

CHAPTER III.

MONSON, 1746 TO 1770 – FIRST SETTLEMENT WITHIN THE PRESENT LIMITS OF MILFORD – THOMAS NEVINS THE FIRST SETTLER – FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR – PETITION FOR SCOUTS – GARRISON HOUSES – MEETING-HOUSE LOCATION – SCHOOLS – FIRST TAX LIST – TOWN OFFICERS – MILITARY ORDERS ISSUED IN TOWN – DISMEMBERMENT OF THE TOWN – TAX PAYERS IN 1770.

As two thirds of the territory of our town was for nearly a generation known as Monson, it seems fitting that some space be devoted to the history of this ancient and extinct municipal organization, which had an area of about 20,000 acres. Its situation upon the southerly side of the Souhegan river, by which it was bounded on the north, as the stream runs, for a distance of eight miles, from what is now South Merrimack to Jones's corner, with a width of four miles, taking in a broad area of intervale and very much good upland, was not excelled by any in this section of the state. It had been for many years a part of old Dunstable, and eight years before the town of Monson was incorporated, or in 1738, Thomas Nevins, from Bedford, Mass., located at a point afterwards known as Monson Centre, about one mile southeast of the residence of Moses F. Foster, and some fifty rods north of the boundary line between Milford and Hollis. The remains of the cellar are visible. He married Bridget Snow of Nottingham, in January, 1745, had two children, Bridget, born December 21, 1746, and Thomas, born May 25, 1748; was one of the selectmen of Monson in 1759, and held other town offices. The annual town meetings of Monson were held at his house for several years. Mr. Nevins was in the military service in 1758, and was fourth sergent in Company 6, commanded by Nehemiah Lovewell of Dunstable in Col. John Hart's regiment raised for the defence of Crown Point. He moved to the east part of the town a short time prior to its dismemberment, and soon after to the West, where his descendants are said to be numerous. Thomas Nevins was the first white man to erect a human habitation within the limits of the present town of Milford, and was the first settler in old Monson. William Nevins, his brother, removed soon after from Newton, Mass., and built his cabin a few rods southwest of the first settlement. The cellar hole is still visible very near but north of the Hollis line. His name appears on the first tax-list of West Dunstable parish in 1740. He had a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters; was prominent in town affairs, serving as moderator and selectman many years. About the year 1754, he moved to the easy part of the town of Monson, to the farm recently known as the Maj. James Wheeler estate, having bought it of Thomas Wooley, the first settler. On the division of Monson, Mr. Nevins became a citizen off Hollis, filling with credit many positions of responsibility. He died February 15, 1785. His name is held in grateful remembrance as the father of five sons, all of whom were soldiers in the War of the Revolution. Phinehas fell at the battle of Bunker Hill. William, Jr. a lieutenant was taken prisoner at the battle of White Plains and soon after died. John returned from Bennington as far as Charlestown, NH., dropped out of his company (presumably on account of wounds), and was never after heard from. Joseph and Benjamin survived the vicissitudes of the war.

Other settlers joined Thomas and William Nevins at their clearing, among them, Dr. John Brown, who came from Salem, Mass., to West Dunstable, as early as 1742. He married, October 9, 1744, Kezia Wheeler, and was the first resident physician practicing his profession within the present limits of Milford. In 1760 he removed to Plymouth, NH., where he passed the remainder of his life. Benjamin Hopkins, John Burns, Thomas Murdow, James Wheeler, William Colburn, Jonathan Taylor, Samuel Leman, Isaac Farwell, Stephen Haselton, Robert Colburn, and Abraham Leman were located in different part of the town prior to its incorporation. Nathan Hutchinson, Elisha Towne, and Josiah Crosby became residents not long afterwards.

For a few years it seemed that the business of the town would be done at the Nevins settlement. When, however, the inhabitants began to look about for a location for a meeting house they found that this spot

was a mile south of the middle of the town north and south, although at the correct place, so far as an east and west line was concerned. This made it clear that the meeting house common must be at some other point, and Monson Centre from that time received no new settlers and soon began to lose those already there.

Governor Wentworth gave the town its name in honor of one of the board of the lords of colonial trade, whose family name was Monson.

The number of families in town at the time of organization was not more than fifteen. The first meeting of the voters was held at the house of Thomas Nevins on the first day of May, 1746, and a board of selectmen and other town officers chosen. Benjamin Hopkins, who had settled upon the Charlestown school farm the year before, was first selectman, Robert Colburn second, and William Nevins third. At a meeting, May 27, it was voted to build a pound near the house of William Nevins on the most convenient piece of ground. This structure, the location of which is still pointed out, was the only building of any kind erected by the town during its existence.

At this time the French and Indian War (begun in 1744) was raging, and Monson and Souhegan West were frontier towns exposed to Indian assaults at any time, and on the 13th day of May, 1747, the inhabitants of the town presented to our general court the following petition, which explains the situation in which these pioneers found themselves:

“The petition of the inhabitants of the town of Monson hereto subscribers humbly sheweth, that the said town is lately begun to settle, and but about fifteen families there; that they are one of the frontier towns west of Merrimack river, and the most northerly one already incorporated lying between Hollis and the new plantation called Souhegan West; that could we be assisted by soldiers, such competent number as might enable us to defend ourselves, shall cheerfully endeavor to stay there, by which we shall serve as a barrier in part of Hollis, Merrimack, and Dunstable; that the last year we were favored by soldiers from Massachusetts that prevented our drawing off; that should the war be pursued by the enemy as vigorously as last year (unless we are favored by some assistance from the government), we humbly apprehend it would be too great presumption to venture ourselves and families there; that it will be very ruinous to your petitioners to leave their settlements and the frontier widened, and for a necessary defence will require a greater number of soldiers than to assist us there. Wherefore your petitioners pray that a guard for two garrisons and a small scout on our front may be granted to us. [Signed] James Wheeler, William Nevins, William Colburn, Robert Colburn, Jonathan Taylor, Samuel Leman, Samuel Leman, Jr., Abraham Leman, Thomas Nevins, Benjamin Hopkins, Isaac Farwell, Stephen Haselton, John Burns, Thomas Murdow.”

Souhegan West joined in asking aid as follows:

“The petition of us, the subscribers, inhabitants of the new plantation called Souhegan West, humbly sheweth that there is settled and now remains in this plantation thirty-five families, in which is about fifty-eight men upwards of sixteen years old. That when we began our settlement, we apprehended no danger of our ever being a frontier, there being at that time so many above us begun and obliged to fulfil the conditions of the Massachusetts grants, which occasioned us to settle scattering, only regarding the advantages of good and compact farms. That the difficulty of war happening so early on our settlements, and the defenceless condition they were in, has obliged them all, viz.: Peterborough, Salem-Canada (Lyndeboro’), New Boston, and Hillsborough (so called) entirely to draw off, as well as the forts on Connecticut river left naked. Whereby we are now left as much exposed as any of the frontiers on Merrimack River. That the first year of the present war we were favored with a scout from this province (which we thankfully acknowledged) and Salem-Canada (Lyndeboro’) with another, which was equally serviceable to us. Since that time both Salem-Canada and this place has had a guard from Massachusetts till the winter passed, together with our inhabitants keeping a constant scout (though much impoverished thereby). That this encouragement has occasioned our venturing here till now. That as we are now left without either scout or guard, apprehend we are in imminent danger, yet loath to yield ourselves such an easy prey to our enemies or suffer ruin by leaving our improvements waste, whereof we have no reason to think but must unavoidably be our lot,

unless this government compassionately grants us protection. [Signed] John Shepard, William Peabody, William Bradford, Israel Towne, and nineteen others.”

No words of the historian can render more vivid the picture of life in the Souhegan valley in the year 1747, than can be gathered from these pathetic appeals.

The assembly gave orders for enlisting or impressing fifteen good effective men, under proper officers, to scout and guard Souhegan West and Monson till the “twenty-third day of October next if need be”, and also made provision that said men be shifted once a month. These garrisons, or garrison houses, were made of logs and were resorted to by the inhabitants upon any intimation of danger. One of these garrisons was located on the farm of William Peabody, upon the north bank of the river in Souhegan West, and the well used in connection with it can now be seen. To this garrison the early settlers of Wilton and Lyndeborough often fled. It was built as early as 1741. The log hut built by William Colburn in the easterly part of Monson, not far north of Long pond, was used as a garrison house in 1747.

Although the Indians passed up and down the valley of the Souhegan upon fishing and hunting excursions, and often crossed our territory upon warlike expeditions, there is no evidence that any white person suffered death at their hands in this or any adjoining town. Wild beasts of every kind, common to this latitude, were abundant. Bears, wolves, and deer were frequently met, and occasionally a huge moose came this way. When Benjamin Hopkins left his bullet-proof dwelling on the intervale, a little north of the house of the late Luke Smith, to attend the first town meeting at the house of Thomas Nevins he undoubtedly went well armed, and was all the way on the lookout against a possible attack by man or beast.

Such were the conditions surrounding the first settlers of this neighborhood. Their food, if substantial, was of the coarsest kind, and in all respects they were in close contact with everything which tended to try their courage and develop their characters.

In 1748, Dunstable, Merrimack, Hollis, Nottingham, and Monson united in the choice of a representative to the general assembly, the session to be holden at Portsmouth on the third day of the next January. In 1749, Benjamin Kendrick from Newton, Mass., settled upon what is now the Amherst poor farm. The next year he married Sarah Harris, of Hollis. Their youngest daughter, Anna, born October 30, 1768, married Governor Benjamin Pierce. It can therefore be claimed for Monson that among her daughters there was the mother of a president of the United States. The first highway established in town was the road leading from a point near Lyon’s bridge (at Danforth’s corner), through what is now Milford village, to the west line of the town at Dram Cup hill (so called), at Jones’s corner. This was done in 1749 and, with some alterations made afterwards, particularly in 1795, is the thoroughfare now in use as part of the route between Wilton and Nashua.

The charter of Monson and other towns incorporated at this time by New Hampshire, unlike those granted by the general court of Massachusetts, were wholly silent in respect to the “settlement and maintenance of able and orthodox ministers,” and the building of meeting houses. Benning Wentworth, at that time the royal governor of New Hampshire, was a zealous adherent of the Church of England, and it may well be supposed that he had no special sympathy with the current orthodoxy of the times, as taught in the Cambridge Platform and the Assembly’s Catechism.

Instead of the like conditions as in the Massachusetts charters, in respect to orthodox ministers and meeting houses, Governor Wentworth in these New Hampshire charters expressly reserved, for the use of the royal navy, all suitable white-pine trees then growing and being, and which should afterwards grow, in

the towns so chartered, thus giving for the use of His Majesty's navy all such trees as were best fitted for building purposes.

The general laws of the province did not provide for the taxing of non-resident lands for the purpose of building meeting houses and supplying preaching, and it was understood at that time that no such power resided in the towns, unless authorized by special act of the legislature. The town of Hollis, in 1746, passed the following vote: We quote its quaint phraseology.

“*Voted*, To raise two pence per acre on all the land in Hollis for five years for the support of the Gospel and the arising charges of said Town, and to petition the General Court for strength to gather and get the money of non-residents.”

We therefore understand that when the inhabitants of Monson at the annual meeting in May, 1749, voted upon the following article in the warrant: -“To see if the town will agree to tax the lands within the whole township for the use of preaching,” it was equivalent to acting upon a proposition to ask the legislature for leave to levy such a tax. In fact, at a later day, the matter was put before the voters in the form of a proposition to raise a committee to ask the legislature for authority to levy such a tax.

Several attempts were made at different times to fix upon a location for a meeting house. In 1758 the town went so far as to vote to build a house and set it in the most convenient place near the centre of the town. Tradition points to a locality on the northerly slope of Federal hill as the place fixed upon, and it still retains the name of the “meeting-house lot.” This piece of land, of sufficient size for an ample common, was cleared by the early settlers, and until a comparatively recent day had been nearly destitute of any growth of wood and lumber. The spot is a little north of the residence of Moses F. Foster, and is very near the geographical centre of the old town. This was the nearest approach to the building of a meeting house that the Monson people made, and there is nothing to indicate that any sermon other than a funeral discourse was ever preached in town.

At the annual meeting in 1764 it was voted to raise a certain sum of money “in order to make satisfaction to the towns of Amherst and Hollis for the privilege of worshipping with them.” But- must it be told- three years after, the town, having deliberated upon the matters, voted that the money should not be collected. All attempts to raise money for religious purposes seem to have failed, although efforts upon the part of a minority were renewed from time to time, during the life of the town.

Before we pass harsh judgment on our ancestors, whom we cannot believe to have been unusually graceless men, we must at least remember what has been said as to the state of the laws as to taxation, and that the non-resident land-owners were generally prominent men who could make it difficult to obtain necessary legislation when they chose so to do, and that very much of the best land in town was in their hands.

By a colonial law of New Hampshire, passed in 1719, and remaining in force without any important change till after the Revolution, it was enacted “that each town in the province having the number of fifty householders shall be constantly provided of a schoolmaster to teach children to read and write, and when any town has one hundred families or householders, there shall also be a grammar school set up and kept. . . . And some discreet person of good conversation, well instructed in the *tongues*, shall be procured to be master thereof . . . Every such schoolmaster to be suitably encouraged and paid by the inhabitants. . . . And the selectmen of towns are hereby empowered to agree with such schoolmasters for salary, and to raise money by way of rate upon the inhabitants to pay the same.”

The above law was unlike the school laws in force during the present century in many important particulars.

1. It provided for a single school only, for teaching children to read and write, in towns having fifty families and less than one hundred; and for a grammar school, in which the “tongues” or dead languages were to be taught, in towns having on hundred families or more.
2. It was wholly silent as to school-houses, school districts, and school committees.
3. It contemplated the employment of male teachers only.
4. The hiring of “school masters” –the whole management of the schools and the “raising of money by way of rates” – was entrusted wholly to the selectmen.
5. It required, in its terms, both the school for teaching reading and writing, and also that for teaching the “tongues,” to be kept “constantly”.

The town of Monson did not have, until near the close of its corporate existence, householders in sufficient number to compel the employment of a school-master at public expense, and we are not surprised to find that no money was ever appropriated for school purposes. There may have been teachers who were paid by subscription or by tuition - probably there were – but of this we have intimation in the records.

For the first seven years of its history no taxes were levied for any purpose, but in 1753 the state called upon the town for a double assessment, one for general purposes and the other to meet the expenses of scouting and garrisoning the most exposed parts of the state. These calls were the occasion of the following petition:

Whereas the inhabitants of Monson have received a late order to render to the office of secretary of state and invoice of their polls and estates in order for apportioning the taxes, which we have done, and would further beg leave to remonstrate our infancy and inability to bear any part of the public burden at present; that there is but thirty-six polls in the whole, several of them being transiently hired to labor for a short space of time; that there are but twenty-one houses, chiefly small cottages, only or a present shelter, the charge of building yet to come; that the householders are all plain men, dwelling in tents, husbanding their employments, their improvements very small, their lands unsubdued, their progress much retarded by their necessity to work out of town during the prime of the year, or at other business to procure provisions, and, though the town is a part of old Dunstable, it has till now been a portion and remained a total wilderness; that till within a few years the owners were under no obligation to settle the lands that were very recently granted to gentlemen in farms, by which means the few settlers are scattered all about the town, and that much laborer has band must be spent in opening and making roads, bridges, etc., that are of present necessity a burden too heavy for the small, weak number this is there; that in the late war they were at the expense of garrisoning, scouting, and defending themselves, besides many other charges they must have and must go through; so therefore apprehend themselves utterly unable to bear any part of the public taxes as yet; but hope their small beginning in time may become useful, if they may be nursed and favored now in their infancy. Wherefore your petitioners pray that they may be considered in their infant and chargeable state, and that they may not be taxed till they are of ability to go though their own necessary charge, and when that shall be, they will cheerfully contribute according to their power.

The state was in such need of money that it could not heed the prayer of the people, and the selectmen were obliged to assess and did assess the tax on the 30th day of October. There were two assessments. The second and smaller one was payable in money or certain articles of personal property at a fixed price.

The following is a list of the taxpayers in Monson in 1753:

Benjamin Hopkins,
Benjamin Farley,

Thomas Powers,
Ebenezer Ball,

William Colburn,
Isaac Farwell,
Samuel Murdough,
John Burns,
John Martin,
Samuel Stearns,
James Wheeler,
Elisha Towne,
William Nevins,
Thomas Nevins,
Robert Colburn,
Benjamin Herrick,
Zachariah Shattuck,
Jonathan Taylorr,
John Brown,

Nathan Hutchinson,
Robert Murdough,
Benjamin Hopkins, Jr.,
John Martain, Jr.,
James Wheeler, Jr.,
Thomas Wooley,
William Colburn, Jr.,
Jabez Richardson,
Josiah Crossbee,
Thomas Murdough,
Robert Parker,
Samuel Stearns, Jr.,
Benjamin Manning,
Abraham Leemon.

Caleb Jones, Israel Towne, and Stephen Harris were assessed as non-residents.

The highways in town were without exception laid out over paths already trod, and no land damages seem to have been paid. John Shepherd had build a bridge across the Souhegan at the point where the stone bridge now stands, for the accommodation of the patrons of h is mill, and in 1758 the town of Monson repaid Mr. Shepherd some portion of the expense, and became the owner of the south half. Ten years later the selectmen laid out two highways, or streets, from the middle of the bridge to the then existing highway through the town, one passing east of Union square and the other to the west. The bridge was an inexpensive structure, and the amount paid Shepherd small, but it was the largest item of expense to which the town was subjected during its existence.

The annual and special meetings of the town were made interesting by the discussions of the meeting house location, the ministerial tax, the proposition to have a school, and the still more serious questions of the dismemberment of the town. The meetings at first were held at the "middle of the town," but for the last ten years at the house of Archelaus Towne at what is known as Danforth's Corner. The town had its constable to warn town meetings and collect taxes. Field-drivers, whose business it was to look after strayed cattle, were annually chosen.

Deer Reeves-Great care was taken to protect deer, and severe penalties visited upon those who violated the law and slaughtered these animals at unlawful seasons.

Hog-Reeves-By a law of the province passed in 1719, swine were not permitted to run at large, between the first day of April and the first day of October, without being yoked and ringed in the way described in the law, and two persons were required to be chosen at the yearly town meeting to enforce the act. The "regulation" hog yoke was to be of wood, to be in length equal to the depth of the swine's neck above the neck, and half as long below. The ring was to be of strong flexible iron wire, inserted in the top of the nose to prevent rooting, the ends of the wire being so twisted together as to project one inch above the nose. By the custom of the town, all the young men of Monson married within the year next preceding the annual elections were chosen to this responsible office.

The town had no occasion to elect tithing-men, whose principal duty it was to attend church upon Sunday and keep order, and none were ever chosen.

By early acts of the province, towns were authorized to maintain houses of correction, stocks, and whipping-posts, and such institutions were established in Amherst, Hollis, and other towns in the

vicinity; but Monson people seem never to have troubled themselves about such matters, and managed to get along without them. They had, however, a reasonable apprehension of their liability to support poor persons found in town, and often availed themselves of the law by which a town could warn a person to leave its borders within a prescribed time, and having done so, be forever discharged from liability to aid the man, woman, or child, as the case might be. The town records throughout the state show these notices in large numbers. It was the custom to warn without any examination of the facts of particular cases, as no one was expected to obey the mandate.

The year 1760 was memorable in the history of Monson. For the campaign of that year against Canada, New Hampshire furnished a regiment under command of Col. John Goffe of Derryfield (now Manchester). The regiment comprised eight companies, ranging from 30 to 114 men each, and had, of officers and men, 769, all told. The regiment had its rendezvous at Litchfield, where it paraded for the first time, May 25, 1760. It was to march across the country to "No. 4" (now Charlestown), and thence to Crown Point. The regiment commenced its march via Monson on the 27th of May, but owing to a severe storm a portion of the companies was detained until the next day. The regiment crossed the Merrimack by ferry, and passed up the Souhegan. At Monson the following orders were issued by Col Goffe:

Monson, May 29th, 1760

Ordered: That there be immediately detached out of the N.H. reg one cap two lieuts, one ensign and 150 privates to receive 150 axes and get them sharp and fit for service to clear the road to Peterboro.

Monson 29th May.

Cap Tilton.-You are forthwith to march from this place with the party under your command, consisting of one ensign and 70 men with the tools you have received and repair the road from here to No. 2 [now Wilton], where you are to remain till further orders. Observe and keep your tools fit for service.

Monson 29th May 1760

L Gerrish: You are to receive 35 wood axes of the quartermaster and get ym sharpened at this place and then immediately to march and assist Cap Tilton in his clearing the road to Peterboro.

Monson 29th May 1760

The whole reg march immediately.

This road was cut up the north branch of the Souhegan- through what is now Temple, and across the mountain to Peterborough, probably very nearly as the road is now traveled.

The same year it was voted "to petition the governor and council of the province to set off or annex the land on the south side of Monson to Hollis, and to annex such part of Souhegan West to the remainder of Monson as will be sufficient to maintain the gospel, and other charges incident to towns." This proposition would have made a town of nearly the proportion of the present town of Milford, and was in all respects reasonable, but Souhegan West was unwilling to part with valuable territory and the authorities were persuaded that the public good did not demand the rearrangement of these lines. The lack of public spirit seems to have extended to almost every proposition, for we find that in 1764 the town dismissed an article in the warrant to "provide one or more burial places." At the same meeting there was, however, a little show of spirit and an article in the warrant "to see if the town would be at the charge of making another road where Mr. Benjamin Hopkins has glowed the town road, or take a course of law with him for damages." Upon this article the town voted to take a course of law, and appointed the selectmen to prosecute the suit. But we do not find any record of continued proceedings against Benjamin, and from what has come down to us of the character and influence of the Governor, as he was

familiarly called, we opine that he in some way satisfied his town-people without great inconvenience to himself. The flowage was occasioned by a dam he had build, for a mill, on the brook south of the Joseph Tucker place.

The attempt to rearrange town lines, preserving the name of Monson, so that the town should have good outlines, with its geographical centre at or near Shepherd's mills and what is now Milford village, having failed, the inhabitants of the old town sank into a condition of indifference as to boundaries, from which they were aroused by the renewal, in 1770, of a proposition, before that time made, to divide the town by an east and west line between Amherst and Hollis. In that year the old town voted, no one dissenting, to have the town divided and the following portion annexed to Amherst, to wit: "Beginning at the northeast corner of the town on Souhegan river; thence south by the Merrimack line two miles; thence due west to the west line of the town; thence northerly by the town line to the Souhegan river; thence down said river to the bound first mentioned; and the remainder of the town to Hollis." The course of the river is such that Amherst received by far the larger half of the divided territory.

The petition to the state authorities contained the following statement of reasons for the division: "That the land in and about the center of Monson is so very poor, broken, barren, and uneven, as cannot admit of many settlers, so that those families that are in town, are almost all planted in the extreme parts of it. . . . We have no prospect of ever building a meeting house in the center or elsewhere, anyways to accommodate us, by which difficulties we think the gospel will not be settled among us while in the present situation. We therefore pray," etc.

Thus was dismembered, after a corporate existence of twenty-four years, a town rich in its broad intervals and in its uplands, covered with a magnificent growth of pine, oak, chestnut, hemlock, and maple; and for no other or better reason than the fact that the exact center of the town was not the most suitable place upon which to build a meeting house.

The following is a list of the taxpayer in Monson in 1770, the year the town became extinct:

John Burns,	Stephen Harris,
John Burnham,	Moses Hadley,
George Burns,	Nathan Hutchinson,
Thomas Burns,	Samuel Hutchinson,
Daniel Bayle,	Isaac How,
Robert Colburn,	Isaac How, Jr.,
Robert Colburn, Jr.,	Caleb Jones
William Colburn,	Benjamin Kendrick,
Josiah Crosby,	Daniel Kendrick,
Jonathan Dutton,	Josiah Kidder,
Jonathan Danforth,	Josiah Kidder, Jr.,
David Duncklee,	Abram Leman,
Thomas Emerson,	Samuel Leman,
William French,	Thomson Maxwell,
Joseph French,	William Nevins,
Nehemiah French,	Thomas Nevins,
Levi Flecher,	Thomas Nevins, Jr.,
Olevir Flecher,	Josiah Parker,
James Gilmore,	Thomas Powers,
Joseph Gould,	Isaac Powers,
Benjamin Hopkins,	Adam Patterson,

Benj. Hopkins, Jr.,
Ebenezer Hopkins,
Samuel Hayden,
John Stearns,
Zachariah Shattuck,
Zachariah Shattuck, Jr.,
John Shepard,
Samuel Spalding,
Josiah Sawyer,
Elisha Towne,
Archelaus Towne,
Gardner Towne,
Thomas Towne,
Bartimeus Towne,
Jonathan Towne,
Israel Towne,
Jonathan Grimes,

Jonathan Lund,
Joseph Stearns,
Ebenezer Stearns,
Jonathan Taylor,
William Taylor,
William Taylor, Jr.,
William Walker,
James Wheeler,
Daniel Wheeler,
Thaddeus Wheeler,
David Wallinsford,
Amos Whittemore,
Thomas Williams,
Stephen Williams,
Nicholas Youngman,
Ebenezer Youngman,
Joseph Nevins.

During the corporate existence of the town the following residents were in the military service of the state at different times in campaigns against the French and Indians:

Eben Lyon,
John Burns, Jr.,
Sam'l Stearns,
John Martin,
James Wheeler,
Thomas Nevins,

Bunker Farwell,
Thomas Powers
John Martin, Jr.,
Moses Emerson,
Timothy Emerson,
Thompson Maxwell.