglesworth | Jeremiah Wille |
| Archelaus Wood- | volintine Wells | John Stevenson |
| man Jur | Robert Rogers | Jer ^e Folsom |

Noah Jewett
Joseph Durgin
John Griffen

Abijah Pinkham
Samuel ^{his} × Cromett
_{mark}

Theophilus Hardy
George Dam
Denis Pendergast

[3-216] [*Samuel Odiorne asks to be appointed Commander of the Fort.*]

To his Excellency John Sullivan Esquire President of the State of New Hampshire, and the Hon^a the Privy Council

The humble Petition of Samuel Odiorne of Durham in the county of Strafford and State of New Hampshire sheweth

That whereas the Castle at the Entrance of Piscataway River is now destitute of a Commander and that the appointment of such Officer will come under your Excellency's and honor's consideration at your next Session—and your Petitioner thinking himself well qualified for that hon^a and important trust—from his long and faithful services to his Country during the late War—as also from long Experience of a military life in former Wars—Prays that your Excellency and honors wou'd take the matter under your wise consideration and appoint him to the Command of the same Fort. If upon examination your Excellency and honors find him qualified therefor

And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray &c
Durham 4th September 1786

Sam^l Odiorne

[3-219] [*Petition of the Inhabitants relative to a Road.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and house of Representatives now convened at Dover within & for the State of New Hampshire—

Humbly shews the Subscribers Inhabitants of Durham, tha a highway leading from the Meeting house in said Town to fox point ferry (so called) is very crooked and embarassed with a very steep and almost impassable Hill, that the hill may be avoided by Altering the highway for about 40 or 50 rods. That by laying out a new road directly from the Meeting house to the Barrs used to enter from the road now used to pass to Samuel Burnhams dwelling house will shorten the distance about one half, it being nearly a mile by the way now used That the owners of the land thro' which the new road will pass, can conveniently take the old road in lieu of the land taken for the new as they all adjoin it; and are willing to have the new road laid out, but as there is no provision made by law to Authorize the Selectmen to shut up the old highway, or to exchange it for

a new one, we are under the Necessity of Applying to your Honours for relief in the premises—

Wherefore your Petitioners pray, that they may have leave to bring in a Bill authorising a Committee to compleat the aforesaid bussiness, and that your honours will pass the same into a law, and your Petition^{rs} as in duty bound will ever pray—

Durham June 13th 1792

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Volintine Mathes | John Blydenburgh | Robe ^t Burnham |
| Valentine Mathes jun ^{er} | Tho ^s Pinkham | Valentine Langley |
| Robert Bickford | winthrop Bickford | Abraham Perkins |
| Obediah Langle | James Wille | Stephen Brock |
| Theophilus Hardy | William Brock | Michael Ryan |
| Jon ^a Woodman | John Langley | Joseph Richardson |
| John Stevens | Tim ^o Meserve | Joseph Langley |
| | Jed ⁱ Pinder | |

[3-220] [*Petition against a Change of Road.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives to be convened at Dover in the State of New Hampshire on the first Wednesday of June Anno Domini 1792—

The Subscribers, being Inhabitants of the Town of Durham in said State—willing that every necessary alteration should be made in our Public highways—and anxious that the intended communication between Concord & this Town should take place—Yet, must beg leave, humbly to remonstrate against the alterations proposed by your Honour's Committee in runing through said Town—

The nature of our ground is such, that very little of it can be improved for Roads, without great expense—And we think it almost impracticable ever to make a good road on the land they have run upon—but are certain, that it will require many years, with large sums of money, to make it passable with safety—Besides, we cannot conceive the advantages that will accrue to the Public from the amendment, will be adequate to the injury the Town must sustain ;—as we shall be obliged to purchase the land for the new road at an extravagant price, and likewise forced, not only to support that, but also the old one for the benefit of individuals long since settled upon it, a great part of whose interest must fall a sacrafice to the proposed exchange—When the saving in distance will never exceed one hundred Rods, & that soon to be lost by the Traveler in passing over hills and through mires, which will abundantly be found. The way now occupied is free from Hills, and with much labour,

for a hundred years, is now a very good Road—vastly better, we presume, than the new one will be the same number of years hence—

For those Reasons We humbly pray that so much of the Report of your Honour's Committee as respects the alterations of highways in said Durham may not be received or accepted by your Honours

And we as in duty will ever pray—

Durham 21st May 1792—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Step ⁿ Evans | Benjamin Tripp | Lemuel Nutter |
| Reuben Bickford | John Bickford | Jeremiah Burnam |
| Eben ^r Meserve | John Langley | Robert Lapish Jun ^r |
| Benj ⁿ Thompson | J Boynton | Thomas Pendexter |
| Ephraim Smith | Samuel Edgerly J ^r | James thomas |
| Ebenezer Durell | Lemuel Jackson | Samuel Savage |
| Stephen Jones | Enoch Jackson | William Jones |
| W ^m Appleby | Ebenezer Thompson | Patrick Furness |
| Benjamin Chesley | Robert Smith | William Ballard |
| Joseph Richardson | volintine Mathes | James Laighton |
| Tho ^s Pinkham | Valentine Langley | John Clough |
| Benjamin Mathes | Valintine Mathes | Obidiah Langley |
| winthrop Bickford | juner | Edward bunham |
| Joseph Langley | James Wille | Jeremiah Pinder |
| John Crommett | Beniamin wille | Jacob Crommett |
| John Edgerly | Samuel Edgerly th 3 ^d | Eliphalet Daniells |
| Reuben Webster | John Footman | John Footman th 3 ^d |
| John Smith 3 ^d | Thomas Durgin | John Smith |
| ISaac Bennick | Geo : Ffrost | John Bennick |
| Thomas Ham | Abraham Bennick | Benjamin Smith |
| George Smith | Joshua Davis | John Smith |
| Jn ^a Colbath | George Pitman | Nath ^l Demerit |
| John Angier | Benjamin Bickford | John Blydenburgh |
| Andrew Emerson | Benjamin Doe | Tim ^o Emerson |
| John Stevens | Benjamin Chesle | Tim ^o Meserve |
| joshua Neall | John Welch | John Grover |
| Constantine Leathers | John Starbord | Thomas Appleeb |
| Joseph Appleby | Jonathan Williams | Theophilus Hardy |
| Abijah Pinkham | Stephen Noble | Micah Davis |
| Samuel Thompson | Augustus Odlin | Lemuel Woodman |
| Robert Burnum | Jonathan Crocket | joseph wormwood Ju |
| Jonathan Woodman | Jonathan Thompson | John Thompson |
| Isaac Chesley | Samuel Woodman | Samuel Leathers |
| Samuel Chesley | Eben ^r Crommett | James Butler |
| Eleazer Bennett | Phillip Chesley | Edmund Pendergast |
| Jon ^a Woodman Jun ^r | David Davis Jun ^r | Eben Thompson Jun ^r |
| Robert Jones | Zach ^a young | Samel Yeaton |

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Joseph wormwood | John Woodman | MoSeS Edgerly |
| Michael Ryan | Jn ^o Dame | Jon ^a Steele |
| Ebenezer Burnum | Abraham Perkins | John Stevnsen |

[R. 361] [*Widow Sarah Adams's Petition.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire.

Gentlemen. Your Petitioner humbly sheweth that her Husband late Lt. Col^o Adams of the 2nd New Hampshire Reg^t fell in Battle on the memorable 19th of Sept^r 1777, and left her a helpless widow destitute of the means of procuring a Livelihood as her sold dependence was on her Husbands pay, her only son having been ever since in the service of this state—That it has been with extreme difficulty she has since procured a scanty subsistence with her own Industry & the Charities of her friends—That she has delay'd petitioning hitherto in hopes that the Honb^{le} Legislature of the State would have made a general provision for the mourning widows & helpless orphans of those who have fell in defence of the Liberty & Property of their Friends & Country—But that she is now compelled to the disagreeable Necessity of imploring the assistance of that Country in defence of which her late husband fell, and humbly requesting that the Honb^{le} Legislature would grant her the half pay of her late Husband, or such other allowance as they in their superior Wisdom shall think proper, so as to raise her above the pinching hand of poverty, and inable her to support a Life rendered melancholly and unhappy. And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray &c

Sarah Adams

[Mrs. Sarah Adams was the widow of Lieut. Col. Win-born Adams, who was killed in the battle of Behmus's Heights. She was allowed half-pay for seven years from the death of her husband. In a petition dated 1782 she calls herself "of Exeter."—ED.]

EAST KINGSTON.

This town was formerly a part of Kingston, and was set off as a separate parish by the name of Kingston East Parish, November 17, 1738, and incorporated with town privileges.

The line between the two was established by an act passed August 7, 1740, and reestablished by an act approved June 16, 1798.

Among the first settlers were William and Abraham Smith. Rev. Peter Coffin was settled as minister of the gospel soon after the town was incorporated, and remained until 1772.

December 6, 1824, a small portion of the town was annexed to South Hampton, and by an act approved July 2, 1845, a small portion was taken off and annexed to Newton.

[R. 363] [*East Kingston Soldiers, 1776.*]

There is but three men gone in the army this year that went last year that pays Rates in the Parish (Viz) Phillip Tilton Enoch Greeley and Edward Fifield and their Rates on the head to the Province is two shillings & three Pence

Est Kingston march y^e 20th 1776

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jonathan Collins | } Select men for East Kingston |
| Ezra Currier | |

[3-221] [*Petition for a separate Military Company.*]

State of New Hamp^r Rockingham ss

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives for said State in general Assembly convened at Exeter 4, June 1777

The Humble Petition of us the Subscribers freeholders and Inhabitants of Kingston East Parish in said County *Sheweth* that the Company belonging to said Parish sometime last July were notified by the Lieu^t Col. (in the absence of the chief Col) to meet and chuse their officers—The Company (of which your Pet^{rs} are part) met accordingly & chose Samuel Stevens for their Captain. whereupon the Lieut Col immediately dismissed them—Sometime last March the Col of the Regiment notified the said Company to meet and chuse their officers, the Company accordingly met and chose Ezra Currier for Captain (who immediately refused to accept) They then proceeded & chose Jacob Ordway Captain and Richard Smith first Lieut. after which the Meeting was adjourned for a week at which time the Company again met when the said Ordway refused to accept the appointment. Then part of the Company together some Continental Soldiers and (as your Petit^{rs} con-

ceive) some Inhabitants of other Towns were about to chuse other Officers (without any Regard to the s^d Smith who was before chosen Lieut & had not refused) whereupon your Petit^{rs} withdrew after which the remaining part of the Company with the Continental Soldiers and the supposed Inhabitants of other Towns proceeded and chose said Currier Captain Jacob Ordway first Lieut. Nathan Batchelder second Lieut. and Josiah Batchelder Ensign of said Company Which irregular Proceedings have divided, & disaffected the Company in such an unhappy manner that your Petit^{rs} can conceive no Prospect of their reuniting under the present officers,—Wherefore they most earnestly pray that they may be made a Seperate Company or joined to some other Company in said Regiment and your Petit^{rs} as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Enoch Chase | Ezekiel Merrill | William Fifield |
| John Morrill | Jonathan Lad Web- | Richard Smith |
| Eliphalet Webster | ster | Abraham Smith jun ^r |
| Jabez merrill | andrew mace | Levi Shaw |
| Samuel greley | Enoch Bagley | David Clough |
| Richard french | Trueworthy Palmer | Nathanel Gove |
| Jacob Graves | True Pearkins | Edward Greeley |
| John Sanborn | David Sanborn | James Busel |
| Nath ⁿ G. Bachelдор | Jonethan Cass | Moses Stevens |
| Samuel Stevens | Samuel Palmer | Jonathan Pearkins |
| Moses Greeley | Joshua french | |

[The foregoing petition was granted June 18, 1777.—ED.]

[3-222] [*Relative to Militia Regiment.*]

To his Excellency the President and the Hon^{ble} Executive Council of the State of New hampshire your Petitioners Humbly Shew

That the Legislature of this State at their last Session Thought proper to take off from the Seventh Regiment of Militia in this State Commonly Called Kingstown Regiment the Southwesterly part thereof Viz: Salem, Plaistow, Hampstead, atkinson & Sandown and Erect them into a Distinct & Seperate Regiment and have added to the other part of Said Seventh Regiment the Town of South hampton taken from the Third Regiment that in Arranging the Said Regiment the Southwesterly Regiment altho the youngest part of Said Seventh Regiment are by Some mistake allowed the Rank of the Seventh Regiment while the oldest part of Said Seventh is Reduced to the Twentieth your Petitioners are of opinion the Said arrangement was made in haste and without properly Considering of

the Same & make no Doubt that when the matter is properly laid before the Legislature at their next Session that the mistake will be Rectified We therefore Pray your Excellency & Honors to Postpone the giving out any Military Commission in Either of said Regiments till after the next meeting of the Legislature when we Expect the mistake will be amended or otherwise we are apprehensive Very great Difficulties will Ensue and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray &c

East Kingstown November 15th Day 1784

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Philip Morrill | Ithamar Emerson | David Tilton |
| John morill | Tho ^s Challes | Trustrum Sanborn |
| Philip Tilton | Andrew Greeley | Nathan Bachellor |
| Jacob ordway | Edward Greeley | Jonathan L Webster |
| Nath ^l Bachellor | Jonathan Greeley jr | Moses Greeley |
| Josiah Bachelder | Samuel Stevins | John Blasdel |
| Abner Morss | James Gale | Christopher Challis |
| Moses Rowel | Richard Smith | Andrew mace |
| John Currier | Abner Shepard | Malachi Daveis |
| Jonathan Colles | Joseph Bean | Benjamin thompson |
| Nath Greeley | Eliphalet Webster | Caleb Webster |
| Ebenezer Fifield | Enoch Greeley | Jeremiah Currier |
| moses Blasdell | | |

[In H. of Rep., December 19, 1797, a committee consisting of Ebenezer Thompson, Robert Wallace, and James Sheafe, was appointed to hear the parties relative to a dispute about the line between Kingston and East Kingston, and report to the legislature. They made the following report :—ED.]

[3-224] [*Report of Committee on Boundary Line.*]

State of New Hampshire The undersigned a committee appointed by an Act of the Legislature of this State, a copy of which is herewith exhibited, have agreeably to their directions, duly notified the towns of Kingstown, and East Kingstown, Viewed the premisses, and heard the parties with their allegations. And have agreed to report that considering all circumstances, the line herein after described, will be the most proper to divide said towns, viz Beginning on New Town line and running North through, or across the Center, or middle of a line drawn from the meeting house in Kingstown, to the meeting house in East Kingstown, being the same line established by an Act of the legislature in the year of our Lord 1740. And so continuing North until it comes within the distance of one mile and Eighty rods of Brentwood line. Then to turn off, and

run Straight to Exeter line at a place three quarters of a mile distant westerly from Kensington corner. Provided however that Peter Sandborn Esq^r with such of his estate as he now owns, and was formerly polled into Kingstown be considered as belonging to said Kingstown during the natural life of said Sandborn. And that such estate of Col^o Ebenezer Stevens as lays in East Kingstown and was formerly polled into Kingstown be considered as belonging to Kingstown during the natural life of said Stevens.

Witness our hands at Kingstown the 20th of April 1798

Ebenezer Thompson
Robert Wallace
James Sheafe

[The foregoing report was "received and accepted" June 13, 1798.—ED.]

E A T O N .

This town was granted November 7, 1766, to Clement March, of Portsmouth, and 65 others.

A dispute arose in 1788 relative to the line between this town and Tamworth. In 1796 the legislature appointed Hon. Simeon Olcott, of Charlestown, John Peirce, of Portsmouth, and Josiah Little, of Newbury, Mass., a committee to investigate the matter, and settle the line, their decision to be final. Mr. Peirce refusing to serve, Russell Freeman, of Hanover, acted instead. Their report, dated February 8, 1797, is recorded in Charter Records, vol. 4, page 263.

December 24, 1795, five grants of land, of 2000 acres each, which had been made to retired officers of the French war, were annexed to this town.

December 22, 1808, another committee, consisting of William Webster, Noah Robinson, and Abraham Burnham, were appointed to establish jurisdictional lines between this and other towns. They reported that it was inexpedient to make any change in the then existing lines.

By an act approved December 17, 1852, the west part of the town was set off, and incorporated into a town by the name of Madison.

[3-225] [*Petition to have the Bounds between Eaton and Tamworth established.*]

To the Honourable the General Court of the State of New Hampshire.

The Petition of the Selectmen of Eaton in behalf of the Town, and of the Proprietors of said Town humbly sheweth. Whereas requisitions have been made upon us for the support of Government which your Petitioners are willing to comply with, as much as their abilities will enable them, only requesting that some remedy may be provided against (as we suppose) an undue Claim of the Town of Tamworth, taxing a considerable part of Eaton, leaving us (according to the best survey that we can procure) only about twelve thousand Acres which they don't claim, instead of twenty-three thousand & forty Acres granted us by Charter. The Inhabitants of the aforesaid part of Eaton, after paying us their Taxes, being afterwards taxed & distrained by Tamworth & their property taken from them. Therefore your Petitioners pray your Honours will appoint a Committee to ascertain & prefix the Boundaries between Eaton & Tamworth or otherwise relieve your Petitioners as you in your Wisdom shall see fitting & as in duty bound shall ever pray

Dated at Eaton May the 10th 1788.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Jacob Blasdel | } Selectmen of Eaton | Henry Weed | } Proprietors Committee |
| Henry Woods | | Joshua Nickerson | |
| Thomas Danford Ju | | | |

[3-226] [*Relative to the Disputed Line, 1789.*]

To the honourable the general court of the State of New-hampshire the petition of the Inhabitants living on a certain tract of land in or near the westerly part of eaton who settled as eaton settlers But some of us were on said land Before any tax was cald for in eaton and the select men of tamworth taxd us But as soon as a tax was cald for in eaton we were cald on By them also we Being willing to pay in the town that we Believ we are in But think it hardship to pay in one town and to Be Distrained on in the other your petitioners Being verry poor and not able to Dispute the matter in a course of law humbly pray that your honours would point out some way whereby your Petitioners may Be relieved By setting us off to one or the other town so that we may Be free from Being taxd in two places if we may have choise should chuse to Be anext to eaton as we Believ we are in that town or otherwise as you in your

wisdom Shall think proper, as in Duty Bound we shall ever pray—

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Seth Gannett | Henry Blasdel | Henry Weed |
| Isaiah Forrist | Jacob Blasdel | David Buker |
| Samuel Byer | Samuel tappan | Josiah Parsons |
| Ichabod Hatch | Alden Washburn | Abner Blasdel |
| David Hatch | Gamaliel Hatch | Jabez Hatch |

[Ordered to pay taxes to Eaton.—ED.]

[3-227] [*Petition for Authority to raise Money to repair Roads.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and the House of Representative in Genral Court Conven^d at Dover on the first wednesday of June in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Ninety two the petition of the Select Men of the town of Eaton Humbly Sheweth that whereas this town is but thinly Inhabitted and the Roads are Long and verry Bad and A Number of Long Bridges in town to Maintain and the Inhabitents Being unable to keep the Roads in Good Repair for the use of travelers pray that your honours would make A Special Act to Enable your Petitioners to Lay and Collect A tax of Each Proprietor and on Each tract of unimproved Land the Sume of one half Penney on Each achor for the terme of three years Next Ensueing for the Sole purpose of Repairing Roads and your Petitioners As in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray—

Matthew gannett } Select Men
John Banfill } of Eaton

[A hearing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[3-228] [*Petition for Ratification of Proceedings of Town Meetings.*]

To the Honourable the sennate and the house of representatives of the state of Newhampshire in general court convend at Concord on the first wednesday of June in the yr of our lord 1793—the petition of the Selectmen of eaton in said state—Humbly sheweth that some time in the year 1784, David page esqr was appointed By the honourable general court to call meetings for the organizeing of the unincorporated places in the county of Strafford, and the town of eaton at that time was Distitute of town order and the said David page esqr without making proper search into the matter seposed that eaton was

unincorporated, and cald a meeting acordingly, and select men were appointed and they without ever applying to the charter understood that the annual meeting for electing town officers, was to Be holden on the last monday of march and the town has acted ever sence accordingly, and held the annual meeting on said last monday which has renderd all our (town) proceedings illegal to this time and we think that not one person in town had any mistrust of Being rong in the matter, untill last winter a copy of the charter was Brought into town and it appeard By said charter that the anual meeting of our town should Be holden on the second tuesday of march so that your petitioners and all the other inhabitants of said town find themselves in the greatest Difficulty and confution and without the interposition of your honours we By said unhappy mistake almost ruind, therefore your petitioners most humbly pray that all the proseedings in our said town may By an act for that purpose, Be Rattified and made as vallid to all intents and purposes as tho said annual meetting had in the first place Been legally notified and afterwards had Been holden on the right Day as perfixd in our said charter or relieve us in such other way as to your honours shall seeme meete, and your petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever Pray

Eaton June th1 1793

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Jacb Blasdel | } Select men |
| Joshua Nickerson | |
| Enoch Danford | |

[In H. of Rep., June 12, 1793, a hearing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[3-229] [*Petition for the Annexation of several Grants to the Town.*]

To The Honorable the SENATE, and HOUSE of REPRESENTITIVES, in General Court, convened at Hanover the first Wednesday of June in the year of our Lord Seventeen Hundred & Ninety five, The Petition of the Inhabitants of Eaton, and the Inhabitants living on some officers grants adjoining said Eaton, Humbly sheweth, that your petitioners living on said grants, first settled on said land under the proprietors of Eaton, and supposed it to be in said Eaton, and also, have always acted in all Town Matters Jointly with the Inhabitants of Eaton, And as said grants are not convenient, nor will ever make a Town or Parish of themselves, that is—A Grant made to one M^r Colwall, one to Joshua Martin, one to Nathaniel Martin, one to Alexander Blair, and one to Daniel M^cNeal, Containing two thousand acres each—Your petitioners pray,

that the said land described, as above, may be Incorporated with the Town of Eaton, and be under the jurisdiction of, and be known by the same name with Eaton, said Incorporation not to affect any right of title, only the right of jurisdiction, This your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Samuel Tappin | Henry Woods | Hubbard Colby |
| Daniel Fitch | Colman Colby | Jabez Hatch |
| Jacob Blasdel | Rob Boyd Orr | Jon ^a Frost |
| John Banfill | Abner Blasdel | Samuel Jackson |
| Joseph Calls | James Jackson | James Heard |
| Daniel Jackson | hercules Mooney | John Glines |
| James Heard Juner | Isaac Glines | John Berry |
| Eli Glines | Samuel Danford | James Allyn |
| Enoch Danford | James Danford | Samuel Banfill |
| Thomas Danford | Joseph Banfill | Alden Washburn |
| Thomas Burk | Jon ^a Mooney | Thomas Garland |
| Matthew Gannett | Eben Jackson | Thomas sherman |
| Anthony Sherman | Nathaniel Beals | Thomas Whitman |
| Seth Gannett | Isaiah Keith | |
| Nathaniel B gannett | Philip Jackson | |

[In H. of Rep., June 8, 1795, a hearing was ordered for the next session. By an act approved Dec. 24, 1795, the following grants to officers of the French war were annexed to this town: John Colwell's, Alexander Blair's, Joshua Martin's, Nathaniel Martin's, and Daniel McNeal's—each containing 2,000 acres.—ED.]

EFFINGHAM.

This township was one of the Masonian grants, and went by the name of Leavitt's Town until it was incorporated by the legislature.

The following is copied from the council records of Aug. 18, 1778: "An act to Incorporate a place called Leavit's Town in the County of Strafford by the name of Effingham having been read three times Voted that the same be enacted." As there is no such act on record, or among the original acts of that year, it is presumed to have been lost before the recording of the acts in 1829. Some settlements were made in town prior to the Revolution, the town containing eighty-three inhabitants in 1775.

In 1820 a gore of land was severed from Wakefield and

annexed to this town. By an act approved June 16, 1831, the north part of the town was set off and incorporated as a town by the name of North Effingham, which town is now known as Freedom.

[3-231]

[*Petition for a Road.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives of the state of New Hampshire in Generall Assembly Conveaned the Day of March 1778

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of a Place called Leavitt's Town in the State afores^d Humbly Shew that Said Leavitts Town has been Inhabited by some of your Petitioners about Eight years and by most of them five years Dureing Said Time there has not been a Passable Cart road (with Loaded Teemes) from Said Inhabitants to the settlements in Wakefield your Petitioners have applyed to the Inhabitants of Wakefield By Petitions & other ways, for a roade; but Still remain destitute of s^d roade and being but few in number and having a Grate Expence of making Bridges & Roads in Leavitts Town are not able to open s^d road to Wakefield, Therefore Humbly Pray your Honours to Consider our Dificulties and cause a Passable road to be made Near the Sledway we at present use Leading from M^r Benj^a Philbrook^s in said Wakefield to the Pond called the Province pond & from thence to the North East corner of Said Wakefield which your Petitioners Humbly Conceive will be of Publick Utillity and a Grate advantage to them as Well as to a Number of Inhabitants in a Neighbouring Township in the State of Massacutts Bay and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

william palmer

James tichtum

Noar Dowe

Tho^s Parsons

Carr Leavitt

John Leavitt

Levi tows

Weare Drake

Jeremiah Leaitt

Benjamin Lamper

Levi Lamper

Joseph Palmer

William Palmer

[3-232] [*Relative to a Road through Wakefield.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in Generall Asembly conveaned the Day of March 1778—

We the Subscribers Inhabitants of a Place called Parsons Town in the County of York and State of Machusetts Bay— Humbly Shew that we your Petitioners have Such Conec-

tions in Traid and other ways with the Inhabitants of the State of New Hampshire as Oblidges your Petitioners Frequently to Travill through wakefield to sundry Towns in Said State, and for three years Past have been at Extra: Cost & Trouble for want of a passable Roade through Said wakefield and have at our own Cost cutt and cleared a Passable Road, about Two miles in said Wakefield, leading from the Province Pond to Cap^t Cop^s meddow so Called; having at the Same Time Incorporation from the Inhabitants of Said wakefield that they would compleat & make Said Road Passable from Said meddow to m^r John Scribners to the road Leading to m^r Benja Philbrooks Notwithstanding y^e s^d Inhabitants of wakefield Continue to Neglect opening Said roade, which grately Injures your Petitiones and Likewise the Inhabitants of Leavitts Town Therefore your Petitioners Pray your Honours to consider of y^e Dificulties we are Under & order Said road to be mad Passable for Loaded Teems as Soon as may be, which we Conceive will Grately benifitt your Petitioners & be of Publeck Utillity and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Samuel Marston | David marston | Levi marston |
| Sam ^l Hobbs | James Hobbs | John Batchelder |
| Amos Blaso | Gideon Doe | John Doe Jun ^r |
| Benjamin Hilton | John Cenestone | Jonathan hicks |
| Josiah marston | Jobe Allen | John Brown |
| Jacob SCagel | jacob Scagel jun ^r | Sam ^l Dalton |
| Joseph Granvel | Jonathan SCagel | Samuel Page |
| Jeremiah Avery | James Marston | Benjamin Brown |
| Andrew Hilton | John Doe | Enoch Libby |
| James Chapin | Mesheck Libby | David Hicks |

[3-233]

[*Relative to Roads.*]

To his Exelency the Presiden

the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives in
General Court Convened at Portsmouth the fourth wednesday
of october 1784—

Humbly shew the Subscribers Inhabitants of Effingham In the County of Strafford & Towns adjacent That The Road Leading from Effingham Through wakefield in the same County to Dover is so much out of Repair owing to its not having been Established by authority as a public Road that it is in that part thereof which lies in the ossipee gore so called altogether impassable & said gore not being regularly settled but owned by the masonian proprietors there is no method prescribed by the Laws of the state to compell the said proprietors to Clear out and repair the said Road Therefore your petitioners most

[3-235]

[*Relative to unpaid Taxes.*]

To The Hon^{le} Senate and house of representatives in Gen^l Court Conven^d at Exeter the 7th Day of September 1786. The subscribers Inhabitants of Effingham in the County of Strafford; Humbly shew That when Under the former State of Government, The Gen^l Court resolved & Enacted, that Unincorporated Towns, should be Invested with Power to chuse Officers for the purpose of raising a Tax for the Use of Govern^t But no penalty was Anex^d to S^d Acct, The Inhabitants of Effingham altho apprised of being Not subject to any Fine by refusing, With a View of paying respect to Govern^t proseed^d to Chuse the Officers required, & in 1775 made a Tax for the Sum of £4--12 and Committed a List to y^e Constable, The Constable Soon after he Receiv^d it moved out of y^e Govern^t, The Selectmen Call^d a Town Meeting, at Which Meeting, The Inhabitants Aledg^s That they ware only 15 Respectable poles in Number & mostly very poor, & had a Long Extent of road to Maintain leading from Wolfsburrough to Conway, & a Very Expensive bridge over pine river on S^d road which was of little use to them, They living five miles Distant; and haveing all the roads they made use of In Town to maintain, Likewise a road leading from them to Wakefield through Ossipee Gore & an Expensive Bridge which they Could git no releaf from Altho they had Several ways Petition^d for it, and Grate part of y^e Winter season they ware without any Other Conveyance to market but on rackitts, and without any legal representation in the Gen^l Court—Therefore Conclud^d it most prudent for them to Chuse no Constable or any Other Office Your Petitioners the Present Inhabitants being only about thirty Ratable Poles no More than Six of the Number ware Inhabitants when the Above matter was Transacted Have ever Since we Ware incorporated Cheerfully paid the Demands of Government So far as We have been Able at the Same Time are subject to most of the Inconveniency^s Above Mentioned. And are Now Called upon by the Treasurer of the State to pay the Sum of £4--12 for 1775 £2--15 for 1776 £12--8--3 for 1777 £17--15--9 for 1778 Which Sums ware proportion^d by the Former State of Govern^t before we Ware Incorporated being now so Indebt to Govern^t we are much Discorag^d not knowing how to git Through it Pray y^r Honours to Consider our Difficulties & Grant a Discharge from Paying the Above Sums and y^r Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray

Effingham June 1st 1786Weare Drake
Elisha SmithCarr Leavitt
William TaylorJoseph Palmer
James Titcomb

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ | moses Cooper | Rich ^d Taylor |
| Abraham Marston | Benjamin Dearborn | Asahel Dearborn |
| Jeremiah Leavitt | Josiah Dearborn | John Drake |
| Jeremiah Marston | Benj ^a Lampr | Josiah Taylor |
| John Leavitt | John Taylor | |

[3-236] [*Petition for Authority to Tax Non-Residents.*]

State of New Hampshire Strafford ss

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled at Concord June 4th 1789 Humbly Sheweth the Selectmen of Effingham That whereas By The Request of the Inhabitants of said Effingham at Their Annual Meeting Last past, Taking into Consideration the Large Extent of Roads they have to Maintain in Said Town Many of which are veary Expencive in Clearing Causeing Bredging and more Especiely The Bredge over pine River and the Road from thence Through Lands owned By Nonresedant Proprietors, and veary Remote from the Inhabitants which roads The Said Inhabitants have kept in Repaire Ever Sence the Begning of The Late war having had no Releief from the said Nonresedants and Being of no use to The Inhabitants more Than the Public Good of the State The Inhabitants of Said Effingham Being few in Numbr and not able to keep Said roads in Repair without The Assesstance of The Nonresedants and Consedring the Bennifit it will Be in Cutting Sum New roads in Said Town Through Nonresedants Lands which will Be of public Utillity—*wherefore your* petitioners pray your Honnors would Grant a Tax To Be Levyed of one peney upon The Acre upon all The Unimproved Lands To Be appropriated to the use of makeing and Maintaining roads in Said Town That the Inhabitants may Thereby Be Eased of a Burthan Thay have So Long Laid under and are not able To Bare, and your petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Effingham May 27th 1789

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Weare Drake | } Select men |
| Nathaniel Hobbs | |
| William Taylor | |

The Committee on the within Petition report that the Petitioners be heard thereon the next Session of the General Court which is submitted by

Nat. Rogers for the Comm

[In H. of Rep., January 6, 1790, the foregoing petition was granted.—ED.]

ENFIELD.

This town was granted July 4, 1761, to Jedediah Dana and 60 others, by the name of Endfield. It was regranted August 8, 1768, in 90 equal shares, by the name of Relhan; and was incorporated by an act of the legislature, enacted August 18, 1778, by the latter name.

The first settlers were Nathaniel Bicknell, Jonathan Padleford, and Elisha Bingham. Elias, the son of the latter, was the first male child born in town.

The people called Shakers commenced settlements in this town about the year 1782, and were organized as a society in 1792 by Elder Job Bishop, who organized the society at Canterbury the same year. They are a peace-loving, temperate, and industrious people, and their agricultural and mechanical products are known in every New England market.

By an act passed March 28, 1781, Jeremiah Page, Henry Gerrish, and Wm. Chamberlin were authorized to "run out and settle the lines & boundaries of the Township of Enfield alias Relhan," and Canaan and Grafton.

By an act passed January 3, 1784, the act incorporating the town by the name of Relhan was repealed.

June 18, 1802, the report of the committee on lines, appointed March 28, 1781, was adopted.

January 13, 1837, a tract of land was severed from Grantham, and annexed to this town.

[3-237] [*Relative to a Convention, 1777.*]

State of New Hampshire Enfield February 3rd 1777

Whereas the General Asemble of this State have Apinted a Comittee to Meet at Hanover on the Tenth of this Instant to Give Sum Information of the Proceedings of the General Cort the Inhabitants and free-holders of this Town Would Humbly Request the Honorable Comitee to omit Meeting at Hanover on the tenth of this Instant and Meet at Lebnan at Landord Ordway on the thirteenth of this Instant Febuary at ten oClock A. M. for the purpose above mentioned

We are in Behalf of S^d Town Your humbel Servants

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Daniel Hovey | } Select Men of S ^d Town |
| Samuel medham | |

corporation if they shall Judg best as in Duty bound we shall ever pray

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Jonathan Padelfoard | Abner Padelfoard | Jonathan Padelford |
| Nath ^l Hovey | Phillip Padelford | junir |
| Benjamin Fuller | | |

[The foregoing request was granted by an act passed August 18, 1778.—ED.]

[3-239] [*Petition for an Act of Incorporation under the Enfield Grant.*]

To the Honourable Council and assembly of the State of New Hampshire Gentlemen your Petitioners Humbeley Sheweth that we the Inhabitents of a place Called Enfeild which Twon was Incorporated By the name of Enfeild By Bening Wintworth Esq^r then Govonour of new Hampshire and as there has Been an unhapey Dispeute in this place Cheafly Risen on accump^t of the Inhabitents making Settlement under Two Charters (viz) Enfeild & Relhan and a miner part of the Inhabitence of this place who ware for the Relhan Tittle Pettioned this Court for a Incorporation and obtained the Same By the name of Relhan, which gave Great uneaseness to the Inhabitents of this Town as the Greater part of the inhabetence of this place never New or So much as heard of any Such Pettion Being Drawn or Presented: your Pettioners humbley pray that this Court would take into consideration ower Case and act as you in your Wisdom Shall think best, and Either Establish the Enfeild incorporation or Grant us a new Incorporation By the name of _____ that we may injoy the Priviledge that other incorporated Towns in this State Injoy: and we are Desirours to be Peaceable Subjects of this State & injoy the protection of the Same your Complayance with the above will much oblige your Humbel Petitioners

Dat^d Enfeild alis Relhan June 3^d 1779—

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Elisha Bingham | Jacob Choate | Noah Kidder |
| Asa Williams | Thom ^s Huntington | James Jewell |
| Joseph Stanley | Cornelius Goodell | Henry Lunt |
| Archelaus stevens | Joseph maston | John mills |
| Moses Powell | Asa Patee | Nathaniel marston |
| Nathan Bicknell | Ezekiel Stevens | Isaac marston |
| James Mills | John Tallman | Ezekiel Lunt |
| James stevens | Nath ^l merrill | |
| Asa patee jr | John Pattee | |

[The act of 1778, incorporating the town by the name of Relhan, was repealed January 3, 1784.—ED.]

[*Report of Committee on Town Lines. From "Town Boundaries," page 209.*]

Whereas By an act of the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire Passed the 28th Day of March 1781 Jeremiah Page Esq^r with us the Subscribers was appointed a Committee to Settle the Lines and Boundaries of the Township of Enfield Alias Relhan and those Lines and Boundaries of the Townships of Canaan and Grafton which are or may be Contiguous thereto or depending thereupon—pursuant to said appointment the Subscribers have performed said service in the following manner (viz) Beginning at the Southeasterly Corner Bound of the Township of Lebanon which is the Southwesterly Corner of the Township of Enfield Alias Relhan, Commonly cal'd Sumners Bound and thence Running South fifty eight degrees East six miles and three fourths of a mile to a Hemlock tree Marked H G. W C &c Thence Running North forty Degrees & forty five Minits East about five miles and one half mile to a Spruce tree Mark^d as aforesaid which is the Dividing Line between Enfield and Grafton and is the Northeasterly corner of Enfield Alias Relhan and the Southeastwardly corner of Canaan thence Running North Fifty Eight Degrees West Seven Miles and Sixty Rods to a Birch Stump which is the Corner of Lebanon—Enfield and Canaan thence by Lebanon to the Bounds first mentioned

Boscawen July 9th 1781

Henry Gerrish } Com^{ee}
W^m Chamberlin }

To Ebenezer Thompson Esq. Secretary for the State of New Hampshire

[The foregoing report was adopted, and the lines were established by an act approved June 18, 1802.—ED.]

[3-240]

[*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

State of New Hampshire Grafton ss

Enfield December ye 13th A D 1783 Number of male polls from 21 years and upwards paying a poll Tax for themselves 83 Taken by us the Subscribers under oath

David Curtis } Select
Elisha Bingham } men

[3-241] [*Petition for a Repeal of the Relhan Charter.*]

State of New Hamp^r To the Honb^l the Council & House of
Representatives for s^d State in General Assembly Conven^d

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Enfield alias Relhan humbly Shews.—That some years ago one Nathanael Hovey with a few other persons Petitioned the General Assembly for an Incorporation of a Township of Land called by a Regrant, Relhan and obtained the Same without giving notice to the Inhabitants—which Township was first Granted & Incorporated by the name of Enfield, That the Inhabitants of said Township have all Settled under the Enfield Charter and are desirous of continuing under the Same—Therefore pray your Honours that the Act incorporating s^d Town by the Name of Relhan may be repealed & as in Duty bound Shall pray

Jesse Johnson In behalf of said Inhabitants.

Concord June 17th 1783

[3-242] [*Petition for an Abatement of Taxes.*]

State of New Hamp^r To the Honb^l the Council & House of
Representatives for said State in General Assembly Conven^d

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Enfield alias Relhan humbly shews—That in the Last proportion for taxes your Petitioners were unrepresented in the General Assembly, that the Town was doomed and has been sent to for Taxes ever since in proportion to the Said Doomage which Proportion your petitioners conceive to be much larger than in the neighbouring Towns—That the Difficulties have been such that no Taxes have been Collected for Several years past, that those unhappy disputes have so far Subsided that there is a probability that Some Taxes might be now Levied and Collected, if the Same were in proportion with other Towns—Wherefore your Petitioners pray that your Honours would enquire into the matter & grant an abatement on our Taxes since the Last proportion, and as in Duty bound shall pray—

Jesse Johnson In behalf of said Inhabitants

Concord June 17th 1783

[3-243] [*Petition for Repeal of Relhan Charter.*]

State of New Hampshire To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House
of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General
Court assembled Decemb^r A. D. 1783

Humbly shew the Inhabitants of Enfield alias Relhan, that at

the last Session of the late General Court they preferred their petition, Setting forth, "that some years ago, one Nath^l Hovey, with a few other persons, petitioned the then Gen^l Assembly, for an Incorporation of a Township of Land called by a Re-grant *Relhan*—& obtained the same, without giving notice to the Inhabitants—which Township was first granted & incorporated by the name of *Enfield*—that the Inhabitants of said Township have all Settled under the Enfield Charter, and are desirous of Continuing the same—And therefore prayed, that the Act incorporating said Town by the Name of *Relhan* might be repealed"—The prayer of which petition was then granted & the petitioners had leave to bring in a Bill accordingly—That before your petitioners had time to prepare a Bill for that purpose, the Gen^l Court adjourned without day

Therefore your petitioners pray your Honors to give them Liberty, to bring in a Bill agreeable to the prayer of their former petition to the General Court now sitting in order that the same may be enacted And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Jesse Johnson In behalf of said Inhabitants

Concord Dece^r 30—1783.

[3-244] [*Relative to Doomage and Inventories.*]

State of New Hampshire To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives of the said State now sitting at Exeter

Humbly Shew The Inhabitants of Enfield in said State that they have for years past labored under many difficulties in town affairs, so as not to be able to make & return to the Secretarys office regular Invoices of the Polls & rateable Estate in said Town, which has occasioned a Doomage upon them, as they humbly conceive, much above their just proportion that they have now the happiness of uniting in the management of their Town affairs—& have Collected Invoices, for a number of years past in the best manner in their power—& would therefore pray your Honors, to examine the same & make such abatements, in their taxes And apportionments, as may appear just & reasonable—And your petitioners as in Duty bound ever pray &c

Exeter 8th August 1784.

Jesse Johnson Jun^r in behalf of s^d Enfield

[3-245] [*Relative to the Burning of Noah Kidder's House.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire these Certify that the Dwelling House of mr. Noah

Kidder the Evening of the 24 Day of Febuary Last took fire and was Consumed together with all his Household furniture by which means all his wirteing, and papers of Every kind was lost, as he Saith and we look upon him to be a person of Truth and Veracity whose word ought to be taken both in and out of Court

Certify^d by your Hon^{rs} Humble Servants
Enfield June y^e 1st A D 1784

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
| David Curtis | } | Select men of Enfield. |
| Nathan Bicknel | | |
| Richard Currier | | |

Elisha Bingham Town Clark

| | | |
|----------------------|---|------------|
| Joseph Johnson | } | Neighbours |
| Amos Worthen | | |
| Richard Lyman | | |
| W ^m Grove | | |
| Jacob Choat | | |
| Elisha Fox | | |
| Levi Webster | | |
| Ezekiel Lunt | | |
| Jesse Johnson | } | |
| Thophilus Currier | | |

[3-246]

State of New Hampshire

At a legal meeting holden at Enfield in s^d State on thursday the 17th day of August AD 1786

Unanimously Voted that paper money might be made

Attest Jesse Johnson town Clerk

Enfield Aug^t 17th 1786

[For legislative action on paper money matters, see Atkinson papers.—ED.]

EPPING.

This town was formerly a part of Exeter, and was set off and incorporated as a parish February 23, 1741. The inhabitants held their first meeting the year following. "Nathan Sandburn, Jon^a Noris & Sam^l Smith" were appointed to call the first meeting.

The town did its duty in the Revolution, and in the War

of 1812, furnishing brave men and officers of distinction. Among the latter were Henry Dearborn, colonel of a regiment in the Revolution, and major-general in the war of 1812. He also served as United States secretary of war, collector of customs for the port of Boston, and U. S. minister to Portugal.

John Chandler was a brigadier-general in the War of 1812, and served in both branches of the congress of the United States. William Plumer served in both branches of the state legislature as presiding officer; was representative in the 16th, 17th, and 18th congresses of the United States, and in the senate from 1802 to 1807. He was governor of the state in 1812, 1816, 1817, and 1818.

By an act approved June 19, 1818, the line between this town and Lee was established.

[3-247] [*Relative to lotting the Township.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^l His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for Said Province ;—

The Petition of John Dudley of Epping in Said Province Yeoman Humbly Sheweth,—

That the Committe appointed to Lay out Lands in this Parish where they thought Proper Left Lands for High Ways but as they were not then well Acquainted with the Suitableness or how they would accommodate the Settlers there being then no Settlements made Some of them are found by Experience to be very Inconvenient Particularly one which was So ordered as to Separate a Strip of Land Ten Rods wide and Half a Mile Long of the Southerly part of my Land from the Rest which the Selectmen without Due Consideration Did afterwards Return by the Perswasion of Some others but since the Settlements in the Northerly Part of the Parish are Increasing and no way to them it Seems to appear to all to be much More Convenient and there is much Better Ground for a way on the North Side of my Land Next to Cap^t Israel Gilmans Land and this the Parish being fully made Sensible of Did at a Legal Meeting by a vote manifest their Desire that the Same might be Altered as aforesaid which as it would be for my Advantage as well as for the Publick Good has Enduced me in this manner Humbly to Petition your Excellency and Honours that by your

Authority the aforesaid way may be Stop^d or Shut up and that a Highway in Lieu of it may be Laid Through my Land Next to Cap^t Gilmans as aforesaid and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c :

Epping March y^e 26th 1747

John Dudley

[3-248] [*Relative to Building a Meeting-House, etc.*]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesties Province of New Hampshire and the Hon^l His Majesties Council and House of Representatives for s^d Province the Humble Petition of the Free Holders and Inhabitants of the Parish of Epping in Said Province Humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioners Having with Great Labour and Expence Surmounted many Difficulties that Have Attended our first Settlement in this Place, are yet very Likely to much Burdened by Charges Necessarily Coming on the Parish in order to the Settlement and Support of a Minister of the Gospel Buying Land for a Parsonage Building a Parsonage House and a House for the Publick Worship of God all which we Apprehend very Necessary to be Done but our own Inability together with Some other Difficulties have Caused these things (Necessary and Desirable as they are) to be yet unaccomplished.—That there is Scarce one Fifth Part of the Land in the Parish Improved the owners of many Large tracts Living out of the Parish who are not Obliged by any Law in Force to bear any Part of the Publick Charges So that the Improvers and Settlers alone have Hitherto been obliged to bear not only the Burend of Taxes but to Clear and Repair the High Ways and to Maintain Several very Chargable Bridges and all this under the Troubles and Hardships of the War.—That the value of the Non Resident Lands is much Increased by the Settlements which we are making amongst them in almost all Parts of the Parish.—And that the Building a Meeting House and Settlement of a Minister being Designed for the Good of the Whole Parish it is Likely that many of those owners of Lands Here who are not at Present Inhabitants may be Equal Sharers with us in the Benefits Accruing therefrom.—We Do therefore Humbly Petition your Excellency and Honours to take the Premises into your Consideration and if it Shall Appear Just and Reasonable—by a Law to Impower the Select Men of the Parish Afores^d to Rate all the Owners of Lands in Said Parish who are not Inhabitants in it or to Charge their Said Lands in Such Proportion and for So Long a time as to your Excellency

and Honours Shall Seem Proper for the Ends aforesaid and your Petitioners Shall as in Duty bound Ever Pray &c :

Epping March y^e 30th 1747

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Job Rowel | Abraham Brown | David Lawrans |
| obadiah worth | Joseph Gorden | Jonathan folsom |
| Edward Stevins | Thomas Burley | David hains |
| Ephraim Sanborn | Jonathan Robson | Daniel ladd |
| Ebenezer Bean | Jacob Freeze | Jonathan Rundlet |
| Ezekiel Brown | Danil Elkins | Nathan Samborn |
| Richard Samborn | Joseph Edgerly | Thomas Rawlings |
| James Whidden | John Dudley | James Chase |
| Robord Hinkson | John Hinkson | jonathan norris |
| Jonathan Page | Jonathan Smith | James noris |
| Samuel Smith | Elezer Elkins | Jeremiah Prescut |
| Ithial Clifford | Jermh Elkins | Joel Judkins |
| Israel Blake | Israell Gillman | Caleb Gillman |
| Thomas Robson | Jonathan Gliden | Samuel Elkins |
| Abraham folsom | Elias smith | John Rowell |

[In answer to the foregoing, a tax of two pence per acre per annum was granted for four years, to be applied toward building a meeting-house and settling a minister.—ED.]

[3-249]

At our yearly meeting hild in Epping on monday the Ninth Day of march in year 1747 then voted that Capⁿ Israel Gillman Shuld be ther man to undertake in the behalf of the Sd paresh to Carey in a pertition to the General Cort in order to Get the wilde land rated

David Lawarns Par Clark

[3-250] [*Selectmen's Report relative to Money raised for Ministerial Purposes.*]

Pro of New Hampshire To his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Commander in cheife in & over his Majesties province of the New hampshire & his Honourable Counsell and House of Representatives now mett, whereas there was an act past in this his majesties Court in the year 1747 that all the Lands in the parish of Epping Should be taxed in order to Enable the Inhabitants to Build a meeting House purchase a parsonage, and Build a house for the minister of y^e Gospel, and Likewise By Said act the Select men are obliged to Lay an account of the Disposall of Said money Before your Hon^{rs} annually or forfeit Said money. wee therefore the Subscribers would

Lett your Honours Know that there was no money Raised upon Said Lands in y^e year 1747 By Reason of the war that Summer which was a hindrance to Runing Lines Betwen other towns and measuring grants which was Necessary in order to make Said Rate But in the year 1748 wee the Subscribers have made Said Rate and Disposed of the Same as followeth

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Money Raised Two Hundreds & Fifty Seven pounds | |
| Four Shillins | 257: 4: 0 |
| Copies out of the propriators Records— | 11: 1: 0 |
| Runing the Lines Betwext other towns and Said parish | 47: 11: 2 |
| Makeing Rates | 4: 0: 0 |
| Advertiseing | 12: 0: 0 |
| Collecting | 15: 0: 0 |
| Expence and makeing up accounts with y ^e Constable | 14 7—0 |

The Remainder of the money By a Vote of the parish paid toward Building a house for our Rev^d minister

Dated at Epping this Eighteenth day of June Anno Domini 1749

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Ezekiel Brown | } Select men |
| Nathan Samborn | |
| Benj ^a Baker | |
| John page | |

[3-251]

[*Relative to a Highway.*]

At our yearly meting hild in the Parish of Epping on monday y^e 9: Day of march in y^e 1747 there was a cleare Vote Past in Sd meting that the high Way that is Laied out throwe Nicklos Dudley Land for Robert hinkson by the Select man of Sd paresh and Now we think it will be most Servesabel for the Publick to Remove the Sd way between Ca'n Israel Gillmans Land and Sd Dudleys Land over the Redoak hill

A true Coppey Given out by me

David Lawrans Parsh Clar^k

[R. 364] [*Jonathan Folsom's Petition, Soldier, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

Humbly Sheweth Jonathan Folsom of Eppin in the Province aforesaid Husbandman—That your Petitioner Enlisted in

the late Expedition against Crown Point in the regiment Com-
manded by the Honourable Joseph Blanchard Esq: That your
Petitioner received a Wound by a shott through his right shoul-
der in the Battle fought at Lake George on the 8th September
last Between Cap^t Nathaniel Folsom & a party of French &
Indians; That said wound has so weakened & disabled your
Petitioners shoulder that he is not able to do any sort of
Husbandry work that's attended with any degree of hard
Labor. * * *

March 4th 1756.

Jonathan Folsom

[He asked for an allowance, and was granted "for smart
money & damage Twenty five pounds."—ED.]

[R. 365]

Epping June 19th 1775

Received of the Select men for the parish of Epping for the
time being one gun prized eight dollars which I Promis to Be
accountable for on Demand

James Gordon

[Same date others receipted for guns as follows: Na-
thaniel French, Frances Chambere, David Fullonton, Will-
iam Brown, Jonathan Killey, William Page.—ED.]

[R. 366] [*Abstract from Abraham Brown's Petition, Sol-
dier.*]

[In a petition dated August, 1775, Abraham Brown, of
Epping, states "That your Petitioner engaged himself in the
service of this Colony as an Ensign in Cap^t Daniel Moor's
Company and on or about the 19th of April last repaired to
Head Quarters in that Quality and there did the duty of
an Ensign (as well as that of an orderly Sargeant) untill
the 18th day of July last when he was discharged by Col^o
John Stark." He further states that he was paid as a pri-
vate, and wants "justice done him" in the matter.—ED.]

[R. 367] [*Abstract from John Wadleigh's Petition, Soldier.*]

[In a petition dated Epping, Oct. 31, 1775, John Wad-
leigh states,—“ That he enlisted in the Service of this Col-
ony under Cap^t Daniel Moore in the United American

Army & was in the Battle at Bunker Hill—That he was soon after taken sick and advised by the Doctors to come home to recover his health." He further states that he has been under the care of a doctor since he came home, and presents a bill due Dr. Ebenezer Fisk for thirty-six shillings, and wants the state should pay it.—ED.]

[R. 368] [Jonathan Perkins, of Epping, was ordered by the legislature, March 6, 1778, to be "Commissionated as an Ensign in Cap^t Jason Waits Company, in Col^o Cilleys Regiment," from July 29, 1777.—ED.]

[R. 369] [*Samuel Prescut's Petition, Soldier.*]

Epping Feb^r 2^d 1780

To the Hon^{bl} Gen^l Court

Your Petitioner humbly Sheweth that, in the year 1778, he was a soldier at Rhode-Island, in the Service of the State of N. Hampshire, where he was taken very ill, and put to the extraordinary expence of two Hundred Dollars by the way as he was returning Home, as the state of the Paper Currency then was; which, may it please the Hon^{ble} Court to order to be allowed, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray
&c. Samuel Prescut.

Taunton, Aug^t 31st 1778—Rece^d of Mr Joseph Prescut of Epping in Hampshire State six Pounds sixteen shillings in full of all accompts for Medicines & attendance & sundries,

per me Job Godfrey—

Distmist

[R. 370] [*Simon Winslow's Order.*]

Epping Jan. 8th 1781

Sir—Please to pay the Bearer Jonathan Winslow the whole of my wages Due to me for my service in the Continental Army for six months for Kensington

I Belong to third New Hampshire Reg^t Majors Compa—

To the Paymaster of Col Scammels Reg^t or the Person employed to pay the same

Simon Winslow

[R. 371] [John Stearns, of Epping, says that he enlisted

in the service of the state as a soldier, in 1779, for one year. He wants the depreciation of his pay made up.—ED.]

[R. 372] [*Daniel Johnson's Deposition.*]

I Daniel Johnson of lawful age who testifieth and saith that in the year 1781 I was a soldier in Cap^t Farwells Company for the term of six months and further saith William Mellen then of Epping was a soldier in said Company during the term aforesaid and served the Company with me. * *

Daniel Johnson

[Sworn to March 11, 1791, before Nathan Hoit at Moultonborough.—ED.]

[R. 373] [Morris Tucker ordered what pay was due his son, John Tucker, a soldier, from Epping, who died in the service, to be paid to Daniel Smith.]

[R. 374] [Jonathan Perkins, in a petition dated December, 1793, states that he was an officer in the New Hampshire line, and presented a claim against the United States, to the committee appointed to settle claims, amounting to £53-7s; he thinks the committee allowed the same, and wants the state to pay him.—ED.]

[3-252] [*Relative to raising Men for the Army.*]

State of New Hampshire Rockingham ss — — —

To the Honourable Council And House of Representatives Now Setting in Exeter in the County of Rockingham in the State of New Hampshire may it Please your Honours

your Humble Petitioners Humbley Shews that the Honourable Nicholas Gilman Esq^r Collonel of the 4th Rigement of militia in the County of Rockingham has sent forth his orders to the Several Captains of the Companys in Eppin in Said County under his Command Requiring them forthwith to Inlist or Draft ten Able Bodied and Effective men out of their Companys being their Proportion of Six hundred men &c—and Pursuance to Said orders the Said Captains exertaied themselves in the Best way aud manner they posably Could in order to Procure

Said ten men but Could not engage them—by Reason that the Said Captains has been very much obstructed by one Cap^t Ezekiel Worthing of Eppin aforesaid for that whereas the Said Worthing have entered the next State and have undertaken to Inlist a number of men in their Service and accordingly have returned back to Eppin and have Inlisted twelve men all belonging to Eppin aforesaid and the Said Worthing Says that it is now in his Power to hurt Eppin and that he means to do it, if it is to the Velue of a hundred thousand Dollars and will Inlist as many men as he Can in Eppin for the use and Service of another State and many other Injeries and hard Speeches the Said Worthing have uttered against the town of Eppin and against the Government of this State which is to the great Damage of the town of Eppin in Supporting the Common Cause that we are now ingaged in and in Consideration of the ill treatment that the town of Eppin have Received from the Said Worthing—we the Subscribers Humbly Pray your Honours will be Pleased to take this our Petition under your wise Consideration and examine into the facts Set fourth in this our Humble Petition against the Said Ezekiel Worthing—as we are in Duty Bound and ever Pray—

Eppin June y^e 23rd A.D: 1780

William Coffin } Selectmen
Abraham Perkins } of Eppin

[3-253] [*Relative to Newmarket Bridge.*]

State of New-Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} Council and House of Representatives for Said State in General assembly Conven'd A.D 1780—at Portsmouth 21st october—

Humbly shew We the Subscribers freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Eppin in s^d State, that Newmarket, and Stratham Lottery Bridge so Called is now become ruinous and almost impassable and unless Speedily Repaired the great Expence of building it, and great Benefit & Convenience the Public Might Still Receive therefrom, will be entirely Lost, As the Bridge was Built by Lottery for the Public advantage and as no particular Towns are chargeable with the Repairs thereof your Petitioners humbly conceive that a Lottery for the Repair of Said Bridge would be found the most elegeble way Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Honours would (as in Some cases you have) granted a Lottrey for that purpose or that the Same bridge may be Supported in future at the Charge of the County of Rockingham or in Such other

Manner as your Wisdom may dictate and your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Jon th Eliot | Simon Drake | John folsom |
| Jeremiah sanborn | Moses Coffin | Nathaniel mansfield |
| Jonathan Meloon | Josiah Tilton | William Gill |
| Samuel Veazey | Brad ^t Gilman | Samuel Jewett |
| David Jewett | Samuel Gilman | Moses Dalton |
| Timothy Jones | Benj ⁿ Johnson | John Barker |
| Tristram Sanborn | Daniel Sanborn | Thomas Burley |
| James Johnson | Zebulon Edgerly | Simon Derborn |
| Phinehas Blake | Joseph Hodgdon | Joseph Witchers |
| Thomas Rawlins | Jonathan Rawlins | |

[3-256] [*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

State of New-Hampshire Rockingham ss.

Pursuant to an Order of the General Court requiring the number of the Male Polls of twenty one years of age & upwards paying for themselves a Poll Tax; the Selectmen of Epping according to there best judgment find that there is in said town of Epping two hundred & sixty Polls of the above description—

Epping Dec. 1st 1783

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Seth Fogg | } Selectmen of Epping |
| David Lawrence | |
| Wm. Plumer | |

Rockingham ss December 1st 1783

then seth Fogg David Lawrence & W^m Plumer made oath that the above account by them Subscribed was takeing according to the best of their Judgment

Before Enoch Coffin Ju^e Peace

[3-258] [*Petition in favor of William Plumer.*]

To his Excellency Mesech Weare Esq^r and the Honorable Counsel of the State of New Hampshire your Petitioners freeholders & Inhabitants of the town of Epping impresd with a Sence of the importance of having A Sufficient number of civil Officers in the town & of these officers being properly Quallified to Discharge there Duty with honor to themselves & advantage to the Community Do humbly pray that your Excellency & Honors would Grant a Commition of Justice of the peace to William Plumer of this town Whome We humbly Conseive is

Qualified for the Office—and your petition^r As in Duty bound shall Ever pray &c

Epping Jany 27th 1785

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Reuben osgood | Jeremy Smith | William osgood |
| W ^m Rowell | Joseph Bartlett | Jon ^a Clark |
| James Norris y ^e 3 ^d | James Rundlet Jur | Thomas Norris |
| Joshua Lane | Josiah Stearns | James Noris |
| Sanders Carr | Jonathan Prescott | Phinehas Fogg |
| Henry Sanborn | John Page | John Blake |
| Simon Fogg | Joseph Shepard | Nathan Sandborn |
| James Chase | Jonathan Chase | Jacob Freeze |
| James Rundlet | James Rundlet 3 ^d | Nathan Prescut |
| micah prescut | Samuel Prescot | John Prescut |
| Jonathan prescut | Stephen Prescot | Benjamin Brown |
| Senir | Nathaniel Brown | jonathan thustain |
| Dudley Gordon | Simon Dearborn | Henry Pike |
| Benjamin Dearborn | Jonathan Gordon | John Rowell |
| Thomas Calley | W ^m Lowney | Ben ^a Hoit |
| Robert Clark | Jonathan Eliot | Stephen Clark |
| Seth Fogg | Nathaniel Smith | Chase Crocket |
| Simon Dearborn | Gordon Frees | Simeon tole |
| Senor | Paul Ladd | Ebenezer Straw |
| John Towl jr | Thomas Drake | David Rallens |
| Levi Tilton | Jonathan fifield | W ^m Straw |
| Ebenezer Blak | Josiah Chase | John Carr Ju ^r |
| Benjamin Rallens | Joseph Blake | Chase osgood |
| Caleb Fogg | Benaiah Dow | Theophilus Blake |
| John Carr sen | Eliphalet Norris | Abraham Brown Ju ^r |
| Enoch Osgood | Ebenezer Swane | Benj ^a Clark |

[3-257] [*William Plumer recommended.*]

To his Excellency Mesech Weare Esq, and the Honorable Council of the State of Newhampshire your Petitioners the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Epping—

Impressed with a sence of the Importance of having a Suffi-
cient number of Civil Officers in the Town & of these Officers
being properly qualified to discharge their Duty with Honour
to themselves & Advantage to the Community, Do Humbly
pray that your Excellency & Honors would grant a Commis-
sion of Justice of the peace to William Plumer of this Town,
whom we humbly conceive is qualified for that office,

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray.

Epping February 1 1785.

Robart Judkins Ebenezer Currier Thomas Haley

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Samuel Haley | Brackit Johnston | Eliphelet Peas |
| thomas Burley | Gordon Burley | Stephen Clark Juner |
| Job Parsons | Nathaniel Parsons | Daniel Dow |
| Ebenezer Currier | Josiah Clark | Winthrop folsom |
| Jur | David Folsom | John Barker |
| Lyford Dow | Jonathan Barker | Daniel Sanborn |
| Nath ^l Ladd | John Shaw | Simon Johnson |
| John Page | Timothy Jones | |
| Trustram Samborn | John Barker Jun ^r | |

[3-260] [*Petition in favor of David Lawrence, Jr.*]

To his Excellency the President, and the Honorable the Council of the State of New Hampshire—

The Subscribers Your Petitioners—Humbly Shew That as the appointment of Civil Officers is now taking place, they have no doubt but your Excellency & Honors, will accept the information of Neighbors in a matter of such importance— That they wish to see Magistrates appointed who will faithfully serve the public, & be respected by the people—

They do not mean to dictate but they beg leave to mention to your Excellency and Honors David Lawrence Jun^r of Epping as a person suitable to sustain the Office of a Justice of the peace, that his character and conduct tend to make him respected among them—

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Excellency & Honors that the said David may be appointed to that Office, if he shall by you be thought worthy.

And as in duty bound will ever pray &c

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Jonathan Eliot | W ^m Hook | Moses Davis |
| Stephen Clifford | Winthrop Dow | John Carr Ju ^r |
| Henry Sanborn | Theop ^h Stevens | John Pease |
| Joel Judkins | Joshua Lane | John Carr |
| James Rundlet | Joseph Taylor | James Norris y ^e 3 ^d |
| Semeon Towle | Samuel Parsons | Gordon Freeze |
| Brad ^y Cilley | Jonathan Robinson | James Norris Junr |
| Noah Robinson | Joseph Jenness | Thomas Robinson |
| benj Norris | William Barton | Richard Elkins |
| Benj ⁿ Hoit | Jonathan Prescott | Daniel Sanborn |
| Joshua Brown-ir | Samuel Morrill jr | Daniel tilton |
| Enoch Coffin | Benjamin Johnson | Samuel brown |
| Benjamin Clifford | Juner | Samuel Wilkinson |
| Andrew Hanson | Nehemiah Wheeler | Eliphalet Carley |
| Joseph French | william morrill | Benjamin Dearborn |
| Josiah Tilton | Nathaniel maxfield | Thomas Boley |

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Jeremiah Sanborn | thomas Towl | Jacob Blasdel |
| Nathaniel Brown | Simon Dearborn | Samuel Jewett |
| Solomon french | Junr | Reuben French |
| John page | Jeremy Smith | John Prescott |
| Robert Clark | Phinehas Fogg | Simon Dearborn |
| Job Parsons | Stephen Clerk | John Pike |
| Jonathan Cilley | | |

[3-261] [*Petition in favor of Nathaniel Rogers for Sheriff.*]

To his Excellency the President & the Honorable the Council
of the State of New Hampshire

The undersigned Inhabitants of the County of Rockingham
beg leave to recommend to your Excellency and honours the
Honorable Nathaniel Rogers Esq^r for sheriff of said County;
confident that he would discharge the duties of that important
office with ability, integrity, and to the general acceptance of
the County—

And as in duty bound will ever pray.

Epping—Oct^r 13th 1791—

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Nehemiah Wheeler | Josiah Norris | Zebulon Dow |
| Seth Fogg | Jon ^a Fogg | Jonathan Winslow |
| Samuel Prescott | Nathan Prescut | Jonathan Perkins |
| James Martin | John Perkins | Joshua Brown |
| Thomas Norris | James Rundlet | David Lawrence |
| Josiah Chase | Simon Drake | James Chase |
| Benj ^a Brown | Nathan Bachellor | Theophilus Stevens |
| Chase osgood | Stephen Clifford | Samuel Osgood |
| Joseph Blake | Joseph Shepard | Joseph Shepard Jr |
| John Carr | theophilus Blake | Henry Sanborn |
| Edward Burleigh | Joshua Folsom | Benjamin Folsom |
| Joshua Brown ir | James Norris | Jeremy Smith |
| Tim ^y Johnson | Ebenezer Blake | Benjamin Page |
| Jonathan Eliot | Jon ^a Elliott Jr | Reuben french |
| Caleb french | Joseph french Junr | Ezekiel Clough |
| Jacob Blasdel | Nathaniel maxfield | Levi Towle |
| Paul Ladd | Samuel Plumer | James Rundlet Juner |
| Zebulon Edgerly | Jonathan Gorden | William Morrill |
| Daniel Watson | W ^m Plumer | juner |
| Jonathan Prescott | | |

EPSOM.

This town was granted to Theodore Atkinson and others,
May 18, 1727, and named for a town in the county of Sur-
ry, England. The grantees, among whom were Joshua

Frost and Capt. Samuel Weeks, lived in Rye, Newcastle, and Greenland, and the first meeting of the proprietors was held Nov. 20, 1727, in the ferry house at Newcastle. The first proprietors' meeting held in the town was in 1743. Among the first settlers were Andrew McClary, Charles McCoy, William Blazo, and Samuel Blake.

By an act passed June 7, 1765, the proprietors were authorized to sell some unappropriated lands, and use the proceeds to build a meeting-house.

Some of the descendants of Capt. McClary became distinguished men, both in military and civil life.

R. 377] [*Relative to John Dwyer, Soldier.*]

Camp at Ridgefield September 17th 1778.

these are to Certifie that we the subscribers have for a number of years Back, Been perfectly acquainted with Michael Dwyer of Rumney, During which time we have always understood that the said Mich^l was Brother to John Dwyer of Epsom Deceased and that the said Mich^l is the sole Heir in Law to the said John Dwyer of Epsom

Given under our hands

A. Morrill Cap^t Ebenezer Frye Cap^t

Camp at Danbury Sep^t 19th 1779.

I verely beleve that the above Certificut is trew

Jo^s Cilley Col^o of the first Ridg^m from N. Hamp

[John Dwyer is on the roll as of Allenstown, enlisted January, 1777; died July 7, following. The following Epsom men were in the first regiment:

Theophilus Cass entered Jan. 1, 1777; discharged December, 1781. He is reported, Jan. 10, 1778, as having been left at Albany, wounded.

Richard Drought entered April, 1779; discharged December, 1780.

John Jenness entered April, 1779; discharged December, 1781.

Moses Lock entered Jan. 19, 1777; discharged December, 1781.

Samuel Lock entered Feb. 1, 1777; discharged December, 1781.

Lieut. Col. Jeremiah Gilman; resigned March, 1780.—
ED.]

[R. 376] [*Major Amos Morrill's Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honorable the Council & House of Representatives for said State in General Assembly Convened, June 1780, Humbly Shews, Amos Morrill Capt. in the first Regim^t from said State, now in the service of the United States, That your petitioner has for some months lately past, been necessarily detained upon publick business at Exeter in behalf of the New Hampshire Brigade, during which time he has nearly exhausted his fund of the present circulating currency—that although your petitioner hath Notes from this State, for the depreciation of his wages, which are negociable, yet he cannot exchange the same for Currency unless he should sell them greatly under value—that your petitioner is now ordered to Camp immediately, and hath not wherewith to defray his necessary expence thereto—Therefore prays, that your Honours would advance to your petitioner Nine Hundred pounds, in the present Currency from the Treasury of said state and for which sum he will account as may by the Hon^{ble} Court be thought proper—Therefore your petitioner will ever pray

Exeter June 15th 1780

A. Morrill

[Amos Morrill was first lieutenant of the Eighth company of Stark's regiment in 1775, and was at Bunker Hill; promoted to captain, Jan. 1, 1777, and to major, March 24, 1780, and served through the war.—ED.]

[R. 325] [*Michael McClary's Petition.*]

To the Honorable Gen^l Assembly Convened at Exeter 19th April 1780—

The petition of Michael McClary Humbly Sheweth that your petitioner was by the authority of the state appointed to the Command of a Company (in Defence of his Country) the eighth of November 1776—Continued in his Command, till Sept 1778—Then by reason of a bad State of Health was obliged to resign his command—And notwithstanding the many Fatigues & hardships he has been obliged to encounter (which has ruined his Constitution) he is by a late resolve of the Gen^l Assembly deprived of the benefit of having the depreciation of his wages made good—Therefore prays you would take the matter under your wise Consideration and make the depreciation of his wages good up to the time he left the service—

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

Mich^l M^cClary

[In H. of Rep., April 25, 1780, the foregoing petition was granted.]

Michael McClary was a grandson of Andrew McClary, one of the first settlers of Epsom, and nephew of Maj. Andrew, who was killed at Bunker Hill. He was at Bunker Hill as second lieutenant of the Eighth company of Stark's regiment, and was in command of the Fifth company, Scammel's regiment, in 1777; was adjutant-general of the state from 1792 to 1813, and state senator from 1796 to 1802, inclusive.—ED.]

[R. 378] [*Petition of Weymouth Wallis, Soldier.*]

State of New Hampshire.

To the Honourable, the Council, & house of Representatives in Gen^l Assembly Convened—

The Petition of Weymouth Wallis of Epsom Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioner was a soldier in the Continental Service, under the command of Capt. Henry Dearborn in Col^o Starks Reg^t in the battle on Bunker Hill, had the misfortune to be Wounded by a musket ball that Pass'd through his right Arm, whereby your Petitioner underwent much pain & loss of Blood. And is thereby rendered unfit for duty in the field, Also incapable of geting a living for himself & Family, Therefore prays that your Honors will take this his Petition under your wise consideration and grant him such relief as you in your wisdom shall see fit—and your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

Weymouth $\overset{\text{his}}{\times}$ Wallis
mark

[The above is not dated; another one similar to it bears date, June, 1790.—ED.]

[4-2] [*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

Agreeable to a requisition from the Gen^l Assembly for making Out & returning to the Gen^l Court an exact N^o of all polls of Twenty One years & upwards paying for Themselves a poll Tax,—we have Accordingly Numbered Those belonging to the Town of Epsom, which Number Amounts to Ninety Nine.

Epsom 16th December.

Jeremiah Prescott } Select Men
Thomas Babb } for Epsom

State of New Ham^r } December 16th 1783
 Rockingham ss }

Jeremiah Prescott & Tho^s Babb above Nam'd made Oath to the Truth of the above return by them subscrib'd.—

Before

Mich^l M^cClary JP.

[4-3] [*Certificate of Nails made.*]

State of New Ham^r } This may certify That Amos Morrill
 Rockingham ss } has within twelve months past wrought
 in his Own Blacksmith Shop in Epsom one Hundred Thou-
 sand of Ten penny nails, and that he is Intitled to a bounty
 agreeable to a law of this State,

Epsom 16th March 1791

Thomas Babb } Select Men
 George Sanders } for Epsom

Rockingham ss March 16th 1791

This May Certify that Amos Morrill has made it appear to me that he has within Twelve months past wrought one Hundred Thousand of Ten penny Nails in his own Blacksmith Shop in Epsom

Attest

Mich^l M^cClary JP.

Aug 12, 1791—

Received an Order on the Treasurer for five pounds

A. Morrill

[4-4] [*Relative to a Road from Concord to Durham.*]

To the Hon'ble the Senate & house of Representatives of New Hampshire in Gen^l court convened at Dover on the first Wednesday of June 1792

The Petition of the Selectmen of Epsom in behalf of said Town Humbly Shew That the General court at their last session held at Portsmouth passed an Act appointing and Authorising Joseph Badger, Nathan Hoit & Henry Gerrish Esquires a committee, to look & lay out a road from Concord to Durham, & that the sum allowed by said committee to Individuals for the damage done them by Said road going through their lands & the expence of clearing & making Said road Should be done at the Several Towns through which it went.—That Said committe have agreeably to their appointment laid out Said road. Which is exceedingly Injurious to the Town of Epsom, as they have heretofore been at a very great expence in

making roads & bridges in Said Town. That the Two last years past they have built a bridge over Suncook River which cost the Inhabitants upwards of Six hundred dollars & that they have one more bridge over the Same river to support as well as many Others in Said Town, which is expensive to the Inhabitants that the road through Said Town, that has been used upwards of Fifty years is by the Industry of the Inhabitants become very good. That the road lately laid Out by the committee through Epsom cannot without a very great expence be made passable & impossible ever to be so good for traveling as the road now used

That the distance Saved (by the new laid out road) is principally from Concord to Suncook river in Epsom—that the fields & pastures in said Town will be very much damaged if said road should be cleared, where it is now laid Out. Wherefore your petitioners in behalf of Said Town pray your honers would take their cause under your wise consideration & grant them relief by repealing the Act so far as that Said road shall not be considered as laid out any further in Epsom then from Chichester line to the new bridge over Suncook River or Otherwise Order that the expence of purchasing & making said road through said Town should be paid by the State or County of Rockingham and your petitioner as in duty bound will pray—

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Amos Morrill | } | Selectmen for Epsom |
| Thomas Babb | | |
| Josiah Sanborn | | |

E R R O L .

The township was granted Feb. 28, 1774, to Timothy Ruggles and others. A large portion of the grant was purchased in 1778 by men living in Salem and Danvers, Mass. But very few settlements were made prior to 1800, and the town contained but 26 inhabitants in 1820, and 161 in 1880. The town was incorporated Dec. 28, 1836.

[4-5] [*Petition of the Proprietors for a Renewal of the Grant.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the State of Newhampshire in General Court convened December 1789.—

The Petition of the Subscribers proprietors of Errol & Millsfield in s^d State humbly sheweth, That in the year One Thou-

sand Seven hundred & Seventy Nine, we employed a Committee & Surveyors with Necessary attendants & at the great Expence of Two thousand one hundred & Eighty pounds transported provisions by Packmen through the Wilderness Sixty Miles Nearly, without any Road, & laid out s^d Towns into hundred Acres Lots, That by reason of the War, and other difficulties, we were at that time induced to lay aside our purposes of Compleating the Settlement of s^d Towns,—that we have since renewed our Intentions, and by our Agent Major Joshua Heath have begun to make improvements, by felling of Trees, clearing of Roads, & putting up Log Houses in s^d Towns, by raising the Sum of Fifty pounds Eight shillings.— That it is our unanimous Resolution, to pursue the original Design of Compleating the settlement of s^d Towns with as much Speed as may be; provided we can be Accommodated, with Roads, & be allowed a further Time, to compleat the the Condition of our Grant.

Your petitioners therefore pray the Lands from Conway to Errol, may be made liable to pay the Expences of making a good passable Road, through the several Grants, under the Direction of such a Committee as this Hon^{ble} Court shall see fit to appoint; & that a further time to fulfill the Conditions of our Charters may be granted, or that such other proceedings may be had for the Relief & encouragement of your Petitioners, as to this Honorable Court shall seem meet, and as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.—

Salem 9th Dec^r 1789

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Benj ⁿ Goodhue | Jonathan Ropes | W ^m West |
| Jon ^a Peele | W ^m Shillaber | Abraham Rand |
| Jacob Ashton | Edw ^d Norris | Sam ^l Ward |
| Eben ^r Beckford | W ^m Vans | Joshua Heath |

At a Meeting of the Proprietors & Owners of the Township of Errol at Salem, on the 9th December 1789.

Voted, That Major Joshua Heath be appointed to present the foregoing Petition to the Hon^{ble} the General Court of New Hampshire at their next Sitting.—

A true Copy from s^d Proprietors Records

Att. Edw. Norris Propri. Cler.

[I cannot find any action of the legislature on the foregoing.—ED.]

[4-6] [*Joshua Heath's Account for making Roads, etc.*]

Proprietors of Erroll to Joshua Heath D^r

To Labor done in Clearing of a Road to & in said Erroll & in building of Houses from the 15th day of October to the 12th day of November 1789 viz

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sam Mash | — — — | 25 days | | |
| Jacob Evans | — — — | 25 | | |
| Dean Osgood | — — — | 25 | | |
| Jerem ^a Osgood | — — — | 25 | | |
| | | — | 100 day @ 4/ | 20,, 0,, 0 |
| Nath Porter | — — — | 15 days | | |
| Moses Ingalls | — — — | 15 | | |
| John Stephens | — — — | 15 | | |
| | | — | 45 at 4/ | 9,, 0,, 0 |
| Enoch Webster | — — — | 8 at 4/ | | 1,, 12,, 0 |
| To myself | — — — | 27 days 6 / <i>pr</i> day | | 8,, 2,, 0 |
| Three Horses | — — — — — | | | 1,, 10,, 0 |
| To two journeys to Salem | — — — — — | | | 3,, 12— |
| | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | £43,, 16,, 0 |
| Deduct for oyercharge | — — — — — | | | 3— |
| | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | £40,, 16,, 0 |
| By Cash & my own taxes | — — — — — | | | 37,, 16— |
| | | | | <hr/> |
| Ballance due M ^r Heath | — — — — — | | | 3,, 0,, 0 |

A True Copy of Major Joshua Heath's (of Conway New Hampshire) account as settled Dec^r 10th 1789—Attest
W^m Vans prop^{rs} Treasurer

[4-7] [*Petition for a Confirmation of the Grant.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate, & the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the General Court assembled.—

Your petitioners humbly shew, that some time in the Year 1778, we purchased & paid, a valuable consideration for more than three fourths of the land, in two Townships in the County of Grafton, known by the names of Millsfield, & Errol; & in the Next Year the Sum of Twenty one hundred & eighty pounds, of the then currency, was expended in laying out these townships, in lots of one hundred acres each,—at the time these purchases were made your petitioners together with other

proprietors who were inhabitants of the State of New Hampshire, determined as soon as a peace should take place between this Country & Great Brittain, to comply with the Conditions on which the grants were made.—Since the Year 1783 We have been constantly endeavoring by very advantageous offers to engage persons to undertake the Settlement of them, but the almost impassable woods between them and the inhabited part of the country, was an obstacle to the intended settlement, which we could not remove, but by the cutting & clearing of roads through other places, at an expence, which we are sure you would neither expect or desire.—We flatter ourselves, that you will view us as situated very differently from the proprietors of many unsettled townships, which border immediately on others, through which there are good roads; for we have been long expecting that Such proprietors from the comparatively easy Access, to their townships, would at least have opened roads through them; that their Neighbors, who were disposed to make Settlements, might have had it in their power, without the additional expence of making roads, for those, who had so long, and so unreasonably Neglected their duty;—at length after repeated disappointments, we agreed in Septem^r 1789 with Capt. Joshua Heath, to procure a Number of Men, and cut a road through the woods to Millsfield, & Errol; this they effected; they cut down a considerable quantity of Wood in different parts of the township of Errol, and erected a number of log houses, intending the following Year, to place Several Settlers there; but doubts arising in the minds of some, respecting the propriety of proceeding, untill we had obtained from Your HONORS, a confirmation of our right to the land in question, put a stop to our exertions, and induced us to trouble you with this Application;—The attempts we have made to accomplish Settlements, particularly the last mentioned one, were attended with great expence, and though productive of but little real benefit, Yet are indisputable proofs of our intentions to comply with the terms of the grant;—if the Grantees of any lands in the State have a claim to your indulgence, and to a further time for the performance of the conditions of the grants, we have no doubt You will consider those of Millsfield & Errol of the number. We have so much confidence in your wisdom, & equity, as to believe, that as you have the power, so you have the inclination to do us ample Justice—we therefore pray, that you would grant us such further time to compleat the Settlement of the two Townships of Millsfield & Errol as to your hon^s may seem meet, & at the Same time give such directions respecting the clearing of Roads between our land & the inhabited part of the Country, as shall remove any extraordinary difficulties, which at present lay in our

way.—Any thing further, we Neither expect, or wish, & as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.—

Salem January 15th 1791

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| W ^m West | S. Goodhue Attorney to Benj ⁿ Goodhue Esq | |
| W ^m Vans | Joseph Sprague | W ^m Shillaber |
| Jon ^a Peele | Jonathan Ropes | Sam ^l Ward |
| Edw ^d Norris | George Dodge | Eben ^r Beckford |
| Jacob Ashton | Jn ^o Fisk | Elias Hasket Derby |
| Robert Foster | Joshua Crippen | Bart Putnam |
| Abraham Rand | | |

[4-8] [*Action of Legislature on foregoing Petition.*]

State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives Decem^r 13th 1791

Upon reading & considering the petition of William Vans and others in behalf of the Proprietors of the Townships of Errol & Millsfield in the County of Grafton in said State setting forth, that by reason of a variety of complicated embarrassments, the Proprietors have not been able to make the cultivation & settlement of said Townships agreeable to the conditions subjoined to the original Grants or Charters of said Townships respectively, and among other things prayed that a further time be allowed to the said Proprietors for completing the same—which appearing reasonable—Therefore Resolved, that a further term of Ten years from the passing of this resolve, be, and hereby is allowed to said Proprietors to complete the settlements & cultivation in said Townships respectively: Provided that within one year from the passing of this Resolve, the proprietors of said Township of Errol pay into the Treasury of this State the sum of one hundred & eighteen pounds six shillings, Lawful Money: And that the Proprietors of said Township of Millsfield pay into said Treasury the sum of one hundred & one pounds eight shillings Lawful money—which sums upon examination are computed & stated to be the full for the Arrears or proportions of those Townships respectively to all public Taxes, that have, or ought to have been apportioned to said Townships respectively, to make them equal with other Townships under similar circumstances within this State as to the public Taxes that have been called for upon the apportionments heretofore made in this State.

And it is hereby further resolved in all public Taxes call'd for in future, the proportion of the said Township of Errol shall be seven shillings upon each thousand pounds to be raised in the State, and the proportion of the said Township of Mills-

field shall be six shillings upon each thousand pounds so raised until a new proportion shall be made among the several Towns and places in this State—

Sent up for Concurrence.

William Plumer Speaker.

In Senate Dec^r 13th 1791 read & concurred

Josiah Bartlett President.

[4-9] [*Relative to the Proprietors' Clerk, etc.*]

To the honorable Senate and the honorable house of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened at Concord the 21st day of Nov- 1798

the petition of the Subscribers inhabitants of Salem & Danvers in the State of Massachusetts—

Humbly sheweth That your petitioners are largely interested in lands lying in the Township of Erroll in the County of Grafton & State of New Hampshire; that the proprietors of s^d township at a legal meeting holden at Portsmouth Dec^r 11th 1792 in pursuance of a warrant from John Pickering Esq^r authorising them among other things to agree upon a method of calling Meetings in future.

Voted that the mode of calling future meetings should be by an application of the Proprietors of more than one sixteenth part of said township to the proprietors Clerk for the time being, upon which application such Clerk should duly notify a meeting of s^d Proprietors; that the Proprietors of more than one sixteenth part of s^d Township in conformity to said vote made application June 3rd 1796 to John Saunders jr. Esq^r then clerk of the Prop^s of s^d Township, to notify & call a meeting of s^d Proprietors to be holden at Plastow August 2, 1796 to choose among other things a proprietors clerk; that the same meeting was notified and holden accordingly; that another Proprietors clerk besides the s^d John Saunders jr. was then chosen; that notwithstanding the said choice the s^d John Saunders jr. refused upon demand to deliver up the Proprietors books, records & papers to his said successor, and never has since delivered them up; that the said Saunders resides in New York in the State of New York, and is your Petitioners believe so large a proprietor in s^d township as to be able at pleasure to rechoose himself proprietors Clerk of s^d Proprietors should they make of him a legal demand of s^d proprietors books records & papers; that at a legal meeting of s^d Proprietors holden at Hampton Falls the fourth day of July last the s^d Saunders did not attend nor forward the s^d books records nor papers; that your petitioners in

common with most of the other Proprietors are unable at Proprietors meetings or other times to obtain a sight or examination of s^d books, records, or papers without applying to s^d Saunders at New York; that the said books records & papers being in the possession of a person so far distant is a great inconvenience to your petitioners by preventing their learning the real situation of their property, & also putting it out of their power safely to take any steps to encourage the settlement of s^d township; your Petitioners therefore earnestly request the enactment of a Law forbidding any Person being chosen proprietors clerk who does not reside within the State of New Hampshire; or the enactment of a Law apportioning the number of votes to each proprietor in a smaller proportion than the number of shares he may hold, or any other measure to remedy the inconvenience under which your petitioners now labour, which you in your wisdom may deem proper

And as in duty bound will ever pray—

Salem August, 13, 1798.

Jacob Ashton
Jon^a Peele
John Jenks
Rob^t Foster
W^m Shillaber

EXETER.

The first considerable settlement of Exeter by white men was made by Rev. John Wheelwright and his companions, in the spring of 1638. They came from Boston and its vicinity in the Massachusetts Bay, and were banished thence on account of their religious opinions. The tradition is, that a few persons had settled before that date about the falls of the Squamscot, among them the family of Hall, whose descendants still dwell there.

Wheelwright, when he came, purchased the land of the Indian occupants, to the extent of thirty miles square. Belknap, and most other authorities, state that he had taken a similar conveyance as early as 1629; but this has been denied, and the question can hardly be said to be conclusively determined.

As there was no system of government in New Hampshire at that early day, Wheelwright and his company, on the 4th day of July, 1639, entered into a compact in writ-

ing, which provided for a method of self-government, under which they lived peaceably until 1642, when this, with the other settlements in New Hampshire, placed itself under the government of the Massachusetts Bay.

There are four towns whose territory formerly belonged to Exeter, namely, Newmarket, incorporated December 15, 1727; South Newmarket, set off from Newmarket June 27, 1849; Epping, incorporated February 23, 1741; and Brentwood, incorporated June 26, 1742.

[The foregoing article was contributed by Hon. Charles H. Bell.—ED.]

[R. 380] [*Relative to Soldiers in Town.*]

New Hampshire Exeiter y^e 17th of march 1692/3

The Soulders under my Command quartered by y^e Inhabitants of Exeiter: from the first day of desem^{br} 1692, to the 17th of march 1692/3, the Number is twenty and two,—and two quartered at M^r Andrew wigens one of them sence the Arrivall of thayer Maj^{ties} Government in this provence to the 17th of march 1692/3, the other quartered fiveteen weeks in y^e foresaid time=

per me Tho Thaxter Cap^t

The Above is A true account of y^e soulders quartered by y^e Inhabitants of Exeiter

Jonathan Thing Cap^t

[4-10] [*Return of Assembly-Men, 1694.*]

Att a Leagall meeting of y^e ffree holders of y^e towne of Exiter the 29th octob^r: 1694 there were chosen by y^e ffree holders Lef^t Kinsle Hall and m^r John ffolson for to serve as assembly men wth full power for themselves and y^e Community of y^e s^d: towne by me

Nathaniell Wright Constable
of Exeter

Octob^r: 29 1694

[4-11] [*Return of Assembly-Men, 1692.*]

New hamshier—Exeter 28th of Septem 1692

Att a publique meeting of the ffree holders of this Towne in

persuanc of a precept sent by the heigh sherif of this provinc ;
 Capt : William More and Lieut : Sam^l Leavit are chosen Rep-
 resentatives for this town for the Generall Assembly, for the
 time being to be holden for this provinc at porthmth on y^e first
 tusday in octob^r next insuing this present date

Attest : David Larans Constabell

[4-13] [*Precept for Election of Assembly-Men, 1695.*]

Province of New Hampsh^r

To the Constables of Exiter

{ Seal } Pursuant to a Precept from the Hon^{ble} Jn^o
 { Father time } Usher Esq^r L^t Govern^r &c of s^d Province.
 { with scythe } These are in his Majes^{ts} Name to Require and
 Comand you and both of you, that you fourthwth upon Receipt
 hereof warne or cause to warne the freeholders of your Towne
 of Exiter to assemble and meet to geather at sum usuall Place
 there to chuse and Depute Two able Sufficient men and duly
 qualified according to law, to Represent your s^d : Town at a
 Generall Assembly to be held for his Majest^s : in this Province
 at New Castle on Wednesday the fiefteenth of this Ins^t : May at
 two of the Clock in the afternoone, the men so chosen for His
 Majes^{ts} : Service to attend dediem in diem during the s^d Ses-
 sion, and make Returne of the Persons names so Chosen wth
 this Precept to me at New Castle by tuesday next at one of the
 Clock in the afternoon hereof faile not at your Perrill,

Dated New Castle May 10th 1695 :

Per Theo^r Attkinson Shereff

your meeting must be on Munday next

[Constable's return on the back of the foregoing :—ED.]

Exeter y^e 13th May 1695

This Day according to y^e within presept I have called a Gen-
 erall Town Meeting according to law and then were Legaly
 Chosen to Represent s^d : Town of Exeter in s^d : Assembly on
 y^e : 15 Ins^t at New Castle and have given the men soe Chosen
 notise thereof

Cap^t Kinsly Hall M^r Jn^o Folsom

William Scammon Constable

[4-14]

[This document is another precept for an election, dated
 November 2, 1695. The seal on this is two arrows crossed,

piercing a heart, signed by Theo. Attkinson. The return on the back shows that Moses Leavitt and Theophilus Dudley were elected. The following order is also on the back of the precept:

"You are Required to give notice to the Cap^t of yo^r Towne that he stands upon his Guard: the Indians being on the frontiers

W^m Redford Dp^t

By or^{dr} of the Govern^r."—ED.]

[R. 381] [*Captain Kinsley Hall's Pay-Roll, 1696.*]

Prest men in Exiter who served His maj^{ty} in Exiter and oyster River from november y^e 4: 1695—

Jn^o young sen Jacob Smith Sanders Gording ffrancis Steel Job Judkins from y^e 4: nov^{mr} to 2 dec^{mr} 95

Tho; Rawlins Jn^o Sinkler Joshua Gillman Edw^d Masry Jn^o Judkins from y^e 14 nov^{mr} to 12 dec^{mr} 95

Edward Dwyer Eben foulsham Jn^o ffickett Jethro Person Strong horne from y^e 2 dec^{mr} to 30 dec^{mr} 95

Sam^l Beane Jeremy Coner Ed Cloutman Sam^l Dolhuf James Rundlet from y^e 12 dec^{mr} to 9 Jen 95

Jn^o Beane James Beane israll Smith James Leavit Stephen Gillⁿ from y^e 30 dec^{mr} to 27 Jen 95

Sam^l piper Nick Smith Nick Gillman Philip spendlow Moses Rawlins from y^e 9 Jen to 6 feb 95

Will^m Grans Clem moody Jonathan Smith Jn^o Leavit from y^e 27 Jen to 24 feb 95

frances Lyford byel Dudley Sandrs magoone Nat Lad from y^e 6 feb to y^e 5 march 96

Nick Gording James Yong mark stasy Will^m powell from y^e 24 feb to y^e 23 march 96

Peter foulsham from y^e 5 march to y^e 2 april 96

The whole account of y^e Soulders wages from november y^e 4, 95 to apriell y^e 2^d 1696 Is 52-16-00

Compared with y^e debenter per me

Kinsley Hall Cap^t

Jonathan Thing he went to Oyester River to Seuerve his Majstys In Garson one y^e second of this Instant Apperell to this Eight of Apperell and their Remains still a soulder and amounts to when his month is out ^{lb s d} 1-4-0

Sixteen men Returned from Oyester 2 Days per man a mount-
^{lb s d} ting to 2-13-4

the wholl accountt amountt to

56-13-4

per me

Kinsley Hall Cap^t

This is a tru account compared this 8 Aprill 1696

By me John woodman Cap^t

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------|
| Wages | | 56 : 13 : 4 |
| Billeting And : Wiggins | | 6 : 16 : 2 |
| ditto Edw ^d Hilton | | 6 : 16 : 2 |
| ditto Rich ^d Hilton | | 5 : 0 : 0 |

[R. 383] [*Exeter's Account for Soldiers.*]

Province of New Hamp^r

An acount of Exitors Charge of Clames for Souldiers Sarveing his majesty in garrisons at Exiter from y^e 13th of aprill 1696 untill y^e 9 of novem^r

Job Jenking Allixand^r gourding D. messervy Charles Runlett Arme Stronghorn Ebenezer foulsum ffransis Steale John Gourding Nathan Taylor Rich^d Dolhouse

The above souldiers sarved from y^e 13th of aprill 1696 untill y^e 3^d of august being foure months Comes to Aighty Pounds it being for wages and subsistance 80

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| David Larrance | Rich ^d morgen | Joel Jenkings |
| Thom : willson | Jonathan Clark | David Roberson |
| John Gilman | Ephrim fowl sn | |
| Iserell young | Sammuell Dudly | |

The above souldiers sarved from y^e 3^d of august untill y^e 31 of y^e same month it being one month wages and subsistance Comes to twenty pounds 20

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Charles Gleadin | Goarg Gorly | Jonathan wodlash |
| Goarg Pearson | Nicolas Norris | Danniell Bean |
| William Taylor | Elexand ^r Goarding | Roger kelly |
| William Jones | Se ⁿ | |

The above soulders sarved from y^e 31 of august 1696 untill y^e 28 of September /96 being one month for wages and subsistance comes to twenty pounds 20 lb

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| James Gillman | Moses Kiming | Benj : Jones |
| Phill : Huntoon | Theophilus Smith | Moses norris |
| Phill : Duby | Jerrimiath Gillman | |
| Jacob Smith | Joseph Rawlings | |

The above souldiers sarved from y^e 28th of September 1696 untill y^e 26 of october 96 being one month for wages and subsistance comes to twenty pounds 20 lb

Moses Levite sarved his majesty in garrison in Exiter from

y^e 28th of July 1696 untill y^e 22^d of September 96 it being two months for wages and subsistance coms to foure pounds 4 lb
 for John Gillman and Nathaniell Steavens goeing post to
 haverell by y^e Lf^t Governours order two dayes s
10
 James Godfrey for Rideing y^e governours hors from Exiter to
 y^e Bank s
3
lb s d
 The sum totall 144 : 10 : 00

This is y^e trew account for wages and subsistance for y^e within
 A Counts Acording to order by me

Kinsley Hall Cap^t

To subsistance of two Hampton men att M^r Wigginses 6
 days a pece from 7 Aprill to 13 00—8—00

two Hampton men at M^r Hiltons from the 9 of Aprill to the
 12 or 13 for subsistance 0—4—00

per me Kinsley Hall Cap^t

Cornelius lary

Jeremiah Beane

Ben : Tayler

Joⁿ Bean senior

Abra. ffoulshem

Jonathan Robinson

James Gordin

Will : Scamon

Caleb Gilman

Richard Morgaine
 senior

This 10 Souldiers above named served his majestie in Garri-
 son from the 26th day of october to the 9 of november 1696

which was 2 weeks wages & diat come to lb s d
10—00—00

per me Kinsley Hall Cap^t Sum totall lb s d
155— 5— 0

Portsm^o Novemb^r 13th 1696—Approved and Examined by

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Kinsley Hall | Henry Dow | John Woodman | } of y ^e Comitty |
| John Tuttle | Theodore Attkinson | W ^m Redford | |

[4-22] [*Richard Hilton's Petition for Ferry.*]

Province of New Hampshire.

To the Hon^{ble} the L^t Goverⁿ Councill and Representatives Con-
 vened in Gen^l asembly

The humble petition of Richard Hilton of the Town^{sp} of
 Exeter—Humbly Sheweth :

That there being a great occasion for travellers and other
 persons Liveing neare yo^r petitioner to transport themselves
 & horses over the River from Swamscott to the other side op-
 posite to yo^r Petitioner's House ; for the cutting the way by

sever^{ll} miles short to Lamperell River and other parts, and there being noe ffery settled; yo^r petitioner Humbly prays that yo^r Hon^{rs} would be pleased to Grant unto him Liberty for keeping a ffery betwixt Swamscott and his owne House for the tearme of fifty years and that he have Liberty to keep a public House as is accustomed to all fferyes

Richard Hilton

12th June 1700 read at the Councill and allowed and Approved of

[4-23] [*Remonstrance against being set off from Exeter.*]

To the honourable The Lieutenant Governour and commander in cheife and the council.

Your honours humble petitioners whose names are underwritten, being inhabitants of the town of Exeter, and who have been at great charges to build a meeting house & settle the ministrie there, and in that it is most convenient for us to belong there; we humbly & earnestly request that we & our lands may still belong to Exeter as we have lately done; we entreat your honours to consider how prejudicial, it will be unto us, to be taken off from Exeter & laid to any other town, and so favourably grant this humble request of your honours humble servants.

Exeter Sep^t 9th 1701.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Thomas Rawlins Sen ^r | Thomas Rawlins Jun ^r | Moses Rawlins Joseph Rawlins |
| Benjamin Tayler | Nathaniel Stevens | |
| Nathaniel wright | Thomas Reed | |

[4-24] [*Relative to Francis Lyford's Sloop.*]

Exeter the 21 february 1710 A noat of disburstments This are to Enforme whome it may Concern that francis Lyford of Exetter hade his Slope Imprest by Cap^t John perkins of portsmouth and promised to pay six pound for the Runn of here to sacoe and from thence to picescataquack againe to bring away the distresed inhabittance whene the Indians were burning and destroying all About them william Jefry and thomas Lyford at the same time in said slope wich ware About twenty one yeare since at the same time was bureses flechers & scamans families & goods in said slope with several more unknowne to me to the Comity Apointed for the disburstments

[4-25]

Exeter 21th february 1710 the disburstments of francis Lyford of Exeter in dieting of solders in the Indian warre

At Cap^t kinslyes halls garrson too men under the Comand of Cap^t bancraft eight wecks and of Cap^t thaxter men at M^r moses gillmans garreson ten mene five monthes to say in the winter fall & spring

to the Comity Apointed for the disburstments

[4-26]

[*Biley Dudley's Account.*]

To the honorebel Commetey seting at Portsmouth to examin the provnce depts as folet, this is to inform you that I Biley Dudley have subsistid on of Leftanant Bancrafts solders about 5 monts Leftanant Bancraft bein then Comander in Chef her at Exitur In the year 1690 Atest hereunto—

Left Petr ffolsum susanar ffolsum — —

And Lyckwis a blanket prest by the order of Peter Cofin esquire for the Cuntry sarves when the solders went to pigwockit under the Comand of Capn John Gilman which said blankit was prized by Thomas Webster & Nicoll Gorden at sixteen shilings

fabray 21 1709

[4-27] [*Petition relative to Cutting Timber, etc.*]

To his Excellency ffancis Nicholson Esq

The Petition of Sundry the Principal Inhabitants of Exet^r In behalf of y^m selves, and others—

Most humbly Sheweth—

That being Inform'd Your Excellency is Impowered by her Majesty to Inspect her Majesties Woods referring unto Mast Trees &c—Doe humbly crave leave to acknowledge her princely Wisdom In Impowering Your Excellency therein who in several Instances have distinguished yourself every way just to her Royall Interest, and in a particular maner ready upon all occasions to redress her agrieved Subjects, in these her Majesties Plantations—

Whereupon wee your Petitioners humbly crave leave to Inform y^r Excellency, that M^r Bridger, her Maj^{ts} Surveyour General hath of late prohibited all maner of persons to fell any sort of timber in her Maj^{ts} Subjects in these parts, for that thousands of trees which will never bee fit for Masts will unavoydably perish which otherwise would be sawn into boards, whercin many hundred, whose Estate in mills, and dependance

thereon, is concerned; the greatest part of shipping throughout New England Employed, and all the West Indies supplied therewith—

Therefore pray that after the Surveyour Generall as aforesaid, has markt all such trees as are or may bee fitt for masts that wee may bee then suffered, to Improve the remainder, without any lett, or paying of any acknowledge't

And whereas the Winter season is so farr advanced and our teems lye unemployed would further pray, that wee may forthwith bee permitted to Improve them, in our usual way of logging; which otherwise will render the succeeding summer altogether useless—

and y^r petitioners Shall Ever pray &c

Decbr 4th 1713

[The original of the foregoing is on a half sheet, which contains no signatures; the other half, which probably contained them, is missing.—ED.]

—

[4-28] [*Richard Dollof's Petition, relative to Children captured by Indians, addressed to the Council and Assembly.*]

The Humble Petition of Richard Dollar of Exeter in s^d province—Most Humbly Sheweth—

That yo^r Poor Petitioner went some Time Last Summer to Canada by Land to Redeem Three Children I had made Captive by y^e Indians, but Could gett but one of them for which I paid £12, 17, 0 to y^e Indian Captor at Canada, & when I came to Fort Albany I paid him £12, more, for which I Gave my Bond to maj^r Skiler, w^{ch}: y^r Petitioner hath not been able to Discharge As yet so y^t it still stands in Force against me w^{ch} I cannot Possibly Discharge of myself; being very Poor, my afores^d Journey having been very chargeable w^{ch} I have bourn myself without any manner of assistance, and yo^r Poor Petitioner Intending to go again to Canada this Summer to gett my other two Children (a french Gentleman having promist me to Redeem them from y^e Indians) humbly Implores yo^r Excellency and Honours Christian Compassion in Giving me Relief in this my Great Distress, by ordering my afores^d Bond to be Discharged & some Further help Given me to Enable me to proceed in my aforesaid Journey and yo^r Poor Petitioner shall Ever pray as in Duty Bound

Richard Dollof

[The assembly voted that said Dollof be paid £20 out of the treasury.—ED.]

[4-29] [*Assessment on Trades and Incomes, 1731.*]

the Domingos of mens trades and Incoms for their merchandize and trading in this towne of Exeter this present year 1731 by us selectmen and assers

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|---------|
| John Lord | o, 3, o | Daniel Lovrin | o, 2, 6 |
| abner Therstain | o, 1, 6 | Josiah Gilman | o, 2, 6 |
| caleb Kimbell | o, 2, 9½ | John Bowden | o, 2, 6 |
| Thomas Healy | o, 1, o | Nicholas Parryman | o, 2, 6 |
| Widow Hannah Hall | o, 1, o | William Lovrin | o, 1, 6 |
| Thomas Dean | o, 5, o | Samuel Richardson | o, 1, 6 |
| Benjamin Smith, | o, 2, 6 | Ephraim Philbrick | o, 3, o |
| Daniel Favor | o, 2, 6 | Theophilus Hardee | o, 1, o |
| John Kimbell | o, 2, 3½ | Samuel Therstain | o, 2, 6 |
| Nathanael Gilman | o, 3, 10 | Lt. John Robinson | o, 4, 6 |
| Nathanael Bartlet | o, 7, 6 | Jonathan Robinson | o, 2, 6 |
| Stephen Lyford | o, o, 7 | Richard Smith | o, 3, o |
| John Hayns | o, 2, 6 | Timothy Leavit, | o, o, 6 |
| James Young | o, 2, 6 | Nathanael Gliden | o, 1, 6 |
| Samuel Sebly | o, 3, o | Benjamin Smith Jacob- | |
| John Downing | o, 2, 6 | son | o, 1, o |
| Joseph Young | o, 2, 6 | Daniel Gilman | o, 2, 4 |
| moses Swet | o, 2, 6 | major Bartho Thing | o, 5, 3 |
| Samuel Gilman | o, 3, o | Daniel Lovrin | o, 2, 6 |
| Cortee Gilmon | o, 1, 6 | Josiah Gilman | o, 2, 6 |
| abner Coffin, | o, 1, 6 | John Bowden | o, 2, 6 |
| Jonas Clay, | o, 1, 6 | Nicholas Parryman | o, 2, 6 |
| Benjamin Porter | o, 1, 6 | | |
| Edward Ladd | o, 2, 6 | | 5, 6, 9 |
| John odlin | o, 2, 6 | | |
| Henry Marchal | o, 1, 6 | | |
| Taylor Lamson | o, 2, 6 | | |

This is a true list of our dooming which we made our Province rat by in the year 1731—given under our hands at Exeter aforesaid this 26th Day of January 1731/2

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| John Gilman | } Select men | John Gilman | } Assessors |
| Thom ^s Webster | | James Leavitt | |
| Jeremiah Connor | | | |
| Caleb Gilman | | | |
| Joseph Thing | | | |

[4-30] [*Warrant for the Seizure of Lumber.*]

Province of New Hamps^r

To M^r Peter Greley und^r Sheriff of s^d Province

We having rec^d a warrant from his Excellence y^e Govener

for y^e assisting the Surveyer General of y^e woods in taking into his Possession sundry parcels of white pine Boards Condemend to y^e use of his majesty by y^e court of vice admiralty—wich boards Lay at Copey Hold mill black Rock mill the three mills at Pickpocket; Litle River mill two Tuckaway mills Gilmans mill Halls mill at Piscasset—Wadleys mill hook mill and second ffalls mill—and it being suggested that y^e s^d Boards are all Removed from s^d mills to y^e end that Certan Intelligence may be had thereof—These are in his majesteys name to Command and Require you forthwith to Repair to s^d mills all being in y^e town of Exeter within s^d Province and Examine into what quantey of white pine Boards Remain theare of those that weare Condemed as above s^d and make Return thereof unto us so soon as you convenantly Can you are hereby Impowerd to Impress a Guide or Guides if you have ocation for such for wich this is your warent

Dated at Portsmouth Nov^r y^e 2^d 1739

Geo: Jaffrey }
Josh: Pirce } J Pace

a trew Copey Atts^d Peter Greley und^r sheriff

[R. 384] [George Creighton's Petition.]

TO HIS EXCELLENCY BENNING WENTWORTH ESQ^r Captain
Generall Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his
Majestys Province of New Hampshire and To the Hon^{ble} his
Majestys Councill and house of Representatives Convened in
General Assembly—

Humbly Shews George Creighton of Exeter That he was at the Reduction of Cape Breton as Clerk of the Company under the Command of Cap^t Daniel Ladd and Performed his Duty in that Company untill the Third Day of September Last when at the Request of the Remaining part of the said Company to Collo^l Samuel Moore he obtained Leave of absence and to Returne to New England to Take Care of Such Things as their Friends might see fit to send them and then by the First Convenient opportunity to Return to his Duty at Louisbourg. And accordingly your Petitioner returned to New England and used his utmost Dispatch in Procuring Such Necessarys and Taking Care of them, and in Returning to his Duty at Louisbourg where he arrived on the Twenty fifth of November last, when he was appointed a Sergeant in the Company under the Command of the said Coll^o Moore, where your Petitioner Did his Duty by himself and his brother (who he hired part of the Time)—untill Coll^o Moore Returned home. And your Peti-

tioner having had nothing allowed him for Said Service from the time of his first return to New England untill his return home with Collo^l Moore, Your Petitioner humbly prays Your Excellency and hon^{rs} will consider him herein and allow him what your Excellency & hon^{rs} in your Great Wisdom Shall See meet—and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c—

Dated Aug. 20th 1746

George Creighton

[He was allowed twenty-five shillings per month for nine months and eleven days.]

[R. 385] [*Dr. Robert Gilman's Petition addressed to the "Gen^l Court Assembled."*]

The Humble Petition of Robert Gilman of Exeter one of the Doctors in the late Expedition to Cape Bretton, Humbly Shews that on or about the first day of June last at Cape Bretton afores^d your Petitioner was greatly wounded in his left heel by a piece of a bomb by means whereof he was obliged on the 7th of said June to return home with Captⁿ Wise & to pay Captⁿ Wise for necessarys on the Passage five pounds old tenor & to M^r Peacock at Portsmouth for his dyet Lodging and attendance forty shillings old tenor and your Petitioner after his return home was at great Cost in Curing his wound besides the great pain he endured both at Cape Bretton and at Sea & a month after he came home and never expects to have the free use of his heel as before wounded.

* * *

Rob^t Gilman

Exeter Nov^r 27th 1745—

[He asked for an allowance, which was granted to the extent of five pounds, July 31, 1746.—ED.]

[R. 386] [*Capt. Daniel Ladd, Jr.'s, Petition, addressed to the General Assembly.*]

The Petition of Daniel Lad Jun^r

Humbly sheweth, that your Petitioner enlisted on the Expedition for Canada under Cap^t Odlin; & when Order of Government required some to go down to Nova Scotia freely went in his Majestys Service thither, were he was taken by the French, by them imprisoned in France, used very hardly, reduced to the utmost weakness & ill habit of Body, & not till several months relieved by Cartel and lodged in the Hôpital

at Gosport where he underwent much by a Fever & a Consumptive Cough for two months, & soon after seized with Small Pox, All which being very afflictive, expensive, with more Loss of Time than perhaps any of my fellow Soldiers have: * * * Dan^t Lad

Nov. 11th 1747 Voted that this Petition be dismissed The Petitioner being a Kings Soldier

D. Peirce Clk

[R. 387] [*The following shows the Equipment of an Officer in the French War.*]

An Inventory of Cloaths &c Taken by the Indians from Major John Gilman after the Capitulation at Fort William Henry in August 1757—Viz.

| | |
|---|----------|
| To 1 Great Coat £15,—three other Coats £40— | £55,0,0 |
| 3 Jackets £30—2 Waiste Coats £12— | 42,0,0 |
| 1 Gown £9—2 p ^r breeches £14— | 23,0,0 |
| 5 White Shirts £25—4 Striped Do £10— | 35,0,0 |
| 1 p ^r boots 90 s—2 p ^r Shoes 50 s— | 7,0,0 |
| 2 Worsted Capps 22s 6—3 Linnen D ^o 20s— | 2,2,6 |
| 2 black ribbands 22s 6—2 Silk handk ^{ts} 60s | 4,2,6 |
| 1 Tea pot 15s—1 Coffe pot 9s—2 tin pint pots | } |
| 7s 6— | |
| 1 D ^o ½ pint 2s 1 D ^o Jill 1s 6 1 Tunnel 2s— | } 2,6,6 |
| Grater 1s 6 | |
| 2 Tin Sause 6s—3 Tea Spoons 1s 9 | } |
| 4 ^{lb} Chocolate 20s 1 ^{lb} Tea 35s—8 ^{lb} Coffee 32s | |
| 3 p ^r worsted stockings 100s—3 p ^r Cotton D ^o 75s— | } 4,7,0 |
| 3 p ^r yarn D ^o 52s 6— | |
| 1 gold Laced Hatt £12 1 Ditto plain £4 | 11,7,6 |
| 1 Wigg 90s—2 tin Canisters 10s 1lb. Ginger 5s | 16,0,0 |
| Bible 2 Vols 60s Sermon book 10s Ivory book 15s | 5,5,0 |
| 1 book of Military discipline | 4,5,0 |
| 2 ^o Pump nails 2s 6, ½ ^o 10 ^d Ditto 3s—1 brass Ink | } 0,15,0 |
| pot 10s— | |
| 1 Pocket knife & fork 7s—1 paper Ink powder 5s | 0,15,6 |
| 2 p ^r gloves 20s—1 bridle 20s—Saddle baggs 40s | 12,0 |
| 1 Comb 1s 6 2 blankets £6—1 Chest Lock 20s— | 4,0,0 |
| 1 Gun £17,10,1 Sword Silver hilted £20,—1 | } 7,1,6 |
| Flask 30s— | |
| 1 Watch £20, 1 Tin paper Case 7s 6 | 39,0,0 |
| 1 Pocket book 5s Cash 50s—Table Cloth 15s | } 20,7,6 |
| 1 glass bottle 2s—1 wooden Ditto 4s— | |
| 2 flat Irons 33s 9, 1 Punch bowl 13s 3 ^d — | 3,16,0 |
| | 2,7,0 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| 6½ ^{lb} Pewter 6s 9 ^d —½ Doz Tea Cups & Sausers 15s— | 3,15,9 |
| ½ Doz knives & forks 33s 9 ^d ½ Doz wine glasses 33s 9 | 3,7,6 |
| 1 pepper box 2s—a Cuttoo 6s—½ Pins 4s— | 0,12,0 |
| 3¾ y ^d Quality for gunstring 3s—1 hodd 12s 6 | 0,15,6 |
| 1 Sword belt 15s—6 ^{lb} Soap 18s— | 1,13,0 |
| To my Negro boy's Gun & Cloathing } he being taken & Carry ^d to Canada } | 30,0,0 |
| New Tenor | 330,13,3 |

Errors Excepted per John Gilman
Sworn to in y^e house May 5, 1758—

Memorandum

The Great Coat within mentioned was of Drabb Kersey almost new—one of the other Three Coats & one pair of the Breches were of blue broad Cloth Fine (lately made) such as is now sold for £27 old Tenor per yard—another of the said Three Coats was of Fine Duroy lined with the same—about one Quarter worn—The other of said Coats was of Light Coloured broad Cloth had been Turn'd & New lined—one of the Jackets was of Scarlet broad cloth fine and new lined with white Tammy—another of the Jackets was of Cutt Velvet Figured—The other Jacket was of Green Silk Camblet Trimed with Silver Twist on Vellum—The other pair of the Breches were of New Deer Skin—both of the waiste Coats was of broad cloth light coloured about half worn

[In H. of Rep., May 5, 1758, he was allowed £160. In 1761, Major Gilman petitioned for an allowance for the loss of time, clothes, etc., of his “negro slave by the name of Ceaser Nero,” who was in Capt. Richard Emery's company, and taken prisoner at Fort William Henry in 1757. He was allowed £80 new tenor.—ED.]

[R. 389] [Dr. John Lamson's Petition.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesties Province of New Hampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} his Majesties Council and House of Representatives for said Province—Conven'd in General Assembly December 26th 1758—

The Petition of John Lamson of Exeter in said Province Surgeon—Most Humbly Sheweth—That on the Twentieth day

of June 1757 Your Petitioner was Employ'd by the Hon^{ble} Committee of Warr as Surgeons Mate to the New Hampshire Regiment then on the Canada Expedition and Accordingly Proceeded with a part of said Regiment to Fort William Henry, where your Petitioner, after a Siege of Seven days was taken Prisoner by the Cohnewagoe Indians & Carried to Canada where he remained a Prisoner for about the Space of Four Months, and was then transported to Several Parts of France, and from thence to Plymouth in England where your Petitioner took Passage in the Norwich Man of War and arriv'd at Boston the Seventh day of October last & got home on the twelvth of the same Month—That the said Indians strip'd your Petitioner of his Cloaths and other things, An Inventory of which is herwith Exhibited—That in the time of your Petitioners Captivity he had the Small Pox in Quebec, and the Nervous Fever in France, both which, were very Chargeable and Expensive, as well as very Grievous and Distressing; With many other Scenes of Difficultys and Troubles too Tedious to be here Enumerated—Wherefore Your Petitioner most humbly prays Your Excellency and Honours to take his Case and Condition under your wise Consideration And Grant him such Relief, and in such Way and Manner as Your Excellency & Honours in Your Great Wisdom and wonted Clemency shall see fit—

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

John Lamson

[He was allowed £160 new tenor.—ED.]

[4-31] [*Ephraim Robinson's Declaration relating to a Town-Meeting at Exeter, Dec. 2, 1755.*]

Memorandum of the meating

After the moderator Was Chosen he ordered the People to bring in their Votes in Writing Which they Proceeded to Doe & when I came to Put in my Vote the Selectmen With a number of other men Ware Set Round the table so that I could not Put in my Vote Without Reaching over mens heads or the hatts held out to me—& observed it the Like with others when the Votes Ware numbered & the Person Declared to be chosen the moderator was told the Votes Ware not all Brot in to Which he answered it Was to Late to Bring in then for the Person Was Chosen; then their Was a Pole desired by 7 Persons or more & it Was Denied and the moderator Said he wold Proceede to the Coice of a Second Person to wich he was answered that the first Was not chosen yet and that We Should

not Proceed to the choice of a 2^d till We had a Pole for the first & he Still Refused to Doe it; then I Desired the moderator not to Proceed till We had given our names in Writing that Demanded a Pole the Names of 14 Persons or more Being Given in Writing the moderator Still Refused to Grant a Pole Was asked—the Reason Whye he Would not Grant it—to Which he answered that he thought he could not tell So Well By Poleing as By Proxes Who Was qualified Voters and Who Was not; in Voting for the 2^d Person a number of Persons Declared they Would not Vote till the first Vote Was Decided; and in Voting for the Last Person their Was 1 Vote Changed after it Was Put into the hatt; and Some more Was asked to be changed; and When the Second Person Was Declared to Be chosen their Was a Pole again Demanded By 7 Persons or more But not granted the Whole of the meating Was carried on With the greatest Irregularity & confusion after the moderator Was chosen that ever I See in any town meeting Before—

The above is to the Best of my Remembrance on the above Perticklers. Errors Exepted Pr me—

Eph^m Robinson

[4-32] [*Relative to Joseph Bartlett's Pay as Member of the Assembly.*]

Know all men that wheiras Joseph Bartlett Esq has this Day Sined an obligation to ous the Subscribers thereby Promising to Drow or Receive no pay for his Servis for Seting as a member in Congress Save for his travil Excepting what ye town Shall See cause to allow him—we promise that if the town Shall Refuse to Submit the Same to ye judgment of men that may be agreed upon by ye s^d Bartlet & the town that wee will Deliver to the s^d Bartlet the Quitence now sined to us

Exeter November 16th d ye 1775

Stephen Bartlet
Samuel Hoit,
Daniel mooss

[4-33] [*Peter Coffin's Petition.*]

Colony of }
Newhampshire }

To the Hon^{ble} the Councill, and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the Colony of Newhampshire in General Assembly convened by Adjournment on the Sixth day of March at Exeter 1776—

Humbly Shews the Petition of Peter Coffin of Exeter in the County of Rockingham in Said Colony Clerk—that on or

about the beginning of June last, your Petitioners Son Eliphallet Coffin of Exeter aforesaid Physician (having the Difficulties and Dangers of the People of these Colonies much at heart) Enlisted himself as a Private Soldier in the Company of Capt Samuel Gilman in the Service of this Colony in the American Army, Then formed and forming for the defence & Security of the Invaded Rights, Liberties, Lives and Properties of the good People of the United Colonies of North America—& in that quality—Intended to Serve, but Soon after his Arrival at Head Quarters, was called Upon to attend the Hospital among the Sick and Wounded, As a Surgeon's and Physicians Mate ; in which Offices & Department he Used and Exercised himself Even in the lowest, the most Serviceable Offices to the Sick Until the Ninth day of January when he came home on furlough, to See ; and make what Small provisions he could for his wife and two Small Children in Indigent circumstances, but was taken Sick on the road home and Soon after languished and Died—

That your Petitioner Since & before the death of his Said Son has been often informed that He was greatly Serviceable to the Sick in the Hospital and Elsewhere, That he greatly deserved much more than a Private Soldiers wages, for his great care of the Sick and wounded—That the Widow and Children of said deceased have been Sick a long time before and since his Decease—That the laws and Customs of the Land (not to say Natural Affections) Devolve upon your Petitioner the future Support of them as far as his Ability will Extend—Wherefore your Petitioner humbly prays your Hon^{rs} to take the matter of this Petition—under your wise Consideration, and grant such relief and in such manner as your Hon^{rs} Shall See fit—

And your Petitioner Shall Ever pray &c

Peter Coffin

[4-35 *[Relative to some hoarded Salt, etc.]*

To the Hon^{ble} Council & House of Representatives in General assembly Convein'd, the Memorial & Petition of a Number of the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter in the Colony of New Hampshire, Humbly shews, that there is in store in this town a Quantity of Salt, which is an article absolutely Necessary, & at this Season of the Year in an Especial manner, & that the owner or owners of s'd salt Refuse to sell the same whereby the Inhabitants of this & the Neighbouring Towns will soon be Brought into the Greatest Distress— which we fear will Drive People to that madness & Desperation that is the natural Consequence of Extortion & oppression,

unless your honors Interpose in the affair, we assure your honors that it is with the utmost concern that we have almost Daily Instances of Extortion & oppression before our Eyes in the Extravegant Prices Demanded for West India Goods of all kinds which with the Enormous Prices of Linens & Woolens that are Necessary, causes a Burden that is Extreamply Grievous and Distressing & which we humbly apprehend cannot be much Longer Born—Wherefore we Humbly Pray your honors Sereious Consideration thereon & that you wou'd take some Effectual measures to Prevent that Evil which we fear Vizt. Desperation & confusion, & yr Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c

Exeter July 5th 1776

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sam ^l Gilman jr | Thomas Folsom | John Dean |
| William Bennett | Moses Holman | Joshua Wiggin |
| Theodore Carlton | Sam ^{ll} Folsom | Peter Folsom |
| Josiah Weeks | William Hackett | Josiah Beal |
| Jonathan Nelson | James folsom | Sam ^l Harris |
| moses Louge | John W. Gilman | Tho ^s Gilman |
| James Creighton | Peter Coffin Jun ^r | Daniel Grant |
| Josiah Rawlins | W ^m Elliott | Dudely Leavit |
| Samuel Tenney | Samuel Gilman | Robert Kimball |
| Robert Light | Samuel Dutch | Samuel Rost |
| Benj ^a Boardman | Daniel Jones | Joseph Boardman |
| James Thurstin | Winthrop odlin | Will ^m Odlin |
| Joseph Stacy | Samuel Connor | Noah Emery Jun ^r |
| John Thusten | James Johnson | Daniel Gilman 3 ^d |
| Daniel Robinson | Charles Rundlet Jun ^r | Jedidiah Jewett |
| James Folsom | Joseph Lougee | Lemuel Davis |
| Eliphalet Davis | James Haynes | Ichabod Davis |
| Simeon Ladd | Trueworthy Folsom | Stephen Thing |
| Biley Gilman | Eliph ^t Gilman | James Rundlet |

[4-36] [*Relative to Theophilus Smith's Appointment.*]

To the Hon^{ble} The Council for the Colony of New Hampshire
Humbly Shews,

The Subscribers, Inhabitants of The Town of Exeter in said Colony, that we understand that Cap^t Theophilus Smith of said Exeter has been chosen & appointed by the Hon^{ble} the Assembly of said Colony a Justice of the Peace for the County of Rockingham; That we conceive the appointment of him to that Office will be verry disagreeable to the Generallity of the said Town, As he has apparently been unfriendly to the Liberties of America for which we are struggling

Wherefore we pray That your Honours would not concur the Vote for his Appointment to said Office till the said Town may have an opportunity of Manifesting their Opinion relative thereto—

Exeter June 27th 1776

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nich. Gilman | W ^m Elliot | Peter Coffin Jun ^r |
| Jedidiah Jewett | Sam ^l Folsom | Samuel Thing |
| William Hackett | Winthrop odlin | Sam ^l Harris |
| Will ^m Odlin | Samuel Rost | Robert Light |
| Caleb Greenleaf | James Rundlet | Jonathan Perkins |
| Adams | Timothy Chamber- | John Gilman |
| Charles Rundlet | lain | William Meeds |
| Jun ^r | John W. Gilman | Daniel Grant |
| Eliphalet Hale | John Hopkinson | Samel Dutch |
| Dudley Becket | Charles Rundlet | Joseph wiggin |
| Benj ^a Jenkins | Thomas Creighton | |

[4-38]

Col. Nicholas Gilman, Sir Pleas To Pay To Sam^l Gilman
All the Wages Due To Us for Keeping the Guard at Jale and
his Receipt Shall Bee your Discharge and In So Doing you
will Oblige yours To Serve

Exeter mar^h 28 1778

Theophilus Folsom
John Carr York
Samuel Rust
Will^m Odlin
Sam^l Harris
Simeon Palmer
James Rundlett

[R. 395] [*Adjutant William Elliot's Petition addressed to the General Assembly, March 2, 1778.*]

Humbly Sheweth William Elliot of Exeter in the County of Rockingham and state afores^d Gentleman,

That your Remonstrant engaged in the Continental Service as Adjutant to Col Hales Regiment the second day of last April—The first of last May he marched with the Regim^t for Ticonderoga—was taken prisoner at the Battle of Hubberton, in which he was wounded and stripped of his cloaths & other property to the amount of three hundred pounds lawful Money. After being kept a prisoner untill the 18th day of September last he was retaken and returned home

William Elliot

* * *

[R. 396]

State of New Hampshire—Rockingham ss.

We the Subscribers do acknowledge ourselves Inlisted Soldiers for the Town of Exeter for the Tarme of three years To Sarve in the Continental armye & promis obedience To the Rules & Regulations of the Camp

Exeter April the fourth 1781

Test Saml. Folsom

April 17th 1781

April 23 1781

Test Saml Folsom

John ^{his} × Edmards
mark

Ephraim Dudley

Eliphelet ^{his} × Rolings
mark[4-39] [*Richard Jordan, relative to Paper-Mill.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives of Said State of New Hampshire Convened in General Assembly Nov^r 9th 1778.

Humbly Shews Richard Jordan of Exeter in Said State Paper maker—

That Your Petitioner has at a Great Expence Erected a Paper Mill in Exeter aforesaid which he Conceives will be of Great Benefit to this State, if he Could be Encouraged by the Authority of this State in the Collecting raggs for making paper, in the doing of which he has already been put to Great Expence and Trouble, and has Chiefly Collected his Late and Present Stock from other States.—

Wherefore Your Petitioner Prays this Hon^{ble} Court to Pass a Resolve Similar to one Passed in the State of the Mass^{ts} Bay Feb^y 16th 1776, in the following words Viz

“Whereas this State Cannot be Supplied with a Sufficient Quantity of Paper for its own Consumption without the Particular Care of its Inhabitants in Saving raggs for the Paper Mill—Therefore Resolved that the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection & Safety in the Several Towns & places in this State Be and they hereby are required Imediately to Appoint Some Suitable person in their respective Towns & places (where it is not already done) to receive raggs for the Paper Mill, and the Inhabitants of this State are hereby Desired to be Very Carefull in Saving even the Smallest quantity of raggs proper for making paper, which will be a further Evidence of their Disposition to Promote the Public good”—or to Pass Such other resolve Concerning the same as Your Honours Shall See fit—and Your Petitioner will pray &c

Richard Jordan

[4-40]

[*Relative to Parish Rates.*]

To the Hon^{ble} Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hamp^r in General Assembly conven'd at Exeter the 27th of March 1779

The Petition of a Number of Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter of both Parishes Humbly Sheweth That in the year 1755 An Act passed the General Court to Set off a Number of Persons therein named from the Old Parish in said Town & formed them into a new Parish, in which Act there is a clause that obliges all Persons that move into said Town or that arrive to the age of Twenty one years shall within three months after, enter their names with the Clerk of the New Parish, and then carry a Certificate from said Clerk to the Town Clerk and get him to enter the same on the Town book signifying their desire to belong to the New Parish, and if that formality is neglected by any means, they shall belong to the Old Parish, & be obliged to pay towards the Support of a Minister whom perhaps they never heard which said Clause has caused great uneasiness in this Town & been a great means of keeping up discord between the two Parishes, because a number of Persons belonging to the New Parish having through Ignorance or forgetfulness neglected to enter their names as aforesaid within three months are afterwards rated at the old Parish from year to year & Constantly attend worship at the New Parish, which your Petitioners think is a very great hardship. Wherefore they Pray that the aforesaid Clause in the said Act may be Repealed & made void & that all Persons may have liberty to pay where they attend worship & not be obliged to pay elsewhere. Or that your Honours would grant such other relief as you in your wisdom shall think best, & as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Harvey Colcord | Joseph Boardman | George Colcord |
| Tho ^s Odiorne | Alex ^r Morrison | Isaac Williams |
| Josiah Gilman | Sam ^l Gilman | Ward Clark Dean |
| Daniel Gilman | Josiah Barker | Jn ^o Taylor Gilman |
| Trueworthy Gilman | Stephen Thing | Benj ⁿ Boardman |
| Ebenezer Swasey | Elip ^h Ladd | Robert Light |
| Thomas dean | Stephen H. Creigh- | Simeon Ladd |
| Gideon Lamson | ton | Edward Colcord |
| Jonathan Call | Caleb Green Adams | Josiah Ladd |
| John Py Williams | Enoch Poor | John Dean |
| Truew ^y Folsom | Dan ^l Gilman | Noah Emery Jun ^r |
| Nicolas Nicolle | Bradbray Sandborn | Josiah Wyatt |
| Benjamin Lamson | Benj ^a Smith | Eliphalet Giddings |
| Josiah Gilman Jun ^r | Edmund Looge | Josiah Beal |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Jonathan Lord | John Hopkinson | Eliph ^t Gilman Jun ^r |
| Looge | Sam ^l Gilman 3 ^d | James McClure |
| Nath ^l Giddings | Caleb Robinson | Sam ^l Blodget |
| Nicholas Gilman | John Swett | Joseph Tilton |
| Jun ^r | Daniel Tilton | James Folsom |
| Samuel Brooks Jun ^r | James Folsom J | Benj Robinson |
| Joseph Swasey | moses Louge | Samuel Duth |
| Jeremiah Leavit | Jonathan louge | James Thurstin |
| John Ward Gilman | Sam ^l Tenny | Joseph Adams |
| Theophilus Folsom | Jonathan Folsom | James Rundlet |
| Winthrop Odlin | Samuel Sawyer | Jon ^a Kinsman |
| Daniel Jones | John york | Joseph Osborne |
| Thomas Gilman | Benj ^a Safford | |
| Jabez Dodge | Joseph wiggin | |

[R. 398] [*Account for Supplies to Soldiers' Families.*]

1781 The State of New Hampshire to the Town of Exeter
for supplying Soldiers familys—

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| To paid Maj. Daniel Tilton for supplying Sam ^l Marshes family in 1781 as per Rec ^t | } | £ 6,0,0 |
| To paid Joseph Cram for supplying Benj ^a Morses family in 1781 as p ^r his Rce ^t | | |
| To paid Cap ^t Trueworthy Gilman for supplying Jon ^a Floods wife as p ^r her Rec ^t in the year 1781 | } | 10,18 |
| To paid Eph ^m Robinson for sundrys supplyd Thomas Websters family in 1781 as p ^r acc ^t | | |
| To p ^d ditto for Cash supply ^d Ditto in Continental Currency £109, 4, 0 | } | 1,7,9 |
| To paid ditto for supplies to Carter Gilman's family in 1781 p ^r acc ^t 1s 6 | | |
| To paid James Thursten for supplying ditto in 1781 as per his acc ^t | } | 0,1,6 |
| | | |
| | | 2,2,3 |
| Exeter March 1782 | | 26,9,6 |

Errors Excepted per

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| James Thurston | } | Selectmen of Exeter |
| Trueworthy Gilman | | |
| Eph ^m Robinson | | |
| Joseph Cram | | |

[The families of Webster, Marsh, Morse, and Flood were assisted in 1782.—ED.]

[R. 400] [*Lt. Col. Jeremiah Gilman's Petition addressed to the General Assembly, Nov. 2, 1782.*]

The memorial of Jere^r Gilman late L^t Colo^l of Col^o Joseph Cilley's Reg^t from s^d state in the service of the united states of america—

Humbly Sheweth—That your memorialist zealous to contribute to the emancipation of his native Country from that Labyrinth of accumulated distress in which it was involved, by the artful machinations of the British Ministry, and the more Infernal stratagims of Internal Foes; early in the Campaign of 1775—entered the service of this Country as Captain of a company in the 5th Massachusetts Reg^t Commanded by Col^o John Nixon in which station he endeavoured to the utmost of his ability to discharge the arduous duty incumbent on him with fidelity, and as he hopes with some degree of approbation, from those he had the Hon^r to serve with, 'till the close of the Campaign in 1776—when a new arrangement of the army took place at which time the Hon^{bl} Commissioners from the state of New Hampshire being then in Camp, after the fulest information from the Gen^l and other officers respecting the ability, conduct, & merrit of candidates for officers did your memorialist the Hon^r of appointing him a Captain in the first N. Hampshire Reg^t

That on April 2^d 1777—your memorialist had the further Hon^r of being appointed Major of the 1st N. Hampshire Reg^t commanded by Col^o Cilley, and early in the Campaign of that year joined the Reg^t at Tyconderoga where he continued to discharge the duty of that appointment and to the best of his knowledge unimpeached, till the 5th of July then following being the time of the unhappy retreat from Ticonderoga during which retreat the extream rain which fell, the forced marches, want of proper covering, and of necessary sustenance, and other hardsips which in the faithful discharge of you memorialist duty in those circumstances were unavoidable so far injured his health that it was with great difficulty he ever arrived at saratoga, and which was productive of such complicated bodily disorders as by their long continuance since hath well nigh ruined his constitution—immediately on his arriving at saratoga he consulted a Physician who found the ill state of his health increasing and no probability of sudding relief advised that he should be sent out of Camp—whereupon Gen^l Poor & Col^o Cilley sent him down to Albany which Journey though not more than half a days ride your memorialist with great fatigue & industry was four days in performing & as soon as he had reached Albany was exercised with a sevear fever which obliged him to lie bed rid for several weeks. That on y^e 20th of Sept. 1777 your memorialist had the additional hon^r of be-

ing appointed Lt Col^o of Col^o Cilley's Regt^t—that just as he was beginning to recover a little from his disorders the fever ague made a most violent assault on the feeble & shattered body of your memorialist which continued its outrages with very little remission 'till after the army had marched to the southward, notwithstanding the skill & attention of Doctor Treat one of the Physicians Gen^l who attended the memorialist & fed him with Peruvian Bark by wholesale—& who frequently advised him to endeavor to ride homeward, if possible, in hopes that the change of air might assist in throwing off the fever ague notwithstanding which such was your memorialist's attention to his duty & attachment to the army that as soon as by the additional aid of the cold weather his disorders were so far mitigated that he was able to ride though but a small distance in a day he set off in pursuit of the army & Joyned the Regt before they crossed the Delaware then proceeded to Valley Forge where the Regt^t was cantoned for the winter when Col^o Cilley & Lt Col^o Reid returning home your memorialist had the Hon^r of commanding the Regt^t that winter & as he humbly conceives to the entire satisfaction of that part of the army with which he was connected—That in the spring of 1778 your memorialist was obliged by Gen^l orders to take the small Pox which was followed by the fever ague & which had like to have proved fatal however after considerable time he so far recovered his health that when the enemy left Philadelphia he was able to pursue them with the Regt^t Col^o Cilley being detached with Gen^l Lee your memorialist had the Hon^r to command the Regt^t in the battle of *monmouth* & also had the further Hon^r of sharing with others in the favourable opinion his Excellency the commander in chief was pleased to express of the officers & soldiers on that occasion—and no considerable movements happening afterward that campaign 'till the army moved to *white plains* & from thence to Hartford where your memorialist was taken down with a putrid fever, which brought on a severe dysentery, where he lay dispered of by his Physicians for more than three months—mean while the Regt^t moved on & took winter quarters at Danbury—in this situation the memorialist applied to a private Physician which with other incidental charges cost him some hundred of dollars for which he never rec^d a farthing—That in the month of Dec^r Gen^l Poor & Col^o Cilley called to see the memorialist when on their way home & finding him unable to travel gave him leave to return home whenever he thought himself able to undertake the task—That the latter end of Janu^r 1779—the memorialist set off for home who with difficulty after many days with great expence arived home having been absent almost two years—That when Gen^l Poor & Col^o Cilley were going on to Camp in the

spring they called to see the memorialist & finding him to continue so unwell that it was impossible for him to join the army & thereupon ordered him to tarry at home if possible to recover his health & then proceed to camp—but notwithstanding great care & expence the memorialist continued in a very low state through the summer, & toward the close of that campaign as he had often done before solicited Gen^l Poor to procure him a discharge from the service which the Gen^l had as often refused observing that as the memorialist had lost his health & probably ruined his constitution in the service of his Country that it was wrong for him then to resign—but the memorialist continuing in so ill a state of health dispaired of ever being able to serve his country again in the field & that it was painful to him to stand in the way of a better man that could render actual service to his Country continued to solicit a discharge & at length from the commander in chief obtained one bearing date March 24th 1780—the tenor of which cannot operate to the dishon^r of the memorialist—That notwithstanding your memorialist was so very unfortunate as by the fatigues of a Camp life to loose his health & vastly injure his constitution—yet he humbly conceives himself, by the resolves of the Hon^{ble} Gen^l assembly of the state, as fully intitled to receive the depreciation of the money paid him for wages during the time he belonged to the N. Hampshire line of the army, as his brother officers who have been more happy in preserving their health & constitutions & more fortunate in obtaining some allowance for the depreciation of the money paid them for wages &c

* * *

Jere^r Gilman

[R. 401] [*Abstract from Martha Poor's Petition.*]

[In a petition dated March 24, 1781, Martha Poor states "That Brig^r General Poor her late Husband entered into the service of the State at the Commencement of the present war. That he continued in said service 'till his death which was on the Eighth day of September last." She asks that the depreciation of his wages may be made up to her. She petitions again in 1784, asking to be placed on the half-pay roll, according to "act of the Hon^{ble} Congress of the 24th of August 1780," which was granted April 16, 1784.—ED.]

[R. 404] [*Abstract from Petition of Thomas Haines.*]

[In a petition dated June 2, 1785, Thomas Haines, of Exeter, states, "That whereas your said petitioner having

been a Continental Soldier in the first New Hamp^r Regiment, and by reason of a wound which rendered him unfit for duty either in the Field, or Garrison, has got a regular Discharge Signed by His Excellency Gen^l Washington Esq. Recommending him to the State of New Hamp^r as one who has ever behaved himself like a good Soldier, and Intituled to the provision made by Congress in such cases." He asked to be enrolled as an invalid pensioner, which was granted.—ED.]

[R. 405] [*Abstract from Nicholas Nicholle's Petition.*]

[In a petition, Nicholas Nicholle, of Exeter, about 1790, states, "That at the Commencement of the late war with Great Britain he entered into the service of this State & continued in said service until peace took place." He further stated that he had become blind and infirm, and wanted an allowance. The petition was dismissed.—ED.]

[4-41] [*Relative to Phillips Exeter Academy.*]

State of New Hampshire

To the Hon^{ble} The Council and House of Representatives in general Assembly convened at Exeter Feby 25th 1783

The petition and remonstrance of us (whose names are underwritten, inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, for themselves and others, Citizens of the State of Newhampshire) humbly sheweth That Nath^l Folsom Esq^r Nicholas Gilman and Samuel Folsom Esq^{rs} have preferred a petition to the Hon^{ble} Legislature, requesting, that the clause in the act of incorporation of Phillips Exeter Academy whereby the real and personal estate given for the use of s^d Academy, shall be exempted forever from all taxes whatsoever may be repealed—

That we conceive s^d petition not to be founded on principles of public utility, or on reasons that will warrant a compliance with it. That all the lands, tenements &c the Hon^{ble} John Phillips Esq^r has convey'd to the Trustees of s^d institution will be wholly devoted unquestionably to the use of the public, and not be limited to the benefit of any particular Town or place— That the Trustees most freely consent to an explanatory addition being made to the s^d act of incorporation, setting forth, that it is not the spirit and design thereof, to exempt any of the lands or tenements of s^d Academy from taxes any longer than

they continue to the use of the Trustees for which they were given.

That the proprietors of the Town of Sandwich, never requested s^d Trustees prior to their petition here referred to, to contribute any thing toward defraying the expenses, arising from any lawsuit, either now or heretofore depending, about the title of any lands in Sandwich.

That s^d Trustees will freely give bonds from under their hands, that they will contribute their part in proportion to their lands, in defraying the charges that have arisen or may arise, from any suit in law, that has been depending or is still depending, about the title of proprietary lands in Sandwich. That they conceive it unconstitutional, and a dangerous precedent, to give redress to the Proprietors afores^d otherways than as hereby specified.

That repealing any part of s^d act of incorporation, thereby abridging or diminishing it otherways than by explaining the clause of s^d act exempting the real estate of s^d Academy forever from taxes, will be taking property from the Trustees without their consent; for they, tho a body corporate, have as such, no voice in the legislation of the State.

That it will be taking from them a civil right, which is absolutely unalienable, but by misuse or rong application.

That it has been almost universally agreed, by all nations, and is a settled principle in common law, thro' the civilized world, that no charter or grant can be constitutionally abridged or diminished, without the consent of the grantee.

That to grant the petition of the proprietors of the Town of Sandwich, will be in danger of subverting the design of the institution, for which your petitioners are now interceeding.

That we humbly conceive one charter or grant may as constitutionally be abridged or diminished as another,—and consequently, all property, may rest on, the precarious foundation of circumstances, perpetually liable to change.

That we do not conceive, your petitioners, for themselves and others, owning lands in the Town of Sandwich, are in any degree injured by an abridgement of their Charter or grant, by the act of incorporation of the Academy afores^d. That, moreover, the consequences resulting from this exempting clause of the act afores^d will not be even incidentally oppressive to the proprietors afores^d, ther land thereby exempted from taxes, being on sale; and it being unquestionable, that it will be actually sold, as soon as possible, it being necessary to the very existence of the rising institution in order to the acquisition of monies, for the annual support of a Preceptor. For these and other reasons, that might be urged, your petitioners humbly pray this Hon^{ble} Court, not to repeal any part of the act of incorporation

referred to, in the petition of y^e proprietors of the Town of Sandwich; and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray—

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Eliphalet Ladd | James Rundlett | John Hopkinson |
| Benj Lamson | Isaac Williams | Jedidiah Jewett |
| Sam Brooks | Joseph Tilton | Josiah Beal |
| Thomas Dean | James Folsom | John Dean |
| Alex ^r Morison | Robert Parkes | William Meed |
| Eliphalet Hale | Eph ^m Robinson | Josiah Wyatt |
| Joseph Swasey | Thomas Gilman | Sam ^l Hobart |
| Gideon Lamson | Joseph Swasey Jun | Benj ^a Smith |
| Timothy Chamberlain | Josiah Ladd | John Connor |
| William Bennett | Spencer wallis | Robert Light |
| Moses Kimball | Josiah Robinson | Sam ^l Gilman |
| John Shaw | James Leavitt | Peter Coffin |
| Samuel Tenney | Ward Clark Dean | Kinsley Hall |
| John Fogg | James Thurston | Edmund Pearson |
| Sam ^l Harris | Samuel Brooks jr | Simeon Palmer |
| Joseph Louge | Dudley Nicholle | Daniel Rogers |
| O. Peabody | Jacob Pearson | Benjamin Conner |
| Isaac Mansfield | Trueworthy Gilman | W ^m Parker J ^r |
| Nath ^l Gilman | Stephen H Creighton | Harvey Colcord |
| Joseph Osborne | Robert Lord | |
| | James M ^c Clure | |

[Phillips Exeter Academy was the first one incorporated in this state. The late Hon. John Phillips, of Exeter, is entitled to the credit of founding the institution by a generous gift of real and personal estate; and on the third day of April, 1781, an act was passed incorporating its trustees and their successors, "for the purpose of promoting piety & virtue, and for the education of youth in the English, Latin and Greek Languages; in Writing, Arithmetic, Musick, & the Art of Speaking; Practical Geometry, Logic, and Geography," etc. For more than one hundred years the institution has been in successful operation, and numbers among its alumni some of the ablest men this country has known.—ED.]

[4-42] [*Relative to Nicholas Gilman's Donation.*]

Exeter octobr 17th 1785

Hon^d Sr—

I mentioned to you some time ago concerning a Petition that is now before the Gen^l Court by a Comite of the new Parish in Exeter for an act to be passed to make alterations in the will

of my Late broth^r Nich^o Gilman, who has been Dead 40 years wherein he bequeath^d a Large Donation as you will see by the will to be Improved as is mentioned in the will for the Use of the ministry of the Ch^h meeting in said New meeting house or other Pious Uses S^d Donation has been ever since Improvd for the use of the ministry of that Ch^h but two of the Trustees being Dead and my Self the only Surviving one have not Power to act and some have unless the Ch^h be a body Corporate that they have not power to Act in the affair and as some of the Parish have a design as it appears to Divest the Ch^h of the Power Granted them by the Doner & Invest the Parish with Power to Dispose of it as they shall think best: which I think would be unjust, as to my Self I am desirous the hon^{ble} Court if needed Invest the Ch^h with power to Cary the will in Execution; according to the Design of the Doner & for no other Purposes whatsoever I am your very hum^{ble} Ser^t

Peter Gilman

John Sullivan Esq to be Communicated

[4-44] [*Relative to Newmarket Bridge.*]

This may Certify all whom it may concern that we the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, do hereby offer as our opinions, that if the Bridge over Exeter River from Newmarket to Stratham were remov'd from the Place where it now is to the Newfields agreeable to a Petition now before the General Court for that purpose, it would not incommode the Navigation of said River so much as where it now stands. We also beg leave to suggest that whether it be remov'd or not that it is necessary that the Ships Passage or draw part be made at least thirty one feet wide and that the Bridge be rais'd two feet higher than it now is & the Piers made with half Diamonds up & down River—

Feb^y 13th 1786

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| W Clark Dean | Sam ^l Gilman | James Folsom |
| Nat. Gilman | John Hopkinson | Nath ^l Giddings Jun ^r |
| Theo ^s Gilman | Elip ^t Gilman | W ^m Parker J ^r |
| Geo. Odiorne | Elip ^t Dean | Dudley Odlin |
| Jos. Tilton | Jacob Pearson | Thomas Dean |
| Moses Jewett | J. S. Gilman | James M ^c Clure |
| Benj ^a Boardman | Eliph ^t Ladd | Eliphalet Hale |
| Daniel Tilton | Sam ^l Folsom | Simeon Ladd |
| Sam ^l Hobart | True ^y Gilman | John Giddings |
| Eben ^r Chadwick | Benj ^a Lamson | |
| Ebenezer Swasey | J. T. Gilman | |

[4-45] [*Relative to the Election of Fire-wards.*]

State of New Hampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives in General Court Convened

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Exeter—Humbly Shews that in & by an Act of the General Court passed the 6th day of April Anno Domini 1781, the freeholders & other Inhabitants of Portsmouth being qualified voters might at their annual or other Town meeting chuse a suitable number of freeholders who should be denominated Firewards and did therein after pointing out the duty of said Firewards, enact that any Town or Towns in this State at their annual or any other Meeting call'd for that purpose might adopt the aforesaid Act, in which case it should be considered to extend to such Town or Towns adopting the same as fully to all intents & purposes as to the Town of Portsmouth—

That the Freeholders & Qualified voters of the Town of Exeter did at their annual Meeting in March last appoint a suitable number of Freeholders as Firewards—

That the Inhabitants of said Town of Exeter are possessed of a Fire Engine, but find that by the law aforesaid the firewards are not authorized to appoint a Company to take care of & work said Engine in case of the breaking out of fire—

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honors to pass an act to enable the firewards in said Town of Exeter to appoint a suitable number of the Inhabitants of said Town, not exceeding twenty, who shall be a Company to take care of & work said Engine in case of Fire, and who shall be exempted from common training, and liable to be called on to do military duty by the Officers of the Alarm list only—

And as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Exeter June 9th 1787

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Isaac Williams | Phineas Richardson | Sam ^l Chamberlain |
| William Brooks | Sam Gilman | Sam ^l Hobart |
| Sam. Brooks | John Thompson | Benj ^a Conner |
| Josiah Gilman | James Folsom | Eliphalet Gilman |
| Joseph Louge | Samuel Philbrick | George Colcord |
| Enoch Chase | Jeremiah Leavitt | Stephen Fogg |
| Harvey Colcord | Joseph Osborne | James Gilman |
| Trueworthy Gilman | James Gorden | Ezra parker |
| True ^y Folsom | Stephen H. Creigh- | Thomas Sweasy |
| Nathaniel Harrod | ton | Jacob Randel |
| Benj ^a Lamson | Josiah Beal | Joseph Eldreg |
| Caleb mitchell | Josiah C. Smith | W ^m Parker |
| Sam ^l Folsom | Benj. C ^k Gilman | Joseph Tilton |
| John Phillips | Pelataiah Lakeman | Elip ^t Ladd |
| Benj ^a Boardman | James Leavitt | Alexander Morison |

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| James Rundlett | Thomas Dean | Nath ^l Parker |
| Jos ^a Bangs | Sam. Tenney | Jonathan F Louge |
| James Folsom | Benj ⁿ Page | John Dean |
| Sam ^l Odlin | Samuel Colcord | John Hopkinson |
| Tho ^s Odiorne | Jabez Dodge | Joseph Safford |
| Edwad Colcord | Eliphalet Hale | Rob ^t Parkes |

[4-49] [*Vote to Petition for the Incorporation of the Society of the Cincinnati.*]

Exeter Sep^t 20th 1793

At a meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati in Newhampshire—Voted that Major Jonathan Cilley be impowered and he is hereby impowered to petition the Hon^{ble} General Court in their Behalf praying for an incorporation of said Society in order that the Charitable and benevolent purposes thereof may be better carried into effect

Extract from the Minutes

Jere Fogg, Sec^r

[4-50] [*Petition for Incorporation of Social Library.*]

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House of Representatives in General Court convened—

THE PETITION of the subscribers with sundry others their associates

HUMBLY SHEWS

THAT they, fully convinced that SOCIAL LIBRARIES conduce greatly to the dissemination of Knowledge, have expended considerable sums in the purchase of Books for their use in company, that they cannot carry their intentions fully into effect without an incorporation; they therefore pray your honors that they, with all such as may hereafter unite with them, may be incorporated into a BODY POLITIC, by the name of the PROPRIETORS OF THE SOCIAL LIBRARY IN EXETER, with all the privileges incident to corporations; and as in duty bound will ever pray—

EXETER JUNE 7th 1797—

Sam^l Tenney
Oliver Peabody
Benjamin Abbot
Gideon Lamson
Eben^r Clifford

[The library was incorporated by an act passed June 20, 1797.—ED.]

FITZWILLIAM.

The township was granted by the Masonian proprietors, January 15, 1752, to Roland Cotton and forty-one others, and was known by the name of Monadnock No. 4. The conditions of the grant not being complied with, a re-grant was made to Col. Sampson Stoddard and twenty-two associates, and it was sometimes called Stoddard's town, until May 19, 1773, when it was incorporated by the governor and council by the name of Fitz William, in honor of an English Earl. In 1760 settlements were commenced by James Reed (who afterwards commanded one of the New Hampshire regiments at Bunker Hill), John Fassett, and Benjamin Bigelow.

When the town of Troy was formed, June 23, 1815, about 4,000 acres of Fitzwilliam territory was taken from the north part of the town and now constitutes a part of Troy. The line between this town and Rindge was established by an act approved June 17, 1847.

[4-51] [*Col. Stoddard relative to Incorporation.*]

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Captain General Governor & Commander in Chief in & Over his Majestys Province of New Hamp^r, the Hon^{ble} his Majestys Council for Said Province—

The Memorial of Sampson Stoddard of Chelmsford in the County of Middlesex & in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay Shews—

That there is a Tract of Land in the Province of New Hamp^r of the Contents of about Six Miles Square Granted by the Purchasors of the Right of John Tufton Mason Esq^r to Your Memorialist & Others Called the Township of Monadnock N^o 4—That the Greater part thereof is finally Vested in him, that he has at a Great Expence Settled a Very Considerable Number of Inhabitants thereon

Wherefore your Memorialist humbly prays that the Lands afores^d may not be Incorporated into a Town & the Inhabitants there Infranchised with all Town priviledges without their first Giving Notice to him of their Design of applying to y^r Excell^y & honors and your Memorialist Shall (as in duty bound) Ever pray—

Sampson Stoddard

Portsm^o July 11, 1768—

[4-52] [*Petition for Incorporation.*]

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN WENTWORTH Esquire Captain General, Governor, and Commander in Chief in and over his Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the Same in Council

The Petition of James Reed of Monadnock N^o 4 in the County of Cheshire in the Province aforesaid Esq^r and Clerk of the Proprietry of said Monadnock N^o 4 unto your Excellency & Honors humbly Shews

That your Petitioner together with Joseph Hemmenway and John Millins at a legal Meeting of s^d Proprietors held in s^d Monadnock N^o 4 on the 31st of March last were chosen a Committee to petition this Honourable Court to incorporate the said Monadnock N^o 4 into a Township with the usual Priviledges and Franchises of other corporate Towns in the said Province for the following Reasons Viz^t

That the Inhabitants of said Monadnock have settled a Minister & built a Meeting House and have a large Number residing there, besides others daily coming to settle there That they humbly conceive their Number intitles them to the Indulgence of this Hon^{ble} Court as in the present Mode of Provincial Taxation, they are subject to the Controul of the Selectmen of Neighbouring Towns, and they would humbly wish to have the Priviledge of chusing Selectmen and other Town Officers of their own which would quiet the Minds of the Inhabitants and promote the Interests & good Government of s^d Monadnock N^o 4—That being destitute of Town Priviledges the Petitioners cannot legally warn out any vagrants that may come there, and many other Inconveniences Wherefore Your Petitioner in behalf of s^d Proprietors humbly pray that this Hon^{ble} Court would grant their Petition & as in Duty he & they shall ever pray—

James Reed
Committee man and Proprietors Clark

[The town was incorporated May 19, 1773.—ED.]

[R. 2-1] [*Petition of Mrs. Clayes.*]

The Hon^e Counsel and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court assembled—

The Humble petition of Abigail Clayes widow to the late Captain Elijah Clayes deceased of the 2d regiment of the New Hampshire Line—Urged by her distressed situation ; begs your attention ; as she is left with a famley of small Children with-

out any other means of subsistence but her own Industry for there support. Impelled by these Circumstances and the Horrid Idea of want, being fully impressed that the Honorable Body before this her petition will be laid, supported by there natural feelings as well as Justice and Humanity towards those in distress; will exert every nerve for so desirable an end; as to soften as far as in their power the distress incident to the widows and Fatherless; and Consequently extend their generosity towards her by a grant of half pay agreeable to an act of Congress of the 15th of May 1778 in such Cases made and provided and renewed and extended the 24 August 1780 which will enable her to bring up her Children in some degree of decency and live above contempt, resting assured of your strict attention to this her Petition—Your Petitioner as in duty bound shall forever pray

Abigail Clayes

[Elijah Clayes was captain of the Seventh company of the Second regiment in 1777; Joseph Potter, of Fitzwilliam, was second lieutenant of the same company.]

[R. 2-3] [*General James Reed's Petition.*]

Keene Decem^{br} 18th 1780

To The Hon^{bl} Council & House of Representatives Convened att Exeter this twentieth Day of Decem^{br} for the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of James Reed of Keene in the County of Cheshire Esq^r Humbly Sheweth your Petitioner ingaged in the Sarvis of the united states in the year 1775—Tho Exposed to many Dangers & hardships did continue in an intiar state of helth till after the Retreat from Canady—at the head of Lake George was voielently seized with the Narves feavor that intiarly Deprived him of his Eye sight & allmost of his hearing & exceeding weeke—which continued for a Number of munths altho no Pains nor cost was spaired for Recovery of sight or helth tho to no avail as to the sight—tho your Petitioner was Hon^d with a Commition of Rank under Saring Limetations of Established Pay finding the Depreciation of the Currency so greate & his Expences so high that he very erly in the year 1778 Laid his case before the Hon^{bl} Continentall Congress & having no Returne depreciation of the currency still increasing his helples Surcumstances by Reson of total blindness,—tho in sum meashure Recovered, as to helth and hearing—his Expensive Surcomstances obliged him to Parte with a considerable Parte of his Real Estate (Viz) Half of the township of Errol

in this State & six wrights in the township of Cambridg Purchased of M^r Nath^l Rogers which money was laid in his chest which by an act of this state he was obliged to give in to the assers to be Rated s^d Rats Runing so high & the Depreciation so grate almost consumed the whole sum—whereupon your Humble Petitioner Petitioned this Hon^{ble} Corte for sum Relief by way of the avacuated Farms for which he had hazarded His Life & for the convenens of Exercise and sum oather Reasons mentioned to this Hon^{ble} Corte Doct^r Josiah Pomroyes of Keene as he was an absentee the Hon^{bl} Corte was gratically Pleased to make him a grante of a Parte of s^d Farme in November (1779) under saring Limetations but as your Petitioner could not enter by vartue of s^d grante he was obliged to pay 350 £ L : M : [lawful money] for the use of s^d Farme untill the first Day of may (1781) s^d Farme being now the Property of this State is to be inventoreyed & sold att vandue—your Petitioner hath made iniquiarey & finds that the s^d Doct^r Pomroyes Purches was sum moar than Seven hundred Pounds & that the s^d Estate owes Sum moar than Five hundred Pounds—the Proseser of one not of moar than Four hundred Pounds against s^d Estate will not give up the obligation shorte of the value in Silver money or att the common Exchange altho your Pettitioner has never Rec^d any alowence from the Continent for the Depreciation in his established Pay altho he was obliged to pay the above 350 £ for the use of s^d Farme one year out of the nomenal sum of Established Wages your Humble Pettitioner Prays this hon^{bl} Corte to take all the above surcumstances under your wise consideration & grante your Pettitioner the Priviledge of Purchasing the whole of s^d Farme without its being Exposed to Public vandue—or oatherwayes Relive as in Dute bound Shall Ever Pray

James Reed B. G.

Attest Hinds Reed

[General James Read was one of the early settlers of Fitzwilliam, and proprietors' clerk for some years. When news reached him of the battle of Lexington, he raised a company of volunteers and marched them to Medford; was commissioned as colonel by the government of Massachusetts, and raised four companies of troops; but failing to obtain enough for a regiment he went to Exeter, was commissioned by the government of New Hampshire, had two companies of Stark's men turned over to him, and bravely commanded his regiment at the battle of Bunker Hill. He became totally blind, resulting from a fever contracted in the campaign of the following year in Canada,

and thus the American cause lost the services of an ardent patriot, and a brave and determined officer. It will be understood that the foregoing petition is not his production, as he was blind at the time; documents in his handwriting of an earlier date show that he was a man of good education for his time. After becoming blind, he occupied for a while the confiscated estate of Dr. Pomeroy of Keene, which was leased to him by the state. In March, 1782, Daniel Kingsbury and Thomas Baker were appointed to appraise the rental, and the following is their report:—ED.]

[R. 2-4]

Keene April 18th 1782.

We the subscribers being under oath to appraise the value of the Rent of the within mentioned Premises for the Term of one year have appraised the same at the sum of fourteen pounds, and it is our opinion that General Read has expended the sum of six pounds in repairing the said Premises since he hath had the use & Improvement thereof—which sum of six pounds ought to be deducted out of the above mentioned fourteen pounds.

Tho^s Baker Dan^l Kingsbury
Sworn to before Calvin Frink [of Swanzey]

—

[R. 2-6]

[*Soldiers' Orders.*]

To the Honourable John Taylor Gilman Esq^r Treasurer & Receiver General of the State of New Hampshire—

Sir Please to pay to the Bearer what money is due to me as Wages & Clothing for twelve months service Done in the Continental army beginning June A. D. 1779 Col^o George Reids Regiment Capt Rowels Company & this Shall be your Discharge for the same

Test Anna Wilder
Abel Wilder

Joseph Muzzey

[Acknowledged before Abel Wilder.—ED.]

[Stephen Richardson was in First Regiment from Feb. 23, 1781, to Sept. 1, 1781, and in 1782 as corporal. Stephen White was in the same from February, 1781, to December, 1781, and again in 1782.—ED.]

[R. 2-9] [*Relative to General Read.*]

This may certify all whome it may consern that I was called to visit Brigadier General Reed of Fitzwilliam in February A. D. 1777 and found him Intirely Blind and Labouring under many other Bodyly Infirmaties at the same time wich Rendered him Incapable of taking care of himeselfe and he remains Blind and in my opinion ever will

Royalston January 19th 1786.

Stephen Batcheller Physition

[R. 2-10] [*Sylvanus Read's Petition.*]

To the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire now sitting at Portsmouth—

Humbly Shews—Sylvanus Read of Fitzwilliam in the s^d State—That he served as adjutant of a Battallion of Troops raised in this state for the defence of the New England states &c and Commanded by Lieut Col^o Stephen Peabody Esq. as appears by the Commission herewith presented—That your Petitioner is informed some allowance has been mad those officers on acc't of the Depreciating of the money they were paid in—Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honors will order such Depreciation to be paid to your Petitioner as is Customary in Such Cases—and as in duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Dated Feb^r y^e 2^d 1786

Sam^l Kendall
in behalf of the Petitioner

[The foregoing petition was granted Feb. 21, 1786.—ED.]

[4-53] [*Instructions to their Representative, 1783.*]

At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fitz William, held upon adjournment august 14th 1783; Voted, To give their Representative for the ensuing Year, the following Instructions—

To Major Elisha Whitcomb--

S^r You being Chosen to Represent the Towns of Swansey and Fitz William for the present Year, in the general assembly of the State of New Hampshire ;—The Town of Fitz William, a part of your Constituents, in Compliance with the request of said assembly, and from a Sense of Duty at this Critical period, do now openly, candidly & Sincerely Speak, & instruct

you, not only with respect to the article Recommended, but other things we conceive necessary to the well being of the Community—

We shall begin with the Recommendation of the Honorable Congress, relative to an alteration proposed in the Eighth Article of the Confederation & perpetual union between the thirteen united States of America—

Congress, we find, View it Expedient, & even Necessary that such an alteration, as they have Recommended, be made; and the general assembly of this state appear to be of the same mind; for they say, “they are fully convinced of the Expediency & utility of the Measure”—with all Due Deference to the collected Wisdom of the Continent, & of this State; as we are called upon to shew our minds, we would say, that we have taken this matter into deliberate & mature consideration; and are of opinion that the proposed alteration is neither Expedient or necessary—

We conceive that it cannot be so just & equitable a mode of Proportioning Taxes, by the Number of Inhabitants of every age, Sex & condition, as by the Value of Land &c, which each State is possessed of, & which enables each State to pay the proportion—we apprehend, that, according to the present proposed method of Proportioning Taxes, there is a Door opened for some States to be eased & others burdened—but Reason Justice and Revelation Demand an Equality, that each State pay in proportion to what it is worth; and no more—

And as the Number of inhabitants according to the proposed alteration, is to be taken triennially—and as it is found necessary for proportioning taxes within each State to take the Valuation of all Lands &c, we conceive that by the proposed alteration much needless Cost must arise to the good people of these States, already Loaded with Taxes; and know not which way to discharge them—nor can we think that the Numbering of Souls is a Justifiable method; witness the conduct of David, & dismal consequences thereof; left no doubt upon Sacred Record for national admonition—

We think it advisable, that one mode of Valuation, both as to poles & possession, should be adopted throughout the united States; as this appears *to us* the most Rational & equitable plan that can be devised; altho we are Sensible there can be no mode fixed upon, but that Some objections may be raised against it—

We do therefore recommend it to you, Sir to use your influence to prevent any alteration being made in the above mentioned Eighth article of the Confederation—

We Shall now take the Liberty to address you upon some other subjects, which we conceive important & necessary; in our present Situation of affairs—

By a Resolution of Congress of the 21 of october 1780, we find they have promised the officers of the american army, half pay during life—& by a Resolve of said congress, bearing date March the 22 1783, they have engaged them five years full pay instead of the half pay promised before—upon which we would observe, that we have ever been, and still are ready to Exert ourselves in Supporting our army; and to Reward those who have jeopardard their lives for us in the high Places of the field, fought our Battles, Bled in our Cause, and under God have been our defence—we are willing, we say, amply to reward them—“none deserve more highly than our Brave army; none shall have our Money more freely, So far as is Justly Due; and if there has been any failure on the part of government in fulfilling their contracts, let the injury and all their Just Demands be made up to them as soon as may be”—yea So cheerful & ready are we, to have them fully compensated for their services, y^t we are willing if it cannot be otherwise effected, To allow Both officers & Soldiers, over & above their Stipulated wages, one years full pay—far be it from us to wrong our soldiers;—we are desirous to settle honorably with them; & seasonably & fully to discharge all our public & foreign Debts—

But we cannot see the Reasonabness & Justice of giving the officers of our army half pay during life, or full pay for the term of five years, after they are Discharged from the service—we think the soldiers who have born the Burden & heat of the day as well as the officers, have an equal Right to claim a share, in proportion to their pay—

We doubt not, but that Both officers & soldiers have suffered much in their Countries Cause—and the temporal Interests of many have herby been diminished; an has not this been the case with thousands that have generally been at Home—they have many a time been called off from their employments, been obliged to gird on the harness & take the field, for a time, in the common defence; & why ought they not to be rewarded over & above their Stipulated pay, in proportion to the time they were gone & Services which they Performed?—it appears to be as reasonable as that the officers of our army should thus be rewarded—

Besides do not the officers of our army hope & expect, to share in the Blessings of Peace & independence? we are willing they should; why then are they not willing to Suffer with us, & lend a helping hand to support us under our Burdens?—we think they ought to be—& not make government, instead of Being a Blessing, an unsupportable Burden to the people—

We cannot see, if they have a reasonable recompence for their services, why they do not stand upon an equal footing with

their Brethren—we therefore request you, Sir, to use your influence to prevent this pay being given to the officers of our army, as we cannot consent to it, or any thing that is so subversive of the Principles of American Revolution—

Further, we must Depend upon your Exertions, and if need be that you Strain every nerve, to prevent the return of those persons called Tories, or absentees, who have withdrawn themselves from us, gone over to the Enemy, & either virtually or actually taken up arms against us—& many of them shed the Blood of their Brethren—in the judgment of charity we can't but View them in an odious light—they deserve censure—yea many of them have long since, forfeited their heads as well as their estates to their countries Justice—we doubt not but their situation is disagreeable, & that things have turned out quite contrary to their wish & Expectation; but are we to Blame for that?—had they chose it, they might have continued with us, & enjoyed their estates, which we view they have now forfeited, & all the priveledges & immunities of free citizens; & Shared in the Blessings of independence—but they have chosen their side, & we desire that they would abide their choice, & not Presume to trouble us any more—Friendship to them, & Safety to ourselves & dear Country, forbid them to be any more incorporated with us—we have sufficiently Proved them, & understand their temper & disposition, by their inhuman & savage conduct towards us—we are convinced that we cannot put any confidence in them; they have proved themselves traitors to their country; can we then receive you into our Bosoms again? by no means—let them therefore Depart, & repair to the frozen Regions of acadia, the Place destined for them by their Royal Master, and Spend the rest of their days in deep Repentance for their Past follies—

And as Religion is much Decayed in our Land, the Lords Day shamefully profaned, the holy name of God abused, & all manner of Vice prevalent & Barefaced, we Expect that you will use your Best endeavors, to have such Laws enacted & put in Execution, as shall tend to surpress Vice, secure the honor of Gods holy name, & the Sanctification of the Sabbath, and to promote Religion & useful Literature among us—

and that you give your constant & seasonable attendance at Court, in the time of its Sessions, that neither your Constituents, nor the Public may be come Sufferers by your neglect—but a word to the wise is sufficient—

At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fitzwilliam on the 14 Day of this Instant, August—Voted that These Instructions Should be Deliver to you Sir by the Hand of Ensⁿ Samuel Kendall at your hous in Swansey

Fitzwilliam August 16th 1783

Atest Samuel Patrick Town Clerk

[4-54] [*Petition for Authority to tax Non-Residents.*]

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court to be Assembled att CONCORD the third Day of June Curent—

The Petition of the Town of Fitzwilliam Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners Being Chosen by said Town for the Purpose to Present to your Honours and to Request that your Honours Would take into your Wise Consideration and Grant Some Relief. We your Petitioners Humbly Shew the Situation, we are in and the Dificulty we Labour under on account of our Roads as we are Situated in a Rough Part of the State and have the Great Road which leads to the upper part of the State, to take Care of which is eleven Miles in Length in said Town: Which is a Large Road and much Improved, and We are Liable to fines if it is not kept in Good Repair, and the Town have of late widened the Great Road through s^d Town and have Cut of a Great Number of Crooks or Turns in s^d Road to make it more Comodious to the Public; Which makes Considerable Cost and Charge to s^d Town; and there is a number of other Road for the benefit of s^d Town which are New and uncultivated, all which are to be attended unto, and your Petitioners Humbly Shew that there is a Considerable Quantity of unimproved Lands in said Town owned by Nonresidents which are not obliged to Doe aney thing toward making or repairing s^d Roads some of which leads throug part of said lands which must Inceze the value thereof if kept in good Repair and your Petitioners Humbly Beg that there may be a Tax of one Penney, Layed on each Acre, throughout s^d Town except Public Lands for the term of three years and to be Layed out for the Repairing said Roads, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

Fitz William
May 27: 1789

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Abner Stone | } Selectmen For Fitz William |
| John Fassett | |
| Stephen Brigham | |

[The foregoing petition was granted June, 1789.—ED.]

[4-55] [*Petition of General James Read.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and house of Representatives convened at Concord—

The petition of James Read most humbly sheweth—

That your petitioner, during the late prosperous and glorious contest for liberty, in which he was conscientiously engaged, was unfortunately and totally deprived of the use of his eyes, a greater loss than which no mortal can sustain: That by this painful circumstance he is altogether deprived of his usefulness

to his Country, and of every opportunity of procuring sustenance for himself and family, and the only consolation he receives, is, that America is become free, in part, through his struggles: That in this most deplorable situation of himself and family, your petitioner has heretofore frequently applied to the General Court, whom he conceives to be the guardians, the fathers of the people for assistance; but has hitherto most unfortunately failed in his just applications: That he has in this unutterable distress, and frightful indigence, been constrained to put his dependence on the Constables for several years past, for succour and support, both for himself and family; still looking forward with full hope and expectations that you, who are rightly stiled the redressers of grievances, would have concerted some effectual means for his livelihood, agreeable to resolves of Congress for that benevolent purpose—Wherefore your suppliant petitioner most humbly prays, that this Hon^{ble} Court wou'd give him orders on said Constables which may fully answer for the Continental tax due from said Constables and that the same be charged to the Continent agreeable to said Resolves—or otherwise relieve your petitioner's pitiful situation, as in your great wisdom you may think best—

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray—

James Read

[4-56] [*Petition for Incorporation of Library.*]

To the General Court of the State of New Hampshire now Conven'd at Portsmouth humbly Sheweth Nahum Parker that he with a number of others Inhabitants of Fitzwilliam purchased a Collection of Books for a Social Library but find it necessary to be incorporated in order to realize the advantages Contemplated Therefore pray that they may be incorporated with such privileges as are usually Granted in such Cases, and as in duty bound will pray

Nov^r 27th 1797

Nahum Parker, for the purchasers

[The foregoing petition was granted Nov. 29, 1797.—ED.]

FRANCESTOWN.

This town was incorporated June 8, 1772, and was constituted from a tract of land called New Boston Addition, and a part of a tract called Society Land, and was named Frances Town, by Governor Wentworth, in honor of his wife.

The territory comprising the town belonged to the Masonian proprietors until alienated by that society to individuals. Settlements were commenced about 1760, by John Carson and others. By an act passed Dec. 11, 1792, "the two East ranges of Lotts of Land in the Township of Greenfield heretofore called Lyndeborough Addition," were annexed to this town. June 17, 1802, another portion of the Society Land was annexed to Francestown.

A quarry in the easterly part of the town has produced a large amount of freestone since it was opened in 1804.

[R. 2-12] [*Lieut. James Hopkins's Order.*]

To Deacon Archibald M^cMillen—

Sir These may Sertify that Jesse Martin of Frances-Town Served as a Good Soldier in Col. Gilmans Reg^t & Cap^t M^cConnels Company & has Never had his pay Due from ye Trasuary at Exeter Witness my Hand this 17th Day of Jan^{ry} 1778—

James Hopkins
Lieu^t of S^d Com^{ny}

[*Jesse Martin's Order.*]

New boston january the 27th 1778

To M^r Niclas gillman tresurer Sir pleas to pay the bearer Archibald m^cmillan what wages is due to me from the State as I served three Months and fifteen days, and this shall be your rect from your humble servant

Jesse Martin

[R. 2-13] [*Nathaniel Boyd's Petition.*]

June 5th 1782

To the Hon^{ble} Committe of Safety of the State of New Hampshire—

The Petition of Nath^l Boyd of Francestown in the County of Hillsborough humbly Sheweth—

That your petitioner went a short Campaign to Cohoss for the Term of about six Weeks in Defence of his Country two years ago past last March, and was chosen Lieut. under Cap^t Thomas Nickles, and thro' some Mistake not having as yet receiv'd any pay for his Trouble, and being well informed that all who went with him at that Time Officers as well as privates

have, he only excepted thinks it very Strange, therefore prays, that your Honors would take the Matter under your candid and serious consideration and grant him a Redress by making him some Retaliation for his Time, fatigue and Expence and as in Duty bound shall ever pray—

Nathaniel Boyd

[R. 2-14] [*Certificates of Bounties Due.*]

In Committee of Claims Exeter July 12th 1782

This Certifies that there is due to the Town of Francistown for Bounty paid to William Dickey Twenty two pounds Eight shillings & six pence which is deducted from his depreciation

Ex^d J Gilman

£22., 8., 6

[R. 2-15]

June 14th 1786

The Bounty paid by Francestown to Abel Walton in 1778 is Ninteen pounds which has been deducted from his depreciation

£19., 0., 0

Ex^d pr Josiah Gilman Jun^r

[4-61] [*Petition for a Ministerial Tax.*]

Province of Newhampshire County of Hillsborough

To His EXCELLENCY John Wentworth Esq. Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province New Hampshire and to the Honorable his Majesty's Council & House of Representatives and General Court assembled—

The Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth

That whereas Francestown in the Province and County aforesaid hath no land left or laid out by the original Proprietors for the encouragement of the first Gospel Minister to settle amongst us We your humble Petitioners humbly desire your Excellency and Honors to make an Act to collect or raise a Tax of a penny half penny p^r Acre more or less as your Excellency and Honors shall see fit upon all the unsettled Lots or Land within the Town aforesaid except every Lot at present settled or possed by an Inhabitant and also all the Lots owned by the Masonian Propriety at present formerly belonging to that part known by the name of the New addition of New Boston for the settlement of our first Minister and building a Meeting house.

Your Excellency and Honors Compliance herewith will serve very much our Interest and encourage the settlement of

the wilderness. And your humble Petioners as in duty bound shall ever pray—

Frances Town Dec^r 2^d 1772

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Robert Hopkins | James Hopkins | William Quigley |
| Samuel Nickels | Samuel Dickermen | Samuel Gregg |
| Thomas Warren | Olipher Holmes | William Holmes |
| Nathan Fisher | Charles Mellan | David Lewis |
| Thomas Quigley | David Gregg | Joseph Dickey |
| Will ^m Butterfield | W ^m Butterfield jun ^r | Henry M ^o farson |
| William Starret | Samuel Nutt | Tho ^s Quigley jun ^r |
| Adam Dickey | John Quigley | |
| John Dickey | John Hopkins | |

[4-60] [*Relative to Militia Officers.*]

To the honorable the Provincial Congress who set at Exeter in and for the Colony of Newhampshire Gentⁿ—

The Pettition of us the Subscribers being Inhabitants of Francist^m Humbly Sheweth that about a Week since there Came a Letter to s^d Town Sighn'd by Samuel Patten Chairman in behalf of the Committees of Goffstown Derrifield & Bedford the Contents of which were as follows (viz) That they had met at Goffstown on y^e 10 of this present Month to Consult upon Several Matters recommended by the Continental and Provincial Congresses relating to the Militie and to enquire into the State of Col: Goff's Regiment & have recomended it to this Town to meet and Chuse their Melitie Officers before the 21st of s^d Month at which time they required the Officers Chosen to meet at Goffstown to Chuse their Field officers which we humbly Conceive is Contrary to the Advice of the Continental Congress Neither did we know by what authority they were about to Regulate s^d Regiment wherefore the Majority of s^d town Judged it unnecessary to pay any Regard thereto but a Small Part of s^d town asembled according to the Venire above mentioned & made choice of Persons intirely contrary to the sense & meaning of the town in General therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that s^d men may not be Confirmed untill the Town has an Opportunity of making a fair & regular choise and then we shall esteem it in the highest Regard our indispensable Duty tacitly to acquiece in the Determinations of this Honorable Congress and Your h^{ble} Pettitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray—

Francistown Agust the 21st 1775

Thomas Quigly William Quigly Thomas Quigly Jun^r

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Jams ADams | Robert Fulton | Archibald Cuning- |
| Sam ^{ll} Nutt | Hugh morel | ham |
| James Fisher | John CarSon | adam Dickey |
| William mc mester | John Dickey | William Cristey |
| thomas mellen | ThomasM ^c Laughlen | Charles Mellen |

The Small party which carried on the Meeting afforesaid did not exceed Ten in Number exclusive of the Officers some of which had No Right to Vote

[4-59] [*Number of Polls, 1783.*]

Francestown December 2th 1783

A Return of the male Poles in Francestown Paying Taxes for themselves according to the Request of the General Court the No is Sixty Five

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| John Dickey | } Select Men |
| William Starrett | |
| Asa Lewis | |

[4-57] [*Petition for a New Town.*]

Hillsboro, ss.

To the hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire—Humbly Shew—

That your petitioners being Inhabitants of a place called Society Land, Francestown and Dearing, now do & for a long time past the greatest part of them have laboured under very great & distressing difficulties by reason of lying very remote from any place of public worship and almost destitute of any Town privileges: And judging it will appear highly reasonable to your Honors upon due information pray that they may have an incorporation, agreeably to the bounds hereafter mentioned (to wit) Beginning at the Northwest corner of Greenfield thence along the line of s^d Greenfield continuing a direct Course into Francestown as far Easterly as to take in M^r Benjamin Danes Farm, thence northerly by the Easterly line of said Danes farm to the North line of Francestown, thence easterly to the East line of M^r William Aikens land; thence northerly to the South line of Packers right so called thence westerly by the South line of said right to the west line of M^r William M^cFersons land from thence a direct course to the eminence of Hedghog Mountain (so called) thence along said eminence to the northwest part thereof, from thence to the River Contocook, from thence along said river to the bounds first mentioned—

And as your petitioners judge the prayer of their petition to be highly reasonable they earnestly request the hon^{ble} Court to grant them the prayer of s^d petition or the favor of an impartial Committee (at their expence) to view their Situation and to report whether the prayer of said petition ought not to be granted in whole or in part as to your Committee & your Honors will seem most just & your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Joseph Huntington | Zacheus Dustin | Eleazar Nutting |
| Matthew Gibson | John Falch | Andrew Taylor |
| Joseph Putnam | Benj ^a Killam | Gideon Dodge |
| Solomon Pilsbury | John Colby | True Webster |
| Jacob Puffer | Matthew Puffer | Samuel Blasdel |
| John Dusten | Joel Reed | John Thomson |
| John Puffer | Moses Favour | John Burns |
| Gawen Armor | Samuel Burns | Oliver Mitchell |
| John Mitchel | James Burns | John Highland |
| James Wilson | Samuel Barnet | James Masterman |
| Elipheth Dusten | Robert Forsaith | Matthew Obrion |
| Ebenezer Newman | Thomas Newman | Seth Hart |
| Fitch Gibbens | James Mills | Daniel Dane, Jun ^r |
| George Sumner | Daniel Dane | John Gibson |

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Society Land and others, haveing vewed the Situation of the Several tracts of Land Mentioned in said Petition and it appears to us that it would be very injurious to the Towns of Francestown and Dearing to have So Great a part of said Towns Anexed to the Society aforesaid—it is therefore the Opinion of your Committee that the Prayer of said Petition Ought not to be Granted—

Which is Submitted by

Robert Wallace for the Committee

FRANCONIA.

This town was first granted February 14, 1764, to Jesse Searle and others, by the name of Franconia. No settlements were made under this grant, so far as I can learn, prior to June 8, 1772; at which time a grant was made which covered this town, and all or part of the township of Lincoln (which was granted in January, 1764) to "Sir Francis Bernard Bart." and twelve other notables, among whom were "His Excellency Thomas Hutchinson" and "The

hon^{ble} Corbyn Morris Esq^r." The thirteen were granted from 350 to 800 acres each. There were twenty-eight other grantees, and the town was named Morristown, for the above-named grantee.

Settlements were made in 1774 by Zebedee Applebee, Capt. Artemas Knight, and Lemuel Barnett. The town contains a valuable iron mine, from which is taken some of the finest ore in the country. Furnaces were erected in 1808 and worked for many years; the property has recently passed into new hands, and a vigorous prosecution of the industry is expected.

The "Old Man of the Mountain," that singular curiosity, is located in this town, and is visited by thousands every summer.

[4-62] [*Petition of the Morristown Grantees.*]

State of New Hampshire—

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in Session at Exeter, begun on the twenty-fifth day of December in the year of Our Lord seventeen hundred and ninety-three—Humbly Shews—

John Taylor, in behalf of the proprietors of a tract of land heretofore granted under the name of Morristown, that the General Court at their session in the month of December in the year of Our Lord seventeen hundred and ninety three, on the petition of s^d proprietors, appointed a committee to inquire into, and report some redress of, the grievances of s^d proprietors; who in conformity to their appointment reported as follows, to wit,

“That in June 1772 a tract of land was granted to twenty eight persons by the name of Morristown, that prior grants had been made of said lands in two Townships called Franconia and Lincoln, that the s^d Town of Morristown was charged with State taxes untill the year 1782, which they have paid to the amount of seven pounds seven shillings and three pence in specie, one hundred and eighty nine pounds & five shillings in new emission, & three thousand seven hundred & twenty pounds in bills of old emission, equal at the time of payment of s^d old emission to seventy nine pounds eighteen shillings & ten pence in specie; that in the year 1782, and since said lands have been taxed under the names of Franconia and Lincoln, but the taxes remain unpaid; that the pro-

prietors of Morrystown have been at great expence in clearing roads, building mills, & putting on settlers in s^d Town. That the said tract of land is now claimed & settled under the proprietors of Franconia & Lincoln. And that considering the peculiar situation of the proprietors & their embarrassments, the committee did report that the s^d proprietors of Morrystown have a grant of twenty four thousand acres of land adjoining to Franconia & Lincoln, or as near it as may be; so as not to interfere with any other grants heretofore made by the late Province now State of New Hampshire; & that s^d proprietors at their own expence cause the same to be surveyed by some suitable person to be appointed by his Excellency with advice of Council, and that s^d surveyor return a plan thereof to the next Session of the General Court “submitted by George Gains for s^d Committee”—

The s^d Proprietors beg leave to remark that their former grant under the name of Morrystown, exclusive of public rights & other reservations contained thirty five thousand acres—That by *their* cultivation those lands have risen to more than double their original value—That at the lowest rate of computation, the bare labour which they have bestowed, & the taxes which they have paid upon them (to the present State of New Hampshire,) greatly exceed the value of the same number of acres of any unlocated lands in this State—That they entered with perfect confidence under the charter of the former Government, & have no doubts, if that had remained, but that their lands would now have been safe under it—That, as the now State of New Hampshire continued to tax them for a number of years in succession, they were induced to believe this a sanction & confirmation of their grant—But that, as the government has once made a compensation to the Grantees under a second charter; as the name of Morrystown is dropped, and the lands now taxed under the names of the first grants; & as council able and learned in the Law give not the least encouragement of a second grant holding untill an eviction upon the first. Your petitioners see no prospect of reaping any advantage by their grant, or their services, or the taxes which they have paid, unless extended to them in this way; that the proceedings of Government have frustrated and totally defeated any further settlement of their lands, & that they are oppressed with greater hardships than they are willing to think this Hon^{ble} Court will be disposed any longer to Countenance—They therefore pray that this Hon^{ble} Court would either take up the report of their former committee & act upon it; or if there can be any doubt with regard to the truth of the facts stated in that report, that a new committee may be appointed to inquire into the subject, & report some redress suited to the case—or that some measure

may be adopted whereby common justice may be done to your petitioners—& as in duty bound shall ever pray.

John Taylor (in behalf of s^d Proprietors)

[4-63] [*John Taylor in behalf of Morristown Grantees.*]

To the Honourable General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire, now Convened at Concord—

The petition of the proprietors of the Township of Morristown humbly shews, That they have not as yet, had any recompence for all their Extraordinary Sufferings and services performed to the State, by the Vast Expenditures of Money and hard labour, in first Settling and Cultivateing the Township of Morristown from a barran wilderness, to a fruitfull field, which your petitioners have now the Mortification to See the former grantees, of said Township, (which had treated the officers of Government with the utmost Contempt, by neglecting to perform any kind of duty upon the Express Conditions on which their grant was made,) now allowed to rise up, from their long ambush of Idleness and take the Cruel advantage of gathering the ripe fruits of all our labour and Expence, often insulting, and Challenge us, to get any recompence, Either for the lands which we have So dearly purchased (by our Extra Exertions aforesaid,) or the money and labour laid out upon them, by any Existing law of the State, altho we were Encouraged under the legal goverment of Newhampshire, to perform said duties, and had Every reason to Expect the promised reward for our dear Earned Services, as we Could not then be Suppose, to foresee, the Events of the approaching revolution which is acknowledged to be the Sole Cause of all our Suffering in this respect, nor had we then the least reason to believe but what the present government of the State of New Hampshire, would Cheerfully grant us as generous a reward for our Services afforesaid, as though we had remained under the government of the Crown of Greate Britain,—since the Same lands which were invested in the Crown, are now by the happy revolution become the property of the State, as the object of both governments in granting for the due Encouragement of Settling, remains the Same, and your petitioners Can hardly believe that under our Excellent Constitution of goverment, wisely Calculated to do Strict and Equal justice to all its Subjects, that any instance which affords no practicable avenue to justice, will be longe Suffered to Exist in the State of Newhampshire and your petitis are Still further Encouraged to hope for justice in their peculiar Case, by the acts of the present government, as they still continue to Call on us by the

name of Morristown, for all the government taxes, the whole of which, Ever yet paid, on said lands, under whatever name they have been Called, have been faithfully paid into the publick Treasury of the State, by your petitioners, lately amounting at one time, to near nine hundred dollars in Silver, and we Cannot, without affronting our own understanding Suppose, that it is the wish or intention of the government of Newhampshire, to take from us such Capital Sums of Money, in addition to the loss of the Toile and labour upon it, for taxes on lands which they do not mean we Should Enjoye, or that have no Existence in the State, as is pretended, all which unjust Sufferings they must undergo, till they—(Can by Some means,) have reliefe from the government of the State, which your petitioners have the more reason to Expect, by way of petitioning, as it is now the only means left them by the faderal Government, for redress, to Come at justice, as the whole power, in all Such Cases, is now lodged and intrusted with the respective State governments, with the fullest Confidence, that there is Sufficient Honnour and dignity in Every State government, in the union, to preserve them from abusing So important a power and trust, in which the faderal law, now makes them the Sole judges in their own Cause, respecting the loss and Sufferings of individuals injured by a State, that in all such Cases it is Expected that the government of such State, will Cheerfully do Strict, Equal, and impartial Justice, to all that fall under their Jurisdiction, (and Especially to their faithfull Subjects,) without Exposing individuals to Expensive law-suits, which they are not able to bare, and the provision heretofore made by law, in this State, for recompence, in a Court of Chancery respecting the grants of land, have been found so deficient in their form, and Construction, as to prevent any practice upon them that in Stead of the protection, for which it was pretended, they were designed, they have become the mock ridicule, and protection of all those offenders who ought long since to have been brought to Justice by them, and under these peculiar Circumstances your petitioners humbly Conceive it a duty which they owe to themselves and families, once more with due respect and Submission, to look up to the legal authority of the State for, redress and protection as the political fathers and guardians of our just rights, humbly imploring their attention and Compassion, to take our hard, and unprecedented Case into their wise Consideration, and grant us Such relief, as they in their wisdom Shall think just,—as your petitioners in duty bound Shall Ever pray—

John Taylor agent for the proprietors of Morristown.

[4-64] [*Trouble between Franconia Grantees and Morristoryn Grantees.*]

State of Newhampshire County of Grafton June 2^d 1790

To the Honourable the Senate and Hon^{ble} house of Representatives in General Court at Concord assembled—

The petition of the proprietors of the Township of Morristoryn Most humbly Shews, our deplorable Condition and Situation for want of a just and accurate Survey of the Townships which border on and lay in the Vicinity of said Morristoryn, a Number of which Towns have not to this day Run Even the out lines of their Grants and Charters by any actual Survey and true measure, So as to Enable them to make Just Returns to authority according to the true intent and meaning of government by said grants but have only formed the outlines of their grants in theory on paper, by their own wild imaginations, and Some Towns have Extended their Claims and bounds so far beyond their Just limits by Self interested Surveys and measure as to Swallow up and Encroach on the just Rights of other Towns, to that degree that tis impossible at this day as matters now stand, to distinguish the true and Just deviding lines betwixt one town and another, which must in the Sequel Expose thousands of individuals to Spend their whole Substance in Endless Lawsuits to defend, and ascertain what is their own, if not timely prevented by authority, who we humbly Conceive have a legal and Constitutional Right to determine the just bounds and limits of their own Charter grants according to the true intent and meaning thereof, or we know not where to look for Redress, as we Conceive that no Writ of Ejectment Can be Supported in law, till the true bounds Can be proved,—and the fear and dread of these disadvantages has already discouraged and drove away hundreds of Valuable Settlers to other States who might otherwise have now been usefull members of Society in this State, and it is the general Voice and Complaint of the people in this part of the State, that they are almost discouraged from Strikeing another Stroke till they know what ground they Stand upon, and what title they may Safely purchase under among So many different Claims and grants of the Same land which boundary lines we humbly Conceive Canot be properly ascertained, till authority appoint an Impartial disinterested Committee who Shall be duly Sworn to the faithfull discharge of their trust to mak out and Return an accurate Survey of these disputed lines, according to lenth of line and point of Compas given to Reduce Each Town to their just limits the Expence of which we are willing to pay our due proportion without Cost to government—

Your petitioners beg leave to further observe that the proprietors of the Townships formerly granted by the names of Franconia and Lincoln paid So little attention to their grants as never to lay out or Run Even the outlines of their grants of the lands which they now Claim by said grants, nor did they Comply with one Single Condition upon which s^d grants were made, that goverment finding that the grants of these Townships were Justly forfeited for the Reasons aforesaid, did then proceed to Execute to our predecessors under the Seal and protection of the State, a new grant and Charter by the name of Morrystown which Covers a part of the Same lands which Franconia and Linⁿ aforesaid now Claim by these old forfeited grants, Notwithstanding the proprietors of Morrystown have Ever paid the Strictest attention to the Requisitions of Government, to advance the Settlement of the State, did at their Sole Expence make and Return an accurate Survey according to the direction of their Charter, and went on to Clear Roads build mills lay out lots put on Setlers &c, and thinking our Selves and Interests Safe under the Seal and protection of the State, did Constantly adhere to the Requisitions of Government who Repeatedly Called on us by the name of Morrystown for the annual taxes of govern^t on Said Township, which have Constantly been paid up according to the Various Calls of government on us from year to year for which taxes we Still hold their treasurer's Recp^t for the last farthing of said taxes, but the proprietors of Franconia aforesaid, finding that our Exertions and Cultivations in said Township were like to make it Valuable they then wake up from their Indolent Slumbers and put on airs of Importance for the unmerited favours of government, and by force and arms go and take possession of our Township aforesaid, and by Virtue of their old Claims aforesaid which have been justly forfeited more than twenty years they pull down our fences lay wast our Enclosurs and Convert the produce of our labours to their own use and have Constantly done all in their power to discourage our Setlers from purchasing or making any further Improvements, by threats and telling them that we have no Right to any land there, notwithstanding we have from the begining warned them off of said land at their peril—and in the Honour and dignity of the goverment and authority of the State of New Hampshire do we Still put our trust for Redress, nor do we yet believe that they would grant us—(under the Seal and protection of the State) what they never ment that we Should Enjoy or take our Money and labour from us to give the benefit to those who have totally neglected their duty—

And all these Services and Sufferings without a Single Reason, or Charge against us for any fault of ours—and we hum-

bly Conceive that your honours will be more Surprised Still when they Come to find that the proprietors of Franconia afor^d went in november last for the first time to lay out their Township where their forfeited Charter directed them to begin twenty-eight years ago, and have now laid and loted out near thirty four thousand acres to the Township of Franconia, when their Charter Confines them to twenty four thousand acres by measure, and all this Extention of their lines does not yet Interfear with Morrystown and not a Single family have these Spacious Claimers under the grant of Franconia, to this day Settled within this large territory which they have So laid and lotted out, and we wish to Know whether the Name of Morrystown was Erased out of the Treasurers books and the names of Franconia and Lincoln placed in Room by order of authority or by the artfull Intreigues of any person or persons Interested in said Townships aforesaid—for these and many other Reasons we now think it our Indispensable duty to first humbly address and Implore the protection, and direction of government in our behalf, that they would be pleased to Either Confirm and Establish the goverment Seal and Charter of Morrystown, or if otherwise that we may Spedily Know our fate, that we wast no more of our Substance in fruitless attempts to Enjoy our property in peace, or otherwise as your honours In their wisdom Shall See fit to direct—as your petitioners in duty bound Shall Ever pray

John Taylor in Behalf of himself and the Rest of the
Prop^s of Morrystown

[4-65] [*Petition for Help to build a Road.*]

State of New Hamshire County of Grafton October y^e 11th
1790

To the honourable Senate and house of Representatives in general Court assembled—

The Petition of the proprietors and inhabitants of the Townships of Concord, Lyman, Landaff, Morrystown, Franconia, Bath and Littleton, humbly Shews, That Nature hath So form'd the land with the waters and Mountains of that part of the Country, as to Render it of the greatest importance and most pressing necessity for the Encouragement of Setling those, and many other new Townships above, and to benefit those of your petitioners already Settled, that they Should as Soon as possible, have the most direct Road from those Towns to Thornton, that the land will admit, to accommodate them to go to Portsmouth, Plymouth, and all the towns below with whom

we must have Communication for our market and Supplies of goods, which Road would Save us thirty miles travel in Every journey down, and accommodate the people quite to the upper Cohoss, your petitioners therefore humbly Request that your honours would be pleased, to appoint a Committee to Look and lay out said Road, in the most Convenient place to Serve the publick and promote the Settlement of that part of the Country, and that a tax may be granted on those lands Sufficient to make said road, Your petitioners beg leave further to observe that they have already at their own Expence look'd out, marked and measured, through to Thornton line, where they Esteem to be the most Convenient place for said Road, to answer all the purposes above s^d and have Cut through into about Six miles of s^d Thornton line, and find that a Very good and direct Road may be had without any Interruption of Bad hills or Streams But finding the burden too heavy for new and Infant Setlers to bear the whole Cost themselves, therefore humbly Request your Honours assistance as above described, or in any other way which they in their wisdom Shall See fit to direct, as your petitioners in duty bound Shall Ever Pray

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Eben ^r Sandborn | David Weeks | Sam ^l Lang |
| Isaac Moor | —— Salter | Ezra Child |
| Stephen Smith | Bosenger Salter | John Rowell |
| Joshua Bedle | Job Moulton | W ^m Moulton |
| Jon ^a Moulton | Noah Moulton | Daniel Moulton |
| Sam ^l Way | John Barber | Amasa Burk |
| Jona Kimball | James Snow | Simeon Eastman |
| Benja kimball | Amon Judd | Samuel Titus |
| Simon Oakes | Joseph Chandler | Levi Judd |
| John Hatch | David Atwood | Moses Jackman |
| Benja Knight | Nathaniel Rix | Linus Moss |
| John Page | Alexander Hodge | Andrew Webber |
| Jacob Starr | John Grost | Eph ^m Corey |
| David Jewett | James Eastman | Na ^t Rix |
| Peter Eastman Jr | Jacob Hurd | Aaron Bayley |
| John Taylor | Nathan Kinsman | Benjamin Brown |
| Amos Wheeler | Thomas Hatch | Nathan Wheeler Jr |
| Amos Baker | Henry Gale | John Drury |
| Nicholes Powers | Artemes Knight | Zebedee Applebee |
| Bigford Spooner | Timothy Taylor | Edward Oakes |
| Thomas Spooner | John Aldrich | Alexander Jesseman |
| Nathaniel Snow Jr | Eseck wheelock | Ono Snow |
| George Howland | Solomon Cook | John Clark Jun ^r |
| Savoury Petty | Benj ^a Currier | David Moulton |
| John Whitimore | Nathan Wheeler | Langdon Drury |
| Isaiah Morse | Cyprian Pearce | |

[4-66]

[*Receipt for Taxes.*]

November 10th 1795. Received of John Taylor by the hand of Thomas Thompson Esq^r Eight hundred & twenty dollars & thirty eight cents, being the amount of State taxes & charges on the Township of Morristown alias Franconia—also received of s^d Thompson thirty nine dollars & twenty nine cents the amount of County taxes & charges on the Township of Morristown—the said County tax being for the year 1782, and the s^d State tax being for the year 1782, & the s^d State tax being for the year 1782, & for every succeeding year up to 1790, inclusive—

David Webster Sheriff

[4-67]

[*Town Inventories of Various Dates.*]

By examing the Books of the Treasury it appears that the sums hereafter mentioned were assessed on Morristown and discharged in the following manner Viz,—

In the year 1777, a Warrant was issued by the

| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| | Treasurer for | £48,,13,, 4 |
| 1778, | “ | 97,, 6,, 8 |
| 1779, first Tax, | “ | 304,, 3,, 4 |
| 1779 second Tax | “ | 547,,10,, |
| 1780 | “ | 2,722,,10,, |
| 1778 June 22 nd paid by James Richardson Esq ^r | | 48,,13,, 4 |
| 1779 Jan ^y 26 th paid by ditto | | 97,, 6,, 8 |
| 1779 Nov ^r 8 th paid by | “ | 304,, 3,, 4 |
| 1780 April 29 th paid by | “ | 547,,10,, |
| 1782 May 3 ^d paid by Gen ^l James Reid— | | 2,722,,10,, |

The above sums were in Continental paper Currency.

| | | |
|--|---|------------|
| 1781 first New Emission Tax | | £151,, 5,, |
| 1781 second New Emission Tax | | 37,,16,, 3 |
| 1781 first Specie Tax | | 5,,13,, 5 |
| 1781 second specie Tax | | 1,,17,,10 |
| 1782 May 3 ^d paid by Gen ^l James Reid— | | 151,, 5,, |
| “ | “ | 37,,16,, 3 |
| “ | “ | 5,,13,, 5 |
| “ | “ | 1,,17,,10 |

The first mention of Morristown, on the tax Books of the Treasury, was in the year 1777, and Franconia is not named from the year 1775 to 1781 inclusive—

The above is a true Statement taken at Exeter the 30th day of November 1798—

By Nat. Gilman

[4-68] [*Another Petition from John Taylor.*]

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court convened—

Humbly shews John Taylor in behalf of the proprietors of the grant of Morrystown that he must once more state the unfortunate situation of said proprietors to this honorable Court. He laments the necessity they are under of petitioning from year to year for relief, and should not again request a hearing did they not feel oppressed with injury & injustice.

Many years since the tract of land covered by Morrystown charter had been granted in two parcels & under the names of Franconia & Lincoln with the usual conditions annexed—that after the period had elapsed in which said conditions were to have been fulfilled viz in the year 1772 the government, finding that no part of said conditions had been fulfilled, & in conformity to received ideas of the operation of law in such cases regranted the said tract of land by the name of Morrystown—that the proprietors of Morrystown grant went on immediately at a great expence & cut a road through the woods fifteen miles in length to get on to said tract—carried mill irons from Exeter to Morrystown (not being able to purchase any nearer)—built mills—allotted the town—put on settlers—& paid in taxes to the State of New Hampshire Prior to the year 1782 seven pounds seven shillings & three pence in specie, one hundred & eighty nine pounds five shillings in new emission money, and three thousand seven hundred & twenty pounds in old emission bills equal at the time of payment of said old emission to £79,18,,10 in specie & that since the year 1782 they have paid to David Webster Esq^r Sheriff of the county of Grafton in specie Eight hundred & twenty dollars & thirty eight cents for State taxes & charges—& thirty nine dollars & twenty nine cents for county taxes & charges that after all their labours & expenditures they are unable to retain by law one single foot of the land granted to them—that the settlers under them have been obliged to purchase their lands again of the Franconia & Lincoln proprietors—that they have been defeated in the possession of the land granted to them *by an alteration in our judicial determinations*—& that they felt themselves obliged to pay the taxes before & since y^e year 1782 *in consequence of being recognized & taxed by the General Court of New Hampshire*—

They need not comment on these facts. The bare recital is distressing to every man of feeling. We confidently anticipate the good offices of this honorable Court—& think they will not refuse to make us a suitable compensation out of the unlocated lands belonging to the State which at present lie useless, *upon*

which people are daily settling without any authority, & which would be of essential service to us—

Wherefore your Petitioner in behalf of said Proprietors prays this General Court to take this business under their wise consideration & grant such compensation to them in wild lands as shall quadrate with their services rendered & monies paid to the State—

Concord Nov. 26th 1798—

John Taylor

In behalf of the Proprietors of the Morristown Grant

[He was granted "leave to withdraw."—ED.]

F R E M O N T .

This town was a part of Brentwood until it was set off, June 22, 1764, and incorporated by the name of Poplin. James Merrill was authorized to call the first meeting of the legal voters to choose town officers.

By an act passed June 20, 1783, a number of the inhabitants of the south part of the town were authorized to join the parish of Hawke (Danville) for parochial purposes. The town was known by the name of Poplin, until by an act of the legislature of July 8, 1854, it was changed to its present name in honor of Gen. John C. Fremont.

Among the Revolutionary soldiers from the town were the following in First N. H. Regiment:

Thomas D. Bates, entered March 25, 1778; discharged October, 1779.

David Hunt, entered January 1, 1778; discharged December, 1781.

[R. 2-16]

[*James Dockham's Discharge.*]

I do Certify that James Dockham new levie soldier in the second New Hampshire Regiment, being rendered unfit for duty for want of Cloaths, is hereby honorably discharged the Service

Given under my hand in

To Whome Concerned } Camp Highlands This 5th day Dec^r
civil or Military } '80

for Poplin

Geo Reid Lt Col^o Commd^t 2nd N
Hampshire Battalion

[R. 2-17] [*Nicholas Smith Hoyt's Order.*]

State of New Hampshire } this is to Desire the Committee of Claims to
 pay to the Selectmen of Poplin all the State
 wages due to me the Subscriber for four months in the Con-
 tinental Service in the year 1781—

Poplin february the 18—1782

Nicholas Smith ^{his} X Hoyt
mark

Witness—Nathan Merrill
 Thomas Beede

[R. 2-18] [*Jacob Judkins's Order.*]

State of New Hampshire } This is to Desire the Committe of Clams
 to pay to the Select men of Poplin all the
 State wages du to me the Subscriber for four months in the
 Continental Sarvice in the year 1781—

Poplin february the 9—1782

Jacob Judkins

Please to Pay Lieu^t Abraham Sanborn the Contents of this
 within Order

Enoch Smith }
 Ezek^l Godfrey } Selectmen

[4-69] [*Election of Delegate to Provincial Congress.*]

At a legal Parish meeting held in Poplin at the Dwelling
 house of Enⁿ Nathan Browns inholder in s^a Poplin on the 8th
 Day of May 1775: Voted Decⁿ Stephen Sleeper moderator to
 govern s^a meeting

Voted Esq^r Zaccheus Clough a Deligate to Join the Congress
 to be held at Exeter—

Voted Decⁿ Stephen Sleeper a Deligate to Join the Congress
 if in Case Esq^r Cloughs health Should be So impard that he
 Could not go—

A true Copy taken off from the Parish Records

attested P^r Ezek^l Godfrey Parish Clerk

[4-70] [*Mr. Clough's Communication.*]

Sir After My Compliments to you This is to Inform you

that I am not Able to attend at Exeter at the Debety's Meeting
therefore Expects you will attend

Sir I am your Hum^l servant

Poplin May y^e 15th 1775

Zacch: Clough

To Deaken Stephen Sleeper

[4-71]

[*Enoch Brown's Statement.*]

This is to inform this Hon. Coart that i Could not attend in
Coart by Reason of my being in a poor State of health but i
thot it Proper to rite how i understud the affare for which i
was Summonsd to appear hear this Day—& allso how i under-
stud the voat that was past whan De: Sleeper was Elected Esq
Clough was first put to voat and was faerly Elected but he Ex-
cus^d himself & Said he was un well & Could not go—but it
was Said to him by Sum in the meeting it may be that you will
git well by that time the Congress Sits—he Says it is not likele
i Shall for i have ben in a poor State of health for Sum time—
upon that thare was a moshun mad by Sum in the meeting to
Chous another man—and if Esq^r Clough Should not git well
enough to go than the man that we Should Chous was to go—
upon that, De: Sleeper was nominated & he being the modera-
tor i put him to voat & as i think put him to voat thus—if it
be your minds to Chous De: Stephen Sleeper as a Dilegate to
Represent this parish in Congress if Esq^r Clough Should not
git well enough to go Signefiet by the ussal Sign this voat past
in the positive by which De: Sleeper was Elected

Poplin Sep^t the 4th 1776

Enoch Brown

N B—i thot Esq^r Clough Did not intend to Sit in Congress
any part of the time for he told me Soon after the meeting was
Desolved that he wold not go if he was well—& that he would
tel De: Sleeper before thay parted that he must go—

[4-73]

[*Relative to the Election of Delegate.*]

Colony of New Hampshire—

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives of
the Colony of New Hampshire in General Assembly Con-
vened at Exeter by Adjournment on the Fifth day of June
Anno Domini 1776—

Humbly Sheweth the Subscribers Freeholders & Inhabitants
of the Parish of Poplin in said Colony

That they, being required to Send a Delegate to the Late

Congress holden at Exeter in May 1775, met Accordingly on the 8th day of May 1775, & Voted Zacheus Clough Esq^r a Delegate to Join the said Congress, who then & there represented to the said Parish That his Health was much Impaired & that by reason thereof he Could not Attend the said Congress, Whereupon the said Parish then Voted Deacon Stephen Sleeper a Delegate to Join the said Congress in Case the said Clough's health should be so Impaired that he Could not go— And Accordingly the said Clough Tarried at home and said Sleeper Undertook to, & did represent said Parish, in said Congress, During the Sitting of said Congress (Excepting a few days of their last Session but one) and we Depended upon said Sleeper to represent us During the Sitting of said Congress, and not to pay any other Person in Case he first had a Seat there, but we understand that said Clough after he had done his Summer work Assumed a Seat in said Congress and Drew pay out of the Treasury for his Travel & Attendance, which if we are Taxed for will be a great Grievance to us as we are a Small parish & never meant to be represented but by one Delegate—Wherefore We pray your hon^{rs} That we May have a Day of Hearing before your hon^{rs} upon the Premisses, or be relieved in Such way as Your hon^{rs} shall See Fit—and Your Petitioners Shall pray &c—

Poplin June 4th 1776.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Thomas Chase | William Eastman | thomas Beede |
| Jonathan Hoyt | Stephen Fellows | Josiah Robinson Jun |
| Josiah Robinson | William Chase | Ezekiel Eastman |
| William Towl | Nathaniel Sleeper | Joshua Lane |
| Abraham Sanborn | Joseph Godfrey | Ezek ^l Godfrey |
| Elias Swain | Benjamin Cram | Thomas Clark |
| Joseph mudget | Samuel Flanders | David weed |
| Samuel Prescott | Banjamin selly | Sherburne Sleeper |
| — Bean | Nathan Merrill | Edward Bean |
| Winthrop merill | Dudly Merrill | Samuel Scribner |
| John French | Stephen hobbs | William Tallor |
| Daniel Brown | John Hoyt | Joshua Abot |
| Jonathen Brown | Abner Shephard | Jonathan Roberson |
| thomas Rowell | Joshua Kimball | Benim Kimball |
| Abraham Smith | Jonathan Smith | John Clough |
| Ephiram ^{his} X — | Nicoles Jorden Jr | John Scribner |
| mark | | |

[4-74] [*Enoch Brown chosen Justice of the Peace.*]

Rockingham ss at a Parish meeting held at Poplin (on the 22d day of January 1776) Legally notified to Chose, a Justice Peace in this Parish—

1stly Voted Abraham Sanborn moderater to govern s^d meeting—

2^dly Voted Enⁿ Enoch Brown of s^d Poplin for a Justice of Peace in said Poplin; being Clark of s^d Poplin—

Given under our hands

Dated Poplin
Jan^y 22^d 1776

James Merrill } Selectmen
Ezek^l Godfrey } of Poplin

[4-76] [*Petition to be Joined with Hawke.*]

To the Honourable the Council and house of Representatives convened at Portsmouth—

The petition of us the subscribers humbly sheweth, that we are a compact body, resident on the South side of Poplin, & so situated that we are unable to support the preaching of the gospel among us, agreeable to our Religious sentiments; by reason of our being so few in number; and the more part of the inhabitants of s^d Poplin, on the north side, are of different persuasions, in point of Religious worship; and nature has so formed the land as to render it very unlikely that ever the Town will agree to meet in the senter of said Town, by reason, that a large tract of land in the middle of said Town, is very unfertile, & not fit for settlements; and whereas we are situated adjacent to Hawke, in such a manner as to render it very convenient for us to be annex to said Hawke.

Your petitioners therefore, humbly pray your honors, to annex all that part of Poplin, to Hawke for parotial privileges, that lies South of the following bounds viz Beginning at Copyhold bridge (so called) thence following Black-rocks road (so cal^d) to Cap^t Nathan Brown's, also including said Browns estate thence westerly to Black-rocks mills (so called) standing on Exeter River, thence following up said River to Raymond line. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c—

Poplin Dec^r 20th 1782

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Daniel Brown | Abraham Smith | Walter Haines |
| Enoch Smith | James Tucker | Elisha Hook |
| John Kimbal | John Brown | Sherburn Sanborn |
| Enoch Brown | matthew Bryant | Elijah Brown |
| Joshua Abbott | Joshua Kimbal | Ephraim Abott |
| Stephen Hobbs | Jonathan Robinson | Willaba Taylor |
| Benjamin Brown | John Hoyt | Will ^m Grigg |

We the Subscribers by the order & in behalf of the Town of

Hawke do join with the above petitioners in praying that the prayer of the within petition may be granted

Hawke Dec^r 20th 1782

Jer. Towle } Select Men
Neh. Sleeper } for Hawke

[4-77]

State of New Hamp^r In the House of Representatives Feb^y
20th 1783—

The Committee to Consider of the Petition of Daniel Brown & others beg leave to Report as their Opinion that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill to set off the Southerly part of Poplin to Hawke for the purposes mentioned in said Petition, agreeable to the Lines prayed for except taking in Cap^t Nathan Browns Estate and that six months be allowed to the Inhabitants and Nonresidents included by said lines, and who are not Petitioners to enter their Names with the Clerk of the said Parish of Hawke and on their so doing they and their Estates to be considered as not annexed to said Hawke, Signed J. Bartlet for Committee, which report being read and considered—Voted that it be received & accepted

Sent up for Concurrence

John Dudley Speaker

In Council Feb^y 21, 1783 read & concurred

J. Pearson D Sec^y

[The report was accepted. The petitioners were set off by an act passed June 20, 1783.—ED.]

[4-78] [*Vote consenting to the Annexation to Hawke.*]

State of New Hamp^r—Rockingham ss.

At a Town Meeting held by the Legal Voters in Poplin y^e
10th Day of Feb^y 1783—

After Choosing a Moderator to Govern said Meeting—

It Was put to Vote to See if the Town Would Consent that Daniel Brown and Others, Petitioners to the Number of Twenty one, Should be annex to the Town of Hawke for Parochial Privileges, a Greeable to a Copy of a Petition Exhibited to the Selectmen of said Poplin by order of Court and past in the Positive

Atst per Enoch Smith T Clk

[4-79] [*Remonstrance to the Foregoing.*]

To the Honarabell Counsall Hous of Representeives—

Gentellman—We would Humbly Baag that your honors

Would tak it into your Consideration and Let us Remain And our Estats as Befour in the Parish of Poplin and not to Bee annexed with the Parish of hork By the fouelling Resans Because that the Parish of Hoork Refuses to arect a meating hous in the Sentuer either by tax or by Distance of way but insists upon it that thair meating hous Shall Remain whare it now is untill that thare is a unanmas agreament and that we Conseave Will not Bee thearfore we think it not our Duty Nor intres to Join with the Parish of Hork unless that they will agree to arect a meating hous in the Senter

Dated at Poplin febuerey 17 y^e 1783

Nathan Brown
Jonathan Brown
Nathan Brown Juner

[4-80]

[*Town's Consent.*]

State of New Hamp^r Rockingham ss

At a Town Meeting held by the Legal Voters in Poplin on y^e 10th Day of Feb^r 1783

After Chusing a Moderator to Govern s^d meeting The Copy of a Petition Exhibited to the Selectmen of Poplin by order of Court was read in the Meeting; after reading the Petition, it was asked by the Moderator If any Body had any thing to Object against that part of Poplin mentioned in the Petition being set of to Hawke for Parotial Privilidges If they had they ware desired to make their objections. Upon no objections being made, It was Put to Vote to See If the Town would Concent that all that part of Poplin mentioned in the warning of Said Meeting Should be annexed to the Town of Hawke for Parotial Privileges and past in the Positive—

Ezek^l Godfrey Moderator

[4-81]

[*Number of Polls in 1783.*]

Pursuant to Directions from the Hon^{ble} the General Court of the State of Newhampshire Requesting the Exact Number of male Pools of twenty one years of age and Upwards Paying for themselves a Pole tax in the town of Poplin wee the Subscribers Selectmen of s^d Poplin find Said Number in s^d Poplin to be Ninety Six

Given Under our hands at Poplin Decem^r y^e 9th 1783

John Scribner } Selectmen
Enoch Smith } of
Ezek^l Godfrey } Poplin

Rockingham ss December 9th 1783 Then the within named Selectmen made Oath to the truth of the within returne by them Subscribed before

John Dudley Jr

[4-82] [*Relative to Representative.*]

State of New Hampshire—

To the Honorable house of Representatives in General Court Assembled—

We the Subscribers free holders and Inhabitants of the parishes of Raymond and poplin In said state humbly sheweth that by mistake our Last meeting for the Election of a Representative In march Last being Illegally Calld by the Selectmen of Raymond which agreeable to the Constitution should have been called at Poplin It being so Late in the month of March as not to permit of an Election of one Agreeable to the Constitution—For which we therefore humbly pray to be restored to the Privalige that order may Issue for the Election of a Representative as In Duty Bound shall ever pray

may the 30th 1785

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| John Scribner | Abraham Sanborn | Thomas Gorden |
| John Cram | Jon ^a Swain | Daniel Norris |
| Nath ^l Dudley | James merrill | Thomas Bean |
| Francis hodgkins | Sherbne Sleepure | John Clough |
| Josiah Gorden | Danill Sanbern | Manoah Scribner |
| W ^m Grigg | moses Brown | |
| Biley Liford | Joshua Lane | |

Prayer granted.

[4-83] [*E. Godfrey recommended for Magistrate.*]

To HIS EXCELLENCY MESHECK WEARE ESQ, and the Honourable Council, of the State of New Hampshire—

May it please Your Excellency and Honours The Petition of us the Subscribers, being Freeholders and Inhabitants of Poplin; in the State aforesaid, Together with Some of the Freeholders, within the line of Brintwood, Humbly Shews, That Whereas it is Necessary, there should Be Justices of the Peace, upon many Accounts, and there is none among us, or very nigh, that we know of at Present We conceive they Ought to be Men, not only of good Moral Characters, but also posses'd of natural and Acquired Abilities In a good Degree: Together with a Disposition to Seek the things that make for Peace, and

things whereby the Union of the Community may be maintain'd. We look upon *Ezekiel Godfrey*, of Poplin afores'd Gentleman, to be Measurably posses'd, with Each Quallification we have made bold to mention; and Moreover He has been a Steady friend to the Liberteys of America.

We Putting Confidence, in your wisdom & willingness, to Appoint Such men, when their Characters are made Known. Your Petitioners Humbly pray, your Excellency, and Honours, to grant the Said Godfrey a Commission, for a Justice of the Peace in Poplin aforesaid, as your Petitioners in Duty bound Shall Pray—

Dated At Poplin April 19th 1785.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Samuel Sleeper | Abraham Sanborn | Joshua Lane |
| Step Sleeper | Daniel Dolloff | Jonathan marston |
| Richard Clifford | Ezekiel Eastman | William Eastman |
| Benjamin Cram | Jeremiah Brown | Nathanael Daviss |
| Samuel Tilton Cram | Joseph Brown | John Carr Juner |
| Josiah Robinson | Jeremiah Rowe | David Weed |
| Thomas Beede | Joseph Mudget Jun ^r | Benjamin Mudget |
| Joseph mudget | Jonathan Sanborn | Joseph Shaw |
| Biley Liford | Edward Tucke | Abrm gorden |
| Benjamin Judkins | Benjamin Brown | Eli Beede |
| Abraham Clark J ^r . | Nathan Brown Juner | Truorthy Marsh |
| Nathan Brown | John Tucke | Joseph Sanborn |
| Timothy Gordin | Abraham Clark | Stephen Fellows |
| Samuel Flanders | William taylor | Nicoles gorden Jun ^r |
| Phinehas Beede | Enoch Gorden | Benoni Gorden |
| Job Keniston | Samuel Shaw | Elisha Hook |
| Josiah Gorden | Samuel Marston | Abner Sanborn |
| Robert Row | Joseph Hilyard San- | |
| Coffin Sanborn | born | |

[4-84] [*List of Grievances—Petition for Relief.*]

To the Hon^{le} the General Court of the State of Newhampshire Siting at Concord on the first Wensday of June Instant—

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Poplin in Said State Sheweth that at a Legal meeting of Said inhabitants on thirsday y^e 1st Day of June Instant warned in Consequence of a Petition of a Great Number of the Respectable Inhabitants of Said town—to See if the inhabitants of Said town would Vote to Petition the Said Hon^{le} Court that measures Might be taken by Your honours that would Give Some Relief in the Present Public Destress

Voted a Committee of five Persons to Draw a list of Grev-

ances and Shew wherein the Same May be Remedied—ad-
 journed Said meeting to Monday y^e 5th Day of June Instant at
 4 O, Clock A. M; Said Committee meet on Said Business and
 agree to Report the following Particulars

1st truly Distressing is the Present Day when wee Consider
 the Great weight of Publick Burdens and the Extreame Scarcity
 of a Medium of trade oweing Much as wee Suppose to our
 Ports Being Shut up—it Brings to Mind that of an antient
 African Monarch Deliver the full tale of Bricks, but no Straw
 Shall be Given—

Therefore wee Believe it to be Necessary to the last Degree
 that the Said Ports Should be Immediately Opened to an Eu-
 ropean trade and Pray Your Honours to Effect the Same if it
 be within the limits of your Power

2^{dly} that whereas large Sums of Money appear to have Been
 voted by the General Court in time Past for trifeling Services—
 we Pray your honours to Be Cautious in Voteing Sums larger
 than a Reasonable Compensation for actual Services

3^{dly} whereas Great hinderances to our Courts and Many Un-
 just Representations are Made therein by those Men Called
 Lawyars therefore wee Pray Your Honours to Provide Meas-
 ures that May be Effectual to Prevent any further Mischief
 ariseing from their troubleing Said Court—Meet on Said Ad-
 journment Put to Vote to See if the town would Except the
 foregoing Report and Pased in the Positive—Put to Vote to
 See if the town would vote to Petition Said Hon^{le} Court to
 make a Bank of Paper Money on Such a Plan as Said Court
 Shall Judge Most Suitable to answer the Present Necessity and
 Pased in the Posetive Voted to transmit the foregoing Proceed-
 ings to the Said Hon^{le} Court and humbly Submit the Same to
 the Determination thereof

James Merrill
 Enoch Brown
 Thomas Chase

Stephen Fellows
 Ezek^l Godfrey

Committee

Signed in Behalf of
 Said town Poplin June
 y^e 5th 1786



APPENDIX.



APPENDIX.

[The four following documents relate to the service done in the French war by the Quakers of Dover, Durham, Madbury, Rochester, Barrington, and Somersworth:—ED.]

[12-1*]

To Benning Wentworth Esq^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of New Hampshire—and the Council and House of Representatives—

Wee Hereby Inform you that wee understand that there was an act of General Assembly of this Province that a number of men should be Raised by this Government & Employed in his Majestys Service & in Every Regiment where there are any Quakers Liable to be Impressed the Colonel or Chief officer is to hire into the Service So many men, as by the act, are Liable to be Impressed from the Quakers in their Room and Stead in a Due Proportion to the other part of the Regiment, now to make the Proportion, wee understand the Captains have numbered the People & Called a Great Number Quakers more than wee in Justice Can Call Quakers, and wee understand that out of that number which they Called Quakers there were Several men Enlisted and went into the Service if not their full Proportion and yet not one man Called a Quaker when their names was Returned—therefore we think there has not been Justice Done—Wee understand that there was two men out of that number they Called Quakers in Somersworth to go,—and wee think there was two Enlisted & went—and yet two men there was hired and wee that Live in Somersworth are taxed for that money over & above the Province tax, & Dover, & Durham are Liable to be tax^d after the same manner, which

* State Papers, Collection of 1880, in Secretary's office.

you well know that wee pay our Equal Proportion in full of all Charges of the government and this Laid on us over and above the Province tax and wee Look on it to be a Burthen Laid on us—therefore wee offer these things to your Serious Consideration, and wee Humbly Pray the Court that they in their wisdom would Relieve us—

By order & in behalf of our Monthly Meeting held at Cochecho in Dover the 18th Day of the 10th month 1760.

Joseph Austin Thomas Tuttle Samuel Austin

[In H. of Rep., Jan. 28, 1761, the foregoing petition was read, and a hearing ordered for the 5th of February following.—ED.]

[12-2] [*Men hired as Substitutes.*]

A List of Men Hired by me the Subscriber in the Room of Quakers for the Service of this Province agreeable to act for the year 1759—

For the Quakers in Dover Viz^t

| | | | |
|------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Benjamin Wingate | 9, 4, 0 | Aaron Ham | 9, 12, 0 |
| John Brewster | 9, 0, 0 | Ezra Kimball | 9, 10, 0 |
| Samuel Harford | 9, 10, 0 | William Hanson | 9, 12, 0 |
| Joshua Wills | 9, 4, 0 | Benjamin Twombly | 9, 0, 0 |
| Love Kenny | 7, 10, 0 | | |

9— 82, 2, 0

For the Quakers in Somersworth Viz^t

| | | | |
|------------|---------|----------------|----------|
| Paul Libby | 9, 4, 0 | George Gerrish | 9, 0, 0 |
| | | 2— | 18, 4, 0 |

For the Quakers in Rochester—

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Mark Leighton | 9, 12, 0 | Joseph Bussell | 9, 4, 0 |
| | | 2— | 18, 16, 0 |

For the Quakers in Barrington—

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| William Evins | 9, 12, 0 | Joseph Libbey | 9, 0, 0 |
| | | 2— | 18, 12, 0 |

For the Quakers in Madbury—

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Isaac Hanson | 9, 10, 0 | Reubin Chestlee | 9, 4, 0 |
| Joseph Bunker | 9, 0, 0 | Benj ^a Gerrish | 9, 16, 0 |
| | | 4— | 37, 10, 0 |

For the Quakers in Durham—

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|---------------|-----------|
| Timothy Roberts | 9, 4, 0 | Aaron Hanson | 9, 4, 0 |
| David Cops | 9, 12, 0 | John Weymouth | 8, 16, 0 |
| | | 4— | 36, 16, 0 |

23 men 212, 0, 0

[12-3]

Account of the men that inlisted in the Kings Service In Somersworth—

Isaac Hanson in the year 56 & 57 & 59

John Hanson in the year 59 & 60

Samuel Horn inlisted and hired a man in his Room and went himself in the year 60

Robert Hussey inlisted and hired a man in his room Barns year 55 and inlisted and went himself, and his son went in the year 59 & 60

Account of the men that Inlisted in the Sarvice in Dover—

Mark Giles Enlisted and hired W^m Watson in his Room

Richar Cook In the year 60

John Cook In the year 60

Jacob Sawyer^s Sarvant John Lain 58-59-60

Thomas Hanson^s Sarvant Joshua Wells 59-60

Moses Sawyer hired Abraham Johnson & his Sarvent Cle^t meeder Went In the year 58-59

John Cloutman In the year 60—

Nathaniel Austin & Sarvant won year

Thomas Canneys Sarvent 1 year

Thomas Laightons 2 Sons Gidon & Theodore year 59 and to the amount of 7 years in the holl

Nathaniel Lamus in the year 59

James Nute in the year 58

And Paul Nute in the year 59-60

Joseph Runnels his Sarvent Ichabod Busel 2 years

Sam Starbird^s Sarvent W^m tomson 1 year

Sam Drew went & Died in the Sarvis In 59

Tho Ransom He has bin four years wone year in 59

Nathaniel Hanson Went 3 years won years in 59

W^m Jenkins his Sarvent Jeams Meloney 1 year

Amos Pinkham went 3 year won year in 59

Sam Young went won year

Moses Young went in the year 58-59-60

John Young went in the year 60

Joshua Cromet went in the year 59

Edward Whitehouse^s Sarvent Jeams Thomson went in the year 58-59-60

Reuben Chesley & Sons has bin as much as to amount to 7 years in the holl

Durham—

Enoch Bunker went in the years 58-59-60

Joseph Bunker went in the year 59

Nicholas Tuttle went 2 years and his Son Stoten went in the years 57-58-59-60

Rochester—

Solomon Laighton went 2 years

John Nute went 1 year

Solomon Pirkens went 1 year

In Somersworth—

Edward & Sam^l Allen Paid £33,0.0 old tenor

Jobe Hussey Paid— 12,0,0

In Dover—

John Varney Paid £16,0,0

Timothy Robertson Joseph Bickford & Benjamin Roberts
hired Love Caney in the year 59 in Dover.

[12-1]

In H. of Rep., Feb. 6th 1761, This petition being read & the parties heard fully thereon—Voted—That the prayer thereof be granted & that the Taxes ordered by the Treasurers warrant to be assessed on the people called Quakers in the Towns of Dover Durham Somersworth Rochester & Barrington in the year 1760 be Remitted & that the same be added to the province Tax of s^d Towns for the year 1761 & that Jon^a Lovewell Esq^r be a Committee of this house to joyn with such as may be appointed by the Hon^{ble} Council to prepare a Bill accordingly.

A Clarkson Clark.

In Council Feb. 7, 1761, After hearing the Partys read & concurred

Theodore Atkinson Secy.

[12-7] [*Copy of Letter from Col. Theodore Atkinson to Mr. Fisher, in London, December, 1768.*]

Portsm^o N. H. Decemb^r 13 1768.

D^r Sir—

Agreeable to promise I now propose to give you sundry Hints relative to the late Bounds fixed by his Majesty to the Governmen^t of N. York & in the first Place I take for granted that you are fully acquainted that the Council of Plymouth by Several Grants conveyed to John Mason Esq all that Tract of Land between a Line running West^{ly} at the Distance of three miles North of Merrimack river & Piscataqua river & to be Bound^d by a Line at Sixty miles from the Sea—Mr. Mason the Grantee in the year (I think) 1635 undertook the Settlem^t of his Grant & expended great Sums at least £30,000 Sterling before he Died, he left a Will & bequeathed the Premises to his

Grandson by his Daughter then married to Mr. Tufton (of the Family of the now Earle of ——) & intailed the same &c—the Heir being an Infant at the Death of the Grandfather did not come over to this Plantation til many years after the Death of the Grandfather nor til he came of age when he arrived he found the Testators Tennants (with a mixture of Strangers) settled on the Land claiming the same as their own Property & having settled the Lands for near 10 or 12 miles back from the Sea & they being too numerous Comfortably to subsist without a regular Govern^t Courts, Majestrates, &c—the Mass^a took them into their Jurisdiction & exercised authority over the whole of Masons Grant & this without any regular authority till Masons heirs Complained to his Majesty, when upon a hearing the Mass. Disclaimed all right of Soil & Govern^t from y^e 3 miles north of Merrimack to Piscataqua river the King then assum^d the Govern^t & appointed a President & Council who were to call General Assemblys &c &c—from this time arose Disputes about the Boundarys & constantly increasing as the Lands were settling—In this Troublesome situation (in my Time) it remained at least forty years when the King upon repeated solicitations Constituted by special Conditions a Court to be held near the Dispute with Power to hear both Parties & Determine the Dispute ab^t the Boundaries this opened the first Prospect of Peace we had & of Putting an end to this Tedious Dispute you^l remember Gov^r Belcher was Govern^r of Both Provinces at this Time & was by the Constitution of the Court to adjourn the respective Gen^l Assemblys to such Places as should be near the Court—accordingly the Court met at Hampton the Mass^a Assembly at Salisbury & N Hamp^r at Hampton the Commissioners were 3 from Nova-scotia 3 from Rhode Island & 3 from *New York* the eldest Councelors in each—they received our respective Demands & entered Judgment from which both Parties appealed to his majesty in Council where Judgment was rendred & were in that Parte that relates to our Present Purpose was to run *Due West cross Merrimack river & to extend til it met his Majests other Govern^t* & this was to be (as every Person must see) the Dividing line between the Contending Parties—& *this Line was agreeable to his Majestys Instructions to Govern^r Belcher run & marked til it ends 20 miles easterly of Hudson river* & when Govern^r B. Wentworth came over his (85) Instruction recites the whole affair & directs the Govern^r under the Pain of his highest Displeasure & of being removed from his Govern^t to take especial Care that his Majestys Command in this behalf be executed in the most effectual & most expeditious manner to the end that his Majestys good Intentions for promoting the Peace & Quiet of the s^d Province

may not be frustrated or Delayed &c—now *north of this Dividing Line was we think expressly within New Hampshire* that is we imagined this Government was not [to] be reduced by narrower Lines the Commission to Gov^r B. Wentworth gives these as the Bounds of Jurisdiction within which he was enabled & Impowered to grant all the ungranted Lands He pursued this Commission & Granted many of the Lands adjoining to a north Line at 20 miles eastern distance from Hudson river & many of those Townships settled & settling when *unexpectedly His Majesty directed that the Line between New York and this Prov^e should be the Western Bank of Connecticut river* his majesty must certainly be unacquainted with the Geography of that Part of the Continent I think this will appear from the following Particulars

1. Because this Dispute was commenced & carryed into Judgment to settle the Disputed Line of Governm^t & Property & therefore may be rationally supposed to end at the same Point Namely, his Majestys *other Governm^{ts}* otherwise it would not be a Divisional Line

2. The odd shape it will give both to New York & N. Hamp^r for if you Consider that New York is to be bounded by a north Line 20 miles East of Hudsons river beginning at the southerly or South Westerly Corner of Connecticut then running on the head of that Governm^t til comes to the corner of the Mass^a then following that Line til it comes to y^e north or North Westerly Corner thereof then Instead of pursuing the North Line afores^d it now turns off & runs East by our Divisional Line to Connecticut river which is about 35 miles & then to be bounded on *Connecticut river* as that runs which in course up the river *Trends so much to the East that it runs into the County of York & is there a considerable river before Sr Ferdinando Gorges Pattent or Grant is run more than half the 120 miles from the Sea*—this will open another Dispute with the Mass^a & N. York at 6 or 7 Hundred miles Distance from their Capital so that by there late Bound of New York coming East to Connecticut river this Province will be too small to support the charge of a Governm^t & New York as much too large to carry on affairs of Governm^t with Comfort or Propriety—as the Country is now Settled on Connecticut river the Inhabitants have no way to their Capitall nor can hereafter have any road but through the whole Prov^e of New Hamp^r the whole of the Mass^a & the whole of Connecticut Governm^{ts} before they arrive within fifty miles of the City of York a hardship this that must forever render all Intentions of Settling the Land abortive—but then if it is considered that N. Hamp^r supposing the Tract between Connecticut river & the North Line drawn from the Mass^a north west Corner suppos-

ing this Tract be part of N. Hamp^r the Govern^r with advice of Council granted great Part thereof into Townships which were most of them settling with Harmony & Courage—These Grants were made agreeable to Gov. B. Wentworths Commission & Instruction and also exactly conformable to a Judicious Determination of His late Majesty in Council on a dispute between the Mass^a & New Hamp^r relating to the Garrison Fort Dummer a Small Fort built by the Mass^a on the West side of Connecticut river but on running the Divisional Line fell into this Province & a Dispute arose which Prov^e should garrison it this was Determined by his Majesty

[The document from which the above is copied is in Secretary Atkinson's handwriting, and docketed "Copy to M^r Fisher in London Decem^r 1768, N^o 18 A."—Ed.]

[The following is the proclamation referred to by Dr. Bouton in a note at the foot of page 475, Vol. X, State Papers. I have since found it, and placed it in the volume entitled "State Papers, Vermont Controversy," page 336.—Ed.]

State of New }
Hampshire } A Proclamation.

Whereas a number of Towns, in the Counties of Cheshire & Grafton in this State, did at the commencement of the American Revolution, by a full Representation, by their Delegates in the Congress Assembled on that occasion, unite with the Delegates from the several Towns in the other Counties, in the then Colony, now State of New Hamp^r in an application to the United States in Congress Assembled; requesting leave to take up Government; and by their Advice, did accordingly concur in forming & adopting a Constitution & Plan for the Governing this State, during the contest with Great Britain; and afterwards, affected to join themselves to a body of People, dwelling on the western side of Connecticut River, claiming to be a seperate & independent State, by the Name of Vermont; and have since their Union as aforesaid, refused submission to the Authority & Government of New Hamp^r, or to contribute their proportionable part of Taxes & supplies, for prosecuting the War.

And Whereas the United States in Congress Assembled, always have, and still do, in all requisitions for Men, Monies & Stores of ever kind, calculate the Quota of New Hamp^r according to the number of Inhabitants, contained on the territory under its Jurisdiction, at the time of the revolution; And

as the said Congress, by the Confederation, particularly, the first, and second Articles thereof, guarantee to the several States, that they shall severally retain their "sovereignty, freedom & independence; and every power jurisdiction and right, which was not by the Confederation delegated to the United States in Congress Assembled," And also, did enter into a "firm League of friendship with each other, for their common defence, binding themselves, to assist each other, against any force offered to, Attacks made upon them, or any of them, on Account of Religion, sovereignty, trade" &c; And likewise, by their Resolution of the seventh and eighth of August seventeen hundred eighty One, do expressly confine the New Hamp^r Grants & State called Vermont, to the west side of Connecticut River—and Resolve in the words following (Viz.) "That, in case Congress shall Recognize the Independence of said People of Vermont, they will consider, all the Lands belonging to New Hamp^r & New York respectively, without the limits of Vermont aforesaid, as coming within the mutual Guarantee of Territory contained in the Articles of Confederation; & that the United States, will accordingly Guarantee such Lands, and the Jurisdiction over the same, against any claims or encroachments from the Inhabitants of Vermont aforesaid," And as by a following Resolution, passed on the twenty first of August A. D. 1781, They do in the most explicit and peremptory terms, declare their "fixed purpose, to adhere to the guaranteeing of the States of New Hamp^r & New York, as contained in the Resolution" above recited, making it the preliminary of admitting Vermont to independence & the federal Union.

Yet notwithstanding, that New Hampshire hath at all times had the undoubted right as aforesaid, to the jurisdiction over the Towns in the Counties of Cheshire and Grafton; she hath foreborn fully to enforce the same, in expectation that time & lenient methods, would awaken their attention, conciliate their affection & dispose them to consult their interest, by peaceably acceding to her rightful Authority, And at the same time, New Hamp^r hath been in expectation, that the Hon^{ble} the Congress, would finally determine, respecting its claim to the Jurisdiction on the western side, of the River Connecticut; but while waiting for this event, so earnestly to be wished, certain persons on the eastern side of the s^d River, who in some instances at least, have appeared unfriendly to the Revolution; and who may therefore, be suspected of the most dangerous designs against the United States, have taken advantage of the unsettled State of things in that Territory; and under the pretext of joining Vermont, and establishing the Authority thereof, have openly & avowedly resisted the Authority of New Hamp^r;

and proceeded to molest some of the good Citizens thereof, to threaten & injure others for the supposed crime, of denying & resisting their assumed Authority; and even to drive them from their habitations.

Therefore, the Council and House of Representatives, in General Court Assembled, have found themselves reduced to the painfull necessity, of ordering such an Armed force into that quarter, as may effectuallly protect the civil Magistrates, acting under their Authority in performing the duties of their respective Offices, and in carrying the good & wholsom Laws of this State into execution, for the restoration of order, and the protection of all their good Citizens, And they do hereby solemnly declare, that in pursuing this necessary, tho' disagreeable measure, they have no other Object in view, than the preserving & restoring the public peace.

And whereas, the Authority of New Hampshire earnestly wish, the late glorious struggle for American Liberty, now apparently approaching to an happy issue, may not be tarnished by civil dissensions; they hereby call on and exhort the Inhabitants of the said Counties of Cheshire and Grafton, to keep a watchfull Eye on the insidious Arts, of factious & evil minded persons, who to serve their Ambitious Views, and disturb the general Peace, would sacrifice their best interests, And to convince the People of those Counties, of the mildness and lenity of that Government, to which they wish them to return, they hereby engage to all persons therein, who may have accepted Offices under the s^d State of Vermont, and who under the pretended Authority thereof, have imprisoned; or by any means Molested, hindered or disturbed, the public Officers of New Hamp^r, or broke the Peace thereof, that they shall receive full indemnity therefor, so far as the State is concerned, on the condition, that within forty days, from and after, the issuing this Proclamation, they repair to some Magistrate of the State of New Hampshire, and who hath not joined Vermont; and in his presence subscribe a declaration in the words following viz. We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, do acknowledge and declare, that the State of New Hampshire doth, and of right ought, to extend to the western bank of Connecticut River; and that we will demean ourselves in future, as peaceable Citizens of said State.

And in case any person or persons, shall from and after the first day of February next, presume to disturb or molest the exercise of the lawful Authority of New Hampshire, or to exercise, aid or abet, the pretended Authority of Vermont afore'd within those Counties, he or they, shall be demed Enemies to this, and the United States & delt with accordingly.

State of } In the House of Representatives Jan^r 12th
 New Hamp^r } 1782 Upon reading and considering the fore-
 going Proclamation Voted that it be received & accepted and
 that two hundred and fifty copies thereof be immediately print-
 ed and sent to the Several towns within this State—

Sent up for Concurrence

John Dudley—Speaker P: T.

In Council same day read & conc^d

E Thompson Secy

[12-8] [Maj. John Gilman's Petition.]

To His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq^r Cap^t General
 & Commander in Chief in & Over His Majestys Province of
 New Hampshire the Hon^{ble} His Majestys Council and House
 of Representatives June 20th 1757—

The Humble Petition of Major John Gilman of Coll. Me-
 serve's regm^t in behalf of the Soldiers of s^d regiment now in
 his Majestys Service under the Command of Lieut. Colonel
 Goffe—at Fort Edward—Shews, That the said Troops were
 ordered to March from N^o 4 (where with much fatigue they
 had arrived) to Fort Edward and in their Way rested a while
 at Albany Flatts from whence by order of Said Colonel & the
 Request of the Captains Emery Moony & Bayley your Peti-
 tioner Came to Represent the Condition & Circumstances of
 said Troops which are greatly Fatigued & Dispirited by Such
 a Long & unexpected March & want of Necessary Supplies—
 That there is need of a Tent for the Officers of Each Company
 & one for Every Six Soldiers—Kettles, Cantoons, & Beds
 for the Sick—An allowance of Rum & Sugar—Store of Shirts,
 Waste Coats Shoes & Stockings—Some farther allowance for
 fresh Provision—Provision for their Relief in Case the Small
 Pox Should Prevail & Spread among them it being very Gen-
 eral at Albany & in all Probability at Fort Edward wither they
 are Bound—Billeting from the time of Enlisting till they
 Marched—An Armourer a Doctor a Chaplain—A Baker An
 allowance for the Officers Table—Money to pay the Extraor-
 dinary Charges in Marching up to Fort Edward & other Inci-
 dental & Contingent Charges—

These being the most Material Articles of which the Said
 Troops stand in Great Necessity Your Petitioner Humbly
 Prays Pursuant to his order That the Premises may be Con-
 sidered that Speedy Relief therein may be Provided that the
 Said Troops may not be Dispirited and their Present uneasiness
 & Discontent may be Removed—And your Petition^r shall Ever
 Pray &c—

John Gilman

[12-9] [Letter from Col. Seth Warner, 1777.]

Manchester July the 20th 1777

Gent^ln—

The Delaying of the Militia from your State and the Necessity of help from Some Quarter Imidiatly to assist us, oblidges us to again Send to you for to Forward them on with all Possible Dispatch, by all we Can Learn from our Scouts & men Coming from the Enemy as well as by Prisoners taken from them, that the Number who are now at Castleton & Destined to march Down through the Newhampshire Grants So Call^d are about 4000, they are Suposed to march this Day and with Cannon the number of Troops we at Present have Collected Dont Exceed 500, and unless we have speedy help, (should the Enemy approach) we must be obliged to Retreat before them, and Leave them to Possess a Great Part of what we have—you may Conclude that the Frontier will be where there is a body of Troops Sufficient to Stand the Enemy—all are Desired to Bring kittles & utentials for Cooking—this Express is to alarm the Inhabitants as he Goes through, my order from the General for Calling upon your State was Inclosed in the Former Express.

I am Gent^ln with Due Respect your obedient Sv^t

Seth Warner Col^o

In Council of War—

To the Genl: officers Comanding the militia in the Several Countys of Newhampshire State or Committee of Safety

Goff's Town July 23^d 1777

These may certify that Richard Coughlan of Chesterfield has Deliver'd an Express to me sent by Col^o Seth Warner bearin Date the 20th Ins^t s^d express being to be forwarded to Gen^l John Stark he being on his way to Charlestown—N^o 4 I have taken a Copsy of the same—

Daniel Moor Col:

To Carrying the within Mentioned Express, for myself & Horse &c Notifying the Militia 5 Days a 18 p^r Day

Chesterfield Feb^y 3^d 1786

Richard Coughlan

Read & referred to the Committee on Eph^m Baldwins Petition

Attest John Calfe

[*Roll of Capt. William Barron's Company, 1776.*]

[In the Adjutant-General's Report, 1866, vol. 2, pp. 289 and 290, in the roll of officers of Col. Joshua Wingate's regiment, it seems that one company was omitted. This fact has been brought to light recently through researches made by Hon. George C. Gilmore, of Manchester, a descendant of Lieut. Whitefield Gilmore, who found the original muster-roll of the company in the Adjutant-General's office, and caused it be published in a circular. The following is copied from the original roll:—ED.]

Muster and pay roll of men raised for Canada, out of Col. Daniel Moore's regiment, mustered and paid by Moses Kelley, July 22, 1776.

William Barron, Lyndeborough, Capt.
 Whitefield Gilmore, Bedford, 1st Lieut.
 Stephen Bartlett, Pembroke, 2^d Lieut.
 David Scobey, New Boston, Ensign
 David Gregory, Bedford, Drummer.

Bedford—George Orr, Samuel Fugard, Patrick Murphy, James Steel, Jonah Tirrel, William Karr.

Goffstown—George Little, Joshua Bell, Benjamin Walker, James Man, William Houston, Samuel Smith, Timothy Johnson, Joseph Fyence, John Todd, Matthew Kennedy, Josiah Wood.

Francestown—John Brown, John Nichols, William Montgomery, William Brown, Robert Butterfield.

Lyndeborough—John Reynolds, Isaac Dey, Samuel Stevens, James Barnam, John Rowe, Philip Fletcher, Reuben Batchelder, Nathan Batchelder, Peter Russell, Asahel Stiles, Hezekiah Hamblet, Joseph Allinwood, John Carkin, John Bosee, Samuel Butterfield.

New Boston—Tobias Butler, Sam^l Patterson, James Cochran, Thomas Langdell, Joseph Haselton, John Smith, Thomas Smith, James Clark, Sam^l Spiller, Abner Hogg, Alexander Walker, Robert Walker, Robert Patterson.

Dunbarton—John Jameson, Thomas Huse, John Mills, Asa Burnam, Jacob Sargent Colby, Nathan Carr, Samuel Colby.

Pembroke—Samuel Kimball, Nathaniel Lakeman, David Frye, Benjamin Hagget, Levi Carter, Asa Forster, Junr, James Head, Jonathan Elliot, Ephraim Garvin, Samuel Kelly, Thomas Stickney, Jeremiah Abbott, William Knox, Nath^l Smith, Eliphalet Connor, Sam^l M^cConnel, John Lauder, John Quimby, John Cook, Eliphalet Norris, John Knox, Phedris M^cCutten,

John Cochran, James Knox, Joseph Cochran, Nath^l Martin, John Beten, Benj^a Norise, John Jenness, James Martin.

Society Land—Thomas English.

☞ August 22^d. I the subscriber agreeable to appointment of the Council & Assembly, have mustered the within named persons, Soldiers gone in Col. Joshua Wingate's Regiment to Canada & paid them the several & respective sums set against their Names in this Roll they all being good able bodied & effective men.

Moses Kelly Muster Master.

[*Documents relative to Charter Records.*]

[When Gov. John Wentworth left the province of New Hampshire, he took away four manuscript volumes containing the records of the charters, and grants of lands, ferries, etc., made by himself and his predecessors. After peace was declared, at the request of the legislature Gen. John Sullivan opened a correspondence with him relative to their restoration, which, as the following correspondence will show, was successful. The books are now in the office of the secretary of state, and are frequently consulted.—ED.]

[12-10]

Portsmouth, Jan^{ry} 9th 1788

Sir—

I have the honor to Inclose for the Information of the honorable House Governor Wentworths Letter to me of the 26th of november last in answer to mine written at the Request of the General Court some time since ; requesting him to forward the Books of Records to the hon^{ble} Daniel Rindge Esq^r. Those Books are now in this Town and I would submit to the wisdom of the House whether it would not be adviseable to appoint a Committee to Inspect the Books before They are received or received for by me—

I should do great Injustice if I neglected to Inform the General Court that since I had the honor of their appointment to obtain the Records Mr Rindge has used every possible Exertion to assist in procuring them

I have the honor to be very respectfully
sir your most obed^t serv^t

Jn^o Sullivan

The Hon^{ble} the Speaker of the
House of Representatives

[12-11] [Governor Wentworth's Letter.]

Halifax Nova Scotia 26th Nov^r 1787

Sir,—

I have had the honor to receive your Excellency's letter, requesting me to deliver to Daniel Rindge Esq., the Books of records that belonged to the late Province of New-Hampshire, which are now in my possession; Previous to my late official absence from this place, to which, I returned the 19th instant, I had not any proper opportunity to convey these books; I, with great pleasure, have this day entrusted them to the care of Gregory Townsend Esq: a very respectable Gentleman of this place, who takes passage on board the Brigantine Prince William Henry, for Boston, where M^r Townsend will deliver the package to M^r Rindge, on his arrival. There are four volumes in large folio, of the Provincial Records, and one volume folio, of the Clerks office, for the County of Grafton. I request your Excellency wou'd transmit a Certificate and Declaration, specifying my having delivered these Records to the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire, in conformity to the seventh article of the treaty of Peace. Permit me to assure you, Sir, that I shall gladly embrace any occasion to approve myself with great truth and respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient
and very humble Serv

J. Wentworth

President Sullivan

[12-12] [Action of the Legislature.]

State of } In the house of Representatives Jan^r 31^t
N: Hampshire } 1788—

The Committee for examining the Books of Record returned to this State by John Wentworth Esq^r late Governor, Reported that the books referred to (viz) books of Record of Charters &c N^o 1, N^o 2, N^o 3 and N^o 4, and one book of Records belonging to the Inferior Court of the County of Grafton, are in good order and have been carefully kept—

Whereupon, Voted that his Excellency the President be desired to receipt for said Books, and that they be lodged in the Secretarys office—

Sent up for Concurrence—

Tho^s Bartlett Speaker

In Senate the same day read & concurred

J. Pearson Secy

[The following, relative to the boundaries of several towns in Grafton county, is published for the reason that inquiry has frequently been made at the secretary's office about the matter. The copies are made from the original documents, which may be found in Vol. 12, collection of 1880.—ED.]

[12-13]

State of New Hampshire } To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Assembly Convened—

The petition of the Subscribers being Agents for the Proprietors of sundry Townships within the County of Grafton in s^d State Humbly Sheweth that the several Townships of Lime, Dorchester, Cockermouth, Plymouth, Orford, Wentworth, Rumney, Campton, Piermont, Warren, Trecothick, Thornton, Haverhill & Coventry, were granted by Charters, to Contain certain Quantities of Land, respectively, described by Length of Line, and point of Compass in said Charters mention^d depending the one upon the other—And that the same were never ascertained, by any proper metes & bounds, named in said Charters. And that the said Townships have never been laid out by any other Authority, than each Set of proprietors laying out their own respective Townships. And that your petitioners conceive that there is Land sufficient if properly laid out to satisfy each Charter—Altho by means of each Township being laid out by its own respective proprietors and by mistakes in their measuring the length of lines & in the points of Compass they run, also by means of some of the above mentioned Charters interfering with each other some Townships enroach several miles upon others—And some Townships that should be six miles square, have not more than about four miles square left for them; and that scarce one of said Townships can ascertain where their true boundaries ought to be, or what, or how much Land each respective Township ought to tax towards the public Charges—Neither can they lay out their Lands into lots & enjoy them without Danger of endless Lawsuits—

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray, that Ebenezer Thomson, Joseph Badger, Ebenezer Smith Levi Dearborn & John Smith Esq^r May be appointed (by an Act of the General Court for this purpose) a Committee to survey & lay out, by sufficient metes & Bounds all the Townships aforesaid, or so many of them as have signed this petition—according to Charters and to make return thereof into the Secretary's office and that their surveys & returns of them or the major part of them may be binding upon all parties—

Provided that no settler shall be disturbed in the possession

of the Lot he has improved upon under any of the Townships aforesaid—But that the proprietors whose land he has wrongfully taken up, shall be satisfied out of the unimproved Lands of the proprietors under whom any such settler respectively settled and that this survey & return may be made at the Expence of the proprietors represented in this petition—

And your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c—
December 2^d 1779—

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Daniel Brainerd | } | Agents for Rumney |
| Charles Clark | | |
| Alexander Craig | | |
| Edwin Everett | | |
| Mich ^l Dwyer | | |
| Enoch Page | } | Agents for Wentworth and Warren |
| W ^m Hacket | | |
| Sam ^l Emerson | } | Agents for Plymouth |
| Samuel Livermore | | |
| Moses Dow | | |
| John Holmes | } | Agents for Campton |
| Samuel Holmes | | |
| Rich ^d Jenness | } | Agents for Piermont |
| Jon ^a Moulton | | |
| Jon ^a Moulton | } | Agents for Orford |
| Jos Moulton Jun ^r | | |
| | } | Agents for Lime |
| | } | Agents for Haverhil |

[In H. of Rep., June 20, 1780, a hearing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[12-14]

At a Convention of Committees from the prop^s of Townships in the Countys of Grafton and Strafford in Order to adopt some measures to settle the Lines & boundaries of said Townships, held at Rumney by adjournment 2 Dec^r 1779

Voted—Sam^l Livermore Esq^r Phillips White Esq^r & Cap^t William Hackett or either of them be Agents or Agent to prefer their petition to the Gen^l Court & see the matter carried into Execution

Extract from the minutes— Attest Moses Dow^l Clerk

June 1, 1780

Convention adjourned to 3 Thursday in Aug^t next at 1 P. M.

[12-15] [*Petition of Proprietors of Canaan.*]

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire in general assembly convened at Exeter—

The Petition of the proprietors of Canaan in the county of Grafton in State aforesaid unto this Honor^e Court Humbly Shews—

That your Petitioners Hold their Lands by a Charter under the great Seal of the late Province of New Hampshire there being the Test of Benning Wentworth Esq^r then Governor of Said Province that the Said Charter Describes the bounds of said township to begin at the Northeast corner of Lebanon and to run South 58 deg. East being the same Course with the North line of Enfield as it was then supposed to be, but upon Surveying the Town agreeable to the words of the Charter the s^d Survey run in upon your Petioners Grant near a mile which much surprised them, as the then north line of Enfield was the reputed South line of Canaan, upon examining into the mistake, your Petitioners found there was a gore of land lying on the North Side of Grantham between s^d Grantham & Enfield which was not claimed by the proprietors of Grantham which Land youer Petioners found ought not be a gore but was occasioned by a literal Error of the person who drew the charter of said Enfield, by writing Sixty Eight Degrees instead of fifty Eight Deg^s for as it now stands the lines do not any ways comport with the other Descriptive Parts of the Grants, and interferes with and confounds all the lines of the adjoining Towns, but by Correcting said Error from Sixty Eight to fifty Eight Deg^s the whole is Reconciled and makes the charter Uniform which literal Error is so very obvious that it is to be seen at the first Glance

The petitioners beg leve further to Suggest that thare are a very considerable number of peaceable inhabitants now Settled under the Charter of Canaan on the lands so erroneously included in the charter of Enfield, which unless said literal Error shall be rectified by your Honors Speedy Determination on the Premises may ocasion a variety of Distressing Lawsuits the natural consequences of which will undoubtedly be to increase a spirit of discontent that has for a long time retarded the Settlement & Culture of new lands, and being injurious to the State in General—

Youer Petitioners humbly pray that this Hon^e Court would appoint a committee to look into your Petitioners Case & to make such Report thereon as may be found necessary to relive your Petitioners by ordering said literal mistake to be Rectified, which will make the former Surveys of all the adjacent Town

appear correct and correspondent with the Bounds thereof which Determination if your Honours should think best, your Petitioners presume will not be opposed by the Proprietors of Enfield, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Exeter January 5th 1781

George Harris } In Behalf of
the Proprietors

[In the H. of Rep., Jan. 6, 1781, a hearing was ordered for the next session.—ED.]

[12-16] [*Report of Committee Appointed March 28, 1781.*]

Whereas by an act of the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire Passed on the 28th Day of March Last Jeremiah Page Esq^r was appointed with us the subscribers a Committee to Settle the Lines and Boundaries of the Townships of Enfield alias Relhan and those lines and Boundaries of the Townships of Canaan and Grafton which are or may be Contiguous thereto or Dependant thereupon— Pursuant to said appointment the Subscribers have attended said Business and by and with the Consent of all the Parties have performed said Service in the following manner viz. Beginning at the South-erly Corner Bound of the Township of Lebanon which is the South Westerly Corner of the Township of Enfield alias Relhan Commonly Call^d Sumners Bounds and Running South fifty eight Degrees East Six miles and three fourth of a mile to a Hemlock tree Mark^d H G. W C &c thence Running North forty Degrees and forty five minits East about five miles and half to a Spruce tree marked as aforesaid which is the Dividing Line between Enfield and Grafton and is the North Easterly Corner of Enfield alias Relhan and the South easterly Corner of Canaan thence Running North fifty Eight Degrees West Seven Miles and Sixty Rods to a burch Stump which is also the North easterly Corner of Lebanon & the South westerly Corner of Canaan thence by the Township of Lebanon to the bounds first mentioned—

Boscawen July 9th 1781

Henry Gerrish } Com^{ee}
William Chamberlain }

[12-17] [*Convention of the Township Agents.*]

In Convention of the Agents or Committees of the proprietors of Piermont, Orford, Warren, Wentworth, Rumney, Plymouth & Campton that Signed the Petition to the Gen^l Court for Set-

ting the lines & bounds of said Towns voted That whereas the Time is near Expired that the Courts Com^{tee} agreeable to the Act of the Gen^l Court are to make return into the Secretarys office of the Settlement of the bounds and lines of said Towns and as the same cannot be Completed before the said Time is expired—Therefore Col^o Jonathan Moulton Esq^r is appointed in behalf of this Convention to Petition the Gen^l Court to Extend the Time one Year more from the time already perfix'd by the Gen^l Court agreeable to said Act—

Plymouth 25th Sep^r 1781

Sam^l Emerson } Clerk of
s^d Convention

[12-18] [*Jonathan Moulton's Memorial.*]

State of New Hamp^r—

To the Hon^{ble} the Council & House of Representatives of the State of New Hamp^r in Gen^l Assembly convened & now setting at Exeter in s^d State—

Humbly sheweth Jonathan Moulton of Hampton in the County of Rocking^m & State afores^d Esq^r in behalf of a number of Agents from the proprietors of the Townships of Piermont Orford Warren Wentworth, Rumney, Plymouth & Campton—

That An Act of the Court afores^d intituled “an Act to survey & establish the bound of sundry Towns in the County of “Grafton & Strafford” limited the time of doing the business by said Act intended to be done to the twenty seventh day of Oct^o last past which proved to be too short a time for the Committee by said Act appointed to do said business—

Therefore your petitioner in his said Capacity prays your Honors that a further time of one year from the said 27th Day of Oct^o last may be allowed for the purposes in said Act mentioned & that he may have liberty to bring in a Bill accordingly—

And your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c—
Nov^r 8th 1781

Jona Moulton

[In H. of Rep., Nov. 14, 1781, the foregoing request was granted.—ED.]

[12-19] [*Proprietors' Petition, 1783.*]

State of New } To the Honourable the Council and House
Hampshire } of Representatives for said State—

The Petition of the Subscribers Agents for the Proprietors of

Sundry Towns in the County of Grafton Humbly Sheweth that some time passed, an Act was Passed by the Authority of s^d State appointing a certain Committee therein named to Settle the lines & Bounds of Sundry Towns as aforesaid, viz Plymouth, Campton, Rumney, Warren, Wentworth, Piermont & Orford, which Act having been lengthened out, is now near Expiring, That the said Committee has begun, Proceeded and Accomplished the greater part of the said Business of their appointment and would have finished the same had it not been for the Extraordinary difficulty of the season being exceeding Rainey and Wet, and difficult working in the Woods, and the finishing the same will be of great advantage to the Towns aforesaid, we therefore pray that an order may Pass the Authority of the State for the further lengthening out said Act for such further Time as Your Honours shall think sufficient in order that the aforesaid Business may be legally accomplished, and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray

In Convention of the Agents of said Proprietors held at Durham this 24th of October 1783

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | } | Agents for Campton |
| Moses Little | | |
| Attest—Sam ^l Emerson } Clerk of s ^d Convention } | } | Sam ^l Emerson } Plymouth |
| | | Enoch Page } Warren & W ^m Hacket } Wentworth |

[12-20]

[*Proprietors' Petition, 1793.*]

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire—

The Memorial of the Underwritten humbly sheweth—That your Memorialists having Concerns in the several Townships of Bath Lyman Concord, alias Gunthwaite Franconia & Lincoln in the County of Grafton, and finding frequent Disputes & Altercations among the New Settlers of said Townships about their Boundaries much to the detriment of their Interest, as well as greatly retarding the Settlement of that part of the County wishing to have all the Outlines of these Townships well ascertained & being very desirous of removing these Difficultys as speedily as possible—Do now request of the Honorable Court a Committee may be appointed to join Committees from Each of those Townships before mentioned as may chuse to appoint them, for the purpose of perambulating their several Bounds, & if practicable so to adjust them as that they may all be duely settled & confirmed by this Honorable Court to prevent future Strife & Altercation when at the same time may

be run the closing Lines on any unlocated Lands in that Quarter—w^{ch} will be most undoubtedly of public Utility—

The Expences of this Business y^{or} Memorialists expect may & will be defrayed in due proportion by the proprietors of the several Townships or agreeable to the Directions they may receive from the Honorable Court—All which is humbly submitted—

New Hampshire
Concord June 13th 1793

Jonas Minot by his Son
Sam^l Minot
John Hurd

[12-21] [*Report of Committee on Boundaries.*]

Pursuant to an Act of the Council & Assembly of the State of New Hampshire passed the 27th day of October 1780 appointing us the Subscribers a Committee to survey & lay out by proper Metes & Bounds the following Townships in said State viz Rumney, Wentworth, Warren, Plymouth, Campton, Piermont & Orford, We have carefully attended said Bussiness and proceeded agreeably to the directions in said Act, and laid out said Towns in Manner following viz *Orford*, beginning at a Pine Tree by Connecticutt River being the Bound between Lime & Orford thence South sixty three degrees East six Miles and three hundred rods to a dry Spruce Stub: Thence North Forty one degrees East five Miles and three quarters of a mile to a Beech Tree, Thence North Fifty Eight degrees West Seven Miles to a hemlock Tree standing near Connecticutt river, thence by said River to the first bound.

Rumney, beginning at a Beech tree the North East corner Bound of Dorchester thence North Forty five degrees East six Miles to a Bass tree, thence South Fifty nine degrees East five Miles & three quarters of a Mile to a Spruce tree thence South Twenty Eight degrees West five Miles & a half mile to a hemlock Tree the North East corner bound of Cockermonth thence by said Cockermonth North Sixty one degrees West seven Miles & fifty one rods to the bound began at.

Warren beginning at a Bass tree being the North west corner bound of Rumney thence North Twenty four degrees East five Miles & three quarters of a Mile to a Maple Tree Thence North about Seventy four degrees West Eight Miles to a Beech Tree being the South East corner of Haverhil thence South five degrees & a half West five Miles and a half mile to a Beech Tree the North east corner of orford thence on a Straight line to the Bound began at.

Campton beginning at a red Oak tree at the Pitch of the great falls on pemigewasset River commonly called convinse

falls being the Northwest corner of New Holderness thence East six Miles to an Ash Tree, Thence North five Miles to the old North West bound of Campton, thence West five Miles to a Beech tree by Pemigewasset River, thence South Twenty degrees East one hundred & Twelve rods, to a Maple Tree, Thence South Eighty Eight degrees & forty minutes West two miles & three quarters of a Mile & Thirty Eight rods to a Spruce Tree being the North East corner bound of Rumney thence South Twenty Eight degrees West by Rumney five Miles and a half mile to a hemlock tree the North east corner bound of Cockermouth, thence North Eighty six degrees East about five Miles to the Red Oak Tree began at.

Plymouth, beginning at a Pine tree on the Western Bank of Pemigewasset River opposite Holderness corner where the line of Campton crosses the river, thence on Campton line South Eighty Six degrees West about five miles to a hemlock tree the North East corner of Cockermouth, thence South Thirty degrees West five miles one half Mile & forty rods to a Beech tree, thence South Thirty Seven degrees West, five Miles & two hundred & Eighty five rods to a Beech tree on Grafton line, thence South Sixty five degrees East two hundred & Sixty Rods to a Beech Tree Standing on the Curve line, Thence following the Curve line about Twelve miles & a half mile to a White Oak Tree standing on the Bank of Pemigewasset River, Thence by said River to the bound began at.

Wentworth, beginning at a Beech Tree the North East corner of Orford, thence by said Orford South Forty one degrees West five miles & three quarters of a mile to a dry Spruce tree the North East corner bound of Lime, thence South sixty one degrees East Six miles & Fifty six Rods to a Beech Tree the North East corner bound of Dorchester, Thence North forty five degrees East by Rumney six miles to the South East corner bound of Warren being a Bass Tree, thence by said Warren on a Streight line to the bound began at.

Piermont, beginning at a hemlock tree standing on the bank of Connecticut river being the Northerly bound of Orford, thence South Fifty Eight degrees East seven miles to a Beech tree being the North East corner bound of Orford, thence North five degrees and thirty minutes East five miles & a half mile to a Beech tree the South East corner of Haverhil thence North Fifty three degrees West five miles three quarters of a mile and fourteen rods to Connecticutt river, thence by said River to the first Bound. Nevertheless it is to be understood that the line between Haverhil & Piermont as here set forth is not to interfere, obstruct, or Alter any agreement relative to said line from Connecticut River to the Southeasterly corner of the Hundred Acre Lots laid out by Haverhil as settled by the

Proprietors of Haverhil and Piermont and a Judgment of the Inferior Court of common pleas in the County of Rockingham consonant with such agreement.—We have returned herewith & annexed hereto a plan of the laying out of the Towns aforesaid and noted at the several corners the Bound Trees all which Trees we have marked with the initial Letters of our respective names, and generally heaped Stones about the Bound Tree, excepting the Bound Trees at the Easterly corner of Campton, and the Pine at the Southwesterly corner of Orford, by Connecticut river

Witness our hands the fourth day of September 1784

Ebenezer Thompson
Joseph Badger
Ebenezer Smith
Levi Dearborn
John Smith

Received and filed in the Secretary's office this 4th of September 1784—

Attest—E Thompson Sec^{ry}

[The foregoing committee was appointed by the legislature, Oct. 27, 1780, and their report was to be "binding and conclusive in law upon all persons and parties whatsoever."—ED.]

[12-22] [*Col. Benjamin Sumner's Scheme to secure an Alliance with the Indians in 1800.*]

Grand River U—C—July 16th 1800

Sir I have been hear in this Vicenety Neer Twelve month on Domestick business and am in Duty Bound—

Your wisdom will direct wheather it is advisable to apply to the Federal Government—the facts I will lay before you in Part so as to open the scene for your advice on the subject—Capt Joseph Brant the selebrated Indian Chief of the six Nations—and grand Counselor of all other Nations in U. C Has Resined all his offices and Employments so far as Relates to aney Negotiations with the British Government—the Contest is of long standing, and most serious and like to Continue—Conserning the fee simple of their lands granted them by Ginerall Halde-mand when governor of Quebeck for a Compensation for the Losses they sustained in the late war with the U. S.—

I will Venter to say that the Preemption Right by gift or Purches from the Federal Government of a Tract of Land from Cuyahoga River to Sanduskee Bay of about one and a halfe million of acres near the bigness of the Tract they sup-

posed they had a Title to from the British Government would be gratefully Rec^d Duely and Perpetually ackn^d and Immediately settled by them, and som white People their associats—

What would be the Consequence of such a Plan carried into Execution—

The Confederated Nations of Indians would become Allied to the U. S.—

The mohawks have been in unshaken alliance with the British Mounoruck for about Two Hundred years without the lest Variation or Wavering a Nation to be Confided in; all other Nations court their favour; and they are Transmutable beyond a Doubt with propper Incoredement the Plan prudantly and Virtuosity car'd on would in a short time Turne the current of the North west Trade to the Federal Union; and be more than a Compensation for the before mentioned Land ware they given by the U. S.—to the Nations before mentioned; beside the over much Ballance of Power in case of future Wars—The Ill Treatment the Tarters Rec^d from the Emperor of Russia made them; to the amount of about 30000 in the year 1750 gow over to the Chinees and abot the year 1770—70000 more followed their Example they ware all Provided for; and that formed a Barrior for the Latter against the former Nations—on this subject Door—Closed—and Inviolable Secrets kept—if worthy of your notice Write to me at Claremont in September or october at which Time I shall be at home and will soon wait on you—

I am Sir your Most ob^d Serv^t—

Benj. Sumner

Exclency J. T. Gilman Esq^r
Gov^r N. H.

} A word to the wise

[12-23]

Hon^d Sir—In consequence of the late conversation I had with you, as a counsellor of the state of New Hampshire, as to the advantage the United States might derive from an alliance with the various tribes of Indians under the immediate care of the Celebrated Cap^t Brant, & now in alliance with Great Brittan, I shall take the liberty of communicating to you, my Ideas on the subject in writing & in as concise a manner as possible; hoping they may meet your approbation together with others in Government with you, who you are requested to lay this before—If the plan is honorable & interesting to the U. S. as I really think it is, it must be discovered by his Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} council at the first blush—As I have lately spent fifteen months, with & in the neighborhood of the Indians in Upper Canada, have had a great opportunity to form an acquaintance with them, & I know their com-

plants & disputed, with the British Government, which are of long standing and like to continue, as it relates to the lands given them, by Gen^l Haldermand for a compensation for their losses sustained in the late War with the U. States, Government holding the fee in themselves; the Indians look on their situation as Tennants at will under the British administration, a thing they dispise; but with all their remonstrances & Petitions, they cannot remove the difficulty, therefore they find themselves under greater imbarassments, than they were when they left the Mohawk & Gennessee, to fight for the King of Great Brittan, when as they contend they not only lost their Blood & treasure, but their Liberty which is dearer to them than life itself—Those and many other complaints too numerous to mention, have occasioned many councils to be holden among the various Tribes of Indians; & they are forming a combination under one general Government; that combination has now become of consequence, & undoubtedly will be more so; as the various tribes have to the amount of about thirty, chosen Brant for their chief war Cap^t & grand Councillor of State; with as much unanimity as the U. States ever chose the never to be forgotten Washington to the Presidency, those tribes that have put themselves under Brant make no contracts with Government without his consent & direction. Many of the above Tribes depend entirely on agriculture for their support many of them are great farmers; the arts & sciences are much cultivated, and the English Language is well understood by many in each Tribe, as there is a school for that purpose at the Mohawk Castle constantly kept, which has the decided approbation & incouragement of Brant & every tribe has the benefit thereof—The acquaintance I have formed with Cap^t Brant gives me a great oppinion of his abilities & integrity, his Powers in war & Prudence in peace, has procured him esteem beyond all his Colour, that have gone before him, And it appears to me that as Providence raised a Washington to give freedom to America, so he has raised a Brant to bring the Natives into civil & religious liberty, which is the height of his ambition as it appears from repeated conversations on the subject for this six months past with me, which I shall state as accurately as possible—

Brant in company with white and read people wish to obtain the Preemption right, of a tract of land, of twelve or thirteen millions of Acres, on the Navigable waters of Lake Ery, at sanduskee bay, Miame River, and form a government or state, have the privileges of Citizens with freehold estates subject too, & in union with the united States in confederation. The reason why this place is pitched on is, first because it is in the united

states 2^{dly} it will with the influence of the Indians command the northwest Trade, and 3^{dly} Brant & the councils of the Nations had rather be in alliance with or Citizens of the united states, than be slaves to a monarch at three thousand miles distance, who can hear no complaints or oppressions, only from the Agents of Indian affairs who are continually defrauding & oppressing them—

To have the confederated power of Indians in combination with the U. States is a matter of the greatest consequence, not only in the time of War, for we must consider their strength as by no means contemptible but in the time of peace; This plan being affected with such alterations and regulations as government may choose will effectually centre the North west trade in the federal government, which will be more than ten times a compensation for all the lands they may give to the settlers & adventurers who will undertake the settlement in company with the Indians, to aid and assist them in Civilization— It may be said by some we don't want the assistance of the Indians; but those are ignorant of their strength, wealth, power, numbers & policy; this we may be assured of that if we do not take them into confederation with us they will be against us, & I will venture to assert, from the best authority, that the united states may have them, together with their Trade, which undoubtedly is the most Lucrative in America, and on better Terms than as Allies—Look of the Spanish, French & British, they all have their agents among them, and still they are people of such firmness & judgment that they prefer a union with the United States—As I have had many conferences with Capt Brant, I shall relate some of our conversation in confirmation of his & the nations sincerity in the business, about six month since, Brant informed me, when he was in Philadelphia he had some offers made him by our Government, but at that time it was out of his power to accept, & that he should never let slip another opportunity of this kind; but did not explain to me what those offers were—While I was in the Province I wrote to his excellency Govenor Gilman & Chief j^r Olcott on the above subject, Brant not only read the letters but carried them to the post office at Canadoigue 220 miles with his own hand that they might safely arrive—

Some time in August last Brant waited on Gov^r Hunter at York in the upper Province to get redress of grievances, the interview was short & the conversation pointed, but no redress given—The next day one of the council & Clerk of the council in conversation with Brant assured him, if he would apply to government, he should have his two sons educated at the expense of the Crown; his reply was that. that Government should never refuse him another favour, & that he should send

them by his friend, to the states for their education, at his own expence, on his return home he called on me, & gave me some hints of his success as above stated; and of his intentions in future. In his conversation says, that Hunter says *Damned Indians*—But in reply says I can whip Hunter in the woods or in the field and I am a man for him when & where he pleases—which is an oath equal to any ever taken by an Indian—A few days after Cap^t Brants return a council was called & Brant resigned all his offices, so far as related to any negotiations with the Brittish Gov^t. And the Grand Council of the Nations resolved that they, as heads & chiefs of the seven nations there present, would do no business, with the Brittish Government without the aid and assistance of Capt. Brant, which will prevent any immediate negotiations with Government—About one month after this there were sent out by the great Chief and Council, as a committee, a Cap^t Jones & a Cap^t Elliot who married Red women, Cavihoga their high Priest, & several Chiefs to view the lands before mentioned expecting to be about three months, and in hopes of a kind reception by the Federal Gov^t they will make their returns some time in Nov^r inst^t, Many other circumstances I could mention that prove to me their sencere intentions but think it unnecessary—

The two young Chiefs were delivered to my care, when I left the Province, & according to my orders, I have left them in charge of the President of Dartmouth College, who rece^d them with strong professions of Friendship, being the sons of that Chief who in his youthfull days rece^d his education of Letters, Piety & virtue, under the Tuition of the Late Rev^d Doct^r Wheelock—

The Chiefs Conduct shews plainly he is more attached to the manners of the New England People than the Brittish—Their sincerity I have no doubt of, & shall spare no pains to bring the much desired object to pass—But this with due defferance is submitted to the wisdom of the wise—

But give me leave to suggest, that when I view the situation of the United States & their Connection with the powers of Europe, or rather to say their seperation from all Powers, and the opportunity that now presents itself without infringing on any treaty or Nation, acquiring an alliance of great strength, the wealth of the northwest trade, and a permanent peace to our frontier, togather with many other advantages too numerous to mention, I think that no time should be lost—

Should the Brittish know of this plan they would stop it at the expence of a million.

Should this meet the approbation of the Gov^r & Council of N. H. at the shortest notice I will appear before them, & give them further information of the time & place of meeting on

the subject, By Cap^t Brant, other Chiefs & myself, then to go on to the seat of our Government for further directions—

May the state of New Hampshire have the name of bringing so great a good to the federal Government—

I am sir with due respects

your most obedient, devoted & very Humble Serv^t

Benj^a Sumner

Claremont Nov^r 15th 1800

Hon^{bl}e Sam^l Stevens Esq^r

[Hon. Samuel Stevens was a member of the governor's council at that time. I find no mention of the matter in the records of the council.—ED.]

OLD DOCUMENTS PRINTED IN FAC-SIMILE.

The following interesting documents are printed in *fac-simile* from the originals in the New Hampshire state library, which are very rare, if not unique.

The *first*, bearing date January 5, 1776, is the original printed issue of the first constitution of New Hampshire, which was also *the first written constitution of any of the United States*.

As early as October 18, 1775, our delegates in the Continental Congress received instructions from the colony of New Hampshire to "obtain the advice and direction of the congress with respect to a method of our administering justice and regulating our civil police," which they communicated to congress on that day. And on November 3, 1775, congress adopted the following resolution :

Resolved, That it be recommended to the provincial convention of New Hampshire, to call a full and free representation of the people, and that the representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such a form of government as in their judgment will best produce the happiness of the people and most effectually secure peace and good order in the province during the continuance of the present dispute between Great Britain and the Colonies."

Thereupon, on November 14, 1775, the Provincial Congress of this state adopted a plan for representation, upon which an election of delegates was held, who assembled in convention, December 21, 1775, and on January 5, 1776, adopted this first written constitution of government, and resolved themselves into a house of representatives thereunder.

The *second* of the documents herewith presented is a proclamation of the council and assembly to the people, that

this constitution was in force, and that officers had been chosen and qualified under it, etc.

The *third* document is the result of an attempt to form a second and more complete constitution. A convention for that purpose was assembled, which, on June 5, 1779, voted to submit to the people the bill of rights and constitution which they had framed. The convention reassembled on the succeeding third Tuesday of September, and on examining the returns of the votes of the people found that their work was rejected. Thereupon the convention was dissolved.

Another constitutional convention met in June, 1781, which, after various failures, succeeded at length in producing a bill of rights and constitution which were acceptable to the people, and which went into effect, as the second constitution of New Hampshire, on the first Wednesday of June, 1784.

[The above article is furnished by Hon. Charles H. Bell.]

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[The above article is furnished by Hon. Charles H. Bell.]

In CONGRESS at Exeter,

January 5th, 1776.

WE the Members of the CONGRESS of the Colony of New-Hampshire, chosen and appointed by the free Suffrages of the PEOPLE of said Colony, and authorized and empowered by them, to meet together, and use such Means, and pursue such Measures, as we should judge best for the public Good; and in particular to establish some FORM of GOVERNMENT, provided that Measure should be recommended by the Continental CONGRESS: And a Recommendation to that Purpose having been transmitted to us, from the said CONGRESS: Have taken into our serious Consideration the unhappy Circumstances, into which this Colony is involved, by means of many grievous & oppressive Acts of the British Parliament; depriving us of our native and constitutional Rights and Privileges; to enforce Obedience to which Acts, a powerful Fleet and Army have been sent into this Country, by the Ministry of Great-Britain, who have exercised a wanton and cruel Abuse of their Power, in destroying the Lives and Properties of the Colonists, in many Places, with Fire and Sword, taking the Ships and Lading from many of the honest and industrious Inhabitants of this Colony, employed in Commerce, agreeable to the Laws and Customs, a long Time used here.

The sudden & abrupt Departure of his Excellency JOHN WENTWORTH, Esq; our late Governor, and several of the Council, leaving us destitute of Legislation; & no Executive Courts being open to punish criminal Offenders, whereby the Lives and Properties of the honest People of this Colony, are liable to the Machinations and evil Designs of wicked Men:

Therefore for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the Security of the Lives and Properties of the Inhabitants of this Colony, we do hereby conceive ourselves reduced to the Necessity, of establishing a Form of Government, to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain; declaring that we never sought to throw off our Dependence upon Great Britain, but felt ourselves happy under her Protection, while we could enjoy our Constitutional Rights & Privileges--and that we shall rejoice if such a Reconciliation between us, and our Parent State, can be effected as shall be approved by the Continental Congress, in whose Prudence and Wisdom we confide.

Accordingly, pursuant to the Trust reposed in us, We do Resolve that this Congress, assume the Name, Power and Authority of a House of Representatives, or Assembly for the colony of New-Hampshire. And that said House, then proceed to choose Twelve Persons, being reputable Freeholders, & Inhabitants within this Colony, in the following manner: viz. Five in the county of Rockingham, Two in the county of Strafford, Two in the county of Hillsborough, Two in the county of Cheshire, and one in the county of Grafton, to be a distinct and separate Branch of the Legislature, and the Name of a COUNCIL for this Colony, to continue until the Third Wednesday in December next; Any Seven of whom to be a Quorum, to do Business.

That such Council appoint their President; and in his Absence that the Senior Councillor preside.

That a Secretary be appointed by both Branches, who may be a councillor, or otherwise as they shall choose.

That no Act, or Resolve be valid, and put into Execution, unless agreed to and passed by both Branches of the Legislature.

That all Public Officers for the said colony, and each county, for the current Year, be appointed by the Council and Assembly, except the several clerks of the Executive courts, who shall be appointed by the Justices of the respective courts.

That all Bills, Resolves or Votes for raising, levying and collecting Money, originate in the House of Representatives.

That

ns of the council and Asssembly, neither Branch shall adjourn
than from Saturday till the next Monday, without consent of

Resolved, that if the present unhappy Dispute with Great-
neue longer than this present Year, and the continental congress
or directions to the contrary, the council be chosen by the Peo-
e county, in such manner as the council and House of Repre-
r.

Field Officers of the Militia, on any Vacancy be appointed, by
l all Inferior Officers be chosen by the respective companies.
of the Army be appointed by the Two Houses, except they
ise in case of any Emergency.

cers for the colony, and for each county be appointed, & the
ance in office be determined, by the Two Houses, except
d county Treasurers, and Recorders of Deeds.

and a Recorder of Deeds, for each county be Annually cho-
f each county respectively ; the Votes for such Officers to be
ective courts of General Sessions of the Peace, in the county,
ed as the Council, and Asssembly shall hereafter direct.

the name of the council, & Asssembly, Signed by the President
he Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall Issue annu-
e first Day of November, for the choice of a council, & House
o be returned by the third Wednesday in December then next
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By the COUNCIL

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That at any Sessions of the council and Assembly, neither Branch shall adjourn for any longer time than from Saturday till the next Monday, without consent of the other.

And it is further Resolved, that if the present unhappy Dispute with Great-Britain, should continue longer than this present Year, and the continental congress give no Instructions, or directions to the contrary, the council be chosen by the People of each respective county, in such manner as the council and House of Representatives shall order.

That General and Field Officers of the Militia, on any Vacancy be appointed, by the Two Houses, and all Inferior Officers be chosen by the respective companies.

That all Officers of the Army be appointed by the Two Houses, except they should direct otherwise in case of any Emergency.

That all civil Officers for the colony, and for each county be appointed, & the time of their continuance in office be determined, by the Two Houses, except clerks of courts, and county Treasurers, and Recorders of Deeds.

That a Treasurer, and a Recorder of Deeds, for each county be Annually chosen by the People of each county respectively; the Votes for such Officers to be returned to the Respective courts of General Sessions of the Peace, in the county, there to be ascertained as the Council, and Assembly shall hereafter direct.

That Precepts in the name of the council, & Assembly, Signed by the President of the council, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall Issue annually, at or before the first Day of November, for the choice of a council, & House of Representatives, to be returned by the third Wednesday in December then next ensuing, in such manner as the council, and Assembly shall hereafter prescribe.

Colony of New-Hampshire.

By the COUNCIL and ASSEMBLY, A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS the CONGRESS of this Colony have, agreeable to a Recommendation from the Honorable CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, resolved on, and form'd themselves upon a PLAN of GOVERNMENT by a COUNCIL and House of REPRESENTATIVES; which Plan has been published, and dispersed through the Colony, and is to be in Force during the present Dispute with Great-Britain, unless otherwise advis'd by the Continental Congress:---conformable to which said Plan of Government, the Council and Assembly have chosen, and appointed the proper Officers for the Administration of Justice, in the several Counties, who are to be sworn to the faithful discharge of their several Trusts;--It is therefore expected, that no Person or Persons, claim, or exercise any civil Authority, but such as are, or may be appointed as aforesaid, on the Penalty of being deemed inimical to their Country.

Provided nevertheless, and this PROCLAMATION is intended not to interfere with the Power of the necessary Committees of Inspection, or Safety, chosen in the several Towns through the Colony, by Virtue, and in Consequence of, any Recommendation or Resolves of the Continental Congress,---Whereof all Persons concerned, are to take due Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

And at the same Time it is earnestly recommended, that in this distressing Day of public Calamity, when our Enemies are watching all Opportunities to ensnare and divide us, every one would strive to prevent, and if possible, to quell all Appearance of party Spirit, to cultivate and promote Peace, Union and good Order, and by all Means in their Power, to discourage Profaneness, Immorality, and Injustice.

By Order of the Council and Assembly at Exeter,
the 19th Day of March, Anno Domini 1776.

M. WEARE, President of the Council.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.

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A D E C L of RIGHTS, and PLAN N

WHEREAS *by the tyrannical Administration
New-Hampshire, with the other United-States
and declare themselves INDEPENDENT
GRESS, in their Resolution or Declaration*
*AND WHEREAS, it is recommended by the said C
tablish a FORM OF GOVERNMENT most conducive to t
SHIRE chosen for the Purpose of forming a permanen
posed the following DECLARATION of RIGHTS, and
for their Approbation.*

A DECLARATION of the STATE

First, **W**E declare, that we the People of the S
Britain.

Secondly. We the People of this State, are intitl
which we heretofore enjoyed.

Thirdly. The Common and Statute Laws of Engla
said Declaration of INDEPENDENCE) now are
unless the same shall be repealed or alt

Fourthly. The whole and intire Po
of, and from no other Source whatf

Fifthly. The future Legislatu
tural, unalienable Rights of Me

Sixthly. The Extent of T
nor *John Wentworth, E*
called, situate to t

Seventhly. Th

A

on the said second Wednesday of December annually, JUDGES required, shall be declared duly elected, to be made by them into the Secretary's Office by the

the said Justices may determine the Choice in Favour

returned as aforesaid, shall meet on the first Wednesday next. The future General-Court may from Time to Time appoint; the first day in January then next.

and Secretary; and the House of REPRESENTATIVES

shall determine all disputed Elections of their own Members, and fill up such Vacancy.

They shall be invested with the Supreme Power of the State. All Bills, Grants, and Privileges, may originate in either House; but such Grants

shall have Power to adjourn themselves from Day to Day, or from one Day to another.

They shall have Power to correspond with other States or Persons; call the Council together, and the Council shall from Time to Time call the General-Assembly together, and point out the principal Business of their Session.

They shall have Power to appoint, and all proper Officers thereof appointed, as the

Probate, Judge of Admiralty, Judge of the Maritime Causes, and Delegates to the CONTINENTAL CONGRESS, by the President of the Council.

Clerks of Courts, Registers of Probate, and all other Officers, shall be appointed, that hereafter may be enacted.

for their Services.

Inferior Court, Judge or Register of the CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

shall hold a Commission in the Militia,

50

for six Months, but the

of each House.

shall now, and be

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