

nold, on his way from Cambridge to Quebec, encamped in Danvers.

Jan. 25th, 1776, the House received two petitions from Nathan Putnam and Dennison Wallis of Danvers. Putnam set forth that in consequence of a wound in the shoulder at the battle of Lexington, he had not been able to work since that time one day at his trade. His petition was referred to the appropriate Committee. Wallis set forth that he was taken prisoner by the Ministerial troops at Lexington, was stripped by them of gun, bayonet, cartouch box, watch and fifteen dollars, for which he prayed recompense, as also for charges of sickness, in consequence of twelve wounds which he received. Eight pounds, eleven shillings were paid Capt. Epes for the purpose. February 6th, the House voted to Captain Epes, the following sums for the use of the following individuals who had lost guns &c. on the 19th of April. Jonathan Tarbell £2. 11s. Henry Jacobs £3. 8s. Heirs of Benjamin Daland, £2. 4s. Samuel Cook, £2. 12s. Thomas Gardner £1. 4s. Nathaniel Goldthwaite, £2. 0s. Feby 6th and Mch 6th, contributions were taken up for the army beseiging Boston. The South Parish gave £13, 13, 6, and the North Parish £26, 15, 4, 10 pr. Shoes, 8½ yds. check, 2 oz. thread, and 1 pr. of mooseskin breeches.

The people of the town of Danvers, as will be seen, thirsted ardently for an independent government, and concurred in all public acts calculated to produce that result. On the eighteenth of June 1776, it was "Voted, that if the Honble Congress for the Safety of the Unit-

ed Colonies, Declare them Independent of the Kingdom of Great Brittain, we the Inhabitants of this town, do solemnly Engage with our Lives and Fortunes to support them in the measure.

“Voted, that the Town Clerk be, and he hereby is directed Immediately to Deliver an attested Copy of the Proceedings of this Town Respecting Independentry, to Maj. Samuel Epes, Representative of said Town, for his Instructions &c.” At the same time a bounty of £13, 6, 8, was given to each man who would enlist in the service of the colonies. The Declaration of Independence was unanimously adopted, and copied at length in the Town Record.

October 19th 1776, large encouragements were given to all who would enlist during the war. Congress pledged to each private soldier and non-commissioned officer who would thus enlist, twenty dollars, one hundred acres of land, a suit of clothes annually, consisting of “two Linen Hunting Shirts, two Pair of Overalls, a Leathern or Woolen Waistcoat with Sleeves, one Pair of Breeches, a Hat or Leathern Cap, two Shirts, two pair of Hose, and two pair of Shoes.” In addition to this the State of Massachusetts Bay offered “one Blanket annually, and Twenty Shillings per Month”

The small-pox raged extensively in the year 1777, and a pest house was built. The same year the families of all non-commissioned officers absent in the service, were assisted by the Town. February 9th, 1778, the Articles of Confederation were unanimously adopted, and Israel Hutchinson the Representative was instructed to advocate them. The Constitution of Massachusetts,