

to be done ; at any rate, to manufacture what they needed for their own troops. To corroborate this statement, we find on the town-records of Boxford the following : " Sept. 25, 1775, Gave an order to John Stiles of one shilling for the use of his shop and one bushel of coal in running bullets."

March 19, 1776, the East Parish "gave leave to Deacon Symonds to take out the dirt under the meeting-house for the use of the saltpetre ; he leaving the same as good as he finds it." Linebrook Parish (Ipswich) also "voted, that Daniel Chapman of Boxford, should have the dirt under their meeting-house, to make saltpetre."* Thus we see that the business was carried on to some extent in this town, and perhaps more instances could be found on further research.

It was voted, March 23, 1776, "that one-third of the town's ammunition be kept in the Second (West) Parish in the future."

In the summer and fall of 1775 Boxford was the repository of the ammunition belonging to Salem and Beverly. It was a custom that year, when the British troops were so near, to carry the ammunition away from the coast, and keep it in some private place.

Jonathan Foster was another captain of the Revolution. An orderly-book of his is preserved in the family.

Agreeable to a resolve of the House of Representatives, June 7, 1776, on the subject of declaring the independence of the colonies, the town of Boxford met on the 17th, and "*voted unanimously that if the Honorable Continental Congress should for the safety of the Colonies declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, they, the said inhabitants of Boxford, will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure.*" The Declaration of Independence was adopted only seventeen

* Felt's *History of Ipswich*.