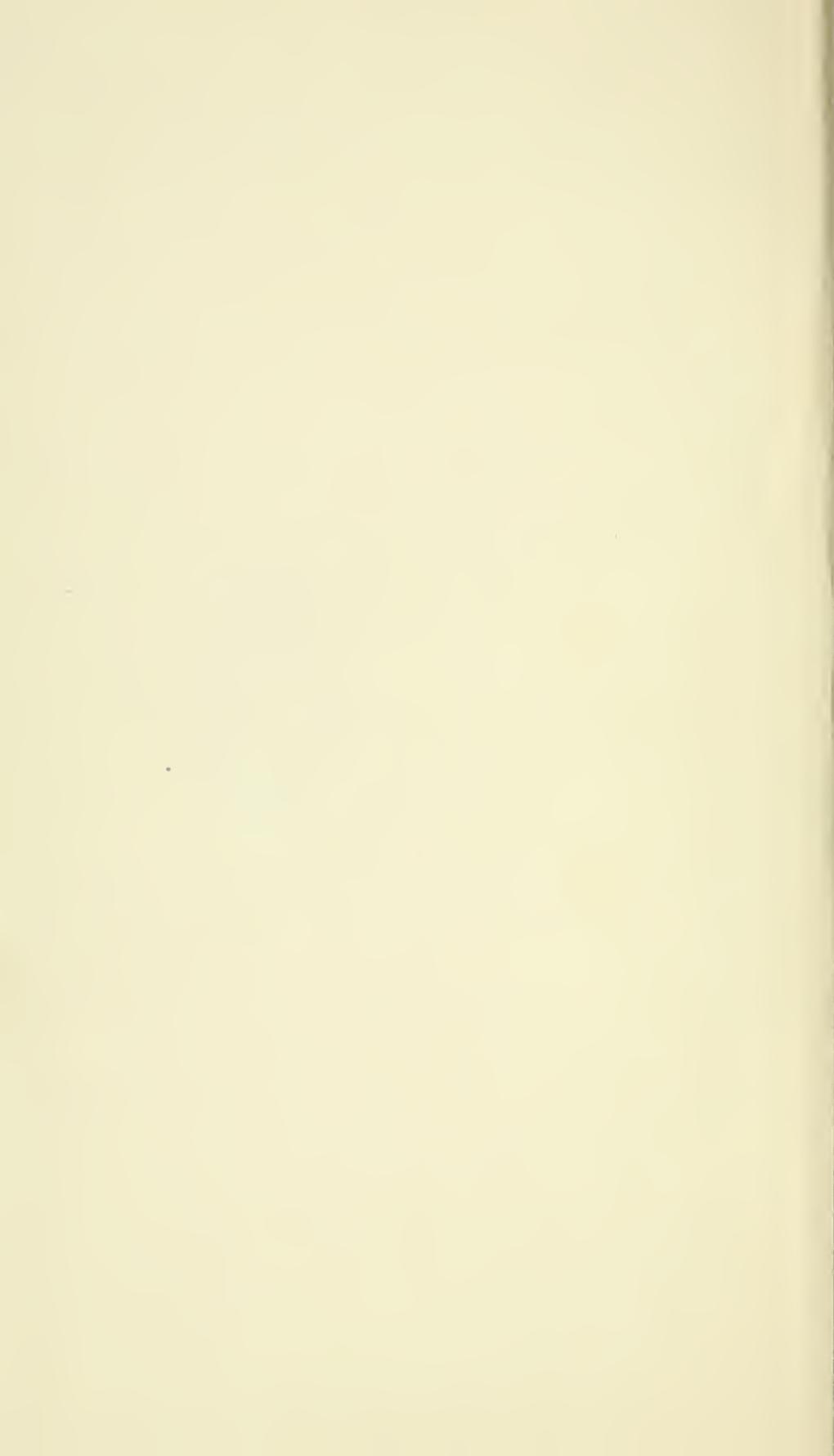


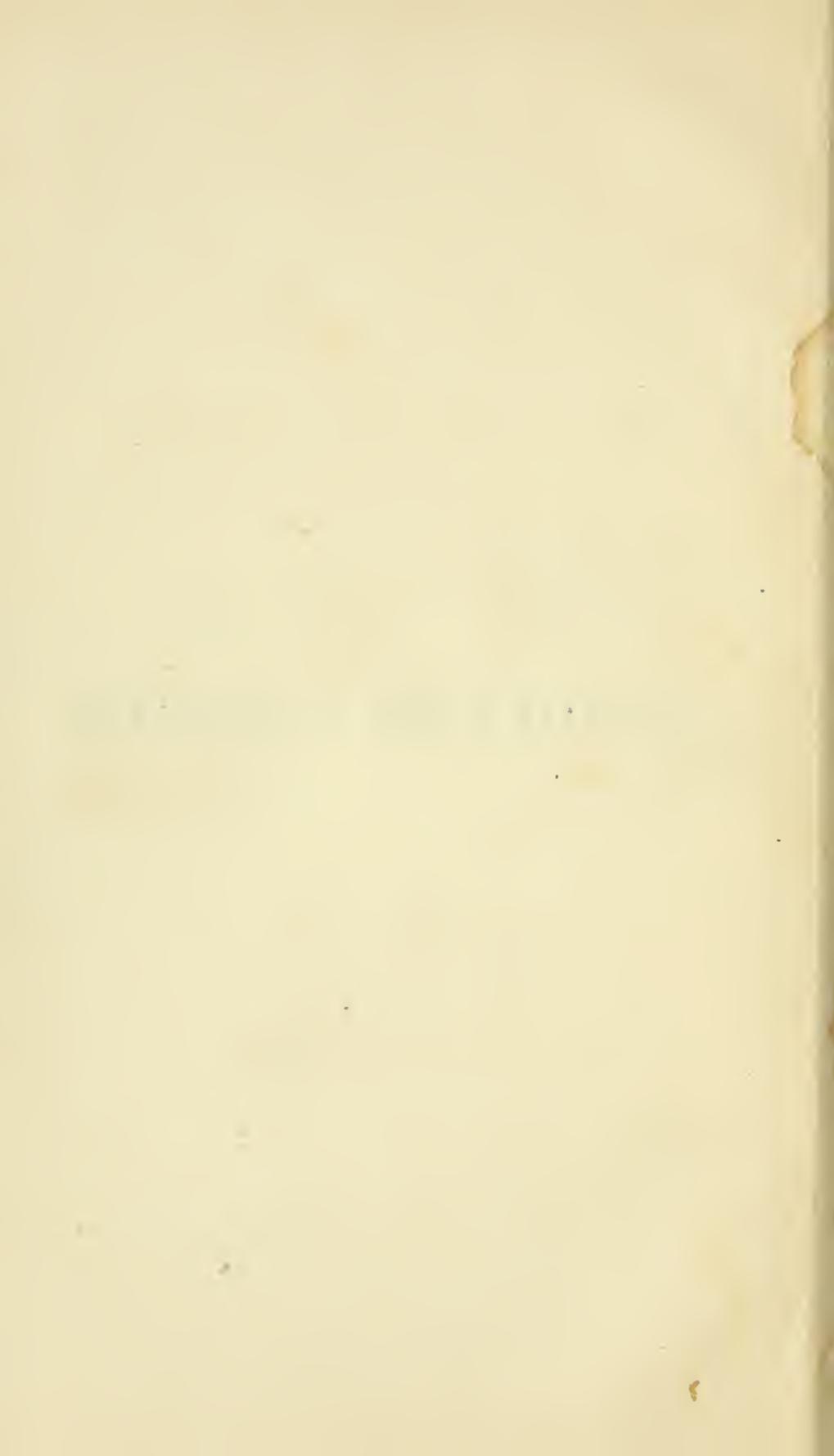
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# HISTORY OF GARDNER.



HISTORY  
OF  
GARDNER,

MASSACHUSETTS,

FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO 1860.

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BY  
LEWIS GLAZIER.



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## TO THE READER.

This work was left unfinished by the author at the time of his death ; he had collected together most of the scattered materials of which it is composed, leaving it in a form, that little else was to be done but to prepare it for the press.

In putting this work together, I may fail to mention some things that ought to be recorded, for want of information. I have taken considerable pains to learn what I could with regard to the Town since its formation as such, to the present time.

A very interesting part of the history of some towns will be lost sight of here ; I refer to those places that were once settled by the Indians ; some of them were one hundred and forty years previous to the incorporation of this town.

To you who have given your patronage by kindly furnishing us with statistical and other facts, with regard to the ecclesiastical, the manufacturing, the mechanical, and other interests of the people here, I would return my sincere thanks.

M. K. G.

## INTRODUCTION.

I am aware that it would seem to be the very height of presumption for a man at the age of eighty-six, to attempt to write a book. My object in the first place was merely to note down some facts with regard to the early history of Gardner, recorded only in the memory of a few of the oldest inhabitants of the Town. The pleasure experienced in this employment was such as to lead me to extend it to the present time.

Some may object to the minuteness of detail, and familiarity of scene indulged by the author. Every writer has his own way of stating things ; his peculiar mode of address ; his individual style of writing. Then too, the tastes of readers differ widely ; what is dull to one may be interesting to another ; facts may be recorded that will afford interest in reading to those who may recollect the circumstances in connection, that would appear dry or insipid to one of the present generation. I am aware that it will be remarked, (and with truth too,) that "I could have written a better history myself, or at least a more interesting one." We do not make special claims

to erudition, or a style of writing which shall attract for its novelty. I doubt not your friend could have done better in the meridian of life.

I would cherish the hope therefore, that this little volume may find readers whose charity will induce them to deal gently with the infirmities of age. In writing this history we shall endeavor to avoid all prejudice or partiality, and hope it may meet with a kind reception from an indulgent public.

GARDNER, Sept., 1857.

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## HISTORY OF GARDNER.

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### INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN.

IN the month of May, 1785, Mr. John Grazier, of Westminster, drew a petition to which he obtained about thirty signatures, and presented it to the Massachusetts Legislature, praying that honorable body to set off from the northwesterly part of Westminster, the west part of Ashburnham, the south portion of Winchendon, and the east part of Templeton, all in the County of Worcester, land enough for a Town. And in duty bound will your petitioners ever pray. Accordingly the Legislature granted their request and incorporated a Town by the name of Gardner, in honor of Col. THOMAS GARDNER, a noble patriot, who fell in battle fighting for the liberty of his country.

Gardner was incorporated June 15th, 1785. The number of inhabitants then in town were about three hundred and seventy-five, and sixty

families; they were poor (with few exceptions) and lived in small ordinary houses; like new settlers in other places, they were obliged to labor hard to subdue the land and bring it into a state of cultivation. There were but few mechanics in town at this time;—three blacksmiths, four carpenters, and three shoe-makers.

#### SITUATION AND EXTENT.

Gardner is situated fifty-eight miles north-west from Boston, and twenty-five miles north from Worcester. It is  $42^{\circ} 10'$  north latitude, and contains about nineteen square miles, or 14,000 acres.

Its surface is uneven; there are no mountains in the place, though the traveler, in passing through the town, would think it pretty well dotted with hills.

There is a very pleasant one east of the common, familiarly known by the name of Esq'r Glazier's hill, now owned by Capt. Joel Cowee. About one-half mile west of the common, is another, owned by Dea. S. W. Bancroft. Southwest of the common is one owned by William Lynde. In a south-east direction is one belonging to Dr. Parker, formerly known by the name of Capt. Bickford's hill.

The original growth of timber in this town, was beech, birch, maple, hemlock and ash, with some elm and bass-wood. In the west part of the town was a large growth of white pine. A walnut tree may be found on the land of Capt. John Edgell, nearly opposite his residence; its origin was a walnut from West Boylston, planted by Mrs. John Glazier, in the year 1800. Another of the same description is located in the garden of Jonathan Brown; the walnut was planted by a brother of his, when a lad.

The soil is better adapted to grass than grain.

A little north-west and near the centre of the town, is a beautiful pond, about a mile in length and nearly one-half a mile wide; it is so well known by the inhabitants of the town that it needs no description; suffice it to say, that it is a pleasant resort for the pleasure-seeker and lover of nature, as many can testify who have enjoyed a sail across its smooth waters.\* There is also a small pond in the south-westerly part of the town.

Gardner is pretty well watered, although there are not many large streams in it. Otter river

\* Since writing the above, at a meeting for the purpose, the Town voted to give the name of Crystal Lake to this pond; a very appropriate name for so clear a body of water.

runs four or five miles on the south-west side of the town.

There is a brook having its rise in Winchendon, called the Bailey brook, running through the westerly part of the town and uniting with Otter river near the Goodnow mills, so called.

Another, by the name of Kneeland brook, rises in the northerly part of the town and runs in a southerly direction nearly parallel with the Bailey brook, terminating in Otter river, just below Parker & Bancroft's saw-mill. On this stream there is a large tract of meadow-land which is supposed to have been cleared by beavers, as there was no wood or timber thereon at the time of the first settlement.

There is another, rising in the north part of the town, between the other two, called the Wilder brook ; after running in a southerly direction it unites with the Kneeland brook at the upper end of beaver meadow.

About one-half a mile north-east of Gardner center, may be found the head of a stream running in a north-easterly direction, through South Ashburnham, a corner of Westminster, and onward, losing itself in the Nashua river.

There are two streams rising in the east part of the town; after making very circuitous courses,

they unite a little above the mills of E. C. J. and O. A. Travers. After their junction they continue in a south-westerly course to Otter river, near the pail factory of Amasa Bancroft.

There is another stream of some size, which has its rise in the town of Hubbardston, running in a northerly direction and uniting with one of the last mentioned streams, near the house of Joseph Maynard. On this stream is a large reservoir for the benefit of the mills below.

The last stream which I shall mention, is called the Pond brook: it is the outlet of Crystal lake, and runs in a southerly direction into Otter river; on this stream, as also on most of the others, are more or less mills, of which I shall speak more particularly hereafter. It will be seen by the preceding, that the people of Gardner have geographically taken a high stand; as the water flows from its surface in opposite directions to the Connecticut and Merrimac rivers.

## FAMILY HISTORY.

The early inhabitants of the town were from the State of Massachusetts; from thirty different towns, and mostly from the counties of Middlesex and Worcester. They were distinguished as a class of people for their independence, persevering enterprise, intelligence, industry and probity.

They were subject to many hardships and privations. Without roads or carriages, or even beasts of burden; their own shoulders bore their grain to the distant mill, with no other guide than marked trees. With the lofty forests frowning upon every side, it was their mission to "go ahead" with their iron powers of locomotion, and make glad "the wilderness and the solitary place," while "the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

We would not regard it as a calamity that we have in this department so little that is allied to fame; it is but the common lot of humanity. While it is true that few of our citizens have

been known to fame, it is also true that fewer have been known to infamy. As it is of familiar every-day incident, mainly, that the fabric of life is formed, we therefore claim an equality with common people.

Without doubt there may be found some mistakes in connection with the family register: this part of the work has been the most laborious and difficult to the writer. To those who have aided us in collecting these materials we render our sincere and hearty thanks.

If the register of any family is omitted residing in town previous to the year 1800, it is because it could not be gathered from any accessible sources of information.

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*Abbreviations.*—Dau. for daughter, m. for married, ch. for children, ae. for age, and d. for died.

## EARLY SETTLERS.

Bickford, Capt. William, from Reading, bought a tract of land on the great road to Royalston: he put up a saw and grist-mill,—the first that were built in Gardner,—where E. C. J. & O. A. Travers' chair-shop now stands. He was instrumental in building up the town; was chosen Captain of the first Militia company formed here. He served a period in the French war at Nova Scotia, and would have been a

pensioner had he lived until the act was passed. He m. Tabitha Parker: their ch. were:—1. Tabitha, m. Nathan Howard; whose ch. were:—Amos and William. 2. William, m. Betsy White; whose ch. were:—Cassandana, Amanda Malvina, d., and Betsy, d. 3. Ebenezer, m. Sarah Hill; whose ch. were:—Roena, George W., Francis A., Asa D., Sarah, David, Mary, Martha and William. 4. Nathan, d. 5. David, d. 6. Edmond, m. Nancy Emory; whose children were:—Albert, Lucinda, Tabitha, Oliver E., Nancy, Betsy, d., Lydia, Charles and Otis, d. 7. David, d. Mr. Bickford d. in 1832, ae. 89.

Beard, Andrew, from Reading, settled in the south part of the town, in the early part of the town's history. Was a carpenter and a hard working man. The remnant of an aged tree is now standing near his former residence upon which he killed a bear. He married Miss Burnap; their ch. were:—1. Lizzie. 2. Tabitha, m. Abel Woodward; whose ch. were:—Aaron, Abel, Tabitha, Isaac, Mary, Nancy and Lock. 3. Andrew, m. Lucy Dunn; whose ch. were:—Andrew and Vinal Cranston. 4. Artemas, m. Lydia Baker; they had one child whose name was Lydia. 5. Aaron, m. Anna Dunster; whose ch. were:—Betrix, Mary, Lydia, Hephzibah, Anna, Dorcas, Lucy, Maria and Aaron. 6. Mary. 7. Abel. 8. Bethia. 9. Dorcas, m. Mr. Jewett. 10. Hephzibah. 11. Lucinda. Mr. Beard d. in 1831.

Bolton, Ebenezer, from Reading, was a farmer in the south part of the town. He was a minute-man at the battle of Bunker hill; at one time he felt the bullets brush his hair as they passed him. He received a pension for his services. He m. Elizabeth Holt; their ch. were:—1. Betsy, m. Nathan Taft; whose ch. were:—Nathan, Hollis, Jerusha,

Lovina and Asa. 2. Esther, d. 3. Jerusha, m. Silas Holt; whose ch. were:—Reuben and Esther. 4 and 5. Abram and Asa, (twins,) d. 6. Ebenezer, m. Lenday Leland; whose ch. were:—Hollis, Horatio Nelson, Panthia, d., Emily, Ransom, Rhoda and Bellarmin. Mr. Bolton d. in 1835, ae. 87.

Baker, John, from Marlborough, was a farmer in the south part of the town. He m. Elizabeth Marshall; their ch. were:—1. Milley, m. Nathan Eaton; whose ch. were:—John, Milley and Myra. His second wife was Ellen Parmenter; whose ch. were:—Mary, d., Nathan, Mary, James, Eleanor, Benjamin, Marshall, d., Marshall, Eleazer, Stilman, William, Naney and Sarah. 2. Esther. 3. Lydia. Mr. Baker d. in 1835, ae. 87.

Baker, Jonas, from Marlborough was a farmer in the south part of the town. He m. Miss Adams. His second wife was Susan Simonds; whose ch. were:—Joseph Simonds, Jonas and Betsy.

Baker, George, from Marlborough; he was brother to the two last mentioned individuals; they all located in the same vicinity and were of like occupation. He m. Dinah Parmenter; their ch. were:—1. Artemas, m. Sarah Nichols; whose ch. were:—Artemas, David, Luther, Sarah, Quiney, Isaae, Ibri, Uri, Persis, Amos and Chloe. 2. Persis. 3. George Adam, m. Olive Holden; whose ch. were:—George Holden, Willard, Roxa and Sumner. 4. Naney. 5. Dinah, m. Eber Underwood; whose ch. were:—Gilman, Curtis, Dexter, Israel and Calvin. 6. Amos.

Baker, Thomas, from Westminster, settled on a farm now owned by Daniel Adams. He m. Mary Lewis; their ch.

were :—1. Ezra, m. Lucy Priest; whose ch. were :—Fanny, Joel, Levi, d., Betsy, Joseph and Charles. 2. Richard, m. Althina Whitney; whose ch. were :—William, Lucy, d., Mary, Walter, Betsy, Francis L., Richard Baxter, Calvin H., Lucy Ann and Angeline Maria. 3. Mary, m. David Nichols; whose ch. were :—Roena, Marietta, Noyes and Marcus. 4. Joseph, m. Esther Holt; his second wife was Lucy Davis; whose ch. were :—Alexander and Lucy. 5. Roena. Mr. Baker d. in 1842, ae. 81.

Baldwin, Josiah, one of the first inhabitants, lived in town a few years; was a soldier in the revolutionary war three years. He m. Susanna, dau. of Israel Green; they had one child whose name was Susanna, who m. James Cowee; their ch. were :—Persis, Joel, Rebecca, Susanna, Betsy, Mehitable, Sarah, Lucinda, Person, George Washington, Aaron, James, William, John and Ruel Green.

Bacon, Joseph, from Sherburne, was a farmer and carpenter, residing about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-west of the center of the town, on the place now occupied by Joseph Whitney. He m. Abigail Cole; their ch. were :—1. Charlotte. 2. Arna, m. Betsy Sawin; whose ch. were :—Betsy, and Sophronia. 3. Joseph, d. 4. Abigail. 5. Atarah, m. Mr. Burbank; whose ch. were :—Abigail, Mary, Joseph and Benjamin. 6. Eliab, m. Christiana Comee; whose ch. were :—Calvin Cole, Eliza Caroline, Francis, Nancy, Cynthia Maria, James and Matthias Clark. 7. Arathusa. 8. Joseph, m. Lucy Wood; whose ch. were :—Sereno, Almira and Francis. 9. Francis, m. Malinda Kendall; whose ch. were :—Mary, Charles, Maria and Asa. Mr. Bacon d. in 1808, ae. 62.

Bancroft, Jonathan, from Ward, (now Auburn,) was a farmer and shoe-maker, living where now resides his grandson, Dea. S. W. Bancroft. He very narrowly escaped being drowned while attempting to cross the pond one evening on the ice; coming to an open place unawares, he fell in, but managed to get on to the ice again and returned home. He was at the taking of Burgoyne in 1777. He m. Sarah Case; their ch. were:—1. Jonathan, m. Betsy Parker; whose ch. were:—Sophia, Mary, d., Laura French, d., Jonathan Ormond, Mary Amanda, Laura Elvira, Jesse Parker,\* Lucius Lorenzo and Smyrna Osgood. 2. Smyrna, m. Sarah Whitney; whose ch. were:—Harvey Mansfield, Smyrna Winslow, Mary Elmira, Sarah Whitney, Amasa and Viola. 3. Sarah. 4. Mary, d. 5. Betsy. 6. Lucy. 7. Roxa, m. John Phillips; whose ch. were:—Warren, d., Eliza, Caroline, Warren and Mary Bancroft. Mr. Bancroft d. in 1826, ae. 76.

Brick, Jonas, from Sherburne, was a farmer, living in the south part of the town. He m. Hannah Richardson; their ch. were:—1. Silas, m. Anna Pike; whose ch. were:—Eliza, Milly, Maria and Ann. 2. Asahel, m. Betsy Snow; whose ch. were:—Asahel Augustus, Ephraim Sumner, Susan Sawyer, Jonas Richardson and Jerome Snow. His second wife was Mrs. Carpenter; they had one child whose name was Jane Elizabeth. 3. Charlotte, m. Mr. Wells; whose ch. were:—Emma, Charlotte, Judith, Willard, Wealthy, Sarah and Elizabeth. 4. Sarah. 5. Enoch. 6. Elijah, m.

\* Fitted for College at Andover and Leicester, Mass. Entered Dartmouth College in 1837; graduated in 1841. Commenced the general practice of medicine in 1845, in St. Johnsbury, Vt., and continued there till 1857, when he removed to Concord, N. H., to take charge of the N. H. Asylum for the insane as Superintendent and Treasurer, in which office he is now engaged.

Sarah Comee; whose ch. were:—Alfred Harrison, David Comee, Mary, d., and Maria, (twins,) Eliza, d., Sarah, Mary, and Walter. 7. Jonas, d. 8. Judith. 9. Jonas, m. Esther Whitney; whose ch. were:—Mary Ann and Esther. Mr. Brick d. in 1822, ae. 64.

Brooks, Joel, from Stow, was a farmer, living in the west part of the town, where now resides Levi Curtis. He m. Tameson, dau. of Ebenezer Howe; their ch. were:—1. Lydia, m. David Nichols. 2. Lucy, m. George Scott. 3. Betsy, m. Isaac Jackson; whose ch. were:—Susan Elvira and Betsy Tameson. His second wife was Mehitable Minott; whose ch. were:—Rockwell, Maria, Melaney, d., Ellen, d. Daniel Webster and Edward. 4. Joel, m. Cynthia Taylor; whose ch. were:—Betsy and Lucy Ann. 5. Silas, m. Emily Conant; whose ch. were:—Luke, Sylvanus, Emily Elmira, George, Joel Josiah and Webster. 6. Luke, d. 7. Ann, m. Isaac Hall. Mr. Brooks d. in 1840, ae. 84.

Coolidge, James, from Sherburne, located as a farmer in the west part of the town. When Gardner was incorporated he was opposed to being taken from Winchendon, and petitioned the Legislature to set him back to that town, but was refused the favor: after a few years he became reconciled, and took hold in earnest to assist others in building up the Town. He m. Sarah Gould; their ch. were:—1. Sarah. 2. Joseph, m. Achsah Hale; whose ch. were:—Catharine, Lucy, Joseph Hale, Sarah, Artemas and Charles Monroe. 3. Betsy. 4. James, m. Annis Sawin; whose ch. were:—Warren, Betsy, Charles,\* Samuel Sawin, Sarah, d., Martha, James and Abigail. Mr. Coolidge d. in 1847, ae. 94.

\* Is a Physician in Warsaw, Illinois.

Childs, Daniel, was a farmer, living in the north part of the town, where Mr. Harty now resides. He m. Phebe —; their ch. were :—1. William. 2. Daniel. 3. Jonas, d. 4. Mary. 5. Timothy. 6. Nathaniel. 7. Cynthia. 8. Jonas, m. Amelia L. F. Osgood; whose ch. were :—Lucius A., Amelia A. and Amanda. 9. Betsy. 10. Harriet. 11. Lucy. 12. Charles, m. Roena Baker. 13. Abijah. 14. Francis.

Comee, David, from Lexington, located as a farmer in the east part of the town ; was a soldier in the Revolutionary war ; he was in a fiercee battle, when a ball from the enemy cut the hair from his head, (it being clubbed up,) another ball struck his gun as it was poised before him ; it tore the barrel out of the stock and left the ball remaining. He m. Christian Maltman ; their ch. were :—1. David, m. Esther Baker ; whose ch. were :—David, Betsy, John and Louisa. 2. James Maltman, m. Sarah Putnam ; whose ch. were :—Maria, Christian, Sarah, James M., Mary, William W., Abby, John Porter, d., Leander Porter, Eliza and Daniel Webster. His second wife was Hannah Maltman ; their ch. were :—1. Benjamin, d. 2. Christian. 3. Mary, m. William Fletcher ; whose ch. were :—Mary Adaline, Eliza, William and Francis. 4. Benjamin, d. 5. John, d. 6. Hannah. 7. Sarah. 8. Ruhamah, m. Abram Jaquith ; they had one child whose name was Abby Mead. 9. Martha, m. Ebenezer Fenno ; whose ch. were :—Lucy Ann, Harriet Newell, Sarah, Henry Clay and Bernerd Maurett. 10. Benjamin, m. Lovina Mead ; whose ch. were :—Charlotte Emeline, Caroline Augusta, Martha Ann, James Monroe and Sarah Mead. His second wife was Mrs. E. A. Seager ; whose ch. were :—Rosette, William, Esquire and Helen. 11. Joseph, m. Miriam Stone ; whose ch. were :—

Christopher Columbus, Samuel, Martha S. and George. 12. George Washington, m. Fanny Vining. His second wife was Betsy Howard: whose ch. were:—George Marse- na, Francis, Fanny and Frank. Mr. Comee d. in 1828, ae. 82.

Conant, Josiah, from Westminster, was a farmer, residing in the east part of the town; the place is now owned by Dennis Gates. He m. Annis Derby; their ch. were:—1. Aaron, m. Lucy Bancroft; whose ch. were:—Catharine, Roswell B., d., Roswell, d., Smyrna Bancroft, Emily, d., George Farewell, Aaron Winslow, Mary Bancroft and Sarah Case. 2. Lucy, m. Isaac Miller; whose ch. were:—Gard- ner, Mary, William, Lucy, Lyman, James, John and Nancy. 3. Nancy, m. Alpheus Simonds; whose ch. were:—Ada- line, Abigail, Nancy, Maria, Myranda, Caroline, Hannah, Augusta, Sylvenus and Rebecca. 4. Betsy. 5. Farewell, m. Lucy Wright; whose ch. were:—Rebecca, Mary Ann, Calvin, John Wesley, Charles Wright and Lucy Maria. 6. Abigail, m. Jonathan Brown; whose ch. were:—Abigail, Maria and Myranda, (twins,) Emily, Jonathan Leroy, Elisha, Martha, Charles, Lucy, Mary and Edward Reynolds. 7. Mary, m. Asahel Corey; whose ch. were:—Jonas and Charles. 8. Josiah, m. Hannah Graves; whose ch. were:— Harriet, Augusta, William, d., Walter, Joseph Lewis, d., Francis, Ellen Maria, d., George Alvah and Eliza Jane. 9. Emily. 10. Susan, m. Asa Temple; whose ch. were:— Elizabeth Holland and Christopher Columbus. 11. Lyman, m. Emma Wells; whose ch. were:—Caroline Elizabeth, Mary, Edward and Theodore. 12. Maria, m. Joseph P. Howe; whose ch. were:—Maria, Abby, Edward Payson and Emergene. 13. Lanson, d. 14. Sylvester Thomas,

m. Sarah Bickford; they had one child whose name was Charles. Mr. Conant d. in 1835, ae. 77.

Clark, Joseph, from Sherburne, was a farmer in the west part of the town. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war seven years, and received a pension ten years or longer. He m. Mary Maltman; they had one child whose name was Joseph, who m. Sarah Sawyer; their ch. were Leonora, Sylvester, Mary and Joseph Monroe. Mr. Clark d. in 1837, ae. 80.

Clark, Benjamin, (brother to the one last mentioned,) from Sherburne, was a farmer, residing in the west part of the town; the place is now occupied by his son, Dea. Samuel H. Clark. He m. Martha Minott; their ch. were:—1. Esther M. 2. Benjamin, m. Rebecca Richardson; whose ch. were:—Elizabeth and Mary Ann. 3. Mary. 4. Betsy, m. Lowell Leland; whose ch. were:—Leaden, Esther M., Elizabeth, d., Martha Elizabeth, Lucy, Henry and Joseph W. 5. Sarah. 6. Joanna M. 7. Samuel Harrington, m. Mary Bennett; whose ch. were:—George and William Raymond. Mr. Clark d. in 1827, ae. 65.

Dunster, Hubbard, from Westminster, was a cooper, residing on the place now occupied by Elijah Foster. He m. Rebecca, dau. of Benjamin Kendall; their ch. were:—1. Martin, m. Sarah Nichols. 2. Prudence, m. Isaac Fitts. 3. Rebecca, m. Gilman Robbins; whose ch. were:—George, Charles, Sarah, Caroline and Joseph. 4. Louisa. 5. Aseph, m. Sarah Stoddard; whose ch. were:—Lydia Ann, Caroline, Rebecca and Lucy. 6. Jane, m. Stephen Tyler; whose ch. were:—Mary Jane and Adaline. 7. Lydia, m. Joel Nichols; whose ch. were:—Eliza Ann, Frank and Emma.

Dapheny m. Mr. Parsons; they had one child whose name was Warren. Mr. Dunster d. in 1818, ae. 45.

Eaton, John, from Needham, located as a farmer in the north part of the town, where now resides his son, John Eaton. He was a soldier in the taking of Burgoyne's army. He m. Mary Larkin; their ch. were:—1. Lucy, m. Mr. Boyden; they had one child whose name was Mary Ann. 2. Josiah, m. Mary Weston; whose ch. were:—Merrick, Mary Ann, Josiah, Otis, Danford, George, Nancy and Charles. 3. Mary, m. Isaac Williams; whose ch. were:—Mary, Charles and Calvin. 4. John, m. Betsy Esty; whose ch. were:—George, Warren, Franklin, Eliza, John, Amasa, Mary, Maria and Oliver. 5. Nancy. 6. Peter, m. Catharine Coolidge; whose ch. were:—Mary Ann and Charles. His second wife was Mrs. Knowlton. Mr. Eaton d. in 1827, ae. 81.

Eaton, Ebenezer, from Needham, was a farmer in the south part of the town. He m. Joanna Hutchinson; their ch. were:—Ebenezer, Jonas and Sarah. His second wife was Mrs. Richardson; whose ch. were:—Betsy, George and Clarissa.

Eaton, Jonathan, (brother to the two last mentioned,) was a farmer, living in the west part of the town. He m. Bulah Ward; their ch. were:—1. Bulah. 2. Jonathan, d. 3. Joseph, d. 4. Benjamin, d. 5. Jonathan, m. Miss Lane. 6. Rebecca. Mr. Eaton d. in 1819.

Edgell, Joseph, from Westminster, was a farmer, living near the west village, where Charles Stacy now resides. He m. Dorcas ——; whose ch. were:—Charles, Nancy, Joseph, d., Rebecca, Joseph and Kendall. He moved back to Westminster many years ago.

Edgell, Benjamin, from Westminster, was a farmer and cooper, in the south part of the town, living where Joseph Metcalf now resides. He m. Priscilla Graves; their ch. were:—1. Susan. 2. Benjamin, m. Mary Ann Dollonson. 3. Catharine. 4. Priscilla, m. Newell Brown; whose ch. were:—Charles, Sarah and Henry. 5. Mary, m. Luther Alden; whose ch. were:—Luther and Silas. 6. Farewell, m. Mary Ann Sawin; whose ch. were:—Emily, d., Elvira C. and Emily Janette, d. His second wife was Mary Ann Minott; they had one child whose name was George. 7. Louisa. 8. Lucy, m. Aseph Wood; whose ch. were:—Pru cius M., d., Pruciis M., Amanda, Theophilus, d., Lucy Augusta, Theophilus and Adelia. His second wife was Abby H. Pierce; they had one child whose name was Eliza H. 9. Abigail, m. Edward L. Turner; whose ch. were:—Francis E., d., Martha P., Edward S., Frank H. and Harriet A. 10. Martha, m. Jonas Pierce; whose ch. were:—Calvin and Catharine, d. His second wife was Mrs. Nichols; they had one child whose name was Erastus N. Mr. Edgell d. in 1817, ae. 46.

Fisher, Gideon, was one of the first inhabitants of the town, living in the north part: was a great help to the place in clearing it of wild animals. He m. Mrs. Rebecca Hutchins; they had one child whose name was William. Mr. F. sold in a few years and left the place.

Foster, David, from Reading, was a farmer and carpenter. He was engaged in the Revolutionary war nine months, and was the last man who fled from the enemy at the battle of Bunker hill. He m. Betsy Minott; their ch. were:—1. Betsy, d. 2. Susanna. 3. David, d. 4. David. 5. Betsy. Mr. Foster d. in 1815, ae. 70.

Foster, Samuel, from Reading, lived in the west part of the town. He m. Elizabeth Boyden; their ch. were:—1. Lizzie. 2. Samuel, m. Mary Payson; they had one child whose name was Joseph Payson. His second wife was Mary Persons. 3. Dolly, m. Mr. French. 4. Peter. 5. Jesse. 6. Assenath. 7. Jonah. 8. Rufus.

Fairbanks, Levi, from Harvard, was a farmer in the east part of the town, where his son, Levi Fairbanks, now resides. He m. Eunice Randall; their ch. were:—1. Levi, m. Miss Anderson; whose ch. were:—Phebe, Walter, Mary and Stephen. His second wife was Mrs. Pierce. 2. Jabez, m. Abigail Seaver; whose ch. were:—Abigail and Louisa. His second wife was Nancy Temple; they had one child whose name was Sardis. 3. Ephraim, m. Susan Weston; whose ch. were:—Nelson, Elisha and Stephen. 4. Joseph, m. Ruth Jaquith; whose ch. were:—Harriet Newell, Ruth Jaquith, Joseph and Alonzo. 5. Eunice, m. Stephen Weston; whose ch. were:—Adaline, Stephen, Maria and Mary. 6. Lydia, m. Arba Brooks; whose ch. were:—Eunice and William. 7. Stephen, d. 8. Luke. Mr. Fairbanks d. in the year 1845, ae. 90. His wife d. in the year 1851, ae. 92.

Fairbanks, Noah, from Harvard, was a farmer in the west village, living where Lewis H. Graham now resides. He m. Hannah Whitcomb; their ch. were:—1. Emory, m. Eunice Heywood; whose ch. were:—Emory H., Francis J., James H., Elizabeth E., Joseph W., Susan A., Lucy Ann and Laura. 2. Noah. 3. Sewell, m. Susan Heywood; whose ch. were:—James H. and Sewell W. 4. Aseph, m. Hannah Whitcomb; whose ch. were:—Aseph Waldo, Joel Whitcomb and Martha Malvina. 5. Sophronia, m. Lewis H. Graham; whose ch. were:—Lucy Jane, Henry Lewis,

Mary Louisa and Lucius Fairbanks. 6. Hannah. 7. Lucy, m. Joseph Barker; whose ch. were:—Mary Lemira, Eliza Adaline and Martha Maria. 8. Joel, m. Esther Leland. Mr. Fairbanks d. in 1852, ae. 80.

Fenno, William, from Boston, was a farmer, living in the east part of the town; the place is now owned by Hosea Hadley. He m. Rachel Ray; they had one child whose name was Mary; who m. Abel Wood; their ch. were:—Lyman T., Hiram, Sophia, Dolly, Hannah, Cynthia, Joel and William. His second wife was Lydia Ray; whose ch. were:—1. William, m. Mary Corey; whose ch. were:—Samuel Farrar, Lucy Corey, Elmira, William Wood, Stephen, Mary, Lucinda and Frances Ann. 2. Asa, m. Grata Wheeler; whose ch. were:—David Dickerson, William Stone, Mary Emily, Jonas Wheeler, Ray, Elmira, Harriet and Joel. 3. Joel, m. Sarah Corey; whose ch. were:—Sarah Clarinda, Hezekiah Corey, Willard Jefts, Charles Alexander and Joel Carmillus. 4. Elmira, m. Joseph Carter; whose ch. were:—Mary Elizabeth, Adalaide and Eveline. 5. Lucinda, m. Washington Nichols; whose ch. were:—Eliza Jane, George Burknapp and Charles Monroe. 6. Lyman, m. Mary Miller; whose ch. were:—Jane Maria, Ella Isadore, George Henry and Hattie Augusta. Mr. Fenno d. in 1822.

Green, Israel, the fourth inhabitant of the town, lived one and one-half miles north-west from its center. He had four sons, who were mighty huntsmen, and were noted for killing bears. The sons all enlisted in the Revolutionary war; only one of them ever returned. He had one dau. who m. Josiah Baldwin. Mr. Green removed to Westminster before his death.

Green, Nathan, from Leicester, was a farmer, living in the north-easterly part of the town; he abstained from all spirituous liquors, and in that respect was almost an exception in those days. About the year 1820 his house was struck with lightning; Mr. Green and his wife felt the shock. It affected him like a stick of wood coming with force against his lower limbs. It stunned Mrs. Green. They heard no report, though it sounded to others like the firing of a gun; there was no rain; the hemisphere was diversified with light and brassy clouds; there appeared a black cloud in the center, "like a man's hand," from which it was supposed that the electrical fluid proceeded. The carpenter who repaired the house found it considerably shattered and thought there was not a nail but what was either drawn out, or started. He m. a French lady, Margaret, dau. of John D. Jersey, from the Island of Journsey. They had no children. Nathan Green, (a nephew of his,) lived with them from a child, to whom he gave his property; he m. Fanny Bicknell; they had one child whose name was Charles. Mr. Green d. in 1822, ae. 71.

Glazier, John, came from Shrewsbury in 1773; he owned a good farm in the center of the town, and kept a public house; was an honest, upright man, anxious to promote the welfare and prosperity of the town; he gave them the use of his house to hold their meetings in, until the meeting-house was built; it is the place that Asa Richardson now owns, and is supposed to be the oldest house in town. He m. Sarah, dau. of Isaac Temple, of Shrewsbury; their ch. were:—1. Smyrna, m. Bridget Foster; whose ch. were:—Bridget and Abram Foster. When Smyrna was about four years old he fell into a well and climbed out alone. When he was a young man he was very fond of a gun; he shot at

a hawk when flying high in the air, and brought it to the ground. At another time he shot at a flock of wild geese and killed two of them with a single ball as they were swimming in the pond. He obtained a good common education from his own industry, as schools were scarce in those days. He is now living, and the oldest person in town. His age is 92. 2. Lewis, m. Betsy Coolidge; whose ch. were:—John Coolidge and Sarah Temple. His second wife was Lucy Keyes; whose ch. were:—Betsy Coolidge, Thomas Edwin, Mary Ann, d., Smyrna Sylvester and Lewis Lysander, (twins,) d., Lucy Ann and Mary Keyes. 3. Ruth, m. Jonathan Prescott; whose ch. were:—Jonathan, Bushrod Washington, Elizabeth, William, Sarah, George and Ruth Ann. Mr. Prescott was the first merchant in Gardner; he built the house and lived where Francis Richardson, Esq. now resides: after living in town a few years he removed to Boston, where he was appointed constable, which office he held during life. He d. in 1852, ae. 92. 4. Elizabeth. 5. Sarah, d. in 1786, at the age of 1 year, and was the first one interred in the burying ground. Mr. Glazier d. in 1826, ae. 87.

Goodale, Peter, from West Boylston, was a farmer, residing on the place now occupied by Charles Green. He was a good townsman while he stayed, which was but a short time, when he sold and went back to West Boylston. He m. Abigail, dau. of Benjamin Hinds; whose ch. were:—Elizabeth, Benjamin, Jason, Peter, Aseph and Junia.

Greenwood, Jonathan, from Sherburne, was a farmer, and kept a public house in the south part of the town, where his son, Walter Greenwood, now resides. He m. Sybil Holbrook; their ch. were:—1. Alvin, m. Mary Childs; whose

ch. were :—Sophia, d., Sophia, Maria, Calvin S., Alvin Monroe, James Holbrook, Charles, William and Mary. 2. Sybil, d. 3. Jonathan, m. Phebe Temple; whose ch. were :—Walter, Louisa, Thomas, Betsy, Mason and Joel. 4. Walter, m. Rebecca Wright; whose ch. were :—Aaron, Emily, Martha, Rebecca, Edward W., George, Judson and Thomas. 5. Sybil, m. William Whitney; whose ch. were :—Sybil and Betsy. 6. Leonora, m. George W. Cowee; whose ch. were :—Sybil C., George Leander, Alvin G., Aaron, Mary M. and Adaline. His second wife was Sarah Wilcox; whose ch. were :—Frank, d., and Fred (twins,) Frank, Ellen E. and Hattie J. Mr. Greenwood d. in 1821, ae. 66.

Greenwood, Aaron, from Sherburne, was a farmer, in the south-west part of the town, where his grandson, Aaron L. Greenwood, now resides. He was three years in the Revolutionary war, and received a pension a number of years. He m. Anna Learned; their ch. were :—1. Charles, m. Betsy Temple; whose ch. were :—Aaron L., Francis T., Betsy, Edward and Asa Temple. 2. Anna. Mr. Greenwood d. in 1824, ae. 68.

Gates, Simon, moved from Westminster to Gardner without changing his residence; the town line crossing his farm, he had a right to belong to the town he chose, and being a just man, decided to come to Gardner, because he thought it his duty to go where he could do the most good. He had a good farm on what is called Beech hill, where his grandson, Horace Gates, now lives, and was one of the principal men in building up the town. He m. Susanna Reed; their ch. were :—1. Nathan, m. Abigail Knowlton; whose ch. were :—Nathan, Jeremiah, d., Abel, Aseph, Luke, d., Abi-

gail, Luther, Amos, Susannah, an infant dau., d., Lucinda, Clarissa, Jeremiah Knowlton, James Eliot and Benjamin Addison. 2. Simon, m. Sarah Taylor; whose ch. were:—Louisa, Simon Hazeltine, Horaee, Dennis, Mary and Dolly. 3. Daniel, m. Phebe Mosman; whose ch. were:—Daniel Merrick, Sophronia, Leonard Mosman, Lucy, Phebe, Charlotte and Solomon Keyes. 4. Reuben, m. — — —; their ch. were:—Samantha Keyes, Anna Mosman, Ezekiel, Darwin and Bial. 5. Ezekiel. 6. Elizabeth, d. 7. Elizabeth. Mr. Gates d. in 1803, ae. 63.

Holland, Joseph, from Boylston, was one of the first settlers in Gardner, his place is the one now owned by Capt. Joel Cowee. After living in town a few years he sold to Mr. Glazier and went north. At this time Mr. Heywood and Mr. Glazier owned about 300 acres of land in the center of the town. Mr. Holland m. Elizabeth Gleason; whose ch. were:—Joseph, James, Ruth and Ephraim.

Heywood, Seth, (son of Phineas Heywood, and grandson of Dea. John Heywood, of Concord.) who came from Sterling to Gardner, was one of the first settlers in town; had a good farm in the center of the town; he was also a blacksmith. He was a man of superior mind, and had a remarkable memory; being a great reader, he was able to relate a history of almost any book then known. He was a valuable member of society, and was greatly beloved by all who knew him. He was Lieutenant in the army at Cambridge nine months. He m. Martha, dau. of Isaac Temple of Shrewsbury; their ch. were:—1. Betsy. 2. John, m. Mary Hutchins; whose ch. were:—Mary, John and Betsy Lavette. 3. Sarah, m. Samuel Edgell; whose ch. were:—Betsy, Sarah, William, Mary, Lucinda and Samuel. 4. Ann, m. William Whit-

ney: whose ch. were:—William, Seth, Joseph, Althina, Anna, Hollis, Amasa and Lucy, (twins.) Mr. Whitney d. in 1846, ae. 81: his wife died so soon after, that their funerals were attended together. Her age was 76. 5. Mary, m. Joseph Boyden, M. D.; whose ch. were:—Mary, Wyat Clark, Lucy, Ebenezer, Fredrick and Joseph. After residing in Gardner a few years, Dr. Boyden left for Tamworth, N. H., where he became an eminent physician; but was suddenly cut off in the midst of life, by a fall from his horse. 6. Benjamin. m. Mary Whitney: whose ch. were:—Levi, Benjamin Franklin, Walter, William, Seth and Charles. 7. Martha. m. Samuel Sawin; whose ch. were:—Samuel Weston, Eliza Adaline, John Harrison and Levi Heywood. 8. Seth. 9. Lucy. m. Gardner Pollard; whose ch. were:—Lucy, Martha, Levi, Seth, Elmira, Nancy and Gardner. 10. Levi. m. Nancy Healy; whose ch. were:—John Healy\* and Benjamin Seth. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1808. Commenced the study of law, with Hon. Nathaniel Paine, of Worcester, and finished with Hon. Elijah Mills, of Northampton: admitted to the bar in 1811, and commenced practice in Worcester the same year. In Oct., 1818, he removed to Pickneyville, Louisiana, where he engaged in teaching school. Having kept an office in New York for a short period, he became Principal of the Academy in Hackensack, New Jersey. He again resumed practice in the city of New York, where he died in 1832, ae. 49. Mr. Heywood d. in 1817, ae. 89.

Hill. Marvrick, from Medway, was a farmer, residing in the north part of the town. His place was adjoining the Green

\* Graduated at Harvard College, was ordained at Worcester, as a Unitarian Minister in 1807, and settled soon after in Louisville, Kentucky, where he still resides.

place. He m. Abigail Moulton: their ch. were:—1. Moses. m. Lucy Adams; whose ch. were:—Elizabeth Clark, James Marvrick, Thomas Adams, Lucy, Cyrus, Clement, Hannah Adams, d., Moses, Isaac Watts, Hannah Adams, Millie, Sophia and Harriet Binam. (twins.) 2. Jesse. m. Keziah Brick; whose ch. were:—Keziah, Abigail, Gilbert, Sarah, Julia, Heman, Jesse and Mercy. 3. Bezaleel. m. Hannah Baker; whose ch. were:—Nancy, Caleb, Hannah, Lucy, Orinda, Bezaleel, Amza, Moses, Abigail Marvrick, Silas Baker and Lydia. 4. Nathaniel. m. Annis Whitecomb: whose ch. were:—Tamar, d., Lucinda, Mary, Elizabeth, d., Annis, Ebenezer, d., Nathaniel, d., Mercy, d., Tamar and Linda. 5. Mary. 6. Mercy. 7. Sylvenus. m. Charlotte Bacon: they had one child whose name was Sylvenus. Mrs. Hill d. in the year 1807. ae. 93. Many years ago, while they were having their garden plowed, Mr. Hill told his boys to be careful of a little apple-tree (of about two years growth,) as their mother was expecting to live to eat the fruit of it: she did live to see it bear thirty bushels of apples in a year. The day she was ninety years old, she committed to memory a hymn of Dr. Watts', with as much ease and accuracy as in early life. Spinning linen was her employment the last years of her life; she spun the warp for a web of thirty yards after she was ninety-three years old.

Hadley, Joseph, was one of the early settlers, residing as a farmer in the north part of the town. His ch. were:—Mehitable, Stephen and Nathan. There are none of his posterity now resident in town, and little can be learned with regard to them.

Hinds, Daniel, from West Boylston, was a farmer, living in the south part of the town. He m. Sarah Holbrook;

whose ch. were:—Sarah, James, Benjamin, Daniel and Milton. He moved back to West Boylston.

Howe, Ebenezer, from Templeton, located as a farmer about a mile north of the center of Gardner. The place is now owned by Peter Eaton. He m. Elizabeth Deland; their ch. were:—1. Tameson. 2. Perley, m. Jane T. Belcher; whose ch. were:—Betsy Deland, Sarah, Eli, Frances M., Ebenezer, Perley, Lydia, Jane R. and Emily Augusta. 3. Ezekiel, m. Susanna Payson; whose ch. were:—Ezekiel, Franklin, Joseph Payson, Samuel Stillman, Stowell, Mary Payson, Susan, George, David Monroe and Betsy. 4. Sarah, m. Silas Wood; whose ch. were:—Amos and Phebe. 5. Betsy, m. John Miller; whose ch. were:—Ebenezer, Eliza, Benjamin, Maria, Amos and Betsy. 6. Benjamin, m. Kesiah Hill; whose ch. were:—Benjamin, Amos, Sarah, Ebenezer Deland, Simeon, Mary Ann, Lucy and Harrison. 7. Amos, whose birth was the first in town after its incorporation; it occurred June 17th, 1785; he d. in 1805, ae. 20. His second wife was Mercy Hill. Mr. Howe d. in 1808, ae. 62.

Haynes, Reuben, from Sudbury, was a farmer, in the north part of the town; his land joined Winchendon. He was chosen Lieutenant of the first militia company formed in Gardner; was a soldier in the Revolutionary war three years, and sergeant part of the time; he received \$120 annually for some years as a pensioner. He m. Susanna Willis; their ch. were:—1. Susanna. 2. Ezra Willis, m. Martha Stone; whose ch. were:—Reuben, Mary and Martha Willis. Her second husband was Elisha Coolidge; whose ch. were:—Wesley and Charles. 3. Sarah, m. Jonathan Temple; whose ch. were:—Jerusha, Jonathan, and Willis.

4. Israel, d. 5. Eunice. 6. Reuben, d. 7. Ruth. 8. Rebecca. 9. Jerusha. 10. Asenath. Capt. Haynes d. in 1841, ae. 86.

Jackson, Elisha, from Westminster, was the first inhabitant in Gardner. He was a man of stability and force of character accompanied with sagacity; was a farmer, and kept a public house in the south part of the town where D. W. McFarland now resides. He m. Bulah Taylor; their ch. were:—1. Jemima, m. Ebenezer Keyes; whose ch. were:—Ebenezer, Elisha, Solomon, Lorenzo and Jemima. 2. Lucy, m. Aaron Wood; whose ch. were:—Lucy, Sarah and Aaron. His second wife was Bethia Beard; whose ch. were:—Moses, Cyrena, Asaph, Amanda, Emeline, Theophilus P.,\* and Abel S. 3. Bulah, m. Jonathan Brown; whose ch. were:—Jonathan, John, Charles, d., Elisha, Charles, Sarah, d., Sarah, Benjamin Babbitt, Lucy and Nancy. 4. Ruth, m. Nahum Wood; whose ch. were:—Louisa, Ruth, Catharine, Albert and Nahum Howard. 5. Elisha, m. Relief Beard; whose ch. were:—Phebe, Lucy, Elisha Stowell, Sophronia and Samantha, (twins,) Joseph Loring, Charles Weston, Elvira and Leonard Franklin. 6. Josiah, m. Arathusa

\* He had the misfortune to lose his father when a child, and, with his brothers, had to struggle with all the difficulties incident to a state of orphanage. In early life he had laid the foundation of a character for integrity and business talents seldom exceeded; and obtained an education superior to most of the young men at that time. It may be said in all his various transactions, he was high-minded and honorable, commanding the respect of a numerous acquaintance; his judgment was sound, active, and enterprising; being possessed of a candid and liberal mind, he saw things in their true and just relations, receiving the universal confidence of the community in which he lived. As a merchant he was courteous and affable, public-spirited and honorable. He was not long destined to follow in the path that opened to him so brightly; after disease had marked him for a prey, he visited a foreign clime, (Cuba) in hopes of recovery but of no avail: in his sickness he enjoyed the hopes and consolations of the gospel. He died soon after his return home, ae. 29.

Bacon ; whose ch. were :—Christiana Bacon, Arathusa Caroline, Josiah Alexander, Abigail Sanger and Eliza Adaline. 7. Ebenezer, m. Susanna Foster. 8. Abigail, m. Timothy Taft ; whose ch. were :—Lucy and Lueinda, (twins,) Proctor, Abigail and Roena. 9. Abel, m. Betsy Foster ; whose ch. were :—David Foster, Elizabeth, Susan, Harriet and Abel. Mr. Jackson d. in 1814, ae. 77.

Kendall, Benjamin, from Sherburne, was a farmer, in the south part of the town, dwelling where Walter Greenwood now resides. He m. Keziah Twichell ; their ch. were :—1. Aseph, m. Eunice Case ; whose ch. were :—William, Mary, Benjamin, James, Aseph, Timothy, Bethia and Daniel. His second wife was Hannah Batchelder ; whose ch. were :—Jane and Charles. 2. Rebecca, d. 3. Jonathan, m. Mary Nichols ; whose ch. were :—Aseph, Hubbard, Moses, Eunice, Orrison, Edmund, Cruso, Rebecca, Mary, Fanny and Harrison. 4. Rebecca. 5. Martin, m. Prudence Kendall ; whose ch. were :—Isaac, Mary, Alvin, Annis, David, Adeline, Bartlett Stoddard, Benjamin and Martin. 6. Anna, m. Marshall Stoddard ; whose ch. were :—Marshall, Anna, Jane and Benjamin. 7. Miriam, m. Bartlett Stoddard ; whose ch. were :—Bartlett and Nancy Keziah, d. 8. Keziah. Mr. Kendall d. in 1841, ae. 96.

Kneeland, Timothy, from Harvard, was the third inhabitant of the town ; (Samuel Cook was the second inhabitant of Gardner, and lived where Aaron L. Greenwood now resides ; nothing more can be ascertained concerning him, as he moved from town in the early part of its history.) He located about one and one-half miles west of the center of the town, (which was then Winchendon,) was a carpenter, had a good education and was much employed in town affairs. He was

a soldier in the Revolutionary war three years and three months. There are none of his descendants now residing in Gardner. Soon after they came here, (while they went by marked trees,) Mrs. Kneeland visited at Mr. Bancroft's, one of the neighbors; on her return home she lost the path and wandered several miles until she came to Otter river, and not knowing where she was, called loudly for help; having a child with her, they sat down on a log to rest, and being warm, she took off her bonnet; hearing a crackling of something coming towards her and thinking it must be a bear or a wolf, she screamed, when her own dog barked in answer: she always called that the most joyful moment of her life; when she got her child asleep she arose and told the dog to go home. She forgot her bonnet and never found it afterwards, or knew the place where the dog found her. Before the incorporation of the town they attended meeting in Templeton; at one time, the snow being deep, they put on rackets and walked four miles to meeting, carrying a child to be baptized. Mrs. Kneeland was a very enterprising woman, as the following anecdote will show: One night after her family had retired to rest she had ten yards to weave to complete the web; the cloth belonged to a lady in Templeton, and being in want of the pay she labored through the night and finished the web at the dawn of day. He m. Maria Stone; their ch. were:—1. Maria, m. Josiah Nichols; whose ch. were:—Andrew, Sarah, David, Levi, Sabria and Fanny. 2. Oliver, m. Betsy Baldwin; whose ch. were:—Israel, Lucy, Silas, Esther, Betsy, Levi, Abner and Edward. 3. John, m. Mary Johnson; whose ch. were:—Mary Cynthia, Electa, Lucy, Bial, Arza, Eliza and John W. 4. Miriam. 5. Asa, m. Hannah Cheney; whose ch. were:—John, Phyland, Hannah G., Dulcena, Asa, Maria, Abner, Leonard,

Sarah, Gardner and Averill. 6. Abner, m. Waity Ormsbee; whose ch were:—Waitstill, Sophronia and John S. His second wife was Lucinda Mason; whose ch were:—Lucinda and Abner O. His third wife was Mrs. Osburn. His fourth wife was a lady from Boston. Abner Kneeland, whose fame reached almost every country, was brought up in the good old-fashioned ways of our ancestors. Being naturally of a strong mind, he, with but little assistance, gained a good education, and was employed in the capacity of a school-teacher for some time. In 1802 he published a spelling-book of 200 pages, entitled the “American Definition Spelling Book.” He was engaged as a merchant for a time, but adhering to the principle of justice and honesty, depending upon prosperity for a living, the tide of fortune rolled the wrong way, and he gave up the business for the carpenter’s trade; saying, the only way to be rich, is to be contented with what you have; thus making the beggar as rich as the king could possibly be on his throne. In 1805 he was ordained as a Baptist minister in Langdon, N. H., and for several years was a member of that denomination. Afterwards he was a preacher of universal salvation for some years. Subsequently he became a deist, and was for many years the editor of the *Boston Investigator*. He d. in 1844, ae. 70. 7. Lucy, m. Paul Stearns; whose ch. were:—Timothy Kneeland, Lucy, Thomas, John Milton, (who is a Counsellor and Attorney at law, in Williamsburg, N. Y.) Sarah, Benjamin Franklin, (a merchant in Felchville, Vt.,) and George Washington, (twins,) (is a minister and physician in New Bedford, Mass.,) Paul W. and Honestus. 8. Sarah, m. Mr. Phinney. 9. Edward, d. 10. Silas, m. Martha Laws; whose ch. were:—Lucy, Maria, Martha, Ira, Joel, Nancy, Abel L. M., George W. S. and Mary. Mr. Kneeland d. in 1818, ae. 81.

Kelton, Samuel, from Needham, was a farmer, residing in the north part of the town, where his grandson, Charles Kelton, now lives. He m. Mary Leeds; their ch. were:—  
1. Lemuel, m. Martha Angier; whose ch. were:—Martha, Abigail and Samuel. 2. Esther. 3. Enos, m. Dorothy Winchester; whose ch. were:—Louisa, George, Selina, Charles and Lucinda. 4. William. 5. Eliam, m. Sophia Hosley; whose ch. were:—David and Nancy. Mary, m. Stillman Holden. Mr. Kelton was 79 years of age.

Kendall, Abel, from Sterling, was a farmer, residing in the east part of the town; was a very active man and much employed in town affairs. He staid in town but a few years. The name of his wife is not on record: their ch. were:—Abel, m. Betsy Childs; whose ch. were:—Betsy, Mary, Silas, d., Lucinda, Silas, Heman, d., Wilder, d., Ezra, Heman Wilder and Lima Sawyer.

Kemp, John, from Groton, was a miller, in the south part of the town. He m. Sarah Shattuck; their ch. were:—  
1. Jonathan, m. Fidelia Johnson. 2. Sarah, m. Amos Ray; whose ch. were:—Eliza Ann, Sarah Maria, Elvira and Charles Hudson. His second wife was Hephzibah Garfield; they had one child, whose name was Lucy G. 3. Betsy, m. Amos Gates; whose ch. were:—Walter, George, Webster and Adaline. 4. Amy, m. John Eaton; whose ch. were:—Thomas, Milley, Sarah, Nathaniel, James, Wendell, Simeon, Jefferson, Francis and Charles. 5. John, m. Sylvia Sawin. 6. Olive, m. Almond Ray; whose ch. were:—Malvina, Lucy Ann, Harriet, Elmira and Jane. 7. Naney, m. Benjamin A. Gates; whose ch. were:—Viola, Francis, Lucy, Mary, Isaac, Newell, Alvin, Hiram, Eliza, Edward and Ellen. 8. Lucy, m. David Kendall; whose ch. were:—Eliza, George,

Webster, Ellen, Josephine, Charles and Frank. Mr. Kemp d. in 1853, ae. 82.

Leland, Simeon, (son of Simeon, and grand-son of William Leland,) from Sherburne, settled as a farmer, where now resides Charles Green. He m. Rhoda Hill; their ch. were:—1. Lynda. 2. Hollis, m. Betsy Graves; whose ch. were:—Charles H., Simeon, Ebenezer Franklin, Almon Augustus, Aaron Sanford, Stephen Nelson, Eveline Elizabeth, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clinton and Alonzo Davis. 3. Bellarmine, m. Harriet Hill; whose ch. were:—Simeon, David W., Ezra, Rhoda, Levi, Bellarmine, d., and Bellarmine. 4. Simon, m. in the Western country, and was noted for trading with the Indians, who were very fond of whisky, and would often beg and plead for it; at one time an Indian plead so earnestly that Mr. Leland asked him if he would have a finger cut off, whereupon he laid his hand upon a block, willing to sacrifice it for whisky. Mr. L. did not accept his hand; whether the Indian got his whisky or not, I am unable to say. 5. Elbridge, m. Betsy Priest; they had one child whose name was Lucy R. His second wife was Eliza Punchon; whose ch. were:—H. N. Bolton, Edwin, Amasa P., Mary Ann, John, Edward, Jane O., Sarah E. and Rachel E. 6. Rhoda, m. Silas Seaver; whose ch. were:—Martha, Lynda, Mary, Amanda, Lucy, Samuel, Sanford, Smyrna and Rhoda Ann. Mr. Leland d. in 1823, ae. 64.

Lynde, William, from Malden, became an inhabitant of Gardner, and owned the valuable farm where his son, William S. Lynde, now resides. He was a valuable citizen. He m. Mary Waite; they had one child whose name was William Sargeant, who m. Christiana Comee; their ch. were:—

Mary Malvina, James Porter,\* Charles, Celia, Sarah Putnam and Leander Comee. His second wife was Mrs. Bolton; whose ch. were:—Oetavia Ann and Harriet Melinda, d. Mr. Lynde d. in 1841, ae. 76.

Learned, Samuel, from Cambridge, was a farmer and blacksmith, residing in the east part of the town. He m. Lydia Knapp; their ch. were:—1. William, m. Rebecca Nichols; whose ch. were:—William Howard, Lydia Knapp, Walter Nichols, Rebecca Lynde, Emily Adaline, Francis and Lucy Pierce. His second wife was Lois Davis; they had one child whose name was Myron. 2. Samuel, m. Abigail Jaquith; whose ch. were:—Samuel and John. His second wife was Jerusha Haynes; whose ch. were:—Turel and Jerusha. His third wife was Sarah Joslin; whose ch. were:—William and Frank. His fourth wife was Mrs. Eaton. 3. Lydia, m. Winslow Davis; whose ch. were:—Samuel, Mary L., Martha L., Silas, Porter, Charles and Sarah A. 4. Anna. 5. John, m. Maria Miller; whose ch. were:—John, Susan, Abby, Alonzo and Lucy. His second wife was Betsy Miller. 6 and 7. Mary and Martha, (twins;) Mary, m. Charles Green, whose ch. were:—Fanny, Mary, Nathan, Charles Henry and Emma Augusta. Martha, m. George M. Travers; whose ch. were:—Martha Elizabeth and Mary Frances. 8. Ebenezer Turel, m. Mary White; whose ch. were:—Sarah Matilda, Susan Tufts, Mary White, Lydia Knapp, Anna Martha, Ellen Maria and Josephine Dorr. Mr. Learned d. in 1847, ae. 77.

Matthews, John, from Holden, located as a farmer, where his grandson, Joel Matthews, now resides. He was a soldier

\*Now a practicing Physician in Athol.

in the Revolutionary war six months. He m. Patience Graves ; their ch were :—1. John, m. Mary Turner ; whose ch. were :—Abel, Edward Turner, Betsy Knowlton and Lucy. 2. Abel, m. Lucretia Wilder ; whose ch. were :—Parney and Abel. 3. Patience. 4. Joel, m. Sarah Coolidge ; whose ch. were :—Phebe, Joel, James Coolidge, Betsy Gould, Sarah, Lydia, Lewis Glazier, Hezekiah and Lucy Glazier. 5. Priscilla, m. Luke Baker ; whose ch. were :—Joel, Asa, Richard and Abel. 6. Lydia, m. Joel Fisher. 7. Phebe. 8. Hezekiah, Mr. Matthews d. in 1817, ae. 82.

Martin, Jonathan, came from Lunenburg in the year 1793, established himself as a farmer in the west part of the town ; the place is now owned by Seth Whitney. He m. Susanna Taylor ; their ch. were :—1. John. 2. David. 3. George, m. Fanny Brickley ; they had one child whose name was Susanna. He d. of the small pox in Montreal. 4. Jonathan, m. Lydia Dukley. 5. James, m. Lucy Travers ; whose ch. were :—David Taylor, Eliza Ann, Susan, James Loyd, John, Edwin and Edward, (twins,) Elijah Travers, George, Jonathan Walter.\* His second wife was Mary Wadsworth ; whose ch. were :—Lucy, Maria and Catharine. His third wife was Mary Upton ; whose ch. were :—Frederick, Mary and Lucy. His family are all singers and teachers in music and other branches of literature. 6. Susanna, m. Austin Parker ; whose ch. were :—Marion B., Frederick, Damaris, and Norman. 7. Betsy, d. 8. Betsy, m. Elijah Travers ; whose ch. were :—George Martin, Lydia Pierce, Charles Sumner, Fidelia Waterman, Betsy Lane Lawrence, Sarah Sergeant, Horace Parker, Elijah Clement and Otis Aureleas. 9. Lucy, m. Barton Geary ; whose ch. were :—Sarah Eme-

\* A practicing Physician in Worcester.

line, Stephen, Lucy Arminda, Martin Van Buren, Harris, Lafayette and Elmina. Mr. Martin d. in 1826.

Merriam, Jonathan, from Westminster, was a farmer in the north-east part of the town, where Asa Raymond now resides. He m. Betsy Harris; whose ch. were:—Jacob Harris, (was a minister, receiving his education at Bangor, Maine;) Nathan, Betsy Winchester, d., Sarah Harris, Samuel Harris, Milton and Betsy.

Miles, Oliver, from Concord, was a cabinet-maker, living where Mrs. Addison Gates now resides. He m. Sarah Joslin; their ch. were:—1. Orinda, m. Andrew Mentser; whose ch. were:—Orinda, William and Andrew. 2. John Joslin, m. Sarah Mosman; whose ch. were:—Ezra and George. 3. Charles, m. Sophia Brown. 4. Walter, m. Miss Ingalls. 5. Luke, m. Mary Ann Conant; whose ch. were:—Mary Ann and Luke. 6. Cyrus, m. Ann Whitney. 7. Harriet, m. Charles Crane. Mr. Miles removed from Gardner some years since.

Miles, John, from Concord, is now living with his daughter, about a mile east of the center of the town; was a farmer while he was able to labor. He m. Mary Mosman; their ch. were:—1. Mary. 2. Louisa, m. John Dalrymple; whose ch. were:—John Miles, William, George Healy, Mary Augusta, Laura Eliza, d., and Ellen Laura.

Nichols, David, from Reading; was a farmer and blacksmith. He resided near South Gardner, on the place now owned by Joseph Metcalf; was a valued citizen while he lived, but died in the prime of life. He m. Rebecca Burknapp; whose ch. were:—1. David, m. Rachel Howard; whose ch. were:—Lydia, David, Betsy, Isaac, Nathan, Rebecca,

Edmund, Amos, Elvira, Emily and Charles. 2. Kendall, m. Deborah Partridge; whose ch. were:—Amos, Aseph, Joseph, Burknap, Isaae and William; the two last mentioned were drowned while on an excursion of pleasure. 3. Rebecca. 4. Mary. 5. Isaae, m. Naney Dodge; whose ch. were:—Farwell, Nancy, Lucy and Lyman. 6. Asa, m. Mary Derby; whose ch. were:—Merrick, Burknap, Washington, Lucy and William. 7. Sarah. 8. Edmund, m. Esther Jackson; they had one child whose name was Franklin. His seeond wife was Rhoda Forbush; whose ch. were:—Esther, Edmund, Martha and Amos. 9. John, m. Betsy Stevens; whose ch. were:—Eliza, Betsy, Charles Curtis, John Loring, Thomas Otis, Abel Stevens, Mary and Martha, (twins,) and Franklin. Mr. Nichols d. at the age of 50.

Noyes, Adam, from Littleton, was a merchant in South Gardner, and also kept a public house. He m. Mehitable Tuttle; whose ch. were:—Henry Warren, Thomas Russel, Adam Simedor, Charles M. A., d., Maria Miriam and Charles Addison. He moved from Gardner many years ago.

Osgood, Jonathan, from Westford, was the first minister settled in Gardner; (he is spoken of more particularly in the ecclesiastical department.) He m. Orange Wardsworth; their ch. were:—1. Amelia Lewis Fenn. 2. Eliza Orange Wardsworth, m. Joshua M. Whitecomb; whose ch. were:—Jonathan O., Harriet E., Joshua M. and Charles W.\* 3. Jonathan Walter Dondolo, m. Eliza Barnard; they had one child whose name was Walter B. His second wife was Miss M. F. Stone; whose ch. were:—James S., Eliza F. and Caroline P. He graduated at Dartmouth College, was

\* Is now a Physician in Barre.

a physician in Templeton for many years, and is now residing in Greenfield. 4. Amanda Almira, m. Clement Jewett; whose ch. were:—George, Mary and Sarah. 5. Harrison Mortimer, m. Miss Leonard. Mr. Osgood d. in 1822, ae. 61.

Payson, Joseph, from Framingham, was a farmer and shoemaker, living in the east part of the town, where his grandson, Joseph P. Howe, now resides. He m. Mary Hill; their ch. were:—1. Mary. 2. Susanna. 3. Eleanor, m. Uriah Clapp. His second wife was Azubah Wilder; whose ch. were:—Asahel, Daniel, Mary, d., Bellona and Lovell. His second wife was Betsy Leach. His third wife was Mrs. Hale. Mr. Paysen d. in 1832, ae. 89.

Perley, Allen, from Ward, (now Auburn,) was a farmer, living where his son, Dea. Asa Perley, now resides. He m. Juda Case; their ch. were:—1. Susanna, m. Mr. Marsh; whose ch. were:—George, Daniel, Ebenezer, Presson and Susan. 2. Allen, m. Anna Greenwood; whose ch. were:—Martha, Sylvia, and Elizabeth. 3. Sarah. 4. David, m. Miriam Partridge; whose ch. were:—Almira, Anna, Thuseba, Hannah Bigelow, David, Mary Ann, Adam and Hiram, (twins,) d., Asa and Henry. 5. Anna, m. George W. Davis; whose ch. were:—Walter, George, Alonzo and Betsy. His second wife was Betsy Conant; whose ch. were:—Lyman, Leander, Anna Perley, Maria, Lucy Ann, Silas and Charles. His third wife was Miss Rich. 6. Asa, m. Mary Kendall; whose ch. were:—Mary Elmira, Asa Proctor, Charles Addison, William Porter, George Allen, James Munroe, Francis Walter, Theophilus Parsons, Leander Alonzo, Lewis F. and Ellen Maria.

Partridge, Jabez, from Sherburne, located as a farmer in

the south part of the town, where his grandson, Seneca Partridge, now resides. He was one of the first inhabitants of the town. He m. Anna Twichell; their ch. were:—1. Adam, d. 2. Deborah, m. Elisha Pierce; whose ch. were:—Nancy, Louisa, Elisha, Amos and Hannah. 3. Adam, m. Mary Jackson; whose ch. were:—Asa, Seneca, Oran, Caroline, Loenza, Adam, Mary and Louisa. 4. Hannah, m. Mr. Bigelow; whose ch. were:—Anna, Cynthia and Miriam. 5. Cynthia, m. Luke Whitney; whose ch. were:—Orison, Thuseba, d., Luke, Cynthia, Thuseba, William, Anna, Jerome, Mary, Eliza and Asa. 6. Miriam. 7. Henry.

Partridge, Reuben, from Sherburne, was a farmer, living in the south part of the town. He m. Mary Perry; their ch. were:—1. Deborah. 2. Mary, m. Samuel Hill; whose ch. were:—Amos, Moses, John, Nathaniel and William.

Pierce, John, was a farmer, living in the east part of the town. He left Gardner many years since. The names of their ch. were:—Nathan, Lucy, Peter, Abigail, John and Susanna.

Priest, Joseph, from Winchendon, located as a farmer in the west part of the town, where now resides Nahum Wallace. He m. Patience Stiles; their ch. were:—1. Levi, m. Hannah Woodbury; whose ch. were:—Joseph, Milo, Levi Woodbury, Francis Dana and Nancy. His second wife was Prudence Hyde. 2. Joseph. 3. Lucy. 4. Jacob, m. Mary Clark; whose ch. were:—Joseph, Willard, Mary, Martha, Betsy, Lucy, Eliza and Harriet. 5. Betsy. 6. Caleb, m. Louisa Gage; whose ch. were:—Lorenzo S., Caleb A., Julius W., George B., Calvin Monroe, Francis O. and Nancy L. Mr. Priest d. in 1814, ae. 60.

Penniman, Ezra, from Braintree, was a farmer, in the west part of the town, where Heman Ray now resides. He m. Lovisa Eager; their ch. were:—1. Lovisa, m. Uriah Merritt. 2. Abigail, m. Isaiah Howe; whose ch. were:—Sylvester, Almira and Franklin. 3. Benjamin. 4. Sarah, m. Jesse Hill; whose ch. were:—Joseph Milton, Sarah, Edwin, Calvin and Eliza. Her second husband was Benjamin Wood; whose ch. were:—Betsy, Amanda, Lowell, Oliver, George Franklin and Mary Ann. 5. Mary, m. Mr. Chevers. 6. Betsy, d. 7. Susan, m. I. Sumner Merritt; whose ch. were:—Simeon and Ezra. 8. Tabitha, m. Granville Williams. Her second husband was Mr. Bacon. Mr. Penniman d. in 1823.

Putnam, John, from Danvers, was a farmer, in the east part of the town. He m. Anna Penniman; their ch. were:—1. John. 2. Amasa, m. Mary Temple; whose ch. were:—Amasa, Mary Temple, Lucy, Martha Barker, Nancy, Sarah W. and Betsy Heywood. 3. Nancy, m. Joseph Whitney; whose ch. were:—Ivers, Eliza and Caroline. 4. Elijah, m. M. Elmira Bancroft; whose ch. were:—Mary E., Viola and William. 5. William, m. Mary Ann Flood; whose ch. were:—Mary Ann, Emeline, Louisa, William Elijah, Lucy Adalaide, James Amasa and Ivers John. Mr. Putnam's age was 77.

Pratt, Aaron, resided in the south-east part of the town. He m. Betsy —; their ch. were:—1. Aaron. 2. Betsy. 3. Mercy. 4. John. 5. Lovisa. 6. Susanna. 7. William, m. Sarah Matthews; whose ch. were:—Aaron, Otis, Sarah, Joel, William, Walter and Eliza. 8. Russel, m. Ann Wheeler; whose ch. were:—John, Henry and Charles. Mr. Pratt d. in 1812.

Richardson, Jonas, from Worcester, located in the north-east part of the town, where Stillman Holden now resides; he was a shoe-maker, and like other people of that occupation in those days, would take his tools and go about from house to house making up shoes for the year. He m. Mary Bailey; their ch. were :—1. Azubah, m. Benjamin Pierce; whose ch. were :—Benjamin and Azubah. 2. Abel, m. Sarah Lincoln. His second wife was Mrs. Whitecomb. 3. Mary, m. Benjamin Hill; they had one child whose name was John. 4. Betsy, m. Jonathan Currier; whose ch. were :—Mary, Hannah, Betsy, Nathan and Almira. 5. Persis. 6. Hattie, m. Daniel Currier; whose ch. were :—Joseph and Benjamin, (twins,) and Lucinda. Her second husband was Robinson Howe; whose ch. were :—Huldah, Catharine, Sophia and Mary. 7. Jonas, m. Abigail Currier; whose ch. were :—Mary Jane, Charles and Abel. 8. Asa, m. Elizabeth Glazier; whose ch. were :—Lydia, Elizabeth, d., Francis, Lucy, Jonas, Persis, d., and Isaac. 9. Nathan, m. Sophia Boutelle; whose ch. were :—Thomas B., Louisa B., Charles, Loenza B., Henry H., Jonas Bailey and Sarah Sophia. His second wife was Lydia Woodbury; they had one child whose name was Levi, m. Lovisa Pratt; whose ch. were :—Lydia Elizabeth, Mason and Jason, (twins.) Mr. Richardson d. in 1815, ae. 72.

Reed, David, from Stowe, was a farmer in the south-east part of the town; he had a house burnt many years ago; being frightened, he carried out a tub of sap that was supposed to have been sufficient to have extinguished it, had he applied it to that purpose. He m. Naomi Wright; their ch. were :—1. Abram. 2. Asa, d. 3. David, m. Mary Smith; whose ch. were :—David, d., Allen, d., David, Joel and Mary Naomi. 4. Asa, m. Rhoda Brooks; whose ch.

were :—Mary Ann, Rhoda Elizabeth and David Washburn. Mr. Reed d. in 1820, ae. 66.

Saunders, Samuel, from Ashby, was a farmer, living in the south-east part of the town, where his grand-son, Franklin Saunders, now resides. He m. Lydia Boynton; their ch. were :—1. Lydia and Sarah, (twins,) Lydia, m. Philemon Staey; whose ch. were :—John, Philemon, and Joseph. Her second husband was William Fortiner. Sarah, m. Whitman Austin. 3. Abigail, m. Jonas Shepherd. 4. Patience, m. Oliver Clark. 5. Ruth, m. Isaac Holbrook. 6. Lucy, m. Asa Fairbanks. 7. Samuel, m. Rachel Turner; whose ch. were :—Rachel, John, Joseph and Samuel. 8. Moses, m. Sarah Underwood; whose ch. were :—Betsy, d., Cynthia, d., Amos Underwood, d., Willard, Maria, Franklin, Eunice, Amos, Isaac, Jacob Wright and Joseph Lee. 9. Jonas, m. Hannah Trask. 10. Aaron, m. Sarah Gragg. 11. Abram, m. Betsy Trask.

Stone, Samuel, from Groton, purchased a lot of wild land in the north part of the town; the same that is now the town farm; he cleared the land and erected buildings thereon; he was a very substantial man, and a great help in building up the town. He m. Martha Wilder; their ch. were :—1. Eunice, m. Israel Stone; whose ch. were :—Simon, Ausbon, Nelson and Mary. 2. Samuel, m. Susan Haynes; whose ch. were :—Martha, Reuben, Susan, Joseph, Willis and Betsy. 3. Joseph, m. Miss Stiles; whose ch. were :—Harvey and Hezekiah. 4. Josiah, m. Eunice Haynes; whose ch. were :—Mary, Eunice, Susan, Martha and Ezra. 5. Martha. 6 and 7. Benjamin and Oliver, (twins;) Benjamin, m. Lucy Wheeler; whose ch. were :—Leonard, d., Ai, Calvin, Albert, Leonard, Samson, Lucy and Judson. His

second wife was Susannah Rolph. Oliver, m. Miss Bradley ; whose ch. were :—Mary, Miranda and Betsy. 8. Mary, m. Jonas Patch ; they had one child whose name was Mary. 9. Abram, m. Abigail Barrel ; whose ch. were :—Abigail, Lydia, Mary, Abram and Fanny. 10. Diedamia, m. Joel Walker ; whose ch. were :—Miriam, Emily, Bellona, Louisa, Lucy, Raymond, Alvah, Martha and Charles. 11. Miriam. Mr. Stone d. in 1831, ae. 80.

Stone, Simon, from Templeton, was a farmer, and had a saw-mill where Ai Stone now resides. He m. Rhoda Stone ; whose ch. were :—Rhoda and Simon. His second wife was Miss Boynton ; they had one child whose name was Joseph Whitemore. His third wife was Keziah Kendall. Mr. Stone moved from Gardner many years since.

Sawyer, Jude, from Lancaster, bought a place in the south part of the town, now occupied by Ezekiel Gates ; was a farmer and blacksmith, and was noted for making steel traps ; he made one after he was ninety years of age. He m. Phebe Keyes. Mr. Sawyer d. in 1843, ae. 93.

Simonds, Elijah, from Shirley, was a farmer, living in the south part of the town. He m. Abigail — ; their ch. were :—1. Elizabeth, d. 2. Elijah, d. 3. Elijah, m. Persis Richardson ; whose ch. were :—Mary, Asa and Sumner Jackson. 4. Jonathan. 5. Ezekiel. 6. David. 7. Abigail, d. 8. Asa. 9. Abigail. 10. Lucy.

Simonds, Joseph, from Boston, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and noted for his bravery and faithfulness ; the sentinel's post being dangerous, but few were willing to occupy that place : Mr. Simonds was a volunteer in that department for the sake of the compensation ; he used to

tell a story of its being so dark one night that he “could n’t hold up his hand;” meaning that he could not see it were it before him. He m. Miriam Pratt.

Sawin, Benjamin, from Westminster, was a farmer, residing about a mile south of the centre of the town; the place is now owned by G. F. Parish. He m. Luey Laws; whose ch. were:—Luey and Benjamin.

Seaver, Ethan, from Westminster, was a farmer, in the east part of the town. He m. Lydia — ; their ch. were:—1. Luther, m. Eunice Holden; whose ch. were:—Sarah Holden, Luther, Mary Bancroft and John Holden. 2. Lydia, m. Mr. Bancroft. 3. Aaron, m. Louisa Fairbanks; whose ch. were:—Abigail, Fanny, Joseph and Lucy. Mr. Seaver d. in 1823, ae. 58.

Scollay, James, from Ashburnham, was a farmer, in the east part of the town, where John Brinkman now resides. He m. Dolly Corey; their ch. were:—1. Dolly, m. Amasa Whitney; whose ch. were:—Charles and James. 2. Sarah, m. David Parker, M. D., his first wife was Eliza Sawin; whose ch. were:—Lucy, Eliza, d., and Horace Fletcher. His second wife was Sarah Scollay; they had one child whose name was Eliza. 3. James, m. Lucy M. Young; whose ch. were:—George and Lucy Maria. 4. Charles, m. Elizabeth A. Garfield. 5. Lucy, m. Alfred H. Brick; whose ch. were:—Francis, Eliza, d., and Harriet Shattuck. His second wife was Martha C. Mahoney; whose ch. were:—George A., Henry H., Charles E. and Helen M. 6. Ezra. Mr. Scollay d. in 1852. ae. 69.

Temple, Ephraim, from Shrewsbury, was a farmer, resid-

ing on the place now occupied by his grand-son, Seth H. Temple. He m. Elizabeth, dau. of Jacob Hinds, of Shrewsbury. His second wife was Mary Farrar; their ch. were:—  
1. Francis, was drowned on his way home from Maine, in consequence of a storm, and was cast away on the shore of the town of Rye. 2. Isaac, m. Elizabeth Houghton. 3. Ephraim, m. Sybil Ray; whose ch. were;—Mary, Nancy, Asa, d., and Phebe. At the age of sixteen, he enlisted as a soldier in the army, and was on duty most of the time during the Revolutionary war; he was taken prisoner by the enemy and carried to New York; after much suffering, was redeemed by way of exchange. After the war was over he spent the remainder of his days in Gardner, as a farmer, residing where his daughter, Mrs. Holden, now lives. He received a pension for many years, and d. in 1840, ae. 80.  
4. Ezra, it is supposed that he died in the army. 5. Ahio, m. Elizabeth Heywood; whose ch. were:—Martha, Betsy, Francis, d., Mary, Ahio, d., Asa, Seth Heywood and Lucy, d. He cleared the land and brought it to cultivation, where his son, Seth H. Temple, now lives; he possessed an enterprising spirit, was useful and instrumental in building up the town. He d. in 1834, ae. 70. 6. Loammi. Mr. Temple d. in West Boylston, in 1789, ae. 62.

Wheeler, Josiah, from Westminster, was a farmer, in the east part of the town; was one of the first thirty of the early settlers; he was engaged in the French war a short time. This place is now occupied by Asa Smith. He m. Lucy Graves; their ch. were:—1. Priscilla, d. 2. Lucy, m. Jonathan Whitney. 3. Abigail. 4. Dolly. 5. Patience, d. 6. Richard. 7. Josiah. 8. Betsy. 9. Levi, d. 10. Reuben, m. Betsy Nichols; whose ch. were:—David, Cal-

vin, Josiah Mason, Reuben, Elvira and Charles Addison. Mr. Wheeler d. in 1823.

Wood, Elijah, was a farmer, in the south-west part of the town. He m. Isabella —; whose ch. were:—Isabella, Elijah Bixby, Susanna, Eunice, Abel, Dolly and Timothy. Nothing more could be ascertained with regard to Mr. Wood or his family.

White, John, from Lexington, was a farmer, in the east part of the town, and settled on the place now owned by John Brinkman. He m. Ruth Holden; their ch. were:—1. Betsy. 2. Abigail, d. 3. John, m. Persis Cowee; whose ch. were:—John, Louisa, Horatio Nelson, Abner and Leander. 4. Mary, m. John Parker; whose ch. were:—Lucy, d., Adaline, d., Oscar Alonzo, Frederick, Mary, Lucy White and Abner White. 5. Augustine. 6. Abner. 7. Rebecca. 8. Lucy. 9. Abigail. Mr. White d. in 1806, ae. 59.

Wilder, Josiah, from Sterling, was a farmer, in the north part of the town, where Eliam Kelton now resides. He m. Hezediah Larkin; their ch. were:—1. Azubah. 2. Katie, m. Abel Burpy; whose ch. were:—Samuel Stillman, Mary Ann, Catharine Wilder, Sophia, Relief and James. His second wife was Joanna Baker; whose ch. were:—1. Hezediah. 2. Josiah, m. Mary Wheeler; whose ch. were:—Betsy, Mary, Clarissa and Josiah. 3. David. 4. Isaac, m. Percia Jones; whose ch. were:—Homar, Isaac, Asa, Mary, Abel and David. 5. Joanna. Mr. Wilder d. in 1826, ae. 76.

Wheeler, Joel, from Concord, located as a farmer in the north part of the town; the place is now owned by his

grand-son, Francis L. Wheeler ; he built a grist and saw-mill near where John Cowee's mill now stands. He m. Dorcas Stearns ; their ch. were :—1. Timothy, m. Mary Stearns ; whose ch. were :—Stephen and Timothy. 2. Mary. 3. Lucy. 4. Joel, m. Martha Kelton ; whose ch. were :—Horatio Perkins, Francis Lincoln, Edwin Jewett and Lucretia Ann. His second wife was Lydia Emerson ; whose ch. were :—Betsy Emeline, Lucy L., d., and Mary L., d. 5. Betsy, m. Edward Lowd. Mr. Wheeler d. in 1807, ac. 58.

Whitcomb, Jonathan P., was a farmer, in the east part of the town. He m. Tamar — ; their ch. were :—1. Jonathan, m. Eunice — ; whose ch. were :—David, d., Eunice, David, Isaac, Mary and Thomas. 2. Annis. 3. Lucinda. 4. Sullivan. 5. Abram. Mr. Whitecomb left town many years since and little is known to us with regard to his family.

Wilder, Elijah, was a farmer, living in the west part of the town. He m. Azubah Larkin ; whose ch. were :—Mary, Asawell, Persis, Phenice and Eri. The remainder of their history is unknown to us.

Whitney, Joshua, from Harvard, was a farmer, in the south part of the town, where his son, Joseph Whitney, now resides : he was engaged in the Revolutionary war three years. He m. Vashti Knight ; their ch. were :—1. Oliver, m. Rebecca Nichols ; whose ch. were :—Joanna, Joshua, Benjamin, Sarah, Asa, Fidelia, William and Filetus. 2. Dorcas, m. Edmund Nichols ; whose ch. were :—Joel and Betsy. 3. Dolly. 4. Joseph, m. Nancy Sawin ; whose ch. were :—Joshua Avery, Fidelia, Asaph Blakely, Mary Jane, d., Marietta, Nancy Jane, Abigail, Joseph Lincoln, Harriet Newell,

Mary Sawyer, Frederick and Harvey. 5. Dolly, m. Asa Holden; whose ch. were:—Eliza, Salome, George and Calvin. 6. Joshua, d. 7. John, m. Rachel Osgood; whose ch. were:—Elvira, Harrison, Martha, Charles, Dexter and Jane. 8. Joel, d. 9. Silas, d. 10. Ebenezer. d. 11. Silas. 12. Mary, m. John Sawyer; whose ch. were:—Annis M., Silas and Mary A. Mr. Whitney d. in 1812, ae. 58.

Wood, Jonathan, was a farmer, in the south-west part of the town, where J. P. Allen now resides. He m. Anna — ; their ch. were:—1. Jonathan, m. Betsy Bancroft; whose ch. were:—Mary Bancroft, Betsy, Almon and Smyrna. His second wife was Sarah Perley; whose ch. were:—Sarah Case and Nelson Perley. His third wife was Mrs. Morse. 2. Catharine. His second wife was Lois — ; whose ch. were:—Benjamin, Windsor and Oliver. Mr. Wood d. in 1818.

Wright, Joseph, from Sterling, was a farmer, in the south part of the town, where George W. Cowee now resides. He m. Rebecca Nichols; their ch. were:—1. Rebecca. 2. Joseph, m. Nancy Eaton; they had one child whose name was Charles Addison. 3. Nathaniel, m. Susan Edgell; whose ch. were:—Susan, Marcus, Thomas, Francis and Martha. 4. Lucy. 5. Ephraim, m. Cyrena Wood; they had one child whose name was William Wood, d. His second wife was Sarah W. Bancroft. His third wife was Eliza Brick; their ch. were:—William Wood, Edwin, d., Eliza, d., Edwin, Charles, Henry and Anna Eliza. 6. Martha, m. Levi Heywood; whose ch. were:—Calvin, Mary Whitney, Charles, Solon and Helen. 7. Louisa, m. Hiram Clark; whose ch. were:—Harrison Otis, Joseph Wright, George

Damon, Cyrus Porter, Eliza M., Louisa A., James F., Mary, Martha, Frederick and Charles. 8. Edward, m. Catharine Conant. 9. David, m. Elizabeth Gay; whose ch. were:—Catharine Augusta and Ellen Elizabeth. 10. Mary, m. Abijah M. Severy.\* 11. Emily, m. Seth Heywood; whose ch. were:—Henry, George, Frances and Mary. Mr. Wright d. in 1824, ae. 64.

\* By industry and integrity Mr. Severy acquired a handsome property, a part of which he bequeathed in the following manner: \$3,000 to be placed in the hands of Trustees, the income of which is to be paid for the support and maintenance of the Gospel in connection with the Baptist Church and Society. Also, \$1,000, the income of which is to be paid for the encouragement of Sacred Music in said Church and Society. He left \$1,000, the income to be paid for the support of a School in the south village; also, he gave in Cash to the Social Library Association of said village, \$100; and left \$500, the income to be paid to said Library Association.

By his benevolence he has caused the inhabitants of the village in which he resided, to cherish his memory with gratitude. Mr. Severy d. in 1842, ae. 34.

## TOWN HISTORY.

The first warrant for a town meeting in Gardner, was issued by Nicholas Dyke, Esq., of Westminster, directed to Peter Goodale, of Gardner, ordering him to warn all the male inhabitants of Gardner, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the house of John Glazier, on Monday, the 15th of August, 1785, for the purpose of choosing all town officers, as the law directs, for annual March meetings.

The meeting was opened by Nicholas Dyke, Esq.

At a town meeting held September, 1785,

Voted, that it is the opinion of the Town, that the county road leading from Royalston to Westminster, ought to go through the center of Gardner.

Voted, to build a meeting-house 60 feet in length, and 45 in width, with two porches. Chose a Committee to select a building spot for the same.

Voted, and chose Samuel Kelton, Joseph Bacon, John White, Moses Hill, Committee, to draw a plan of the house ; also, to see what stock is needed for the same.

Voted, and chose Elisha Jackson, Samuel Kelton, Simon Gates, Committee, to hire preaching.

Voted, to hire four Sabbaths ; also, that the Town allow accounts, and that the Town Clerk provide books for keeping the records.

Voted, that the Selectmen take a deed of Seth Heywood for four acres of land for the common, and give him security for the same in behalf of the Town. The price of the land is \$100.

Voted, to lay out the road two rods wide. Also, that the annual meeting be held on the first Monday in March.

Voted, to let out the framing and finishing the outside of the meeting-house. Joseph Bacon took the job with the addition of laying the floor, making the doors and windows,—also, painting the house, the Town furnishing the materials,—for \$575. The remainder of the work was let out in small jobs to different individuals.

About this time the people of Massachusetts were in much distress on account of the scarcity of money, and many, perhaps not without some

reason, supposed the trouble arose from the mal-administration of the affairs of government.

The discontented portion of the people were called insurgents, and were led by a Mr. Shays; hence the name of "Shays' rebellion." To show the energy of the first settlers of this town, when they undertook to accomplish an object, the following extract of a town meeting, held September 25th, 1786, is inserted.

It appears that a convention of reformers was to be holden at Paxton.

Voted, to send a delegate to the convention at Paxton. Made choice of Capt. Samuel Kelton.

Voted, to choose a Committee of three to give directions to the delegate chosen.

Chose William Bickford, David Foster, Elijah Wilder, Committee.

Voted, to adjourn this meeting for two hours, then to meet at this place. Met agreeable to the adjournment. The Committee make their Report as follows:

Whereas, the difficulties and tumults that are rising by reason of the scarcity of money, and large salaries to support government, and high fees of officers at large:

We desire that you will use your influence

that the salaries may be taken down, and salaries given that may be handsome for their support, and not so burdensome to the people at large ; and that the lawyers and inferior Courts may be annihilated, and also that the General Court might not make any grants of State lands to any person except it is to pay State charges ; also, that the General Court may be removed out of Boston into some Country town.

*To Captain SAMUEL KELTON, chosen to sit in Convention.*

WILLIAM BICKFORD,  
DAVID FOSTER,  
ELIJAH WILDER, } Committee.

Gardner, Sept. 25th, 1786.

Voted, to accept of the Report of this Committee.

It may be interesting here to insert an extract from Lincoln's History of Worcester, giving an account of the Insurrection in Massachusetts.

“ The struggles of the Revolution were hardly terminated, ere disturbances arose among the people, which, in their progress, brought the Commonwealth to the very verge of ruin.

Could the existence of insurrection and rebellion be effaced from memory, it would be wanton outrage to recall from oblivion the tale of misfortune and dishonor. But

those events cannot be forgotten: they have floated down in tradition: they are recounted by the winter fire-side, in the homes of New England: they are inscribed on roll and record in the archives and annals of the State. History, the mirror of the past, reflects, with painful fidelity, the dark as well as the bright objects from departed years; and although we may wish to contemplate only the glowing picture of patriotism and prosperity, the gloomy image of civil commotion is still full in our sight, shadowing the background with its solemn admonition.

The investigation of the causes of the unhappy tumults of 1786, does not belong to the narrative of their local effects on one of the principal scenes of action. But it would be great injustice to omit the statement, that circumstances existed, which palliate, though they do not justify the conduct of those who took up arms against the government of their own establishment. After eight years of war, Massachusetts stood, with the splendor of triumph, in republican poverty, bankrupt in resources, with no revenue but of an expiring currency, and no metal in her treasury more precious than the continental copper, bearing the devices of union and freedom. The country had been drained by taxation for the support of the army of Independence, to the utmost limit of its means; public credit was extinct, manners had become relaxed, trade decayed, manufactures languishing, paper money depreciated to worthlessness, claims on the nation accumulated by the commutation of the pay of officers for securities, with a heavy and increasing pressure of debt resting on Commonwealth, corporations and citizens. The first reviving efforts of commerce overstocked the markets with foreign luxuries and superfluities, sold to those who trusted to the future to supply the ability of pay-

ment. The temporary act of 1782, making property a tender in discharge of pecuniary contracts, instead of the designed remedial effect, enhanced the evils of general insolvency, by postponing collections. The outlandish demands of the royalist refugees, who had been driven from large estates and extensive business, enforced with no lenient forbearance, came in to increase the embarrassments of the deferred pay day. At length, a flood of suits broke out. In 1784, more than 2000 actions were entered in the County of Worcester, then having a population less than 50,000, and in 1785, about 1,700. Lands and goods were seized and sacrificed on sale, when the general difficulties drove away purchasers. Amid the universal distress, artful and designing persons discerned prospect for advancement, and fomented the discontent by inflammatory publications and seditious appeals to every excitable passion and prejudice. The Constitution was misrepresented as defective, the administration as corrupt, the laws as unequal and unjust. The celebrated papers of Honestus, directed jealousy towards the judicial tribunals, and thundered anathemas against the lawyers, unfortunately for them, the immediate agents and ministers of creditors. Driven to despair by the actual evil of enormous debt, and irritated to madness by the increasing clamor about supposed grievances, it is scarcely surprising that a suffering and deluded people should have attempted relief, without considering that the misery they endured, was the necessary result from the confusion of years of warfare.\*

\* Could we roll back the tide of time, till its retiring wave left bare the rocks on which the Commonwealth was so nearly wrecked, it is not improbable we should discover, that a loftier and more dangerous ambition, and wider, deeper and more unhallowed purposes urged on and sustained the men who were pushed into the front rank of rebellion, than came from the limited ca-

Before the close of the revolutionary contest, whose pressure had united all by the tie of common danger, indications of discontent had been manifested. The acts of the Legislature had excited temporary and local uneasiness in former years, as the operation of laws conflicted with the views of expediency or interest entertained by the village politicians. But in 1782, complaints arose of grievances, springing from the policy and administration of government, of more genial character. On the 14th of April, of that year, the delegates of twenty-six towns of the county assembled in convention, and attributing the prevailing dissatisfaction of the people to want of confidence in the disbursement of the great sums of money annually assessed, recommended instructions to the representatives to require immediate settlement with all public officers entrusted with the funds of the Commonwealth; and if the adjustment was delayed or refused, to withdraw from the General Court, and return to their constituents: to reduce the compensation of the members of the House, and the fees of lawyers; to procure sessions of the Court of Probate in different places in the county; the revival of confessions of debt; enlargement of the jurisdiction of justices of the peace to £20—contribution to the support of the continental army in specific articles instead of money: and the settlement of accounts between the Commonwealth and Congress. At an adjourned session, May 14th, they further recommended,

pacity of their own minds. We might find that the accredited leaders of 1786, were only humble instruments of stronger spirits, waiting in concealment, the results of the tempest they had roused. Fortunately, the energy of government, gave to rising revolution the harmless character of crushed insurrection, saved to after years the inquiry for the catalines of the young republic, and left to us the happy privilege of receiving the coin, impressed with the mark of patriotism, at its stamped value, without testing its deficiency of weight, or assaying the metal to determine the mixture of alloy.

that account of the public expenditures should be annually rendered to the towns; the removal of the General Court from Boston; separation of the business of the Common Pleas and Sessions, and inquiry into the grants of lands in Maine, in favor of Alexander Shepherd and others.

The first open act of insurrection, followed close upon the adjournment of the convention held at Leicester, in August. Although warning of danger had been given, confiding in the loyalty of the people, their love of order, and respect for the laws, the officers of government had made no preparations to support the Court to be held in Worcester, in September, 1786. On Monday night of the first week in that month, a body of eighty armed men, under Captain Adam Wheeler, of Hubbardston, entered the town and took possession of the Court House. Early the next morning their numbers were augmented to nearly one hundred, and as many more collected without fire-arms. The Judges of the Common Pleas had assembled at the house of the Hon. Joseph Allen. At the usual hour, with the Justices of the Sessions, and the members of the bar, attended by the clerk and sheriff, they moved towards the Court House. Chief Justice Artemas Ward, a General of the Revolution, united intrepid firmness with prudent moderation. His resolute and manly bearing on that day of difficulty and embarrassment, sustained the dignity of the office he bore, and commanded the respect even of his opponents. On him devolved the responsibility of an occasion affecting deeply the future peace of the community, and it was supported well and ably.

On the verge of the crowd thronging the hill, a sentinel was pacing on his round, who challenged the procession as it approached his post. Gen. Ward sternly ordered the

soldier, formerly a subaltern of his own particular regiment, to recover his levelled musket. The man, awed by the voice he had been accustomed to obey, instantly complied, and presented his piece, in military salute, to his old commander. The Court, having received the honors of war, from him who was planted to oppose their advance, went on. The multitude receding to the right and left, made way in sullen silence, till the judicial officers reached the Court House. On the steps was stationed a file of men with fixed bayonets: on the front, stood Capt. Wheeler with his drawn sword. The crier was directed to open the doors, and permitted to throw them back displaying a party of infantry with their guns levelled as if ready to fire. Judge Ward then advanced and the bayonets were turned against his breast. He demanded repeatedly, who commanded the people there; by what authority, and for what purpose they had met in hostile array. Wheeler at length replied; after disclaiming the rank of leader, he stated, that he had come to relieve the distresses of the country, by preventing the sittings of courts until they could obtain redress of grievances. The Chief Justice answered that he would satisfy them their complaints were without just foundation. He was told by Capt. Smith of Barre, that any communication he had to make must be reduced to writing. Judge Ward indignantly refused to do this: he said he "did not value their bayonets, they might plunge them to his heart; but while that heart beat he would do his duty: when opposed to it, his life was of little consequence: if they would take away their bayonets and give him some position where he could be heard by his fellow citizens, and not by the leaders alone, who had deceived and deluded them, he would speak, but not otherwise." The insurgent officers, fearful of the effect of his

determined manner on the minds of their followers, interrupted. They did not come there, they said, to listen to long speeches, but to resist oppression: they had the power to compel submission: and they demanded an adjournment without day. Judge Ward peremptorily refused to answer any proposition, unless it was accompanied by the name of him by whom it was made. They then desired him to fall back: the drum was beat and the guard ordered to charge. The soldiers advanced until the points of their bayonets pressed hard upon the breast of the Chief Justice, who stood as immovable as a statue, without stirring a limb, or yielding an inch, although the steel in the hands of desperate men penetrated his dress. Struck with admiration by his intrepidity, and shrinking from the sacrifice of life, the guns were removed and Judge Ward ascending the steps addressed the assembly. In a style of clear and forcible argument he examined their supposed grievances; exposed their fallacy; explained the dangerous tendency of their rash measures; admonished them that they were placing in peril the liberty acquired by the efforts and sufferings of years, plunging the country in civil war and involving themselves and their families in misery: that the measures they had taken must defeat their own wishes; for the government would never yield that to force, which would be readily accorded to respectful representations: and warned them that the majesty of the laws would be vindicated, and their resistance of its power avenged. He spoke nearly two hours, not without frequent interruption. But admonition and argument were unavailing: the insurgents declared they would maintain their ground until satisfaction was obtained. Judge Ward, addressing himself to Wheeler, advised him to suffer the troops to disperse: "they were waging war,

which was treason, and its end would be," he added, after a momentary pause, "the gallows." The judge then retired, unmolested, through armed files. Soon after, the Court was opened at the United States Arms Tavern, and immediately adjourned to the next day. Orders were then dispatched to the colonels in the brigade to call out their regiments, and march without a moment's delay, to sustain the judicial tribunals: but that right arm on which the government rests for defence was paralyzed: in this hour of its utmost need, the militia shared in the disaffection, and the officers reported, that it was out of their power to muster their companies, because they generally favored those movements of the people directed against the highest civil institutions of the State, and tending to the subversion of social order.

In the afternoon of Tuesday, a petition was presented from Athol, requesting that no judgments should be rendered in civil actions, except where debts would be lost by delay, and no trials had unless with the consent of the parties; a course corresponding with the views entertained by the Court. Soon after, Capt. Smith, of Barre, unceremoniously introduced himself to the judges, with his sword drawn, and offered a paper purporting to be the petition of "the body of people now collected for their own good and that of the Commonwealth," requiring an adjournment of the Courts without day. He demanded, in a threatening manner, an answer in half an hour. Judge Ward, with great dignity replied, that no answer would be given, and the intruder retired. An interview was solicited, during the evening, by a committee, who were informed that the officers of government would make no promises to men in hostile array: an intimation was given that the request of the people of Athol

was considered reasonable : and the conference terminated. A report of the result was made to the insurgents, who voted it was unsatisfactory, and resolved to remain until the following day.

During the night, the Court House was guarded in martial form: sentinels were posted along in front of the building, and along Main street: the men not on duty, bivouaced in the hall of justice, or sought shelter with their friends. In the first light of morning, the whole force paraded on the hill, and was harrangued by the leaders. In the forenoon a new deputation waited on the Court, with a repetition of the former demand, and received a similar reply. The justices assured the committee, if the body dispersed, the people of the county would have no just cause of complaint with the course the Court would adopt. The insurgents, reinforced with about two hundred from Holden and Ward, now mustered four hundred strong, half with fire arms, and the remainder furnished with sticks. They formed in column and marched through Main street with their music, inviting all who sought relief from oppression to join their ranks, but receiving no accessions of recruits from the citizens, they returned to the Court House. Sprigs of evergreen had been distributed, and mounted as the distinctive badge of rebellion, and a young pine tree was elevated at their post as the standard of revolt.

The Court, at length, finding that no reliance could be placed on military support, and no hope entertained of being permitted to proceed with business, adjourned, continuing all cases to the next term. Proclamation was made by the sheriff to the people, and a copy of the record communicated. After this, about two hundred men, with sticks only, paraded before the house of Mr. Allen, where the justices had re-

tired, and halted nearly an hour, as if meditating some act of violence. The main body then marched down, and passing through the other party, whose open ranks closed after them, the whole moved to the common, where they displayed into a line, and sent another committee to the Court.

The sessions, considering their deliberations controlled by the mob, deemed it expedient to follow the example of the superior tribunal, by an adjournment to the 21st of November. When the insurgent adjutant presented a paper, requiring it should be without fixed day; Judge Ward replied, the business was finished and could not be changed.

Before night closed down, the Regulators, as they styled themselves, dispersed; and thus terminated the first interference of the citizens in arms with the court of justice. Whatever fears might have been entertained of future disastrous consequences, their visit brought with it no terror, and no apprehension for personal safety to their opposers. Both parties, indeed, seemed more inclined to hear than strike. The conduct of Judge Ward was dignified and spirited, in a situation of great embarrassment. His own depreciation, that the sun might not shine on the day when the Constitution was trampled on with impunity, seemed to be realized. Clouds, darkness and storm brooded over the meeting of the insurgents, and rested on their tumultuary assemblies in the county at subsequent periods.

The state of feeling was unfavorably influenced by the success of the insurgents. At a meeting of the inhabitants on the 25th of September, delegates were elected to the county convention at Paxton, with instructions to report their doings to the town. The list of grievances received some slight additions from this assembly. The delay and expense of Courts of Probate, the manner of recording

deeds in one general office of registry, instead of entering them on the books of the town where the land was situated, and the right of absentees to sue for the collection of debts, were the subjects of complaint in a petition, concluding with the request that precepts might be issued for meetings, to express public sentiment in relation to a revision of the Constitution, and if two-thirds of the qualified voters were in favor of amendment, that a State convention might be called. The existence of this body was continued by an adjournment to Worcester. The petition was immediately forwarded to the General Court. A copy was subsequently submitted to the town, at a meeting held October 2nd, for the purpose of receiving a report from the delegates. It was then voted, "That Mr. Daniel Baird be requested to inform the town whether this petition was according to his mind, and he informed the town it was; but that he did not approve of its being sent to the General Court until it had been laid before the town." The petition was read paragraph by paragraph, rejected, and the delegates dismissed.

On the 16th of October, in compliance with the request of 34 freeholders, another town meeting was called: after a long and warm debate, the former delegates were re-elected to attend the convention, at its adjourned session. A petition had been offered, praying consideration of the measures proper in the alarming situation of the country, and for instructions to the representative to inquire into the expenditure of public money, the salaries of officers, the means of increasing manufactures, encouraging agriculture, introducing economy, and removing every grievance. Directions were given to endeavor to procure the removal of the Legislature from the metropolis to the interior; the annihilation of the Inferior Courts; the substitution of a cheaper and

more expeditious administration of justice; the immediate repeal of the supplementary fund granted to Congress; the appropriation of the revenue, arising from impost and excise, to the payment of the foreign debt; and the withholding all supplies from Congress until settlement of account between the Commonwealth and Continent. Resolutions, introduced by the supporters of government, expressing disapprobation of unconstitutional assemblies, armed combinations, and riotous movements, and pointing to the Legislature as the only legitimate source of redress, were rejected. The convention party was triumphant by a small majority. While the discussion was urged, a considerate citizen inquired of one of the most zealous of the discontented, what grievances he suffered, and what were the principal evils among them? "There are grievances enough, thank God!" was the hasty reply, "and they are all principal ones."

The jurisdiction of the sessions was principally over criminal offences, and its powers were exercised for the preservation of social order. No opposition had been anticipated to its session on the 21st of November, and no defensive preparations were made. On that day, about sixty armed men, under Abraham Gale, of Princeton, entered the north part of the town. During the evening, and on Wednesday morning, about one hundred more arrived from Hubbards-ton, Shrewsbury, and some adjacent towns. A committee presented a petition to the Court, at the United States Arms Tavern, for their adjournment, until a new choice of representatives, which was not received. The insurgents then took possession of the ground around the Court House. When the justices approached, the armed men made way, and they passed the open ranks to the steps. There, triple

rows of bayonets presented to their breasts, opposed farther advance. The Sheriff, Col. William Greenleaf, of Lancaster, addressed the assembled crowd, stating the danger to themselves and the public from their lawless measures. Reasoning and warning were ineffectual, and the proclamation in the riot act was read for their dispersion. Amid the grave solemnity of the scene, some incidents were interposed of lighter character. Col. Greenleaf remarked with great severity on the conduct of the armed party around him. One of the leaders replied, they sought relief from grievances: that among the most intolerable of them was the sheriff himself: and next to his person, were his fees, which were exorbitant and excessive, particularly on criminal executions. "If you consider fees for executions oppressive," replied the sheriff, irritated by the attack, "you need not wait long for redress; for I will hang you all, gentlemen, for nothing, with the greatest pleasure." Some hand among the crowd, which pressed close, placed a pine branch on his hat, and the county officer retired with the justices, decorated with the evergreen badge of rebellion. The clerk entered on his records, that the court was prevented from being held by an armed force, the only notice contained on their pages that our soil has ever been dishonored by resistance of the laws.

To this period the indulgence of government had dealt with its revolted subjects as misguided citizens, seduced to acts of violence from misconception of the sources of their distress. Conciliatory policy had applied remedial statutes wherever practicable, and proffered full pardon and indemnity for past misconduct. Reasonable hopes were entertained that disaffection, quieted by lenient measures, would lay down the arms assumed under strong excitement, and

that reviving order would rise from the confusion. But the insurgents, animated by temporary success, and mistaking the mildness of forbearance for weakness or fear, had extended their designs from present relief to permanent change. Their early movements were without further object than to stay that flood of executions which wasted their property and made their homes desolate. That portion of the community, who condemned the violence of the actors in the scenes we have described, sympathized in their sufferings, and were disposed to consider the offences venial, while the professed purpose of their commission was merely to obtain the delay necessary for seeking constitutional redress. All implicated, stood on safe and honorable ground, until the renewal on the 21st of November, of the opposition to the administration of justice. Defiance of the authority of the State could no longer be tolerated without the prostration of its institutions. The crisis had arrived, when government, driven to the utmost limit of concession, must appeal to the sword for preservation, even though its destroying edge, turned on the citizen, might be crimsoned with civil slaughter. Information was communicated to the executive of extensive levies of troops for the suppression of the judiciary, and the coercion of the Legislature. Great exertions were making to prevent the approaching session of the Court of Common Pleas in Worcester, on the first week of December. Gov. Bowdoin and the council, resolved to adopt vigorous measures to overawe the insurgents. Orders were issued to Major General Warner, to call out the militia of his division, and five regiments were directed to hold themselves in instant readiness to march. Doubts, however, arose, how far reliance could be placed on the troops of an infected district. The sheriff reported, that a

sufficient force could not be collected. The first instructions were therefore countermanded, a plan having been settled to raise an army whose power might effectually crush resistance; and the Judges were advised to adjourn to the 23d of January following, when the contemplated arrangements could be matured, to terminate the unhappy troubles.

The insurgents unapprised of the change of operations, began to concentrate their whole strength to interrupt the Courts at Worcester and Concord. They had fixed on Shrewsbury as the place of rendezvous. On the 29th of November, a party of forty from Barre, Spencer and Leicester, joined Capt. Wheeler, who had established his head quarters in that town during the preceding week, and succeeded in enlisting about thirty men. Daniel Shays, the reputed commander-in-chief, and nominal head of the rebellion, made his first public appearance in the county soon after, with troops from Hampshire. Reinforcements came in, till the number at the post exceeded four hundred. Sentinels stopped and examined travelers, and patrols were sent out towards Concord, Cambridge and Worcester. On Thursday, November 30th, information was received that the Light Horse, under Col. Hitchborn, had captured Shattuck, Parker and Paige, and that a detachment of cavalry was marching against themselves. This intelligence disconcerted their arrangements for an expedition into Middlesex, and they retreated in great alarm to Holden. On Friday, Wheeler was in a house passed by the horsemen, and only escaped being captured, by accident. Another person, supposed to be the commander, was pursued, and received a sabre cut in the hand. The blow was slight, but afforded sufficient foundation for raising the cry that blood had been shed, and rousing passion to vengeance. The wounded insurgent was

exhibited and bewailed as the martyr of their cause. As the Light Horse retired, it was discovered they did not exceed twenty. About a hundred of Shays' men rallied, and returned to Shrewsbury, following a foe whose celerity of movement left no cause to fear they could be brought to an encounter. Search was made for the town stock of powder, removed by the vigilance of one of the Selectmen, Col. Cushing, whose house they surrounded, and whose person they endeavored to seize, but he escaped. Consultation was held on the expediency of marching directly to Worcester, and encamping before the Court House. Without clothing to protect them from cold, without money, or food to supply the wants of hunger, it was considered impracticable to maintain themselves there, and on Saturday they marched to Grafton and went into quarters with their friends.

The party left at Holden, found one object of their meeting, the junction with the insurgents at Concord, frustrated. Those who belonged to the neighboring towns were therefore dismissed, with orders to assemble in Worcester on Monday following. Shays retired to the barracks in Rutland, and sent messengers to hasten on the parties from Berkshire and Hampshire, in anticipation of meeting the militia of government at Worcester.

On Sunday evening, the detachment from Grafton entered the town, under the command of Abraham Gale, of Princeton, Adam Wheeler, of Hubbardston, Simeon Hazeltine, of Hardwick, and John Williams, reputed to be a deserter from the British army, and once a sergeant of the continental line. They halted before the Court House, and having obtained the keys, placed a strong guard around the building, and posted sentinels on all the streets and avenues of the town to prevent surprise. Those who were off duty, rolling

themselves in their blankets, rested on their arms, on the floor of the Court room.

As the evening closed in, one of the most furious snow storms of a severe winter commenced. One division of the insurgents occupied the Court House: another sought shelter at the Hancock Arms. The sentinels, chilled by the tempest, and imagining themselves secured by its violence from attack, joined their comrades around the fire of the guard room. The young men of the town, in the spirit of sportive mischief, contrived to carry away their muskets, inadvertently stacked in the entry-way, and having secreted them at a distance, raised the alarm that the Light Horse was upon them. The party sallied out in confusion, and panic struck at the silent disappearance of their arms, fled through the fast falling snow to the Court House, where their associates had paraded. The guns were discovered at length, and the whole force remained ready for action several hours, frequently disturbed by the fresh outcries of their vexatious persecutors.

The increasing fury of the storm, and the almost impassable condition of the roads, did not prevent the arrival of many from Holden and the vicinity, on Tuesday, swelling the numerical force of malcontents to five hundred. The Court was opened at the Sun Tavern,\* and in conformity with the instructions of the Governor, adjourned to the 23d of January, without attempting to transact business. Petitions from committees from Sutton and Douglas, that the next session might be postponed to March, were disregarded.

Worcester assumed the appearance of a garrisoned town. The citizens answered to the frequent challenges of military guards: the traveler was admonished to stay his steps by

\* United States Hotel, 1836.

the voice and bayonet of the soldier. Sentries paced before the house of Mr. Allen, the clerk, where Judge Ward resided, and the former gentleman was threatened with violence on his own threshhold. Justice Washburn, of Leicester, was opposed on his way, and two of his friends, who seized the gun presented to his breast, were arrested and detained in custody. Justice Baker, on his return homeward was apprehended in the road, and some of his captors suggested the propriety of sending him to prison, to experience the corrective discipline, to which, as a magistrate, he had subjected others.

On Tuesday evening, a council of war was convened, and it was seriously determined to march to Boston, and effect the liberation of the State prisoners as soon as sufficient strength could be collected. In anticipation of attack, the Governor gathered the means of defence around the metropolis. Guards were mounted at the prison, and at the entrances of the city: alarm posts were assigned; and Major General Brooks held the militia of Middlesex contiguous to the road, in readiness for action, and watched the force at Worcester.

During the evening of Tuesday, an alarm broke out, more terrific to the party quartered at the Hancock Arms, than that which had disturbed the repose of the preceding night. Soon after partaking the refreshment which was sometimes used by the military, before the institution of temperance societies, several of the men were seized with violent sickness, and a rumor spread, that poison had been mingled with the fountain which supplied their water. Dr. Samuel Stearns, of Paxton, astrologer, almanac manufacturer, and quack by profession, detected in the sediment of the cups they had drained, a substance, which he unhesitatingly pronounced to

be a compound of arsenic and antimony, so deleterious that a single grain would extinguish the lives of a thousand. The numbers of the afflicted increased with frightful rapidity, and the symptoms grew more fearful. It was suddenly recollected that the sugar used in their beverage had been purchased from a respectable merchant of the town,\* whose attachment to government was well known, and the sickness around was deemed proof conclusive that it had been adulterated for their destruction. A file of soldiers seized the seller, and brought him to answer for the supposed attempt to murder the levies of rebellion. As he entered the house, the cry of indignation rose strong. Fortunately for his safety, Dr. Green, of Ward, an intelligent practitioner of medicine, arrived, and the execution of vengeance was deferred until his opinion of its propriety could be obtained. After careful inspection of the suspected substance, and subjecting it to the test of different senses, he declared, that to the best of his knowledge, it was genuine, yellow, Scotch snuff. The reputed dying raised their heads from the floor: the slightly affected recovered: the gloom which had settled heavily on the supposed victims of mortal disease was dispelled, and the illness soon vanished. Strict inquiry furnished a reasonable explanation: a clerk in the store of the merchant had opened a package of the fragrant commodity in the vicinity of the sugar barrel, and a portion of the odoriferous leaf, had, inadvertently been scattered from the counter into its uncovered head. A keg of spirit was accepted in full satisfaction for the panic occasioned by the decoction of tobacco so innocently administered.

Bodies of militia, anxious to testify their reviving zeal, were toiling through the deep snow drifts. Gen. Warner,

\* The late Daniel Waldo, (Sen.) Esq.

finding that no benefit could be derived from their presence, sent orders for their return to their homes, and the insurgents enjoyed the triumph of holding undisputed possession of the town.

On Wednesday, December 6th, they went out to meet Shays, who arrived from Rutland with 350 men. As they re-entered the street the appearance of the column of 800 was highly imposing. The companies included many who had learned their tactics from Steuben, and served an apprenticeship of discipline in the ranks of the Revolution: war-worn veterans, who in a good cause would have been invincible. The pine tuft supplied the place of plume in their hats. Shays, with his aid, mounted on white horses, led on the van. They displayed into line before the Court House, where they were reviewed and inspected. The men were then billeted on the inhabitants. No compulsion was used: where admittance was peremptorily refused, they quietly retired, and sought food and shelter elsewhere. Provision having been made for the soldiers, Shays joined the other leaders in council. At night, he was attended to his quarters, at the house of the late Col. Samuel Flagg, by a strong guard, preceded by the music of the army, with something of the state assumed by a general officer. Precautions against surprise were redoubled. Chains of sentinels were stretched along the streets, planted in every avenue of approach, and on the neighboring hills, examining all who passed. The cry of "all's well," rose on the watches of the night, from those whose presence brought danger to the Commonwealth.

Committees from some of the neighboring towns, and many of the prominent members of the conventions, assembled with the military leaders, on Thursday, the 6th of December. Their deliberations were perplexed and discordant.

The inelemency of the weather had prevented the arrival of the large force expected. The impossibility of retaining the men who had assembled without munitions, subsistence, or stores, compelled them to abandon the meditated attack on Boston, then put in a posture of defence, and more pacific measures were finally adopted. A petition was prepared for circulation, remonstrating against the suspension of the habeas corpus writ; asking for the pardon and release of the prisoners; a new act of amnesty; the adjournment of Courts until the session of the new Legislature in May; and expressing their readiness to lay down their arms on compliance with these demands. In the afternoon, Shays' men and part of Wheeler's, to the number of five hundred, began their march for Paxton, on their way to the barracks in Rutland. About a hundred more retired to the north part of the town.

Friday was spent in consultation. Aware that public sentiment was setting against them with strong re-action, the mercy which had been rejected was now supplicated. Letters were addressed to each town of the county, inviting the inhabitants to unite in their petitions. Shays himself, in a private conference with an acquaintance, made use of these expressions. "For God's sake, have matters settled peaceably; it was against my inclinations I undertook this business; opportunity was used which I could not withstand; but I heartily wish it was well over."

In the evening, the Court House was abandoned, but the sentries were posted at almost every door of the outside and interior of the public house, where the leaders remained in consultation.

Another snow storm commenced on Saturday morning. Luke Day, with 150 men from Hampshire, reached Leices-

ter, but was unable to proceed in the tempest. About noon, all the insurgents in Worcester paraded before their head quarters, and were dismissed. The companies of Ward, Holden, Spencer, Rutland, Barre, and Petersham, after moving slowly through Main street in distinct bodies, took up the line of march for their respective homes, through roads choked with drifts.

The condition of these deluded men during their stay here, was such as to excite compassion rather than fear. Destitute of almost every necessary of life, in an inclement season, without money to purchase food which their friends could not supply, unwelcome guests in the quarters they occupied, pride restrained the exposure of their wants. Many must have endured the gnawings of hunger in our streets: yet standing with arms in their hands, enduring privations in the midst of plenty, they took nothing by force, and trespassed on no man's rights by violence: some declared they had not tasted food for twenty-four hours; all who made known their situation, were relieved by our citizens with liberal charity.

The forlorn condition of the insurgents was deepened by the distress of their retreat. Their course was amid the wildest revelry of storm and wind in a night of intense cold. Some were frozen to death by the way; others, exhausted with struggling through the deep and drifted snow, sunk down, and would have perished but for the aid of their stouter comrades: when relief was sought among the farm houses, every door was opened at the call of misery, and the wrongs done by the rebel were forgotten in the sufferings of him who claimed hospitality as a stranger.

The whole number assembled at Worcester never exceeded a thousand. The spirit animating the first movements had

grown cold, and Shays expressed to an acquaintance here, the impression that the cause had become gloomy and hopeless. In conversation with an officer of government, he disclaimed being at the head of the rebellion; declared he had come to the resolution to have nothing more to do with stopping courts: that if he could not obtain pardon, he would gather the whole force he could command, and fight to the last extremity, rather than be hanged. When asked if he would accept pardon were it offered, and abandon the insurgents, he replied, "yes, in a moment."\*

The delay of government, while it afforded time to circulate correct information among the people, left the insurgents at liberty to pursue their measures. The Court at Springfield, on the 26th of December, was resisted, and intelligence was received of active exertions to prevent the session of the Common Pleas, at Worcester, on the 23d of January. Longer forbearance would have been weakness, and vigorous measures were adopted for sustaining the Judiciary. An army of 4400 men was raised from the Counties of Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, Hampshire and Worcester, for thirty days service. General Benjamin Lincoln, whose prudence, and military skill peculiarly qualified him for the important trust, received the command. Voluntary loans were made by individuals for the armament, pay, and subsistance of the troops.

\* The retreat of Shays not only afforded the friends of order occasion for triumph, but sport for wit. An Epigram, from one of the prints, affords a specimen of the poetry and jest of the time. The name of the common carriage, the chaise, and that of the insurgent leader, had then the same spelling as well as sound.

" Says sober Will, well *Shays* has fled,  
And peace returns to bless our days.  
Indeed! cries Ned, I always said,  
He'd prove at last a *fall back Shays*;  
And those turned over and undone,  
Call him a worthless *Shays to run.*"

On the 21st of January, the army took up the line of march from Roxbury. The inclemency of the weather, and the condition of the roads rendered a halt necessary at Marlborough. The next day the troops reached Worcester, notwithstanding the effects of sudden thaw on the deep snow, and were quartered on the inhabitants, the houses being thrown open for their shelter and comfort. Here they were joined by the regiments of the county. The town contributed its quota liberally. In the company under Capt. Joel Howe, were twenty-seven non-commissioned officers and privates. In the artillery, under Capt. William Treadwell, were enrolled forty-three of our citizens. Nineteen served under Capt. Phinehas Jones. Seven dragoons were embodied in a legionary corps. Lieut. Daniel Goulding was at the head of a troop of cavalry. The late Judge Edward Bangs, Timothy Bigelow, afterwards Speaker of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, and Theophilus Wheeler, Esq., served as volunteers.

Detachments of insurgents collected at Rutland, New Braintree, Princeton, Sterling and Sutton, but, intimidated by the military, hovered at a distance, while the Courts proceeded. On the 25th of January, Gen. Lincoln hastened westward for the relief of Shepherd, and of the arsenal at Springfield, invested by Shays and Day.

Major General Warner was left in command at Worcester, with a regiment of infantry, a corps of artillery, including Capt. Treadwell's company, two field-pieces, and a party from the legionary battalion of volunteer cavalry. Information having been given that a body of about two hundred insurgents had assembled at New Braintree, intercepting travelers and insulting the friends of government, twenty horsemen, supported by about 150 infantry in sleighs, were

sent out on the night of the 2d of February, to capture or disperse the disaffected. Upon approaching the place of their destination, the cavalry were ordered to advance at full speed to surprise the enemy. The insurgents, apprised of the expedition, had abandoned their quarters at the house of Micah Hamilton, and taken post behind the walls of the road-side, and having fired a volley of musketry upon the detachment, fled to the woods: Mr. Jonathan Rice, of Worcester, a deputy sheriff, was shot through the arm and hand: Dr. David Young was severely wounded in the knee;\* the bridle rein of Theophilus Wheeler, Esq., was cut by a ball. Without halting, the soldiers rapidly pursued their way to the deserted head quarters, where they liberated Messrs. Samuel Flagg, and John Stanton, of Worcester, who had been seized the day previous, while transacting private business at Leicester. Having dispersed those who occupied the barracks at Rutland, the next day the companies returned with four prisoners.

The career of Shays was fast drawing to its close. Driven from post to post, he suddenly retired from Pelham to Petersham, where he expected to concentrate the forces of expiring rebellion, and make his final stand. Intelligence of this change of position reached Gen. Lincoln at Hadley, February 3d, and he determined by prompt and decisive action, to terminate the warfare. When the troops took up the line of march at 8 o'clock, the evening was bright and mild. Before morning the cold became intense: the dry and light snow, whirled before a violent north wind, filled the paths and rendered them almost impassable. The severity of the cold prevented any halt for rest or refreshment.

\* Dr. Young afterwards recovered £1000, in a civil action, against those by whom he was wounded.

At a distance from shelter, without defence against the inclemency of the weather, it became necessary to press on without pausing, to the camp occupied by men possessing all martial advantages, except courage and a good cause. The heavy sufferings of the night were terminated by the arrival of the troops in the very center of Petersham. The followers of Shays, trusting to the violence of the storm and the obstruction of the highways, rested in careless security. The first warning of danger was from the appearance of the advanced guard of the forces of government, after a journey of thirty miles, in the midst of their cantonment. Had an army dropped from the clouds upon the hill, the consternation could not have been greater. Panic struck, the insurgents fled without firing a gun or offering resistance to soldiers exhausted by fatigue, and almost sinking under the privations and hardships of the severe service.

The rebellion being terminated, the infliction of some punishment for the highest political crime was deemed expedient. Some of those who had been in arms against the laws, were brought to trial, convicted of treason and sentenced to death. Henry Gale, of Princeton, was the only insurgent found guilty of capital offence, in this county.\*

On the 23d of June, at the hour fixed for his execution by the warrant, he was led out to the gallows erected on the common, with all the solemn ceremony of such exhibitions. A reprieve was there read to him, and afterwards full pardon was given.† Proceedings for seditious practices, pending

\* The Court assigned as his counsel, Levi Lincoln, sen. and James Sullivan. The warm support of government by the former had rendered him obnoxious to the insurgents. During their occupation of the town, they sent parties to seize his person, who surrounded and searched his house. Seasonably informed of their intentions, he was able to disappoint them.

† Six were convicted of treason in the county of Berkshire, six in Hamp-

against several prisoners, were suspended. The mercy of government was finally extended to all who had been involved in the difficulties and disorders of the time, upon taking the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth, after some temporary civil disqualifications.\*

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### NOTICE OF DANIEL SHAYS.

[*From the Same.*]

"This individual acquired an unenviable notoriety, which imparts some degree of interest to the incidents of his life. He was born in Hopkinton, in 1747; the son of parents not in affluent circumstances, he worked with Mr. Brinley, a respectable farmer of Framingham. The activity and energy of his youth promised at maturity more desirable elevation than he attained. That his education was neglected, is apparent from his official letters, bidding defiance alike to government, grammar and good spelling. Just before the revolution, he removed to one of the towns beyond Connecticut river, and afterwards resided in Pelham. When the war commenced, he entered the army, at the age of

shire, one in Worcester, and one in Middlesex, all of whom received sentence of death, but were subsequently pardoned. The only public punishment actually inflicted, except limited disqualification from civil or military office, was on a member of the house of representatives, guilty of seditious words and practices, who was sentenced to sit on the gallows with a rope about his neck, pay a fine of £50, and to be bound to keep the peace and be of good behavior for five years.

\* The facts stated in the foregoing chapter have been derived from the Worcester Magazine, published by Isaiah Thomas, 1786, 1787, Independent Chronicle, Columbian Centinel, Minot's History of the Insurrection, Files in the office of the Secretary of State, Correspondence of Levi Lincoln, sen., American Antiquarian Society's MSS.

twenty-eight, with the rank of ensign, in Capt. Dickinson's company, in Col. Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge's regiment. His ambition, activity, and plausible manners covering the want of acquirements, joined with personal intrepidity, obtained promotion, and in 1776, he was appointed Lieutenant in Col. Varnum's regiment. At the time when the line peculiarly needed reinforcement, he was detached on the recruiting service, with the promise of some suitable reward for the enlistment of twenty men. For this purpose he visited his native state, and his unwearied exertions were crowned with ample success. When the complement assign'd to him was filled, a plan suggested itself for grasping honor and pay at once. Finding the pulse of patriotism beat high, and the men of New England were ready to devote themselves for their country, he continued his enlistments. Insinuating address and bold representations, produced impressions of his ability and influence, easily turned to his own advantage, and by holding out expectations of indulgence to those who should serve under his command, a company was raised, on the condition that he should be their captain. With these men he returned to the camp, where they were mustered. When the inspector was about to distribute them to different corps, Shays produced the enlistment papers; pointed to the condition which held them to serve under himself alone; and requested the appointment of Captain. The necessity of the times prevented the sacrifice of so many recruits, and after indignant remonstrances, it was deemed expedient to yield to his demands. The commission was promised, and issued after long delay, in September, 1779, to relate back to Jan. 1st, 1777. Such is the account tradition gives of his military rank. The honors, ill won, were not long worn. He was discharged

October, 14, 1780, at Newark, in New Jersey, from Col. Rufus Putnam's regiment.

The deficiency of honorable sentiment in his mental constitution, may be inferred from a characteristic incident. Lafayette had presented in 1780, to each of the American officers under his immediate command, an elegant sword. Such pledge of regard from the patriot chief, a soldier with a spark of generous feeling, would have cherished as his dearest possession, and transmitted to his posterity as an heirloom of inestimable value. Shays sold the gift of his commander for a few dollars.

After being disbanded, he retired to Pelham, and lived in obscurity. Bankrupt in fortune and in fame, Shays was ready to embark on the flood of any desperate adventure. Without the energetic decision or enlarged conceptions, the strong spirit or the bold daring, which befit a leader, by some accident, he was elevated to the command of the insurgents. Of capacity too humble to direct the movements of an army in those moments when the force of talent makes itself felt by triumphant results, and turns even obstructions into encouragements, he was weak, vacillating and irresolute. It was providential that the physical power of the arm of rebellion had so feeble a head to direct its blow.

With the first shade of adversity, he made indirect overtures to the agents of government, to abandon his comrades to their fate, on assurance of personal safety : and when his base propositions were rejected, and promises of indemnity and pardon were offered to his followers, his persuasions induced them to reject the proffered mercy and retain the arms of hopeless controversy, to purchase by their sacrifice, security for himself.

When the insurrection was crushed, he retired to Ver-

mont. After the lapse of a few years, the General of the rebellion passed through the streets of Worcester, which he once entered at the head of an army, and received assistance from those whose homes he had threatened with desolation.

At length he removed to Sparta, in New York. As a pensioner of the United States, he derived his daily bread from the government whose forces he had encountered in arms. Declarations filed in the department of war, by himself, show that his family consisted of an aged wife, and that he lived in extreme poverty. He died September 29th, 1825, aged 78.\*

However much the honor and integrity of Daniel Shays were questioned, his courage was never disputed. He was in the battle of Bunker's Hill, at the capture of Burgoyne, and at the storming of Stony Point: was under Lafayette, and did good service in many bloody encounters. A severe wound, received during the revolution, was honorary testimonial of intrepidity."

The first annual town meeting was held the 5th of March, 1787.

Voted, to divide the town into four school districts. Also, to raise \$66 for schooling the present year, and \$50 to defray town charges. Now follows a long list of roads laid out and accepted by the town. See town records, book 1st, page 58.

\* He married Nancy Haven, a widow. The schedule of his property in 1820, filed in the pension office, exhibits a condition of almost utter destitution. It is as follows :

1 mare, \$25: 1 old saddle, \$2.50: 1 bridle, 50: 1 old cutter, \$5: 1 old axe, 62½ cents: 1 hoc, 62½ cents: 1 table, \$3: 3 chairs, 1.12½: 1 old scythe and snath, 1.12½: 1 old pail, 12½ cents: 1 large bible, \$1: amounting to \$40.62½.

At a legal meeting of the town held June 6th, Voted, to choose a Committee of nine to provide a number of hands to raise the meeting house, also to provide refreshments for the same. The raising Committee made application to Capt. Samuel Sawin, of Westminster, Esq'r Smith, of Ashburnham, Dea. Moses Hale, of Winchendon, and Mr. Joshua Wright, of Templeton, to come with a number of good hands to assist in raising the house. Accordingly, they all appeared on the common early in the morning of June 27th, each with a company of choice men. The raising commenced early and went on rapidly until about noon, when an accident occurred; as a number of men standing on the ground in the frame were drinking water, a joist fell from the upper loft and struck two of them on their heads, wounding them severely: one was Mr. Day, of Winchendon; some thought, had it not been for the pail he was drinking from, it would have killed him. The other was Mr. Gregory, from Templeton. The raising went on and the frame was completed before sundown: it was thought to be put together so strong, that if turned down on one side and rolled across the common, it would not wreck the body of it. There are but two men now living, who had any thing to do

with this affair ; those are brothers, by the name of Glazier, and they have arrived to the advanced ages of 86 and 90 years. The church was completed at a cost of about \$1,600. The pews in the meeting-house were sold at auction, June 24th, 1788 ; the highest brought \$40 ; the whole amounted to \$1,577.50.

The town being legally assembled in March, 1791,

Voted, to grant \$12 to be laid out for singing ; the first act we have to record that reveals a shade of music.

In 1796, the town granted \$833.33\* to build school-houses.

In 1797, the town voted to procure a standard of weights and measures. Also, to make up to those militia men who turned out to stand at a moment's warning : if they march, \$10 per month including what the Continent and State give them.

Voted, to give Rev. Mr. Osgood a present of £25, (or \$83.33.) In January, 1798, the same amount was again presented him by the town.

At the annual meeting in March, 1802, the town voted to provide powder and balls sufficient to equip the training soldiers in Gardner : that

\* It may seem strange to the reader that they had a fraction in dollars, but money was then reckoned in pounds and shillings instead of dollars.

the Selectmen provide the same and carry them to the commanding officer of the company for his inspection before the first of May.

At the annual town meeting, March, 1808,

Voted, to grant \$400 to defray town charges ; \$300 for the use of schools, and \$500 for repairing roads.

At a legal town meeting, June 13th,

Voted, to grant \$1,500 to build a county road, and pay the damages, laying between Winchendon and Westminster.

In 1812, the town granted \$50 to build a powder-house.

In 1814, a vote was taken by the town, that if any damage be done to any of the school-houses in town, by a scholar, the parent or guardian shall repair the same.

In 1816, the town granted \$200 to repair the meeting-house. A meeting was called November, 1817, for the purpose of selling the new pews in the meeting-house.

In 1818, the town voted to choose a Committee of nine, to divide the town into school districts.

In 1819, the town voted to sell the oak trees (eight or ten in number) on the common, and in the burying-ground, to the highest bidder : they were struck off to Mr. Benjamin Heywood, at \$9.99.

At a meeting in April, 1821, the people met to express their minds respecting the amendment of the Constitution of this Commonwealth. See town records, book 3d, page 37th.

In 1822, a Committee was chosen to establish the line between Westminster and Gardner.

At the annual town meeting in March, 1833,

Voted, to raise \$600 school money, to be equally divided between the six school districts: \$1,200 to repair roads and bridges: \$700 to defray town charges; and \$200 for purchasing engines.

In 1834, the town voted to raise \$550, to build a bridge over Otter river.

At a legal town meeting held July, 1839,

Voted to raise \$300 to repair the road from Dea. Fairbanks' to Templeton line.

August 31st, 1840, the town voted to raise \$1,000 by tax, and authorized the Treasurer to borrow \$3,500 to make and keep roads in repair.

In 1845, Voted, to authorize the Treasurer to borrow \$150 for town charges.

In 1847, a vote was taken that a tomb be built for the use of the town.

In 1849, Voted, to appropriate \$20 annually, for the ringing of each bell in town.

Voted, to accept of the report of the Commit-

tee chosen to purchase a town farm. Voted to accept of the following rules and regulations for the government of the Work-house in the town of Gardner. The duty of the Overseers of the Poor, the Master, the Physician, and the inmates of said house.

*Power and Duty of the Overseers of the Poor.*

“ It shall be their duty to provide for all poor, indigent persons, who are unable to take care of themselves. At all times when circumstances will admit, they shall be supported on the farm, which the town have purchased for that purpose and shall hereafter be known by the name of Gardner work-house. They are to provide suitable stock, farming utensils and household furniture: also, make such additions and repairs as are necessary for the establishment. They are to manage the concern in the best possible manner, and to provide suitable places for all poor children, as soon as they can earn their living, and see that they are brought up to some trade or calling, and suitably schooled. They shall constantly keep suitable persons for a Master and Mistress, and such other help as they shall deem necessary.

A Physician shall be employed to attend the

sick, (when requested by the Overseers, or Master,) who shall keep a record of his visits, the price, and for whom they were made ; and shall receive such compensation as may be agreed upon by him and the Overseers, and may be removed at the pleasure of the Overseers. It shall be the duty of the Overseers to meet at the work-house on the last Saturday in February, May, August, and November annually, for the purpose of inspecting the concerns of the establishment, and giving directions to the master. It shall be the duty also for one of the Overseers to visit the work-house as often as once a month, for the purpose of inspecting the management of the concerns, the usage of the inmates, and giving directions to the master, &c. At their meeting in February, they shall take an inventory of all the personal property, and the betterments, if any, which shall be recorded in a book kept by them for that and other purposes. They shall keep a record of all persons who are supported in the work-house ; the time when they came, and when they go away ; and to record all other matters which they shall deem necessary : all of which shall be reported by them at the annual March meeting."

*Power and Duty of the Master.*

“The Master shall have the immediate care and control of the inmates, and all the property belonging to the institution; and shall give an account of the same to the Overseers, when called upon by them: he shall see that the inmates are suitably provided with lodging, clothes and food, and shall call on the Overseers for such things as are necessary for that purpose. It shall be the duty of the Master to see that all who are able to labor, are employed in such a manner as shall be most advantageous to the town; and to instruct in regard to the moral character of all persons in his care, and see that the Sabbath is duly observed; and to take care of all the fires, see that the lights are put out, that the inmates retire in proper season, and the children in his care are suitably schooled; it shall also be his duty to punish any one of the inmates who are refractory, or disobedient, and perform all other duties which may devolve on him by the direction of the Overseers.”

*Duty of the Inmates.*

“All persons who are maintained in the work-house, shall be under the immediate care and control of the Master and Mistress of the house,

and shall not absent themselves from the premises without their consent; and such as are able to labor, shall labor according to the directions of the Master. There shall be no ardent spirits used on the premises, except by the special direction of the Physician.

The above rules and regulations shall be laid before the town at a regular meeting, and when accepted by them, shall be the Rules and By-laws of the Gardner work-house; and shall be read in the work-house in the presence of the Master and Inmates, at the commencement of each year, by one of the Overseers.

These Rules and Regulations may be altered or amended at any legal meeting of the town."

At the annual meeting in March, 1849,

Voted, to give Levi Heywood, Charles W. Bush, Francis Richardson and others, leave to fence off a portion of the common, and set out ornamental trees on the same.

At the annual meeting in March, 1859,

Voted, to raise \$4,500, to defray town charges the present year.

Voted, to raise \$2,000, for the support of schools; voted to leave \$300 of the school money in the hands of the Committee to expend in the

several districts at their discretion, so as to make the schools as near equal as possible; and to give district No. 4, \$50. No. 5, \$50. No. 6, \$75, and the remainder divided equally in proportion to the number of scholars.

Voted, that the tax on polls and personal property, &c., be paid to the Town Treasurer, on or before the 20th of July next, and there shall be allowed on the same, and also all who shall voluntarily pay their tax on real estate at that time, a discount of six per cent.; and all taxes on polls and personal property not paid at that time, be placed in the hands of a constable for collection; and all who shall voluntarily pay their tax on real estate, on or before the 1st of October next, a discount of four per cent., after which, all taxes not paid on the 1st of December, to be put in the hands of a constable for collection.

In accordance with a vote of the town, a building is being erected at a probable cost of \$14,000 or \$15,000, which is designed for a town hall, stores and other purposes.

There have been 648 legal town meetings held in Gardner since its incorporation as a town.

The amount of money granted, assessed and collected by the town, is \$319,341.

**THE FOLLOWING TABLE**

Shows the Names of the Moderators for the Annual Meetings, with the Town Clerks, Selectmen, Assessors, and Treasurers of the Town, from its Incorporation to the present time.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.
1785. Capt. Elisha Jackson.	Seth Heywood.	Elisha Jackson, Samuel Stone, Simon Gates, John Glazier, John White.	Selectmen.	Seth Heywood.
1786. Capt. Elisha Jackson.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Samuel Stone, Simon Gates, John Glazier, Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Joseph Bacon, Elijah Wilder.	Peter Goodale.
1787. John White.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Seth Heywood, Elisha Jackson, David Nichols, David Comee, Nathan Green.	Elisha Jackson, Seth Heywood, John White.	Seth Heywood.
1788. Capt. Samuel Kelton.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Samuel Stone, David Nichols, William Bickford, Peter Goodale.	Joseph Bacon, Seth Heywood, Ebenezer Howe.	Seth Heywood.
1789. Ebenezer Howe.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Samuel Stone, David Nichols, William Bickford, Ebenezer Howe.	Elijah Jackson, Joseph Bacon, Ebenezer Howe.	Ebenezer Howe.

TABLE—Continued.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.
1790. Capt. Samuel Kelton.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Ebenezer Howe, Samuel Stone, David Nichols, Simon Gates.	Joseph Bacon, Ebenezer Howe, Simon Gates.	Ebenezer Howe.
1791. John White.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Ebenezer Howe, Samuel Stone, Aaron Greenwood, Josiah Wheeler.	Joseph Bacon, Ebenezer Howe, Elisha Jackson.	Ebenezer Howe.
1792. Ebenezer Howe.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Ebenezer Howe, Aaron Greenwood, David Foster, Joseph Payson.	Reuben Haynes, Jonathan Wood, Jonathan Greenwood.	Ebenezer Howe.
1793. Capt. Samuel Kelton.	Capt. Joseph Bacon.	Elisha Jackson, Ebenezer Howe, Aaron Greenwood, David Foster, Joseph Payson.	Reuben Haynes, Jonathan Wood, Jonathan Greenwood.	Ebenezer Howe.
1794. Ebenezer Howe.	Jonathan Prescott.	Elisha Jackson, Ebenezer Howe, Aaron Greenwood, Reuben Haynes.	Selectmen.	Ebenezer Howe.
1795. Capt. Elisha Jackson.	Jonathan Prescott.	Ebenezer Howe, Aaron Greenwood, Reuben Haynes.	Selectmen.	Ebenezer Howe.

1796.	John White.	Jonathan Prescott.	Reuben Haynes, James Coolidge, Aaron Wood, Joshua Whitney, Joel Wilder.	Simeon Leland, Samuel Edgell, William Whitney.	Ebenezer Howe.
1797.	Capt. Samuel Kelton.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	Elisha Jackson, James Coolidge, Reuben Haynes, Aaron Wood, Joshua Whitney.	Simeon Leland, Samuel Edgell, William Whitney.	Ebenezer Howe.
1798.	Capt. Samuel Kelton.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	Elisha Jackson, Reuben Haynes, Aaron Wood.	Jonathan Wood, Reuben Haynes, Ebenezer Howe.	Ebenezer Howe.
1799.	Col. Abel Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	James Coolidge, Simeon Leland, Abel Kendall.	William Whitney, Samuel Edgell, Lewis Glazier.	Smyrna Glazier, Esq.
1800.	Col. Abel Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	Jonathan Greenwood, Thomas Baker, Allen Perley.	Renben Haynes, William Whitney, Joseph Edgell.	Aaron Wood, Esq.
1801.	Joseph Edgell.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	Jonathan Greenwood, Thomas Baker, Allen Perley.	Renben Haynes, Jonathan Wood, William Whitney.	Aaron Wood, Esq.
1802.	Col. Abel Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes.	Samuel Stone, William Whitney, James Coolidge.	Renben Haynes, William Whitney, Abel Kendall.	Aaron Wood, Esq.

TABLE—Continued.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.	Representatives.
1803. Col. A. Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	Samuel Stone, James Coolidge, Simeon Leland, Levi Fairbanks, Aaron Wood.	William Whitney, Reuben H <sup>a</sup> ynes, Josiah Conant.	A. Wood, Esq.	
1804. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	Samuel Stone, James Coolidge, Simeon Leland, Aaron Wood, Joshua Whitney.	Reuben Haynes, William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr.	Lewis Glazier.	
1805. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	Aaron Wood, William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr.	Reuben Haynes, Simeon Leland, Arna Bacon.	Lewis Glazier.	
1806. Col. A. Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	Aaron Wood, William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr.	Selectmen.	Lewis Glazier.	
1807. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr.	Selectmen.	Lewis Glazier.	
1808. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	William Whitney, Smyrna Glazier, Reuben Haynes.	Lewis Glazier, William Bickford, Jr. Reuben Haynes.	Lewis Glazier.	
1809. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes	William Whitney, Smyrna Glazier, Reuben Haynes.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. Aaron Wood.	Lewis Glazier. Aaron Wood, Esq.	

1810. Lewis Glazier.	Capt Reuben Haynes William Whitney, Reuben Haynes, William Bickford, Jr.	Aaron Wood, William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr.	Lewis Glazier. A. Wood, Esq.
1811. Col. A. Kendall.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. Reuben Haynes, Noah Fairbanks.	William Bickford, Jr. William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. Simeon Leland.	S. Glazier, Esq. A. Wood, Esq.
1812. Asa Hill.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. Reuben Haynes, Noah Fairbanks.	William Bickford, Jr. William Whitney, Reuben Haynes, Smyrna Bancroft.	S. Glazier, Esq. A. Wood, Esq.
1813. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. Smyrna Bancroft, James Scollay.	William Bickford, Jr. Reuben Haynes, Noah Fairbanks.	S. Glazier, Esq. A. Wood, Esq.
1814. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. Smyrna Bancroft, James Scollay.	William Bickford, Jr. Smyrna Bancroft, James Scollay.	W. Bickford, Jr. A. Wood, Esq.
1815. Lewis Glazier.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. Smyrna Glazier, Aaron Wood.	William Bickford, Jr. Smyrna Glazier, Aaron Wood.	W. Bickford, Jr. Asa Richardson.
1816. Asa Hill.	Capt. Reuben Haynes William Bickford, Jr. James Scollay.	William Bickford, Jr. William Whitney, James Scollay.	W. Bickford, Jr. Asa Richardson.
1817. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson. Adam Partridge, Levi Priest.	William Bickford, Jr. William Whitney, James Scollay, William Bickford, Jr.	W. Whitney, Esq. Asa Richardson.

TABLE—Continued.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.	Representatives.
1818. W. Whitney, Esq.	Asa Richardson.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. James Scollay.	Selectmen.	Asa Richardson.	
1819. Lewis Glazier.	Smyrna Glazier.	Smyrna Glazier, Noah Fairbanks, Abel Jackson.	William Bickford, Walter Greenwood, Ezra Baker.	Asa Richardson.	W. Whitney, Esq.
1820. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. Benjamin Stone.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. Benjamin Heywood.	Asa Richardson.	W. Whitney, Esq.
1821. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson.	William Bickford, Jr. James M. Comee, Lewis Glazier.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. Benjamin Heywood.	Asa Richardson.	
1822. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson,	James Scollay. Lewis Glazier, James M. Comee, Josiah Jackson.	William Whitney, Abel Jackson, James Scollay.	Asa Richardson.	
1823. Lewis Glazier.	Daniel Spaulding.	Lewis Glazier, James M. Comee, Joel Cowee.	William Whitney, William Bickford, Jr. James Scollay.	Benj. Heywood.	
1824. Lewis Glazier.	Daniel Spaulding.	Lewis Glazier, James M. Comee, Joel Cowee.	William Whitney, Benjamin Heywood, James Scollay.	Benj. Heywood.	

1825. Lewis Glazier.	Daniel Spaulding.	Lewis Glazier, James M. Comee, Joel Cowee.	James Scollay, Walter Greenwood, Asa Richardson.	Benj. Heywood. W. Whitney, Esq.
1826. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson.	Lewis Glazier, James M. Comee, Joel Cowee.	Benjamin Heywood, William Whitney, Martin Dunster.	Benj. Heywood.
1827. Lewis Glazier.	Asa Richardson.	Noah Fairbanks, Smyrna Glazier, Joseph Wright.	James Scollay, Nathaniel Wright, George W. Davis.	Benj. Heywood. Smyrna Glazier.
1828. Martin Dunster.	Levi Heywood.	Lewis Glazier, Walter Greenwood, Joseph Wright.	George W. Davis, Nathaniel Wright, Martin Dunster.	Benj. Heywood. Smyrna Glazier.
1829. Martin Dunster.	Levi Heywood.	Walter Greenwood, Joseph Wright, Joel Cowee.	William Whitney, James Scollay, Benjamin Heywood.	Benj. Heywood. Smyrna Glazier.
1830. Martin Dunster.	Levi Heywood.	Walter Greenwood, Joseph Wright, Nathan Green.	William Whitney, Nathaniel Wright, James Scollay.	Benj. Heywood.
1831. Martin Dunster.	Benj. F. Heywood.	Walter Greenwood, Nathan Green, Nathaniel Wright.	William Whitney, James Scollay, Timothy Heywood.	Benj. Heywood. Timo. Heywood.
1832. Martin Dunster.	Benj. F. Heywood.	Nathan Green, Abio Temple, Adam Partridge, George W. Davis, Asaph Wood.	James Scollay, Timothy Heywood, Amasa Whitney.	Benj. Heywood.

TABLE—Continued.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.	Representatives.
1833.	Benj. F. Heywood.	Nathan Green, Adam Partridge, George W. Davis.	Timothy Heywood, Amasa Whitney, Amasa Leland.	Benj. Heywood.	Timo. Heywood.
1834.	Benj. F. Heywood.	Adam Partridge, George W. Davis, Isaac Jackson.	Timothy Heywood, Amasa Leland, Amasa Whitney.	Walter Heywood	
1835.	Benj. F. Heywood.	George W. Davis, Isaac Jackson, Nathan Green.	Timothy Heywood, Amasa Leland, Amasa Whitney.	Walter Heywood	Timo. Heywood.
1836.	Benj. F. Heywood.	George W. Davis, Isaac Jackson, Nathan Green.	Amasa Leland, Smyrna W. Bancroft, Asaph Wood.	Walter Heywood	James Scollay.
1837.	Benj. F. Heywood.	George W. Davis, Nathan Green, Asaph Wood.	Amasa Leland, Smyrna W. Bancroft, Benj. F. Heywood.	Walter Heywood	
1838.	Benj. F. Heywood.	George W. Davis, Nathan Green, Nathaniel Wright.	Benj. F. Heywood, Amasa Leland, Smyrna W. Bancroft	Walter Heywood	Timo. Heywood.
1839.	Theophilus P. Wood.	George W. Davis, Nathan Green, Joseph Wright.	Asaph Wood, James Scollay, Smyrna W. Bancroft.	Walter Heywood	

1840. Martin Dunster.	Theophilus P. Wood.	George W. Davis, Joseph Wright, Smyrna W. Bancroft	Asaph Wood, Amasa Leland, John Edgell.	Walter Heywood
1841. Asaph Wood.	Theophilus P. Wood.	George W. Davis, Joseph Wright, Smyrna W. Bancroft	Asaph Wood, Charles W. Bush, Walter Heywood.	Walter Heywood
1842. Martin Dunster.	Theophilus P. Wood.	Joseph Wright, Amasa Leland, Mirick Stimpson.	Thomas E. Glazier, John Edgell, Amasa Leland.	B. F. Heywood.
1843. Martin Dunster.	Francis Richardson.	Thomas E. Glazier, Walter Greenwood, John Edgell.	Selectmen.	Seth Heywood.
1844. Martin Dunster.	Francis Richardson.	Thomas E. Glazier, George W. Davis, John Edgell.	Thomas E. Glazier, John Edgell, Hubbard Kendall.	Seth Heywood.
1845. Asaph Wood.	Francis Richardson.	John Edgell, Smyrna W. Bancroft, Nathaniel Wright.	Thomas E. Glazier, Smyrna W. Bancroft, David Wright.	Seth Heywood.
1846. Asaph Wood.	Francis Richardson.	Asaph Wood, George W. Davis, John Edgell.	Thomas E. Glazier, Francis Richardson, Nathaniel Wright.	S. W. Bancroft.
1847. Asaph Wood.	Francis Richardson.	Joseph Wright, Thorley Collester, Stephen Taylor.	Thomas E. Glazier, Aaron B. Jackson, Calvin S. Greenwood.	S. W. Bancroft.

## TABLE—Continued.

Moderators.	Town Clerks.	Selectmen.	Assessors.	Treasurers.	Representatives.
1848. L. H. Bradford.	Francis Richardson.	Thorley Collester, Lewis H. Bradford, Alonzo Sawtell.	Aaron B. Jackson, Calvin S. Greenwood, John Elgell.	Seth Heywood.	Asaph Wood.
1849. L. H. Bradford.	Francis Richardson.	Thomas E. Glazier, Alonzo Sawtell, Jonas Pierce.	Nathaniel Wright, Smyrna W. Bancroft, Aaron B. Jackson.	E. S. Jackson.	Thos. E. Glazier.
1850. Asaph Wood.	Francis Richardson.	Thomas E. Glazier, Thorley Collester, Elisha S. Jackson.	Austin Whitney, Rufus Newton, Joshua A. Whitney.	E. S. Jackson.	John Elgell.
1851. Asaph Wood.	Francis Richardson.	Thomas E. Glazier, Thorley Collester, Elisha S. Jackson.	Austin Whitney, Rufus Newton, Alonzo Sawtell.	E. S. Jackson.	John Elgell.
1852. Asaph Wood.	Abel S. Wood.	Aaron B. Jackson, Asa Merriam, Rufus Newton.	Selectmen.	E. S. Jackson.	Amasa Whitney.
1853 Thos. E. Glazier.	Francis Richardson.	Alonzo Sawtell, Thomas E. Glazier. Smyrna W. Bancroft.	Selectmen.	E. S. Jackson.	David Wright.
1854. Thos. E. Glazier.	Francis Richardson.	Thos. E. Glazier, Alonzo Sawtell, Smyrna W. Bancroft.	Thorey Collester, Hubbard Kendall, S. W. A. Stevens.	E. S. Jackson.	David Wright.

1855. John M. Moore.	Jas. H. Greenwood.	Asa Merriam, Aaron L. Greenwood, Marcius A. Gates.	Abel Stevens, Aaron L. Greenwood, Asa F. Smith.	E. S. Jackson.	John M. Moore.
1856. Thos. E. Glazier.	Jas. H. Greenwood.	Thomas E. Glazier, S. W. A. Stevens, Charles Thompson.	Simeon K. Leland, Horley Collester, Ivers Whitney.	E. S. Jackson.	Asa Merriam.
1857. Thos. E. Glazier.	Jas. H. Greenwood.	Aaron L. Greenwood, Asa Merriam, Marcius A. Gates.	Asa F. Smith, Rufus Newton, Edward Greenwood.	E. S. Jackson.	
1858. Asaph Wood.	Jas. H. Greenwood.	Asa Merriam, Marcius A. Gates, Amasa Bancroft.	Rufus Newton, Francis Richardson, Ivers Whitney.	E. S. Jackson.	
1859. Thos. E. Glazier.	Francis Richardson.	Asa Merriam, Amasa Bancroft, Marcius A. Gates.	Francis Richardson, Ivers Whitney, Aaron Greenwood.	E. S. Jackson.	William Mayo.

## VALUATION, &amp;c.

Valuation of the Town for the year 1858, . . . \$826,475

No. of Polls,	. . . . .	654
No. of Voters,	. . . . .	500

AMOUNT OF MONEY RAISED IN 1858, EXCLUSIVE OF  
HIGHWAY TAX.

Town Grant,	. . . . .	\$6,700.00
County Tax,	. . . . .	886.31
State Tax,	. . . . .	371.00
Overlayings,	. . . . .	266.94
Total,	. . . . .	—————\$8,226.65

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PERSONS PAYING TWENTY  
DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Alexander, Eastman,	. . . . .	\$20 17
Adams, Ezekiel,	. . . . .	21 39
Brick, Elijah,	. . . . .	44 41
Baker, Ezra,	. . . . .	67 60
Baker, Joseph,	. . . . .	27 92
Baker, Richard,	. . . . .	24 10
Bancroft, Smyrna W.,	. . . . .	81 88
Bancroft, Amasa,	. . . . .	78 77
Bush, Charles W.,	. . . . .	48 23
Brick, Alfred H.,	. . . . .	36 39
Britton, Charles A.,	. . . . .	20 37
Bent, A. Allen,	. . . . .	21 91
Bradford, Lewis H.,	. . . . .	37 56
Brown, Jonathan,	. . . . .	44 92
Brinkman, John,	. . . . .	20 48

Coolidge, Artemas,	.	.	.	.	.	21	39
Cowee, Joel,	.	.	.	.	.	33	68
Collester, Rugg & Co.,	.	.	.	.	.	51	27
Collester, Maro,	.	.	.	.	.	23	49
Clark, Alonzo B.,	.	.	.	.	.	20	07
Canterbury, Ira,	.	.	.	.	.	27	10
Comee, widow Sarah,	.	.	.	.	.	28	10
Conant, Calvin,	.	.	.	.	.	20	85
Cobleigh, Luke,	.	.	.	.	.	28	03
Derby, Philander,	.	.	.	.	.	32	73
Dodd, W. W. & G. W.,	.	.	.	.	.	20	38
Davis, G. W., Heirs of,	.	.	.	.	.	27	80
Edgell, John,	.	.	.	.	.	96	03
Ellsworth, George F.,	.	.	.	.	.	20	99
Eaton, Peter,	.	.	.	.	.	45	13
Eaton, John,	.	.	.	.	.	34	78
Foster, Elijah W.,	.	.	.	.	.	29	64
Fairbanks, Sardis,	.	.	.	.	.	33	88
Fairbanks, Levi,	.	.	.	.	.	32	34
Green, Charles,	.	.	.	.	.	62	01
Graham, Lewis H.,	.	.	.	.	.	38	10
Goodspeed, Daniel J.,	.	.	.	.	.	24	91
Greenwood, Edward,	.	.	.	.	.	46	94
Greenwood, Walter,	.	.	.	.	.	66	14
Greenwood, Walter, Trustee of Baptist Society,	.	.	.	.	.	40	80
Greenwood & Wright,	.	.	.	.	.	190	68
Guild, Willard G.,	.	.	.	.	.	24	43
Gates, Samuel G.,	.	.	.	.	.	24	98
Gates Marcius A.,	.	.	.	.	.	24	56
Gates, Horace,	.	.	.	.	.	27	94
Glazier, Thomas E.,	.	.	.	.	.	60	09
Heywood, Seth,	.	.	.	.	.	195	79

Heywood Chair Mfg. Co.	.	.	.	.	291	18
Heywood, L., & Co.,	.	.	.	.	26	65
Heywood, widow Mary,	.	.	.	.	30	60
Heywood, Levi,	.	.	.	.	388	09
Hogan & Co.,	.	.	.	.	57	12
Howe, N. B.,	.	.	.	.	48	43
Howe, Simeon,	.	.	.	.	21	04
Hill, Wm. B., Admr. of the est. of Geo. Howe,	.	.	.	.	25	91
Howe, Ebenezer,	.	.	.	.	23	94
Howe, Joseph P.,	.	.	.	.	23	59
Hill, Henry C.,	.	.	.	.	139	16
Hager, George B.,	.	.	.	.	38	23
Hinds, Abijah,	.	.	.	.	29	75
Hodgman, George,	.	.	.	.	21	77
Jackson, Elisha S.,	.	.	.	.	34	61
Jackson, Josiah A.,	.	.	.	.	20	92
Kendall, Hubbard, estate of,	.	.	.	.	25	24
Kendall, Benjamin T.,	.	.	.	.	53	95
Kendall, Orison,	.	.	.	.	29	40
Kelton, George,	.	.	.	.	25	91
Lynde, Wm. S.,	.	.	.	.	95	91
Lovewell, Leonard,	.	.	.	.	52	33
Lovewell, Isaac,	.	.	.	.	23	63
Lawrencee, Henry,	.	.	.	.	32	93
Merriam, Albert,	.	.	.	.	29	81
Morse, C. W.,	.	.	.	.	21	37
Moore, John M.,	.	.	.	.	20	59
Nichols & Baker,	.	.	.	.	24	74
Parker, David,	.	.	.	.	208	89
Parker & Heywood, Trustees of Sarah Heywood,	.	.	.	.	61	20
Pierce, S. K.,	.	.	.	.	125	94
Pierce, Jonas,	.	.	.	.	58	04

Partridge, Seneca,	.	.	.	.	.	66	03
Perley, Asa,	.	.	.	.	.	24	40
Peabody, John H.,	.	.	.	.	.	21	59
Rugg & Osgood,	.	.	.	.	.	53	04
Richardson, Francis,	.	.	.	.	.	57	54
Richardson, Asa,	.	.	.	.	.	36	80
Ray, Heman,	.	.	.	.	.	28	18
Ray, Amos,	.	.	.	.	.	26	78
Stevens, S. W. A.,	.	.	.	.	.	30	68
Stevens, Abel S.,	.	.	.	.	.	22	23
Sawin, L. H.,	.	.	.	.	.	54	05
Sawin, John,	.	.	.	.	.	48	64
Stone, Benjamin,	.	.	.	.	.	47	32
Shumway, Charles A.,	.	.	.	.	.	24	45
Scollay, Charles,	.	.	.	.	.	23	54
Smith, Asa F.,	.	.	.	.	.	20	01
South Gardner Mfg. Co.,	.	.	.	.	.	229	50
Temple, Seth H.,	.	.	.	.	.	42	40
Temple, C. C.,	.	.	.	.	.	23	54
Travers, E. C. J. & O. A.,	.	.	.	.	.	36	83
Thompson, Hollis,	.	.	.	.	.	24	82
Wood, Asaph,	.	.	.	.	.	100	99
Wood, Abel S.,	.	.	.	.	.	71	99
Wood, Nelson P.,	.	.	.	.	.	21	80
Whitney, Amasa,	.	.	.	.	.	98	18
Whitney, Joseph, 2d,	.	.	.	.	.	24	19
Whitney, J. & I.,	.	.	.	.	.	44	61
Whitney, J. & J. A.,	.	.	.	.	.	31	07
White, A. & Co.,	.	.	.	.	.	47	37
Wright, Joseph,	.	.	.	.	.	21	85
Wright, Edward,	.	.	.	.	.	21	04
Willis, Andrew W.,	.	.	.	.	.	29	39

## NON-RESIDENTS.

Taylor, Stephen,	. . . . .	\$28 76
Murdock, E., Sawyer, and others,	. . . . .	61 21
Whitney, Seth,	. . . . .	22 18
Stone, Leonard,	. . . . .	20 40

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## R O A D S .

The town is well supplied with roads, amounting to between fifty and sixty miles in length, of which the following are the principal ones :

The road leading from Brattleborough to Boston, through the south part of the town, is about four miles in length, and was originally a turnpike. In the year 1829, it was abandoned as such, and made free for public travel. It was laid out as a county road by the Commissioners in the year 1833, and re-built by the town, at an expense of between seven and eight thousand dollars.

The county road leading from Westminster to Royalston passes through the center of the Town ; length, seven miles.

The roads from the center of the town, leading to Ashburnham, Winchendon, Jonesville, Templeton, and Hubbardston, are of about an equal length ; viz: from four to five miles.

The roads belonging to Gardner are kept in repair at a cost of from fifteen to eighteen hundred dollars annually.

The Vermont and Massachusetts rail-road passes through the town from east to west, at about an equal distance from the center and south village, five or six miles in length.

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### M I L I T A R Y .

Soon after the incorporation of the town, a militia company was formed of all the able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, (according to the laws of the Commonwealth,) and chose William Bickford, Captain. This company continued to do duty, until the law requiring such duty was repealed. The following are the names of its commanders.

William Bickford, Reuben Haynes, Samuel Edgell, Aaron Greenwood, Abel Kendall, Benjamin Edgell, David Nichols, Arna Bacon, Ezra Moore, William Bickford, Jr., Ahio Temple, Levi Priest, Ezekiel Howe, Abel Jackson, Bartlett Stoddard, Henry Whitney, William Learned, George W. Cowee and Ephraim Wright.

In 1813, a volunteer company was formed, called the Gardner Light Infantry. Soon after its organization, it was ordered to South Boston, where it remained on duty until the close of the war.

The following are the names of the commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates belonging to this company at the time they were ordered into the service of their country.

Ephraim Williams, Captain; Samuel Sawin, Lieut.; Joel Cowee, Ensign; Ebenezer Bolton, 1st Sergeant; Charles Hoar, 2d, do.; Benjamin Stone, 3d, do.; Reuben Wheeler, 4th, do.

*Privates:* Luke Whitney, Josiah Eaton, Joel Wheeler, James Coolidge, Jr., Josiah Wilder, Isaac Wilder, David Wilder, Phineas Moore, Aaron Conant, Abram F. Glazier, George W. Davis, Seth Whitney, Joseph Whitney, 2d., Jos. P. Whitney, Thomas Bennett, Jr., Hubbard Kendall, Joseph L. Newell, Pliny Billings, David Perley, David Reed, Jr., Isaac Jackson, John Woodbury, Nath'l Wright, Jonas Brick, Amasa Leland, Farwell Conant, and Benjamin Edgell.

William Fenno, Drummer; Levi Divol, Bass, do.; Edward Loud, Fifer.

This was a spirited and well-disciplined com-

pany for about twenty years, under the command of the following named officers:

Eph'm Williams, Joel Cowee, Reuben Wheeler, Benjamin Stone, Thomas Bennett, Jr., Isaac Jackson, Martin Dunster, Luther Alden, and Isaac P. Kendall.

In 1844, a company was formed called the Gardner Greys. The following is a list of the officers of the company:

James Coolidge, 2d, Captain; David Kendall, Joseph Wood, and Hiram Wood, Lieutenants; Charles Leland, Quartermaster; John W. Hill, Henry C. Hill, Aaron B. Jackson, Edwin A. Stevens, and Alonzo B. Clark, Sergeants; Josiah A. Jackson, Hosea Adams, John H. Peabody, and James W. Woodbury, Corporals; Aaron B. Jackson, Treasurer.

*Privates*: Edwin Hill, Asher W. Shattuck, James B. Lord, Ebenezer Ballou, Alonzo Davis, Addison A. Walker, Joseph L. Wheeler, William B. Hill, George A. Glazier, Nathan A. Gates, John M. Seaver, Edwin Howe, Charles E. Bickford, Abijah Hinds, Jr., Merrick Adams, William H. Learned, Stilman D. Colburn, Harrison R. Rawson, Lysander B. Jaquith, William T. Peabody, Charles Noyes, Hiram Williams, Elijah W. Foster, John H. Walker, Albert Bick-

ford, J. H. Sperling, George T. Lowell, Ai Stone, J. P. Lynde, Ransom Bolton, Bellarmin Bolton, Luke Whitney, R. G. Reed, Daniel Adams, Ephraim S. Bowker, Luther B. Walker, Samuel Hodgman, B. G. Cochran, Asa F. Smith and Benjamin H. Rugg.

This company was disbanded in 1851; since that time there has been no military company in Gardner.

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### M U S I C .

There were two bands of music formed in 1855. One in the center of the town, called the Gardner Cornet Band, is composed of eighteen members. The other is in the south village, and is called the Mechanics' Cornet Band; it consisted of nineteen members at its formation; it now numbers sixteen.

These organizations have not the power to protect or secure property that belong to the engine companies; yet their music has a tendency to invigorate, enliven and animate the mind, rendering it more capable of enjoying its possessions.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The fire department at the present time, consists of two organized companies of engine men formed in 1852. One is located in the south village, and is called the Cataract, No. 1 ; Samuel Bent, Foreman. The other, is in the west village, and is called the Torrent, No. 2 ; Hiram Wood, Foreman. Both companies have powerful engines which were purchased by the town at an expense of nearly three thousand dollars, including hose.

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## F I R E S ,

## AND INJURIES BY LIGHTNING.

1798, August 10. A barn belonging to Seth Heywood was set on fire by lightning and consumed, with the crops of hay and grain.

1798, August 24. A barn belonging to Samuel Stone was struck by lightning and burnt; it was well filled with hay and grain.

1808. In May, a dwelling-house of Joseph Wright, with all the furniture, was consumed. The fire was occasioned by a defect in the oven.

1809. In November, a house belonging to Allen Perley was burned, with the furniture; he was having it repaired at the time; the workmen

had left shavings so near the fire-place, that on going out, the wind took them to the fire, thus communicating the flames to the building with such rapidity that there was no chance to save it.

1810. In the spring of the year, a house belonging to Capt. Ezekiel Howe was struck by lightning: there had been quite a shower of rain a little while before; Mr. Howe was coming towards the house when it was struck, and remarked "that the electricity had the appearance of live coals thrown from the roof." The house was not burned, but so shattered, that he built a new one; the furniture was upset, and the crockery thrown from the shelves and broken. A loaded gun standing in the house was discharged by the electricity.

1813. The card shop of Josiah Wilder, Jr. was destroyed by fire. Also, a dwelling-house belonging to Aaron Pratt.

1827. In February, a chair shop of James M. Comee was burned.

1829. A grist mill belonging to Capt. William Bickford, (where C. J. and O. A. Travers' chair shop now stands,) was burned.

1834. In June, the dwelling-house of Seth Whitney took fire upon the roof, and was destroyed. In October, a chair shop belonging to

Walter Heywood was burned on the site where Asher Shattuck's house now stands.

Capt. Henry Whitney had a mill burned, and built another on the same site, which he sold to Daniel J. Goodspeed, which was afterwards burnt.

Martin Dunster had a chair shop destroyed by fire, on the site where Nichols & Baker's grist mill now stands.

1839. In March, a chair shop of Elijah Putnam was burned, on the site now occupied by L. H. Sawin.

1841, August 20. The blacksmith shop belonging to Capt. William Learned was destroyed by fire.

1846. A mill belonging to Ai Stone, in the north part of the town, (where John Cowee's mill now stands,) was burned. A small house belonging to Heman Ray was burned the same year. Daniel J. Goodspeed had a shop consumed by fire, where Greenwood & Wright's chair shop now stands.

1852. In November, the same individual had a shop burned on the site now occupied by B. F. Kendall.

1855. In March, the house that had been occupied by Miss Kneeland and Mrs. Phinney, was burned.

1857. In September, a large paint shop belonging to the South Gardner Chair Manufacturing Company, near the depot, was burned. Loss, \$10,000; insured for \$5,500.

Other inconsiderable fires may have occurred.

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HAIL STORM. A sudden storm of hail came over the north part of Gardner, June 20, 1850, breaking the glass on the west, and north-west side of the buildings where it went. The hail came with such force that it broke down the growing vegetables in its course.

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### C A S U A L T I E S .

In 1802, Seth Heywood was found dead by the road-side, between Leominster and Westminster; he had been to assist a man in driving some cattle, and, in returning home, it is supposed, he felt unwell and stepped out of the road and died. He was a young man, dearly beloved and greatly lamented by his friends. His age was 25.

In 1818, David Wilder was killed in consequence of a tub of gravel falling on him while he was at work in a well; the tub was drawn

up by a windlass ; those working at that, turned it so fast, that the tub went over after it was drawn up. His age was 30.

In 1820, Joseph Clark, Jr., died in a fit. His age was 33.

In 1822, William Fenno died in consequence of falling from his wagon while going down the hill, about a quarter of a mile east of the center of the town, a little below the road to Westminster. On examining the wagon, it was found that the linchpin went but a little way into the axle-tree ; it was supposed, on turning around, as one wheel went over a stone, the pin came out, and on going down this hill the wheel came off, causing the accident. He lived two or three days.

In 1826, Jonathan Martin was found dead in his house, being left alone for a little while. Jonathan Bancroft was found dead in a pasture, while on a visit to his son ; as he was going from the field to the house, he died, (as was supposed) in a fit. His age was 76.

In 1831, Asahel Brick died in a fit. His age was 47. Harriet, daughter of Abijah Hinds, was drowned in a clay pit. She was 7 years of age.

In 1834, Capt. Ahio Temple died suddenly in his bed. His age was 70.

In 1835, Benjamin Howe fell from a ladder attached to the high beams in the barn ; he had nearly reached the top when the ladder swayed, and he fell to the floor, injuring him so badly that he died the third day. His age was 52.

In 1837, Daniel Gates was so injured by the upsetting of his wagon, (near the house of Amos Ray,) that he lived but a few days.

In 1842, Winslow Davis was wounded by falling from his wagon, causing his death in a few days. Amasa Leland was killed by a timber falling upon his head while taking down his barn. His age was 49. Silas, son of George W Davis, while sliding from a hay-mow, came forcibly upon a pitchfork, which entered his body causing his death. He was 10 years of age.

In 1844, Mrs. Joel Cowee died suddenly in her bed. Her age was 54.

In 1845, Horace P., son of David Bickford, was drowned. He was 5 years of age.

In 1851, Andrew Beard was found dead in his bed. His age was 79.

In 1852, a child of George Howe died in a fit. He was 2 years of age.

In 1855, Levi Richardson was found frozen in Mr. Ballou's mill, in the north part of the town. His age was 53. Hubbard Kendall was

killed by the falling of a tree. His age was 65. Miss Merriam was found dead in her bed. Her age was 69.

On the night of the 7th of March, 1855, a shocking murder was committed in Gardner. The house of Miss Miriam Kneeland and Mrs. Sarah K. Phinney, was entered, by breaking a window while the occupants were in their beds; the murderer with malice prepense, and without any provocation, maliciously murdered those two innocent persons by striking them on their heads with a cudgel. The instrument used was a chair-post. The murder was not disclosed until the next day evening. This affair so agitated the town, that there was but little business accomplished for a week; there was great exertion used to ascertain the perpetrator of this invidious deed. The Selectmen offered a reward of \$500, to any one who would detect and bring to justice the assassin.

A young man by the name of George Stacy was apprehended and tried before a Justice of the Peace in Gardner; the evidence was so much against him, that he was committed for a further hearing before the Supreme Court, at Worcester. The Grand Jury found a bill against him, and the case went to the Trial Jury, but their verdict was *not guilty*.

Their funeral was attended at the meeting-house the next Sabbath by a large congregation; Rev. A. Stowell preached a sermon from these words:

“They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided.” 2nd Samuel, 1st c., 23d v.

The congregation was so large that part of them repaired to the town hall, where Rev. J. C. Paine preached from the text found in Proverbs, 4th, 27th.

“Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy feet from evil.”

The subjects of this murder were daughters of Timothy Kneeland, whose name has been mentioned among the early settlers of Gardner. Miss Kneeland was 85 years of age, and Mrs. Phinney, 75. For a number of years they were the only occupants of the house. They were humble and exemplary christians.

In 1856, Mrs. Lorenzo Cheney died in consequence of being burnt; a fluid lamp was broken setting fire to her clothes, and burned her so badly that she lived but a few hours. Her age was 48.

In 1857, Hammond Hardy, aged 21, was frozen so that he died. George W. Davis, aged 68, was drowned.

In 1859, a son of Lyman Fenno, four years of age, fell into a shiner-box and being too small to get out alone, was frozen ; he was not discovered until death had completed its mission. A son of Mr. Flinn, two years of age, was drowned in a well. A son of John Hyde, four years of age, was drowned.

*Small Pox.* There were four deaths from small pox in 1854, and two in 1855.

*Suicide.* There have been seven deaths by suicide within the last fifty years.

Only one resident in town has been known to arrive at the age of one hundred ; a man by the name of Chapel, of English birth, died in Gardner, about the year 1820, aged 103.

Since 1830, there have been 782 deaths ; 11 between ninety and one hundred ; 48 between eighty and ninety ; 139 between fifty and eighty ; 153 between twenty-five and fifty ; 88 between fifteen and twenty-five ; 343 under fifteen.

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## CEMETERIES.

The burying-ground, lying north of the common, is owned by the town ; the land was bought of Seth Heywood, in 1785 ; some years after,

an addition was made to it on the west side. In 1847, a tomb was built at the east end, for the use of the town.

In November, 1849, several of the inhabitants of South Gardner, made application to Asaph Wood, Esq., to issue a warrant to some one of the persons named in the said application, to meet at the office of Dr. H. C. Harriman, to organize into a company, to be called the South Gardner Green Bower Cemetery Company.

The persons met agreeably to notice, and voted to organize, according to the law made and provided for in such cases, into a company with the above name; and made choice of S. W. A. Stevens, for Clerk, and H. C. Harriman, Moderator.

The officers of the company are, five Directors, or Trustees, one of whom shall be President, a Treasurer and Clerk.

A code of by-laws was adopted for the regulation of the company; and a piece of land was purchased for the cemetery, south of the village, of Mr. John Sawin, which was fenced, and prepared, and laid out into lots for burial purposes, and has since been occupied as such. In 1858, the town voted to build a tomb in said cemetery, which has been completed.

August 7th, 1858, the Town voted to purchase some land, near the west village, for a new cemetery, and chose Elisha S. Jackson, John W. Hill, and Francis Richardson, a committee for that purpose; they bought ten acres of land: seven or eight acres of Dea. Asa Perley, and two of S. W. Bancroft. The land lies west of Crystal Lake, and is called Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Considerable labor and expense is now being bestowed upon it, and it has the appearance of being a beautiful place (when completed) for the reception of the dead.

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#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Aaron Wood, Simeon Leland, William Whitney, Smyrna Glazier, Asaph Wood, Francis Richardson, Lewis H. Bradford, Rufus Newton, S. W. A. Stevens, John Edgell, Thomas E. Glazier, Thorley Collester, and C. W. Carter. The last mentioned one is an attorney at law.

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#### MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

Joseph Boyden was probably the first physician in Gardner. Soon after he came into town,

Rev. J. Osgood united the medical to his clerical office; there not being practice enough for both, Dr. Boyden left the place. Mr. Osgood was the only physician in town for nearly thirty years.

Dr. Howard practiced medicine here a few years. In 1822, Horace Parker, from Westford, came to Gardner; after practicing medicine about seven years, his health failed and he returned to Westford, where he died soon after.

In 1823, David Parker came into town; after studying awhile with his brother Horace, he commenced the practice of medicine with him, which he has continued to the present time. After the death of his brother, he was for many years the only physician in town.

Occasionally a physician would locate here until a better opening might be found. Dr. Sanborn practiced in the south village a short time. Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Harriman, Dr. Warner, and Dr. Jewett, have also been located as physicians here. Dr. Sawyer and Dr. Macomber are now practising physicians in the place; the one last mentioned is of the homœopathic order.

W. H. H. Hinds, dentist, resided in town seven or eight years, when he sold out in 1859 to Dr. E. D. Gaylord.

Nathan S. Lincoln, son of Rev. Sumner Lincoln, fitted for college at Springfield, Mass., and graduated at Dartmouth College in 1850. Studied medicine in Baltimore, Md.; commenced the practice of medicine in the city of Washington in 1853, where he still resides.

Albert Kendall, son of Hubbard Kendall, studied with Dr. Harriman, of Gardner, and attended the Medical College at New York, where he received his diploma for a physician, in which practice he is now engaged at Newton Lower Falls.

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## S C H O O L S .

In 1787, the town was divided into four school districts, and granted twenty pounds to be expended in schooling. Previous to that time what education the children received was given in a private capacity; for nine years the schools were kept in dwelling-houses. In 1796, the town granted 250 pounds to build school-houses.

In 1818 the town was new districted and divided into six school districts; the school money has been increased from year to year until the present time, when \$2,000 is appropriated to that use. The people of Gardner attach great

importance to the system of common school education; this may be noticed in their school-houses, all of which have been built new, or repaired within a few years. In 1858, district No. 1 erected a beautiful and commodious house, with four departments, at a cost of \$10,000. In the same year, district No. 3 erected a house with three departments, at a cost of \$5,000. Much pains has been taken in selecting teachers, giving the children and youth an opportunity to acquire an education sufficient to qualify them for the active business of life. A high school is often kept in the center of the town. There is also a fund of \$1,000, belonging to the south village, the income of which is to be paid for the support of a school. The donor was Abijah M. Severy. We find from the report of the School Committee, that in the year 1858, the number of public schools kept in town was twenty-five; an increase in number of six over the preceding year; their average length was six and a half months.

The number of persons in town between five and fifteen years of age, according to the last enumeration, was 482.

## B U S I N E S S .

The principal business of this town for the first fifty years after its settlement, was farming. There were several coopers, but none that carried on an extensive business. About the year 1805, Mr. James M. Comee commenced on a small scale the manufacture of chairs. The only machinery used then in making chairs was an ordinary foot-lathe for turning some parts of the stock then used, the rest of the work was done entirely by hand. This may be considered the commencement of chair manufacturing in New England, as, before it was done solely in connection with cabinet work. Mr. Comee continued in this business a number of years without competition. But at length, as it proved to be lucrative, and in the way it was carried on at that time, requiring but little capital to commence with, it was taken up by one and another until it has now become the principal business of the town, and is carried on to some extent in the neighboring towns. Mr. Comee acquired a handsome estate, and was a man much respected by his townsmen; he lived one-fourth of a mile east of the center of the town, where Mrs. A. Gates now resides. The rise and progress of

the chair business in this town if written in detail, might be interesting, but as I have not the facts sufficient, I shall confine myself to some general statements :

For many years the only machinery used was a foot-lathe. When water-power was first applied to the turning-lathe, it was a matter of astonishment to many, to see with what rapidity the work was done. Next came the circular saw to prepare the timber for the lathe ; and machine has followed machine to the present time, and a large part of the work is now done with them.

The annual amount of chair business may be set in round numbers at \$550,000. Number of men employed, 450 ; number of chairs made, 620,000 ; amount paid for seating the same, \$55,000 ; which last is done by women and children.

The largest establishment for chair-making in town, and probably the largest in the United States, is that of the Heywood Chair Manufacturing Company. Their factory is situated on the stream flowing from Crystal Lake, and near its outlet ; for motive power they use both water and steam ; they employ over 200 men, and manufacture 200,000 chairs annually, varying in prices from \$6 to \$120 per dozen, making an aggregate

amount of \$230,000. The amount paid by them for seating, is \$18,000 annually. In addition to the above, the same company manufacture 50,000 gallons of varnish annually, valued at \$83,000, 8,000 of which is used by themselves in finishing chairs. The business of this company in 1849, was one hundred thousand dollars: in 1859, three hundred thousand dollars. Their office in Boston is 113 Fulton street.

The following table will show the amount of chair business done by individuals and companies, at the present time:

	Annual Amt. of Business.	Number of thousands employed	Number of Chairs.	Amount paid for Seating.
Heywood Chair } (Chairs,)      Manuf. Co.,      } (Varnish,)	\$230,000      70,000	210	200,000	\$18,000
Collester, Rugg & Co., . . . .	30,000	20	25,000	3,500
L. H. Sawin, . . . . .	24,000	17	30,000	4,000
E. Wright & Co., . . . . .	24,000	15	40,000	3,000
P. Derby, . . . . .	16,000	17	16,000	2,000
A. White & Co., . . . . .	20,000	25	36,000	4,000
Greenwood & Wright, . . .	75,000	40	100,000	8,000
S. K. Pierce, . . . . .	60,000	45	50,000	7,000
W. Hogan & Co., . . . . .	40,000	30	80,000	5,000
Greenwood and Nichols, . . .	10,000	5	7,800	1,000
John Sawin & Co., . . . . .	8,000	7	26,000	
E. C. & O. A. Travers, . . .	6,000	4	10,000	700
Asa Perley, . . . . .	5,000	7	6,000	400

The apparent discrepancy in the above table,

may be reconciled from the fact that some manufacturers make more of the higher priced chairs than others, and some increase the amount of their business by painting more or less of the chairs they manufacture. To the above, we may add the business of A. H. Brick, in painting chairs; his shop is near the depot, and he employs fifteen hands, and finishes about 50,000 chairs a year, making the whole amount of chair business of the town, nearly \$600,000.

There is one Pail and Tub factory in town, owned and occupied by Amasa Bancroft. He employs twelve men and makes 8,000 nests of tubs, and 30,000 pails, annually; valued at \$15,500.

The Mercantile business of the town, exclusive of flour and grain, may be set at \$180,000, and is done at the present time by A. S. Wood, Stevens & Greenwood, Warren & Marean, N. B. Howe, Rugg & Osgood, Wood & Bryant, G. W. Black, G. T. Ellsworth, and L. D. Lyon.

There are in the town nine saw-mills, one grist-mill, (Nichols & Baker's, who are doing a business of \$30,000 annually, in flour, grain and meal;) one bakery, one tin-shop, three blacksmith's shops, one jeweller, two public houses, four livery stables and two post offices.

## L I B R A R I E S .

There are four circulating libraries in town; one in the south village, and three in the center of the town,—one of which is an Agricultural Library: there is also one in each school district.

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## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Agreeably to letters missive from a number of brethren who were church members residing in Gardner, an Ecclesiastical Council convened at the house of John Glazier, Feb. 1st, 1786, in order to lead and assist them in forming a church of Christ in said town, consisting of delegates from the churches in Westminster, Templeton, Winchendon and Ashburnham.

Voted, Rev. Mr. Rice, Moderator, and Rev. Mr. Cushing, Scribe.

There were twenty-six members of other churches present, desirous of forming themselves into a church of Christ; seven others united with them by profession.

The Moderator, in the name of the Council, tendered to them as a regular church of Christ, the fellowship of the churches, and exhorted them to walk in the faith and order of the gospel.

After the exercises, upon a motion made in the presence of the Council, the Church chose the Rev. Mr. Rice as their standing Moderator, with all consenting that they should choose an occasional Moderator among themselves as they should need. The Council then dissolved.

J. CUSHING, *Scribe.*

At this early period, towns and parishes were identical, and a tax was levied by law for the support of the gospel.

The following was the covenant of that early church, there being no articles of faith.

### *Form of Covenant.*

“We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, apprehending ourselves called of God unto the church state of the gospel, do first of all confess ourselves unworthy to be so highly favored of the Lord, and admire that free, rich grace of his which triumphs over so great unworthiness. And thus with humble reliance on the aids of grace, therein promise for them that in a sense of their inability to do any good thereby, do humbly wait on him for all. Thankfully laying hold of his covenant, we would choose the things that please him. We declare our serious belief of the christian religion as contained in the said scriptures, and with such a view thereof as the confessions of faith in other churches has exhibited, heartily resolving to conform our lives unto the rules of that holy religion, as long as we live in the world. We give up

ourselves unto the blessed Jesus who is the Lord Jehovah, and adhere to him as the head of his people, in the covenant of his grace, and rely on him as our Priest, Prophet and King, to bring us unto eternal blessedness. We acknowledge our everlasting and indispensable obligations to glorify God, in all the duties of a godly and righteous life: very particularly in the duties of a church state, as a body of people appointed in obedience to him in all the ordinances of the gospel. And we therefore depend upon his generous assistance for our faithful discharge of the duties thus incumbent upon us. We desire and intend, with dependance on his promised and powerful grace to walk together as a church of the son Jesus Christ, in the faith and order of the gospel, so far as we shall have the same revealed unto us. Constantly attending the public worship of God, the sacraments of New Testament, and the discipline of his kingdom, and all his holy institutions in communion with one another, and watchfully avoiding sinful stumbling-blocks and contentions, as become a people whom the Son hath bound up together in a bundle of life. At the same time we do also present our offspring with us unto the Lord; professing with his help to maintain the daily worship of God in our houses, and to do our part in all other methods that our children may be the Lord's. And all this we do, fleeing to the blood of the everlasting Covenant for the pardon of our many sins; and praying that the gracious Lord, who is the great Shepherd, would prepare and strengthen us for every good work, to do his will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in his sight, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

At a meeting in March, 1789, the town voted to raise £20, (or \$66,67,) to hire preaching the

present year ; voted that the committee for hiring preaching, employ Rev. Frederick Parker.

In October, they voted to hire Mr. Parker six Sabbaths ; also, to unite with the church in giving him a call, which was done.

His answer was in the negative. The people were so anxious to have him for their minister, that they chose a Committee of two to make further proposals to him, such as they anticipated he would accept, but all of no avail.

July 21st, 1791, the inhabitants of the town were legally called together, for the purpose of showing their minds with regard to giving Rev. Jonathan Osgood a call to settle in the work of the gospel ministry in Gardner; sixty-four in favor, and three otherwise.

#### MR. OSGOOD'S ANSWER.

*To the Church and Congregation in Gardner :*

BRETHREN AND FRIENDS :

Whereas in the Providence of God you have seen fit to give me an invitation to settle with you in the work of the gospel ministry, I have taken it into serious consideration, advised with my friends and fathers in the ministry, and devoted myself to God in solemn prayer for direction, in a matter of so much importance. I feel my own inability to undertake so great a work. But being confident of the mighty power of God, and knowing that the

great head of the church is able to support those who put their trust in him, I hope he will afford me his grace, that I may be enabled to carry on so great a work, and at the same time relying that you will, by your prayers, strive with me at the throne of grace, that I may be upheld in such an arduous undertaking, and enabled to discharge the duty of a faithful minister of Jesus Christ. I trust that you will endeavor to strengthen my hands by your christian conduct, and that you will be desirous that harmony should be kept up with the neighboring churches, and that I should frequently exchange with my brethren, the clergy. The proposals you have made me for my support are according to the infancy of the town. If at any future period, as you increase in wealth, I should stand in need, I trust you will be ready to afford me relief. I shall depend that you punctually fulfill the proposals you have made. Relying on your candor, and trusting you will strive with me to build up the cause and kingdom of the great Redeemer in this place, and taking every circumstance into consideration, I think it my duty to answer you in the affirmative. I now affirm that I accept your invitation to settle with you in the work of the gospel ministry, reserving to myself, according to custom, two or three Sabbaths in a year, as occasion may require, to visit my friends.

As it is for the interest of religion and the welfare of society, that peace, concord, and universal benevolence prevail, let us strive to maintain them in our own minds, and inculcate the importance of them upon others. Let us all seek the great head of the church for support, and may we conduct ourselves as the true disciples of Jesus Christ, and walk together as heirs of the grace of life. That God may delight to dwell among you, that he may afford you the

influence of his Holy Spirit, that you may overcome all things which shall oppose you in your christian course, that you at last may come off conquerors through Jesus Christ, and be made partakers of the inheritance of the saints in life, is the earnest prayer of your friend and brother.

JONATHAN OSGOOD.

Gardner, Sept. 17th, 1791.

At this period ministers were settled for life. The conditions of Mr. Osgood's settlement were £58, one-half of it to be paid in one year, and the remainder in two years from his installation. His salary was to be £75 (or \$250) a year, so long as he should continue to preach.

At a subsequent meeting, the town voted to take from his settlement £18 (or \$60,) and add to his salary twenty cords of hard wood.

Mr. Osgood was ordained October 19th, 1791. The churches participating on that occasion, were from Andover, Westminster, Hubbardston, Templeton, Winchendon, Ashburnham, Bolton, Littleton and Boxford.

The Rev. Mr. French, of Andover, introduced the solemnities with prayer: Rev. Mr. Foster, of Littleton, delivered the sermon: Rev. Mr. Sparhawk, of Templeton, made the ordaining prayer: Rev. Mr. Rice, of Westminster, gave the charge: Rev. Mr. Brown, of Winchendon, bestowed the right hand of fellowship: Rev. Mr.

Wright, of Bolton, offered the concluding prayer.

Mr. Osgood was born at Westford in 1762. He began after he was of age to secure an education, graduated at Yale College, and studied theology with Rev. Mr. Foster, of Littleton.

His congregation, though not very large, embraced the whole town. As there was no physician in town during the first years of Mr. Osgood's ministry, he commenced the practice of medicine, which he continued until his death; although a portion of his time was devoted to the healing art, yet he was not considered neglectful of the care and spiritual wants of his flock.

He bought some land and built a house (where now lives Mr. Henry Lawrence) soon after he came here. When all was completed he married a daughter of Mr. Wardsworth, of Farmington, Conn. It was thought to be a great time here when he came with his bride; a company of young people met them at Barre and escorted them to their new home, where many of his people were assembled, bringing with them provisions of every description as a token of love and respect for their minister.

Mr. Osgood was a man of more than ordinary ability, and was the only minister and physician of the town during his life. He died on the

22d of May, 1822, in the 61st year of his age and 31st of his ministry: his funeral (the expenses of which were defrayed by the town) was attended at the meeting-house by a large concourse of people. The neighboring clergymen were invited to assist in the services. Rev. Mr. Easterbrook, of Athol, preached a sermon from the text “Jesus wept.” His death was lamented by a large circle of friends, by whom he was greatly esteemed and beloved. His character is briefly delineated in the following lines:

“Cautious himself, he others ne’er deceived,  
Lived as he taught, and taught as he believed.”

After the death of Mr. Osgood, the parish listened to several candidates for settlement without being able to unite on any one as their pastor; they at length gave a call to Rev. Edmund Sewell, which was declined.

May 3d, 1824, the parish voted a call to Mr. Lincoln, who had been supplying them for a season. Mr. Lincoln accepted the call, and was ordained and installed June 16th, 1824.

Immediately after the settlement of Rev. Mr. Lincoln, the church adopted the following covenant, instead of the one of 1786.

“You acknowledge the Bible to be a true and faithful record of the will of God respecting mankind. You receive

it as the only rule of your religious faith and practice. In religion you call no *man* Master; for one is your Master, even Christ. You believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. To us Christians, you believe, as the Apostle Paul says, that there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things and we in him. In the presence of the heart-searching God and this religious assembly, you solemnly avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your God, your Creator, your Redeemer, and your Sanctifier. Repenting of all your past sins, you promise in future, constantly to endeavor, by the aid of God, to render your life conformable to his requirements. You promise, by becoming a member of the visible church of Christ in this place, to submit to the gospel discipline, rules and regulations, as established and practiced in the same.” (Amen.)

“Thus you acknowledge and promise.”

“We, then, as members of the Church of Christ, welcome you to our fellowship and communion, at the table of our common Lord, whose body was broken, and whose blood was shed for the remission of sin. We promise, expecting the same from you towards us, to exercise over you the watchfulness of Christian love. May the peace of God make us perfect to do his will, that we may walk together as brethren; preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace; making us to abound in every good word and work; at last possessing a character adorned with every Christian virtue, may we all be so happy as to meet in the mansions of heaven, and unite our voices with an innumerable multitude, in the song of blessing and honor, glory and power to him that sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever, and ever.” Amen.

Mr. Lincoln continued to be the minister of the Congregational Church for six succeeding years; when, what was then called exclusive measures were adopted by the ministers of this association; the more liberal part taking one side and calling themselves Unitarians, while the more Calvinistic, taking the opposite side, were known by the name of Orthodox. The liberals being in the majority, retained the meeting-house; Mr. Lincoln taking the Orthodox side, with a part of the church, left and formed a new society, called the Evangelical Congregational Society of Gardner. The separation of the church took place in the autumn of 1830. In December following, Rev. Jonathan Farr was ordained over the Congregational Church, and was dismissed, at his request, in July 1833.

Rev. Curtis Cutler accepted an invitation to become their pastor, and was ordained Oct. 30th, 1833; his pastorate was about five years. Mr. Cutler was dismissed at his own request, though granted with reluctance by his people.

The pulpit was then supplied for a time by Rev. G. W. Stacy, who labored with much success in the cause of his Master.

Rev. W. H. Fish was their next supply, and was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Banister. From

which time it has been considered an Orthodox church.

Rev. J. C. Paine came to Gardner in 1847, and preached his first sermon on the last Sabbath in September. He received a unanimous call to settle, which he accepted, and was installed Jan. 12th, 1848.

The society had recently remodeled their meeting-house at a cost of about five thousand dollars. The church and society were then small, but soon began to increase, and have kept steadily on to the present time, (Feb., 1859,) so that now there is no spare pew to be rented. About one hundred have been added to the church, and it now numbers one hundred and twenty.

Having in 1824 adopted, and, for about thirty years, held the same creed of the 2d church, in Feb., 1857, the church voted to change their creed, and they adopted another, which is as follows :

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. You believe there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him..

2d. You believe the Bible is of divine inspiration, and should be received as the supreme rule of faith and practice.

3d. You believe that God has appointed all things, and works all things according to his counsel, so that all who believe on him may be saved, and he himself glorified.

4th. You believe that man was at first created upright, but by his own voluntary act he sinned, in consequence of which all are involved in sin, become voluntary sinners, and are without holiness.

5th. You believe that in consequence of sin man needs a change of heart, (which is effected through the influence of the Spirit,) in order that he may be fitted for the service of God and for heaven.

6th. You believe that faith, love, and reputance are the terms on which man can receive forgiveness, and by the grace of God be saved.

7th. You believe that the Christian graces will produce in man good works, which may be received as evidences of faith, but not as the ground of justification.

8th. You believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, by his sufferings and death, has made ample atonement for all mankind, so that all who will comply with the terms of the gospel may receive eternal life.

9th. You believe that there is to be a resurrection of the dead, that God will call all to an account, and that each will receive sentence. “The wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.”

10th. You believe the Sabbath to be a divine institution, and that all are therefore under obligations to “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.”

11th. You believe that the Lord’s Supper and Baptism are ordinances of the Christian church, and should be observed by all the members of the church; and that the subjects of Baptism are believers and their households.

## FORM OF COVENANT.

You do now, in the presence of the heart-searching God, and this religious assembly, avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your God, your Creator, your Redeemer and your Sanctifier.

You promise, by the assistance of his grace, to live in conformity to his requirements; and that by uniting with the church of Christ in this place, to submit to the gospel discipline, rules and regulations, as established and practiced in the same.

I do now, in the name of the Great Head of the Church, pronounce you to be his, and entitled to all the blessings and privileges of his church. And we, the members of this church, cordially receive you into our communion; and we covenant to watch over you, and to promote your spiritual edification with all fidelity and tenderness, treating you in truth and love as belonging to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

May the grace of God make you and us perfect to do his will, that we may walk together in love, preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace; making us to abound in every good word and work; and at last, being found possessed of a character, adorned with every Christian virtue, may we all be so happy as to meet in the mansions of heaven, and unite our hearts and voices, with an innumerable multitude, in the song of blessing and honor, glory and power, to him who sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever. Amen.

## EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.

On the second of August, 1830, the seceding members of the first parish met and organized

under the name the Evangelical Congregational Society of Gardner. On the 11th of the same month Rev. S. Lincoln was installed as pastor of the church and society. By much trial and great sacrifice, the new organization built a meeting-house at a cost of about two thousand dollars, which was dedicated June 16th, 1831 ;\* and continued to be their house of worship until they removed to their present house, which was built in 1856, at an expense of about nine thousand dollars.

This church, while it was under the care of Mr. Lincoln, was actively engaged in the moral reforms of the day; it was especially so in relation to anti-slavery and temperance. It was here that the Worcester County North Anti-Slavery Society was formed.

During the ministration of Mr. Lincoln, as also of his successor, Mr. Stone, this church had quite too much anti-slavery spirit to be very popular with most of the neighboring Orthodox churches.

One hundred and twenty persons united with the church by profession under Mr. Lincoln's ministry of eleven and one-half years. In com-

\*S. V. S. Wilder, Esq., gave the Society \$100 towards building their meeting-house; also, a Communion Service and Bible.

pliance with his request, he was dismissed Feb. 23d, 1842.

A call having been extended and accepted by Rev. William B. Stone, the same council that dismissed Mr. Lincoln, proceeded to ordain and install him.

Mr. Stone's pastorate was eight years; during that time there were seventy-six additions to the church; he left this people in September, 1850, in consequence of ill health.

Rev. D. C. Frost preached as a supply one year, and was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Grosvenor, who only remained a few months.

The church then secured the services of Rev. A. Stowell, who continued their pastor five years. Thirty-six were added to the church during that time.

Dec. 7th, 1857, Rev. J. W. Healy was installed as pastor of this church, and was dismissed, at his own request, July 11th, 1859; during his ministry there were thirty-five additions to the church by profession, and twenty-six by letter.

Rev. Samuel J. Austin was installed pastor of the church Dec. 8th, 1859. The church now numbers two hundred and eight.

The following covenant was adopted in 1847, during the period of Mr. Stone's labors.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God. That they are profitable for doctrine, for correction, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness, and that they are the only efficient rule of Christian faith and practice.

2d. We believe that God is a being of infinite perfections, both natural and moral, governing all things according to his own will, and existing consequently with his *unity* in three persons, *Father*, and *Son*, and *Holy Ghost*.

3d. We believe in the free agency, moral obligations, and accountability of man. That in consequence of the first transgression, he *became destitute* of holiness and *prone to evil*, and *obnoxious to the righteous justice of God*.

4th. We believe that Christ by his sufferings and death made atonement for sin. That it is abundantly sufficient for the whole world. And that those who reject his gospel perish in unbelief, entirely *from their own fault*.

5th. We believe in the necessity of a change of heart, whereby its natural aversion to holiness gives place to the grace and love of God in Christ. And that the change is wrought by the influence of the *Holy Spirit*.

6th. We believe that the only meritorious ground of the sinner's justification and pardon is the atoning sacrifice and righteousness of Christ. That while justification is through *faith alone*, it is through that *living faith* which unfailing and *perseveringly abounds in good works*, and all the fruits of the Spirit. And that *salvation is entirely by grace*.

7th. We believe in the *resurrection* of the *dead*, both of the *just* and the *unjust*. That all mankind must appear before the judgment seat of Christ to be awarded *according to their works*. *The wicked to go away into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into life eternal*.

8th. We believe that the ordinances of the *New Testament* are baptism and the Lord's Supper.

### FORM OF COVENANT.

You do now, in the presence of the heart-searching God, and this religious assembly, voluntarily avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your God, and the supreme object of your affections. You acknowledge the *Lord Jesus Christ* as your only Saviour, and the Holy Ghost as your sanctifier. Repenting of all your past sins, you promise in future constantly, by the aid of God, to render your life conformable to his requirements. That you will observe the Sabbath and attend to the ordinances of the Gospel. That you will endeavor to advance the cause of *temperance, moral purity, anti-slavery and peace*. And that henceforth, denying all ungodliness and every worldly lust; you will live soberly and righteously and godly in the world. You promise, by becoming a member of the visible church in this place, to submit to the gospel discipline, rules and regulations, as established and practiced in the same.

*Thus you covenant and promise.* (Then the church rise.) We then, as members of the church of Christ, welcome you to our fellowship and communion at the table of our *common Lord*, whose body was broken, and whose blood was shed for the remission of sins. We promise, expecting the same from you towards us, to exercise over you the watchfulness of *Christian love*. May the grace of God make us *perfect to do his will*. That we may walk together as brethren, *preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, making us to abound in every good word and work*.

At last, *preserving a character*, adorned with every Christian virtue, may we all be so happy as to meet in the man-

sions of Heaven, and unite our voices with an innumerable multitude, in the song of blessing and honor, glory and praise to *Him* that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever. *Amen.*

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### HISTORY OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH,

[As taken from the minutes of the Sixteenth Anniversary of the Wachusett Baptist Association held in Templeton, September 8th and 9th, 1858.—By LEWIS H. BRADFORD.]

The first movement of the South Gardner Baptist Church was in the year 1830, when twenty-three brethren and sisters of the Baptist Church in Templeton, who resided in Gardner, represented by letter to the church that “they thought their number and circumstances such that it would be for their advantage, and the general interest of the cause of Christ, to be organized into a distinct church”—and on the fifteenth of November, in the same year, an Ecclesiastical Council was convened at the house of Sullivan Jackson, in South Gardner, for the purpose of organizing and recognizing the church.

The council was composed of delegates from the churches in Templeton, Westminster, Princeton, and West Boylston. The venerable pastor of the Templeton church, Rev. Elisha Andrews,

was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. Abiel Fisher, now a member, but then pastor of the West Boylston church, was chosen Scribe.

The Moderator,—“Father Andrews,”—“exhibited the state of the brethren requesting the council, and the peculiar views of the Templeton church in relation thereto.”

The question, “Shall a church be constituted at South Gardner?” was argued at great length, some doubting as to the expediency, but on the whole, it was finally voted in the affirmative, and the council proceeded to recognize the church by a public meeting in the south-west district school-house. Brother Fisher preached; Bro. Appleton Morse, pastor of the church in Princeton, gave the hand of fellowship, and “Father Andrews,” the charge.

At the same time Bro. Sullivan Jackson was ordained as deacon of the church,—and among its early friends, no name is more fragrant than the name of this beloved brother; his house and his heart were always open to its demands.

The first regular pastor of the church was Rev. Samuel Glover, who was settled in the spring of 1831; he labored with them until the year 1834, and during his connection with the church, nineteen individuals were baptized; and

the meeting-house was erected, the funds having mainly been contributed by Sullivan Jackson, George Scott, and Walter Greenwood.

The second pastor was Rev. Winthrop Morse, who continued his labors but a few months in the year 1834, yet retained his connection with the church as a member until June 20th, 1847.

Rev. Joshua Millett was his successor until 1835, and afterwards, in the same year, Rev. John Holbrook, who remained but three months. No baptisms are recorded while the three last named individuals served the church.

In 1837, Bro. John Clapp was ordained as pastor, and that year fourteen persons were baptized. Previous to Bro. Clapp's connection with the church no regular choir singing had been enjoyed; he being a good singer, and no one leading off after the hymns were read, he would officiate as singer and preacher. Soon after he came amongst them he opened a singing school for the benefit of the choir.

The next year, Bro. Andrew Pollard, now the pastor of the Taunton Green Baptist Church, commenced preaching to them, and was ordained as pastor May 1st, 1839. During his pastorate twenty-one individuals were baptized.

In June, 1840, Bro. William H. Dalrymple

was settled as pastor, and remained until October, 1842 ; seven persons were baptized under his ministry. He was succeeded by Rev. Erastus Andrews and Rev. W. B. Jones, who supplied them with preaching until Oct., 1843. Neither one of the last named permanently resided in the town, and no baptisms are reported.

April 21st, 1844, Rev. Josiah H. Tilton, now the pastor of the Holden Baptist Church, was chosen pastor ; five individuals were baptized while he was with them. His labors closed in 1847, and Rev. Benjamin H. Clifts' services were secured until the spring of 1849, and that year Rev. Amasa Brown, now Agent of the American and Foreign Bible Society, was chosen pastor ; during his pastorate of five years, nineteen individuals were baptized.

He was succeeded in the fall of 1854, by the present pastor, Rev. Richard K. Ashley, and nineteen individuals have put on Christ by baptism under his ministry.

All the above named Pastors and Ministers it is believed have labored to preach the gospel with plainness and simplicity, and the church have enjoyed several very pleasant seasons of the outpourings of God's Holy Spirit.

At the decease of Sister Mary Wright Severy

Bradford, the Church and Society began to receive the benefit of a legacy of *four thousand dollars*, left by her former husband, Abijah Moore Severy, the income of which is only to be used for the support of the gospel and sacred music in connection with the church and society.

All but two or three of the original members have died, or are infirm and unfit for active duty, and we trust are patiently awaiting the summons to go home.

In conclusion, as we look over the record of this church, while sad reverses have sometimes beclouded its history, the eye of faith can see the hand of Divine Providence that has interposed in her behalf, and though assailed by the winds of adversity, her march is onward and upward, through the strength of our Lord Jesus Christ. The church now numbers one hundred members.

*A Summary Declaration of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Church in South Gardner.*

STANDING RESOLUTIONS AND VOTES OF THE CHURCH.

*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the pastor, clerk, or one of the deacons, to visit, or write to any member of this church, who shall neglect to attend the church conference, or forward to the church some communication, once in three months.

*Resolved*, That this church recommend to its members,

who may remove to the vicinity of another church of the same denomination, to unite with that church without delay.

*Voted,* That the Covenant be read at each monthly church Conference.

*Voted,* That the Articles of Faith and Covenant shall be read to each candidate for church membership, and his assent had before baptism.

### SUMMARY DECLARATION.

Believing it to be the duty of Christians to make a public declaration of their christian belief for the honor of Christ and the good of his cause on earth, we, therefore, deem it suitable to make the following

#### DECLARATION :

ARTICLE I. We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and our only rule of Faith and Practice. 2 Tim. 3 : 16. 2 Peter 1 : 21. Heb. 1 : 1, 2. John 5 : 39.

ARTICLE II. We believe there is but one only living and true God, and that he has made himself known to his people by the several names of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, who are equal in nature, power, and glory. Duet. 6 : 4. Eph. 4 : 6. 1 John 5 : 7. 2 Cor. 13 : 14. John 5 : 23. John 1 : 1, 14. John 13 : 26. Matt. 12 : 31, 32.

ARTICLE III. We believe that man was created in the image of God, holy, innocent, and happy; but, that he fell from that state, and lost all communion with God, by violating a known command of his Maker, and that we are all so affected by his apostacy, and that by nature we are wholly inclined to evil, and hence have become servants of

sin, and subjects of eternal punishment. Gen. 1: 27. Rom. 5: 12, 19. Gen. 6: 5. Ps. 14: 1, 3.

ARTICLE IV. We believe that the only way of salvation from this state of guilt and condemnation, is through the righteousness and atonement of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who, as the Savior of his people, confers upon all those who repent and believe in him, all blessings, temporal, spiritual, and eternal; and that it is the duty of all men to repent and believe. Luke 19: 10. John 3: 16. Rom. 3: 24, 25. Rom. 8: 32. Acts 17: 30.

ARTICLE V. We believe that all who are ever brought to repentance and faith in the Gospel, were chosen in Christ unto salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth; that repentance is produced by the efficacious grace of God; and that it is the duty of every believer to strive for sanctification. Eph. 1: 4, 5. 2 Thess. 2: 13. 1 Pet. 1: 2. Philip. 2: 13. 2 Tim. 1: 9. James 1: 18. 1 Thess. 4: 3. 5: 23.

ARTICLE VI. We believe that all who are renewed by the Holy Ghost, are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. John 10: 28, 29. Philip. 1: 6. 1 Pet. 1: 5.

ARTICLE VII. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day, ought to be kept holy as the Christian Sabbath. Exodus 20: 8. Rev. 1: 10. Acts 20: 7.

ARTICLE VIII. We believe that the only proper subjects of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are believers; that Baptism is properly administered only by emersion, and is, by scriptural example, a prerequisite to admission to the Lord's Table. Mark 16: 16. Acts 8: 36—39. John 3: 23. Rom. 6: 3, 4, Col. 2: 12. 1 Pet. 3: 21.

ARTICLE IX. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust ; and that we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ, to receive according to the deeds done in the body ; and that the sentence then passed will be eternal. John 5: 28, 29. Acts 24: 15. Mark 12: 26, 27. 2 Cor. 5: 10. Matt. 25: 46.

### COVENANT.

Having been brought, as we trust, to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, we do now, relying on his gracious aid, solemnly enter into covenant with each other in the following manner.

We will strive to walk together in brotherly love, while at the same time we will endeavor to watch over one another, and kindly and affectionately admonish each other as occasion may require : we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for worship, especially at the covenant meetings and communion seasons of the church, unless providentially prevented : we will not neglect the great duty of secret prayer, both for ourselves and others : as parents, we will maintain the worship of God in our families, and endeavor to bring up our children, and those under our care, in the ways of true piety : we will carefully abstain from all foolish talking, and from giving currency to any slanderous reports concerning brethren or sisters, as well as from all unnecessary worldly conversation on the Sabbath : as the faithful stewards of the Lord, we will aid, according to our ability, in sustaining the gospel in its purity, both at home and abroad : with tenderness and sympathy we will endeavor to bear each other's burdens and sorrows ; and finally, we will diligently study the word of God, that

we may know and do our whole duty, and be followers of God as dear children.

To all which we give our assent, in the presence of God, angels, and men.

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The following list shows the succession of Deacons of the Churches. The dates prefixed indicate the time of their election to office.

*First Congregational Church.*

1791,	November 24,	DAVID FOSTER.
1791,	" 24,	JONAS RICHARDSON.
1815,	September 21,	NOAH FAIRBANKS.
1815,	" 21,	LEWIS GLAZIER.
1815,	" 21,	JONATHAN BANCROFT.
1830,	" 21,	ELISHA JACKSON.
1830,	" 21,	SMYRNA W. BANCROFT.
1856,	" 5,	HORACE WHITNEY.

*Evangelical Congregational Church.*

1839, June	8,	NOAH FAIRBANKS.
1839, "	8,	LEWIS GLAZIER.
		JONATHAN BANCROFT.
		SAMUEL H. CLARK.
		JOSEPH D. SAWIN.

*Baptist Church.*

1830, November 15,	SULLIVAN JACKSON.
	ASA PERLEY.
	BENJAMIN STONE.
	MARCIUS A. GATES.

At this period we bring our brief and imperfect sketch to a close. We have followed along the course of this history, sometimes smooth and sometimes troubled, for a period of about seventy-five years ; which, with all its scenes and events, is now among the things that were ; of which “the memory fondly delights to recall.”

Such recollections of the past have a good moral influence on the generations present and to come. We learn in some degree, to appreciate the hardships of those who were the pioneers of society and who first made the sound of the axe to be heard in the forest. We are better prepared to estimate the advantages we enjoy, and the responsibility that attends the possession of such advantages.

We are also connected, in an important sense, with those who have lived in ages past, and others who are yet to come, exerting an influence from generation to generation that will continue to flow on to the end of time.

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