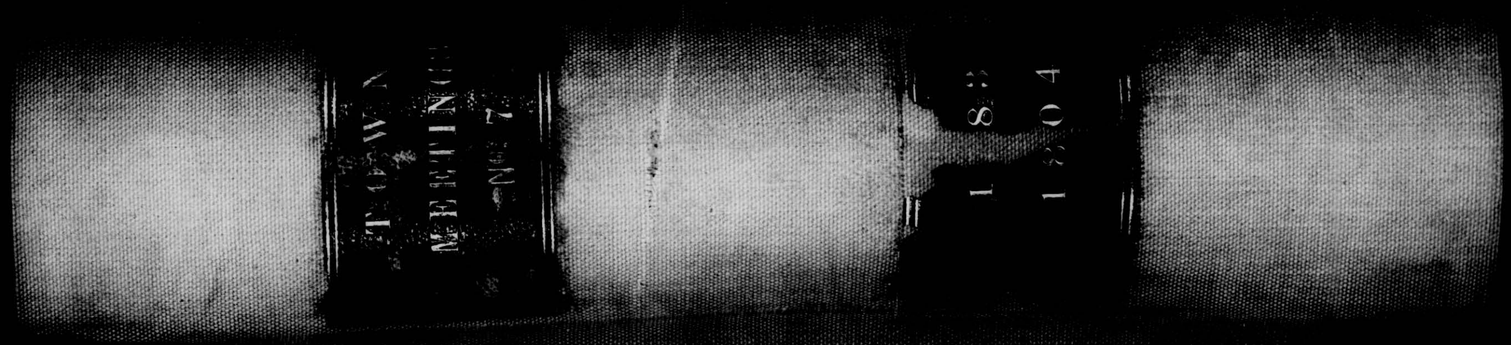

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At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Providence on Wednesday the 16th Day of July Anno Domini 1783.

Ephraim Bowen Esq. Moderator.

Whereas Col. Levi Hall and Mr. Archibald Stewart who were appointed at the last Annual Town Meeting of this Town as Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor have declined serving in that Office It is therefor Voted and Resolved That Nathaniel Wheaton Esq. and Joseph Martin Esq. be and they hereby are elected and chosen to serve in the said Office of Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor in the Place of the said Col. Hall and Mr. Archibald Stewart.

Voted and Resolved That the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds Lawful Money be Granted as a Town Tax one Half thereof to be paid by the last Day of October next and the Remaining Half by the Last Day of December next. And the Assessors of Rates are hereby Directed to assess the same accordingly and Provided that the Collector of Rates does not pay the same at the Times aforesaid that he pay Interest therefor until paid and that the Tax on the Pole in Assessing said Rate be set at Three Shillings and Six pence.

Voted and Resolved that Col. Hall and Mr. Archibald Stewart abovementioned pay a Fine as by Law Required for Refusing to Serve as Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor.

Resolved That Nathaniel Wheaton Esq. be and he is hereby appointed to procure the Work House in this Town to be Repaired in the best and most Frugal Manner and that Joseph Martin Esq. Mr. Nathan Waterman and Capt.

A. D. 1783 July 16:

Capt David Lawrence be appointed a Committee to Consult with said Nathaniel Wheaton Esq: on the Best Method of Repairing the same And that the said Nathaniel Wheaton Esq: be empowered to draw the whole Expence of Repairing said Work Hous out of the Town Treasury. —

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be directed to Sell all the Thatch Grass growing on the Town Lands on the Most advantageous Terms. —

Whereas Ebenezer Thompson Esq: hath exhibited to this Meeting an Account against the Town amounting to One pound and Eighteen Shillings for Stone and an Half Cord of Stone Received by the Surveyor of Highways for the purpose of Repairing the Road leading to the Lower Ferry — and said Account being duly examined It is Voted and Resolved That the same be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury —

A. D. 1783 Aug. 26th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the State House on the 26th Day of August A.D. 1783. —

The Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esq.r Moderator —

This being the Anniversary for chosing Deputies to Serve at the Session of the General Assembly in October Next and in all Sessions of the General Assembly until the General Election in May next — The following Gentlemen are duly Elected and Chosen to Represent the Town accordingly Viz.,

John Smith Esq.r
John Brown Esq.r
Capt Paul Allen
Mr Thomas Jenkins —

Resolved That James Lovet Esq.r be added to the Committee appointed At the Annual Meeting in June Last for Reviving the Highway leading from High Street to Johnston in the Room of Judge Howell now absent at Congress — and that the same Committee also Revive the Highway leading from said High Street to Cranston as far as Cranston Line: And that said Committee be Requested to proceed upon the Business and accomplish the same as soon as May be: And if on their Report it shall appear that any persons have Committed Nusance by Erecting Fences or otherwise on said Highways that the Town Treasurer immediately after the Fall Harvest prosecute according to Law the persons committing such Nusances unless such Nusances shall be then removed —

Whereas the committee appointed on the 15th Day of April Last have Reported that they find that Mr Nehemiah Lovett has without a Few Years past covered Ten Feet of the North side of the Gangway between the Lots Numbered 40 and 41. on the Plat with Part of a Barn which with other Obstructions render said Gangway altogether unpassable. Which Report hath been Received: It is therefore Resolved That the Town Clerk inform Mr Lovett that unless he shall within a Reasonable Time Remove said Barn from said Gangway, or procure other Land in Lieu of the Land so covered by said Barn to the Satisfaction of the Town Council that he will be prosecuted according to Law for committing a Nusance there and the Town Treasurer is hereby directed to commence said Prosecution accordingly. —

Resolved That the Town Clerk make out and Deliver to the Town Treasurer a Fair Copy duly compared and certified of the Report of the Committee accepted at a Town Meeting on the 17th Day of April A.D. 1771 Reviving the Highways Lanes Gangways &c of the Town in order that Town may have the Benefit of the same in Law Place —

Resolved That Governor Bowen Mr Moses Brown and Major Thompson Govr Hopkins and Joseph Brown Esq.r or any three of them be a Committee to Revive Benefit Street and to

A.D. 1783 Aug. 26th

and Establish proper Bounderies and to Report at the Next Town Meeting. —

Resolved That it be Recommended to the Town Council to take into Consideration the Propriety of Widening the Lane called Waterman's Lane leading from the Main Street to Benefit Street to the Width of 36 or 40 Feet and to make Enquiry upon what Terms the Land necessary for the Purpose may be purchased and that they be Requested to Signify in Writing their Sentiments thereon to the Next Town Meeting. —

Resolved That Major Simeon Thayer be appointed a Surveyor of the Highways for the Northern Part of the Town. —

A.D. 1783 Octr. 14th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence warned and Assembled according to Law at the State House in Providence on the 14th Day of October A.D. 1783 —

Capt Paul Allen Moderator —

This Meeting having taken into consideration the Business mentioned in the Warrant thereupon Resolved not to act upon it, and Adjourned without Day. —

A.D. 1783 Octr 25th

At a Town Meeting Legally warned and assembled at the State House in Providence on the 25th Day of October A.D. 1783 —

The Honble Javez Bowen Esq. Moderator —

Whereas Mr Thomas Jenkins who was chosen in August last a Deputy to Represent this Town in General Assembly at the Session to be holden at Newport on the Last Monday of this Month hath declined Serving and Requests that some other Suitable person should be appointed in his Place: — Ebenezer Thompson Esq. is therefore now duly Elected and Chosen

a Deputy to Represent this Town in the General Assembly in the Place of said Mr Thomas Jenkins who hath declined Serving as aforesaid. —

Resolved That Nicholas Brown Esq. John Smith Esq. and Col. William Barton be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to Mr Samuel Young for purchasing a Lot of Land belonging to him adjoining the Court House Parade and Brick School House Lot to know the Terms upon which the same may be purchased and to Report at the Next Town Meeting. — —

Resolved That Three Pounds and Four Shillings Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Messrs Clarke and Nightengale being the Amount of their Account for Paper for Record Book for Deeds for the Use of the Town —

Resolved That One pound and Nineteen Shillings Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr Philip Pain being the Amount of his Account for Bending a large Record Book for Deeds for the Use of the Town. . —

Resolved That One pound and Nine Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr William Compton being the Amount of his Account for Attending and Warning Town Meetings &c.

Resolved That John Smith Esq. be and he is hereby appointed to procure a Suitable Pavement to be made to convey away the Water Running from the Court House Parade at the Expence of the Town. —

Resolved That Mr Moses Brown Be and he is hereby appointed to continue the Pavement of Meeting Street from the Easterly End of that Street across Benefit Street in such Manner as to make the same commodiously passable. —

Resolved That James Arnold Esq. the Ground around the Market House to be filled up and Ajusted in a suitable Height. This Meeting Dissolved. —

6

A.D. 1784. Janr 8th.

At a Town Meeting Legally warned and Assembled at the State House in Providence on the 8th Day of January A.D. 1784.—

John Jenckes Esqr Moderator.—

This Meeting having been warned in order to take into Consideration the Distressed Situation of the Inhabitants on Account of the Loss of the Bridges and the Damage done the publick Ways by the late unusual Freshet of Water and to adopt Measures for Rebuilding and Repairing the Same It is thereupon

Voted and Resolved That Messrs Job Smith Benjamin Comstock and John Dexmount be appointed a Committee for the purpose of immediately repairing Mill bridge and the Street near the same so as to make the same passable with Teams.— And in order that it may be done with all possible Dispatch it is further Resolved That the Town Cryer warn all the Inhabitants of the Town to work at Repairing the same this Day to begin at 2 Clock this Afternoon. And if not finished to day to work on the same again to Morrow. And it is also Voted and Resolved That Mr John Smith be and he is hereby (specially) appointed to Turn the Water into its Natural Course near Burleys or Stevens's Bridge and that he be also added to the aforesaid Committee.— That the same Committee also determine the Place where a Strong and Substantial Bridge near where the late Bridge Stood shall be Erected and to Estimate the Expence of the same to be Reported to the next Town Meeting.

And it is also Resolved That Col Simeon Thayer and Mr Obadiah Sprague be appointed a Committee for Suitably and Effectually Repairing Burlee's or Stevens's Bridge But that the Planks belonging to either of the late Bridges be first appropriated for Repairing Millbridge and that the Surplus be appropriated for Repairing Burleys or Stevens's Bridge—

Resolved That Capt Paul Allen be appointed to Repair that Part of Tar-Bridge which belongs to this Town and to confer with such person or Committee as shall be appointed by the Town of North Providence so that it may be Jointly Repaired in the Best Manner And in order to defray the Expence of making the aforesaid Repairs it is Resolved that the Town Treasurer be empowered and Directed to hire the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful Silver Money and give his promissory Notes for the same payable on Demand with Interest.——

7

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally warned and assembled at the State House on Wednesday the Twenty First Day of January A.D. 1784.

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq Moderator

Resolved That Col. William Russell, John Innes Clarke Esq. Col. Joseph Nightengale. Col. John Mathewson Col William Barton and Theodore Foster Esq. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee in Behalf of the Town to present the following Address to the Honble Major General Greene.—

Providence Jany 21. 1784

Sir

The Address made you by the General Assembly, at their First Session after your Arrival within this your Native State, afforded us a very Sensible Pleasure, as it expressed the Just and grateful Sentiments we entertain of the Eminent and very essential Services You have Rendered your Country, during the Course of a long and arduous War; in which its most important Interests were so deeply involved, and which has Terminated so Gloriously to the United States—

Although Represented in the General Assembly and of Course included in that Address we cannot reject the Inclination we feel, on this First Visit with which you have honored us, to express the Peculiar Pride and Satisfaction we feel from the High Rank in Military Fame which the World in Justice

A. D. 1784 Jany 21st

Talents has placed a person who was born among us and whose first Military Appointed was born in this State.—

We Beg leave to Renew with great Sincerity the Tribute of Gratitude, and of the most affectionate Regard which has lately been paid you through our Representatives.——

By the Unanimous Order, and in Behalf of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled in Town Meeting, at the State House on Wednesday, January 21. 1784

Theodore Foster Town Clerk

On Thursday Resolved That Messrs John Jenckes, John Brown and John Dexmount be appointed a committee to Estimate the Expences of making the Necessary Repair of the Highway and Erecting a Bridge where the late Mill bridge Stood and to make Report at the next Town Meeting.——

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be Directed to lay before the Town Meeting at the Adjournment of this Meeting a State of the Debts due from the Town——

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday the 31st Day of January Instant at Two Clock P.M. And that the Town Clerk issue his Warrant notifying the Business then to be done Viz. to take into Consideration the Act now pending before the General Assembly entituled "An Act authorizing the Manumission of Negroes &c" and To determine whether the Freemen will give any Instructions to their Representatives in General Assembly thereon.— Also to determine whether the Freemen will now Grant a Tax for discharging the Debts due from the Town and for defraying Town Expences and to what amount and when the same shall be paid. and Also to determine what Measures shall be taken for Effectually Repairing Mill-Bridge and the Highway near the Same.——

At a Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled at the State House pursuant to the last Adjournment from the 21st Instant on the Thirty first Day of January A.D. 1784.—

John Jenckes Esq. Moderator.—

This Meeting not having been warned by Beat of Drum and Doubts arising whether the Acts done by it will be valid in law and the Business being of Consequence it is therefore concluded not to proceed upon the Business at this Time but that the Meeting be now Dissolved and a New One called and warned according to Law.— and it is Dissolved accordingly.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned by Beat of Drum and very fully assembled at the State House on Tuesday the Third Day of February A.D. 1784.

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.

This Meeting having taken into their Serious Consideration a Bill now pending before the Honble the General Assembly entituled "An Act authorizing the Manumission of Negroes and for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery" It is thereupon Resolved by this Meeting that the Representatives of this Town in General Assembly be and they hereby are instructed to use their Endeavours to procure the Bill aforesaid as the same hath been printed and published to be passed into an Act or Law of the Legislature of this State.

It is also Voted and Resolved that the Representatives of this Town be and they hereby are instructed to use their Endeavours to procure the Act called the Test Act and the Several Acts for amending and enforcing the same to be Repealed.—

It is Voted and Resolved that the Sum of Eleven Hundred Pounds Lawful Silver

be granted and allowed to be assessed upon the Poles and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town for Supplying the Town Treasury with Money to discharge the Debts due from the Town and for defraying Town Expenses — And that the same be assessed by the First Day of March next and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the First Day of June next and that the Poll Tax thereon be Six Shillings —

The Committee appointed on the 21st Instant to wait on the Hon.ble Major General Greene now made Report That in pursuance of their Appointment they waited on the General at the Address of the Town Meeting to him and Recd the following Answer Viz,

Gentlemen,

Nothing can be more grateful to our Feelings than Repeated Proofs of Esteem and Affection; — and more Especially when offered by those we hold in High Estimation. Your Polite Address. Flatters both my Pride and Friendship. — It will always afford Me Matter of Triumph to Meet the Confidence of a People so remarkable for Private Virtue and Public Zeal. —

Nor do I wish to Suppress those lively Emotions I feel that my Conduct is thought an Honor to the State, by the Inhabitants in General and my Friends in particular. And it adds no less to my Happiness that my small Services have contributed to the Safety of my Friends than their having some consideration in this great Revolution, the Blessings of which I hope we shall be as Careful to preserve as Zealous to to obtain. I am Gentlemen with the Greatest Respect your Most Obedient Humble Servant

Nath.l Gree

Whereas Mr. John Demount by his Petition in on File hath Represented to this Meeting That by the late destructive Flood he hath Lost his Slaughter House, which Stood adjoining to the Mill-Bridge in said Providence

That the Place where it Stood is inconvenient and unsafe to Rebuild another Slaughter House; and Whereas there is a Vacant lot of Land belonging to the Town of Providence between the Work House Wharff and Job Smiths Land adjoining to Mashapaug River which lot at present is wholly unused and of no Benefit to said Town and upon which lot a Slaughter House might be Built by him the said John with greater Safety and Convenience and therefore praying Liberty to build a Slaughter House on said Vacant lot and to use the same for that purpose for the Ten Years or for such Longer Term as the Freemen shall think fit for which he the said John will pay to the Town Treasurer of said Town Yearly such Reasonable Ground Rent as the Freemen shall agree on and on the Forfeiture of such payment the Grant to be Void." —

And the said Petition having been Twice Read

It is thereupon Resolved that the Overseers of the Poor take the said Petition into their Consideration and that they be empowered to act therein as they shall think best and most for the Interest of the Town. —

Resolved That Mr. John Demount be and he is hereby appointed to procure the Mill-Bridge and the Highway near the same to be Suitably and Effectually Repaired as soon as the Season of the Year will admit on the Cheapest and best Terms. And that Col. Zephaniah Andrews Mr. Benjamin Thurber and Major Charles Keene be a Committee to consult with and advise him Respecting the proper Mode of Repairing the same. And that the same Committee ascertain the Boundaries of the Highway aforesaid and make Enquiry whether the same can be Widened to the Advantage of the Town and Report at the Next Meeting

Resolved that the Surveyors of the Highways be directed immediately to procure their Respective Depositions

to be put in good passable Order. ——

Resolved That the Town Council take into Consideration the Situation of the Work-House and that they put the same under proper Regulations. ——————————

Resolved That the Town Council also Regulate the Assize of Bread as they shall Judge Right and Just ——

Whereas the Town Council of this Town now laid before this Meeting the following Report Viz

"At a Town Council of the Town of Providence holden on the 3d Day of February AD 1784 Present all the Members of the Council. —— Whereas at a Town Meeting holden in Providence on the 26th Day of August Last a Vote was passed Recommending it to the Town Council to take into Consideration the Propriety of Widening the Lane called Watermans Lane leading from the Main-Street to Benefit Street to the Width of 36 or 40 Feet and to enquire upon what Terms the Land necessary for the purpose may be purchased and were Requested to signify in Writing their Sentiments thereon to the Town

This Council therefore now Proceeded upon the said Business and having enquired of Mr Waterman the proprietor of the Lands adjoining to the said Lane they find that he utterly Refuses to Sell or Dispose of any Land for the purpose of Widening said Way and Notwithstanding this Council are of Opinion that Widening the said Way as aforesaid would render the passing there much more convenient and Advantagious to the publick Yet as it cannot be done without Considerable Expence and against the Consent of the Owner of the Land. And as James Angell Esq. hath this Day in person appeared before this Council and Represented that at the time when his Father Sold to Mr William Russell the Lot on which the Baptist Meeting House now Stands he bounded the same on a Thirty Feet Lane between his Land and the said Baptist Meeting House Lot ——

Which

Which Lane the said James Angell Esq hath this Day agreed before this Council shall be laid open for the Use of the Publick as a publick Highway forever and as this Council have agreed to Receive the Same as one of the publick Highways of the Town and as such in future to be considered and kept in order for passing with Teams &c. It is therefore the Opinion of this Council that when the said Watermans Lane is cleared of the Obstructions in the Same by the Buildings thereon and the Highway laid out by said Angell is suitably Repaired it will sufficiently accommodate the publick for the Present — and this Council Recommend that the Town take Measures for Removing the said Buildings as soon as may be —— By Order and on Behalf of said Council

Theodore Foster. C. C —

And the said Report of the said Town Council having been read and duly Considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the same be and it is hereby accepted. —

Resolved That Twelve Shillings be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr William Compton being the amount of his Account for warning and attending Town Meetings &c

Resolved That Three Shillings Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Nathan Warner Junr for Beating the Drum to warn this Meeting ——

TIGHT BINDING

A. D. 1784 April 21st

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally assembled on the 21st Day of April AD 1784

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr Moderator

Pursuant to orders from his Excellency the Governor to the Sheriff of the County after the People had generally assembled the Proclamation of the Definitive Treaty of Peace is publickly Read in open Town Meeting by Benjamin Bourne Esqr

Mr Obadiah Brown being duly Qualified is admitted a Freeman of the Town.—

This being the Anniversary for Electing and choosing Deputies to Represent the Town in General Assembly and the Day appointed by Law for Pulling in the Proxy Votes of the Freeman for General Officers of State and Delegates to Congress. The Gentlemen whose Names are here set down are duly Elected and Chosen Deputies to Represent the Town in General Assembly at the Session to be holden at Newport at the General Election in May next and in all Sessions of the Assembly till the Last Monday in October next. Viz

Col. Joseph Nightingale
Capt Paul Allen
Ebenezer Thompson Esq
John Jenckes Esqr

On the Motion of Mr John Smith Resolved That the Main Street from opposite the House of Benjamin Cushing Junr Esq to the House of Mr Gideon Crawford and from the Parting of the Streets at Doct. Arnolds to the Mill Bridge be paved on the same Principals as the other Pavements have been done in this Town Since the 2d of

March AD 1782 and on the same Terms and Conditions Saving that the Town Treasurer Give his Notes or Interest for the Expence thereof payable in Two Years — And That the said Pavement be done under the Direction of the following Committee Viz Gov. Bowen Joseph Brown Esq. Welcome Arnold Esq. Ebenezer Thompson Esq and Nicholas Brown Esq who are empowered to examine and Audit the Accounts of the Expence thereof and Give orders to the Town Treasurer that he may give his Notes payable as aforesaid. And that Messrs John Jenckes Paul Allen and John Brown be a Committee to make Contracts for procuring said Pavement to be done

Resolved also That a Suitable that a Suitable Pavement be likewise made on the same Terms round the Market House round the Market House — That a Well be dug near the Market House and fixed with a Suitable Pump for Publick Use under the Directions of the same Committee who are Requested also to see that a Number of Trees for Shade and Convenience be also planted in a proper Manner round the Market House.—

On the Application and Request of Capt. Benjamin Hoppen Collector of Taxes It is Voted and Resolved That Mr Peregrine Foster be and he is hereby appointed his Assistant and that he be Equally vested with the same Power and Authority with said Capt Hoppen as a Collector of Taxes — Capt. Hoppen being accountable for the Money by him Collected.—

Resolved That William Wheaton Amos Atwell and James Arnold Esqrs be a Committee to Ascertain the Place where a New Street shall run between the Sugar House lot and the Land of Darius Sessions Esq near the Baptist old Meeting House leading over Mosshasuck River extending from the Main Street over the said River below the Wor[illegible]

TIGHT BINDING

A. D. 1784 April 21.

up the Hill round over the Plain into the Country Road — And also to point out the Place where the proposed new Bridge shall be made across said River and where the Market House shall be built to be Erected with the Money arising from the Lottery Granted at the Last Session of the General Assembly ——

That said Street be laid out by the said Committee and a Report thereof made to be laid before the Town Council and if by them approved that the said Street be Established as a publick Highway of the Town.— And

Whereas it is represented to this Meeting that the Highway between the Dwelling House of Mr Amasa Gray and the Burying Place is crooked and in some Places Too Narrow and that it will greatly Benefit the Publick to have the same Widened: It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the same Committee take the same into Consideration and Report what they shall think best to be done thereon to the next Town Meeting.

Resolved That Seven Shillings and Six pence Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr William Compton for cleaning out the State House and attending Town Meeting.—

Resolved That Fourteen pounds and Seventeen Shillings Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out out of the Town Treasury to Col. William Barton being the Amount of an Account by him Charged against the Town for the Use of Rooms in his House for a French Officer Sick from April 15th to June 10. 1781.——

Whereas Messrs Zephaniah Andrews Benj. Thurber and Charles Keene appointed a Committee on the Third of February Last now laid before this Meeting their Report which was Read and is as follows Viz

"Providence April 6th 1784 —

Agreeable to our Appointment and Orders from the Town We met at the Mill Bridge in order to ascertain the Street

Street Lying on the West side of said Bridge. ——

From the Mill Southward towards Mr Job Smiths in our Judgment the East side of said Street Runs from the Southwest Corner of the Mill South 17° West to the N. W. Corner of Job Smiths Store by which Line we Find the N. W. Corner of Mr Obadiah Sprague's House about one Foot on to said Street and the Southwest Corner of Js about Three Feet on to the Same Street.— The other side of said Street where the Buildings are destroyed by the Late Flood in order to Widen and Straighten the Street in our Judgment it should Run S. 13½° West from the S. E. Corner of Robert Newell's House to the N. E. Corner of Mr Abner Thayer's House.— The Proprietors of the Intermediate Lots are content to give to the publick what the said Line takes off from their said Lots for the purpose of Widening the said Street. Nevertheless Messrs Elisha and Smith Brown having a Barn with a Cellar under the Same which they must be under a Necessity to Move at about the Expence of Six pounds which in our Opinion would be but Reasonable to be paid by the Town for which Sum if Granted they will Obligate themselves to move the Barn off within Three Months from the 20th Day of April 1784.

Zeph.ª Andrews
Benj.ª Thurber
Charles Keene."—

And the said Report having been duly considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the same be and it is hereby accepted and Received and that the said Sum of Six pounds Lawful Silver Money be allowed be allowed and paid to said Elisha Brown and Smith Brown on the Conditions mentioned in said Report.— —— ——

There are Ninety Three Proxy Votes this Day taken and Sealed up in open Town Meeting for his Excellency William Greene Esq as Governor and for the Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esq as Deputy Governor.—

[N.B. There is but one Pointed Poor this Year, in the State— Such another Instance hath not been for 10 Ten Years past.—]

The Meeting Dissolved

TIGHT BINDING

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A.D. 1784 June 7th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally assembled at the State House in said Providence on Monday the Seventh Day of June AD 1784. being the Anniversary Election of Town officers the Gentlemen hereafter named were chosen to the Offices Respectively ascribed to their Names, Viz,

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.

Town-Clerk Theodore Foster

Town-Council { Ebenezer Thompson Esq. President. — Capt Paul Allen Samuel Butler Esq. Mr Aaron Mason, Capt. Richard Jackson and Capt. Nicholas Power.

Town-Serjeant Mr William Compton

Town-Treasurer James Arnold Esq.

Town-Auditt { Col. Zephaniah Andrews, Capt. John Updike and Capt. Lewis Peck.

Constables { Messrs John. P. Jones, Samuel Thurber 4th John Pelley, James Hammond Edward Knowles David Martin and John Jones.

Sealer of Weights and Measures Mr Jacob Whitman

Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor. { Nathaniel Wheaton Esq. Mr Nathan Waterman and Joseph Martin Esq.

Surveyors of Joists and Boards { Mr Christopher Arnold, Capt. Elijah Bacon Messrs Jonathan Hammon John Smith Comfort Wheaton and Gershom Carpenter

Surveyors of Highways { Col. Zephaniah Andrews, Capt. Paul Allen Messrs Dexter Brown Thomas Bennet, Joseph Comstock Major John Whipple

Guagers of Casks. { Messrs Samuel Jackson, Ezek Brown, Ezek Eddy and Young Jonathan Jenkins Samuel Weeden and John Burrough

Vendue Master and Collector of Sales { Capt. Benjamin Hopper He having agreed with this Meeting that he will collect all the Taxes assessed on this Town during the Year at three per Cent.

Packers of Beef and Pork { Messrs Samuel Jackson, Joseph Doyle Nathan Arnold and Joseph Field

Corders of Wood { Messrs Samuel Black John Pelley Recompence Healey, William Wheaton Junr Joseph Doyle James Field and Joseph Martin

Overseer of the Poor House — James Black Esq.

Pound Keepers — Messrs Charles Holden and John Pelley.

To Value Estates when Disputed in Voting. { Arthur Fenner Junr Esq. Mr Samuel Black and John Bowen Esq.

Fence Viewers. { Messrs Samuel Thurber Junr Capt. John Field Major Charles Keene and Mr Christopher Arnold

Presidents of the Firewards. { Hon. Jabez Bowen Esq. Joseph Brown and Joseph Martin Esqrs

Fire-Wards { Nicholas Brown Esq. Col. Joseph Nightingale Col. Amos Atwell Col. Daniel Tillinghast Mr Job Smith John Foster Esq. Major Robert Taylor Mr Samuel Thurber Junr and James Arnold Esq.

Fire Engine Company No. 1 near the Bridge { Messrs Nathan Angell Gershom Carpenter John J. Clark Esq. Col. Joseph Nightingale John Brown Esq. James Arnold Esq. Benner Jun Esq. Welcome Arnold Esq. Thomas Bennet Mr John White Col. Knight Dexter and Mr Edward Spalding

Fire Engine Company No. 2 at the North-End { Col. Simon Thayer. George Olney Esq. Mr Alexander Metcalf Capt Nathaniel Abbot Messrs James Marston Sanders Pitman John Burrough James Wheaton Philip Martin and John Whipple.

A. D. 1784 June 7th

Fire Engine Company No 3 on the High side of the River — Ed. John Matthewson, Ed. Zephaniah Andrews Mr. Daniel Jackson, James Black Esq. Mr Asa Franklin Capt. Elijah Bacon, Capt. Joseph Cooke Capt. James Burrell Capt Paul Allen, Mr. Samuel Black Capt. Zephaniah Brown and Capt. Benjamin Hoppen. —

Committee to Order when and where Goods shall be Removed in Case of Fire — Col. Barzillai Richmond Dr. Ephraim Bowen Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Mr. Obadiah Sprague Mr. Samuel Thurber Jun. and Capt Henry Bacon

To Remove or Pull down House in Case of Fire. — Joseph Martin Esq. Mr. Jonathan Hammond Capt Comfort Wheaton, Capt. James Shew Mr. Jethro Smith Martin Seamans Esq. Mr Oliver Carpenter and Mr. John Carlile.

Field-Drivers — Capt. Job Sweeting Mr. Christopher Arnold John Jones, David Burt, Major Charles Rhodes Michael Field and Reuben Potter. —

Sealer of Leather — Samuel Butler Esq.

Scavengers — Messrs. Nathan Angell Samuel Black Joseph Crawford Sanders Pitman and Peater Brown.

Town-Cryer — Mr. Daniel Branch

Overseers of the Work House — Nathaniel Wheaton Esq. Mr. Nathan Waterman and Joseph Martin Esq.

Overseer of Mysoset Bridge — James Arnold Esq.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes Gangways and Common of the Town — Joseph Brown Esq. Benjamin Man Esq. Major Charles Keene, Col. Zephaniah Andrews Mr. Obadiah Sprague Capt Christopher Sheldon and Samuel Butler Esq.

Resolved That Doct. Ephraim Bowen James Arnold Arthur Fenner Jun. and Nicholas Brown Esq. be a Committee to have the Care and Oversight and Command of the Market House and to put the same under such Regulations as they shall Judge best. — That the same Committee have the Power of Establishing proper Regulations Respecting Trucks Carts Carriages &c frequenting the Market House Parade and to point out

a proper Place where the Trucks Carriages &c shall rendevous so that they may not incommode the Market House Parade. —

Resolved That James Arnold Esq. be and he is hereby appointed and empowered to determine when Weybosset Bridge may be taken up for the Passage of Vessels built above it and that it be not taken up without his Consent and not without a suitable Boat being furnished for Transporting passengers who shall wish to Cross the River while the Bridge is up

Resolved That Twenty Dollars be allowed and paid to Joseph Whittemore out of the Town Treasury provided he shall faithfully Ring the Bell as heretofore at Sunrise Noon and 9 Clock in the Evening every Day for one Year from this Time. —

On the Application and Request of Capt. Benjamin Hoppen after his Appointment as Vendue Master and Collector of Taxes as aforesaid It is Voted and Resolved That Peregrine Foster Esq. be and he is hereby Elected and Chosen Assistant or Deputy Collector of Taxes Equally with him and that he be Equally Vested with the Powers and Authorities appertaining to that Office. — on their giving Bond according to Law. —

Resolved That if either of the persons this Day chosen Constables as aforesaid shall Refuse to Officiate in the Office of Constable when legally called upon that the person or persons so Refusing shall be prosecuted for the Fine accruing on such Refusal according to Law. —

Resolved That Benoni Pearce Esq. Nathaniel Wheaton Esq. Capt John Mumford and Capt. Christopher Sheldon be added to the Committee appointed on the Second Day of June Last for Ascertaining and Ascertaining the Bounds of the Highway from the West End of Westminster Street to the Brook running across the Road by Col. Christopher Olney's and that either Three of them be empowered to act in this Business. — and make Report to the Town Council —

Whereas Messrs. Brown Rogers and Brown have exhibited to this Meeting an Account by them charged against the Town for their Record Book for the Use of the Town Clerk's Office and the said Account having been duly Considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That Fourteen Shillings and Sixpence Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to the said Brown Rogers and Brown. —

Right of Branch &c

TIGHT BINDING

A.D. 1784 June 7th.

Resolved That the Committee lately appointed to Revise Benefit Street be also now appointed with John Jenckes Esq.r a Committee to Revise and ascertain the Width and Boundaries of the Highway from where the Highway parts from that leading over Mill-Bridge to Meeshawn's Lane.— That they also ascertain the Boundaries of the Burying Place and Lay out in and Round the Same proper Lanes or Avenues for passing in and through the Same not to be filled up - and to Estimate the Expence of Walling in the said Burying Place and Report the Whole to the Town Meeting as soon as may be.——

The Following Gentlemen are Duly drawn according to Law to Serve as Jurors at the Hon.ble the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence in and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday of June Instant Viz.

Edward Thurber Esq.r Grand-Juror
Col. Daniel Tillinghast Petit Juror

The Committee appointed on the 21.st Day of April last to take into Consideration the propriety and Expediency of Straightening and Widening the Highway between the Dwelling House of Amasa Gray and the Burying Place made Report as on File — Which Report is Referred for further Consideration. —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment and also duly warned according to Law at the State House in said Providence on the Twenty First Day of June A.D. 1784.—

The Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esq.r Moderator

Capt. John Tillinghast having exhibited to this Meeting an account charged against him by Doct.r William Bowen and Represented that he is called upon for the Payment thereof by said Doct.r Bowen to whom he is liable therefor for Medicines and Attendance furnished for one Eccleston a Briton by Birth who had served some Years in the American Navy and had been taken prisoner by the British and come to Providence in a Cartel Vessel Sick and Died in this Town in the Year 1782 And as it appears to this Meeting that the Reasonable Charges which accrued from the Sickness of the said Eccleston ought to be defrayed by the Publick at Large It is therefore Voted and Resolved that the said Account be Referred to the Town Council — That the Town Council examine the said Account and Charges and Certify what they shall find due to the said Doct.r Bowen on said Account and thereupon deliver the same to the Representatives of the Town in General Assembly who are hereby directed to endeavour to procure Payment of the same from the General Treasury together with the other Charges which have accrued to the Town on Account of the said Eccleston.——

Mr. Rufus Sprague is duly Elected and chosen a Constable for this Town to serve till the annual Election in June next and hath now taken his Engagement accordingly in open Town Meeting.——

Whereas Mr. Walker Harding hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town amounting to Seven pounds Ten Shillings and Eleven pence Lawful Money for making a Book Case and finding Materials therefor for the Town Clerks Office It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the said Account be Referred to the Town Auditt that they examine the same and draw an Order on the Town Treasury for the Payment of so much thereof as they shall find Justly and Reasonably charged.

Whereas Mr. Benjamin West hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for his Services as one of a Committee and making a Plat of the Tract of Land claimed by Richard Brown and the said Account having been duly considered It is Voted and Resolved that the amount thereof being Twenty Four Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury.——

Res

A.D. 1784 June 21st

Resolved That the Town Clerk be and he is hereby appointed to procure to be duly executed a Deed from Mr. Richard Brown of the small lot of land this Day purchased of him by this Meeting — That the said Deed be taken in the Name of the Town Treasurer for the Use of the Town for the Purpose of Widening the Highway and on the said Deed being executed that the Town Clerk that the Town Clerk draw an Order on the Town Treasurer for the Payment of the Sum of Fourteen pounds and Five Shillings to the said Richard Brown the purchase Money for the said Land. ——

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby appointed and Directed to sell the Plank and Materials belonging to the Town used in Constructing the Temporary Bridge near the Work House ——— or Dispose of the same for the Best Interest of the Town. ——

The Committee appointed on the Fourth Day of June A.D. 1784 to make a Plat of a Small Piece of land at the Meeting of the Streets on Constitution Hill owned by Mr. Richard Brown and to enquire on what Terms the same could be purchased, made Report as on File which is accepted and ordered to be Recorded. —

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to prosecute those Persons who have been chosen Constables for the present Year and who shall not take their Engagements according to Law within Ten Days from this Time and that the Town Treasurer before the Expiration of that Time Request the said Persons to take their said Engagements. —

Resolved That the Committee appointed to Resurvey the Main Street from Doct. Arnold's Corner to Herrenden's Lane be also appointed with Major Charles Keene to Revise and ascertain the Boundaries of the Gangway which hath been reported as Covered or encroached upon by a Barn owned by Capt. Nehemiah Sweet. ———

Resolved That Mr. Benjamin Comstock be added to the Committee for Running the Road by the old Baptist Meeting House and to ascertain and point out a Place suitable for erecting a Slaughter House for Mr. John Benount. —

TIGHT BINDING

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in Providence on the Last Tuesday of August A.D. 1784 being the 31st Day of said Month

The Honble David Howell Esq Moderator

The following Gentlemen are duly Elected and Chosen Deputies to Represent this Town in the General Assembly at their Session to be holden at Providence on the Last Monday of October next and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the General Election in May next

Col Joseph Nightingale
John Jenckes Esq
Capt Paul Allen
Major Charles Keene

On the Motion and Application of Col. Semeon Thayer it is Voted and Resolved That the said Semeon Thayer and such of the Freemen and Inhabitants of the Town as shall choose to undertake with him have Liberty to dig and make a Well on the Publick Land at or near the Lot lately purchased by the Town of Richard Brown in the Northerly part of the Town — To be made in such Place and in such Manner as shall be directed by the following Committee Ebenezer Thompson John Brown and David Howell Esqrs — Which Privilege is freely and fully Granted on the following Conditions Viz, That after the said Well is made it shall be suitably ..... Secured and be kept in Good Order and Repair with a Good Pump and Iron Bason pending by Chains thereto at the Expence of the persons who shall make the said Well and their Heirs and Assigns — And that the said Well be free for the Use of any of the Inhabitants of the Town or others who may have Occasion of Water there and that the whole be done without any Expence to the Town and that the Streets Adjacent be levelled by the Earth dug out from said Well as shall be directed by the same Committee. ——

Whereas it is necessary that a Suitable Bank of Earth be placed against the Pavement now making in Mill Street and it hath been proposed to let out the publick Land near the Mill [illegible] and that the Rent arising therefrom be appropriated for defraying

TIGHT BINDING

A. D. 1784 Aug. 31st

Expences of making the said Bank

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the Committee appointed to Superintend the said Pavement Lease out for one Year the Town's Land Southward of the Steps near the Mill Bridge and appropriate the Rents arising therefrom to the aforesaid Purpose if on Consideration of the Circumstances they shall think best.—

Whereas the Legislature of this State have found it necessary to levy and collect an Impost of Two and an Half per Cent on imported Goods for discharging part of this States Debt:

Resolved Unanimously as the Sense of this Meeting That it is the Duty of every Freemen and Inhabitant of the Town to contribute their best Endeavours to Carry into Execution the Acts of the Legislature for Collecting the said Impost and that the Freemen of this Town will give their utmost Aid and Assistance to detect and to bring to Condign Punishment every person who shall be Guilty of Offending against the said Acts: and will support and hold in Estimation all persons informing of Breaches thereof—and that this Resolve be published in the Providence Newspapers.—

Whereas the South District of the Streets and Highways now under the Care of Thomas Bennet is large and the said Bennet proposing to have the same divided and Moses Brown agreeing to take Charge of all the Streets and Lanes from the South Side of Waterman's Lane to the South Side of the Court House inclusive and all the Lanes within an east & line from thence if he be living and to advance the Monies for Repairing the same without Interest Six Months. He is hereby appointed to have the Care thereof during that Term, his account to be audited as other Accounts against the Town Are and to be paid by the Treasurer out of the next Tax if convenient if not, to give his note payable with Interest after Six Months from the Advance.—

Messrs Samuel Clarke, Edward Taylor and Philip Martin are duly Elected and Chosen Constables for this Town for the Ensuing of the Year.—

Pavement round Market to be paid for within a Year

Committee to Report form of Treasurers Notes for Pavement

Jurors drawn

Stocks and Whipping post to be provided.

Adjournment.

Resolved That Col Levi Hall be and he is hereby appointed a Member of the Engine Company No. 2 in the Room of Mr. George Olney who Resigns.—

Whereas Messrs Robert Newell Stephen Randall and Gideon Brown have laid before this Meeting propositions in Writing for opening a New Highway through their Land in the Northerly part of the Town: It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That John Brown Welcome Arnold and Ebenezer Thompson Esqrs be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to take the said Propositions into Consideration and Report what they shall Judge best to be done by the Town thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Whereas Doctr Ephraim Bowen hath laid before this Meeting Regulations proposed Respecting the Market House, Parade &c It is thereupon Resolved That the same be Referred to the Committee appointed on the first Monday of June last to Superintend the Market House and that the said Committee be Requested to Lay before this Meeting at the Adjournment such Regulations as they shall Judge best to be entered into by the Town.—

Resolved That the Expence of the Pavement around the Market House be paid by the Town within one Year and that the said Pavement be done under the special Direction of Nicholas Brown Esqr.———

Resolved That Mr Moses Brown with the Town Treasurer be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Report the best Manner and Form of issuing the Treasurers Notes for what is or will become due from the Town in Consequence of the Pavements of the Streets now making or lately made

Mr Samuel Butler Junr as Grand Juror and Mr William Potter, as Petit Jurors, are duly drawn to Serve at the Hon[ble] the Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden at Providence in and for the County of Providence on the third first Monday of September next

Resolved that the Town Treasurer be Directed to Erect a Pair of Stocks and Whipping post and that he furnish a Suitable Number of Staves for the Constables to walk with, on proper Occasions.—

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Thursday the 7th Day of September next at 2 o'Clock P M.———

A.D. 1784 Sept. 7th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment and legally assembled on the Seventh Day of September AD. 1784.

The Hon.ble David Howell Esq. Moderator—

The Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to take into Consideration the Propoption of Messrs Robert Stewell Stephen Randall and Gideon Brown and to Report thereon have now made Report which being Read and Debated is ordered to lay for Consideration till some future Time.

Mr Philip Martin who was chosen a Constable for this Town having appeared before this Meeting and Represented that he is not a Freeholder in this Town it is thereupon Resolved That the said Philip Martin be excused from Serving as Constable.—

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday the Eighteenth Day of September Instant at Two O Clock P.M and that the Town clerk issue his Warrant to warn the Freemen then to Meet at the State House then and there to determine whether the Freemen will Grant or Order a Tax to be levied soon for discharging and paying one Half of all the Monies now due from the Town for the Pavements which have been made or will be made the present Year and to Act thereon as shall be thought best and to Transact any other Business which may be necessary.—

A.D. 1784 Sept.r 18.th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment and Warrant and legally assembled on the 18.th Day of September A.D. 1784.

Samuel Butler Esq.r Moderator

But Few of the Freemen attending Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Monday next at 3 Oclock P.M and that the Town Clerk issue his Warrant to warn the Freemen then to Meet to assess a Tax as ordered at the last Meeting.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment and Legally assembled on the 20.th Day of September AD. 1784.

Hon.ble John Brown Esq.r Moderator

Whereas Representation is made to this Meeting that there is Great Necessity of immediately repairing the Highway from the North End of the Northermost Pavement in the Town as far northward as the Southerm part of the Estate lately owned by the Heirs of Elisha Robenson Deceasd

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That Major John Whipple Surveyor of that Distrcit of the Highways be and he is hereby directed to procure the said Highway above described to be repaired so as to make the same Commodiously for the approaching Winter Season under the Direction of Governor Bowen Joseph Brown Welcome Arnold Ebenezer Thompson and Welcome Arnold Esq.rs

It is Voted and Resolved by this Town Meeting that no Trucks, Empty Sleds Carts or other Carriages shall be permitted to Stop Loiter or make a Stand in the Street or on the Parade near the Market House But may take their Stand on the West side of the Bridge on the Town's Land or any of the large Gangways belonging to the Town on the Penalty of Six Shillings Lawful Money for every Breach of this Act.—

And it is further Resolved That for the Future no person from and after the First Monday of October next shall carry on or Set up the Trucking Business for Hire until he or they have applied to the Town Council of the Town of Providence for Licence to carry on said Business who are hereby directed to Grant Licences to as many persons as they shall think proper, and also to have their Trucks Numbered and their Fairs ascertained by said Council to and from the different parts of the Town That Justice may be done to the Employer and employed and That no Truckman Ride on his Trucks in the Street in the Compact part of the Town of Providence

A.D. 1784 Sept.r 20.th

or leave them alone or Penally of paying to the Town Treasurer three Shillings lawful Money as a Fine for every Offence o

And Whereas Sundry persons make it a Business to Open Oysters Raw and have of late carried on said Business in the Street and in the Night with Lighted Candles and Lanthorns whereby there is a Great Resort of People of many Descriptions and Offer in a Tumultuous Manner to the Great Disturbance of the Inhabitants of said Town and hath a Tendency to keep Children and Servants out at unseasonable Times To Remedy which

Be it Resolved by this Town Meeting that for the Future no person shall on any pretence whatever Open any Oysters in any place near the Market House excepting at the West End of said Market House or open any Oysters there after the Usual Time of Candle lighting. And also that all the Shells shall be cleared away every Night under the Penalty of Forfeiting Six Shillings Lawful Money

And it is further Resolved That no Fish or Lobsters shall be sold for the Future in or near the Market House But at the West End of the Market House and so Northerly in a Range with the West End of said House as far as the Bridge Provided Nevertheless that no person is to be excluded from carrying Fish or Lobsters through the Streets in Carts or Wheel Barrows for Sale . .

And it is further Voted and Resolved That all Forfeitures accruing in Consequence of this Act may be Recovered by Action Bill Plaint or Information before any one Justice of the Peace of this Town. ——

Whereas the Town Council of Cranston have lately laid out a Road from near the Dwelling House of Mr John Paine in said Cranston towards Providence in a Straight Course as far as to the Boundary Line of this Town and have Requested that it may be laid out within this Town in the same Course till it strikes the publick Highway leading to East Greenwich: And as laying out this Road will greatly Benefit the Publick by Opening

Opening a Way to East Greenwich considerably nearer and better than that now Travelled

It is therefore Voted and Resolved as the Opinion of this Meeting that it will advisable to lay out the said Road as aforesaid and it is hereby Recommended to the Town Council to lay open the same according to Law. —

Whereas this Town hath lately been and is at Great Expence in Repairing the Damages done to the Public Roads within this Town by the Floods last Winter and for Paving the Streets pursuant to Votes heretofore passed — It is therefore Voted and Resolved That a Sufficient Number of Blank Notes be printed with Suitable Corresponding Cyphers in a Book to be lodged as Checks &c. and that there be 200 Notes of Five Dollars Each 150 of Eight Dollars and One Hundred and Fifteen of Ten Dollars, in the following Form

"For Paving the Streets &c

By Vertue of an Act of the Town of Providence passed the Twentieth Day of September 1784 I promise to pay to or Bearer Silver Dollars within Two Years from the Date hereof with Interest at Six per Cent until paid. Witness my Hand this Day of in the Year of our LORD 1784

Town Treasurer

That the Notes be given out as soon as the Work is Compleated or the Undertakers have their Accounts Settled and have Orders for the Same. ——

Whereas Mr William Compton hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Services in Warning and attending Town Meetings &c and the said Account having been duly Considered it is thereon Voted and Resolved That the amount thereof being Twenty Four Shillings lawful Money be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury. —

The following persons having purchased Real Estates in Providence are now nominated and propounded to be admitted as Freemen. Viz, William Larned, John Reynolds, Benjamin Reynolds, William Snow, Jonathan Greene, Samuel Currie, Peleg Brown, Job Sheldon, John Read, Benjamin Turpin, Mary Shaggleford and Turpin Smith. —

The Meeting Dissolved. —

A.D. 1784 Decr. 18th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providen on the 18th Day of December A.D. 1784 —

Ebenezer Thompson Esqr Moderator

Capt Lewis Peck as Grand-Juror and Mr Joseph Russel as Petet Juror are duly drawn to serve at the Honorable the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday of December Instant. —

A.D. 1785 March 18th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled on the 18th Day of March A.D. 1785 —

Doct Ephraim Bowen Moderator

Mr John Nichols as Grand-Juror and Capt. Zephaniah Brown as Petit Juror are duly drawen to serve at the Honorable the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday of March Instant. —

A.D. 1785 April 20:

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the State House in said Providence on Wednesday the 20th Day of April A.D. 1785

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq Moderator

This being the Anniversary for Electing and Choosing Deputies to Represent the Town in General Assembly and the Day appointed by Law for putting the Proxy Votes of the Freemen for General Officers of State and Delegates to Congress. The Gentlemen whose Names are hereafter mentioned are duly Elected and Chosen Deputies to Represent the Town on General Assembly at the Session to be holden at Newport at the General Election in May next and in All Sessions of the Assembly until the Last Monday in October next Viz

John Jenckes Esqr
Capt Paul Allen
Major Charles Keene
Lieut. Jeremiah Olney —

Whereas it is represented to this Meeting that the Tower Mill in the Town of Provid is now out of Repair and that it is necessary some Measures should be adopted by the Town in order that the Design of the original Grant of the Land for a Mill for the Benefit of the Town may be duly answered

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That Mr Samuel Thurber Junr Major Charles Keene and Mr Job Smith be a Committee to Enquire on what Terms the Original Grant was made and how the present Possessors hold the Land where the said Mill is Erected and to Report the same together with their Openion what is proper to be done by the Town respecting the same and in Case that they shall find it incumbent on the present Owner of said Mill to Repair the same that the said Committee request them to do it without Delay. —

The Education of Children and Youth being an Object of the Greatest Importance in Society and Requiring the particular Attention of every well Regulated Community; in Order therefore that the Several Schools in this Town may be put on such a Footing as shall be most Beneficial It is Voted and Resolved That the Revd Mr President Manning Mr Enos Fitchcock Mr Joseph Snow Mr Thomas Fitch Olivet Hon. Jabez Bowen Esqr Doctr Thomas Truman Nicholas Brown Brown Esq. John Innes Clarke Esqr and Mr Moses Brown be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draw up such a Plan of Education and for the Government of the Several Schools in this Town as they shall Judge most Suitable for answering the Important purposes of their Institution in promoting the Interest of Religion Vertue and Knowledge and that the said Committee be requested to attend to this Important and necessary Business as soon as may be and make Report to the next Town Meeting. —

Messrs Christopher Arnold and others having preferred a Petition to this Meeting for Streightening the Main Street be in the Southerly part of the Town near Mr John Nashes House It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that that the said Petition be Received and Referred to the Town Council and that they act thereon as they shall think best. —

Resolved That the Town Clerk insert in the Warrant for Warning the Annual Meeting in June a Clause for the Freemen to Consider whether a Tax shall be then grant

Resolved that the Committee herein for appointed to lease out a Lot of Land near Mill Bridge to Mr Mat for the Use of the Hay Scales be further Empowered to lay

A.D. 1785 April 20th

for such longer Time as shall be necessary to procure such a Bank as is Suitable and Necessary to be made on the said Lot to answer the purposes mentioned in the former Vote —

Resolved That Welcome Arnold Zephaniah Andrews and Theodore Foster Esqrs be a Committee to Revise the Laws and Regulations of the Town Respecting the Market Market House Trucks &c and to make Report as soon as may be —

Messrs William Larned and Israel Davis being duly Qualified are admitted Freemen of the Town. —

Messrs Peleg Brown, Henry Bowen, Samuel Proud, William Peck, Hezekiah Wheeler and Archibald Salisbury are propounded as Freemen. —

107 Proxy-Votes are Received and Sealed up to be open Town Meeting for his Excellency William Greene Esqr as Governor

105 Proxy-Votes for Honble Jabez Bowen Esq as Deputy Govr

A.D. 1785 June 6th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the State House on the 6th Day of June AD. 1785. —

The Hon. Jabez Bowen Esqr Moderator

This being the Anniversary Election of Town Officers for the Year Ensuing; the Gentleman hereafter mentioned are duly Elected and Chosen to the Offices respectively ascribed to their Names Viz

Town Clerk Theodore Foster Esqr

Town Council { Ebenezer Thompson Esqr President Capt Paul Allen Samuel Butler Esqr Mr Aaron Mason Mr Richard Jackson & Capt Nathl Thos Power —

Town Serjeant Mr Henry Bowen —

Town Treasurer James Arnold Esq

Town Audit { Capt John Updike Capt Lewis Peck and Mr Thomas Jones

Constables — { Mr William Compton Mr John Petley Mr John Jones, Mr Thomas Field Mr Robert Newell and Mr Jeremiah Jenckes —

Sealer of Weights and Measures Mr Jacob Whitman

Masters of Rates and Overseers of the Poor — { Nathaniel Wheaton Esqr Mr Nathan Waterman and Capt Lewis Peck

Surveyors of Joists and Boards — { Mr Christopher Arnold Capt Elijah Bacon Messrs Jonathan Hammon, Jehu Smith Comfort Wheaton and Gershom Carpenter —

Surveyors of Highways — { Col Zephaniah Andrews, Capt Paul Allen Messrs Peater Brown, Thomas Bennet Joseph Comstock and Major John Whipple —

Gaugers of Cask { Messrs Samuel Jackson, Ebenezer Brown Ebenezer Eddy Archibald Young Jonathan Jenkins Samuel Wilder John Burroughs and Joseph Congdon —

Vendue Master and Collector of Taxes { Capt Benjamin Hopper on the same Terms as last Year

Assistant Collector of Taxes — { Peregrine Foster Esqr

Packers of Beef & Pork { Messrs Samuel Jackson Nathan Arnold Joseph Field William Page, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, and William Billings —

Corders of Wood — { Joseph Lawrence, John Viall, Joan Pelter James Field Joan Jones and John Lapsell

Overseer of the Pest-House — James Black Esqr

Pound-Keepers — { Messrs Charles Holden and John Petley

To Value Estates when disputed in Voting — { Arthur Fenner Junr Esqr Mr Samuel Slack and John Brown Esqr

Foster

A.D. 1785 June 6th

Fence Veiwers — Mr. Samuel Thurber Junr. Capn John Field Major Charles Keene and Mr. Christopher Arnold

Presidents of the Firewards — Hon. Jabez Bowen Esqr. Hon. John Brown Esqr. and Joseph Martin Esq

Fire-Wards — Nicholas Brown Esqr. Col. Joseph Nightingale, Col. Amos Atwell, Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Mr. Job Smith Hon. John Foster Esq Major Robert Taylor Mr. Samuel Thurber Junr. and James Arnold Esqr.

Fire-Engine Company No. 1 near the Bridge. — Messrs. Nathan Angell, Gershom Carpenter, John J. Clarke Esq. Col. Joseph Nightingale Hon. John Brown Esqr. James Arnold Esq. Arthur Fenner Junr. Esqr. Welcome Arnold Esqr. Mr. Thomas Bennet Mr. John White Col. Knight Dexter and Mr. Edward Spaulding —

Fire Engine Company No. 2 at the North End. — Col. Simeon Thayer, Col. Levi Hall Mr. Michael Metcalf Capt. Nehemiah Jewett Messrs. Silvanus Martin, Sanders Pitman John Dumount, James Wheaton Philip Martin and Major John Whipple —

Fire Engine Company No. 3 on the West side of the River. — Col. John Mathewson, Col. Zephaniah Andrews, Mr. Daniel Jackson, James Black Esqr. Capt. Asa Franklin Capt. Elijah Bacon, Capt. Joseph Cook Capt. John Burrell, Capt. Paul Allen Mr. Samuel Black Capt. Zephaniah Brown and Capt. Benjamin Hoppen. —

Persons —

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be Removed in Case of Fire ..... — Col. Barzellai Richmond, Doct. Ephraim Bowen, Capt. Christopher Sheldon Mr. Obadiah Sprague Mr. Samuel Thurber Junr. and Capt. Henry Bacon .....

To remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire — Joseph Martin Esqr. Mr. Jonathan Hammon Capt. Comfort Wheaton Capt. James Snow Mr. Jehu Smith Martin Seamans Esqr. Messrs. Oliver Carpenter & John Carlile

Field-Drivers — Capt. Job Sweeting Messrs. Christopher Arnold John Jones David Burr Reuben Potter Junr. and Jonathan Fowle

Sealer of Leather ..... Samuel Butler Esqr.

Scavengers — Nathan Angell Samuel Black Joseph Crawford Sanders Pitman Dexter Brown and Capt. Job Sweeting. —

Overseers of the Work-House — Nathaniel Wheaton Esqr. Mr. Nathan Waterman and Joseph Martin Esqr.

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge — James Arnold Esqr.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets Highways Lanes Gangways and Commons of the Town — Joseph Brown Esqr. Benjamin Mann Esqr. Major Charles Keene Col. Zephaniah Andrews Mr. Obadiah Sprague Capt. Christopher Sheldon Samuel Butler Esqr. and Moses Brown ..

It is Voted and Resolved That Mr. Peregrine Foster be and he is hereby appointed Assistant Collector of Taxes with Capt. Benjamin Hoppen Equally Vested with him with all the same Powers and Authorities appertaining to that Office on Giving Bond. —

Pursuant to the Power and Authority Granted to the Town by an Act of the General Assembly at Last May Sessions It is Voted and Resolved That for the Future the Keeper Master of the Town of Providence be bound and held to pay into the Town Treasury for the Use of the Town, for the Privilege of [illegible]

A. D. 1785 June 6th

at and after the Rate of Four per Cent. upon the amount of all Goods Merchandize Effects and Things, which shall be him sold at publick Auction in this Town; Saving and excepting Goods and Effects sold by Executors or Administrators per Juant to the Authority vested in them from holding those Offices respectively which are to remain as heretofore: That he shall account Regularly Every Month with the Town Treasurer for the same, and pay the same into the Town Treasury as it shall become due Monthly; and that he give Bond accordingly in the Sum of £5000 with Sureties satisfactory to the Treasurer

It is also Voted and Resolved That the Vendue Master be allowed Two and an half per Cent. Commissions on all Goods Merchandize Effects and Things coming within the aforesaid Description by him sold as aforesaid, in addition to the said Four per Cent. charged him as aforesaid. ——

It is Voted and Resolved That a Tax of Twelve Hundred Pounds Lawful Silver Money be granted by this Meeting to be Levied on the Poles and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town for Discharging the Debts due from the Town and for defraying incidental Charges of the Town:— That the same be assessed by the 10th Day of July next and Collected and paid into the Town Treasury by the First Day of October next. - and that the Pole Tax therein be Eight Shillings.

And it is also Voted and Resolved That in Case any person assessed in the said Tax shall not have paid his Tax by the said First Day of October next he shall pay Interest on the same to the Collector and that the Collector shall also pay Interest for all Money which shall be due on said Tax from the said First Day of October next till paid. ——

It is Voted and Resolved That the Town Treasurer be directed to pay and Discharge the Debt due from the Town for the Pavements and Improvements on the Market House Parade. —

It is Voted and Resolved That John Jenckes Esq. be added in the Place of Gov. Cooke

to the Committee appointed on the 8th Day of July AD 1782 for ascertaining the Limits to which the Inhabitants of the Town shall be confined in Building Wharves Creating Stores be into and over the Water on both sides of the River and that said Committee be Requested to proceed upon the Business as soon as may be and that they also ascertain the said Limits as far Southward as the Crook of the Channel. ——

Resolved That the Committee appointed to Revise the Boundaries of the Streets be in the Northward Part of the Town be Empowered to Exchange Land with those who have made Encroachments on the Burying Place for other Land or to agree for Pecuniary Compensation. —

Resolved That one Quarter part of the Town Treasurers Notes given for the Pavements in the Main Street Northward of Meeting Street be Discharged out of the Tax this Day granted —

Resolved That John Brown, John Jenckes and Welcome Arnold Esqrs. be a Committee to look out a Suitable Place for Erecting a Pest-House for the Small Pox — To Enquire on what Terms such Place can be procured and the Expence which will accrue in Erecting a Suitable Building for the Purpose

The following Persons are duly drawn Jurors to serve at the Honble the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence in and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday of June Instant Viz

Mr. Joseph Fuller Grand Juror
Mr. William Tyler Petit Juror. —

Resolved That Six Pounds Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Joseph Whitemore for his Services in Ringing the Bell the Last Year —

Whereas Mr. William Compton hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Services as Sergeant and the said being duly Considered Resolved That the Amount thereof being Shillings be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury. ——

Resolved that this Meeting be Adjourned to the Day of July next at 2 Clock P.M.

N.B. This Meeting for through a sufficient Number of Freemen

A. D. 1785 July 29th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and holden on the 29th Day of July A.D. 1785

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr Moderator

Be it Remembered That Edward Thurber Esq. in open Town Meeting now agreed to pay One Half the Expence of building and making the Drain or Passage for the Water now on passing across the Street near his Shop and that himself his Heirs and Assigns shall and will keep the same in good Repair forever hereafter. after the same shall be finished as now proposed in Consideration of himself his Heirs and Assigns being permitted to improve a small Strip of Land as mentioned and described in the Report of the Committee this Day Red ascertaining the Boundaries of the Streets in the Northerly part of the Town. —

Whereas it will be greatly to the Advantage of the Publick to Widen the Road or Highway leading down the Burying Place Hill towards Boston near North Providence Line and to lay out the Road further Eastward as thereby the Steepness of the Hill may be avoided and the Road be made more Streight: It is therefore Voted That the same Committee who have lately Revised the Roads in the Northerly part of the Town be and they hereby are appointed to make Application to the Town Council of Providence requesting them to Widen or lay out said Highway further Eastward accordingly so as to make the same as commodious as possible and that the said Committee be Empowered to Negociate and Transact any Matters which may be necessary for accomplishing the aforesaid Business. —

Whereas it appears to this Meeting that it will much facilitate the Entrance into the North End of Benefit Street in case the Land now occupied by Capt Nehemiah Sweet where his Shop stands can be thrown out for publick Use; and as the said Committee have Reported that they find the Dwelling House owned by the Heirs of George Taylor Esqr Deceased stands thirteen Feet upon the Town Land and that there is overplus Land between the Lott of Land belonging to the Heirs of Alice Burr and said Sweets which Street and have recommended an Exchange with the said Taylors Heirs of the Thirteen Feet the House stands on for the Overplus Land they have on the South It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the Consideration thereof be Referred to the Town Council and that they be Requested properly to investigate the Matter and to take such Measures relative thereto as they shall best for the Interest of the Town. —

On the Application of Messrs John Howland and Darius Sessions Junr in Behalf of the United Company of the Train of Artillery in this Town: It is Voted and Resolved that liberty be granted to said Company to Erect a Building upon the Land adjoining Southwards on the Lot owned by Edward Taylor where the Goal Lane formerly runn for the purpose of Covering their Guns and Implements except Powder from the weather. —

It is Voted and Resolved That the Revd President Manning Revd Mr Enos Hitchcock Revd Mr Joseph Snow Revd Mr Thomas Aitken Oliver Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr Doct Thomas Truman Nicholas Brown Esqr John Innes Clarke Esqr and Mr Moses Brown be and they hereby are appointed a Committee by the Name of the School Committee to take the Government of the Town School House under their Direction and to appoint proper Masters and give them Directions for the Government of the Schools and that the said Committee be also Empowered to take charge of such other of the School Houses in Town as the Proprietors may think proper to Resign into the Care of the Town and also of such Funds as may be hereafter provided by the Town for the Support of Schools. — That they be directed to confer with the Proprietors of the several School Houses in Town upon the Subject of Resigning their Respective Houses into the Care of the Town or of their Committee and make Report to the Town of their Proceedings at the next Meeting. —

Resolved That James Arnold Esqr Town-Treasurer be directed to apply to Doct Jonathan Arnold for the Rent due from him to the Town for the Use of the Lands at Great Point be—

Resolved That Doct Ephraim Bowen James Arnold Esqr Nicholas Brown Esq and Arthur Fenner Junr Esq be appointed to take the whole Charge and Command of the Market House and to put the same under proper Regulations as they think best. — To let out the Stalls and the Market House

A.D. 1785 July 29.

at publick Vendue and that they be empowerd to appoint a Suitable Person to Collect such Custommary Wharfage and Storage as shall become due for Articles landed on the Market House Wharff or Stored in the Market House Cellar.—

Resolved That the Committee appointed to look out a Place for a Pest-House be Empowered if they find a Place Suitable for it within the Limits of this Town to purchase the same for the Town on the best Terms they can if they think the Terms reasonable and that they be also Empowered to make and Compleat Contracts for building said Pest House.—

Resolved That Capt. Benjamin Hoppen be and he is appointed Clerk of the Market in this Town till the annual Election of Town Officers in June next.—

Resolved That Nicholas Brown and John Smith Esqrs be and they hereby are empowered to purchase the Lot of Land owned by Mr Samuel Young adjoining the Brick-School House Lot he having offered to sell the Public Lot for the same Price it cost him with the Interest of the Money.—

Whereas the Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq Mr Moses Brown and John Jenckes Esqr and Ebenezer Thompson Esq the Committee who were appointed to Revise Benefit Street and ascertain and Establish proper Boundaries: to ascertain the Width and Boundaries of the Street or Highway where it parts with that leading over Mill Bridge to Herrenden's Lane; To ascertain the Boundaries of the Burying Place &c having gone through that Business this Day presented their Report of their Proceedings therein with a Plat of the Burying Ground wherein is Described the Road and Alley over Round and across the same be as on File and the said Report having Now been Read in Open Town Meeting and Maturely and Duly Considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the said Report be Received.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on the Thirtieth Day of August AD 1785 being the Last Tuesday of said Month

The Honble John Brown Esq. Moderator.—

The following Gentlemen are duly Elected and Chosen to Represent the Town in General Assembly at their Session to be holden the Last Monday of October next and until the General Election in May next Viz

John Jenckes Esq.
Capt Paul Allen
Major Charles Keene
Genl. Jeremiah Olney.

The following Gentlemen are duly drawn to serve as Jurors at the Honorable the Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden at Providence in and for the County of Providence on the First Monday of September AD 1785 Viz

Capt. Pardon Sheldon Grandjuror
Col Amos Atwell Petit-Juror.—

The Following Persons are now propounded as Freemen Viz Calvin Dean and Artemus Fish .....

It is Voted and Resolved That Mr Elisha Brown Jr. be and he is hereby appointed one of the Fire-Engine Company No 1 in the Room of Mr Edward Spaulding who Resigns.—

It is Voted and Resolved That Mr John Ormsbee be and he is Elected and Chosen a Surveyor of Joists and Boards for this Town.—

Resolved That Mr Moses Brown Doctr Ephraim Bowen, Major Charles Keene Capt William Rhodes Nicholas Brown Esq Gov Bowen Doctr Manning Samuel Butler Esq Nathaniel Wheaton Esq and Doctr John Shaw be and they hereby are appointed to Join the Committee lately appointed to procure a Suitable Small Pox Hospital to be Built, and to Consult and Advise together with respect to the most Suitable Place for Erecting the Building, on the Land proposed to be purchased for the purpose:— and that the said Building Forty Feet Long and Eighteen Feet wide with a Seventy Feet Roof.—

Resolved That the Lane North of the Baptist Meeting House be paved and a Watercourse below a[illegible]

A.D. 1785. Aug. 30th

across the Main Street be Settled under Ground to remedy the great Difficulty occasioned by the Ice collecting in the Winter and rendering the Street dangerous in passing on Horse-Back &c

And that the Town Treasurer issue Notes payable in Two Years with Interest in Sums from 2 to 10 Dollars and that the same be delivered to Mr Moses Brown who is appointed to have the Work done as fast as required to pay for the Same; to the End that they may Spread and be in the Hands of the Inhabitants to pay their Town Taxes, which Notes are to be received by the Town Treasurer after the Expiration of said Term of Two Years from the First Day of the 11th Month next in Lieu of Money.— And the said Moses Brown is to account for the Notes he Receives of the Treasurer as soon as Convenient after the said Paving is compleated

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Whereas the following Proceedings of the Proprietors of the Brick-School House and of Whipple Hall in this Town have now been laid before this Meeting Viz

At a Meeting of the Proprietors in the Brick School House in Providence the 30th of the 7th Mo. 1785

It being represented to this Propriety by a Committee of the Town that it is thought a plan of Government of all the Schools in the Town may be hit upon more advantageous than the Manner this House has been improved in, Provided this Propriety will yield the Use of their Part to the Town for a limitted Time: Whereupon it is Voted That upon the Town's putting the whole House in Repair and keeping up well regulated Schools one Year, may have the Use of the Proprietors Parts for the Term of Two Years from this Date together with what they may be able to Recover of the Publick for the Use or Damage of the House During the Time they occupied the same: which as it appears one of the Proprietor Rooms was cleared by Order of the Committee of War We apprehend the publick ought in Justice to pay.— And as it is the Desire of this propriety That the Education of the Rising Generation both with Respect to their Morals and Literature be promoted and Encouraged in the best and most Effectual Manner; The Town may expect if such Regulations take Place as to Effect this Desirable purpose that the Time now mentioned for their having the Government of the House will be continued for such

such further Term as may then appear necessary

Copy Extracted from the Minutes by Moses Brown Clerk

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of Whipple Hall held in said Hall on Saturday the 20th of August 1785.

Voted That Major Charles Keene Messrs. Benjamin Thurber and Olney Winsor be a Committee to make an Offer of Whipple Hall to keep a Free Town School in, to the Committee of the Town appointed to Receive the Propositions of the Several Proprietors School House Proprietors for the purpose aforesaid, on Condition that the Town Keep said Hall in good and Suitable Repair or pay such a Sum annually as the Committee may judge adequate thereto for the Time they occupy the Same.— A True Copy Attest O Winsor Clerk

Providence Aug. 30th 1785.

Gentlemen,

You will herewith Receive the Vote of the Proprietors of Whipple Hall authorizing us to offer said Hall to you, to be occupied as a free Town School— We make the Offer with great Pleasure not Doubting but that under proper Regulations Free Schools will tend greatly to increase Learning, reform the Morals of the Youth and Promote Virtue among us ... The Hall is now in good Repair — To keep it in Repair We propose that the Town pay to the Proprietors such Sum annually for the Time they occupy it as the Town may think adequate for that purpose to be laid out in Repairs as occasion may Require. The Time of Occupancy we would fix at Two Years ... We are with Sentiments of Esteem

Gentlemen Your Humble Servts

Charles Keene
Benja Thurber
O Winsor
} Committee

Town School Committee! —

And the aforesaid Proceedings of the said Proprietors of the said School Houses, Viz, of the Brick School House and of Whipple Hall having been duly Considered

It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That this Meeting Do accept of the Care and Government of the said School Houses on the Terms and Conditions aforesaid and that the Proprietors part of said School House be therefore immediately Repaired at the Expence of the Town.—

It is Voted and Resolved That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Proprietors of the

A. D. 1785 Aug. 30th

School House and Whipple Hall for having generously surrendered the said School Houses to the Use Care and Government of the Town as expressed in their Votes relative thereto. —

Resolved That the Money Granted or which shall be granted by the Publick for Rents or making Good the Damages done to the Brick School House while occupied as a Laboratory or other Purposes be paid and delivered into the Hands of the Town Treasurer as the Beginning of a Fund for the sole Purpose of Establishing Free Schools in this Town and that the Town Treasurer keep a Separate and Fair Account of all Monies which he may receive thereon. — And that the Town Treasurer or his Successors in said Office for the Time being be also empowerd to Receive Donations for the Purpose of Establishing and Continuing Free Schools in this Town. —

It is also Voted and Resolved That the Rents of the Market House Cellar, the Money due for Wharfage, the Rents of the Stalls in the Market House or of any Apartments therein and any Land for which Rent is or shall become due to the Town be also Rec.d by the Town Treasurer and appriated by him for Establishing the said Fund for the said Free-Schools. —

*Whereas Mr. Moses Brown hath Generously Offerred to procure the Second Story of the Market House to be Finished in Suitable Apartments to be Rented out, in Order that the Money arising from such Rents may be appropriated for Establishing a Fund for the Support of Free Schools in this Town on Condition that the Expence thereof be Refunded and Repaid to him within Two Years from this Time the same shall be advanced

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the said Mr. Moses Brown be and he is hereby Requested and Empowered to Finish the said Market House in such Suitable Apartments as he shall think best and most Conducive to the Interest of the Town — That the Account of the Expences thereof be laid before the

the Town Auditt and that when the same is by them allowed That the Town Treasurer give his Notes for the same as called for by said Mr. Brown payable in Two Years from the Date with Interest for the same from the Time the Money shall be advanced

*Whereas the Court House Parade hath lately been paled in, Trees Planted and Sundry new Buildings erected or Erecting around the Same..... It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the Hon.ble Artillery or those or who have the Direction of Firing Cannon at publick Times be Requested not to Fire any more Cannon on the said Parade or in the Principal Streets of the Town. —

Resolved That Paul Allen Capt. Benjamin Hopper and Capt. Nicholas Power be and they hereby are appointed a Committee what Publick Land either of the Streets Lanes Gangways or Common belonging to the Town is in the Possession of any Individuals — That they Request all Persons having such Lands to Surrender up the Possession of the same to the Town or in Cases, where it is very inconvenient to deliver up the Possession thereof or to pay a Reasonable Rent for the same for a Term not exceeding One Year — And that the said Committee be Empowered to Treat with any such persons who shall be disposed to have such Land in their Possession and which said Committee shall think it prudent to rent out. — And that the said Committee be Guided by the Report of the Committee for Revising the Streets Lanes Gangways be made by Governor Hopkins and Rec.d in April 1771 so far as that Report extends — and Make Report of their Proceedings at the next Town Meeting. —

Whereas Nicholas Brown Esq.r hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town and the said Account being duly Examined and Considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the amount thereof being Five pounds Seventeen shillings and six pence lawfull Money be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury. —

Resolved that this Meeting be Adjourned to Saturday the 10th Day of September next at 3 O'Clock in the Afternoon —

A.D. 1785. Septr. 10th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment at the State House on the 10th Day of September A.D. 1785

The Hon.ble Welcome Arnold Esq.r Moderator

There being but few of the Freemen of the Town present the being now Selling and the Business for which the Meeting was adjourned not yet Prepared to be acted upon Therefore Resolved That this Meeting be further adjourned to Saturday the 17th Day of Septem.r Instant at 3 Clock P.M.e and that the Clerk issue his Warrant for warning the same and Notifying the Business

A.D. 1785 Septr. 17th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the State House in Providence on the 17th Day of September A.D. 1785.

Ebenezer Thompson Esq.r Moderator

Whereas the following Petition hath now been laid before this Meeting Viz.

To the Honorable the Moderator and Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled on the Seventeenth Day of September A.D. 1785

The Subscribers Freemen and Inhabitants of the Town of Providence beg leave to Represent That Westminster Street on the West side of the River is now become one of the Principal Avenues to the Town; that near the Easterly End of said Street between the Lot of Benj.a Throop on the West and Benjamin Eddy on the East only one half of the Width of said Street is passable for either Teams or Horses whereby several Disagreeable accidents have happened and at Present is inconvenient and dangerous and as the expence will be but Trifling to make it passable the whole width being only the Distance of Eighty Feet in Length and Twenty Feet in Breadth; Your Petitioners therefore Pray that the same may be filled up and made conveniently passable for Carriages the whole Width of said Street in the same Manner and upon the same Principals as the other Streets have been repaired under the Direction of the last Committee appointed for Revising the Repairs and Improvements of the Streets. —

Jacob Whitman, Dorrance, John Larcher, Samuel Butler

Lewis Peck, Ralph Merry, William Compton, Benj.a Hopper, Joseph Snow Jun.r, Daniel Tefft, Timothy Gladding, Joseph Cooke, Daniel Cooke, E. Sprout, Peregrine Foster, Amos Throop, Henry Bowen, Nathaniel Wheaton, Theodore Foster, Solomon Drown, John Sutton, Archibald Stewart, Hopestill M.c Neal, Geth Aldrich, James Burrill. —

And the aforesaid Petition being duly considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the said Street be filled up at the Place mentioned and Described in the said Petition under the Direction of Capt. Paul Allen one of the Surveyors of the Highways Provided and on Condition that the Owners of the Land opposite thereto northward Viz. Theodore Foster and William Brown pay and Discharge one Quarter part of the Expence thereof and make such a good and sufficient Barricade to the Satisfaction of Capt Allen upon the North Line of the Street as shall be Sufficient to Confine the Earth in the Street without Suffering it to Run off out of the Street and that the Remaining three Quarters of the Expence be Defrayed by the Town as for common Repairs of Highways —

Whereas Representation is made to this Meeting That Arthur Fenner Jun.r Esq.r hath offered to the Committee appointed on the 30th Ult.o to make Enquiry respecting the Publick Lands &c to be at one half the Expence of filling up to a proper Height the publick Land Northward of the East End of Weybosset Bridge and as far Westward of the first East Butment or Pillar of the Bridge provided the Town will be at the Expence of the other half and as thus Enlarging the Common or Parade round the Market will be of very great Advantage to the Town in its growing Situation and will save the Expence of part of the Bridge

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That Nicholas Brown, John Jenckes, Ambrose Page, Welcome Arnold, Zephaniah Andrews, Obadiah Sprague, Nathan Waterman, Richard Jackson, Samuel Butler, Joseph Buckler, Nicholas Power and Paul Allen be a Committee to confer with him upon the Matter and to take into Consideration the Propriety of the Measure and to consider whether from obstructing the Passage of the Water by the Rise of the flowing Tide or encreasing its Velocity in the Ebbing Tide and its Tendency to Stagnate the water about the Bridge Difficulties will arise to counterBalance the Advantages propos'd by Enlarging the Market Parade &c

A.D. 1785 Sept.r 17th

the Bridge be and on full and Mature Consideration to determine whether or not it will be for the Advantage of the Town to have the said Land filled up as aforesaid and to report their Opinion to the next Town Meeting. —

It is also Voted and Resolved That the same Committee be empowered to make any Alterations they may think proper in the Lemets heretofore prescribed for persons owning Lands on the East Side of the Cove above the Bridge building or making Wharffs westward into the same and to make Report as aforesaid —

It is Voted and Resolved That the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to prosecute by Indictment all persons who shall make any Encroachments by their Buildings or Fences on the Streets Lanes Highways Gangways or Common of the Town

Resolved That it be Recommended to the Town Council to Establish proper Regulations as they shall think best for Tolling the Bells of the Several Meeting Houses in Town at Deaths and Funerals. —

Whereas Mr Henry Bowen hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for his Service in Warning and attending this Town Meeting this Day and the said Account being duly Considered Resolved that the amount thereof being Seven shillings and five pence be paid to him out of the Town Treasury and that he have an Order accordingly —

Whereas Mr Daniel Anthony hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Surveying and Platting a Lot to build the Post House upon and the said Account being duly Considered — Thereupon Resolved that the Amount thereof being Six Shillings be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury and that he have an Order accordingly. —

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday the Thirst Day of October next at 2 Clock P.M. then to Meet at the Place and that the Clerk issue his Warrant for warning and Notifying the Business of said Meeting by beat of Drum in the usual Manner —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled on the 1st Day of October A.D. 1785 —

Ephraim Bowen Esq.r Moderator —

This Meeting having taken into their Serious Consideration that Part of an Act of the Legislature of this State passed at February Session A.D. 1784 Entituled "An Act authorizing the Manumission of Negroes, Mulattoes and others and for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery" which Enacts that the Support and Maintenance of Children of Female Slaves shall be at the Expence of the Town where they Respectively reside and it appearing to this Meeting that it is unreasonable that such Expence should be defrayed by the Towns

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the Deputies of this Town be and they hereby are instructed and directed to use their Endeavours to procure such Clauses of said Act to be Repealed as require the Maintenance of such Children to be at the Expence of the Towns where they are respectively born and that in Lieu thereof the Legislature make such other more Equitable Provision for their Support as they in their Wisdom shall see fit. —

Resolved That Capt. Joseph Bucklin Major Ebenezer Thompson and Capt. Zachariah Allen be a Committee for Superintending the Repairs of the Highways in this Town and that no Money be laid out at the Expence of the Town without their Consent Saving that the Districts under the Direction of Mr. Moses Brown be Still under his Direction as heretofore —

Resolved That this Meeting approve of the Removal of the Fire Engine No. 2 from the Place where it heretofore was kept to the Place it now is at on the Brow of Constitution Hill where it is directed to be kept till further Orders. —

Resolved That John Jenckes James Arnold Esq.r and Governor Bowen be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Examine, adjust and Settle Capt. Nicholas Powers Account exhibited to this Meeting amounting to £106 15/ for erecting Fortifications at Fox Point.

Whereas Col. Simeon Thayer hath exhibited an Account by him charged

A. D. 1785 Oct. 1st

against the Town for Repairs of Engines be and the said Account being duly considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the Amount of said Account being Five Pounds Two Shillings and six pence lawfull Money be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury—

* Whereas Mr. Yates hath exhibited an Account by him charged against this Town for Painting the Market House and the said Account having been duly considered, it is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the amount thereof being Five Pounds be allowed and Paid to the said Yates out of the Town Treasury—

The Gentlemen whose Names are here mentioned Viz Mr. John Cross as Grand Juror and Capt. William Carr as Petit Juror are duly drawn according to Law to Serve at the next Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence on the third Monday of December next—

A. D. 1786 March 16th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence on the 16th Day of March A.D. 1786—

Capt. Richard Jackson Moderator

This Meeting was convened for the Purpose of drawing Jurors when Mr. Olivers Carpenter as Grand-Juror, and Mr. Recompence Healy as Petit-Juror, are duly drafted according to Law to Serve at the Honorable Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden at Providence on the Third Monday of March Instant.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Providence on Wednesday the 5th Day of April A.D. 1786.

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esqr. Moderator

The following persons being Qualified with Sufficient Estate are now admitted to Vote as Freemen of the Town. Viz

William Waterman, Abijah Potter, Daniel Sprague, Peleg Brown, Henry Bowen, Samuel Pond William Peck Hezekiah Wheeler, Archibald Salisbury Benjamin Reynolds John Reynolds Jnr. Elisha Brown (Mason) Charles Handy John Holden, Thomas Hazzard Rowland Hazzard Josiah Miller Archibald Salisbury Ezra Hubbard George Benson Israel Davis William Gwinn Jnr.

Jonathan Arnold Junr. Thomas Arnold, Daniel Anthony Peter Dubosque, Joseph Congdon Junr. Daniel Field Jonathan Tillinghast John Holden, Artemus Fish, William Snow, Isaac Angell Nathaniel Smith, David Tefft 2d Daniel Ignatius Pettis Stephen Remmington Nathan Angell Junr. Benedict Williams Joseph Chace William Brownell, Joseph Greene, Rufus Stone James Gramon, Benjamin Conver Silas Covel James Burr Jabez Gorham Samuel Whipple James Pettis Benjamin Howard Pardon Mason, John Sheldon, William Sheldon William Knowles Benjamin Burdin, Jonathan Greene Daniel Buckler Junr. Resolved Greene Stephen Ashton, Christopher Lockwood John Carter Isaac Manchester John Clifford, James Brown Joseph Jenckes Turpin Smith Jabez Chace. — Benjamin Bourne, James Allen, Joshua Lindley, Samuel Dunn Benjn. Peck, Henry Warner Andrew Knight Peter Howard, Daniel Brayton Stephen Brayton Silas Covel Nehemiah Arnold, Samuel Aborn, John Howland, Jonathan Carpenter James Wilson Sylvanus Martin, Eleazr Peck, Joshua Hathaway Olney Winsor, Nehemiah Olney, Grindal Reynolds, Squire Thurber George Belcher Benjamin Turpin Calvin Dean. Othniel Williams Job Scot, Philip Martin Jabez Bowen, William Brownell Philip Horswell Thomas Brayton Ebenezer Averel

This being the Anniversary for Electing and Chusing Deputies to represent the Town in General Assembly and the Day by Law appointed for pulling in the Proxy Votes of the Freemen for General Officers of State and Delegates in Congress the Gentlemen whose Names are hereafter mentioned are duly elected and chosen Deputies to Represent the Town in General Assembly at their Session to be holden at Newport at the General Election in May next and in all Sessions of the Assembly until the last Monday of October next. Viz,

John Jenckes Esqr.
John Brown Esqr.
Major Charles Keene
Doct. Thomas Truman

Resolved That Mr. Daniel Stillwell, Nicholas Brown Esqr. and Mr. Thomas Lloyd Halsey be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to draft instructions to be given by the Freemen to the Representatives of this Town respecting an Act of the General Assembly passed at the last Session, entituled "An Act laying Duties of Excise on certain Articles therein described"—

Whereas.—

A.D. 1786 April 19th

Whereas the Revd. Joseph Snow hath preferred a Petition to this Meeting praying that he may have Redored and Reconveyed to him a small Piece of land about Forty Feet in Length and Twenty Feet in Width included in the Deed given by him to the Town for Highways by a Deed bearing Date March 10th A.D. 1752 a little South Easterly from the Dwelling House of Samuel Nightingale Esqr. telling forth that the same now lies unimproved and Not of any service to the Town as Highway the said Joseph Snow having other ways purchased of Governor Cooke another Highway and given the same to the Town near the Ferry mentioned one is Not the said Piece of land Petitioned for hath become useless for the Purpose it was first intended when given by him to the Town as aforesaid and the said Petition having been Read the same is ordered to be Referred to the Next Town Meeting there to be considered and acted upon.—

Saml Thaxter allowed 20s.

Whereas Samuel Thaxter Esqr. hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for holding an Inquest as Coroner on the Body of David Horn — also on the Body of an Infant found Murdered and the said Account being duly considered it is Voted and Resolved That the Amount of said Account being Seventy Shillings be allowed and paid to said Samuel Thaxter out of the Town Treasury.—

William Compton allowed 9/..

Whereas Mr. William Compton hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Warning and Attending Town Meeting &c in October last and the said Account being duly considered is allowed and it is Voted and Resolved that the amount of said Account be allowed and Paid out of the Town Treasury to the said William Compton being Nine Shillings Lawful Money.—

Henry Bowen allowed 11sh 6.

Resolved That One pound Eleven Shillings and six pence be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr. Henry Bowen the amount of his Account for attending Coroners Inquest paid by him &c.

Adjournment...

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Friday the 28th Day of April Instant at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon in Order to Receive and act upon the Report of the Committee appointed to draft Instructions to the Representatives relative to the Excise Act. And that the Town Clerk issue a Warrant for warning said Meeting by Beat of Drum and Notifying the Business to be transacted

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment on the 28th Day of April A.D. 1786 and duly warned.

Col Barzillai Richmond Moderator

The Petition of Mr. Joseph Snow preferred to the last Town Meeting being now again read — is withdrawn at the Request of the Petitioner.—

The Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to draft Instructions to the Representatives respecting the Excise Act made Report as on File.

The following Instructions being now drafted in open Town Meeting and Repeatedly Read and duly Considered Viz

"To John Jenckes John Brown Charles Keene and Thomas Tillinghast Esqrs Deputies from the Town of Providence to the Honble the General Assembly

Gentlemen

The Freemen of the Town of Providence in Legal Town Meeting assembled having Maturely weighed the Nature and Operation of an Act of the late General Assembly Entitled "An Act Laying duties of Excise on certain Articles therein described" are so fully impressed with a Sense of its Impolicy Injustice & Oppression that they find it necessary to evince their Disapprobation of the Act

We are therefore inclined to instruct you and We do hereby Instruct you as Representatives of this Town that you use your utmost Exertions and Influence in the General Assembly to procure a Repeal of the aforesaid Act in all Parts thereof. "

Resolved That the foregoing pass as Instructions to the Representatives of this Town in General Assembly and that the Clerk furnish them with a Copy thereof for their Direction.—

Resolved That the Representatives of this Town have Liberty either to have read publickly in the General Assembly the Instructions this Day given them or not read as they shall think best.— or as occasion shall require.—

Resolved That Col. Knight Dexter be and he is hereby chosen and added as one of the Field Drivers of the Town.—

Resolved That the Committee appointed to prevent Encroachments on the Streets Highways Lanes Gangways and Commons of the Town be and they hereby are empowered and Required to

AD 1786
April 28th:—

the Report of the Committee respecting the Same accepted April 17th AD 1771 and to Enquire whether any Mistake have been Made by said Committee in their said Report and if any such Mistake shall be found that they be empowered to Rectify the same and to make Report —

And That the same Committee be also empowered to examine Benefit- Street in and about the Bend there of near the Barn of Mr Joseph Whipple and to consider whether it can be straightend and altered for the Better and to make Report to the next Town Meeting —

Paid John Whipple allowed. — £10. 8. 6

Whereas Messrs Joseph Whipple and John Whipple have exhibited an Account by them charged against the Town for Work on the Street in Paving the same near where Doct. Jonathan Arnold lived therefore and the said Account being duely considered it

Voted and Resolved That Ten pounds Eight shillings and six pence the Amount there of be allowed and paid to them out of the Town Treasury. —

Henry Bowen allowed 9/..

Whereas Mr Henry Bowen hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for warning and Attending Town Meeting and Refused Account being duely considered it is Voted and Resolved That Nine shillings Lawfull Money the amount thereof be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury.

AD. 1786.
May 1st:—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence warned and assembled according to Laws at the State House on the First Day of May AD 1786

The Honble David Howell Esq. Moderator

This Meeting having taken into consideration the Business mentioned in the Warrant and there being but few of the Freemen present — on Motion made to postpone acting on this Business till the annual Meeting in June next..... It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That at this Meeting and the Business before it be adjourned to the said annual Town Meeting in June next..

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Providence on Monday the Fifth Day of June AD 1786.—

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.—

This being the anniversary Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing the Gentlemen hereafter named are duly Elected and Chosen to the Offices respectively ascribed to their Names Viz —

Town Clerk Theodore Foster.—

Town Council — Ebenezer Thompson Esq. President Capt Paul Allen, Samuel Butler Esq. Mr Aaron Mason Capt. Richard Jackson and Capt Nicholas Power..

Town Serjeant— Mr Henry Bowen.—

Town Treasurer James Arnold Esq.

Town Audit.. — Mr Thomas Jones Ambrose Page Esq and Capt John Mumford —

Constables... — Mr William Compton Mr John Pettey Mr John Jones Mr Thomas Field Mr Robert Newell Mr Jeremiah Jenekes and Mr Jacob Tile

Sealer of Weights and Measures Mr Jacob Whitman.—

Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor — Nathaniel Wheaton Esq Mr Nathan Waterman Capt. Lewis Peck..

Surveyors of Joist and Boards.. — Mr Christopher Arnold Junr Capt Elijah Bacon, Messrs Jonathan Hamman John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter Isaac Angell and John Ormsbee

Surveyors of Highways.. — Honble David Howell Esq Mr Robert Newell John Brown Esq Capt John [illegible] and Mr Joseph Bucklin..

A. D. 1786 June 5th

Gaugers of Cask — Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Ezek Brown Ezek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins Samuel Weden, John Burrough and Joseph Joseph Congdon.—

Vendue Master and Collector of Taxes: Capt. Benjamin Hoppen.. on the same Terms as last Year.

Assistant Collector of Taxes. Peregrine Foster Esqr. in the same Manner as he was appointed last Yr

Clerk of the Market. Mr. Daniel Anthony

Packers of Beef & Pork — Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold Joseph Field William Page, Ephraim Clemens Lewis Bosworth and Willian Billings.

Corders of Wood — Messrs. Joseph Lawrence, John Vial Jonas Petty, James Field, John Jones and John Easell.

Overseer of the Pest House.. James Black Esqr.

Overseers of the New Hospital.—— John Brown, John Jenckes and Welcome Arnold Esquires

Pound-Keepers.—— Messrs. Daniel Branch and Nicholas Branch..

To Value Estates when disputed in Voting.. Arthur Fenner Junr Esqr. Mr. Samuel Black and John Brown Esqr.

Fence Viewers — Mr. Samuel Thurber Junr. Capt. John Feild Major Charles Keene and Mr. Christopher Arnold

Presidents of the Fire Wards — Hon. Jabez Bowen. Esq. John Brown Esq and Joseph Martin Esq.

Fire Wards—

Fire Wards — Nicholas Brown Esq. Col. Joseph Nightingale, Col. Amos Atwell, Col. Daniel Tillinghast Mr. Job Smith Hon.ble John Foster Esq. Mayor Robert Taylor Mr. Samuel Thurber Jun. and James Arnold Esq.

Fire Engine Company No 1. Near the Bridge — Messrs. Nathan Angell Gershom Carpenter John Innes Clark Col. Joseph Nightingale John Brown Esq. Mr. Daniel Hellwell Arthur Fenner Jun. Esq. Welcome Arnold Mr. Thomas Bennet Mr. John White Col. Knight Deater and Mr. Elisha Brown.—

Fire Engine Company No 2. at the North End.— Col. Simeon Thayer. Col. Levi Hall Mr. Michael Metcalf Capt. Nehemiah Sweet Messrs. Sylvanus Martin Ezekiel Burr John Demount, James Wheaton Philip Martin and Major John Whipple.—

Fire Engine Company No 3. on the West side of the River.— Messrs. John Mathewson Zephaniah Andrews Daniel Jackson, James Black Asa Franklin. Elijah Bacon, Joseph Cooke James Burrel Paul Allen Samuel Black Zephaniah Brown and Benjamin Hoppen.—

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be Removed in Case Fire. — Col. Barzillai Richmond Dr. Ephraim Bowen Capt. Christopher Sheldon. Mr. Obadiah Sprague Mr. Samuel Thurber Junr. and Capt. Henry Bacon...

Persons to remove or Pull down Houses in Case of Fire — Joseph Martin Esq. Mr. Jonathan [illegible] Capt. Comfort Wheaton Capt. James [illegible] Mr. Jehu Smith Marlin Sear[illegible] Messrs. Olivier Carpenter and John Carlile.

300

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A. D. 1786 June 5th

Field Drivers — Capt. Job Sweeting. Mess^rs Christopher Arnold, Jun^r John Jones, David Burr Reuben Potter Jun^r Jonathan Fowl and William Earned.—

Sealer of Leather.— Samuel Butler Esq^r.—

Scavengers — Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Sanders Pitman, Dexter Brown, and Capt. Job Sweeting.—

Overseers of the Work House — Nathaniel Wheaton Esq^r. M^r Nathan Waterman and Capt Lewis Peck

Town Cryer— M^r Daniel Branch.—

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge— James Arnold Esq^r—

Committee to Prevent Encroachments on the Streets Highways, Lanes Gangways and Common of the Town — Benjamin Man Esq^r. Mayor Charles Keene. M^r Obadiah Sprague Capt. Christopher Sheldon Samuel Butler Esq^r. M^r Moses Brown M^r Zephaniah Brown and M^r Daniel Anthony.—

Committee for Superintending and Regulating Market House — Doct^r Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown Esq^r. Arthur Fenner Jun^r Esq^r. James Arnold Esq and John Dorrance Esq^r—

Resolved That the Surveyors of the Highways in this Town, Superintend the Repairs of the same and that no Money be laid out at the Expence of the Town for said Repairs without the Consent of the Major Part of said Surveyors—

Resolved That One per Cent only in Future be paid into the Town Treasury on the Amount of Sales of Articles sold at Vendue in Lieu of the Four per Cent required by a Vote of the Town Meeting on the Sixth Day of June Last.—

Resolved That the Overseers of the Hospital be and they hereby are empowered and Requested to take the Care and Charge of the Hospital

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Hospital Buildings and Land and to agree with some suitable person to live in and improve the same and to agree with such person the Terms.—

61

Resolved That Ten Spanish Milled Dollars be granted and allowed to M^r William Compton out of the Town Treasury in Consideration of his present Circumstances his Advanced Age and his Faithful Services heretofore as a Town Officer.—

Resolved That from and after Monday the Twelfth Instant, no person whose Rateable Estate shall be valued by the Assessors for the Time being at Two Hundred Pounds and upwards be permitted to Turn Cattle on the Common of this Town:— and in Case any such person shall Presume to turn their Cattle on the Commons, any Inhabitant of the Town may impound the same and the Owner or Owners thereof shall pay Three Shillings per Head for every Time such Cattle shall be so impounded to be recovered as in Cases of Trespass one half to and for the Use of the Complainant or Impounder and the other half to accrue to the Use of the Town.

And it is further Voted That if any person whosoever shall suffer Cows or other Cattle to run at Large after 9 Oclock at Night they may be impounded as aforesaid and be liable to the aforesaid Penalty to be recovered and applied as aforesaid.

It is further Resolved That no House-Holder be permitted to turn on the Commons more than one Creature at a Time on the Penalties aforesaid.....

Ordered That the Foregoing be published in the Providence News-papers.

Resolved That the Penalty for Horses going at large be three Shillings instead of Two Shillings as heretofore.—

Whereas M^r Terence Reily hath now laid before this Meeting his Petition in the following Words Viz.

"To the Honorable the Moderator and the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled in Town Meeting this 5th June A D 1786—

62.

A. D. 1786 June 5th

The Petition of Terence Reily of said Providence Humbly Sheweth.

That your Petitioner with a great Expence to himself and by the Consent and approbation of the Town, and under the Direction of their Committee, in the Year 1777 filled up the Town's Land near the West End of Weybosset Bridge in the Manner as which it now is; on the Condetions mentioned in the Grants of the Town to him in that Year: — That your Petitioner then expected the Wharves built by him on the Town's Land would be under such Regulations as would enable him to derive some Benefit therefrom: — But that the same both of late been greatly incommoded by Scows and Boats Lying in the Bason or Bay formed by said Wharff insomuch as to Prevent the said Wharf from being of Use to Your Petitioner and the Neighbourhood for landing Goods and Provisions, as at the Market House Wharff on account of it's being frequently filled with Large Quantities of Lumber without any thing being paid therefor —

And as Your Petitioner was at the Sole Expence of making the said Wharves Beneficial and Commodious as they now are — Think it but Reasonable he should Enjoy the Priviledges he expected by filling up the same as aforesaid. —

He therefore humbly prays That the Customary Wharfage as allowed and paid at the Market House Wharff for Articles landed on said Wharff built by Your Petitioner or for Vessels Scows or Boats Laying at the same may be granted to your Petitioner for such Time as the Freemen shall think Just and Reasonable. And Your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c

Terence Reily

And the aforesaid Petition having been duly considered it is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the said Terence Reily be empowered to Receive Customary Wharfage for Articles Landed on the Wharf near his House and between his own Wharff and the Bridge or for Vessels Scows or Boats Laying there as is paid at the Market House Wharff for the Term of one Year from this Day on condition of his rendering one half the Proceeds thereof to the Town and to account for the same the other Half for his own use ——

63

Whereas Messrs John Updike Lewis Peck and Thomas Jones late Town Auditors have this Day exhibited the following Statement of the Town Treasurers Account with the Town with their Report as on File Viz

Dr The Town of Providence in Account Current with James Arnold Cr

1786			1786		
May 30	To amount of my Account against the Town exhibited this Day	£ 1859 " 17 " 4½	May 30.	By amount of my Credits for Receipts of Cash &c to this Day as per Acct	£ 1765 " 17 " 0
	To my Commissions on the above ... at 2½ per Cent	121 " 9 " 11		Balance carried to New Acct	215 " 0 " 10
		£ 1981 " 7 " 3½			£ 1981 " 7 " 3½

N.B. There now Remains in my Hands sundry Certificates Rec.d of Peregrene Foster Esq.r in Part of this Town's Proportion of the State Tax assessed in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Four amounting to Eighty six pounds Sea shillings and Six pence half penny — Errors excepted

James Arnold —

We the Subscribers having examined the Account Subsisting between the Town of Providence and James Arnold Esq.r Town Treasurer after examing the Vouchers and Comparing the Charges Do find a Balance due from the Town of Providence to said Arnold of Two Hundred and Fifteen pounds Ten shillings and 3.d/4 Lawful Money Agreable to the above Account current

John Updike
Lewis Peck
Thos Jones
} Audit

And the aforesaid Account and Report having been duly Considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the same Be Received and that the said Balance of Two Hundred and Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings and 3.d/4 Lawful Money be paid to said James Arnold Esq.r out of the Town's Monies and that he be allowed Interest for the same till it shall be paid. —

A.D. 1786 June 5th

Whereas Mr Daniel Jackson hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Making a Fifty Feet Chain for the Town delivered to Mr Joseph Brown — and the said Account having been duly examined It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the amount thereof being Twelve Shillings be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury. —

Whereas Joseph Whittemore hath exhibited an Account charged against the Town for a Balance due to him for Ringing the Bell Three Times a Day from April 19th 1785 to June 4th following he having been paid for Ringing said Bell before that Time — and said Account having been duly considered it is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the Amount thereof being Nineteen Shillings and six pence be allowed and paid to said Joseph Whittemore out of the Town Treasury. —

Order delivered Resqr Whittemore Aug. 28 1786. at Request of said Whittemore

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Resolved That Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Arthur Fenner Junr James Arnold and John Dorrance Esqrs be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to superintend and take the whole Charge and Command of the Market House and to put the same under such proper Regulations as they shall think best — To let out the Mills and Market House Cellar at publick Vendue and that they be empowered to appoint some Suitable Person to Collect such Customary Wharfage and Storage as shall become due for Articles landed on the Market House Wharff or Stored in the Market House Cellar. —

And to Revise the Laws and Regulations of the Town respecting the Market House Trucks be and to make report as soon as may be —

Doct John Thaw exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Medicines and Attendence for Providence Denizens when Sick with the Small Pox. Ordered that it be Referred to the Town Auditor.

Resolved That Twelve pounds Lawful Money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr Nicholas Branch in Case he shall ring the Bell in the Baptist Meeting House Three

Times a Day Viz at Sunrise Noon and 9 o'Clock in the Evening and shall Wind up the Clocks in said Meeting House as often as shall be necessary for the Term of One Year from this Time. —

Whereas Mr Henry Bowen hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for warning Town Meeting &c and the said Account being duly considered It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the Amount thereof being Ten Shillings and six pence be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury —

The Persons whose Names are here mentioned are duly drafted according to Law to serve as Jurors at the Hon^ble the Inferior Court of Common Pleas to be holden in this Town on the Monday of June Instant Viz,

Mr George Olney Grand Juror
Mr Benjamin Allen Petit Juror

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Monday the 19th Day of June Instant at 2 Clock P.M. then to meet at this Place.....

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and holden by Adjournment at the State House in Providence on Monday the 19th day of June A.D. 1786

Doct. Ephraim Bowen Moderator. —

Resolved That the Operation of the Resolve passed at the last Meeting respecting Cows going at large on the Common be Suspended until the next Town Meeting. —

The Committee appointed on the 5th Day of June Instant to Superintend the Market in this Town and to Revise the Laws and Regulations of the Town respecting the Market House Trucks &c having made Report which having been duly considered.

It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the following be Established as By-Laws for the better Regulating the Market in Providence. —

I

All Meats sold at Market in any part of the Town as also Butter and Cheese shall be weighed by Scales and not by Steel-Yards except the Buyer in any Case of the Town Man at the Market House shall Consent under the Penalty of

A. D. 1786 June 19th.

Twelve Shillings to be Recovered from the Seller by the Clerk of the Market, or any House-holder in the Town with Cost, on Information made on Oath, or Supported by one Credible Witness before any Justice of the Peace in said Town by Destress or by Action of Debt for the Use of the Poor of said Town and to be carried to that account.

II

If any Provisions of what soever kind shall be exposed to Sale and the same shall be unwholesome which Matter shall be Judged of and Determined by the Committee of the Market or any Two of them with the Clerk the same shall be forthwith taken by the Committee and Effectually Destroyed

III.

Whosoever shall be Guilty of Ingrossing Forstalling or Regrating as to any Kind of Provisions shall upon due Proof thereof forfeit the sum of Twelve Shillings to be Recovered and appropriated as afore said ——

And it is particularly ordered and Provided That no Butcher Fishcutter Shop Keeper or any other person shall buy or purchase in the Town of any person or persons coming to Market any kind of Provisions whatever usually sold by Retail in Small Quantities at any Time in the Day before One o'Clock in the Afternoon with Intent to Sell the same again at Market at Retail or in any part of the Town, under the Forfeiture of all such Provisions so bought, or the Value thereof with Cost to be Recovered by Complaint or Information by the Clerk of the Market or any House-holder in the Town before any one Justice of the Peace in said Town by Destress for the use of the Poor of said Town. —

IV.

Whereas Great Injustice is frequently done by a Method of Selling Sundry Articles of Provisions without Weighing the same it is therefore Voted and Resolved That whoever shall either buy or sell in this Town any dead Lamb, Turkies, Geese, Roasting Pigs and Dunghil Fowls, unless by the Pound Weight shall Forfeit and pay as a Fine the sum of Six Shillings to be recovered of both the Buyer and Seller by Warrant of Destraint from any Justice of the Peace of the Town on the complaint of any Householder in said Town: That the Lamb be so bought shall be forfeited by the Buyer to and for the Use of the Poor of the Town

V.

All Steelyards whereby Fish sold in this Town are weighed shall be adjusted by the Sealer of Weights on Penalty of Three Shillings to be Recovered and applied as aforesaid.

VI.

Whereas Sundry Persons have made it a Business to open Oysters raw, and have of late carried on said Business in the Street and in the Night with Lighted Candles, and Lanthorns which have occasioned a great Number of People of different discriptions to assemble often in a Tumultuous Manner to the Great Disturbance of the Inhabitants of the Town which has a Tendency to keep Children and Servants out at unseasonable Times

To Remedy which it is Resolved That for the Future no person shall on any pretence whatever open any Oysters in any place near the Market House, excepting at the West End of said Market House or open any Oysters there, after the usual Time of Candle lighting: and also That all the Shells shall be cleared away every Night under the Penalty of Forfeiting Six Shillings Lawful Money ——— And it is further Resolved That no Fish or Lobsters shall be sold for the Future in or near the Market, But at the West End of the Market House and so Northerly in a Range with the West End of said Market House as far as the Bridge Provided nevertheless that no person shall be excluded from Carrying Fish or Lobsters through the Streets in Carts or Wheel Barrows for Sale. ———

VII

Resolved That no Trucks Empty Sleds Carts or other Carriages belonging to any Inhabitant of this Town shall be permitted to Stop Loiter or make a Stand in the Street or on the Parade near the Market House but may take their Stand on the West side of the Bridge on the Town's land or on any of the large Gangways belonging to the Town on the Penalty of Six Shillings Lawful Money for every Breach of this Order. —

VIII.

That the Market House shall be Shut up every Day precisely at One Clock P. M. Saturdays excepted and the Market House cleared of all Provisions. ...

IX.

It shall be the particular Duty of the Clerk of the Market

A. D. 1786 June 19th

keep the Market House Lot and Wharff free from every thing which may tend to obstruct its use and to prevent all Nuisances thereon and to see that the laws relating to the Market are duly observed —

X.

Resolved That the Committee for Superintending the Market or any one of them or the Clerk of the Market, be authorized and empowered at Times when the Market Parade is thronged and Crouded by Teams or otherwise and the passing Difficult to give such Orders and Direction as shall be necessary for General accommodation and to render passing in the same as convenient as may be. —

Resolved That the Foregoing Regulations be published in the Providence Newspapers and that they take Place and be in Force from and after the First Day of July next. —

Resolved That the Clerk of the Market shall be paid for his Services in that Office what shall be reasonable to be determined and Settled Quarterly by the Committee for Superintending the Market to be paid out of the Town Treasury ..... —

The Account of Doct^r John Chace for Medicines and Attendence for Prudence Bennom while Sick of the Small Pox having been at the last Town Meeting Referred to the Town Audit and now again brought before this Meeting and the said Doct^r Chace having agreed to Receive Four pounds Ten Shillings Lawful Money in full Satisfaction for the whole of said Account

Order delivered to Doct^r Chace Aug. 12. 1786.

It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That Four pounds and Ten Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid to said Doct^r John Chace out of the Town Treasury in full payment and Discharge of said Account. ____ the Nominal Sum whereof is Twenty Six Pounds Eighteen Shillings Dated from Dec^r 20. 1777 to Feb. 1. 1778. —

Resolved That Forty Pounds Lawful Money be appropriated by the Town Treasurer out of the Tax now Collecting for supporting the Poor at the Work House or other Poor persons boarded out by the Overseers. ——

Meeting Dissolved. —

At a Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally warned and assembled at the State House on Monday the 24th Day of July A.D. 1786 —

Col. Barzillai Richmond Moderator —

Resolved That it is the Opinion of this Town that the late Penal Law both in its Nature and Tendency is wrong and ought to be repealed

That all Persons be requested to afford an immediate Supply of Bread Corn and Meat for the Market in this Town. —

That any person furnishing such Supplies and shall be fined for so doing That this Town will pay such Fine —

That all Merchants Shop Keepers and Tradesmen be Requested to Open their Shops and Sell Freely and if such Persons shall be fined they shall Receive like Indemnity ——

That Col Zephaniah Andrews Theodore Foster Esq^r Capt. William Waterman Benjamin Bourne Esq^r Capt. Joseph Snow Jr. M^r Reuben Potter and the Hon^ble David Howell Esq^r be a Committee to draft Resolutions to the Purport aforesaid: —— or as near thereto as they shall think ought to be adopted by the Town: That said Committee draft a Bill for Raising a Sum not exceeding 500 Dollars to procure an immediate Supply of Corn by Subscription — That the Subscribers be reimbursed by the Proceeds of the sale of said Corn in Specie Labour or Manufactures at a Reasonable Rate

And that this Meeting be adjourned till 5: Oclock this Afternoon in order to Receive and Act upon the Report of said Committee

The Meeting adjourned accordingly ..... ——

At 5 Oclock in the Afternoon the Freemen again Re-assembled when the said Committee when the said Committee Reported the following Resolutions which had been unanimously agreed to and Signed by Each Individual Member thereof which after Three several Readings and Mature deliberation were adopted by the Town, Viz

Whereas by the Operation of a Law entitled An Act in Addition to and Amendment of an Act made and passed by this Assembly at their Session holden at Newport in May Last for Emitting the Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit

A.D. 1786 July 21st

Credit passed last June Session of Assembly, this Town is Reduced to distress for Want of Bread Corn and other Necessaries of Life; which Distress has already become alarming and is daily increasing and no prospect Opens for our Relief without Infringing on the Letter of said Act. —

And Whereas the Laws of Nature and Humanity transcending all Positive Laws Require that Measures be immediately taken to procure Supplies of the Necessaries of Life for our Market

Therefore Resolved That it be and it hereby is most Earnestly Recommended to the Inhabitants of this Town not to molest in their Persons or Property, any persons whosoever in bringing Supplies of the Necessaries of Life to the Market in this Town nor in disposing of such Supplies, at Such Prices, and on Such Terms as may be Mutually agreed on between them and the purchasers

Also in order that Supplies may be afforded to those who frequent our Market Resolved That it be recommended to the Merchants Shopkeepers and Traders in this Town to expose to Sale as usual such Articles as they may have on hand for the Use of the Town and Country,

It is further Voted and Resolved that for the more immediate Supply of Bread Corn, or Meal for those who Stand in immediate Want of Bread for themselves and Families there be borrowed on the Credit of this Town a Sum not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars in Specie: — That James Arnold Esq. be appointed to hire and procure said Sum and that He appropriate the same in the Purchase of Bread Corn and Meal for the Use of the Inhabitants of this Town who are in Real Want thereof: — That said Corn when purchased be delivered to Mr. Daniel Anthony Clerk of the Market to be by him sold under the Direction of the Town Council at such Prices and for such Pay as shall Reimburse and satisfy those who may Generously loan the Money: — And that the said Corn be distributed as Equally as may be among those who stand in Need thereof —

Ordered that the Proceeding Resolutions be published in the Providence News papers; and that the Inhabitants of the Vicinity and such as usually frequent this Market be Earnestly requested to attend to the distressed Situation of this Town and to furnish such necessary Supplies as may be in their Power —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally warned and assembled at the State House on the Ninth Day of August A.D. 1786. —

The Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esq.r Moderator.

This Meeting having Received Information as well by a written Notification from Stephen Smith Esq.r of Scituate to the Town Clerk of this Town as otherwise that Deputies from sundry Towns in this County are to meet at the House of Andrew Angell Innholder in Scituate on Thursday 10th Day of August Instant &c. Take into Consideration the Present Situation of Publick Affairs and to advise on proper Measures to be Recommended to the Honorable the Legislature of this State at their next Session and being disposed to co-operate with our Brethren in this County in a Design so laudable .....

DO therefore Vote and Resolve and it is Voted and Resolved That the Hon.ble David Howell Esq. Welcome Arnold William Rhodes Richard Jackson and Joseph Nightingale Esq.rs be and they hereby are appointed in behalf of this Town to Meet the aforesaid Deputies at the Time and Place aforesaid for the Purposes aforesaid and to Consult any other Measures which shall tend to Reestablish mutual Confidence and the General Harmony and Prosperity of the County and State and to make Report to the next Town Meeting .....

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on the 19th Day of August A.D. 1786 —

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator

Whereas Thomas Fearman Esq. late one of the Representatives of this Town in General Assembly hath departed this Life whereby his Place as a Deputy for this Town hath become Vacant — William Rhodes 2d is therefore now duly Elected and Chosen to represent this Town in the Hon.ble the General Assembly in the Place of the said Thomas Fearman Esq.r —

Aug. 19th 1786.

Whereas at a Convention of Deputies from the Several Towns in the County of Providence assembled at the House of Mr Andrew Angell in Scituate, the Tenth Day of August 1786. It was Resolved That the said Convention should adjourn to meet at East Greenwich on the 2d. Instant to consider the Propriety of making some Alterations in the Principles of, and Laws relative to the late Bank of Paper Money to be recommended to the Hon.ble the General Assembly, at their next Session for their Approbation and Sanction; and that it be recommended to the Several Towns in this County in particular and throughout the State to appoint Deputies to meet at said Time and Place for the purpose aforesaid

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the Honble David Howell Esqr Welcome Arnold Esqr. and William Rhodes Esqr Col. Joseph Nightingale and the Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr. be and they hereby appointed in Behalf of this Town to meet the aforesaid Deputies at the said Proposed convention at East Greenwich for the Purposes in said Resolution mentioned and to Join in deliberating on any other conciliatory Measures to restore and promote Peace & Harmony and the Prosperity of the State.....

1D 1786 Aug. 29th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House on Tuesday the 29th Day of August AD. 1786.....

Hon.ble David Howell Esqr Moderator.

This being the Anniversary for Electing Deputies to represent this Town in the General Assembly at their Session to be holden on the Last Monday of October next and until the General Election in May next the following Gentlemen are duely chosen Viz

John Jenckes Esqr
John Brown Esqr
Charles Keene Esqr
Benjamin Bourne Esqr

Order delivered Sept. 2. 1786.

Capt Nathaniel Packard as Grand Jeroor and John Carpenter as Petit Juror are drafted according to Law. to Serve at the Hon.ble the Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden in this Town on the First Monday of September next

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby empowered and directed to procure on Loan a Sum not exceeding One Hundred Pounds lawful Money in Gold or Silver to be appropriated for the Support of the Poor of the Town — And That the Town will and do hereby promise and Engage that the same shall be repaid to the Lenders in Gold or Silver with the Interest.—

On the Application and Request of Mr. Robert Newell in Behalf of the Inhabitants on the West side of the Mill Bridge It is Voted and Resolved That Nathaniel Wheaton Esq Edward Thurber Esqr. and Mr. Benjamin Comstock be and they hereby are appointed to examine the most Convenient Place for making a Well in the Broadway leading Westward by Jethro Smiths about the Mill-Bridge for the Accommodation of the Vecinity and that the Inhabitants of that Vicinity have Liberty to make said Well under the Direction of said Committee provided the Town be put to no Expence thereby.—

Whereas Mr. Henry Bowen hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Warning and attending Town Meetings &c and the said Account being duly Considered It is Voted and Resolved That the Amount thereof being One Pound & sixteen Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury.—

The Meeting Dissolved.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and assembled at the State House on the 17th day of October A.D. 1786....

Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esqr. Moderator

This Meeting having taken into their Serious Consideration a Bill Entitled "An Act to Emanate and give Efficacy to the Paper Bills emitted by this State on May Last" and it appearing to this Meeting that the said Bill if enacted into a Law will be unconstitutional, unjust, impolitic tending to divide the People into Parties violently opposed to each other and this will

Octr 17th AD 1786

Destructive and Ruinous to the State It is therefore Voted and Resolved that the Honorable Jabez Bowen Esqr Nicholas Brown Welcome Arnold John Innes Clarke and Theodore Foster Esqrs be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to draft Instructions to the Representatives of this Town expressive of the Sense of the Freemen of the Town relative to the Bill aforesaid to be reported to the Freemen at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjournment..

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned until To Morrow Morning 9 Clock in Order to Receive and act upon the Report of the aforementioned Committee

A. D. 1786 Octr. 18th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and holden by Adjournment at the State House on the 18th Day of October AD 1786

Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esqr Moderator

The Committee appointed Yesterday made Report which was read and is as follows, Viz,

The Subscribers, appointed a Committee by the Freemen to draft Instructions to the Representatives of this Town expressive of the Sense of the Freemen, relative to the Bill now pending before the lower House of Assembly in this State entitled "An Act to Stimulate and give Efficacy to the Paper bills emitted by this State in May last" beg leave to Report as follows, Viz,

Your Committee have attentively considered the aforesaid Bill submitted to the Sense of the Freemen of this State by order of the General Assembly at their last Session and do not appear in Form of a Bill and not of a Law they conceive themselves Justified in expressing with greater Freedom their apprehensions of its Nature and Tendency.——

Some preliminary Observations seem necessary to introduce this Subject.....

The Right to property stands on a Basis no less firm than the Right to life itself - as the former is the Means of Preserving the latter.— Your Committee conceive that no Proposition can be more unquestionable than that in a State of Nature every Man has a Right

Right to enjoy the Fruits of his own Industry, or to exchange them for what in his Opinion is an Equivalent, extreme Cases excepted. The Social Compact is entered into to Secure and Protect this Right and to Supersede or take it away). And as in a State of Nature no individual could compel his Neighbour to part with his Property on any other than his own Terms, it is clear none could convey a Right so to compel him, in a State of Government.— The Representative Body therefore are not authorized to ascertain the Value of the Property of Individuals, and to decide on what Terms (excepting by Equal Taxation) they shall part with it.— In that Case there could be no private Property; but all Property would in Fact be a joint Stock, and the Property of the Representative Body: the Idea of Private Ownership being done away... This is the Situation of Property under Despotism whether exercised by One or by Many— its Subject is owner or Master of any thing though earned by the Sweat of his own Brow— not allowed to Stipulate any Terms for himself in Part with it.— If these Observations are well founded the General Assembly of this State (however they may be authorized to impose Common and Equal Taxes Imposts and Excises, and to ascertain the Kind of Money in which they shall be paid) will be found wholly destitute of Power to touch the Property of Individuals in the Manner proposed by the Test Bill.— It will your Committee conceive be found no less out of their Power to compel the Citizens to dispose of their Vendible commodities for Silver and Gold, or Specie than for Paper Money.— Barter was the first mode of exchanging Property; and the Moment a Man is deprived of his Right to Barter.— or to sell for Silver only— or for Gold only, or for paper Money only, or for any other description of what he may deem an Equivalent and on his own Terms:— that Moment he becomes a Slave.——

Admitting it to be within the Powers of the General Assembly to create it a Crime to Refuse to take the Paper Money of this Bank or of any other (for others may and no doubt will be made) at par with Silver and Gold, Your Committee conceive that the Punishment annexed to the Crime is excessive and against the Rights of the People— The Delinquent is to be "Incapable to be Elected to any Post of Honor or Profit within this State or to exercise the Functions of any Civil or Military Office therein; or of giving his Vote or Suffrage for Electing any Officer or Representative within this State". This amounts to a very grievous disfranchisement and in Effect almost to a Proscription.——

Your Committee conceive that Citizens already under

A. D. 1786 Oct. 18th

Allegiance to the State and paying their Just Part of all publick Charges for their Protection ought not to be called to take further Tests in this Way as Conditions of retaining their Freedom. —

Especially Tests which do not regard their quiet and orderly lives or the Safety of the State in Time of War but merely as in the present Instance relate to the Consideration for which they are to part with their Private Property... The Establishment of such a Principle your Committee apprehend would lay a Foundation for endless contention and Vexation and issue in a Dissolution of Government — Any Measure however unjust or Romantic and none could be much more so than the present attempt to keep the Bank at Par with Silver and Gold, might be fortified by the Party in Power With a Test Act and all those who refused to comply therewith disfranchised, Even a Minority as it might happen a very small Minority too perhaps only those in Power at the Spurr of the Occasion with a very few Friends out doors might in this way perpetuate their Measures and hold their Seats against the Voice of the Great Bulk of the People — What are our Liberties if we are to be deprived of them in this Way &c. — The Principles of our Constitution must rest on Grounds more firm and Safe — This Mode of Punishment therefore for Crimes of this Sort your Committee are assured is not only oppressive to Individuals but highly dangerous to the publick Weal and so unconstitutional

The Impropriety of a Test Bill will further appear from the Nature of the Thing thereby required. — All the Freemen of the State and others are required to Swear or affirm that they will use their Endeavours to give the Paper Money a Currency Equal to Silver and Gold — And that they will sell their vendible Articles for the same Price in one as the other. And in Case of Failure are to be punished as for wilful and Corrupt Perjury. — Your Comm

Your Committee do not understand the Intent of the Word "Endeavour" as used in this Bill and so are not capable of ascertaining the Amount of that part of the Obligation of the Oath — But if it means that the Declarant should tell what he has not to sell, it goes too far. — and if it means that he

should induce others to sell who are not disposed thereto it imposes an Officious Meddling in the Business of others. — And what Else it can mean other than what is contained in the Latter Clause of the Oath Your Committee are utterly at a loss — It seems to be a General uncertain and very exceptionable Expression in the Oath.. Legislators have power to take away Money from the Citizens, as much as may be wanted for necessary publick Uses But no Constitution within the Knowledge of Your Committee ever authorized a Legislature to make the People take Money of any Kind — A Tender of Money, Paper Money as well as hard Money may stop Interest, or a Lodgment of it in a Court of Law for the Use of the Creditor may extinguish the Principal of a Debt if the Tender or Lodgment of the Money is the same as contracted for. But in all Countries it is within the Option of the Creditor to refuse taking the Money, in Case he prefers subjecting himself to certain pecuniary Penalties of a less pernicious Nature than Disfranchisement even in Despotick States... How shocking then to the Feelings of Freemen must this Test Bill appear which has it directly in Object to compel the actual Taking of the Money not only for Debts But for all Articles exposed to Sale — And to do this by imposing a Solemn Oath for the Purpose! and to impose this solemn Oath for this purpose under the unheard of Penalty of Disfranchisement! — Your Committee are humbly of Opinion that this Attempt is without is without a Parallel in the Annals of Mankind —

Your Committee proceeded Secondly to consider the Justice of this Measure. And here First, Either the Paper Money is in Fact equivalent to gold and Silver or it is not — In the former Case the Proposed Test Bill is Clearly unnecessary for Men readily enough discover and pursue their Interest without Laws to Stimulate them thereto. In the latter Case if the Paper Money is not Equal to Silver and Gold every Man who takes it at par is a loser thereby And his loss will bear a proportion to the Quantity of Money he takes and a Compliance with the Test Bill would in every Instance be a Sacrifice of part of his Interest Secondly it is incontrovertible that the Paper Money is already depreciated from Three to Five for One — If it was possible then by any Exertion to raise it to par on a Sudden and unreasonable Advantage would be thrown into the Hands of many

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Present holders thereof at the Expence of those who have possedit at a Depreciated Value But

Thirdly From the Prencieples and Quantity of this Bank of Money and from the actual Circumstances of this State, if it was possible to give it a Currency in the First Instance equal to Silver and gold it would be wrong and unjust; because it must necessarily depreciate

In Third and last Place your Committee attended to the Policy of this Measure. And

First the Multitude of Oaths to be hereby introduced would tend to Familiarize and render Common that Solemn Appeal to Heaven — And as in this Case Private Interest is so intimately concerned would not the Strongest and most influencial Temptations to perjury be every day presented to the Minds of those under the Test. And would not many be caught in the Snares thus Spread before them by the Legislature and the Crying Sins of innumerable Perjuries be added to those of Injustice and Oppression ——

Secondly there is no provision to give this Measure certain Operation in any one Instance; — And least of all will it produce any Effect where the Chief Malady lies. — Merchants and Wealthy Farmers who alone, by the Articles they have for Sale, influence Money Operations will decline the Test, for all may decline it — and what good purpose will be effected by the Compliance of Hundreds who have nothing to Sell? — In this Posture of Affairs would not the Law prove nugatory? — Would it not in a short Time become obsolete, even though it should not be repealed or adjudged unconstitutional and void? ——

Thirdly by the Operation of this Measure all Foreigners and their Agents would be driven from the State and their Stock and Business wholly withdrawn. This would not only Prove an immediate Injury to Many who draw a Subsistance therefrom but would in the Event throw a Monopoly into the Hands of a Few designing Men. ——

Fourthly Your Committee could not avoid considering the Policy of this Measure as it regards the Present Rulers and their Supporters who it is to be presumed, if they are Serious in

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this proposal mean to take the Test and live up to it. — Will they not tie their own Hands and leave the Hands of others loose? While they are obliged by Solemn Oath to sell all their Vendible Articles for Paper Money at Par will they not see their Neighbours who refuse the Test, selling for Three or Four Prices and accumulating Interest at their Expence: — Will the vain Phantom of an imaginary Rule and sway in Public Affairs Countervail the Loss of Solid Interest? —

But Fifthly and Lastly as a Compliance with this Test will thus Operate to the Injury of all who take it your Committee are decidedly of Opinion, that although Some who have not Thought deeply on this Subject may be Serious in this Business it can never take Effect and Prevail: on the Contrary it carries its own Condemnation Written in Capitals on its very Forehead ——

Wherefore they beg leave to Submit to the Consideration of the Freemen the following Resolution

RESOLVED That the Bill entitled "An Act to Stimulate and give efficacy to the Paper Bills emitted by this State in May last" appears to the Freemen of this Town to be unconstitutional unjust and impolitic; and that John Jenckes Esqr. John Brown Esqr. Major Charles Greene and Benjamin Bourne Esqr. the Deputies appointed to represent this Town at the next Session of the General Assembly be and they hereby are instructed to Vote against said Bill and to use their endeavour to prevent its being enacted into a Law —

Jabez Bowen
Nicholas Brown
Welcome Arnold
John J. Clark
Theodore Foster
} Com.

And the aforesaid Report having been duly considered with that Serious Attention that the Importance of the Matter Required —

It is thereupon Unanimously Voted and Resolved that the same be received and adopted as expressive of the Sense of the Freemen of this Town and that the Town Clerk deliver

A.D. 1786 Oct. 18

Copy of the same to the Representatives of this Town for their Instruction and Direction to oppose the Passing the aforesaid Bill into a Law as aforesaid

Resolved That John Dorrance Esq. of the Amicable Fire Society and Capt John Mumford of the United Fire-Society be and they hereby are appointed Firewards in addition to those already appointed.

Resolved That Benjamin Bourne Esq. and Benjamin West Esq. be and they hereby are added to the School Committee to officiate till the annual Election in June next.

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be empowered and directed to procure and deliver to Mr Joshua Lindly Glass or other Materials necessary for Finishing the Hospital, to be charged to Mr Lendly towards the Third Payment to be made him pursuant to the Contract made with him by the Committee — That the Town Treasurer procure such Materials on the best Terms he can for the Interest of the Town and give his Notes as Town Treasurer for the same on Interest payable in Hard Money out of the next Tax —

Collector to receive Articles in lieu of Money.

Resolved That the Collector of Taxes be empowered to Receive such Articles as can be appropriated for the Support of the Poor of the Town in Payment of the Town Taxes now in arrear and unpaid at the Customary Silver Money Cash Prices — and that he shall have Credit for the Taxes thus discharged accordingly —

Town Treasurer to give his Notes for the Town's Debts

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be empowered and directed when Application shall be made for payment of Orders duly drawn on him and he shall not have Money to discharge the same to give his promissory Negociable Note for Hard Money therefor on Interest of the Owner of such Order shall be willing to receive his Note for the same. —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled and assembled at the State House in Providence on the 11th day of January A.D. 1787.

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator

Whereas Representation hath been made to this Meeting That it was agreed by the Committee of the Town for Erecting the Hospital That Mrs Martha Field and her Family who live near it should have Liberty of being inoculated for the small Pox whenever any person should be sent to the Hospital having the Disease the Natural Way and as she hath now requested Permission therefor

It is thereupon Voted and Resolved That the said Martha Field and her Family consisting of Seven Persons have Liberty of being inoculated for the small Pox immediately at the Hospital under the Direction of the Town Council unless on a Representation of a Committee of the Town Council she shall be willing to postpone it to another opportunity

Whereas Representation hath been made to this Meeting by Mr Peregrine Foster the Present Collector of Taxes for this Town That Sundry Taxes assessed before the Emission of the present Paper Money Still Remain due and as the Paper Money has greatly depreciated so that it will be unjust and unequal that such Taxes should be discharged by the Paper Money

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That the said Collector of Taxes be directed to use his best Endeavours for collecting the Taxes now in arrear in Hard Money as soon as may be but that he be expressly ordered and directed not to receive the same at Par on account of the Town in the Present Paper Money Provided Nevertheless that if any persons now owing Taxes as aforesaid will pay the same, at the Advance of Five Tenths the Sum in the Paper Money that it may be received on the Town's Account for the Space of Two Months

Resolved That John Brown, Zephaniah Andrews Joseph Nightingale Welcome Arnold William Russell Nicholas Brown, Zachariah Allen James Arnold Samuel Butler and James Martin Esquires be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to open a Subscription for raising the Sum of One Hundred and Twenty

A. D. 1787 Janry 11th

Lawful Money on the Credit of the Town to be paid in Hard Money or such Goods or Articles of Life at the Silver Money Cash Price, as can be appropriated for the Support of the Poor That the Town Treasurer Give his Notes on Demand for Hard Money to the Subscribers to the Loan for the Sums they shall respectively advance with Interest till paid — and that the Subscribers be assured that they shall be honorably repaid by the Taxes in Hard Money as soon as the Circumstances of the Town will admit of a Tax for that Purpose —

Resolved That Capt Paul Allen be and he is hereby appointed Clerk of the Market — To see that the Regulations thereof are duly observed and that he be allowed Twenty Five per Cent for his Services as Clerk of the Market on all Monies arising from the Market House Cellars and Wharff. —

Whereas Mr Henry Bowen hath exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Services as Sergeant. and the said Account having been duly considered it is Voted and Resolved That One Pound and Sixteen Shillings Lawful Money being the Amount thereof be allowed and Paid out of the Town Treasury to the said Henry Bowen. —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence on the 13th Day of March A.D. 1787

Col Joseph Nightingale Moderator. —

This Meeting was convened for the Purpose of drawing Jurors. when Mr Rufus Waterman as Grand Juror and Mr Nathan Arnold as Petit Jurors are duly drafted according to Law to serve at the Hon.ble the Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden at Providence on the third Monday of March Instant.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the Hall House in said Providence on Wednesday the 18th Day of April A.D. 1787.

The Hon.ble Jabez Bowen Esq.r Moderator —

The Honorable the General Assembly of this State having at their Session in March Last passed an Act entituled An Act to Prevent Bribery and Corruption in the Election of Publick Officers in this State &c. The said Act is therefore produced and Read. —

The aforesaid Act against Bribery and Corruption having been Twice Read in open Town Meeting The Hon.ble Moderator previous to the other Business of the Meeting took the Engagement required by the said Act which was administered to him by the Clerk in Open Town Meeting. —

And it being required by said Act That no person whatsoever shall Vote at the Election of any Governor Deputy Governor Lieutenant or any other General Officer or for any Deputy to Serve in the General Assembly as a Representative of any Town in this State or for any other Officer whatsoever except he shall at the Time of his being admitted Free or before the Time of his Voting take the following Oath or Affirmation to be administered by the Moderator to wit "You — Do solemnly Swear (or Affirm) That you have not since the Passing of this Act. nor will not during the Continuance of the same give or Promise any Money or other Thing or Reward or receive any Money or Promise or other Thing by which you may expect any Money or future Reward at the Election of any Officer to be chosen in this State; and that you will not in any Manner impede or Obstruct any person from Voting candidly nor Bargain or Contract with any person directly or indirectly contrary to the True Intent and Meaning of this Oath (or Affirmation) and this Declaration you make without any Evasion Equivocation or mental Reservation whatsoever". —

The following List or Register of All the Freemen of the Town of Providence is therefore here entered that it may appear who have taken the said Engagement. — Those who have taken the same having the Letter E. aforesaid to their Names respectively on the Right Hand, Viz,

A LIST or Register of all the Freemen of the Town of Providence April 18th A.D. 1787. —

Arnold Welcome	E.	Allen William Major	E.	Aldrich Ezek	
Angell Nathan	E.	Arnold Christopher Jun.r	E.	Anthony Daniel	
Arnold Christopher		Arnold Joseph Jun.r	E.	Anthony Joseph.	E.
Arnold James ...	E.	Arnold Alfored	E.	Angell James	E.
Aldredes Zephaniah	E.	Allen Benjamin	E.	Mered Ebenezer	E.
Atwell Amos.	E.	Ashton William	E.	Arnold Nehemiah	E.
Allen Amos	E.	Allen Joseph.	E.	Arnold Jonathan J	E.
Allen Philip	E.	Aplin Benjamin	E.	Arnold Thomas	
Allen Paul .	E.	Aborn James.		Angell Isaac	
Allen Zachariah .	E.	Aborn Samuel		Angell Stutton J.r	
Arnold Joseph	E.	Arnold Nathan	E.	Ashton Stephen	

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Allen James
Angell Thomas
Atwell Amos Jun. £.
Alger Benjamin £.
Ayplin Stephen
Aborn Lowry

B

Brown Nicholas.. £
Brown John £
Brown Moses £
Bowen Ephraim £
Bowen Jabez £
Bowen William £
Bowen Ephraim Jun. £
Bowen Joseph £
Bullock Samuel.. £
Bowen Henry £
Buchlin Joseph £
Buchlin Daniel £
Brown Zephaniah £
Brown Richard £
Brown Phinehas
Brown Decater £
Black James £
Black Samuel £
Bullock John
Butler Samuel Jun. £.
Brown Elisha £
Brown Eleck £
Brown Smith £
Bowen Isaac.. £.
Brown Obadiah £
Bourne Benjamin £.
Beverley George £.
Brown James £
Benson George £.

Barton William £.
Burrill James £
Burrill James Jun. £.
Bacon Henry £
Bacon Elisha £
Burrough James
Burrough John £
Bennet Thomas £
Brown Peleg £
Brown Daniel
Brown Ichabod £
Brayton Daniel £.
Burr David
Burr Levi £
Burr James £.
Burr Ezekiel £
Bishop Demus.
Browned William £
Bishop Lemuel £
Brown Elisha Jun. £
Bullock Jabez
Burr James
Barbin Benjamin
Butler Daniel J. £
Bowen Jacob
Blunt Robert
Brown Elisha Mason
Bowen Pardon £
Bailey Nathaniel £.
Branch Daniel £
Burril Joseph Jun. £
Branch Nicholas £
Billings William £
Barden Comfort £
Barber William £
Brown William £

C

Clark John Jun. £
Corliss George £
Corliss William £
Cooke Joseph.
Cooke Nichola. £
Cooke Daniel £
Cooke Hezekiah
Cooke Jesse... £
Carter John... £
Crawford Joseph. £
Crawford Gideon. £
Crawford Gideon J. £
Chace Samuel £
Chace William
Chace John £
Chace Amos £
Comstock Joseph.. £
Comstock Benjamin £
Carpenter Gersham £
Carpenter John..
Carpenter Oliver. £
Carpenter Oliver Jun. £
Currie Robert..
Currie James..
Currie Samuel
Cole Andrew £
Cozzens Benjamin.
Cozzens Benjamin J.
Callender Elias.. £
Carder Joseph...
Covel Silas..
Cory William... £
Carpenter Jonathan..
Carpenter Waterman £
Congdon Joseph Jr.
Converse Benjamin
Crelsman Christopher
Clifford John.

Crapon Thomas £
Cole Hugh
Carpenter Joseph £
Chaffee Thomas £
Coates Daniel £
Clark William £
Coy H. Jonathan £

D

Dexter Knight £
Dexter Stephen £
Drown Solomon Dr. £
Dunn Samuel
Dennison Jonathan
Dursey Ezekiel
Davis John £
Davis Israel £
Dagget William £
Danforth Job..
Dubosgite Peter
Dean Calvin £
Dummer Nathaniel
Dring Benjamin £
Dorrance John £
Decater Andrew £.
Decater Eleck £.
Decater Jonathan

E

Earl William £
Eddy Eleck £
Eddy Benjamin £
Eddy Joseph
Eddy William
Earle John £.

F

Fenner Arthur
Fenner Arthur Jun. £
Foster John.....
Foster Theodore... £.
Field John £
Fitton John £
Franklin Asa. £
Field Joseph... £
Foster Peregrine £
Field James £
Field James Jun £
Field Samuel
Field Daniel £
Field William £
Fuller Joseph £
Frothingham Nathaniel
Fenner Richard Jun. £
Fowle Jonathan £
Francis John... £

G

Gifford Josiah
Greene Caleb £
Gladding Benjamin £
Gladding Timothy £
Gladding Jonathan £
Godfrey Caleb. £
Gray Amasa £
Godfrey Samuel £
Greene Josiah £
Grainger John
Gorham Jabez
Gorston William
Givens William £
Gilman Nathaniel £
Gamon James

Greene Jonathan £
Green Resolved
Gainer John
Gladding H. Jonathan £
Gladding Nathaniel £
Gladding Allen £
Gordon George £
Greene Thomas (Son of Coles)

H

Howell David £
Hall Levi
Harris Stephen
Harding Eleazer £
Hacker Joshua £.
Harding Walker £.
Halsey L. Thomas £.
Hoyle Joseph £.
Hawkins Edward
Holden Charles £.
Holden John
Hopper Benjamin £
Hayley Recompence
Hopkins B. Jones
Hoyle Richard
Hubbard Ezra
Ham Levi £
Howard Peter
Hopewell Philip
Handy Charles
Hazzard Thomas
Hazzard Rowland
Howard Benjamin
Howland John
Hathaway Joshua
Ham Jotham
Harding William
Hammon James

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Hopkins Stephen &
Hartshorn Stephen &
Harding William &
Horgisell Ephraim

J.

Jenekes John &
Jackson Richard
Jacobs Nathaniel &
Jones Thomas &
Jones P. John
Jackson Samuel
Jones Gershom
Jackson Daniel &
Jenkins Jonathan
Jacobs Wilson
James Samuel
Ingraham Samuel
Ingraham Simeon &
Jenekes Joseph
Jenkins John &
Jenekes Jeremiah &
Jackson W. Fathan &
Jones John .. &

K

Keene Charles &
Kellon Stephen
Knowles Jonathan &
Keene John
Knowles William
Knight Andrew
Knowles Edward &
Keene Benjamin &
Keng Caleb ..

L

Lovett James
Lee Charles &
Larned William &
Larcher John &
Lindley Joshua &
Lindenberger John
Luther Sylvester &
Leppet Charles &
Lee William &

M

Mumford John &
Mathewson John &
Mason Darius &
Martin Joseph &
Marlen John &
Marlen David &
Man Benjamin &
Morris William
Mawney John
Munro James
Munro John &
Metcalf Michael
Metcalf Joel &
Mason Timothy
Marsh Jonathan &
Marvin Richard &
Martin Selvanus
Merry Ralph &.
Munro Lindsey
Miller Josiah &
Mason Pardon &
Manchester Isaac
Marlen Philip &
Manning James

N

Nightingale Samuel &
Nightingale Joseph &
Nash John
Newell Robert &
Neal Mc Hopestill &
Nichols Mc John &.

O

Olney Richard, &
Olney Christopher &
Olney George &
Olney Jeremiah &
Olney Simeon jr. &
Olney Nehemiah. &.
Olney Elisha ..

P.

Page Ambrose ... &
Power Nicholas ... &
Peck Allen &.
Peck Lewis .. &
Packard Nathaniel .. &
Pitman Sanders .. &
Pearce Benoni &
Price Edward &
Potter Phinehas &
Potter Joseph . &
Peckham William &
Peckham Silas &
Peckham Philip &
on State in Newport
Potter William. &
Potter Reuben
Potter Abijah.
Pellis John.

Pelley Daniel
Paul William & on Estate in Newport.
Peck Joseph
Page Benjamin &
Proud Samuel
Pearce Daniel
Perry Thomas &
Peck William &
Pits Ignatius
Pelley James
Peck Benjamin
Peck Elihu &
Pearce Oliver &
Peabody Ephraim &
Peabody John &
Pitman Thomas &
Pearce John (on Estate in Newport) &
Pearce Daniel ... &
Pitman Jaac &

R

Rusell Joseph &.
Rusell William &.
Richmond Barzillai &.
Rice Henry &.
Rulenburgh Thomas ..
Rhodes William
Rawson Wilson
Randall Stephen &
Randall Benjamin
Rone Thomas &.
Reynolds Benjamin
Reynolds Goindall &.
Reynolds John Junr
Remmington Stephen &
Richmond William &
Richmond Nathaniel &
Rogers John (on Estate in Newport) &
Randal Benjamin .... &

S

Sefsions Darius ...
Sefsions William A. &
Sweeting Job. . &
Smeth Simon
Smeth Job .
Smeth Henry &
Smeth John &
Sheldon Christopher &
Stewart Archibald &
Sterling Henry
Sprague Obadiah &
Abbry Robert
Abbry Cyprian &
Seattle Solomon &
Sabin Timothy &
Sabin James
Sabin Thomas &.
Saben John &.
Stille Benjamin
Sweet Nehemiah
Snow James &
Snow Joseph 2d &
Snow Joseph 3d &
Snow James 2d &.
Snow Daniel &.
Smeth Abiel &.
Smeth Joseph &.
Sheldon Pardon
Sheldon Israel
Smeth John &
Sephdson Elijah &
Sprobt Ebenezer
Smeth Samuel
Smeth Charles &.
Sampson S. Joseph &
Sampson Charles &
Spur John &.
Sanders Nathaniel &
Stillwell Daniel

Sampson Samuel &.
Smart Thomas &
Salisbury Joseph &
Shackleford Mag &
× Spooner Samuel &
Sheldon John &.
Sheldon William
Smeth Turpin
Smeth Noah &.
Sprague Daniel
Salisbury Archibald
Snow William &
Smeth Nathaniel &
Scot Job
Sheldon Job
Seaman William &.
Seaman James &
Short Samuel &
Seamans Nathan.
Smith Nicholas
Sheldon Palmer

T

Tellinghast Daniel &
Thompson Ebenezer &
Thurber Edward &
Throop Amos &
Thurber Samuel &
Tellinghast Joseph &
Talbot Benjamin &...
Thurber Benjamin &
Thurber William &
Taylor Robert.
Taylor Robert Junr
Tellinghast Joseph &.
Tellinghast Daniel Junr
Tellinghast Daniel Junr
Taylor Peter
Thayer Abner
Tibbet Simeon
Tellinghast John

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Killinghast William &
Tyler William
Tyler William 2d 2
Thurber Stephen
Thurber Samuel 2d &
Thurber Samuel 3d &
Thurber Squire &
Tefft Daniel &
Tefft David &
Taylor Benjamin
Taylor Edward
Treadwell John
Tripp Ethniel
Thomas Lewis
Tourtellot Daniel &
Tate Thomas &
Killinghast Jonathan &
Turpin Benjamin &
Thayer Thomas &
Thomas C. George
Tefft David (Son of Daniel) &
Thurber Edward Jun &

U.

Updike John &
Vial John &

W

Whitman Jacob &
Wilkinson David &
Wheaton Nathaniel &
Wheaton William &
Waterman Nathan &
Wheaton Ephraim
Wheaton Comfort &
Waterman Rufus &
Wheaton William
Wheaton James
Waterman 2d John &
Wheaton Seth
Warner Samuel
Wheaton Joseph
Whipple Christopher
Whipple John &
Wright Aaron &
White John &
Waltes James
Walker Ephraim &
Walker William &
William Nathan
Westcot Anthony &
Wardwell Stephen &
Williams Benoni &
Whitman Jacob Jun. &
Waterman William &
Whipple Samuel &
Warner Henry &
Westcot James
Winsor Olney
Williams Ahmeil &
Walker Calvin &
Wheaton Caleb &
Warner Nathan &
Wallen Jonathan on Estate in Newport &
Welkey Samuel on Estate in Newport &
White Ebenezer &
Ward Henry on Estate in Newport &
Williams Andrew &
Whipple Levi &
Whiting Joshua &
Warner Holliman &

Y

Young Gideon &
Young Samuel &
Young George &

The Persons whose Names follow, and are included in the foregoing List being duly Qualified were now admitted Freemen Viz, William Barker, Smith Brown, James Walter Nathan Seaman, Samuel Short, William Brown, Lobory Aborn William Clarke, Joseph Jones 2d, Samuel Pond Daniel Field, Charles Lippet Ephraim Hazewell, Caleb Ring Nicholas Smith George Gordon Isaac Peirman, Jonathan Woodbury Coy, Palmer Sheldon, Thomas Greene, son of Caleb, Jonathan Dexter (Cooper) Andrew Dexter, John Francis Pardon Mason, Joshua Whiting Oliver Pearce, Nathan. W. Jackson.—

This being the Anniversary for electing and Choosing Deputies to Represent the Town in General Assembly and the Day by Law appointed for putting in the Proxy Votes of the Freemen for General Officers of the State and Delegates in Congress the Gentlemen whose Names are hereafter mentioned are duly elected and Chosen to Represent this Town in the General Assembly at their Session to be holden at Newport at the General Election in May next and in all Sessions of said Assembly till the last Monday of October next (Viz)

John Brown Esq.
Welcome Arnold Esq.
Benjamin Bourne Esq.
Joseph Nightingale Esq.

Resolved That David Howell Nicholas Brown and Jabez Bowen Esquires Capt Paul Allen and Col. Levi Hall be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to take into Consideration the Resolutions of the General Assembly respecting the proposed Act for Equal Representation and the Report of a Committee of the Hon. General Assembly on the State Debts:— That they Draft Instructions for the Deputies and lay them before the Freemen at the Adjournment.

A Register of the Names of the Freemen of the Town of Providence who put in their Proxy Votes for the General Officers of the State and Delegates in Congress to be Returned to the General Election at Newport on the first Wednesday of May next Viz

Joseph Field
Christopher Arnold Jun
Joseph Carpenter
Thomas Sabin
Nathan Waterman
Gedeon Young
Ephraim Peabody
James Hammon
William Sarrad
to Peter Taylor.—

Oliver Carpenter
Obadiah Sprague
Daniel Bucklin
Jacob Whitman
Thomas L. Halsey
George Olney
Gideon Crawford Jun
Barzillai Richmond
John Updike
20 Charles Keene

John Davis
James Manning
Jonathan Fowle
Peris Jenckes Killinghast
Ebenezer White
Richard Olney
Stephen Wardwell
David Howell
Benjamin [illegible]
John Pearce

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Dexter Brown
William Peck
Daniel Cooke
James Snow Junr
Daniel Stidwell
John I Clarke
Levi Ham
Joseph Arnold Junr
Peter Penno
Samuel Wilkey
John Chace
Timothy Gladding
Job Sweeting
Joseph Allen
Jonathan Tillinghast
William Russell
Timothy Sabin
Samuel Bishop
Amos Atwell
Thomas Pitman
Nicholas Cooke
John Martin
Samuel Young
Benjamin Page
Charles Lee
John Spurr
William Earle
Joseph Martin
John Carter
John Earle
Jonathan Knowles
William A. Sessions
Benjamin Howard
William Ashton
John Jenkins
John Field
Jehu Smith
Stephen Hopkins
John Francis
Solomon Drowne.

John Veil
Daniel Jeffs
William Harding
Semeon H. Ariley
David Jeffs
Thomas Tate
John Rogers
Daniel Field
Elisha Brown
Stephen Dexter
Hopestill McNeal
Sylvester Luther
Thomas Rone
Nathaniel Jacobs
Andrew Dexter
Joseph Potter
Charles Leppet
John Jenckes
Benjamin Hoppen
Benjamin Eddy
Daniel Tillinghast
Amos Allen
Joseph Russel
Benoni Pearce
John Brown
Nicholas Brown
Nathaniel Wheaton
David Wilkinson
Peregrine Foster
John Fetton
Aaron Wright
Benjamin Turpin
Israel Davis
Jeremiah Olney
Joseph Fuller
Joseph Comstock
Mag Shackleford
James Burrill
Elihu Peck
Ephraim Bowen

Samuel Butler
Amos Atwell
Welcome Arnold
James Snow
George Young
Paul Allen
Joseph Snow.
Amos Shaw
Jeremiah Jenckes
Thomas Perry
Thomas Smart
Abiel Smith
William Corlis
James Black
Nathan Warner
Daniel Brayton
James Arnold
William Allen
Daniel Jackson
John Larcher
William Bowen
Benjamin Allen
Christopher Sheldon
John Dorrance
Thomas Chaffee
Benjamin Steere
Nathaniel Gladding
Moses Brown
Nathan Angell
Amasa Gray
Ezekiel Burr
Samuel Nightingale
Jonathan Arnold
Joseph Crawford
Daniel Coates
Simeon Thayer
Ezek Eddy
Charles Holden
Nicholas Power
David Martin

John Bucklin
William Tillinghast
James Angell
William Bagget
Amos Throop
Caleb Greene
Christopher Olney
Samuel Short
Benjamin Alger
Stephen Hartshorn
John W Gladding
John Peabody
Isaac Bowen
George Benson
Zephaniah Brown
Joshua Hacker
Samuel Butler Junr
Pardon Bowdin
Lewis Peck
Ephraim Walker
Obadiah Brown
Nathaniel Sanders
Jesse Cooke
Andrew Cole
James Brown
Jacob Whitman Junr
Archibald Stobart
Jho. Bennet
Oliver Pearce
Jehabod Brown
Samuel Thurber
Rufus Waterman
John Gainer
Nathan Angell Junr.
Jotham Nash
Thomas Jones
Joshua Whiting
John Field
Philip Martin
John Mumford
Joseph Tillinghast
Zephaniah Andrews

Thomas Thayer
Joshua Lindley
Gershom Carpenter
Joseph Snow 3d
John Sabin
Philip Allen
Henry Bacon
Ephraim Bowen Junr
Sanders Pitman
Calvin Walker
Daniel Snow
William Richmond
Ebenezer Harding
Allen Gladding
Jonathan Gladding
Samuel Godfrey
Simeon Ingraham
Nathaniel Bailey
Cyprian Merry
Nathaniel Richmond
Nathaniel Gladding Junr
Nathan Arnold
Jabez Bowen
Thomas Crapon
Robert Newell
Daniel Bucklin Junr
Daniel Branch
Daniel Pearce
William Clarke
Jonathan Marsh
Henry Ward
Henry Rice
Samuel Whipple
William Barton
Joseph Burrell Junr
James Burge
Ambrose Page
Ezek Dexter
Zachariah Allen
Alfred Arnold
Knight Dexter
Nathan Branch

Ignatious Pitts
Noah Smith
John Howland
Stephen Aplin
Nathaniel Smith
Theodore Foster
William Lee
Jonathan Jenkins
Elijah Bacon
Nathan W. Jackson
William Seaman
James Field Junr
Philip Horsewell
John Munro
Nathaniel Gillmor
Henry Warner
Ezek Brown
Edward Knowles
Solomon Searle
George Gordon
William Barker
William Snow
John Burrough
Henry Smith
Joseph Anthony
John Jones
Edward Price
Henry Bowen
Jacob Bowen.

Mr. Benjamin voted for Govr. Bradford's Power with very little Alteration in any of the Names.....
The following for Govr. Collins's Power.

John O Waterman
Arthur Fenner Junr.
William Gibens
Samuel Black
Anthony Westcot
Jonathan W. Cox
Nehemiah Arnold
Caleb Wheaton
Samuel Spooner
Squire Thurber
Joseph Bowen

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Benoni Williams
Elias Callender
Gideon Crawford
Elijah Sheppard Jor
Calvin Dean
John Whipple
Nathaniel Packard
Joseph Smith
William Waterman
William Thurber
Charles Sampson
Josiah Miller
Peleg Brown
Asa Franklin
William Peckham
Samuel Sampson
William Brownell
Jonathan Wallen
Richard Marven
Ralph Merry
Joseph Stacy Sampson
Joseph Hoyle
Obneil Williams

Stephen Remmington
James Seamans
Daniel Tourtellot
Comfort Wheaton
Pardon Mason
Charles Smith
Benjamin Brerig
Ebenezer Averel
Waterman Carpenter
Richard Fenner Junr
David Tefft
Reuben Potter
William Tyler 2d
Benjamin Appleis
John White
William Wheaton
Levi Whipple
Hollman Warner
William Walker
Thingotley Carpenter

Proxies where no Gov is Named. —
Andrew Williams
Benjamin Randall
Oliver Carpenter
Samuel Chace
Grendall Reynolds
Ebenezer Thompson
Philip Peckham
George Beverly
Stephen Randall
William Paul
Benjamin Gladding
Joseph Salisbury
Edward Thurber Junr
Thomas Hazzard
William Bellings
Comfort Bardin
Samuel Thurberg Jr
Edward Thurber
James Field
26. John Pettys

Votes for his Excellency John Collins Esq. at Gov. 51
Votes for Honble Wm Bradford Esq. Gov. 261
Proxies put in where no person is named as Gov. 20
332

RESOLVED That this Meeting be adjourned to Wednesday next the 25th Day of this Month at 4 o Clock in the Afternoon then to meet at the State House in order to receive and Act upon the Report of the Committee this Day appointed and it is adjourned accordingly. —

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At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled and holden by Adjournment at the State House on the 25th Day of April A.D. 1787.

Mr Richard Olney Moderator. —

The Committee appointed at the Last Meeting not being ready to Make Report this Meeting is therefore further Adjourned to Monday Next at 4 o Clock P.M. at this Place in Order to Receive and Act on said Report. —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled and holden by Adjournment, at the State House in the 30th day of April A.D. 1787. —

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator

The Committee appointed on the 18th Instant now laid before the Meeting the following Report in Writing Viz

That they have considered the Bill entituled "An Act for the more Equal Representation of this State in General Assembly and beg leave to submit the following Observations thereon, to the Good sense of the Freemen in Town Meeting assembled. —

Your Committee have been led to Enquire into the Constitution or Fundamental Laws of this State, relative to the Doctrine of Representation in the General Assembly; and find that in the Charter granted to this State then Colony in the 15th Year of King Charles the Second, the Principles of which they presume themselves authorized to consider as forming the Out-Lines of the present Constitution having only such as were necessarily done away by the Declaration of Independence) among other things it is Ordained and Declared That "Forever ever hereafter Twice in every Year that is to say "on every first Wednesday in May and on every last Wednesday in October, or of them "in Case it shall be necessary the Aforesaids and such of the Freemen of the said Company "not exceeding Seven Persons in Newport Four Persons for Each of the Respective Towns of "Portsmouth and Warwick and Two persons for each other Place Town or City who shall be "from Time to Time Severally Elected or Deputed, by the Major Part of the Freemen or "of the Respective Towns or Places for which they shall be so elected or Deputed shall "have a General Meeting or Assembly then and there to Consult advise and determine "in and about the Affairs and Business of the said Company or Plantation". —

In Virtue of this Clause your Committee are of Opinion That the Town of Providence hath a Constitutional Right to send Four Deputies to the General Assembly of this State. —

Your Committee also find That in pursuance thereof Four Deputies have been in Fact chosen in this Town and have taken their Seats in the Legislature at the Sessions of the General Assembly in May and October annually, from the Date of said Charter down to the Present Time; and they do not learn that it is even suggested that said Grant Privilege and Franchise is or ought to be forfeited either for Non User, or Misuser or for any other Cause or Pretext whatever. . . .

Your Committee proceeded in the next Place to enquire into the Powers of the General Assembly and of the Freemen by Towns and individually to alter the Constitution of this State relative to this Particular so as to deprive this Town of Half the Number of Deputies agreeably to the Bill now under Reference before them —

And here your Committee humbly apprehend That the General Assembly are restrained and Limitted in all their Legislative Acts

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the Constitution. They are in Fact the Creature of the Constitution: They are brought into Existence thereby, empowered to act agreeably thereto, for a certain Term, and then sink back again into the Mass of the Fellow Citizens; and all their Acts are liable to examination and Scrutiny by the People, that is by the Supreme Judiciary their Servants for this Purpose; and those that militate with the Fundamental Laws or impugn the Principles of the Constitution are to be Judicially set aside as void; here is a Rampart thrown up against arbitrary Power, where it is most to be dreaded as well as soonest to be expected, Viz, in the Hands of the Sovereign.—

Precarious indeed would be the Tenure of Life as well as of Liberty and Property, held at the mere will of a popular Assembly, for Judges of their own Powers, of their own Acts and of the Peoples Liberties. Six Months is a short Term; but it would be long enough to enable a wicked and Corrupt Set of Rulers not only to enrich and aggrandize themselves, on the Plunder and Ruin of the People, but also to take eventual Measures to perpetuate their Power by passing legislative Acts taking out of the Hands of the People every Means of Redress.—Wherefor Your Committee are decidedly of Opinion that the General Assembly have no Powers adequate to the Object of this Bill

The Powers of the Freemen in Town Meeting by Instructions are to be considered in the next Place. Let it be here noted that Town Meetings are also held under the Constitution and present Laws and that they are also restrained thereby; it is of dangerous Tendency to let down the Bars of the State, and to Countenance Town Meeting in voting Innovations in the Constitution. It may be asked what Power the General Assembly has to throw out such a Plan by a legislative Act to the Towns? — The Charter gives them no such Power, and if they have it as a Grant from the People let it be shewn; it may be convenient for the Purpose of a Faction; Points may be carried in this Way.— The Party in Power may acquire Fast and Virtually disfranchise Voters and then call upon the Towns to make such Alteration in the Constitution as to weaken their Antagonists, to exclude half their Members from the House; a Bare Majority of Towns may give such Instructions by a bare Majority of Votes; but to what purpose is all this? Are these fair and candid Measures to establish a Constitution? — Do they not rather carry the Appearance of undermining and destroying the Constitution.—

There may be Thirty Towns in this State; fifteen Towns may contain only one third of the Inhabitants of the State; half only of the Freemen of these fifteen Towns may assemble in Town Meeting; a bare Majority of those so assembled, or a little more than One fourth Part of the Freemen of the State may consent to the Alteration while the other Fourteen Towns or Two thirds of the Inhabitants of the State may Vote against it; and in the Town Instructions

Instructions for the Alteration may be carried up in this Manner to the General Assembly when a far greater Number of the Freemen actually Vote against them on Town Meeting than Voted for them, and when perhaps not half the Freemen Voted any thing about them; And moreover when all those who did vote for the Alteration only voted away the Privileges of the Freemen of other Towns, and thereby enlarged their own Privileges in the State.— Whence it appears that the very Nature of this Alteration is such as to render it an Improper Object of such a Reference to the Towns because it is making them Judges in their own Cause. It is, in Fact, an adversary Business in which there are Two parties in Interest— The Four Original Towns against the Twenty six others.— That the Chance is clearly against the former, in this Mode of Decision as Twenty six is to Four; therefor if this Alteration is necessary or desirable it is to be accomplished in a more fair and Impartial Manner.

It may be proper in the Third and last Place to consider what Power the Freemen at Large have to alter or establish a Constitution.—

Now it must be acknowledged we have arrived at the True Source and Origin of Power; the People can make or alter their Fundamental Laws at their Pleasure. But here it is proper to pause and deliberate on the Momentous Undertaking.

To effect this great Object different Methods have been adopted in different Countries.— The United States afford rare Instances of the Voluntary Formation and Adoption of Free Constitutions by the People.— But no Instance has occurred to Your Committee, of a Constitution being formed by the General Assembly of any State and sent down to the Freemen of the several Towns and Districts to be adopted by their Instructions; nor has any Instance occurred of any alterations being attempted in any of their Constitutions in this Way.— This may be Equally dangerous; for under the Idea of an Alteration, principals the most radical and essential might be effected and in a short Time a Total Change take Place by the Address and Management of an intriguing Faction in Power: For which Reason this Business seems never to have been entrusted to the Rulers for the Time being in any of the States.—

If a Constitution is to be formed or an Alteration therein made, common Prudence would suggest that the Business should be committed into the Hands of Men specially appointed for that Purpose, and who are not connected or interested particularly in the Administration for the Time being or disposed to make Arrangements to favour the Purposes of any Faction or Party; such an Arduous and Momentuous Affair should be considered and digested in a Convention of the most Wise Cool and Independent Characters of the State specially appointed and assembled for that purpose before ever it ought to be laid before the Freemen at large for their full Deliberation.—

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In such Times as the Present, whatever Plan may be thrown out, by the Party in Power, is almost sure to be adopted greedily by their Supporters; and the more injuriously it may operate on the Minority, the more certainly will it be adopted by their Adversaries. This Consideration alone drawn from the Mode of Making the Alteration in the Opinion of Your Committee would be a Sufficient Objection even if the Matter of it appeared ever so unexceptionable. —

Has it not been objected against the Recommendation of Congress for altering the Confederation That they were for Enlarging their own Power. That they Stepped forward with an Ill Grace in a Business wherein they were concerned themselves — That they might have prejudice or Sinister Views of their own to promote. — may have not these very Objections dropped from the Mouths of Members of the Legislature who are now fabricating Alterations in the Constitution, and Powers of the General Assembly and urging them on the Towns with Great Zeal and with all the weight of their Influence as Public Men and Men in Power. —

Such has been the Effect of these Objection whether well or ill founded that not a Single Alteration proposed by Congress in the Confederation has been adopted by all the States; and a Convention is soon to be holden of the First Characters in America other than Members of Congress for the Purpose of Reviewing the Federal Constitution. —

In like Manner Your Committee conceive That if ever any Alterations should be made in the Constitution of this State. They ought to originate in a State Convention appointed for that Special Object and not otherwise. —— Your Committee moreover are of Opinion That it would be unreasonable and Improper to lessen the Number of Deputies from the Four Best Towns, even in Case a new Constitution should be framed in the Manner above proposed.

1. Because this Franchise enjoyed for more than a Century by those Town has been considered and has been become the Right and Property of the Inhabitants as really and fully as the Soil with the Buildings, the Appurtenances and Easements there of which have passed into the Hands of the present Holders so priviledged and have thereby been held in greater Estimation and Value. —

2. Because most Towns or at least Two of them being Commercial Places have become very numerous and as they have been heretofore, so they may become again in Better Times, the Receptacles of Great Wealth and be assessed accordingly in Publick Taxes; and therefore on both these Accounts are well entitled to some preferential Distinction in the Representative Body of the State. —

3. Because the Great Number of Small Precincts in this State incorporated into Towns by the Legislature has exceedingly increased the Number of Deputies and Reduced the Influence which the old Towns had originally in the Legislature; and as these little Corporations have been created by the Consent and Vote of the Deputies from the priviledged Towns and under the Expectation of their being protected in the Continued Enjoyment of this Franchise it would be ungenerous and a Breach of Good Faith for these little Corporate Towns to turn against the old Towns in this particular and to attempt to deprive them of the very Franchise by the Exercise of which, and on the Grounds of which alone the Little Towns came forward with their Claims and were in Fact brought into Existence

4. The Idea that all Towns in the State great and Small are entitled to an Equal Voice, in the General Assembly is Chymerical and unfounded in Reason and Good Sense as well as against the Usage and Custom of all Nations. — Your Committee are of Opinion That no Sober Man would Risque his Reputation for Common Sense on the Assertion That Two Hundred Freemen ought to have the same Weight in the Legislative Body as Four Hundred or that Two Hundred Thousand Pounds Property is of the same Consideration as Four Hundred Thousand in Point of Legislation. ——

5. If Alterations in the Representation are necessary to the Purposes of just Legislation Your Committee are humbly of Opinion That at a Proper Time and in a proper Method They may take Place on just Principles and without such Gross and Palpable Injury to Particular Towns as would be done by the Bill. .

Suppose for Instance That some of the Larger Towns which now Send Two Deputies should be indulged with one or more additional Deputies and some of the least Towns reduced to One Deputy Only in some such Method and under proper Authority delegated for that Purpose by the People might not a Scale be formed of Six Four Three Two and One Deputies for the several Towns much better according with their Numbers and Taxable Property than for every Town Great and Small to Send Two Deputies. —

Lastly Your Committee attended to the Reasons or Matter of Inducement of the Bill before them. —— They cannot conceive That such a Number of Deputies was granted to the Four Old Towns, to make a Sufficient Number

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to do and transact the publick Business" for the same Paragraph ascertains That Two Deputies shall be allowed to every other Town and Provides That this Grants shall run together without Limitation of Time. And it is a Well known Maxim That Grants shall hold most strongly against the Grantors and most beneficially for the Grantees; Therefore it is not to be intended That the Grants of Six and Four Deputies to some Towns were made on any other or less weighty Reasons than the Grant of Two Deputies to the other Towns or that the Former were to be of Shorter duration than the Latter. ——

Moreover Your Committee do not conceive the Necessity of such Numbers at that Time to do the publick Business. — They are not able to comprehend how the publick Business is to be done by Main Strength or by Numbers to better Advantage than by Wisdom and Moderation and a very few Men might suffice for all the purposes of Legislation at that Time of Innocence and Simplicity of Manners. —

The True Reason for allowing the several Towns to be represented even at that Time by Six Four and Two Deputies appears to Your Committee to have been in Order to give the Towns Weight in the Representative Body as nearly as might be proportioned to their Numbers and Wealth: and this Reason instead of Losing has gained Strength from That Period to the present Time.

Your Committee observe That another Reason in support of the Bill under Reference to them is drawn from the Confederation of the United States That Each State has an Equal Voice in Congress. But here it ought to be remarked That the Individual States are all Sovereign, and That Sovereignty is a State and Condition of such supereminent and Transcendant Rank That it acknowledges no superior on Earth There cannot therefore be a more or less Sovereign State. Although a State which is Sovereign may be greater or less. If therefore Delegates Meet in a Common Council to represent Sovereign States from the Necessity of the Case they must meet on the Footing of Equality and not otherwise for if one State has Two Votes and another But One the latter cannot be more than half a Sovereign. Soleciism in Politicks. For Sovereignty is one and indivisible. In

There is therefore no Analogy in the Two Cases unless it is contended That the Thirty Towns in this State are so many Sovereign

Sovereign Bodies possessed of Independence, and armed with the Necessary Powers of Legislation and Government. and that their Deputies meet in General Assembly as Ministers Plenipotentiary or Delegates to advocate the Sovereign Rights and Independence of the Several Towns But this will be too extravagant to require a Serious Refutation

Your Committee cannot Conclude without expressing the Pleasure they feel that the Legislature hold the Wisdom of Congress in any particular in such high Estimation and they hope that another Article in the Confederation will appear to the Hon.ble Legislature to be founded in Equal Wisdom which Provides That no Alteration shall ever be made in the Confederation without the Consent of the Legislatures of every State. — Should that Wise Provision be also adopted by the General Assembly relative to the Constitution of this State and the Consent of of every Town held previously necessary to every Alteration therein Your Committee Trust that the Towns Providence as well as the other Three original Towns will long remain in the Enjoyment of their just and Constitutional Rights and Privileges

Whereupon Your Committee Recommend the following Resolution.

Resolved That it is inexpedient in the Opinion of the Freemen of this Town at this Time to Frame a New Constitution for this State or to attempt any Alteration in the Present Constitution and that it will be at all Times of dangerous Tendency for the General Assembly for the Time being to frame a New Constitution or to make Alterations in the present Constitution with a View to lay them before the Several Town Meetings in this State for the Adoption of the Freemen.

Therefore Resolved That the Deputies appointed to Represent this Town in the General Assembly be instructed to Reject the Bill for depriving the Towns of Newport Providence Portsmouth and Warwick of part of the Number of Deputies they have a Right to send to the General Assembly under the Constitution of this State". ——

And the Foregoing Report and Resolution having been laid before this Meeting and duly Considered it is thereupon Resolved That the same be and is here by accepted: and That the Clerk be directed to make out a Copy thereof and to deliver it to the Representatives of this Town for their Information relative to the Matters aforesaid. —

The

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The Same Committee, at the same Time, also laid before the Meeting the following Report in Writing [Viz]

That they have had under Serious Consideration the Report of a Committee of the Hon^ble the General Assembly on the State Debt and beg Leave to lay before the Freemen of this Town their Remarks and Opinion thereon. —

As the Act passed by the General Assembly referring this Report to the Freemen at large does not Point out any particular Object or set forth any Reason therefore Your Committee found themselves at a Loss where to take up the Subject or in what Point of Views to consider it. — In all Questions of mere Property there are at least Two Parties in Interest and where Difference in Sentiment arises a Third becomes necessary to discharge the Office of Judge or of Arbitrator betweat the other Two. — In the Present Case a certain Class of Citizens called Publick Creditors form one Party and the General Mass of the People who pay Taxes form the other. — The General Assembly seems charged with the weighty Concern of decideing in this Affair and doing Justice betweat the Parties; To what purpose then is a Reference made of this Subject to the People at large who are a Party. — Are they to give Instruction on this Head in their own Favour and thereby to conclude the other Party in Interest by hearing and bending the Judgment of the General Assembly? Is this Reasonable? Is this Constitutional? It cannot be unless the very Nature of things has altered with the Times — But if the People at Large are only called on as a Party to shew Cause if any they have why they should not pay their Debts or why in Equity the Nominal Sum should be reduced it should Seem that the other Party in Interest to wit, the Publick Creditors ought also to be called on with no less Formality to shew Cause on their Part: and after a Candid Hearing of both Parties the General Assembly ought to stand perfectly at Liberty unshackled and unfettered with Instructions from either Party to determine according to Right and Justice

It may be objected That in calling on the People at large the Publick Creditors are included: But as the People are only to act by Instructions in Town Meetings and as the Publick Creditors do not form a Majority in any one Town in this State there is no Chance for them in this Way to communicate their Sentiments to the General Assembly. —

They are certainly in every Case to be out-voted - and outvoted too in a Case where the very persons who vote against them are in Fact voting for themselves: And if Votes and Instructions obtained in this Way are to decide on their Property they are of all Men most miserable. —

One Observation more on this Head. Your Committee Conceive it impossible for the Freemen at Large even in Towns which lie nearest the Sources of Information to be so well informed on this Subject as the Members of the General Assembly are or ought to be; - and much less can it be expected in the Country Towns where there are few or no publick Creditors and where the People only hear one side of the Case That they should be in any Good Degree capable to Judge on the Subject especially as every Man must know and feel That he is immediately Interested in the Event. — Instruction therefore on this Subject can only be useful to the General Assembly as they Contain New Information or new Arguments unthought of before and not as carrying with them the Power of controuling and binding the Votes of the Members as in other Cases. —

Certain it must appear to all Mankind That an almost Ten Years War against the most Powerful Nation in the World has not been Carried on by these States by mere Vapour and Smoke. — Some Persons must have parted with a vast deal of Valuable Treasure to feed Cloathe and transport such vast Armies as filled every part of this Country as well as to procure Military Stores & Navy &c. — And Where can the Man be found so lost to the Feelings of Humanity as to openly avow that he is Resolved to enjoy the Blessings of Liberty and Independence without Paying the Price they cost? Your Committee will presume so much in Favour of their Fellow Citizens that it is only necessary for them to be convinced that particular Individuals have really furnished Supplies or Rendered Services to the Publick in order to insure them an adequate Compensation therefor. — The first Enquiry therefore is What Evidence can be required on this Head? —

The Present Holders of the publick Securities have settled their Accounts long since, or rather the Publick settled them for them as they pleased and gave them Notes for the Balance. — If this Kind of Evidence is to be rejected What Kind of Evidence is to be admitted and How fatally is an Error to be corrected? What Confidence is to be placed in a New Settlement more than has been placed in the Old one? Will not the New Principle be equally subject to future Vexations? The Paper Money issued in 177[illegible]

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and in 1776 and the Notes issued for Money hired in 1776 and 1777 were all except the Six per Cent Notes made a Tender in all Cases yet they were afterwards in Fact reduced by a Scale of Depreciation. — The Notes ordered in May 1778 for the State Money to be taken out of Circulation were Ordered to be reduced by the Scale in November 1782. — All the State Debts for Paper Money before May 1st. 1781 were ordered to be consolidated by the Scale in June Term 1782.

In October 1782 an Order was passed for Reducing by the Scale all the Four per Cent Notes agreable to the Date on which the Loss of them were issued. It is useless to enter into a Detail of all the Various Shapes into which these Debts have been thrown: Suffice it to say That after issuing Money and Notes made a Tender in all Cases they have been reduced to other Notes again by the Scale from Time to Time at the pleasure of the Publick — And now at this late Day almost Twie Years after the Last Settlement the Creditors of the Publick are told That their Notes must be overhaled and again Reduced — and Your Committee cannot learn That it is even pretended That the present General Assembly are in Possession of any new Evidence Light or Discovery on the Subject not as fully laid before the General Assembly in October and November 1782. — What then is the Amount of the Reason of this Over-halling? — Only That the Present General Assembly differ in Opinion from the General Assembly of October 1782. — —

And What would be the Consequence if all other Business once properly and legally finished and concluded should be thus liable to a Reexamination and Overhalling at all future Times only because the for the Time being should differ in Opinion from those who have gone before them? Will not this precedent establish a Rule to undo the present Doings and keep all things forever a-float. —?

From the very severe Pressure of the late War on these Parts of the Country the Citizens of this State necessarily furnished very Large and essential Supplies towards the Common Cause. —

Provisions of all Kinds Food and Cloathing as well as military Stores in Great Abundance were taken from some of the Inhabitants before and during the Time of the State Bill, at very moderate Prices — Others voluntarily furnished the Publick with vessel Loads at a Time to the Amount of Great Part of their Substance at Reasonable Rates some of them indeed out of Good Will and others to prevent them being taken by Force. —

Many

Many lent their Money But not on their own Terms. — In every Instance the Publick made one Half and in many the whole of the Bargain And afterwards too liquidated the very Notes they gave in Payment. — The Evidence of all which Property now exists in the State Securities in the Hands of Individuals. As these Supplies were chiefly for the Common Cause they are charged to the United States and form part of this States Claims against the Union.

Can it then be right for the State to demand a Credit of the Union for these Supplies and Services at the Rate they were taken from Individuals and at the same Time to Refuse to pay those same Individuals therefor at that Rate? Would not a clear Profit be made in this Way to the State out of Individuals as really and truly as if the State should take away a Man's Oxen from him at Forty Dollars and charge that sum to the United States and afterwards reduce the Note given for the Oxen suppose to Twenty Dollars or to any smaller Sum? In short it does appear to Your Committee how this State can in Equity and Good Conscience attempt to charge the Union with any Greater Sums expended than the Real and Substantial Value of what the State finally pays to Individuals on Account of those same Expences.

If indeed a Doubt is suggested whether the Publick really received the Value in the First Instance let that be fully and fairly enquired into and if any Mistake or Fraud shall be found let it be rectified in the Security held by the Individual: and let it also at the same Time be set Right in the State's Charge therefor against the United States: This Justice may Require and the Latter no less than the Former: For Good Faith and Fair Treatment is as much due to our Sister States in a Final Settlement with them as it is to Individuals.

After this Point shall be once Settled That the Publick have received the Value there remains no further Subject of Enquiry. — The Debt is acknowledged and the Publick have nothing to do with the Security but to pay it; From That Moment it becomes Private Property and inviolable. — It may be a Subject of Commerce. — It may pass at Par or under Par. — It may be sold or given away. — But when produced at the Treasury and Payment demanded It will Speak for itself. — It is a Maxim well known That no Man shall take Advantage of his own Wrong — and for the same Reason no State shall. It will be readily allowed That the only Reason that State Securities have passed at a Discount is the Failure of Payment

A Greater Failure of Payment would still reduce them to a Greater Discount and absolute Resolution never to make any payment at at all might annihilate them. Suppose such a Resolution to pass and the publick Securities to be considered and to pass for a Term as Waste Paper would the be thereby fully calenguished &c. ——

Would it be fairly paid off &c. — This indeed would be a short and Easy as well as a New Way to get out of Debt: but would it not be a very wrong thing to pass such a Resolution and as wrong afterwards to take Advantage of it &c. — If so it must be proportionably wrong to fail in Payment so as to reduce the Securities to a Discount and then to take Advantage of that Discount. —

At any Rate Your Committee are assured That in Such a Case the whole is due from the Publick and if it is not to be paid to the present Holders it ought to be paid to those unfortunate persons Who from Necessity parted with the Evidence of their Claims at a Discount

YOUR Committee find That an Attempt is made to discriminate State Notes issued for the Four per cent Notes from the other State Securities and that on this Ground that they propose for a Term at a discount.. And it is even proposed to reduce them to Forty for One Because of their having been at a certain Time seen in Company with Continental Money.

On this Subject your Committee Remark — First That these Notes were when first issued a Tender in all Cases. —— If any Faith is to be given to Paper so issued they have all that in their Favour. ——

Secondly In the Act of May 1778, for calling in all the state Paper no mention is made of these Notes. —— They were not therefore considered on the Foot of Paper Money only — But as Securities of an Higher Nature

Thirdly. They were also discriminated from the Current Paper Money and Ordered not to be received in Payment of Taxes and so in this Respect on a Footing with other State Notes. ——

Fourthly By the Resolution of October 1782 the Treasurer is ordered to reduce them to their Just Value by the Scale in Specie reckoned from the Date of the last Issued. —— On this Occasion great

Consideration

Consideration and Debate was had on this Subject and every possible Light held out — so that in the Opinion of your Committee the Present Assembly cannot stroke that Resolution without a great and Manifest Breach of Publick Faith which will Operate to the great Injury of all such Persons as may have been interested in that kind of Notes either as original Holders or as Purchasers since that Period. —— for by that Act all persons had a Right to consider the Consolidated Notes issued for the Four per cent on a Footing every way opposite to the other State Notes — And if that is now to be ripped up and set aside many persons will have reason to complain that they have been led into a Snare and greatly injured by that Solemn Act of Government

Fifthly. In the Sales of Estates the Property of Government long since the Consolidation of the Four per cent Notes, Specie or any kind of State Notes were made receivable in payment. — Here is a second establishment of these Consolidated Notes on a Footing with all other State Notes and in Consequence some of them were actually paid into the Treasury for those Estates in Common with other State Securities. — Can it therefore be right to put a less Value on those which remain outstanding than others have been already received for at the Treasury &c. If so ought not those Payments also to be overhalled and the Purchasers of such Estates obliged to make up the loss on such Notes by the same Scale which is to be applied to others &c. —

Sixthly If these Notes having passed at a certain Time for less than their Value is a Sufficient Reason for Reducing them the same Reason will apply now as forcibly to all other State Notes; none of which will now pass for more than One Third of their Nominal Value and they do in Fact pass daily for less; and therefore are on the same Ground again to undergo the Operation of another Scaling. — But if the passing Value of Notes or Interest is to be established as their Just and true Value Your Committee cannot avoid asking why shall not the same Rule be applied to paper Money &c. Why shall Notes be reduced to their passing Value and afterwards be paid off in Paper Money at its nominal Value &c. —

Agreeably to the Report of the Committee of the Honorable General Assembly and the Present Laws a Note for Forty Dollars consolidated from the Four per cent is now to be reduced to One Dollar because it is suggested to have passed once at that Rate and that One Dollar is to be paid off in the present paper Money at its nominal Value when at notorriously passes at no more than six to Eight for one, so that the Holder of a Note for Forty Dollars is likely to Realize

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one Shilling or one Penny only in the Pound.— A Thrifty Method of Paying Debts.

If it is to be an Established Principal of Financeing in Paper for the State to put it off at its nominal Value and to take it in at its passing Value it cannot be expected long to pass for much.—

Your Committee cannot conclude without expressing some Surprize to find so much Anxiety for Redeeming the publick Securities or discriminating between them when it is notorious That the Paper in which it is proposed to pay them off is at so low an Ebb of Depreciation and when it is only proposed to redeem old Promises with new Ones much worse.—

When the State shall find itself in a Condition to perform some of its promises it will be Time Enough to Criticise and Haggle about their Exact Value; for in the Opinion of Your Committee there is much good Sense in the Italian Proverb "That an Acre of Performance is worth the whole Land of Promise".—

Whereupon Your Committee recommend the Following Resolutions Viz

Resolved That it is inexpedient in the Opinion of the Freemen of this Town to give any particular Instructions to bind the Deputies appointed to represent this Town in the General Assembly on the Several Matters contained in the Report of a Committee of the Hon.ble the General Assembly relative to the States Debts.——

First Because we are not fully possessed of all the necessary Information on those Subjects.— And Secondly Because we Consider ourselves as one of the Parties immediately interested in as much as those Debts must all be paid by Revenues raised from the People of this State.— And Therefore

Resolved That said Deputies be instructed to Consider with Candour and to decide with Impartial Justice on the Several Matters contained in the said Report agreeable to the Solemn Oath of Office to be administered to them.——

The

The Foregoing Report and Resolutions having been duly Considered It is Thereupon Resolved That the same be excepted and That the Clerk be directed to make out a Copy thereof and to deliver it to the Representatives of this Town as Instructions from the Freemen relative to the Matters aforesaid.——

Whereas Representation is made to this Meeting That Encroachments are making on the Highway between the Parting of the Roads near Mr Joseph Hoyles and Col. Olneys It is therefore Resolved that the Matter be referred to the Town Council and that they be requested to make Enquiry respecting the same and to proceed thereon as they shall think best.

The Persons whose Names follow are duly drafted to Jurors to serve at the Hon.ble the Inferior Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Providence on the Third Monday of June next Viz

Col. William Russell Grand Juror
Col. Christopher Olney Petit Juror.—

Whereas Samuel Chace Esq.r exhibited an Account by him charged against the Town for Services and Expences of Jury of Inquest on the death of Elizabeth Horgell supposed to have been Murdered and who was found dead in the Water at the Head of the Wharff of Mr Thomas L. Halsey and the said Account having been duly Considered it is Voted and Resolved That Eighteen Shillings Lawfull Money being the amount thereof be allowed and paid to said Chace out of the Town Treasury.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in said Providence on Monday the 4.th Day of June A.D. 1787.—

The Honorable David Howell, Esquire, Moderator.

This being the Anniversary Election of Town Officers the Gentlemen hereafter named were elected to the Offices ascribed to their Names respectively, to wit:

Town-Clerk, Daniel Cooke, Theodore Foster Esq.r having previously resigned the said Office.

Town

Town-Council. { Ebenezer Thompson, Esq. President, Capt. Paul Allen, Samuel Butler, Esq. Aaron Mason, Esq. Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. and Capt. Nicholas Power.

Town-Serjeant — Mr. Henry Bowen.

Town-Treasurer — James Arnold, Esq.

Town-Audit, — } Mr. Thomas Jones, Ambrose Page, Esq. and Capt. John Stumford.

Constables. { Messieurs Daniel Lawrence, Samuel Thurber jun. Benjamin Aplin, Robert Newell, Michael Metcalf, David Tefft, William Givens, John Davis and John Starr.

Sealer of Weights and Measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman.

Assessors of States and Overseers of the Poor. } Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. Mr. Nathan Waterman and Capt. Lewis Peck.

Surveyors of Joist and Boards, &c. { Messieurs Christopher Arnold, jun. Elijah Bacon, Jonathan Hammond, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Isaac Angell, John Carlile, John Burrough, Joseph Carpenter, Isaac Bowen, Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles and Joseph Congdon.

Surveyors of Highways { Hon.ble David Howell, Esq. Mr. Robert Newell, John Brown, Esq. Capt. John Stumford and Mr. Joseph Bucklin.

Guagers of Cask. { Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Esek Brown, Esek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Weeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon and Daniel Anthony.

Vendue-Master and Collector of Taxes. } Capt. Benjamin Hoppin.

Clerk of the Market. Capt. Paul Allen.

Packers of Beef & Pork. { Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Joseph Field, William Page, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth

Bosworth, William Billings, Samuel Weeden and Daniel Brown.

Corders of Wood. { Messieurs Joseph Lawrence, John [illegible], John Petty, James Field, John Jones, John Lasell and Samuel Wilkie.

Overseers of the new Hospital. { John Brown, John Jenches and Welcome Arnold, Esquires.

Pound-Keepers. Messieurs Daniel Branch & Nicholas Branch.

To value Estates when disputed in Voting. { Arthur Fenner, jun. Esq. Mr. Samuel Black and John Brown, Esq.

Fence-Viewers. { Mr. Samuel Thurber jun. Capt. John Field and Major Charles Keene & Mr. Christopher Arnold.

Presidents of the Fire-Wards. { The Honble Jabez Bowen, Esq. John Brown, Esq. and Joseph Martin, Esq.

Fire-Wards. { Nicholas Brown, Esq. Col. Joseph Nightingale, Col. Amos Atwell, Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Mr. Job Smith, John Foster, Esq. Major Robert Taylor, Mr. Samuel Thurber, jun. James Arnold, Esq. Capt. John Stumford and John Durance, Esq.

Engine-Company No 1. near the Bridge. { Messieurs Gershom Carpenter, Joseph Nightingale, John Brown, Daniel Stillwell, Arthur Fenner, jun. Welcome Arnold, Thomas Bennett, John White, Knight Dexter, Elisha Brown, Thomas Arnold and Richard Jackson, jun.

Engine-Company No 2. at the North End. { Messieurs Simeon Thayer, Levi Hall, Michael Metcalf, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burt, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, John Whipple & Samuel Thurber, jun.

Engine-Company { Messieurs John Mathewson, Stephen Andrews, Daniel Jackson, Samuel [illegible], Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, [illegible]

No 3. on the West Side of the Bridge.	Cooke, James Burrell, Paul Allen, Samuel Black, Zephaniah Brown and Benjamin Hoppin.
Persons to order when & where Goods shall be removed in Case of Fire.	Col. Barzillai Richmond, Doct. Ephraim Bowen, Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Mr. Obadiah Sprague, Mr. Samuel Thurber jun. and Capt. Henry Bacon.
Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire.	Messieurs Joseph Martin, Jonathan Hammond, Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter and John Carlile.
Field-Drivers.	Messieurs Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold jun. John Jones, David Burt, Reuben Potter, jun. Jonathan Fowle and William Larned.
Sealer of Leather.	Samuel Butler, Esq.
Scavengers.	Messieurs Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown and Job Sweeting.
Overseers of the Work-House.	Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. Mr. Nathan Waterman and Capt. Lewis Peck.
Town-Cryer.	Mr. Daniel Branch.
Overseer of Weybosset Bridge.	James Arnold, Esq.
Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town.	Benjamin Mann, Esq. Major Charles Keene, Mr. Obadiah Sprague, Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Esq. Moses Brown, Esq. Mr. Zephaniah Brown and Mr. Daniel Anthony.
Committee for superintending and regulating the Market House.	Doct. Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Esq. Arthur Fenner, jun. Esq. John Jenckes, Esq. and John Borrance, Esq.

The

School Committee.	The Rev. Doct. James Manning, Rev. Enos Hitchcock, Rev. Joseph Snow, and Rev. Moses Badger, Jabez Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Moses Brown, John Innis Clark, David Howell, Theodore Foster and John Borrance, Esquires.

Thanks given to T. Foster Esq.

On the Resignation of Theodore Foster, Esq. as Town-Clerk, Resolved, That the Thanks of this Town be given to him for his long and faithful Services in the said Office.

Comm. to receive Papers, &c. from the late Clerk, &c.

Resolved, That Moses Brown, Ebenezer Thompson and Thomas Arnold, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to receive of Theodore Foster, Esq. late Town-Clerk and Clerk of the Town-Council, the Seal, Files of Papers, and Books of Record, &c. belonging to the said Offices, and to deliver them to Daniel Cooke the present Town-Clerk, giving and taking Receipts for the same.

B. Hoppin to appoint an Assistant

Resolved, That Capt Benjamin Hoppin Collector of Taxes be and he is hereby empowered to appoint an Assistant to collect the Taxes in this Town, provided the said Assistant shall be approved of by the Town-Treasurer: And that the said Benjamin Hoppin shall be answerable for the Conduct of the Assistant by him so appointed.

Grant to D. Box £9.

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to advance to Major Daniel Box the Value of Thirty Dollars real Money in Specific Articles, on the Credit of his Invalid Certificates, agreeably to a Resolution of the General Assembly passed at the Session in March last for supplying Invalids: And that any Person advancing the Articles shall have Credit therefor in the next Tax.

Deputies to apply to the Assembly for Comm. to survey Plainfield Road.

Resolved, That the Deputies appointed to represent this Town in the General Assembly be and they are hereby instructed to apply to the General Assembly at the next Session, that a Committee may be appointed to survey the main Road leading from this Town to Plainfield in Connecticut from the Line of the Roads Westward of Mr. Snow's Meeting-House to the Line of this Town on the said Road.

D. Shillwell to build a house for Engine N°1.

It is Voted and Resolved, That Mr. Daniel Shillwell be and he is hereby appointed to procure a Lot and build a House thereon for the Engine N°1. And that the Expence thereof be paid out of the next Town-Tax.

S. Thayer to repair House of Engine N°2.

Resolved, That Col. Simeon Thayer be requested to cause the House of Engine N°2. to be repaired: And that the Expence thereof be paid out of the next Town-Tax.

Clerk to procure Book for Council.

Resolved, That the Town-Clerk be and he is hereby directed to procure a Record-Book for the Town-Council; and that the same be paid for out of the next Town-Tax.

H. Bowen allowed £0. 10. 0.

Resolved, That Ten Shillings Lawful Money, be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr. Henry Bowen Town-Serjeant, it being in full Satisfaction of an Account by him exhibited for attending Town-Meeting, procuring Candles & cleaning State-House from April 18th to June 4. A.D. 1787 inclusive.

Adjournment.

Resolved, That this Meeting be and hereby is adjourned to this Day Fortnight, then to meet at the State-House at Two of the Clock in the Afternoon: And that in the mean Time the Clerk cause the Inhabitants to be warned to meet at the said Time and Place for the Purpose of ordering a Tax.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and held at the State-House on Monday the Eighteenth Day of June, A.D. 1787.

The Honble David Howell, Esq. Moderator.

Committee to examine Benefit Street.

Resolved, That the Honorable David Howell, Esq. Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. and Mr. Daniel Anthony be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine Benefit Street in and about the Bend thereof, and to make Report at the next Town-Meeting in what Manner and upon what Conditions the said Bend can be streightened, together with a Plan thereof.

N. Branch, allowed £12.

It is Voted and Resolved, That Twelve Pounds, Lawful Money, be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr. Nicholas Branch for ringing the Bell in the Baptist Meeting-House and winding up the Clock for One Year from June 6th A.D. 1786, agreeable to a Resolution of this Meeting held on the said Sixth Day of June.

Tax of £6000 granted.

Resolved, That a Tax of Six Thousand Pounds, Lawful-Money, be granted by this Meeting to be levied on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town: That the same be assessed on or before the First Day of July next and collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the Fifteenth Day of September next: That the Poll-Tax be Thirty-five Shillings: That the said Tax be paid in Paper-Money, or in Gold and Silver at the Rate of one Silver Dollar for Forty Shillings of the Paper Money: That Orders to be issued by the Town-Treasurer on the Collector of the said Tax be receivable at the same Rate: That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to issue Orders on the said Collector to the Amount of one Quarter Part of the Sums due from this Town to such Persons as may apply for the same: Which Orders shall be receivable in Payment of the said Tax, and the Amount of the same endorsed on the Notes or settled Accounts on which such Orders shall have been issued; provided nevertheless, that whereas divers Debts are due from the Town to Individuals where it hath been especially contracted that they should be paid in the Tax now granted: That therefore the whole of such Debts be paid notwithstanding any Thing herein before expressed.

It is further Resolved, That Interest be paid on the said Tax from the said Fifteenth Day of September till the same shall be collected and paid into the Town-Treasury.

Town-Auditt to settle T. Foster's Accounts.

Resolved, That the Town-Auditt be and they are hereby appointed to settle the Accounts of Theodore Foster, Esq. late Town-Clerk and Council-Clerk with this Town.

June 18th 1707.

2/3d of Fine for selling Liquor to be given to the Complainer

It is Voted and Resolved, That Two Thirds of the Fine incurred by Persons selling Liquor contrary to Law be and the same is hereby granted to the Person or Persons who shall complain against such Offender or Offenders on his or their Conviction; and Persons who take Licence and all others are requested to give Information accordingly.

Persons on the Common at the North End to be prosecuted in Leg

Resolved, That the Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets &c. be directed to inform the Persons who have encroached on the Common at the North End of the Town that they will be prosecuted unless they remove their Fences off the said Common as soon as they have harvested what is now growing thereon.

Interest not to be collected on State Tax till August

Resolved, That the Collector of Taxes be directed not to collect Interest on the State Tax now collecting until the Expiration of the Time now limited by the General Assembly for collecting the same: That he collect Interest from the said Time: And that the Interest till then be paid out of the Town-Treasury.

Shoom removed for Use of Town-Council.

Resolved, That the Town-Council be empowered to take the Shoom in the Market now in the Possession of Mr Joseph Lawrence for their Use as a Town-Council, till the further Orders of this Meeting.

H. Bowen allowed £0.-9-0.

Resolved, That Nine Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr Henry Bowen, Town-Serjeant; it being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for warning and attending this Meeting.

The Meeting was dissolved.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House and from thence removed to the Baptist Meeting House in the said Town on the Twentieth Day of June A.D. 1707. The Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr Moderator

Resolved

Committee to enquire what Town Lands can be sold &c.

Resolved, That Messieurs Robert Taylor, Aaron Lopez, and Job Sweeting be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine into and report to the next Meeting what Lands there are belonging to this Town that can be disposed of to the Town's Advantage.

Note respecting the last Tax.

Resolved, That the Tax ordered by this Meeting on Monday the Eighteenth instant be collected and paid into the Town-Treasury in Two equal Payments instead of One, the One Half thereof on or before the Fifteenth Day of September next, and the other Half thereof on or before the First Day of January next: That the Poll-Tax therein be reduced to Thirty Shillings: That One Silver Dollar shall not discharge more than Thirty-six Shillings of the said Tax: And that the Assessors be and they are hereby directed to consider the Circumstances of the Poor and release such from the Poll-Tax in Whole or in Part as they shall think necessary.

The Meeting was Dissolved.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State-House on Tuesday the Twenty-eighth Day of August A.D. 1707.

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esqr was chosen Moderator.

Deputies chosen.

This being the Day by Law appointed for electing Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable the General Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday in October next, and until the General Election in May next, the following Gentlemen are duly chosen, to wit:

Welcome Arnold Esqr first Deputy, John Brown having by a Letter to this Meeting previously declined being re-elected.

Benjamin Bowne Esqr 2.

Joseph Nightingale Esqr 3.

Nathaniel Whalon Esqr 4th.

August 28th A.D. 1787.

Jurors drawn

Samuel Young as Grand-Juror and Capt. James Munro as Petit-Juror are drafted according to Law, to serve at the Honorable Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery to be holden in this Town on the first Monday in September next.

Town-Audit to settle Account of J. Lawrence, &c.

It is Voted and Resolved, That the Town-Audit be directed to settle the Account of Mr. Joseph Lawrence against the Town for finishing the North-East Room in the Market-House, upon Principles of Equity and Justice, notwithstanding any Agreement heretofore made. And that the said Joseph Lawrence be requested to deliver up the Key of the said Room to the Town-Treasurer, immediately.

Instructions to the Deputies against Excise Act.

It is Voted and Resolved, That the Instructions given to the Deputies at the Town-Meeting held on the 28th Day of April, A.D. 1786 be copied by the Clerk, and that the same with the Addition now made be given to the Deputies as their Instructions in the Hon^ble the General Assembly.

Which Instructions and Addition are as follow, to wit:

To Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Bourne, Joseph Nightingale and Nathaniel Wheaton, Esquires, Deputies from the Town of Providence to the Honorable the General Assembly.

Gentlemen,

"The Freemen of the Town of Providence in legal Town-Meeting assembled having maturely weighed the Nature and Operation of an Act of the late General Assembly entituled "An Act laying certain Duties of Excise on certain Articles therein described" are so fully impressed with a Sense of its Impolicy, Injustice and Oppression, that they find it necessary to evince their Disapprobation of the said Act.

We are therefore inclined to instruct you and we do hereby instruct you as Representatives of this Town, that you use your utmost Exertions and Influence in the General Assembly to procure a Repeal of the aforesaid Act in all Parts thereof."

And whereas a Memorial dated on the Day of was signed by a large Number of the Inhabitants of this Town and presented to the Honorable the General Assembly against an Emission of Paper Money, at the Close of which an Excise on Spirituous Liquors and other Luxuries was suggested as a temporary Expedient to relieve from the Distresses of direct Taxation occasioned by the Scarcity of Money, and as a Substitute in the Room of the proposed Emission

August 28th A.D. 1787.

Emission of Paper: and which Memorial it is suggested had Influence in procuring the said Act.

It is therefore Voted and Resolved, That the Deputies be instructed to explain fully the Motives inducing said Memorial, and the real Circumstances and Considerations under which it was signed by the Inhabitants.

It is further Resolved, That the Representatives of this Town have Liberty, either to have read publicly in the General Assembly the Instructions this Day given them or not read, as they shall think best, or as Circumstances shall require.

Butchers to let whole Quarters of Beef remain in Market.

It is Voted and Resolved, That the Butchers who hire the Stalls in the Market-House be and they are hereby permitted till the next Town-Meeting to let Beef in whole Quarters of their own Property only, remain in the Market-House over Night.

C. Bowen allowed 12£

It is Voted and Resolved, That Twelve Shillings, Lawful Money, be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr. Henry Bowen, Town-Serjeant, it being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for Services done for the Town from June 20. to August 28. A.D. 1787.

The Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence on the 10th Day of December A.D. 1787.

Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Moderator.

This Meeting being convened for the Purpose of drawing Jurors, Mr. Michael Metcalf is drawn as a Grand-Juror and Mr. Samuel Field is drawn as a Petit-Juror to serve at the Honorable the Inferior Court of Common-Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the third Monday in December Instant.

Jurors drawn.

The Meeting is Dissolved.

1788 March 8th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence on the Eighth Day of March, A.D. 1788

The Honble Jabez Bowen, Esqr. Moderator.

March 8th A. D. 1788

Jurors Drawn.

This Meeting being convened for the Purpose of drawing Jurors, Robert Taylor Junior, is drawn Grand Juror, and Christopher Olney is drawn Petit Juror, to serve at the Hon^ble the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery to be holden in Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in March instant.

March 24th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen and Freeholders of the Town of Providence, held at the State-House in said Town on the Fourth Monday in March, A. D. 1788, legally warned and assembled, pursuant to an Act of the Honorable the General Assembly passed at the Session held in February last, submitting the Constitution for the United States, transmitted to the Legislature of this State, by a Resolution of Congress of the 28th of September, 1787, to the People, that each Individual by himself by Poll, in open Town-Meeting may give his Yea or Nay aloud, whether the said Constitution shall be adopted or negatived —

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq^r is chosen Moderator.

Adjourned to the Friends Meeting-House

The following Persons appeared and gave their Yea and Nay aloud, as follows, to wit:

Yea,	Nay,
	Samuel Sampson Esq^r

Adjourned to Tuesday next 2 O Clock P. M. then to meet at the State-House —

Tuesday met pursuant to Adjournment and further adjourned to Wednesday next 2 O Clock P. M. then to meet at this Place —

Wednesday met pursuant to Adjournment —

Yea,	Nay.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally assembled at the State-House on Monday the 24th Day of March, A. D. 1788 —

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq^r Moderator —

N. Branch allowed £12.

Resolved, That Twelve Pounds Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr. Nicholas Branch for ringing the Bell in the Baptist Meeting House One Year Three Times a Day: to wit in the Morning at Noon, and at 9 O'Clock at Night; and regularly winding up the Clock in the said House during the said Time: That the said Nicholas Branch ring the said Bell in the Morning from the 20th of March to the 20th. of September at Sunrise, and from the 20th of September to the 20th of March, at half an Hour before Sunrise: And that upon his Performance of the said Service he be paid Quarterly out of the Town-Treasury —

Adjourned to the Friends Meeting-House —

Comm: to draught a Petition to the Assembly.

Resolved, That Messrs David Howell, John J. Clark, Thomas Arnold, Theodore Foster, and Benjamin Bourne be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draught a Petition to the Hon^ble the General Assembly, that a Convention of Delegates may be recommended by the Legislature of this State to be convened, agreeably to the concurrent Resolutions of the Convention of the United States and of Congress for considering and deciding on the new Constitution —

Tender Act &c. to be repealed &c.

Resolved unanimously, That it is the Sense of this Town, that the Act for making the Paper Emission of this State a legal Tender at Par, and also the Act for the Limitation of Actions on Notes and Book-Accounts ought to be repealed agreeably to the Prayer of the Petition of the Society of Friends and that an Act ought to be passed, for making [illegible]

March 24th A. D. 1788.

Paper Currency at its equitable Value, a Tender in Payment of Debts, and substituting real Estates and certain specific Articles of personal Property also a Tender, at an appraised Value, under such Restrictions as the Wisdom of the Legislature may point out. ——————

Adjourned to Tuesday 25th Instant then to meet at the State-House 2 O'Clock P. M.

Tuesday met pursuant to Adjournment and further adjourned to Wednesday the 26th Instant 2 O'Clock P. M. then to meet at this Place —

March 26th

Wednesday the 26th met pursuant to Adjournment.

Brown Rogers & Brown allowed £1-1

Resolved, That One Pound One Shilling Lawful Silver Money be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Messrs Brown Rogers & Brown, it being the Amount of an Account by them exhibited for a Record Book furnished for the Town. ——————

Report of the Comm: to draught a Petition accepted.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 24th Instant to draught a Petition to the Honorable the General Assembly, that a Convention of Delegates may be recommended by the Legislature to be called, for considering the Constitution for the United States, transmitted by Congress to this State, Have this Day made their Report, which having had Two several Readings; Resolved, That the same be received: And it is further Resolved, Unanimously, That a Copy thereof be made out and signed by the Clerk in Behalf of this Meeting, and delivered to the Deputies of this Town to be preferred to the Honble the General Assembly to be holden by Adjournment at East Greenwich in the County of Kent on the last Monday of March Instant. ——————

The Petition above referred to is in the Words following, to wit:

To

Petition.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Rhode-Island &c —

The Petition of the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town-Meeting legally assembled by Adjournment on the 26th Day of March A. D. 1788, humbly sheweth —

That your Petitioners being assembled in Pursuance of an Act passed by the Legislature of this State, at their Session in February last, Submitting to the Consideration of the Freemen of this State the Report of the Convention of Delegates for a Constitution for the United States as agreed on in Philadelphia the 17th of September A. D. 1787 — and feeling themselves deeply impressed with the Weight or Magnitude of the Subject, under Reference to them, beg Leave with most respectful Deference to lay before the Honorable Legislature, the Unanimous Result of their most calm and deliberate Considerations and Discussions on this Subject. —

The Formation of a Constitution, or Fundamental Laws for a State, your Petitioners consider as the most arduous as well as most important Work to which the People can be called: It therefore seems to require not only the Exercise of the Wisdom and Experience of all the People, but that this Wisdom and Experience should have full Scope to display itself to Advantage; and that all the Members should severally be put into a Situation to profit and be edified by each other. — The most natural and simple Idea of the Mode of Proceeding in this Business, among a People resolved into a State of Nature would seem to be, that all the People should be assembled on some spacious Plain, to enquire on the Subject, discuss and adopt a Constitution for themselves. In antient Times, and in small Republics this Measure has been taken with Success: But in the present Case, where is the Spot commodious for assembling all the Freemen of this State? — And where is the Man who could be heard to Advantage by such a numerous Assembly? — In this Method therefore in Vain do we seek for the Benefit of the Wisdom of our Friends in other Parts of the State, to assist our Reason and guide our Judgment in this enquiry

Affair. —

These Observations will yet become more striking when applied to the Federal Union, and the Doctrine of Representation will force itself on our Minds in an Instant. Such is the Weakness of the human Mind in its most improved State, and such the Shortness of human Life, that it has been found necessary to divide and parcel out the Business thereof into various Hands, to the End, that each may avail himself of the Skill and Experience of all others, in their various Occupations, and a mutual Dependance on each other become the Interest and Safety of all. — Your Petitioners apprehend that Representation is a fundamental Principle in the existing Constitution of this State. — The Laws which operate throughout the State, are made by Representatives of the People, and could not be regularly made by an Assembly of all the Freemen, or acting at Home, in their several Town-Meetings: In neither of which Cases could the Parties to be affected more immediately by such Laws, have an Opportunity to be heard with Convenience, and to have their Reasons examined and discussed with Candor and Deliberation. When therefore a Subject of Universal Concernment offers itself for the Consideration and Discussion of the Freemen of the State, and which cannot regularly be passed upon by the ordinary Representatives assembled in their Legislative Capacity, in orderly Sustenance of the existing Principle of Representation, other Representatives for the Special Purpose of deciding thereon, as it would seem to your Petitioners should be appointed. —

It doth not appear to your Petitioners, That either the Federal Convention or Congress have attempted to deprive the Freemen of this State, of the Benefits to be expected from an Examination, Discussion and Decision, on the Subject now under Reference to them, by a State Convention for that Special Purpose. — The Great Federal Convention held at Philadelphia, Resolved, that their Work should "be laid before the United States in Congress assembled, and the President's Letter adds, that it is "Submitted to the Consideration of

of the United States in Congress assembled," by which Expression it was clearly open to Amendments by Congress at their Pleasure, and we are informed that such Amendments were in Fact proposed in Congress, but not adopted. — The same great Convention further give their Opinion, that after their Work shall have passed through the Hands of Congress, it should be "Submitted to a Convention of Delegates chosen in each State by the People thereof, under the Recommendation of its Legislature". — This Submission being in general Terms cannot be understood as confining such Convention to adopt or reject it in Gross, and as precluding the Consideration or Proposal of Amendments, nor has in Fact been so understood by the States of Virginia and Massachusetts, before the Convention of the former it is to be laid by Order of their Legislature for free and full Discussion, and the Convention of the latter have actually proposed several Amendments. —

The whole Agency of Congress in this Affair seems to have been to lay it before the States, as they received it from the Convention. If therefore the Freemen of any State are precluded from the Benefit of proposing Amendments, it must be done by their own Legislature, and by no other Body of Men, who have taken Measures relative to this Work.

From the prevailing Opinion throughout this Union, from the Acts of Congress, as well as of most of the Legislatures of these States, and particularly from the Acts of this State, granting to Congress the Power to levy and collect an Impost, and to regulate Trade, as well as from the actual Embarrassments of public Affairs, and private Distress and Ruin of many Individuals, your Petitioners presume themselves authorized to believe, that the old Confederation of the United States is not adequate to all the Purposes of the Federal Union. — And whether the proposed New Constitution is the greatest Improvement thereon, remains a Question to be resolved by this State in Common with her Sister States in the Union. The most eligible Mode of proceeding in this Business therefore is the simple Point of Enquiry —

It occurs to your Petitioners that the Mode pointed out by the Act under present Consideration is inexpedient and

improper, Because,

1st In this Mode the Sea-Port Towns cannot hear and examine the Arguments of their Brethren in the Country on this Subject, nor can they in Return be possessed of our Views thereof, so that each separate Interest will act under an Impression of private and local Motives only, uninformed of those Reasons and Arguments which might lead to Measures of common Utility and public Good. —

2dly Not only will much Information be denied in this Mode, but a full hearing of the Cause will be impossible. For other States are interested, and their Interests in many Cases opposite to ours. — How far it may be proper to sacrafice a State Interest to obtain Federal Protection requires great and deep Thought: and how much Power ought to be vested in Congress to enable them to vindicate the National Honor is not easily determined by those who are best acquainted with the actual Circumstances of both the Friends and Enemies of the United States; Yet every individual Freeman ought to investigate these great Questions in some good Degree, before he can decide on this Constitution: The Time therefore to be spent in this Business, would prove a Great Tax on the Freemen to be assembled in Town-Meetings, which must be kept open not only Three Days, but Three Months or more in Proportion as the People at large more or less Information. —

3dly All the Letters and Papers containing the Information aforesaid, could not be conveniently copied and dispersed into all the Towns in this State to be read to all the Freemen, and in Case they should decide without an entire Knowledge of the Public Affairs of the Union, there could be no Security for a just Decision. —

4thly The Mode pointed out may exclude many of the Freemen from voting at all. Votes are only to be taken by Yea and Nay. All Persons therefore who are not ripe for judging by themselves and wish to devolve it on a Convention

vention are excluded from a Voice, as also all others who may be decidedly in Favour of certain Amendments, and not willing to vote individually by Yea or Nay: The Votes and Influence of both these Descriptions of Citizens will be necessarily excluded: And as those only who vote can bind themselves individually, how are they to be bound who do not Vote? They are not represented, nor can they be bound under that Idea by the Doings of their Neighbours; so that after Three Quarters of the State may have individually voted for the New Constitution, a Principle is yet to be sought for to bind the other Quarter. —

5thly This Mode of Voting is in other Respects indecisive. For the United States in Congress assembled, will not receive and count the Votes of Individuals, nor will they take a Certificate thereof from the General Assembly, as a Warrant to them to bind the State: They can only attend to the Voice of a Convention duly authorized to act on the Subject, and to bind all the Individuals in the State, in Virtue of having been appointed their Representatives for this Purpose, agreably to the Line pointed out by the Federal Convention. To what Purpose then are all the Towns to be put to this great Expence of Time and Trouble, to investigate and vote on this important National Concernment, when all their Doings will be void, and a Convention must be finally had, before Congress can receive any Information from the State, whether the New Constitution has been adopted or rejected. —

6thly The Method of Voting deprives this State of the Privilege of proposing Amendments which can be done and agreed to only in a Convention. — After having been excluded from a hearing by the Policy of the State, in the Formation of the proposed Constitution, would it not be a Repetition of Injury to the Freemen of this State, to deny them the Privilege of proposing such Amendments, as they might judge necessary, and of dissenting the Constitution in the same Mode, as adopted by all the other States.

Have they not a Right as composing one Member of the Union

to have their Voice heard on this Subject, before a Constitution shall be adopted by all their Sister States, to which they must finally submit? — This Argument in the View of your Petitioners will gain Strength from the Suggestion thrown out by some in Justification of the present Mode, that the People are more enlightened here than elsewhere, and have a greater Sense of Freedom. — If this Suggestion is well founded, their Voice was more wanted in the Federal Convention, and their Remarks and Improvements in a State Convention to be brought forward and ingrafted with the Constitution are more necessary. — Have not the Freemen of our Sister States a Right to claim this Service at our Hands, and have not the Freemen of this State a Right to demand it? —

7thly The present Congress a Body known and acknowledged by this State, having recommended the calling a Convention for this Purpose, and Twelve States having complied therewith, Your Petitioners cannot avoid expressing their Regret that a Mode of deciding on this Question so novel, ineffectual and injurious to the People of this State, should have been substituted in the Stead of One recommended by a legal Body, and Sanctioned by such great Authorities; and which in every Point of View promises to be the best and only Mode of putting an End to this Business. —

8thly Your Petitioners will only add, That in all Events a Convention will become necessary. — This State however sovereign and Independent cannot exist without a Connexion with her Sister States: And if a Convention be not held at a Time, when the Proceedings of this State might have an Influence on the Federal Councils and the Doings of other States, one must of Necessity be held sooner or later, to join in the General American Confederacy, after having lost all Opportunity of influencing, or having any Direction in the Formation of that Confederacy. —

Whether on the Whole it be advisable to adopt, reject or amend the proposed Constitution, your Petitioners beg Leave to decline deciding in their individual Capacities, for the

foregoing Reasons which they have thought necessary to lay before your Honorable Body in Explanation of their Conduct on this Occasion: And they beg Leave to offer the strongest Assurance of their sincere Love to their Country, and Attachment to the Liberties thereof, as well as of their ardent Wish for the Establishment of an efficient Federal Government, on such Principles as may secure to the States, their necessary Jurisdictions and Power, and to individual Citizens their just Rights and Priviledges. — And to accomplish these great Objects in the most regular, safe, & satisfactory Manner, Your Petitioners

Humbly pray this Honorable General Assembly to recommend the calling a Convention in this State, at such Time and Place as they in their Wisdom may judge most for the Public Welfare. —

And as in Duty bound will ever pray &c.

Signed by the Unanimous Order and in Behalf of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and assembled in Town Meeting as aforesaid —

Per Daniel Cooke Town-Clerk

Comm: to purchase S. Young's Lot.

Resolved, That Messieurs John Brown, Joseph Nightingale, and Paul Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to purchase of Mr. Samuel Young, on Account of this Town, his Lot adjoining the Brick School House; provided he will sell the same for what they shall judge reasonable.

Audit to settle C. Hill's Account.

Resolved, That the Town-Auditor be directed to audit the Accounts of Mr. Christopher Hill, for repairing the West Room in the Second Story in the Brick School House.

W. Givens allowed £0. 6.

Resolved, That Six Shillings Lawful Silver Money or the Money equivalent be paid to William Givens, Constable, out of the Town-Treasury for warning the West Side of the River to attend this Meeting. —

Brown Rogers & Brown allowed £10-7.

March 26th A. D. 1788.

Resolved, That Ten Pounds Seven Shillings Lawful Money be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Messrs Brown Rogers and Brown; it being the Amount of an Account by them exhibited, for a Record-Book for the Town furnished Theodore Foster, Esqr. while Town-Clerk.

H. Bowen allowed £1-5.

Resolved, That One Pound Five Shillings Lawful Silver Money or other Money equivalent be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury, to Mr. Henry Bowen, Town-Serjeant, for warning this Meeting agreeably to act of Assembly, and by Beat of Drum, pursuant to Request.

J. Lawrence allowed £14-14-3.

The Town Audit having reported, That on the Settlement of Mr. Joseph Lawrence's Account against the Town, there is a Balance due to him of Fourteen Pounds Fourteen Shillings and Threepence Lawful Silver Money; His thereupon Resolved, That the said Report be accepted and allowed.

Committee to sell the Walker Lots.

Resolved, That Messieurs John Updike, Adams Arnold, Ebenezer Thompson, Paul Allen and Joseph Nightingale be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to sell the Two Lots in this Town, called the Walker Lots: That they sell the same for Gold and Silver or the Town's Securities, and pay the Monies arising from the said Sale into the Town-Treasury: That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby empowered and directed to make and execute good and authentic Deed or Deeds of the said Lots to the Purchaser or Purchasers: And that the said Committee make Report to the annual Meeting in April next.

The Meeting is dissolved.

1788 April 16th

At the annual Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House on the Third Wednesday in April A. D. 1788—

The

April 16th A. D. 1788.

The Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esqr. Moderator—

This being the Anniversary for choosing Deputies to represent the Town in General Assembly, and the Day by Law appointed for putting in the Corn Votes of the Freemen for General Officers of the State and Delegates in Congress the former Deputies having declined serving if re-elected, the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in the General Assembly at the Election to be holden at Newport on the First Wednesday in May next, and in all Sessions of the said Assembly till the last Monday in October next, to wit:

John Jenckes, Esqr. 1st
The Honble Jabez Bowen, Esqr. 2d
William Barton, Esqr. 3d
Doct. Amos Throop, 4th

The following Persons having purchased real Estates were propounded to be made Freemen, to wit: John Ward, Joseph Peck, Jeremiah Russell, John N. Russell, Edward Dickins, Ward Cowen, William Jones, Charles Coggeshall, Peter Grinnell, William Taylor, John Williams, John Cozzens, John Tarp, Artemas Fish, James Graves—

Votes put in for His Excellency John Collins Esqr Governor	157
Votes for the Honble Jabez Bowen, Esqr as Governor	1
Votes where no Person is mentioned as Governor	19
Total	177

1788 June 2.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State-House in said Providence on Monday the 2d Day of June A. D. 1788—

John Jenckes, Esqr. Moderator—

Freemen admitted.

The following Persons having been propounded were admitted as Freemen, to wit: John Ward, Joseph Peck, Jeremiah Russell, John N. Russell, Edward Dickens,

June 2. 1788.

Cowen, William Jones, Charles Coggeshall, Peter Grinnell, William Taylor, John Williams, John Tarp, and James Green.

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers the following Gentlemen are chosen to the Offices ascribed to their Names respectively: to wit:

Officers Chosen.

Town-Clerk — Daniel Cooke

Town-Council. — Ebenezer Thompson, Esq; President, Capt. Paul Allen, Samuel Butler, Esq; Aaron Mason, Esq; Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq; and Capt. Nicholas Power.

Town-Serjeant — Mr. Henry Bowen.

Town-Treasurer — James Arnold, Esq;

Town-Audit — Ambrose Page, Esq; Capt. John Mumford and Mr. Robert Newell.

Constables — Mr. Daniel Lawrence, Mr. Samuel Thurber jun. Mr. Benjamin Aylin, Mr. Robert Newell, Mr. Michael Metcalf, Mr. David Sefft, Mr. William Givens, Mr. John Davis, and Major John Spurr.

Sealer of Weights and Measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman.

Assessors of States & Overseers of the Poor — Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq; Mr. Nathan Waterman and Mr. Thomas Jones.

Surveyors of Joint Boards, &c — Messieurs Christopher Arnold jun. Eliyah Bacon, Jonathan Hammond, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Isaac Angell, John Carlile, John Burrough, Joseph Carpenter, Isaac Bowen, Simon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Joseph Congdon, and Caleb Ormsbe.

Surveyors of Highways — David Howell, Esq; Mr. Robert Newell, John Brown, Esq; Capt. John Mumford and Capt. Paul Allen.

Guagers

Guagers of Casks — Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Enoch Brown, Enoch Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Reeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon and Daniel Anthony.

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin, with the same Powers and upon the same Conditions as the last Year.

Clerk of the Market — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin.

Packers of Beef & Pork — Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Joseph Field, William Page, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, William Billings, Samuel Reeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro and Charles Lasells.

Corders of Wood. — Messieurs John Vial, John Potter, John Jones, John Lasells, and Samuel Wilbur.

Overseers of the New Hospital — John Brown, John Jenckes and Welcome Arnold, Esquires.

Pound-Keepers — Messieurs Daniel Branch & Nicholas Branch.

To value Estates when disputed in Voting — Arthur Fenner, Esq; Mr. Samuel Black & John Brown, Esq.

Fence Viewers — Mr. Samuel Thurber, Capt. John Field, Major Charles Hunt and Mr. Christopher Arnold, junr.

Presidents of the Fire-Wards — Honble Jabez Bowen, Esq; and John Brown, Esq; and Joseph Martin, Esq.

Fire-Wards — Nicholas Brown, Esq; Col. Joseph Nightingale, Col. Amos Atwell, Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Mr. Job Smith, John Foster, Esq; Major Robert Taylor, Mr. Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, Esq; Capt. John Mumford & John Dorrance, Esq.

Engine Company No. 1. near the Bridge — Messieurs Joseph Nightingale, John Brown, Daniel Stillwell, Arthur Fenner, Welcome Arnold, Thomas Bennet, John White, Knight Dexter, Elisha Brown, Thomas Arnold, Richard Jackson, jun. and Nicholas Brown, jun.

June 2. 1788.

Engine Company N.2. at the North End. — Messieurs Simeon Thayer, Levi Hull, William Thurber, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burt, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, John Whipple, and Samuel Thurber jun.

Engine Company N.3. on the West Side of the Bridge. — Messieurs John Matthewson, Zephaniah Andrews, Daniel Jackson, James Black, Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, Joseph Cooke, James Burrell, Paul Allen, Samuel Black, Zephaniah Brown, and Benjamin Hoppin.

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be removed in Case of Fire. — Col. Barzillai Richmond, Dr. Ephraim Bowen, Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Mr. Obadiah Sprague, Mr. Samuel Thurber, and Capt. Henry Bacon.

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire. — Messieurs Joseph Martin, Jonathan Hammond, Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, Jehu Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, and Joshua Lindley.

Field-Drivers. — Messieurs Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold jun. John Jones, David Burr, Reuben Cotter jun. Jonathan Fowle and William Larnud.

Sealers of Leather. — Samuel Butler, Esq. & Mr. Josiah Gifford.

Scavengers. — Messieurs Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown and Job Sweeting.

Overseers of the Work-House. — Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. Mr. Nathan Waterman, and Mr. Thomas Jones.

Town-Cryer. — Mr. Daniel Branch.

Overseer of Weybosset-Bridge. — James Arnold, Esq.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town. — Benjamin Man, Esq. Major Charles Keene, Mr. Obadiah Sprague, Capt. Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Esq. Moses Brown, Esq. Capt. Zephaniah Brown, and Mr. Daniel Anthony.

Committee

June 2. 1788.

Committee for superintending and regulating the Market. — Doct. Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Esq. Arthur Fenner, Esq. John Jenches, Esq. John Borrance, Esq. and Capt. Paul Allen.

School-Committee. — The Rev. Dr. James Manning, Rev. Enos Hitchcock, Rev. Joseph Snow, Rev. Moses Badger and Rev. John Stanford, Jabez Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Moses Brown, John Innis Clark, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Borrance and Welcome Arnold, Esquires.

Inspectors of Pot and Pearl Ashes. — Messieurs Samuel Jackson and Daniel Anthony.

N. Wilkinsons Application for the Small-Pox recommended to the Council. — Voted that Mr. William Wilkinsons Application for Liberty for his Wife and Two Children to be removed to the Hospital for Inoculation for the Small-Pox under an Apprehension that his Children are infected with that Disorder be referred to the Town-Council, and that it be recommended to them to grant his Request.

Committee to stake out the Channell. — Resolved, That Messrs. John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, Christopher Sheldon, and Philip Allen, they or any Three of them be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to cause the Channel of the River to be marked out by Stakes and Buoys from the Town to Conimicut Point; and that the said Committee when they have compleated the Business advertize the same in the Public Newspapers in this Town.

Committee to mind the Street by J. Snow jun. House. — Resolved, That Messrs. John Mumford, Paul Allen and Zephaniah Andrews be a Committee to secure the Street from encroaching away by the House of Mr. James Snow, jun. either by paving or otherways as they shall think proper.

Voted

Committee to view Power's Lane, &c.

June 2. 1788

Resolved, That Messrs Benjamin Bourne, Theodore Foster, Aaron Mason, Paul Allen and Nathaniel Wheaton, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to view Power's Lane, and report whether it will be of general Utility to pave the same, what will be the Expence of paving thereof from the Main to the Back Street, and what Advantages, if any, will accrue to the Town thereby; and that the said Committee also ascertain the Distance that John Brown Esq offers to pave himself from said Back Street, and make Report at the next Town-Meeting

Jurors.

Mr. Caleb Greene is drawn Grand-Juror and Mr. Jonathan Jenkins is drawn Petit-Juror, to serve at the Hon.ble Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in this Town on the Third Monday of June current.

Persons propounded

The following Persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded to be made Freemen, to wit: Asa Hopkins, George Bradford, Ceres Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Benjamin Hodges and Philip Cain

H. Bowen allowed £0-3

Resolved, That Three Shillings Lawful Silver Money or other Money equivalent be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Mr. Henry Bowen, Town-Sergeant for his Attendance on this Meeting the 16th of April last

The Meeting is dissolved

August 26th 1788

At the Annual Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally held at the State-House in said Town on Tuesday the 26th Day of August A.D. 1788

The Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esquire, Moderator.

This

August 26th 1788

Deputies chosen

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Election of Deputies to represent the Town in General Assembly for Six Months from the last Monday in October next ensuing to wit: till the First Wednesday in May next, the following Gentlemen are duly elected, to wit:

The Honorable John Jenckes Esq. 1st
Jabez Bowen, Esq. 2.
William Barton, Esq. 3d
Doct. Amos Throop, 4th

Report of Committee for viewing Power's Lane

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting for viewing Power's Lane, &c, presented unto this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

The Subscribers pursuant to our within written Appointment have examined the within mentioned Lane — & appear to us to be the most important Communication between Benefit Street and the Main-Street, Southward of the Presbyterian Meeting-House, being the Way most used for passing with Teams from the Southeasterly Part of the Town to the Southerly Part of Benefit Street, and to the Land Eastward thereof in the Neck to the Hope Walk, &c, and will still become more important on Account the Wind-Mill proposed to be erected on the East Side of the said Lane on the Top of the Hill

The whole Distance from the Pavement in the Main-Street to the Upper Side of Benefit Street is about 410 Feet, and from thence to the Upper Side of the House-Yard of John Brown, Esq. is about 188 Feet, making the whole Distance about 598 Feet, which last mentioned Distance of 188 Feet Mr. Brown hath offered to pave at his own Expence in Case the Distance between the Two Streets is paved at the Expence of the Town — Mr. Brown having offered to procure the whole Distance between the Two Streets to be suitably paved at the Rate of Eight Shillings per foot the Expence thereof cannot therefore exceed £164 — and as Mr. Brown hath offered to pave the 188 Feet of said Land above Benefit Street at his own Expen

August 26th 1788

which reckoned at the same Rate will amount to £73-4, which will be the Sum Mr. Brown contributes towards the Whole of said Pavement more than his Proportion of the Taxes in Case the Town shall accede to his Proposition and reckoning the Expence as above mentioned — It is necessary that Street should be kept in good passable Repair for Teams, and considering all Circumstances it is our Opinion, that it will be for the Interest of the Town to accede to the Proposition of Mr. Brown made at the last Town-Meeting

Theodore Foster
Paul Allen
Benjamin Bourne
Aaron Mason

And the said Report being duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved, That the same be received: That John Brown Esqr be and he is hereby authorized to cause the said Lane to be paved agreeably thereto, being at Eight Shillings per foot in full of all Charges, and under the Direction of the following Committee, to wit: Messieurs Ebenezer Thompson, Zephaniah Andrews, William Whatton, John Jenckes and John Mumford

Vote for paving the Cross Street South of the Church

On the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of this Town praying that they may have Liberty to pave the Cross Street South of the Church from Williams Street to Benefit Street upon the same Terms that the Streets in General have been paved, to wit: to take the Town's Security upon Interest until they are in Cash to pay the same, It is thereupon Resolved, That the Prayer of the said Petition be granted, the Petitioners agreeing to pave the said Cross-Street 22 feet Wide at Eight Shillings per foot in full of all Charges, and under the Direction of the Committee appointed to oversee the paving of Power's Lane

Well to be made in Broad Street

Whereas a Number of the Inhabitants of this Town presented a Petition to this Meeting praying that a Well and Reservoir with a Pump and watering Place may be made on the West Side of the River in Broad Street for the Benefit of the Town: It is thereupon Resolved, That the said Petition be received, that the Prayer thereof be granted: That Messieurs Henery Bacon, John Mumford and Paul Allen be a Committee to cause the same to be carried into Effect: And that Nicholas Brown, John Jenckes and Jabez Bowen, Esquires, be also a Committee to advise and direct with Respect to the particular Place where the said Well shall be made in said Street, and with Respect to the Width and Depth of said Well

Jurors.

The following Persons are drawn as Jurors to serve at the Honorable Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the first Monday in September next, to wit:

Noah Smith Grand-Juror
Job Danforth, Petit-Juror

The Meeting is Dissolved

August 28th 1788

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Town on the 28th Day of August A.D. 1788

Col. William Barton, Moderator

Broad-Street & Westminster Street to be paved

This Meeting having taken into their serious Consideration the Business which this Meeting was warned to transact: It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, That this Meeting approve of and consent to the Pavement of Broad Street from the End of the Pavement near the Dwelling House of James Black, Esq. to the Parade of said

Mr. Snow's Meeting-House, and also Westminster Street throughout: That the same be paved on the same Principles as the Streets have been paved on the East Side of the River: That the said Pavement be Twenty two feet wide in each Street: Provided that the said Pavements be done under the Direction of the Committee on the best Terms and for a Price not exceding Eight Shillings per foot Lengthwise of the Street including all Charges: And that John Torrance, Paul Allen, William Rhodes, John Mumford, Robert Taylor, John Mathewson and James Burrill be a Committee for superintending the said Pavements as aforesaid

The Meeting is Dissolved

August 30th 1788

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the 30th Day of August A. D. 1788

Col. William Barton, Moderator

This Meeting is Dissolved

September 1st 1788

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the first Day of September A. D. 1788

Col. Barzillai Richmond, Moderator

Resolve for laying Powers Lane repealed.

Resolved, that the Resolution of this Town passed on the 26th of August last authorizing the paving of Powers Lane be and the same is hereby repealed: And that John Brown, Esqr. be released and discharged from his

his Contract relative thereto, and from extending said Pavement up the Hill by his House

Resolve for paving the Street by the Church repealed

On Application of the Petitioners for paving the Cross Street South of the Church, Resolved, That the Petitioners be released from their Contract for paving the said Street made with the Town on the 26th of August last, and that the said Resolve be repealed

Resolve for digging a Well repealed

On Application of the Petitioners for digging a Well in Broad Street, Resolved, That the Resolution of this Town passed on the 26th of August last for diging the said Well be and the same is hereby repealed

Resolve for paving Broad Street &c repealed

Resolved, on Application of the Petitioners for paving Broad Street and Westminster Street, that the Resolve passed on the 28th of August last for paving the said Streets be and the same is hereby rescinded and repealed

Well to be dug in Broad Street

On Application of Deacon Henery Bacon for diging a Well on the West Side of the River in Broad Street, Resolved, That the Inhabitants on the West Side of the River have Liberty to dig a Well in said Street on the same Terms and Principles with the Well dug at the Upper End of the Town, at the Junction of the Main and North Streets: That Nicholas Brown, John Jenckes and Jabez Bowen, Esquires, be a Committee to point out the Place where the said Well shall be dug; and also to ascertain the Width and Depth of said Well

No New Pavement to be made till further Orders

Resolved, That no more new Pavement be laid in any of the Streets in this Town at the Towns Expence without a further Order from the Town

The Meeting is Dissolved

December 6th A. D. 1788

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in said Town on the Sixth Day of December, 1788 — in Consequence of an Act of the General Assembly of this State passed at the Session held in this Town on the last Monday in October last

The Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq; Moderator —

Instructions to the Deputies —

Resolved, That the Deputies appointed to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State, be and they are hereby instructed to use their Influence in the said General Assembly to be holden on the last Monday in December instant, that a State Convention be held in this State as soon as may be, agreably to the Recommendation of the Convention of the United States passed on the 17th Day of September A. D. 1787, and transmitted to the Legislature of this State by a Resolution of Congress of the 28th Day of the same September, — for the Purpose of considering and adopting the new Constitution, and also of proposing such Amendments as they may think necessary.

Ordered, That the Clerk furnish the said Deputies with a Copy of this Resolution as their Instructions —

Jurors drawn

John Field is drawn Grand-Juror, and Elisha Brown, Mason, is drawn Petit-Juror to serve at the Honble Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in this Town on the Third Monday in December instant —

J. Jenches Engine Man vice T. Arnold

Mr. Joseph Jenches is chosen an Engine Man to Engine No. 2 in the Room of Thomas Arnold, Esq; who declines —

Comms. to confer T. Arnold's Memorial

Resolved, That Messrs David Howell, Arthur Fenner, Christopher

Christopher Gardon, John Tilton, and Stephaniah Andrews be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to take into Consideration a Memorial presented unto this Meeting by Thomas Arnold, Esq; and make Report thereon at the next Meeting

Adjourned sine Die —

1789 March 10th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the Tenth Day of March, A. D. 1789 —

Nicholas Brown, Esq; is chosen Moderator —

Instructions to the Deputies.

The following Instructions to the Deputies from this Town to the General Assembly were read, approved, and voted, to wit:

To John Jenckes, Jabez Bowen, and William Barton, Esquires, and Doctor Amos Throope —

Gentlemen,

Eleven States having acceded to the and fully ratified the New-Constitution, and the Government of those States under that System being compleatly organized and in full Operation, a new Æra in the Political Affairs of this Country has taken Place. The Situation of the State of Rhode-Island in this Conjuncture is perfectly novel, seperated as we are, from the States which compose the present Union, we stand perfectly alone, unconnected with any State or Sovereignty on Earth: As we can claim no right to the Flag of the United States our Commerce and Navigation are deprived of National Protection. The Benefits of Commercial Treaties formed by European Nations with the United States, will no longer be extended to the Citizens of Rhode-Island: All Trade with the new Confederated States will probably be soon interdicted to the Citizens of this State, except on the Footing of Foreig

and of Course, on the Payment of exorbitant Duties, subjected to these injurious Restrictions and Disadvantages our Commerce and Navigation already extremely embarrassed must be annihilated, and the Ports of the State of Rhode-Island, which but a few Years since were crouded with Shipping will afford Shelter only to a few Fishing Craft. The Loss of our Commerce will inevitably be attended with the most ruinous Consequences to Agriculture and Manufactures. To this Stage of Degradation and Wretchedness will this State in all Probability be reduced Should the Legislature persist in refusing to call a State Convention for the adopting the New Constitution. Indeed in the Apprehension of your Constituents a Perseverance in this Refusal will endanger the very Existence of the State; Should the State negative again the calling a Convention, your Constituents are fully persuaded that some of their fellow Citizens will apply for the Protection of the New Government to be extended to their Trade and Navigation under such Discriminations as the Wisdom of Congress may suggest — Your Constituents anticipate the most ruinous Consequences both to the State and Individuals, in a Continuance of our Separation from the other States. We most ardently wish that this State may soon be re-united with their late Sister States under a Form of Government calculated to promote their mutual Welfare and Prosperity. As this State was deprived of a Voice in the Origination of the New-Constitution We are the more solicitous that we may have some Agency in the Revision and Amendment of it, which will probably soon take Place, not in a National Convention as some have supposed, but in the Congress, in the first Instance, who will form and propose the Amendments to the State Legislatures, and by them in the Second, on whom it will be incumbent to ratify or reject the Amendments proposed. Impressed with these Sentiments

Sentiments, anxious for a Revision with the other States and dreading the ruinous Consequences of a Seperation, We do again enjoin it upon you to use every legal and constitutional Mean in your Power at the present Sesion to obtain a Legislative Act for the calling immediately a Convention of Delegates from the several Towns in this State for the Purpose of deciding on the New-Constitution —

Viewing as we do a further Continuance of the Law making the Paper Bills a Tender in Payment of Specie Contracts at Par, in the Form and Manner as now established, to be abominably wicked and unjust, We do again instruct you, as we have done repeatedly before, to exert your Influence at the present Sesion to obtain a Repeal or Alteration of that unrighteous Law. The Paper Bills are passing Twelve for One in Specie, and as the Legislature have declared the State Debt to be cancelled, We hope and trust the General Assembly, in their Wisdom will be induced, to put it out of the Power of dishonest Persons any longer to persecute and distress their honest Creditors. It is well known that the Legislatures of Massachusetts and Connecticut have placed the Citizens of this State in Respect to the Collection of Debts due from the Inhabitants of those States, nearly in the Condition of Outlaws, The Tenor of those Acts which are no less disgraceful than injurious to the good Citizens of this State, are such that they are both to cease and determine the Moment the Tender is repealed with us. This must have additional Weight with our Legislature to induce a Repeal of the Tender Act.

Gentlemen your Constituents having the fullest Confidence in your Zeal and Abilities rest assured that no Endeavours will be wanting on your Part to effect those important Objects which make the Subject Matter of these Instructions.

Resolved That the Clerk copy the preceding Instructions and transmit the same as early as may

March 10th 1789.

Express or otherwise to the Deputies of this Town as their Instructions at the present Session of the General Assembly of this State

Jurors drawn

Mr. Samuel Butler Junr. is drawn as Grand-Juror and Mr. Walter Harding as Petit-Juror to serve at the Hon. Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in March current.

The Meeting is Dissolved

April 15th 1789.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State-House on the Third Wednesday in April A.D. 1789

Theodore Foster, Esq; Moderator.

This being the Anniversary for electing and chusing Deputies to represent the Town in the General Assembly, and the Day by Law appointed for putting in the Votes for General Officers of the State, The following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly at the Election to be holden at Newport on the first Wednesday in May next and in all Sessions of the said General Assembly until the last Monday in October next, to wit:

Deputies chosen

John Jenckes, Esq. 1st
The Honble Jabez Bowen, Esq. 2.
Benjamin Bourne, Esq. 3d
Mr. Amasa Gray —— 4th

The

Freemen admitted.

Messieurs George Bradford, Perez Bradford, Jesse Whitemore, and Benjamin Hodges having been propounded are duly Voted in and Admitted as Freemen of this Town.

J. Gibson propounded

Mr. John Gibson having purchased a real Estate in this Town is propounded to be made a Freeman.

Proxies put in for His Excellency John Collins, Esq; as Governor ..... } 181
Proxies put in, in which no Governor is named — 172
Total 353

N. Branch to ring the Bell &c.

Resolved, That Mr. Nicholas Branch be and he is hereby appointed to ring the Bell and wind up the Clock in the Baptist Meeting House in this Town for One Year to commence the 16th Instant: That he ring the said Bell at the Times stated the last Year: And that he be paid out of the Town-Treasury Twelve Pounds Silver Money, for his Services herein, in the same Manner as the last Year.

The Meeting is Dissolved.

April 29th 1789.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on Wednesday the 29th Day of April A.D. 1789.

Welcome Arnold, Esq; Moderator.

Com: to draught Instructions

Resolved, That Messrs. Welcome Arnold John J. Clark John Francis and the Clerk be and they hereby appointed a Committee to draught Instruction

April 29. 1789

The Deputies chosen to represent this Town in the Honorable the General Assembly at the next Election and the ensuing Six Months; and that they make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Vagrants to be carried before the Authority.

This Meeting taking into Consideration the great Inconvenience which has arisen to this Town from the great Multiplication of Vagrants, which have been allowed of late to infest it, Do Resolve, That it is the Duty of every Citizen to mark all such Characters as he shall judge belong to this Class; and it is most earnestly recommended to all the Inhabitants to exert themselves to discourage such Persons from obtaining a Subsistence among us by immediately taking them to one of the Members of the Town-Council, or Justices of the Peace, or other proper Authority, or pointing them out to some of the Officers of the Town, whose Duty it is to take them before such Authority for Examination: And the said Justices, or other Authority, are hereby earnestly requested to execute the Vagrant Law upon all such Persons as fall under the Cognizance of it; and also to prosecute all Persons who harbour or lodge such Vagrants: And this this Town do engage to support all such Officers as shall faithfully discharge their Duty herein, and to compensate them all extraordinary Expences which they may incur thereby.

The Meeting adjourned to Saturday 4 O'Clock P. M. then to meet at this Place

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May 2d

Saturday May 2d. The Meeting met pursuant to Adjournment

Welcome Arnold, Esq; Moderator

Whereas

Instructions to the Deputies

May 2d 1789

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to draught Instructions to the Deputies, presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

To John Jenckes, Jabez Bowen, and Benjamin Bourne, Esquires, and Mr. Amasa Gray

Gentlemen,

The truly unhappy Situation of this State and the favorable and perhaps only Opportunity, that now offers for a beneficial Change, is the Reason why we again request your earnest Endeavors at the ensuing Session of the Honorable the General Assembly at Newport, to obtain an Act for calling a Convention of Delegates, agreeably to the Mode prescribed by the Continental Convention held at Philadelphia in 1787, And also for a Repeal of the Tender Act

To enumerate all the Causes of our present Evils or the Advantages which must necessarily result from the Change, we are so desirous you should effect is needless — Yet we deem it requisite to state a few of them —

The Members chosen by the Eleven Confederated States to represent them in Congress have taken their Seats, and duly authorized by their Constituents are laying such heavy Imposts on all Foreigners (among whom We undoubtedly are considered) as must, if we delay joining the Federal Government entirely prevent us from exporting by Land or Water our Produce or Manufactures to either of those States

This effectual Prohibition while it deeply wounds the Merchant, more materially injures the Landholder, and strikes at the Ruin of the Agricultural Interest of this State — Our Produce and other Staple Commodities which heretofore found a ready and advantageous Market in the other States cannot when subjected to those Duties be sold without Loss, consequently the Merchant will desist from exporting them, and the Farmer be forced to sell his

Surplus of his Produce for less than he can afford or suffer it to perish in his Possession —

Our Political Situation is no less alarming than our Individual — We are disconnected from our once Sister States We are unallied with, and unprotected by any Nation on the Globe: In Case of Danger where shall we look for Assistance, or to whom shall we apply for Protection?

Our Navigation the Sinews of a Maritime State when abroad, will be subject to Impositions and Insults from every trifling Potentate; and as we shall be without the Means of enforcing Redress, that little Commerce we now have to boast of, must then droop entirely, and with it Agriculture and Manufactures —

Your Constituents further wishing that Justice may take Place, and Harmony and Unanimity once more exist throughout this once flourishing State, do desire your greatest Exertions to obtain a Repeal of the Tender Laws: The Necessity of which must be evident to every common Observer; when we view the Distresses of almost every Class of Citizens arising from the Embarrasments of Business, and from the Legislative Acts of Retaliation passed in our neighbouring States: We therefore trust the Honorable Assembly will no longer countenance the Payment of Paper for a Specie Debt at Par, when it has actually depreciated to Eighteen for One: And when even those who benefit themselves by the Liberty given, and make a Tender are seldom hardy enough to publish it in the Newspapers without assigning an Excuse —

The Evil does not end here — All Faith and Credit is destroyed between Man and Man. The most solemn Engagements are violated; and that Social and beneficial Intercourse which exists among all other civilized People is with us interrupted — By a Repeal of the Tender Act we hope soon to regain those Blessings we used to enjoy and by joining the new confederated States we shall ensure to ourselves equal Advantages at Home, and the same Credit abroad that their happy Union now promises them —

Sensible as you are Gentlemen, of the immediate Necessity of a Repeal of the Tender and the calling a Convention of Delegates to deliberate on the proposed Constitution your Constituents are satisfied that every just and legal Mean in your Power will be used to obtain those desirable Purposes" —

And the said Report being duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved That the same be and hereby is accepted: And that the Clerk make out a fair and certified Copy thereof, and deliver it to the Deputies of this Town as their Instructions at the ensuing Session of the General Assembly in May instant —

The Meeting is Dissolved —

June 1st.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House on the First Monday in June A.D. 1789

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator —

Mr. John Gibson having been propounded is admitted a Freeman —

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers the following Gentlemen are chosen to the Offices prescribed to their Names respectively, to wit:

Officers chosen.

Town Clerk — Daniel Cooke

June 1st 1789

Town-Council — Ebenezer Thompson, Esq. President, Messrs. Paul Allen, Samuel Butler, Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Wheaton, and Nicholas Power

Town-Serjeant — Mr. Henry Bowen.

Town-Treasurer — James Arnold Esq.

Town Auditors — Messrs. Ambrose Page, John Mumford and Robert Newell

Constables — Messrs. William Givens, Michael Metcalf, Jonathan Greene, Daniel Peard, Nicholas Branch, Daniel Snow, Benjamin Conver and Waterman Williams

Sealer of Weights & Measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman.

Assessors of Taxes & Overseers of the Poor — Messrs. Nathaniel Wheaton, Nathan Waterman, and Thomas Jones

Surveyors of Joist Boards, &c. — Messrs. Christopher Arnold jun., Elijah Bacon, Jonathan Hammond, Jehu Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Ezekl. Angell, John Carlile, John Burrough, Isaac Bowen, Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Joseph Congdon, Caleb Arnsbe, and Ephraim Walker

Surveyors of Highways — Messrs. David Howell, Robert Newell, Joseph Nightingale, John Mumford and Paul Allen

Guagers of Casks — Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Esek Brown, Esek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Weeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon, Nathaniel Richmond, and Stephen Sheldon

Vendue-Master & Collector of Taxes, Clerk of the Market — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin with the same Duties and on the same Conditions as the last Year

Packers of Beef & Pork — John Torrance Esq.

Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, William Billing, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro, Charles Lasells, Jonathan Jenkins, John Eastforth, Joseph Salisbury and Stephen Sheldon

Orders of Wood.

Overseers of the New Hospital

Bound-Keepers, to value Estates when disputed in voting

Fence Viewers

Presidents of the Fire-Wards,

Fire-Wards,

Fire Engine Company No. 1. near the Bridge

Engine Company No 2, at the North End

Engine Company No 3, on the West Side of the Bridge

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be removed in Case of Fire.

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire

June 1st 1789

Messrs. John Vial, John Petty, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent and John Burrough

The Town-Council

Messrs. Daniel Branch and Nicholas Branch

Messrs. Arthur Fenner, Samuel Black and John Brown

Messrs. Samuel Thurber, John Field 2d. Charles Keene and Christopher Arnold, jun.

Faber Bowen, John Brown and Joseph Martin, Esquires

Messrs. Nicholas Brown, Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, John Foster, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Torrance and Samuel Butler

Messrs. Joseph Nightingale, John Brown, Daniel Stillwell, Arthur Fenner, Welcome Arnold, John White, Knight Dexter, Elisha Brown, Joseph Jenckes, Richard Jackson, jun., Nicholas Brown, jun. and Joseph Allen

Messrs. Simeon Thayer, Levi Hall, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burr, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, John Whipple, Samuel Thurber jun., and Wheler Martin

Messrs. John Mathewson, Jephaniah Andrews, Daniel Jackson, James Black, Asa Franklin, Ely Bacon, Joseph Cooke, James Burrill, Paul Allen, James Black, Jephaniah Brown and Benjamin Hoppin

Messrs. Barzillai Richmond, Ephraim Bowen, Christopher Sheldon, Obadiah Sprague, Samuel Thurber and Henry Bacon

Messrs. Joseph Martin, Jonathan Hammond, Comfort Wheaton, James Lawton, Jehu Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, and Joshua Lindley

June 1st 1789

Field-Drivers — Messrs Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold jun.r David Burr, Reuben Potter jun.r Jonathan Fowle, and Rufus Waterman

Sealers of Leather — Messrs Samuel Butler, Josiah Gifford and Samuel Smith

Scavengers — Messrs Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, and Job Sweeting

Overseers of the Work-House — Messrs Nathaniel Wheaton, Nathan Waterman, and Thomas Jones

Town-Cryer — Mr. Daniel Branch

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge — James Arnold, Esq.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town — Messrs Benjamin Mann, Charles Keene, Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Nephaniah Brown, and Aaron Mason

Committee for superintending & regulating the Market — Messrs. Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Arthur Fenner, John Jenckes, John Dorrance and Paul Allen

School-Committee — Revd. Dr. James Manning, Revd. Dr. Enos Hitchcock, Revd. Joseph Snow, Revd. Moses Badger and Revd. John Stanford, Jabez Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Moses Brown, John Innes Clark, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Dorrance and Welcome Arnold, Esqrs

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes — Messrs Samuel Jackson and Samuel Nuden

Committee to State out the Channel — Messrs John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, Christopher Sheldon, and Philip Allen

Resolved

June 1st 1789

Town-Treasurer to lease Walker lot. — Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby empowered to lease the lower Walker Lot for the present Year on the best Terms he can

Jurors drawn — Mr. Benjamin Aplin is drawn Grand-Juror, and Capt. John Updike Petit Juror, to serve at the Honble Inferior Court of Common-Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in this Town on the Third Monday in June current

Vote respecting Inoculation. — On taking the Question whether it is proper and for the Interest of the Town, that Inoculation be set up in the Hospital in this Town, under the Direction of the Town-Council Resolved, in the Affirmative — Nevertheless, as it is necessary that the Sentiments of the Inhabitants on this Question should be collected as universally as possible, It is therefore Voted, That two Petitions to the Town-Council, the One for, and the other against permitting Inoculation in this Town, be drawn by the Clerk and delivered to the Town-Serjeant, by him to be presented to every Freeman of the Town, that they may make their Election which to sign: And when said Petitions shall have been presented for Signature, and signed by as many as choose, that they be delivered to the Town-Clerk, to be laid before the Town-Council for them to act thereon as they shall deem most agreeable to the Wishes and true Interest of the Town

[redacted] further Voted, That the proposed Regulations for said Hospital as laid before this Meeting be copied by the Clerk and delivered to the Town-Serjeant to be shown to the Freemen at the same time that the Petitions are presented

Report on Arnold's Memorial. — Whereas the Committee appointed on the 6th Day of

June 1st 1789

last to take into Consideration a Memorial then presented to the Town-Meeting by Thomas Arnold Esq. presented unto this Meeting the following Report to wit:

"To the Moderator and Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town-Meeting assembled June 1st 1789—

The Subscribers having been appointed a Committee, with David Howell Esq. (together with Col. Stephen Andrews who declined serving) to consider and determine upon a Petition preferred to the Town by Thomas Arnold Esq. for erecting a Tide-Mill at Weybosett Bridge, beg leave to report, That We have duly attended to the Business, and that we are of Opinion, that the erecting of any Mills there will obstruct the Course of the Salt Water into the Bason or Cove above the Bridge: That the flowing and re-flowing of the Salt Water into and from the Cove has a Tendency to cleanse the same and to render the Air salubrious; and that it is for the Health and Interest of the Town to keep the Passage for the Water and Air at the Bridge as free and open as may be: And that the erecting of such Mills in the Central Part of the Bridge will in a great Measure obstruct the passing and repassing and be attended with so many other Inconveniences that it is our Opinion that it is not advisable to grant the Prayer of the said Petition"—

Christr. Sheldon
A. Fenner
John Sutton

And the said Report being duly considered It is Voted and Resolved, That the Same be and hereby is accepted—

The Meeting is Dissolved—

August 25th A.D. 1789

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in said Town on Tuesday the 25th Day of August A.D. 1789—

Welcome Arnold, Esq. Moderator—

S. Sowle propounded.

Capt. Samuel Sowle having purchased a real Estate in this Town is propounded to be admitted a Freeman—

Deputies chosen—

This being the Day by Law appointed for the choosing Deputies to represent this Town in the Honble the General Assembly of this State to be holden on the last Monday in October next and in all Sessions of the said Assembly until the first Wednesday in May next, the following Gentlemen are duly elected, to wit:

John Jenckes, Esq. 1st
The Honble Jabez Bowen, Esq. 2.
Benjamin Bourne, Esq. 3.
Mr. Amasa Gray, 4.

Jurors—

Mr. John Sutton is drawn Grand-Juror and Thomas Arnold, Esq. Petit-Juror, to serve at the Honble the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the first Monday in September next—

N. Wheaton to repair the Work-House

Resolved, That Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq. be and he is hereby appointed to cause the Work-House to be shingled and such other Repairs made thereon and the Wall adjoining as the Town-Council shall direct: And that the same be done on the most reasonable Terms on the Credit of the Town.

Resolved

August 25th 1789.

Town Council to consider the Application of Sprague

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town Council to take into Consideration the Application of Mr. Obadiah Sprague for Pay for Land of his taken into the Highway: And that they make him such Compensation therefor as they shall deem necessary.

Comm. to view the Burying Ground &c

Resolved, That Messrs. John Brown, Aaron Mason and Jeremiah Olney be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to view the Burying Ground at the North End of the Town, to enquire in what Manner the Town holds the same, and whether any Encroachments are made thereon: That they cause the said Burying Ground to be laid out in a proper Manner and platted: That they estimate what Part of the same it will be necessary to fell in order to enclose the Remainder with a Fence, and also ascertain what Sort of Fence it will be most suitable and advantageous for the Town to make: And that they make Report at the next Meeting.

Motion to instruct Deputies to amend the Law respecting Jurors referred.

A Motion being made to instruct the Deputies of this Town to use their Influence in the Honble General Assembly of this State to have the Laws exempting Persons serving as Jurors amended, Resolved, that the same be referred to the next Meeting.

Comm. to draught a Petition to Congress.

Resolved, That Doct. James Manning, Benjamin Bourne, Thomas Arnold, Nicholas Brown, Theodore Foster, Welcome Arnold and John Brown, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed

appointed a Committee to draught a Petition to the Honorable the Congress of the United States setting forth the great Embarrasments of our Trade and Navigation by Reason of the Tonnage and Impost Acts subjecting us to a foreign Tonnage and Impost and other foreign Restrictions; and praying Congress for Relief: And that they make Report to the next Meeting.

It is further Resolved, That the said Committee be requested to write to the several Sea Port Towns in this State informing them of the Business of their Appointment, and requesting them to join in the Measure; and also informing them, that this Town will appoint some Person to proceed to Congress with the said Petition, and to join with such Person or Persons as shall be by them appointed.

And it is further Resolved, That Capt. Paul Allen be requested to proceed with the Letters from the Committee to the said Towns in order to enforce the same.

Comm: to ascertain the Number of Inhabitants, Buildings &c

Whereas it may tend to promote the Public Good at the present important Period, when it is probable the New Confederacy will before many Months be adopted by all the States, to ascertain the Number of the Inhabitants, Public Buildings, Dwelling Houses, Manufactories, Stores, Wharves, Barns and other Buildings and the Quantity of the Tons of Navigation in large and small Vessels in this Town in Order that the Importance of this Town to the United States at Large may be the best

August 25th 1789.

It is therefore Voted and Resolved, That Theodore Foster, Esqr. and Majors George Olney and Joseph Lawrence be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make exact Enumeration of the Inhabitants of this Town, in the same Manner as was directed by Acts of Assembly in the Years 1774 and in 1782, and also in such other Manner as the Committee may see fit to ascertain the Number of Public Buildings Dwelling Houses, Manufactories, Distill-Houses, Stores, Wharves, Barns and other Buildings in each of the Streets in the Town; and to make Report as soon as may be: Provided the Expence thereof does not exceed Ten Dollars.

Adjournment.

Resolved, That this Meeting be and the same is hereby adjourned to Thursday next at 3 O'Clock P. M, then to meet at this Place. And that in the mean Time the Clerk issue a Warrant to notify the Freemen of the Time and Place of the said Adjournment, in order to receive the Report of the Committee this Day appointed to draught a Petition to Congress.

August 27th

Thursday August the 27th the Meeting met pursuant to Adjournment

The Moderator in the Chair.

Petition to Congress.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 25th instant to draught a Petition to the Congress of the United States presented

August 27th 1789

presented unto this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

To the President, the Vice-President, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled.

The Petition of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, in the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, legally convened in Town-Meeting on the 27th Day of August A.D. 1789, most respectfully Sheweth,

That during the arduous Struggle of our Country for the Preservation of her Rights, Liberties and Independence, in the late War with Great-Britain, this Town was particularly noted for its Attachment to and its Advances and Exertions for the Support of the Common Cause of the United States. — Sensible that our most essential Interests depended on our being in the Union, and that the former Confederation was unequal to its Exigencies, We made every Effort to obtain Delegates to be sent from this State to the General Convention which met at Philadelphia in 1787. — After the Proceedings of that Convention were published this Town pleased with the Spirit of Energy, Liberty tempered with Energy and Responsibility, which so strikingly pervades the New-Constitution made the most unremitted Exertions for obtaining a Convention of the State for its Adoption.

We have not hitherto succeeded, but it is with great Satisfaction We have it in our Power to inform Congress that from the recent Election of the Members of our Lower House of Assembly there is a Probability that this desirable Event will soon take Place.

We now experience the unhappy Consequences of our not belonging to the Union, in being subjected to the same Imposts and Tonnage as Foreigners, which considering our intimate Connexion with the United States, and our Dependence upon them for the Support of our Subsistence operates in a most grievous Manner against

Sea-Port Towns of this State who have been generally supplied as well by Land as Water with Firewood, Corn, Flour and other necessary Articles from the States now in the Union, and should our Trade and Communication with them continue to be restricted as at present, our Situation will be truly wretched —

We claim an original Relation to the American Confederacy and are fully sensible that we cannot exist independent of the Friendship and Good Will of our Sister States: And as we hope the formal Accession of this State to the New Constitution is not far distant: And as our Separation from the Union can by no Means be imputed to the Sea-Port Towns, the Inhabitants whereof are almost unanimously Zealous Advocates for the New Constitution: And as a Continuance of the abovementioned Restrictions on the Inhabitants of this State will accumulate unmerited Distress upon that Part of the Community which has been most firmly attached to the Union: And as we cannot but hope that the benign Disposition of Congress towards the Agricultural Part of the State manifested in the Admission of their Produce and Manufactures Duty-Free will also be extended to the Sea Port Towns.

We Therefore most humbly intreat the Attention of Congress to our distressed Situation, and that they will be pleased to grant, for such Time as to them in their Wisdom shall appear proper, that the Vessels belonging to the Citizens of this State may be admitted to Entry in the Ports of the United States, exempt from the Payment of Foreign Tonnage in the same Manner as Vessels belonging to their own Citizens: And that foreign Merchandize on Importation by the Citizens of this State into the United States by Land or Water shall be subject only to the same Duties and Restrictions as by Law are required of their own Citizens —

And as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Signed by the unanimous Order of the Town

Welcome Arnold, Moderator

Daniel Cooke Town-Clerk

And the said Report being duly considered, It is thereupon Resolved Unanimously, That the same be received, and that a Copy thereof be made and signed by the Moderator and Clerk and transmitted to the Congress of the United States.

It is further Resolved, That Doctor James Manning and Benjamin Bourne, Esq. be and they are hereby appointed to proceed to Congress with the said Petition in order to prefer the same under the Direction and Advice of the Committee appointed to draught the Petition with the Addition thereto of Col. Joseph Nightingale and Capt. John Updike: And that in Case any Obstruction shall happen whereby the said Gentlemen cannot proceed the said Committee are hereby fully empowered to procure other Person or Persons in his or their Stead in the same Manner as could be done in Town-Meeting legally assembled —

Wood Corders chosen.

Messieurs Seth Davis and Asa Sheldon are chosen Corders of Wood until the annual Election in June next.

The Meeting is Dissolved.

Oct. 19th 1789.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled, by Virtue of an Act of Assembly, on Monday the Nineteenth Day of October, A.D. 1789 —

The Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq; Moderator —

Committee to draught a Resolve expressive of the Sentiments of the Freemen on Account of the Meeting

This Meeting being convened by Act of Assembly for the Purpose of instructing our Deputies to the Honorable the General Assembly respecting a Convention in this State, It is thereupon Resolved That Col. Joseph Nightingale Capt. Paul Allen and Mr. George Olney be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draught a Resolve expressive of the Sentiments of the Freemen of this Town on the Subject of their present Meeting: And that they make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting —

October 19th A.D. 1789.

Resolve for selling Walker Lots repealed.

Resolved That the Resolution of the Town-Meeting of the 26th Day of March A.D. 1788 empowering a Committee to sell the Walker Lots so called be and the same is hereby repealed

J. Fenches Resignation &c.

Whereas John Fenches Esq. One of the Deputies chosen in August last to represent this Town in the Honorable the General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months has by a Writing by him signed and directed to the Town-Clerk declined serving as a Deputy as aforesaid on Account of his ill State of Health, It is therefore Resolved That the Town-Clerk be and he is hereby directed to issue a Warrant to convene the Freemen of this Town in Town-Meeting at the State-House on Saturday the 24th Day of October Instant at 3 O'Clock P.M. for the Purpose of choosing a Deputy to represent this Town in the Honble General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months in the Room of John Fenches Esq. who declined as aforesaid ——: And that the Freemen be also warned to convene at the said Time and Place for the Purpose of making a Town Tax and of transacting such other Business as may then and there be thought necessary

Committee for viewing Burying Ground continued.

Resolved That the Committee appointed on the 25th of August last for viewing the Burrying Ground &c. be and they are hereby continued; and that they make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Adjourned to Saturday the 24th Day of October instant 3 O'Clock P.M. then to meet at this Place, viz. the State House

Oct. 24.

Saturday October the 24th. The Meeting assembled pursuant to Adjournment

Report of Committee appointed at the last Meeting

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to draught a Resolve expressive of the Sentiments of the Freemen of this Town on the Subject of their then Meeting presented the following Report, to wit:

To

Gentlemen.

Your Constituents being assembled in pursuance of an Act of the Honorable the General Assembly passed at September Session respecting the calling a Convention, and after maturely deliberating on the Business therein proposed for our Consideration, have concluded it to be necessary to communicate to you the Result of our Deliberations

It is well known that the Legislature of this State, until the passing the Act which is the Subject of these Remarks, never expressed a Doubt of their Authority or Power to submit the New-Constitution to the People; but on the Contrary without consulting their Constituents on the most eligible Mode for its Discussion were pleased to devise one that had never been proposed in any other State, and entirely different from that prescribed by the General Convention and the late Congress of the United States; that the Legislature therefore until now never doubted their Competency or Constitutional Power to submit the proposed Constitution to the People, without first taking the previous Advice of their Constituents, is manifest from the Agency they have already taken in the Business. The Act in Virtue of which we are convened affords the first Instance in the History of the State, of a House of Deputies having a Subject under their Consideration, during the whole Term for which they were elected, and during this Space of Time never expressing a Doubt of their Authority of their Authority to act in the Business, should, at the Moment of their Dissolution, declare their Incompetency in any Manner to decide thereon, and then call for Instructions not for themselves, but for their Successors in Office. The Advice of the People, given to their Representatives in pursuance of an Act, originating in Circumstances so mysterious and unprecedented we are perswaded will not have that Weight and Influence in Legislative Proceedings which they otherwise would deserve much less in our Apprehension, can Instructions furnished under such Circumstances, justify Members bound by Oath to do what they shall think to be right and just, in acting contrary to the Dictates of their own Judgments and Consciences. Under these Impressions your Constituents are decidedly of Opinion that your Judgments formed

formed upon a fair and impartial hearing of both Sides of the Question, will furnish you with a more safe Directory than any Advice which may be given you by us. We fully confide that your Votes on the Question for calling a Convention in this State for the Purpose of considering the New-Constitution will be agreeable to the Dictates of your Consciences, and of Course in Conformity to your Oaths as Members: And be assured Gentlemen that your Conduct upon all Occasions, when regulated by these Principles will be perfectly satisfactory to your Constituents

The foregoing is submitted as our Report May

Jos: Nightingale
Paul Allen
Geo: Olney } Committee

And the said Report being duly considered It is Voted and Resolved That the same be received and accepted: And that a Copy thereof be made and signed by the Clerk in Behalf of the Town and delivered to the Deputies of this Town as expressive of the Sentiments of their Constituents on the Subject of their present Meeting

The Meeting is Dissolved

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled agreeably to a Resolution of the Town of the 19th instant

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esqr. is chosen Moderator

Deputy chosen.

John Innis Clarke Esqr. is chosen First Deputy in the Room of John Jenckes Esqr. who resigns

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Tax of £400 ordered.

Resolved That a Tax of Four Hundred Pounds Silver Money be levied upon the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town That the same be assessed on or before the 15th Day of November next and collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the first Day of January A.D. 1790. That the Poll Tax be Two Shillings: That the said Tax be collected and paid in Silver and Gold only: That Two Hundred Pounds thereof be appropriated for

for the Support of the Poor: That of the Remainder a sufficient Sum be appropriated for the Support of the Bridges and Highways; and if any Surplus shall then remain the same to be appropriated for the Payment of liquidated Accounts against the Town that are not on Interest

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Vote prohibiting P. Foster from collecting Taxes at Par repealed

Resolved That the Resolve of the Town-Meeting passed on the 11th Day of January A.D. 1787, directing Peregrine Foster Esq. Collector of Taxes not to collect the Taxes in Arrear in Paper Money at Par be and the same is hereby repealed

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Committee to draught an Address to the President of the United States.

This Meeting being informed, that the President of the United States of America is now on a Journey to Boston and New-Hampshire and as there is some Possibility that on his Return to New-York he may pass through this Town in which Case, it will be requisite that some Marks of public Respect and Attention should be shewn him by this Corporation, being a Character so justly revered by the World

It is therefore Voted and Resolved That Jabez Bowen John Brown Joseph Nightingale, Theodore Foster, Welcome Arnold Benjamin Bourne, Henry Ward, William Peck, and Jeremiah Olney Esquires be and they are hereby appointed a Committee in Behalf of this Town, to draft and present an Address to His Excellency congratulating and welcoming him on his Arrival, with suitable Expressions of the grateful Recollections the Freemen have, of his former Visit to this Place, in Times of Danger, and of the happy Contrast between those Times and the present glorious Prospects of the United States: of the Obligations they feel themselves under in Common with the People at large of this State, for the repeated Marks of Regard and Attention by him heretofore expressed for the People and Troops of this State, during the War with Great Britain; and for the Exercise of those patriotic Virtues of public and private Life which have so much contributed to the Establishment of the Independency of our Country and of the Peace and Union which so happily prevails throughout the great and extended Confederacy over which he presides and of the Satisfaction of this Corporation in his Appointment to the Chief Magistracy of the Nation, and of their Wishes

October 24th 1789

his Health, Prosperity and Happiness, and for the Welfare Harmony and Union of all the States under one General Confederated Government; and of our most anxious Desire that the Accession of this State to the present Confederacy may be speedily effected

Town Treasurer to procure a Person to ring the Bell &c

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby empowered and directed to procure a Person to ring the Bell in the Baptist-Meeting House and wind up the Clock for the Remainder of the Year on the same Terms and Conditions Mr. Nicholas Branch undertook the same.

The Meeting is Dissolved

Dec. 14th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 14th Day of December 1789

Capt. Joseph Fillinghast Moderator

Jurors drawn.

This Meeting being convened for the Purpose of drawing Jurors to serve at the Honorable Inferior Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in this Town on the Third Monday in December instant, the following Persons are drawn, to wit:

Joseph Fillinghast 2d. Grand-Juror
John Davis Petit-Juror

Meeting Dissolved

1790 Feby. 8th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freeman of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled on Monday the Eighth Day of February A.D. 1790

Col. Amos Atwell, chosen Moderator

Delegates chosen.

This Meeting being convened in Consequence of an Act of the Honorable the General Assembly of this State passed at the Session held in January last entitled "An Act for calling a Convention, to take into Consideration the Constitution proposed for the United States, passed on the 17th Day of September

ber A.D. 1787, by the General Convention held at Philadelphia" the following Gentlemen are duly elected Delegates to represent this Town in the said Convention to be holden agreeably to the said Act in South Kingstown in the County of Washington on the first Monday in March next, to wit:

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esq.
Benjamin Bourne Esq.
Col. William Barton
John Innis Clark Esq.

Jurors drawn

Mr. James Tillinghast is drawn Grand Juror and Mr. Enoch Eddy is drawn Petit Juror to serve at the Honorable Superior Court of Judicature Court of Assize and General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in March next.

The Meeting adjourned without Day

Persons propounded

The following Persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded to be admitted Freemen to wit: Nicholas Easton, John Mason, Caleb Ormsbee, Israel Sheldon, Randall Holden, Seril Dodge, Jonathan Hallin, Joseph Crawson, Samuel Waden, Joseph Masury, Michael Dawley and Cyprian Sterry

The Meeting adjourned without Day

April 21st 1790

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the Third Wednesday in April A.D. 1790

The Honorable Jabez Bowen, Esq. Moder

April 21st A.D. 1790

Freemen Admitted.

The following Persons having been propounded, are duly voted in and admitted as Freemen of this Town to wit: John Gibson, Samuel Soule, Nicholas Easton, John Mason, Caleb Ormsbe, Israel Sheldon, Randal Holden, Seril Dodge, Jonathan Wallen, Joseph Shawson, Joseph Mowry, Michael Pawlet, and Cyprian Sterry.

Persons propounded

The following Persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded for Admission as Freemen, to wit: Sylvester Fuller, Ebenezer Jacobs, Joseph Field (Son of John), Boon Vaughan, Abel Allen, Darius Allen, William Ashton Junior, Nathan Scarce, David Anthony, James Graves, Benjamin Carlile, Oliver Bowen, John Thurber, Joseph Field (Son of Joseph), Richard Guild and Jacob Hardenburger.

This being the Anniversary for putting in Proxy Votes for General Officers of the State and the Day by Law appointed for chosing Deputies to represent the Town in the General Assembly — The following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town, in the Honorable the General Assembly at the Election in May next, and in all Sessions of the said Assembly until the last Monday in October next to wit:

Deputies chosen.

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esqr. 1st.
Benjamin Bourne, Esqr. 2.
Mr. Amasa Gray, 3.
Welcome Arnold, Esqr. 4th.

Proxes put in For His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esqr. as Governor ..... 311.
For His Excellency George Champlin, Esqr. ..... 8.
For His Excellency William Bradford Esqr. ..... 1.
For His Excellency George Hazard, Esq. 1
Proxes

Proxes put in, wherein no Governor is named 27
Total 348

Petition for erecting a School House on the West side the River referred.

On the Petition of a Number of respectable Inhabitants of the Town, praying for Liberty to erect a School-House on the Lot on the West Side of the River, now in Possession of the Town, by Deed from Capt. William Creed, It is voted, That the said Petition be received and referred for further Consideration to the Annual Meeting in June next: And that Nicholas Brown, Esqr. Capt. John Updike, and Benjamin Bourne Esqr. be a Committee to enquire and report the Circumstances attending the Title of the Town to the Lot proposed for the Site of the said School-House.

Delegates instructed

The proposed Bill of Rights and Amendments to the Constitution as agreed to by the Convention and referred to the several Towns for their Consideration, being laid before this Meeting, It is voted, That the Delegates from this Town be instructed to conduct relative to said Bill of Rights and Amendments in such Manner, as will in their Judgment be most likely to procure a Ratification of said Constitution, by the aforesaid Convention: And that in case the Seventeenth Article of Amendments be moved to be expunged, that the Delegates of this Town use their Influence to have the same retained, as an Article recommendatory to take Place, as soon as may be consistent with the Constitution.

Adjourned without Day

May 24th

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and assembled at the State House on Monday the 24th Day of May A.D. 1790

John Dorrance, Esqr. Moderator

Recorded

May 24th 1790

Committee to draught Instructions to Delegates.

Resolved That Messieurs, John Brown Welcome Arnold, John Dorrance, Gershom Jones Jeremiah Olney, George Benson, Zephaniah Andrews, Joseph Nightingale and the Clerk, be a Committee to draught Instructions to our Delegates in State Convention relative to the Subject of this present Meeting; and that they report as soon as may be.

Report of the Committee.

The Subscribers being appointed a Committee to draught Instructions to our Delegates in State Convention beg Leave to report the following Resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That in Case the Convention of this State now convened in Newport shall not at the present Session adopt the Constitution, but shall either reject the same or adjourn to some future Day, that in such Case the Delegates from this Town at the said Convention be and they are hereby instructed to enter a Solemn and Spirited Protest against such Rejection or Adjournment.

It is further Resolved That it is our Opinion that on the Rejection of the said Constitution or further Delay of a Decision thereon, the respective Towns of the State have a Right to make Application to the Congress of the United States for the same Privileges and Protection which are afforded to the Towns under their Jurisdiction: And in such Case the Delegates from this Town be and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to meet with the Delegates from the Town of Newport and the Delegates from such other Towns as may think proper to join them, for the purpose of consulting and devising such Mode of Application as they in their Wisdom may think proper and to carry the Result of their Deliberations into immediate Effect; and that they make Report of their Doings to the next Town Meeting.

Ordered That the Clerk furnish our Delegates with a Copy hereof for their Instructions

John Brown
Welcome Arnold
John

John Dorrance
Gershom Jones
Jere.h Olney
Geo. Benson
Zeph.h Andrews
Jos. Nightingale
Dan.l Coohe

And the said Report being duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved That the same be received and accepted; and that a Copy thereof be transmitted to our Delegates as their Instructions.

The Meeting is Dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally ~~warned~~ assembled at the State House on Monday the 7.th Day of June 1790

Ebenezer Thompson Esq.r Moderator

Freemen admitted

The following Persons having been propounded were voted in and admitted as Freemen, to wit:

Sylvester Fuller Ebenezer Jacobs Joseph Field (Son of John) Boon Vaughn Abel Allen, William Ashton, jun.r Nathan Peare David Anthony, James Graves, Benjamin Carlile Oliver Bowen, John Thurber, Joseph Field (Son of Joseph) Richard Guild and Jacob Hardenburgher

Propounded.

William Brown having purchased a real Estate is propounded to be admitted as a Freeman

Officers Chosen

Town-Clerk. Daniel Coohe
Town-Council. Ebenezer Thompson, Esq.r President
M.r Nathaniel Jacobs, Samuel Butler, Esq.r Aaron Mason Esq.r Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq.r and M.r John Davis

June 7. 1790

Town Sergeant — Mr. Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer — *James Arnold Esqr.

Town Audit — Messieurs John Mumford, Rufus Waterman, & William Larned.

Constables — Messrs. William Givens, Michael Metcalf, Jonathan Greene, Daniel Pearce, Nicholas Branch, Daniel Snow, Waterman Williams, Grindall Reynolds, Rufus Sprague, & Jonathan Knowles.

Sealer of weights and measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman.

Assessors of Taxes & Overseers of the Poor. — Messrs. Nathaniel Wheaton, Nathan Waterman, & Thomas Jones.

Surveyors of Joint Boards — Messrs. Christopher Arnold junr. Elijah Bacon, Jonathan Hammond, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Isaac Angell, John Carlile, John Burrough, Isaac Bowen, Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Joseph Congdon, Caleb Ormsbee, Ephraim Walker, Benjamin Allen, and Benjamin Tallman.

Surveyors of Highways — Messrs. Welcome Arnold, Smith Brown, Sylvanus Martin, John Mumford, and James Burrill.

Gaugers of Casks — Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Esek Brown, Esek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Weeden, John Burrill, Joseph Congdon, Nathaniel Richmond, Stephen Sheldon, and John Sheldon (Distiller)

Conductor Master Collector of Taxes — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin on the same Terms and Conditions as the last year

Clerks of the Market — John Dorrance Esqr.

Fishers of Rhode Island — Messrs. Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, William Billings, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro, Charles Lasell, Jonathan

Coolers of Wood.

Overseers of the new Hospital — Found keepers.

To value Estates when disputed in Voting

Fence viewers

Presidents of the Fire Wards

Fire Wards.

Fire Engine Company No. 1. near the Bridge

Engine Company No. 2. North End

June 7. 1790

Jonathan Jenkins, John Ashworth, Joseph Salisbury, Stephen Sheldon, and Samuel Brown.

Messrs. John Vial, John Petty, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent, John Burrough, Seth Davis, and Asa Sheldon.

The Town Council

Messrs. Daniel Branch and Charles Holden.

Messrs. Jabez Bowen, Samuel Black, and John Brown.

Messrs. Samuel Thurber, John Field 2d., Charles Keene, and Christopher Arnold junr.

Jabez Bowen, John Brown, and Joseph Martin Esqrs.

Messrs. Nicholas Brown, Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, John Foster, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Samuel Buttler, Zepheniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, John Updike, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, and John Clarke.

Messrs. Joseph Nightingal, John Brown, Daniel Stillwell, Welcome Arnold, John White, Knight Dexter, Elisha Brown, Joseph Jenckes, Richard Jackson junr., Nicholas Brown junr., Joseph Allen, and Olivir Bowen.

Messrs. Simeon Thayer, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekel Burr, James [illegible], Philip Martin, John Whipple, Samuel Thurber junr. Jabez Gotham, and Nathan

June 7. 1790.

Engine Company No. 3. on the West side of the Bridge

Messrs. John Mathewson, Zepheniah Andrews, Daniel Jackson, James Black, Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, Joseph Cooke, James Burrill, Samuel Black, Zepheniah Brown, Benjamin Hoppin, and John Carpenter

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be removed in Case of fire.

Messrs. Barzillai Richmond, Ephraim Bowen, Christopher Sheldon, Obadiah Sprague, Samuel Thurber, and Henry Bacon

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of fire.

Messrs. Joseph Martin, Comfort, Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, and Caleb Ormsbee

Field Drivers.

Messrs. Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold junr., Reuben Potter, junr. Jonathan Fowle, Rufus Waterman, Samuel Thurber, junr. Michael Metcalf George Gordon, and John Tapp

Sealers of Leather.

Messrs. Samuel Butler, Josiah Gifford, and Samuel Smith

Scavengers.

Messrs. Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, and Job Sweeting

Overseers of the Work house

Messrs. Nathaniel Wheaton, Nathan Waterman, and Thomas Jones

Town Cryer.

Mr. Daniel Branch

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge

James Arnold Esqr.

Committee to prevent encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Passages & Commons of the Town.

Messrs. Benjamin Man, Charles Hawes, Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Zepheniah Bowen, and Aaron Mason

June 7. 1790.

Committee for superintending & regulating the Market.

Messrs. Ephraim Bowen, Nicholas Brown, John Jenckes, John Dorrance, Thomas L. Halsey, and James Burrill

School Committee

The Revd. Doctor James Manning, Revd. Doctor Enos Hitchcock, Revd. Joseph Snow, Revd. Moses Badger, Jabez Bowen, Nicholas Brown, Moses Brown, John Innes Clarke, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Dorrance, Welcome Arnold & Benjamin Bourne Esqrs.

Inspectors of pork, Beef &c. Committee to stake out the Channel

Messrs. Samuel Jackson and Samuel Weeden

Messrs. John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, Christopher Sheldon, and Phillips Allen

Weybosset Bridge to be repaired

Resolved, that the Town Council be requested to to advise the Town Treasurer, what Repairs to make to Weybosset Bridge the present year

Committee to procure a new fire Engine &c. —

Resolved, That Messrs. John Brown Jenkins Jones, and John Mumford be and they are hereby appointed a committee to procure a new fire Engine for the Use of the Town; That they contract with Persons to make the same; That the said Committee also examine the Engines in the Town & cause the necessary Repairs to be made thereto; and also the necessary fire Hooks and Utensils; and that this Town at their next August annual Meeting will take Measures to furnish the Pay therefor

Fire Wards to be furnished with Trumpets

Resolved, That the Town Treasurer be directed to furnish such Fire Wards as are dispituted Trumpets agreeably to Law

June 7. 1790.

J. Whitman Junr. to build a Pound &c.

Resolved, That Jacob Whitman Junr. be and is hereby appointed to procure the Materials and therewith build a Pound for the Use of the Town: That the said Pound be placed on Land of Col. Knight Dexter, he having generously agreed to give a Lease thereof to the Town for that Purpose for fifteen years gratis: and that the said Jacob Whitman and to a Lease of the same for the Towns Use accordingly.

C. Holden to Repair Pound

It is further Resolved, That Charles Holden be & is hereby appointed to repair or Rebuild the Pound on the Towns Land by the Presbyterian Meeting House.

Act respecting Horses going at large to publish

Resolved that the Clarke be directed to publish the Act of this State respecting Horses going at large in this Town in the News Papers: and that the Field Drivers be directed to cause the said Act to be put in Execution.

Committee to examine Fire Buckets &c.

Resolved, that Messrs. Daniel Stilwell, Ames a Gray, John Whipple, and Gershom Jones, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to go through the Town examine and make Report to the Town Council of all the Inhabitants that are not furnished with fire Buckets agreeably to Law: that the Town Council be requested to prosecute as many of the Delinquents as they may deem necessary: That the said Committe commence their examination on the first Day of August

June 7. 1790

August next; and that in the mean time, they advertise the same.

Jurors drawn

Joseph Eddy is drawn Grand Juror and Alfred Arnold Petit Juror to serve at the Hon'ble Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden in Providence within and for the County of Providence on the third Monday in June current.

At a Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned & assembled on Monday the sixteenth Day of August A.D. 1790.

The Hon'ble Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.

Town Treasurer to mend the market House Windows

Resolved, That the Town Treasurer be directed to cause the Windows in the Market House to be immediately mended at the Towns Expence.

Committee appointed to draught & present an Address to the President of the United States

August 16th 1790.

Resolved, That Henry Ward Esqr, Dctr Enos Hitchcock, Welcome Arnold, David Howell, and Benjamin Bourne Esqrs be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draught and Present an Address to the President of the United States expressive of the singular Pleasure and Satisfaction which the Inhabitants of Providence feel on his Visit to this Place, of their Sense of the Honor done them by his Presence, congratulating him on his Accession to the Presidency and of their perfect Satisfaction in his Appointment to that important Trust and in the Integrity, Prudence, and Ability displayed by him in the Discharge of the Duties of his High Station &c.

Committee to view Honours Street & report the Expence of paving the same &c.

Committee appointed to make proper Arrangements for the Presidents Reception, & to procure Powder

And it is further Resolved, That Joseph Nightingale, Ephraim Bowen Junr, William Russell, Ebenezer Thompson, and John Dorrance Esqrs be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to point out the proper Arrangements for the Reception of the President of the United States in a Manner suitable to his high Dignity and expressive of the great Respect and Veneration which the Inhabitants of Providence entertain for his Character; That the said Committee procure the necessary Powder for the Occasion and in Case the State will not pay for the same this Town will, and that the said Committees make at the Adjournment

Recommended to the Inhabitants to clean the Streets before their Doors &c. —

Committee appointed to examine Capt Updikes Machinery for filling fire Engines with Water &c.

Resolved, That Thomas Arnold, Daniel Jackson, Ephraim Bowen Junr, Nicholas Brown, Moses Brown, Caleb Ormsbee, & Aaron Mason be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine the Machinery constructed by

August 16th 1790

Capt. John Updike for the Purpose of facilitating the filling the Engines with Water and for the Purpose of taking Persons out of Houses in Case of Fire and that they make Report at the next Meeting

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Committee to examine the Street leading by the Congregational Meeting House from the Main Street to the Gate at the College Yard &c

*Resolved That Welcome Arnold, Aaron Mason, and Zepheniah Andrews Esqrs be a Committee to examine the Street leading by the Congregational Meeting House from the Main Street to the Gate at the College Yard & to report their opinion whether it will be for the Interest of the Town that said Street should be paved at the Expence of the Town & how far and what would be the probable Expence thereof, and that they make Report at the next annual Meeting

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Resolved that it be recommended to the Inhabitants of the Town to clean the Streets against their respective Houses and Dwellings and half the Gangways thereto adjoining immediately or before Wednesday noon next; and that the Town Cryer make known the same to the Inhabitants immediately and it is also recommended to the several Surveyors of Highways forthwith to remove all nusances in the Streets in their respective Districts

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Recommended

Eber Coleman is proposed to be admitted as a Freeman

Adjourned till to morrow 5 Oclock P. M. then to Meet at this Place

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August 17th 1790

Met pursuant to Adjournment

Report of Address to the President of the United States

August 17th 1790.

The Honble Jabez Bowen Esqr. Moderator in the Chair

Whereas the Committee yesterday appointed to draught an Address to the President of the United States presented into this Meeting the following Report, to Wit,

"To the President of the United States

Sir,

The Inhabitants of Providence beg leave to offer you their Congratulations on your safe Arrival in this Place.

We are sensibly affected by the Honor conferred on the State, and on us in particular, in the present Visit: And be assured Sir, We shall think ourselves peculiarly happy, if by our utmost Attentions, it can be made agreeable to you.

We gladly seize this first opportunity to express the most sincere Satisfaction, in your Election to the Presidency of the United States. The unbiassed Voice of a great Nation, which unanimously called you to that important Trust, is an Event, of which the Annals of History afford no Example; nor will future Times see it follow, unless the most transcendent Merit and the clearest Fame should be united in the same Person.

As General of the Armies of the United States, and as their President, we are attached to you by every Motive of Gratitude and Affection.

To the Conduct and Magnanimity of her Commander

Commander in Chief, uniformly displayed in the Course of a long and arduous War, America is indebted, and to the Smiles of Heaven, for her Freedom and Independence: And the consummate Prudence, and Ability, manifested in the Exercise of the Powers delegated to the President of the United States, exhibit to the World a Character of no less Celebrity in the Cabinet than in the Field.

From our most excellent Constitution, and the benign Influence of those Virtues which characterize your Administration, we entertain the most pleasing Hopes of the Extension of Commerce, the Encouragement of Agriculture and Manufactures, and of the Establishment of publick Faith, and private Credit; and that the Liberties of America will be transmitted to very late Posterity.

We ardently pray that a Life so conducive to the Welfare of Millions may be long protracted, and that when the fatal Shaft shall be sped which will deprive America of her great Benefactor, you may ascend those Regions where only exalted Virtue will be fully rewarded.

Done in Town Meeting, legally assembled, this Seventeenth Day of August A.D. 1790 and in the fifteenth Year of Independence,

Signed at the Request of the Town

Jabez Bowen Moderator

Daniel Cooke Town Clerk

August 17th 1790

and the said Report having been duly considered, It is thereupon Resolved, That the same be accepted: That a Copy thereof be made and Signed by the Moderator and attested by the Clerk and presented by the said Comm to the President of the United States

Court House to be illuminated

Resolved, That Mr. Daniel Millwell be and he is hereby appointed to cause the State House to be handsomly illuminated on Occasion of the Arrival of the President of the United States; and that the same be done under the Direction of the Committee yesterday appointed to make the necessary Arrangements and at the Expence of the Town

Report of Committee appointed to examine Capt. Updikes Machinery for filling fire Engines with Water &c.

Whereas the Committee yesterday appointed to view the Machinery of Capt. John Updike for supplying the Fire Engines with Water, &c. Presented to this Meeting the following Report, to Wit,

"The Committee appointed by the Town yesterday to view the miniature of two Machines invented by Capt. John Updike, one for supplying the Engines with Water, and the other for taking Persons out of, and sending them into the Windows of Buildings in Time of Fire, have viewed the same, and are of Opinion it is advisable for one of each to be constructed at the Expence of the Town, which will be sufficient to make Experiement of their Utility.

Providence 17th the 8mo. called August 1790
To the Town Meeting this Day
Nicht.

August 17th 1790

Committee on Compt. of Alfred Arnold

Nicho. Brown
Moses Brown
Thos. Arnold
Daniel Jackson
Aaron Mason

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is thereupon Resolved, That the same be received and accepted: And that the said Committee be requested to make an Estimate of the Expence of each of the said Machines and Report the same at the next annual Meeting

Whereas Mr. Alfred Arnold hath made Complaint to this Meeting that the Water is turned by several Gangways leading from Benefit Street to the Main Street and led down the Court House Lane opposite his Dwelling House to his great Detriment, It is therefore Resolved, That Nicholas Brown David Howell and Aaron Mason Esquires be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into the Merits of said Complaint: and that they make Report to the next Meeting

The Meeting is Dissolved

August 31st D. 1790.

At the annual Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the Town House on the last Tuesday in August A.D. 1790

The Honourable Jabez Bowen Esqr. Moderator.

Wm.

Answer of the President of the United States to the Towns Address.

August 31st. D1790.

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to present an Address to the President of the United States presented to this Meeting the Presidents Answer as follows to Wit,

To the Inhabitants of Providence

Gentlemen

The Congratulations which you offer me, upon my Arrival in this Place, are received with no small Degree of Pleasure. For your Attentions, and Endeavours to render the Town agreeable to me, and for your Expressions of Satisfaction at my Election to the Presidency of the United States, I return you my warmest Thanks.

My Sensibility is highly excited by your ardent Declarations of Attachment to my Person and the Constitution.

As under the Smiles of Heaven, America is indebted for Freedom and Independence, rather to the joint Exertions of the Citizens of the several States; in which it may be your boast to have borne no inconsiderable Share; than to the Conduct of her Commander in Chief, so is She indebted for their Support, rather to a Continuation of those Exertions than to the Prudence and Ability manifested in the Exercise of the Powers delegated to the President of the United States.

Your Hopes of the Extension of Commerce, the Encouragement of Agriculture and Manufactures, and the Establishment of publick Faith, as reared upon our Constitution, are well founded; and it is my earnest Wish that you may extensively enjoy the Benefits arising

arising from them.

I thank you Gentlemen for your Prayer for my future Welfare, and offer up my best Wishes for your Individual and collective Happiness

G.o Washington

Ordered that the preceding Answer be recorded.

Deputies chosen.

This being the Day by Law appointed for chosing Deputies to represent the Town in the Honourable the General Assembly to be holden on the last Monday in October next and in all Sessions of the said Assembly until the first Wednesday in May next the following Gentlemen are duly elected, to Wit,

Welcome Arnold Esq.r 1st.
Amos Atwell Esq.r 2d.
Robert Newell Esq.r 3.
Mr. Sylvanus Martin 4th

Persons propounded.

Messrs. William Bacon, George Weeden, and David Sayles, are propounded to be admitted as Freemen of this Town.

J. Carlile junr. Engineman, vice, O. Bowen.

Resolved, That Mr. John Carlile junr. be and is hereby appointed an Engineman for the Fire Engine No.1 in the Place of Olivir Bowen who has removed out of the District of said Engine.

Report of Committee on the Title of land heretofore Wm. Creeds.

A Committee appointed to enquire into the Title of a certain Lot of land situated on the West Side of the River and which heretofore was William Creeds reported that the Title of said Lot is in Mary Creed during her Life with a Remainder in Fee

August 31st. D1790

Children; It is thereupon Resolved, That the Town Council be impowered to call on said Mary Creed and procure with her Consent a Conveyance of said Lot to the Town for the Term of her Life, and that the Town Council be authorized to discount in Payment of said Purchase a Part of the Debt due the Town for Advances made said Mary Creed and Children for their Support.

Report of Committee for viewing Hanover Street for paving thereof &c.

*Whereas the Committee appointed on the Sixteenth Instant to view Hanover Street and Report the Expence of paving thereof &c. presented to this Meeting the following Report, to Wit

"We the Subscribers being appointed by the Town to view the Street leading by Doctor Bowings up to the College and estimate the Expence of paving the same. Having viewed the same accordingly, We find the Distance from the Main Street to the Back Street to be about three hundred Feet. Suppose the Pavement to be laid fourteen feet wide, the Stones Suppose one hundred and seventy five Tons delivered on the Spot at three Shillings and Six Pence pr. Ton amounts to £30.12.6.

Say 200 Tons of sand at 9d. is	7.10.
preparing the Ground Suppose	8.
Laying the Pavement @ 6. pr. Yard is	11.13.4
Makes in the Whole	£57.15.10

This admits of Paving nearly across the said Back Street: We find it is also about 200 feet from the Back Street to the Top of the Steep Part of the Hill opposite the End of Governor Bowens Stone Wall which if paved as wide as the lower Part will cost considerably more, by Reason of the Quantity of Earth to be removed and the additional Expence of carting the Stones and Sand up that Steep Hill but if this Distance should be paved only 10 feet wide

August 31st. 1790

We suppose it may be done at the same Rate, that is 200 feet here will cost two thirds as much as the 300 feet below and of Course will Cost £38.10. which will make in the Whole £96.6.5 from the said Wall to the College Gate is about 400 feet Distance which we are of Opinion would Cost about the same pr. Yard to pave as both the two first mentioned Distances are estimated at. which is submitted to the Town Meeting by their

Most Obedient Servants

Providence 25th August D1790.

Welcome Arnold
Zepth. Andrews
Aaron Mason
} Committee

To the Moderator of the Town Meeting to be holden on Tuesday next.

*And the said Report having been read and duly considered, It is thereupon Resolved, That John Brown and Amos Atwell Esqrs. together with the aforesaid Committee be and are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of causing the said Street commonly called Hanover Street leading from the Main Street to Benefit Street to be paved agreeably to said Report: That said Committee also cause the said Street leading to the College from said Hanover Street to be paved as far as the End of said Wall mentioned in said Report: That the said Committee be authorized to increase the Width of the said last mentioned Pavement from 10 feet if they shall deem it to be beneficial and consistent with the Interest of the Town: That the said Committee be also impowered to procure the necessary Advances and Supplies for compleating the said Pavements on the Credit of the Town

August 31st 1790

That the Town Treasurer give his Notes on Interest for such Sums as shall be advanced

Town Council to obtain Money advanced Mrs Creed &c.

Resolved, That the Town Council be requested to endeavour to obtain a certain Sum of money advanced by the Town to Mrs Mary Creed and her Children; And that they secure the Town by procuring a Deed of a certain Lot of Land on the West Side of the River conveyed to James Arnold Esqr in Trust for the Support of the said Mrs Creed and Children or in such other Way as they shall deem most prudent

Jurors Drawn.

Benjamin Keene is drawn grand Juror and Timothy Sheldon Junr Petit Juror to serve at the Honorable the Superior Court of Judicature Court of Assize & General Gaol Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the first Monday in September next

Town Audit to allow Interest on J. Browns Account.

Resolved, That the Town Audit be directed to allow Interest on the Account of John Brown Esqr which is presented to them for Settlement

Application of the Mechanical Society referred.

Whereas Messrs Gorsham Jones and Nicholas Easton made Application to this Meeting in behalf of the Mechanical Society to purchase the East Walker Lot so called for said Society, It is thereupon Resolved, That the said Application be referred to the next Meeting and that then this Town will take the same into Consideration and act thereon

Pursuant

Representative to Congress chosen

August 31. 1790.

Pursuant to an Act of the Honorable General Assembly of this State passed at the Session in June last, are received the Votes of the Freemen of this Town for a Representative to the Congress of the United States, of which there are as follow, to Wit,

For Benjamin Bourne Esqr	303.
For Job Comstock Esqr	21.
For James Sheldon Esqr	1.
For Mr George Potter	1.
Total	326

The Meeting is Dissolved

Oct. 18. 1790

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House on Monday the Eighteenth Day of October A.D. 1790

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esquire, Moderator

Jurors drawn

Nathan W. Jackson and Joshua Lindley are drawn as Grand Jurors and James Snow and Abiel Smith as Petit Jurors to serve at the District Court to be holden in this Town on the first Monday in November next

Freemen Admitted

Eber Coleman William S. Brown William Bacon George Weeden and Nicholas Cooke Junr are voted in and admitted as Freemen of the Town of Providence

Tax of £750 ordered

It is Voted, That a Tax of Seven hundred and fifty Pounds Lawful Silver Money be levied and levy on the Polls and rateable Estates of the Inhabitants

August 31st 1790

That the Town Treasurer give his Notes on Interest for such Sums as shall be advanced

Town Council to obtain Money advanced Mrs Creed &c.

Resolved, That the Town Council be requested to endeavour to obtain a certain Sum of money advanced by the Town to Mrs Mary Creed and her Children; And that they secure the Town by procuring a Deed of a certain Lot of Land on the West Side of the River conveyed to James Arnold Esqr in Trust for the Support of the said Mrs Creed and Children or in such other Way as they shall deem most prudent

Jurors Drawn.

Benjamin Keene is drawn grand Juror and Timothy Sheldon Junr Petit Juror to serve at the Honorable the Superior Court of Judicature Court of Assize & General Gaol Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the first Monday in September next

Town Audit to allow Interest on J. Browns Account.

Resolved, That the Town Audit be directed to allow Interest on the Account of John Brown Esqr which is presented to them for Settlement

Application of the Mechanical Society referred.

Whereas Messrs Gorham Jones and Nicholas Easton made Application to this Meeting in behalf of the Mechanical Society to purchase the East Walker Lot so called for said Society, It is thereupon Resolved, That the said Application be referred to the next Meeting and that then this Town will take the same into Consideration and act thereon

Pursuant

Representative to Congress chosen

August 31. 1790.

Pursuant to an Act of the Honorable General Assembly of this State passed at the Session in June last, are received the Votes of the Freemen of this Town for a Representative to the Congress of the United States, of which there are as follow, to Wit,

For Benjamin Bourne Esqr	303.
For Job Comstock Esqr	21.
For James Sheldon Esqr	1.
For Mr George Potter	1.
Total	326

The Meeting is Dissolved

Oct. 18. 1790

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House on Monday the Eighteenth Day of October A.D. 1790

The Honorable Jabez Bowen Esquire, Moderator

Jurors drawn

Nathan W. Jackson and Joshua Lindley are drawn as Grand Jurors and James Snow and Ariel Smith as Petit Jurors to serve at the District Court to be holden in this Town on the first Monday in November next

Freemen Admitted

Eber Coleman William S. Brown William Bacon George Weeden and Nicholas Cooke Junr are Voted in and admitted as Freemen of the Town of Providence

Tax of £750 ordered

It is Voted, That a Tax of Seven hundred and fifty Pounds Lawful Silver Money be levied and assessed on the Polls and ratable Estates of the Inhabitants

others in this Town: And that One half of the said Tax be collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the First Day of January next, and the other Half be collected and paid into the said Treasury on or before the First Day of May next.

Packers of Beef & Pork

Resolved That Arthur Tarrier Stephen Remington and Eseck Eddy be and they are hereby appointed Packers of Beef and Pork till the Annual Election in June next

Person propounded

John Jones having purchased a real Estate in this Town is propounded to be admitted as a Freeman

List of Freemen who voted for Representative in Congress

The following is a List of the Freemen who voted at this Meeting for a Representative in the Congress of the United States for Two Years from the Third Day of March next, in pursuance of an Act of the Honorable the General passed at the Session in September last — Those marked E. are such as are now engaged or were heretofore engaged pursuant to an Act of said Assembly passed at the Session in March A.D. 1787

Allen Asa — E.	Ashton William jun.d E.	Arnold Nathan E.
Arnold Joseph — E.	Ashton William — E.	Allen Benjamin — E.
Atwell M. Amos — E.	Allen William — E.	Allen Philip — E.
Allen Abel — E.	Aldrich Eseck — E.	Arnold Nehemiah E.
Arnold Christopher jun.d E.	Allen Zachariah — E.	Arnold Joseph jun.d E.
Angell Nathan — E.	Arnold Welcome — E.	Andrews Zephaniah E.
Ashton Stephen — E.	Allen Joseph — E.	Arnold Alfred E.
Arnold Joseph 3.d — E.	Aborn James jun.d E.	
Atwell Amos — E.	Arnold James — E.	

Bishop

Bishop Samuel — E.	Brownell William E.	Crapon Christopher — E.
Brown Benjamin E.	Brown Nicholas jun.d E.	Carlile John jun.d — E.
Brown Obadiah — E.	Butler Samuel — E.	Corlis John — E.
Bradford Perez — E.	Balch Joseph — E.	Cozzens Benjamin jun.d E.
Bradford George — E.	Brown Elisha — E.	Carlile John — E.
Brown Jehabod — E.	Brayton James —	Carpenter Hingsley — E.
Bowen Henry — E.	Bowen Pardon (of Warren)	Cranston Caleb — E.
Brown Zephaniah — E.	Brown Daniel — E.	Clark William — E.
Brown James — E.	Branch Nicholas — E.	Carpenter Oliver — E.
Burrill B. George E.	Burr Ezekiel — E.	Cooke Daniel — E.
Bennett Thomas — E.	Bowen William — E.	Coy W. Jonathan — E.
Brown S. William — E.	Butler Samuel jun.d E.	Carter John — E.
Black Samuel — E.	Beverly George — E.	Cushing Nathaniel E.
Brown John — E.	Billings William — E.	Currie Robert — E.
Brown Nicholas — E.	Bourne Benjamin — E.	Crawford Joseph — E.
Benson George — E.	Blinn Robert — E.	Congdon Ephraim E.
Bowen Ephraim jun.d E.	Bacon Abner — E.	Carlile S. Benjamin E.
Bowen Ephraim — E.	Barrows Peter	Clarke Samuel — E.
Burrill James — E.	Bowen Pardon — E.	Chace Amos — E.
Black James — E.	Bucklin Daniel — E.	Cooke Hezekiah — E.
Brown Eseck — E.	Barton William — E.	Carpenter Oliver jun.d — E.
Burr Levi — E.	Brown W. William — E.	Coleman Eber — E.
Bowen Oliver jun.d — E.	Brownell William — E.	Crapon Samuel —
Branch Daniel — E.		Carpenter Gershom E.
Bacon Henry — E.		Congdon Joseph jun.d E.
Bacon Elijah — E.		Cushing C. Joseph
Burrough John — E.	Coggeshall Charles E.	
Burr James — E.	Chace John — E.	
Bardin Comfort — E.	Carpenter Jonathan — E.	
Bowen Jabez — E.	Clark S. John — E.	
Burr David — E.	Cooke Nicholas — E.	Daggett William —
Bowen Isaac — E.	Cooke Jesse — E.	Dodge Israel — E.
Brown Smith — E.	Comstock Joseph E.	Dexter Asaph —

October 18th 1790

Torrance John — E.
Brown Solomon — E.
Dexter Stephen
Bring Benjamin — E.
Dawless Michael — E.
Dean Calvin — E.
Dexter Andrew — E.
Dickens Edward — E.
Davis Israel — E.

Eddy Esek — E.
Earle William — E.
Earle John — E.
Eddy Joseph — E.
Eddy Benjamin Jun. E.
Eddy Benjamin — E.
Eddy Joseph Jun. E.
Eddy Comfort — E.
Eddy Peleg — E.
Eddy Barnard E.
Eddy Jeremiah — E.

Fuller Joseph — E.
Fenner Arthur Jun. E.
Field John — E.
Francis John — E.
Field Joseph — E.
Field William — E.
Fuller Sylvester — E.
Fitten John — E.
Field John — E.
Field Daniel — E.
Fenner Richard Jun. E.

Fowle Jonathan — E.
Field Joseph (son of Jos.) — E.
Frothingham Nathaniel E.

Gladding Nathaniel Jun. E.
Gladding Benjamin — E.
Gorham Jabez — E.
Gladding Allen — E.
Gladding Jonathan — E.
Gladding Nathaniel — E.
Gray Amasa — E.
Gifford Josiah — E.
Greatreaks John — E.
Gladding Timothy — E.
Greene Josiah — E.
Gibson John — E.
Greene Jonathan — E.
Gwens William — E.
Gorden George — E.
Gladding W. John — E.
Grinnold Peter — E.
Graves James — E.

Hacker Joshua — E.
Horsewell Philip E.
Hubbard Ezra — E.
Hopkins Stephen E.
Halsey L. Thomas — E.
Harding William — E.
Herding Eliazer — E.
Ham Jotham — E.
Hammond James — E.
Hodges Benjamin — E.

Harding Jonathan — E.
Holden Randall — E.
Vordenburgher Jacob E.
Howland John — E.
Hoppin Benjamin E.
Harding Walker — E.

Jenches Joseph — E.
Inman David
Inman William
Jenches Jeremiah — E.
Jacobs E. John — E.
Jones Gershom — E.
Jones William — E.
James Samuel — E.
Jackson Samuel Jun. E.
Jenkins Jonathan E.
Jackson Samuel — E.
Jackson Daniel — E.
Ingraham Simion E.
Jones Jesse — E.
Johnson A. John E.
Ingraham Thomas E.
Ingraham Samuel — E.
Jones Thomas — E.

Knowles Edward — E.
Knowles Jonathan E.
Keene Charles — E.
Kelton Harris — E.
Keene Benjamin E.

Run

Keen John — E.
King Caleb — E.

Learned William — E.
Larchar John — E.
Luther Constant E.
Lippitt Charles — E.
Loring Simion — E.
Lee Charles — E.
Lee William — E.
Lindenburgher John E.

Maachuster Isaac E.
Mumford John — E.
Man Benjamin E.
Martin Sylvanus E.
Masury Joseph — E.
Marvin Richard E.
Merry Ralph — E.
Martin David E.
Matthewson Nathan E.
Matthewson John — E.
Manning James E.
Maxwill Levi — E.
Munro John — E.
Mason John — E.
Magwire Francis — E.

Martin Philip — E.
Miller Consider — E.

Neal Mr. Hopestill E.
Nightingale Samuel E.
Nightingale Joseph E.

Olney Jeremiah — E.
Olney Richard — E.
Ormsbe Caleb — E.
Olney Christopher E.
Olney Jabez — E.
Olney George — E.
Olney H. Simion — E.
Olney Elisha — E.

Peck William — E.
Peck Lewis — E.
Perry Thomas — E.
Potter Joseph — E.
Pitman Sanders E.
Peck Joseph — E.
Potter Reuben — E.
Peace Daniel — E.
Peace Oliver — E.
Petty John — E.
Peabody John — E.

Pain R. Samuel E.
Sage Ambrose — E.
Paul William E.
Peckham William E.
Pitman Thomas — E.
Pitman William — E.
Peare Nathaniel — E.
Power Nicholas — E.
Pitman Isaac — E.
Pain Thomas — E.
Proud Daniel — E.
Proud Samuel — E.
Packard Samuel E.
Peck Elihu — E.
Penno Peter — E.
Peckham Philip E.
Potter William — E.
Packard Nathaniel E.
Pitt Ignatius — E

Rhodes William E.
Rusell William — E.
Rusell Jeremiah — E.
Rusell Joseph — E.
Remington Stephen — E.
Rice Henry — E.
Rogers John — E.
Rawson Joseph — E.
Richmond Nathan

October 18th 1790

Rutenbar Thomas E.
Reynalds Grindall E.
Riley Terence E.
Richmond Barzillai E.
Robertson Christopher E.

Smith Henry E.
Sprague Obadiah E.
Stillwell Daniel E.
Sabin James jun.d E.
Smith William E.
Soule Samuel E.
Shackleford Mag E.
Sheldon Job E.
Salisbury Nicholas E.
Sheldon Christopher E.
Sabin Jesse E.
Smith William jun.d E.
Short Samuel E.
Sheldon Pardon E.
Spurr John E.
Sabin John E.
Smith Ariel E.
Sweet Nehemiah E.
Smith Samuel E.
Sabin Thomas E.
Salisbury Joseph E.
Smith Charles E.
Snow John E.
Stuart Archibald E.

Smith John E.
Sweeting Job E.
Snow Josiah E.
Spooner Samuel E.
Snow James E.
Snow James jun.d E.
Searle Solomon E.
Searle John E.
Sefton A. William E.
Snow Daniel E.
Snow Joseph jun.d E.
Snow William E.
Sterling P. Henry E.

Taylor Robert jun.d E.
Tillinghast Daniel E.
Thayer Thomas E.
Thurber Samuel E.
Thayer Simeon E.
Treadwell Jonathan E.
Tillinghast Joseph E.
Tillinghast William E.
Thurber Stephen E.
Tefft Daniel E.
Talbot Benjamin jun.d E.
Thurber William E.
Thurber Samuel jun.d E.
Taylor Benjamin E.
Tefft Daniel jun.d E.
Throope Amos E.

Taylor Edward E.
Tarp John E.
Talman Benjamin E.
Taylor Peter E.
Thurber John E.
Taylor William E.

Vaughn Boon E.
Viall John E.
Updike John E.

Whittemore Jesse E.
Whaton Nathaniel E.
Wilbey Samuel E.
Westcot Jacob E.
Whipple John E.
Warner Henry E.
Ward Henry E.
Waterman William E.
Wardwell Stephen E.
Wallin Jonathan E.
Ward John E.
Warner Samuel E.
Wilkinson David E.
Whaton Comfort E.
Whaton William E.
Warner Nathan E.
Walker Ephraim E.
Whaton Ephraim E.
Whiting Joshua E.
Waterman

Waterman Rufus E.
Whitman Jacob E.
Whitman Jacob jun.d E.
White Ebenezer E.
Walter James E.
Williams Andrew E.

Westcot John jun.d E.
Whipple Joseph E.
Williams Nathan E.
Whaton James E.
Wilkinson William E.
Warner Amos E.

Weden George E.
Waterman Nathan E.

Young Gideon E.
Young Samuel E.
Young John E.

Representatives to Congress chosen

This being the Day appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly at the Session in September last for electing a Representative to represent this State in the Congress of the United States for Two Years from the Third Day of March next: the following is the Number of Votes sent in for the following Candidates, to wit:

For Benjamin Bourne Esqr. 377
For Peleg Arnold Esqr. 6
For Paul Mumford Esqr. 4
For James Sheldon Esqr. 6
Total 393.

Adjournment

This Meeting is adjourned till Saturday next 2 O'Clock P. M. then to meet at this Place

N.B. the adjourned Meeting did not convene

October 25th 1790

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on Monday the 25th Day of October A.D. 1790

John Dorrance Esqr. Moderator

Resolved That a Tax of three Hundred and Fifty Pounds Lawful Money be added to the Tax at the Town Meeting on the 18th Day

Additional Tax of £450 ordered

instant: That the said Taxes amounting to Twelve Hundred Pounds, be assessed on or before the 15th Day of November next and collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the first Day of May next with Interest from the first Day of December next: That the Poll-Tax be Sixpence on every Hundred Pounds: And that the said Taxes be appropriated to the Payment of One Third Part of the Town Debt including both Principal and Interest; and the Surplus to the Support of the Poor, and other incidental Charges against the Town.

Town-Treasurer to issue Certificates &c

It is further Resolved That the Town-Treasurer be directed to give his Notes for Two Thirds of all liquidated Claims against the Town, payable with Interest from the First Day of December next; and also to give his Certificates on Interest from said first Day of December for the remaining Third Part of said Claims: Which Certificates shall be receivable by the Collector and the said Treasurer in Payment of the Taxes ordered at this Meeting and on the 18th Instant.

Committee to agree with Directors for a Lottery to build Weybosett Bridge

Resolved That Messieurs John Updike Joseph Martin and Nathan Waterman be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to agree with suitable Persons as Directors to a Lottery for raising a Sum for building a Bridge over the River at or near where Weybosett Bridge now stands; and that they report the said Persons to the Deputies of this Town in order that they may be appointed by the Honorable the General Assembly at the present Session.

Report of Expence of Machines to [illegible]

Whereas the Committee who were requested on the 17th Day of August last to estimate the Expence of two Machines invented by Capt. John Updike, the One for [illegible]

supplying the Engines with Water the other for taking Persons out of, and sending them into the Windows of Buildings in Time of Fire, presented unto this Meeting the following Report to wit:

"Agreeable to the within Appointment We have estimated the Cost of the Machines of Capt. John Updike and find that the reliving Machine will cost about Eight Pounds Thirteen Shillings and Sixpence, and the Machine for supplying Water will cost about Three Pounds Seventeen Shillings."

Caleb Ormsbee
Ephm Bowen Junr
Moses Brown
Thomas Arnold
Nicht Brown
Committee
Aaron Mason

And the said Report having been duly considered It is voted and Resolved That the same be received: That Capt. John Updike be and he is hereby appointed to cause One of each of the said Machines to be constructed for the Use of the Town, and that the Expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury

J. Updike to procure Machines to be made

The Meeting is Dissolved

Nov. 22d 1790

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 22d Day of November A.D. 1790

Welcome Arnold, Esqr Moderator

Jurors for Circuit Court

Mr Pardon Mason is drawn Grand-Juror and Mr [illegible] Petit-Juror to serve at the Circuit Court to be holden at Prov[illegible] within and for the District of Rhode-Island &c on the Fourth Day of December next.

Jurors for Common Pleas

Mr Isaac Pitman is drawn Grand-Juror

November 22d 1790

Mr. Samuel Westcott Petit Juror to serve at the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in December next

The Meeting is dissolved

March 14th A.D. 1791.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 14th Day of March A.D. 1791

Col. William Barton, Moderator

Jurors Drawn

Mr. Daniel Brayton is drawn Grand Juror, and Capt. Pardon Sheldon Petit Juror to serve at the honorable the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Goal Delivery, to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in March, current

The Meeting is Dissolved

April 20th 1791.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the Third Wednesday in April A.D. 1791

His Excellency Arthur Fenner, Esqr. Moderator

Freemen admitted.

Mr. John Jones having been previously propounded is Voted in and admitted as a Freeman of the Town of Providence

Persons sworn agt Bribery & Corruption

The following Persons were duly sworn agreeable to the Act passed at March Session A.D. 1787. to prevent Briberys and Corruption, to wit: Messieurs, Charles Sheldon, James Mowry, Junr. Darius Allen, Ebenezer Macomber, Edward Thompson, Junr. Nicholas Cooke Junr. and Peregrine Foster

This being the Anniversary for proving for General Officers & also the Day for choosing Deputies to represent the Town in the

the Honorable the General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next and in all Sessions of said Assembly till the last Monday in October next to wit:

Welcome Arnold, Esqr. 1st
Amos Atwell, Esqr. 2d
Deacon Samuel Nightingale, 3d
Mr. Sylvanus Martin 4th

Votes for General Officers

The Votes put in at this Meeting for General Officers were in Number One hundred and Ninety one, of which there were

For His Excellency Arthur Fenner, Esquire, as Governor 191.

Town Council to enquire into Damages sustained by Widows Seamans &c.

Resolved, That it be and hereby is recommended to the Town Council of this Town, to enquire into what Damages the Widows Seamans and Sarah Westcott and the Heirs of Thomas Westcott have sustained by reason of the Highways being Covered round their House at the South End of the Town for the Convenience of the Public: And that they make such Compensation therefor, in Repairs to the Buildings or otherways as they shall judge equitable / the said Widows and Heirs being poor and unable to repair the same

Persons propounded

The following Persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded to be admitted as Freemen to wit. Doctor Elias Penniman, Thomas Dring and William Billings

Relinquishment of the Town's right in the Creek Lot

Resolved, That this Town do relinquish unto the Inhabitants of the Town on the West Side of the River, all Right Title and Interest this Town hath in and unto a certain Lot of Land on said Side of the River heretofore mortgaged to James Arnold, Esqr. as Town Treasr of this Town by William Creed, on Condition that the said Inhabitants shall erect a suitable Building thereon for a School House of such Dimensions as the Town may hereafter direct by their Committee

April 20th 1791

Jurors for District Court

The following Persons are drawn to serve as Petit Jurors at the District Court of the State of Rhode Island &c. to be holden at Providence in said District on Monday the Second Day of May next at 9 O'Clock A. M. to wit Messieurs Daniel Pond Samuel Butler and Daniel Tefft

Record Book to be procured

Resolved That the Clerk be and he is hereby directed to procure a suitable Book for recording of Deeds &c. for the use of the Town, and that the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury

The Meeting is Dissolved

June 6th 1791.

* At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held at the State-House on Monday the 6th Day of June A.D. 1791.

His Excellency Arthur Fenner, Esquire, Moderator.

His Excellency on Account of other Business having declined Nathaniel Whaton, Esqr. is chosen Moderator.

Officers chosen.

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers, the following Gentlemen, are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their Names, to wit:

Town-Clerk — Daniel Cooke,

Town Council — Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire, President, Messieurs, Samuel Butler, Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Whaton, John Davis and John Mason

Town-Sergeant — Mr. Henry Bowen

Town-Treasurer — James Arnold, Esquire

Town-Auditors — Messieurs John Mumford, Rufus Waterman and William Larned,

Constables — Messieurs William Givens, Jonathan Greene, Michael Metcalf, Charles Keene, Gershom Jones, Sylvanus Martin, Zephaniah Andrews, William Bacon and Daniel Stillwell

Sealer of Weights & Measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman, Senior

Assessors of Rates & Overseers of the Poor — Messieurs, Nathaniel Whaton, Nathan Waterman and Thomas Jones

Surveyors of Joist, Board, Spars & Timber — Messieurs, Christopher Arnold, Elijah Bacon, Jesse Smith, Comfort Whaton, Gershom Carpenter, Isaac Angell, John Burrough, Isaac Bowen, Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Caleb Ormsbee, Ephraim Walker, Benjamin Tallman, John Carlile, Junr. Abel Allen, and Jonathan Gladding

Surveyors of Highways — Messieurs, Welcome Arnold, Gershom Jones, Sylvanus Martin, James Burrill, Joseph Salisbury and Phinehas Brown

Gaugers of Casks — Messieurs, Samuel Jackson, Esek Brown, Esek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Reeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon, Nathaniel Richmond, Stephen Sheldon and John Sheldon, Distiller

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin, on the same Terms and Conditions as the last Year

Clerk of the Market — John Dorrance, Esquire

Packers of Beef, Pork & Fish — Messieurs, Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, William Billings, Samuel Reeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro, Charles Lafells, Jonathan Jenkins, John Eathforth, Joseph Salisbury, Stephen Sheldon, Samuel Brown, Arthur Fairier, Stephen Remington, Esek Eddy, Joseph Field, Son of Joseph, John Beverly, Joshua Whiting, Samuel Eathforth and Anthony Dyer

Corders of Wood — Messieurs, John Vial, John Petty, John Lafell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent, John Burrough, Seth Davis, and Asa Sheldon

Overseers of the Hospital — The Town-Council

Pound-Keepers

To value Estates when disputed in Voting

Fence-Viewers.

Presidents of the Fire-Wards

Fire-Wards.

Fire-Engine Co. No. 1. near the Bridge.

Fire-Engine Co. No. 2. at the North End.

Fire-Engine Co. No. 3. on the West Side of the River

Fire-Engine Co. No. 4. at the South End.

Persons to order when & where Goods shall be removed in Case of Fire.

Persons to remove & shall have Wages in Case

Messieurs, Daniel Branch, and Charles Holden

Messieurs, Jabez Bowen, Samuel Black and John Brown

Messieurs, Samuel Thurber Junior, John Field and Christopher Arnold

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and Joseph Martin, Esquires,

Messieurs, Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Porrance, Samuel Butler, Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, John Updike, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, and John J. Clarke

Messieurs, Joseph Nightingale, John Brown, Welcome Arnold, John White Knight Dexter, Elisha Brown, Joseph Jenckes, Richard Jackson, Junior, Nicholas Brown, Joseph Allen, John Carlile, Junior, and Isaac Pitman

Messieurs, John Whipple, Nehemiah Sweet Stephanus Martin, Ezekiel Burt, James Whiaton, Philip Martin, Samuel Thurber, Junior, Jabez Gorham, George Weeden and James Burr

Messieurs, John Mathewson, Daniel Jackson, James Black, Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, Joseph Cooke, James Burrill, Samuel Black, Zephaniah Brown Benjamin Hoppin, John Carpenter, and Joshua Lindley.

Messieurs, Daniel Stillwell, Pardon Sheldon, Josiah Gifford, Jeremiah Jenckes, Israel Davis, Caleb Ormsbee, Amos Warner, Joseph Arnold 3d, Benjamin Earle, George Earle, Joseph Davenport and Benjamin F. Carlile

Messieurs, Jabez Bowen, John Brown, Joseph Martin, John Porrance and John Mumford

Messieurs, Joseph Martin, Comfort Whiaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans

Oliver

Field-Drivers.

Sealer of Leather

Scavengers

Overseers of the Work-House

Town-Crier.

Overseer of Wupposett Bridge

Com: to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town

Com: to superintend & regulate the Market

School-Committee

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes

Com: to stake out the Channel

Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, and Caleb Ormsbee

Messieurs, Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Jonathan Fowle, Rufus Waterman, Samuel Thurber, Junior, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon and John Tarp

Mr. Josiah Gifford

Messieurs Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown and Job Sweeting

Messieurs, Nathaniel Whiaton, Nathan Waterman and Thomas Jones

Mr. Daniel Branch

James Arnold, Esquire

Messieurs, Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Zephaniah Brown and Aaron Mason

Messieurs, John Updike, John Porrance and James Burrill

Rev. Doct. James Manning, Rev. Doct. Enos Hitchcock, Rev. Joseph Snow, Rev. Moses Badger, Rev. Jonathan Maxcy, Messieurs Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, John J. Clarke, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Porrance, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Bourne, and Nicholas Brown

Messieurs Samuel Jackson and Samuel Weeden

Messieurs John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, Christopher Allen, and Philip Allen

June 6th 1791.

Surveyors of Highways may lay out a Sum not exceeding 5 Dollars &c

Resolved, That each Surveyor of the Highways be and he is hereby permitted, in Cases of Emergency, to lay out a Sum not exceeding Five Dollars, towards the Repairs of the Highways, in his own District without the Advice of the other Surveyors: And that the Town-Audit be and are hereby directed not to audit the Account of any Surveyor that shall exceed the said Sum of Five Dollars, unless the same is signed by a Majority of said Surveyors

T. Treasurer to put Pound in Repair &c

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to put the Pound on the East Side of the River in Repair, or to build a new One if the same is irreparable; and that the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town-Treasury

Report of Com: to procure new Fire-Engine

Whereas the Committee appointed to procure a Fire Engine for the Use of the Town presented to this Meeting the following Report to wit:

"Providence June 6th 1791

We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to procure a new Engine, have accordingly attended to the Business, and after making Enquiry into the Terms on which Fire Engines can be procured from abroad, have agreed with Mr Daniel Jackson for a Second Size Engine, after having seen it worked and proved to send Water to a Greater Distance than either of the other Engines in Town: He is to deliver the same with the Hose and every Thing completely finished for Ninety Pounds Lawfull Money: A great Part of which being already advanced, by him for the various Materials and Workmanship not in his Line of Business, We wish the Town to make him as large a payment from the present Tax as possible, consistent with their other Necessities; and that the Remainder may be provided for to his Satisfaction

John Brown
Gersham Jones } Committee

Pd by Moderator & Freemen of Town-Meeting assembled. And

D. Jackson allowed £90.

And the said Report having been duly considered, Thereupon Resolved, That the same be received, That the said Sum of Ninety Pounds be paid to the said Daniel Jackson out of the Town-Treasury; and that in case the Money is not in the Town-Treasury, the Town-Treasurer is hereby directed to hire the same

Engine Companies to keep Engines in Repair

Resolved, That the several Engine Companies in this Town be and they are hereby directed to put and keep their respective Engines in good Repair; and that the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town-Treasury

Com: to settle P. Slater's Accounts.

Resolved, That the Town-Audit, The Town-Treasurer and Capt. Paul Allen, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to settle the Accounts of Peregrine Slater, Esqr as late Collector of Taxes in this Town; and that they make Report at the next Annual Meeting

Collector of Taxes to pay Arrearages by next August Meeting

Resolved, That the Collector of Taxes for this Town be and he is hereby directed to pay into the Town-Treasury the Amount of the several Town-Taxes now or heretofore committed to him to collect, on or before the next August Annual Town-Meeting; and that in Default of such Payment the Town-Treasurer be directed to prosecute said Collector therefor

Engine No 4. to be placed South-End

Resolved That the Engine No 4. be placed on the large Gangway below the Bridge, between the Lots of Mr Edward Thurber and Joseph Tillinghast, provided that a Place on private Property, equally commodious cannot be procured without Expence to the Town and that Mr Daniel Shillwell be appointed to cause a suitable House to be built for said Engine

Com: to examine Laws touching Seavoyers

Resolved, That Capt: Job Smith and the Clerk

they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine the State Laws and Town Laws respecting the Duty of a Scavenger, and if there are no Laws existing pointing such Duty, that they draught an Act and report the same to the next Town-Meeting

Com: to settle P. Allen Account.

Resolved, That Theodore Foster, Esqr. be added to the Town-Audit, and that they constitute a Committee to settle the Accounts of Capt. Paul Allen as late Clerk of the Market

J. Updike allowed £26 12 6 ½.

Resolved, That Twenty six Pound Twelve Shillings and Sixpence half penny Lawful Money be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Capt. John Updike being the Amount of an Account by him charged against the Town for procuring Two Machines for the Town to be made Use of in Cases of Fire

J. Manning allowed £1. 16.

Resolved, That One Pound Sixteen Shillings Lawful Money, be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to the Rev. Doct. James Manning being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for mending the Highway leading to the College

Filth from necessary Houses not to be carried through Streets in Day Time

Whereas Some Persons have of late made a Practice of cleansing necessary Houses and carrying the Filth through the Streets in the Day Time, which is a public Nusance; It is therefore Resolved, That if any Person or Persons shall hereafter cleanse any necessary House or Houses, or carry the Ordure thereof through any Street or Highway in this Town, at any other Time than between the Hours of Nine O'Clock P. M. and

and Day Light in the Morning he or they shall forfeit and pay as a Fine, for each Offence the Sum of Forty Shillings Lawful Money, the One half thereof to the Informer the other half thereof to and for the Use of the Town, to be recovered on Complaint or Information to either of the Justices of the Peace in this Town.

It is further Resolved, That no such Ordure be carried through any Street or Highway in this Town at any Time, unless the Same be in a tight Cart or Vessel under the Penalty aforesaid, to be recovered and appropriated as aforesaid

Com: to wait on the Governor

Resolved, That Messieurs Ebenezer Thompson Jabez Bowen, Zephaniah Andrews, Thomas L. Halsey, John Mason, Josiah Gifford, Caleb Godfrey, Nicholas Power and John Dorrance be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to wait on His Excellency the Governor, and in the Name and in Behalf of the Town to request his Excellency, that he will not permit his Building near the East End of the Bridge to be made Use of any longer as a Slaughter House. That the said Committee also wait on the Owners of the Slaughter-House on the West Side of the Bridge near Mr. John Mason's and request that they will no longer improve the Building in that Situation as a Slaughter-House: And that said Committee also wait upon Messieurs Clark and Nightingale and request that they will remove their Hogs for keeping of Swine near their Distill-House to some greater Distance, or keep it in such Order that it shall not be a Nusance

Com: to keep the Market

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to superintend the Market be and they are hereby directed to lease the to the best Advantage of the Town

June 6th 1791

Persons propounded

The following Persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded to be admitted as Freemen, to wit: Thomas Cain, John Lee, James Pitcher Nathan H. Miller, Wheler Martin Moses Lippitt, John Burgess, Joshua Salisbury

Jurors drawn

Col. Zephaniah Andrews is drawn as Grand-Juror and Mr. William Tyler as Petit-Juror to serve at the Hon^ble the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in June instant.

Com: to accommodate the Dispute between the Directors of the Lotterys.

Whereas there is a Difference subsisting between William Larned, Esq^r and the other Directors of the Great Bridge Lottery in this Town, respecting the highest Prize in the Second Class: And whereas they are desirous the Town should give their Directions for the Accomodation of said Difference It is thereupon Resolved, that the Rev. Doctor James Manning, Jabez Bowen, Esq^r Arthur Fenner, Esq^r Deacon Samuel Nightingale, Zephaniah Andrews, Esq^r Capt. Zephaniah Brown, Ebenezer Thompson, Esq^r Joseph Nightingale Esq^r and Capt. Christopher Sheldon, thus or the Major Part of them be and thus are hereby appointed a Committee to confer and advise with the said William Larned and the other Directors respecting said Difference and endeavor to accommodate the same. They the said William Larned and the other Directors agreeing in this Meeting, that in Case the said Committee cannot accommodate said Difference, the Ticket in Dispute shall be lodged in the Hands of the Moderator of this Meeting That he the said William Larned will choose one Person out of said Committee, the other Directors shall choose another

another out of said Committee and they will mutually agree upon a Third out of said Committee, who shall be fully empowered to settle the same. And that the Moderator shall deliver said Ticket to whom the Referees shall award it.

It is further Resolved, That said Committee be requested to convene for this Purpose to Morrow Morning at 8 O'Clock.

Petition for establishing Schools referred

Whereas a Number of the Inhabitants have preferred a Petition to this Meeting, praying that Schools may be established in this Town and the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury, It is thereupon Resolved, that the same be received and referred to this Meeting at the Adjournment. And that the School Committee be requested to draught Rules and Regulations for the Government of said Schools and lay them before this Meeting at said Adjournment.

Adjournment

This Meeting is adjourned to Monday next 3, O'Clock P. M. then to meet at this Place.

June 13th 1791.

The Meeting met pursuant to Adjournment
The Moderator in the Chair.

Persons to be prosecuted who injured the Machine for taking Persons out of houses in Case of Fire

Information being given to this Meeting, that the Machine for removing Persons from the upper Loft of Houses, in Case of Fire has been wilfully injured by some evil minded Person or Persons. It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to make Enquiry, and if Discovery can be made to prosecute according to Law any Person or Persons who have offended as aforesaid.

Wid. B. Jones allowed L6

On Petition of Mr. Benjamin Jones

Relief on Account of his Child's being hurt by the Town's Machine to be used in Cases of Fire, Whereupon Resolved, That Six Pounds Lawful Money be allowed and paid the said Benjamin Jones, out of the Town-Treasury, on Account of the Damages he has already sustained

Committee to examine N. Cowen's Account

Resolved, That Messieurs Jabez Bowen, Zephaniah Andrews and Thomas Lloyd Halsey, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to examine the Accounts of Capt. Nicholas Cowen, exhibited to this Meeting now, and heretofore, for erecting a Battery at Fox Hill &c, and that they make Report at the next Meeting

W. Caul. Packer of Beef &c

W. Wilbur Paul is duly elected a Packer of Beef Pork and Fish, till the next annual Election

Petition for establishing Schools, referred &c

Whereas the Annual Town Meeting on the 1st. Monday in June instant after transacting a Variety of Business adjourned to this Day on Account of a Petitions pending before the said Meeting preferred by a Number of respectable Inhabitants, praying that Schools may be established in this Town, and the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury, and the said Meeting did then and there request the School Committee to draught such Rules and Regulations for the Government of said Schools, and to make Report at this Adjournment: And whereas some of the said Committee did not here appear and represent to this Meeting that the Time given was too short, that some of the Members of said Committee have been absent, and requested a further Time for making said Report; It is thereupon Resolved, that this Meeting will adjourn to the 1st. Monday in August next 3 O'Clock P. M. then to meet in this Place, and that the said Committee be requested then to report.

Constables

Constables chosen

Messieurs Grindall Reynolds, Thomas Bennett, Samuel Thurber Junior and Job Danforth are duly elected Constables to serve till the next Annual Election and also Mr. Jonathan Knowles, vice, Sylvanus Martin Esq. who has resigned

Surveyors of Joist &c

Messieurs Joshua Lindley & Edward Knowles Junr. are elected Surveyors of Joist Board Timber, Spars, &c till the next Annual Election

Adjournment

The Meeting is adjourned till the first Monday in August next 3 O'Clock P. M. then to meet in this Place

August 1st. 1791

The Meeting met on the first Day of August pursuant to Adjournment

The Moderator in the Chair

Cross Street South of Baptist Meeting House to be paved

Resolved, That the Cross Street leading from the Main Street to Benefit Street, on the South Side of the Baptist Meeting House Lot be paved on the same Terms and Conditions as Hanover Street was paved the last Year: And that Messieurs William Holroyd, Isaac Brown, David Howell, Amos Atwell, and William Larned, Thy or any Three of them be a Committee to superintend the said Pavement

Report of Committee appointed to wait on Gov. Fenner &c

Whereas the Committee appointed to wait on His Excellency Governor Fenner and others, presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

In Conformity to their Appointment your Committee waited on Governor Fenner and made known the Wish of the Town Meeting to him who gave Encouragement, that would remove every Cause of Complaint: at the same Time could not refrain mentioning that he thought himself much affected by a Report of a Committee of the

who restrained him from extending his Soton which the Slaughter House stood, to a reasonable Extent towards the Channel, Eastwardly — We also waited on Col: Nightingale, and made known our Appointment to him, also informed us, that they would do every Thing in their Power to prevent any ill Scent arising from the Hog-Yard that they had made several Alterations much for the better and doubted not but that the Neighbourhood would be quiet until they had tried some further Alterations: That on the Whole they did not wish to give any Offence to that Part of the Town, but would study to avoid it by every Mean in their Power — The Slaughter House on the West side of the Bridge near Mr. John Mason's is owned by Capt. Stephen Whipple of Smithfield to him we have wrote a Letter Signifying the Wish of the Town, that he will not improve said Building in its present Situation as a Slaughter House in future — All which is submitted, &c,

Jabez Bowen
John Mason — Sept. Andrews
Ebenezer Thompson — Thos. L. Halsey

And the said Report being considered, It is Resolved That the same be received, That the said Committee be continued till the Encouragement given in their Report be fulfilled and that they continue their Applications to Mr. Whipple for a Suppression of the Nuisance complained of —

Report of School Committee respecting Schools

Whereas the School Committee, who were on the Sixth and Thirteenth Days of June last appointed and continued to make Report respecting a Petition pending before the Meeting for the Erection of Schools in this Town the Expence whereof is to be paid out of the Town-Treasury, presented the following Report to wit.

"To the Freemen of the Town of Providence, to be convened

neat by Adjournment, the Underwritten Members of your School Committee, in pursuance of your Resolution at your last Meeting, Report,

"After the most deliberate and mature Consideration of the Subject, we are clearly of Opinion, that the Measure proposed by the Petitioners, is eligible, for many Reasons —

"1st Useful Knowledge generally diffused among the People, is the surest Means of securing the Rights of Man, of promoting the public Prosperity, and perpetuating the Liberties of a Country —

"2d As civil Communities is a kind of Joint Tenancy, in Respect to the Gifts and Abilities of individual Members thereof, it seems not improper, that the Disbursements necessary to qualify those Individuals for Usefulness, should be made from common Funds —

"3d Our Lives and Properties in a free State, are so much in the Power of our fellow-Citizens, and the reciprocal Advantages of daily Intercourse are so much dependent on the Information and Integrity of our Neighbours, that no wise Man can feel himself indifferent to the Progress of useful Learning, Civilization, and the Preservation of Morals, in the Community where he resides —

"4th The most reasonable Object of getting Wealth after our own Wants are supplied, is to benefit those who need it, and it may with great Propriety be demanded, in what Way can those whose Wealth is redundant, benefit their Neighbours more certainly and permanently, than by furnishing to their Children the Means of qualifying them to become good and useful Citizens, and of acquiring an honest Livelyhood? —

"5th In Schools established by public Authority, and whose Teachers are paid by the Public, there will be reason to hope for a more faithful and impartial discharge of the Duties of Instruction, as well as of

among the Scholars, than can be expected when the Masters are dependent on Individuals for their Support.

"These, among other Reasons, have led your Committee to investigate the Means of accomplishing an Object so desirable as the Establishment of a competent Number of Schools in this Town, to be supported at the Town's Expence. The Brick School-House and Whipple-Hall, are Buildings conveniently situated for our present Purpose; but as the former is in Part and the latter wholly private Property, it will become necessary that the individual Owners should be compensated, and the entire Property of those Buildings vested in the Town.

"The large Number of Inhabitants on the West Side of the River render it indispensably necessary that a suitable School-House be erected on a Lot to be provided for the Purpose on that Side of the River. It would also be proper that a fourth School-House should be provided, on a convenient Lot to be procured near the Lower End of the Town.

"When your Committee consider, that according to the late Enumeration there are in this Town 1256 White Males under 16 Years of Age, they cannot estimate the Number of Scholars lower than to require at the Brick School-House a principal Master and Assistants; at the School-House on the West Side of the River, a principal Master and Assistants; and a principal Master and Assistant at each of the other School-Houses; to be appointed by, and amenable to, a Committee, to be chosen by the Freemen annually assembled according to Law, to be called the Town's School Committee, for the Time being; by whom all the Salaries of such Teachers from Time to Time shall be contracted for, and paid by Orders by said Committee drawn on the Town-Treasury. The Assistants to be occasionally appointed, when Need may require.

"Your Committee are further of Opinion that all the aforesaid Schools be subjected to such Rules and Regulations, from Time to Time, as may be devised and formed

formed by the School-Committee for the Time being, after the same shall have received the Approbation of the Freemen of this Town, in Town-Meeting legally assembled.

"And as the Society of Friends have a convenient School-Room of their own, and choose to educate their Children under the Tuition of their own Members and the Direction of Committees of their own Meeting; it is recommended, that they receive from Time to Time, of the Money raised for Schooling, according as the proportion which the Number of Scholars in their School shall bear to the whole Number educated out of the Town's Fund, to be ascertained by their Committee to the Town's Committee, who are to give Orders on the Town-Treasury for the same, as in Case of other Schools: Their School being open to the Town's Committee for their Inspection and Advice in Regard to the moral Conduct and Learning of the Children, not interfering in Respect to the Address or Manners of the Society, in Relation to their religious Opinions.

"Finally your Committee recommend, as new and further Powers are hereby proposed to be granted to, and exercised by the Town's future School-Committee, which were not in Contemplation at the Time of your Appointment, that we have Liberty to resign our Places, and that a School-Committee be appointed for the Town of Providence, to remain in Office till next annual Choice of Town-Officers, and instructed to report the Rules and Regulations aforesaid to the next Town-Meeting: That a Committee be also appointed to contract, in Behalf of the Town, for suitable Lots, where to build the two new School-Houses proposed to be built, and to form Plans and an Estimate of Expences of such Buildings, and to report the same to the next Town-Meeting: That said Committee last mentioned also enquire and report on what Terms the Proprietors of the Brick School-House and Whipple-Hall will relinquish their Claims to the Town.

David Howell Joseph Snow James Manning
Benjamin Bourne Moses Badger Enos Hitchcock
John Porrance Jabez Bowen Moses [illegible]

August 1st 1791

Theodore Foster Welcome Arnold
Providence July 17th Month A.D. 1791

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved That the same be received and adopted, except as to the Resignation of the School-Committee, who are hereby continued, and directed to draft Rules and Regulations for the Government of said Schools, and to make Report at the next Town-Meeting.

It is further Resolved, That Messrs Moses Brown, John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Edward Thurber, Charles Keene, Jephaniah Andrews and Charles Lippitt, or the Major Part of them, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to procure the Lots in said Report mentioned; to enquire the Terms on which the Proprietors of Whipple-Hall, and the Brick School-House, will relinquish their Rights in said Buildings to the Town; to estimate the Expence of the Two new School-Houses, and to perform all other Business required of the Committee last mentioned in said Report; and that they also make Report to the next Town-Meeting.

Ordered, That these Resolutions be published in the News-papers in this Town.

P. Foster to settle his Taxes, &

Resolved, That Peregrine Foster, Esq. late Collector of Taxes for this Town, be and he is hereby directed to pay into the Town-Treasury, on or before the next Annual Town-Meeting the Balance due to the Town as ascertained by the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to settle his Accounts in the following Manner, to wit: One Third part thereof in Specie, and the other Two Third parts in any liquidated Claims against the Town: And in Default of such Payment, that the Town-Treasurer prosecute him therefor.

N. Power allowed £101-15-5

Whereas the Committee appointed to examine the Account

Account of Capt. Nicholas Power, presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

"Providence August 1st 1791. We the Subscribers being a Committee appointed by a Town-Meeting held by Adjournment at the State House on the 13th Day of June last to examine the Account exhibited by Capt. Nicholas Power against the Town of Providence, for Advance made by him in erecting a Battery on Fox hill &c, for the Defence of the said Town, do report, that we find the Sum of Sixty-four Pounds Sixteen Shillings & Fivepence One Farthing being the Amount of the said Account is true and just; and that the Nine Years Interest & one half due thereon until Sept. 17th 1785, amounting to Thirty six Pound Eighteen Shillings and Elevenpence Three Farthing be allowed the said Power, the Whole amounting to the Sum of One hundred and One Pound Fifteen Shillings and Fivepence, be the whole Sum that is due to the said Power to the present Time; and which We think a full Compensation for his Demand

Jabez Bowen
Thos. Lloyd Halsey
Jesph. Andrews

And the said Report having been considered, Resolved That the same be received: That the said Sum of One hundred and One Pound Fifteen Shillings and Fivepence Lawful Money be allowed and paid the said Nicholas Power out of the Town-Treasury, in the following Manner, to wit; One Third Part out of the Specie ordered to be paid into the Treasury by Peregrine Foster, Esq. by the Resolution of this Day, and the other Two Thirds in the Treasurers Note on Interest.

Town-Meeting to be warned

Resolved, That the Clerk be directed to issue a Warrant to warn the Freemen of the Town to meet in Town-Meeting on the last Tuesday in August at 2, O'Clock, P.M. for the purpose of making a

Tax, and of transacting such other Business as may be necessary.

J. Mason allowed £9 in Case

Resolved, That Nine Pounds, Lawful Money, be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury to Doct. Joseph Mason; provided, that he attend the Poor of the Town, as a Physician, when requisite for the Space of One Year from this Time, and furnish all necessary Medicine, and that in Case of Need or Difficulty he call in some other skilfull Physician to his Assistance at his own Expence.

The Meeting is dissolved

August 30th 1791

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on Tuesday the 30th Day of August A.D. 1791

John Brown, Esqr. Moderator

Committee to wait on J. Jenches Esq.

Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor, John Brown and Ebenezer Thompson, Esquires, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to wait on Mr. Joseph Jenches, and request him to secure the pavement against the Land lately belonging to his Father John Jenches, Esqr. Decd. on Hanover Street, it being the Opinion of the Town, that unless it is done, the said pavement will be in Danger of washing away the ensuing Winter

Freemen admitted.

The following Persons having been propounded and duly qualified are voted in and admitted as Freemen of this Town, to wit. Messrs Thomas Tring, William Billings, Thomas Cain, John Lee, James Pitcher, Nathl. H. Miller, Wheeler Martin, Moses Lippitt, John Burgess, Joshua Salisbury, and George Burrill, and were duly engaged according to Law

Deputies chosen.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Deputies to represent the Town in the Honorable the Legislature of the State, for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in said Legislature at their Session to be holden on the last Monday in October next, and in all future Sessions thereof until the First Wednesday in May next, to wit.

Welcome Arnold, Esqr. 1st
Amos Atwell, Esqr. 2
Robert Newell, Esqr. 3
David Howell, Esqr. 4th

Persons propounded.

The following Persons are propounded to be admitted as Freemen to wit, John Jenches and William Carlile

Comm: to confer with S. Young for Lot by Brick School House.

Resolved, That Messrs Samuel Butler, Paul Allen, and William Barned, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to confer with Mr. Samuel Young, respecting the Price, he will take for his Lot adjoining the Brick School House; and that they make Report at the next Town-Meeting

Tax of £1200 ordered

Resolved, That a Tax of Twelve hundred Pounds, Lawful Money, be assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town: That the same be assessed on or before the Thirtieth Day of September next, and collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the

First Day of January next with Interest from the first Day of December next: That the Poll-Tax be Sixpence, on every Hundred Pound: And that the said Tax be appropriated to the Payment of One Half of the Town's liquidated Debt including both Principal and Interest; and the Surplus to the Support of the Poor and other incidental Charges against the Town —

It is further Resolved That the Town-Treasurer be directed to give his Notes for One half of all liquidated Claims against the Town payable with Interest from the First Day of December next, and also to give his Certificates on Interest for the remaining Half of said liquidated Claims: Which Certificates shall be receivable by the Collector, and the said Treasurer in Payment of the Tax ordered at this Meeting —

Comm: to pave Gutters Powers Lane &c.

Resolved, That Messrs Joseph Nightingale, John Brown and Cyprian Sterry be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to pave Two Gutters, One on each Side of Power's Lane, from the Main Street to Benefit Street, of such Width as they shall judge most advantageous to the Public, said Gutters not exceeding Seven feet each, in Width —

Cross Street South of Baptist Meeting House to be widened.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town-Council to cause the Cross Street leading from the Main Street to Benefit Street South of the Baptist Meeting-House to be widened to the Width of Forty feet: Provided, the Expence thereof exclusive of the Pavement to be paid out of the Town-Treasury shall not exceed One hundred and Twenty Pound: And that the Committee heretofore ordered to pave the said Street cause the same to be paved of the Width of Twenty-Two feet —

Street by J. Brown's &c. to be laid out

Resolved, That the Resolution of this Town passed on the 2d Day of June, A.D. 1788 for securing the Street by the House of Mr. James Brown jun. be revived. And that the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town-Treasury, the One Half out of the Tax now ordered, the other Half out of the Town Tax that shall next thereafter be ordered —

Comm to pave Bowen Street

Resolved, That Messrs Philip Allen and Zachariah Allen be a Committee to pave the Street the leading from the Main Street to Benefit Street (called Bowen Street) that the same be done at the Expence of the Town under the Direction of the Town-Council —

Governor's Lane to be paved

*Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town-Council to cause the Lane called the Governors Lane, that runneth from the Main Street to Benefit Street between the Houses of the late Governor Hopkins and Doctor Henry Sterling, to be paved on as advantageous Terms for the Town, as they can. —

Prospect Street to be laid out &c.

*Resolved That it be recommended to the Town Council to cause Prospect Street to be laid out and opened, Fifty feet in Width, from Angell Street throughout and over Fox Point to the Salt Water Provided the same can be done without Expence to the Town: That they also cause the said Street to be extended of the same Width to the Northward, as far as may be: Straightening said Prospect Street, so as to bring the Street as near as may be on the Top of the Hill; if on revising the same it shall be found that the Street can be laid out more for the Public Convenience than it now is —

Comm: to sell Waltham Lots

Voted, That the Committee heretofore at the last Meeting appointed, to procure Two Lots for the [illegible]

erecting School-Houses, thereon, be appointed a Committee to sell & dispose or Exchange of the Lots, commonly called the Walker Lots, and to receive the Monies, that may arise on the Sales thereof, and appropriate the same or so much thereof as may be necessary to the Purchase of the aforesaid School House Lots: And that if they are not sold or disposed of on or before the first Monday in October next, that they sell the same at Public Vendue in such Lots as may best suit the Purchasers

Resolve for Straightening Road N. End Town

Resolved, That in Case the Town of North-Providence will lay out a Road, straight or nearly so, from Mr. Jeremiah Dexter's this Town will support and maintain hereafter the same, as far Northward as the Law now requires this Town to support said Road Northward in its present travelling Rout: And that Mr. Samuel Thurber, Junr. be appointed to communicate this Resolution to the Town-Council of North-Providence and request their Concurrence and Assistance in laying out and making the said Road passable.

President Street named.

*Resolved, That the Street from the Main Street to Benefit Street, South of the Baptist Meeting House be hereafter known by the Name of President Street.

Surveyor Burgess Bridge &c.

Resolved, That Doct. Stephen Randall be appointed a Surveyor to mend Burgess's Bridge and the Highway adjacent

T. Council to settle P. Trustees

Resolved, That all Accounts subsisting between the Town and Peregrine Foster, Esqr. be referred to the Town Council for Settlement

Resolved

Taxion for Tax postponed

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be directed to postpone the Execution for the Town Tax, last before the one of this Day made, for One Month

Constables chosen

Jesse Whittemore and Jonathan Fowle are chosen Constables for this Town till the annual Election in June next

Jurors

Mr. Jonathan Dennison is drawn as Grand-Juror and Mr. Samuel Goud as Petit-Juror to serve at the honorable the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General-Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in September next

The Meeting is Dissolved

Oct. 28th.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 28th Day of October, A.D. 1791

Col. Daniel Tillinghast, Moderator

Jurors Dist. Court.

The following Persons are drawn as Jurors to serve at a District Court to be holden in Providence on the first Monday in November next to wit:

Stinson Gray, Esqr. and Mr. Richard Updike, Grand-Jurors, Messieurs Joseph Fuller, and Joseph Field, Junr. John J. Petit-Jurors

Jurors. Circuit Court

The following Persons are drawn as Jurors to serve at the Circuit Court to be holden at Providence on the 4th Day December next to wit:

Messrs. Samuel Jackson, the 2d, Samuel Carey, William Harding, Grand-Jurors, and Messrs.

October 28th. 1791.

Snole, Henry, Thicy, and Archibald Stewart, as Petit-Jurors.

Jurors for Court of Comn: Pleas, &c.

The following Persons are drawn as Jurors to serve at the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the Third Monday in December next, to wit: Francis Maguire, Grand-Juror, and Jesse Sabin, Petit-Juror.

The Meeting is Dissolved.

Jany. 18th. 1792.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the 18th. Day of January, A. D. 1792.

Mr. Nathaniel Jacobs, Moderator.

Adjourned till 1 O Clock P. M. this present Day then to meet at this Place.

The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment, the Moderator having declined, Welcome Arnold, Esqr. is chosen Moderator, in his Stead.

Bridge to be built of Wood, &c.

Resolved, That the Bridge to be built in this Town over Weybosset, for which a Lottery hath been granted by the Honorable the Legislature of the State, be built of Wood That there be a Drawbridge therein: That the said Bridge be Fifty-Six feet in Width; Forty feet thereof in the Center to be for the Passage of Teams and Carriges, and a Space Eight feet in Width on each Side be reserved for a foot Passengers, to be secured on each Side by a Ballustrade between the Passage for Persons on foot, and the Passage for Teams and Carriages: And that the said Bridge be built

January 18 1792

built in the Summer next ensuing.

Comm: to draught a Plan of the Bridge.

Resolved, That Messieurs Ephraim Bowen Junr. Zephaniah Andrews, Nathan Waterman, Walter Harding and Joshua Lindley, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draught a Plan of the Bridge, agreeably to the Resolution of this Meeting of this Day, with the further Instruction, That the said Bridge shall crown not less than One nor more than Three Feet: That they estimate the Expence thereof, make an Invoice of all the Timber and Materials necessary for said Bridge, and make Report to this Meeting at their Adjournment.

Directors of the Lottery to lodge Tickets with the Town Treasurer, &c.

Resolved, That the Directors of the Lottery for building the Bridge, be directed to deliver all the Tickets they may have on hand on the Evening next preceding the Day which shall be assigned for the Drawing of said Lottery, into the Hands of the Town-Treasurer; which Tickets so delivered shall be considered to be at the Risque of the Town: And that said Directors have no Commission on the Tickets so delivered, or the Proportion of Drawback.

E. Bowen & J. Lindley to proceed to Boston repecting Bridge, &c.

Resolved, That Messieurs Ephraim Bowen Junr. & Joshua Lindley, Two of the Committee appointed to draught a Plan of the Bridge and make Report thereof, be requested immediately to proceed to Boston, and view Charleston Bridge for their Information; and further that they enquire on what Terms a Person competent to the Building of the Bridge can be there procured, and make their Report to this Meeting at the Adjournment aforesaid.

Report of Comme. for Selling Walker Lots: &c.

Whereas the Committee, who on the 1st. Day of [illegible] Last were appointed to procure Two Lots for the Purpose of erecting School Houses thereon, and on the 2d

January 18th. 1792

of the same August, were further appointed to sell or exchange the Lots commonly called the Walker Lots, for the Purpose of procuring the School-House Lots aforesaid, presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit: "

Agreeable to the within Appointment We the Subscribers proceeded on the 17th. of October last to Sell the within mentioned Lots at Public Vendue not being Sold at private Sale before: We divided them into Four Lots which were Struck off as followeth Viz.t No. 1. being half the Walker Lot West of Benefit Street Sold for Five hundred & Twenty Dollars, to Col.o Nightingale for Doct.r Hitchcocks Society: No. Two being the other half sold to the same for Six hundred & Five Dollars, with a Reservation of a Deduction to be made in proportion as may have already been conveyed or disposed of by the Town: Which on Investigation turns out to be Eleven Feet gave to Thomas Green's Estate in Lieu of Land of him taken by the Town-Council for a Part of the Lane, by the late Gov.r Hopkins's which Eleven feet being deducted leaves Nine hundred & Ninety Eight Dollars Seventy-four Cents, which the Town-Treasurer has Col.o Nightingales Note for — One of the Lots on the East Side of Benefit Street, being One half of Walkers Lot on the East Side of Benefit Street, was Struck off to Doct.r Wm. Bowen for Three hundred & Twenty Dollars for which Sum the Treasurer has his Note: And the other Lot being the other half of Walkers Lot so called on the East Side of Benefit Street was Struck off to John Francis for Three hundred & Fifty Dollars, for which the Treasurer has Brown & Francis Note for — The whole Amount after deducting the Eleven Feet as above is Sixteen hundred

Hundred & Sixty eight Dollars & Seventy four Cents; the Ten per Cent. earnest Money has been on Interest from the Seventeenth of Oct.r when Sold, half the Remainder is on Interest from this; and the other half will be so after Three Months — The Town will please to order their Treasurer to give the Several Purchasers good and warranty Deeds for their respective Purchases

Jan.y 17th. 1792

John Brown
Jeph.r Andrews
Charles Lippitt

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved, that the same be accepted And that the Town-Treasurer in Behalf of the Town be and he is hereby directed to make and execute unto the Several Purchasers of the Lots in the said Report mentioned a good and sufficient Deed of their respective Purchases with Warranty —

S. Thurber Jun.r allowed for N. Road

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be directed to give his Notes on Interest to Mr. Samuel Thurber Jun.r for the Amount of his Account for making passable the New Road at the North Entrance of this Town, Northward of the Jeremiah Dexter's; after the said Account shall have been duly audited —

Jurors

The following Gentlemen are drawn as Jurors to serve at the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize & General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence within & for the County of Providence on the Third Monday of March next, to wit: William Clarke, Grand-Juror, John Davis, Petit-Juror

Adjourned to Wednesday next 2 O'Clock P.M. then to meet at this Place

of the same August, were further appointed to sell or exchange the Lots commonly called the Walker Lots, for the Purpose of procuring the School-House Lots aforesaid, presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit: "

Agreeable to the within Appointment We the Subscribers proceeded on the 17th of October last to sell the within mentioned Lots at Public Vendue not being sold at private Sale before: We divided them into four Lots which were struck off as followeth Viz: No. 1. being half the Walker Lot West of Benefit Street sold for Five hundred & Twenty Dollars, to Colo. Nightingale for Doct. Hitchcocks Society: No. Two being the other half sold to the same for Six hundred & Five Dollars, with a Reservation of a Deduction to be made in proportion as may have already been conveyed or disposed of by the Town: Which on Investigation turns out to be Eleven Feet gave to Thomas Green's Estate in Lieu of Land of him taken by the Town-Council for a Part of the Lane, by the late Gov. Hopkins's which Eleven feet being deducted leaves Nine hundred & Ninety Eight Dollars Seventy-four Cents, which the Town-Treasurer has Colo. Nightingales Note for — One of the Lots on the East Side of Benefit Street, being One half of Walkers Lot on the East Side of Benefit Street, was struck off to Doct. Wm. Bowen for Three hundred & Twenty Dollars for which Sum the Treasurer has his Note: And the other Lot being the other half of Walkers Lot so called on the East Side of Benefit Street was struck off to John Francis for Three hundred & Fifty Dollars, for which the Treasurer has Brown & Francis's Note for — The whole Amount after deducting the Eleven Feet as above is Sixteen Hundred

Hundred & Sixty eight Dollars & Seventy four Cents on per Cent. earnest Money to be run on Interest from the Seventeenth of Octr. when sold half the Purchase Money Interest from this; and the other half will be at Six Months — The Town will please to appoint Jurors to give the several Purchasers and and Deeds for their respective Purchases

Jany. 17th 1792

Jno Brown
Joseph Andrews
Charles Olney

S. Thurber Jun. allowed for N. Road

And the said Report being taken into Consideration Voted and Resolved that the same be accepted And that the Town-Treasurer in Behalf of the Town be and he is hereby directed to execute unto the several Purchasers of the Lots in the said Report mentioned a good and sufficient Deed of their respective Purchases with the Usual Covenants

Resolved That the Town Treasurer be directed to give his Notes on Interest to the several Proprietors of the Land taken for the Amount of his Accounts for making passable the Road at the North Entrance of this Town by Jeremiah Dexter; after the same shall be appointed on the Jurors audited

The following Gentlemen were appointed Jurors to serve at the Superior Court of Common Pleas & General Goal Delivery to be holden at Providence for the County of Providence on the first Monday of March next, to wit: William Petit-Juror
David Petit-Juror
Asa
Thom

January 25th 1792

The Meeting assembled pursuant to Adjournment

Welcome Arnold, Esqr the Moderator, in the Chair.

Freemen propounded.

Major William Barker, John Warner, and Amos Warner, having purchased real Estates in this Town, are propounded to be admitted as Freemen.

Adjournment.

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to draught a Plan of the Bridge &c, and make Report this Day, are not prepared to make said Report It is therefore Resolved, That said Committee be continued for the Purposes of their Appointment: That they make Report to this Meeting on Wednesday the First Day of February next at 2 O'Clock P. M. at the State-House, to which Time and Place this Meeting is adjourned: And that the Town-Cryer be directed in the Mean Time to notify the Freemen of the Time and Place of their Adjournment.

Tsday 1st 1792

The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment

The Moderator in the Chair.

Bridge not to be contracted.

On Motion that the Bridge be contracted agreeably to the Report of the Committee this Day made, from the Width, stated at the last Meeting, Resolved in the Negative.

Stone Pillars of the Bridge to be removed.

Resolved, That in erecting the New-Bridge the Pillars now standing of Stone be removed, and that said Bridge be erected on wooden Piles or Trussels.

East Abutment of Bridge to be carried farther Westward.

Resolved, That the East Abutment of the new Bridge to be built be carried farther Westward than the East Abutment of the present Bridge now is.

Whereas

February 1st 1792

Comm: respecting Street North of Bridge &c,

Whereas the Room near the Market-House and about the Center of this Town is at present insufficient to accommodate the Persons who resort there for doing Business, Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to consider and report how far the Easterly Abutment of the Great Bridge and the Town's Land South and North thereof, may be carried out to Advantage; and whether a Street may not be laid out to Advantage from said Abutment, Northward nearly parallel to the Main Street and how far and to report a Plan of the same, together with an Estimate of the Expence thereof: That they also confer with the Owners of the Soil across which such Street may pass relative to their relinquishing their Claims to such Soil as may be taken up for said Street, and contributing towards filling up said Street for the Advancement of their Interests lying on such Street, by giving up to the Town's Use the Stone of the Walls of their Wharves or otherwise: And that Majr John Brown, Robert Newell, Zachariah Allen, Joseph Nightingale, Nathan Waterman, Thomas Arnold, David Howell, Joseph Martin and Moses Brown be the Committee for the Purposes aforesaid, and that said Committee make to this Meeting their Report at the Adjournment.

Report of Comm: to draught a Plan of Bridge &c,

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 28th Ult: to draught a Plan of the Bridge &c presented to this Meeting, the following Report, to wit:

"We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to prepare a Plan of a Bridge to be built in this Town and to make a List of the necessary Materials: Beg leave to report,

That having met at the Place where the Bridge is intended to be built, and having viewed the Situation of the present Bridge, and the Land below

to the Town at that Place; have concluded that the New-Bridge ought to be raised, at each Abutment Eighteen Inches; and that it should crown Eighteen Inches in the Center —

Your Committee being possessed of the Information gained by the Committee who went to Boston & Malden to view the Bridges at those Places; have proceeded to make a Memorandum of the Timber necessary for our Bridge of Fifty-six feet wide, agreeably to the Vote of the Town; also to calculate the Cost of the Articles, and the Expence of Building it, a Copy of which we herewith lay before the Meeting —

Your Committee find themselves obliged to change their Opinions, in Regard to the Width of the Bridge intended to be built, for Two Reasons, One of which is the Want of Room about the Market and the other the great Inconvenience of having a Draw of such an amazing Width and Height as it must be —

Your Committee therefore beg leave to Suggest the Propriety of reducing the Width of the Bridge from Fifty-six feet to Forty-Six or forty-eight feet. —

Providence Jan.y 31. 1792

Ephraim Bowen, Jun.r
Leph.r Andrews
Nathan Waterman
Walter Harding
Joshua Lindley
} Committe

To the Town of Providence in Town-Meeting convened" —

And the said Report being duly considered, It is Voted & Resolved, That the same be received —

Memorandum of Timber, &c, for the Bridge in Providence, &c, viz —

27 Trussell Posts 37 feet long 16 Inches Sq.r at the Middle, 24 ℔ Tons — @ 24/ } £29-8 —

9 Cap Pieces 56 feet long 16 Inc.s Square 16 3/4 Tons } 20-2 —

48 Girths 7 feet long 8 Inches Square 1792 feet — 4/6 } 4-1 —

48 Braces, 10 feet long 4 by 6 Sq.r 960 ″ — 2-3-6 —

10 Sunders 37 feet long 16 Inches through 9 1/4 Tons @ 24/ } 11-2 —

22 String Pieces 19 feet Long 12 by 18 Sq.r

22	do.	25	″	″
22	do.	30	″	″
11	do.	40	″	″
11	do.	31	″	″
11	do	42	″	″
11	do	31	″	″

116 3/4 Tons @ 24/ } 140-2 —

3000 feet Timber & Plank for Balustrade @ 48/ — 19-4

6000 feet 3 Inch Oak Plank @ £12 — 36-″-

3000 feet 2 Inch d.o pine for Side Walks @ £6 — 18-″-

Timber for the driving Machines &c, 15 Tons @ 24/ — 18-″-

¼ Ton Cordage for Falls &c, 54/ — 2-7-″

Blocks, Hooks & Straping D.o — 10-″-

460 Cord of Stone — @ 6/ — 138-″-

Laying d.o including Cow-Hire — 60-″-

Taking up, finding & replacing paving Stones, Gravel, &c — 66-″-

Labour of the Carpenters, &c, to erect Bridge — 168-″-

£ 767-2-6

For the Draw, viz —

Iron-Work 2 C.t	75	
Extra Carpenters Work & Labour	85	
Extra Timber 12 Tons	14-8	174
		941

27.

Report of the Comm: to proceed to Boston, &c,

February 1st 1792

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 18th of Jany. Ult: to proceed to Boston, &c, to view the Bridges, &c, proceeded to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

"To the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled"

"We being appointed a Committee to view the Bridges at Charlestown & Malden, and enquire on what Terms a Person competent to build a Bridge could be engaged, Report as follows —

That having been informed of a Person who had been a principal Workman on the Bridges lately built in the Massachusetts, as well also as that built in Ireland residing at Taunton, Your Committee proceeded on Monday the 23d Inst: to that Place & found the Person, with whom we had much Conversation respecting the Building of Bridges. We endeavored to obtain his Terms of working on the Bridge intended to be built in this Town, but without Success, He informs us that he was willing to undertake the Business on reasonable Terms, but was apprehensive that if he now gave us his Terms some other Person wanting Employ might be induced to underwork him.

We then proceeded to Boston & viewed those Bridges in its Neighbourhood, taking Minutes of such Parts as appeared to be necessary in the Construction of our own Bridge, together with a Memorandum of the Construction of the Draws of each —

Your Committee on Enquiry found, that the Draw of Malden Bridge was much preferred to that of Charleston, though in our Opinion the Charleston Draw would be preferable for our Bridge, situated as it will be in Regard to Height —

We found on Measurement, the Charleston Bridge to be only Forty-two feet wide in all, that is, Six feet in each Side for foot Passing and Thirty feet for Carriages

The

The Bridge at Malden was Thirty Feet wide —

We enquired of the Person who had the principal Management in Building the Bridges at Charleston & Malden, if there was any Person in or near Boston who could be intrusted to build a Bridge, he informed us that there was none & strongly recommended the Man at Taunton — But we were informed by a Gentleman from Beverly who was a principal Manager & Proprietor of that Bridge, that a Mr Whiting now residing at Norwich was the most capable Person in Bridge Making, he having finished their Bridge at Beverly — Providence Jany. 31st 1792

Epht. Bowen jun.
Joshua Lindley } Committee

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved, That the same be received —

Petit Juror,

Mr. Oliver Carpenter, jun. is drawn Petit-Juror to serve at the Hon.ble the Superior Court of Judicature Court of Assize & General-Goal-Delivery to be holden at Providence within and for the County of Providence on the third Monday in March next, in the Room of Mr. Israel Davis heretofore drawn who on Account of belonging to the Fire-Engine is excused by Law —

Engine Man chosen —

Mr. James Ormsbee is chosen Engine Man for Engine No. 4. at the South End of the Town, vice Capt. Pardon Sheldon who hath resigned —

Adjournment —

This Meeting is adjourned to Saturday next 2 O'Clock, P. M. then to meet at the Place —

February 4th 1792

The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment
The Moderator in the Chair —
The Moderator declining on Account of his ill State of Health, David Howell, Esqr. is chosen Moderator in his Stead —

Eastern Abutment of the Bridge to be carried further West

Resolved, That the Eastern Abutment of Weybosett Bridge, be filled out as far Westward as the West Side of the Eastern Stone Pillar of said Bridge as now erected.

Report of the Comm: respecting the E. Abutment of Bridge & Street &c.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the first Instant to report, respecting the Eastern Abutment of the New Bridge and the Street to extend Northward therefrom presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

"To the Freemen of the Town of Providence to be assembled on Saturday the Fourth Day of February, A.D. 1792 by Adjournment —

"The Underwritten Committee appointed at your Meeting by Adjournment on Wednesday the first Instant to consider & report, relative to the Eastern Abutment of the proposed new Bridge to be erected over Weybosett River, & a new Street proposed to be opened therefrom to the Northward, respectfully submit the following Report. It appears by Measurement that the actual Width of the River from Phillips's Wharf to Jenckes's Wharf is less than the actual Width between the present Abutments of the Bridge by Thirty feet and Ten Inches That the Width of the Stone Pillars under the Bridge is about Twelve feet each, — As therefore the said Pillars are ordered to be taken down, and the New-Bridge to be built on Spiles, your Committee are of Opinion that the Eastern Abutment may be carried out to the West Side of the Easternmost of said Stone Pillars, without confining or impeding the Course of the River more than it is now confined & impeded at the narrow Pass between the Two Wharves above

above mentioned —
Your Committee have also been on the Ice, and made the best Observations in their Power on the Usefulness and Practicability of the proposed New Street: They have conferred with most of the Owners of the Soil adjoining on this Subject, and find that some of them are of Opinion, that they ought not to be limited as to their Claims Westward by any Votes of this Town That Governor Fenner claims a Right to the Soil as far Westward as the said Westermost Side of the Eastern Stone Pillar, but that he as well as the other Owners are disposed to favor the Plan of said Road by yielding up their Claims to the Soil and to the Stones at the Head of their Wharves, for the Purposes of the said Street — Your Committee therefore recommend that the Eastern Abutment of the new Bridge be carried out as far as the West Side of the Easternmost Stone Pillar — That a New-Street be laid out from said Abutment Northward Forty feet wide as far as to interfect the South Line of Nathan Angell's Lot: The West Bounds of which Street to be a straight Line from said Abutment Forty feet West of the Head of Seth Wheaton's Wharf: And that the Expence of Town's Land be filled up in a Line from the Northwest Corner of Jenckes's Wharf to the Southwest Corner of said Abutment — The Expence of filling up said Street and building the Wall with Spiling and Capping [illegible] estimated at Four Dollars per Foot in Length

John Brown
Jos: Nightingale
Thomas Arnold
David Howell
Joseph Martin
Moses Brown

And the said Report being duly considered, It is Voted & Resolved That the said Report be received and adopted, And that this Town agree to the same, and adopt it, And the Town-Council be requested to cause the Street in the said Report mentioned to be laid out agreeably to Law —

Protest,

February 4th 1792.

We the Subscribers, Members of a Committee appointed by the Freemen of the Town of Providence, to make a Report of the Propriety of filling out the Land at the Bridge to the first Cellar, & laying out a Street to run Northerly as far as Mr. John Smith's Wharf, beg leave to dissent from our Brethren of said Committee, for Reason that their Report if carried into Execution will obstruct nearly One Quarter Part of the Water Passage, which fills the Cove or Bason above the Bridge, by which Means the former Quantity of Water will be greatly lessened in said Bason, the Current through & near the Bridge much encreased, consequently the Water Communication impeded, our Business injured, our Wharves & Ware-Houses less usefull, our Houses & Lots depreciated, the capacious Tractor Space now filled twice a Day with a fresh Collection of Air & Water from the Sea, reduced to a stinking Marsh & Docks filled with Stagnated Air, Disease, & Death

The Property & Business of the Citizens above the Bridge has been much prejudiced within Fifty Years past by Encroachment made on the Channel by moving the Abutment at the West End of the Bridge more Easterly, and the Building of Mr. Peirce's Wharf since that Period, by which the Tide has been diminished near a foot

2dly The Boundary of the Channel as now established from Mr. John Smith's Wharf to Mr. John Brown's Wharf, though at that Time much complained of, as an Intrusion on the Cove, yet as it was a straight Line or nearly so, whereby the Inlow of Water or Ice was not impeded, it was acquiesced with, but the Line now proposed makes so great a Turn or Crook near the Bridge as must produce so great an Eddy at the Head of the Wharves below the Bridge, which in a short Time will lodge so much Sand and Dirt as to make them less usefull

3dly The Course of the proposed Street will deviate so much from the Main Street, that there can be no Uniformity, Regularity Convenience or Beauty, in the Buildings thereon, or any of the intermediate Passages

4thly It will be an enormous Expence upon the Town already loaded with a heavy Debt — for on a moderate Computation, it will amount to a Sum of Money, the Interest of which will more than keep the Bridge in Repair to Perpetuity.

Robert Newell
Zach.h Allen
Nathan Waterman

And the said Protest having been read in Town-Meeting aforesaid Resolved that the same be received

Bridge to be 18 Inches high

Resolved, that the new Bridge to be built over Weybosett River, be Eighteen Inches higher at each Abutment, and that the said Bridge crown Eighteen Inches in the Center

Jno. Dorrance to build Bridge &c.

Resolved, That John Dorrance, Esqr. be and he is hereby appointed to have the Superintendance and Direction in Building the new Bridge, commonly called the Great Bridge from the East Side to Weybosett & filling out the Abutment and the Town's Land adjacent as far Northward as Governor Fenner's Line, (the North Boundary of the Highway on the North Side) and as far Southward ~~Southward~~ as to Land of the Heirs of John Jenckes Esqr. Viz. of removing and relaying the Pavements contiguous to the Abutments, on each Side, agreeably to Direction that have or shall be given by the Town and that he be allowed Two hundred and Twenty-five Dollars for all his Services therein to be paid out of the Town-Treasury when the said Services shall be performed

Comm.e to advise with Mr. Dorrance respecting Bridge &c.

Resolved, That Messrs. John Brown, Thomas Arnold and John Mason be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to advise with John Dorrance Esqr. respecting the Trust reposed in him in the next preceding Vote of this Meeting

February 4th 1792.

Comm: to wait on Baptist Society re-specting Clam-Bed

Resolved, That Colo: Joseph Nightingale be appointed a Committee to wait on the Baptist Society in this Town, and request a Relinquishment of their Claim to the Clam-Bed heretofore granted them by the Town

Comm: to direct respecting School-House West Side river

Resolved, That Messieurs John Mumford, John Brown and Ebenezer Thompson, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct of what Dimensions the School-House on the West Side of the River, to be erected on the Lot relinquished by the Town on the 20th of April last for that Purpose, shall be built

The Meeting is Dissolved

1792 Feby 9th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled on the Ninth Day of February A.D. 1792

Col: William Barton, Moderator

Freemen admitted

The following Persons are voted in, admitted as Freemen and duly engaged, to wit: Samuel Smith Junior, Samuel Danforth, Elijah Billings Stephen Olney, Henry Paul Sterling and George Lindley and William Carlile

Persons propounded

The following Persons are propounded to be admitted as Freemen, to wit: Benjamin Dyer, John Gibbs, Joseph Burr, Edward Bailey and Jonathan Gladding

Adjourn

The Meeting is adjourned till to Morrow Morning 9 O' Clock

February 10th 1792

The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment

The Moderator in the Chair

Persons propounded

The following Persons are propounded to be admitted as Freemen, to wit: Major Samuel Eddy, Moses Eddy, Benjamin Smith, Samuel Wheden, Lemuel Pitcher, Nicholas Tillinghast, Charles W. Tillinghast, Job Page, Thomas P. Ives, Joseph Davenport, William N. Rhodes, William Valentine, Joseph Martin (Son of David) Samuel Carlile, John Forbes, William Olney, James Pitcher and William Page

No Expence to the Town by Taxation for Street Northward of Bridge

Resolved, That in the Resolution passed by this Town on the Fourth instant, recommending to the Town-Council to lay out a new Street Northward from the Eastern Abutment of the Great-Bridge, it was not the Intention of the Town to incur any Charges or Expences whatsoever to be levied by Taxes from the Inhabitants of this Town; but that the same be otherways defrayed; and that no Monies arising from the Lottery granted for rebuilding said Bridge be used for filling up said Street unless by Allowance of the General Assembly

Resolved also, That this Town will never suffer the filling out the Eastern Abutment of said Bridge as ordered by their Resolution of the Fourth Instant to be drawn into Precedent, or to furnish a Pretext for carrying out the Wharves below the same, and on the Eastern Side of the River further than they are now liable to be carried out under subsisting Laws and Regulations of this Town

Proceedings of the 4th Inst. not repealed

Resolved, That the Proceedings of the Town-Meeting of the 4th Inst: respecting the New Bridge and Street Northward thereof be not repealed

Comm: to oversee Building of Bridge to fill Town's Land at the West Abutment &c,

February 10th 1792.

Resolved, that the Committee appointed to oversee the Building the new Bridge be empowered to carry out the Town's Land at the Western Abutment so far as they shall judge necessary; provided they do not go farther than a straight Line from said Abutment to the Head of the Long Wharf

The Meeting is Dissolved

April 18th

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 18th Day of April A.D. 1792

His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq; Moderator

Persons propounded.

Majr Ivers James Burrill, jun: Abner Daggett John Smith, Jonathan Hill Edward Knowles, jun: John Pitman and Nathaniel Richmond

Freemen admitted,

The following Persons are voted in and admitted as Freemen, and those to whose Name the Letter E. is annexed are duly engaged agreeably to Law: to wit:

William Warner, E.	Benjamin Smith	James Pitcher
John Warner, E.	Samuel Pitcher	William Page
Amos Warner, E.	Nicholas Tillinghast, jun.	Thomas Cain E.
Benjamin Dyer, E.	Job Page. E.	Nathan H. Miller
John Gibbs, E.	William N. Rhodes, E.	Joseph Mason E.
Joseph Burt,	William Valentine	Wheler Martin
Edward Bailey E.	Joseph Martin, Son of David	Moses Lippitt
Jonathan Gladding E.	Samuel Carlile E.	John Burgess
Samuel Eddy, E.	John Forbes, E.	Joshua Salisbury
Moses Eddy, E.	William Olney	Elijah Billings
		Allin Gladding

Deputies elected

The following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent the Town of Providence in the Honorable the Gener[al] Assembly to be holden at Newport on the first Wednesday in May next and in all Sessions of the said General Assembly till the last Monday in October next, to wit:

Welcome Arnold, Esq[r]. 1st
Mr. Charles Lippitt 2d
Robert Newell, Esq[r]. 3d
Mr. Nicholas Easton, 4th

Town-Council to enquire into the Town's Land &c,

Resolved, That the Town-Council be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into what Land there are now belonging to the Town: That they also be empowered to sell at public Vendue or otherwise, to Mr. Job or Henry Smith, or any other Person and make and execute in Behalf of the Town a good and lawful Deed of so much of the Town's Land to the Northward of the North-House as will accommodate them, provided they agree on the Terms and the said Lots so sold shall not exceed Seventy feet North and South upon the Line of the Street: That they pay the Money arising from such Sale into the Hand of the Town-Treasurer; and that said Council make Report of their Proceedings herein at the Town Meeting in June next & on the 1st Monday in s[d] Month

Representatives not to be paid

On Motion whether the Town will pay their Representatives to the Honorable the General Assembly, it passed in the Negative

Comm: re-Meeting pa-ving Streets,

Resolved, That this Meeting will adjourn to this Day Week 3 O'Clock P.M. then to meet at this Place: That in the mean Time the Town-Clerk be directed to issue his Warrant for convening the Freemen of said Town at said Time and Place for the Purpose of taking into Consideration the Propriety of paving the Street at the South End of the Town and such other Streets as shall then and there be necessary & also the Propriety of making a Tax for the

April 18th 1792

thereof: That Messieurs Zephaniah Andrews Thomas Arnold and Paul Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to view the Street at the South End of the Town and such other Streets as they shall deem necessary to be paved in this Town: That said Committee estimate the Expence of such Pavements as they shall deem necessary will cost in Silver and Gold and make Report to this Meeting at the Adjournment: And that the Town Treasurer be directed to lay before the Meeting a State of the Treasury at said Adjournment

Jurors — Messieurs Andrew Williams, William Billings and William Bacon are drawn as Petit-Jurors to serve at the District Court to be holden at Providence within and for the District of Rhode-Island on the 1st Monday in May next.

Proxes put in. — This being the Day for proxing for General Officers for the Year ensuing, there were put in for His Excellency Arthur Fenner, Esqr as Governor One hundred and Eighty-three Proxes

Adjourned till Wednesday next 3 O'Clock P.M. then to meet at this Place

April 25. 1792.

Met pursuant to Adjournment

His Excellency the Governor, the Moderator in the Chair

Report of Committee respecting Streets to be paved, &c, — Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to examine what Streets in this Town are necessary to be paved the Expence thereof, and present their Report to this Meeting at their Adjournment to this Day reported in the Words following, to wit: "To the Freemen of the Town of Providence at their Meeting to be held by Adjournment the 25th Instant — Your Committee appointed to view the Street at the South End of the Town & such other Streets as may be thought necessary to be paved and to estimate the Expence of paving the same: Report as follows, They have viewed the said Street at the Lower End of the Town, & Broad Street from Mr Dexter's & Westminster Street from the Pavement at Whitman's to the Junction of said Streets at the West End of the Town also the Church Lane and are of Opinion that the following Pavements are necessary and proper to be made as soon as the Town can conveniently defray the Expence thereof, Viz.

The Street down Town to the Forks thereof which is in Length 1650 feet & estimated to Cost	£ 475.16.6
Broad Street as far as Potter's Hay Scales in Length 1320 feet, estimated to cost	360.—
Westminster Street from Whitman's as far to Union Street 1237 feet estimated to cost	300.—
The Church Lane 231 feet estimated to cost	34.12
Repairing the Pavement opposite Nathan Angell's 162 feet	32.8
£	1202.16.6

As the Demand for Labour both of Men and Teams is like to be very great this Year We do not give it as our Opinion that it is proper to have the Whole this Season, but such a Proportion thereof only as shall be found commensurate with the Resources of the Town, and as can be found on Enquiry can be accomplished on reasonable Terms Which is respectfully submitted, by, Jeptha Andrews, Thomas Arnold, Paul Allen

Providence 24th 4th mo 1792

Which being duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved, That the said Report, be and the same is hereby received and accepted

Tax of £1202.16.6 ordered,

Resolved, That a Tax of Twelve hundred and Two Pounds Sixteen Shillings and Sixpence, Lawful Money be ~~assessed~~ levied on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town: That the Poll Tax be Three Shillings: That One Moiety thereof be assessed on or before the Fifteenth Day of May next; the other half Part on or before the First Day of February next: That the first Moiety be collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the First Day of September next; and the other half Part on or before the First Day of June A.D. 1793: That the said Tax be solely appropriated for the paving the Streets agreeably to the Report of the Committee for paving the Streets this Day made, to wit, of the first half part to be so collected £475. 16. 6, for the pavement of Water Street at the South End of the Town; for the Pavement of the Church Lane £31.12. for repairing the Pavement by Mr. Nathan Angell, £32.8.: That the Balance of the first Moiety and the last Moiety to be collected as aforesaid £360 thereof be appropriated for the Pavement of Broad Street; and £300 for the Pavement of Westminster Street: And that the Assessors be empowered to exempt such from the Poll Tax as they shall deem unable to pay the same.

On Motion whether any new Pavement be made in this Town this Year, Resolved in the Affirmative

New Pavement to be made.

Comm: to enquire what Streets are to be

Resolved That Messrs Job Sweeting, William Wharton & Joseph Martin, or either Two of them, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into and call up

the Directors of the first Lotteries heretofore granted for the Pavement of the Streets in this Town, if any Monies collected for that Purpose are now in their Hands: And that they fully investigate the Subject and make Report to this Meeting as soon as may be

Comm: to have Church Lane, &c,

Resolved, That Messieurs Samuel Nightingale Knight Dexter & Zachariah Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct and cause the Church Lane to be paved; to repair the Pavement nearly opposite Mr. Nathan Angell, agreeably to the Report of the Committee this Day received for paving the Streets; and that they be empowered to direct a Surveyor to alter the ~~Grat~~ Pavement of the Gutter by Capt. John Updikes if they think necessary and in such Manner as they shall be of Opinion will best accommodate the Public

Comm: to have Water Street

Resolved, That Messrs Zephaniah Andrews John Mumford and Gershom Jones be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct and cause Water Street to be paved, agreeably to the Report of the Committee this Day received for paving the Streets

Comm: to have Westminster Street

Resolved, That Messieurs John Mason, Thomas Arnold and William Larned, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct and cause Westminster Street to be paved agreeably to the Report of the Committee this Day received for paving the Streets

Comm: to have Broad Street

Resolved, That Messieurs: Welcome Arnold, Archibald Stewart and Thomas Lloyd Halsey be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct and Broad Street to be paved agreeably to the Report Committee this Day received

April 25th 1792

No Gutters to be in Pavement Water Street

Resolved, That the new Pavement to be made in Water Street be laid in such Manner, that no Drains or Gutters pass on the Top of said Pavement

Comm: on T. Shirley's Memorial

On the Memorial of Mr. Terence Shirley Setting forth that in the carrying out the Town's Land on the West Side of Weybosett Bridge on a Line with the Western Abutment of said Bridge, there has been a Quantity of Stone taken which he conceives to be his Property and converted to the Town's Use, and thereupon praying that Compensation may be made him therefor; It is Voted and Resolved, That William Barton and Zephaniah Andrews Esquires be a Committee to enquire into the Subject Matter of said Memorial; and that they make the report at the next Meeting

Person to be appointed to bid on Sale of Town's Land

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to sell the Land by the Work-House on the 18th instant, be empowered to appoint One of their Number or any other Person to bid for the same, (if sold at Auction) in Behalf of the Town

Town Treasurer to exchange the Paper in the Treasury, &c.

Resolved, That the Town Treasurer be empowered to exchange the Paper Money in the Treasury for Specie or pay any Town Debt therewith provided he can do the same at the Rate of Fifteen Paper Dollars for One Specie

The Meeting is Dissolved

June 4th 1792

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on Monday the 4th Day of June A.D. 1792

Ebenezer Thompson, Esqr. Moderator

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town

Officers chosen.

Officers the following Gentlemen are elected to the Offices prefixed to their Names, to wit:

Town-Clerk. Daniel Cooke

Town-Council. Ebenezer Thompson, Esqr. President, Messrs. Samuel Butler, Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Wheaton, John Davis and John Mason

Town-Serjeant. Mr. Henry Bowen

Town-Treasurer. James Arnold, Esqr.

Town-Audit. Messrs. John Mumford, John Mawney and John Howland

Constables. Messrs. William Givens, Jonathan Greene, Michael Metcalf, Charles Thurn, Gershom Jones, William Bacon, Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Bennett, Job Danforth, Jesse Whittemore, Jonathan Fowle, Jonathan Knowles, David Smith and David Burr

Sealer of Weights and Measures. Mr. Jacob Whitman, Senior

Assessors of Rates & Overseers of the Poor. Messrs. William Larned, William Richmond and Daniel Stillwell

Messrs. Christopher Arnold, Elijah Bacon, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Isaac Angell, John Burrough, Isaac Baker, Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Caleb Ormsbe, Ephraim Walker, Benjamin Tallman, John Carlile, Junr. Abel Allen, Jonathan Gladding, Joshua Lindley, Edward Knowles, Junr. and Jonathan Woodbury Esqr.

Surveyors of Joist, Board Spars & Timber.

Surveyors of Highways. Messrs. Welcome Arnold, Gershom Jones, Sylvanus Martin, James Burrell, Phineas Brown, Olivir Bowen and Christopher Olney

June 4th 1792.

Gaugers of Casks

Messrs Samuel Jackson, Eseth Brown, Eseth Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Weeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon, Nathaniel Richmond and Stephen Sheldon

Vendue Master and Collector of Taxes

Capt. Benjamin Hopkins, on the same Terms and Conditions as the last Year

Clerk of the Market

John Mawney, Esqr;

Packers of Beef Pork & Fish

Messrs Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemens, Lewis Bosworth, William Billings, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro, Charles Lasells, Jonathan Jenkins, John Eathforth, Joseph Salisbury, Stephen Sheldon, Samuel Brown, Arthur Farrier, Stephen Rhenington, Eseh Eddy, Joseph Field Son of Joseph, John Beverly, Joshua Whiting, Samuel Eathforth, Anthony Dyer, Reuben Sprague and William Chaffee

Corders of Wood

Messrs John Vial, John Petty, John Lasell, Samuel Wilbur, Laban Vincent, John Burrough, Seth Davis, and Asa Sheldon

Overseers of the Hospital.

The Town-Council

Sound-Keepers.

Messrs Nicholas Branch and Charles Holden.

To value Estates when disputed in voting

Messrs Jabez Bowen, Samuel Black and John Brown

Fence-Viewers

Messrs, Samuel Thurber Junr. John Field and Christopher Arnold

Presidents of the Fire-Wards

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and Joseph Martin, Esqrs;

Fire Wards

Messrs, Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Borrance, Samuel Butler, Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, and John S. Clarke

Fire-Engine Company No 1. near the Bridge

Messrs, John White, Joseph Jenckes, Elisha Brown, Richard Jackson Junr. Nicholas Brown, John Carlile junr. Joseph Allen, Seril Dodge, James Tenner, Charles Coggeshall, John Howland and Isaac Brown

Fire-Engine Company No 2. at the North End

Messrs John Whipple, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burt, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, Samuel Thurber Junr. Jabez Gorham, George Weeden, James Burt, Benjamin Stelle and Samuel Whipple

Fire-Engine Company No 3. on the West Side of the River

Messrs, John Mathewson, Daniel Jackson, James Black, Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, Joseph Cooke, James Burrill, Samuel Black, Zephaniah Brown, John Carpenter, Joshua Lindley, and Jonathan Woodbury Coy

Fire-Engine Company No 4. at the South End

Messrs, Daniel Stillwell, Caleb Ormsbe, Jeremiah Jenckes, Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold 3d, Benjamin Earle, George Earle, Benjamin T. Carlile, Amos Warner, Joseph Davenport, James Ormsbe and Benjamin Davis

Persons to order when and where Goods shall be removed in case of Fire

Messrs Joseph Martin, John Borrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman and Christopher Sheldon

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in case of Fire

Messrs Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbe, Walter Harding and Darius Allen

Field-Drivers

Messrs, Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Jonathan Fowle, Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Tefft and Uriah Hopkins

June 4th 1792

Sealer of Leather — Mr. Josiah Gifford

Scavengers — Messrs. Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, Job Swuting, and William Givens

Overseers of the Work House — The Overseers of the Poor

Town-Cryer — Mr. Daniel Branch

Overseer of Weybosset-Bridge — James Arnold, Esqr.

Comm: to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town — Messrs. Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Zephaniah Brown, Aaron Mason, Joel Mathias and Abner Daggett

School-Comm. — The Revd. Doct. Enos Hitchcock, Revd. Joseph Snow, Revd. Moses Badger, Revd. Jonathan Maxcy, Messrs. Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, John J. Clark, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Torrance, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Bourne, Nicholas Brown

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes — Messrs. Samuel Jackson & Samuel Hyden

Comm: to State out the Channel — Messrs. John Brown, Welcome Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, Christopher Sheldon and Philip Allen

Town-Council requested to regulate Assize of Bread

Resolved, That the Town-Council be requested to regulate the Assize of Bread Monthly agreeably to Law

Town-Clerk to furnish the Clerk of the Market with Rules, &c.

Resolved, That the Town-Clerk be and he is hereby directed to furnish the Clerk of the Market with the Rules and Regulations established for the Government thereof

School Comm.ee to repair Brick School-House

Resolved that the School Committee be requested to cause the Brick School-House to be put in repair: That the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town-Treasury; And that any five of said Committee Constitute a Quorum for doing of business.

Clerk of the Market to lease Market House &c.

Resolved that the Clerk of the Market be directed to Collect from the persons who have Stalls or Travelling Shops Round the Market such compensation to the Town therefor by the Day or Otherwise as he may deem reasonable; and unless they pay the same he is directed to cause them to remove off the Parade: That no person be Suffered to retail Spirituous Liquors in or round the Market: That said Clerk be also directed to regulate the Standing of all Trucks and other Teams on the Market-House Parade: That said Clerk be empowered to lease out the whole Market House from the Top to the bottom excepting three Stalls reserved for the use of the Country and all Leases are to expire annually on the 10th day of June: and that said Clerk be allowed 20 P. Cent on the Money Collected for his Services herein.

Comm.e to consider meanes to accomodate Town-Meetings

Resolved that Messr.s Charles Keene, John Thomas, Thomas L. Halsey, Welcome Arnold, Moses Brown, Joseph Nightingale and William Baxter be a Committee to consider and report Measures proper to be adopted by this Town for accomodating the Freemen when Assembled in Town-Meeting and report the same at the next Meeting

June 4th 1792.

Comm. to confer with propietors of Reileys wharf

Voted That Mesr. Philip Allen, Samr. Butler and John Mason be a Committee to confer with the Propietors of the Wharf called Reileys, and to Report on what Terms they will consent to suffer the End of said Wharf to be cut off and levelled to the Bottom of the Channell as far back as the Parallel of the Wall running Southerly from the Western Abutment of the great Bridge.

Instructions to advising Comm.

Voted that the advising Committee be instructed to advise the Committee men for building the new Bridge over Weybosset River to allow One free passage under the same Thirty feet Wide for accommodating the passage of Scows and other small Craft.

Instructions to deputys relative to Assessors

Voted that the deputys of this Town in General Assembly be instructed to procure an act of Assembly authorising this Town to appoint in any legal Town-Meeting such number of Assessors of Taxes in this Town as a Majority of the Freemen may deem necessary.

Overseers of Poor Chosen

Voted that Mesrs. Silvanus Martin & Ezek Eddy be and they are hereby appointed Overseers of the Poor of this Town for the Year ensuing.

Report of Comm. on Memorial of T. Reiley

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to Consider the Memorial of Terence Reiley presented to this Meeting the following Report to Wit. "Providence June 2d 1792 Agreeable to our Appointment to view the Wall belonging to Mr. Terence Reiley on the West Side of Weybosset Bridge which Wall has been taken for the use of the Town to the Amount of about Forty

June 4th 1792.

Forty Cords of Stones and taking into Consideration the very large expence Mr. Reiley has been at in filling up the Publick Lands adjoining the Bridge (although immediately for the benefit of his Estate) give it as our Opinion that Mr. Reiley be allowed Four Shillings a Cord amounting to Eight Pounds. all which is Submitted by their Humble Servants ... Ezekl. Andrews
William Barton
To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting Assembled".

Which being Considered. Voted that no part of the Money Reported be allowed to Mr. Reiley.

Adjourned to Saturday next 4 O'Clock P.M.

June 9th 1792

Saturday June 9th 1792 The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment.

The Moderator in the Chair.

Western Bound of Channel fixed.

Resolved, That the western Bound of the Channel of Providence River from the Western Abutment of the Great-Bridge to the Long-Wharf be a straight Line from the Southwest Corner of said Abutment to the Northeast Corner of said Wharf.

Town-Council to remove Obstructions in the Channel.

Resolved, That the Town-Council be requested to cause all Obstructions in the Channel of the River from the Western Abutment of the Bridge to the Long Wharf to be removed; and also to ascertain all Damages that may accrue to Individuals in Consequence of.

Resolved, That it be recommended to

June 9th A. D. 1792

J. Dorrance to employ Carpenters of Providence on Bridge &c.

Dorrance, Esqr. to employ as many of the Carpenters of Providence to build the new Bridge as possible consistent with his Engagements

Clerk of Market to put Laws relative thereto into Execution

Resolved that the Town Clerk of the Town Council Market be Directed to put the Laws relative to this Market into Execution .....

Clk. of Market to let Meat hang over Night

Resolved, That it be discretionary with the Clerk of the Market to let Meat hang in the Market House over Night

J. Whitman Assessor in Room of J. Howland.

Resolved, That Mr. Jacob Whitman, Junr. be and he is hereby appointed One of the Town Auditors in the Place of Mr. John Howland who has declined

J. Whitman Constable vice J. Jones.

Resolved That Mr. Jacob Whitman, Junr. be and he is hereby appointed a Constable for this Town in the Room or Stead of Mr. Gershom Jones who declines Serving

Report of Comm: appointed to confer with Proprietors of Shirley's Wharf

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to confer with the Proprietors of the Wharf called Shirley's Wharf presented to this Meeting the following Report, to wit:

"We the Subscribers being appointed by the Town of Providence to confer with the Proprietors of the Wharf called Shirley's on what Terms they would agree to have the End of s. Wharf cut off and levelled to the Bottom in a parallel Line running South from the Western Abutment of the Great Bridge. In Pursuance of the Order of the Town We have conferred with all concerned in said Wharf and find no Objection against taking up said Wharf

agreeable to the Proposition of said Town, except Mr. Terence Shirley who lays his Damage at Sixteen Hundred Dollars

June 9th 1792

Philip Allen
Saml. Butler
John Mason
} Committee

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is Resolved That the same be received; and that this Town will not pay the said Terence Shirley the Damages he claims in said Report for levelling said Wharf

Report of Town Council referred, respecting Town Lands

Whereas the Honorable the Town Council who were heretofore appointed a Committee to ascertain the Town's Land, presented to this Meeting a Report, as follows, to wit:

"This Council having been directed by the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled, to ascertain said Town's Lands &c. do report a small Piece of Land near the Mill Bridge, laid out to Edward Thurber, Esqr. to and for the Use of the Town of Providence forever, Nov. 20th 1792 Bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Southeasterly Corner of the Abutment of the Bridge aforesaid, thence South 11 Degrees West 7 Rods & 12 feet to the Northwest Corner of a Store formerly belonging to Jos. Nash, Esqr. now in the Occupation of Michael & Metcalf, adjoining the River, thence [illegible] Degrees South Two Rods & 11 feet to the [illegible] that lead from the Main Street over

June 9th A.D. 1792.

Mill-Bridge, leaving the Northerly Corner of the aforesaid Store Two feet ½ about four Inches from the last mentioned Line, thence Bounding Easterly on the Street aforesaid to the first mentioned Bound to a Point, &c,

Nath.l Wheaton, Cl. St. pro. Temp.

And the said Report having been duly considered, It is Voted and Resolved, That the same be accepted: That the Subject Matter thereof be referred to the said Committee: and that they notify all Parties concerned of the Time and Place of their Meeting

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The Meeting is Dissolved

August 3.d 1792.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the 3.d Day of August, A.D. 1792

Capt. Joseph Tillinghast, Moderator

Welcome Arnold Esq.r is chosen Moderator in the Room of Capt. Joseph Tillinghast who declined

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150 Dollars allowed for finishing Drains across the Street.

Resolved, That One hundred and Fifty Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town-Treasury for the Purpose of finishing Five Drains under the new pavement now laying in water Street that the said Drains be at least two feet by three in the clear and

and may be enlarged at the expence of any Individual or Individuals who will pay the same: That the aforesaid sum be paid on condition that if the same shall be insufficient to carry the said Drains across Said Street the neighbouring Inhabitants advance a sufficiency to complete the same: That the Grates in which the water enters into the Drains be of Iron: That the money to be paid as aforesaid be paid out of the next Town Tax to be assessed And that Messrs Thomas Jones Phillip Allen & William Barton be a Committee to direct where the said Drains shall be laid

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Council to cause a Highway to be laid thro' Land of J. Arnold, Esq.r

Whereas James Arnold, Esq.r hath generously offered to give a Highway through his Land of Twenty-four feet in Width from Water Street to Benefit Street in such Place as he shall choose, provided the Town will procure a small Gore of Land to make said Highway on Water Street of that Width: It is thereupon Resolved, That this Town do accept of said Offer; and do hereby recommend it to the Town-Council to cause the said Highway to be laid out agreeably to Law

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Overseers of Poor to request N. Wheaton to repair Work-House, &c.

Resolved, That the present Overseers of the Poor be requested to wait on Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq.r and request him to proceed to cause the Work-House to be repaired agreeably to a Vote of the Town of the 15.th of August, 1789; And in Case said Nathaniel Wheaton declines, that they proceed and cause said House to be repaired agreeably to said Resolution

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Instructions to Deputies respecting Independent Companies, &c.

Resolved That the Deputies to represent the Town in the Honorable the General Assembly be instructed to oppose a Decision on the Militia Bill lately published for the Consideration of the State, at the next Session: and that in C

August 3d A.D. 1792.

the said Bill should be brought on, that they use their utmost Endeavors to preserve inviolate the Privileges granted to the several Independent Companies by their respective Charters

W. Allen to repair Pavement &c

Resolved That Major William Allen be and he is hereby appointed to repair the Pavement near by Mr. Nathan Angell's as directed by the Town by their Resolve of the 25th of April last he having consented to take that Trouble off the hand of the Committee appointed for that Purpose

It is further Resolved That the said William Allen cause a Drain to be sunk under the Pavement acrofs the Main Street by the South Side of the Shop of Messrs Clark & Nightingale of sufficient Bigness to take the Flow of Water that may there run; and that the Expence of said Drain be paid out of the next Town-Tax.

Comm: to audit acts of L. Peck & W. Tyler

Resolved That Messrs William Allen Joseph Tillinghast and Paul Allen be a Committee to audit the Account of Messrs Lewis Peck & William Tyler, presented to this Meeting for paving done &c in the Year 1790; and that they make Report to the next Meeting

The Meeting is Dissolved

Aug. 28 1792

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on the 28th Day of Augt. 1792. being Tuesday

His Excellency Arthur Fenner. Esqr. Moderator.

Resolved. That the Materals of the old Bridge called

August 28th 1792

Weybosett Bridge, Immediately after the completion of the new Bridge be appropriated for the repairs of all other Bridges in this Town, and that the several Surveyors of Highways be empowered to take so much thereof as they may deem requisite suitably to repair the Bridges in their respective Districts; and in case there should be a Surplusage of materials for the purpose aforesaid the same to be placed under the care of the Town Treasurer who is hereby Directed to Dispose of the same as he shall judge most advantageous to the Town: And that said Bridges be repaired in such Ways and manner as Messrs Jeremiah Olney Joel Medcalf & Obadiah Sprague shall Direct who are hereby appointed a Committee to superintend the same.

Deputies chosen

The Following Gentlemen are Elected Deputies to Represent this Town in the Honorable the General Assembly of this State At the Session to be Holden on the last Monday in October Next, and in all Succeeding Sessions of the said Assembly till the first wednesday of May Next, to wit.

Welcome Arnold, Esqr 1st
Charles Lippitt, Esqr 2d
Robert Newell, Esqr 3d
Mr Nicholas Easton, - - 4th

Pavements by Bridge &c to be relayed &c

Resolved. That the Pavements on the East & West Sides of the Abutments of the new Bridge be taken up and relaid in Conformity to said Bridge That Messrs John Brown, John Mumford, & Daniel Tillinghast be a Committee to Direct in what manner form and how far the said pavement shall be relaid; that the said John [illegible] be and is appointed to superintend and

Aug: 28th 1792

Work to be done agreeably to the Directions of said Committee; That said committee also direct in what manner & how far the Pavement near Mr. Nathan Angells shall be repaired as heretofore Ordered —

It is further Resolved, That the Treasurer be Directed to hire a sum not exceeding One Hundred Pounds to defray the Expence of taking up & relaying the pavements on each side of said Abutments & that the same be repayed out of the next Town Tax.

Report of Comm: on Money due from B. Mann Esq;

Whereas the committee heretofore appointed to enquire into what Monies there was in the hands of Benjamin Mann Esq. belonging to the town on account of his being Director of a Lottery for the pavement on West side of the Bridge &c. verbally reported, that they have fully investigated the Subject and find that there is Nothing due from the said Benjamin Mann to the town; It is thereupon Resolved, That the said Report be received and Accepted.

Comm: to look up Town's Lands

Resolved, That Messrs Christopher Sheldon Amara Gray, John Mathewson be and they are hereby appointed a committee to ascertain the Towns Land where they are situated who are in possession of the same or whether they lie common & to make Report to this Meeting as soon as may be and that the Town Council the former committee be Dismissed from their Services herein. — — —

It is further Resolved. That the committee hereby appointed be empowered to call

a Surveyor when requisite at the Expence of the Town. — — — — — — —

W. Snow to continue Pavement Church Lane &c.

Resolved, That Mr. Will.m Snow be appointed to continue & compleat the pavement of the Church Lane to the Middle of Benefit Street under the Directions of Messrs Samuel Nightingale and Zach.r Allen that said Samuel Nightingale & Zacharaiah Allen be requested to call on the Proprietors of the Land on each Side of said pavement to secure the same and in case they will not do it that the Surveyors of the Highways be Directed to cause the same to be secured immediately — —

Comm: to draught Act for securing Lamps on Bridge &c.

Resolved, That Messrs Thomas Arnold & Asher Robbins be a committee to draught an Act for the securement of the Lamps & to prevent Damage being done to the Bridge and to make Enquiry whether the Town have Legal Authority to oblige Individuals to secure Public Pavements against their Land; and that they make report to the Next Meeting. — — —

Town Council to cause Westminster Street to be widened &c.

Resolved, That the Town Council be requested to cause the road on the North Side of Westminster Street nearly opposite the Junction of said Street & High Street to be straightened. — —

P. Allen &c a Comm: to treat with Westcott &c.

Resolved, That Messrs Paul Allen and [illegible] Richmond be a committee to treat with Mr. Westcott respecting the Hire of his Lot or part thereof as will accommodate the Public Report to the next meeting

J. Arnold allowed £439-0-8

— August 28th 1792 —

Whereas the Town Audit, who audited the Account of James Arnold, Esqr as Town Treasurer, presented to this Meeting the following Statement, and Report, to wit:

Town of Providence in Acct with James Arnold Esqr

1791 Decr 1st	To the Amount of his Acct as pr his Books to 1st Decemr 1791	5566-19-0
	To Commissions on the above a 2½ pr Ct	139-3-6
	To Balance due to him on Acct settled 1st June 1786	215-10-3½
	To 5½ Years Interest on the above Balance to 1st December 1791	71-2-2
	£	5992-14-11½

Creditor

1791 Decr 1st	By Sundries Credits as pr Book	5553-14-3½
	Balance due to James Arnold 1st December 1791	439-0-8
	£	5992-14-11

Providence 23d April 1792. This Day compleated the Settlement of the above account to Decemr 1st 1791. by examining all the Vouchers Supporting the Same, and find a ballance due to James Arnold Esqr of four Hundred and thirty nine Pounds & 8.

William Learned
John Mumford
Rufus Waterman } Audit

Balance allowed with Interest from Decemr 1st 1790

And the Said Report having been Duly Considered, It is Voted and Resolved that the Said Report be recieved: That the Said balance of —

Four Hundred & thirty nine Pounds & Eight Pence Lawfull money be allowed & Paid to the Said James Arnold Esqr out of the Town Treasury with Interest from the Said first Day of December A D 1791 —

J

Freemen admitted —

Messrs Davis. W. Hoppin. Edward Knowles Junr. Lemuel Pitcher & James Pitcher are voted in and admitted as Freemen of this Town and duly Engaged

S. Merrill Packer of Beef &c.

Samuel Merrill is Elected a Packer of Beef Pork &c.

Report of Comm Repecting Drains —

Whereas the Committee who where appointed to locate the Drains which are to pass under the pavement now laying in Warter Street Presented to this Meeting the following Report: to wit:

"Whereas We the Subscribers Were Appointed a Committee by the town of Providence Legally Assembled in Town Meeting on the third Day Instant August. to fix and Determine on the Places in Warter Street where drains or under and across the pavement Shall be carried. do Report — that the first Shall be opened and Carried South of Mr — Hardings House and North of Mr Gershom Carpenter down the Gangway 2 South of Mr William Learned and North of Samuel Godfrey down the Gangway 3 — South of James Arnold Esqr and North of Capt Joseph Tillinghast down the Gangway 4th South of Mr John Davis and

August 28th 1792

Nicholas Powers down the Gangway — 5th at a Stake North of John & Stephen Sheldon and South of said Sheldons Small House down the Gangway - - - - - -

All which is Submitted by - - -
Providence August. 4th 1792 —

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting Assembled } Philip Allen, Tho Jones, William Barton } Committee

And the said Report having been duly considered. It is Voted and Resolved that the same be accepted; and that the said Drains be located agreeably thereto.

Report of Comm. respecting Towns Land. Referred to next meeting

Resolved, that a Report of the Town Council of June 23. 1792: as a committee to Enquire into the Towns Lands be recieved, and that the same be referred for further Consideration to the next town Meeting.

Proxes for Representatives in Congress...

This being the Day appointed to put in the Proxey - Votes for first and second Representatives to Represent this State in the third Congress of the United States...

There were for Benjamin Bourn Esqr as first and for Francis Malbone Esqr as second 256

For Benjamin Bourn as first and Paul Mumford Esqr as second - - - - - 8

For Francis Malbone Esqr solely as second 17

For Benjamin Bourn solely as first - 11

For Paul Mumford Esqr solely as second - 1

For Do as first & Francis Malbone as second - 1

For

August. 28th 1792...

For Benjamin Bourn Esqr as first and George Champlin Esqr as second - - - } 1

Total - 295

Sept. 7th 1792.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the of Providence legally held at the State House on the 7th Day of Sept. A. D. 1792 - - -

Nathaniel Wheaton Esqr Moderator -

constable chosen

Stephen Thurber chosen Constable - -

Resolved, That the Committee appointed at the last Town-Meeting to Superintend & appropriate the Materials of the Old Bridge for the repairs of all other Bridges in this Town be also appointed a committee to ascertain the bounds of the highway adjacent to Stephens Bridge and to conform their Regulations for Repairing said Bridge agreeably thereto. -

comm. to ascertain Bounds Highways Stephens Bridge

Resolved, That the Town-Sergeant be Directed to call on all Town Officers Chosen by this Town to qualify himself by Engagement - agreeably to Law and in Case such Officer or Officers so chosen shall neglect or refuse to qualify to the Town Treasurer on or before the 19th Day of Sept. inst a Certificate of their Qualifications as afore. The Town Treasurer be Directed to prosecute them or either of them for the Sums they have Incurred as the Law Directs

Town Officers to take an Engagement &c - -

Town Council not to Introduce to Inoculation in this Town.

September 7th. 1792.

Resolved. That it be not Recommended to the Town-Council to Introduce an Inoculation of the Small Pox. in this Town. —

Adjournment

Resolved. That this Meeting be and is hereby adjourned to Thursday the 13th Day of Sept. Inst. at 3 o'l Clock. P. M. then to meet at this Place; - for the purpose of Considering the Expediency of making a further Town-Tax, and of Transacting such Other Business as may then & there be thought Necessary; And that in the mean Time the Clerk be Directed to cause the Freemen to be notified by Beat of Drum of the Time & Place to which this Meeting is adjourned. & the purpose thereof. — — — — — —

Sept. 13th 1792.

Thursday September 13th The Meeting convened pursuant to Adjournment

The Moderator Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq; being sick, and having resigned, by a Letter directed to the Meeting: Moses Brown, Esq. is chosen Moderator in his Stead: Moses Brown, Esq. having declined serving, John Brown, Esq. is chosen Moderator and accepts —

Vote of last Meeting respecting Inoculation repealed in part.

Resolved, That the Vote of this Meeting of Friday last, so far as it prohibits Inoculation in Hospitals duly established by the Town-Council of this Town be and the same is hereby repealed.

Tax of £1200 laid.

Resolved That a Tax of Twelve hundred Pounds, Lawful Money, be levied and

September 13th. 1792.

assessed on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of this Town: That the same be assessed on or before the Fifteenth Day of October next, and collected and paid into the Town Treasury, on or before the last Day of December next: That the said Tax be appropriated to the Payment of One Half of the Town's liquidated Debt, including both Principal and Interest, and the Surplus to the Support of the Poor, and other incidental Charges of the Town: That the Town-Treasurer be directed to discharge the said Half Part of the said liquidated Debt, by endorsing the same on the Notes he may have given in his said Capacity or giving his Certificates for One half of said Notes in Case he shall renew them, and like Certificates for One half of other liquidated Claims, as he shall think best: That said Tax be upon Interest from said last Day of December next; and in Case the said Treasurer shall renew his Notes or give Certificates as aforesaid, such Certificates shall and Notes given as aforesaid shall bear Interest from said last Day of December next; and that said Certificates shall be receivable by the Collector of Taxes and the said Treasurer in payment of said Tax —

The Meeting is Dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence on the 15th Day of Sept 1792

Sept.r 15.th 1792

Aaron Mason Esqr being Chosen Moderator, Declined. and Ebenezer Thompson Esqr is chosen in his Stead. . . . . .

Resolved, that it be recommended to the Town-Council to Lay out a Road, from the Country Road, to the Towns Hospital, in such manner as they shall think proper. — — —

On the Question whether it be recommended to the Town-Council in this Town to permit Innoculation of the Small-Pox — thereon in Hospitals it passed in the Negative. . . . . On the Question whether it be recommended to the Town-Council to Establish Guards Smoke Houses &c. for the prevention of the Small-Pox's being Introduced in this Town it passed in the Negative. . . . . .

Resolved, that in the Tax ordered by this Town at the last Meeting there be no Poll-Tax assessed ~~thereon~~ any thing in the vote ordered the same to the Contrary — Notwithstanding — . . . . .

Resolved, That the Town-Treasurer be Directed to hire of the Bank of Providence the Sum of Sixty Pounds Lawful money, for the purpose of repairing ~~the~~ the pavement at the Abutments of the Bridge agreeably to ~~the~~ former Vote and that the Same be repaid

September 15.th 1792

repaid out of the first Monies that shall be paid into the Town — Treasury. . . . . .

Resolved, That the Town-Council be Empowered to treat with the Baptist Society or their Committee respecting widening Benefit — Street on the East Side of the Baptist Meeting House Lot, and that they cause the same to be widened if it can be done on Terms they shall Judge Beneficial to the Town — — —

The Meeting is Dissolved — —

April 17.th 1793.

At a Town-Meeting held in and for the Town of Providence on the 17.th Day of April A.D. 1793 —

His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq.r Moderator —

Freemen propounded

The following persons having purchased real Estate in the Town are Propounded to be admitted as Freemen viz John Gonsolve, Nedebiah Smith, William Soule, Samuel Davenport, Joseph Davenport, William Hedge, Joseph Baker, John Eatherworth, Anthony Dyer, Elisha Dyer, Daniel Atherton, Bennett Wheeler, John Penn, James Gardner, Nathaniel Gladding Jun.r

Freemen Admitted

The following persons were voted in and admitted as Freemen of the Town of Providence and

April 17th 1793

to Wit, Benjamin Ham, Jonathan Hill, Richard Godfrey, John Smith, James Fenner, Obadiah Brown, son of Moses, Nathaniel Richmond, Stephen Olny, Stephen Dexter, Richard Low, Samuel Sterry, David A. Bacon, Nicholas Power Junr

Deputies Chosen

This being the day by Law appointed for the choice of Deputies, to represent this Town at the General Assembly to be holden at Newport on the first Wednesday in May next, and in all Session of the said General Assembly until the last Monday in October next, the following Persons are duly chosen to Wit

Welcome Arnold Esqr 1st
Mr. Charles Leppitt ... 2d
John Whipple Esqr 3d
Mr. Nicholas Easton ... 4th

Committee on Petition of Aaron Mason

On Petition of Aaron Mason Esqr respecting his Lands at the North end of the Town on the New Street lately laid open through Lands of Benjamin Cozzens and others: Resolved that Messrs. Isaac Bowen, Moses Brown, and John Brown be appointed a committee to take the subject matter of said petition into consideration: And that they make report to the next Town Meeting

Whereas

Schoole Committee to make an exchange with Proprietors of Town Schoole House room

April 17th 1793

Whereas the school Committe represented unto this meeting that it would be promotive of the Education of the Inhabitants, if two rooms in the Town schoole House were made into one, to be attended with one Master and one or more Ushers, in order to affect which it would be necessary that a purchase of the Proprietors part, or an exchange of the Lower for the upper story of the House be made: And also ~~requesting~~ submiting to the Town, whether a committe to be appointed to make Inspection, with Power to purchase or exchange will not be proper

Which being considered it is thereupon Resolved that the Present Schoole Committee be and are hereby empowered to make an exchange as proposed with the Proprietors in behalf of the Town

Committee to cause an oration to be delivered on the 4th July 1793

Resolved that his Excellency the Governor Messrs. Joseph Nightengale Ephraim Bowen Junior Jeremiah Olney and Welcome Arnold be a committe to make choice of a Person to deliver a Suitable Oration on the Fourth Day of July next. to commence at twelve o clock at Noon in commemoration of the Independence of the United States: That said Committee provide a place for the delivery of such Oration: And that an Oration on said memorable event be continued annually

Town Council to permit Mr. Fields Family &c to be Inoculated

Resolved That it be recommended to the Town Council to permit the Family of Mr. Isaac Fields Widow of Isaac Fields, to go into the Hospi

April 17th 1793

Be enoculated with the Physician's Familey's they have already permited: And also to permit such further Number to be selected in such manner as said Council shall see fit to be enoculated; Provided that the whole Number admited, shall not exceed Forty-five including the Families aforesaid

Committee to look for a suitable place for a Hospital

Resolved That Mess.rs Welcome Arnold Charles Leppitt, John Whipple, and Nicholas Easton, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make Enquiry whether a suitable place can be had within the Bounds of this Town, to erect Hospitals for Inoculation for the Small-Pox. If any can be had, on what Terms the Physicians will Erect Hospitals and enoculate the Patients, and that they make Report at the adjournment of this Meeting

Town Council to lay out gangway on Stampers Hill from Main Street to back street in case

On application for a Gangway of Twenty Feet in Width at the North end of the Town on Stampers Hill from the Main Street to the Back Street through Land of Mess.rs Noah Smith, and Moses Brown

Resolved That it be recommended to the Town Council to view the Premises and Lay out said Gangway if they think proper: And in order to effect the same, that said Council be and are hereby Empowered to sell or exchange the whole or so much of the Town's Lot, on said Back Street on said Stampers Hill as will be necessary for that purpose

Resolved

April 17th 1793

John Dowance Esq. to cause the Hospital to be Fenced

Resolved That John Dowance Esq be and is hereby Appointed, to cause the Towns Land, whereon the Hospital is Erected to be enclosed with a Fence, at that the expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury

Town Sergeant to Mend Windows in State House

Resolved that the Town Sergeant be and is hereby directed to cause the Broken Windows in the State House in this Town to be reglaized: And that the expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury

Proxis put In

This being the anniversary for the Choice of General Officers, the following Number of Proxy votes where put in to wit:

For His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq.r as Governor 188

Proxes wherein no Governor is Named 2

Total 190

Adjournment

Resolved That this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday the 27th day of April Current 2 O'Clock P.M. then to meet at the State House

April 27th 1793

Saturday April 27th 1793

The Meeting Convened pursuant to Adjournment His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq.r Moderator, Having Signified to the Meeting in Writing that he could not attend and therefore Resigned, It is thereupon Resolved that Welcome Arnold Esq.r be and is

April 27th 1793

Chosen in his stead

Report of Comm. Resp. Inoculation

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 17th Instant. to examine Suitable places for Hospitals &c for Inoculation for the Small-pox within the Limits of this Town and make Report to this adjournment of said Meeting Have reported as on File: Thereupon Resolved That the said Report be received

No Hospital to be Establish.

On the Question whether an Hospital for Inoculation be established in this Town, Resolved in the Negative.

Town Hospital to be Enclosed with a Rail Fence

Resolved that John Donance Esq. heretofore appointed to Inclose the Towns Land round the Hospital with a fence, be Directed to Inclose the same with a Post and Rail fence

Choice of 4th Deputy Confirm.

Whereas the propriety of the Choice of the fourth Deputy to represent this Town in the Honourable General Assembly, at the Meeting of the 17th Instant is called in Question, and the Ballots being taken the Choice of Mr Nicholas Easton as fourth Deputy then made is now Confirmed

The Meeting is Dissolved

June 3. 1793

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on Monday the Third Day of June A. D. 1793

John

June 3. 1793

John Innis Clark, Esq. Moderator

Persons pro-pounded.

The following Persons are propounded to be admitted as Freemen, to wit. David L. Barnes, Esq. and Mr. Uriah Hopkins

Officers chosen

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers, the following Gentlemen are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their Names, to wit.

Town-Clerk — Daniel Cooke

Town-Council — John Mason, Esq. President, Messieurs Samuel Butler, Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Wheaton, John Davis and James Burrill

Town-Serjeant — Mr. Henry Bowen

Town-Treasurer — James Arnold, Esq.

Town-Auditors — Messieurs John Mumford, John Mawney, and Jacob Whitman, Junior

Constables — Messieurs William Givens, Jonathan Green, Michael Metcalf, Charles Keene, Gershom Jones, William Bacon, Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Bennett, Job Dianforth, Jesse Whittemore, Jonathan Fowle, Jonathan Knowles, David Smith, David Burt, Benjamin F. Carlile, Thomas Field, George Bradford, and Stephen Ashton

Sealer of Weights & Measures — Mr. Jacob Whitman, Junior

Assessors of Taxes and Overseers of the Poor — Messieurs William Larned, William Richmond, Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Lloyd Halsey, and John Whipple

Surveyors of Joist, Board, Spars and Timber — Messieurs Christopher Arnold, Elijah Brown, Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Gershom Carpenter, Angell, John Burrough, Isaac Brown,

June 3.d 1793

Surveyors of Joist, Board Spars & Timber continued — Simeon Ingraham, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Caleb Ormsbee, Ephraim Walker, Benjamin Talman John Carlile Junr, Abel Allen Jonas. Gladding, Joshua Lindley Edward Knowles Junr. and Jonathan Woodbury Coy

Surveyors of High ways — Messieurs Welcome Arnold, Gershom Jones Oliver Bowen, Christopher Olney, Squire Thurber, William Potter, William Allen and Dexter Brown

Gaugers of Casks — Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Esek Brown, Esek Eddy, Jonathan Jenkins, Samuel Weeden, John Burrough, Joseph Congdon, Nathaniel Richmond and Stephen Sheldon

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes — Capt. Benjamin Hoppin — On the same terms and Condits as last Year.

Clerk of the Market — Mr. Samuel Clark — On the same terms as the Clerk had it last Year

Packers of Beef, Pork and Fish — Messieurs Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemons, Lewis Bosworth, William Billings Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L Munro, Charles Lasells, Jonathan Jenkins, John Cathcath, Stephen Sheldon, Samuel Brown, Arthur Farrier Stephen Remington, Esek Eddy, Joseph Field (Son of Joseph) John Bowdy, Joshua Whiting, Sam.l Cathcad Anthony Dyer, Reuben Sprague, William Chaffee, and Wilbur Paul

Corders of Wood — Messieurs John Vial, John Pettey, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent, John Burrough and Seth Davis

June 3.d 1793

Overseers of the Hospital — The Town Council

Pound Keepers — Messieurs Nicholas Branch and Charles Holden

To value Estates when disputed in Voting — Messieurs Jabez Bowen, Samuel Black, and John Brown

Fence Viewers — Messieurs Samuel Thurber Junr, John Field and Christopher Arnold

Presidents of the Five Wards — Messieurs Jabez Bowen, John Brown and Joseph Martin

Five Wards — Messieurs Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Samuel Butler, Zephaniah Andrews. Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson and John J. Clarke

Fire Engine Company No. 1 — Messieurs John White, Joseph Jenckes, Elisha Brown, Richard Jackson Junr, Nicholas Brown John Carlile Junr, Joseph Allen, Seril Dodge, James Tanner, John Howland, Nathan Angell Junr, and Robert Taylor Junr

Fire Engine Company No. 2 — Messieurs John Whipple, Nehemiah Knight Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burr, James Wheaton, Phillips Martin, Samuel Thurber Junr, Jabez Gorham, George Weeden, James Burr, Benja Hale, and Samuel Whipple

June 3d 1793

Fire Engine Company No. 3

Messieurs John Mathewson, James Black Asa Franklin, Elijah Bacon, Joseph Locke, James Burrill, Samuel Black, Stephaniah Brown, John Carpenter, Joshua Lindley, Jonathan Woodbury Coy, and Peter Grinnell

Fire Engine Company No. 4

Messieurs Daniel Stillwell Caleb Ormsbe, Jeremiah Jencks, Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold (3), Benjamin Earle, George Earle, Amos Warner, Joseph Davenport, James Ormsbe, Benjamin Davis and John Gibbs

Persons to advise when & where Goods shall be removed in case of Fire

Messieurs Joseph Martin, John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, and Christopher Sheldon

Person to remove or pull down Houses in case of Fire

Messieurs Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, Ichabod Smith, Martin Seamons, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbe, Walker Harding and Darius Allen

Field Drivers

Messieurs Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Tifft and Uriah Hopkins

Sealer of Leather

Mr. Josiah Gifford

June 3d 1793

Sworngers

Messieurs Nathan Angell, Samuel Black Joseph Cranford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, Job Sweeting, William Givens and James Black

The Overseers of the Work House.

The Overseers of the Poor

Town Cryer

Mr. Daniel Branch

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge

James Arnold Esq.

Comm.e to prevent encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Gangways &c.

Messieurs Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Stephen Brown, Aaron Mason, Joel Metcalf and Abner Daggett

School Committee

The Rev.d Dr. Enos Hitchcock, Rev.d Joseph Snow Rev.d Jon.a Maxcy, Rev.d Abraham L. Clarke, Messieurs Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, John J. Clarke, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Dorrance, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Bourn & Nicholas Brown

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes

Messieurs Samuel Jackson, and Samuel Weeden

Comm.e to Stake out the Channel

Messieurs John Brown, Welcome Arnold Jos. Nightingale, Chris.r Sheldon & Philip Allen

Comm.ee to procure an Orat. to be deliv.d on the Annia Independ.ce

Overseers of the Poor to repair Work-House, &c.

Resolution for glazing State-House repealed

Engine N.o 1. to be removed, &c.

June 3.d 1793

His Excell.y Arthur Fenner Esq.r Mess.rs Joseph Nightingale, Ephraim Bowen Jun.r Jeremiah Olney and Welcome Arnold

Resolved, That the Overseers of the Poor be and are hereby appointed a Committee to examine the State of the Work-House, to raise the Walls of the same, repair the Roof and make such other Alterations and Repairs as they shall think necessary for the Interest of the Town: And that the same be done on the best possible Terms on the Credit of the Town

Resolved, That the Resolution of the Town-Meeting of the 17.th of April last, directing the Town-Serjeant to re-glaze the State-House Windows at the Town's Expence be and the same is hereby repealed

Resolved, That Engine N.o 1. be removed from the Market-House and a House built for the Reception and keeping of the same upon the Land of Mr. Obadiah Brown on the Wharf behind the Shop now occupied by Messrs Abed and Young Seamans: That said House be built on the cheapest Terms upon the Credit of the Town: And that the Engine Company of said Engine procure the said House to be built and painted

Resolved,

Directors of Lottery to deliver Tickets to Town-Treasurer

Resolved, That the Directors of the Lottery for building the Bridge be directed to deliver all the Tickets they may have on Hand on the Fifth Day of June instant into the Hand of the Town-Treasurer, which Tickets so delivered shall be considered at the Risque of the Town: That ~~all~~ said Directors have no Commission on the Tickets so delivered or the Proportion of Drawback That all Tickets of which the Numbers have been forwarded to the Managers, or which were sealed up before credible Witnesses, or any lawful Authority on or before Tuesday last, that remain unsold in other Places be also considered to be at the Risque of the Town in Manner aforesaid: That the Treasurer sell for the Benefit of the Town during the Drawing of said Lottery as many of the said Tickets as may be: And that the Managers be requested to furnish him daily with a List of the Numbers drawn

Engine-House N.o 4. to be painted

Resolved That Engine Company N.o 4. cause the House for said Engine to be painted on the Credit of the Town

Town-Council requested to permit Allen's Children to be inoculated

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town-Council to permit Mr.s Mary Allen Wife of Saul to go into the Hospital and carry with her Five of her Children to be inoculated

Town-Treasurer to sell Machines invented by Mr. Updike

Resolved That the Town-Treasurer be directed to sell the Machines lately made by Mr. Updike for the Use of the Town, together with their Apparatus and lodge the Money

J. Porrance to repair Draw of Weybosett Bridge in Case

Comm: to alter & repair Market House &c.

June 3. 1793.

arising from the Sale thereof in the Town-Treasury

Resolved, That John Porrance, Esq. be and is appointed to cause the Draw of Weybosett Bridge to be put in Repair: And that the same be done at the Expence of the Town, provided the Cost thereof doth not exceed Fifty Dollars

Resolved, That Messieurs Nicholas Brown, Thomas L. Halsey Benjamin Hoppin and Samuel Clarke be a Committee to examine the State of the Market-House, plaister the same, alter the Situation of the Doors from the inner to the outward Side of the Wall, set down new Posts and Railing round the same, and make such other Alterations and Repairs as shall prove necessary to be made: And that the same be done at the cheapest Rate from the Income of the Market-House-Cellar and Wharf

J. Lawrence allowed 6. Tickets

Resolved That Six Tickets in the Fourth Class of the Bridge Lottery be presented by the Town-Treasurer to Mr. Joseph Lawrence as a Compliment on Account of his Services in promoting the Building of said Bridge

The Meeting is Dissolved

July 15th 1793

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State-House on the 15th Day of July 1793.

Robert Newell, Esq. is chosen Moderator and declines, Ebenezer Thompson, Esq. is chosen in his Stead

Resolved

Town-Council prohibited Use of Town's Hospital for Small-Pox in Case

July 15th 1793.

Resolved, That the Town-Council be and they are hereby prohibited from permitting any Person to enter the Town's Hospital to be inoculated, other than such as they shall judge, have been in imminent Danger of taking the Small-Pox, in the Natural Way.

The Meeting is Dissolved

July 16th 1793.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and assembled at the State-House, on the 16th Day of July 1793.

Theodore Foster, Esq. Moderator

Comm: to have Broad & Westminster Streets in such Manner as shall be most beneficial

Resolved That the Committees appointed on the 25th of April 1792, to cause Broad Street and Westminster Streets to be paved, they or the Major Part of them, be and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered, to cause said Streets to be paved in such Places and in such Manner as they shall deem most beneficial to the Public, any Thing to the Contrary heretofore notwithstanding: And that they appropriate the Money heretofore appropriated for paving said Streets for that Purpose

Comm: to procure a Place for Engine House No. 1.

Resolved, That Messrs. Nicholas Brown, Jephaniah Andrews, and Richard Jackson, Junr. be a Committee to procure a Place for the House for Engine No. 1. without any Expence to the Town

Comm: to examine repair Burgis's Bridge &c

July 16th 1793

Resolved, That Messrs, Philip Martin, George Weeden, Sylvanus Martin, Obadiah Sprague, John Smith be a Committee to examine Burgis's Bridge, and to rebuild or repair the same as they shall judge necessary: And that the said Philip Martin be appointed to cause said Bridge to be rebuilt or repaired under the Direction of said Committee

Comm: to procure a Stall to be erected for Fish

Resolved, That Messrs, Nicholas Brown, Jephaniah Andrews and Richard Jackson Junr: be a Committee to procure a Stall to be erected for Shell and other Fish in the Vicinity of the Market, on the best Terms they can, and in the most convenient Situation

Expence of Stones for Market House Doors &c, to be defrayed from Rent of Stalls, &c,

Resolved, That the Expence of the Stones for the Market House Doors, Painting and other Repairs not included in the Committee's Bargain with Mr Joseph Genetis be defrayed out of the Rents of the Stalls of the Market both Out Doors and within

The Meeting is Dissolved

August 27th 1793 –

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence held on Tuesday the 27th Day of August 1793

His Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire, Moderator

Deputies chosen

The following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable the General Assembly of this State to be holden on

August 27th 1793.

on the last Monday in October next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the First Wednesday in May next, to wit:

Welcome Arnold, Esqr, 1st
Mr Charles Lippitt, ... 2d
John Smith, Esqr, .. 3d
Mr Nicholas Easton 4th

Comm: to settle Accounts of Directors of Weybosset Bridge Lottery

Resolved, That Messrs Samuel Nightingale Thomas Lloyd Halsey and William Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to settle the Accounts of Messrs John Dorrance, Andrew Dexter, Samuel Snow, and William Larned, as Directors of the Lottery granted to build the Bridge in this Town, and also with said John Dorrance as Agent for Building said Bridge: And that said Committee make their Report to the Adjournment of this Meeting

Recommendations to Town-Council respecting Small Pox

Resolved, That the Town-Council of this Town be requested to order and direct that no Person infected with the Small-Pox in the Hospital in this Town be permitted to come out of said Hospital until after the Expiration of Twenty eight Days from the Time of entering into the same, and not then unless by the Consent and Approbation of a Committee to be appointed by them consisting of Mr Nathan Arnold, Mr William Potter, Mr Jephaniah Brown and his Wife, to be appointed by said Council to inspect and examine every Patient infected in said Hospital as aforesaid: And that said Committee do not permit any Furniture, Cloathing or other Articles to be brought

August 27th 1793

out of said Hospital, until after the ~~Consent and~~ Inspection ~~of~~ and Consent of said Committee

It is further Resolved, That said Council be requested to appoint Two or more fit Persons in Addition to those already appointed, to guard said Hospital and prevent the Spreading of said Infection, the Expence of which said additional Guard to be defrayed by this Town; and that said Council cause a sufficient House to be erected for the Accommodation of said Guard

It is further Resolved, That said Council be requested to appoint a Committee consisting of Doctor Pardon Bowen, Capt. Christopher Sheldon, and Capt. Richard Jackson to examine all Persons suspected of having the Small Pox, and to report accordingly to said Council

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Instructions to Deputies respecting Militia Bill

The Militia Bill being Read

Voted, That this Town highly approve of the General Objects of said Militia Bill now read, and recommend to their Deputies to use their best Endeavors to perfect it, and to enact a Militia Law at the next Session

---

S. Gano appointed One of School Committee E. Hitchcock resigned

Resolved, That the Revd. Stephen Gano be and is appointed One of the School Committee in the Room of the Revd. Doct. Enos Hitchcock resigned

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Adjournment

Adjourned to the Twenty-Sixth Day of September, next

August 31st 1793

At a Town Meeting of the Freeman of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House on Saturday the 31st day of Augt. 1793

Major Robert Taylor: Moderator

£300 for paving Street on the West side of the River

Voted & Resolved, that three hundred pounds be granted to be laid out upon the Pavements on the West side of the Bridge under the direction of the existing Committee, with regard to ~~regard to~~ those pavements securing them by turning the Gutters, paving the Gore and extending the Pavement towards the Bay Ward, as far as the said Money will carry it, provided said Money be advanced by Individuals on the credit of the Town

---

Comm.e to look up Town Land

Voted & Resolved, that Messrs. John Brown, James Burrill & Henry Smith, be a Committee to look up the Town's Land on which encroachments have been made by Individuals & report to the next Town Meeting

---

Comm.e to pave Planet Street

Voted & Resolved, that a Sum not exceeding Two hundred Dollars be granted for the Pavement of the cross Street south of Mr. Welcome Arnolds extending from the Main Street to the Back Street under the directions of Messrs. Welcome Arnold, John Carlis & William Allen, provided the Money be advanced by Individuals on the credit of the Town & provided also Messrs. Welcome Arnold & John Carlis, &c

August 31st 1793

against said Pavement in case the Inhabitants on the said Street refuse or neglect to do it

---

School Commd. to visit School on the West side River

Voted & Resolved, that the School Committee be requested to Visit in turn the School on the West side of the Bridge & that the Town Clerk furnish the Presidt. of said Committee with a Copy of this Vote

---

Surveyors to repair Street by Silvanus Martin's

Voted & Resolved, that the Surveyors be directed to attend to the Street opposite Mr. Sylvanus Martin's & do what they shall deem necessary, to make said Street in said place, convenient for passing & repassing

---

The Meeting is Dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned & assembled at the State House on Monday the 30th day of Septr. D. 1793

Theodore Foster Esqr. Moderator

Comm. to provide a place for Engine No. 4

Resolved Messrs. John Dorrance, Edward Thurber & Ephaniah Andrews be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to provide a convenient Place for the Engine House No. 4. that said House be removed to such Place & that no expence to the Town in consequence of the same be incured except the removing said House

---

September 30th 1793

Surveyors to set the height of side Pavemt. & the distant Posts to be put from Houses

Resolved, that the Surveyors of Highways in this Town or any of them of them, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to direct how high & in what manner the Pavements or Walks on each side of the Streets in this Town shall be made by the several Proprietors of the adjoining Lands and also the distance which the Posts shall be placed from the Houses and other Buildings

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Tax £1500

Resolved, that a Tax of Fifteen hundred pounds be assess. within twenty one days from this date on the Estates and Inhabitants of this Town in the same manner as the last £1200. Tax, to be collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first day of January next, that on failure of the same being collected & paid as aforesaid the Collector collect Interest from the Individuals who shall be in arrear from the said first of January, and that one fifth part of the Debt due to Individuals by Notes on Interest be paid out of said Tax in the same manner as the last Year — That the Residue of said Tax when collected be appropriated as follows to wit £13.10/ to Mr. Barnard Eddy for Repairing the Draw in the new Bridge — £450. to the Managers of the Bridge Lo. on account — £150. for the Repairs of the Work Ho. £60. to Mr. Philip Martin for the Repairs of the Bridge — £300. for the support of the Poor — £30/ Issued on Major William Mon's demand

Town Treasurer settle accts with late Clk of Market

Town Treasurer to borrow of the Providence Bank or otherwise 1500 Dollars

Surveyors to prosecute, Proprietors of Water Works - that cause Nuisances

September 30th 1793

Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be directed to call on the late Clerk of the Market for a Settlement of his Accounts as such and that the Ballance which may be found due on such Settlement be paid to the Committee for Repairing the Market

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Resolved, that James Arnold Esqr. as Town Treasr. be requested to borrow on the Credit of the Town out of the Providence Bank or otherwise the Sum of Fifteen hundred Dollars to be repaid out of the Tax ordered this day with Interest and that he pay the same when borrowed to the Directors of the Great Bridge Lottery on Account

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Resolved, that the Surveyors of Highways be directed to prosecute for a Nusance all Proprietors in the usual Water Works who shall suffer the Water to run in the Streets without repairing the breaches in such Water Works and likewise to prosecute for a Nusance all Persons who shall take up the Pavement for such Repairs and not relay them in as good order as before in convenient time at the Discretion of the Surveyors

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This Meeting is dissolved

Moderator & Clerk appointed

November 21st 1793

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence His Excellency Arthur Fenner being appointed Moderator and the Ballots being taken for a Clerk George Tillinghast was Elected to that Office in the room of the late Daniel Cooke, Esquire, Deceased

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Freemen Admitted

The following Persons having been duly propounded as the Law directs were admitted Freemen of this Town namely Mr. Bennett Wheeler, Mr. James Gardner and Captain William Rodman

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Comm. appointed to take Possession of Town Rends &c

Voted and Resolved that Messrs. Moses Brown, James Arnold and Stephen Hopkins, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to repair to the Office of the late Town Clerk for the purpose of collecting all the Records and Official Documents appertaining thereto. And that they be requested to deliver the same into the possession of the present Town Clerk to and for the use of this Town

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Persons Propound.d

The following Persons were propounded at this Meeting namely Nathaniel Doak, Silvanus Tillinghast and George Tillinghast

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Appoint.t of Rich.d Jackson Junr. to superintend Union Bridge

Voted & Resolved, that Mr. Richard Jackson Junr. be and he hereby is appointed as a suitable Person to take Measures for supplying Union Bridge, Lamps and

and for keeping said Bridge cleaned and swept as often as occasion may require

---

Resolved, that this Meeting be and the Same is hereby adjourned to Saturday the 30.th Instant at 2 O.Clk P.M. then to meet at the State House, and that in the mean time the Clerk issue a Warrant to notify the Freemen of the time & place of such adjournment in Order to take into Consideration the Expediency of levying a Tax or making such other Provision as may be thought necessary for the Relief of the French Sufferers from the Island of St. Domingo who are now in this Town—

N.B. The following Resolution should have preceded the adjournment in the Order of Insertion.

Committee appointed to add a Story to Market House

Voted that Col Joseph Nightingale, Col Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold Esquire and Mr Caleb Olmstee be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make an Estimate of the Expense of adding another Story to the Market House, and that they report the same at the adjournment of this meeting.

Adjourned as above

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment on the thirtieth Day of November AD 1793.

His Excellcy Arthur Fenner Esq. Moderator.

Appointment of James Fenner as Clk pro. Tem.

Resolved, that as the Town Clerk is necessarily absent, James Fenner be specially appointed to enter the Proceedings of the Town at this Meeting.

Clerk of market to take Charge of fire hooks &c

Resolved that the Clerk of the Market take Charge of the Fire Hooks and Ladders purchased for the use of the Town; that he loan them to no Person, and that on all further Directions from the Town, he take them into the Market.

Engine Companies to procure Buckets

Resolved, that the several Engine Companies in this Town procure for the use of each Engine twenty five good leathern Buckets measuring two Gallons and an half Gallon each; that they be marked with the Number of each Engine to which they belong, that they be procured at the Expense of the Town and that the same be paid from the Tax assessed at this meeting.

Buckets to be kept in the Engine Houses

Resolved that the Buckets to be procured by Virtue of the preceding Resolution, be deposited in the respective Engine Houses.

November 30th 1793.

Commee to draft Regulations in Cases of fire.

Resolved that his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire Col. Ephraim Bowen and Col Zephaniah Andrews be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draw such Regulations to be observed at Fires in this Town as they shall conceive necessary and that they report to the next Meeting.

Report of the Commee respecting Pavements & Resolve thereon.

Whereas by the Report of the Committee appointed for paving Broad Street there appears to have been received by Pardon mason for Work done thereon the sum of One thousand Dollars raised by Subscription of Individuals; - whereupon it is resolved that the Town Treasurer issue his Notes for that Sum upon the Orders of said mason.

Report of Comm for surveying Market House received.

Upon the Report of the Committee appointed at the last meeting for surveying the Market House and reporting the Expediency of raising it, it is resolved that the same be received. N.B. See the Report pa. 295.

Tax of £600.

Resolved that a Tax of six hundred Pounds be assessed on the Estates and Inhabitants of this Town; - One hundred and fifty Pounds whereof to be appropriated for procuring materials for raising the market House; - One hundred and ninety Pounds for the Relief of the unfortunate French Exiles; - Sixty Pounds

November 30th 1793.

Pounds for the Expenses of the Hospital; - Sixty Pounds for procuring Buckets for the several Engines; - One hundred and twenty Pounds for old Certificates and ten Pounds for procuring Oil for and lighting the Lamps; - that the same be assessed in twenty Days and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of February next, or to draw Interest from that Time

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Paving Tax in April.

Resolved that the paving Tax assessed in april last be paid in February next, with Interest for arrearages.

Commee appointed to procure Materials for raising the Market House

Resolved that Mess[rs] Zephaniah Andrews and Caleb Ormsbee be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to procure Materials for raising the Market House.

Report of Commee appointed to superintend Pavement of Broad & Westminster Streets.

The Committee appointed to contract for and superintend the Pavements in Broad and Westminster Streets made Report to this Meeting as followeth.

"We your Committee appointed to contract
"for and superintend the Pavements in Broad and
"Westminster Streets Report, that We contracted
"with Pardon mason to do the same & that it is now
"accomplished; - the Pavement according to Return
"of the Measurement contains in Broad Street 6[th]
"Yards 7 feet and 5 Inches; - in Westminster Street
"Yards 8 feet and 8 Inches, amounting accord
"Contract to Dol[rs] 3290.82 Cents. which sho
"Sums of 1200 Dollars & 1000 Dollars paid

November 30th 1793.

"and the further Sum of 1000 Dollars loaned by Sub-
"scription and ninety Dollars 5/6 for which no provi-
"sion is yet made; — the Pavement appearing to be as
"well executed as usual to be done here.

"Which is submitted by

"Welcome Arnold
"Archib[d] Stewart
"Thomas Arnold
"Wm Tarred
"Thos Lloyd Halsey
"John Mason.

"N.B. Your Committee have drawn an order in
"part Payment for Broad Street £360. — and also
"three hundred Pounds in part Payment for paving
"Westminster Street on James Arnold Esq. Town Treasurer
"being the amount of what the Town limited their Com-
"mittee by a Vote of said Town.

And the said Report being duly considered
it is thereupon resolved, that the same be received, and
that the Sum of Ninety Dollars 5/6. therein referred
to and for which no provision is made, be allowed to
the said Pardon Mason out of the Town Treasury.

November 30th 1793.

The Committee appointed to estimate the Expence
of adding another Story to the Market House made
the following Report which was received, — to wit,

Providence Nov[r] 30th 1793.

"Agreeable to an appointment at the last
Town Meeting the undersigners have attended to
the Business of viewing the Market House and
calculating the Expense of adding another Story to it,
and finishing the same in a proper manner for the
accomodation of Town meetings; — the Expense is
estimated at about seven hundred and fifty Pounds
which with a View of the Building when finished
We herewith present for the Consideration of the
Town Meeting.

"By their obed[t] Serv[ts]
"Jos. Nightingale
"Welcome Arnold.
"Joseph Andrews.
"Caleb Ormsbee.

"N.B. The Ballustrade is not computed in the above Estimation —

Report of Committee appointed to estimate Expense of adding Story to Market House —

Resolved that the Town Treasurer be, and he
is hereby authorized and empowered to take such
measures as he may think expedient for ascer-
taining the Encroachments which may have been
made by Mr Samuel Snow upon the Estate late of
longing to William Creed and now in the Possession
of the Town.

The meeting is dissolved.

Town Treasurer authorized to inquire into Encroachments on Creed Estate.

April 16th AD 1794.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the State House in said Town on the sixteenth day of april AD 1794.

moderator. His Excellcy Arthur Fenner Esquire moderator.

Persons propounded. The following persons having purchased real Estates in this Town are propounded to be admitted as Freemen, — Namely. William Horton, Edward Dexter Ebenezer Thompson Junior, Samuel Hempton, Reuben Whitman, Nathaniel Whiting Laban Vincent, Ezek Eddy Junr, Solomon Searls Junr. John Stone, Hezekiah Smith, andrew Cozzens

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admitted free —. Voted in and admitted as a Freeman George Dillinghast,

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Deputies chosen. This being the anniversary for proxing for General Officers and also the day for choosing Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly for the ensuing six months the following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in may next and in all Sessions of

of said Assembly till the last Monday in October next, — Namely.

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st
Wm Charles Lippitt — 2nd
John Smith Esq — 3d
Wm Nicholas Easton — 4th

Proxes put in. The proxes put in at this meeting for General Officers are in Number one hundred and five, — of which there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire as Governor, One hundred and five being the whole Number.

Commee to choose an Orator for the 4th July. Voted that the Committee appointed at the last annual meeting in april to procure an Oration to be delivered on the anniversary of American Independence be and they are hereby reappointed for the Year ensuing, and for the same purpose

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Town meeting to be opened at two O'Clock pm and proceed, in Case. Voted that the annual Meetings of the Freemen of this Town to be held in future for the Choice of Deputies and for proxing for General Officers, shall be opened at two O'Clock P.M. and the Proceedings shall commence immediately thereafter, provided a competent Number of the Freemen are present.

April 16th A.D. 1794.

Justices of peace limited to thirteen in Number for this Town.

Whereas a large and respectable Number of Freemen have preferred a Memorial to this meeting setting forth the Inconveniences resulting from the appointment of so many supernumerary Justices of the Peace for the Town of Providence, and praying that their Number may be reduced;—

It is thereupon voted and resolved that the Representatives from this Town be instructed to recommend it to the Honorable General Assembly at the next Election, that the Justices of the Peace to be chosen for the said Town of Providence for the Year ensuing, be limited to thirteen and no more.

Assessors of Rates their Fees.

On application from the Assessors of Rates for an Increase of their Fees, it is voted and resolved, that they be allowed no more nor greater Fees than what are taxable by Law.

Committee to repair Engine House, No 3.

Resolved that Col. John Whipple and Mr. Jeremiah Sweet be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of repairing or enlarging the Engine House, No 2 at the South End, whichever the said Committee may deem most advizable;— and that they be authorized and empowered to build a new Engine House, provided the same

same shall be found necessary in their Opinion for the Security of the Engine.

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additional Committee men and their Duty.

Voted and resolved that Col Joseph Nightingale and Welcome Arnold Esquire be and they are hereby added to the Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting for the Purpose of procuring materials for adding another Story to the Market House — and that said Committee proceed as soon as may be, to procure the said Materials to the amount of the Funds then appropriated for that Object.

Committee to asses Damages incurred by repairing Streets, Paving &c

Resolved that Col Zephaniah Andrews, John Mason Esq. John Dorrance Esq. Mr Nicholas Easton and Capt. Seth Wheaton be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make Enquiry into the Damages which may have been sustained by the Widows Seamans and Westcott by repairing and paving the Street at the lower End of the Town and that said Committee ascertain the Compensation which ought to be made to the said Widows, and agree with them for the same;— It is also resolved that the same Committee make Enquiry into the Damage incurred by the Widow Arnold by Reason of the Current of Water which passes from Benefit and the Streets through the Gangway South of the

April 16th A.D. 1794.

and ... that they agree with her upon such measures as may be suitable for her relief; ——

To report the Expediency of further Paving at South End of the Town

It is further resolved, that the said Committee ascertain what Pavements or Repairs it may be necessary to add for the Improvement and accommodation of the Streets at the lower End of the Town; — and that they make their Report on these several matters at the annual Meeting in June next.

Town Treasurer's appointment to wait on Committee

Resolved that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby appointed to wait on the Committee heretofore appointed to settle and adjust the accounts of the Directors of the Providence Great Bridge Lottery, and to request them to close the said Settlement as soon as may be.

new Street to be filled up at the Town's Expense

Voted and resolved that the new Street laid out from the Easternmost abutment of the Great Bridge and running Northwardly shall be filled up at the Expense of this Town from the place where the said Street now terminates, as far North as Mr Nathan Angell's Wharfe, provided sufficient Head Walls shall be erected by the Proprietors of the Lots adjoining said Street.

adjournment

April 16th A.D. 1794.

Voted and resolved that this Meeting be adjourned to the first Monday in June next the Time of the annual Town Meeting, and that the Clerk be directed to issue his Warrant notifying the Freemen of such adjournment in order to take into Consideration the Expediency of providing a further Sum of Money for raising the Market House; — and to reconsider the Propriety of filling up the new Street laid out from the Easternmost abutment of the Great Bridge and running Northwardly.

June 2d A.D. 1794

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled Pursuant to adjournment at the State House in said Town on Monday the second Day of June A.D. 1794. ——

David Howell Esq. Moderator.

This being the anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing the following Gentlemen are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective Names, to wit; ——

Town Clerk. Geo. Tillinghast.

June 2d 1794.

Town Council's — John Mason Esqr President, Samuel Butler, Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Wheaton, John Davis and James Buttrill Esquires.

Town Serjeant — Wm Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer's — James Arnold Esqr.

Town Audit. — John Mumford, John Manney and Jacob Whitman Jun.

Constables. — William Givens, Jonathan Greene, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Thomas Benpot, Nicholas Hoppin, Ezekiel Bowers, John Lapels.

Sealer of Weights and measures — Wm Jacob Whitman senior.

Inspectors of Pork and Overseers of the Poor — William Latned, William Richmond, Thomas Boyd Halsey.

Surveyors of Lumber and Timber — Christopher Arnold, Elijah Bacon, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Isaac Angell, Simeon Ingraham, Isaac Bowen, Asa Franklin, Edward Thornton, Caleb Crandee, Benjamin Tallman, John Carlile Jun., Abel Allen, Walter Harding, Jonathan Hadding, Joshua Lindley, Edward Thornton Jun., Jonathan Woodbury Coy, David Atwood, Thomas Talman, Darius Allen.

Surveyors of Highways. — John Brown, Gershom Jones, Moses Brown, Oliver Bowen, Christopher Olney, William Potter, and Samuel Thurber Jun.

Gaugers of Casks. — Samuel Jackson, Ezek Eddy, Nathan Simmons, James Weeden, John Burrough, Nathaniel Richmond and George Dodd, Samuel Weeden.

Vendue master and Collector of Taxes. — Benjamin Hoppin, — on the same Terms & Conditions as last Year ——— that is to say that the said Benjamin Hoppin as Collector of Taxes be empowered to appoint an Assistant to collect the Taxes in this Town, provided the said Assistant shall be approved of by the Town Treasurer; — and that the said Collector be answerable for the Conduct of such Assistant.

Clerk of the Market. — Samuel Clark, — on the same Terms and Conditions as last Year; ——— see Resolutions June 4th 1792.

Packers of Beef Pork and Fish. — Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clemens, William Billings, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John Edmunds, Charles [illegible], James Weeden, John Eatchforth, Samuel [illegible] forth, Samuel Brown, Wilbur [illegible]

June 2d 1794.

June 2d A D 1794.

Packers &c continued.

Stephen Remington, Ezek Eddy, Joseph Field (son of Joseph) John Beverley, Joshua Whiting, William Chase, William Paul, Elijah Billings, George Dods, Andrew Williams and Samuel Easton.

Coders of Wood.

John Vial, John Petty, John Sapell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent, John Burtough, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold and Andrew Boyd.

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overseers of the Hospital.

The Town Council.

Pound Keepers.

Charles Holden and John Miller.

To value Estates when disputed in Voting

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason.

Fence Viewers.

Samuel Thurber Junr, John Mumford & Christopher Arnold.

Residents of the Fire wards.

John Brown, Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler.

Fire Wards.

Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson and John Innes Clark.

June 2d A D 1794.

Fire Engine Company No. 1.

Richard Jackson Jun, John Carlile Jun, Cyril Dodge, Nicholas Brown Robert Taylor Jun, John Howland, Nathan Angell Jun Nathan Jackson William Lee, Edward Dexter, Seth Wheaton, Nathaniel Smith.

Fire Engine Company No. 2.

John Whipple, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burt, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, Samuel Thurber Junr, Jabez Gotham, George Steeden, James Burt, Benjamin Steele and Samuel Whipple.

Fire Engine Company No. 3.

John Mathewson, Elijah Bacon, Asa Franklin, James Burrill, John Carpenter, Stephaniah Brown, Joshua Lindley, Jonathan Wilcox, Peter Grinnell, Ward Coving, William Taylor, Olivier Pearce.

Fire Engine Company No. 4.

Daniel Stillwell, Caleb Ormsbee, Jeremiah Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold (3), Benjamin Earl, Jesse Earl, Amos Warner, Joseph Davenport, James Ormsbee, John Gibbs and Ebor Coleman.

Persons to order when & where Goods shall be removed in case of Fire.

John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon and Amos Atwell.

Persons to remove & Protect Goods in case of Fire.

Comfort Wheaton, James Arnold, Zebulon Smith, Justin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harden, Daniel Olney.

June 2d 1794.

Field Drivers. man. — Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Teft and Uriah Hopkins.

Sealer of Leather — Josiah Tillford.

Scavengers. — Nathan angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, Job Sweeting, Nathan Givens and James Black.

Overseers of the Work House. — The Overseers of the Poor.

Town Cryer. — Daniel Branch

Overseer of Union Bridge. — James Arnold.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Town Ways & Commons of the Town. — Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, moses Brown, Jephaniah Brown, aaron mason Joel metcalf and abner Daggett & John ford.

School Committee. — Rev. Dr. Enos Hitchcock, Rev. Joseph Snow, Rev. Jonathan Maltby, Rev. abraham Clark, Rev. Stephen Jaco, Rev. James Wilson, Tobey Bowmoses Brown, David Howell, Theodore Foster John Dorrance, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Brown and Nicholas Brown and John Innes Clark.

June 2d 1794.

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl ashes. — Samuel Jackson and Samuel Hayden.

Assessors limited. — Voted, that for the future, there be but three Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor chosen for this Town.

Surveyors of High ways Districts to be assigned. — Voted, that the Town Council be requested to assign to the Surveyors of the High ways their respective Districts.

Town Officers to take Engagements. — Voted, that all Town Officers, before they enter upon the Duties of their respective Offices, shall take the Engagements required by Law, and deposit a Certificate thereof in the Town Clerks Office.

Clerk of Market to superintend Town Wharves. — Voted that the Clerk of the Market have the Direction and Superintendance of the Town Wharves on each Side of the River.

Committee to advise respecting Disposal of the Town's Monies. — Voted that Thomas Lloyd Halsey, John Brown and Nicholas Brown be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to advise with and direct the Clerk of the Market in the Disposal of the Monies which may be in his Hands in Consequence of the Sale of Manure collected around the Market House.

Completion of Market House. — Voted, that this Town will proceed to the completion of the Raising the Market House as heretofore directed.

June 2d 1794.

£600. Tax.

Voted that a Tax of six hundred Pounds be assessed and levied on the Estates and Inhabitants of this Town; - that the same be assessed within one month and collected and paid into the Town Treasury within two Months and if not paid by that Time, that Interest be collected for the Deficiencies.

Resolution for filling up new Street rescinded.

Voted, that the Resolution passed by this Town at their Annual Meeting in April last, directing the filling up the New Street from the Easternmost Abutment of the Bridge at the Town's Expense, be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Committee to examine the repair Work House Yard.

Voted, that the Overseers of the Poor & John Mumford and John Mawney be and they are appointed a Committee to examine the Work House Yard, and to make such Repairs to the same as it may stand in need of, having Regard to such as are absolutely necessary.

Samuel Thurber Jr to sink a Drain.

Voted, that Samuel Thurber Jun Surveyor of the Highway for the District at the Upper or North End of the Town, be directed to cause a suitable Drain to be sunk near the Dwelling House of the late Isaac Brown, in order to carry off the Water which collects there at certain Seasons; - and that the same be done at the Expence of this Town.

Standing Committee for prevention of Encroachments to inquire &c respecting Nehemiah Sweet.

Town Treasurer &c to prosecute for Recovery of Expences of Anthony a Black man.

Overseers of the Poor to procure Medical Assistance.

admitted free.

Disponded.

Constables allowed three Quarts of Powder

June 2d 1794

Voted that the standing Committee for prevention of Encroachments on Streets Highways &c be directed to make Inquiry whether, and how far Nehemiah Sweet has incroached upon the Town's Land in the Improvements which he has erected on the Lot south of his Blacksmiths Shop; - and that said Committee make Report as soon as may be.

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to pursue such legal measures as he may think necessary for reimbursing this Town for the Expences which have accrued for medical Assistance and other necessaries furnished for Anthony, a Black man who was brought into this State from Curracoa by Jacob Westcott, in a Vessel belonging to Samuel Bull & Son.

Voted, that the Overseers of the Poor be authorized and empowered to procure such Medical Aid as they shall deem necessary for the Poor of this Town and to appoint such Physicians or Surgeons to attend them as shall be deemed most competent to that Trust, any former Vote to the contrary notwithstanding.

David Leonard Barnes.

Edward Billens Jun.r William Billings Jonathan Fuller, John Vial, Jonathan

Voted, that the united Train of artillery be allowed three Quarter Casks of Powder for the Celebration of the next Anniversary of American Independence; and that the Expence thereof be

June 2d 1794.

Town Treasury.

Report of the Committee appointed to treat with the Widows and to asertain Pavements and Repairs necessary at the lower End of the Town.

The Subscribers in pursuance of their appointment by a Vote of the Town of Providence April 16th 1794 — Repeat as follows —

That they have waited upon the Widow Seamans and Wescott at the lower end of the Town but could not agree with them on any fixed Sum as a Com=pensation for the damages they have sustained by lowering the Street near their House, they say, all they ask is that the Town place the House in a situation as commodious as before; to effect this with the least expence to the Town in the opinion of the Committee, is to remove the Dirt around the House and lower it to the Street, and in order to secure the Building from being undermined by the current of Water which passes round that corner at certain periods, it will be necessary that the Pave=ment near the South End of the Main Street be extended Southerly until it passes India Street, thence Easterly up India Street to James Ormsbee's House, thence Northerly on Benefit Street about thirty feet —

The Committee on viewing India Street further Easterly by the Brook, think it will be necessary in order

order to make it convenient for the passing of Teams & Carriages to build a suitable Water Course with Stone at the Bridge, raise the Street there with Gravel five or six feet higher & about thirty feet wide, extending it a suitable height Easterly & Westerly from the Bridge leaving a Watering Place on the Northerly side this being done it will need a Pavement or a Covering of hard Stuff as the Town may judge proper —

The Committee further report, that they repaired to the House of the Widow Arnold & not finding her at home, they viewed the Ground round her House but did not discover any material Injury that she has sustained as yet, although they are of the opinion, that her House at times must in danger from the strong Current of Water which passes from Benefit Street down the North side of the Court House, Parade & across the Main Street into her South Gangway — The Committee therefore recommend that Benefit Street be so lowered at of the Court House as to carry the Water down the South side of the Parade into the Public Gangway by the Gaol

All which is Submitted by

Providence May 31st 1794 —

Jno. Derrance,
Nichs. Carter,
Seth Wheaton,
John Mason.

In Town Meeting June 2d A.D. 1794 Voted & C

June 2d A D 1794.

that the aforegoing Report be & the same is hereby received & established and the Surveyors of the respective Districts are hereby directed to cause the same to be carried into Execution agreeably thereto —

Witness Geo. Tillinghast Town Clerk —

June 26th — At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned & assembled at the State House in said Town on the twenty sixth day of June A.D. 1794 —

W. Andrew Dexter, Moderator —

Vote, adding a Story to Mkt House repealed.

Voted & Resolved, That the Resolution heretofore passed by this Town for adding another Story to the Market House be & the same is hereby rescinded —

Committee appointed to raise the Market House to procure no more Materials

Voted & Resolved, That the Committee heretofore appointed by this Town for the purpose of Raising the Market House be & they are hereby directed to procure no more Materials for that Object and that Messrs. John Smith, Silvanus Martin, Nathan Waterman, Charles Lippitt & John Innes Clark be & they are hereby appointed a committee to confer with the Committee of the Congregational Society, respecting the Terms upon which said Society will be willing to dispose of their Building now improved by them as a Meeting & that said Committee make Report to this Meeting at the Adjournment —

House

W. Christopher Columbus Olney is propounded to be admitted a Freeman —

June 26th A D 1794.

adjournment.

Voted & Resolved, That this Meeting be adjourned to the 4th day of July next, then to meet at this place at 10 O'Clock A.M.

July 4th A D 1794.

July 4th — At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment in & [redacted] said Town on the fourth day of July A.D. 1794 —

W. Andrew Dexter, Moderator

adjournment.

This being the Anniversary of American Independence, and there not being a Sufficient Number of Freemen present for the transaction of Business — It is Voted and Resolved, That this Meeting be further adjourned to Tuesday the Eighth Instant then to meet at this place at four O'Clock P.M —

July 8th — At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment at the State House in said Town on the eighth Day of July A.D. 1794.

W. Andrew Dexter Moderator.

Report of Committee appointed to confer with Committee of Congregational Society.

The Committee appointed by this Town on the [illegible] sixth [illegible] to confer with the Committee of the Congregational Society, this Day made their Report which is as follows, To wit: — "We the Subscribers agreeably to the appointment have waited on the Committee of the

July 8th 1794

"Congregational Society and have received their "Terms in writeing together with a Plat of the House "and Lots which are herewith Present for the In- "spection of the Town

"John Smith
"Silvanus Martin.
"Evidence July 4th 1794 Nathan Waterman.

And the said Report being taken into Consideration, it is voted and resolved, that the same be received.

Proposals to be made to Congregational Society.

Voted and resolved as the Sense of this Town, that they are willing to allow the Congregational Society for the Purchase of their meeting House and two Lots, together with the Pews, Galleries and other appendages to the said meeting House, belonging, the Sum of three thousand Dollars, with the Interest thereon conformably to the Proposals of the said Society's Committee; —— and that the said Society be allowed the Privilege of improving said House as a Place of Public Worship until a suitable one is provided by them for that Purpose.

Committee to treat with Committee of Congregational Society

Voted and resolved, that the Committee appointed by this Town for conferring with the Committee of the Congregational Society, be furnished with a Copy of the Resolution passed at this meeting for making Proposals to the said Society for the Purchase of their meeting House and Lots; And that said Committee be empowered to carry the said

said —"—"—"— Resolution into full Effect by treating with said Society's Committee agreeably to said Resolution, and that said Committee make Report at the Adjournment of this meeting.

materials for raising Market to be sold.

Voted and resolved that the Committee heretofore appointed for the Purpose of Procuring Materials for raising the Market House be and they are hereby empowered to make Sale of all the said Materials which may have been contracted for as well such as are now on Hand, as those which may hereafter arrive, and that said Sale be completed as soon as may be.

- addition to Committee for erecting Fish Stalls

Voted and resolved that Mess.rs John Smith & Nathan Waterman be and they are hereby added to the Committee appointed by this Town for erecting a Stall or market for accommodating the Fishermen and that said Committee make Report at the adjournment.

Adjournment.

Voted and resolved, that this meeting be and the same is hereby adjourned to the 17th Instant, then to meet at this Place, at four O'Clock P.M. and that the Town Serjeant notify the Freemen of said adjournment by Beat of Drum.

July 17th AD 1794.

at a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment at the State House on the Seventeenth Day of July AD 1794.

Wm Andrew Dexter Moderator.

Reception of Report of Committee

On the Report of the Committee appointed for conferring with the Congregational Society respecting the Purchase of their meeting House and Lots, it is Voted and Resolved that the same be received.

Market House Committee to draw for $60.

Voted and resolved that the Committee heretofore appointed by this Town to procure materials for raising the Market House be and they are hereby empowered to draw on the Town Treasurer for a Sum not exceeding sixty Pounds to be appropriated towards making such Payments as have fallen due on Account of said materials.

Vote of adjournment

Whereas the Committee for that Purpose appointed, have contracted with the Committee of the Congregational Society for the Purchase of their meeting House and Lots, and have reported their Proceedings to this Meeting. - it is thereupon Voted and resolved, that the Clerk be directed to issue his Warrant notifying the Freemen of this Town to convene at the annual Town meeting in August next in order to take the general Sense of the Town respecting the best Mode of making Payment for the said Meeting House and Lots, whether by ordering an additional

August 14th AD 1794.

Tax for that Purpose or by appropriating Monies already ordered, or otherwise; - and also to make a Town Tax for defraying the incidental Expenses of the Town and for discharging the whole or any Part of the Town Debts

adjournment

This meeting is adjourned to the last Tuesday in August next, being the Time of the annual Town meeting, and then to convene at this Place

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden on the fourteenth Day of August AD 1794.

Wm Timothy Hadding Moderator.

Jurors.

Richard Guile is drawn as a grand Juror and Capt John Tillinghast a Petit Juror to serve at the Court of Common Pleas to be holden on the third Monday of August instant.

This meeting is dissolved.

August 26th AD 1794

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Town on the twenty sixth Day of August AD 1794

Jabez Bowen Esq moderator.

Persons Voted in and admitted free

Edward Dexter, Hezekiah Smith, William Horton, Ebenezer Thompson Jun, Samuel Hempton, Reuben Whitman, Nathaniel Whiting, Laban Vincent, Esek Eddy Jun, Solomon Searles Jun, John Stone, and Isaac Cozzens,

Persons proposed . . .

Thomas Coles, Seargo Cods, Michael Anthony, James Burke,

Deputies chosen

The following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State to be holden on the last Monday in October next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the first Wednesday in May next,

To wit,

Welcome Arnold Esq - 1st
Charles Sibpitt Esq - 2nd
John Smith Esq - - 3d
Mr Nicholas Easton - 4th

Town Treasurer authorized to procure Money on Loan in case

Voted and Resolved that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to procure on Loan from the Providence Bank or elsewhere, so much Money as may be wanting, to be appropriated to the support of the Poor in this Town, provided the Funds in the Treasury should at any time prove insufficient for that Object

Deputies instructed to procure Provision for carrying Appeals from Adjudications of the Town Council to Superior Court instead of Court of Sessions

Voted and Resolved that the Deputies from this Town to the General Assembly be and they hereby are instructed to use their Influence at the next General Assembly to procure a legislative Provision to repeal the Law authorizing the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace to hear and determine on appeals from Adjudications of the Town Council relative to Settlements of Paupers and to vest said Power and Authority in the Supreme Court of Judicature to hear and to determine on all such Appeals as well in Cases between Towns in the same County as in Cases arising in Towns in different Counties

Clk of Market empowered to remove Obstructions &c from Market Parade Wharves &c

Voted and Resolved that the Clerk of Market be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to take such legal Measures as may be found necessary, for removing all Obstructions, Incumbrances and Nuisances from the Parade about the Market House and from the Town Wharves on each Side of the River

Overseers of Poor empowered to convey Water into Work house Yard.

Resolved, that the Overseers of the Poor, be, and they are hereby empowered and directed to take Measures for Conveying the Water issuing from the Spring called Tabors Spring into the Work House Yard for the Benefit of the Poor

John Brown Esq. a Committee for making Repairs to house of Widows Seamans & Westcott

Resolved that John Brown Esq.r be, and he hereby is appointed a Committee for the purpose of making such repairs to the House belonging to the Widows Seamans and Westcott at the South End of this Town as shall compensate the said Widows for the Injury they have sustained by reason of the removal of the Earth (and otherwise) from about said House

Clerk of Mark.t to oversee the Cleansing and Lighting Union Bridge

Resolved that the Clerk of the Market be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to superintend and oversee Union Bridge by causing the same to be cleansed and swept as often as occasion may require and also to procure a Supply of Oil for the Lamps pendant thereon and to keep the same duly lighted at such times and Seasons as his discretion shall suggest as Proper and needfull —

Bernon Tripe's Fine suspended

Resolved that the Fine incurred by Bernon Tripe for a Breach of one of the Bye Laws of this Town, be, and the same is hereby suspended untill the next Town Meeting and the Justice who took

Cognizence of the Offence of the said Bernon is hereby requested to stay all further proceedings untill further Order is had on the premises

Town Clerk to procure the Schedules in the Clerks office to be bound into Volumes

Resolved that the Town Clerk, be and he hereby is authorized and directed to procure the Schedules in the Towns Clerks Office and all others which may be hereafter lodged therein, to be suitably bound into Volumes of one Year or more for the Greater Convenience of the Inhabitants and that the Expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury

Committee appointed to purchase the Congregational Meeting House directed to settle with the Society by discount &c

Resolved that the Committe appointed by this Town on the twenty sixth Day of June last to purchase the Congregational Meeting House and Lots, be, and they hereby are directed to pay to the Congregational Society by Discount for said Meeting House & Lots as much Money as the said Society are indebted to the Town for the purchase of a Lot heretofore made by the Society of the Town and that the residue of the Monies due said Society for the purchase of said Meeting House and Lots be paid out of the Tax heretofore Ordered for adding an Additional Story to the Market House —

Tax of £1800

Resolved that a Tax of Eighteen hundred Pounds Lawfull Money be Levied & Assessed on the Estates & Inhabitants of this Town, three hundred Pounds whereof to be appropriated to the payment of Contingent Expences, four hundred Pounds for the Support of the poor and three hundred Pounds as a sinking Fund in discharge of the Liquidated Debt, that the same be collected & paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of January next with the interest thereon if not paid by said Time

Payment of £600 Tax postponed to Novem.r

Resolved that the six hundred Pounds Tax as ordered by this Town to be collected and paid into the Town Treasury in two Months from the second Day of June Last, be and the same is postponed so far as respects the collection and Payment of the Same untill the first Day of November next and if not paid on or before that Time to draw Interest thereafter

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And.w Dexter Esq.r appointed Auditor Vice J Mawney Esq.r

Resolved that Mr. Andrew Dexter be and he is hereby appointed an Auditor in this Town in the Room of John Mawney Esq.r removed into the Country

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Clerk of Market authorized to dem.d Payment of Wharfage from Rob.t Davis

Whereas the Clerk of the Market exhibited unto this meeting an account by him charged against Robert Davis for the Use and Occupancy of the Town Wharf on the West side of the River in Landing Wood thereon and prayed the Instructions of this Meeting concerning the Collection of the Same. It is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the said Clerk of the Market be and he is hereby empowered & directed to demand the payment of the said Account from the said Robert Davis and in case of refusal to take every Legal Method to recover the Same

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Town Auditt requested to procure a Settlem.t with Collector of Taxes

Resolved that the Town Auditt be and they are hereby requested to procure a Settlement of the Accounts of the Collector of Taxes and that the said Settlement be completed as soon as may be -

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Following

This being the Period for the Biennial Election of two Representatives to represent this State in the Fourth Congress of the United States the proxy Votes were received, to wit

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r and For Francis Malbone Esq.r	427 -
For Peleg Arnold Esq.r 1.st and For Joseph Stanton Esq.r 2.d	4
For Peleg Arnold Esq.r and For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r 2.d	9
For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r Solus	3
For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r and For Joseph Stanton Esq.r	1
For Peleg Arnold Esq.r and For Francis Malbone Esq.r	1
Total	445

August 26th 1794

The following is a Register of the Freemen who Voted at this Meeting for two Representatives in the Congress of the United States for two Years from the third day of March next in pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly passed at their Session in June Last -

A

Aldrich Ezek
Ashton William
Angell Nathan Jr
Arnold Joseph 3d
Ashton William Jr
Arnold James
Arnold Welcome
Allen Zachariah
Andrews Zepheniah
Aborn Samuel Jr
Allen William
Allen Joseph
Allen Benjamin
Aborn James
Ashton Stephen
Arnold Nathan
Arnold Joseph Jr
Arnold Christo
Angell Nathan
Allen Stephen A
Allen Abel
Arnold Nehemh
Almy William
Anthony Richd
Alexander Henry
Allen Daniel
Angell Amasell
Atwell Amos
Anthony Michael

B

Bowen Ephm Jr
Brown Nicholas
Bowen Jabez
Brown John 2nd
Brayton Daniel
Burr N. M.
Bennett Thomas
Burrough Willm
Barton Willm
Barges John
Brown Zeph.h
Burr Ezekiel
Brown James
Bacon David a
Barker Joseph S
Bucklin Davd Jun
Bishop Lemuel
Baker Joseph
Bacon William
Bucklin Daniel
Brown Dexter
Burrill James
Barton William Junr
Brown Obadiah
Bowen Ephraim
Burr James
Butler Samuel
Benson George
Bullock John
Brown John
Bowen Henry
Bowen Oliver Jr
Burrill George R.
Burr David
Brown Elisha
Barker William
Black James
Bacon Henry
Bowen Oliver
Bowen Isaac
Bardine Comfort
Billings William
Burr Levi
Bowers John
Bacon Elijah
Bowen Pardon
Beverly George
Brown Elisha Marom
Barney Cromwell
Burrill James Jr

August 26th 1794

Brown Ichabod
Baily Nathl
Brown Richard
Branch Nicholas
Burr Joshua
Brown Benja
Bradford George

C

Carter John
Coggeshall Charles
Comstock Benjn
Crawford Joseph
Carlile Benj.n F
Congdon Jonathan
Cozzens William
Carlile Samuel
Coggeshall George
Clifford John
Cooke Jesse
Clark John 3d
Carlile John
Cushing Nathl
Crapon Christr
Carlile John Junr
Church Nathl
Cooke Hezekiah
Chace Willm
Carlile Willm
Cozzens Benja
Corlis John
Crawford Jos.h Jr
Corey William
Crawford Gideon
Cowen Ward
Carpenter Oliver Jr
Cozzens Benja Junr
Cozzens Andrew
Carrie Robert
Carrie James
Cole Joseph
Cooke Joseph

D

Dring Thomas
Dodge Lerid
Danforth Job
Dodge George
Dexter Edward
Dagget Willm
Dexter Stephen
Davis Israel
Dickens Edwd Jr
Donance John
Dexter Stephen
Dagget Abner
Dexter Andrew
Davenport Samd
Dyer Elisha
Davis John
Dyer Anthony Jr
Dickens Edwd
Dyer Benjamin
Dawlis Michael
Davenport Joseph
Dean Calvin
Danforth Samr

E

Eddy Moses
Eddy Bernard
Earle William
Eddy Ezek
Eddy Samuel
Easton Nicholas
Eady William
Eddy Jeremiah
Eddy Joseph
Eddy Joseph Jun
Eddy William Junr
Eddy Benjamin
Eddy Peleg
Ellis Cyrus
Eddy Benjamin Junr
Eddy Ezek Junr

F

Fenner Richard Junr
Field Daniel
Francis John
Field John
Field John Junr
Field Joseph
Fenner James
Fenner Sion

G

Gladding Jonathan
Gorham Jabez
Godfrey Christopher
Gladding Charles
Godfrey 2d Richard
Grinnell Peter
Gray Amasa
Gardner James
Gibbs John
Godfrey Caleb
Gladding Nathl 2nd
Gifford Josiah
Gorton Nathan Junr
Gorton William
Greenman Jereh
Guile Richard
Green Thomas
Gordon George
Gladding Allen
Gladding Nathaniel
Gorham Samuel
Gladding Timothy
Greene Joseph

Howland John
Hull Gideon
Harding Wilbur
Howland Benja
Hoppin Davis Wr
Hammon James
Horton Amos
Harding Walker
Ham Benjamin
Howell Jere.h B
Horsewell Ephm
Ham Jothan.
Hawkins Rufus
Hicks Samuel
Healy Recompence
Hill Samuel
Hoppin Benjamin
Ham Lebi
Hoyle John
Hull Thomas
Hopkins J B.
Hopkins Stephen
Halsey Thomas Lloyd

I

Ives Thomas P.
Ingraham Simeon
Ingraham Samuel
Ingraham Thomas

J

Jenckes Jeremiah
Jackson Samuel
Jones Gershom
Jones John P
Jones Thomas
Jackson Nathan Wr
Jackson Richard Jr
Jacobs Nathaniel
Jones William
Jackson Richard
Jackson Daniel

Knowles Edward
Knowles Edwd Junr
Kempton Samuel
King Caleb
Keene Benjamin
Keene John

L

Lee William
Larned William
Lindley Joshua
Larcher John
Lippitt Moses
Luther James
Lee Charles
Loring Simeon
Luther Constant
Lawton John

M.

Miller Nathan
McNeal Hopestill
Munro John
Martin Silvanus
Macomber Ebenezer
Martin John
Martin Philip
Manchester Isaac
Munro Thomas
Munro James
Matthewson John
Mumford John
Mason John
McClellan Saml
Martin David
Marvin Richd
Mason Obadiah
Mason Pelatiah
Martin Wheeler
Metcalf Joel
McGuire Francis
Martin Joseph

Mason Joseph

N.

Nightingale Samuel
Nightingale Joseph
Nash John

O

Olney James. Sr.
Olney Christopher
Olney Richard
Olney Christr
Olney Jeremiah
Ormsbee Caleb
Olney Stephen
Olney George
Olney Jabez

P.

Potter Joseph
Power Nicholas
Perry Thomas
Pettis James
Packhard Nathl
Peckham Philip
Peck Joseph
Peck Aaron
Paul William
Power Nicholas Jr
Peckham Philip
Pitcher James
Potter Phineas
Packhard Saml
Pearce Daniel
Peck Elihu
Pearce Nathan
Pitman Isaac
Pearce Oliver
Pitman Samuel
Peckham William

Peckham James B
Pearce Samuel.
Pettey John
Pesino Peter
Peckham John
Page William
Palis John

R.

Robbins Asher
Ruttenbr Thomas
Richmond Nathl
Reynolds Grindall
Rogers John
Rhodes Willm Nr
Reynolds Benja
Richmond Barzillai
Rice Henry
Rhodes William
Rawson Joseph

S

Sabin Jesse
Spooner Thomas
Salisbury Stichd
Sabins John
Soule Samuel
Sterling Henry
Sampson Charles
Sweet Nehemh
Stillwell Daniel
Steward Stichd
Sterry Cyprian
Salisbury Joshua
Sheldon Pardon
Sheldon Job
Sprague Obadh
Smith Samuel
Sterling Henry P
Sterry Nathan
Sheldon Charles
Seamans Nathan
Smith John
Spurr John
Sheldon Tims Jr
Sheldon Christr
Sefsions Willm M
Stelle Benjamin
Smith Peter
Snow Daniel
Snow James
Snow Joseph Jr
Smith John
Sabin Thomas
Searle Solomon
Smith Job
Smith Ahiel
Snow William
Smith Hezekiah
Smith Turpin
Smith Noah
Stone John
Smith Saml Junr
Spooner Samuel

T

Taylor Peter
Taylor Robt Junr
Tillman Thomas
Tripe Bernon
Tayla Benjamin
Throop Amos
Trowbridge Benj
Thurber Jamd Junr
Treadwell Jona
Tillinghast Daniel
Thayer Thomas
Taft Daniel
Tillinghast Joseph
Tayla Edward
Talbot Benja
Thompson Edmd

Tallman Benj.a Jr
Thurber Samuel
Thurber Lemuel
Tallman Benjamin
Tillinghast George
Tyler William
Talbot Benja Junr
Thurber Stephen
Tarp John
Tillinghast Willm
Thomas George C
Thompson Ebenezr
Tyler William
Thurber William
Thayer Simeon
Tebbe Alexis
Thurber Edward Jr
Trip Othniel
Thurber Squire
Thurber John
Turpin Benjamin
Tillinghast Charles W

V

Vincent Laban
Valentine Willm
Vial John

W

Williams Nathan
Wardwell Stephen
Whitman Jesse
Warner Samuel
Waterman Rufus
Wheaton James
Warner Amos
Waterman John &
Weeden George
Wheeler Bennett
Whitman Jacob
Wilson Olney
Wilkinson Edward
Wright Aaron
Weeden Samuel
Whipple John
Wilkinson William
Wheaton Nathan
Westcott James
Warner
Whitman
Walker

Wateman Nathan	Young Gideon	
Weedon James	Young John	
Wilkie Samuel	Young Samuel	
Wheaton Seth		
Westcott Jacob		
Wheaton Caleb		
Walker Calvin		
Woodward Jacob		
Ward John		
Ward Henry		
Warner Henry		
Warner Nathan		
Whitman Reuben		
Wallen Jonathan		
Wheaton Comfort		
Wheaton Calvin		
Westcott Anthony		
Whipple Samuel		

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and Assembled at the State House in said Town on the 30th Day of August A D 1794

Wm William Larned Moderator

Theatrical Entertainments not to be introduced

Voted that it is the Sense of the Freemen of this Town in Town Meeting assembled that Theatrical Entertainments ought not to be introduced into this Town

Town Clk directed to wait on the Comp[any] of Stage Players

It is also Voted & Resolved that the Clerk be and he hereby is directed to transcribe a fair Copy of the preceding Vote and wait on the Managers of the Company of Stage Players now in this Town and present them therewith for their Information and Government -

Act regulating Sales at Auction

An Act for regulating Sales at Auction in Certain Cases

Whereas the Provisions of the Law for establishing Vendue Masters are found insufficient for the purposes for which the Same were enacted

It is Voted and Resolved, that in Case any Person shall hereafter assume or take upon himself within this Town the Excercise of the Office of Vendue Master or shall expose to Sale at Public Auction within the Same, any Lands, Estates, or Goods whatsoever without having been chosen by the Town to the Office of Vendue Master, he shall forfeit and pay into the Town Treasury of the Town the Sum of five hundred Dollars to be recovered by any person who shall sue for the Same in an Action of Debt, one half of said Penalty to and for the use of the Person who shall sue as aforesaid and the other half to and for the use of the Town. And that the Person so offending shall also forfeit and pay to the Vendue Master of the Town the Amount of the Lawfull Commissions on the Goods sold as aforesaid to be recovered by the said Vendue Master of such Person offending before any Court of Competent Jurisdiction; It being notwithstanding understood, that those Persons who by the Laws of the State are authorized to sell Estates & Goods at public Vendue in Certain Cases are excepted from the Provisions of this Act -

This Meeting is dissolved

October A D 1794

October 25th 1794

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the State House in said Town on the 25th Day of October A D 1794.

Doctor Ephraim Bowen Moderator.

Charles Lippitt Esq

Charles Lippitt Esq having resigned his appointment as second Deputy for this Town, to represent the same in the Hon^ble General Assembly for the ensuing six months, and the Freemen being now assembled for the Choice of a second Deputy in his place, the said Charles Lippitt Esq is rechosen to that Office, and accepts thereof.

Deputies instructed to procure Repeal of Said act vs Stage Plays &c.

Resolved that the Deputies appointed to represent this Town in the General Assembly be and they hereby are instructed to move for, and to use their best Endeavors to obtain a Repeal of the Act intituled "An Act to prevent Stage Plays and other theatrical Entertainments within this Colony," so far as the same respects or has Operation in the Town of Providence.

Comm^tee to repair Brick School House &c.

Resolved that John Smith, Moses Brown and Jabez Bowen Esquires be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to repair the Brick School House in this Town; that it shall be the Duty of such Persons who shall hereafter occupy the same as School Masters to keep the same in Repair, common Wear excepted, and that said School House be under the Inspection of said Committee who are requested to see this Vote put in Execution.

October 25th A D 1794.

Engine House No 3 to be built.

Resolved that Capt. Joshua Lindley be requested to build an Engine House for the Engine, No 3, and that said House when built be placed on Muddy Dock, so called.

Clerk to procure Record Books &c.

Resolved that the Town Clerk be directed to procure two suitable blank Record Books for recording Deeds &c for the use of the Town, and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Remission of Penalty of Superfine, in case

Resolved that a Fine assessed on Benon Tripe by William Jones Esq on the [illegible] Day of [illegible] last, for loitering with his unladed Trucks on the Market House yard be remitted on Condition that said Tripe pay the Cost in ten Days from this Date.

This Meeting is dispolved.

April 15th A D 1795

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the State House in said Town on the fifteenth Day of April A D 1795.

Moderator.

Ebenezer Thompson Esq. Moderator.

Admitted free.

William Horton, Edward Dexter, Ebenezer Thompson Jun^r, Samuel Thompson, Reuben Whitman, Nathaniel Whitman, Laban Vincent, Fleck Eddy Jun^r, Solomon Peirce Jun^r, Stone Hezekiah Smith, Alexander Lovejoy, Thomas [illegible], George Snell, Michael Anthony, James Burke

Propounded.

Isaac Greenwood, Arnold Whipple, Oliver [illegible]

April 15th A.D. 1795.

Deputies chosen.

This being the Anniversary for proving for General Officers and also the Day for choosing Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly for the ensuing six Months the following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the said General Assembly, to be holden on the first Wednesday of May next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next.

Namely

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st
Charles Lippitt Esq. 2d
John Smith Esq. 3d
Wm Nicholas Easton 4th

Proxies put in.

The Proxies put in at this meeting for General Officers are in Number Eighty nine, of which there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq. as Governor, Eighty nine being the whole Number.

Committee to let Walker Lots.

Resolved that James Arnold, Nathaniel Wheaton and Silvanus Martin Esquires, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of leasing the Walker Lots (so called) belonging to this Town; that said Lease be given for the Term of one Year, and on such Conditions as the said Committee may deem most beneficial to the Town.

Welcome Arnolds account to be audited.

Resolved, that the Town Audit be directed to audit the account of Mess.rs Welcome Arnold and John Corlis two of the Committee heretofore appointed for paving Planet Lane.

Comm.n to pave Transit Lane.

Resolved that Mess.rs Welcome Arnold John Torrance & Jordan Mason be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of superintending and directing the Pavement of Transit Lane, leading from the main Street North of Nicholas Power's present Dwelling House to Benefit Street, provided the Monies to be appropriated for that Purpose be advanced by Individuals on the Credit of the Town.

Comm.n to pave Streets leading out of Town.

Resolved that Mess.rs John Brown Welcome Arnold and Ephraim Bowen Jun.r be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of superintending and directing the Pavement of the Streets leading out of Town from the West Side of the River, beginning the said Pavement in each Street at the present Termination thereof, and continuing the same such Length and in such Manner as the said Committee shall think proper.

Oil to be paid for.

Resolved that the Expense which has accrued for supplying Oil for the Lamps on the Great Bridge, be defrayed out of the East Tax.

Comm.n to pave Star Lane.

Resolved that Mess.rs John Whipple and Samuel Young be appointed a Committee for paving Star Lane, under the Direction of Samuel Nightingale, Nathaniel Wheaton and John Smith Esquires, provided the Expence thereof be defrayed by Individuals on the Credit of the Town.

Comm.n to procure an Oration on 4th July.

Resolved, that his Excellency the Governor, Mess.rs Joseph Nightingale Jeremiah Olney, Welcome Arnold & Ephraim Bowen Jun.r be and they are hereby a Committee for the purpose of making Choice of a Suitable Person to deliver an Oration on the Fourth Day of July next in Commemoration of the Anniversary of American Independence.

Comm.n to report Expediency of opening Richmond Street.

Resolved that Mess.rs Gershom Jones, William Richmond, John Torrance, Benjamin Talman and William Tarred be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of considering and reporting upon the Expediency of opening Richmond Street and that said Committee make Report at the next meeting.

Comm.rs to direct in respect to Passage of Water to be adjusted.

Resolved that whenever any Controversy shall hereafter arise respecting the Passage of Water from one Street to another, through Lots and Alleys or otherwise, the Surveyors be requested to cause the same to be divided as equally as may be, so that no one shall be incommoded thereby in a

April 15th A D 1795.

Comm to report Expediency of sinking Drain &c

Resolved that messrs John Mason, William Allen and Jeshon Jones be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to examine and report upon the Expediency of a motion made at this meeting for sinking a Drain along the East Side of Benefit street from the old Jail Lane to Angells Lane North of the Baptist meeting House, thence to be continued down said Lane to the Drain already sunk across the main street; And also for paving the North part of Angell street from David Anthonys Dwelling House to the Head of Angells Lane aforesaid, and relaying the Pavement in said Angells Lane and raising the same in the middle.

Comm to pave mill street &c

Resolved that messrs Nicholas Easton and Oliver Bowen be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of superintending and directing the Pavement of the street leading over the Mill Bridge Northwardly; that said Committee direct the said Pavement to be made from said Bridge Northwardly, as far as the Junction of the Roads, then turning Westwardly and paving as far as the present Dwelling House of John Smith.

Comm to pave in front Friends Meeting House &c

Resolved that John Smith Esq. be appointed and directed to pave the Street in the front of the Lot belonging to the Friends meeting up to the Wall of said Lot, and that the Expense thereof be defrayed by this Town; provided Posts shall be erected at the Expense of said meeting or without any Expense to the Town; It is nevertheless understood that if any Buildings shall hereafter be erected on said meeting Lot the said meeting or the Individuals who may improve such Buildings, shall reimburse to the Town the Expense of said Pavement with the Lawful Interest thereof, to be collected by Action of Debt or Warrant of Distress.

Repairs to be made to House of Widow Westcott &c

Resolved that John Brown Esq. be directed to open the Gutters and Drains running across the main street in the Lower part of this Town, as soon as may be

April 15th A D 1795.

Surveyors to have Foreways to the Line of Houses and advertising &c appointed &c

Resolved, that the Surveyors of the several Districts in this Town be directed to extend the Pavement in the Foreways to the Line of the Houses along the Street, and that messrs Daniel Stillwell, John Smith, and Ephraim Bowen Jun. at the lower End of the Town, messrs Samuel Nightingale, William Barned and William Allen at the upper End of the Town on the East Side of the River, and messrs John Borrance, Samuel Butler Jun and Jacob Whitman Jun on the West Side of the River, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct the said Surveyors therein.

Proprietors of Land to pave Street Parts in Front &c

Resolved that whenever any Pavements are laid in any of the public Streets of this Town, the Proprietors of the Land bounding on such Street shall pave from the said Pavement to the Line of their said Land, and shall also erect suitable Posts in such Places as the Committee for this purpose appointed shall direct, and in case they shall refuse or neglect so to do, the same shall be done by the Surveyors, and the Expense thereof collected from said Proprietors by Action of Debt or Warrant of Distress; And it is further resolved that messrs Daniel Stillwell, John Smith and Ephraim Bowen Jun. at the lower End of the Town, messrs Samuel Nightingale, William Barned and William Allen at the upper End of the Town on the East Side of the River, and messrs John Borrance, Samuel Butler and Jacob Whitman Jun on the West Side of the River be and they hereby are appointed the Committee for the purpose.

Resolved that John Brown Esq be, and he hereby is appointed and directed to build a Jetty and to extend the same for the House at the lower End of the Town now in the Occupation of the Widow Seamans and the Expence of the same shall be

April 15th 1795.

Pavements when to be completed

Resolved, that all the Street Pavements which have been ordered and directed at this Meeting shall be completed on or before the fifteenth Day of August next; and all the Side Pavements on or before the first Day of October next, otherwise the same shall be discontinued for the present Year.

June 1st A.D. 1795.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in said Town on the first Monday of June A.D. 1795. being the first Day of the Month.

William Larned Esq. Moderator.

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing, the following Gentlemen are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective Names to Wit.

Town Clerk Geo. Tillinghast.

Town Council

Town Council.

Amos Atwell President, Samuel Butler, Sylvanus Martin, Jod Metcalf, Seth Wheaton and Ephanish Brown.

Town Serjeant Henry Bowen

Town Treasurer

Town Auditor

Constables

Sealers of Weights and Measures

Surveyors of Hghways

Surveyors of Lists, Boards, Plank & Timber

June 1st A.D. 1795.

James Arnold.

John Mumford, Andrew Dexter, Jacob Whitman jun.

William Givens, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Thomas Bennet, Nicholas Hoppin, Ezekiel Burr, John Lasels.

Jacob Whitman Senior.

William Larned, William Richmond, Thos Lloyd Halsey.

Christopher Arnold, Elijah Bacon, John Smith, Comfort Wheaton, Isaac Angell, Simeon Ingraham, Jodac Bowen, Asa Franklin, Edward Knowles, Caleb Ormsbee, Benjamin Tallman, John Carlisle Junr. Abel Allen, Walker Harding, Jonathan Gladding, Joshua Lindley, Edward Knowles Junr. Jonathan Woodbury Coy, David Atwood, Thomas Tallman, Darius Allen.

John Brown, Richard Fenner, Nathan Waterman, Oliver Bowen Junr. Samuel Thurber Junr. Benjamin Tallman.

June 1st A.D. 1795

Gaugers of Casks

Samuel Jackson, Eseh Eddy, Nathan Simmons, James Weeden, John Burrough, Nathaniel Richmond & George Doods and Samuel Weeden.

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes

Benjamin Hoppin, on the following Terms and conditions to Wit; that the said Benjamin as Collector of Taxes be imponered to appoint an Assistant to collect the Taxes in this Town, provided the said Assistant shall be approved of by the Town ~~Treasurer~~; that the said Collector be answerable for the Conduct of such Assistant, and that he be allowed 3 per Cent Fees.

Clerk of the Market

Samuel Clark; Who is Clerk of the Market on the same Terms & Conditions as last Year; Vide Resolution of June 4th A.D. 1792.

Pathers of Beef, Pork and Fish

Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clements, William Billings, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro, Charles Lasells, James Weeden, John Eathforth, Samuel Eathforth, Samuel Brown, Arthur Fairrier and Henry Randall, [illegible] Eseh [illegible] Joseph Fitch [illegible] John Burdy, Joshua Whiting, William Chase, William Paul, Elijah Billings, George Dodd, Andrew Williams and Samuel [illegible]

June 1st A.D. 1795

Corders of Wood

John Vial, John Petty, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Labon Vincent, John Burrough, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Andrew Boyd, Nathan Seamans and Robert Sutton.

Overseers of Hospital

The Town Council

Pound Keepers

Charles Holden and John Miller

Fence Viewers

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason

Surveyors of Highways and Firewards

Samuel Thurber Junr, John Mumford & Christopher Arnold

Constables of the several Wards

John Brown, Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler

Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Darrane, Ephraim Andrews, Welcome Arnold, David Atwell, Ebenezer Thompson and John Innes Clark

Firemen

Richard Jackson Junr, John Carlile Junr, Cyril Dodge, Nicholas Brown, Robert Stapleton Junr, Hobbard, Nathan Angell Junr, Nathan [illegible] William Lee, Edward Dexter, [illegible] Nathaniel Smith.

Engine Company No. 1.

June 1st A.D. 1795

Gaugers of Casks—

Samuel Jackson, Esek Eddy, Nathan Simmons, James Weeden, John Burrough, Nathaniel Richmond & George Dodd and Samuel Weeden.

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes—

Benjamin Hoppin, on the following Terms and conditions to Wit; that the said Benjamin as Collector of Taxes be impowered to appoint an Assistant to collect the Taxes in this Town, provided the said Assistant shall be approved of by the Town ~~Treasurer~~; that the said Collector be answerable for the Conduct of such Assistant, and that he be allowed 3 per Cent Fees.

Clerk of the Market—

Samuel Clark; Who is Clerk of the Market on the same Terms & Conditions as last Year; Vide Resolution of June 4th A.D. 1792.

Packers of Beef, Pork and Fish—

Samuel Jackson, Nathan Arnold, Ephraim Clements, William Billings, Samuel Weeden, Daniel Brown, John L. Munro Charles Lasells, James Weeden, John Eatherforth, Samuel Eatherforth, Samuel Brown, Arthur Fenner and Henry Randall, ~~Stephen~~ Remington, Esek Eddy, Joseph Tillinghast, Joseph ~~Tillinghast~~, John Burch, Joshua Whitting, William Chase, William Paul, Elijah Billings, George Dodd, Andrew Williams and Samuel Carter.

Corders of Wood—

John Vial, John Petty, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Laban Vincent, John Burrough, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Andrew Boyd, Nathan Seamans and Robert Sutton.

Overseers of Hospital—

The Town Council.

Pound Keepers—

Charles Holden and John Miller.

Invalid real Estates when disputed in Voting—

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason.

Lime Viewers

Samuel Thurber Junr. John Mumford & Christopher Arnold.

Presidents of the Fire wards

John Brown, Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler.

Fire Wards

Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Ephraim Andrews Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson and John Innes Clark.

Firer—
Engine Comy No. 1.

Richard Jackson Junr. John Carlile Junr. Daniel Dodge, Nicholas Brown, Robert Stapleton Junr. Joseph Hoddard, Nathan Angell Junr. Nathaniel Hall, William Lee, Edward Deater, Elisha Nathaniel Smith.

June 1st A.D. 1795

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Fire Engine Company No. 2

John Whipple, Nehemiah Sweet, Sylvanus Martin, Ezekiel Burr, James Wheaton, Philip Martin, Samuel Thurber Junr, Jabez Gorham, George Weeden, James Burr, Benjamin Stiles and Samuel Whipple

Fire Engine Company No. 3

John Mathewson, Zephaniah Brown, Asa Franklin, Joshua Lindley, John Carpenter, Jonn. W. Coy, Ward Covering, James Burrill Junr, Peter Grinnell, William Taylor, John Young, Oliver Pearce.

Fire Engine Company No. 4

Daniel Stillwell, Caleb Ormsbe, Jeremiah Jenkes, Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold (3) Benjamin Earl, Amos Warner, Joseph Davenport, James Ormsbe, Job Gibbs, Abr Coleman, & George Earl.

Persons to Order when and where Goods shall be removed in time of Fire

John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon and Amos Atwell.

Persons to remove of pull down Houses in case of Fire

Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Sumner, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbe, Walter Hardisty and Davies Allen.

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Field Drivers

Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Reuben Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Tefft and Uriah Hopkins

Sealer of Leather

Josiah Gifford

Sawyers

Nathan Angell, Samuel Black, Joseph Crawford, Nathaniel Packard, Dexter Brown, Job Sweeting, William Givens and James Black

Overseers of the Work house

The Overseers of the Poor.

Town Criers

Daniel Branch.

Overseer of Union Bridge

James Arnold

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons of the Town

Obadiah Sprague, Christopher Sheldon, Samuel Butler, Moses Brown, Zephaniah Brown, John Smith, Joel Metcalf, Abner Daggett and John Mumford.

School Committee

Enos Hitchcock, Joseph Snow, Jonathan Maxey, Abraham Clarke, Stephen Gano, James Wilson, Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Dorrance, Welcome Arnold, Benjamin Bosworth, Nicholas Brown and John Innes Clark.

Market Stalls appropriated &c.

Resolved, that the four Westermost Stalls be exclusively appropriated to the Use of those People bringing Provisions to the Country for Sale, other than Butchers.

Inspectors of Hay appointed

Committee to revise the Market house Laws &c

Market House Doors to be open all Day

Town Auditors to settle with Clerk Market

Committee to enquire if Benj. Stelle has any of Town's Land in possession

Town Clerk to call on Jabez Bowen for

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Samuel Jackson & Samuel Warden.

Resolved, that Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Thomas Arnold, David L. Barnes and Amos Atwell be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to revise the Laws and Regulations heretofore existing respecting the Market House and the Parade adjacent and that they make Report at the next Meeting.

Resolved, that for the future the Market house Doors be kept open from Sun rising to Sun setting.

Resolved, that the Town Auditors be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to settle and adjust the Account of the Clerk of the Market, and that the same be done annually.

Resolved, that Aaron Mason, Nathaniel Wheaton and William Richmond be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to enquire whether Benjamin Stelle has made any Encroachments upon, or has in his Possession any of the Town's Land, and that said Committee make Report at each Meeting.

Resolved, that the Town Clerk be directed to call on Jabez Bowen, and notify him that the Town demands payment for the Use and Occupation of the North East Chamber of the Market, during the Time he has been in Possession of the same at and after the Rate of 30 dollars per annum, Rent, and that the Rent in future be regulated in proportion to the Size of the Chamber in said Market House.

Report of Committee respecting House and Lot on West side the River

Committee to make Rules respecting the Harbor &c

Committee to receive of the Congregational Society the Meeting House &c

June 1st A.D. 1795.

On the Report this Day exhibited by Gershom Jones, John Dorrance, William Richmond, Benjamin Talman and William Larned, Resolved, that the same be received, and that the House and Lot therein referred to be purchased on the Terms & Conditions reported; and that the same Persons be empowered as a Committee to make Sale of the said House in the most advantageous Manner, and apply the Proceeds thereof to the Payment of the Compensations allowed the respective Proprietors, and that the Town Treasurer be directed to issue his Note for the Balance of said Compensations payable in one Year with Interest.

Resolved, that John Brown, Richard Jackson and Seth Wheaton be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to draw up Rules and Regulations respecting the Harbor, and that Joseph Illingshast be appointed Harbor Master to put the same in Execution.

Resolved, that James Arnold, David L. Barnes and Henry Bowen be appointed a Committee, and they are hereby appointed, to receive of the first Congregational Society the Meeting House lately bought of them, situated at the corner of Benefit & Hanover Streets, and to make such Repairs and Alterations as shall appear to them to be necessary to preserve the House & accomodate the Town at their public Meetings; and that said Committee let the Cellars under said House to such person, or persons and for such Rents as they shall think proper.

Committee to ascertain the Terms &c respecting the Exchange of a Strip of Land at South Burying Ground for another Strip &c

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Resolved that Amos Atwell, John Brown and John Smith be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into and ascertain the Terms upon which a Strip of Land One hundred feet in Depth, being part of the North Burying Ground adjoining Westerly on the New Road leading from the North End of this Town & holding that Depth and extending parallel with that Road can be exchanged for an equal Number of Feet of Land lying on the West Side of said Burying Ground, and that said Committee make Report as soon as may be.

Report of Committee on Richmond Street &c

The Subscribers at a Town Meeting held in Providence on the third Wednesday in April Instant, were appointed a Committee to examine and report upon the Expediency of Widening Richmond Street at the Entrance thereof adjoining Broad Street, Report as follows; that they have this Day viewed the Entrance of said Street, and are unanimously of the Opinion, that it ought to be widened, that they have conferred with the several Owners of the House and Lot at the Entrance of said Street and have obtained from them the Terms on which they will convey said Estate to the Town for the Purpose aforesaid, which they herewith present for the Consideration of the Freemen

Terms upon which Lands may be had to accommodate Richmond Street

344

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Freemen by the Town's Obt. Servants

Providence April 25th 1795.

Gershom Jones
Jo. Dorrance
Wm Richmond
Benj.a Tallman
Wm Larned
} Committee

Providence April 25th 1795.

The Subscribers having this Day been waited upon by the Town's Committee to obtain the Terms on which they would convey the House and Lot at the Entrance of Richmond Street as follows; Parvis Tillinghast agrees to convey his Part to the Town for eight hundred Dollars; John Bowers agrees for himself and Zephaniah Brown agrees as Guardian to the Person and Estate of Samuel Williams to convey the Remaining Part of said House & Lot for six hundred Dollars and give a Bond that the said Samuel Williams shall Sign a Conveyance thereof to the Town when he arrives at the Age of twenty one Years.

Parvis J. Tillinghast
John Bowers Observer
Zephaniah Brown

June 1st A.D. 1795.

Road from Olney's Lane to Herrenden's Lane to be made passable &c.—

Resolved, that the Road lately opened from Olney's Lane to Herrenden's Lane at the North End of this Town be made passable for loaded Teams by the Surveyor of the District wherein the Same lies, at the Expence of the Town as soon as said Road shall be opened by all the Proprietors of the adjoining Lands agreably to the Order of the Town Council.

Lead of Brick School house to be sold &c.—

Resolved, that John Smith be, and is hereby authorized and impowered to make Sale of the Lead taken from the Roof of the Brick School-House, and to appropriate the Proceeds thereof towards the Repairs of said House.

Committee to examine Engine No. 2. &c.—

Resolved, that John Smith & Richard Jackson Junr. be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine Engine No. 2. at the North End of the Town; and if they shall think the Same worth Repairing, that they cause it to be done; if otherwise, that they cause a New One to be built at the Expence of the Town.

No Night Singing School to be in the Brick School House.—

Persons propounded

June 1st A.D. 1795.—

Resolved, that the Committee appointed October last to superintend the Repairs of the Brick School-House, be and they are hereby ~~authorized~~ and impowered to prevent any Persons from occupying the Same for the Use of Night Singing Schools.

Arnold Whipple, Peleg Anthony, Young Seamans, Thomas Robinson, Jebediah Harnum, John Young, Joshua Rathburn, Zachariah Carpenter, George Wightman, Josiah Baker, Peter Pitknall, Daniel Sanford, William Chatty, Wilbor Paul, William Mazey, Samuel Brown, William Hopkins.

August 25th A D 1795.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the State House in said Town on the twenty fifth Day of August A D 1795.

Moderator

John Brown Esq. Moderator.

Adjournment to Town House.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned from this Place to the Town House, late the Congregational Meeting House.

Deputies chosen.

The following Gentlemen are elected Deputies to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State to be holden on the last Monday of October next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the first Wednesday in May next; Namely

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st
Charles Sibbit Esq. 2d
John Smith Esq 3d
Wm Richard Jackson Jun. 4th

Persons admitted Freemen

John Jonsolvie, Oliver Smith, Isaac Greenwood, Arnold Westfall, William J. Brown, Edward Bikers Jun. Silvanus Allinghast, William Billings, Jonathan Fuller, John Vial, Jonathan Ladd.

Persons compounded.

Obadiah Mason, Oliver Brown, John Giles, George W. Page, William Page, Benjamin Hall, Jonathan Congdon, Chester Jenckes, Benjamin Apleton Jun. Philip Tillinghast, Jonathan Arnold Thomas Greene.

August 25th A D 1795.

Town Council Man vice Saml Butler resigned

Wm Rufus Waterman.

Comtee on Dl Bears Memorial.

Voted that John Mason, Aaron Mason, and Thomas L. Halsey be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of enquiring into the Facts set forth in Daniel Bearce's Memorial, and to report what Measures (if any) are necessary for his Relief.

Comtee for preventing Encroachments, in vice Joel Metcalf Esq resigned

William Allen.

Town Treasurer to prosecute Trespassers

Voted and resolved, that the Town Treasurer be directed to prosecute by Indictment all Persons whose Names shall be returned to him by the Committee for preventing Encroachments, as Trespassers upon the High-Ways, Lanes, Gangways or Commons of this Town.

Comtee for taking Estimate.

Resolved that the present Assessors of Rates for this Town, together with Thomas Arnold and Thomas S. Arnold be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of carrying into Effect an Act of the Honorable General Assembly passed in June Session intituled "An Act for taking a general Estimate of the rateable Property within this State, and of that belonging to the Inhabitants without the State"

Having Resolution rescinded as to Time of Playing

Voted that the Resolution of this Town passed at April Town Meeting last, limiting the Time for laying Street Pavements to the 15th of August, and that for lay side Pavements to the 1st of October in the present Year be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Comm authorized to make alteration in Pavements.

Voted and resolved that the Committee appointed to superintend the side Pavements of the Main Street be authorized to make such alterations in the Pavements already laid down by the Public or by Proprietors as to them shall appear necessary for rendering the main Pavement of the Street and that of the side Walks as convenient as may be; and to direct in what manner the Water shall be carried off; It is also voted, that it be and hereby is earnestly recommended to the Proprietors who may hereafter lay down Pavements in the side Walks, to lay the same of Brick or Flat Stones.

Room No. 7. appropriated to Town Council & their Clerks.

Whereas it is expedient that a suitable Place be provided for the Town Council for the Transaction of their Business, it is therefore voted and resolved, that the Room No. 7. in the Market House Chambers be and the same is hereby appropriated to the use of said Council, and the Clerk is directed to take Possession of the same, to cause the same to be furnished with convenient Chairs and Seats at the Towns Expense, and to remove thither all the Town and Council Records.

Comm to confer with Jas Bowers

Voted that Thr Torrance and Richard Judson Jun. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, to confer with Jabez Bowen Esq. on the subject matter of the Memorial by him presented to this Meeting, and to ascertain what Rent (if any) may be due to the Town, for the Use and Occupation of the North East Chambers of the Market House, and report thereon.

Obadiah Sprague's Memorial and Proceedings thereon.

Whereas Mr Obadiah Sprague presented a Memorial to this Meeting as follows, to wit, — "The Subscriber does wish the Town to appoint a Committee to survey the Highway that leads from Mr Steeres shop under Flaggers Hill until it intersects with the street that runs to Stephens's Bridge; also to alter the Water Course at Stephens's Bridge. — I am the Town's humble servant Obadiah Sprague"

And the said Memorial being duly considered, it is thereupon resolved that Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown and the said Obadiah Sprague be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make out a Plat of the Highway referred to in said Memorial, and to report the same together with what may further be expedient to be done in the Premises.

Pavement in Mill Street extended.

Voted that the Committee heretofore appointed to pave Mill Street be, and they are hereby empowered to extend the Pavement in said Street for a Space not exceeding one hundred feet further on the Hill.

Joint Comm to survey Gangways &c and report.

Voted, that the three Committees appointed at April meeting, to superintend the Pavement of Gangways &c be appointed a joint Committee to make a Survey of the several Lanes and Gangways in this Town, and to cause such of the same to be paved at the Publick Expense, as they may think expedient.

Town Treasurer to execute Vote to Proprietors of House & Lot at Corner Richmond Street

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be directed to execute a Vote in Behalf of the Town, for the Amount of the Land allowed the Proprietors of a House and Lot at the Corner of Street, as reported at June Meeting [illegible] and that the

then — appointed to make Sale of said Premises be directed to apply the Avails thereof, to the Discharge of the Debt so incurred.

Voted, that Welcome Arnold and John Smith Esquires, and Capt Seth Wheaton be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of considering and reporting the Propriety of exchanging a small Lot of Land, belonging to the Town situated on the West Side of the Mill Bridge for another Lot on the East Side of the same belonging to Comfort Wheaton ;— Or if the Measure should be thought more expedient by said Committee, that they also be empowered to report the Propriety of purchasing said Wheaton's Lot outright.

Comm to exchange Lot near mill Bridge with Comfort Wheaton.

Voted that Messrs. William Richmond, Ephraim Bowen Jun, and Seth Wheaton be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine the Situation of the Town Dock adjoining on Jacob Whitman's Land, and to report the Expediency of altering the same out.

Comm to examine Dock near Jacob Whitman's

Voted that his Excellency the Governor Jabez Bowen and David L. Barnes Esquires, be appointed a Committee to define the Duties of those Town Officers who are annually appointed to pull down Houses in Cases of Fire, and report thereon.

Comm to define Duties of certain Town Officers

Whereas, great Danger of Fire in this Town arises from a very improper Practice of smoaking Pipes & Segars in the publick Streets, it is therefore recommended by the Freemen of the Town in Town Meeting assembled, that the Inhabitants totally refrain from that Practice ;— Nevertheless it must be understood by this Recommendation to prevent any among the young Men, or others, who may be under the Necessity

Combustible Matt

Necessity — on Account of any grievous Malady from using the same by Way of Medicine ;— and the Town Clerk is directed to give publick Notice of these Recommendations by causing the same to be published in the News Papers ;— It is also recommended, that no Shavings or other combustible Matter be burned in any of the Streets after Sunsetting.

Voted, that the Town Council be authorized and requested to bestow such Repairs upon the Towns Hospital, as may be wanting to secure it against the Weather, and that they cause the same to be painted, at the Towns Expense.

Town Council to repair Hospital.

We the Subscribers being appointed, by the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled, a Committee to enquire into and report the Terms on which a Strip of Land, one hundred feet wide, being part of the North Burying Ground adjoining the new Road leading from the North End of this Town and on the west side of the same, can be exchanged for other Land, lying on the west side of said Burying Ground, do report ;— That it is our Opinion an Exchange somewhat similar to that mentioned will be of great Utility to this Town, that to lay out a Street fifty feet wide from the North End of said Burying Ground, to the South End of the same on a Strait Line and nearly parallel with the said new Road, so as to leave a Strip of Land between the two Streets one hundred & forty feet wide the whole Length of the same for the Purpose of Burying, it will be extremely convenient and greatly accommodate the East part of the Town ; that the said Strip of Land is not convenient for burying Ground, the same being mostly very uneven ;— that the Land adjoining the Burying Ground, on the West is much more suitable for the Purpose of a Burying Ground and we are informed may be purchased to good advantage, but have not conversed with the Owner, for the

Report of Comm on Burying Ground Proceedings thereon

August 25th A D 1795.

Within — the said Strip is a Piece of Land adjoining Mr Aaron Mason's Land, about 252 feet long and about 75 feet wide, at the South End, and at the North End extends from one Street to the other which we recommend may be sold the said Mason, for £25. as the same can be of little Use to any other Person.

We also recommend, that this Town petition the Honorable General Assembly for a Grant or Act of the same, for the Purpose of selling and purchasing the Lands as aforesaid

All which we humbly submit &c

Thos Atwell
John Smith
John Brown.

And the said Report being duly considered it is thereupon resolved that the same be recieved, and that the afore named Committee, together with Moses Brown be authorized and requested to lay out the Street as the same is therein delineated, to cause a Plat thereof to be taken and to furnish the Deputies from this Town therewith for the Purpose of assisting them in an Application to the Honorable Jeneal Assembly, as recommended in said Report.

Resolved that this Meeting be and the same hereby is adjourned to Wednesday the ninth Day of September next, then to meet at this Place at two of the Clock P M; and that the Town Clerk be directed to issue his Warrant to warn the Freemen to attend at said Time and Place, then and there to consider and determine upon the Expediency of ordering a Town Tax, and to transact such other Business as may occur.

Adjournment

September 9th A D 1795.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment at the Town House on the ninth Day of September A D 1795.

John Brown Esq Moderator

Establishment of Free Schools

Voted and resolved, that there shall be established in this Town Schools for the free Education of the Children of the Inhabitants of the Town, and that the Expense of supporting the same be defrayed out of the Town Treasury; It is also resolved that the Report of the Town's Committee made on the first Day of August A D 1791, respecting Town Schools, be and the same is hereby revived, and that the Town Council be authorized and empowered to procure two Lots suitable for the erecting of two new school Houses thereon, one on the West side of the River and one at the South End of the Town on the East side of the River, and that they cause said school Houses to be built, and that they also contract with the Proprietors of Hopkins Hall, & the Brick school House for obtaining the same on the best Terms possible for the Use of the Town, and that said Council be allowed a reasonable Compensation for their Services herein.

Report of Comm on D. Pearce's Memorial.

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to consider and report upon the subject Matter of Daniel Pearce's Memorial, have made the following Report

to wit,—

September 9th A D 1795.

Providence August 27th 1795

In Virtue of our appointment as a Committee to Order to examine the House of Mr Daniel Pearce, have in Consequence thereof viewed the Premises, and do report that taking into our Consideration the Situation of the said House and the Family of the said Pearce, that there be a Donation of one hundred Dollars given to the said Pearce in Order to relieve him from his present Embarrassment.

Nayron Nason
John Nason
Tho$ Lloyd Halsey

And the said Report being duly considered, it is thereupon Voted that the same be received, and that the sum of one hundred Dollars, being the Donation mentioned in said Report, be allowed and paid to the said Daniel Pearce out of the Town Treasury.

Report of Comm$ to receive Market House Regulations

Voted that a Tax of nine thousand Dollars be assessed and levied on the rateable Property of the Freemen & other Inhabitants of this Town, that the same be assessed in one month from this Time and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of January next, and if any Part thereof shall remain unpaid after that Time the same shall carry Interest.

Tax of 9000 Dollars.

It is also voted, that the said Tax when collected, shall be appropriated to the Discharge of one third Part of the Town Debt, and the Residue thereof after paying the one third Part of said Debt, shall be applied to the Support of the Poor of the Town and other contingent Expenses.

The Committee appointed on the first Day of June last, to revise the Laws and Regulations heretofore made respecting the Market House and the Parade adjacent having made Report and the same having been duly considered, It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, that the following be established as the By-Laws for the better regulating of said Market House and Parade.

1st That if any Person or Persons shall at any Time hereafter within the Limits of this Town purchase any dead Lamb Mutton, Veal, Roasting Pigs, Turkies, Geese, Ducks, Dunghill Fowls, Partridges, Quails or any other Kind of Provisions usually sold by Retail with an Intent to sell the same again, the Person or Persons so offending shall forfeit for every Offence the Sum of three Dollars.

2nd That no Sled, Trucks, empty Carts, or other Carriages shall be permitted to loiter, stop or make a Stand on the Parade near the Market House, or in any of the Public Streets leading from the same within the following Limits, viz.—to extend Westerly as far as the West End of the great Bridge;—Southerly to the North side of Bank Lane and Northerly to the North side of President Street, on the Penalty of one Dollar for every Offence to be paid by the Owner or Driver thereof.

3d That no Sled, Waggon or Cart, or other Carriage loaded with Hay Hoops or empty Casks, shall be suffered to loiter, stop or make a Stand on the Parade near the Market House or in any of the Limits before described, in the second Article on the Penalty of one Dollar for every Offence to be paid by the Owner thereof.

4th That the Clerk of the Market [illegible]

September 9th A D 1795.

to [illegible]

order and direct the Stands to be taken by all Teams within the Limits of the Parade and Streets aforesaid, and if any Driver of a Team shall refuse to take such Stand as shall be directed as aforesaid the Clerk of the Market shall order such Driver to remove his Team without said Limits, and upon Refusal so to do the Driver or Owner of such Team shall forfeit and pay the Sum of one Dollar.

5th. That all the Penalties before mentioned shall be levied by Warrant of Distress on the Goods and Chattels or for Want thereof on the Bodies of the Offenders to the Use of the poor of the Town upon Conviction before any two Justices of the Peace in the County of Providence grounded on the Complaint of the Clerk of the Market; — And it shall be his Duty, and he is strictly enjoined to prosecute all Breaches of the preceding Regulations that shall come to his Knowlege

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden at the Town House in said Town on the eighth Day of December A D 1795.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

Comm to confer with Powder House Propietors.

Voted that Messrs. John Smith, William Allen and Richard Jackson jun. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of conferring with the Proprietors of the Powder House on the Hill Eastward of the College to obtain from them the Terms on which they will dispose of the same to the Town, and also to find some suitable Place for erecting a new Powder House and to calculate the Size and probable Expense of erecting the same, and to make Report at the next Town Meeting.

Surveyors to assemble and determine on the Work necessary to be

Resolved that the Surveyors of this Town be required forthwith to assemble together, and determine what further Work, if any, shall be done on the public Streets or Highways the present Season, and that they or the major Part of them express their said Determination in writing, and that no further Work be done on the said Streets during the present Season than what shall be in Conformity to their said Determination

December 8th ad 1796.

Additional Town auditors.

Resolved that John Smith Esq, and Major William Allen be added to the Town Audit and that they together with the former Audit examine the present accounts for Expenditures on the Streets and Highways and pass such accounts of Expenditures as appear to have been laid out agreeable to former Directions of the Town and report the Remainder with the circumstances attending them to a future Town meeting.

Constable.

Gideon Ray is chosen a Constable for this Town.

Vagrants to be prosecuted

Resolved, that the Town Council be requested to make diligent Enquiry after all Persons not belonging to this Town who are now therein and are likely to become chargeable, or who have no visible Means of Livelihood, and that they remove such Persons from Town, or prosecute them according to Law;- And that the Justices of the Peace in this Town be and hereby are requested to give their Assistance to said Council for the Purpose aforesaid;- And it is further resolved that said Council be requested to prosecute with the Rigor of the Law all Persons who sell Liquors without License;- and that this Resolution be published in both the News Papers in this Town.

Adjournm.

Resolved that this Meeting stand adjourned to the third Tuesday in January next, at two of the Clock. P. M.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, holden by adjournment, at the Town House on the nineteenth day of January ad 1796.

Doctor Ephraim Bowen Moderator.

Settlement of Town Treasurers Accounts.

Whereas the Town Audit have exhibited to this Meeting a Settlement of the accounts of James Arnold Esq. Town Treasurer, and the same being duly considered it is thereupon voted and resolved that said Settlement be accepted and established;- And that the said James Arnold be allowed Interest on the Balance due him from the first day of January instant until the said Ballance shall be fully discharged.

Instructions to Surveyors of Streets &c.

Resolved as the Sense of this Meting that it is the Duty of every Surveyor of the Highways in this Town to superintend all Work and Repairs upon such Highways, in Person and not by Deputation, he being allowed a reasonable Compensation therefor;- And for the future that no Rum or other Spirituous Liquor shall be consumed by the Persons employed to work on the Highways at the Town's Expense.

Compensation to Town Audit

Resolved that the Town Audit be allowed a reasonable Compensation for their Services to be paid out of the Town Treasury.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the twentieth Day of April AD 1796.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

Persons proposed

Arnold Whipple, Peleg Anthony, Young Seamans, Thomas Robinson, Jebadiah Farnum, John Young Joshua Rathbun, Zachariah Carpenter, George Wightman Josiah Baker, Peter Bicknell, Daniel Hayford, William Chatty, Wilbur Paul, William K. Magee, Samuel Brown Christopher J. Sidwell and Thomas Jefsons.

Persons admitted free

Christopher Hill, Jabez Bullock, Samuel Allen, Lot Bacon, Joseph Bowers, David Butler, Christopher Grafton James Gould, Samuel Wheaton, Thomas P. Clarke, Edward Dexter, Asa Olney, Lewis Bosworth, Sheldon Peck, James Rogers, John Jenckes, George A. Hollowell, Jeremiah Penner, Benjamin Veazie, Caleb Williams, Samuel Staples, Ebenezer Thompson Jun, John Thompson and Samuel Pearce.

Representatives chosen

This being the anniversary for proving for General Officers, and also the day for choosing Representatives to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly for the ensuing six Months, the following gentlemen were duly elected to represent said Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Monday

April 20th AD 1796.

Monday of may next and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next.

Namely,

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st
Charles Lippitt Esq. 2nd.
John Smith Esq. 3d.
Wm Richard Jackson Jun 4th.

Representatives instructed.

Voted that the Representatives of this Town in the General Assembly be, and they are hereby instructed to use their utmost Endeavours and Influence to obtain an Act of the General Assembly, at their next Session for calling a Convention of the People to be represented therein, in proportion to the Number of Inhabitants in the several Towns for the Purpose of framing a Constitution for the State and equalizing the Representation of the People there of in the Legislature.

Oration Committee

Voted that his Excellency the Governor, Messrs Joseph Nightingale, Jeremiah Olney, Welcome Arnold and Ephraim Bowen Jun be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of making Choice of a suitable Person to deliver an Oration on the fourth Day of July next, in Commemoration of the Anniversary of American Independence; and said Committee be requested to provide

for

that Occasion, and that the Expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury.

Richard Fenner's Accounts to be audited.

Whereas it appears to this Meeting that Richard Fenner Esq. one of the Surveyors of the Highways in this Town has procured to be done a considerable of Work for the Repairing and mending the Highways on the West Side of the River, contrary to the existing Votes of the Town, and it appearing to the Town that the said Accounts should be settled, it is therefore resolved, that the Audit be empowered to proceed and settle the said Accounts on principles of Justice and Equity, and that all the said Accounts that shall be presented that are duly authenticated be passed by them accordingly; and that this Vote is not to be hereafter considered as a precedent for allowing any Accounts against the Town for mending or repairing Highways contrary to the existing Votes aforesaid, and the said Audit are hereby directed to deduct the Amount of filling up the Dock by Mr. Whitman's from said Accounts;

It is further resolved that it be recommended to the said Audit to re-examine the Accounts of any Persons which may have been passed by them for Work and Services done or performed upon the said Highways where any Error or Suspicion of Error may appear to them to exist and that they deduct such Errors if any there be from the Sums allowed.

Clerks of Market's Accounts to be settled.

Resolved that the Town Audit be and they hereby are requested to examine and adjust the Account of the present Clerk of the Market which has been exhibited to their Meeting and that they settle the same on Principles of Justice and Equity together with the unsettled Accounts of the former Clerks of the Market which they are hereby authorized and empowered to bring to a final Adjustment

Committee to fill up low grounds &c.

Whereas certain low grounds within the compact part of this Town remain covered with Stagnant Water, from which great danger to the health of the Inhabitants is apprehended; And whereas the Owners of said Lands have hitherto neglected to fill up the same: It is voted and resolved that a Committee consisting of persons best qualified to Judge in such Cases ought to be appointed to visit all such places within the Town and wherever it appears in their Judgment necessary to fill the same to notify the Owners (if non Residents) their Agents or Attornies thereof and request said Owners to fill the said Grounds with Sand within the Space of after such Notification and upon the Refusal or Neglect of the Proprietors of such Lands that the same ought to be filled at the Expence of the Town and the Owners of such Lands be compelled to refund the Expence: It is further voted that the Representatives of this Town in General Assembly bring forward a Bill for a Law to be passed at the next Session to enable the Town of Providence to carry the foregoing Resolution into Execution. Voted and passed under the Direction of the Town Council

Votes put in

The Votes put in at this Meeting for General Officers are in number 86 of which there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq as Governor 85

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House, on the first Monday of June A D 1796, being the sixth day of the Month.

John Barrance Esq Moderator.

This being the anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing the following Persons are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective Names, to wit,

Town Clerk. Jer. Tillinghast

Town Council.

Town Council. Amos Atwell President, Rufus Waterman, Jeremiah Martin, Joel Metcalf, Seth Wheaton and Zephaniah Brown.

Town Serjeant. Town Serjeant. Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer. Town Treasurer. James Arnold.

Town Audit. Town Audit. John Smith, Andrew Dexter, Johnathan Thewson, and Zephaniah Andrews.

Constables. William Jevens, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Nicholas Hoppin, John Lapsley and Daniel Mayford.

June 6th A D 1796.

Sealer of Weights and Measures — Jacob Whitman Junior.

Assessors of Rates & Overseers of the Poor — William Tarred, William Richmond, and Thomas Lloyd Halsey.

Surveyors of Joist, Boards, Spars, Timber and corded Wood — Joshua Lindley, John Smith, Caleb Crumbee and Walker Harding; — and Christopher Arnold as to Spars.

Surveyors of Highways — Nathan Waterman, Oliver Bowen Jun, Moses Lippitt, Job Danforth, Samuel Thurber Jun, and Daniel Pond.

Gaugers of Casks — Samuel Jackson, Ezek Eddy, Nathan Seaman, James Reeden, John Burrough, Nathaniel Richmond, George Dods, and Samuel Reeden.

Vendue Master & Collector of Taxes — Benjamin Hoppin; — on the same Terms and Conditions as last Year.

Clerk of the Market — Samuel Clarke.

Packers of Beef Pork and Fish — William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clemens, George Dods, John Cathforth, Arthur Farrier, Charles Lasells, Samuel Cathforth, Samuel Brown, Henry Randall, John S. Munroe, James Reeden.

Corders of Wood — John Neal, John Petley, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Nathan Seamans, Robert Sutton, and Henry Alexander.

June 6th A D 1796.

Overseers of the Hospital — Town Council.

Board Keepers — Charles Holden and John Miller.

Appraise Estates when disputed in voting — Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason.

Fence Viewers — Samuel Thurber Jun. John Mumford & Christopher Arnold.

Presidents of the Firewards — John Brown, Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler.

Fire Wards — Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Daniel Tillinghast, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Torrance, Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson and John Innes Clark &c.

1st Fire Engine Company, No 1 — Richard Jackson Jun, John Carlile Jun, Tyrril Dodge, Nicholas Brown, Robert Taylor Jun, John Howland, Nathan Angell Jun, Nathan Jackson, William Lee, Edward Dexter, Elisha Brown, and Nathaniel Smith.

2d Fire Engine Company, No 2 — Nehemiah Sweet, Ezekiel Burr, James Wheaton, Philip Master, Samuel Thurber Jun, Jabez Gorham, George Reeden, James Burr, Benjamin Hebble, Samuel Whipple, Nathan Fisher and Nathaniel Richmond.

3d Fire Engine Company, No 3 — John Mathewson, Zephaniah Brown, Asa Franklin, Joshua Lindley, John Carpenter, Jonathan St. Croy Harkering, James Burrill Junior, Peter Grinnell, William Taylor, John Young, Oliver Pierce.

4th Fire Engine Company, No 4 — Daniel Tillinwell, John B. Thelin, Jeremiah Gordon, Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold 3d, Benjamin Carlile, Warner, Joseph Davenport, James Armstree, John Fish, Ebet Coleman and George Earle.

June 6th A D 1796.

Persons to order where Fires shall be removed in case of Fire

John Lorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon and Amos Allen.

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in case of Fire

Comfort Wheator, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter John Carlile Jun. John Lindley, Caleb Crumbee, Walker Harding and Darius Allen.

Field Drivers

Job Sweeting, Christopher Arnold, Caspar Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Jeffd and Uriah Hopkins.

Sealer of Leather

Joel Metcalf.

Scavengers

~~Nathan Cargill, Samuel Black, Joseph Crandall, Nathaniel Burkhard, Nathaniel Brown, John Armstrong, and William Sweet and James Black.~~

Isaac Peck, William Snow and Henry Alexander.

Overseers of the Work House

Overseers of the Poor.

Town Cryer.

Daniel Branch.

John Mason.

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge

John Smith, Daniel Gallowell, Thomas Arnold, Zephaniah Brown, Abner Bagget and John Mumford.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons

Enos Hitchcock, Joseph Snow, Jonathan Maxcy, Abraham S. Clarke, Stephen Jacobs, James Wilson, Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, David Howell, Theodore Foster, John Lorrance, Malcom Arnold, Benjamin Bourn, Nicholas Brown and John Innes Clark, Esqrs.

School Committee

Samuel Jackson and Samuel Snedeor.

June 6th A D 1796.

Measurers of Carpenter Work

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Crumbee, John Smith and Walker Harding.

Town Council Fees

Resolved, that the Members of the Town Council shall be allowed in future, the Sum of fifty Cents each, for every special meeting on the Town's Business which they may respectively attend, and that the same Compensation be allowed said Council for their Services for the Year past, provided all Accounts for such Services be duly audited before Payment, which is hereby directed to be made out of the Town Treasury.

100 Dollars appropriated to reward the most exemplary Youth

Resolved, that the Sum of one hundred Dollars, be appropriated for the current Year out of the Town Treasury under the Direction of the School Committee for the Purposes of rewarding such of the Youth attending the School, in this Town, as may prove the most exemplary in their Conduct and Conversation; and that said Sum be applied in such Premiums or Donations as said Committee shall direct.

Com.tee to examine Town Records and report thereon

Resolved, that Moses Brown, Zephaniah Andrews and Benjamin Reynolds be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, for the Purpose of examining the Town Records, and ascertaining what Record Books it may be necessary to cause to be transcribed, indexed or otherwise amended, and that said Committee make Report of their Proceedings hereon at the next Town Meeting.

Law requiring Survey of Boards &c to be published

Resolved that the Clerk be directed to publish the existing Law of this State requiring the Survey of Joists, Boards, Spars, and Timber offered for Sale, together with the Names of the Committee appointed at this Meeting to perform said Survey within the Limits of this Town.

Com.to wait on Town Council Clerk &c.

Resolved that Mess.rs William Tarred, and William Allen, as a Committee on the Part of the Town, be and they are hereby added, to Capt. Seth Wheaton the Committee man appointed on the Part of the Town Council, for the Purpose of examining and finally adjusting the Accounts of the Town and Council Clerk.

Com.to examine Engine purchased by J. Clark at New York &c.

Resolved, that Moses Brown, Thomas Arnold and Seth Wheaton be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of inspecting the Machine procured by John Innes Clark, from New York for raising Water from the River for extinguishing Fires in this Town, and if the same is approbated by said Committee that they be authorized to procure a similar one for the use of the Town, and that said Committee make Report of their Proceedings herein at the next Town Meeting.

Com.te to procure suitable Person to superintend Work-House &c.

Resolved, that the Town Council and Overseers of the poor of this Town be appointed a Joint Committee to procure a suitable person to superintend the Work House; and that the Expense thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury; It is also resolved, that said Committee be requested to prepare the necessary Regulations for the better Government of said Work House, and such Persons as shall be confined therein.

Nich.s Hopkins allowed for ringing Bell.

Voted that Nicholas Hopkins be allowed the Sum of fifty Dollars per Year for ringing the Baptist Meeting House Bell three Times a day, to commence from this Time; said Compensation to be paid out of the Town Treasury

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James Arnold to repair Clock Hands &c.

Voted that James Arnold be authorized and requested to repair the Hands of the Baptist Meeting House Clock, and cause the same to be painted of such Color as to render them the most conspicuous, and that said Repairing and Painting be done at the Towns Expense.

Town Treas.r to execute & receive a Deed &c.

Voted that the Treasurer of this Town execute a Deed to Aaron Mason of a Strip of Land adjoining the North Burying Ground in Pursuance of an Authority granted to this Town by an act of the General Assembly at their October Session A D 1795, and that he take in Payment the Sum of twenty five Pounds by Way of Discount out of the Monies to be paid by the Town to Moses Brown for the Lands to be purchased of him agreeably to the aforesaid Act of Assembly.

Voted that the Treasurer receive a Deed of Moses Brown of the eight Acres of Land mentioned in the Act aforesaid for the Uses to which the Lands there were originally appropriated at the Rate of three Dollars per Acre, and after deducting the twenty five Pounds aforesaid, give his Note on Interest to the said Moses Brown for the Ballance.

Persons propounded

Persons propounded.—Cromwell Barney, Richard Byrke, William Pitt-Radcliff Benson, John Holden.....

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned & assembled at the Town House in said Town on the twenty third day of June A.D. 1796.....

Colo. Zephaniah Andrews Moderator

No assessment of State Tax to be made

Resolved as the Sense of this Meeting that no Assessment of this Towns Apportionment of the State Tax as order'd by the General Assembly at their June Session shall be made by the Assessors of this Town, such apportionment being manifestly unconstitutional: Voted unanimously that the foregoing Resolution be published in all the News papers in this Town.....

Comm. to get Town Records transcribed

Whereas the Committee appointed on the sixth Instant to examine the Town Records have submitted the following Report thereon to Wit.— Agreeable to Appointment We have examined the antient Records in the Town Clerks Office and it is our Opinion, that it is necessary the three first Books be transcribed in a Book or Books for the purpose and that an Index or Indexes be made to the same, and that several other Books appear to require Indexes to be made, and some others to be amended: and it appears to us proper that a Committee be appointed to have the same done in the most legible Manner and to compare and see that the Transcripts be fairly and accurately made which is submitted by.— Thos. J. Bowen
Providence June 22. 1796. Zph. Andrews
Benj.a Bryant

And the said Report being duly considerd, it is thereupon Resolved that the same be received and that Messrs Jabez Bowen, Moses Brown, Jehaniah Andrews, Benjamin Reynolds & the Town Clerk be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of procuring such of the Town Records to be transcribed as have become defaced or illegible, that they procure suitable Blank Books for that purpose and agree with an Amanuensis on such Terms and conditions as the Nature of his Service may require.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 6th day of June instant to provide a suitable person to superintend the work house and put the same under better Regulations have submitted the following Report ----------

Report of Committee on Work-House or Bridewell.

At a Meeting of the Committee appointed to regulate the work house &c. June 20th 1796 Amos Atwell Esqr in the Chair ----------

Voted that there ought to be built a House for a Bridewell; that said Building ought to be thirty two feet long and fourteen feet wide ten feet high upright in the Clear; that it be built of Stone and Brick; that it be divided into four Cells ----

Voted that said Building stand on the Wharf on the East Side of the Ufford extending from North to South in Length and that the Water may have a thorough fake under the same to carry off the filth ----------

And the said Report being duly considerd

it is thereupon Resolved that the same be received; & that the same Committee be reappointed for the Purpose of erecting a suitable Building to be used as a Bridewell or house of Correction for idle and disorderly persons and that the same be erected conformably to the Report of the same Committee this day exhibited on that Subject. It is also Resolved that the Sum of five hundred Dollars be appropriated out of the Town Treasury for the Purpose of erecting said Building.

Town Tax of ten thousand Dollars

Voted that a Tax of ten Thousand Dollars be levied and assessid on the rateable property of the Freemen and other Inhabitants of this Town, that the same be assessed by the first day of August next and collected and paid into the Town Treasury by the first day of October next and if not paid at that Time to draw Interest afterwards, that the said Tax be appropriated in the following Manner, to Wit, Fifteen hundred Dollars there of for the Support of the Poor, five hundred Dollars for the purpose of erecting a Bridewell or House of Correction for idle and disorderly persons, One thousand Dollars for contingent Expences and the Residue as a sinking fund for the Discharge of the Town Debt. It is also resolved that all liquidated Debts not exceeding the Sum of ten Dollars each shall be receivable in payment of said Tax. ----------

Voted and resolved that Messrs John Brown, Moses Brown, Joseph Nightingale, David Leonard

Committee to write Circular Letters thro out State

Barnes, Thomas Arnold, Seth Wheaton and James Burrill Junr. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to write Circular Letters to the Freemen of the several Towns in this State inforcing the Necessity of introducing a Reform in the Govern-ment of this State, by framing a Constitution therefor upon equal and republican Principles and requesting the hearty Concurrence of said Towns by Instruc-tions to the several Representatives in obtaining an Act of the General Assembly at the next Sessions for calling a Convention of the People for the Purpose of framing and adopting a Constitution; that the said Letters be directed to the Respective Town Clerks with a Request to lay the Same before the several Town Meetings in August next ——

Committee to write Circular Letters to Bristol &c

Voted and Resolved that Messrs. John Brown Moses Brown, Joseph Nightingale, David Leonard Barnes, Thomas Arnold, Seth Wheaton, and James Burrill Junr. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to write circular Letters to the Towns of Bristol, Warren and Middletown and the Towns in this County requesting them to appoint some suitable persons to represent them in a Meeting to be holden at such Time and Place as the said Committee may think most expedient, for considering the Grievances which the said Towns with this Town may suffer in Consequence of the arbitrary and capricious Estimate of the Rateable Property

of the Inhabitants of this State lately reported to and ratified by the General Assembly and of the Propriety of refusing to pay the State Tax ordered at June Sessions last agreeably to that Estimate ——

Voted that the Gentlemen above named be appointed to represent this Town in the said Meeting ——

Overseer of Haypost Bridge.

Voted that James Arnold Esq.r be, and he is hereby appointed Overseer of Haypost Bridge in the Room of John Mason Esq.r declined.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on Wednesday the twenty ninth Day of June A.D. 1796

Jabez Bowen Esqr. Moderator

Report of Committee on draught of circular Letter approved

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to write circular Letters to certain Towns on the Subject of the Estimate lately adopted by the General Assembly have made a Report of a Draught of a Letter to this Meeting: It is voted and resolved that the said Draught be approved of, that the Clerk procure a sufficient Number of Copies thereof to be printed, and that the same be signed by the Moderator and Clerk and forthwith transmitted to the Assessors and Town Clerks or other principal Officers of the said Towns by Express or otherwise, together with Copies of the Vote of the Town Meeting of the 23d. Instant on the Subject of assessing the State Tax and of the Protest offered at the General Assembly by our Representatives and eleven others. ---- Voted that the said Vote appointing the said Committee to write the said circular Letters be rescinded, and that Messrs. John Brown, Thomas Arnold, Joseph Nightingale, David Leonard Barnes, Seth Wheaton and James Burrill Junr. be, and they are hereby appointed to represent this Town at the Meeting to be holden at the Time provided in the said Letter. ----------

Clerk of Market to alter Stalls in Market house

Resolved that the Clerk of the Market be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to make such Alterations in the present Arrangement of the Stalls in the Market House as will best accommodate the Sellers and Purchasers frequenting the same and to add such new Stalls and of such Constructions as shall be found most convenient, and that Zephaniah Andrews and Nicholas Brown be appointed a Committee to advise and assist the said Clerk herein

Surveyor appointed

Asa Franklin is elected a Surveyor of Boards, Joists &c. for the current Year ----------

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the Town House in said Town on the thirtieth Day of August A.D. 1796.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

Nathaniel Fuller, John Holden, Nathan Salisbury, Samuel Allen, George K. Burrough, William Ewell, John Ewell

Unpounded.

admitted free

Arnold Whipple, Peleg Anthony, Young Seamans, Thomas Robinson, Benjamin Munro, Paul Allen Jun., Stephen Smith, John Earle, Benjamin Clifford, Benjamin Veazie Jun., George Horton, Joseph Fuller Jun., Edward Gladding, Nehemiah Mason, Timothy Gilpin Jun., Obadiah Tourneur, John Young, Joshua Matthew, Stephen Jeffery, George Nightingale, Josiah Fuller, Peter Turner, Lord, William Hoxsey, Arthur [illegible] Manyn, Christopher [illegible]

August 30th A D 1796.

Representatives chosen.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Representatives to represent this Town in the Hon.ble General assembly of this State for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in the said assembly at their Session to be holden on the last monday of October, and to all future Sessions thereof until the first Wednesday in may next; — Namely

Welcome Arnold Esq.r 1st
Charles Lippitt Esq.r 2nd
John Smith Esq.r 3d
Wm Richard Jackson Jun.r 4th

Representatives to Congress proved for

This being the biennial Election of two Representatives to represent this State in the fifth Congress of the United States the following Proxy Votes were received; — to wit; —

For
Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and
Wm William Greene } — " — " — 246.

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and
Wm Christopher Grant Champlin } — " — 105.

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and
George Champlin Esq.r } — " — " — 3.

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and
Daniel Lyman Esq.r } — " — " — 1.

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and Ray Greene Esq.r } — " — " — 1.

For Benjamin Bourn Esq.r
and } — " — " — 1.

For Wm Christopher J. Champlin. Solus — " — 2.

For Wm William Greene — Solus — " — 1.

Total number 360.

August 30th A D 1796.

Committee to Lay out Town Lands.

Resolved that Messrs Moses Brown, John Dorrance and Seth Wheaton be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of enquiring into and ascertaining the Situation, Nature and Extent of all such Lands as of Right belong to this Town, and that said Committee report the Result of their Proceedings herein as soon as may be.

Surveyor of Roads.

Simeon Ingraham is chosen a Surveyor of Roads for the Remainder of the current Year.

adjournment.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday next at 3 O.l Clock P. M. for the Purpose of considering and determining upon the Expediency of repealing a Vote of the Town passed on the twenty third Day of June last directing that an Assignment of this Town's apportionment of the State Tax, as ordered by the General Assembly at their June Session should be made by the Assessors of this Town; — And that the Town Clerk issue his Warrant for warning said Meeting by Way of Brevia notifying the Business to be transacted.

Adjourned to Sept.r 3d A.D 1796

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden in and for said Town by adjournment on the third Day of September A D 1790.

John Jarrance Esq. Moderator.

vote for reassessment of Tax rescinded

Voted that the Resolution entered into by the Freemen of this Town on the twenty third Day of June last, not to assess this Town's apportionment of the State Tax ordered by the General Assembly at their June Session be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Memorial on the Estimate

Voted that messrs John Brown Joseph Brittingale Thomas Arnold Thomas L. Halsey, Seth Wheaton David L. Barnes and James Burrill Junior be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to prepare and present a Memorial in Behalf of the Town to the general Assembly at their next Session stating the Inequality of the Estimate of the rateable Property of this State lately adopted as it respects this Town, and to endeavour to obtain an alteration thereof, and also to obtain Relief from the Tax ordered by the general Assembly at their last Session.

Well on the West side to be repaired

Voted that messrs Robert Taylor, John Mumford, and Oliver Pearce be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to repair the Public Well on the West side of the River, and that the same be done at the Town's Expense.

Report of Comm on the Pump procured by Messrs Clark & Brittingale

September 3d A D 1790.

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled.

The Committee to view a Pump procured by Clark and Brittingale for the Purpose of extinguishing fires have viewed the same report it as our Opinion that the same may prove useful for said Purpose and recommend that it be taken for the use of the Town.

Providence 9th Mo. called September 3 1790. Seth Wheaton, Thomas Arnold

And the said Report being duly considered it is thereupon resolved that the same be received, and that the Expense of said Pump amounting to eighty eight Dollars and fifty Cents be reimbursed to the said Clark and Brittingale out of the Town Treasury.

Well at the East End to be repaired.

Voted that messrs Nehemiah Sweet, Simeon Thayer and Levi Burr be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to repair the Well at the upper End of this Town, and that the same be done at the Town Expense.

overseers to give Bond for the Enlargement

Voted that the Overseers of the poor be directed to give Bond for the Enlargement of Nicholas Tredenick on Prison Limits to the Mercy of his Petition for the Benefit of the insolvent Act be finally determined.

The Meeting is dissolved

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the fifteenth Day of November A.D 1796.

Welcome Arnold Esq. Moderator.

admitted free — Cromwell Barney, Richard Burke, William Pitt Radcliffe Benson, John Holden.

postponed — Samuel Mason, Samuel Brown, Christopher Bentley, Gilbert Fuller.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of a Representative to Congress in the Place of Benjamin Bourn Esq declined the following Votes were received; to wit;-

For Elisha R. Potter Esq 48.
For Peleg Arnold Esq 29.
For Geo. R Buzzell Esq 6.
For David L Barnes Esq 2.

Proxies put in for Representative to Congress.

Voted that the Town Clerk be directed to cause 500 Copies of the Acts of the General assembly relating to the Government of the Bridewell to be printed, and that said acts be printed in the News Papers.

Bridewell Acts.

Voted that the Town Audit be authorized to audit the Accounts of William Slack for Repairs made by him upon Jerge Street at the Entrance thereof from Benefit Street and if the Charge shall appear just and reasonable that they pass the same accordingly.

Mr Slacks Acct.

Voted that the Surveyors of the Streets and Highways in this Town upon Application to them made for that Purpose be and they are hereby requested to cause all Obstructions and Nuisances in said Streets or Highways to be forthwith removed, and the said Surveyors are further requested to report to the Town Treasurer the Names of all such Persons as refuse a Compliance with their Directions to the End that Indictments may be preferred against them.

Surveyors to remove Nuisances &c

Voted that the Town Council of this Town and the Overseers of the Poor be and they are hereby authorized as a joint Committee to procure such necessaries as may be wanting for the Work House and Bridewell in Order to carry the Plans of the same into complete Effect and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Commee to procure necessaries for Work House & Bridewell

The Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden at the Town-House on the Seventh Day of December AD 1796.

David L. Barnes Esq. Moderator.

Watch

Voted that there be established and kept up in this Town a Night Watch, for the Purpose of securing it from Fires and Thefts, that the said Watch consist of six Persons and be continued until April Town Meeting.

Rounds of the Watch

Voted that the Watch established at this Meeting begin their Rounds at ten O'Clock in the Evening and continue the same till Bell Ringing in the Morning, and that each Watchman be allowed one Dollar per night for his Services.

Appointment of Watch under the Direction of the Council

Voted that the appointment of the Night Watch be under the Direction of the Town Council and that they be authorized to make such Regulations therefor, as from Time to Time may be thought necessary, — that a House twelve feet square and seven feet high be erected for a Watch House on the Town's Land near the Market House, and that Messrs. James Arnold, Ebenezer Thompson and William Thode be a Committee for the Purpose of building said House

Commee to examine Stoves &c

Voted that a Committee of six Persons be appointed to examine into the Situation of Stoves and Fire Places, and to make such alterations as they shall think necessary and that Messrs. Moses Lippitt, Daniel Tillinghast, John Slatterly 2d, Jacob Whitman Jun., John Smith and Samuel Thurber Jun., be a Committee for that Purpose. Voted that said Committee shall order such alterations to be made as they shall think necessary and if any Person shall neglect or refuse to suffer such alterations he or they shall incur the Penalty of five Dollars, to be recovered by action of the Case in the Name of the Town-

Treasurer before any Justice of the Peace in said Town,

2d article of Warrant dispensed with

Voted that no order be taken on the second article mentioned in this Warrant for convening this Meeting

Persons prohibited from carrying Candles &c

Voted that if any Person or Persons shall be detected in carrying a Candle or Candles out of a close Lanthorn into any Stable, Barn or Place where Hay is kept in this Town, he she or they so offending shall incur the Penalty of five Dollars to be recovered by action of the Case in the Name of the Town Treasurer

Tax of 500 Dolls.

Voted that a Surplusage Tax of fifteen hundred Dollars be Levied and assessed on the Inhabitants of this Town in addition to the State Tax and for the Purpose of defraying the Expense of the Night Watch, and when collected, that the same be Paid into the Town Treasury.

Commee to procure Fire Buckets &c

Voted that Capt. Jeth Wheaton be authorized & requested to Procure one hundred new Leather Fire Buckets, ten Fire Hooks, six Ladders & a good new Engine and that the Expense thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury.

Commee to procure Pumps

Voted that Mr. Jirnadi Reynolds be authorized and requested, to procure three good Pumps for the Reservoir on the West side of the Bridge and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Treasurer to borrow Money to pay Watch

Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized to borrow Money for Paying the Watchmen as fast as their Wages become due, — and also for the Support of the Poor.

December 16th AD 1796.

Comittee to procure Copper Pump

Voted that Mess.rs Clark and Nightingale be requested to procure a good Copper Pump in addition to that already procured.

Comittee to adjust Acc.a of J. Brown &c.

Voted that the Town Audit be authorized to examine and adjust Mr John Brown's Accounts for the Repairs of the House at the South End of this Town, over and above what was heretofore appropriated for that Object.

The Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the nineteenth Day of April AD 1797.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator

Freemen admitted

Nathaniel Luther — Nathan Salisbury, Samuel Allen, George H. Burrough, William Eveleth, and John Eveleth,

Unpounded for a Freeman

William Burr,

This being the Anniversary for proving for general officers and also the Day for choosing Representatives from this Town to the Hon.ble General Assembly for the ensuing six months, the following Gentlemen were duly elected to represent said Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next and on all Days of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next;

Representatives chosen

namely

Welcome Arnold Esq.r 1st — Wm Thomas Esq.r 3d.
John Smith Esq.r 2d — James Burrill Esq.r 4th

Petition from St John's Lodge for Privilege of adding a Story to Market House

Whereas a Committee of the Society of Free masons composing Saint John's Lodge in this Town presented unto this Meeting the following Petition, to wit;—

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town meeting convened April 19th 1797.

The Subscribers in Behalf of the Society of Free masons composing St John's Lodge in the Town of Providence beg Leave to represent, that from the Inconvenience the said Lodge have experienced on various occasions in assembling and conducting their Affairs at the Council Chamber of the Court House which they have improved on sufferance for these many Years they have been induced to pass a Vote of said Society for erecting a convenient Room for their better accommodation; — And conceiving that the Market House would be ornamented by the addition of another Story being added to it, and thereby it would have a tendency to obstruct the Ravages of Fire if such a Calamity should happen in its neighborhood, therefore pray the Freemen of said Providence to pass a Vote granting to the said Society of free masons the Privilege of adding to the Market House one Story for their accommodation and to direct the Town Treasurer under his Seal to grant and convey the said Privilege to the said Society and their Successors under such Conditions as in the Wisdom of the Town they may think proper, — And your Petitioners &c.

Jn Wilso
Levi Wheaton
Johnson Bowen
Alex Ormsbe
} Committee

And the said Petition being twice read and duly considered, it is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the same be received and that the Prayer thereof be granted under the following Restrictions, to wit; — that the said Society have the Privilege of adding to the market House one Story for their accommodation, that they make the Set of Brick and keep the Roof and additional Story in Repair and that said Society be authorized by a Comm

April 8th A D 1797.

from the Town Treasurer under the Seal of the Town to them in their corporate Capacity to improve said Story, till the Town shall think proper to take the Same into their Posession, on paying said Society for said additional Story and Roof at an appraised Value thereof at the Time of taking the Same into Posession.

It is further voted that said Roof shall be so made as to be secure against fire, that the Town will pay the additional Expense (if any) between the same & a common Roof, and that Messrs Welcome Arnold Jr Thomas Lloyd Halsey and Richard Jackson Jun be a Committee to confer with said Society's Committee on the Subject of said Roof, and agree upon the Manner of building it.

Market Chambers to be let

*Voted that all the Chambers in the Market House excepting that improved by the Town Clerk be let out at Publick Auction for one Year from the tenth Day of June next.

Report of Comm on Lot near Mill Bridge

Whereas the Committee heretofore appointed to view a Lot near the Mill Bridge owned by Mr Oliver Bowen Jun have made the following Report; to wit; - We have met and viewed the Premises and do recommend that the Town purchase the same at a Sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty Dollars, to and for their use,

Wm Arnold
Wm Smith
Seth Wheaton

And the said Report being duly considered it is thereupon voted and Resolved that the same be recieved and the further Consideration thereof deferred.

Comm^ee to ascertain Line of Burying Ground

Voted that Messrs Ebenezer Thompson and Daniel Anthony be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of ascertaining and running the true Lines between the Land of Benjamin Gozzen Jun at the north End of this Town and the Burying Ground.

Comm^ee to inquire respecting a Lot claimed by Wm Goddard.

Voted that Messrs Moses Brown, Joseph Tillinghast and Joel Metcalf be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into the Title which William Goddard Esqr pretends to a certain Lot of Land situated at the north End of this Town and now in the Posession of Simeon Thayer and that said Committee make Report at next June Meeting.

Town Treasurer to take Posession of Lot late Peter Clear's.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be authorized to take Posession of the Lot of Land at the north End of this Town, late belonging to Peter Clear deceased and claimed by the Heirs of said Owner deceased, and that said Treasurer be empowered to lease out the said Lot for the most he can obtain for the same.

Town House Windows to be mended &c

Voted that the Town Treasurer be requested to cause the Windows of the Town House to be newly glazed and to procure Window Shutters for the Same.

Comm^ee on the Bounds of the Cove.

Voted that Messrs John Mumford William Richmond and Benjamin Reynolds be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to ascertain the true Limits and Boundaries of the Cove North of the Ridge in the Town, and that Daniel Anthony be requested to attend said Committee as Surveyor, and that they report their Proceedings together with a Plan of said Cove, at the next June Town Meeting.

April 10th AD 1797.

Watch continued till June

Voted that the Night Watch established in this Town be continued until the first monday of June next, under the same Conditions as when first established; — and that the Committee originally appointed to procure a Watch House be reappointed for the same purpose.

John Brown's Acct. to be audited

Voted that the Town Audit be authorized and requested to audit the accounts of Mr John Brown for Paving and other Work done upon the Streets and Highways in this Town, on the same Principles which they have observed in auditing other accounts for similar Services.

See Table Committee

Voted that Messrs John Dorrance William Learned Seth Wheaton William Richmond and Silvanus Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of forming a Fee Table for the Regulation of the official Charges of the Town Treasurer and Town Clerk of this Town, by them in future respectively to be made, and that they report such Fee Table to the next June Town Meeting.

Number of Proxies.

The Proxies put in at this Meeting for Genral Officers are in number eighty five of which there are for His Excellency Thomas Fenner Esq. as Governor Eighty four.

Town not depositing fire Buckets in case.

Voted that Capt Seth Wheaton be appointed to wait on Capt Jeremiah Tower for permission to deposit the Town Fire Buckets in the Coffee Room of the Exchange Coffee House, and if such Permission is obtained, to cause said Buckets to be removed thither accordingly.

The Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden at the Town-House in said Town on the fifth Day of June AD 1797.

David L. Barnes Esq. — Moderator.

This being the anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing, the following Persons are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective Names; to wit,

Town Clerk. Geo. Tillinghast.

Town-Council.

John Dorrance President, Silvanus Martin, Joel Utcalf Thomas Lloyd Halley, Jonathan Treadwell, Samuel Eddy,

Town Serjeant. Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer. James Arnold.

Town audit. John Smith, John Mumford and Andrew Dexter.

Constables. William Jones, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Nicholas Hopkins, John Lahell, Daniel Hayford, Samuel Hunting, Calvin Walker, William Burt, and Thomas Williams.

Sealer of Weights and Measures } Jacob Whitman Junior.

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Assessors of Taxes and Overseers of the Poor.

William Larned William Richmond and William Holroyd.

Surveyors of Joist Boards, Sparr, Timber and corded Wood.

Asa Franklin, Simeon Ingraham Joshua Lindley, John Smith, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harding and Elijah Ormsbee; and Christopher Arnold as to Spars.

Surveyors of Highways.

Nathan Waterman, Oliver Bowen Junr. Joseph Tillinghast, Job Danforth, Philip Martin, Daniel Sproud

Guagers of Casks.

Samuel Jackson, Ezek. Eddy, James Wheaton John Sourbough, Nathaniel Richmond, Samuel Sheeden and George Dods.

Vendue masters.

Benjamin Hoppin, William Peck and Robert Taylor Junr. and Joseph Lawrence.

Collector of Taxes.

Henry Bowen. Fees at 3 p. Cent.

Clerk of Market.

Samuel Clarke.

Packers of Beef Pork and Fish.

William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clemens, George Dods, John Eathforth, Arthur Fenner, Charles Lasells, Samuel Eathforth, Samuel Brown, Henry Randall, James Sheeden.

Corders of Wood

John Vial, John Pettey, John Lasell, Samuel Shilkie, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton, Henry Alexander, Major Seamans, and James Sheeden.

Overseers of the Poor.

The Town Council.

Inspectors of Pounds.

Charles Holden and Johny Miller.

To value Estates when disputed in voting.

Fence-viewers

Presidents of the Firewards.

Firewards.

Richard Jackson Jr.

Fire Engine Company No. 1.

Fire Engine Company No. 2.

Fire Engine Company No. 3.

Fire Engine Company No. 4.

Nominee to remove Goods &c. in Case of Fire.

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire.

Field Drivers.

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason.

* Samuel Thurber Junr. John Mumford & Christopher Arnold.

John Brown Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler.

Joseph Nightingale, Amos Atwell, Job Smith, Samuel Thurber, James Arnold, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Zephaniah Andrews, Welcome Arnold, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, and John Innes Clarke, and John Carlile.

Nicholas Brown, Robert Taylor Junr. John Howland, Nathan Angell Junr. Nathan Jackson, William Lee, Edward Dexter, Elisha Brown, Nathaniel Smith, ... Stephen Harris and Isaac Bullard.

Philip Martin, Nehemiah Sweet, Benjamin Hall, James Wheaton, Samuel Thurber Junr. James Burr, Ezekiel Burr, George Sheeden, Samuel Whipple Jabez Jerhan, Ebenezer K. Dexter, and Samuel Staples.

John Mathewson, Zephaniah Brown, Asa Franklin, Joshua Lindley, Nicholas Power, Jonathan N. Coy, Ward Gowing, Peter Grinnell, William Taylor, John Young, Oliver Pearce, and Richard Anthony.

Daniel Fillwell, Jeremiah Pierce Israel Davis, Joseph Arnold 3d. Benjamin Earle George Earle James Ormsbee, Eber Coleman John Gibbs, John T. Sheldon Cromwell Rainey & Henry Dexter.

John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon, and Amos Atwell.

Comfort Wheaton James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Caleb Ormsbee Walker Harding and Darius Allen.

Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Jones John Tarr, Daniel Jeffs, Josiah Hopkins, Henry Sweeting, and Calvin Walker.

Sealer of Leather

Joel Metcalf.

Scavengers.

Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Isaac Peck Millikin Jnor, and Henry Alexander.

Overseers of the Work House & Town Lovers.

overseers of the Poor.

Overseers of Weybosset Bridge.

Daniel Branch and Nicholas Branch.

Comtee to prevent Encroachments on Streets Highways Lanes Gangways & Commons.

Joshua Lindley.

John Smith, Daniel Jillwell, Thomas Arnold, Zephaniah Brown, Abner Daggett, and John Mumford.

School Committee.

Enos Hitchcock, Jonathan Nancy, Abraham L. Clarke, Stephen Jones, James Wilson, and Moses Brown.

Inspectors of Pot and Pearl Ashes.

Samuel Jackson and Samuel Wheaton.

Measurers of Carpenters Work, Plaistering & Painting.

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, John Smith, and Walker Harding.

Inspectors of Lime.

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Morton and Cyrus Cole.

Enjoined on Constables to discharge their Duty with Vigelance & fervency.

Voted, that it be enjoined on all the Constables of this Town, to exercise the utmost Vigilance in suppressing disorderly and riotous Behavior on the Sabbath, and that they respectively perform their Duty in other Respects, with rigid Exactness.

Oration Comtee.

Voted, that the Committee annually appointed to procure an Oration to be delivered on the Anniversary of American Independence, be reappointed for the same Object.

Comm to examine the Standards

Voted that it be recommended to the Town Council to take into Consideration the sealed Standard Measures of this Town, and to compare them with the measures of the neighbouring Towns, and if they find them deficient in Capacity to have them corrected.

Nomination of Justices.

Voted, that this Town do nominate the following Gentlemen, to be elected by the Hon^ble Gen. Assembly of this State at their Session to be holden in June instant, to serve as Justices of the Peace for the Town of Providence; — Namely, Samuel Chace, James Arnold, William Richmond, Willian Jones, Wheeler Martin and George Sillingast.

Report of Comtee on Boundaries of the Cove.

Voted and resolved, that the Report of the Committee appointed on the nineteenth day of April last to ascertain the true Extent and Boundaries of the Cove, north of the Bridge be and the same is hereby received adopted and confirmed; — That the said Report and Plat accompanying the same, be recorded in the Town Clerk's Office, and that they be considered as the Evidence of the Lines & Bounds of the Cove, and that the said Cove as delineated on said Plat, be hereafter kept open and free from Encroachments; — It is further voted that the said Committee be continued, and that they take such Steps as to them may seem advisable in order to preserve the use of said Property to the Town.

Comm to regulate the Assize of Wood and Coal.

Voted that messrs Richard Jackson Jun^r James Burrill Jun^r, and Jacob Whitman Jun^r be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draw up such Regulations as may be necessary respecting the Assize & Measurement of Wood and Coal coming to this Town for Sale; and that said Committee report

June A.D. 1797.

John Mason to repair Hyde's set place

Voted that John Mason be, and he is hereby authorized and requested to make such necessary Repairs upon Hyde's Street at the Situation of the Same immediately requires.

Passage from Allen's Lane to Herrenden's to be freed from Obstructions

Voted that the Town Treasurer be directed to take immediate Measures for removing all Obstructions to the Communication between Abeys Lane, and Herrenden's Lane, and that he prosecute by Indictment all Persons who shall continue to obstruct said Communication after due Notice given.

Allowed on Calvin Walker's account.

Voted that the Sum of five Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Calvin Walker in full of his account for the Use of his Team and for Labour furnished the Town.

Whereas a number of the Inhabitants of this Town have presented to this Meeting the following Petition, to wit; - To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled; The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of said Town humbly sheweth, that

Petition for opening George Street

the Street called and known by the Name of George Street, has been opened and in some Degree rendered commodious, Principally at the Expence of Individuals; That the Inhabitants of said Street in a particular Manner have exerted themselves, in levelling and improving the Same; - that the same requires additional Repairs, in Order to render it commodious and even passable; - that when one completed the said Street would become very useful and convenient for the Inhabitants of the Town and others. Your Petitioners therefore Pray that the Town would take such Measures in the Premises that said Street may be repaired and completed. And as in Duty bound will ever Pray, &c.

On the foregoing Petition, it is voted and resolved that the Same be receeved, and that Messrs John Brumford, Seth Wheaton and Thomas Poynton Ives be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of viewing said George Street, and reporting the Expediency of making the Same passable and the probable Expence thereof, and that said Committee report at August Meeting.

School Committee to draw up Regulations.

Voted that the present School Committee, be requested to draw up such Rules and Regulations for effectuating their System of Education as they may think necessary, and that they make Report of their Proceedings at August Meeting.

John Smith's account allowed

Whereas John Smith Esq. Presented an Account by him charged for his Services as one of the Town Auditors, and the same being examined, it is Voted that the same be received, and that the amount thereof being Dollars be allowed and paid to the said John Smith out of the Town Treasury.

Andrew Dexter's Account allowed.

Whereas Andrew Dexter presented an account by him charged for his Services as one of the Town Auditors, and the same being duly examined it is voted that the same be received and that there of being twelve Dollars be allowed and Paid

June A D 1797.

paid Andrew Dexter out of the Town Treasury.

John Mumfords Account allowed.

Whereas John Mumford presented an account by him charged for his services as one of the Town Audit, and the same being duly examined, it is thereupon voted that the same be receved, and that the amount thereof being twelve Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to the said John Mumford.

Report of the Audit on the Town Treasurers Account.

Whereas the Town Audit have exhibited to this Meeting the Settlement of the account of James Arnold Esq. Town Treasurer of this Town, whereby it appears that there is a Balance due to the said James Arnold from the Town of one thousand eight hundred & ninety four Dollars, and sixty seven Cents, with the Interest thereon from the thirty first Day of December A D 1796 &c. And the said account being duly examined, it is thereupon voted and Resolved, that the same be receivd, and that the Balance therein reported, be allowed and paid to the said James Arnold out of the Town Treasury, together with the Interest on said Balance from said thirty first Day of December A D 1796.

June A D 1797.

Report of Committee appointed to run the Line between Benjamin Gozzens Land and the Burying Ground.

Providence april 21st A D 21st of the 4th M. 1797.

Agreeable to appointment by the Town of Providence we have run the Line between Benjamin Gozzens and the Burying Ground in running which we have been governed by the Survey of the Committee in 1784. allowing two thirds of a Degree Variation of Compass between that Line and the present running, Viz, we began at a white Oak Tree at the North East Corner of the said Gozzens Land and from thence run South 28½ West 22 Rods, where the said Committee mention a Heap of Stones, but no such Heap was to be found thence S. 5½ West in direct Range towards the Barberry Bush mentioned by said Committee at which Place stands a Stone for a Bound, extending said Range towards said Stone until it intersects the Fence dividing between said Gozzens Land and the Lot the Town purchased of Moses Brown, which Place together with the Running as aforesaid we marked for the true Line between said Gozzens and said Burying Ground, at which the said Gozzens was present. We also note that Some of the Fence including Peter Randalls Land, adjoining said Burying Ground, appears to us to stand considerable further on said Burying Ground than it did at the Time of the former Survey.

Ebenezer Thompson
Dan'l Anthony
Town Committee

And the foregoing Report being read & duly considered, it is thereupon voted and Resolved that the Same be receivd and established, and that the Town Treasurer be directed the said said Peter Randalls Fence to be removed off said Burying Ground in Conformity with the said Report.

Persons admitted free.

June 1D 1797.

Henry Sweeting, Benjamen Hunt Hall, James Thurber Son of Edward, John Field Jun, Ozias Danforth, Joseph Jacobs Son of Nelson, Lowry Thorn, Samuel Warner Jun,

Persons Propounded

John Ward, Jabez Bowen Jun, James Rhodes, Jeremiah Whiting, William Carpenter, Uriah Hopkins, James Larcher, William West, Isaac Steck, Aaron Seamans, Elijah King, Oliver Cole, Job Budlong, David Walker, Jonathan Chace, William Manchester, Ralph Higginson, Elijah Crosbee, William Anderson

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the twenty ninth Day of August AD 1797.

Moderator.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

Persons propounded.

Samuel W. Bridgham, Joseph de Crean, Joseph Howard, William Billings, Samuel Vaughan, John Milton Mann, John Hall, Caleb Earle, Benjamin Batty, William Fleming, Nathan Jorton, Benjamin Freese.

Persons admitted free

William Burr, William Hopkins and Joseph Holroyde,

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Representatives to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State

State for the ensuing six months the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in the said Assembly at their Sessions to be holden on the last Monday of October next and in all future Sessions thereof until the first Wednesday in May next; - Namely;

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st.
John Smith " Esq. 2d.
Thomas P. Ives " 3d.
Capt William Rhodes " 4th.

Town Treasurer chosen.

The Office of Town Treasurer of this Town having become vacant by the Decease of James Arnold Esquire late Town Treasurer and the Ballots being taken for a Successor, it appears that Samuel Nightingale Esquire is elected to that Office by a majority of fifty seven Votes.

Comm to receive Books Papers &c from Town Treasurer's Office

Voted that Messrs Welcome Arnold, William Barnard and Samuel Eddy be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of receiving all the Books, Official Papers and Seal appertaining to the Town Treasurers Office and that said Committee deliver the same to Samuel Nightingale Esq. the present Town Treasurer, giving and taking Receipts therefor.

Bond to be taken from Town Treasurer.

Voted that the Committee appointed to take Charge of the Books and Papers belonging to the Town Treasury-Office and to deliver the same to the present Town Treasurer, be authorized and requested to receive the usual Bonds from the said Treasurer on his Entrance upon the Duties of his Office.

August 29th A.D. 1797.

Elijah Ormsbee appointed Engineman for No 4

Voted that Elijah Ormsbee be appointed a member of the Fire Engine Company No 4. in the Room of Joseph Arnold 3d deceased.

Comm.te to pave Westminster Street.

Voted, that Messrs Thomas Arnold, Simeon Thayer and John Carlile, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of superintending and directing the Pavement of Westminster Street from the Entrance thereof, at the Termination of Market Street to the End of the Pavement already laid down in said Westminster Street, and that the same be done and the Expense thereof defrayed in the same Manner which hath been observed respecting the Pavement of the other Publick Streets in this Town.

Engine No 2. to be repaired

Voted that Samuel Thurber Jun.r be authorized and empowered to repair the Engine No 2. at the North End of this Town and that he draw on the Town Treasurer for the Sum of thirty Dollars on account.

Place for new Engine to be provided.

Voted that Messrs John Smith Samuel Thurber Jun.r and William Rhodes be appointed a Committee for the Purpose of providing a suitable Place for keeping the new fire Engine belonging to this Town.

John Mathewsons account allowed

Voted, that the account exhibited by Col John Mathewson for his services as one of the Town auditt, and for his services as one of the Committee for inspecting stoves &c be allowed, and that the Amount thereof being fifteen Dollars be paid to him out of the Town Treasury.

Pavements in Town Street to be repaired.

Whereas it is represented unto this meeting that there are sundry Places in the Main Streets in this Town which require further Repairs for the

Security of Persons Carriages &c.

Pavement of the Street

of Persons Carriages &c; It is thereupon Voted that Col. John Whipple be, and he is hereby appointed to secure the Sides of Constitution Street by erecting a sufficient Fence, or in such other Way as to render the same safe, and that he also cause that Part of the Street at the Bottom of said Constitution Street, to be relaid as far as the same shall be necessary, and that he have the same otherwise thoroughly repaired.

It is further voted, that said John Whipple be authorized to make such Repairs on the Street near Philip Martin's Dwelling House, as the Situation of the same shall require, and that the same be done under the Direction of the Committee appointed at this Meeting to pave Westminster Street.

Town's Thatch to be sold by Town Treasurer and Newspapers to be prosecuted.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be directed to make Sale of the Thatch belonging to this Town, that the same be done at Publick Vendue to Morrow, to the highest Bidder; And that said Treasurer be directed to Prosecute all Persons who have already or may in future cut any of the Town's Thatch, unless they shall make Compensation therefor.

Jacob Whitmans account allowed &c.

Voted that the account exhibited by Jacob Whitman Jun.r for his services as one of the Committee appointed to inspect the Stoves &c in this Town, be allowed and that the amount thereof being three Dollars be paid to him out of the Town Treasury.

Comm.te to secure Ends of the Boards projecting over the Market House Jetts.

Voted that Messrs Welcome Arnold, Thomas Lloyd Bailey and Richard Jackson Jun.r be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to direct in what Manner the Ends of the Boards projecting over the Market House Jetts shall be secured.

Treasurer to pay Orders for Support of the Poor at the Treasury &c

Voted that the Town Treasurer be directed to pay off the Orders for the Support of the Poor at the Treasury and that in Case there shall not be Monies in the Treasury for that Purpose as aforesaid the Treasurer shall borrow the Money on the Credit of the Town

August 29th A D 1797.

Three months allowed the Collector to settle Arrearages of Taxes

Voted, that the Collector of Taxes be allowed the Term of three Months for settling the arrearages of the Taxes now in his Hands for Collection, and that unless he shall settle the same within that Period, the Treasurer be directed forthwith to sue him and his Boundsmen at a Special Court.

Comm to provide Place for the Scite of a Fish Market

Voted that Messrs John Spurr, Jacob Whitman Jun and Benjamin Reynolds be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of providing a suitable Place for the Scite of a Fish market for this Town, - and that said Committee make Report thereon to the next Town meeting, together with the probable Expense of building such Fish Market,

Comm to report Facts relative to Simeon Thayer's Representation.

Voted that Messrs David Howell and Grindall Reynolds be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into, and report the Facts relative to General Simeon Thayer's Enlistment of this Towns Proportion of men to serve on Rhode Island in the Year 1781. for the Term of one month; - and also the Facts relative to a Stipulation made by Nicholas Brown Esq deceased, in Behalf of the Town to pay the said Men their months Wages at the Expiration of said Term.

Votes put in for Representative to Congress.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of a Representative to Congress in the Place of Elisha R. Potter Esq resigned, the following Proxy Votes were received; to wit;-

For James Burrill Jun Esq.	246.
For Thomas Tillinghast Esq.	54.
For John L. Clarke Esq.	12.
For John Brown Esq.	1

Adjournment.

Voted and resolved that this meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the twelfth Day of September next then to meet at this Place at ten O.Clock A. M. that the Clerk be directed to issue his Warrant to convene the Freemen at said Time and Place for the Purpose of taking into Consideration the Expediency of ordering a Town Tax, and for transacting such other Business as shall come before said Meeting.

Adjourned.

Report of Committee on petition of Nehemiah Sweet & others, referred.

On the Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the Facts set forth in the Petition of Nehemiah Sweet and others respecting Part of a Highway or Stamper's Hill represented to be useless to the Publick, Voted and Resolved that said Report be received, and that the same and the Papers accompanying it be recommitted to said Committee with Instructions to enquire into and report upon the Sale of Ezekiel Rhuer to the Land described in said Report, and to any Land adjoining the same to the Northward and West between any Whipples and Isaac Angell's Houses.

NB. this last Vote should have been entered in the order preceding the Vote of adjournment.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the thirty first Day of August AD 1797.

Ebenezer Thompson Esq. Moderator.

Westminster Street to be paved in Part.

Resolved that the Vote passed at the last Town Meeting relative to the Pavement of Westminster Street be rescinded and that the Same be paved only from the Entrance of it near Mr Jacob Whitman's as far Westward as the West side of the Lot of James Burrill Esq and that the Expense of paving the same thus far as wide as that already laid down in said Street unless the Committee shall otherwise direct, be defrayed in the same Manner and the Pavement laid down as heretofore directed for the Pavement of the other Publick Streets in this Town, and that Ephraim Bowen Jun. William Tarred, and John Carlile be a Committee for superintending the same.

that the same Committee examine the Pavement in Steeple Street from John Martin's to Lewis Peck's and report to the next Meeting their Opinion whether it will be adviseable to have the same taken up and relaid.

Benefit Street to be widened in part.

Voted that Nathan Waterman and the Surveyor of the District South of the Baptist Meeting House be authorized and directed to widen Benefit Street in a suitable Manner for the Passing of Carriages &c in opposite Directions, and that the same be done at the Town's Expense, and that the removing the Dirt and Disposal of the same be left to the Discretion of the Surveyors.

50 Dollars appropriated to William Jones a poor Boy.

Voted that the Sum of fifty Dollars be appropriated out of the Town Treasury to William Jones, the Son of Benjamin Jones the Baker who was crippled by a Fire Machine belonging to this Town, and that said Sum be advanced in three equal Payments to be made Monthly, and distributed under the Direction of the said Benjamin Jones.

Situation of Friendship Street to be enquired into.

Voted that the Surveyors on the West Side of the River be authorized and directed to examine the Situation of Friendship Street, and to report whether any, and what Repairs, it may be necessary to make for the Benefit of said Street.

This Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment at the Town House in said Town on the twelfth Day of September AD 1797.

John Dorrance Esquire Moderator.

Report of Committee appointed to view Steeple Street.

Whereas the Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to examine the Pavements in Steeple Street, have this Day Presented the following Report, to wit:-

"The Committee appointed to view the Pavement in Steeple Street near Mr Butler's House, Report, that they have discovered that the Pavement from Muddy Dock to the House of William Tyler Esq. rises Seven Inches for each hundred feet thereof, and from the Corner of Whitman's to John Martin's it rises Inches for each hundred feet, that the

from Mr Martin's to Mr Tyler's there is a Rise of six and an half Inches; They are therefore of Opinion that the Pavement from Mr Tyler's House be taken up, and the same Proportion of Rise continued to the E. East Side of Mr Butler's House where it will be made 12 Inches higher than it now is, at that Place and from thence descend towards Mr Whitman's at the Rate of eight Inches for each Hundred Feet, which will join it in a regular Line to the Street opposite Mr John Martin's

All which is submitted by

Providence Sept.r 11th 1797. Eph.m Bowen Jr. / Jarred / John Carlile } Committee.

Whereupon the foregoing Report having been twice read and maturely considered, it is thereupon voted and resolved, that the same be received and adopted, and that Col. Zephaniah Andrews Mr Jacob Whitman Jun.r and Mr Benjamin Thorn be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of causing the said Pavement to be repaired in Conformity with said Report; and that said Committee also superintend and direct the relaying the Pavement in that Part of said Westerly Street which was heretofore displaced under the Direction of John Mason Esq.

Tax voted out.

Voted as the Sense of this Meeting that it is inexpedient at the present Time to levy any further Taxes.

Part Vote rescinded.

Voted that the preceding Resolution be and the same is hereby rescinded.

$4000 Dollar Tax.

Voted that a Tax of four thousand Dollars be levied and assessed on the rateable Property of the Freemen and other Inhabitants of this Town, that the same be assessed on or before the fifteenth Day of October next, and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of December next, and that said Tax be collected and paid into the Treasury in Cash, and that the same be appropriated to the Support of the poor and such contingent Expenses as may necessarily accrue.

Benj.a Talbot to take Charge of Pump apparatus

Voted that Benjamin Talbot Jun.r be and he is hereby appointed for the Purpose of receiving into his Care and Possession the Pump Handles and all the other Apparatus belonging to the new Pumps lately procured for the Reservoir on the West Side of the River.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the eighteenth Day of September A D 1797.

John Dorrance Esq.r Moderator.

$4000 Dollar Tax appropriated to specifick Objects.

Voted that the appropriation of the Tax of four thousand Dollars ordered at the last Town Meeting, be strictly limited to the Support of the Poor and to the Payment of such Drafts and Orders upon the Treasury as may be made under the Directions of the Town Council.

Allowance of Interest thereon in anticipate Payment of Taxes — & converso.

Voted, that every Person who shall anticipate the Payment of his or her Proportion of the last Town Tax shall be allowed Interest thereon from the Period of such Payment to the first Day of December next and all Persons neglecting the Payment of their respective Proportions of said Tax shall be chargeable with Interest

from Mr Martin's to Mr Tyler's there is a Rise of six and an half Inches; They are therefore of Opinion that the Pavement from Mr Tylers House be taken up, and the same Proportion of Rise continued to the N. East Side of Mr Butler's House where it will be made 12 Inches higher than it now is, at that Place and from thence descend towards Mr Whitman's at the Rate of eight Inches for each hundred feet, which will join it in a regular Fall to the Street opposite Mr John Martin's

All which is submitted by

Providence Septr 11th 1797. Epha Dorrance Jr
W Jarred
John Carlile
} Committee.

Whereupon the foregoing Report having been twice read and maturely considered, it is thereupon voted and resolved, that the same be received and adopted, and that Col. Zephaniah Andrews Mr Jacob Whitman Jun, and Mr Benjamin Thorn be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the Purpose of causing the said Pavement to be repaired in Conformity with said Report; and that said Committee also superintend and direct the relaying the Pavement in that Part of said Westminster Street which was heretofore placed under the Direction of John Mason Esq.

Tax voted out.

Voted as the Sense of this Meeting that it is inexpedient at the present Time to levy any further Taxes.

Last Vote rescinded.

Voted, that the preceding Resolution be and the same is hereby rescinded.

$4000 Dollar Tax.

Voted that a Tax of four thousand Dollars be levied and assessed on the rateable Property of the Freemen and other Inhabitants of this Town, that the same be assessed on or before the fifteenth Day of October next, and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of December next, and that said Tax be collected and paid into the Treasury in Cash, and that the same be appropriated to the Support of the poor and such contingent Expenses as may necessarily accrue.

Benj.a Talbot to take Charge of Pump Apparatus

Voted that Benjamin Talbot Jun be and he is hereby appointed for the Purpose of receiving into his Care and Possession the Pump Handles and all the other Apparatus belonging to the new Pumps lately procured for the Reservoir on the West Side of the River.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the eighteenth Day of September A D 1797.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

$4000 Dollar Tax appropriated to specific Objects.

Voted that the appropriation of the Tax of four thousand Dollars ordered at the last Town Meeting, be strictly limited to the Support of the Poor and to the Payment of such Drafts and Orders upon the Treasury as may be made under the Directions of the Town Council.

Allowance of Interest to those who anticipate Payment of Taxes — & the converso.

Voted, that every Person who shall anticipate the Payment of his or her Proportion of the last Town Tax shall be allowed Interest thereon from the Period of such Payment to the first Day of December next; and all Persons neglecting the Payment of their respective Proportions of said Tax shall be charged Interest

September 18th A D 1797.

Voted, that the Town Council be, and they are hereby authorized and requested, to cause to be erected or hired, in the most eligible Situation, Buildings suitable, and sufficient for the Reception of such of our Citizens and Residents, as may be attacked with the Contagious Fever which now prevails in some Parts of this Town; and that they be authorized to remove to those Buildings such Persons as may in their Judgment and Discretion, appear most for the Recovery of the Sick, and the Preservation of those who may not be affected with the Disorder, and that the Town will be responsible for the Expense and the Conduct of the Council, correspondent with this Resolution;—and it is further voted, that said Council be authorized and empowered to Purchase or hire such Land as it may be thought the most eligible to erect the said Buildings upon; and that they adopt such other Precautions to Prevent the Spreading of the Infection as their Prudence may point out.

Town Council authorized to procure Land, and Buildings for the accomodation of the sick, and to devize other Means to prevent the spreading of Infection.

Voted and resolved, that for the future all Persons bringing Fish to this Market shall be strictly Prohibited from taking out their Guts and Entrails at any Place in this Town, except Fox-Point.

Persons prohibited from cutting fish except at Fox-Point.

Voted, that it be enjoined upon the Collector of the present Tax of 4000 Dollars, that during the Collection of the same he make Weekly Settlements with the Town Treasurer until the whole shall be collected and paid in.

Collector to make weekly Settlements with the Treasurer.

Town Council to proceed to the Erection of Buildings to accommodate the sick

September 18th A D 1797.

Voted as the Sense of this Meeting, that the Town Council ought to proceed immediately to the hiring or Erecting of the necessary Buildings or Buildings for the Reception and Accommodation of the Sick, and that they cause them to be removed as Circumstances in the Judgment of said Council may dictate.

Meeting dissolved.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the twenty fifth Day of October A D 1797.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator

Voted as the Sense of this Meeting that it is inexpedient at this Time to introduce the Small Pox into this Town by Inoculation.

Committee to report Rules & on the Subject of Inoculation

It is further voted and resolved, that Messrs Moses Brown, Welcome Arnold, William Bowen, Amos Throop Levi Wheaton, Thomas Green, and William Larned, together with the Town Council of this Town for the Time being, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of drafting such Rules and Regulations as they may think expedient

October 25th A D 1797.

for the Inoculation of the Small Pox into this Town by Inoculation the ensuing Spring, and also for the purpose of devising suitable Rules and Orders for the Government and Direction of the Hospitals in this Town where it is proposed to carry on the said Inoculation, and that said Committee make Report thereon at the next april Town Meeting.

Engine Men for Engine No 4.

Voted that James Belcher and Benjamin Clifford be appointed Engine Men for Engine No 4, at the South End, in the Room of John Gibbs and Benjamin Eaile deceased.

Meeting dissolved.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the Seventh Day of March AD 1798.

John Dorrance Esq Moderator

Propounded

Samuel W. Greene & Benjamin Aborn

Admitted Free.

Samuel W. Bridgham.

Committee to examine Collector's and his Assistants Accounts.

Voted that the Town Audit together with Richard Jackson Jun. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine the respective accounts in favor of the Town, against Col Benjamin Hopkins the late Collector and his Assistant, and the present Collector Henry Bowen, on account of Taxes assessed by the Town;—

And that said Committee be authorized to make such Deductions from the respective Demands in favor of the Town for arrearages of Taxes as aforesaid, as to them shall seem just, on account of Persons deceased, poor Persons and others who have been taxed and are unable to pay the same, and that they report thereon at the next April Meeting.

Action against Collector of Taxes discontinued.

Whereas Col Benjamin Hopkins his Assistant have promised and agreed to pay into the Town Treasury all Money which shall be collected for Taxes as soon as the same shall be collected;—

It is therefore Voted that the Town Treasurer be directed to discon-

the action

commenced against the Collectors of Taxes on their Bond upon the Defendents paying Costs.

100 Dollars granted to Hamlin on Acct of building Engine

Voted that the Town-Treasurer be directed to Pay to Hamlin out of the Town-Treasury, from the first Monies which shall be collected and paid in, the Sum of one hundred Dollars on account of his Demand against the Town for building a Fire Engine.

Expense of repairing Weybosset Bridge to be defrayed.

Voted that the Town-Treasurer be directed to pay out of the Town Treasury from the first Monies deposited therein such Expenses as shall have accrued for repairing Weybosset Bridge.

Lease of a Lot of Land near the Work-House granted to Jeremiah Brown to erect Dwelling House on.

Whereas a Petition was preferred to this Meeting by Jeremiah Brown, as follows, to wit.

"To the Town Meeting this Day assembled.

"The peculiar and destitute Circumstances of one of the Citizens of the Town, viz Jeremiah Brown having excited the Feelings of some of his Friends to a Willingness to erect a small Tenement for his and Family's Use, during his Life, a Lot is wanting to set it upon and none appearing in so eligible a Situation

considering

"his Labor is mostly on the Water, as the Town's Lot north of the new Bridge, near the Work House, about forty feet square of the "Southerly Part of which would accommodate "the Building. The Town is therefore re- "spectfully solicited to grant Liberty for the "House to be erected thereon, and that the Town "may be secured from any Claim by Posses- "sion, or the Treasurer be directed to execute a "Lease to be counter signed by two or three Prin- "cipal Contributors for re-delivery of Posses- "sion accordingly, the same being subject to a reasonable annual quan- "tent.

"Moses Brown
"John Brown
"Wm Hunt
"Jabez Bowen
"Obadiah Brown.
"Elisha Brown.

Proceedings on Jerem. Brown's Petition.

On the foregoing Petition it is Voted and Resolved that the same be reserved and that the Overseers of the Poor be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to ascertain on what Part of the Town Lot situated North of the new Bridge, the said House may be the most conveniently erected, and that the Town Treasurer be authorized and required to execute a Lease to said Jeremiah of the said Lot, upon such quan- tent as said Treasurer shall deem the same to be worth, and that he receive from the said Jeremiah sufficient Security for the li- berty of the Peaceable Possession of said Lot.

Voted that the Town Council of this T for the Time being, be and they are hereby au- thorized and requested to assist

March A D 1798.

committee

to inspect into, and examine the Condition of all or any of the Public Streets, Gangways Wharves, Docks, Vaults, Stores and all other out Buildings, Cellars or subterraneous Passages situated within the Limits of this Town, and that said Council cause all such Filth and Impurities to be removed therefrom in the Month of April next, as may in the Opinion of such Committee, have a Tendency to generate any contagious or other Disorders in the Course of the ensuing Summer or Fall, and that such Committee be allowed a reasonable Compensation for their services, and that they make Report of their Proceedings to said Town Council.

Comm.te to examine impure and filthy Places and report thereon

This Meeting is dissolved.

April A D. 1798

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the Eighteenth Day of April A D. 1798.

John Dorrance Esquire Moderator.

admitted free

Joseph Howard, William Billings, Coppersmith, Caleb Earle, Benjamin Batty, Nathan Gorton, Benjamin Greene, Israel Arnold, John B. Dexter, Thomas Lloyd Halsey Jun.r John Rogers, William Sanford Bowen

propaundad

Nathaniel Newman, Salmon Arnold, William Lee, Josiah Taylor, William Jones Greene, Martin Page, Nathaniel Pearce, Elisha Hicks, Asa Fox, William White, John Barton.

This being the Aniversary for proxing for General Officers, and also the Day for choosing Representatives from this Town to the Hon.ble General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen were duly elected to represent said Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday of May next and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday of October next:—

Representatives chosen

Namely Welcome Arnold Esq.r 1st
John Smith Esq.r 2d
Capt.n William Rhodes 3d
Mr. Richard Jackson Jun.r 4th

Prospect Street to be laid out

Voted that it be recommended to the Town Council of this Town to cause a Street to be laid out in some convenient situation from Angell Street Southerly to Benevolent Street and that said Street run on the West side of the College, and on the

April 18th A.D. 1798

side of the present Dwelling House of Mr Hopkins

Commee to run Lines between the Town's Land and Land of B. Stelle

Voted that the Town Council be requested to raise a Committee for the Purpose of ascertaining and ranging the Lines between the Town's Land, and Land of Mr Benjamin Stelle, and that said Committee be authorized and requested to adjust the Differences which now subsist respecting said Lines.

Collector directed to collect & pay in all arrearages of Taxes, and how to proceed in case of his Default.

Voted that the Collector of Taxes be directed to collect and pay into the Town Treasury all the Arrearages of Taxes reported by the Town Auditt to be due; that one half of the same be collected and paid into said Treasury in Sixty Days from the Date hereof, or in Default thereof that the Town Treasurer be directed to commence a suit against said Collector for such Sum as may be due. . . . . That the other half of said Arrearages of Taxes be collected and paid into said Treasury in sixty Days, and in Default thereof that said Treasurer be directed to commence a Suit against said Collector for the same or such part thereof as may be due, in Manner as aforesaid.

Richd Jackson Jr to provide Trunk for Engine No 1.

Voted that Mr Richard Jackson Junr be authorized and requested to procure a suitable Trunk for the Engine No 1. and that the expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Blank Record Book to be procured &c

Voted that the Town-Clerk be requested to make Application to the Town Treasurer to procure for the Use of the Town a suitable Book for Recording of Deeds and Land Evidences and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Report of Commee appointed to enquire into the Title of Ezekiel Burr to a Lot of Land on Stampers Hill

Whereas the Committee appointed on the twenty ninth day of August A.D. 1797 to enquire into the Title of Ezekiel Burr to a Lot of Land situated on Stampers Hill, have this Day made their Report as follows, to wit. "Agreeable to our appointment August 29th 1797 by the Freemen of this Town, and in Obedience thereto We have carefully Examined the original Proprietors Records, and the Town Records near the Date alluded to viz March 15th 1713. We can find no sufficient Title in Mr Ezekiel Burr on Stampers Hill (so called) derived from John Jenks to any Lot there, with respect to that part alluding to Land between Mr Nehemiah Sweet, and Mr Isaac Angell, We are Ignorant. The Honorable Town Council as they transacted that Business will be by themselves, or a Committee of their appointment, the most competant in that Business. all which is submitted by their Towns Humble Servants"

Providence 13th April 1798.

Josh Andrews
Gryndall Reynolds
J. Whitman Jun

And whereas the said Ezekiel Burr and Caleb Jenks Esqr have also presented to this Meeting a written Paper purporting to be the Reasons in Vindication of said Title as follows, to wit, "On the Return in Part this we have amended our Claim, and give the following Reasons for its Vindication:—

1st Because it was begun and compleated by three lawful Men being Officers under solemn Oath, and for that and such Business expressly appointed:— The Surveyor to Locate the Committee to Examine, and the Clerk to Record the Transaction; by their several signatures they have procured it just and good, and their Deaths have made it irrevokable.

2d Because, that after a transaction which requires such special appointments to substantiate, is passed the common Age of a Man it cannot be presumed that every circumstance thereof from which doubts may arise, can be so judiciously ascertained as at the Time of such transaction, Time will

the most noted affairs of Men in some obscurity.
2dly Because there was a Time when this Transaction was a late one, well known to a number of the Proprietors Officers open to the Inspection of every Body, near the very Head Quarters of their Meetings which were then very frequent, in the midst of a neighborhood of interested Proprietors, and when the situation of the Streets, and every vacancy for Building Lots, were critically inspected: Yet under all these circumstances, nothing appears against it.
3dly Because it is notorious to all Persons much conversant with the Proprietors Records, that the Grandfather, Father, Uncles and Brothers of the first Claimant were Proprietors, and there now remains considerable Lands due to fill up their Rights.
5thly Because the deficiency of the Return from which the Doubt arises, and by which it may be supposed to be rendered weak, was an omission on the part of the Proprietors, thro' a little inattention of the Officer who draughted it, and not on the part of Applicant for the same.
6thly Because the Return is contrasted with no other Return either Public or Private;- that is it Covers a Spot of Ground Covered by no other Return.
7thly Because this Return is not the only one subject to the same doubt as is known to the Committee, for instance John Olneys at the Head of Dexters Lane in Providence, being a Lot of forty feet square, and doubtless a full investigation would discover a number more.

Caleb Jenks
Ezekiel Burr } Committee

And the said Report and Reasons having been read and duly considered, it is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the same be, and hereby are received, and that said Reasons remain annexed to, and recorded with said Report.

Rules for the Government of the Hospital

Whereas the Committee appointed on the twenty fifth Day of October last to draft Rules and Regulations, for the Introduction of the Small Pox into this Town by Inoculation and for the Government

Hospital Regulations

of the Hospital, have this Day made their Report, and the said Report being duly considered it is therefore Voted and Resolved that the same be received, and that the Rules and Regulations therein mentioned be established for the Introduction of said Small Pox, and the Government of said Hospital.

Which Rules and Regulations are as follow.

Town: The Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Providence, at a Town Meeting held on the 25th Day of October 1797 to draw up Rules and Regulations for the Government of an Hospital for the Inoculation of the Small Pox, whenever it shall be judged expedient to permit the same.- Report the following as in their opinion well calculated to Regulate such Hospital, and to secure the Town from any probable chance of Infection.
1st That the Boundaries and Limits of the Small Pox Hospital, be the same with the Boundaries and Limits of the Lands belonging to the Town, whereon the Hospital is erected.
2d That no Physician, or other Person presume to perform Inoculation for the Small Pox on any Patient, without the limits of said Hospital.
3. That every Person in said Hospital under the Infection by Inoculation or otherwise, Nurses attending, and all other Persons, who shall have liberty to enter the same (Physicians duly appointed excepted) are strictly forbidden to trespass the limits above prescribed, without liberty first had and obtained from the Town Council or from such Person or Persons as the said Council may authorize to grant such Liberty, under the Penalty of Ten Dollars for each and every offence, to be sued for and recovered before any Court having Cognizance thereof- the one half to and for the Complainant or Person suing for the same, and the other half to and for the Use of the Town.
4. That no Person be permitted to Land from any Boat or Vessel on the Shore of the Town's Land whereon the said Hospital is erected, or upon

Hospital Regulations.

April 18th A.D. 1798

within twenty Yard by Land the Boundaries above prescribed, under the penalty aforesaid for each and every offence, to be recovered and appropriated as aforesaid (Physicians duly appointed and such other Persons as the Town Council may permit alone excepted)

2d That no Person admitted into the said Hospital for Inoculation or on account of Natural Small Pox, be allowed to depart the same, until he or she hath been in the most carefull and effectual Manner cleansed from Infection, and hath obtained a Certificate to that effect, from the Committee to be appointed by the Town Council for that purpose — And at the discharge of such Persons all Wearing Apparel, Beds or Bedding which they may may have used or kept by them; during there residence in the Hospital, be detained — and before delivery subjected to the Action of Boiling Water faithfully washed, and well ventilated in the open Air, and that the Steward or Matron for the Time being, be charged to inspect and superintend such process. And that if any Person or Persons convicted of disobedience to the Regulations comprized in the present Article, shall severally forfeit the Sum of Twenty Dollars, to be sued for, recovered and appropriated as aforesaid. - - - - - -

3d That the Town Council, with the Aid and Assistance of such Physician or Physicians, as may be appointed to attend the said Hospital, be requested to establish proper Rules & Regulations for the Internal Government thereof, And that Copies of the same be posted up in conspicuous Parts of the said Hospital: and that all Persons admitted for Inoculation or otherwise, be required and strictly enjoined to conform themselves to such Rules and Regulations on the Penalty of such Fine, as the Committee to be appointed by the said Council shall adjudge to and for the Use of the Town, not exceeding Ten Shillings for each and every Offence. —

Hospital Regulations

April 18th A.D. 1798 —

4th That every Person, not an Inhabitant of the Town, who shall be admitted into the said Hospital, for Inoculation, shall pay in addition to the ordinary fees and expenses, a Tax of one Dollar to and for the Use of the Town —

5th That the Town Council be requested to procure a proper Physician or Physicians, Steward or Stewards to attend the said Hospital, and to stipulate with them the Terms of their Attendance and Provision - - - - - - - - - - - -

6th Lastly, That the said Council do strictly Command the said Physician or Physicians to exercise all needful Vigilence and Precaution, respecting the change of Boots, Shoes or Apparel, the Use of infected Lancets, and every other Particular which may be thought expedient to secure the Town from any probable chance of Infection —

All which is submitted by

Jn. Torrance Sylvanus Martin

Joel Metcalf Jon.a Treadwell —

And the foregoing Report having been read and maturely considered, it is thereupon Voted and Resolved, that the same be received, and that the Rules and Regulations therein contained be established for the Government of said Hospital.

It is also voted that the Number and Description of the Patients to be admitted into said Hospital be submitted to the Discretion of the Town Council, together with the adoption of such further measures which they may think

necessary or expedient to further and promote the Interest and good Government of said Hospital, & the Benefit of the Patients who may be admitted therein.

It is further voted and resolved as the Sense of this Meeting that no Person ought to be permitted to enter the said Hospital for the Purpose of Inoculation after the Middle of June next; that it be left to the Discretion of the said Town Council to discontinue the said Inoculation whenever they may deem it expedient, and that fifty Cents in addition to the ordinary Fees and Expenses be demanded from each and every Inhabitant admitted into said Hospital for the Benefit of Inoculation, and one Dollar from every other Person.

Report of Committee on the petition of Jeremiah Brown.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. Jeremiah Brown, Respectfully Report,

That your Committee, having viewed the Ground proposed for Capt. Brown to erect his House on; and finding it would be attended with great Inconveniences to set said House on any Spot Eastward of the Work House, and Northward of the New Bridge, and that to set the same to the Southwards of said Bridge, would probably Ipsue in a dispute; finally determined to set off the Land for said purpose on the West side of the Street which runs from the Mill Bridge Southward by the West side of said Work House; and that said Brown pay for the Use of the same, the Sum of three Dollars.

Your Committee find by the Plat

of the Towns Land, to the Southward and Westward of the Work House; that the said Land in running from the River Westward to where the Lots are fenced on the Top of the Hill, measures from the West side of the Work House to the line of Major Stelles Land 136 feet on the Top of the Hill Eighty three feet, where the Lane begins which Terminates at 50 feet, on which your Committee would Suggest for Consideration, whether it would be expedient to Request the Town Council to Order a Street of Sufficient Width to be Run out, that the Land reserved for the Use of the Town may be ascertained.

Your Committee, likewise find that the Land Southward of the New Bridge at the Edge of the Present Channel of the River from the Southerly side of said Bridge, to the South line of the Towns Land as marked in the aforementioned Plat, measures 55 feet — 38 feet of which is within the fence erected by Major Stelle as his North line — And by the Information of several Elderly Peoples, it appears that the Main Channel of the River formerly run about 130 feet Westward from the present Channel, and that all the Land between has been made by the Sand which has washed from the adjoining Hill; that the Town formerly Claimed, and Rented the same; that Major Stelle now has said Land in Possession; and that many of the Citizens of the Town are discontented thereat. All which Induces the Committee, to take the Liberty to Suggest, whether it would be

April 18th A.D. 1798

expedient for the Town, to adopt such measures as might conduce to an amicable settlement of the Claims of all Parties, that disputes may be hereafter prevented.

All which is submitted by

Wm Larned
Wm Richmond } Com.
Wm Hobroyd

Providence April 18th 1798

Voxes put in.

The Voxes put in at this Meeting for general Officers are one hundred and ninety eight in the number, of which there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire as Governor one hundred and eighty five.

Meeting dissolved

June 4th A.D. 1798.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden at the Town House on the fourth Day of June AD 1798.

David L. Barnes Moderator

This being the anniversary for the Election of Town-Officers for the Year ensuing, the following Persons are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective Names; to wit

Town-Clerk Geo. Tillinghast

Town-Council

John Dorrance President, Silvanus Martin, Joel Metcalf, Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Jonathan Treadwell and Moses Lockwood.

Town-Council

Town-Sergeant. Henry Bowen.

Town-Sergeant

Town-Treasurer. Samuel Nightingale.

Town-Treasurer

Town-Audit. John Smith, John Mumford and Richard Jackson 2d

Town-audit

Constables. William Greene, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jeffe Matthewson, Nicholas Hopkins, John Lasell, Daniel Hayford, Calvin Walker, William Burr, Jonathan Tillinghast, Christopher Olney.

Constables

Sealer of Weights & Measures } Jacob Whitman Jun.

Sealer of Weights & Measures

June 4th A.D 1798.

Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor

Assessors of Rates and overseers of the Poor } William Sayred, William Richmond and William Holroyd.

Surveyors of Joist Boards Spars & Timber & Cord Wood.

Asa Franklin, Simeon Ingraham, Joshua Spidler, Jesse Smith, Caleb Ormsbee, Walter Harding, Elijah Ormsbee, Melzar Packard and Christopher Arnold as to Spars.

Surveyors of High Ways.

Nathan Waterman, Oliver Bowen Junr, John Dorrance, Philip Martin, Calvin Dean, John L. Sheldon.

Guagers of Casks.

Samuel Jackson, Ebet Eddy, James Weeden, John Burrough, Samuel Weeden, George Dodd and John L. Balch.

Vendue Masters.

Benjamin Hoppin, William Peck, Robert Taylor Jun, Joseph Lawrence and Jacob Whitman Jun.

Collector of Taxes.

Henry Bowen. Fees at 4 P. Cent.

Clerk of Market.

William Peck.

Packers of Beef Pork and Fish.

William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clemens, George Dodd, John Cathcarth, Arthur Farrier, Charles Lafrelle, Samuel Cathcarth, Samuel Brown, Henry Randall, James Weeden, and Ebet Eddy (Cooper).

Corders of Wood.

John Viall, John Peters, John Lasell, Samuel Wilbor, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Jacobs, Henry Alexander, Aaron Jeanmart, James Weeden, and Obadiah Mason.

Overseers of the Hospital

The Town Council.

Pound Keepers.

Charles Holden, and John Miller.

Trustees of Estates when disputed in voting

Jabez Bowen, John Brown & John Mason.

Fence Viewers.

Samuel Thurber Jun.r, Christopher Arnold and Joseph Doyle.

Overseers of the Highways.

John Brown, Jabez Bowen & Samuel Butler.

Firewards.

Jno Atwell, Job Smith, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Stephen Hopkins, John Dorrance, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, John Innes Clark, John Carlile, Moses Lockwood, Seth Wheaton and Joshua Lindley.

The Engine Company No.1.

Richard Jackson Jun.r, Nicholas Brown, Robert Taylor Jun.r, John Howland, Nathan Angell Jun.r, Nathan Jackson, William Lee, Edward Dexter, Elisha Brown, Nathaniel Smith, Stephen Harris and Isaac Ballard.

The Engine Company No.2.

Samuel Thurber Jun.r, Philip Martin, Nehemiah Sweet, Samuel Whipple, James Burr, Ezekiel Burr, George Weeden, Jabez Gorham, Samuel Stapley, Ebenezer K. Dexter, Joseph Jencks, Joseph Thurber.

The Engine Company No.3.

John Mathewson, Joseph Anthony, Calvin Dana, Benjamin Talman, Jonathan K. Gay, Peter Grinnell, Ward Gowing, William Taylor, Oliver Pearce, Barnard Eddy, Nicholas D. Greene, and Richard Anthony.

The Engine Company No.4.

Jeremiah Jencks, Jairus Ormsbee, Elijah Ormsbee, George Cook, John L. Sheldon, Cromwell Tourney, Benjamin Gleason, Benjamin G. Dexter, Israel Davis, James Fitcher, Asa Coleman, Daniel Ballard,

June 4th A. D. 1798.

Fire Engine Company, No. 5.

Ethaniel Trask, Calvin Dean, Thomas Williams, William Brownell, Caleb Williams, Pardon Mason, John Stone, Hezekiah Smith, Enos Angell, David Atwood, William Peabodee, James Potter.

Committee to remove Goods &c in Cases of Fire.

John Torrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon and Amos Angell.

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Cases of Fire.

Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seaman, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Caleb Crandee, Walker Harding and Darius Allen.

Field Drivers.

Sylvus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarr, Daniel Sesson, Nicholas Hopkins, Henry Fowler, Calvin Walker and Joseph Hoyle.

Sealer of Leather

Joel Metcalf

Scavengers.

Thomas Lloyd Halley, Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, and Thomas Arnold.

Overseers of the Poor.

Daniel Branch, William Jenens.

Joshua Lindley.

John Smith, Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Arnold, Zephaniah Brown, Abner Daggett, and John Mumford.

Overseers of the Work-House.

Town Criers.

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on Streets Highways Lanes Landways & Commons.

Enos Hitchcock, Jonathan Marcy, Abraham L. Clarke, Stephen Jans, James Wilson, Moses Brown and Samuel Eddy.

School Committee

Samuel Jackson and Samuel Wheeden

Inspectors of Pot

Measurers of Carpenters Plaistering &c.

Inspectors of Lime.

Oration Committee

June 4th A. D. 1798. 434.

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Crandee, John Smith and Walker Harding.

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Morton and Cyprus Cole.

Voted that his Excellency the Governor, Jeremiah Olney, Welcome Arnold Esquires, and the Rev. Abraham L. Clarke, and Jonathan Marcy be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of making Choice of a suitable Person to deliver an Oration on the fourth Day of July next in Commemoration of the Anniversary of American Independence; And that said Committee be authorized and requested to provide Music for that Occasion, if in their Opinion the same shall be necessary.

Advising Committee on Repairs of Weybosset Bridge.

Voted that John Smith and John Mason Esquires be appointed to confer and advize with the Overseer of Weybosset Bridge, respecting such Repairs, as it may be necessary at any Time to bestow thereon.

Committee to repair Brick School House.

Voted that Messieurs John Smith and William Allen be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of repairing the Brick School House, and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

June 4th A D 1798.

Commee for preventing Encroachments on the Cove and Waters thereof

Whereas it is represented unto this Meeting, that unwarrantable Encroachments have already been and still continue to be made upon the Cove and the Waters thereof both of the Bridge, It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Town's Committee for preventing Encroachments on the Streets Highways & be requested to take immediate and effectual Measures against their Continuance and that they cause such suitable Bounds and Monuments to be erected as may have the best Tendency to prevent the like Encroachments in future.

John Truman to take Charge of the Town House

Voted that John Truman be and he hereby is appointed to take the Care and Oversight of the Town House, that he keep the Same in Repair, and enter Complaint against all disorderly Persons whom he may detect in committing any Violence or Abuse upon said House; And that he be allowed a reasonable Compensation for his Services to be paid out of the Town Treasury.

John Smith's Acct allowed.

Voted that the Sum of twenty five Dollars and twenty five Cents be allowed and Paid out of the Town Treasury to John Smith Esq being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for his Services as one of the Town Auditt.

John Thurston's Acct allowed.

Voted that the Sum of fifteen Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr John Thurston, being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for his Services as one of the Town Auditt.

Andrew Dexter's Acct allowed.

Voted that the Sum of fifteen Dollars be allowed and Paid out of the Town Treasury to Mr Andrew Dexter being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for his Services as one of the Town Auditt.

Richard Jackson Jr's Acct allowed.

Voted that the Sum of three Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury, to Mr Richard Jackson Jun being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for auditing the Collector's accounts.

Engine House to be erected for No 5.

Voted that Mr Thomas Williams be authorized to erect a convenient House for the new Engine No 5, and upon the Completion of the Same, that he present his accounts to the Town Auditt for Payment.

Additional Committee Man for settling with Directors of Bridge Lottery.

Voted that Mr John Mumford be added to the Committee heretofore appointed for adjusting the accounts of the Directors of the Bridge Lottery and that said Committee be requested to proceed in that Business as soon as may be.

Collection of Arrearages of Taxes postponed.

Whereas it is represented unto this Meeting by the Collector of Taxes, that it has become impracticable to collect and pay into the Town Treasury all the Arrearages of the Taxes now due within the Time limited for that Purpose. On due Consideration whereof it is voted and Resolved, that the said Collector be allowed three Months from this Date to collect and pay the said Arrearages into the said Town Treasury, and of the Same that shall be collected and Paid in within

Period

Propounded

admitted free

June 4th A Dr 1798

that the Town Treasurer be directed to commence a Suit against said Collector for such Sum as shall remain due

Charles Spooner

Samuel W. Greene & Benjamin Aborn

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the twenty eighth Day of august AD 1798.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator

Persons propounded.

John Dexter, Soren S. Brownell, Hezekiah Jabins, Oliver Mason, John Gladding, David Anthony, Stephen Jackson, Robert Burrough, William Jackson, George Jackson, George Beverly, Judeon Beverly

Persons admitted free

John Dexter, John P. Dexter, William Hunter, Jonathan Samuel, George W. Page, Henry Rice Junr, Jesse Comstock, Ezbai Danforth, William Hunter, John Peck, Mathewson Williams, David Hunter, Benjamin Taylor Junr, Nathaniel J. Metcalf, John Jenckes, Joseph Foster, Jeremiah Rufsell

admitted free.

Representatives chosen.

August 28th AD 1798. 438.

Caleb Covey, William Dellinghast, Nathaniel Herman, Salmon Arnold, Putnam Williams, Jonathan, Daniel, Snow Jung, Daniel, William Lee, Josiah Taylor, William Jones Greene, Martin Page, Nathaniel Pearce, Elisha Hicks, Asa Fox, William White, John Barton, Nehemiah Dodge, Josiah Baker, Jeorge Jackson, Edward Aborn, Thomas Brown, Samuel Aborn Junr, Charles Keen, Caleb Mosher, Earle Potter, Solomon Peal Junr, Seth Fisher, Paul Gladding, William Jackson and Stephen Jackson.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Representatives to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State for the ensuing six Months, the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in the said Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday of October, and all future Sessions thereof until the first Monday in May next Namely

Welcome Arnold Esq. 1st
John Smith Esq. 2nd
Capt William Rhodes 3d
Mr Richard Jackson Junr 4th

Committee to repair Pavement between Hanover Street & Crawford Estate.

Voted, that Messrs Moses Lippitt, John Rogers and Thomas B. Ives, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to examine the Pavements in Water Street lying between Hanover Street, and the Crawford Estate, and to take up and relay the same, or in any other Way to repair the said Pavement in such Manner as to them may be deemed fit, and that the Expence arising therefrom be paid out of the Town Treasury.

August 28th A D 1798.

Comm to make alterations in the Town House

Voted, that David Powell, Samuel Nightingale and William Jarred Esquires, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to consider and report upon the Expediency of widening the principal Door, leading from the North Door to the Seat of the Moderator in the Town House; and also to report such other internal alterations in said House as they may deem necessary, and that they report thereon to this Meeting at the adjournment.

Comm to report Expense of repairing Street near Work-House

Voted that John Brown Esq. and Messrs. John Whipple and Olcker Bowen jun be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to consider and report the Expense which may be required for repairing and rendering the Street passable which leads Northwardly over the Plain from the Draw Bridge Southward of the Work-House and that said Committee make Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Constable vice. Erich Hoppin. 3

Voted that Nicholas Hoppin be excused from serving as one of the Constables of this Town, and that Asphens Billings be appointed to the said Office in his Stead.

William Holroyd to cause Baptist Clock to be repaired.

Voted, that William Holroyd be, and he is hereby appointed to repair the Hands of the Clock in the Baptist Meeting House agreeably to the Vote of the Town passed in June 1796; and Whereas, a Hand for the keeping of Time is highly useful in all populous Places, and for want of skilful attention the Clock in the said House in its present situation is not in suitable Repair for that Purpose; therefore resolved that Payton Dana be, and he is hereby appointed to put and keep the said Clock in good Order suitable for keeping accurate Time, and that the

Expense

Chosen for Representatives to the sixth Congress

thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury.

This being the Period for the Biennial Election of two Representatives to represent this State in the Sixth Congress of the United States, the following Proxy Votes were received, to wit,

For John Brown Esq as 1st and Christopher J. Champlin as 2nd 587.

For John Brown Esq. solus. 6.

For John Brown Esq as 1st and Thomas Tillinghast as 2nd 5

For Thomas Tillinghast, solus. 2.

For Thomas Tillinghast as 1st and Christopher J. Champlin as 2nd 1.

For Thomas Tillinghast as 1st and John Brown Esq as 2nd 1.

For John Brown Esq as 1st and Jonathan Tillinghast as 2nd 1.

603

August 28th 1798.

The following is a Register of the Freemen who voted at this Meeting for two Representatives from this State to the sixth Congress of the United States, in pursuance of an Act of the Hon.ble General Assembly Passed at their Sessions in June last.

Arnold Welcome
Arnold James M.
Alexander Henry
Arnold Christopher
Aborn Lowry
Aryold Joseph.
Alwood David.
Allen Darius,
Aborn James.
Allen Paul
Allen Paul Jun.
Allen Samuel
Anthony Richard.
Allen Joseph.
Ashton William Jun.
Aborn Samuel Jun.
Andrews Benjamin.
Allen Abel.
Aborn Benjamin.
Aplen Benjamin
Ames Samuel
Ashton William.
Arnold Salmon.
Atwell Amos
Atwell Amos M.
Allen William.
Angell Enos.
Angell Nathan
Alger Benjamin.
Aborn Edward.
Arnold Oliver
Ashton Stephen
Andrews Zephaniah
Aborn James,
Allen Joseph James
Adams Eleazer

Arnold Israel.
Allen Zachariah.
Allen Benjamin.
Almy William.
Arnold Nathan.
Angell Isaac
Arnold Thomas,
Anthony Joseph.

— B —

Brown John.
Burr James,
Budlong Job.
Butler Samuel
Brown Obadiah
Brown Obadiah Jun.
Burr William
Billings William
Bowen William
Crayton Samuel
Bishop Samuel
Bennett Thomas,
Burrill James.
Brown Ichabod.
Branch Nicholas
Billings William
Bridgham Samuel W.
Brown Moses.
Butler Samuel Jun.
Bullock Richmond.
Bullock Jabez.
Bowen Barton
Brown Zephaniah
Bowen Henry.
Burrough John
Bates David
Burrill James Jun.

Burk Jacob.
Bowen Joseph Jr
Burr Seyr.
Bacon Elijah.
Briggs Randall
Black James.
Bucklin Daniel
Bowen Ephraim
Bowen Joseph.
Bush Richard.
Brown Richard
Brown Elisha
Branch Daniel
Bradford George
Bicknell Peter.
Bardin Comfort.
Bishop Thomas.
Butler David.
Bowen Jabez.
Bacon Sol.
Baker Joseph
Brown Morris.
Burrough George
Blodget William Jr.
Brownell Loren R.
Brown Dexter
Brownell William.
Barton William
Brown Phenias.
Bowen Oliver Jr.
Branch Comfort
Brown George
Bolton Reuben
Burrill Jas R.
Brown Jamiah
Bolton George

Brown Samuel
Bates Benjamin a.
Bowen Isaac.
Burr Joshua
Brown Thomas,
Bryson William P.R.
Baker Josiah

— C —

Carpenter Oliver.
Carlile John.
Corey Caleb.
Cooke Nicholas.
Coleman Eber.
Cooke Nathaniel.
Corlis John.
Clark John Jones.
Currie Samuel.
Clifford Benjamin
Carpenter John.
Carlile Benjamin Jr.
Carpenter Nathaniel.
Cozzens Benjamin Jun.
Cozzens Andrew
Carpenter Oliver
Cole Joseph
Comstock Benjamin
Church Nathaniel.
Clemens Ephraim.
Cory William
Carlile Samuel.
Clarke Samuel
Currie Robert
Clarke Thomas B.
Carpenter Kinsley
Congdon Ephraim
Carter John.
Carlile Joseph.
Cook Samuel
Cozzens Benjamin
Coggeshall Charles.
Carpenter Zachariah.

Chambers James.
Cole Cyrus.
Currie James.
Coy Jonathan W.
Coning Ward.

— D —

Davis Israel.
Dexter Edward
Danforth Job.
Dorrance John.
Davis John.
Dexter Knight
Doring Thomas.
Dexter Benjamin
Dexter John P.
Davenport Joseph.
Durfey Robert
Dyer Benjamin
Dexter Ebenezer L.
Dodge Zebediah
Dean Calvin
Daggett Abner
Davis Seth Jun.
Dodd George.
Danley Michael.
Danforth Ozias.
Dexter Stephen.
Dickens Edward.
Davenport Samuel
Dexter John.
Dexter John J.
Dyer Elisha.

— E —

Eddy Ezek.
Eddy Benjamin Jun.
Eddy Ezek Jun.
Eveleth William
Eveleth John.
Eddy Samuel

Eddy Moses.
Earle John.
Earle William
Eddy William
Eddy Benjamin
Easton Nicholas
Eddy Joseph.
Eddy William Jun.
Eddy Jeremiah
Eddy Comfort
Eddy Peleg
Earle Caleb
Eatherforth John.
Eatherforth Samuel.
Eddy Barnard.

— F —

Field John.
Fuller Nathaniel.
Field Daniel
Fenner Jonathan
Fuller Sylvester
Foster Theodore.
Fuller Joseph.
Farnum Jedadiah
Fothingham Nathaniel.
Fuller Jonathan
Field Joseph.
Fox Asa.
Field William
Field Samuel
Field John.
Field William
Fuller Job.
Franklin Asa.
Fenner James
Foyle Jonathan
Fenner Arthur Jun.

— G —

Gladding
Greene

Graves George
Godfrey Samuel G
Greene Samuel W.
Gladding John
Gladding Timothy Jun.
Gorton Benjamin C.
Godfrey Caleb.
Gorton Daniel
Gordon George
Greene Thomas
Gorton Jabez
Gerrold John.
Godfrey Richard.
Greenwood Isaac
Greenman Jeremiah
Grinnell Peter
Greene Caleb.
Greatorake John.
Godfrey Christopher
Gorton Nathan
Greene John J.
Gladding Timothy.
Gladding Nathaniel
Jeffords Peleg.
Greene Nicholas D
Samuel Gorton
Gladding Joab

— H —

Hankins Rufus.
Ham Benjamin
Holroyd Joseph J.
Ham Joham
Harkenberg Jacob
Haley Thomas Lloyd
Hopkins Jeremiah B
Hopkins Stephen
Hopkins Benjamin
Hazard Henry
Harding William
Harding Walter
Harding Richard.
Hollonbeck George A.
Hoyle Uriah
Hopkins Humphrey
Hanford Joseph
Hopkins Oliver Jun
Hopkins Thomas
Hopkins Christopher
Haviland Benjamin.
Howell David
Hull Peleg.
Hyde Gabriel.
Hoyle John L.
Hammon James
Harvey Agnes.
Hoar Levi
Harrewell Philip.
Harrewell Ephraim.
Holroyd William
Horton George
Horton Thos.
Hall Benjamin
Hyde Elisha.
Hopkins William
Hayford Daniel
Hopkins Isaac
Happin Davis W.
Hill James C.
Harris Stephen

— J —

Ives Thomas L.
Ingraham Simeon
Ingraham Samuel
Ingraham Thomas
Jones Nicholas

— J —

Jacobs Wilson.
Jencks John
Jackson Richard.
Jackson Richard Jun.
Jones Jackson.
Jackson Samuel
Jacobs Nathaniel
Jencks Jeremiah
Jackson Stephen
Jones William
James Samuel
Jencks Joseph
Jackson Nathan M.
Jackson Daniel.
Jackson Samuel 2d
Jackson George
Jackson William
Jones John C.
Johnson John A.
Hampton Samuel.
Ingrolles Edward Jun.
Ingrolles Samuel
Hazard Elijah.
Knowles Jonathan
Knowles Edward
Keen John
Keen Benjamin
Knight Jeremiah Jr.
Kimball Jarvis

— L —

Lee Charles
Lee William
Larned William
Lippitt Moses.
Lippitt Charles
Langford John D.
Larcher John.
Low Charles.
Lindenberger John.
Lawton John
Luther Caesar
Lapham Abner.
Larcher James.

— M —

Martin William B.
Hazard Joseph.
Nash John.
Mumford John.
Martin David.
Martin Philip
Miller Nathan
Martin Joseph.
Mason Joseph
Martin Joseph P.
Malcomber Ebenezer
Munro Benjamin
Mason Samuel.
Mason Oliver
Matherson John
Martin Servanus.
Myers James
Munro John L.
Martin William
Warren Richard
Martin John
Miller Josiah.
Mason Barzan.

Mega W. F.
Metcalf Michael
Metcalf Nathaniel J.
Manchester William
Mosher Caleb.
Manchester Isaac
Mason Samuel.
McNeal Hopestill.
Mason Belatiah
Mason Obadiah.
Metcalf Joel.
Mason Aaron

— N —

Newman Nathaniel
Nash John.
Nightingale Samuel.
Newell Robert

— O —

Olney Jeremiah.
Olney Jabez.
Olney Christopher.
Ormsbee James.
Olney Asa.
Obley Moses.
Ormsbee Elijah.
Ox William
Ox George
Olney Stephen.
Ormsbee Caleb.
Olney George.
Obley Gideon.

— P —

Potter John.
Peabodie William
Potter Daniel
Pike Elihu.
Pearce Nathan
Pitman John.
Packard Abijah
Pitman Reuben.
Pickham Philip Jun.
Pike Joseph
Pearce Nathaniel
Packard Samuel.
Power Nicholas
Potter Joseph Jun.
Pitman Isaac
Peck John.
Potter William
Pitcher James.
Peck Aaron.
Peck Isaac
Potter Phineas
Potter Joseph.
Perrin John.
Pike Lewis
Perry Thomas
Pace George W.
Pond Daniel.
Pearce Oliver
Potter James.
Pearce Daniel.
Paul William
Pike Lurany.
Peabodie John.
Paddock Nathaniel
Potter Earle
Peckham William

— R —

Reynolds Gundall
Rhodes Samuel.
Rogers Daniel.
Rawson Joseph.
Robinson Thomas.
Rogers John.
Randall Stephen.
Russell John
Russell William.
Rice Henry Jun.
Reynolds Stephen.
Rushmore William
Riley Terence.
Rhodes Jeremiah.
Rhodes William
Reynolds Benjamin

— S —

Snow Daniel
Smith John
Symonds Obed.
Smith Hezekiah
Smith Noah
Sampson Charles.
Smith Simon.
Sterling Henry L.
Stillwell Daniel
Snow James.
Sheldon Job.
Sabin Thomas.
Sheldon Landon
Seaman Young.
Simons Thomas.
Seale Nathaniel.
Smith John
Sterling Henry.
Sweeting Job
Smith John 2d
Slade Benjamin
Salisbury Joshua
Smith Nathaniel
Steward Archibald
Snow James Jun.
Cook Samuel
Sweet Cyprian
Stone John.
Salisbury Archibald
Smith Surpen.
Seamans Aaron
Smith Stephen
Sweeting Henry
Spurr John
Snow William
Sweet Nehemiah
Sabin James
Smith Job
Stanley Samuel
Salisbury Nathan
Sheldon Christopher
Sprague Obadiah
Sabin Robert Jun
Sabin Seth
Shelton Timothy
Sumner Thomas
Sumner William
Sabin John.
Sprague William C.
Snow Daniel
Sage John
Seaman

Snow Jonah
Searle John.
Searle Solomon
Salisbury Jonathan
Salisbury Pardon.
Searle Solomon Jun.
Sergent Dareus
Smith Benjamin
Smith Henry
Smith Samuel
Soule Samuel.

—T—

Thurber William
Throop Enos
Thompson Ebenezer.
Taylor Peter
Steadwell Jonathan
Thayer Williams
Tillinghast Paris Jr.
Thayer Thomas
Tillinghast Charles W.
Thomas Lewis
Tillinghast William
Taylor Benjamin
Thomas George C.
Talbot Benjamin
Thompson John
Thurber William
Tefft Daniel
Thompson Ebenezer Jun.
Tingman Nathan.
Thurber Relief
Tyler William
Tingley Nathan
Tripp Othniel
Tourtellot Elnor
Taylor Benjamin Jun
Talbot Benjamin Jun

Thurber Samuel.
Thompson Edward
Thurber John.
Tente Henry
Thurber James.
Taylor Edward
Taylor Josiah.
Thurber Edward.
Tyler William
Thurber Stephen
Thurber Samuel Jun
Taylor Robert Jun
Tillinghast George
Taylor Robert
Thurber Squier
Thurber John 2nd
Tillinghast Jonathan
Tillinghast Joseph
Tarp John.

—U—

Updike John.

—V—

Veazie Benjamin
Veazie Benjamin Jun
Vinton David.
Valentine William
Vincent Laban.
Vial John
Vaughan Boone.

—W—

Waterman Rufus
Winsor Obed
Wardwell Stephen
Wilkie Samuel.
Weeden Samuel.
Whiteman Jacob Jun

Wheaton Samuel.
Walker Calvin
Whipple Richard
Wheaton Ephraim
Williams John.
Whitman Jacob
Warner John Jun
Walker David.
Weeden James
Whiting Nathaniel
Williams Caleb
Whipple Azariah
Ward John
Williams Putnam.
Williams Nathan.
Walker Ephraim.
Wade Obadiah Jun
Whitmore Jesse.
Wheeler Bennett
White William
Woodward Jacob
Whipple John.
Wright Aaron
Waller Jonathan.
Walker Nathan.
Westcott Jeremiah.
Whipple Samuel.
Westcott Anthony
Williams Matthew
Wheaton James.
Westcott Jacob.
Woodward William
Wilkinson William
Ward William
Williams Andrew
Warner Aaron.
Weeden George.
Williams Thomas.

—Y—

Young Samuel.

Resolved, that this Meeting be adjourned to Saturday the eighth Day of September next then to meet at this Place, at three O'Clock P.M. for the Purpose of taking into Consideration the Propriety of ordering a Town Tax, and that in the mean Time the Freemen be notified by Beat of Drum to attend at said Time and Place.

Adjourned.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment on the eighth Day of September AD 1798

David L. Barnes Esq — Moderator.

12000 Dollar Tax

Voted and resolved, that a Town Tax not exceeding twelve thousand Dollars be levied and assessed on the rateable Property of the Freemen and other Inhabitants of this Town, and that the same be assessed on or before the first Day of November next; ——— It is also voted, that the said Tax be, and the same is hereby appropriated to the following Purposes and in the following Manner, that is to say:— Two thousand Dollars thereof for the Support of the Poor the current Year, a sufficiency thereof to discharge the Money heretofore hired for the use of the Town being two thousand Dollars and the Interest thereof, a sufficiency thereof for the Payment of an Order drawn by the Town Council in favor of Welcome Tyndal Esq. for five hundred and seventy five Dollars

eight cents dated March 5th 1798 being for Money which he advanced in building the new Hospital; Sixteen hundred and eighty six Dollars and seventy nine Cents for the payment of one Years Interest of the Present Town Debt; a Sufficiency for the Payment of forty three Town Notes heretofore issued of ten Dollars each and under, the whole of the Principal whereof amounts to three hundred and twenty three Dollars and thirty nine Cents; a Sufficiency thereof to pay and discharge one eighth Part of the Principal of the Present existing Town-Debt; a Sufficiency thereof to pay and discharge the various Expences which may accrue in assessing and collecting said Tax; and that the Residue of said Tax be and the same is hereby appropriated to the Discharge of Contingent Town-Expenses.

Appropriation of twelve thousand Dollar Tax.

Voted that the Town-Council of this Town be, and they are hereby authorized and requested to petition the Federal Assembly to pass an act authorizing the Town to make and pass such Laws and Votes relative to the assessment and collection of Town-Taxes, as they may deem expedient; also authorizing said Town to chuse one or more Collector or Collectors of Town-Taxes as often as they may deem convenient, and make such Contracts with said Collector or Collectors, relative to the Collection of Town Taxes as they may think most conducive to the Interest of the Town.

Town Council to Petition Assembly for enlarging the Power of the Town Councils assessment & Collections of Taxes.

Whereas the Committee appointed to consider and report the Expences required for repairing the Street which leads Westwardly over the Plain from the new Bridge Southward of the Work-House have reported to this Meeting that one hundred Dollars will be a sufficient Sum for rendering the said Street passable; Resolved therefore Voted that said Report be

Report of Com on Street near Work House.

received and that Col John Whipple be and he is hereby appointed a Committee to superintend the Repairing of said Street, and that he advance the Expence of repairing the same, agreeably to said Report, and that the Money which he may so advance or appropriate for that Purpose not exceeding the Sum of one hundred Dollars as aforesaid be reimbursed to him out of the Town-Treasury.

Voted that William Paul be and he hereby is appointed a Member of the Engine Company No 3. in the Place of Oliver Pearce who has resigned.

Engine Man for No 3 vice Oliver Pearce resigned.

Voted that the Resolution passed at the last Town-Meeting appointing Payton Damato to repair the Clock &c in the Baptist Meeting House be and the same is hereby rescinded, and that William Helroyd be authorized and requested to cause said Clock &c to be put and continued in suitable and proper Repair.

Town Clock to be repaired, and former Resolution rescinded.

Voted that Samuel Clarke be authorized and directed, to make such allowances and deductions of Rent to the Occupants of the Chambers in the Market House as he may think reasonable on account of said Chambers being unfit for use by Reason of the Roof of said Market House's being taken off by the Masonic Society.

Samuel Clarke to deduct from Rent of Market Chambers.

Resolved that this Meeting be adjourned to the second Monday of November next then to meet at this Place at three O'Clock P.M.

Adjournment.

Adjourned.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the twenty fourth Day of October AD 1798.

Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.

Representative vice W. Arnold Esq deceased.

Whereas the Freemen of this Town at their Town Meeting holden on the twenty eighth Day of August last, elected Welcome Arnold Esq. their first Representative to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly at the next October Session, and at all future Sessions thereof until the first Wednesday of May AD 1799. And whereas the said Welcome Arnold since his said Appointment, hath deceased, whereby it hath become necessary to choose another Representative in his Room; It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, that Moses Lippitt Esq be and he hereby is chosen first Representative in the Room of said Welcome Arnold deceased.

Town's acceptance of a Bridge built by J. Brown Esq and B. Smith

Whereas John Brown Esq and Messrs Henry Smith and Benjamin Hill presented to this Meeting a Proposal in the following Words, Viz.t,

"Providence Oct.r 23.d 1798. We Subscribers "having built the Bridge Westward of the "Mill-Bridge chiefly at our own Expence "and altogether by Subscription do hereby "relinquish all our Right and Title and "present the same to the Town of Providence.

It is therefore voted, that said Bridge be accepted as and for a Town Bridge, and that the same be repaired and in future kept in Repair at the Expence of said Town.

Voted that Capt. Seth Wheaton be and he hereby is appointed a Committee to confer with

Seth Wheaton authorized to confer with Society of St Johns Church, respecting Well on their Land.

with the proper Officers of the Society of St. John's Church for the Purpose of ascertaining whether the Well at the South West Corner of the Dwelling House belonging to said Society is on the Land of said Society or Land of the Town. That if the same shall prove to be on Land of said Society, the said Committee be authorized to obtain Permission thereupon to erect a Pump thereon and make such necessary Repairs as may be wanted, for the use of the Town; That if it shall appear that said Well is on the Town's Land, the said Committee be authorized to make the like Repairs thereto. It is further voted, that the same Committee be authorized to provide a Necessary in some convenient Place for the Use of the Brick School House on the East Side of the River.

Town Council authorized to purchase Land

Voted that the Town Council be and they hereby are authorized to purchase of Capt. Isaac Manchester a Quantity of Land not exceeding five Acres, situated Westward from the new Hospital in this Town, that they take a Deed of the Land so purchased in the Name of said Council, for the use and Benefit of this Town, and that the Consideration Money therefor, be paid out of the Town Treasury. It is further Voted, that the same Committee last mentioned, be authorized to cause to be erected a good and sufficient Fence around the said Hospital Lands adjoining the Land of Arthur Fenner Esquire.

Committee to cultivate Lombardy Poplars

Voted that Capt. Seth Wheaton, Paul Allen and Samuel Clark be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to plant, cultivate and superintend a Nursery of Lombardy Poplar Trees, on the Town's Land where the new Hospital is erected, and other Town Lands adjacent thereto, for the Purposes mentioned in the Memorial this Day presented

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the twenty fourth Day of October AD 1798.

Jabez Bowen Esq. Moderator.

Representative vice W. Arnold Esq deceased.

Whereas the Freemen of this Town at their Town Meeting holden on the twenty eighth Day of August last, elected Welcome Arnold Esq. their first Representative to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly at the next October Session, and at all future Sessions thereof until the first Wednesday of May AD 1799. And whereas the said Welcome Arnold since his said appointment, hath deceased, whereby it hath become necessary to choose another Representative in his Room; It is thereupon voted and resolved, that Moses Lippitt Esq be and he hereby is chosen first Representative in the Room of said Welcome Arnold deceased.

Town's acceptance of a Bridge built by J. Brown Esq and E. Smith

Whereas John Brown Esq and Messrs Henry Smith and Benjamin Hale presented to this Meeting a Proposal in the following Words, to wit,

"Providence Oct. 23d 1798. We Subscribers "having built the Bridge Westward of the "Mill-Bridge chiefly at our own Expense, "and altogether by Subscription do hereby "relinquish all our Right and Title and "present the same to the Town of Providence.

It is therefore voted, that said Bridge be accepted as and for a Town Bridge, and that the same be repaired and in future kept in Repair at the Expense of said Town.

Voted that Capt. Seth Wheaton be and he hereby is appointed a Committee to confer with

with the proper Officers of the Society of St. John's Church for the Purpose of ascertaining whether the Well at the South West Corner of the Dwelling House belonging to said Society is on the Land of said Society or Land of the Town. That if the same shall prove to be on Land of said Society, the said Committee be authorized to obtain Permission therefrom, to erect a Pump thereon and make such necessary Repairs as may be wanted, for the use of the Town; That if it shall appear that said Well is on the Town's Land, the said Committee be authorized to make the like Repairs thereto. It is further voted, that the same Committee be authorized to provide a necessary in some convenient place for the use of the Brick School House on the East Side of the River.

Seth Wheaton authorized to confer with Society of St John's Church respecting Well on their Land.

Town Council authorized to purchase Land

Voted that the Town Council be and they hereby are authorized to purchase of Capt. Isaac Manchester a Quantity of Land not exceeding five acres, situated Westward from the new Hospital in this Town, that they take a Deed of the Land to be purchased in the name of said Council, for the use and Benefit of this Town, and that the Consideration Money therefor, be paid out of the Town Treasury. It is further Voted, that the same Committee last mentioned, be authorized to cause to be erected a good and sufficient Fence around the said Hospital Lands adjoining the Land of Arthur Fenner Esquire.

Coming to cultivate Lombardy Poplars

Voted that Capt. Seth Wheaton, Paul Allen and Samuel Clark be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to plant, cultivate and superintend a Nursery of Lombardy Poplar Trees, on the Town's Land where the new Hospital is erected, and other Town Lands adjacent thereto, for the Object mentioned in the Memorial this Day presented

October 24th A D 1798.

Pavements to be repaired in front of Post Office.

Voted that William Wilkinson Esq. be and he is hereby appointed a Committee to cause the Pavements in Front of the Post-Office to be repaired, and that the Expense thereof be paid out of the Town-treasury.

Caleb Allen.

Propounded.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by adjournment at the Town-House on the twelfth Day of November A D 1798.

David L Barnes Esq. Moderator.

Act relating to the assize of Wood.

Whereas, it often happens that Impositions are practised upon the Inhabitants of this Town by Persons bringing Wood to this Market for Sale, by the Load, for Want of a just admeasurement in that article;— For Remedy whereof, it is Voted and resolved, that a competent Number of Persons be appointed as additional Surveyors and Corders of Wood for this Town, whose Duty it shall be to take convenient Stands, and survey all Wood which shall be offered for Sale by the Load, and upon such Survey, to issue their Certificates in favor of the Owner or Proprietor thereof, expressive of the true Quantity of Wood contained in each Load. And all Wood offered for Sale within this Town, by the Load after the last Day of December next, which shall not be accompanied with such Certificate shall be forfeited, the one Moiety thereof to the Person who shall prosecute for the same and the other Moiety to and for the Use of the Poor of the Town.

It is further voted, that the following Persons be, and they are hereby appointed the additional Surveyors and Corders of Wood in this Town, for carrying into Effect the Purposes of this act, Namely for the North End of the Town by the usual Avenues Jason Mason Esq. and Mr Jehu Smith; For the West End of the Town by the Avenues of Cranston and Johnston Roads Mr Othniel Tresby and for Pawtuxet Road Mr John Totty; For the Entrance into the South End of the Town, by India Bridge Mr David Butler, and for that by the upper or central Bridge Mr Henry Wyatt.

It is further voted, that it shall be the Duty of the Town-Treasurer, to cause a sufficient Number of blank Certificates of a suitable Form, to be printed, and that he furnish the said Surveyors respectively therewith; That all Penalties for the Breach of this act be recoverable upon Information before any Justice of the Peace in this Town, and that the like Rules shall be observed, as is by Law provided for the Sale of Fire Wood less than four feet in Length, measuring to half the Cord; And that this act be published at Length three Weeks Successively both the News-Papers in this Town, and the Same shall commence and take Effect the first Day of January next.

Collection and appropriations of 12,000 Dollar Tax, ordered in September.

November 12th A D 1798

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Tax of twelve thousand Dollars which was ordered to be assessed on the eighth Day of September last, be collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the first Day of January next, and if not then paid, that the same draw Interest until paid; - That all Town Notes not exceeding ten Dollars shall be receivable in payment of said Tax; That the Town Treasurer be directed to issue his Certificates in favor of the Holders of all Town Notes exceeding that sum, for one eighth part of the Principal thereof, and one Years Interest on the same, if so much shall be due, and cause the amount of such principal and Interest to be indorsed on said Notes respectively; and all Certificates so issued, shall also be receivable in Payment of said Tax and the Residue of the same is hereby ordered to be collected and paid into said Town Treasury in Specie.

And whereas Henry Bowen, the present Collector of Town Taxes having undertaken and agreed, to collect the said Tax of twelve thousand Dollars, together with the Town's Apportionment of the twenty thousand Dollar Tax as ordered by the Hon^ble General Assembly at their October Session, at a Commission of three per Centum, it is further Voted and Resolved, that the said Henry Bowen be and he hereby is authorized and empowered to proceed in the Collection of said Taxes accordingly

Town Taxes ordered prior to 1797. how to be paid.

Voted, that all Town Taxes assessed before the Year 1797. which remain unpaid, be collected and paid into the Town-Treasury, on or before the first Day of January 1799. and that the Town-Treasurer be authorized to receive for the same any of the Town Notes or orders issued by the Town-Treasurer, or Town Council, or the Overseers of the Poor; - And if the said Taxes are not fully settled by the Time aforesaid, that the Town Treasurer be, and he hereby is directed, to commence and prosecute to Judgment and Execution as soon as may be, such Suit or Suits, as may be necessary to compel a Payment thereof.

Committee to examine Stoves Pipes &c

Whereas great Danger arises from Fire for want of a due attention to Stoves, Stove Pipes, Fire Places and Chimnies in this Town; - It is therefore voted, that three Committees, to consist of five Persons each, be appointed for the different Parts of this Town, whose Duty it shall be to inspect and examine all Stoves, Stove Pipes, Fire places and Chimnies which may be thought suspicious or any wise defective, and that they cause such alterations to be made therein as shall be deemed necessary. And if any Person or Persons shall refuse or neglect to make such alterations or amendments, as the said Committee or a major part of them shall direct, he or they so refusing shall incur the Penalty of five Dollars, to be recovered by action of the Case in the Name of the Town Treasurer before any Justice of the Peace in this County. And further voted that Messrs Seth Thomas Ebenezer Wacomber, Thos Mc Keyes, &c

November 12th AD 1798.

Thurber Jun.r and Wheeler Martin be the Committee for this Purpose on the North Part of this Town. Messrs Jabez Bullock, Joseph Tillinghast, Nathaniel Thayer, Daniel Mitchell and John Hurt, the Committee for this purpose for the South Part of the Town, and Messrs. Zephaniah Brown, Elek.r Eddy, Jeremiah Jones, John Mason and Lewis Bush for the West Part of the Town.

New Digest of the Laws appropriated to Overseers of the Poor.

Voted, that the Overseers of the poor for this Town, be, and they hereby are authorized to receive on Loan one Volume each of the new Digest containing the Laws of this State, that the same be considered as appendages to their Offices, and as such that they enure to the use of their Succesors in Office; And that the Residue of the Volumes of said Digest, belonging to the Town be deposited in the Office of the Town Treasurer, subject to the further order of the Town.

This Meeting is dissolved.

Act for Amendment of Wood Act.

Town Council Chamber

*Town Council Chamber

January 3d AD 1799.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House on the third Day of January AD 1799.

Richard Jackson Jun.r Moderator.

An act in amendment of an act passed on the twelfth Day of November 1798. relative to the admeasurement of Fire-Wood.

It is voted and resolved, that for the better Execution of said act, the following persons be appointed Surveyors and Measurers of Wood, — Namely for the South End of the Town over the Mill Bridge, John Smith, for the other avenue by the North End of said Town, Aaron Mason and Obadiah Mason, for the West End of the Town by the avenues of Cranston and Johnston Roads, Elek.r Eddy and Jacob Westcott,* for the avenue by India Bridge, Mary Seamans, and for that by the Central Bridge Henry Wyatt, that the persons aforenamed and those who may be appointed to that Office, shall survey and measure all Fire Wood in the Manner prescribed in said Act; and all Fire Wood offered for Sale shall be accompanied with a Certificate of the admeasurement thereof, from one of the Surveyors and Measurers, by this act appointed or the same shall be forfeited. It is further voted and resolved, that any person who

January 3d AD 1799.

purchase any Fire Wood offered for Sale as aforesaid, which shall not be accompanied with a Certificate as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay as a Fine the Sum of two Dollars to be recovered by Action of Debt, Complaint or Information, before any one Justice of the Peace, for said Town with Costs, one Moiety thereof to, and for the use of the Complainant, and the other Moiety thereof, to and for the use of the Town;— And that it be recommended to the Purchaser of Fire Wood to repay to the Seller the Expense of measuring the same, and to take up the Certificate.— And it is further voted, that that Part of said act, of the twelfth Day of November AD 1798, by which the additional Surveyors and Corders are appointed be repealed.

Amendment of Wood act

Voted and resolved, that Amos M. Atwell, Thomas Poynton, Ives and John Corlis be appointed a Committee to report on the Expediency of establishing a Watch in this Town, and also to report the Rules and Regulations relative thereto, if in their Opinion a Watch shall be expedient, and that said Committee report to this Meeting at the adjournment.

Comm.ee to report Expediency of Night Watch

Voted that Benjamin C. Gorton be appointed an Engine Man for Engine No 4. in the Room of Jeremiah Jenkes who has resigned.

Engine Man for No. 4.

Adjourned to Tuesday next at 3. o Clock P. M.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, holden by adjournment, in and for said Town on the eighth Day of January AD 1799.

Richard Jackson Jun.r Moderator.

Amendment of Wood act

Voted, that the act passed at the last Meeting in Amendment of the Wood act be published in all the News Papers in this Town, for the Term of three Weeks successively.

Report of Comm.ee on Expediency of a Night Watch

Whereas, the Committee appointed on the third instant to consider and report upon the Expediency of establishing a Night Watch in this Town, have presented the following Report; To wit;

We the undersigned being appointed a Committee to report the most eligible Mode of establishing a Watch during the present Winter, after mature Consideration do report, that from the unequal Tax which would fall on the Citizens by personal Services, in Rotation, they are of Opinion that a direct Tax on the Property of the Citizens, would be the most just and equal, and certain Method of obtaining and securing a good and sufficient Watch for the Safety of the Lives and Property of the Citizens All which is submitted by

Jn.o Corlis
Thos. Ives
Thos M Atwell
} Comm.ee

The foregoing Report having been read, and considered, it is thereupon resolved that the same be received.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the seventeenth Day of April A.D. 1799.

John Dorrance Esq. Moderator.

Persons Propounded.

Thomas Tillinghast, Charles Steaden, Robert Bretton, Metcalf, Boyler, Benjamin Peck Hoyles Hartshorn, James Yerrington, Nathan Truman.

admitted free.

William Mumford, William R. Martin.

Representatives chosen.

This being the Anniversary for proceeding for General Officers, and also the Day for choosing Representatives from this Town to the Honorable General Assembly for the ensuing six Months, the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town, in said General Assembly, to be holden on the first Wednesday of May next, and on all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday of October next — Vizt.

John Smith Esq. 1st.
Capt. William Rhodes 2d.
Mr Richard Jackson Jr. 3d.
Mr Thomas P. Ives — 4th.

Method of notifying the Freemen of the Town.

Voted, that the method of notifying the Freemen of the Town, to attend any Town Meeting hereafter to be holden, be by Beat of Drum.

Engine No. 3 to be repaired.

Voted, that Messrs. Peter Grinnell and Barnard Eddy be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to repair the Engine No. 3. and that the Expense thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury

Accounts to be audited.

Voted that the Town Audit be, and they are hereby authorized and requested to audit the Accounts presented to this Meeting by Col. Robert Taylor and Mr Nehemiah Sweet for repairing the Town Pumps.

Edward Mason to take Charge of the Town House.

Voted, that Mr Edward Mason be, and he is hereby appointed to superintend and take the Charge of the Town House in this Town; That he put the same in necessary Repair, and cause the East Door to be entirely shut up, and that he be authorized to prosecute all persons who may be detected in trespassing upon the said House or in any wise injuring the same, and that he be paid a reasonable Compensation for his Services out of the Town Treasury.

Committee to lease Lot of Land at Neat-Point

Voted, that the Town Treasurer and Messrs. John Mumford and Joel Metcalf be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee to lease a Lot of Land belonging to the Town, situated at Neat-Point, to Mr Amos Horton, on such Conditions as the said Committee may deem most advantageous to the Town, for a Term of Time not exceeding five Years, and that the Town Treasurer be, and hereby is requested to execute a Lease of said Lot accordingly, whenever the Conditions shall be agreed upon between the said Parties

3

April 17th A. D. 1799.

Report of Committee on George Street.

On the Report of the Committee appointed to view George Street, and to report the Expediency of rendering the Same passable together with the probable Expense thereof.

It is Voted and resolved, that said Report be received, and the further Consideration thereof postponed.

Oration Continued.

Voted, that Col. Jeremiah Olney, Mr. John Rogers and Mr. Thomas P. Ives, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the Purpose of making Choice of a suitable Person to deliver an Oration on the fourth Day of July next, in Commemoration of the Anniversary of American Independence; — And that said Committee be authorized to provide such arrangements for that Occasion, as they may deem necessary.

Act providing against the Inhabitants smoking Pipes & Segars.

Whereas, the due Preservation of this Town from the alarming Accidents of Fire, has become greatly endangered by the unfounded Practices of smoking Pipes and Segars in the compact Parts of the same; —

For Prevention of such Offences as far as may be in future, It is voted and resolved, that whosoever shall be discovered in any of the Streets of this Town, or upon any of the Wharves in the compact Parts of the same, in the act of Smoking, or carrying a lighted Pipe or Segar, he, she, or they, so offending, upon due Conviction thereof, on Complaint

or Information before any single Justice of the Peace in this Town, shall forfeit and pay as a Fine the Sum of one Dollar for the first Offence, and for the second Offence the Sum of two Dollars, and the same Penalty of two Dollars for every subsequent Offence.

It is further resolved, that this act be published in all the News Papers in this Town, and that the same shall commence and take Effect at the Expiration of ten Days from the Date of its first Publication.

B. Hoppin appointed Member of Council vice Jonathan Headwell.

Voted, that Col. Benjamin Hoppin be & he is hereby appointed a Member of the Town Council of this Town in the Room of Capt. Jonathan Headwell who has removed to South-Providence.

John Mason Esq. empowered to remove part of the Wharfe commonly called Reily's Wharfe.

Whereas, it was heretofore voted and resolved by the Freemen of this Town in Town Meeting legally assembled, that so much of the Wharfe next to the West End of Weybosset Bridge, commonly called Reily's Wharfe, as extended to the Eastward of a Line to be drawn from the Westernmost abutment of Weybosset Bridge aforesaid, to the Head of the Long Wharfe, should be demolished and taken away to a Level with the adjacent Bottom; — and whereas John Mason Esq. has offered a Proposal to this Meeting, to carry the aforesaid Resolution into Execution and Effect for the Privilege of improving* that Part of said Wharfe so ordered to be demolished and removed; — And the said Proposal being made

* the Materials arising

com-

April 8th AD 1799.

considered, it is thereupon voted and resolved, that the same be accepted on the part of this Town, and that the said John Masonbe, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to demolish and remove the said Wharfe, and to appropriate the said Materials to his own Benefit and Behoof as a Compensation for his Services therein.

Taxes

The Taxes put in at this Meeting for general Officers are five hundred and Six. of which Number there are for his Excellency arthur Tenner Esquire as Governor, four hundred and ninety.

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House on the first Monday of June AD 1799 being the third day of the Month

John Dorrance Esquire Moderator

Persons Propounded

Marvin Morris Propounded at this Meeting.

Persons admitted

Stephen G Allen was Voted in and admitted a Freeman.

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the year ensuing the following Persons are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective names.

Town Clerk. Nathan W Jackson.

Town Council.

John Dorrance President, Joel Metcalf, Benjamin Hoppin, Grindal Reynolds, and Isaiy Bullock.

Town Sergeant. Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer. Samuel Nightengale

Town Audit. John Smith, John Mumford, and Richard Jackson Junr.

Constables. Thomas Williams, William Gwens, Jacob Whitman Junr. Paul Allen, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Alpheus Billings, John Lapall, Daniel Hayford, Calvin Walker, William Burr. Aaron Ruben, and Isaac Congdon.

Sealers of Weights and Measures. Jacob Whitman and Jacob Whitman Junr.

Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor. William Lamard, William Richmond, and William Holroyd.

Surveyors of Joist Boards Spars Timber and Corded Wood. Asa Franklin, Simeon Ingraham, Joshua Lindley, John Smith, Caleb Ormsbee, Walter Harding, Elijah Ormsbee Melzar Packard and Christopher Arnold as to Spars.

Surveyors of High Ways. Nathan Waterman, Oliver Bowen John Dorrance, Squire Thurber, Calvin Dean, and Jeremiah B Howell.

Guagers of Casks. Samuel Jackson, Eleck Eddy, James Weeden John Burrough Samuel Weeden and John R Balch.

Vendue Masters. Benjamin Hoppin, William Peck, Robert Taylor, Junr. Joseph Lawrence, Jacob Whitman Junr. and Benjamin Hoppin.

Collector of Taxes. Henry Bowen.

Clerk of the Market. Job Danforth.

Packers of Beef Pork & Fish

Packers of Beef Pork and fish . . . William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clements, John LaMearns, John Cathsorth, Arthur Tarrier, Charles Lapells, Samuel Cathsorth, Samuel Brown, Henry Randall, James Weeden, and Wilber Paul.

Corders of Wood

Corders of Wood. John Vial, John Petley, John Lapall, Samuel Wilkie, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton, Henry Alexander, Aaron Seamens, James Weeden, and Obadiah Mason.

Overseers of the Hospital The Town Council

Pound Keepers

Charles Holden, and John Miller

To Value Estates when disputed in Voting

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason

Fence Viewers

Fence Viewers. Samuel Thurber Junr. Christopher Arnold and Joseph Hoyle.

Presidents of the Fire Wards.

John Brown Jabez. Bowen and Samuel. Butler.

Fire Wards.

Amos Atwell, Henry Smith, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Zephaniah Andrews, David Howell, Ebenezer Thompson, John Jones Clark John Carlile Moses Lippitt Seth Wheaton and Joshua Lindley

Fire Engine Company No 1.

Richard Jackson Junr, Nicholas Brown, Robert Taylor Junr, John Howland, Nathan Angell Junr, George Jackson, William Lee, Edward Dexter, Elisha Brown, Nathaniel Smith, Stephen Harris, and Isaac Bullard,

Fire Engine No. 2.

Nehemiah Sweet, Samuel Thurber, Junr. Philip Martin, Joseph Jenckes, Samuel Whipple, Squire Thurber, James Burr, Samuel Staples, George Weeden, Ebenezer K Dexter, and Jabez Gorham, and Ezekiel Burr.

Fire Engine No. 3.

John Matthewson, Jonathan W Coy, Peter Grinnell, Ward Cowing, William Taylor, Nicholas D Green, Richard Anthony, Joseph Anthony, Colvil Dana, Benjamin Tallman, Barnard Eddy and William Paul.

Fire Engine No 4.

Israel Davis, George Earl, Eber Coleman, John J Sheldon, Benjamin G Dexter, John Truman, Cromwell Barney, Elijah Ormsbee, James Pitcher, Benjamin Clifford, Benjamin E Gorton, Peleg Peckham.

Fire Engine Company No 5.

Othniel Tripp, Calvin Dean, Thomas Williams, William Brownell, Caleb Williams, Parson Mason, John Stone, Hezekiah Smith, Enos Angell, David Atwood, William Babcock, James Bullis.

Committee to Remove Goods &c in Cases of Fire

John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman, Christopher Sheldon, and Amos Atwell.

Persons to Remove or Pull down Houses in Cases of Fire

Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith, Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harding, and Darius Allen.

Field Drivers

Rufus Waterman, Michal Metcalf, Geo Gordon, John Jarp, Daniel Jeffs, Uriah Hopkins, Henry Sweeting, Calvin Walker, Joseph Hoyle, and Jonathan French.

Sealer of Leather

Joel Metcalf.

Scavengers.

Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, and Joshua Lindley,

Overseers of the Work House

Overseers of the Poor,

Town Criers

Daniel Branch, John Beasly, and William Gerrish.

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge

Joshua Lindley.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on Streets Highways Lands Gangways & Commons.

Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Arnold, Zephaniah Brown, Abner Daggett, John Mumford, Joseph Tillinghast, and Joseph Jenckes,

School Committee . . .

Enos Hitchcock, Jonathan Marcy, Abraham L Clarke, Stephen Gano, James Wilson, Moses Brown, Samuel Eddy, and John Pitman.

Inspectors of Pot and Pearl Ashes

Samuel Jackson, and Samuel Weeden

Measurers of Carpenters Work Plastering &c —

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Arnsbee, Jehu Smith, and Walker Harding.

Inspectors of Lime

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Morton, and Cyrus Cole.

Advising Committee on Repairs of Weybosset Bridge

John Smith, and John Mason,

Charge of the Town House

Edward Mason

Committee appointed to Superintend Stove Pipes, Chimnies and Fire Places

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson. William Thayer, John Spurr, William Almy, and Samuel Thurber Junr.

Surveyors of Wood and Measurers

For the North End of the Town over the Mill Bridge Jehu Smith. For the other Avenue by the North End of said Town Aaron Mason and Obadiah Mason. For the West end of the Town by the Avenues of Cranston and Johnston Roads Esek Eddy and Jacob Westcott For the Avenues by India Bridge Aaron Seamans And for that by the Central Bridge Henry Wyat.

Members of the Town Council to be paid

Voted That the Members of the Town Council have Each One Dollar per Day. for every Special Meeting

Constables are directed diligently to attend to the Execution of the Laws relative to the Observance of the Sabbath

Voted and Resolved That the Constables be and they are hereby directed and required diligently to attend to the execution of the Laws relative to the Observance of the Sabbath and to prosecute all Offenders against said Laws before the proper authority. It is also Voted and Resolved That all Masters of Families and Householders be and they are hereby particularly requested to enquire into the conduct of their Children and Servants on the Sabbath and to prevent as far as possible all breaches of said Laws by persons under their care or direction — And that these Resolutions be published in all the Meet

Sealer of Leather

Joel Metcalf.

Scavengers.

Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, and Joshua Lindley,

Overseers of the Work House

Overseers of the Poor,

Town Criers

Daniel Branch, John Beasly, and William Gerrish.

Overseer of Weyboset Bridge

Joshua Lindley.

Committee to prevent Encroachments on Streets Highways Lands Gangways & Commons.

Daniel Stillwell, Thomas Arnold, Zephaniah Brown, Abner Daggett, John Mumford, Joseph Tillinghast, and Joseph Jenckes,

School Committee . . .

Enos Hitchcock, Jonathan Maxcy, Abraham L Clarke, Stephen Gano, James Wilson, Moses Brown, Samuel Eddy, and John Pitman.

Inspectors of Pot and Pearl Ashes

Samuel Jackson, and Samuel Weeden

Measurers of Carpenters Work Plastering &c -

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Arnsbee, Jehu Smith, and Walker Harding.

Inspectors of Lime

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Morton, and Cyrus Cole.

Advising Committee on Repairs of Weyboset Bridge

John Smith, and John Mason,

Charge of the Town House

Edward Mason

Committee appointed to Superintend Stove Pipes, Chimnies and Fire Places

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson, William Thayer, John Spurr, William Almy, and Samuel Thurber Junr.

Surveyors of Wood and measurers

For the North End of the Town over the Mill Bridge Jehu Smith. For the other avenue by the North End of said Town Aaron Mason and Obadiah Mason. For the West end of the Town by the Avenues of Cranston and Johnston Roads Esek Eddy and Jacob Westcott For the Avenues by India Bridge Aaron Seamans and for that by the Central Bridge Henry Wyat.

Members of the Town Council to be paid

Voted That the Members of the Town Council have Each One Dollar per Day. for every Special Meeting

Constables are directed diligently to attend to the Execution of the Laws relative to the Observance of the Sabbath

Voted and Resolved That the Constables be and they are hereby directed and required diligently to attend to the execution of the Laws relative to the Observance of the Sabbath and to prosecute all Offenders against said Laws before the proper authority. It is also Voted and Resolved that all Masters of Families and Householders be and they are hereby particularly requested to enquire into the conduct of their Children and Servants on the Sabbath and to prevent as far as possible all breaches of said Laws by persons under their care or direction - and that the Resolutions be published in all the News

in this Town for three Weeks successively.

Town Audit directed to adjust and Settle the Accounts of The Late Town Treasurer

Voted That the Town Audit be directed immediately to adjust and Settle the Accounts of James Arnold Esquire deceased late Town Treasurer with the Town And that the Town Treasurer be directed to borrow money on the Credit of the Town and pay the balance which may be due to the Estate of said James Arnold upon the said account and upon a Note for Thirteen hundred and thirty Eight dollars Seventy Eight Cents dated the 9th day of April 1798 Issued by Samuel Nightingale Town Treasurer or to pay the same out of any money which may be in the Treasury unappropriated.

Committee to receive the Town Books and Papers of the late Town Clerk

Voted That Messrs John Smith John Mumford and Richard Jackson Junr Town Audit be a Comittee to Receive all the Towns Books and Papers of George Tillinghast Esqr late Town Clerk and deliver the Same to Nathan Jackson the present Town Clerk for the year ensuing and that they give and take receipts for the same.

Committee to settle with George Tillinghast Esqr

Voted. That John Dorrance Esqr William Larnard and William Allen be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to settle all accounts between the Town of Providence and George Tillinghast Esquire late Town and Council Clerk.

Committee for the relaying of the pavement be tween Hanover Street & the Crawford Estate to

Voted That the Committee appointed to relay the Pavement between Hanover Street and the Crawford Estate be and they are hereby directed to proceed no further therein unless it can be done by receiving Town Notes in payment for the same.

Interest to be allowed on Welcome Arnolds Order ...

Committee to treat for the Purchase of the Brick and Whipple Hall School Houses.

Town Clerk to procure a Book for the Recording of Platts ...

Town Clerk to Record Two Journals of Plats.

Officers committing disorderly Persons to Bridewell to be paid by the Town in case the Offender is unable

Engine company No 5 may take Fire Buckets from the Market House ...

Voted That Interest be allowed on Welcome Arnold's Order from the Town Council for Five dated fifth of March 1798 until paid.

Voted. That John Howland Richard Jackson Junr and John Carlile be a Committee for the purpose of treating with the Proprietors of the Upper Story of the Brick School House and of the Building commonly called Whipple Hall for the purchase of the same for the use of the Town and Report their doings to the next Meeting ...

Voted That the Town Clerk be and he is hereby directed to Provide a suitable Book for the Entering and Recording of Plats of the Streets Lanes and Gangways that may be lodged at his Office.

Voted That the Town Clerk be and he is hereby directed to Record Two Journals of the Streets and Gangways as has not been heretofore Recorded and to deliver the Originals to the Town Treasurer.

Voted That any Officer or Officers who shall commit any Person of disorderly behaviour to Bridewell be paid for such service by the Town in Case of Inability in the Offender to pay the same and not otherwise after their accounts have been duly Certified by the Town Audit.

Voted, That the Fire Engine Company No 5 be empowered and directed to take from the ~~Court~~ Market House for the use of said Engine Twenty Five of the Fire Buckets therein belonging to the Town begenning at the highest number.

June 3d AD 1799

John Smiths account allowed.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty One Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to John Smith being the Amount of an account by him Exhibited for his Services as Town Audit.

Richard Jackson Junr. account allowed

Voted That the Sum of Twelve Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Richard Jackson Junr being the Amount of an Account by him Exhibited for Services as Town Audit

John Mumfords Account allowed.

Voted That the Sum of Twelve Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to John Mumford being the Amount of an Account Exhibited by him for Services as Town Audit.

This Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the Twenty Seventh Day of August AD 1799

Richard Jackson Junior Moderator

Persons Propounded

James Temple, Nicholas D Greene David Anthony

This being the Day appointed by Law for the choice of Representatives to Represent this

Representatives to the Assembly Chosen...

Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State for the ensuing Six months the following Gentlemen are duly Elected to Represent this Town in said General Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday of October and in all future Sessions thereof untill the first Wednesday in may next. Namely

John Smith Esquire	1st
Capt. William Rhodes	2d
Mr Thomas P Ives	3d
David Leonard Barnes Esq.	4th

Committee for drafting Instructions

Voted that Samuel W Bridgham, John Howland, George Burrill, Esquire, William Richmond Esq. and William Tarred Esq. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draught Instructions to the Representatives for this Town in the Honorable General Assembly relative to the Free School Bill, and that they Report at this meeting

No Oysters to be opened or Fish exposed for Sale at the West end of the Market

Voted and Resolved that no Oysters shall be opened or Fish exposed for sale at the West End of the Market unless it be in Boats, for the future under the Penalty of paying One Dollar for every Offence. And that the Clerk of the Market be and he is hereby directed and Empowered to see this Resolve punctually executed. The Fines to be recovered by Action of Debt on Complaint or Information before any one Justice of the Peace for said Town with Costs, One Moiety thereof to and for the use of the Complainant and the other Moiety to and for the use of the Town

Collector ordered to be sued unless he settles his accounts

August 27th A.D. 1799.

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed, to commence Suits at Law against the Collector and his Bondsmen, for the recovery of all Monies due the Town for Taxes, on or before the first Day of October next, Unless the Collector shall previously thereto settle his Accounts, and produce Certificates from the Town Audit of such Settlement, and give such Security for the Ballance if any as shall be Satisfactory to the Town Treasurer.

The Committee appointed at this Meeting to draft Instructions for the Representatives for this Town in the General Assembly Reported the following, to wit,

The Subscribers being appointed by the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting this day lawfully Assembled a Committee to prepare and Report instructions to the Representatives from said Town in the General Assembly relative to the Bill now before said General Assembly to establish free Schools respectfully report the following instructions

27th Aug 1799.

Samuel W Bridgham
Geo R Burrill
John Howland
Wm Richmond
Wm Larnard

To John Smith, William Rhodes, Thomas O Ives, and David L Barnes Esquires;

Gentlemen,

Placing in you the fullest Confidence, We have selected you to assist in the Public Councils of the State, not doubting your readiness to promote such measures as may tend to advance the general Interest, as combined with the Private happiness of the people:— It never being our intention to bind our Representatives by instructions in the ordinary business of Legislation, we should not have addressed you at this time but from the deep Interest we feel in the question submitted by the General Assembly to their Constituents. — On the question of Free Schools, Gentlemen, all party distinctions are broken down — here there can be no clashing interests — On this Subject one Section of the State cannot be opposed to another — Before this Benevolent Idea, every partial, narrow motive, of local policy must disappear — As we are Confident that the General Object of the Bill can meet with no opposition; the only question which can arise will be on some of its particular provisions as to the best mode of carrying its general principle into effect. On this part of the subject we would recommend to you to support the adoption of the Bill in its present form; as any inconvenience which may arise in particular districts can at any time be removed after the Law is in operation when experience can point out to the Legislature the expediency of a different arrangement, but this we confide to your discretion on the Positive Injunction that the General System is not affected.

Fully confident of the patriotism of our fellow citizens throughout the State, that they are actuated by the same anxious solicitude for the publick good, we doubt not but their Representatives and ours will meet at the next Session bringing with them the Rich deposit of the public Sentiment, and by a Unanimous Voice Establish free Schools throughout the State; then will that Glory which attends itself to the purest benevolence and to the highest acts of public Virtue rest on their Heads; and the Members of the Rhode Island Legislature having thus before the Close of the eighteenth Century

provided for the full enjoyment of a Right which forms so Essential an Article in the great System of social order, will be mentioned with high expressions of gratitude and honor through the Ages and generations which are yet to succeed.

The above and foregoing Report being read in Open Town Meeting. It is Voted that the same be and it is hereby received as Instructions for the Representatives of this Town in the Honorable General Assembly and that the following Clause be added thereto.

Clause to be added to the Instructions

It is nevertheless the sense of the Town that in case any particular alteration of the Bill, to extend it to Native Indians or other people of Color, or as it may respect any particular Society, shall appear eligible to the Representatives on hearing before the General Assembly these Instructions are not to be construed to militate against any such amendment

Voted, and Resolved, that a Town Tax of Twelve Thousand Dollars be Levied and assessed on the Rateable property of the Inhabitants of this Town, and others owning such Property, And that the same be assessed on or before the fifteenth day of October next, and that the said Tax be Collected and paid into the Town Treasury by the fifteenth

Tax of 12000 Dollars ordered

Day

Day of January AD One Thousand Eight Hundred

Adjourned to Friday the 30th of August Instant 2 o'Clock PM.

At a Town meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden in and for said Town by Adjournment on Friday the Thirtieth Day of August AD 1799

Richard Jackson Junior Moderator

A Report presented to this Meeting by the Committee appointed by the Town at their Meeting June the the third to treat for the purchase of the Brick and Whipple Hall school Houses, is as follows

To the Moderator and Freemen in Town Meeting Assembled

The Committee who were appointed at the meeting held on the first Monday in June to treat with the Proprietors of Whipple Hall School House and with the Proprietors of the Brick School House for the purchase of the same Respectfully Report

That the property of Whipple Hall was originally divided into Fifty Shares — that we have Contracted with the Proprietors of forty two shares and obtained Deeds from them properly executed to the Town Treasurer, for the consideration of Ten Dollars per share that the proprietors of three other Shares being absent from the Town the Transfer thereof cannot be compleated till their return — But we have

provided for the full enjoyment of a Right which forms so Essential an Article in the great System of social order, will be remembered with high expressions of gratitude and honor through the Ages and generations which are yet to succeed.

The above and foregoing Report being read in Open Town Meeting. It is Voted that the same be and it is hereby received as Instructions for the Representatives of this Town in the Honorable General Assembly and that the following Clause be added thereto.

Clause to be added to the Instructions

It is nevertheless the sense of the Town that in case any particular alteration of the Bill, to extend it to native Indians or other people of Color, or as it may respect any particular Society, shall appear eligible to the Representatives on hearing before the General Assembly these Instructions are not to be construed to militate against any such amendment

Tax of 12000 Dollars ordered

Voted, and Resolved, that a Town Tax of Twelve Thousand Dollars be Levied and assessed on the Rateable property of the Inhabitants of this Town, and others owning such Property, And that the same be assessed on or before the fifteenth day of October next, and that the said Tax be Collected and paid into the Town Treasury by the fifteenth

Day

Day of January AD One Thousand Eight Hundred

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To the Moderator and Freemen in Town Meeting Assembled

The Committee who were appointed at the meeting held on the first Monday in June to treat with the Proprietors of Whipple Hall School House and with the Proprietors of the Brick School House for the purchase of the same Respectfully Report

That the property of Whipple Hall was originally divided into Fifty shares — that we have contracted with the Proprietors of forty two shares and obtained Deeds from them properly executed to the Town Treasurer, for the consideration of Ten Dollars per share that the proprietors of three other shares being absent from the Town the Transfer thereof cannot be compleated till their return — That we have

not been able to trace the Right of the other five shares to any responsible individual, but as the purchase is so far compleat as to put the Town in immediate possession we request that the Treasurer may be directed to Issue his Notes for the payment of the same agreeable to the contract made in behalf of the Town by your Committee That from the great number of Shares into which the property of the Brick School House is divided we found it impracticable to treat with the proprietors Seperately, we therefore caused the purpose of our appointment to be notified in the public Papers and requested the proprietors to meet that we might be able to report the Result to the Town at the present meeting but as we cannot learn that there has been any meeting of the Proprietors, we are not able to report any further progress in the Business Which is Respectfully Submitted by

Report of the Committee to.

John Howland
John Carlile } Committee

The above Report being Read in Open Town meeting, It is Voted that the same be and it is hereby Received, and Accepted

Town Treasurer directed to Issue Notes

VOTED that the Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to Issue his Notes on Interest to Such of the late proprietors of the Whipple Hall School House as the Committee have Contracted with for their several rights in the same at the Rate of ten Dollars for Each

Right or Share so Contracted for, and that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to Contract with such Proprietors as the Committee have not agreed with for their respective rights in said School House, at the same price, as the others

Surveyors of Highways restricted

VOTED and Resolved that the Surveyors of High Ways have individually power to expend not exceeding Five dollars in any one place on the High ways or Roads in this Town and Collectively not exceeding Thirty Dollars unless approved of by a Majority of the Town's Committee to be appointed for that purpose and then only where it shall be deemed (by a majority of the Surveyors) absolutely necessary for the convenience and safety of the Public. And in no case whatever shall the Towns money be expended by the Surveyors on any High Way, or Road which has not been previously received by the Town agreeably to Law - nor in any such High Way or Road, unless it has been heretofore put in a suitable State of Repair..

Committee to advise & direct, relative to the repairing of Streets

VOTED that Capt. Seth Wheaton, Col John Spurr, Henry Smith, Samuel Butler Junior and Sylvanus Martin, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to Advise and direct the Expenditure of the Towns monies relative to the Repairing of the Streets, Highways &c in this Town, in all Sums above Thirty dollars

August 30th AD 1799.

Collection & appropriation of 12000 Dollar Tax.

Voted and Resolved, that the Collector to be appointed to collect the Tax of Twelve Thousand Dollars ordered to be assessed on the Rateable property of the Town of Providence on the Twenty Seventh Day of August AD 1799 Advertize in all the Newspapers of said Town for all the Inhabetants and others to call on him at his Office during the first Ten days in December next and pay their Taxes due said Town agreeably to the Rate Bill

And whosoever shall so call on the Collector as aforesaid, within the time aforesaid and pay his Her or their Tax the Collector is hereby directed to deduct from his, her or their Tax Two per Cent for payment so made.

And that the Town allow said Collector Four per Cent on the Collection of said Tax, and that the Collector allow out of his Fee, Two per Cent to all such as bring in and pay to him the Amount of their Tax by the Tenth day of December next

And it is further Voted and Resolved that the Tax when Collected and paid into the Town Treasury The Town Treasurer shall appropriate so much of said Tax as will pay One Quarter part of the Towns Debt including Principal and Interest to the first Day of January One thousand Eight Hundred and endorse the same on the Obligations against the Town, And that he Issue Certificates for said Quarter part of the Town Debt and Interest which shall

be receivable in payment of said Tax, said Certificates not to draw any Interest

And it is further Voted that Jesse Shermore be and he is hereby appointed Collector to Collect said Tax

Committee to wait on his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esqr

Voted and Resolved that Col. Jeremiah Olney and David Howell Esquire be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to wait on his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esqr and Request of him in behalf of the Town to remove his Wall off the Road leading from Olneys Lane to Herrendens Lane

Committee to Settle with the Managers of the Great Bridge Lottery

Voted that Messrs John Mumford, Seth Wheaton and Richard Jackson Junior be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to settle the Accounts of the Town with the Managers of the Great Bridge Lottery, and make Report to the next Meeting.

Committee to Settle with the Town Council

Voted that the Town Audit be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to settle all accounts of the Town Council with the Town

Committee to receive communications from Zach. Allen

Voted that Jabez Bowen, John Jones Clerk and Charles Lippitt Esquires be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to receive from Capt Zachariah Allen any Communications he may have to make relative to the Bounds between him and the Town of

Island owned by him at the Head of the Cove, and that they make Report at the next Meeting

Treasurer directed to Issue Certificates

Voted that the Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to Issue Town Certificates to all persons having accounts against the Town relative to the paving of the Street between the Crawford Estate and Hanover Street after said Accounts have been duly audited.....

Town Audit directed

Voted that the Town Audit be and they are hereby Directed to allow Col. John Whipple such further Sum as will fulfill his Contract with Mr Low respecting the repairing of the Pavement in Constitution Street

Inoculation permitted

Voted and Resolved that the Town Council be and they are hereby directed to permit the Physicians, appointed to the Hospital to Inoculate such Persons as shall offer themselves as they may agree, and that the Patients have liberty to find their own nursing and Provisions, the Physicians being accountable to the Town for the Sum of fifty Cents for each Inhabitant of this Town admitted into the Hospital for Inoculation and One Dollar for other Persons

Vote respecting smoking Pipes and Segars to be republished

Voted that the Act passed the Seventeenth of April last relative to the improper practice of smoking Pipes and Segars in the Streets and upon the Wharves in the compact parts of the Town be republished in the Newspapers

Town Council Room to be enlarged

Whereas the Market Chamber Number 7. in which the Town Council meet for the Transaction of their business is to small, being so much Crouded on Council days as to make it very inconvenient and disagreeable to do Business therein It is therefore Voted and Resolved that the Room No 8 Eastward thereof on the same floor be taken in therewith, by taking down the Partition between the two Rooms— the same to be done under the direction of the Town Council, who are hereby authorized and empowered to direct the Performance of the same, and to make such prudent alterations in said Room as they may think necessary by the making of convenient Seats as well for their own Accomodation, as for People attending said Council

This Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House in said Town on the Nineteenth Day of November AD 1799.

Richard Jackson Junr Moderator

Whereas for the better Security of the Town from the alarming accidents of Fire, and for contributing to the good order and Peace of the same; It is Voted and Resolved, that a night Watch be established on the First of December next, to consist of Six persons, to begin their Rounds at Ten o'Clock in the Evening, and to continue the same untill Bell Ringing in the Morning - And that the appointment of said night Watch be under the direction of the Town Council, who are hereby authorized and empowered to make such Regulations for the Government of said Watch, as they may from time to time deem necessary and expedient. and that each of the Watchmen be allowed One Dollar per Night as a compensation for their services, and that said Watch be continued and kept up untill the last of March next.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed and Empowered to Borrow money to pay the Watchmen, (ordered by this meeting) from time to time as their Wages may become due.

Voted and Resolved, that no Inhabitant of this Town, or others, shall suffer his or her Cart, Coach, Truck, Sleigh, Sled or other Carriage to stand for the space of three hours unharnessed or untackled in either of the main or other Streets on the West side of the River, or in either of the Main or other Streets on the East side of the River in this Town, on the penalty of forfeiting the sum of One Dollar for the first two hours, and Twenty five Cents for every

two Hours thereafter, to be levied by Warrant of Distress on the Goods, Chattels or Bodies of the Offenders, on Conviction before any Justice of the Peace in this Town; One half to the use of the Poor of the Town, and the other Half to the Complainants

Voted and Resolved, that the Act passed by this Town, on the Twelfth Day of November 1798, and an Act in Amendment of an Act passed on the Third Day of January 1799 Respecting the Admeasurement of Fire Wood, be and the same is hereby Repealed.

Voted That Col Benjamin Hoppin be and he is hereby appointed to take Charge of the Fire Buckets belonging to the Town in the Market House and that they be hung up in such a manner as to be easily come at in case of Fire

Voted that the Southeast Door of the Market House be unhung and taken away, as also that said Door remain unhung, and that Capt Samuel Godfrey and Samuel Carlile be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to effect the same

Meeting dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the Twenty first Day of November AD 1799.

Richard Jackson Junior Moderator

Persons Propounded

Amos I Jenokes, Elijah King, Wheaton Bragg Abraham Hayden, Cyrus Ellis, Samuel P Allen

Voted that the Clerk be, and he is hereby directed to prosecute agreeably to Law the following Persons for being absent at this Meeting, they being Signers to the Request for Calling the same to Vote, Hezekiah Smith, Othniel Tripp, Joseph Hoyle, Moses Olney, William Brownell, Joseph Field, William Manchester, Arthur Fenner Junr Benja. Talbot Junr. Emor angell, Paris J Tilling hast, William Richmond, John Smith 2d, Stephen Randal, Benjamin Cozzens, Timothy Sheldon, Thomas Robinson, Benjamin Aplin, Archibald Salisbury, Benjamin Cozzens Junr. Obadiah Mason, Rial Luther, David Heaton, Isaac Angell, George Ballou, Nathan Miller, Jonathan Tillinghast, William Peckham, James Peckham, William Hopkins, Ebenezer Simmons, James U Arnold, Joseph Fuller, Calvin Dean.

Clerk directed to prosecute.

Voted that Messrs. Moses Brown, Isaac Bowen and John Mason, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to advise with the Town Treasurer respecting the Prosecution of all such Persons who cut Thatch on the Towns Land without having had Liberty therefor.

Committee to advise with the Treasurer

On motion whether the Act passed by the Town on the Nineteenth Instant establishing a Night Watch should be Repealed It was Resolved in the Negative.

Motion negatived

Resolved that the Vote of the Town on the Nineteenth Instant relative to the unhanging the South East Door of the Market be not Repealed

Voted, that the Town Audit make use of the Council Chamber for the transaction of the Towns business whenever they may think necessary

Town Audit to make use of the Council Chamber

Voted that the Town Council be requested to hire the Town Watch upon the best terms they can, not exceeding the Sum of One Dollar for Each Watchman per night

Town Council to hire the Watch on the best terms

This Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and assembled at the Town-House in said Town on the Third Day of January AD 1800

John Dowrance Esqr Moderator

Voted and Resolved, Unanimously, that Tuesday next be set apart for humiliation and mourning on the Death of General George Washington, and that the following Gentlemen, to wit, Messrs Nathan Fisher, Henry Smith, Robert Taylor Junr, Amos Maine Atwell, Jeremiah Olney, Jeremiah Jenkins, Christopher Olney, John Whipple and Charles Leppitt, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee of Arrangments on this melancholy event, and that the necessary expences attending the same be defrayed out of the Town Treasury, and that the Committee be authorized to draw on the Treasurer therefor. And it is further Voted, that said Committee procure some suitable Person to Prepare and deliver an Oration, and that it be Recommended to the Inhabitants of this Town to shut up their Shops, and to abstain from attending to their Secular Affairs on said Day.

And it is also Resolved, that it be, and it is hereby Recommended to the Inhabitants of this Town, that they Wear on Tuesday Next and from that time untill the Twenty Second Day of February Ensuing, as a token of mourning, a piece of Black Crape or Ribbon round the left Arm

Appointment of Committee of Arrangment

This Meeting is dissolved

Persons Impounded —

Admitted Free

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Assembled according to Law at the Town-House in said Town on the Sixteenth Day of April AD 1800.

Richard Jackson Junr Moderator

Welcome Olney, Thomas Aldrich, Ebenezer Weatherby, Parson Bosworth, Constant Tabor

Wheaton Bragg, Abraham Kappen, Benjamin Jones, Daniel Jenckes Tillinghast, Marvin Morris, Abner Metcalf, Charles Spooner, Jabez Whipple William Kingsley Thurber Arthur Throop Jenckes, Charles Stewart, Oliver Arnold, Samuel G Arnold, John Peck, John J Greene Cyrus Ellis

This being the Anniversary for Procuring for General Officers and also the Day for Choosing Representatives from this Town to the Honorable General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen are duly Elected to Represent this Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly untill the Last Monday of October next — Namely.

John Smith Esquire 1st
Capt William Rhodes 2d
Mr Thomas P Ives 3d
David Leonard Barnes Esqr

April 16th A.D. 1800

Whereas by an Act of the Honorable General Assembly passed at their February Sepion A.D 1800. It becomes the duty of this Town to provide for the Establishment of Free Schools and being desirous of forwarding the good purposes of a Law so well calculated to promote the Public Good, It is therefore Voted and Resolved that James Burrill Junior, John Corlis, Richard Jackson Junior, John Carlile, Joel Metcalf, William Richmond and John Rowland be and they hereby are Appointed a Committee to Devise and Report a Plan for carrying the said Act into Effect in this Town

Committee to make Report of Plan for carrying Law respecting schools into Effect

The Proxes put in at this meeting for General Officers are Four Hundred and Eighty Six of which Number there are for his Excellency ~~Arthur~~ Fenner Esqr as Governor Four Hundred and Sixty Eight

This Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House in said Town on the Twenty Sixth Day of April AD 1800

John Dorrance Esqr. Moderator

The Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to devise and report a Plan for carrying into Effect the Act establishing Free Schools in this Town made Report as followeth, To wit,

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence Assembled in Town Meeting

The Committee to whom was referred the Subject of Free Schools as Established by the late Act of Assembly beg leave to report

That it will be expedient to open and establish through the year, Four Free Schools, one to be kept in Whipple Hall, one in the Brick School House, one in a new School House to be built at the south End, and one in a New School House to be built on the West side of the River

Report of Committee

That a Committee or Committee ought to be appointed to build the new School Houses, and that these Houses ought to be of Brick and be built immediately; and that Whipple Hall ought to be repaired. That until these Houses

can be built the Town Council should be requested to Provide proper places for the Schools at the South End and on the West side.

That there ought to be four principal Masters appointed at a Salary of Five Hundred Dollars per Annum each to be paid quarterly, and so many Ushers or Assistants as the Town Council shall find necessary at such Salaries as the Council shall allow.

That so far as relates to the expence the Town ought to be one School District, and that the Town Council should be requested to decide accordingly.

That the Town Council ought to be empowered to appoint, and if need require to suspend and remove, the Masters and Ushers, And that the Council be requested immediately to make necessary arrangements for carrying the System of Free Schools into complete execution and effect.

That a Tax of Four Thousand Dollars ought to be now ordered, and assessed and collected as soon as may be, And that the same and all other Taxes hereafter imposed for like purposes ought to be paid in money into the Town Treasury and exclusively Appropriated to the erection and support of Free Schools

Which is Submitted by

James Burrill Junr.
Richard Jackson Junr.
John Howland
Jnº Carlile
Wm Richmond
Jnº Corlis
Joel Metcalf
} Comee

And the said Report having been Read and considered it is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the Same be and it is hereby Received

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Council be requested to establish Four Free Schools at the following places in this Town as soon as possible, to wit, One at Whipple Hall, One at the Brick School House – One in the south Part of the Town, and One on the West side of the River; And that the said Town Council procure four principal Masters to said Schools at a Suppcient Salary, to be paid quarterly, and so many Ushers or Assistants as may be found necessary at such Salaries as said Town Council may think proper, and that so far as relates to the expence of Establishing and maintaining said Schools that the Town be considered as one District. And it is further Voted that the Town Council be and they are hereby requested to hire, purchase, or contract for the building of a Suitable School House

Town Council requested to establish Four Free Schools

on the West side of the River; and to procure a Lot: and likewise to procure a Lot, and hire, purchase or contract for the Building a School House at the South Part of the Town, in case they cannot agree with the Proprietors of the new School House in George Street for the same, or in case they should Judge the same to be improperly situated for the Accomodation of the Citizens at the South End; And that said Council direct such alterations and repairs to be made in the north School House as they shall Judge necessary; And that the new School Houses which shall be Erected be built of Brick.

Tax ordered

In order for carrying into effect the Vote paped at this Meeting relative to the establishing of Free Schools it is necessary that a Tax should be Assessed. It is therefore Voted and Resolved that a Tax of Six Thousand Dollars be levied and assessed on all the rateable Property owned by the Inhabotants and others in this Town; And that the same be Assessed on or before the Twentieth Day of May next: And that the said Tax be Collected and paid into the Town Treasury in Money On or before the First Day of August next

And that it be Appropriated to the Sole purpose of carrying into effect the Resolutions this Day Passed for the establishment of Public Schools. And whosoever shall call on the Collector (to be appointed) and pay his her or their Tax on or before the First Day of July next the Collector is directed to Deduct from his her or their Tax Two per Cent for payment so made — no deduction whatever to be made paying after that time — And that the Town allow said Collector Four per Cent on the Collection of said Tax, and that the Collector allow out of his Commissions two per Cent to all such as shall pay him the Amount of their Tax on or before the first day of July next as aforesaid

And it is further Voted that Benjamin Taylor be and he is hereby Appointed Collector to Collect said Tax, and that he Notify in the Public News-papers printed in this Town accordingly.

Town Treasurer requested to collect the monies due for the Walker Lots

It is Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer, be and he is hereby requested, to Collect the Monies due on the Sale of the Walker Lots, and that he hold the same subject to the Order of the Town Council, for carrying into Effect the Resolutions this Day passed for the Establishment of Schools.

Voted and Resolved That the

Town Treasurer requested to call for the monies due on Account of Great Bridge Lottery

Town Treasurer be and he is hereby requested to call for and if necessary to commence an Action for the monies due the Town on Account of the Great Bridge Lottery and that the Same be held as part of the Fund Appropriated for the purpose of the Town Schools under the direction of the Town Council

Timothy Jones allowed Thirty Dollars.

Whereas a Petition is Presented to this meeting by Timothy Jones Esqr as on File praying for a further compensation on Account of transcribing the Old Town Records And the same being duly considered It is Voted and Resolved that the Sum of Thirty Dollars in addition to the Sum heretofore allowed by the Committee appointed for that purpose be paid the said Timothy out of the Town Treasury in full compensation for his said Service.

David Howell to be acquainted respecting Nuisance

Voted and Resolved that the Surveyor in the North district of the Town be and he is hereby directed to call upon David Howell Esqr and acquaint him that unless he removes the Nuisance erected by him in the Street nearly opposite the House of Doctor Stephen Randall within Thirty Days from this time that he will be indicted therefor.

Committee appointed to enquire into State of Street opposite Baptist meeting House

Voted and Resolved that Joseph Tillinghast, Seth Wheaton and William Holroyd be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of enquiring into the State of the Street North of the Baptist meeting House and Benefit Street opposite thereto, and that they go upon the Ground and make report to the Annual meeting to be holden in June next of such measures as they may deem necessary and expedient for the removing any defects in said Streets.

Committee appointed to report whether it is expedient to sell the Town's land.

Voted that Wheeler Martin Esqr, Samuel Shurber Junior, and John Carlile be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to ascertain whether it would be expedient to make Sale of any of the Land belonging to the Town, (at the North end) and that they make Report to the Annual Meeting in June next

Committee appointed to enquire into Gangway by Thomas Jackson's &c

Voted and Resolved, That Moses Brown, Seth Wheaton and John Howland be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of enquiring into the Situation of the Gangway leading Eastward between the Estates of Thomas Jackson, Ezek Aldrich and Hinsly Carpenter So far as respects the Lines and Fences thereof — And that said

April 25th AD 1800

Committee make report to the annual Town Meeting to be Holden in June next

Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the Title by which William Goddard possesses a Lot of Land

Whereas the Committee appointed on the nineteenth Day of April AD 1797 to enquire into the Title which William Goddard possesses to a certain Lot of Land situated at the North End of this Town this Day made their Report in the Words following, to wit,

Providence 10th 2mo 1800—

Agreeable to Appointment we have investigated the Right of Hugh Buet and find an Agreement between the purchasers of that Right and the Proprietors Recorded in Book No 2 page 37 and 47 upon viewing and considering of which and the Town's Claim, We are of Opinion that We as a Town can have no Right to the said Lot but that the same belongs to the Assigns of the said Hugh Buet though all the persons now Concerned as Tenants in Common we know not. Which is Submitted by

Moses Brown
Joel Metcalf
Jabez Bowen.

And the said Report being Read and Considered It is Voted and Resolved that same be Received, and is ordered to be Recorded

Caleb Howard
This meeting is dispolved

Prepounded

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town-House on the Second Day of June AD 1800

James Burrill Junr Esqr. Moderator.

This being the Annoiversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year Ensuing, the following Persons are chosen to the Offices Prefixed to their Respective Names, to wit,

Town Clerk. Nathan W. Jackson

Town Council

John Dorrance Esqr. President,
Joel Metcalf, Benjamin Hoppin,
Joseph Jenckes, and Jabez Bullock

Town Serjeant Henry Bowen

Town Treasurer Samuel Nightingale

Town Audit. John Smith, John Mumford and Richard Jackson Junr.

Town Audit

Constables Thomas Williams, William Guiers, Melzar Packard, Jonathan French, George Gordon Brown

Constables

June 2d AD 1800

Constables

Jesse Whitmore, Alpheus Billings, John Lapsall Daniel Mayford Calvin Walker Wilbrain Burn, Peleg Sherman Henry Alexander Benjamin Peck

Sealers of Weights and Measures

Jacob Whitman, and Jacob Whitman Junior

Assessors of Rates and Overseers of the Poor

William Richmond, William Larkin and John Davis

Surveyors of Spars Joists Boards Timber and Corded Wood

Asa Franklin Simeon Ingraham, Joshua Lindly, John Smith Caleb Ormbee, Walker Harding, Elijah Ormbee, Melzar Packard and Christopher Arnold with Regard to Spars -- and Nedebiah Smith

Surveyors of High Ways

Nathan Waterman Oliver Bowen John Dorrance William T Bucks Calvin Dean, and Jeremiah B Howell

Gaugers of Casks

Samuel Jackson. Esek Eddy James Weeden, John Burrough Samuel Weeden and John R Balch and Cyrus Eddy

Collector of Taxes

Henry Bowen

June 2d AD 1800

Clerk of the Market,

Job Danforth

Packers of Pork & Fish

William Billings, Samuel Jackson Ephraim Clements, John Smith John Eathforth, Arthur Fenner, Charles Lapsells Samuel Eathforth Samuel Brown Henry Randall James Weeden, and Wilbor Paul

Viewers of Fire Wood

John Vial John Pettey, John Lapsall Samuel Wilkie, Seth Davis Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton Henry Alexander Aaron Seamans James Weeden and Obadiah Mason

Overseers of the Hospital

The Town Council

Pound Keepers

Charles Holden & John Miller

The Value of Estates when computed in Voting --

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason

Fence Viewers

Samuel Thurber Junr. Christopher Arnold and Caleb Williams

June 2d AD 1800

Presidents of the Fire Wards

John Brown Jabez Bowen and Samuel Butler

Fire Wards

Amos Atwell, Henry Smith John Mumford John Dorrance Joseph Peck David Howell Ebenezer Thompson John Innes Clark, John Carlile Moses Lippitt, Seth Wheaton and Joshua Lindly

Fire Engine Company No 1.

Richard Jackson Junr. Nicholas Brown, Robert Taylor Junr., John Howland Nathan Angell Junr. George Jackson William Lee, Edward Dexter, Elisha Brown, Nathaniel Smith, Stephen Harris. and Isaac Bullard

Fire Engine Company No 2

Nehemiah Sweet, Samuel Humber Junr. Philip Martin, Joseph Jenckes, Samuel Whipple, Squire Humber, James Burr Samuel Staples James Humber, Ebenezer K Dexter, Jabez Gorham and Ezekiel Burr

Fire Engine Company No 3

John Mathewson, Jonathan M Cay. Peter Grinnell, Ward Ewing, William Taylor, Nicholas D Greene, Richard Anthony, Joseph Anthony, Colwell Dana, Barnard Eddy, William Paul Benjamin Aborn

Fire Engine Company No 4

Israel Davis, George Earle, Ebenezer Coleman, John F. Sheldon, Cromwell Barney Benjamin Clifford, James Fitcher, Elijah Ormsbee, Benjamin E Gorton, Peleg Peckham, Charles Sheldon, Oliver Earle;

Fire Engine Company No 5

Othniel Tripp Caleb Williams, William Brownell, Calvin Dean, Thomas Williams Pardon Mason James Petty, Isaac Manchester David Atwood, Emor Angell Hezekiah Smith, William Peabody

Committee to remove Goods &c in Cases of Fire

John Dorrance, John Mumford, Nathan Waterman Joseph Peck and Amos Atwell.

Persons to Remove and pull down Houses in Cases of Fire

Comfort Wheaton, James Snow, John Smith Martin Seamans, Oliver Carpenter, John Carlile, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harding and Darius Allen

Field Drivers

Rufus Waterman Michal Metcalf George Gordon John Tarp, Daniel Tefft, Micah Hopkins, Henry Sweeting, Calvin Walker Jonathan French, Nathan Salisbury and Calvin Dean.

Sealer of Leather

Calvin Dean

Scavengers

Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, and Joshua Lindly

June 2d AD 1800

Overseers of the Work & Wages

} the Overseers of the Poor

Town Criers

Daniel Branch John Beasley and William Gooch

Overseer of Weybosset Bridge

The Town Treasurer

Committee to prevent Encroachments on Streets Highways Lanes Gangways - and Commons

Samuel Bishop, Williams Thayer. Jeremiah B Howell, John Howland Peter Grinnell, Paris Tillinghast Philip Martin

Inspectors of Pot and Pearl Ashes

Samuel Jackson and Samuel Weeden

Measurers of Carpenters and Work Plaistering &c

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, John Smith, Walker Harding, Edward Mason, Abel Allen, George Earle and Darius Allen

Inspectors of Lime

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Horton Cyrus Cole

Advising Committee on Repairs of Weybosset Bridge.

John Smith John Mason.

Charge of the Town Hay

Edward Mason

Committee appointed to Superintend Stove Pipes Chimnies and Fire Places

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson, Williams Thayer, John Spurr, William Almy, and Samuel Thurber Junr.

Propounded

Daniel Wheaton, Fayette Thurber, Jeremiah Child, Fenner Ingell, Abner Metcalf, Thomas Abbott & Jonathan Eddy.

Admitted Free.

Stephen Smith.

John Smith's Acct. allowed

Voted, that the Sum of thirteen Dollars, be allowed and paid of the Town Treasury to John Smith being the Amount of an Account Exhibited by him for his Services as Town Audit.

Rich.d Jackson's Acct. allowed

Voted, that the Sum of Twelve Dollars, be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Richard Jackson Junr. being the Amount of an Account Exhibited by him for his Services as Town Audit

Committee for 4th. July

Voted & Resolved, that Messrs. John Rogers, Thomas P. Ives & John Whipple be, and they hereby are Appointed a Committee to make Suitable Arrangements for the Celebration of the Anniversary of American Independence on the fourth Day of July next, as may be thought necessary and expedient, and that the Expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town-Treasury.

June the 2d AD 1800

Town Treasurer to cause Window Shutters to be made to the South Side of the Town House

It is Voted and Resolved that the Town Treasurer, be and he is hereby Requested to cause the Windows in the Town-House to be Mended; and Shutters made and put to those on the South side of said Building.—

Town Council to appoint Auctioneers

It is Voted and Resolved, that the Town Council, be and they are hereby authorized and directed, to appoint so many Persons as they may think necessary to the Office of Auctioneers the ensuing Year; And that they exact such sums of such persons they may so appoint, as they may think just therefor; and the money so collected to be paid into the Town Treasury. to and for the use of the Town.

Town Council to be allowed 75 Cents for Special Meeting

Voted and Resolved that the members of the Town Council be allowed the Sum of Seventy Five Cents for every Special Meeting on the Towns Business they may respectively attend

Votes relative to the Compensation to be allowed the Town Council Rescinded

Voted, that all Resolutions passed this day relative to the Compensation to be allowed the Town Council for Special Meetings, be and the same are hereby rescinded.—

Town Council to be allowed one Dollar for Special Meetings

Resolved, that the members composing the Town Council be allowed the Sum of One Dollar for every Special Meeting on the Town's Business they may respectively attend the ensuing year.—

Clerk to receive Licence Money

It is Voted and Resolved, that the monies that may be collected for Licenses that may be granted by the Town Council be in future paid to their Clerk, and that he pay what he shall so receive Monthly into the Town Treasury—

Timothy Jones to transcribe Old Book of Town Records

On Petition of Timothy Jones 2d, that he may be appointed to transcribe the third Book of the Old Town Records; It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, that the said Timothy Jones be and he is hereby appointed to transcribe said Book accordingly, the same to be done under the Inspection of the Town Clerk; and that the said Timothy Jones be allowed the Sum of fifteen Cents for every lawful Page he may transcribe of said Book the expence of which to be defrayed out of the Town Treasury

Report of Committee

The Committee heretofore appointed to Adjust and Settle the Accounts of the Managers of the Great Bridge Lottery, this Day made Report as follows to wit —

We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee by the Town of Providence to

June 2d AD 1800

Report of Committee appointed to settle with Managers of Great Bridge Lottery

settle and Adjust the Accounts of the Managers of the Great Bridge Lottery Do Report that We have attended to said Business and find a Ballance of Eight hundred forty four Dollars and Thirty Cents due from said Managers on the 12th March 1799 being the time of Completing the Business of said Lottery to the Town of Providence. And the Committee are of Opinion that Interest ought to be paid on said Sum from that time until the same shall be paid

Which is Submitted by

Richd Jackson Jnr
Jnr Mumford
Seth Wheaton
} Committee

Providence May 14th AD 1800

And the said Report having been Read, it is thereupon Voted and Resolved that the same be, and it is hereby Received, and the Clerk directed to Record it accordingly, and furnish a Copy thereof to the Town Treasurer who is directed to Collect said Balance, with the Interest that may be due thereon agreeably to said Report, and that the said Managers be allowed Interest on their Accounts against the Town from the time the same became due

Town Treasurer directed to collect said Ballance due from Managers of Great Bridge Lottery

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Vote rescinded relative to Nuisance Opposite the House of Dr. Stephen Randall

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Town Clerk to Record Plats

It is Voted and Resolved that the Resolution entered into by the Town on the Twenty Sixth Day of April Last, relative to the Nuisance opposite the House of Doctor Stephen Randall, be and the same is hereby Rescinded.

Voted and Resolved that the Clerk be and he is hereby directed to Record all Plats in his Office of Streets &c in a Suitable Book to be procured by him for that purpose; and that he procure such Assistance as he may deem necessary to carry this Resolution into Effect, and that the Expence thereof be deprayed out of the Town Treasury.

Theodore Foster's Accot referred to the Town Audit, Town Treasurer & Clerk for Settlement

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Voted and Resolved that the Account of Theodore Foster, Esqr against the Town be referred to the Town Audit, Town Treasurer, and Town Clerk for Settlement

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Committee to ascertain by what title Hopkins holds Lot of Land.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the twenty Sixth of April last to enquire into the expediency of Selling Town Lands, have this day reported Verbally that it is inexpedient

Voted that said Report be received, and that said Committee be and they are hereby Requested to Ascertain by what Title Wm Hopkins holds the Lot Benjamin Peck is about purchasing, and make Report to the next meeting.

June 2d AD 1800

clerk directed to present the thanks of the Town to the School Committee

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be Presented to the School Committee for their Services while in that Office, and that the Clerk be, & he is hereby charged with the Execution of this order, in behalf of said Town.

accounts to be Lodged with the Town-Clerk

It is Voted, and Resolved that in future accounts to be Exhibited to the Freemen of this Town in Town Meeting assembled for Allowance be taken up and considered in the Order of time in which they have been previously Lodged with the Town Clerk.—

Comm.e to direct the Expenditures of the Town's Money

Voted, that Messrs. Seth Wheaton, John Spurr, Henry Smith, and Samuel Butler Junr. and Sylvanus Martin be Continued as an advising Committee, to direct the Expenditure of the Town's Money, relative to the repairing of the Streets, Highways &c. in this Town in all Sums above Thirty Dollars.

Comm.e to enquire into & report relative to the Bridge Erected by D. Howell Esq.r—

Voted, and Resolved, that Moses Brown, John Carlile and William Richmond be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into the Propriety of the Water being turned into its ancient Channel nearly opposite the House of Doct.r Stephen Randall at the North End of the Town;— and that they make report to the next Meeting. — And also to enquire into and report, respecting the Bridge erected by David Howell Esq.r opposite his Estate at the North End of the Town, and whether it is necessary the same should be removed.—

Whereas it is represented to this Meeting that a number of the Inhabitants are desirous that the lower Story of the new School-House to be erected in the South part of the Town should be appropriated to the purpose of a private School— and have represented that the Cost for building with Brick the walls thereof Eight feet high, and putting Windows therein will be Ninety-Seven Dollars Extra Expense for building said House & proposed to defray said Expense provided the Town will permit them to keep such School at the Expense of Proprietors.— It is therefore voted & Resolved that the Town Council be, and they hereby are Authorized and Empowered to make such disposal of the premises as they may think proper. —

Voted, that Jabez Bowen, John Innes Clark and Charles Lippitt Esquires be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of Ascertaining the Bounds between the Town, and of a Certain Island situate near the Head of the Cove, belonging to Capt Zachariah Allen, and that said Committee go upon the Ground therefor, and make Report at the next August Meeting.

Meeting dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town on the twenty sixth Day of August AD 1800

Amos Maine Atwell Moderator.

Persons Admitted Free.

Caleb Howard, James Temple, Nicholas D. Greene, David Anthony, Welcome Olney, Thomas Aldrich, Ebenezer Weatherby, Constant Tabor, Marvin Morris, Caleb Allen Samuel Jackson 3d, William E Tillinghast and George Jackson Tyler

Propounded

Thomas S Webb, Josiah Keen

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Representatives to Represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State for the ensuing Six Months the following Gentlemen are duly elected to Represent this Town in said Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday of October; and in all future Sessions thereof until the first Monday in May next; Namely,

Representatives Chosen

John Smith Esquire 1st
Capt William Rhodes - - - - 2d
Mr Thomas P Ives - - - - 3d
David Leonard Barnes Esq.r 4th

Voted and Resolved, that Samuel Thurber Junr, Seth Wheaton and Lewis Peck be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of enquiring into the expediency of taking up the Pavement on Constitution Hill, and lowering the top of the same, and of relaying said Pavement, and making side Gutters thereto. And also that said Committee enquire into the expediency of sinking a Drain in the Street, called Angell Street North of the Baptist Meeting House and make report at the next Meeting.

Committee appointed to enquire into the expediency of lowering Constitution Hill, and sinking a Drain in the Street North of Baptist Meeting House

Voted and Resolved that the Committee appointed on the Second day of June last (consisting of Moses Brown, John Carlile and William Richmond) for the purpose of enquiring into the propriety of turning the Water into its ancient Channel opposite the House of Doctor Stephen Randall at the North end of the Town; and also to enquire respecting the Bridge erected by David Howell Esq.r opposite his Estate in that quarter that said Committee be continued for that purpose, and that they make report at the next Meeting.

Committee continued for the purpose of enquiring into the expediency of turning the Water into its ancient Channel opposite the House of Doctor Stephen Randall &c.

Voted and Resolved, that Edward Dickens and Samuel P Allen be and they are hereby appointed Members of the Engine Company Number Four in the South part of the Town, in the Room of Eber Coleman and Cornwell Barney who have declined Serving.

Members appointed to Enquire Company No 4.

It is Voted, that the Committee appointed on the 26th Day of April last, to wit, Wheaton Martin Samuel Thurber Junr and John Carlile Esq.r

Committee to ascertain by what title Uriah Hopkins holds a Lot of Sand.—

and who were requested at the Annual Town Meeting in June to ascertain by what Title Uriah Hopkins holds the Lot Benjamin Peck was about purchasing be and they are still continued a Committee for that purpose; and that make report as soon as convenient.—

Voted and Resolved, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the Town, to take immediate and effectual measures for thoroughly cleansing the town from all Nuisances, or whatever may contaminate the Air; and that each housholder cleanse his own Lots, Yards, and Out-Houses; that Lime be thrown into the Vaults of their Necessaries. And it is also recommended to the Town-Council, to appoint Justable persons to make inspection into the due execution of this recommendation, and in case any neglect or delay should be found in any individual, that they (the Council) cause such delinquents duty to be performed at his expence agreeably to Law; and where any case occurs that this cannot be effected through poverty or other cause; that the Town-Council cause the same to be accomplished at the expence of the Town, and the Streets, wharves, and stores, to be inspected and cleansed,

Recommended to the inhabitants to cleanse the town from all Nuisances

Voted, that the above be published in the several News-Papers printed in this Town as soon as may be

This being the Period for the Biennial Election of two Representatives to Represent this State in the Seventh Congress of the United States, the following Proxy Votes were received, to wit,

For Richard Jackson Junr and Thomas Tillinghast Esqr of E.G.	236
For Richard Jackson Junr and Paris J. Tillinghast ——	1
For Richard Jackson Junr & Joseph Stanton Junr	1
For Richard Jackson Junr Solus ——	87
For Asher Robbins Esqr of Newport and Richard Jackson Junr	35
For Asher Robbins Esqr and Thomas Tillinghast ——	1
For Asher Robbins Esqr Solus ——	2
For Thomas Tillinghast and Joseph Stanton Junr ——	3
	366

August 26th. A.D. 1800.

The following is a List of the free Men of this Town, who voted at this Meeting for two Representatives from this State to the Seventh Congress of the United States.

A.

Sam.l Allen
Emor Angell
Henry Alexander
Salmon Arnold
Nathan Arnold
Thomas Arnold
Benj.a Aborn
Lowry Aborn
Joseph Anthony
Sam.l Aborn Junr.
Richard Anthony
Abel Allen
Benj.a Alger
Amos M. Atwell
Christo.e Arnold
Edw.d Aborn
David Anthony
William Almy
Sam.l G. Arnold
William Allen
James Aborn Jr.
Caleb Allen
Amos Atwell
Nathan Angell
Zach.h Allen
Nathan Angell Jr.
Zeph.h Andrews
Thomas Abbott
Benj.a Andrews
Paul Allen
James Aldrich
William Ashton Jr.
Darius Allen

Benjamin Allen
Benjamin Aplin
Isaac Angell

B.

James Burrill Junr.
Sam.l W. Bridgham
Daniel Brayton
Ephm. Bowen
Ichabod Brown
Obadiah Brown
David L. Barnes
Henry Bowen
Zeph.h Brown
Geo. B Burrill
Comfort Bardine
James Burr
William Burr
Jabez Bullock
Ezekiel Burr
Christr. Bentley
Sam.l Butler
George Benson
William Billings
William Billings 2nd.
James Burrill
Obh. Brown son of Moses
Dexter Brown
Nich.s Brown
Morris Brown
Moses Brown
Isaac Butts
Levi Burr
Elijah Baron
Daniel Branch
Thomas Brown

James Black
Richmond Bullock
Sam.l Butler Junr.
Elisha Brown
Joseph Baker
Benj.a A. Battey
Sanford Branch

C.

Jno. Carter
Jno. Carpenter
Jno. Carlile
Kingsley Carpenter
Jonathan Congdon
Cyrus Cole
Benj.a Clifford
Benj.a Cozzens Junr.
Benj.a Carlile
Sam.l Carlile
Sam.l Cross
Ward Cowing
John Innis Clark
Sam.l Currie
Ephm. Clemence
Zach.h Carpenter
B. Carter
Oliver Carpenter
Robert Currie
Nath.l Cushing

August 26th. A.D. 1800

D.

Seth Davis Junr.
Israel Davis
Thomas Dring
Joseph Davenport
Russell Daggett
Edwd. Dikens
A. Dillon
Ozias Danforth
Robert Durfey
Calvin Dean
Benj.a Dyer
Jno. Davis
Jno. P. Dexter
Abner Daggett
Nehemiah Dodge
Knight Dexter
Job. Danforth
John Signer Dexter
John Dorrance
Ebnr. K. Dexter
Elisha Dyer
John Dexter

E.

Benony Eddy
Cyrus Ellis
Joseph Eddy
Wm Eddy Junr.
Oliver Earle
Sam.l Eathforth
Jno. Eathforth
John Earle

F.

Joseph Field
Joseph Fuller
Daniel Field
Jno. Field
Asa Franklin
Asa Fox
Theodore Foster
William Field
Zebad.h Farnum
Arthur Fenner Junr.
Joseph Fuller Junr.
Jno. Field Junr.
Jonathan French
Jonathan Fuller

G.

William J. Greene
Nich.s D. Greene
Thomas Greene
Allen Gladding
Tim.o Gladding
Isaac Greenwood
Nathaniel Gladding
Caleb Godfrey
Sam.l Gorton
Sam.l Godfrey
Caleb Greene
Hail Gladding
Rich.d Godfrey
Peter Grinnell
Tim.o Gladding Junr.

H.

Charles Hartshorn
Benj.a Howland
Benj.a Ham
Jotham Ham
Amos Horton
Joseph J. Holroyd
Thos. L. Halsey
William Holroyd
David Howell
Benj.a Hoppin
Jno. Howland
James Henry
Charles Holden
Recompence Healy
Walker Harding
Caleb Howard
David Hicks
Davis W. Hoppin
Sam.l Hill
Joseph Howard
Jonathan Hill
David Heaton
Uriah Hopkins
Levi Ham
Elisha Hicks
James Hammon
Peleg Hull
John Holden
Christopher Hill

August 26th A. 1800.

J.

Samuel Jackson 3
George Jackson
Thomas Jones
William Jones
Thomas Jackson
Richard Jackson
Samuel Jackson
Joseph Jenckes
Nathan W. Jackson
Gershom Jones
William Jackson

K.

Samuel Knowles

L.

William Larned
Charles Lippitt
Moses Lippitt
John Larchar
William Lee
Charles Low
Israel Low

M.

John Martin
William B. Martin
Marvin Morris
Billy Martin
Sylvanus Martin
Wheeler Martin
Joel Metcalf
Ebenezer Macomber
William T. Magee
John Mason
Nathan E. Miller
Joseph Masury
William Mumford
John Mumford
Sam.l Mason
Nathaniel Metcalf
James Munro
David Martin
Joseph Martin
Caleb Mosher
Benj.a Munro
Aaron Mason
Pardon Mason
Obadiah Mason
Isaac Manchester
Joseph S. Martin

N.

Robert Newell
Sam.l Nightingale
Hopestill M.c Neal
John Nash

O.

Christr. C. Olney
Christr. Olney
Jeremiah Olney
Caleb Ormsbe
Welcome Olney

P.

Sam.l Proud
Sam.l Packard
Isaac Peck
Isaac Pitman
William Pabham
Joseph Peck
John Perrin
Lewis Peck
John Peck
John Pettie
Rufus Peck
Joseph Potter
Phinehas Potter
James Pitcher
Jr. Pitman
William Paul
Joseph Potter Junr.
William Pabodie
James Pettey
Benj.a Peck
Asher Pearce

R.

James Rhodes
William Rhodes
John Rogers
Stephen Randall
Grindall Reynolds
William Richmond
Tirenee Reiley
Stephen Remington
Benj.a Randall

August 26th A. 1800.

Joshua Rathbun
Joseph Rawson
Thomas Robinson

S.

John Smith 2.d
Young Seamans
John Smith
James Snow Junr.
Nathan.l Searle
James Sabin
Tim.o Sheldon Junr.
Joshua Salisbury
Jr. Smith
Sam.l Soule
Nehemiah Sweet
Aaron Seamans
Thos. Sessions
Nidabiah Smith
John Spurr
Charles Smith
Charles Sampson
John F. Sheldon
Stephen Smith
Pardon Salisbury
Daniel Stillwell
Sam.l Staples
Nathan.l Sweetland
Hezekiah Smith
Archibald Stewart
Thomas Sabin
William Snow
Daniel Snow

T.

Ebenezer Thompson
Geo. C. Thomas
William Thurber
Peter Taylor
Paris J. Tillinghast
Squire Thurber
James Thurber
Sam.l Thurber
Edw.d Taylor
Benjamin Thurber
Joseph Tillinghast
Sam.l Thurber Jr.
Benj.a Taylor
Kingsley Thurber
James Temple
Jonathan Tillinghast
Vernon Tripe
Edw.d Thurber
Nathan Freeman
Amos Throop
William Thurber
Edw.d K. Thompson
George T. Tyler
Williams Thayer
Ebenr. Thompson
Constant Tabor
Alcis Taste
Fayette Thurber
Thomas Thayer
Benj.a Tallman Jr.
Benj.a Tallman
Daniel T. Tillinghast
Benj.a Talbot Junr.

John Thompson
Daniel Tefft

V.

Benj.a Veazie
W. John Vial

Jnr. Whipple
Nathan Waterman
Jacob Westcott
Samuel Wheaton
Jabez Whipple
Aaron Wright
Caleb Wheaton
Comfort Wheaton
Rufus Waterman
Jacob Whitman Junr.
Calvin Walker
Sam.l Weden
Stephen Wardwell
Daniel B. Wheaton
James Wheaton
George Weeden
Olney Wingor
John Wight
Seth Wheaton
Eleazer Whipple
Ephm Wheaton
Nathan Warner
Ephm. Walker
Sam.l Whipple
John Ward
James Weden
Amos Warner
Sam.l Wilkey
Charles Weeden
John Wescott

519

August 20th 1800

Q
James Verrington

This Meeting Dissolved

200

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and Assembled at the Town-house in said Town on the Sixth Day of September A.D. 1800:—

James Burrill Junr. Esquire Moderator

Treasurers Report, and Order for publishing the same.

A Schedule of the Expences of the Town, the year past as paid by the Town Treasurer, is presented by him and Read at this Meeting, (including an Estimate of the Town Debt, and the Amount of Balance due from Henry Bowen on Amount of Taxes) Whereby it appears, that the Amount of Charges from the 1st Day of August 1799 up to the 5th Day of August 1800— is Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty three Dollars and 15 Cents.— and the Amount of the Town Debt as stated up to that Time, is Twenty-two thousand five Hundred and Fifty-four Dollars & 22 Cents.— And on Motion that the Whole of said Schedule be Printed, Resolved, that the Clerk be, and he is hereby directed to Procure 500 Copies thereof to be Printed, for the information of the Inhabitants of the Town.—

Treasurer directed to prosecute H. Bowen for back Taxes.

It is Voted and Resolved that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to sue Henry Bowen and his Bondmen at a Special Court on the third Monday in December next for the Amount of all arrearages of Taxes that may be due from him as Collector, provided he the said Henry Bowen does not previous to that Time pay and Settle for the same.—

Reports of Comm.r. of the Lines between the Town & Mr. Zach.h Allen.

The Committee heretofore appointed; towit, on the Seventh Day of June last for the purpose of Ascertaining the Bounds between the Town's Land and a Certain Island at the head of the Cove belonging to Capt.n Zachariah Allen, made Report to this Meeting in the following words— Viz.

In Compliance with the within Vote we have been on the premises and inspected the Antient as well as the last Deed of the same, and Do Report that the Lines as delineated on the plat, made by Daniel Anthony Surveyor Dated the 31st of the 5th Mo. 1797 [illegible]

be the Lines of division between the Town and Capt. Zachariah Allen,- All which is Submitted.—

By,
August 4th 1800. Jabez Bowen
John Innes Clark
Charles Lippitt

And said Report being read it is thereupon Voted that the same be, and it is hereby received.-

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Voted and Resolved, that a Tax of Ten Thousand Dollars be laid and Assessed on the Rateable property of the Inhabitants and others in this Town.- That said Tax be Assessed on or before the 15th Day of October Next, and that it be paid into the Town Treasury on or before the 15th Day of January next;- And that the Collector of said Tax, advertise in the News papers that all Persons call on him at his Office the first ten Days in December next and pay their Taxes due said Town, agreably to the Rate Bill; and whoever shall call upon the said Collector and pay his or her Tax, on or before the tenth Day of December as aforesaid, the Collector is hereby directed to deduct from his her or their Tax three per Cent for payment so made; And that the Town allow the Collector to be appointed five per Cent for the Collection of said Tax, and that he allow out of his Fees three p. Cent to all such as bring in and pay to him the Amount of their Tax by the said tenth Day of December next.— And it is further Voted that the Town Treasurer shall appropriate so much of said Tax as shall be Sufficient to discharge one fifth part of the Town Debt, both principal and Interest; and the remaining part of said Tax to be appropriated to paying the expenses of the current year.— And it is further Voted that all persons who shall not pay their Tax's by the fifteenth Day of January next, shall pay Interest for the same afterward, and the Collector shall be accountable to the Town accordingly.— And it is further Voted that Mr. Benjamin Taylor be, and he is hereby appointed Collector to collect said Tax.—

10,000 Dollar Tax.

Report of Comm. respecting moving the Brick Meeting House by D. Howell over Doct. Randall's

Report of Comm. respecting Taking up the Pavement on Constitution Hill

The Committee heretofore appointed to enquire into the propriety of turning the Water into its ancient Channel, opposite the House of Doct. Stephen Randall in the North part of the Town and respecting the Bridge erected by David Howell Esq. opposite his Estate made report to this Meeting as follows, to wit.—

To the Town of Providence

Agreable to appointment we have viewed the Ground and heard the parties and neighbours respecting the propriety of turning the Water course in its Natural Channel and are of opinion that taking it from the East Side of the Street and carrying it across in a paved Water Course to the west side of the Street opposite the widow Amey Brown's Gangway be done by the direction of a Committee to be appointed for that purpose, that as David Howell appears disposed to accommodate the Public and the Neighbours by turning the water in his Meadow Southward into the Brook through the Water Course below his Lot and North of Deacon Wheatons, and to remove the Stone way, which he made to get up into his Lot whenever the water be turned as above, and there appearing a convenient passage way along Street by it, we do not conceive it necessary to be removed, till the water be turned as above, but that as soon as the other passage is opened across the Street the said Stone way be forthwith removed.—

Providence 29th 8th mo. 1800.

Moses Brown,
William Richmond,
Jno. Carlile.-

And said Report being read, It is thereupon Voted that the same be, and it is hereby received and that William Burr, one of the Surveyors of Highways at the North End of the Town, be, and he is hereby directed to carry the same into effect agreably to the purport thereof, under the direction and advice of the aforenamed Committee.—

The Committee appointed on the 26th Day of August last for the purpose of enquiring into the expediency of taking up the Pavement and lowering the Top of Constitution Hill, and of sinking a Drain in the Street North of the Baptist Meeting House.- made Report

Sept.r 6.th A. D. 1800.-

to this Meeting as follows, to wit, Agreeably to a Vote of the Town We the Subscribers have met on Constitution Hill, and do recommend that the Pavement from the South East Corner of Mr. Currie's House Southward be taken up, the Stone used in paving the Gutters on both Sides of the Street, from said Currie House to William Burr's House, and on the West side of the Street from Mrs Kims House to Benjamin Ayers House; and that the Street be lowered opposite the House formerly General Thayers, so as to make a true descent.—

We do not think it expedient to sink a Drain in Angell Street at the Towns expence, but in case the Proprietors of Lands adjoining said Street and others who have turned Water into said Street should wish to sink a Drain we recommend the Town causing the pavement to be relayed.

Which is Submitted
by, Samuel Thurber Junr.
Seth Wheaton
Providence 6.th Sept.r 1800.— Lewis Peck

And said Report being read it is thereupon Voted, that the same be, and it is hereby received.—

Batements on Constitution Hill ordered to be taken up.

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 26.th Day of August last, to wit, Samuel Thurber Junr. Seth Wheaton & Lewis Peck, for the purpose of enquiring into the expediency of taking up the pavement, and lowering the Top of Constitution Hill, having in their Report of this Day recommended that said Pavement from the South East corner of Mr. Currie's House Southward thereof be taken up and the Stone used in paving the Gutters on both sides of the Street from Mrs Kims House to the House of Benjamin Ayers formerly General Thayers so as that the Same may be on a true descent.— And Whereas said Report having been received; It is therefore Voted & Resolved that said work be done, agreeably to said Report, and that William Burr, one of the Surveyors of Highways in that part of the Town, be, and he is hereby directed to have it performed accordingly under the Direction and advice of the aforesaid Committee.—

Pavemint in Water Street to be examined.

Voted and Resolved, that Messrs. Seth Wheaton, John Rogers and Joseph Jenckes, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of carrying into effect the Vote of the Town passed on the 28.th Day of August A. D. 1798.— Relative to examining the Pavement in Water Street, lying between Hanover Street and the Crawford Estate, and to take up and relay said Pavement where necessary agreeably to the aforesaid Vote; provided that the Money is advanced by individuals for the same, and Town Notes taken in lieu thereof.—

Treasurer to use Oak Plank for Great Bridge.

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed in future to make use of Oak Plank in Repairing the Body of the Great Bridge at his discretion.—

Treasurer to dispose of Drans Bridge at Auction.

Voted & Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to cause all the machinery under the Great-Bridge relative to the Drans to be taken up and that he dispose of the same at Public Auction for the Benefit of the Town.—

School Committee.

Voted and Resolved, that the following Gentlemen, to wit, Doct.r Enos Hitchcock, Doct.r Stephen Gano, Jonathan Maxcy, Jabez Bowen Esqr. Willm. Jones Esq.r David L. Barnes Esq.r James Burrill Junr. Esq.r John Carlile, John Howland & Amos Main Atwell be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee in addition to the Town Council, whose business it shall be to devise the best mode of Instruction, and Rules for the Discipline and Government of the Public Schools to be established in this Town, and to visit and give such advice to the Masters of said Schools as they may think proper & to examine the Scholars in the several Branches of Learning in which they may be taught, and endeavor to stimulate them to a due improvement therein.—

September 6th A. D. 1800.

Demands agt. C. Davenport released

Voted and Resolved, that the Overseers of the Poor, be, and they are hereby directed to execute a release of all demands the Town may have against Ephraim Davenport in a case of Bastardy.—

Com.d to settle the Boundaries of Thatch right

Whereas there is a dispute respecting the Bounds of the Lands owned by the Town, at the head of the Cove and Elisha Olney of Smithfield & others relating to the Thatch Rights.— It is therefore Voted, that Moses Brown, Jabez Bowen, John Mason and Samuel Nightingale be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of Settling the Boundaries of said Thatch Rights with the said Elisha Olney and others as they may think Right.— And that said Committee be, and they are hereby empowered to submit the same to arbitration or Rule of Court as they may think proper.

Smoaking Segars!

On Motion that the Act relative to the Smoaking of Segars passed by the Freemen of the Town at their meeting on the 17th Day of April A.D. 1799. be Repealed.— It was Resolved in the Negative.—

Town Council purch.e a Lot for School House

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Council be, and they are hereby empowered to purchase a Lot of Land, either on the north or East Sides of Whipple Hall School House, for the Accommodation of the School to be established there.—

Meeting dissolved.—

At a Town Meeting holden in and for the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House in said Town on Wednesday the Nineteenth Day of November A.D. 1800

John Dorrance Esqr. Moderator

Persons Propounded—

Walter Paine, Nehemiah Bickford, Israel Amsbury, Richard Field (son of John) Gebediah Lathrop and Ephraim Pabodie.

Admitted Free—

Thomas S Webb, Josiah Keene, Pardon Bosworth and Jonathan Adams

This being the Day by Law appointed for the Choice of Electors for this State for the Election of President and Vice President of the United States. The whole number of Proxy Votes received at this Meeting are in Number Five hundred and Sixty Eight, of which there are for

George Champlin Esqr of Newport	512
For Edward Manton Esqr of Johnston	513
For Oliver Davis Esqr of Hopkinton	511
For William Greene Esq late Govr of Warwick	512
For Constant Taber Esqr of Newport	56
For James Aldrich Esqr of Scituate	57
For James Helme Esqr of South Kingston	54
For Benjamin Pillinghast Esqr of E. Greenwich	54

November the 19th 1800

Joshua Lindley Accot allowed

Resolved, that the Sum of Twenty Five Dollars, and Seventy Cents, be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Joshua Lindley, it being the Amount of an Account by him exhibited for Boarding Ephraim Davenport Twenty five Weeks and five days ——

Further Time Granted Henry Bowen to settle for Arrearages of Taxes

Whereas, the Freemen of this Town in Town Meeting Assembled On the Sixth Day of September last, passed a Vote directing the Town Treasurer to Sue Henry Bowen and his Bondsmen at a Special Court On the Third Monday in December next, for the amount of all Arrearages of Taxes that might be due from him as Collector, Provided he did not previously to that time pay and Settle for the same. — On motion that a further Time be allowed the said Henry Bowen; It is Voted and Resolved, that Three months longer from this time be granted him to settle for said Arrearages; and that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to delay said Suit accordingly —

Phineas Potter to procure Pump up Town.

Whereas, it is represented that a new Pump is necessary at the Well in the Street near the Junction of Benefit & and the Main Street in the Northerly part of the Town; — It is therefore Voted and Resolved, that Phinehas Potter, be and he is hereby appointed and Authorized, to procure and fix a new Pump to said Well

Well, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury ——

Committee Continued to treat for purchase of Brick School house

A Vote of the Proprietors of the Brick School House being laid before this Meeting by the Committee therein named, as on File, It is thereupon Voted and Resolved, that John Howland, Richard Jackson Junr. and John Carlile who were heretofore appointed a Committee, to wit, on the 3d day of June 1799 to treat with said Proprietors for the Purchase of the upper Story of said School house, be and they are hereby continued a Committee for that purpose, and that said Committee report to the next Town Meeting ——

Voted and Resolved, that Young Seamans be and he is hereby appointed One of the Engine Company to Engine No 4 in the room of Edward Dickens late deceased ——

Meeting dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House On the 4th Day of February A. D 1801.

John Dorrance Esq.

Moderator

Joseph Jenckes appointed Surveyor of High ways

Voted that Joseph Jenckes be, and he is hereby appointed a Surveyor of High Ways in the Room of William Burr, removed into the Country.

Thos. S Webb appointed to Engine No 3

Voted that Thomas S Webb be, and he is hereby appointed a Member of the fire Engine Company, No 3, in the room of Colvill Dana gone to Sea.

Committee to take care of fire Hooks &c

Voted that Messrs James Snow Junr, Caleb Earle, Edward Mason, Charles Hartshorn, Isaac Angell. and Job Budlong be, and they, are hereby appointed for the purpose of Superintending and taking Care of the Fire Hooks, Ladders and fire Apparatus; And in Cases of Fire to attend and forward to places where they may be wanted the same Accordingly.

February 4th A. D. 1801

Committee appointed to draft Regulations &c in Cases of Fire

Voted and Resolved, that Moses Brown, John Carlile, John Whipple, Seth Wheaton, and John Mathewson be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of drafting suitable Rules and Regulations for the government of the inhabitants of this Town in cases of Fire; and that said Committee make Report at the next Meeting. — And it is further Voted, that said Committee ascertain and make report what quantity of additional Hose is necessary to the several Engines, and in what manner it ought to be made, and of what materials; And also that said Committee report in what manner Water can be best brought into the Streets from the Hill back of the Town in order for supplying the Engines in time of Fire; And that they treat with the Proprietors of Rawson's and Field's fountains, on the West Side of the River for that purpose. — And it is further Voted, that said Committee report the number of fire Wards that may be necessary to be elected by the Town in addition to those chosen at the Annual meeting in June last, and to particularize their duties, such as superintending the several Engines and for regulating the Lines for passing of Water in the time of Fire. — And furthermore, that said Committee ascertain the number of Persons necessary to be appointed by the Town, whose duty it shall be when such Accidents

happen to go into the Water for the purpose of filling the Buckets; and what number of Axes, Iron Bars and Shovels are necessary to be procured to be ready on such Occasions;— And also that the Committee enquire what Hose the Engine No 3 is in immediate Want of, and that they direct respecting it as they may think proper. ——

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additional Fire Wards appointed—

Voted and Resolved, that John Innes (Clerk) Jeremiah Olney and Benjamin Hoppin Esquires be, and they are hereby appointed Presidents of the Fire Wards, in addition to those already chosen by the Town at their Annual Meeting in June last. ——

The Town Treasurer to defend suit agt Melzar Packard.

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to Defend at the Expence of the Town, Melzar Packard, on Account of a Suit commenced against him for committing a certain Person to Bridewell during the late Fire And it is further Voted, that in case the said Person withdraws his Action and satisfies Jabez Bowen Esquire, that no further Notice be taken of the matter. ——

Account from Moses Lippitt allowed—

Whereas an Account is presented to this Meeting by Moses Lippitt charged against the Town for payments made by him and others to the Watch set by direction of the Town Council during the time of the late Fever, it is therefore Voted, that said Account be received and Allowed, and that the Amount thereof being Seventy Six Dollars be paid the said Moses Lippitt out of the Town Treasury. ——

Committee appointed to agree with the persons who had their Houses to blown up or pulled down to stop progress of the late fire—

Voted and Resolved, that Messrs John Mason, Seth Wheaton, James Ormsbee, Barnard Eddy and Joseph Baker be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, for the purpose of agreeing with those Persons who had their Houses or Buildings blown up, or pulled down with a View to stop the progress of the late fire, and that said Committee agree with said Persons for the Damages they may have sustained thereby and make report to the next Meeting—

The Committee heretofore appointed, to wit, on the Nineteenth Day of November last to treat for the purchase of the Old Brick school House made the following Report. to wit. —

The Committee who were appointed at the Meeting held on the 19th of November last to Treat with the Proprietors of the Old Brick School House for the purchase of the same

Respectfully Report

Committees report relative to Old Brick School House

That we have Contracted with the Committee of the Proprietors who were impowered for that purpose for the purchase of the several Shares of the Proprietors at ten Dollars and fifty Cents for each Share, for which the Treasurer was to give his Notes to the Individual Proprietors, the receipt of which to be indorsed on the Deed which is already Executed by the proprietors Committee and lodged with the Town Clerk — but as the Treasurer is not fully authorized by the former Vote to Give the Notes We Recommend a Vote at the present Meeting directing him to Give the same agreeably to the terms of the Contract —

which is Submitted by

Ruch — Jackson Jr
John Rowland
John Carlile — } Committee

February 4 1801

And said Report being duly considered, It is thereupon Voted that it be and the same is hereby received —

Whereas, the Committee heretofore appointed to treat with the proprietors of the old Brick School House for the purchase thereof having this day made Report and said Report being received It is therefore Voted and Resolved, that the Town — Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to pay the

Town Treasurer directed to Give Notes on Interest

Proprietors of said School House for their several — Rights at the Rate of Ten Dollars and Fifty Cents for each Right in Town Notes on Interest as agreed on the part of said Committee —; and that he take a Deed of said Proprietors executed to him as Town Treasurer to and for the Use of the Town

Establishment of Watch

Whereas for the more effectually guarding against the alarming accidents of Fire, as well as for the preservation of Peace and good Order in the Town during the Night Season. It is Voted and Resolved, that a night — Watch be established therein, to commence on the 5th Day of February instant, and to consist of Six persons, to begin their Rounds at Ten Clock in the Evening, and to continue the same until Bell ringing in the morning; And that the appointment of the persons to constitute said Watch be under the direction of the Town Council, who are hereby impowered and Authorized, to make such Regulations for the Government of said Watch as they may from time to time think necessary — And that each person constituting said Watch be allowed at and after the Rate of One Dollar per Night for their respective services; and that said Watch be continued until the first of April next. —

Voted that the Watch to be established in this Town be and they are hereby directed to call out during their Rounds in the Night Season. —

February 14th A. D. 1801

Joseph Peck's allowance for Quoil of Rigging

Voted and Resolved that Joseph Peck be paid Thirty four Dollars out of the Town Treasury for a Quoil of Rigging used at the late Fire; And that the said Joseph Peck deliver said Rigging to Col John Carlile who is hereby authorized to recieve the same. ——

An Account is presented to this Meeting from Jacob Burke relative to Ephraim Davenport On Motion whether this Meeting allow said Account it is Resolved in the Negative ——

On Motion whether this Meeting act upon the Business mentioned in the Warrant relative to the filling up the Town Dock opposite the Baptist Meeting House, Resolved in the Negative

On Motion to rescind from the above Vote relative to the Town Dock, Voted in the Affirmative —— It was then Voted that the Business be entirely dismissed. ——

This Meeting adjourned to Saturday the 14th Day of February instant at 2 Clock P.M. on said Day then to meet at this place. ——

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence holden by Adjournment On the fourteenth Day of February A. D. 1801 ....

John Dorrance Esquire Moderator

The following agreement was produced to this Meeting by the Committee appointed on the 4th Instant, for agreeing with those Persons who had their Buildings blown up, or pulled down to stop the progress of the late Fire, and the Names of the Subscribers to said Agreement, and the Report of said Committee

W^E the Subscribers do Severally agree to abide the appraisement made by the Committee appointed by the Honorable Town Council, for Damages done our Buildings by pulling down or blowing up at the Fire on the 21st Ultimo as will appear by their Report to the Council and therewith fully satisfied and contented as Witness our Hands this 12th Day February 1801. ——

Joseph Peck
John F Sheldon in behalf of the Heirs of Joseph Arnold Dec^d
Moses Lippitt
John Sabin's for myself & Brothers
Sam^l Pearson
Joseph Potter
Nicholas Power
Daniel Stillwell Administrator to the Estate of Chr Sheldon Dec^d with the addition of Five Dall^s added to the former Report

February 14th. 1801

Unice x Pettingle
William Holroyd

WE the Subscribers agreeably to an Appointment of the Town on 4th of Feby Inst. have agreed with those Persons who had their buildings damaged by blowing up or pulling down as will appear by the Instrument above. which is submitted by.

John Mason
Seth Wheaton
Barnard Eddy
James Ormsbee
} Committee

The foregoing Agreement with the Names of the Subscribers and Report being Read, It is thereupon Voted, that said Agreement and Report be, and the same are hereby Received; And that the several Persons Subscribers to said Agreement be Compensated for the loss of their houses and buildings agreeably to the Report of the Committee made to the Town Council, except, Daniel Stillwell who is to have Five Dollars in addition to the Sum mentioned in said Report; And that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby Requested and Authorized to Issue Town Notes an Interest payable out of the first Town Tax to the several persons respectively

The Committee appointed on the fourth instant. to Draft Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Inhabitants of this Town, in time of Fire made the following Report, to wit,

The Committee appointed on the 4th Inst to Report Rules and Regulations to be observed by the Inhabitants in Cases of Fire and other matters relative to that Subject Having attended to their Appointment ——
Report as follows

Sheet No 1 Contains such Rules and Regulations as We think proper to be adopted in Case of Fire ——

No 2 Contains a Resolution to be adopted if the Town thinks proper in Regard to additional Hose ——

No 3 Contains Our Ideas of the best method of bringing Water down from the Hill and a proposed Vote to further that desirable Object. ——

We have treated with some of the proprietors of Fields and the Committee of Rawsons Fountains, They appear to be willing to have all the Water used to the best advantage in Cases of Fire, but apprehend a sufficient Quantity of Water cannot be obtained from them in Case of Fire, at low Water, and therefore divers of them have suggested, the making of two Reservoirs to be used by means of Steps which we Apprehend is an Object worthy the Attention of the Town as we therefore propose a Committee to be Appointed to Ascertain

suitable places for the purpose and the probable Cost of such Reservoirs and Report the same to the next Meeting. ——— As to what addition may be Necessary to the number of fire Wards We propose Three making 15 in all who with five Presidents will we apprehend be Sufficient, whose duty we have mentioned in the Rules and Regulations, with the number and Duty of Watermen and We Recommend two doz Axes, 1 doz. Saws 1 doz Crow Bars and 2 doz Shod shovels to be procured and held ready at all Times. The Engine Number 3 requires new Hose as also the Suction which with the additions we propose to be made and distributed to each Engines will be Sufficient, the above Quantity We take the liberty to propose that a Coil of small and lightly Tarr'd Rope be procured and divided to each Engines of about 16 Fathom Each for taking the Hose on Houses Raising Ladders letting people down from Tops of Houses Windows &c We also Take the Liberty to propose the paping of Votes No 4 and No 5 and No 6 herewith presented being all on the Subject and We apprehend within the Spirit of our Appointment tho not particularly named all which is Submitted to the Town by. ———

Moses Brown
Jn° Mathewson
Jn° Carlile
} Committee.

Providence 2 mo 13th 1801

And said Report being Read it is

Thereupon Voted that said Report be and the same is hereby received. ———

Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Inhabitants of the Town of Providence, to be observed in Cases of Fire as Reported by a Committee appointed on the 4th and Voted — and agreed to on this fourteenth Day of February 1801 and Ordered to be Recorded, as follows to wit, ———

1st That upon the Cry of Fire, every Person give information where the Fire is. and the several Seations repair immediately to their respective Meeting Houses, and ring the Bells until the Fire be extinguish-ed - - - - - - - -

2 The Engine Men, the two attending fire Wards, and the Watermen, should go immediately to their respective Engines, and conduct them with dis-patch to the Fire. The Wardens are to see that the Pipe, Suction, Hose, Buckets, and Copper Pump, and all other Apparatus thereto belonging, be forward-ed with the Engine. ———

3 That all other able bodied male inhabitants repair immediately, with the Buckets belonging to their respective Families, to the Fire, taking Care if in the night, to put on their Clothes before they go

February 14th. 1801

out, and every house should have Lights put in their Windows and carefully attended, until the Fire is extinguished and the people returning

4th That the Thirty house and Ship Carpenters Annually appointed for taking down Buildings, &c, have the care of the fire hooks, Ropes, Ladders, Axes, Saws, Crow-Bars, and Shovels, and immediately convey them to the Fire, and there exert themselves to extinguish the same, under the direction of the Presidents and fire Wards, and they are to meet the day after their appointment and elect one to be their Chief and such other Officers as they may think proper, and to Consult and agree on the best method to speedily convey the Apparatus under their care to Fires, and of useing the same when there in the most effectual manner. — Their Badge of Office shall be the leather Cases of the Axes painted White. ——

5th. The Presidents should each have and take with them a Trumpet painted White, And the fire Wards each, one painted Red as their Badge of Office, And that they may be the better heard and understood. — And let all who have a right to command at Fires take great care to appear Calm and Firm, and give their Orders and directions with clearness and authority, and be careful not to contradict each other ——

February the 14th 1801

6th When the people are Assembled at Fires, let them be Silent, that they may hear the directions of those whose right it is to give Orders, and let them be executed with the utmost Alacrity without noise or contradition. ——

7th Let none Vainly imagine that the great authority given to the Presidents, Fire Wards and others at Fires is that they may domineer over their neighbors, this is not the Case, but authority and Order are absolutely necessary, and the safety of the whole depends upon it, and therefore it ought to be chearfully submitted to, and willingly obeyed on these extraordinary Occasions

8th The twelve suitable Persons appointed for the removal of Goods, shall each have authority to give Orders and command Assistance for the Removal Preservation and safe keeping of Goods. and though the Owners of Goods may Pack them up in order for Removal, yet none of them should be ordered and except of houses actually on Fire, except by the direction of the Owner, or of some one of the said Persons who should be careful to give reasonable Orders that they may be carried a proper Distance to the ward of the Fire, that no Goods be lost that can be removed. — The Badge of this Class of Officers

shall be a White Wand, or Staff of Six feet, which they are to take with them

9th In point of Authority and Subordination, The Presidents of the fire Wards have the Supreme Executive Over all the fire Officers, and to call upon whomsoever they Judge proper, for Aids Messengers or Assistants in time of Fires. ——— The Fire Wards are to attend to the general Subject of extinguishing and preventing the spreading of Fires, direct the Stand and Operations of the Engines, forming of Lanes for conveying of Water, further the exertions of every Department, and Encourage the Citizens at large in active and persevering attention to the preservation of the Lives and property of our fellow Citizens in immediate danger, and the general safety and interest of the Town. They are to meet at the Council-Chamber the day after their appointment Annually, and afterwards as often as they may Judge proper, to select two of their number to pay particular attention to each Engine, and see that they are supplied with Water, and the Engine-Men duly assisted with frequent, sufficient & fresh Aid, to work the Engines, and to confer on the general Subject of preserving the Town from Fires, and the best means of extinguishing them, in concert with the Presidents, who are requested to meet with them, and appoint such other times for general Conference and Consultations on this interesting Subject as they may Judge proper. ———

10th The Engine Men are to keep near the Engine to be always in Readiness under the direction of their respective Captains whom they shall appoint — To remove the Engine from place to place — To Work them with or without Suction, with or without Hose — To convey Water from the River, Fountains or Wells to other Engines — To give place to, or exchange stands with other Engines, as the fire Ward may direct, And at all times to keep the Engines and Apparatus in good Order fit for use, at the Town's expence; And the Captains are to Name at every Fire one or more of their Respective Companies, to have particular Care of the Hose, Suction and Apparatus immediately connected with the Engines, to see they are kept in safety from the Fire and ready for Instant use. ———

11th That the Town Serjeant, for the time being, cause all the Buckets left after every Fire shall be extinguished, to be forthwith carried at the Town's Expence to the Market House, before Night if there be time, if not, the next Day. ———

12th The Presidents of the fire Wards as often as they Judge proper, at least once a Year, are to give public Notice to all the fire Officers under appointment by the Town, and all other Inhabitants as are free to attend with their Buckets to punctually Collect the several Engines at the time and Place they shall Assign, in Order to go through all the Necessary Manœuvres required with the Apparatus, used in Extinguish-

for their own improvement by Experience, and for the Instruction of the rising Generation, —

13th When people begin to Assemble at Fires, before the Engines or any appointed Authority arrive, they should not wait for Orders, but immediately proceed to carry Water from the nearest most convenient place they know of to the Fire, and as soon as more are Assembled than can get convenient Access to the Fire, they should begin to form a Lane from the fire toward the most convenient place for Water, and from thence towards the fire. — The Youth who are not able to endure the fatigue of handling full Buckets should all form on that side of the Lane that brings their Right hand towards the Water and their Left towards the Fire, this being the side for returning the empty Buckets, and where they may perform the Service of Men. — When more Water can be procured from the place where the first Lane is formed than One Row of Buckets will convey, let a double Lane be formed by adding a Third Row of Men on the outside of the Youths Row. or that which returns the empty Buckets, and let every other person in the Youths Row face about towards the new formed Row, that they may with more convenience pass the empty Buckets to the Water as fast as the two Rows of full Buckets require, until more people arrive to form another Row. And as Water is passed so much easier in Buckets as well as Hose down hill than up, Care should be taken to bring

it from higher Ground when it can be got at nearly equal distances — ——

The Resolution alluded to in the Report of the Committee this day as being on Sheet № 2 passed in the Words following, to wit,

Voted that Three hundred feet of new Hose be made, and divided to each Engine, of thick, strong, well stuffed, Curried (but not blacked) Leather, to be both tight and limber, with the flesh side out, sewed with strong Waxed Threads — Said Hose to be in lengths of Thirty feet - fitted with Screw Joints to each, and all to suit each other, so as to be Joined in One, however shifted —— And that Messrs. David L Barnes, John Carlile and Samuel Butler Junr be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to procure the same, and of such dimensions as they may think proper; that they contract with such Workmen as will engage they shall be tight in the Seams, and in the Junction of the Screws, at the ends, not to be received by the Committee until they are made so; And the Treasurer is hereby ordered to pay to the order of the said Committee the Cost thereof, in Money or his Note on Interest payable out of the next Tax. And the said Committee are to procure an additional Screw to Join all or any of the new Hose to the when necessary ——

Tebruary 14th 1801—

Voted that the Engines be all Examined, and the Distance that each will throw Water when the usual force is applied, and the Quantity of Water in the Same given time ascertained; and that the Engine that throws the most Water, and furthest, be marked No 5, and so lessning the Numbers according to their powers, in order that the fire Wards may direct the stands and Positions of the several Engines at fires, so that they may perform the most effectual Service; and that the fire Wards be and they are hereby appointed to Notify the several Engine Companies at a Suitable time and procure this Object to be Effected — The said Committee are also authorized to consult with the Several Engine Companies respecting any Repairs or Improvements necessary in any of the Engines, or Apparatus, and to procure the same effected at the expence of the Town; and particularly that they consider of the propriety of getting two or Three small spare Pipes to use with Hose on the Tops and inside of Houses.

Voted that the Presidents and fire Wards, make enquiry relative to the Safest and most ready method of blowing up houses, to stop the progress of Fires; and that they procure and keep under their own direction suitable Means for that purpose, at the expence of the Town.

Tebruary th 14. 1801.

Voted that Moses Brown and John Carlile be they are hereby appointed to Write to new York and Boston to procure a description of the Engines ly imported into those places, which are said to much greater force than any we have to know the ance they throw Water - the quantity in a minute - The number of Men employed to Work them - The Cost of them at Boston and New York - To know whether any are making in those places of similar Construction and Powers, and if any, the price agreed to be given, and any other information necessary to enable the Town to Judge of the propriety of getting them

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Voted and Resolved, that the Consideration of bringing Water from the Hill into the Streets of this Town as proposed by the Committee, and as on Sheet No 3 of their Report, on file, be postponed until the Meeting in April Next.

Voted, that the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Inhabitants of this Town in Cases of Fire, as reported by by the Committee printed; And that the Clerk be, and he is hereby directed to procure a Thousand Copies, at the Town expence to be struck of Accordingly, and distributed among the inhabitants as soon as may be

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer, be and he is hereby Requested and Authorized to procure on Credit of the Town a Loan of Twenty five hundred Dollars the payment of which to be anticipated out of the next Town Tax.

Voted and Resolved, that John Carlile Esq. be and he is hereby requested and Authorized to procure twenty four Axes, Six Iron Crow Bars and Six Shod Shovels at the expence of the Town, said Axes, Bars and Shovels to be made or Stamped in such a manner as to denote they are Town's Property. ——— Also that he procure a Coil of White Rope to be divided to each Engine, Sixteen fathom to each for taking the Hose on houses raising Ladders &c.

An Account is presented to this Meeting by Calvin Walker charged on Account of Coffins made by him during the Yellow Fever. On Motion whether said Account be received, it is Resolved in the Negative.

Voted that David L Barnes. Esq. Richard Jackson Junr. John Lippitt, Elisha Dyer and Nicholas Brown be and they are hereby appointed five Wards in addition to those appointed at the annual Meeting in June last.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be directed to postpone the commencing of a Suit against Henry Bowen as ordered by the Town on the Nineteenth Day of November last relative to arrearages due from him on Account of Taxes until the next May Term of the Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for the County of Providence

Meeting dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Assembled at the Town House in said Town on the fifteenth Day of April 1801

John Dorrance Esq.
Moderator.

Admitted Free

Walter Paine, Nehemiah Beckford, Israel Amsbury Richard Field, son of John, Zebediah Lathrop and Ephraim Pabodie,

Propounded

Nathan Fisher, Peleg Williams, Aaron Mann, Alpheus Ammidon, William Church, Stephen Stone, Christopher Cooke and Benjamin Marshall. —

Representatives chosen.

This being the Anniversary for Voting for General Officers, and also the Day for Choosing Representatives to represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State the ensuing Six Months. — The following Gentlemen were duly Elected to represent this Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next; — Namely. —

John Smith Esquire 1st
Capt. William Rhodes 2nd
Mr. Thomas P. Ives . . . 3rd
David Leonard Barnes Esq. 4th

Committee to remove Gun-House

Voted and Resolved, That Col. Nathan Fisher, Col. John Carlile and Majr. James Burr be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of removing the Gun-House and Selling the Same in a place they may deem the most eligible for the same to stand on the Towns Land. —

April 15th 1801.

Mr. Danforth appointed to repair Street north of the Bridge.

Voted and Resolved, That Mr. Job Danforth be, and he is hereby appointed and authorized to put the Street running Northward from the Bridge in Suitable Repair, and that the expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury. —

Town Council to extend the Street North of the Bridge.

Voted and Resolved, that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to lay out and extend the Street running Northerly from the Bridge, adjoining the Cove, as far as the same may be deemed necessary provided that the expence shall be defrayed by Individuals. —

Committee to report respecting a Drain to be made in Angell Street. —

Voted that Messrs. Ephraim Bowen Junr. John Carlile, Moses Lippitt, John Whipple and Capt. William Rhodes be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to ascertain the propriety and probable expence of sinking a Drain in Angells Lane that shall take the Water from the Springs above, under ground; also of laying a Drain of Small Stones from the Said Lane, along the East Side of Benefit Street as far Northward as Simeon Olney's Lot to lead the under ground Springs into said Drain down Angell's Lane, and also of Sinking a Drain for Carrying off the Water in Meeting Street (so called) and that Said Committee make Report to the next meeting.

Committee to repair North Street.

Voted and Resolved, that Messrs. Ephraim Bowen Junr. John Carlile, Moses Lippitt John Whipple and Captain William Rhodes be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to inspect into and ascertain the repairs necessary to be made in Water Street; at the place where it has been lately widened, and to Order and direct Such repairs in said Street as they may think proper and necessary. —

Town Council &c. to inspect & other Streets widened.

Voted and Resolved that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to cause Prospect Street, Angell Street and Olneys Lane Northerly to be

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer, be and he is hereby Requested and Authorized to procure on Credit of the Town a Loan of Twenty five hundred Dollars the payment of which to be anticipated out of the Next Town Tax.

Voted and Resolved, that John Carlile Esq. be and he is hereby requested and Authorized to procure twenty four Axes, Six Iron Crow Bars and Six Shod Shovels at the expence of the Town, said Axes, Bars and Shovels to be made or Stamped in such a manner as to denote they are Town's Property. ——— Also that he procure a Coil of White Rope to be divided to each Engine, Sixteen fathom to each for taking the Hose on houses raising Ladders &c.

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Voted that David L Barnes, Esq^r. Richard Jackson Jun^r, John Sippitt, Elisha Dyer and Nicholas Brown be and they are hereby appointed fire Wards in addition to those appointed at the annual Meeting in June last.

Voted that The Town Treasurer be directed to postpone the commencing of a Suit against Henry Bowen as ordered by the Town on the Nineteenth Day of November last relative to arrearages due from him on Account of Taxes until the next May Term of the Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for the County of Providence

Meeting dissolved

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Assembled at the Town House in said Town on the fifteenth Day of April 1801.

John Darrance Esq.r
Moderator.

Admitted Free

Walter Paine, Nehemiah Beckford, Israel Amsbury Richard.d Field, son of John, Zebediah Lathrop and Ephraim Pabodie,

Propounded.

Nathan Fisher, Peleg Williams, Aaron Mann, Asphens Ammidon, William Church, Stephen Stone, Christopher Cooke and Benjamin Marshall.—

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John Smith Esquire 1.st
Capt.t William Rhodes 2.nd
Mr. Thomas P. Ives — 3.rd
David Leonard Barnes Esq.r 4.th

Committee to remove Gun-House

Voted and Resolved, That Col.o Nathan Fisher, Col.o John Carlile and Maj.r James Burr be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of removing the Gun-House and Setting the Same in a place they may deem the most eligible for the same to stand on the Towns Land.—

April 15.th 1801.

Mr. Danforth appoint.d to rep.r Street north of the Bridge.

Voted and Resolved, That Mr. Job Danforth be, and he is hereby appointed and Authorized to put the Street running Northward from the Bridge in Suitable Repair, and that the expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.—

Town Council to extend the Street North of the Bridge.

Voted and Resolved, that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to lay out and extend the Street running Northerly from the Bridge, adjoining the Cove, as far as the Same may be deemed necessary provided that the expence shall be defrayed by Individuals.—

Committee to report respecting a Drain to be made in Angell Street.

Voted that Messr.s Ephraim Bowen Junr. John Carlile, Moses Lippitt, John Whipple and Capt.n William Rhodes be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to ascertain the propriety and probable expence of Sinking a Drain in Angells Lane that shall take the Water from the Springs above, under ground; also of laying a Drain of Small Stones from the Said Lane, along the East Side of Benefit Street as far Northward as Simeon Olney's Lot to lead the under ground Springs into said Drain down Angell's Lane, and also of Sinking a Drain for Carrying off the Water in Meeting Street (so called) and that Said Committee make Report to the next meeting.

Committee to repair North Street.

Voted and Resolved, that Messr.s Ephraim Bowen Junr. John Carlile, Moses Lippitt John Whipple and Captain William Rhodes be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to inspect into and Ascertain the repairs necessary to be made in Water Street, at the place where it has been lately widened, and to Order and direct Such repairs in Said Street as they may think proper and necessary.—

Town Council to inspect other Streets widened.

Voted and Resolved that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to cause Prospect Street Angell Street and Olneys Lane Northerly to be

so as that the same shall not be less than fifty feet wide.

Town Council to lay out Henry Lane.

Voted and Resolved that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to lay out Henry Lane so called from Olney's Lane to Tockwotten so as that the same shall not be less than fifty feet wide. —

Town Council to widen Benefit Street.

Voted and Resolved that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to widen & straiten Benefit Street from Angell Street Southerly as far as Transit Street so as that said Benefit Street shall not be less than fifty feet wide. —

Committee to treat with Mount Vernon Lodge.

Voted and Resolved that Messrs Moses Brown, Ephraim Bowen Junr. and John Howland be and they are appointed a Committee to confer with the Mount Vernon Lodge upon the Terms on which the Lodge will sell the Town their Lot adjoining the Brick School House, or the Terms and conditions on which they will purchase the School House and Lot of the Town, or make such an exchange of Estates as may accommodate both parties; and that if such an Arrangement should be agreed upon as that another School House must be built by the Town the Committee be authorized & directed to ascertain a suitable place for the same and the plan & Terms on which it may be built, and that they make report at the next Town meeting. —

Eliza. Martin to be committed to work house.

Voted and Resolved that the Overseers of the poor be and they are hereby directed to commit Elizabeth Martin who is considered as an unfit Subject to be at large, to the work House, and that she be confined there until further directions from the Town. —

Doct.r Mason's Acc.t allowed.

Whereas two several Accounts is presented to this Meeting by Doct.r Joseph Mason by him charged against the Town for Medicine and Attendance on Patrick Morris and David Whiting during the late yellow Fever, and said Accounts, to wit, the one charged on Account of Patrick Morris amounting to the Sum of two Dollars and Eighty seven Cents and the one on Account of David Whiting amounting to Nineteen Dollars and Ninety-six Cents be paid the said Joseph Mason out of the Town Treasury. —

Choice of Representative to Congress.

This being the Day appointed by the Honorable General Assembly for the Election of a representative to represent this State in the Seventh Congress of the United States the following Proxy Votes were received, to wit, —

For Thomas Noyce ..... 222 —
For Joseph Stanton Junr. ..... 70 —
whole number ..... 292 —

Prox's for Gov.t Officers.

The Proxies put in at this Meeting for General Officers are 287 — of which numbers there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq.r as Gov.r 272
For Jabez Bowen Esq.r as Govenar 1
and proxies in which no Gov.r is mentioned .... 14.
287

April 15th 1801.

The following is a List of the Freemen of this Town who Voted at this Meeting for a Representative from this State to the Seventh Congress of the United States.

A.

Alexander Henry
Arnold Jamiell
Allen William
Arnold Samd Gf.
Angell Enos
Ashton William Jr.
Aborn James
Adams Jonathan
Allen Benjamin
Allen Paul
Andrews Zephan.
Aborn Samd. Junr.
Aborn Benjamin
Atwell Amos Main
Allen Samuel
Aplin Stephen A.
Aborn Lowrey
Atwell Amos
Arnold Nathan
Angell Fenner
Aldrich Esek
Amsbury Israel
Arnold Israel
Allen Abel
Allen Caleb
Alger William

B.

Brayton Daniel
Brown Nicholas
Bennett Thomas
Black James
Brown James
Buchlin Daniel
Bowen Pardon
Billings William
Brown Dexter
Bowen Henry
Burrill George R.
Bowen Ephraim
Bowen Ephraim Jr.
Burrill James Jr.
Bullock Jabez
Butler David
Brown Obadiah
Beckford Nehem.
Butts Isaac
Bowen Jabez
Brown Zephaniah
Brown John
Burr James
Bumough George H.
Barnes David L.
Brown Phinehas
Butler Samuel
Butler Samuel Jr.
Bowen River
Burrill James
Bozworth Pardon
Bardine Comfort
Bowen William
Benson George
Bewely George
Brown George
Brown Moses
Bridgham Samd. M.
Burk Jacob
Burr Joshua
Burr Ezekiel
Burr Turner

C.

Carlile Benjamin
Cole Cyrus
Collis John
Carlile John
Carter John
Carpenter John
Cozzens William
Coy Jonathan W.
Congdon Jonathan
Cook Nathaniel.

D.

Dean Calvin
Daggett Abner
Dexter Ebenez. K.
Davis John
Dyer Elisha
Danforth Job
Daggett William
Dawley Michael
Dexter Stephen
Davenport Samuel
Dexter John P.
Davis Israel
Dexter John
Dodge Nehemiah
Donance John

E.

Earle Oliver
Eddy Barnard
Eddy Esek
Eddy Moses
Eveleth John
Earle Caleb

F.

French J.
Field John Junr.
Fenner Arthur Jr.
Field William

G.

Greene Thomas
Godfrey Christopher
Gorton Benjamin C.
Gladding Nathaniel
Gorham Jabez
Gladding Timothy
Gladding Allen
Greene William T.
Gladding Hail

H.

Howland John
Hardenburgh Jacob
Harding William
Hoppin Benjamin
Hall Benjamin H.
Holroyd William
Hartshorn Charles
Howard Caleb
Hopkins William
Halsey Thomas Lloyd
Hopkins Stephen
Havey James
Holden Charles
Harding Walter
Holroyd Joseph T.
Hull Peleg
Howell Jesse B.
Hoppin Davis W.
Howell David
Hill Christopher

I.

Ives Thomas P.
Ingraham Simeon

J.

Jenckes Joseph
Jackson George
Jenckes John C.
Jones Gershom
Jones William
Jackson Richard Jun.
Jackson Nathan W.
Jackson Samuel 3d.
Jones Benjamin

K.

Keene Josiah
King Caleb

L.

Lamard William
Lippitt Moses
Lippitt Charles
Loving Simeon
Luther Rial
Larchar John

M.

Martin Philip
Mason Samuel
Mason Joseph
Mayo William T.
Metcalf Abner
Morris Marvin
Mason Pardon
Mason John
Martin W. B.
Macomber Ebenezer
Mumford John
Martin Wheeler
Metcalf Joel
Mathewson John
Manchester William
Martin Joseph
Metcalf Nath.l G.
Miller Nathan H.
Marvin Richard

N.

Newell Robert
Newman John
Nightingale Samuel

O.

Olney Jeremiah
Olney Job
Olney Stephen
Olney Simon H.
Ormsbee Caleb
Olney Christopher C.
Olney Christopher

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Ormsbee James

P.

Potter Phinehas
Peckham William
Pabodie William
Perrin John
Peckham James
Pitman Isaac
Perry Thomas
Potter Earle
Peck Reuben
Potter Joseph
Peckham Peleg
Peck Joseph
Paine Walter
Potter Joseph Junr
Paul William
Pettis William
Peck Cromwell
Peck William

R.

Roberts Dutee
Rawson Joseph
Rhodes William
Richmond William
Randall Stephen
Reynolds Grindall
Randall Henry
Rhodes James
Remmington Stephen

S.

Smith John
Smith Turpin
Sheldon Charles
Searle Nathaniel
Soule Samuel
Spooner Thomas
Seamans Aaron
Spurr John
Seamans Young
Sessions Thomas
Sprague Richard
Sheldon Pardon
Sabins John
Smith Hezekiah
Smith Henry
Spooner Charles
Smith John
Smith Charles
Sweet Nehemiah
Stillwell Daniel
Smith Noah
Smith Nathaniel
Searle Solomon
Smith John 2.

T.

Thompson Ebenezr Jr
Taylor William
Thurber Benjamin
Throop A.
Tallman Thomas
Taylor Benja Junr
Thurber William
Thurber James
Thomas Lewis
Thurber Squier
Tillinghast Daniel J.
Tillinghast Paris J.
Tyler George J.
Tripe Elmon
Tripp Othniel
Thurber Samuel Junr
Taylor Benjamin
Thayer Williams
Tillinghast Charles W.
Thompson Ebenezer
Tefft Daniel
Tillinghast John
Truman Nathan
Taylor Edward
Tillinghast Wilbm
Tyler William
Thurber Fayette
Updike John

V.

Veazie Benjamin
Veazie Benja Junr
Vinton David
Voluntine Wilbm

W.

Ward John
Whipple Jabez
Wheaton Comfort
Williams Thomas
Williams Caleb
Webb Thomas S.
Wheaton Seth
Weight Aaron
Wheeler Bennett
Whitman Jacob
Waterman Rufus
Weeden Samuel
Westcott Jacob
Waterman Nathan
Williams Benoni
Whipple Eleazer
Whipple John
Wardwell Stephen
Wright John

April 15th 1801.

Whitmore Jesse
Wheaton Caleb
Weeden Charles

Wheaton Ephraim
Walker Ephraim
Yerrington James.

Winsor Olney
Weeden James
Whitman Jacob Jr.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the Town House in said Town on the first Monday of June A.D. 1801. —

Richard Jackson Junr. Moderator.

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the year ensuing, the following Persons are Chosen to the Offices prefixed to their Respective Names, to wit. —

Town Clerk — Nathan K. Jackson, Town Clerk. —

Town Council — John Dorance Esqr. President, Abner Daggett, Benjamin Hoppin, Joseph Jenckes, Jabez Bullock. —

Town Sergeant — Henry Bowen. —

Town Treasurer — Samuel Nightingale Esquire.

Town Auditor — John Smith, John Mumford and Richard Jackson Junr.

Constables — William Givens, Melzar Packard, Jon.a French, Geo. Gordon, Gea. Braddford, Jeph. Mitchell, Mathews Billings, John Lapsell, Daniel Mayford, Calvin Walker, Henry Alexander, Benjamin Peck and Job Danforth. —

Sealers of Weights & Measures — Jacob Whitman and Jacob Whitman Junr. —

Overseers of Poor — William Richmond, William Lamed & John Spurr. —

Surveyors of Pitch, Boards, Timber & Cordwood — Simeon Ingraham, Josh.a Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harding, Elijah Ormsbee, Melzar Packard, James Snow Junr. Samuel Carlile, Demas Bishop, David Atwood, Samuel Kempton & John Carpenter, Christopher Arnold & Richard Godfrey with regard to Spars. —

Surveyors of Highways — Williams Thayer, John Howland, Joseph Jenckes, Calvin Dean and Job Danforth. —

Gaugers of Casks — Samuel Jackson, Ezek Eddy, James Weeden, John Burrough, Samuel Weeden, John A. Balch and Cyrus Eddy. —

Collector of Taxes — Henry Bowen.

Clerk of the Market — Job Danforth.

Packers of Beef Pork & Fish — William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clemence, John L. Munro, John Eathforth, Arthur Fenner, Charles Lapsell, Samuel Eathforth, Ezek Eddy 2. Henry Randall, James Weeden and Wilbur Paul. —

Coalers of Cranewood — John Vial, John Pettey, John Lapsell, Samuel Wilkie, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton, Henry Alexander, Aaron Seaman, James Weeden & Obadiah Mason. —

Overseers of Hospital — The Town Council.

Pound Keepers — Charles Holden and John Miller. —

To value Estates with dispute in Voting — Jabez Bowen, John Brown & John Mason.

Venue Viewers — Nathan Fisher, Christopher Arnold and Caleb Williams.

Presidents of the Wardens — John Brown, Jabez Bowen, Samuel Butler, John Innes Clark, Jeremiah Olney and Benjamin Hoppin. —

Wardens — Amos M. Atwell, Henry Smith, John Mumford, John Dorance, Joseph Peck, Ephraim Bowen Junr. Charles Lippitt, John Carlile, Moses Lippitt, Seth Wheaton, James Fenner, David L. James, Richard Jackson Junr. John Lippitt, Elisha Dyer, Nicholas Brown, Silvanus Martin, John Whipple, William Potter & Caleb Williams.

June 1st. A. D. 1801.

Fire Engine Compy. No. 1. Isaac Bullard, Nathan Angell Junr. Nathaniel Smith, William Lee, Stephen Harris, George Jackson, William Billings, John Bowers, William Potter Junr. Nehemiah Dodge, Howell Williams & Samuel Wheaton.

Fire Engine Compy. No. 2. Philip Martin, Samuel Whipple, Jabez Gorham, James Burr, Ezekiel Burr, Nathan Tinker, Oliver Bowen, James Thurber, Israel Ormsbee, William B. Martin, Samuel Staples and Samuel Gorham. —

Fire Engine Compy. No. 3. Jona. W. Coy, Peter Grinnell, Ward Coping, William Taylor, Nicholas D. Greene, Richard Anthony, Joseph Anthony, Barnard Eddy, William Paul, Benjamin Brown, Thomas S. Webb, and Samuel Jackson 2d.

Fire Engine Compy. No. 4. Israel Davis, George Earle, John F. Sheldon, Benjamin Clifford, James Pitcher, Elijah Ormsbee, Charles Sheldon, Benjamin C. Gorton, Oliver Earle, Peleg Peckham, Young Seamans & Wilbur Church.

Fire Engine Compy. No. 5. Calvin Dean, Othniel Tripp, Thomas Williams, Hezekiah Smith, Isaac Manchester, Isaac Butts, Abner Metcalf, James Pettis, William Pabodie, David Atwood, Enos Angell & Earle Potter. —

To direct when Goods shall be removed in Cases of Fire. Thomas Arnold, William Allen, Nathan Waterman, William Rhodes, Amos Atwell, Samuel Bishop, William Larned, William Richmond, John Howland, Silvanus Martin, Williams Thayer & Samuel Butler Junr.

Persons Removing or pulling down Houses in Cases of Fire. Benjamin Tallman, Jeremiah Eddy, William Eddy Junr. Benjamin Tallman 2d. Benjamin Tallman 3d. Thomas Tabor, Joseph Eddy Junr. Nathaniel Cook, Benjn. C. Warner, Peter Roberts, Oliver Arnold, John Newman, Benjamin Ham, Jotham Ham, Joseph Howard, Walker Harding, Elias Basto, James Ormsbee, Elijah Ormsbee, Wheaton Bragg, Joseph Baker, Zachariah Carpenter, Samuel Kempton, Caleb Ormsbee, Job Budlong, Caleb Earle, Darius Allen, Ira Olney & Isaac Angell. [illegible] Baker.

June 1st. A. D. 1801.

Field Drivers. Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Tefft, Uriah Hopkins, Calvin Walther, Jona. French, Nathan Salisbury & Calvin Dean.

Sealer of Leather. Calvin Deany. —

Scavengers. Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, Joshua Lindley, Williams Thayer and Seth Wheaton. —

Overseers of the Work House. Overseers of the Poor. —

Town Criers. Nathaniel Fuller, John Beazley & Wm. O. Gerrish.

Comte. to prevent encroachmts. on Streets Highways Lanes &c. Samuel Bishop, Williams Thayer, Junr. B. Howell, John Howland, Peter Grinnell, Paris J. Fillingham and Philip Martin.

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes. Samuel Jackson & Samuel Weeden.

Measures of Carpenters work, plaistering and painters work. Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, John Smith, Walker Harding, Edward Mason, Abel Allen, George Earle and Darius Allen. —

Inspectors of Lime. Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Horton & Hezekiah Cole.

Advis. Committee on repairs of Weybosett Bridge. John Smith and John Mason.

Keeper of the Town House. Edward Mason. —

Overseers of Weybosett Bridge —— Job Danforth ——

June 1st. A. D. 1801.

School Comm.

Enos Hitchcock, Steven Gano, Jonathan Masey, Jabez Bowen, William Jones, David L. Barnes, James Bunill Junr. John Carlile, John Howland, Amos M. Atwell, Joel Metcalf & Moses Brown. —

Commt. to superintend Stove pipe thimble & Tile plat

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson, Williams Thayer, John Spurr, William Athby, Jabez Gorham and Charles Lippitt.

The Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to consider of the propriety of Sinking a Drain in Angells Lane, made the following Report Viz. —

The Committee appointed at the last Town Meeting to ascertain the propriety & probable expence of Sinking a Drain in Angell's Lane &c. — Beg leave to Report, that under present circumstances, think it inexpedient to Sink a Drain in either of the said Lanes, but recommend that a Well or Fountain be made in, or near the Street, eastward of Mr. Howell's House, to be conducted by pipes to the main Street, there to empty into a penstock for public accommodation; In that case, the Committee advise the repairing of Angell's Lane & to be made crowning in the Middle: — The Committee estimate the probable expence at four hundred Dollars — part of which in the opinion of the Committee ought to be defrayed by the proprietors on the Street.

Providence May 30th. 1801. Ephraim Bowen Junr.
Jn. Carlile,
Moses Lippitt,
Wm. Rhodes. —

Report of Comm. relative to Sink. a Drain in Angells Lane

And said Report being read, It is thereupon Voted that the same be and it is hereby received; It is also Voted that the further Consideration of said Report be postponed to some future Day & that in the mean while said Committee be requested to ascertain what they can raise by Subscription for effecting what they recommend in their said Report. —

Suit against Henry Bowen Suspended.

Voted, That the Suit heretofore ordered to be commenced against Henry Bowen on Account of Taxes be Suspended until the next August Town Meeting, and that he be directed in the interim to exert himself to collect all arrearages of Taxes due him as Collector for the Town; and that he produce at said Meeting a list of the names of all delinquents with the amount of the Sums due from them respectively. —

It is also Voted, that Jesse Whitmore and Benj.a Taylor be directed to exert themselves to collect all arrearages of Taxes due them as Collectors for the Town, and that they produce a list to the Town Meeting of the names of all persons who may be delinquent in paying the same, specifying also the Amounts of the Sums due from such persons respectively. —

Pending vote to be published.

Voted that the foregoing Resolutions respecting the Collection of Taxes be published in all the News-papers printed in this Town.

Committee to treat with Mount Vernon Lodge.

Voted that the Committee for conferring with the Mount Vernon Lodge respecting their Lot adjoining the old Brick School House be continued, and that they ascertain the Boundaries of the School House Lot and confer with any person who may be authorized to treat for the Purchase of the same, and make report to the next meeting. —

Statement by Doct. Bowen

Voted & Resolved, that the Statement made to this meeting by Doct. Ephraim Bowen, as on file, be and the same is hereby referred to James Bunill Junr. Esqr. David L. Barnes & Capt. Mosey Lippitt, who are appointed a Committee to take the Subject Matter of said Statement into Consideration and that they make Report to the next Town meeting. —

Town Council to appoint Auctioneers.

Voted and Resolved that the Business of appointing Auctioneers for this Town the ensuing Year be referred to the Town Council, who are hereby directed to grant no Licenses for that purpose under the Sum of Five Dollars. —

June 1st. A. D. 1801.

Town Treasurer directed to call on Town Officers for Settlement.

Voted, that the Town Treasurer be, & he is hereby directed to call on all the Town Officers and others who have Accounts open with the Town, and which are unsettled, for Settlement; and in case it may be necessary to commence prosecutions for such Settlements, that he consult the Town Auditors respecting the same.—

Town Treasurer to prosecute all encroachments &c.

Voted and Resolved, that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to prosecute all person making or who have made encroachments on the Streets, Highways, Lanes, Gangways and Commons in this Town.—

Comm.e to fix pump in a well at the South end.

Voted that Ephraim Bowen Junr. & Williams Thayer be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of procuring a Suitable Pump and having it fixed in the well near the Estate of John Tillinghast at the Southerly part of this Town, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.—

Comm.e for the 4th. of July.

Voted and Resolved, that Messrs. William Allen, Thomas P. Ives, James Bunill Junr. John Whipple & William Lamed be, & they are hereby appointed a Committee to make Suitable Arrangements for the Celebration of the Anniversary of American Independence on the fourth Day of July next, as they may think necessary and expedient, and that said Committee be authorized to draw on the Town Treasurer for the expence attending the same provided it does not amount to more than the Sum of Forty Dollars.—

Conduct of the Treasurer in not suing the Collector approved.

Whereas the Town Treasurer represents to this Meeting that Henry Bowen having paid a considerable Sum towards the Arrearages of Taxes due from him as Collector; he had neglected thereto to commence a Suit against the said Henry as heretofore Ordered by the Town. It is thereupon Voted that the Conduct of the Treasurer in this particular be, and the same is hereby approbated and approved.—

June 1st. A. D. 1801.

Town Treasurer to procure a Sett pole.—

Voted and Resolved that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to procure a suitable five feet pole properly Graduated, to be made from the Town's ten feet pole now in use, and that it be kept in his Office as a Standard measure.

Town Council to cause the Street from Bowers Lane to the point widened.

Voted that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Town Council to cause the Street from Bowers Lane Southerly to the Point to be widened and straitened to that distance.—

Calvin Dean to repair Tan Bridge.

Voted that Calvin Dean one of the Surveyors of Highways on the west Side of the River be, and he is hereby directed to put the Town's part of Tan Bridge in suitable repair as soon as may be, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.—

Rich.d Jackson Jr. Acct. allowed.

Voted that the Sum of Twelve Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to Rich.d Jackson Junr. being the Amount of an a/c. by him charged for Services as one of the Town Auditors.—

John Smith's Acct. allowed.

Voted that the Sum of Fifteen Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to John Smith being the Amount of an a/c. by him charged for Services as one of the Town Auditors.

All Fish to be gutted before exposed for Sale at market.—

Whereas for the greater Security of the health of the Inhabitants of this place during the warm Season of the Year it is highly necessary that all dead Fish should be gutted in the River below the Town previous to their being brought up and exposed for Sale in the same.— Resolved therefore that from this Time henceforward and until the last Day of September next, no dead Fish shall be permitted to be in the Market or be exposed for Sale therein without being first gutted as aforesaid, any Person or Persons transgressing in this particular shall incur a penalty of Ten Dollars to be sued for and recovered before any Court proper to try the same.— and the Clerk of the Market is hereby directed to cause this Resolution to be carried into effect.—

Admitted Free.

Nathan Fisher, Peleg Williams, Aaron Mann, Nicholas Ammidon, William Church, Stephen Stone, Caleb [illegible] and Benjamin Marshall.—

June 1st A. D. 1801.

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Propounded.

Nicholas Stillwell, Abraham Stillwell, Wanton Steer, Payton Dana, Nathaniel Dana Junr. and Tristam Burgess. —

This Meeting is dissolved.

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At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, Legally Warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town, on Tuesday the twenty fifth day of August, 1801. —

Richard Jackson. Junr.

Moderator. —

Representatives to the General Assembly chosen

This being the Day appointed by Law for the Choice of Representatives to Represent this Town in the Honorable General Assembly of this State, for the ensuing six Months, the following Gentlemen are duly elected to Represent this Town in said Assembly at their Sessions to be holden on the Last Monday of October next, and in all future Sessions thereof until the first Wednesday in May next, Namely. —

Charles Lippitt, Esqr. 1st —
John Dorrance Esqr. 2d —
Ephraim Bowen Junr. Esq. 3d —
John Carlile. Esqr. — — 4th —

Schedule of Town Expences Exhibited.

A Schedule or Statement of the expences of the Town from August 1st, 1800, up to August 1st 1801, including an Estimate of the Town Debt, is exhibited by the Town Treasurer, whereby it appears that the expences of this Town for that Period has been Fourteen Thousand, Eight Hundred, and Forty Three Dollars and Sixteen Cents, and the Town Debt is stated at Twenty Five Thousand One hundred and Ninety Six Dollars and Fifty Five Cents, and said Account being Read, It is thereupon Resolved that the same be, and it is hereby Recieved. . . —

Voted, that Jesse Whitmore be allowed Eight Weeks from this Time to Collect all arrearages of Taxes that may be due him as Collector for the Town, and to settle with the Town Treasurer for the same, and if the said

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shall neglect to make such settlement on or before the expiration of Eight Weeks as aforesaid, the Town Treasurer in such case is hereby directed to commence an Action against him, for all the Arrearages of Taxes that may be then due

Benjamin Taylor allowed three months to settle with Town Treasr.

Voted and Resolved, that Benjamin Taylor, be allowed three months ~~from~~ from this time to collect all arrearages of Taxes that may be due him as Collector for the Town, and to settle for the same with the Town Treasurer, and if the said Benjamin shall neglect to make such settlement on or before the expiration of Three Months as aforesaid, the Town Treasurer in such case is hereby directed, to commence an Action against him for all the arrears of Taxes that may be then due, —

Henry Bowen allowed Six Months to collect arrearages of Taxes and to settle with T. Treasurer.

Whereas this Meeting taking into Consideration relative to the arrearages of Taxes due from Henry Bowen, as Collector for the Town, Do Vote and Resolve, that the said Henry have with the consent of his Bondsmen, Six months from this Time, for the purpose of collecting all such Arrearages, and of settling with the Town Treasurer therefor; And that in the interim the said Henry exhibit to the Town Audit, a List of the names of all delinquents from whom taxes may be owing, and that the Audit strike off from said List such names as they may think proper — And furthermore that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed at the end of six months as aforesaid, to commence an Action against the said Henry Bowen for all arrearages of Taxes that may be then due. —

Tax of Sixteen Thousand Six hundred Dollars and how to be appropriated,

Voted and Resolved, that a Tax of Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred Dollars, be levied and Assessed on all the rateable Property of the inhabitants, and others owning such Property in this Town, and that said Tax be assessed on or before the first Day of October next, and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first day of January 1802; And that the Collector to be appointed

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for the collection of said Tax advertize in all the news Papers printed in this Town for three Weeks successively, requesting persons of all descriptions on whom said Tax shall be assessed, to call at his Office and pay the same, on or before the first day of December next, and that the Collector pay all monies which he may receive by that time into the Town Treasury, And the Collector is hereby directed to deduct from his her or their Tax three Per Cent for Payment so made; And that said Collector be allowed five Per Cent for collecting said Tax, and that he allow out of his Fees three Per Cent to all such as shall pay him the Amount of their Tax by the said First Day of December next, those who shall be then delinquent shall pay Interest after, and the Collector shall be accountable to the Town for the same. — And it is further Voted that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to appropriate so much of said Tax as shall be sufficient to discharge one fifth part of the Town Debt, both Principal and Interest, to such of the Town's Creditors as may chuse to receive it, and the remaining part of said Tax to be appropriated to paying the Current expences of the present year, — And that Jesse Whitmore be and he hereby is appointed Collector to collect said Tax, as also the State Tax ordered to be assessed, and that he be allowed for Collecting said State Tax the same as in the Town Tax, and that he allow out of his fees three Per Cent for payment of said Tax by the time above specified the same as in the Town Tax.

Committee appointed to inspect into Mill by Mill Bridge. —

Resolved that James Bumill Junr, Samuel W. Bridgham and Ephraim Bowen Junr Esquires, be, and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of inspecting into the State of the Mill near the Mill Bridge so called, and to investigate the tenure by which said Mill is held by the present Proprietors of the same, and that said Committee make Report at the Next Town Meeting. —

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Committee appointed, to direct respecting the Road near the Mill Bridge

Resolved that Messrs. Jeremiah Olney, John Spurr and Nathan Waterman be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of inspecting into the State of the Road near Stevens's Bridge and that they Widen said Road, and make such alterations therein as they may think proper, and direct respecting the Wall in the Vicinity of said Bridge as they may think necessary — and that the Expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.

Committee on Doctor Ephraim Bowens Statement continued.

Resolved that James Burrill Junr. David L. Barnes, and Moses Lippitt who were appointed a Committee at the Annual Town Meeting in June last, to take the subject matter of Doctor Ephraim Bowen's Statement into consideration, and to report thereon be and they are hereby continued a Committee for that purpose, and that they make report to the next Town Meeting.

On Motion that it be referred to the Town Council to take up relative to filling up the new street north of the Great Bridge, by Ebenezer Thompsons, Resolved in the negative,

Privelege granted George Weeden to water from the fountain at the Work House

Whereas George Weeden has requested of this Meeting the privelege of conveying Water from the Town's fountain at the Work House to his dwelling House and the Yard adjoining — It is therefore Voted and Resolved, that the aforesaid Privelege be and the same is hereby granted to the said Weeden upon condition that the same be done under the directions of the overseers of the Poor, and at the expence of said Weeden, and upon the further Condition that the same Privelege cease whenever the overseers of the Poor shall think the continuance thereof disadvantageous to the Town.

August 25 1801.

Town Council to enquire respecting Wm Hardings House

Whereas it is represented to this Meeting that William Hardings House was damaged during the Fire in January last, with a view of stopping the same at that time — Voted and Resolved therefore, that the Town Council be, and they are hereby requested to enquire into the matter, and make such allowance to the said William Harding therefor as they may think Just and Legal.

Committee appointed to relay Pavement in Angell Street,

Voted and Resolved, that Ephraim Bowen Junr. Moses Lippitt and John Carlile be and they hereby are appointed a Committee for the purpose of taking up, and relaying the Pavement in Angell Street, which is directed to be done, Provided said Committee can procure the money to be advanced the Payment for which to be made in Town Notes to be issued by the Treasurer, and provided that individuals living in the vicinity of said Street shall be at the expence of sinking a sufficient drain in the same

Voted that the Surveyors of High Ways allow as much Liquor to the Workmen on the Streets the present year as in their Judgment shall be Prudent and necessary any thing in any former Vote of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally and assembled at the Town house in said Providence on the Seventh day in December A.D. 1801.

James Burrill Junr. Esqr. Moderator.

Town Council empowered to establish Night Watch

Whereas for guarding as much as may be from the accidents of fire, and for the Preservation of Peace and good Order in the Town in the Night Season it is necessary that a Night Watch should be established therein: Resolved therefore, that a Watch to consist of six Persons be established as soon as may be, that they begin their Rounds at ten o'Clock in the Evening, and continue the same until Bell Ringing in the Morning; and that the Appointment of the Persons to constitute said Night Watch be under the Direction of the Town Council, who are hereby empowered and authorized to make such Regulations for the Government, Support and Payment of said Watch from Time to Time as they may think expedient: and that said Watch be continued until the first day of April next.

Jurors Drawn

The following are the Names of the Persons drawn at this Meeting to serve as Jurors at the Honorable Court of Common Pleas to be holden within and for the County of Providence on the third Monday of December instant. Namely. Elihu Peck Grand Juror.

Petit Jurors

James Yerrington, Nathaniel Bailey, Benjamin A. Batty, Zachariah Carpenter, Earl Potter.

Resolved, that it be recommended to the

Presidents and firewards to call a Meeting

Presidents of the Firewards, to call a Meeting of the several Firewards in this Town on Thursday next at two o'Clock P.M. and that they use their best Endeavors to carry into Effect the Rules and Regulations heretofore established respecting the Government of the Inhabitants in Cases of Fire.

Law to be printed relative to the keeping of Powder

It having been represented to this Town Meeting that Powder is stored in many places contrary to Law. Resolved therefore that the Law of the State relative to the keeping of Powder be published in the several News-Papers printed in this Town for three Weeks successively.

Admitted Free

Nicholas Stillwell, Abraham Stillwell, Wanton Steere, Payton Dana, Nathaniel Dana, Junr. Tristam Burgess.

Propounded

Joseph Lee, Samuel Pearson, Philip Crapo, Samuel Law,

Meeting dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled ~~at the~~ at the Town House ~~in said Town~~ on the Twenty First Day of April A. D. 1802.

Richard Jackson. Junr. Moderator

Admitted Free

Joseph Lee, Samuel Pearson, Philip Crapo, Samuel Low, Nicholas Stillwell, Abraham Stillwell, Wanton Steere, Payton Dana, Nathaniel Dana, Junr. and Tristam Burges

Persons Propounded

George W. Hoppin, John D. Balch, John Trueman, Oliver Sutton, Burroughs Abbott, Calvin Dean, 2d Gilbert Seamans, Samuel Ames and Joseph Martin.

Representatives Chosen

This being the Anniversary for Proxing for General Officers, and also the Day for choosing Representatives to Represent this Town in the Honourable the General Assembly for the ensuing Six Months, the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next. Namely,

Charles Lippitt Esquire 1st
John Dorrance Esquire 2d
Ephraim Bowen Junr Esquire 3d
John Carlile. Esquire 4th.

Committee chosen to remove Pews in Town House

Voted that Seth Wheaton and John Carlile, be a Committee to remove two Pews front of the Moderators Seat, and fix a Seat for the Moderator and Clerk for the more convenient holding of Town Meetings in the Town House, and that the expence thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury.

April 21st 1802

Proxes put in for General Offices

The Proxes put in at this Meeting for General Officers are five hundred and Seventeen of which Number there are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire, as Governor. One hundred and Thirty Eight. for his Excellency William Greene Esqr. as Governor Three hundred and Seventy. for Benjamin Bourne Esquire as Governor three. for Constant Taber One, and five Proxes in which the Name of no Governor is mentioned.

This Meeting is dissolved.

June 7th A. D. 1802.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally assembled at the Town house on the Seventh Day of June A. D. 1802. —

James Burrill Junr. Moderator. —

This being the Anniversary for the Election of Town Officers for the Year ensuing the following Persons are chosen to the Offices prefixed to their respective names. to wit,

Town Clerk — Nathan W. Jackson. Engd.

Town Council. — John Dorrance, Abner Daggett, Benjamin Hoppin, Joseph Jenckes & Jabez Bullock. —

Town-Serjeant — Henry Bowen.

Town Treasurer — Samuel Nightingale.

Town Audit. — John Smith, John Mumford & Richard Jackson Junr.

Constables. — William Givens, Melzar Packard, Jonathan Trench, George Gordon, George Bradford, Jesse Whitmore, Ephraim Billings, John Lasell, Daniel Rayford, Samuel Kempton, Henry Alexander, Job Danforth, Simeon Ingraham and Caleb Allen. —

Sealer of weights and Measures. — Gershom Jones. —

Assessors of Taxes & overseers of the Poor. — William Richmond, William Lamad & John Spurr.

June 7th A. D. 1802. —

Surveyors of Joist, Boards, Spars, Timber, & Corded Wood. — Simeon Ingraham, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, Melzar Packard, Elijah Smith, James Snow Junr. Samuel Carlile, Demas Bishop, David Atwood, Samuel Kempton, John Carpenter, James Ormsbee, Job Danforth and Caleb Rawson. — Christopher Arnold & Richard Godfrey with regard to Spars. —

Surveyors of Highways. — Stephen Harris, Thomas Abbott, Calvin Dean, Job Danforth & Benjamin E. Gorton. —

Gaugers of Casks. — Samuel Jackson, Esek Eddy, James Weeden, Danl. Weeden, John R. Balch, Cyrus Eddy and John F. Sheldon. —

Collr. of Taxes. — Jesse Whitmore. —

Clerk of the Market. — Job Danforth. —

Packers of Beef, Pork and Fish. — William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Cummings, John L. Munroe, John Eathforth, Arthur Fanier, Charles Lasselle, Samuel Eathforth, Esek Eddy 2nd, Henry Randall, James Weeden, Wilbour Paul & Ichabod Brown. —

Corders of Fire-wood. — John Vial, John Pettey, John Lasell, Samuel Wilkie, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton, Henry Alexander, Aaron Seamans, James Weeden and Obadiah Mason. —

Overseers of the Hospital. — The Town Council. —

Pound Keepers. — Charles Holden & John Miller.

To value Estates wh. disputed in Voting. — Jabez Bowen, John Brown & John Mason.

Fence Viewers. — Nathan Fisher, Christr. Arnold & Caleb Williams.

Residents of the Fire wards. — John Brown, Jabez Bowen, Samuel Butler, John Clark, Jeremiah Olney & Benjamin Hobbs

June 7th A. D. 1802.

Fire wards

Amos M. Atwell, Henry Smith, John Mumford, John Dorance, Joseph Peck, Ephraim Bowen Junr. Charles Lippitt, John Carlile, Moses Lippitt, Seth Wheaton, James Fenner, David L. Barnes, Richard Jackson Junr. John Lippitt, Elisha Dyer, Nicholas Brown, Silvanus Martin, John Whipple, William Potter, Caleb Williams & Jonathan W. Coy. —

Fire Engine Compt. No. 1.

Isaac Bullard, Nathan Angell Junr. Nathaniel Smith, William Lee, Stephen Harris, George Jackson, William Billings, John Bowen, William Potter Junr. Nehemiah Dodge, Howell Williams & Samd. Wheaton.

Fire Engine Compt. No. 2.

Philip Martin, Samuel Whipple, Nathan Fisher, James Burr, Ezekiel Burr, Samuel Staples, Willm. B. Martin, Oliver Bowen, Israel Amsbury, James Thurber, Nehemiah Beckford & Josiah Keen. —

Fire Engine Compt. No. 3.

Jonathan W. Coy, Peter Grinnell, Ward Loving, William Taylor, Nicholas D. Greene, Richard Anthony, Joseph Anthony, Barnard Eddy, William Paul, Benjamin Aborn, Thomas S. Webb and Samuel Jackson 2d —

Fire Engine Compt. No. 4.

Israel Davis, George Earl, John F. Sheldon Elijah Ormsbee, James Pitcher, Benjamin Clifford, Benjamin E. Gorton, Peleg Peckham, Charles Sheldon, Oliver Earl, Young Seamans & William Church. —

Fire Engine Compt. No. 5.

Calvin Dean, Othniel Tripp, Thomas Williams, Hezekiah Smith, Isaac Manchester, Isaac Butts, Abner Metcalf, James Pettis, William Pabodie, David Atwood, Enos Angell and John F. Greene. —

June 7th A. D. 1802.

To direct where goods shall be removed in Case of Fire.

Thomas Arnold, William Allen, Nathan Waterman, William Rhodes, Amos Atwell, Lemuel Bishop, William Larned, William Richmond, Jnº. Howland, Silvanus Martin, Joseph Peck & Samuel Butler Junr. —

Persons to remove or pull down Houses in Case of Fire.

Walker Harding, Joseph Baker, Caleb Earl, Benja. Tallman Junr. Nathaniel Cook, Peter Robinson, John Newman, Jotham Ham, Elias Barto, Zachariah Carpenter, Sanford Branch, Josiah Taylor, Edward Knowles Junr. Isaac Congdon, George Eddy, Job Budlong, Thomas Taber, Darius Allen, William Eddy Junr. Joseph Eddy Junr. Benajah C. Ramey, Oliver Arnold, Benjamin Ham, Joseph Howard, Wheaton Bragg, Isa. Olney, Jon. E. Simmons, William Field, Nicholas Irons & Olney Dyer.

Field Drivers.

Rufus Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Tefft, Uriah Hopkins, Calvin Walker, Jonª. French, Nathan Salisbury & Calvin Dean. —

Sealer of Leather.

Calvin Dean. —

Scavengers

Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, Joshua Lindley & Seth Wheaton.

Overseers of the Work House

The Overseers of the Poor. —

Town Criers.

Nathaniel Fuller, John Beazely and William P. Gerrish. —

Committee to prevent encroachments on Streets Highways & Lanes

Samuel Bishop, Joseph Peck, Jeremh. B. Howe, Thomas Sefpient, Peter Grinnell, Paris C. Tillinghast and Philip Martin. —

Inspectors of Pot & pearl Ashes.

Samuel Jackson & Samuel Weeden.—

Manners of Carpenters work & Cartering & painters work

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, John Smith, Walker Harding, Edward Mason, Abel Allen, George Earl & Darius Allen.—

Inspectors of Lime.

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Horton & Cyrus Cole.—

Authorising the appointment of Overseer of the Public Bridges.

Voted and Resolved that there be Annually appointed a person who shall be Stiled "Overseer of the Public Bridges who shall have the Oversight and Care of Weybosett Bridge, the Mill Bridge, the Bridge near the Work house Stevens' Bridge and that part of Jay Bridge which belongs to this Town, to repair the same when necessary, but any repairs on Weybosett Bridge or wholly rebuilding any of the other Bridges shall be by the advice and Concurrence of a Committee to be appointed for that purpose.—

Overseer of the Public Bridges.

Caleb Ormsbee.—

Advising Comm. in repair. Bridges.

John Smith, John Mason and John Downes.—

School Committee.

Enos Hitchcock, Stephen Gano, Jonathan Maxcy, Jabez Bowen, William Jones, David L. Barnes, James Burrill Junr. John Carlile, John Howland, Amos M. Atwell, Joel Metcalf, Moses Brown & William Richmond.—

Comm.t to Superintend Stove pipes Chimneys & Fireplaces.

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson, Moses Lippitt, John Spurr, William Olney, James Burr & Charles Lippitt.—

Committee for 4th July.

Voted and Resolved that Majr. William Allen, Thomas P. Ives, James Burrill Junr. John Whipple and William Lamed be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make Such Arrangement for the Celebration of the Anniversary of American Independence on the fourth Day of July next as they may think necessary and expedient and that S. Committee be authorized to draw on the Town Treasurer for the expence of Such Arrangement—provided the Same shall not Amount to more than One hundred Dollars.

Report of Comt. respect. Sale of Brick School house

The Committee heretofore appointed by the Town to Confer with the Committee of Mount Vernon Lodge respecting the Sale of the old Brick School-house or the Purchase of their Lot, made their Report in the words following, to wit—

The Committee who were appointed to Confer with the Committee of Mount Vernon Lodge—Respecting the Sale of the old Brick School House or the Purchase of their Lot—Respectfully report.—

That we have met the Committee of the Lodge on that Business, and that they decline purchasing the School House at the price assessed by your Committee, but have agreed to Sell their Lot adjoining the School House to the Town at the price which they gave for the Same, together with the Interest from the Time they purchased it, which was about a Year ago, and we have Concluded it to be for the Interest of the Town to close with their offer and purchase the Same.—

We therefore recommend to the Town to Direct the Treasurer to receive a Deed and Make payment therefor, in the Sum of Six hundred Dollars together with the Interest on that Sum from the Date of their Deed.—which is submitted by

Ephm. Bowen & Co.

April 21st 1802.—

June 7th A. D. 1802.

And said Report being read, it is thereupon Voted & Resolved that the same be received.—

Town Treasurer authorized to carry Report of Comtee into Effect.—

Resolved that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby Authorized and empowered to carry into effect the report of the Committee appointed to treat with the Mount Vernon Lodge respecting the purchasing of their Lot adjoining the old Brick School House Lot.—

Auditors Report.—

The Town Audit made report to this Meeting in the words following, to wit,—

To the Moderator of the Annual Town meeting to be holden in June next for the Town of Providence—

Sir, You will please to communicate for the information of the Freemen, that we the Subscribers have carefully examined the Accounts of the Town Treasurer up to the first Day of the present Year and find them Accurately Stated, and that there is a balance of two Dollars thirteen cents due from the Treasurer to the Town.— and Accordingly have Settled them up to that time agreeably thereto.—

Which is respectfully Submitted

By John Smith
Jr. Mumford
Rich. Jackson Jr. } Town Audit

And said Report having been read— It is Voted and Resolved that the same be received and Lodged on file.—

John Smith's Accot. allowed.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty-three Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to John Smith being the Amt. of his Acct. as one of the Town Audit.—

Jr. Mumford's Acct. allowed.

Voted that the Sum of Forty Dollars be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to John Mumford being the Amount of his Account for three years Service as one of the Town Audit.—

Rich. Jackson Junr. Acct. allowed.

Voted that Richard Jackson Junr. be allowed twelve Dollars, being the Amount of his Account for Services as one of the Town Audit the Year past.—

Representatives Instructed.

Voted and Resolved, that the representatives for this Town, in the Legislature of the State, be, and they are hereby requested and instructed to use their influence in the Same, to have such a Law paped respecting the keeping of Powder, in private Buildings, as may be thought most advisable for the public Safety; and they are hereby further requested and instructed to use their influence in obtaining a Law to be paped, at the next Session of said Assembly, that may exempt the person appointed by this Town for the pulling down of Houses, in Cases of Fire, from serving in the Militia.— Also to have a Law paped authorizing an inspection respecting the Sealing of weights and measures.—

Town Council to appoint Comtee to assist Danl. Anthony

Resolved that the Town Council be and they are hereby Authorized and empowered to appoint a Committee or Committees for the purpose of Assisting Daniel Anthony in making a Plat of this Town, and to Suggest such Alterations from time to time as the Said Committee may think necessary & expedient.—

Committee to inspect into Evelith's Engine.

Voted that Joseph Jenckes, Moses Brown and John Carlile be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to inspect into the Engine made by John Evelith of this Town and ascertain the Terms on which it can

be purchard and make report to the next Town-meeting.—

Comm.d to equip Atmen

Voted that Messr.s John Carlile and Cromwell Peck be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to see that the Persons appointed to pull down houses in case of Fire are equipped in a Suitable manner with axes for that purpose.—

Committee to inspect into J. Ormsbee's right in School house.—

Voted that Joel Metcalf and John Howland be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of inspecting into the right that James Ormsbee has to the lower part of the School house in the Third District, and that they agree with him therefor and make report to the next Town-Meeting.—

Town Treasurer to Let Market

Voted that the Town Treasurer be Authorised and directed to Cause the Cellar, Stalls and Chambers of the Market House to be rented at Public Auction for the Term of one Year—and that he take from the Hirers approved Notes payable at the Banks, half yearly for the Amount of the Rents—and when received pass the same to the credit of the Town.—

A Petition from the Washington Insurance Company in this Town is presented to this Meeting Which said Petition is in the Words following, to wit,—

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town-Meeting Assembled June 7th. 1802.

The Directors of the Washington Insurance Company in Providence, respectfully represent. That they are about

erecting an Elegant and expensive Building on the Lot lately belonging to Mr. John Sutton situated at the West end of the Bridge, And Whereas it will greatly accomodate the said Company to erect a Platform by setting Posts in the River in a line of those which now stand for the first Pier of the Bridge and to have the same String pieced and planked level with the Top of the Bridge and the same to be handsomely railed, and as the erecting of this Stage will in no ways injure or incommode the publick but on the contrary it will be of general utility by extending the Parade and thereby promoting the Publick convenience as it may be a place of resort for our fellow Citizens and thus render the present foot Walks of the Bridge less Crouded and obstructed they therefore request the Town to grant the Privilege to the said Company

Signed by Order and in behalf of the Directors.—

Richd. Jackson Jr. President of said Company.

Geo. Benson Secretary

And the same having been Read It is thereupon Voted that the request of the said Washington Insurance Company be granted under the inspection of the advising Committee of the Publick Bridges.—

Voted that Benjamin Hoppin, Robert Taylor Junr. and Aaron Draper be and they hereby are appointed Auctioneers for this Town the ensuing year.—

Voted and Resolved that the Auctioneers in the Town of Providence shall pay to said Town the sum of one half per centum on the amount of Sales on all goods, wares and merchandize, Ships and Vessels excepted, by them sold at Auction

sum of one quarter percentum on the amount of Sales on all land tenements or hereditaments together with Ships and vessels by them as aforesaid sold; and that all such auctioneers shall account to the Town-Council of said Town quarterly for all the sums of Money which may arise under such sales as aforesaid made, and shall pay over to the said Council the per cent as aforesaid, and shall give Bond to the Town-Council in the sum of Five hundred Dollars for so accounting and paying over the amount of the percentum aforesaid. Provided nevertheless that this act shall not extend to any Estate either real personal or mixed which may be sold by said Auctioneers at publick auction in satisfaction of any execution, nor to the Estate or effects of any insolvent debtor, or Bankrupt, nor to any estate of any deceased person to be sold as aforesaid, —

Propounded

The following persons were propounded at this Meeting, to wit, Robert S. Burrough, Nicholas Cushing, Olney Dyer and — Richard Olney. —

This Meeting is dissolved —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled according to Law at the Town House in said Town On Tuesday the 31st day of August 1802

David Leonard Barnes Esq. Moderator.

This being the day by Law appointed for the choice of Representatives to represent this Town in the Honourable General Assembly of this State for the ensuing six months The following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in said Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday in October next and in all future Sessions of said Assembly until the first Wednesday in May next. Namely.

John Dorrance Esq. 1st
Ephraim Bowen Junr Esq. 2d
John Carlile Esq. 3d
George A Burrill Esq. 4th

Committee for forming Fee Table

Voted that James Burrill Junr Seth Wheaton and William Hoppin be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of forming a Fee Table for the Government of the Town Clerk in his Charges for Services he may render the Town

August 31st. 1802.

Overseers of the Poor Report to the Town all Orders drawn by them.—

Voted and Resolved that the Overseers of the Poor in this Town report annually to the same the amount of all orders they may draw on the Town Treasurer with the Names of the Persons in whose favor said Orders may be drawn or who may be benefited thereby.

Report of the Committee respecting School House 3. Dist.

The Committee appointed at the annual Town Meeting in June last to examine into the Right that James Ormsbee has to the lower Part of the School House in the Third District, Report in the following Words, to wit,

The Committee appointed at the June Town Meeting to examine into the Right that Mr. James Ormsbee has to the Lower Story of the School House in the third District and to agree with him for the same

Respectfully Report,

That by the Contract made by the Town with Mr. Ormsbee he was to build the Lower Story of the House and to have the use and Improvement of the same as his Compensation, 'till the Town should think proper to take it of him, he was then to relinquish his right thereto on receiving the Original Cost. And as Mr. Ormsbee does not suppose himself restricted in the use to which he may apply the Room, although on the part of the Town it is understood that he should not appropriate the same to any noisy Business to the disturbance of the School; Yet after considering all the Circumstances your Committee are of Opinion that it will be most for the Interest of the Town to purchase Mr. Ormsbee's Right, which

which he now holds by a Deed from the Town Treasurer.— There can be no question as to the price as the Cost of that part of the House was ascertained at the Time it was built, and reported to the Clerks Office.— it Amounted to £86.1.9.—

Which is submitted by

John Howland
Joel Metcalf } Committee

And said Report having been read.— It is Resolved that the same be, and it is hereby received.

Town Treasurer directed to purchase School House of James Ormsbee.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to purchase of James Ormsbee the lower part of the School House in the third District at the price as Stated in the report of the Committee this Day.—

Town Treasurer to furnish Lightning Rods to the School-houses.

Voted that the Town Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized and directed to procure the four several Public Schools in this Town to be furnished with suitable lightning Rods, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury.—

Committee for Ascertaining the expence of Bridge near Work-house

Voted that John Smith, Paris J. Tillinghast Philip Martin and Caleb Ormsbee be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to ascertain & make an Estimate of the probable expence and cost of building a Stone Bridge over the river by the work house, also the expence of building a Bridge of Wood, and that said Committee make report thereof as also of the expediency of [illegible] up part of the passage way between

August 31st 1802.—

Comm.e to ascertain the use of Patent pump

Voted and Resolved that Moses Brown & Samuel Jackson 2d. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of Consulting with a Mr. Weld respecting a certain Machine or patent pump the use of which as appears from a certain writing, signed by Solomon Thayer, read at this meeting, is for the Showering of water on Houses, Stacks, Vessels and Gardens, and that said Committee ascertain the use that such a Machine would be to the Town, and make report at the next Town meeting.—

Comm.e to examine Road near Stephens Bridge

Voted that James Burrill, Senior, Calvin Dean, and Samuel Butler Junr. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of examining the Road near Stevens' Bridge, and for ascertaining the repairs necessary to be made thereon and report the same to the next Town-meeting.

Town Treasurer to Lease Lot for Gun-house

Voted that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to let out to the State and give a Lease during the pleasure of the Town of a convenient Lot south of the Town-house for the purpose of erecting a Gun-house thereon

Comm.e to ascertain Duties of Clerk of the Market

Voted that Samuel Butler Junr. & John Howland be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of ascertaining the Duties necessary and incumbent on the Clerk of the Market to perform, and what Compensation he ought to be entitled to for his services in that Capacity and make report to the next Town Meeting.—

Surveyor of High-way.

Voted that Nathan Angell Junr. be and he is hereby appointed a Surveyor of Highways for the middle district in this Town, in the Room of Stephen Harris heretofore appointed, and who it is represented declines serving.—

Members added to each Fire Engine.

A representation in writing as on file signed by a number of the Persons composing the several Fire Engine Companies in this Town is read at this meeting; in which they State that the number of Men allowed to each Engine are incompetent to perform all the Duties appertaining to their appointment. It is therefore Voted and Resolved that an additional Number of two Members be added to each of said fire Engine Companies.

Voted that James Arnold & Isaac Brownell be and they are hereby appointed Members of the Fire Engine company No.1. in this Town in the room of Samuel Wheaton and John Bowers, represented as having resigned, and that Wm. Pope & Comfort Card be and they are hereby appointed Members in said Company, until the annual Town Meeting in June next.—

Voted that James Yerrington, Isaac Congdon and Henry Bissell be and they are hereby appointed Members of the fire Engine Company No. in the room of Oliver Bowen, Samuel Whipple & Josiah Keene, and that Stephen Smith and Thomas Abbott be and they are hereby appointed as additional Members in said Company

August 31st 1802.

Voted that Charles Low and Amasa Mason be, and they hereby are appointed additional Members to Jiw Engine Company No. 3. — Also Samuel Carlile & Russell Dazzett to Engine No. 4. — and Peleg Williams & Robert Dursey as additional Members to Jiw Engine Company No. 5. in this Town.

The following persons having been heretofore propounded are now Voted in and admitted Freemen to wit,

George W. Hoppin
John A. Balch
John Truman
Oliver Sutton
Burrows Abom
Calvin Dean 2.
Gilbert Seamans
Samuel Ames
Dexter Thurber Voted in as oldest son. —

Deeds to the following persons of Real Estates having been produced at this Meeting they are propounded to become Freemen. — Viz.

Henry P. Franklin
Nathaniel G. Olney
James B. Mason

This being the Period for the Biennial Election of two Representatives to represent this State in the Eighth Congress of the United States — The following Paper Votes were received, to wit,

For

For Thomas Tillinghast Esqr. of East Greenwich & Elisha R. Potter Esqr. of South Kingston 282
For Thomas Tillinghast & Thomas Arnold 1
For Nehemiah Knight & Jos. Stanton Jr. Esqrs — 78
For Nehemiah Knight & Benja. Bowen Esqr — 1
For Nehemiah Knight & Nath.l G. Hazard Esqr. 1
For Nehemiah Knight Esqr. Solus 1
364

Register of the Freemen who Voted at this Meeting for Representatives to represent this State in the Eighth Congress of the United States. —

A.

Allen Darius
Anthony Richard
Alexander Henry
Adams Jonathan
Ames Samuel
Abom Lowrey
Anthony James
Amsbury Israel
Arnold Samuel G.
Andrews Zephaniah
Arnold Christopher
Arnold Israel
Abom Samuel
Abom James
Allen Samuel
Atwell Amos
Angell Emor
Abom Benjamin
Atwell Amos Main
Arnold James M.
Allen Benjamin
Arnold Salmon
Ashton William
Arnold Thomas
Allen William
Allen Caleb
Andrews Benjamin
Angell Nathan Junr.
Allen Abel
Abom Edward
Atwood David
Ashton William Junr.

NUMBERING ERROR

NUMBERING ERROR

B

Bullock Jabez
Butler Samuel
Blackman Theophilus
Bowen Pardon
Bailey Nathaniel
Bardine Comfort
Bowen Isaac
Bowen William
Bridgham Samuel W.
Bicknell Peter
Brown William S. Junr.
Bunges Tristam
Bowen William B.
Beverly George
Brown Nicholas
Billings William
Brown Zephaniah
Brown James
Benson George
Bacon Lot
Brown John
Brown Morris
Burrill George R.
Bentley Christopher
Bennett Thomas
Bowen Jabez
Burrill James
Brown Obadiah
Burrill James Junr.
Bowen Henry
Bowen Ephraim Junr.
Bowen Ephraim
Brown Thomas
Brayton Daniel
Barns David L.
Bowen Joseph Junr.
Bun James
Branch Daniel
Butler David
Branch Nicholas

Butler Samuel Junr.
Dexter John Peara
Daggett Russell
Davenport Joseph

C

Cowing Ward
Cowing Henry
Coles Thomas
Cook Nicholas
Congdon Jonathan
Carpenter John
Congdon Ephraim
Coy Jonathan W.
Crapo Philip
Clifford Benjamin
Cooke Christopher
Carlile John
Church William
Clark John Innes
Carlile Samuel
Carter John

D

Danforth Job
Dexter Stephen
Davis Israel
Dana Nathan.l Junr.
Durfey Robert
Dodge Nehemiah
Davis John
Dean Calvin
Davenport Samuel
Dana Payton
Dyer Elisha
Daggett Abner
Dyer Olney
Dyer Benjamin
Dorance John
Dean Calvin 2.
Dexter Edward

E

Eveleth John
Earle Oliver
Eddy Esek
Eddy Barnard
Ellis Lyus
Eddy Joseph
Eddy Peleg
Eddy Samuel
Eddy Esek Junr.
Eddy Benjamin 2.

F

Fenner Arthur
French Jonathan
Field Joseph
Fuller Joseph
Fowle William
Fisher Nathan
Field John Junr.
Fenner James
Field Daniel
Field William
Fenner Arthur Jr.
Fuller Nathaniel
Fowle Jon.a

G

Greene John F.
Gunnell Peter
Greene William F.
Greene Caleb

Greene Thomas
Gladding Allen
Gibbs John F.
Greenwood Isaac
Gorton Benj.a C.
Gladding Timothy Jr.
Gladding Nathan.l
Gladding Hail
Godfrey Richard
Godfrey Christopher

H

Hopkins Stephen
Houston Amos
Hoppin Davis Ward
Hill Christopher
Hardenburgh Jacob
Hull Peleg
Hammon James
Howland John
Hartshorn Charles
Hill Samuel
Hicks Elisha
Hoppin George W.
Hoppin Benjamin
Holroyd Joseph J.
Holroyd William
Healy Recompence
Ham Levi
Ham Benjamin
Hopkins Uriah
Ham Jotham

I

Ives Thomas P.
Ingraham Simeon

J.

Jackson Richard Jr.
Jackson Stephen
Jackson George
Jenckes Joseph
Jones John
Jones Gershom
James Samuel
Jackson Samuel
Jackson Richard
Jenckes John C.
Jones William
Jenckes Jeremiah
Jackson Samuel 2.
Jones Thomas
Jackson Nathan W.
Jackson Daniel
Jones Thomas 2.
Jenckes Comfort

K

Kempton Samuel
Keene Josiah
Knowles Edward

L

Lanthar John
Lealand Jesse
Low Charles
Lee Joseph
Lippitt Charles
Lamed William
Limmberger John
Lee Charles
Luther Edward
Lippitt Moses

M

Matherson John
Mumford John
Morris Marvin
Maxen Richard
Mason Pardon
Metcalf Nathan.l G.
Metcalf Michael
Mc Kal Hopestill
Man Aaron
Martin Wheeler
Mason Samuel
Munro Benjamin
Martin William B.
Metcalf Joel
Martin Philip
Mason John
Mumb James
Mason Joseph
Manchester William

N.

Nowell Robert
Nash John
Nightingale Samuel
Newman John

O.

Olney Henry
Olney Jeremiah
Olney Simeon H.
Olney George
Olney Christopher
Olney Gideon
Olney Job
Ormbee Elijah
Ormbee James
Ormbee Caleb
Olney Stephen
Only Jabez

P

Peckham William
Potter William
Perrin John
Potter Phinehas
Peck Aaron
Pitman Sanders
Peck Lewis
Potter Joseph
Prond Samuel
Pabodie Ephraim
Peck Benjamin
Pitcher James
Paine Walter
Paoud Daniel
Power Nich.s Junr.
Pabodie William
Peck Rufus
Power Nicholas
Peck John
Potter Earle
Potter Joseph Junr.
Potter Sprague
Perry Thomas
Peck Joseph
Pearson Samuel
Pitman Samuel
Packard Nathaniel
Peck Isaac
Peck Elihu
Peckham James
Pettey James
Peck Cromwell

R

Rodman William
Randall Henry
Richmond William
Randall Stephen
Reynolds Lyndall
Rhodes James
Rhodes William
Rogers John

S.

Stere Wanton
Sheldon Charles
Smith Henry
Staples Samuel
Smith Benjamin
Sweet Nehemiah
Stewart Archibald
Spur John
Spooner Thomas
Snow Samuel
Smith Hezekiah
Smith John
Seamans Young
Stillwell William
Smith Nathan.l
Smith Noah
Smith Charles
Stillwell Dan.l
Sutton Robert
Snow James Junr.
Sabin John
Steele Benjamin
Sterling Henry
Sheldon Pardon

T

Tripp Othniel
Thurber Benjamin
Tallman Benj.a Junr.
Tallman Benjamin
Tillinghast Dan.l J.
Taylor Peter
Thurber Sam.l Junr.
Thurber Sam.l Senr.
Tillinghast Charles W.
Thompson Ebenr. Junr.
Thompson Ebenezer
Tefft Daniel
Talbot Benj.a Junr.
Taylor William
Truman Nathan
Thurber William
Taylor Benjamin
Tillinghast Paris J.
Throop Amos
Thurber James
Tillinghast Jos.
Thayer Thomas
Tillinghast William
Taylor Benj.a Junr.
Thayer Benjamin
Taylor Edward
Thompson John
Thurber Fayette
Thurber Dexter

U. & V

Updike John
Vezie Benjamin
Val. John
Veazie Benj.a Junr.
Vincent Laban
Valentines William

W.

Whipple John
Whipple Eleazer
Walker Ephraim
Westcott Jacob
Wheaton Caleb
Ward John
Waterman Nathan
Wright Aaron
Warner Amos
Wilmor Olney
Weeden James
Wight John
Wheeler Bennet
Whitman Jacob
Waterman Rufus
Whipple Jabez
Warner Amos
Weeden Samuel
Walker Calvin
Wardwell Stephen
Wheaton Seth
Wilkie Samuel
Weeden Charles
Williams Caleb
Webb Thomas S.
Williams Oleg
Williams Stephen
Woodard William
Walker David
Whipple Arnold
Worrington James

P

Peckham William
Potter William
Perrin John
Potter Phinehas
Peck Aaron
Pitman Sanders
Peck Lewis
Potter Joseph
Pound Samuel
Pabodie Ephraim
Peck Benjamin
Pitcher James
Paine Walter
Pound Daniel
Power Nich.s Junr.
Pabodie William
Peck Rufus
Power Nicholas
Peck John
Potter Earle
Potter Joseph Junr.
Potter Spague
Perry Thomas
Peck Joseph
Pearson Samuel
Pitman Samuel
Packard Nathaniel
Peck Isaac
Peck Elihu
Peckham James
Pettey James
Peck Cromwell

R

Rodman William
Randall Henry
Richmond William
Randall Stephen
Reynolds Grindall
Rhodes James
Rhodes William
Rogers John

S.

Stone Wanton
Sheldon Charles
Smith Henry
Staples Samuel
Smith Benjamin
Sweet Nehemiah
Stewart Archibald
Spur John
Spooner Thomas
Snow Samuel
Smith Hezekiah
Smith John
Seamans Young
Stillwell William
Smith Nathan.l
Smith Noah
Smith Charles
Stillwell Dan.l
Sutton Robert
Snow James Junr.
Sabin John
Steele Benjamin
Sterling Henry
Sheldon Pardon

T

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Thurber Benjamin
Tallman Benj.a Junr.
Tallman Benjamin
Tillinghast Dan.l J.
Taylor Peter
Thurber Sam.l Junr.
Thurber Sam.l Senr.
Tillinghast Charles W.
Thompson Ebenr. Junr.
Thompson Ebenezer
Tefft Daniel
Talbot Benj.a Junr.
Taylor William
Truman Nathan
Thurber William
Taylor Benjamin
Tillinghast Pain J.
Throop Amos
Thurber James
Tillinghast Jos.
Thayer Thomas
Tillinghast William
Taylor Benj.a Junr.
Thayer Benjamin
Taylor Edward
Thompson John
Thurber Fayette
Thurber Dexter

U. & V

Updike John
Veazie Benjamin
Veal. John
Veazie Benj.a Junr.
Vincent Laban
Valentine William

W.

Whipple John
Whipple Eleazer
Walker Ephraim
Westcott Jacob
Wheaton Caleb
Ward John
Waterman Nathan
Wright Aaron
Warner Amos
Winsor Olney
Weeden James
Wight John
Wheeler Bennett
Whitman Jacob
Waterman Rufus
Whipple Jabez
Warner Amos
Weeden Samuel
Walker Calvin
Wardwell Stephen
Wheaton Seth
Wilkie Samuel
Weeden Charles
Williams Caleb
Webb Thomas S.
Williams Peleg
Williams Stephen
Woodard William
Walker David
Whipple Arnold
Worrington James

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence Legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House On the Tenth Day of November A. D. 1802. ——

John Dorrance Esq.r Moderator

Report of Committee respecting Bridge by the Work house

The Committee appointed in August last to estimate the probable expence of building a Bridge by the Work House made report to this Meeting, in Writing, as follows to wit

Agreeably to our appointment by the Town of Providence, we the undersigned have viewed the Bridge by the Work house, and find it wants a thorough repair, which in our Judgment will cost about three hundred Dollars

It is our opinion that to build a Stone Bridge in the same place, will cost about eleven hundred and Forty Dollars —— The above Report is respectfully submitted by the Towns obedient Servants. ——

John Smith
Philip Martin
Paris J Tillinghast
Committee

And said Report being Read, it is thereupon Voted, that the same be and it is hereby received.

Henry Smith appointed to repair Bridge

Voted that Henry Smith be and he is hereby appointed and authorized to repair with Wood the Bridge near the Work House in this Town, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury. ——

Persons who may erect Buildings &c on the Street to be indicted

Voted that all Persons who may hereafter encroach on any of the publick Streets in this Town by the erecting of Buildings or any thing whatever contrary to the direction of the Town's Committee for the preventing of encroachments on Streets and Highways, that on Complaint of the same by said Committee to the Town Treasurer, it shall be his duty, and he is hereby directed to prefer a Complaint thereof to the Attorney General, that the Person or Persons who shall offend as aforesaid may be indicted therefor. ——

Report of Committee referred to next Town Meeting

Whereas the Committee appointed in August last to examine the Road near Slaven's Bridge, and to ascertain the repairs necessary to be made thereon have made a Report in Writing (as on file) and said Report being read, it is thereupon Voted, that it be, and the same is hereby received, and that the subject matter thereof be referred for further Consideration to the next Town Meeting. ——

Representatives to propose an Amendment of an Act for the Support of the poor ——

Voted, that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Representatives for this Town, in the General Assembly, to propose an Amendment to the Act, entitled, "An Act providing for the Relief, Support, Employment and Removal of the Poor" — That in said proposed Amendment it be provided, that when any poor Person shall remove from the place of their Settlement, into any other Town, in this State, and there become, or be likely to become chargeable

NUMBERING ERROR

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House On the Tenth Day of November A. D. 1802. ——

John Dorrance Esq.r Moderator

The Committee appointed in August last to estimate the probable expence of building a Bridge by the Work House made report to this Meeting, in Writing, as follows to wit

Report of Committee respecting Bridge by the Work house

Agreeably to our appointment by the Town of Providence, we the undersigned have viewed the Bridge by the Work house, and find it wants a thorough repair, which in our Judgment will cost about three hundred Dollars

It is our opinion that to build a Stone Bridge in the same place, will cost about eleven hundred and Forty Dollars —— The above Creport is respectfully submitted by the Towns obedient Servants. ——

John Smith
Philip Martin
Paris J Tillinghast
Committee

And said Report being Read, it is thereupon Voted, that the same be and it is hereby received.

Henry Smith appointed to repair Bridge

Voted that Henry Smith be and he is hereby appointed and authorized to repair with Wood the Bridge near the Work House in this Town, and that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury. ——

Persons who may erect Buildings &c. on the Street to be indicted

Voted that all Persons who may hereafter encroach on any of the publick Street in this Town by the erecting of Buildings or any thing whatever contrary to the direction of the Town's Committee for the preventing of encroachments on Streets and Highways, that on Complaint of the same by said Committee to the Town Treasurer, it shall be his duty, and he is hereby directed to prefer a Complaint thereof to the Attorney General, that the person or persons who shall offend as aforesaid may be indicted therefor. ——

Report of Committee referred to next Town Meeting

Whereas the Committee appointed in August last to examine the Road near Steven's Bridge, and to ascertain the repairs necessary to be made thereon have made a Report in Writing (as on file) and said Report being read, it is thereupon Voted, that it be, and the same is hereby received, and that the subject matter thereof be referred for further Consideration to the next Town Meeting. ——

Representatives to propose an Amendment of an Act for the Support of the poor ——

Voted, that it be and it is hereby recommended to the Representatives for this Town, in the General Assembly, to propose an Amendment to the Act, entitled, "An Act providing for the Relief, Support, Employment and Removal of the Poor" — That in said proposed Amendment it be provided, that when any poor Person shall remove from the place of their Settlement, into any other Town in this State, and there become, or be likely to become chargeable

the overseers of the Poor, or some one of them, in the Town where said poor Person resides, shall notify, in Writing, the Overseers, or some one of them, in the Town where said Person is settled of the same; which said Overseer or Overseers, upon such Notice, shall forthwith proceed to remove such Person to the place of his or her Settlement; And in default thereof, the Town where such poor Person is legally settled shall pay all the expences attending the support and removal of such Person. ——

The Town Treasurer authorized to let out a Lot to the State ——

Voted that the Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized, and empowered, to lease out a suitable Lot of the Towns Land, lying South of the Town House, to the State, for the Term of Seven Years, the State paying as a Rent therefor at the rate of One Cent per Annum. It is to be understood however and a Proviso is directed to be inserted in the Lease, that the Town shall have full liberty to repossess themselves of said Lot at any time within said Term, on procuring another Lot, and causing said Gun House to be removed at the Towns expence.

Night Watch established —

Voted that a Night Watch to Consist of Six Persons be established in this Town for the ensuing Winter. Said Watch to commence on the first of December Next and to Continue until the first of April next. The appointment direction and Government of said Watch, to be under the Town Council the same as last year. ——

Voted and Resolved, That a Tax for the raising the Sum of Six Thousand Dollars be levied and assessed upon all the rateable Property of the inhabitants and others owning such property in this Town, and that said Tax be assessed on or before the fifteenth Day of December next and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the fifteenth Day of January next; And that the Collector cause Advertisements to be inserted in all the News Papers printed in this Town for Three Weeks successively, requesting all persons who may be assessed for said Tax to call at his Office and pay the same, for which purpose his Office shall be kept open from Nine o'Clock A.M. until Twelve, and from Two to five o'Clock P.M. (Sundays only excepted) for Ten Days previous to the said fifteenth Day of January next, excepting however the Tenth and last day when his said Office shall be open from two P.M. to 9 o'Clock in the evening; And that the Collector pay all Monies he may receive by that time towards said Tax into the Town Treasury, and the Collector is directed to deduct from his her or their Tax Three per Cent for payment so made, and that he be allowed Five per Cent for the trouble he may be at in collecting said Tax, and that he allow out of his Fees aforesaid Three per Cent to all persons whatever who shall pay him the Amount of their Tax by the said fifteenth day of January next, those who may be then delinquent shall pay Interest after for which the Collector shall be accountable to the Town. —— And it is further Voted and Resolved, that in the State Tax ordered to be Assessed, that the Collector be allowed as a compensation for collecting the same

at and after the rate as in the Town Tax, and under the same regulations —— And it is also Voted that Jesse Whitmore be, and he is hereby appointed Collector to collect said Town and State Tax. —

Burying Ground North end of the Town to be fenced in. —

Whereas it is highly necessary and becoming that the Burying Ground at the North end of the Town should be fenced in — Resolved therefore that a Committee to consist of the following Persons, to wit Seth Wheaton, Williams Thayer and Samuel Thurber Junr. be and they are hereby appointed accordingly for the purpose of Fencing in said Burying Ground; And that said Committee be and they are hereby authorized to expend the Sum of Three hundred Dollars for that purpose.

Committee appointed to Wait on Ebenr Thompson Esqr. ..

Whereas the New Street Sometime ago laid out from the Great Bridge Northward, by the Water, has been nearly filled out, and might be very advantageous to the publick if compleated —— Voted that John Brown, David Howell and Moses Lippitt be a Committee to wait on Ebenezer Thompson Esquire the proprietor of Land adjoining said Street Eastward, who has neglected to fill out said Street against his Land, and remonstrate with him on this Subject, and to express to him the earnest request of this Town that he would no longer delay to afford the Publick the use of this Street by filling out the same against his Land. ——

The Committee appointed in August last, for the purpose of ascertaining the duties of the Clerk of the Market have made their Report to this Meeting, in Writing and as follows, to wit, ——

The Committee appointed at the Town Meeting held on the 31st of August 1792 for the purpose of ascertaining the duties of the Clerk of the Market and what Compensation ~~and by whom to be paid~~ he shall be entitled to for his services Respectfully Report. —

That we find most of the duties incumbent on the Clerk to be ascertained and described in a Resolution passed by the Town on the 4th of June 1792, and in the bye Laws for regulating the Market enacted the Ninth day of September 1795. In addition to which recommend to the Town to pass the following Resolutions Viz. ——

Resolved that in addition to the duties enjoined on the Clerk of the Market in a Resolution passed on the 4th of June 1792 and in the bye Laws passed on the Ninth day of September 1795 he shall have a particular Superintendance of that part of the House, Wharf and Parade occupied as the Market, to preserve order and decorum in the same, to provide Scales and Weights sufficient for the Market, and frequently to examine the same, and have them properly adjusted agreeably to the Standard Weights. He shall use such discretion to have the House, and Market Stands around the same kept clean as will best effect that purpose. He shall prevent the Horses

and Wharf from being unnecessarily encumbered with Lumber or any other Articles which may obstruct the proper use of the same — He shall prevent the Stalls which are reserved for the use of the Country People from being taken up or occupied by Country Butchers or Hucksters, who frequent the Market, to the exclusion of those who sell their own Produce and he shall inform the Butchers at the time of Leasing the Stalls that there is no right conveyed to them of making use of the Market as a House to store barrels of salted Provisions, but only in such quantities as may be necessary for the daily consumption — And for the performance of the duties of his Office the Clerk shall attend at the Market House at least twice in each day. —

And it is further Voted and Resolved, that the Clerk of the Market be impowered and directed to lease out the Stalls and Stands in the Market House and to collect and receive the Money and pay the same into the Town Treasury; and he shall exhibit his Accounts annually to the Audit for Settlement, and in case he shall neglect or refuse to exhibit his Accounts, or to pay the Money he may have received, it shall be the duty of the Audit to give information of such neglect or refusal to the Town-Council who are hereby impowered to dismiss the said Clerk from his Office and to appoint another for the remainder of the Year, and the Town Treasurer shall bring an Action against the delinquent Clerk for the recovery of the Money which may be in his Hands

and in case of the inattention of the Clerk to his duty or of his neglect to perform the same it shall at all times be in the Power of the Town-Council or of a Town Meeting to remove him, and to appoint one to perform the duty, for the remainder of the Year, for which the former Clerk was appointed — And it is further Voted, that so much of the Resolution of June 4th 1792 as empowers the Clerk to lease out the Chambers and Cellar of the Market House, and that part of the Resolution passed at the June Meeting 1802 which authorizes the Town Treasurer to lease the Stalls and Market Stands, be and the same are hereby repealed

And it is further Voted that instead of the former allowance to the Clerk for his Services there shall be annually allowed and paid to him out of the Town Treasury the Sum of One hundred Dollars

All which is submitted by

John Howland
Samel Butler Jur. } Committee

And the above and foregoing Report having been Read It is Voted that the same be and hereby is Received and that the Resolutions therein contained be and the same are hereby adopted and established. —

Voted that so much of the Vote passed at the Annual Town-Meeting in June last directing the Town Treasurer to let out the Chambers in the Market House

Auction be and the same is hereby repealed, and that he be authorized to let out said Chambers until the expiration of the Year in June next in his own way. —

Voted that Jesse Whitmore Collector of the Town Tax ordered in August 1801 be and he is hereby discharged from being accountable for any Interest arising on said Tax previous to the first day of January 1802, as it is represented that he did not charge Interest on said Tax until that time, —

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, legally warned and assembled at the Town House in said Town on the twentieth day of April 1803.

Richard Jackson Junior Moderator

This being the day by law appointed for proceeding for General Officers, and also the day for choosing Representatives from this Town to the Honourable General Assembly for the ensuing six months the following Gentlemen are duly elected to represent this Town in said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next. Namely.

John Dorrance Esquire	1st
Ephraim Bowen Junior Esq.	2d
John Carlile Esq.	3d
George R. Burrill Esq.	4th

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting assembled on the 20th. April 1803. —

The petition of Jeremiah Olney of Providence aforesaid, respectfully sheweth that your petitioner is in possession of a living Spring of good Water - Situate in the northerly part of said Town, about half a mile East of the main Street - that he has it in contemplation to convey said Water, at his own expence, through logs under ground into such parts of the Town as he may from time to time find expedient for the purpose of accomodating, with good and wholesome Water, such of the inhabitants as shall incline to purchase Rights.

Now therefore your Petitioner respectfully requests the said Freemen to take the matter into their consideration and pass a Vote or Votes lawfully empowering and authorizing your Petitioner his heirs or assigns and such persons as shall be concerned in said Water works, to open the ground in any part of the publick Streets, Lanes or Highways in said Town as he or they may from time to time find expedient for the purpose of laying the main logs and cross tubes and repairing the same as necessity may require the said Olney &c. being held at all times, to repair and make good the damages said Streets lanes or highways may sustain in consequence of such laying or repairing said logs or tubes. —

And your Petitioner is disposed to grant the Town should it prove acceptable the privelege of drawing Water in case of Fire from the main logs - without paying any price for the Water so drawn - to be under such regulations as shall be agreed upon between the Town and your Petitioner

as in duty bound will ever pray

Jere.h Olny.

The Freemen of the Town of Providence taking into their consideration the Prayer of the foregoing Petition - and being desirous to promote and encourage by all legal means an undertaking that may prove of great publick utility, as well as accomodating to a considerable part of the citizens of the town. —

Do therefore Vote that said Jeremiah Olny his Heirs or Assigns and such persons as may purchase one or more rights in said Water Works, be and they hereby are lawfully empowered and authorized to open the ground in any part of the publick Streets - Lanes or highways, in said Town, as he or they may from time to time find expedient for the purpose of laying and repairing the main logs and cross tubes for conveying Water as aforesaid into the town ✹ —

It is hereby further Voted that the town do accept of the privilege offered by said Jeremiah Olney of drawing water from the main logs in case of fire, upon the terms and conditions following that is to say, the Town agrees to fix, at their own expense, at convenient places in the main logs one or more conductors or pipes, for drawing Water therefrom in Cases of Fire without paying the said Olny &c. any price therefor - and the town stands held to receive such conductors or pipes, so placed, in such manner that Water cannot be drawn therefrom unless by the directions of one or more

✹ It is hereby further Voted that the said Olny &c after opening the ground in any of the Publick Streets Lanes or highways for the purpose aforesaid - shall be held at all times to put the same in good repair, as soon thereafter as may be - under the penalty of being presented for a nuisance

of the Presidents or Firewards, for the purpose aforesaid - or by the directions of said Olny - his heirs or assigns for the purpose of laying or repairing said main logs or cross tubes as necessity may require. —

And it is hereby further Voted that the Town Council of this Town be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of superintending the placing and keeping in good repair such number of Conductors or Pipes aforesaid as shall from time to time be mutually agreed upon by the said Committee, and said Olney his heirs or Assigns

And it is hereby further Voted that said Committee be authorized and empowered to draw upon the Town Treasurer from time to time, for the amount of the expences that may accrue in placing and repairing said Conductors or Pipes. —

Whereas the Honourable General Assembly at their Session holden at Newport in June 1802. passed an Act in the Words following to wit

" Upon the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the expediency and probable expense of erecting Sheds for four pair of Field pieces belonging to the State, It is Voted and Resolved, That a sum, not exceeding four hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated for the purpose of erecting said Sheds, to wit; one in each of the Towns of Newport, Providence, Warwick and Bristol: And that Capt. [illegible] Perry, Col. Carlile, Capt. Benjamin Greene [illegible]

and Col. Samuel Wardwell, be a Committee for the purpose of erecting said buildings, and that each of them have an Order for one hundred dollars of the said Sum, on the General-Treasurer, for the purpose of building said Sheds. Provided, that the several Towns in which said buildings shall be erected, shall furnish and lease to the State, rent free, the land on which said building shall be erected, during the time they shall be occupied as aforesaid: And provided also that the expense of each of the buildings aforesaid shall not exceed the Sum of one hundred dollars".

Voted and Resolved that the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations shall and may have hold and enjoy a certain piece of Land situate in this Town bounded and described as follows, viz, beginning at the South & East Corner thereof adjoining Land of Capt. Samuel Allen thence extending westerly bounding southerly on said Allens Land Fifty feet- thence Northerly Thirty feet- thence Easterly Fifty feet to Benefit-Street- thence southward Thirty feet bounding Easterly on said Benefit-Street until it comes to the first mentioned bound- being the south easterly part of the Walker-Lot (so called) so long as the said State shall occupy or cause or suffer to be occupied the same for the purpose of erecting or continuing Sheds for one pair of field pieces belonging to the State and that the Treasurer of this Town, for the time being be and he is hereby authorized empowered and directed at any and all times hereafter to make any reasonable and further asurances for the purpose of Securing the Premises to the said State for the purpose and

term aforesaid —

And it is further Voted and Resolved, that if at any time hereafter the Freemen of said Town in Town-Meeting legally assembled shall think fit to take the Premises into their Possession the Town-Council of said Town shall provide another piece of Land for the purposes aforesaid and shall cause the Shed if any then erected or continued on the premises for the purpose aforesaid to be removed and placed on the said other Piece of Land in like good order and position as the same was placed, before it was removed and at the proper charge and expense of the said Town. —

Voted that Samuel Thurber Junior, Grindall Reynolds, John Howland Wheeler Martin and Nathan Fisher be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to make enquiry whether any better and cheaper mode, can be devised for maintaining and supporting the Poor of this Town, than the one now in practise; And that said Committee make report to the next Town-Meeting, in writing. ———

Voted that the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby directed to subscribe in behalf of this town for Seventy five Copies of a Plat thereof made by Daniel Anthony. —

Voted that the Committee to prevent encroachments on the Streets highways and lanes in this Town be

to make enquiry respecting the Wharf lately belonging to Mr. Terence Reely, and ascertain whether said Wharf be an encroachment on the Waters of this Town, or not, and if it be found an encroachment, said Committee to ascertain accurately how much, and report the same to the next Town-Meeting. ———

Voted and Resolved, That a Tax of Fifteen Thousand Dollars be levied and assessed upon the rateable property of the inhabitants and others owning such Property in this Town, and that said Tax be assessed on or before the twentieth day of May next, and collected and paid into the Town-Treasury on or before the tenth day of July next; and that the Collector cause Advertizements to be inserted in all the News-Papers printed in this Town for three Weeks successively requesting all persons who may be assessed for said Tax, to call at his Office and pay the same. for which purpose his Office shall be kept open from Eight o'Clock A.M. until Eleven, and from 3 o'Clock P.M to seven (Sundays only excepted) for Ten days previous to the said Tenth day of July next; And that the Collector pay all monies he may receive by that time towards said Tax into the Town-Treasury— And the Collector is hereby directed to deduct from his her or their Tax Three per Cent for Payment so made; and that he be allowed four and one half per cent for the trouble he may be at in collecting said Tax; and that he allow out of his Fees aforesaid

three Percent to all persons who shall pay him the amount of their Tax by the said tenth day of July next— those who shall then be delinquent, and who have neglected to pay their Tax by that time shall pay interest afterwards, for which the Collector shall be accountable to the Town— And it is further Voted that Jesse Whitmore be appointed Collector of said Tax

And it is further Voted that the Town-Treasurer appropriate so much of said Tax when by him received as will pay one fifth part of the Towns debts due upon Notes And that he pay and take up all Town Notes which does not exceed Ten dollars in Amount; And that the remainder of the Tax be appropriated in defraying the current expenses of the Town. ———

Fire Engine

Voted that Moses Brown, Joseph Jenckes, John Carlile, Ephraim Bowen Junior and Caleb Ormsbee be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to inspect into the Engine made by John Eveleth of this Town, and ascertain the lowest price it may be purchased for, and whether it be expedient for the town to purchase the same; And that said Committee or any three thereof make their report in Writing to the next Town-Meeting. ———

Voted that the Chain and Pole belonging to the Town, as also the small Manuscript Books containing the bounds of the Streets be removed from the Office of the Town Treasurer and for the future, be deposited in the Town-Clerks Office; And that

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the Town Clerk take receipts from those who apply for the use of them. ——

Voted that the Representatives from this Town to the Legislature of the State be requested to use their endeavors to have the Law respecting the measuring of Charcoal so altered and amended as to be similar to the Law of Massachusetts respecting it, And that the Town Clerk furnish the said Representatives with a Copy of this Resolution.

Voted that Col William Peck be and he is hereby appointed an Auctioneer for this Town until the Anniversary for the chusing of Town Officers in June Next.

The following Persons having been heretofore Propounded to become Freemen are Voted in and admitted free. Namely

Robert S. Burrough
Nicholas Cushing
Richard Olney
Henry P Franklin
Nathaniel G. Olney
James B. Mason

Whereas the name of Olney Dyer stands entered as propounded under the proceedings of the June Meeting 1802 And it being thought that the name of Charles Dyer, was meant at the time instead thereof. the said Charles Dyer is therefore Voted in and admitted free.

Deeds to the following Persons of real Estates having been produced at this Meeting - they are propounded to become Freemen. to wit,

Thomas Snow.
Colvill Dana
John Gladding
Simeon Wheeler
Elijah Williams
Jason Williams
John Flagg Esq.

The Names of the following Persons to wit, Samuel Allen and Ebenezer K. Dexter, are drawn at this Meeting - Said Persons to serve as Petit Jurors at the District Court to be holden in this Town on the tenth Day of May next at ten o'Clock A. M. ——

The Proxes put in at this Meeting for General Officers are in number two hundred and fifty seven of which these are for his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esquire, as Governor. One hundred and twenty two. ——

Meeting Dissolved

At a Town-Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town-House in said Town on the Sixth day of June A. D. 1803

David Leonard Barnes Esq.
Moderator.

This being the Anniversary for the election of Town-Officers for the year ensuing, the following Persons are chosen to the Offices affixed to their respective Names viz.

Town Clerk — Nathan W. Jackson. Engaged

Town Council — John Dorrance, Abner Daggett, Benjamin Hoppins, Joseph Jenckes & Jabez Bullock.

Town Serjeant — Henry Bowen

Town-Treasurer — Samuel Nightingale

Town Audit. — John Mumford, Richard Jackson, Junr. & John Howland,

Constables — Jesse Whitmore, Alpheus Billings, William Burn, Melzar Packard, Jonathan French, John Lasel, George Bradford, Henry Alexander, Samuel Gorham, George Gordon, William Givens, William Field 2d. Nathan Waterman and Nicholas Brown.

Gershom Jones

Assessors of Rates and overseers of the Poor: — William Richmond, William Barnes and John Spurr

Surveyors of Spout, Spars, Timber and boarded Wood. — Simeon Ingraham, Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, Walker Harding, Elijah Ormsbee, Melzar Packard, James Snow Junr., Samuel Carlile, Demas Bishop, David Atwood, Samuel Kempton John Carpenter, James Ormsbee, Job Danforth, Caleb Earle, and Christopher Arnold and Richard Godfrey with regard to Spars.

Surveyors of Ship Timber — Benjamin Tallman & Richard Anthony.

Surveyors of High Ways — Nathan Angell Junior, Thomas Sessions, Calvin Dean, Job Danforth Calvin Walker, Eleazer Whipple.

Surveyors of Hoops — Samuel Weeden, Henry Randall, David Arnold, Ephraim Clements, Ichabod Brown, Esek Eddy 2d

Guagers of Casks — Samuel Jackson, Esek Eddy, James Weeden, Samuel Weeden, John R. Balch, Cyrus Eddy and John T. Sheldon.

Collector of Taxes — Jesse Whitmore.

Clerk of the Market — Job Danforth.

Packers of Beef Pork and Fish — William Billings, Samuel Jackson, Ephraim Clements, John L. Munro, John Eatherforth Arthur Turner, Charles Lyon, Samuel Eatherforth, Esek Eddy 2d Henry Randal, James Weeden, William Paul and Ichabod Brown.

June 6th A. D. 1803

Corders of Fire Wood

John Viol, John Pettey, John Lasell, Seth Davis, Nathan Arnold, Robert Sutton, Henry Alexander, James Weeden and Obadiah Mason.

Overseers of the Hospitals

The Town Council

Pound Keepers

Charles Holden and John Miller.

To Value Estates when disputed in Votes

Jabez Bowen, John Brown and John Mason.

Fence Viewers

Nathan Fisher, Christopher Arnold, Caleb Williams and Marvin Morris

Presidents of the Fire Wards

John Brown, Jabez Bowen, Samuel Butler, John Innes Clark, Jeremiah Olney and Benjamin Hoppin.

Fire Wards

Amos M. Atwell, Henry Smith, John Mumford, John Dorrance, Joseph Peck, Ephraim Bowen, Junr. Charles Lippitt, John Carlile, Moses Lippitt, Seth Wheaton, James Tenner, David L. Barnes, Richard Jackson Junr. John Lippitt, Elisha Dyer, Nicholas Brown, Silvanus Martin, John Mumford, William Potter, Caleb Williams and Jonathan W. Coy.

Fire Engine Company No 1.

Isaac Bullard, Nathan Angell, Junr. Stephen Harris, George Jackson, Nathaniel Smith, William Potter Junr. Nehemiah Dodge, James Arnold West Pope, Comfort Carrol, Joshua Potter, Isaac Brownell, Asa Handy, Joseph S. Martin.

Fire Engine

James Burr, Ezekiel Burr, Samuel Staples, Philip Martin, Nathan Fisher, Israel Amsbury, James Thurber, Nehemiah Beckford, Henry Buffell, Thomas Abbott, Richard Salisbury, Isaac Congdon, Cornwell Peck and William B. Martin.

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Fire Engine Company No 3.

Ward Coving, Benjamin Aborn, Joseph Anthony, Barnard Eddy, William Taylor, Peter Grinnell, Amasa Mason, Richard Anthony, Jonathan W. Coy, Nicholas D. Greene, Samuel Jackson, William Paul, Charles Low and Thomas Brown

Fire Engine Company No 4.

Israel Davis, George Earle, John F. Sheldon, Elijah Comibee, James Pitcher Benjamin Clifford, Benjamin C. Gorton, Peleg Peckham, Charles Sheldon, Oliver Earle, Young Seamans, William Church, Samuel Carlile and Russell Doggett.

Fire Engine Co No. 5.

David Atwood, Othniel Tripp, Isaac Manchester, James Pettey, Hezekiah Smith, Enos Angell, John F. Greene, William Peabody Robert Durfey, Isaac Butts, Abner Metcalf, Wheaton Allen, John J. Smith and Peleg Williams

To direct where Goods shall be removed in cases of Fire.

Thomas Arnold, William Allen, Nathan Waterman, William Rhodes, Amos Atwell, Samuel Bishop, William Larned, William Richmond, John Howland, Silvanus Martin, Joseph Peck and Samuel Butler Junr.

Persons to remove or pull down houses in case of fire.

Walker Harding, Joseph Baker, Caleb Earle, Benjamin Tallman, Junr. Nathaniel Cooke, Duty Roberts, John Newman, Jotham Ham, Elias Barton, Zachariah Carpenter, Sanford Branch, Josiah Taylor Edward Knowles, Junr. Isaac Congon, George Eddy, Job Rudding, Thomas Taber, Darius Allen, William Eddy, Junr. Joseph Eddy, Junr. Benajah C. Warner, Oliver Arnold, Benjamin Ham, Joseph Howard, Wheaton Bragg, Asa Olney, Jonathan E. Simmons, William Field, Nicholas Irons and Olney Dyer.

Field Drivers

Reuben Waterman, Michael Metcalf, George Gordon, John Tarp, Daniel Jeffs, Uriah Hopkins, Calvin Walker, Jonathan Fenner, Nathan Salisbury and Calvin Dean.

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Sealer of Leather

Calvin Dean

Scavengers

Isaac Peck, William Snow, Henry Alexander, Thomas Arnold, Joshua Lindley Seth Wheaton and John Beazely.

Overseers of the Work House

The Overseers of the Poor.

Town Criers

Nathaniel Fuller, John Beazely and William P. Gerrish

Committee to prevent encroachments on Streets, Highways & Lanes

Samuel Bishop, Samuel Butler, Junr. Jeremiah B. Howell, Grindall Reynolds, Paris J. Tillinghast and Jeremiah Olney,

Inspectors of Pot & Pearl Ashes

Samuel Jackson and Samuel Weeden

Measurers of Carpenters Masons and Painters work

Joshua Lindley, Caleb Ormsbee, John Smith, Walker Harding, Edward Mason, Abel Allen, George Clarke and Darius Allen

Inspectors of Lime.

Zephaniah Andrews, Amos Barton, and Cyrus Cole

Overseer of the Publick Bridges,

Caleb Ormsbee

Advising Committee in repair of Bridges

John Smith, John Mason, John Dorrance and Robert Newell,

School Committee

Stephen Gano, Asa Messer, Isaac Bowen, Moses Brown, William Jones, David L. Barnes, John Carlile, John Howland, Amos M. Atwell, Joel Metcalf, William Richmond, Nathaniel B. Crocker, George A. Burrill, and Tristam Burgess.

John Mathewson, Thomas Jackson, Moses Lippitt, John Spurr, William Olney, James Bush, and Charles Lippitt.

Auctioneers

Auctioneers to Bond

Road near Steven's Bridge to be repaired

Pump in Broad Street to be kept in repair.

Town Council & Special meetings to be paid

Additional Assessors of Taxes appointed

Overseers of the poor to be allowed

June 6th. A. D. 1803.

Benjamin Hoppin, William Peck, Robert Taylor and Joseph Lawrence.

Voted and Resolved that the Auctioneers for this Town give Bond in the Sum of Two Thousand Dollars, each as is provided by the Law of the State, to the Town Treasurer, and also to the Town Council in the Sum of five hundred Dollars agreeably to the Vote of the Town in June 1802.

Voted, that the Town-Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to contract with some Suitable Person to repair the Wall on the side of the Road near Steven's Bridge on such terms and in such manner as he may think most expedient.

Voted that Joseph Potter be and he is hereby appointed to keep in Suitable repair the Pumps belonging to the Town on the West side of the River in Broad Street.

Voted that the Members of the Town Council be allowed One dollar per day for every special meeting they may respectively attend on the Town's Business — and Fifty Cents for every half day.

Voted that Samuel Butler, Junior, Zephaniah Brown, Young Seamans, Thomas P. Ives, Stephen Randall and Nathan Fisher be and they are hereby appointed Assessors of Taxes in addition to those already appointed.

Voted that the overseers of the Poor, also appointed Assessors of Taxes, receive the same perquisites on the Amount of Taxes that may be assessed the ensuing Year and be paid for their services in the same manner as in the Year preceding.

June 6th. A. D. 1803.

Whereas the Committee heretofore appointed to make enquiry whether any better mode can be devised for the maintenance of the Poor of this Town than the one in practice have made the following Report, to wit,

The Committee appointed at the Town-Meeting held on the 20th of April last to make enquiry on the Subject of the maintenance of the Poor

Respectfully Report

That we have attended to the business assigned us under the full impression of the importance of the subject, both as it respects the interests of the Town, and the comfort and protection which it is the duty of the community to afford to those, who are reduced to the necessity of depending on the publick for support — Among other sources of information we have examined the accounts of the overseers and have ascertained the number and circumstances of those who are wholly dependent on the Town, together with the probable number and condition of such as are occasionally assisted, and on a view of the whole business we cannot recommend any System essentially different from that which has been in Practice for several years past, until the Town shall Judge itself able to erect an Alms House sufficiently spacious and convenient to accomodate the Poor — The increasing population of the Town together with the more rapid increase of the helpless and destitute, will soon render such

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an Asylum necessary and indispensable — In older countries they have Alms Houses and Hospitals for the Poor, the Sick and the decrepid, and Houses of Labour for the idle and intemperate. Experience and necessity have pointed to such establishments as the best for those who are liable to become tenants of them, as well as to relieve the publick from a more expensive and uncertain mode of Support — And as the time is not far distant when this Town must provide suitable Buildings for these purposes, your Committee recommend to the Town not to delay the purchase of a Suitable piece of ground at a proper distance from the compact part of the Town to contain not less than four Acres for the purpose of erecting thereon an Alms-House for the Poor, and an House of Labour for Idle, intemperate, and disorderly persons. —

As to the great increase of the expence of supporting the poor which is so frequently spoken of, your Committee cannot satisfy themselves from any documents to be relied on, of what was the actual expence a number of years ago, but the accounts and proceedings of the overseers are now reduced to such method as to ascertain the expence from Year to year together with the particular purpose and application of each draught on the Treasurier, and we have the satisfaction to assure the Town that we do not find that any improper use has been made of the Power and the discretion, which has been vested in the overseers —

The number of Persons wholly dependant on the Town for support, and who are boarded by the Week, at this time amount to forty one, of these twenty six are Children — The average cost of the Board of the adults amounts to one dollar per head

the average Cost of the Childrens Board is Sixty Cents, and the average Board of the whole is eighty four Cents — many of them are boarded in the Country at a cheaper rate than their board could be obtained in Town, and others are boarded in Town among their friends at a cheaper rate than it [illegible] and when we consider that among this number of destitute and afflicted beings, one is totally blind, some are Ideots, and others are in a state of insanity and distraction, we cannot think the publick money improperly applied in the prices given for their board — Besides those who are regularly boarded out, a great number of Persons receive occasional supplies as their circumstances and the season of the year may require, and from this Class of the poor the greatest part of the annual expence arises, and this part of the duty requires the greatest attention and best judgment of the overseers — A further considerable expence arises from vagrant and unsettled persons falling into this town from the neighboring Country and from other States. To discover a place of settlement for such Persons, and their removal, embarrassed as we are by the construction of the Laws of this and of the other States respecting Paupers produces expence to the Town which seems not to belong to sums estimated for the support of the poor, but which have generally been connected with the accounts of the Overseers, and when we add to these the expence of the Work-House and the Bridewell, we find the actual expences to the Town for the year past to amount to the Sum of Three Thousand six

hund

hundred and Sixty Dollars after deducting several Sums the repayment of which is claimed by the overseers. —

Providence June 6 1803

Saml. Thurber Junr
John Howland
Wheeler Martin
Nathan Fisher
Grindall Reynolds

And the said report having been read it is Voted that the same be and it is hereby received. —

This Meeting taking into consideration the recommendation in the report of the Committee on the maintenance of the poor respecting the purchase of Land Do Vote and resolve That Samuel Thurber Junr. John Howland, Wheeler Martin Nathan Fisher and Grindall Reynolds be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to purchase a suitable piece of Ground, not more than ten acres nor less than four, without the compact part of this Town as mentioned in said report

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Voted that so much of the Wharf called Bailys Wharf in this Town be taken away two feet below the level of low Water mark so that the head of said Wharf shall range on a line from the Westermost Abutment of Weybosett Bridge to the head of the Long Wharf, and that after said Wharf [illegible]

taken away, that a head be built up to the remaining part thereof and the same well secured and that Messrs Calvin Dean - John F. Greene William Richmond Nicholas Brown Junr. and Salmon Arnold be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of causing said Wharf to be taken away as aforesaid - And that said Committee wait on his Excellency Governor Fenner and acquaint him that if he will cause so much of said Wharf to be removed until it range on a line as aforesaid, and shall cause a head to be built to the remaining part thereof and the same to be well secured that he shall be compensated therefor by taking to his own use and benefit the materials composing that part of the said Wharf he shall so remove - And in case the Governor will not consent to take away said Wharf upon such terms and during the month of June instant that then and in that case the said Committee be and they are hereby empowered to contract with Pardon Mason or such other Person or Persons as they may think fit for the removal of said Wharf as aforesaid on the same terms as directed to be offered to Governor Fenner - And furthermore that this Town will indemnify and hold harmless the said Pardon Mason or any other person or persons who may be thus employed from all actions or causes of ~~action~~ action for carrying the aforesaid resolution into effect

Voted that Messrs William Allen, Thomas P. Ives, James Burrill Junr. John Whipple William Larned Henry Smith and Wheeler Martin be and they hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of making choice of a suitable Person to deliver an Oration on the fourth day of July next in commemoration of the anniversary of American Independence.

Deeds to the following Persons of real Estate being produced to this Meeting they are Propounded to become Freemen to wit ——— Theodora A. Foster
Job Carpenter
Benjamin Wheaton

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the Town House on the 30th Day of August A.D. 1803. —

David Leonard Barnes Esq. Moderator

The following persons having been heretofore propounded to become Freemen are now Voted in and admitted Free. Viz.

Thomas Snow,
Colvill Dana,
John Gladding,
Simeon Wheeler,
Elijah Williams,
Jason Williams,
John Flagg Fry.—

Deeds to the following persons of Real Estate having been produced at this Meeting, they are propounded to become Freemen — Viz.

Jonathan Russell
Liscomb Fuller.

This being the Day by Law appointed for the choice of Representatives to Represent this Town in the Honourable General Assembly of this State for the ensuing Six Months; — The following Gentlemen are duly elected to Represent this Town in said Assembly at their Session to be holden on the last Monday in October next, and in all future Sessions of said Assembly until the first Wednesday in may next. Viz.

John Dorance Esq.r 1st
William Larned Esq.r 2nd
Benjamin Hoppin Esq.r 3rd
George R. Burrill Esq.r 4th

A Schedule or Statement of the Expences of the Town is exhibited by the Town Treasurer and the same is read at this Meeting and accepted.—

This Meeting taking into Consideration the propriety of paving the Sand Hill on the West side of the River in this Town; — Do Vote and Resolve that John Spur, John Carlile, Thomas S. Webb, John Howland and William Rhodes be and they hereby are Appointed a Committee for the purpose of Judging how far it would be proper to extend the Pavement from the present termination thereof in Broad & Westminster Streets westward into high Street and the probable expence of Completing the same; — and that said Committee make report to this Meeting on the 12th Day of September next.—

A petition from Stephen Randall relative to the new Street laid out by him at the North end of the Town is read at this Meeting; — Resolved thereupon that the said Petition be and the same is hereby dismissed and that he have Liberty to withdraw the same. —

Voted that John Smith be paid Twelve Dollars out of the Town Treasury, being the Amount of his Acc.t for Services as one of the Town Audit the year past.—

Voted that Rich.d Jackson Junr. be paid Twelve Dollars out of the Town Treasury, being the Amt. of his Acc.t for Services as one of the Town Audit the Year past.

Voted that Robert Tillinghast be, and he is hereby appointed an Inspector of Provisions in addition to those heretofore appointed in June last.—

The Committee appointed on the Sixth Day of June last for the purpose of Causing the Head of Reiley's Wharf so called to be taken away, have made Report to this Meeting in the words following, to wit.—

The Committee appointed on the Sixth Day of June last to wait on his Excellency Arthur Fenner Esq.r respecting demolishing a part of Reiley's Wharf &c. Respectfully Report.—

That on the 8.th day of June your Committee waited on his Excellency Governor Fenner with a Copy of the Vote of the Town above Mentioned— that his Excellency utterly declined taking away said Wharf— Said that he was entituled to said Estate in remainder— that if the Town was of Opinion that the Public property was trespassed on an Indictment ought to be preferred— that the proceeding ordered in said Vote of the Town would be subversive of the Good and Wholsome Laws of the State— And that he should prosecute any person who might enter on said Wharf and remove any part of the Materials thereto belonging.—

After receiving the above Answer from his Excellency, your Committee furnished Mr. Pardon Mason with a Copy of the Vote above mentioned, when said Mason proceeded to remove the Materials of said Wharf, when as your Committee has been informed Mr. Mason and the Men by him employed were Served with a process issued at the Suit of Arthur Fenner Esq.r in an Action of Trespass & Ejectment when after obtaining Bail to the Satisfaction of the Officer they proceeded in the work but was Stopped by the Sheriff with a writ of Estrepment under the Hand and Seal of the Honorable Peleg Arnold Esq.r Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

All which is Submitted by,

Calvin Dean
Wm. Richmond
Salmon Arnold
John F. Greene.

Providence August 30.th 1803.

And said Report being read is accepted, and it is thereupon Voted that the Town Council of this Town be and they are hereby requested & authorized to employ such Counsel as they may judge proper to defend the said Pardon Mason against the said Suit Commenced against him by Governor Fenner relative to said Wharf and to take such other Steps relating to the removal thereof as they may deem adviable.—

Resolved that this Meeting be and the same is hereby adjourned to 2 O.Clock P. M. on the 12.th Day of September next; And that the Clerk insert in the Warrant for warning said Meeting that it will be a part of the Business of said Meeting to take into Consideration respecting the filling up Water Street running Northerly from the great Bridge by Ebenezer Thompsons.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence, Assembled at the Town-house by Adjournment on the Twelfth Day of September A.D. 1803.

The Honble. David L. Barnes Esqr. Moderator.

Deeds & the following persons of Real Estate having been produced at this Meeting, they are propounded to become Freemen — Viz. —

Thomas Briggs
Avery Briggs
Henry Mathewson
Zebadiah Lothrop
Caleb Baker.

The following persons having been heretofore propounded to become Freemen are now Voted in and Admitted Free. — Viz.

Theodore A. Foster
Job Carpenter
Benjamin Wheaton

Whereas the Committee appointed on the 31st. day of August last to estimate the expense of paving the Island hill on the west side of the River have this day Made their Report as follows, to wit —

To the Moderator and Freemen in Town Meeting Assembled. —

The Committee appointed on the 30th. of August, to report how far it will be proper to extend the pavement into high Street, and also the probable expence thereof. —

Respectfully represent That having attended to the purpose of our appointment examined and measured the Ground, and made such enquiries as were necessary as to the expense of Completing the same, we are of Opinion that the pavement ought to be extended from the present termination thereof in Broad Street and Westminster Street, to that part of High Street fronting the Center of Gideon Olney's House. — The distance from the present termination of the pavement near Bally's Corner to the Center of Gideon Olney's House, is eleven hundred feet, and from the present termination of the pavement in Westminster Street to Olney's is five hundred feet, that from the present termination of the Pavement in the two Streets to their junction the pavement ought to be laid Thirty-two feet wide, including the Gutters which ought to be turned on both Sides. — that at the junction of the two Streets the pavement should Spread to one hundred feet in Breadth. — from thence to narrow gradually till it shall be brought to forty feet in Width at the throat of High Street fifty feet east of Gideon Olneys House then to continue at the Width of forty-feet, the remaining fifty feet, to the Center of Olney's House. — The whole surface so described Contains five thousand Eight hundred thirty seven Square Yards. — We have not been able fully to satisfy ourselves of the Amount of the whole expence upon the plan of the Town's Contracting with different Persons for the Stones, the Team work or the Labour but Mr. Pardon Mason has delivered to us the terms on which he will Contract to prepare the Ground, furnish the Stones, and perform the Labour and work of every kind, and on the Terms of his Contract (which is two Shillings and four pence per Yard) the whole expence of the pavement will Amount to 2,270 Dollars

these terms are offered under the idea of laying the Pavement the next Summer and of having the time previous to that to procure the Stones.—

We have not obtained the terms on which any other person will Contract but judge that the expense is ascertained with Sufficient Accuracy to enable the Town to decide on the propriety of directing the pavement to be made.—

It is many persons are of Opinion that the Pavement ought to be extended as far Westward as Steward Street, for the information of the Town we have Measured this part of the Road and find it to Contain 1,333 Yards, and estimating the expense by Mason's proposals it will Amount to five hundred and Eighteen Dollars, which, added to the sum estimated for paving as far as Olney's, will make the Whole Amount to two thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty eight Dollars.

Submitted by

John Spurr
John Howland
Jn°. Carlile
Thomas S. Webb
Wm. Rhodes.

Committee.

And said Report having been Read and duly Considered— It is Voted that the same be and it is hereby Received.—

Voted that the Streets mentioned in the Report of the Committee this Day received be paved agreeably to said Report from the termination of the pavements in Westminster & Broad Streets up the Hill as far Westward as the Center of Gideon Olney's house.—

Voted that the following persons, to wit, Calvin Dean, Elisha Dyer and Caleb Williams be and they are hereby Appointed a Committee for the purpose of Contracting with Pardon Mason or any other person they may think advisable for the Carrying into effect the Vote of this Meeting for the paving of the Streets as far westward as the center of Gideon Olney's house on the West Side of the River agreeably to the Report of the Committee this Day.

Voted that Seth Wheaton Joseph S. Martin and Young Seaman be and they are hereby Appointed to superintend and direct the paving the Side walks, as it respects the height and breadth of the Same, and the placing posts and Trees in the Public Streets and Lanes of this Town and that they Continue in Office until the Annual meeting in June next.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and Assembled at the Town House, on the 16th Day of September A.D. 1803.

David L. Barnes, Esquire, Moderator.—

The business of this Meeting, as set forth in the warrant, was to take into Consideration relative to filling up Water Street, Northward of the Great Bridge, that part thereof against the Lots of Solomon and Sarah Drown and Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire, On Motion whether this Meeting will do any thing respecting said Street—it was determined in the Negative.—

Voted, that Nicholas Brown, Treasurer to the Corporation of Rhode Island College, be and he is hereby appointed to procure and fix a pump in the Well belonging to the College, for the use of said Building and the Town at large.—And that the expense thereof be paid out of the Town Treasury.—

A Deed to James Wilson having been produced at this Meeting, he is propounded to become a Freeman.—

The following persons, the Eldest Sons of Freemen are Voted in at this Meeting as Freemen.—

Viz. Silvanus G. Martin
John Coy
John Randall Carpenter
William Jones.—

Voted that John Jones be and he is hereby Elected One of the Members to Engine Company No 5 in the room of Obniel Tyler resigned

Voted, that full Authority be, and it is hereby given to any person or persons to Build a Bridge on the Town Street lying Westward of the Lots of Ebenezer Thompson, Esquire, and Solomon and Sarah Drown—provided they do it at their own expense, and keep the same in repair without any expense to the Town whatever.—

This Meeting is dissolved.—

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally warned and assembled at the Town House on the nineteenth Day of November, A. D. 1803—

David L. Barnes Esq. Moderator.—

Town Watch appointed.

Voted, That the Town Council of this Town be and they are hereby authorized to appoint and establish, as soon as may be, a Watch, consisting of six persons, to carefully watch the said Town, in the night time, till the first Day of April next, upon such terms, and in such manner, as the said Town Council shall from time to time direct.

Voted and Resolved, That a tax for raising the sum of Six thousand Dollars be levied and assessed upon all the rateable property of the inhabitants and others owning such property in this Town; and that said Tax be assessed on or before the fifteenth Day of December next, and collected and paid into the Town Treasury on or before the first Day of March next: And that the Collector advertize in all the newspapers printed in this Town, for three weeks successively requesting all persons who may be assessed for the said tax, to call at his office and pay the same, for which purpose his office shall be kept open from nine o'clock A. M. until twelve, and from two to five o'clock P. M. (Sundays excepted) for ten Days previous to the first Day of February next; excepting however the tenth and last Day, when his said office shall be open from two o'clock P. M. to nine o'clock in the evening. And the Collector is directed to deduct from his her or their tax three per cent for payment so made: And that the Collector be allowed five per cent for collecting said Tax, and that he allow

out of his fees therefor, three per cent, to all who shall pay him the amount of their said tax by the said first Day of February next; and that the Collector pay all monies he may receive by that time for the said tax into the Town Treasury. And those who shall be delinquent on the said first Day of March next shall pay interest after; for which the Collector shall be accountable to the Town.—

And it is further Voted, That, in the State tax last ordered, the Collector be allowed for the Collection thereof, a compensation at and after the same rate he is allowed for collecting the town tax.—

And it is further Voted, that Jesse Whitmore be and he is hereby appointed Collector of the said Town and State taxes.—

Resolved, That the Town Council be fully authorized and empowered, whenever hereafter they may think it necessary and expedient, between the first day of October and the first Day of April, to establish a Town Watch each night, for the security and preservation of the Inhabitants of the town, and their property, and that such Watch when so established shall act under the controul and direction of the Council, and shall have all the power and authority which it is competent for the Town to vest in a Town Watch.—

Resolved, That the Town Council be fully authorized to make and ordain such rules and regulations for the said Watch as they shall see necessary, and to agree with them for their compensation which shall be paid under the orders of the Council out of the Town Treasury.—

Resolved, That James Hammon be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to superintend, and to put and keep in repair the Pumps in Broad street, belonging to the Town, and that the expense thereof be defrayed out of the Town Treasury—

A Deed conveying real estate in this Town, to Cyrus Cleveland, being produced to this Town Meeting, the said Cyrus is propounded to be a Freeman—

This Meeting is dissolved.

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House in said Town on Wednesday the Eighteenth Day of April 1804.

Richard Jackson Junr. Moderator.

Representatives Chosen.—

This being the Day by Law appointed for Proceeding for General Officers, and also the Day for choosing Representatives from this Town to the Honourable General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations for the ensuing Six Months, the following Gentlemen are duly Elected to Represent this Town in the said General Assembly to be holden on the first Wednesday in May next, and in all Sessions of said Assembly until the last Monday in October next. Namely

John Dorrance	Esqr.	1st
William Barnes	Esqr.	2d
Benjamin Hoppin	Esqr.	3d
George R. Burrill	Esqr.	4th

April 18th. A. D. 1804.

Samuel Spywoods Petition

To the Freemen of the Town of Providence in Town Meeting Assembled the 18th. Day of April 1804.

The Petition of Samuel Spywood of said Providence Mariner Humbly Sheweth.

That an Order has been this day made by Jonathan W. Coy and Nicholas L. Greene Esquires, two of the Justices in said Town against him the said Samuel, for the support of a Bastard child and your Petitioner being unable to procure Surety to the satisfaction of the Overseers of the Poor, and seeing nothing before him but the horrors of a Prison, humbly Prays, that the Town will take his case into consideration, and direct the Overseers to take his Single Bond for the performance of the Order aforesaid he paying the Cost and lying in charges Or otherwise grant him such relief as to them shall appear proper And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

his
Samuel X Spywood
mark

Upon the aforegoing Petition of Samuel Spywood's it is Voted that the Overseers of the Poor be directed to examine into the case and grant him such relief as they may think prudent in behalf of the Town.

Pavements in the Church & Bank Lanes to be mended

Whereas it is Represented to this Meeting that the Pavements in the Church Lane and the Bank Lane have been broken up by the Waters undermining them it is therefore Voted that the Surveyors of the districts in which said Lanes are be directed to cause them to be put in suitable and proper repair immediately

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Admitted Free

The following, in the names of Persons heretofore propounded. Said Persons are now Voted in and admitted free. to wit. Cyrus Cleveland Jonathan Russell Luscomb Fuller Thomas Briggs, Avery Briggs, Henry Mathew Joh, Zebadiah Lothrop & Caleb Baker

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Proponnded

Deeds of real Estate to the following persons having been produced at this Meeting said Persons are propounded to become Freemen. viz. John Merry, Alexander Ruden, Samuel Merry, Benjamin Burr

April 18th A. D. 1804.

Prepounded

Holden Hill, John T. Jackson, Joseph Sanders, Charles Johnston, Lewis Ormsbee, George D. Pettingale, Jonathan Chace, Seth Hunt Junr, Mark Steer, Benjamin Thompson, Samuel Clarke, Daniel Keene, stated to be an Heir by descent.

Propounded Olney Pain. Benjamin Hathaway

The Proxies put in at this Meeting for General Officers are in number 447. of which 383 are for Arthur Fenner Esqr as Governor.

The Meeting is dissolved

At a Town Meeting of the Freemen of the Town of Providence legally Warned and Assembled at the Town House in the said Town of Providence on the Seaventh Day of May 1804

David Leonard Barnes Esqr Moderator.

Providence May 16 1804

The undersigned Committee of the Town of Providence appointed to agree and execute a Vote of the Town of the 12th Day of Sept. 1803. Respectfully Report That they have agreed with Mr Pardon Mason to execute the Pavement agreable to Report of the Town's Committee of the 31 of August 1803 at thirty Seven Cents p. Square Yard; and further Report that in our Opinion it is necessary for the interest of the Town, that the Pavement should be laid at the Junction of Westminster and High Streets, One hundred and Fifteen feet Wide, and Westward gradually narrowing till it comes to the Corner of the Red Shop (now occupied by Obniel Tripp & formerly Brownells Saddlers Shop, which is the South of high Street, and from thence Seventy feet Westward to the

May 16th A. D. 1804

center of Gideon Olneys House, which Seventy feet will be forty feet Wide agreeab. to the former Report. And further Report that the Street called High Street east of the Junction at the Hay Scales is Eighty six feet Wide, and ought to be paved Fifty six feet Wide leaving fifteen feet on each Side of said Pavement for the Inhabitants to Pave extending Eastwardly to the West Corner of John D Munroes House Two hundred and forty nine feet gradually narrowing leaving the Pavement to be laid there thirty six feet Wide and from thence Eastward to Battys Corner opposite Pardon Masons House where it commences at thirty two Wide in the whole Gores making a Difference of about Eight hundred Square Yards which Mr. Mason will agree to Pave for the same Price as his former Contract viz thirty seven Cents per Yard, the whole expence of which we believe will not exceed Three Hundred Dollars to render the whole pavement more Secure, durable, and answer a much better purpose for the Town

Calvin Dean
Elisha Dyer
Caleb Williams

To the Moderator & Freemen of the Town Meeting of the Town of Providence

Voted that John Spurr, John Howland, Thomas S. Webb, William Rhodes, Calvin Dean, James Rhodes and Caleb Williams be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of directing in what manner the Gores in High and Westminster Streets mentioned in the Report of Calvin Dean and others made to this Meeting shall be paved; and to direct such additions to the Orders of the Town made in September last respecting the Paving of said Streets as they, the said Committee shall Judge most advisable. Provided however that they direct no additions to be made that shall cause the expense to

May 16. A. D. 1804.

of five hundred Dollars more than was contemplated in the
said Orders of September last.

Voted that James Rhodes be and he is hereby appointed One
of the Committee for carrying into effect the Vote of the Town Passed
in September last for the paveing of High Street and Westminster
Street on the West Side of the River, in the room of Elisha Dyer
who declines serving any further in that capacity.

Meeting dissolved