

ton to Keene. This line of staging did good business till the Cheshire Railroad was built, when the line was changed from Jaffrey to Winchendon, in a two-horse coach. The Monadnock Railroad obviated any further necessity for stage-coaches, and the business is done from East Jaffrey to the centre of the town in a two-horse wagon.

## BANKS.

The Monadnock State Bank was incorporated in 1850; capital, \$50,000. John Conant was chosen president and Peter Upton cashier. Directors, John Conant, Benjamin Cutter, Jonas M. Mellville, James Scott, Rufus Haywood, Samuel Ryan, Jr., Solomon Allen. In 1855, John Fox was chosen president, and in 1857, James Scott, of Peterborough. In 1865 the Monadnock National Bank was incorporated; capital, \$100,000. James Scott was chosen president; Peter Upton, cashier. Directors, James Scott, Benjamin Cutter, Samuel Ryan, Arad Adams, James L. Bolster, Joseph T. Biggelow, John Conant. Benjamin Cutter was chosen president in 1870. Cashier, Peter Upton. Directors, Benjamin Cutter, James Scott, Samuel Ryan, Arad Adams, John Fox, Joseph T. Biggelow, John Conant.

## MONADNOCK SAVINGS BANK.

Incorporated 1869. President, Oscar H. Bradley; treasurer, Peter Upton. Amount on deposit (1880), \$297,583.88. Trustees, Oscar H. Bradley, Benjamin Pierce, James S. Lacy, Zebulon Converse, Franklin H. Cutter, George A. Underwood, Benjamin L. Baldwin, Charles Cutter, John B. Shedd, Charles H. Powers, Joseph T. Biggelow, John Fox, Dexter Derby.

## SACRED MUSIC.

Singing constituted a part of religious worship in the early settlement of New England. The Book of Psalms, by Henry Ainsworth, in prose and verse, published at Amsterdam in 1612, was the one in general use among the Puri-

tans. The singing was done by the congregation standing and facing the minister. The psalm was first read by him, and afterwards repeated line by line, and sung as read by the congregation. The deacon, instead of the minister, sometimes read or tuned the psalm; hence it was called "deaconing the psalm."

In 1778, before the incorporation of the church, or the settlement of a minister, the town chose William Smiley and David Stanley to read the psalm, and Jonathan Priest, Abraham Bailey, and Daniel Stanley to tune the psalm.

In 1787 the manner of singing was changed. The singers were seated in one place by themselves instead of being mixed with the congregation. The town at that time

Voted to Grant the two middle body seats below, men and womens side, for the Singers.

It also

Voted to sing a Verse at a time, once in the forenoon and once in the afternoon after exercises.

Voted that Jacob Baldwin assist Eleazer Spofford to tune the Psalm, and in his absence or inability to set it.

In 1791 the singers were seated in the gallery, by vote of the town.

March 1, 1791, the town

Voted to grant half of the Front Gallery for the Singers and take it out of the Senter.

In 1792, March 6, the town

Voted to annex the womans seats in the front of the Gallery to the Singers Seats.

In 1802, March 2, the town

Voted to raise forty dollars towards hiring a singing master for the purpose of instructing schools.

Voted a committee of three to expend the same; Chose Samuel Dakin, Rufus Houghton, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Pope Com<sup>ee</sup>.

Rec. of the Selectmen, forty dollars in full for teaching singing school for the year 1803. Samuel Dakin.

At what time instrumental music was brought into use does not appear on record—probably about 1800. The introduction of those instruments was not at first very favorably received by the older members of the congregation, but time and the influence of the younger portion overruled, and at length they became very acceptable. The flute, clarionette, bassoon, trombone, and violin were the first that came into use, followed by the bass-viol, by some called “Dagon,” by others the “Lord’s fiddle.” The early singers, as appears in the records, were found among the families of the Stanleys, Baileys, and Priests, afterwards the Spoffords, Baldwins, and Dakins. Dakin, as it appears by the records, was the first teacher of a singing-school in the town.

## PUBLIC COMMON.

Provision was made by the Masonian Proprietors, in the grant of the township, by a reservation of land, for a public common on which to build a meeting-house, enclose a public burying-ground, and also a place for military trainings and reviews.

The common or public square included an area of about ten acres, measuring about forty rods on each side, situated on the north end of lot 12, range 6. On the north central part of the lot was the burying-yard, front of which were the meeting-house and public common.

In 1791, Aug. 3, a survey was made, bounds established, and a transcript made, by John Gilmore, Roger Gilmore, and Samuel Buss, a committee chosen by the town for that purpose.

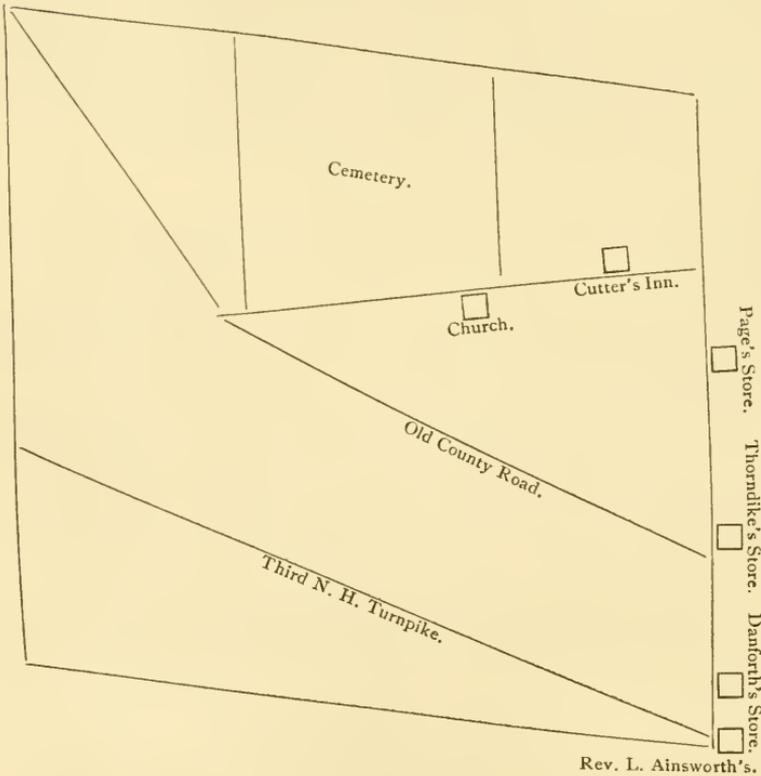
## TRANSCRIPT OF THE COMMON.

We the Subscribers, being appointed a Committee to lay out the common in s<sup>d</sup> town, have proceeded thus: Beginning at the north west corner of the common; at a stake and stones on the west side of the Road in the line between the fifth and sixth

Range in Lot No. 12, in the sixth Range of Lots in Jaffrey aforesaid, from thence South one Deg. west forty rods Pacing seven links, to a stake and stones, from thence South eighty one Deg. and fifty min. East, forty rods to a stake and stones; from thence north one Deg. East forty rods to a Stake and Stones in the said line between the fifth and Sixth Range; from thence north eighty one Deg. and fifty min. West, forty rods and seven links to a Stake and Stones being the Bounds first mentioned.

Jaffrey, Aug. 3, 1791.      John Gilmore  
    Roger Gilmore } Com<sup>ee</sup>  
    Samuel Buss

PUBLIC COMMON.



In 1787 the town voted to sell the land lying east and west of the burying-ground, and appointed a committee for

that purpose. The lot east was sold to Benj. Cutter; west lot to Dr. Howe. (In 1798 the town voted to sell the land west of the county road, at public vendue.) That part of the common south of the turnpike was sold afterwards.

When the town voted to build the meeting-house on the common in 1774, it also voted to pass over an article to see in what manner the town will proceed to clear the common to set their meeting-house on. The next year the town voted to work on the common on the first Monday in May.

In 1781 the town voted that each highway surveyor, with his district, work one day on the common. In 1787 the town appointed a committee to let the job of clearing a part of the common to the lowest bidder. In 1792 the town voted to raise £50 to finish the common; and in 1798 the town voted that the town should turn out and level the common gratis, on the second Wednesday in June, and that they should come in the morning.

## SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS.

In the grant of the township the town received of the proprietors six hundred acres of land for certain specified purposes, and this land was disposed of at different times by vote of the town.

In 1775, to meet the expense of building a meeting-house, the town voted to sell lot 4 in the 6th range, lots 12 and 20 in the 1st range, and lot 14 in the 2d range, and appointed a committee for that purpose, with authority to sell at public or private sale.

In 1778, the town

Voted to sell to Samuel Adams the land lying east of the Common.

In 1783, the town

Voted to sell four acres for £20 L. M. to Rev. Laban Ainsworth, on which to build a dwelling-house.

In 1787, the town

Voted to sell lot 16 range 3 lot 12 range 1 and that part of the common which lies on the east and west sides of the burying ground.

In 1798, the town

Voted to sell that piece of common land at Capt. Adams old potash at public vendue.

In 1808, the town

Voted one half of an acre to Levi Johnson it being a part of the ministerial land.

In 1833 a committee was appointed to sell the public lands belonging to the town, and use the proceeds of the sale in purchasing a farm on which to support the poor.

The proceeds of the sale per report of Com<sup>ee</sup> was \$2381.17. A farm was purchased of Capt. Samuel Patrick for which the town paid \$2291.53.

|               |   |                  |                   |
|---------------|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Oct. 28, 1834 | { | Oliver Prescott  | Com <sup>ee</sup> |
|               |   | John Conant      |                   |
|               |   | Edward Spaulding |                   |

#### CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

During the Revolutionary war, a convention of delegates from the several towns was held at Concord, for the purpose of forming a plan of government.

In 1778, April 20, Phineas Spaulding was chosen a delegate to a convention to be holden at Concord for that purpose.

In 1779, Sept. 7, the town

Voted that mr. Phineas Spaulding should sit as a member in the convention to be holden at Concord on Wednesday the 22 of September instant.

In 1781, May 28,

Voted to send one man to Convention to joyn in forming a New Plan or System of Government.

Voted that mr William Smiley be the man, also in Nov. same year he was again elected.