

July 3, 1775, voted that 300 bushels of salt and 400 weight of sugar provided by the selectmen for the use of the Town should be paid for by the Town Treasurer. Thirty-five hogsheads of salt were carted from Salem for the Town's use. Sugar and salt were chiefly articles of import, and this was a precaution in case the war put an end to importation.

An item in the town records reads:

To Mr Crownshell [Crowinshield ?] of Salem

for a quantity of Salt & Shugar for the Town's use. £38: 1: 0: 0

Three years later it was voted to sell the Town's stock of salt and sugar and "convert the money to the yuse of paying the Continental soldiers \* \* \*" The Salt was sold to the people of the Town for £3 per bushel. The sugar was sold at four shillings per pound. These articles were apportioned among the families of the Town according to the number in each family, and were sold on each Monday of July, 1778. For selling the salt and sugar the Committee received £168: 0: 0.

The Town voted to Captain Oliver Barron for money delivered to Colonel Simeon Spaulding for this Town's part of the cost of the Delegates to the Continental Congress, £1: 17: 6: 0.

Thomas Byam loaned the Town £103: 11: 6: 3, which was repaid April 23, 1776. Joseph, Abel and Solomon Adams also loaned money to the Town, as did Jacob and Samuel Howard and Ephraim Parkhurst.

March 4, 1776, Colonel Simeon Spaulding, Captain Oliver Barron, Deacon Aaron Chamberlain, Mr. David Parker, Lieutenant Samuel Stevens, Captain Joseph Warren, Lieutenant John Minott, Mr. Benjamin Parker, Mr. Thomas Marshall, Lieutenant Zebulun Spaulding, Doctor Jonas Marshall, Mr. Josiah Hodgman, Ensign Benjamin Fletcher, Mr. Samuel Howard, Mr. William Peirce and Mr. Joseph Emerson were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety.

May 13, Oliver Barron, Simeon Spaulding, Samuel Perham and Zebulun Spaulding were consecutively chosen Representative, and each refused to serve. At an adjoining meeting, Col. Simeon Spaulding was chosen and accepted. It was voted that if it should be the pleasure of the Honorable Continental Congress to declare an Independent State with Great Britain that this Town will stand by them to the expense of life and fortunes. Voted to provide spades or iron shovels and pickaxes and narrow axes, agreeable to a late act of the Great and General Court, and that fises and drums be provided also, agreeable to said act.

The town paid, June 13, to Mr. Joseph Emerson, for one drum for the use of the Town, £1: 16: 0.

In the warrant for this meeting there was an article: "At the desire of Samuel Perham and others to enquire into and consider of some things which has been done of late by the Selectmen respecting the recommendation and approbation of Col. Sampson Stoddard and Sampson Stoddard Junr. Esq. for to be true and