

May, 1775. Voted to raise one hundred and twenty men in the parishes, ready to march on an alarm, to be raised by the several militia officers in town. The minute men shall assemble next Thursday on the common, to choose their officers, and for two months to assemble three half days in the week to learn their duty. The privates in the two companies to be paid at the rate of four shillings per day while in actual service. Committees were appointed to procure ammunition and guns, to establish night watches and cause the great gun of king Philip's day "to be swung."

May 27, 1776. In the warrant for the March meeting of this year, an article was inserted in these words. "To know the minds of the town about coming into a state of independency." The subject thus proposed for consideration was postponed at several succeeding meetings, to this time, when the town unanimously voted that if the honorable congress shall declare the colonies independent of Great Britain, the inhabitants will solemnly engage to support it in that measure with their lives and fortunes.

July, 1776. The towns in the state having been required to procure their proportion of troops in two levies. This town voted a bounty of seven pounds in addition to the other wages of the soldiers for enlisting. Seventy men received this bounty. A committee were appointed to provide for the families of the soldiers in distress. Committees of safety and correspondence were chosen this and in all subsequent years of the war. The aggregate amount of services by soldiers of this town during the year must have been equal to fifty-five men, employed twelve months each. At this time the population did not exceed two thousand souls.* The inhabitants were nearly all husbandmen, and had very little property excepting real estate.

* The substance of a census recorded by Samuel Dexter, Esq., in 1765.

Parishes.	No. of houses.	No. of inhabitants.
First parish, - - - - -	105 - - - - -	813 - - - - -
Second parish - - - - -	43 - - - - -	441 - - - - -
Third parish, - - - - -	42 - - - - -	313 - - - - -
Fourth parish, now <i>Dover</i> , - - - - -	49 - - - - -	352 - - - - -
Total, - - - - -	239 - - - - -	1919 - - - - -