

## CHAPTER III.

### THE ORIGINAL GRANTEES AND THEIR LOTS.

The grantees of Londonderry were actual settlers, who were on the ground before they procured their charter. The grantees of Chester, on the other hand, were non-residents, very few of whom ever resided in Chester. They may be chiefly placed in three classes : First, the original association for settling the "Chesnut Country," formed at Hampton or Hampton Falls, which included, from the first, some Portsmouth gentlemen like Clement Hughes, Col. Packer, etc., but was mainly composed of residents of Hampton and Hampton Falls, and a few from Exeter and Kingston. A second class consisted of people belonging to Haverhill, Bradford and other towns in that vicinity. Some of them were proprietors or purchasers in Haverhill, and laid some claim to the Chesnut Country, or wished to procure a grant of it, and tried to obtain possession, and were admitted proprietors by desire of the government. A third class were the Governor and Council and their friends, and others in and about Portsmouth. Many of these secured their places in the list of grantees as a matter of personal favor, or by such means as were suspected to have influence, in those days no less than our own. We cannot always be certain that individuals are arranged in their proper classes, though in most cases there is little doubt. Then, some not belonging to either class, and some who were not petitioners, and some were petitioners who were not grantees. The first class had some men known to our day as prominent men, men in public stations ; but

the mass of them and the second class were the substantial yeomanry of their towns—the farmers and mechanics. Their motives were probably various; some went themselves as settlers, others settled their sons there, and still others soon sold out their rights, either to make money or to get rid of paying bills without any immediate profit. The third class were induced to take an interest in the grant chiefly from an expectation of realizing a profit from the sale of their lands. But probably their lots fell in such locations as, in many cases, to disappoint their expectations. We will now give some facts obtained in regard to them:

JOSEPH BATCHELDER, JOSIAH BATCHELDER, NATHANIEL BATCHELDER, NATHANIEL BATCHELDER, JR. They were descendants of Nathaniel, son of the Rev. Stephen Batchelder, the first minister of Hampton. Both were early settlers of Hampton and ancestors of a numerous race widely scattered. Nathaniel Batchelder was one of the assessors of Hampton Falls in 1719-20, and Nathaniel Batchelder, Sen., probably the same man, was selectman in 1722-3.

JACOB BASFORD. (See "Early Settlers.")

MOSES BLAKE, PHILEMON BLAKE, SAMUEL BLAKE. They were all tax-payers in Hampton Falls in 1727, and were descendants of Jasper Blake of Hampton, who died 1673. Philemon and Samuel were petitioners, but Moses was not.

ABRAHAM BROWN and JONATHAN BROWN. They were descendants of John Brown, an early settler of Hampton, whose descendants are numerous and widely scattered. They were tax-payers in Hampton Falls in 1727. Numerous persons of the name of Brown, and probably of the same origin, are found in ancient Chester.

AMOS CASS was a tax-payer in Hampton Falls in 1727. He was a descendant of John Cass, an early settler of Hampton, who was selectman in 1653, '7, '8, and in 1672 and '5 to his death in June, 1775. In 1727 five of the name, Amos, Ebenezer, Jonathan (ancestors of the Candia families), Samuel and Joseph, Jr. (ancestor of Gen. Lewis Cass), paid taxes in Hampton Falls.

RICHARD CLIFFORD and ZACHARY CLIFFORD. They were tax-payers in Kingston in 1727, and Richard in Exeter the same year. Zachariah Clifford's home lot was No. 53. The north end was sold to Lemuel Emerson by Samuel Clifford of Chester, tanner, in 1734. Peter Clifford had children recorded in Chester from 1739 to 1750. Several Cliffords, probably descendants, were early settlers in the northeast part of Candia.

REV. THEOPHILUS COTTON was minister of Hampton Falls, son of the Rev. John Cotton of Plymouth, grandson of the Rev. John Cotton of Boston, nephew of the Rev. Seaborn Cotton of Hampton; born 1682, graduated at Harvard in 1701, ordained 1712, and died August 12, 1726.

JOHN CRAM was selectman of Hampton Falls in 1722, tax-payer in 1727; a descendant of old John Cram of Exeter, afterwards of Hampton. Three descendants each had a son John of a suitable age to be a grantee of Chester.

EBENEZER DEARBORN and JONATHAN DEARBORN. (See "Early Settlers.")

THOMAS DEAN. His name appears in a deed as of Exeter.

ABRAHAM DRAKE and NATHANIEL DRAKE were sons of Robert Drake, an early settler of Hampton. Abraham was ancestor of the eminent antiquarian, S. G. Drake of Boston.

BENONI FOGG, JAMES FOGG. Benoni was a tax-payer in Hampton Falls in 1727, and James Fogg in Hampton in 1732. They were descendants of Samuel Fogg of Hampton, 1650, who died in 1672, leaving sons, Samuel, Daniel and James.

JACOB GARLAND was on the tax-list in Hampton Falls in 1727, and at Hampton in 1732; was taxed for a saw and grist-mill. He was a descendant of John Garland who went to Hampton previous to 1653.

WILLIAM GODFREY was a tax-payer in Hampton in 1732; a descendant of Dea. William Godfrey who was of Hampton in 1651 and died there 1671.

WILLIAM HEALEY was of Hampton Falls, and moved to Chester. (See "Early Settlers.")

NATHL. HEALEY, brother of William, and great grand-

father of the Hon. S. D. Bell's wife, though not a grantee, was one of the society, and early became a proprietor and was one of the lot-layers of the North Division. He was of Hampton Falls, where his descendants still reside.

THOMAS LEAVITT was a tax-payer in Hampton Falls in 1727 a descendant of Thomas Leavitt who signed the Exeter combination in 1639, and removed to Hampton before 1644. He left several sons, among whom was Thomas, but the grantee was probably a grandson.

SAMUEL MARSTON, THOMAS MARSTON, were tax-payers in Hampton in 1732. Thomas and William Marston were early settlers in Hampton, having had lands assigned them before June, 1640. Both were selectmen several years. Thomas was representative in 1677.

SAMUEL PAGE was probably of Hampton, where the name is on the tax-list of 1732.

JAMES PERKINS. His name not found, though Perkins is a common name in Hampton, Hampton Falls and Exeter. Abraham Perkins was an early settler in Hampton, having land assigned to him before 1740, and was one of the selectmen in 1650, and five other years.

JAMES PRESCOTT, JOHN PRESCOTT, JOHN PRESCOTT, JR., SAML. PRESCOTT. James, John and Samuel were tax-payers in Hampton Falls in 1727, and James was selectman of Hampton in 1718. They were descendants of James Prescott of Hampton, spoken of as early as 1669. James married Mary, daughter of Joseph Sanborn, 1717. James and John were sons of the first James, John, Jr., son of John, and Samuel, son of the second James.

ICHABOD ROBIE was of Hampton Falls. (See "Early Settlers.")

ROBERT ROWE and ROBERT ROWE, JR., were tax-payers in Hampton Falls in 1727. Thomas Rowe was of Hampton in 1678, and Richard Rowe, who had a son Thomas, was of Dover in 1650.

BENJAMIN SANBORN, ENOCH SANBORN, EDWARD SANBORN, JERRY SANBORN, JOHN SANBORN, JONATHAN SANBORN, JOSEPH SANBORN, NATHANIEL SANBORN, REUBEN SANBORN. The Rev.

Stephen Batchelder had a son-in-law Sanborn, supposed to be John, who died in England leaving two sons, John and William, born about 1620 and 1622, who came over with Mr. Batchelder, and moved with him to Hampton and there settled. They had large families and are the ancestors of all the Sanborns in the country, so far as is known. The oldest, called Lt. John, had eleven children, and died Oct. 20, 1692; and the second called Esq. William, had six children,—died Sept. 18, 1692.

Of the Chester grantees, ENOCH, son of John, Jr., and grandson of Lt. John, was taxed in Hampton Falls in 1727.

EDWARD, son of Joseph and grandson of Lt. John, married Dorothy Roby.

JEREMIAH, son of Nathaniel and grandson of Lt. John, born 1701.

NATHANIEL was probably father of Jeremiah and son of Lt. John; married Rebecca Prescott in 1691, who died at Hampton Falls, Nov. 9, 1723; was a tax-payer in Hampton in 1732.

JOHN, son of Richard, grandson of Lt. John, tax-payer in Hampton in 1732.

REUBEN, son of Joseph and grandson of Lt. John, married Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Sanborn, 1714. He was a tax-payer in Hampton Falls in 1727.

BENJAMIN, son of Lt. John, tax-payer in Hampton Falls in 1727.

JONATHAN, son of Jonathan and grandson of Lt. John, married Theodate Sanborn. He was a tax-payer in Hampton in 1732. He is mentioned in a deed as being of Kingston, and a tax-payer there in 1727.

The wives of several other grantees were Sanborns.

Abigail, sister to Reuben and Edward, married Ebenezer Dearborn, who settled in Chester.

Sarah, daughter of Benjamin, married Reuben Sanborn.

Abigail, daughter of Nathaniel, married Luther Morgan.

Mary, daughter of Benjamin, married William Healey, settled in Chester.

Abial, daughter of Benjamin, married Enoch Colby of Chester.

Theodate, daughter of Benjamin, married Jona. Sanborn.  
 Mary, daughter of Joseph, sister of Reuben, married  
 Saml. Prescott.

Hannah, daughter of Josiah, married Jacob Garland.

Besides these, three others were petitioners, who were not  
 grantees, Abraham, Richard and Samuel, sons of Joseph,  
 Nathaniel, and Jonathan.

DEA. SAMUEL SHAW was of Hampton Falls; taxed there  
 in 1727; a descendant of Roger Shaw, an early settler of  
 Hampton. He was selectman of Hampton Falls in 1712,  
 '17 and '19.

JOHN SILLY was of Hampton Falls; a tax-payer in 1727;  
 son of Thomas Silly, who came to Hampton about 169-, and  
 married Ann, daughter of John Stanyan and Mary Brad-  
 bury. They had two sons, John, born June 7, 1699, and  
 Joseph, of Nottingham, born Oct. 4, 1691, father of Gen.  
 Joseph Cilley.

John Silly is named in the will of John Stanyan, son of  
 Anthony, of Exeter, as his grandson.

BENJAMIN SMITH, ELISHA SMITH, SAMUEL SMITH, THOMAS  
 SMITH. Elisha Smith is on the list of tax-payers of 1732.  
 Lt. Thomas Smith is said to have come from Hampton to  
 Chester, though born in Ireland. (See "Early Settlers.")

Among several families of Smiths in Hampton, the  
 names of the other grantees are not found. Benjamin,  
 Samuel and Thomas Smith were cut off from Haverhill by  
 the settlement of the province line in 1741. Thomas and  
 Benjamin were paid settlement money in Chester, and were  
 probably Haverhill Peak men.

JACOB STANYAN was of Hampton. Anthony Stanyan of  
 Exeter had a son John, who married Mary, daughter of  
 Thomas Bradbury of Salisbury, who in his will, 1718,  
 names his son "Jacob, born 26, 4th m., 1667," who was  
 uncle to John Silly above. He is, however, mentioned in a  
 deed as of Kingston.

STEPHEN SWEAT, probably of Hampton, son of Benjamin  
 Sweat and Theodate Hussey, born Aug. 3, 1689. This  
 Benjamin was son of Capt. Benjamin Sweat, who married

Hester Weare, sister of Councillor Weare, and removed with him to Hampton Falls in 1662. Capt. Sweat was killed by the Indians at Scarborough, Me., June 29, 1677.

CAPT. JOSEPH TILTON, DAVID TILTON, JETHRO TILTON, SHERBURN TILTON. They were all of Hampton Falls, descendants of William Tilton, of Lynn, whose widow married Roger Shaw, and moved to Hampton. Capt. Tilton was first town clerk of Hampton Falls, and in 1721 was moderator, town clerk and selectman. Sherburn was his son, born in 1699, and David was probably his brother. Jethro's marriage and children are recorded in Hampton Falls.

BENJAMIN TOWLE, CALEB TOWLE, PHILIP TOWLE, were of Hampton. Benjamin and Caleb were in the tax-list of 1732. They were descendants of Philip Towle, and early settlers of Hampton, in 1670, or earlier. (See "Early Settlers.")

COL. PETER WEARE was of Hampton Falls, son of Councillor Nathl.; himself Councillor in 1698, and Judge of the Superior Court from 1726 to 1730. He was one of the grantees of the old saw-mill privilege in 1721. He sold his right to Sampson Underhill in 1730. No descendants of his name remain.

CAPT. JOSHUA WINGATE was of Hampton, taxed in 1732, among other things, for his trade. He was selectman in 1709 and 1722. He was son of John Wingate, of Dover, 1660, and had a brother John of that town. He was the father of Hon. Paine Wingate, of Stratham.

THOMAS DEAN was probably of Exeter. His name is on the tax-list for 1727, but is mentioned as of Dover in a deed.

JACOB GILMAN, MAJOR JOHN GILMAN, EDWARD GILMAN. Jacob Gilman was a tax-payer in Kingston, and one of the selectmen in 1727. Major John Gilman and Edward were tax-payers in Exeter 1727. Major John Gilman was son of Hon. John Gilman, born Jan. 10, 1676. Edward was a grandson of Edward, a brother of John, who was lost at sea on a voyage to England for mill-gear, in 1653. In

a division of land in Exeter, in 1725, thirty, out of two hundred forty-nine persons, were Gilmans. Maj. John had 250 acres, Edward 140, Edward, Jr., 50, but no Jacob.

EBENEZER LOVEREIGN was of Hampton in 1730, and of North Hampton in 1742, and deeded land in Chester.

SAMUEL WELCH, whose share was transferred to the Rev. Theophilus Cotton, was a tax-payer in Kingston in 1727.

The following were admitted proprietors at the desire of the Governor:—

WILLIAM WHITE was a descendant of a William White first of Ipswich, then of Newbury, and one of the first settlers of Haverhill. William the grantee was a clothier; married Sarah Phillips, and had a son Samuel. Both were large land-holders in Chester. Samuel had a daughter Sarah, who married David Howe, and Rebecca married James Duncan, two leading merchants of Haverhill. The Chester lands descended to Mrs. Duncan, and were called the "Duncan lots." The last was sold to Hon. Richard H. Ayer and Hon. Richard Bradley, about 1832.

JONATHAN EMERSON was of Haverhill, and was cut off by the province line; he was the father of Samuel Emerson, Esq., of Chester. (See "Early Settlers.")

DEA. EDWARD EMERSON was of Newbury, so named in deeds.

JOHN PACKER was of Haverhill, so mentioned in deeds, and was a "cordwainer" in 1726. He was left in Haverhill on running the line.

JONATHAN KIMBALL. There was a Jonathan Kimball who lived in that part of Haverhill which fell to New Hampshire, but I think the grantee lived in Bradford. Benjamin Kimball, of Bradford, sold half his father's (Jonathan) right to Samuel Ingalls.

STEPHEN WEBSTER, NATHAN WEBSTER. (See "Early Settlers.")

THOMAS SILVER was of Haverhill in 1709. John and Thomas, and others, had leave to build seats in the gallery in 1708.

SAMUEL INGALLS. (See "Early Settlers.")



JAMES FALES, of Dedham, sold land in Chester in 1728.

JOHN LITTLEHALE was probably of Dracut. His son John, of Dracut, sold his additional lot to McFerson in 1733.

EPHRAIM GUILLE or GILE, was of Haverhill, named repeatedly in Haverhill records. He helped cut out the first way to "Cheshire."

JONATHAN CLOUGH was mentioned in connection with dividing lands in Haverhill in 1720.

THOMAS WHITING was probably of Haverhill. David and John were left in Haverhill in 1741. James was probably a son; was in Chelmsford in 1719, in Haverhill in 1724, and in Chester in 1726. He settled on the home lot of Thomas, No. 62, next west of where William Tenny now lives.

JOHN JAQUISH was of Bradford, and sold land in Chester in 1731; also sold land to Richard Jaques, of Haverhill, in 1728.

RICHARD JAQUISH was probably of Newbury. Sebastian Ralle was killed in 1724 by Lieut. Jaques of Newbury, at Norridgewock.

WILLIAM DANIELS was of Salisbury and sold his home lot to Nathan Webster in 1728.

STEPHEN JOHNSON was of Haverhill, where were seven Johnsons who fell to New Hampshire in the settlement of the line in 1741, among them Stephen and Stephen, Jr.

REV. THOMAS SIMMES was minister of Bradford, son of a former minister, Rev. Zacariah Simmes of that place. He had a son Thomas who sold his father's right to Richard Haselton in 1728.

RICHARD HASELTON was of Bradford. (See "Early Settlers.")

NATHAN WEBSTER of Bradford, STEPHEN WEBSTER. (See "Early Settlers.")

The following grantees were Massachusetts men but not admitted by request of the Governor: —

EBENEZER EASTMAN was of Haverhill. He and his wife Sarah, "taverner," sold his home lot to Ebenezer Dearborn in 1729. He was active in the first settlement of Penna-

cook and it is said the he was first settler there, that his was the first ox-team that went from Haverhill, and that he set out for Pennacook with a barrel of molasses. (See "History of Roads.")

ROBERT FORD was of that part of Haverhill which fell to New Hampshire in 1741.

CAPT. RICHARD KENT was of Newbury, and sold his right to John Tyler of Boxford, in 1727. ("See Early Settlers.")

GEORGE BROWNAL is described in a deed to John Smith as of "Boston, Schoolmaster," in 1735.

JOHN CALFE was of Newbury. (See "Early Settlers.")

PORTSMOUTH GRANTEES, including the Governor and Council, and their friends.

AKERMAN and CUTTS, were of Portsmouth. Benjamin Akerman and Richard Cutts were on the tax-list for 1732.

WILLIAM CROSSWAIT was of Portsmouth, and was taxed there in 1732.

EPHRAIM DENNETT, Esq., of Portsmouth, taxed in 1732; son of John Dennet, who was freeman in 1672; appointed June, 1731, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, continued till 1741; appointed Councillor by mandamus in 1732, and held the office one year.

BENJAMIN GAMBLING, Esq., of Portsmouth, taxed there in 1739; son of Robert Gambling of Roxbury; born October 20, 1681; graduated at Harvard in 1702; preferred to spell his name Gambling. He was much in public office: Clerk of the Court, Register and Judge of Probate, Sheriff, Judge of the Superior Court and Councillor.

COL. MARK HUNKINS of Portsmouth, taxed there, 1732; was a Councillor from 1710 to 1731, and Judge of the Superior Court from 1712 to 1729. His daughter, Sarah, was the wife of Lieut.-Gov. John Wentworth, mother of Benning Wentworth and grandmother of Gov. John Wentworth.

CLEMENT HUGHES was a merchant of Portsmouth; taxed in 1732; Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in 1717, and of the Superior Court in 1717 and 1718. He was clerk of the society for settling the "Chesnut Country,"

and of the proprietors from 1719 to 1727. He wrote a beautiful hand.

GEORGE JAFFREY, Esq., of Portsmouth; taxed there 1732; son of Hon. George Jaffrey of New Castle; born in 1683; graduated at Harvard in 1700; Councillor from 1716 to his death in 1749; Treasurer in 1726; Judge of the Superior Court from 1717 to 1726; Chief Justice from 1726 to 1730.

ARCHIBALD MCPHEDRIS, Esq., Portsmouth; taxed there in 1732; was a native of Scotland and an opulent merchant. He married Sarah Wentworth, one of sixteen children of Gov. John Wentworth. After his death she married George Jaffrey. He was Councillor from 1722 to his death, about 1729.

CLEMENT MESSERVE was of Portsmouth, but was not taxed in 1732. A Clement Messerve, perhaps the father of the grantee, was taxed in 1673; took the oath of allegiance in 1685; had a seat in the meeting-house in 1693.

THOMAS PACKER was of Portsmouth; born in London; bred a surgeon; was at Salem; removed to Portsmouth; was eminent as a physician and surgeon; Lieut.-Col. in the militia; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas from 1686 to 1698, 1692 to 1695, and 1698 and 1699; Councillor from 1719 to his death in 1728.

GEORGE PIERCE, CAPT. JOSHUA PIERCE and THOMAS PIERCE were all probably of Portsmouth. George and Thomas are on the tax-list of 1732; Joshua is not.

SAMUEL PENHALLOW, Esq., of Portsmouth; born in Cornwall, England; came to Portsmouth; married Mary Cutt, daughter of President Cutt, who inherited a large estate; was a successful merchant; was elected a Representative in 1699 and 1702; Speaker in 1702; Recorder from 1702 to 1705, 1719 to 1722; Councillor from 1702 to 1726; Judge of the Superior Court from 1714 to 1716; Chief Justice from 1717 to his death in 1726, at the age of 61. He wrote a history of the Indian wars.

NATHANIEL ROGERS was of Portsmouth; son of Rev. Nathaniel Rogers; born 1700; graduated at Harvard in

1717; physician, Representative and Speaker; died November 29, 1745. First wife was Olive Plaisted; second, widow Rymes, daughter of Henry Sherburne.

ELEAZER RUSSEL of Portsmouth; married Margaret Waldron. He was taxed in 1732; was Postmaster and Sheriff in 1733, '4, '5, '8 and '41. His son, of the same name, born in 1720, was naval officer and acting collector at Portsmouth several years.

WILLIAM RYMES was perhaps of Portsmouth, but of Dover according to some deeds.

JOHN SHACKFORD and SAMUEL SHACKFORD were of Portsmouth. ("See Early Settlers.")

CAPT. HENRY SHERBURNE, JOSEPH SHERBURNE and SAMUEL SHERBURNE were of Portsmouth; descendants of Henry Sherburne, who came to Portsmouth about 1632, married Rebecca, only daughter of Ambrose Gibbins, and whose will was set aside in favor of his younger children. He was Commissioner for small causes seven years; Clerk of Writs in 1649; Selectman eleven years; in 1659 and 1660 Deputy to the General Court. He died in 1680. Capt. Henry Sherburne is on the tax-list in 1732. Samuel and Samuel, Jr., Capt. Joseph and Capt. Joseph, Jr., and five others, were also on the tax-list of Portsmouth in 1732.

SUSANNAH SMALL. Joseph Small died. His wife, Susannah, was a daughter of Thomas Packer and took her husband's right. She kept a tavern in Portsmouth, and several of the early meetings of the society and committee were held at her house.

HENRY SLOPER was of Portsmouth. Richard Sloper of Dover married Mary, daughter of Capt. Henry Sherburne, 1658, and had a son Henry.

SAMUEL THOMPSON was probably of Newington. "Mr. Samuel Thompson" is on the tax-list of Newington in 1727.

COL. SHADRACH WALTON was of New Castle, son of Geo. Walton, of Exeter in 1639. He was at the taking of Port Royal in 1711; was of the Council in 1716, and presided in that body in 1731 and 1736; Judge of the Common Pleas 1695 to 1697, and from 1716 to 1737, and Chief Justice

from 1729 to 1737; died October, 1741, aged eighty-three.

BENNING WENTWORTH, EBENEZER WENTWORTH, THOMAS WENTWORTH, were of Portsmouth; descendants of Elder William Wentworth of Dover. Lieut.-Gov. John Wentworth had fourteen children: 1st, Benning, the Governor; 2d, John, Judge of Probate of Portsmouth; 3d, Hunking; 4th, William; 5th, Samuel, father of Mrs. Gov. John; 6th, Mark Hunking, father of Gov. John; 7th, Daniel; 8th, Ebenezer; 9th, George; 10th, Hannah, married Samuel Plaisted and Theodore Atkinson; 11th, Sarah, married McPhedris; 12th, Mary; 13th, Elizabeth; 14th, Rebecca, married Thomas Packer. Benning and Ebenezer were taxed in Portsmouth in 1732. Benning was Councillor from 1732 to 1741, when he became Governor and remained in office till May, 1767. How Thomas is related does not appear.

COL. THOMAS WESTBROOK is on the Portsmouth tax-list in 1732. In 1721 he commenced an expedition against Norridgewock, but Ralle escaped. He was of the Council from 1706 to 1732, and died 1736.

MICHAEL WHIDDEN was of Portsmouth, and taxed there in 1732, with Michael, Jr., and John. He was a builder.

RICHARD WIBIRD was of Portsmouth, came there about 1700, from England; was successful and became wealthy. In 1727 he paid the largest tax in Portsmouth. He was Councillor in 1716 to 1732. He had three sons, Richard, Jr., a councillor, Thomas and John, and a daughter who married Hunking Wentworth. He was sheriff in 1732, '34, '35 and '36.

HENRY WORKS. Nothing found in regard to him.

JOSEPH YOUNG was on the Exeter tax-list for 1727, and in a deed of 1738, as being of Kingston.

# T A B L E

CONTAINING THE NAMES OF THE ORIGINAL GRANTEES OF CHESTER, IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, WITH THE NUMBER OF THEIR LOTS.

NAMES.	H. L.	ADD.	O. H.	2P 2D.	3d D.	4th D.	5th D.	6th D.
Philemon Blake.....	117	97	124	93	101	123	19	74
James Boyd.....	59	18	85	80	40	25	94	12
Abraham Brown.....	151	46	129	69	19	73	33	28
George Brownell.....	21	51	46	37	11	72	117	11
Nathaniel Batchelder, Sen.....	1	104	122	104	9	82	14	17
Jonathan Brown.....	38	121	47	39	16	68	37	104
Moses Blake.....	114	113	77	97	77	63	133	64
Samuel Blake.....	119	38	139	26	56	96	99	90
Josiah Batchelder.....	37	105	137	41	87	133	89	87
Nathaniel Batchelder, Jun.....	50	115	23	113	83	104	100	120
Joseph Batchelder.....	130	73	69	71	57	48	79	96
Jacob Basford.....	42	110	107	73	118	24	16	26
John Calfe.....	123	24	43	12	109	67	70	39
Amos Cass.....	100	87	10	44	34	32	58	31
Richard Clifford.....	110	100	20	75	85	93	118	48
Zachariah Clifford.....	53	20	15	95	94	116	76	10
Jonathan Clough.....	77	6	128	56	49	119	41	68
Rev. Theophilus Cotton.....	46	94	50	68	119	127	121	42
John Cram.....	141	41	113	100	99	56	67	93
William Crosswait.....	32	72	116	22	67	90	57	25
Cutts & Akerman.....	10	31	108	7	113	17	129	116
William Daniels.....	71	130	75	110	75	21	26	36
Thomas Dean.....	19	48	106	46	82	83	17	67
Jonathan Dearborn.....	80	47	136	66	22	52	109	83
Ebenezer Dearborn.....	17	26	64	35	39	84	114	73
Ephraim Dennet.....	143	95	86	86	95	87	55	95
Abraham Drake.....	132	77	53	16	105	85	29	44
Nathaniel Drake.....	138	76	78	99	25	59	10	59
Ebenezer Eastman.....	122	36	62	33	71	69	115	72
Edward Emerson.....	129	75	24	126	46	12	87	70
Jonathan Emerson.....	73	127	81	42	63	110	123	41

T A B L E—*continued.*

NAMES.	H. L.	ADD.	O. H.	2P 2D.	3d D.	4th D.	5th D.	6th D.
James Failes .....	76	4	131	36	13	109	20	35
*Rev. Ebenezer Flagg .....	-	-	-	20 21 }	-	-	-	-
James Fogg .....	24	52	4	61	50	120	25	127
Benoni Fogg .....	36	86	8	102	27	86	101	56
Robert Ford .....	149	33	44	77	129	98	82	15
Benjamin Gambling, Esq. ....	22	40	9	1	41	95	60	103
Jacob Garland .....	23	35	83	34	62	76	127	57
Jacob Gilman .....	106	125	3	87	116	23	47	94
Major John Gilman .....	201	59	28	17	5	97	97	49
Edward Gilman .....	44	42	35	43	124	18	86	105
William Godfrey .....	18	45	30	49	130	99	23	9
Ephraim Guile .....	61	132	33	106	37	15	110	18
Richard Haseltine .....	75	15	19	55	102	92	45	77
William Healey .....	7	74	110	112	61	36	125	27
Rev. Moses Hale .....	M	96	80	130	12	31	73	8
Clement Hughes .....	28	55	29	108	110	4	71	91
Col. Mark Hunking .....	20	55	102	59	53	100	83	100
Samuel Ingalls .....	70	10	74	6	72	10	130	16
George Jaffrey, Esq. ....	147	131	40	121	35	39	15	37
John Jaquish .....	78	17	36	90	68	9	128	6
Richard Jaquish .....	72	7	135	116	43	34	11	46
Stephen Johnson .....	69	11	100	82	44	61	122	78
Capt. Richard Kent .....	5	43	6	3	112	89	4	23
Jonathan Kimball .....	63	1	63	105	115	51	103	122
Thomas Leavitt .....	4	93	16	50	15	125	124	110
John Littlehale .....	79	8	123	19	86	129	12	30
Ebenezer Loverell .....	54	53	17	127	20	40	39	80
Samuel Marston .....	52	91	2	79	117	16	56	55
Capt. Archibald McPhedris .....	125	27	99	91	79	13	18	51
Clement Messervy .....	31	71	73	14	104	37	2	112
Luther Morgan .....	126	21	114	74	128	130	53	124
Col. Thomas Packer .....	30	62	140	52	100	128	116	92
Samuel Page .....	104	114	52	13	126	108	84	121
John Packer .....	66	19	91	98	64	132	51	123

\* Voted to him by way of settlement.

T A B L E—*continued.*

NAMES.	H. L.	ADD.	O. H.	2P. 2D.	3d D.	4th D.	5th D.	6th D.
Parsonage lots .....	-	37	90	78	90	38	32	-
Samuel Penhallow, Esq.....	128	34	57	122	93	54	92	89
James Perkins .....	56	50	133	84	70	88	119	29
Thomas Phipps, Esq.....	25	126	95	101	80	122	78	109
Capt. Joshua Pierce.....	57	16	21	123	96	11	104	66
Capt. Thomas Pierce.....	131	57	5	18	53	121	134	118
George Pierce .....	121	44	39	10	84	19	42	111
Jonathan Plummer .....	103	111	79	15	88	65	108	52
John Prescott.....	105	120	25	58	31	42	113	88
John Prescott, Jr.....	146	128	126	51	122	126	21	82
James Prescott.....	33	65	130	70	121	29	90	98
Samuel Prescott.....	26	64	96	31	17	75	126	3
Ichabod Roby .....	116	119	82	81	54	124	136	62
Rev. Nathaniel Rogers .....	142	88	111	65	2	107	7	53
Robert Row.....	2	117	45	40	4	78	36	6
Eleazer Russell.....	127	32	38	133	28	134	34	2
Capt. William Rymes .....	135	80	58	54	59	28	28	60
Joseph Sanborn .....	40	106	92	103	8	27	72	126
Nathaniel Sanborn.....	3	-	31	38	55	47	91	21
Benjamin Sanborn.....	115	118	117	72	89	55	3	119
Reuben Sanborn .....	14	122	54	2	66	7	96	84
John Sanborn.....	120	25	127	117	120	30	22	99
Enoch Sanborn.....	49	112	27	107	103	49	1	106
Edward Sanborn.....	8	68	120	28	106	94	40	50
Capt. Jonathan Sanborn.....	112	124	48	48	33	77	31	33
Jerry Sanborn.....	29	58	59	128	3	45	137	13
School lots .....	-	79	89	67	91	64	43	-
John Shackford.....	148	22	55	47	97	70	75	81
Samuel Shackford.....	51	92	119	8	74	118	62	34
Capt. Henry Sherburne .....	13	89	49	63	21	60	44	114
Samuel Sherburne .....	11	90	109	45	30	80	46	113
Capt. Joseph Sherburne.....	137	66	56	76	69	50	105	150
Dea. Samuel Shaw .....	60	29	37	96	107	106	85	54
John Silly.....	35	107	1	115	1	91	6	43
Rev. Thomas Simms.....	68	3	105	29	26	20	120	76
Thomas Silver.....	67	9	22	25	38	117	112	107



T A B L E—*concluded.*

NAMES.	H. L.	ADD.	O. H.	2P. 2D	3d D.	4th D.	5th D.	6th D.
Susannah Small.....	134	61	76	124	73	113	68	32
Thomas Smith.....	109	109	18	9	7	74	111	20
Benjamin Smith.....	111	30	132	53	114	35	9	75
Elisha Smith.....	45	102	51	125	81	112	13	47
Samuel Smith.....	39	108	103	5	51	33	106	33
Capt. Henry Sloper.....	145	129	97	114	36	1	50	125
Jacob Stanian.....	136	67	66	62	6	46	52	102
Stephen Sweat.....	16	39	26	60	108	111	135	108
Capt. Joseph Tilton.....	15	98	7	24	78	62	38	19
David Tilton.....	150	49	134	132	45	22	5	85
Jethro Tilton.....	113	60	72	120	65	44	24	117
Samuel Thompson.....	34	56	65	119	98	115	54	97
Philip Towle.....	41	101	42	64	14	105	49	45
Benjamin Towle.....	102	99	60	57	10	131	102	71
Caleb Towle.....	55	23	12	85	18	8	88	63
Col. Shadrack Walton.....	47	116	112	23	111	102	80	69
Col. Peter Weare.....	124	54	11	111	76	43	59	86
Nathan Webster.....	65	14	13	89	60	3	107	22
Stephen Webster.....	64	12	61	27	123	58	131	79
Capt. Ebenezer Wentworth.....	9	70	68	83	92	2	69	1
Benning Wentworth.....	133	78	32	109	29	71	74	4
John Wentworth, Esq.....	B	Farm	of	250 200 50	acres.	-	-	-
Michael Whidden.....	101	84	41	30	125	41	77	58
Thomas Whiting.....	62	5	34	118	24	26	35	14
William White.....	74	13	138	94	127	103	132	40
Capt. Richard Wibird.....	48	123	14	32	32	53	27	101
Capt. Joshua Wingate.....	58	2	84	129	58	66	81	24
Col. Thomas Westbrook.....	143	69	115	4	42	101	8	61
Henry Works.....	12	103	118	92	23	14	61	7
Joseph Young.....	43	28	121	11	48	57	30	115

## CHAPTER IV.

### SETTLEMENT OF THE LINES.

At a meeting of the proprietors held at Kingston, Dec. 31, 1723,

“Voted, That a Committee be Chosen to Join with the Londonderry Committee to run the Line between Chester and Londonderry.

“Voted, That Sam<sup>l</sup> Penhallow, Esq<sup>r</sup>, George Jaffrey, Esq<sup>r</sup>, and Capt. Henry Sherburne be the Committee.”

At a meeting March 31, 1726, it was

“Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to Apply to the Gov<sup>r</sup> & Council for a Committee to run the line between Exeter & Chester, and that they forward the Committee that are Appointed to run y<sup>e</sup> line between Chester & Londonderry to make their return as Soone as possible.”

At a meeting on the 31 of Oct., 1726,

“Voted, That Caleb Towl & Sam<sup>l</sup> Ingalls be a Committee w<sup>th</sup> the Selectmen to see that the line between Chester & Nottingham be run'd according to Charter, and also the head line of Chester.”

These lines were run soon after, as appears by the accounts. Ichabod Roby charges for four days between Exeter and Chester, five and a half days next Nottingham.

I have not been able to find any return of the running of these last lines, but there was a tradition which I had from my father, many years since, that they ran out their fourteen miles, and not finding the river, stopped and took legal advice, and were directed to run to their monument regardless of the measure; that they ran to and across the river, and then made the head line curve half a mile.

The head line is crooked; but the most probable hypothesis is that they started at the three pines at Londonderry, and took a course too far west and so made a curve, and perhaps came out the west side of the river. This line comes to the river just below Martin's Ferry and crosses the river. The road to the Ferry laid out in 1766 came to the river "where Lousy brook enters the river," then began at the west bank and ran about northwest to the line of the town.

At a town meeting, March 13, 1794,

"Voted, Stephen Chase, Arthur Livermore, & Will<sup>a</sup> White, Esqrs., be the Committee (with full Power in behalf of the Town of Chester) to settle with Derrifield and Goffstown, and petition the General Court in Order to make the River the Jurisdiction line from allenstown down to Derrifield."

There was probably an Act passed to that effect, but I have not seen it.

The fourteen-mile line, according to the surveys for Car-rigain's map taken about 1805, was Raymond against Nottingham, three miles two hundred and fourteen rods; against Deerfield, two hundred and eighty-eight rods; Candia, six miles two hundred and twelve rods; Chester, now Hooksett, against Allenstown, five miles one hundred and sixty rods; making sixteen miles two hundred and thirty-four rods to the river.

#### EXETER LINE.

Oct. 15, 1726. Clement Hughes, Robert Smith and John Sanborn, selectmen, preferred a petition to the Governor and Council, showing that Capt. Tobias Langdon, Capt. Timothy Gerrish and John Smith had been appointed to run the head line of Exeter, and did it under the direction of the selectmen of Exeter, and made a return to them instead of to the Court. They pray for a committee "to run the two miles that Exeter is to run a W. b. N. point above Dover, and then upon a straight line to a beech tree

on Kingston side line, appointed and marked in 1718 by the grand committee chosen by the General Assembly to fix the bounds of each town; which straight line is the dividing line between Chester and Exeter.”

Dec. 16, 1726. Clement Hughes, for himself and in behalf of the rest of the selectmen of the town of Chester, petitioned the Lieut.-Governor and Council, showing:

“That the Prop<sup>s</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Chester in the year 1722 Obtained a Charter which bounded the said Town on Exeter head bound, which bounds were made certain in the year 1718 by a Grand Committe chosen for that purpose by y<sup>e</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly in y<sup>e</sup> year 1715, as appears by the return of said Committe in the Secretary's office; but the Clerk that drew up the return of said Committee made a mistake therein, Saying that Exeter Should run ten miles upon a W. b. N. Line from the North tree, whereas the Committee's Intent and former settlement was from the South tree, as can be made to appear by Living Evidence, &c., Sundry of y<sup>e</sup> Gentlemen that were of y<sup>e</sup> Committee being now alive; and the Selectmen of Exeter taking advantage of s<sup>d</sup> mistake would tend to the ruin of the Town of Chester.

“Yo<sup>r</sup> petition<sup>r</sup> therefore humbly prays that the said Mistake may be rectified, and that no room may be left for Future Contention between the afore<sup>s</sup>d Towns. And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

“ Dec. 16, 1726.

Clement Hughes.”

“ In Council, Dec<sup>r</sup> 15, 1726.

“The Selectmen of Chester appearing to Prosecute their Petition for a Committe to run the head line of Exeter which is the Dividing line between the s<sup>d</sup> Towns, and the Selectmen of Exeter also appearing, and both parties being fully heard, It is Or<sup>d</sup> that the Prayer of the Petition be Granted; that Nath<sup>l</sup> Weare, Esq., Deacon John Cate & Dan<sup>l</sup> Lunt be a Committe, or the Maj<sup>r</sup> of them, to run and settle y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Dividing line, and That they begin at the red oak tree marked for Dover west northerly bounds, and run from thence upon a West & by North point of the Compass two miles for Exeter bound on that side, and from thence upon a straight line to the beach tree marked for Exeter west northerly bounds, according to the grand committee's

return in y<sup>e</sup> year 1718, and that they measure from the said Beach tree along Exeter side line, being E. & b. S., to a Commonly Called Exeter South tree, which is the bound next Hampton; and they make report to this board of their doings therein sometime between this time and the Tenth of Jan<sup>y</sup> next, and that the Charge be paid by the two Towns jointly.

R. Waldron, Clr. Con.”

#### THE COMMITTEE'S RETURN.

Pursuant to an order of the hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lieut Governor & Council of his Majest<sup>s</sup> Prov<sup>e</sup> of New Hamp<sup>r</sup> bearing date Dec<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>, 1726, Wee, The Subscribers, have been at the Red Oake Tree Marked for Dover West Northerly bounds, & Run from Thence upon a West & by north Point of the Compass two miles, making allowance for Windfalls & Unevenness of Ground, and there markt a Young Red oak Tree for Exeter Bounds on that Side; & from thence Run South twenty-nine Degrees and Thirty Minuts West, Eight miles and ninety Rods, without allowance to the Beach Tree Marked for Exeter West Northerly Bounds.

Jan<sup>y</sup> 9, 1726-7.

John Cate,  
Daniel Lunt.

#### LONDONDERRY LINE.

January 6, 1725-6. Henry Sherburne, Thomas Packer, Samuel Ingalls and John Sanborn, in behalf of the proprietors of Chester, petitioned Gov. Wentworth and Council, showing :

“ That two years since they Chose a Committe to Join with a Committe of Londonderry to run the Lines between the two Towns, which the said Committee accordingly began, and made some Progress in it, but did not Compleat them by reason that the Committee of Londonderry would not Consent to allow the usual allowance (of Eleven Chains for ten) for windfalls, &c., in y<sup>e</sup> woods in the measure in the W. N. W. side Line, and would allow only bare measure, which was unreasonable, and never Practiced before; the reason being so Exact is because the Proprietors of Londonderry have artfully contrived to have it in their Charter to Ingross to themselves the fishing

place at Amoskeag, by taking into their Town a small gore of Land at the Head of Chester, untill it takes the said fishing place, they having measured it beforehand for that purpose. Their Ingrossing to themselves y<sup>e</sup> fishing place will not only be greatly prejudicial to Chester but also to the other new towns."

They pray for a committee. Day of hearing the 25th instant and order of notice. The prayer granted and James Stevens appointed surveyor, Benj. Barker and Jno. Callton chainmen, and Capt. John Gilman and Edward Hall to keep tally and see that proper allowance is made.

THE COMMITTEE'S RETURN.

Province of New Hampshire :

Pursuànt to an order from y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Jo<sup>n</sup> Wentworth, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Lieut. Govern<sup>r</sup> and y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Council for the province affors<sup>d</sup>, passed in Council Jn<sup>ry</sup> 25, 1725-6, Ordered, that M<sup>r</sup> James Stephens should be Surveyor to Run y<sup>e</sup> Course of y<sup>e</sup> Dividing lines Between y<sup>e</sup> towns of Londonderry & Chester, and M<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Barker and John Callton to Carry y<sup>e</sup> Chain to Measure y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> lines, and that Capt. John Gillman and M<sup>r</sup> Edward Hall to go one w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> One Chainman & y<sup>e</sup> other w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> other Chain Man to give just allowance as they thought fitt.

The forementioned Committe y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> of this Instant Oct<sup>br</sup>, and began a Beetch tree on Kingstown head line and Run W. N. W. Course and Measured y<sup>e</sup> Same, and gave a just Allowance according to y<sup>e</sup> best of our Skill & Judgment, Untill we Made up ten Miles to three pitch pine trees standing on a plain & Marked, and then turned on a North Course three miles an half to a great Rock in a little hollow w<sup>th</sup> a heap of Stones upon it and Marked trees beside it. all y<sup>e</sup> affors<sup>d</sup> lines by Marked trees, the aforesaid Committee being upon oath.

Ja <sup>s</sup> Stephens, Surveyor.	
Benj <sup>a</sup> Barker,	} Chainmen.
John Callton,	
John Gillman,	} Overseers.
Edw <sup>d</sup> Hall,	

Province of New Hampshire, Portsm<sup>th</sup>, Mar. 23, 1726-7. Entered & Recorded this above written Instrument in y<sup>e</sup> province Records, Book 15, page 254 and 155.

P<sup>r</sup> M. Hunking, Record<sup>r</sup>.

## KINGSTOWN LINE.

The charter of Kingstown is dated Aug. 6, 1694. Begins "7 miles westward of the Meeting house in Hampton, thence a due course W. B. N. ten miles into the country; for its breadth is 4 miles Northerly from said head point of the west line from s<sup>d</sup> Meeting house, and southerly to within three miles of the Northermost side of Merrimack River." This had been run by the grand committee as far as Island Pond, though crooked against Chester, or at least not in a line to the beech tree, the corner between Chester and Londonderry. The charter of Londonderry on a continuation of this line lay "due south."

May 16, 1728, David Cargil preferred a petition in behalf of the proprietors of Londonderry, asking for a committee to settle the line between Londonderry and Kingstown. He represents that Kingstown charter says "southerly," and they claimed S. by W., and that Londonderry charter says south and that there is no discrepancy, the meaning being south. The committee repaired to the north bound of Kingstown and found the old line to run south between eight and nine degrees west. The line in 1805 ran south three and a half degrees west. Hence the controversy.

At a meeting October 6, 1741,

"Voted, That mr. John Macmurphy, Robert Boyes, Esq<sup>r</sup>, and Insin Jacob Sargent Shall be a Committee to See how Large Kingstown Grant is, and to see what Land yet remains to be Laid out between Said Kingstown head Line and the Land already Laid out in this town."

At a meeting June 27, 1745,

"Voted, messrs. Capt. John Tolford, John Robie, John Moore and Enoch Colby Shall be a Committe to treat with Kingstown Committe that are Chosen to Settle the Lines between Said towns of Kingstown and Chester, and to Settle with them upon the following Conditions: if they will Settle with us (viz.) agreeable to their Charter and our Charter as they bound one upon the other, and to make Return of their doings to the Proprietors at their next meeting."

At a meeting of the proprietors of Chester, Dec. 4, 1745,

“Put to vote whether to Settle the bounds with Kingstown agreeable to their Desire. passed in the negative.

“Voted, That Robert Boyes, Esq<sup>r</sup>, mr. Nathan Webster and Lieut. Thomas Wells Shall be a Committee to take Care and get a Sirvaioir to Run our town Line Bounding upon Kingstown, and from the Corner of Nottingham to the River and the head Line of the town, agreeable to our Charter ; and to get Chainmen to measure where it is needfull ; and to do what is needfull to be Don in that affair at the Proprietors' Charge, and make return to the Proprietors at the adjournment of this meeting.”

At the adjournment March 4, 1745 [1746],

“Voted, That Robert Boyes, Samuel Emerson, Esqrs., and Capt. John Tolford, Shall be a Committe to Petition the Governor and Council for a Committe to be appointed by them to Run and Settle the Line between Kingstown and Chester agreeable to our Charter.”

The petition of Samuel Emerson and Robert Boyes, dated Jan. 24, 1746, to the Governor and Council, in the Secretary's office, shows, “That the petitioners, the tenth day of May, 1722, obtained a Charter from this Hon. board, with a great many valuable Priviledges, &c., with a grant of land set forth in said Charter by metes and bounds ; but part of said lines or bounds have never been run by order of this Hon. board, especially between your petitioners and Kingstown, whereby your petitioners hath been laid under considerable difficulty which yet subsists. May it therefore please your Excellency and this Hon. board to appoint a surveyor and chainmen to run and mark out said line according to the metes and bounds in said Charter,” &c. The petition seems not to have been granted.

There seem to be discrepancies in the dates. The petition for a meeting is dated Nov. 15, 1745 ; the warrant Nov. 16, 1745 ; the adjournment March 4, 1745 ; but if the adjournment was 1746, then the petition is dated before the choice of the committee.



The next we find is at a meeting of the proprietors of Chester, June 20, 1759,

“Voted, That major John Tolford, mr. John Robie and Capt. Anthony Towl shall be a Committee to Treat with the Proprietors of Kingstown and make a Settlement of the Lines Between the s<sup>d</sup> Towns of Chester and Kingstown with them, agreeable to our Charter and theirs, if they will ; and if they Refuse to Do that, then they have Power and are hereby authorized to Petition the Governor and Council for a Committe to Establish and Settle the Said Lines, In behalf of the Proprietors of Chester.”

At a meeting of the proprietors of Chester, March 11, 1760,

“Voted, That Major John Tolford, Mr. John Robie, and Capt. Anthony Towl, all Proprietors of Chester aforesaid, they or either of them be, and hereby are, agents and attornes for the Proprietors aforesaid, for them and in their name to agree with the Proprietors of Kingstown and make a final settlement of the Lines between said towns of Chester and Kingstown, or in order thereunto, if necessary and advisable, to Prosecute and defend in the Law any Petition, action or actions, Real, Personal or mixt, wherein the Said Proprietors are or may be Interested or Concerned, in any Court or Courts, to final Judgment and Execution, with full power to Substitute one or more attorney or attornies under them, and to transact and Do to all Intents and purposes as the said Proprietors might do if Personally Present.

“Voted, That the Charge that our Said agents and attornies shall be at in Prosecuting and Defending the aforesaid Petitions, action or actions, Shall be Raised and Repaid them by the Proprietors of Chester aforesaid ; and also for their time and trouble their-in.”

It seems that Kingstown Proprietors take their turn to petition, for we find that John Tolford for the proprietors of Chester, April 23, 1771, made answer to a petition of Benja. Stephens and Elisha Sweat, agents for the proprietors of Kingstown, preferred to the General Assembly April 2, 1761, in which he says, “And the respondents beg leave to say that the petitioners suggest that the respondents have lately raised a dispute concerning the bounds

between Kingstown and Chester, and would remove the west line of Kingstown further eastward. Now, the respondents say that the said dispute has been of long standing, and that they, the respondents, now are, and always have been ready to run the line between Kingstown and Chester agreeable to the bounds of Chester Charter, and that they do not desire one foot of land more than is contained within the bounds of Chester Charter; and that they would further observe that were it not for Chester Charter, the respondents apprehend that the westerly bounds of Kingstown would be nearly a mile and three quarters more to the eastward than where the respondents claim, and that they have often desired the Proprietors of Kingstown to run the lines between them agreeable to Chester Charter, and have no objection to the bounds between the said two towns to be properly run and settled, agreeable to the Charter of Chester, by persons unprejudiced and that understand the compass and running of lines."

The line was run, as appears by the petition of Isaac Blasdel, Joseph Linn and Jabez Hoit, and was as it now stands and ran as the north road to Sandown runs, twenty rods, or at right angles seventeen rods, east of the crooked line claimed by Kingstown. But this did not end the controversy; but at a meeting of the proprietors November 9, 1772, John Tolford and Samuel Emerson were made agents with similar powers to those given in 1760.

June 10, 1783, Isaac Blasdel, Joseph Linn and Jabez Hoit, selectmen of Chester, preferred a petition to the General Assembly, showing that they had been called upon to return a true inventory of all lots or tracts of land in Chester to the Secretary's office, which they had done, but find that seventy-two acres of the land have been inventoried in Sandown; that the lines between the towns were never, so far as they knew, perambulated according to law, though the selectmen of Kingstown and also the selectmen of Sandown had often been requested to do it. Though the selectmen of Sandown, in November, 1782, consented to perambulate the line between said towns, which was sur-

veyed and marked by Walter Bryant, Jr., Esq., in December, 1761, by agreement of the proprietors of Kingstown and the proprietors of Chester, agreeably to a resolve of the General Assembly in May, 1761, and the agreement of the proprietors and Esq. Bryant's return, yet the selectmen of Sandown refused to sign any return to be recorded. They pray the General Assembly to consider the difficulty, when Chester claims a straight line and Sandown a curve or rather a crooked one. [An abstract.] Day of hearing, the second day of the next session.

The proprietors of Chester June 7, 1785, "Voted to James Waddel, Samuel Wilson, Timothy Wells, Sargent Wells and Benjamin Wells, the land they have respectively in their possession laying west of Bryant's line," which was the end of the controversy.

#### TYNGSTOWN LINE.

At a meeting held June 9, 1741,

"Put to vote whether to take any notice of the Proposals made by the Committees meet to Confer upon the townships of Chester and Tyngstown Infringing upon Each other; past in the Negative."

This was at first thought to be a clerical error and to mean Kingstown. But such is not the fact. There was a long controversy between Massachusetts and New Hampshire about the line between them, and Massachusetts had granted towns up the Merrimack. Among others there was a company of volunteers went on snow-shoes, in the winter of 1703, to Winnepissiokee, against the Indians, commanded by Capt. William Tyng of Dunstable. A petition was presented to the General Court of Massachusetts December 13, 1734, by Ephraim Hildreth and John Shepley, in behalf of themselves and other soldiers, for a grant of land lying on the east side of Merrimack river, between Suncook and Litchfield. The grant was made on certain conditions and was "Tyngstown." Major Hildreth settled there and built the first mill on the Cohas at Harvey's.

They had a meeting-house near the old corner of Chester, —the three pines. The McClentos were probably within the bounds of Tyngstown. It was from these settlers, under a Massachusetts grant, that the proposition came to settle the line, which Chester so summarily rejected. (See Potter's Manchester, pp. 190–212.) The settlement of the Province line in 1741 ended the Tyngstown claim.

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## CHAPTER V.

### SETTLING MINISTERS, PRESBYTERIAN CONTROVERSY, AND CLOSING THE PROPRIETORS' AFFAIRS.

1723. The first meeting of the proprietors, under the charter, was held the 28th day of March, 1723. The names of the officers are given in the list of town officers. It was "Voted, That forty shillings be paid by each proprietor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June next, besides the Ten shill<sup>s</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> is given to those that have settled." Forty acres of land were granted to Thomas Brown, but for what consideration does not appear. It was laid out on Londonderry line. A home lot was granted to Clement Hughes in consideration of his serving the town as surveyor the year past.

1724. The annual meeting for 1724 was held at the house of Samuel Ingalls, in Chester, and adjourned to the house of Joshua Wingate, in Hampton, the second Tuesday in June. Votes were passed about drawing their additional lots and paying arrearages, on penalty of expulsion. Also, admitting Rev. Theo. Cotton in the room of Samuel Welsh, and Thomas Smith and William Couch in the room of Jacob Stanyan. This year is memorable on account of the capture of Lieut. Thomas Smith and John Karr by the Indians, the only hostile incursion in Chester. An account of it is given in a biographical notice of Lieut. Smith, on a subsequent page.

1725. The annual meeting for 1725 was held at the house of Mrs. Susannah Small, in Portsmouth, the 25th of March. Adjourned to the house of Thomas Webster, of Exeter, the 24th of May.

“Voted, To those that live at Chester the Sum of twenty pounds to hire two Souldiers to guard them four months next ensuing.”

In Samuel Ingalls' account is a credit, “By the hire of two soldiers as per vote, £20.” There was also a vote passed forbidding proprietors cutting or carrying away any timber on penalty of forty shillings, and a committee chosen to prosecute offenders.

1726. A similar vote was passed March, 1726, and repeated again at an adjournment in June, and a committee chosen to prosecute and another committee “to present this vote to y<sup>e</sup> next Court of Quarter Sessions for their allowance.”

The account current for 1726, including the former balance of £34 16s. 9d., is £92 4s. 10d.; Cr., 126 proprietors 5th payment, 10s. each, £63. Balance due, £29 4s. 10d.

1727. The annual meeting was held the second Thursday of April, 1727.

“Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> Surveyors hire men to repair the ways, y<sup>e</sup> wages not to Exceed 4s per day nor the sum of £10.

“Voted, That each Proprietor pay Ten Shillings to y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to defray the Town Charges By y<sup>e</sup> Second Thursday in May next.”

*The Account Currant for y<sup>e</sup> year 1727.*

	DR.
To y <sup>e</sup> ballance of last years acct . . . . .	£29 4 10
To Sam <sup>l</sup> Ingalls, 49½ days work on y <sup>e</sup> ways, 4s. . . . .	9 18 00
To do. for laying out land as pr acct . . . . .	17 2 09
To James Whiting for his assistance per do. . . . .	3 16 00
To Clem <sup>t</sup> Hughes for sundry payments per do. . . . .	28 7 6
To Robert Smith as Selectman, 3½ d <sup>s</sup> a 6s. . . . .	1 1 0
To John Sanborn as ditto, 2½ d <sup>s</sup> . . . . .	15 00
To Selectmen, expences p <sup>d</sup> per Clement Hughes to Mr. Ludd and Mr. Ingalls . . . . .	0 11 10
	£90 16 0

*Ut Supra.*

CR.

By rate on 126 Prop <sup>rs</sup> at 10s pr. . . . .	£63
Ballance due from the Prop <sup>rs</sup> . . . . .	27 16 1
	<hr/>
	£90 16 1

This is the last account contained in the records. Up to this time, and in 1728, and probably longer, the money was raised by a tax on the proprietors' shares, resident and non-resident. So far, a large portion of the officers have been non-resident proprietors, but in 1728 there is a change, — all the *town* officers are residents.

The annual meeting was held at Chester, March 28th. Eldad Ingalls was chosen town clerk, and Capt. Henry Sherburn, Capt. Joseph Sherburn and Thomas Packer were chosen to “make up accompts w<sup>th</sup> Chester's Old Town Clerk, M<sup>r</sup> Clement Hughes, and to Receive y<sup>e</sup> town Book and Deliver it to Eldad Ingalls y<sup>e</sup> present town Clerk.”

“A vote was past at y<sup>e</sup> Ann<sup>l</sup> Meeting in March that all y<sup>e</sup> propr<sup>s</sup> of Chester should pay ten Shillings apiece at y<sup>e</sup> adjournment of the ann<sup>l</sup> meeting, which will be y<sup>e</sup> second Tuesday of June next, concerning y<sup>e</sup> hiring a Minis<sup>r</sup> for this Year.”

Eldad Ingalls was chosen town treasurer, and the constable was to gather the rates, and deliver it to the treasurer.

There was a vote passed at the adjournment, that if any settler settling on lands laid out should be molested by non-proprietors, the expense of trying the title should be paid by the proprietors.

There was a meeting held, Nov. 12, 1728, at the house of Samuel Ingalls. It was

“Voted, that y<sup>e</sup> Stating y<sup>e</sup> plan for y<sup>e</sup> Meeting house should be left in consideration till next March Meeting.”

But the meeting was adjourned to Hampton, on the last Tuesday in December, and there

“Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> place called y<sup>e</sup> Center where four principal Roads meet, being near y<sup>e</sup> Minis<sup>rs</sup> lott, be y<sup>e</sup> place for Setting up the meeting house.”

1729. The Annual Meeting was held at the house of Samuel Ingalls, and after choosing officers, adjourned until June 10, and a new meeting called at the same time and place, "To make Choice or give a call unto Mr John Tuck of Hampton to settle w<sup>th</sup> us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry, and to see what encouragement we shall give him for his maintenance with us."

At the meeting it was

"Voted, That Mr. John Tuck of Hampton is Chosen to settle w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Chester in work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry.

"Voted, That 120 pounds be Raised for y<sup>e</sup> support of y<sup>e</sup> Gospel Ministry (amonge us) by y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants and prop<sup>rs</sup> according to their settlement for five years ensuing, and then be Raised as the law directs.

"Voted in y<sup>e</sup> affirmative.

"Voted, Samuel Ingalls, Dr. Edmond Toppin and Wilson, are chosen a Committee to wait on Mr. John Tuck to Invite him to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Chester."

Meeting adjourned to the third Tuesday of September, at Capt. Joshua Wingate's at Hampton.

MR. TUCK'S ANSWER.

Hampton, Oc<sup>r</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>, 1729.

To y<sup>e</sup> prop<sup>rs</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> town of Chester this day met at Capt. Wingates in Hampton.

*Gentlemen,*

Whereas you, w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> freeholders of y<sup>e</sup> town of Chester, Did sometime ago Invite me to y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Chester; now these are to Signifie, that for Weighty Reasons I Decline settling there. I wish you a happy settlement in God's good time. This from

Your Hum<sup>ble</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Jo<sup>n</sup> Tucke.

At the adjournment, Sept. 16th, adjourned again to Oct. 7th.

"Voted, That Mr. John Tuck be paid thirty shillings per Sabbath for fourteen Sabbaths last past.

"Voted, That there shall a Committe be chosen to look

out and get a minis<sup>r</sup> to preach at Chester in order to his Settlement there.

“Voted, That Sam<sup>l</sup> Ingalls & Jacob Sargent be a Committe chosen to look out for a suitable orthodox good man y<sup>t</sup> shall be aproved by y<sup>e</sup> Neighboring Minis<sup>rs</sup>.

“Voted, That there shall be a meeting house built according to these Dimensions: Imp<sup>rs</sup>, fifty foot in length, and thirty-five foot wide & twenty foot post, and finish it completely, both inside & outside, to y<sup>e</sup> turning of y<sup>e</sup> key, and set upon y<sup>e</sup> place appointed and before voted.

“Voted, That a Committee be chosen to agree w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Carpenter or Carpenters to build a Meeting house according to y<sup>e</sup> Dimentions before mentioned, and that Dr. Edmond Toppin, & Sam<sup>l</sup> Ingalls & Nathaniel Heally, be y<sup>e</sup> Committee to agree w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Carpenters in y<sup>e</sup> behalf of y<sup>e</sup> prop<sup>rs</sup> of Chester.

“Voted, That there shall be Raised forty shillings in Money on Every full prop<sup>rs</sup> share in Chester to be paid unto ye town treasurer (Jacob Sargent is chosen), at y<sup>e</sup> next prop<sup>rs</sup> meeting towards y<sup>e</sup> building of a meeting house in Chester to be drawn out by the Committee as there shall be Occasion ; viz., Dr. Edmond Toppin and Sam<sup>l</sup> Ingalls & Nathaniel Haley, a Committe.

“Voted, That there shall be Raised twenty Shillings in money on Every full prop<sup>rs</sup> lott in Chester for y<sup>e</sup> paying the town Debts, to be paid unto y<sup>e</sup> Constable for y<sup>e</sup> town's use at y<sup>e</sup> next prop<sup>rs</sup> Meeting in Chester.”

In regard to the location of the meeting-house, it sat on the ten-rod way. James Varnum bought of the town five rods in width of the ten-rod way, where Mr. Batchelder lives, so that the north side would be not far from where the north side of the street is now. When the Rev. Mr. Hale sold to the Rev. Mr. Flagg, the corner was described to be about eight rods northerly of the meeting-house. Jabez French bought five rods of the ten-rod way ; so the corner of the church is now probably near where the corner of the lot was, and eight rods from there would nearly correspond with the tradition that the house stood where the liberty-pole now stands.

At a meeting Nov. 19, 1729,

“Voted, That Capt. Thomas Pierce be a Collector for



portsmouth, and Dr. Edmond Toppin for Hampton, Jonathan Emerson for Haverhill & Bradford, Mr. Will<sup>m</sup> Blunt for Andover, Mr. John Calf for Newberry; and the Above named to Collect and gather y<sup>e</sup> Rates off those that are propr<sup>s</sup> in Chester and lives in the aboves<sup>d</sup> precincts.”

1730. At a meeting held January 15, 1729-30,

“Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> Rev. Mr. Moses Hale is chosen to settle w<sup>th</sup> us in y<sup>e</sup> work of y<sup>e</sup> Ministry in Chester.

“Voted, That there shall be 120 pounds in Current money or bills of Credit be Raised for y<sup>e</sup> Support of y<sup>e</sup> gospel minist<sup>ry</sup> amonge us, to be paid by the inhabitants & propr<sup>s</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> town of Chester, to y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Moses Hale, out of y<sup>e</sup> town treasury annually as long as he Shall Continue to be our minis<sup>tr</sup>; & Said money to be Raised by y<sup>e</sup> propr<sup>s</sup> & Inhabitants acording to their interests for five years Ensuing, & then to be Raised as the law Directs; and y<sup>t</sup> s<sup>d</sup> money be paid annually, according to y<sup>e</sup> Same Value that it paseth for at this present year.

“Voted, That Lieut. Thomas Smith, Mr Ebenezer Dearbon, Nath<sup>n</sup> Webster, Will<sup>m</sup> Willson & Sam<sup>l</sup> Ingalls, be a Committe to treat w<sup>th</sup> the Rev. Mr. Moses Hale, & to acquaint him w<sup>th</sup> what y<sup>e</sup> town hath done, & to Invite him into the work of y<sup>e</sup> Minis<sup>ry</sup> among us in Chester, and to Receive his answer and to make Return thereof to the town.”

At the annual meeting March 26, 1730,

“Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> Proprietors of Chester pay two hundred and twenty pounds to defray y<sup>e</sup> Charges for y<sup>e</sup> year en-  
sewing.

“Voted, That y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Moses Hale have twenty shillings apiece of each full propriator's share, which amounts to one hundred and twenty seven pounds, to be payed y<sup>e</sup> present year insewing in Money or labor.

“Voted, That the meeting-house be set on the plan it hath bene formerly agreed on and voted for, agreeable to the vote in 1728 entered in the town Book in page 104.

“Voted, That Mr. Will<sup>m</sup> White, Nathan Webster, Ebenezer Derbon, a committe to agree with a carpender or carpenders to build a meeting house acording to the demenshins formerly agreed on and entered in y<sup>e</sup> town book.

“Voted, A gristmill priviledge to John Aiken.” (See History of John Aiken's Mill.)

At an adjournment June 9th,

“ Voted, That Doct. Rodgers, Mr. Hughes, Rich<sup>d</sup> Ward, Benj. Russ, be allowed there accounts in suppressing the Ryiot in 1726, five days a man at 6s. per day.

“ Voted, Whereas there was formerly a vote past that the meeting house should be bulte 35 fete in width, that s<sup>d</sup> meeting house shall be bulte thirty eyght fete in width, and that the comite chosen last meting, Namely, Mr. William White, Nath<sup>n</sup> Webster, Ebez<sup>r</sup> Derben, be fully impowered to agree with any Parson or Parsons to build s<sup>d</sup> meeting house ; and whatever Covenant or agreement they in there capacity shall make, the propriators will Ratify and Confirme.”

At a meeting July 15, 1730, there was a committee chosen “to deliver the minister’s lot to Rev. Mr. Moses Hale as soon as he becomes qualified to receive the same,” with a proviso that should he be at any expense on it and not be settled, it should be repaid. There was another committee to provide a parsonage.

1731. At the annual meeting held at the meeting-house March 25, 1731, adjourned to May 12, they chose a committee to sell all delinquents’ shares.

There was an act passed by the General Assembly April 29, 1731, the preamble of which says, “ Whereas the towns of Chester, Nottingham and Rochester labour under inconveniences in carrying on y<sup>e</sup> publick affairs, especially supporting the gospel ministry,” enacting that lands of non-residents may be assessed and taken on execution if the taxes be not paid ; to continue in force three years.

“ Voted to Rais money for finishing the meetin hous, £230 ; and for ordaining the minister the present year, £30 ; and for the minister’s salary this year, £120.”

There is a memorandum as follows :

The money raised in the town of Checher in the year	
1729, by Samuel Ingalls, Nathan Webster and Wil-	
liam Wilson, their present Selectmen, and Commit-	
ted to Constable Haseltine to Colec and gather	. 378 00 00
S <sup>d</sup> Constable Heseltime has paid	. . . . 219 00 00
Remains in s <sup>d</sup> Constabel’s hands unpaid	. . . . 159 00 00

The money Raised in the town of Chester in the year 1730, by Cap<sup>t</sup> Samuel Ingalls, Ebenezer Dearbon and Nathan Webster, the Present Selectmen and Committee to Constabel John Tolford to Collect and gather is . . . . . 282 00 00  
 which S<sup>d</sup> selectmen have not Counted for.

Given under our hands a Comite to Call s<sup>d</sup> selectmen.

Ichabod Robie, } Comite.  
 Moses Leavit, }

march the 24<sup>th</sup>, 1730-1.

There is an *advertisement* calling a meeting July 21, 1731 :

“1. That the Committee that Stand Ingaged to the Carpendors for Building the meeting hous want their money and must have it this meeting, or Else they are Liabel to be Sued.

“2. To Lett y<sup>o</sup> know that the Lands of several that have Leatly been put to sale to pay their Charges, and they that do not pay theirs at this meeting may Expect the same.”

At the meeting,

“2. Many things proposed but nothing acted.”

The meeting-house was built, probably by contract, by Thomas Cochran and Peter Cochran of Londonderry, and was so far finished that the annual meeting in March of this year was held in it; but it seems that it was not paid for until 1737, when forty-six acres of land were sold to Thomas Cochran to pay what was due to him and Peter Cochran for building the meeting-house.

At the same meeting June 7, 1737,

“Voted, That Thomas Cochran and Peter Cochran have some gratuity to make up their loss, agreable to their Petition, and that the Same be to the Value of fifty pounds.”

This was laid out in 1743 on the west side of Massabesic pond.

At a meeting held September, 1731,

“Voted, That the Reverend Mr. Brown of Haverhill, Rev. Mr. Phillips, and the Reverend mr. Barnard of Andover, be a comitty to take for gathering and Setling a Church in Chester and ordaining the Reverend Mr. Hail.

“Voted, that Insign Jacob Sargent, mr. Ebenezer Dearborn, Enoch Colby, Captin Samuel Ingalls, Samuel Emerson, be a Comitty to take Care for provishan of the ordination.”

The ordination is said to have been October 20.

1732. There was a provision in the charter that every proprietor should “build a dwelling house within three years and settle a family therein, and break up three acres of ground, and plant and sow the same within four years, and pay his proportion of the town charge when and so often as occasion shall require.” At a meeting August 2d there was a committee chosen to enquire and report on this subject. August 23,

“Voted, that there shall be a Comite Chosen, and fully Impowered to here and Determine the pleas of those proprietors that are brought in Delinquent in their settlements by the Comitee, Lt. Ebenezer Dearborn, Ins. Jacob Sargent, & Capt. Samuel Ingalls, and to allow or disallow of their pleas for Settlement as they shall see Just Reason, and to grant them sutabel time to perform their settlements, provided they speedily pay their arrears, and that Comite make report of their proceedings to the proprietors of Chester at their next meeting.

“Voted, Moses Leavite, Esq., Deacon William White and Samuel Ingalls be the Comite.”

1733. At an adjournment of the annual meeting May 28, 1733,

“Voted, to Rais 127 pounds to be paid this year towards the meeting hous and to Defray other necessary town Charges.”

At a meeting September 25, 1733,

“Voted that Doct. Nathaniel Rogers of Portsmouth is Chosen & fully Impowered to Prefer a Petition to the General Court at their next session to get them to make an act in behalf of the Proprietors that are Settled in the town of Chester pursuant to the first article in the Warning.”

That is, in regard to delinquents not settling in town.

“Voted, Lt. Ebenezer Dearborn, mr. Nathan Webster

& Capt. Samuel Ingalls, to agree with and hier a minister to Preach with us a Quarter of the year."

Mr. Hale's health failed and he became deranged in mind, so that he performed very little ministerial duty in Chester.

1734. At the annual meeting March 28, 1734,

"Voted, that there shall be a Counsell Called to Dissolve the pastoral Relation Between Mr. Hale and the Church in Chester."

At a meeting held June 27, 1734,

"Voted, that there shall be men chosen to wait on the ministers at their next associate meeting to urge a Counsel for the Dissolving the pastoral Relation between mr. Hale and the Church in Chester."

At a meeting held August 15, 1734,

"Voted, that the first Wednesday in September next be held as a day of fasting and Prayer for advise for another minister.

"Voted, that there shall be 5 men Chosen to receive the advise of the ministers at the fast.

"Voted, that Capt. Samuel Ingalls, Lt. Ebenezer Dearborn, Lt. Thomas Smith, Mr. John Calfe, John Sherala and John Aken be the men.

"Voted, that Lt. Smith and Mr. John Calfe wait on the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Thompson of Londonderry to acquaint him when the fast will be.

"Voted, that mr. nathan Webster wait on the other ministers to acquaint them when the fast will be."

At an adjournment September 1, 1734,

"Voted, that the Result or Determination of the Council be Excepted by the proprietors.

"Voted, that after three sabbath Days from this time, that then the pulpit Shall be Supplied three months at the publick Charge of the proprietors."

The Presbyterians, who were the Scotch Irish settlers, had previous to this hired the Rev. John Wilson, and ten of them protested against paying for the support of another minister.

## THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

At an Ecclesiastical Council held at Salisbury, August 13, 1734, consisting of the Elders and messengers of the Churches following, viz. :

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Elders.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>
Salisbury 1 <sup>st</sup> chh,	mr. Caleb Cushing,	mr. Justes Bradbury.
Salisbury 2 <sup>d</sup> chh,	mr. Joseph Persons,	Deac <sup>n</sup> Jabez True.
Exeter,	mr. John Odlin,	Deac <sup>n</sup> Joseph French.
Hampton Falls,	Mr. Joseph Whipple,	Dea. oniseferos Page.
Bradford,	Mr. Jos Persons, jun <sup>r</sup>	Dea. Jona. Woodman.
Newbury,	m <sup>r</sup> John Lowel,	Dea. Edw'd Emerson.
Kingston,	mr. Ward Clark,	Dea. moses Elkins.
Amesbury, 2 <sup>d</sup> chh,	mr. Pain Winget,	Dea. Joseph Bartlet.

Being Regularly assembled by virtue of letters sent from the chh. in Chester to the aforesaid Churches to here, advise and direct the said Chh. of Chester what may be most proper for them to do under their present difficult circumstances, by Reason of the Rev<sup>d</sup> mr. moses Hale the Pastor being wholly Disabled from Serving them in the work of the ministry, and having made due inquiry into the Case and circumstances of the said minister and people, we find that the said mr. Hale, Having done Lettel or no service among them, and being by the Providence of God brought under greate disorder of body and distraction of mind, and for a time bereaved of his reason and understanding, and thereby Rendered uncapabell of Discharging the work of the ministry among them, and so Remaining without any present appearance or prospect of being restored to his ministry, and therefore we Judge and determine that it is the wisdom and Duty of the chh. and people of Chester to proceed in Regular steps to Call and Settle a gospel minister among them, that so they may no Longer be Destitute of the word and ordinances of Christ; and would also advise and direct the said chh. and people of Chester that besides allowing the said mr. Hale the town Right which accrued to him upon settlement and what also was then given him to Incourage his settlement, they should not forget their obligations to be Redy to Contribute to his support and Relief according to their power and ability. So

Commending them to the God of grace and peace we subscribe your Brethren in Christ.

Caleb Cushing, moderator.  
John Odlin, Scribe.

In the name and behalf of the Council.

1735. The annual meeting held March 28, adjourned to May 14, 1735.

“The matter, after it was fairly set forth Relating to mr. Hale’s circumstances, It was put to vote whether mr. Hale had given satisfaction that he was Qualified for taking the full Charge of the ministry and whether the people Could Receive him as such. it past in the negative.

“Voted, that the proposals made by mr. Hale, Febr 6<sup>th</sup>, 1734, Shall be a Direction to us ; and forasmuch as by Vote of the town mr. Hale appears not to have given satisfaction to the people, we with mr. Hale do apply to the Elders and messengers of the Churches therein mentioned, who are Desired to Consider and Determine all matters Relating to mr. Hale and us as in their wisdom they Shall Judge Right.

“Voted, that the Elders and messengers meet at the hous of Deacon Dearborns in Chester the first Wednesday in June next at one o’Clock in the afternoon.”

This council probably dismissed Mr. Hale.

At another adjournment held June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1735,

“Voted that the town of Chester apply to the Neighboring towns for help in our Difficulties by a brief for paying mr. Hale’s arrears.”

John Calfe, Capt. Samuel Ingalls and Lieut. Ebenezer Dearborn were chosen for that purpose.

“Voted that Lieut. Ebenezer Dearborn, mr. Nathan Webster be Chosen and Impowered to take Care and provide a gospel minister to suply the pulpit, and also for a further Suply in order for settlement when occasion shall be.”

Sixteen of the Presbyterians entered their protest against “hireing, calling or settling any other minister in this town than what we now have.” At the request of a major part of the church a meeting was called and held November 6, 1735.

“Voted the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Timothy White Chall be the minister of the town of Chester.”

A salary of £120 was voted, and a committee, consisting of Deacon Ebenezer Dearborn and Messrs. Nathan Webster and John Calfe, chosen to treat with Mr. White and receive his answer.

At an adjournment held November 27, 1735,

“Voted, that whereas there was 120 Pounds Voted for Mr. White’s Salery per annum, so long as he should Continue the minister of the town, it is Intended by it that the money Shall be accounted at the same Value that paper money was when the agreement was made with Mr. Hale.”

The money to pay the minister and all other purposes had been voted and raised by the “Proprietors,” by the “Proprietors and inhabitants,” and now “the Freeholders and inhabitants” are warned to meet. The proprietors of the common and undivided land held separate meetings distinct from the town after this time; but the money to support the minister was raised from the whole town.

In building the meeting-house and supporting Mr. Hale, the Presbyterians were active; but they now have their own minister, and claim that a proviso in a certain statute legally exempts them from paying a minister tax, and at the meeting of Nov. 6th they enter another protest, signed by thirty-one men.

At a meeting, held June 23, 1736,

“Voted, That the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Ebenezer Flagg shall be the minister of the town of Chester.

“Voted, that there shall be one Hundred and twenty Pounds Paid to the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ebenezer Flagg, as silver at twenty shilings an ounce, per anum, During his ministry in Chester.”

The following protest of the same tenor, and more numerously signed than those before mentioned, was entered:

We the Presbeterian Congregation and Propriators, Inhabitants and Freeholders of Chester afforsaid, do Enter



this our Protest and Desent against hiring, calling, or settling, any other ministers or minister in this town other than the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> John Wilson our Pastor, and also we protest against paying any charges or charge or salary that shall arise from or by such hiring, calling or settling any other minister then we have as afforsaid, or giveing or settling any Lands for that or any other uess. given under our hands the day and year above. and farther we Insist upon the Benefit of the Province Law with Respect to the suport of the ministry, and also we declare this meeting Ilegall.

James Wilson,  
 Robert Grimes,  
 Elexeandr Crage,  
 William Wilson,  
 John Carswell,  
 William Carswell,  
 John Sherala,  
 Thomas Smith,  
 Robert Wilson,  
 Robert Gillcreast,  
 William Wilson,  
 Andrew Crage,  
 Joseph Neill,  
 John moore,  
 Charls moore,  
 Robert mills,  
 John aiken,  
 John Dickey,  
 Paul mcferson,  
 John mills,  
 Patrick melven,  
 Hugh Wilson,  
 archebald Canigham,  
 James Campbell,  
 John Wadell,

James Wilson,  
 James Quanton,  
 James Whiting,  
 John Boid,  
 James Croset,  
 William Craford,  
 William White,  
 Thomas Glen,  
 Robert Grames,  
 James Farson,  
 Robert Boyes,  
 Joseph Steel,  
 John Steel,  
 Thomas megee,  
 James Wilson,  
 Thomas Colwell,  
 John macmurphy,  
 John mills,  
 John Tolford,  
 Thomas Horner,  
 John Ramsey,  
 William Patterson,  
 William Tolford,  
 Samuel Brown.

Rev. Ebenezer Flagg was ordained Sept., 1736. The selectmen continued to rate the Presbyterians and some rates were collected, and the Presbyterians presented the following petition to the General Assembly :

To his Excellency Jonathan Belcher, Esq. Gov<sup>r</sup> and Commander in chief in and over His Majesty's Province of New Hamp<sup>r</sup>, the Hon<sup>ble</sup> His Majesty's Council, & House of Representatives for the Province aforesaid.

The Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of Chester in the Province of New Hampshire, Humbly Showeth :

That your Petitioners, though at present Inhabitants of Chester afor<sup>sd</sup>, formerly belonged, most of them, to the Kingdom of Scotland & Ireland, where they were educated in the principles of Kirk of Seotland, for which they have a great Veneration: That while Mr. Moses Hale was the Minister of the Town, your Petitioners paid taxes towards his Support, tho' they went many of them to Londonderry to meeting, & most if not all of them constantly to receive the sacraments, not then being in a Condition to settle a minister of the Presbyterian order; After Mr. Hale's misfortunes had necessitated him to lay aside the work of the Ministry, the Town being Destitute of a Gospel Minister, your Petitioners proceeded to call & ordain a Minister of that Denomination among them, tho' Scarce able to pay the charge, that they might worship God & enjoy the ordinances of the Gospel in a way (which they apprehend) more agreeable to Script<sup>e</sup> & the primitive pattern, at least more agreeable to their consciences than they could among the Congregation- alists: That during the time that y<sup>e</sup> Town was Destitute of a minister of the Congregational order, your Petition<sup>rs</sup> often invited the Brethren of that Denomination to join with them, if not longer at least till they were better provided for, & that such Conformity should be no Expense to them, for that your Petition<sup>rs</sup> would support their own Minister themselves; But they refused to accept the offer: That about two years after Mr. Hale had left Chester those of the Inhabitants who Differ in Sentiments from your Petition<sup>rs</sup>, in conjunction with the non-resident Propriet<sup>rs</sup>, proceeded to call and settle in the town a Congregational Minister who is still there: That your Petition<sup>rs</sup>, apprehending that those who had called & settled such a minister would be for supporting him by a tax on all the Inhabitants, representing to them in their Public meeting & to the Selectmen of the Town that it was highly unreasonable and unkind, all things and circumstances considered, to oblige your Petition<sup>rs</sup> to pay towards the support of a minister they did not call, nor hear when settled, &c., & prayed they might be Exempted, & the rather because they conceived themselves to be such Persons as were Intended

and Exempted by the Proviso in the Law of the Province, Entitled an Act for maintenance & Supply of ministry within this Province. But all would not prevail; the Selectmen of said Town rated all the inhabitants without Exception of any sect, & have Distrained & Imprisoned some of your Petitioners for such Rates. Your Petition<sup>rs</sup> therefore pray the aid of this Court as the Dernier Resort of the Distressed, that you would be pleased in your Great Wisdom and Goodness to explain the Proviso in the afores<sup>d</sup> act & say whether your Petition<sup>rs</sup> are Exempted thereby from being taxed to the Settling & Support of the said minister. And if your Excellency & the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the other Branches of this Court shall not think the law already made excuses your Petition<sup>rs</sup> from the aforesaid charge, that you would be pleased to Commiserate the case of your Petition<sup>rs</sup> (being as it now Stands they must either act against their own Judgment, or dearly purchase the Liberty of the Contrary) and make a special act whereby they may be Discharged & Exonerated from any part of the Burthen of Settling & supporting any minister except their own, & from paying the afores<sup>d</sup> Rates already made; and that such may have their money allowed them from whom the Same has been distrained by virtue of the afores<sup>d</sup> Rates. And yo<sup>r</sup> Petition<sup>rs</sup> in duty bound shall ever pray.

Alexander <sup>his</sup> + Crage,  
mark.

James Campbell,  
Andrew Crage,  
William Whit,  
Franciss Cooks,  
Robert Mills,  
William Colwell,  
James Wilson,  
John Carswell,  
Samuel Brown,  
John Waddel,  
Robert Graham,  
John Boid,  
John Karr,  
Robert Wilson,  
James Quenton,  
Paul McFerson,  
James McFerson,  
William McFerson,  
Samuel McFerson,

William <sup>his</sup> + Poul, [Powel]  
mark.

Joseph Nill, [Neal]  
William Carswell,  
Robert Kilcrist,  
John Dickey,  
Thomas Colwell,  
Hugh Willson,  
David Crage,  
William Graham,  
Thomas Glen,  
James Whit,  
John Akan,  
Thomas Smith,  
John Smith,  
James Whiting,  
Samuel Ingalls,  
William Crafford,  
Robert Dayer,  
William Patterson,  
William Willson,

Robert Knocks,	John Tolford,
Robert Grimes,	John Mills, Junr.,
John <sup>his</sup> + Pouel,	John Mills, Senr.,
<sub>mark.</sub>	
James Crossett,	John Sherala,
Robert Campbell,	Charles Moore,
James Willson,	John Waddall,
James Willson, Junr.,	John Boid, Junr.’

The petition was received in Council March 23, 1736-7, and sent to the House, who voted an order of notice, which was served on the selectmen of Chester by John Sherala. It was postponed to the next session, when the parties were heard. The House voted to dismiss the petition; the Council non-concurred, being of the opinion that the petitioners are within the saving clause of the act of this province, "Entitled an act for the Maintenance and supply of the ministry within this Province," in which the House concurred Oct. 19, 1737, and Gov. Belcher assented Oct. 20. So the Presbyterians had the decision in their favor.

The act referred to was passed 1714, and provided that the freeholders of the respective towns in this province in town meeting might choose a minister, and agree upon a salary, and he should be considered the settled minister of the town; and the selectmen shall make rates and assessments upon the inhabitants of the town, for the payment of his salary, &c.; "Provided always that this act do not at all interfere with her Majesty's grace and favor in allowing her subjects liberty of conscience; nor shall any person under pretence of being of a different persuasion be excused from paying towards the support of the settled minister or ministers of such town aforesaid; but only such as are conscientiously so, and constantly attend the public worship of God on the Lord's day according to their own persuasion; and they only shall be excused from paying towards the support of the ministry of the town."

The following is the reply of John Calfe, John Tolford, Ephraim Haselton and Enoch Colby, selectmen of Chester, to the Presbyterian petition: —

“That after the Rev. Ebr. Flagg was Settled in s<sup>d</sup> Town a considerable No. of persons petitioned the Gen. Court for an explanation of the law of Liberty, Supposing they, being Presbyterians, were exonerated from paying Mr. Flagg, which was explained in their favor. Since which time they have proceeded in a cordial manner, and have endeavored to take the best method the circumstances will admit of to Raise money for the Respective ministries as follows: at a Town Meeting warned for that purpose they voted separate for Mr. Flagg’s salary, and the Presbyterians voted a Salary for the Rev. Mr. Jno. Wilson their minister, and the selectmen Signed the Respective Warrants to y<sup>c</sup> Constabel or Collectors to collect the same.

“If this method were not agreeable to the G. C. they pray for particular directions.

“It was ordered Aug. 6, 1740, that the two congregations act separate.”

The tradition is that John Tolford and James Campbell were imprisoned for their minister rate, and that they sued for false imprisonment and recovered. That somebody was imprisoned is made nearly certain by the words, “some of your petitioners have been distrained and imprisoned,” in the Presbyterian petition. But I have examined the court records pretty thoroughly, and cannot find any lawsuits there.

There was a petition, dated Aug. 20, 1735, preferred to the selectmen, representing that “Whereas it often happens that Business of Importance Requires Consideration Relating to the Common or undivided Land in Chester which Cannot be so well accommodated at a general town meeting as by the Respective Proprietors of said Lands distinct.” The petition is signed by seventy-three individuals with their respective interests attached to their names in rights and quarters of rights. They represent sixty-seven rights and three quarters. Of these seventy-three, so far as I can tell, thirty-eight were residents and thirty-five were non-residents. They asked to have a meeting called, which was done by John Calfe and Samuel Emerson, selectmen of Chester, and held at the meeting-house Oct. 16, 1735. I have already given, under the heads of Settling the Lines

and Laying out of the Lots, what they did on those subjects ; I shall now follow them to the close of their corporate existence, before taking up the town of Chester. Mr. John Calfe was chosen moderator, and Samuel Emerson proprietors' clerk. Esq. Emerson held the office until his death. The last record that he made was the first Monday of September, 1793. On the second day of June, 1794, his son, John Emerson, was chosen clerk, and held the office until his death. When he was superseded as town clerk in 1817 by Lemuel W. Blake, he claimed to be proprietors' clerk and held the books during his life, when they went into the town clerk's office.

The Proprietors' Records are contained in two volumes, and have often been called into court in the settlement of controversies about land. These volumes were nearly out of their binding, and otherwise injured by continual examination, and in 1853 were in court in Hillsborough county, and the Hon. S. D. Bell took them into his possession, carried them to a binder, and at his own expense had them put into substantial binding, and otherwise repaired. He also, with great labor, prepared a copious and valuable index, which greatly facilitates the examination of the records, and prevents their wear. The town of Chester, and everybody who shall *ever* have occasion to examine these records, should hold Judge Bell in grateful remembrance, — and nobody more so than the writer.

At the aforesaid meeting it was

“ Voted, that the Proprietors' Clerk be impowered to warn meetings for the Present at the Request of twenty or more of the Proprietors of the undivided land in Chester, they Setting forth the occasion of the same, and the time when and where ; and for the warning of such meeting it shall be accounted sufficient warning to have Notifications posted up, one at Chester, one at Portsmouth, one at Hampton, one at Newbury, and one at Haverhill, at sum Publick Place, fourteen days before said meeting ; and the present Petitioners for every meeting shall be at the Charge of setting up the Notifications for the said meeting.”

Some of the home lots fell short of measure, and Capt.

Samuel Ingalls, Samuel Emerson and Ephraim Haseltine were chosen a committee to examine them and report.

John Calfe owned two home lots and a half, and the lot-layers had laid out eighty acres between the ponds at Massabesic, which the proprietors refused to accept; but at an adjournment they reconsidered and accepted, and also

“Voted, that Mr. John Calfe have Liberty to build a fulling mill at massabesick brook between the two Ponds, agreeable to his own Proposals.”

What these proposals were does not appear, but he built a fulling mill there, opposite Nathan Griffin's barn. (See History of the Calfe and Blanchard Mills.)

It was also

“Voted, That for settlement of the Rev. Mr. Timothy White, or the Next Lawfully Settled minister, their shall be given two Hundred acres of Land in the Next division, or two Hundred and fifty pounds of Land fairly appraised.”

Mr. White not being settled, it was given to Mr. Flagg; lots No. 20 and 21, second part of the second division.

At a meeting held May 16, 1739,

“Voted, That Mr. John Macmurphy, his heirs and Successors, have Liberty to set up and Erect a grist mill at massabesick River below the Greate Pond in two years, not hendring Iron Works or saw mill if the town shall see it needful to have them or either of them built,” &c. (See History of the McMurphy or Webster Mill, on a subsequent page.)

The proprietors held many meetings for the transaction of their business, which consisted in laying out the different divisions and making amendments, and about their lawsuits, and selling land to pay expenses.

A vote was passed the first Tuesday of November, 1785, choosing Dea. Jonathan Hall, Capt. John Underhill, and Robert Wilson, Esq., a committee “to sell all the common land in this town that Lays scatrung about in sundry places, to any Person or Persons as the Committee shall Judge Best.”