F 29 .K6 K6







Nathan Evoldy

C234

## PERFECTING OR VALUATION LISTS OF KITTERY, MAINE, 1760

CONTRIBUTED BY NATHAN GOOLD

"A true Copy of the perfecting Lists whereby the Province Tax was made and proportioned by us the Subscribers on the Inhabitants & Estates rateable In Kittery Anno 1760.

Kittery May 27th 1761	Thomas Cutt John Dennet Elihu Gunnison John P. Bartlet	Selectmen or Assessors of Kittery.
	Alexa <sup>r</sup> Shapleigh	of Kuttery.

A Perfecting List for ye Year 1760 for that Part of ye Town Called ye Lower or first Parish In Kittery the first day of September

CIII OCI		
	Polls.	Total Value of Estates
Lady Mary Pepperrell		£110— 0—0
Edmon Moody	4	08-0-0
Richd Keating	2	25
Robt Orom	1	8— 0—
Widow Snow		7
George Moody	1	5— 0—
John Stocker	1	3— 0—
Nathl Sparhawk Esq	1	110— 6—
Saml Rackief	1	5-0-
Josha White	1	8 0
W <sup>m</sup> Walker	1	8_ 0
Josiah Reary	1	8—10—
Math <sup>w</sup> Vincent	1	12— 0—
Jonan Vincent	1	2— 0—
Joseph Stevens	1	7— 0—
John Underwood	2	25— 0——
Nath! Tod	1	8_ 0

F29 K6K6

Anna Dearing	1	10 0
W <sup>m</sup> More	2	11 0
Roger Dearing	1	26— 0
Roger Mitchell	0	10— 0—
Eben <sup>r</sup> Dearing	1	8—_,40——
Sam¹ Lanfear	1	6—70—
Charles Chaney	1	20 0
Rich <sup>d</sup> Mitchell	2	90
John Kaswell	1	7— 0—
Jeames Kaswell	1	7— 0—
Wido Rackleef & Son	1	10— 0—
And <sup>w</sup> Phillops	1	2- 0
Tim <sup>o</sup> Gearish	1	35
Tho Furnald	1	17— 0—
Robart Parker	1	2- 0-6
Charles Foy	1	6— 0—0
Jno Foy	1	
Jos Relling & Son Joseph	2	40 0
Steph Sevey	1	30—14——
Sam¹ Relling	1	2- 0-0
John Finny	1	4 00
Sam¹ Mitchell	1	25 00
Clem <sup>t</sup> Dearing	2	24 0
Josh Dearing	1	
Rich <sup>d</sup> Cutt Esq <sup>r</sup> & Son	2	106— 0—
Benj <sup>n</sup> Relling	1	6- 0
John Tobie & Son	1	2- 0
Nich <sup>s</sup> Weeks Jun <sup>r</sup>	2	13— 0-—
W <sup>m</sup> Mitchell	1	15— 0——
Joseph Mitchell & Son	2	35— 0—
David Welch	2	5— 0—5
John Hiddin	0	12- 0-0
Nath <sup>1</sup> Hix	1	20-0-0
Step <sup>n</sup> Smith	1	17—12—0
Nich <sup>s</sup> Bryer & his Mother	1	10-0-0
Joseph Gearish	1	100 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> Eltett Gearish	1	9- 0-0
Caleb Hutchings	1	33— 0—
John Norton	2	54— 0—0
		00

Gift Anthor (Pinne)

2 1 27	1	
Sam¹ Norton	1	5— 0.—
W <sup>m</sup> Hutchings	î	12-0-0
Nich' Sevey	2	63-0-0
W <sup>m</sup> Dearing	1	4-0-0
John Hutchings Ju	2	40 00
Henery Barter	1	
John Bartter	1	30—18—0
Joseph Gunnison	1	2800
John Gunnison	2	27— 0—
Joseph Hutchings	1	
John Wilson	1	8 0
Abram Chapman	2	10-0-
Isaac Chapman	0	20-0-
George Finex	1	2-0-0
John Finex	1	65— 0—
Petter Lewis		78-0-0
Mos* Wilson	2	20-0-0
And* Haley	3	12-0-0
Andw Haley Jur	1	57— 9—0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Parker Esq	3	35-0-0
Rich <sup>d</sup> Fenix	1	18-0-0
Wido Martha Jones	1	10-0-0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Weeks	1	10-0-0
Josha Hutchings	1	10-0-0
Marjery Gunnison	_	6-0-0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Gearish	1	2- 0-0
Jn° Brodeen	1	24 0
Heny Beell	1	
Sam¹ Leech	1	6-0-0
Sam¹ Pray	1	28— 0—0
Sami Pray Jur	1	7-0-0
Eben <sup>r</sup> Pray	1	7-0-0
Francis Winkly	1	8-0-0
Enoh Stevens	1	10-0-0
Nath <sup>1</sup> Hooper	1	6
Elihu Gunnison	3	33-0-0
Mary Whipple	_	63 00
Eben Furnald	1	23—16—0
Jonn Furnald	1	4-0-0
0 011		

Eben <sup>r</sup> Furnald Ju <sup>r</sup>	1	4
Benj <sup>n</sup> Furnald	2	12— 0—0
Joseph Furnald	1	12-0-0
Th <sup>o</sup> Tripe	2	12-0-0
Jona <sup>n</sup> Dain	2	13 00
Joseph Dain	1	11 00
Sam¹ Newmarch	2	25— 0—0
W <sup>m</sup> Stimson	2	1600
Elex <sup>r</sup> Jones	0	12-0-0
Elex <sup>r</sup> Jones Ju <sup>r</sup>	1	2-0-0
Joseph Poakswell for		
Capt Jnº Mewmarch's Estate	e 1	40-0-0
Sam¹ Furnald	1	10-0-0
John Furnald	1	11-0-0
Roland Jenkins	<b>2</b>	11 00
Nath <sup>1</sup> Mendom's Estate		28— 0—0
Jos Weeks Ju <sup>r</sup>	1	15— 0—0
Rich <sup>d</sup> Peary	1	2-0-0
Farbour Allin	1	6— 0—0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Mugridge	1	24 00
Will <sup>m</sup> Furnald's Island		28— 0—0
Mark Furnald	<b>2</b>	13 00
Marcy Bellemce	_	6-0-0
Edw <sup>d</sup> More	1	3-0-0
Edw <sup>d</sup> Webber	1	4-0-0
W <sup>m</sup> Gerrish	1	4 00
Francis Winkly Jur	1	
Sam¹ Walliss & Augs S	Sevevs)	
Estate	}	40
Paull Williams	i	4 00
Benj <sup>n</sup> Greenlif	1	15 00
Th <sup>o</sup> Chanler	1	5— 0—0
Thom <sup>s</sup> Green	1	
Jeams Green	1	
Deborah More's Son	1	
W <sup>m</sup> Stevens	1	4 00
Josh <sup>a</sup> Pray	1	
Jn° Winkly	1	4 00
Jos Foy	1	
•		

Joseph Cutt	1	30-0-0
John Lolly	1	8-0-0
Joell More	1	6 00
Sam¹ Greene	1	1
Eps Greene	1	2-0-0
W <sup>m</sup> Pilloes	1	
John Allin	1	
Joseph Newmarch for	Clarks	5.— 0—0
Andr Grene	1	
Sam¹ Amee	1	
Jnº Smart	1	
John Furnald Ju	1	3-0-0
Elihu Weeks	1	
Sam¹ Lewis	1	
Petter Lewis Ju	1	
Richd Fenix Jur	1	
Wm Lewis	1	
Wm Simson	1	
Simson Furnald	1	
Thoma Batson	1	
Sam¹ Wilson	1	22- 0-0
Thom' Bryant	1	
W <sup>m</sup> Weeks	1	6 00
Nath! Sparhawk Esq as gu	nardian )	
to his Children for mo		600 00
Interest	)	

Lady Mary Pepperrell and Nathaniel Sparhawk, Esq., were the only persons who had a valuation for "Faculty." They each had £40 0 0.

A Perfecting List for the Year 1760 for that Part of The Town Called the Middle Parish in Kittery the first Day of September.

	Polls	Total Value
Cap <sup>n</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Wentworth	1	£60— 0—0

Rich <sup>d</sup> Pope	1	29—11—0
Ebenezer Leach	1	18 00
Deacon Thomas Cutt and sons	)	
Thos & Robt	} 3	66 00
Henry Benson	1	32 00
Zachriah Knock	1	9120
Widow Keziah Gowell	0	11—15—0
John Fernald Tertius	1	13 50
Benjamin Ramick	1	6—18—0
Hezekiah Staple	1	
Timothy Hanscom	1	42—14—0
Deacon Benj <sup>n</sup> Fernald	<b>2</b>	59—14—0
George Fernald	1	3— 0—0
Widow Mary Dennet	1	30—12—0
John Dennet	<b>2</b>	28—18—0
Robert Cole	<b>2</b>	6100
John Dennet Tertius	1	
Abner Cole	1	10100
Asahel Cole	1	8100
Jonathan Spinney	1	10100
Nath <sup>1</sup> Fernald Junr	) 0	30—11—0
& Son Timothy	$\left. ight\} 2$	
Widow Anne Cottel	1	6—10—0
Richard Carter	1	6—16—0
John Adams and	} 2	55190
Son Mark Adams	} ~	00100
John Adams Junr	1	
Samuel Rice	3	480
Ruth Marr	_	7—10—0
Samuel Johnson	1	36—11—0
William Roges	1	34 00
John Tapley	<b>2</b>	4 00
Jonathan Mendum	2	3300
John Godsoe	<b>2</b>	25 00
John Marr	1	2 00
Nath <sup>1</sup> Kene	<b>2</b>	42—10—0
Isaac Kene	1	7—12—0
Joseph Kene	2	26—12—0
Samuel Pickernail	<b>2</b>	23— 0—0

James Fernald	1	25-2-10
William Willson	1	38 00
Nathl Fernald	1	22 0 0 0
James Johnson	1	55—10—0
Tobias Fernald Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	13— 0—0
Tobias Fernald	2	32-0-0
Thomas Rogers	2	57—18—0
Thomas Rogers Jun'	1	4-0-0
John Rogers Jun'	1	
Ephriam Sherburn	2	24- 0-0
Samuel Monson	1	28-0-0
Thomas Pettegrew	1	
Joseph Manson	3	22- 0-0
William Willson Jun'	2	15 00
John Fernald 4d	1	30 00
Widow Abigail Fernald		· <del>1</del> — 0—0
Robert Cutt	1	34-0-0
Widow Mehitable Shepard	0	15-0-0
Mary Shepard	1	1-10-0
Zaccheus Beal	2	15-0-0
Benjamin Hammons	0	27— 0—0
Edinund Hammons	1	5 00
David Willson	1	14 00
Widow Judah Willson	0	14 00
Arkles Fernald	2	5— 0—0
Nicholas & Jos. Weeks	2	50— 0—0
Charles Smith	2	32-0-0
Thomas Hutchins	2	36 00
Benjamin Hutchins	1	23-0-0
Enoch Hutchins	2	24— 0—0
Samuel Weeks	1	4—10—0
Mark Hutchins	1	
Josiah Hutchins	1	
Samuel Haley	2	30-0-0
Joseph Hutchins Jun'	1	
Samuel Haley for	)	# 40 O
Gowen Willson Estate	} —	7—10—0
John Haley	3	33 00
Josiah Haley	1	

Thomas Lewis	2	39-0-0
Andrew Lewis	1	8 00
Widow Katrine Marr	0	6— 0—0
John Hutchins	1	26—10—0
David Pope	1	
Benjamin Willson	1	14— 0—0
Richard Pope Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	8 00
Edward Cutt	<b>2</b>	42 00
Joseph Curtis	1	19 00
Widow Mary Pettegrew	1	6 00
Benjamin Willson Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	4 00
Samuel Fitts	<b>2</b>	
Simeon Fitts	1	
James Pickernail	1	4 00
John Shapleigh	1	33—12—0
Widow Elizabeth Pettegrew	1	19—10—0
Richard Fowell	1	
John Alless	1	900
John Weymouth	1	
David Mendum of Portsmouth	_	30
Widow Sarah Clough	_	6 00
Henry Benson Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	
John Peters	2	2-0-0
Cap <sup>n</sup> John Wentworth	1	3— 0—0
John Stevens	1	2-0-0
Job Tapley	1	2-0-0
William Tapley	1	

For "Faculty" Widow Mary Dennet had £15 12 0.

A Perfecting List of the Polls and Estates in the Lower Part of the upper Parish in Kittery for the year 1760.

	Polls.	Total Value.
John Spinney	3	£11—10—0
John Spinney Jur	1	
Widow Abigail Spinney	0 .	12— 9—0
Edmond Spinney	1	10—10—0

Y 1 777 .1 1		
John Tetherly	1	5—10—0
William Tetherly	1	6— 0—0
William Cottle	1	20-0-0
Thomas Fernald	1	( Torn out)—10—0
Peter Dixon	3	42-2-0
Isaac Remick	1	7—10—0
Joshua Remick	1	18— 0—0
Moses Fernald	1	6-0-0
John Scriggen	1	1— 0—0
Paul Scriggen	2	1— 0—0
John Scriggen J'	1	
Widow Hannah King	0	9- 6-0
Amos Paul	1	24-13-0
Steven Field J'	1	13—18—0
Noah Paul	1	1—10—0
Steven Paul	2	12-6-0
Steven Field	0	12-0-0
Joseph Field	1	41—10—0
Daniel Lydston	1	20—16—0
Waymon Lydston	1	15— 3—0
Samuel Remick	0	6—10—0
Nath! Remick	1	29- 5-0
Parker Foster	1	21-0-0
John Remick	1	2-18-0
Mark Staple	1	2 00
Soloman Staple	1	9-0-0
Tho Spinney	0	35-0-0
Joseph Firnald	1	25— 0—0
Joseph Fernald J'	1	14—16—0
Joshua Brooks	1	16—13—0
John Hanscom	1	20—16—0
Isaac Hill	0	5-0-0
Capt. Peter Staple	1	44— 8—0
Peter Staple Jun'	1	9- 8-0
George Rogers	3	26-4-0
John Rogers	1	26-4-0
John Dearing	1	18-6-0
John Hammond	3	43 00
Jonathan Hammond	1	32-0-0

Andrew Green		
Samuel Tobey	1	4-10-0
Stephen Tobey	1	24—15—0
Enhrism Libber & G	1	28—13—0
Ephriam Libby & Son I Sam <sup>n</sup> Libby		39—12—0
Uriah Hanscom	2	33— 1—0
Thomas Hanscom	1	
Samuel Hanscom	1	20—18—0
Thomas Hanscom Jr.,	1	10-0-0
Abraham Cross	1	11-0-0
John Tobey	1	21-11-0
Aaron Hanscom	1	24—15—0
Joshua Staple	1	7—15—0
Joseph Staple	2	10-0-0
Joshua Staple Jr.	2	24-2-0
Joseph Staple Jr.	1	
Widow Martha Libby	1	
Reuben Libby	1	20-0-0
Matthew Libby	1	18 90
John Tobey Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	11160
Noah Staple	1	2-0-0
James Fogg	1	11-0-0
James Fogg Jr	1	42 60
George Hammond	1	6 00
John Leighton	1	37 00
Downing Woodman	3	39— 0—0
Joseph Hammond	1	31-2-0
Samuel, Tobias and	2	45— 9—0
William Shapleigh	} 3	
Thomas Hammond		103—14—0
Deac <sup>n</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Leighton	1	
Widw Doreas Shapleigh	1	53-12-0
John Crocker	2	102 00
Humphrey Scammon	4	2-0-0
Hy Scammen for Odiornes	$_{\cdot}$	10-0-0
Samil Hill Jr		8-0-0
Widw Patience More	2	13— 8—0
Michal Kennard	1	1100
Edward Kennard	0	7-10-0
a Leonial U	1	8—18—0

Timothy Richardson	2	7-0-0
Moses Hanseom	1	31—12—0
M. Hanseom for Moffetts Marsh	0	5— 0—0
Stephen Dixon	1	5— 0—0
Capt John Gowell	1	15-0-0
Alexand <sup>r</sup> Shapleigh	1	23—16—0
John Brawn	1	0-6-0
Will <sup>m</sup> Remick	1	4-10-0
John Seavey	1	4 00
William Tetherly Jr	1	14—18—0
John Allen Jr	1	1-10-0
William Spinney	1	11—16—0
Samuel Kennard	1	1-10-0
Wid* Sarah Lydston	0	13-0-0
Dennis Fernald	1	34-0-0
Daniel Hanscom	1	11-0-0
William Fernald	1	4-10-0
Joseph Hanscom	1	5—10—0
Gidion Knight	1	10-5-0
Joseph Remick	1	1—10—0
Ichabod Remick	1	8_ 0_0
Soloman Staple Jr	1	2_0_0
Jacob Garland	1	3-0-0
Samuel Pettegrew	1	4-0-0
John Foster	1	3-10-0
Daniel Knight	2	9-0-0
Enoch Remick	1	4—10—0
Jonathan Hanseom	1	4-0-0
Joseph Paul	1	1-10-0
Jonathan Wittum	1	
Daniel Toward	1	
Widw Elizabb Cole	1	1-10-0
Sipiran Marrener	1	
William Mallalla	1	1—10—0
Ebenezer Hammond	1	
Jeremiah Paul	0	5-0-0
Isaac Reed	1	
Isaac Reed Jr	1	
	1	6-2-0
David Staple		

Michal Kennard Jr	1	2—10—0
Benj <sup>n</sup> Welch	1	
Tobias Leighton	1	
John Brown	1	
John Shapleigh	1	3-0-0
John Hanseom Jr	1	
Joshua Brook Jr	1	1—10—0
Joseph Hill Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	1—10—0
Samuel Tobey Jr	1	
Stephen Tobey Jr	1	2 00
John Orr	1	

A perfecting List of the Polls and Estates in the upper Precinct in Kittery for the Year 1760.

•		
	Polls.	Total Value.
Daniel Brown	0	3—10—0
Sam¹ Lord Jr of Berwick		12 00
Jonath <sup>n</sup> Hambleton of Berwick		9— 0—0
Samuel Shorey		2600
Daniel Furbush		16 00
Widw Sarah Furbush	1	6— 0—0
Joseph Furbush	1	25—10—0
Joseph Furbush Jr	1	2-0-0
John Ferguson	1	
John Furbush	1	9 00
James Ferguson	) .	<b>70</b> 0 0
& Son Daniel	} 3	53— 0—0
Widw Patience Neall	2	36 00
Rich <sup>d</sup> Thackerly Jr Berwick		6 00
James Neall	2	31—15—0
Eben <sup>r</sup> Hearl	1	25 00
Sam¹ Roberts	0	5 00
Benjamin Hearl	1	6 00
Daniel Emery	1	46 00
Simon Emery	3	50 00
Capt. Noah Emery	1	23-0-0
•		

Danl Emery Jr       1       3— 0-         Japhet Emery       1       6— 0-         Zachariah Emery       1       13— 0-	_0
	0
Caleb Emery 1 30— 0.	
Dan' Emery Tertius 2 11— 0.	
Samuel Emery 1 9— 0.	
John Emery 1 6— 0.	
James Emery 1 7— 0.	
Zachh Emery Jun' — 1—10-	
Capt. James Gowen 1 54— 0-	
Benjamin Goold 1 27— 0.	
Dan <sup>1</sup> Goold 1 4— 0	
Benj <sup>n</sup> Goold Jun' 1 5— 0	
Joshua Weed 1 12—0	
Simon Lord 1 24— 0	
James Ferguson Jun <sup>r</sup> 1 5— 0	
John Lord Berwick — 2— 0	
John Lord Tert* Berwick — 11— 0	
William Hight Berwick — 4— 0	
John Frost Esq 2 77— 0	
Wid* Abigail Hubbard — 16— 2	
Capt Charles Frost 1 70— 0	
Wid* Sarah Frost 0 50— 0	
Simon Frost Esq <sup>r</sup> 2 45— 0	
Capt Nathan Bartlet 2 43— 0	
Tobias Leightons Estate — 6— 0-	
Wid Jane Tucker — 12— 0	0
James Tucker — 6— 0	0
Nathan Bartlet Jr 1	
Doct <sup>r</sup> Edm <sup>d</sup> Coffin 1 24 0	0
John H <sup>d</sup> Bartlet 2 44—16	0
Rich <sup>d</sup> Chick 1 24— 0	0
Thomas Chick 2 7—10	0
Isaac Chiek 1 4— 0	0
Richd Chick Jr 1 ——	
James Smith 1 4— 0	
William Smith Jun <sup>r</sup> 1 2— 0	
William Gowen 1 0— 0	
William Gowen Jr 1—10	0

Rob <sup>t</sup> Tidey	1	9- 8-0
James Davis	1	15 00
Briant Davis	1	
John Davis	1	14 00
David & Nath <sup>1</sup> Clark	2	45— 5—0
Moses Wittum	1	6 00
Gatensbey Wittum	<b>2</b>	21 00
Peter Wittum J <sup>r</sup>	1	00
Azariah Nason	1	24 00
Alex <sup>r</sup> Snow	1	7-0-0
Timothy Wamouth	1	22 00
Sam¹ Stacey	1	24 00
Widw Sarah Stacey	0	44 00
John Tidey		23— 0—0
Joseph Goold Jun'	1	35 00
John Dennet J <sup>r</sup>	1	18—10—0
Widw Abigail Dennet		11 00
Susanna Dennet		300
William Fry	1	25— 0—0
John Fry	1	4 00
Ebenezer Fry	1	2 00
Jonathan Fry	1	2 00
Widw Sarah Fry	1	20 00
Joseph Fry	2	15— 0—0
Elijah Allen	2	52 00
Widw Mary Allen		6 00
Widw Eliza Jinkins	-	11 00
Widw Eliza Jinkins Jr	1	26 00
John Morril	0	65— 0—0
Robert Morril	3	4300
Benja Hill	1	55 00
John Hill	1	6 00
Joseph Pilsberry	1	18— 0—0
Samuel Fernald	3	76 00
John Stanly	1	14 00
William Stanly	1	6 00
Sam¹ Fernald for	)	
Black Wills Estate	}	12 00
Benjamin Patch	0	4 00

Benjamin Patch Jr	1	
John Patch	1	6-0-0
Paul Patch	1	9-0-0
John Cator	2	14-0-0
Capt Ichabod Goodwin		4-0-0
Bryant Bredean	1	6-0-0
Henry Simpson		12-0-0
Joseph Kingsbury		10-0-0
Samuel Hill Esq <sup>r</sup>	2	43-0-0
Joseph Hill	1	20-0-0
Capt Alex Raitt	1	59—18—0
James Johnson	1	4 00
Lemuel Gowen	evolutivité	7— 0—0
John Hodsdon for	)	
Moffatts Estate	}	8 —0—0
Surplus Mars for Moffatts		38-0-0
Michael Vaughan		4-0-0
Lady Mary Pepper II		11-0-0
John Stanly for part of	)	11 0 0
Lady Pepperrells Land	}	11 00
Abraham Lord	2	22-0-0
Caleb Emery for Esq'	)	10-0-0
Benja Chadbourn Estate	}	10
Eleazer Ferguson	1	0-0-0
Eleazer Ferguson Jr	1	8-0-0
Samuel Hill	1	18-0-0
Michael Brawn	1	3-0-0
Wid* Hannah Furbush	1	7— 0—0
Jonathan Moore	1	2-0-0
Timothy Bredean	1	3-0-0
Jerem <sup>b</sup> Paul	_	6-0-0
John Tetherly	1	15— 0—0
Philip Hubburd	0	3-0-0
John Hickey	1	2-0-0
Andrew Mace	1	2-0-0
John Hammond	1	0-0-0
John Warren	1	4— 0—0
Pepperrell Frost	1	2-0-0
Lewis Fry	1	0-0-0

John Frost Jun <sup>r</sup>	1	0-0-0
Henry Black	1	10 00
Nath <sup>1</sup> Rogers	1	14— 0—0

On these lists women were given property valuation under the heading "Faculty," in addition to real and personal estates, and many men were doomed for their "Faculty Taxes." That tax was distinct from that on personal property. Since Maine became a State it has had no tax on faculty. Massachusetts has up to the present time. For the full meaning of the tax on faculty reference was made to an authority on such matters, Thomas Hills, Esq., of South Boston, Mass., and the following, dated January 20, 1899, is his answer to the inquiry:

In answer to yours of the 17th inst., I would say that all my investigations as to the faculty tax have satisfied me that it was intended to be a tax on ability - the power to earn money and I can but think that the act of the assessors of Kittery of 1760 assessing the women of that town "a faculty tax" must have been an ignorant or arbitrary act not justified by law. Such failures to comply with what seems to be plain requirements of law are not uncommon in our day; as the Courts have ruled that many of the duties of the assessors, as defined by laws, are designed to produce uniformity and are directory, not mandatory; and a non-compliance with their provisions is not essential to the validity of a tax - and as it has also been held that a tax which was not assessed in the form required by law was nevertheless collectable. Much careless work can be found in the assessment lists of modern times which are presumably in better form than those of the last century.

The earliest definition of this tax I have met is in the law of the Colony of 1646, quoted by the Commissioners on Taxation, in the Mass. Report of 1875 (House Doc. 15 of that year) page 49—

"And for all such persons as, by the advantage of their acts and trades are more enabled to help bear the public charge than common laborers and workmen, as butchers, bakers, brewers, victualers, smiths, carpenters, taylors, shoemakers, joiners, barbers, millers and masons, with all other manual persons and artists, such are to be rated for returns and gains, proportionable unto other men, for the produce of their estates."

That in the early part of the 18th century faculty was not considered personal property may be inferred from the fact that the tax bill of Judge Sewall of Boston for 1726 which hangs in the office of the assessors of that city shows that he was taxed for "Personal Estate and faculty."

For several years I owned the tax return of Richard Gridley, the engineer who on the night of the 16th of June, 1775, staked out the line of the redoubt which the rebels defended the next day on Bunker Hill. I gave it away some time since. I think its date was 1780. The language of one of its items in the printed form called for a return of his income "from his trade or profession or gained by trading on the sea or land or arising from the necessities of the war." The call of the assessors of Boston to the inhabitants of that city in 1805 requires them to return "Income from profession, faculty, trade or employment, or gained by land or sea." I think you will find a good discussion of the subject by Judge Ames of the Supreme Judicial Court of Mass. in the case of Wilcox v. Middlesex, 103 Mass. 544.

The word "faculty" has in the revision of our laws dropped out of their text, but the faculty tax remains in Mass. The language now employed being that of Chapter II, Section 4, of the Public Statutes:

"Personal estate shall, for the purpose of taxation, include . . . . so much of the income from a profession, trade or employment as exceeds the sum of two thousand dollars a year, and which has accrued to any person during the year ending on the first day of May of the year in which the tax is assessed, but no income shall be taxed which is derived from property subject to taxation."

Very truly yours,

THOMAS HILLS.

Wilcox v. Middlesex, 103 Mass. 544, referred to in the letter was a decision that it was legal to tax a member of a firm for his income above two thousand dollars for the year, after a tax had been assessed on the firm's stock on hand.

These original perfecting lists are owned by the Maine Historical Society.









LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

0 014 041 237 5