

APPENDIX.

ARTICLE I.

THE following copy of this grant is taken from the town records, with some variations of orthography.

“At a General Court held at Boston, on adjournment, 14 June, 1642. All the land upon Shawshin river, and between that and Concord river, and between that and Merrimac river, (not formerly granted by this court) *are* granted to Cambridge, so, as that they erect a village there within five years, and so as that it shall not extend to prejudice Charlestown village, or the village at Cochittuate, nor the farms formerly granted to the now Governor, of 1260 acres, and to Thomas Dudley, Esq. 1500 acres, and 3000 acres to Mrs. Winthrop; and Mr. Flint and Mr. Stephen Winthrop are to set out their head line toward Concord.”

That there were several grants to individuals before this was made to Cambridge, is evident, as is implied above. Mr. Dudley’s farm, which consisted of 1500 acres, was laid out in twelve *ten acre* lots. Mrs. Winthrop’s farm of 3000 acres, was at Wamesit, now Tewksbury, and extended from the Indian plantation, on Merrimac river, about 2 ½ miles below the mouth of Concord river. The Church Farm, containing 915 acres, lay upon Shawshin river, and extended from the bridge down the river, 349 rods. Harvard College Farm, lay upon Shawshin river, and contained 220 acres. Besides these, were Elder Richard Champney’s Farm, and Major Daniel Gookin’s Farm, which were situated within the ancient limits of Billerica.

ART. II.

The second grant is expressed as follows: - “At a General Court held at Boston, 10, 3m. 1643. Shawshin is granted to Cambridge without any condition of making a village there. And the land between them and Concord is granted to them, all, save what was formerly granted to the Artillery Company, or others, provided the church and present elders continue at Cambridge.”

ART. III.

GRANTS OF THE GENERAL COURT.

to Billerica, in 1656

At a General Court, begun 14 May, 1656. “In answer to the petition of several proprietors and inhabitants of Shawshin, humbly desiring a tract of

land lying near the farms of John and Robert Blood, and so along by the side of Concord river, &c. the Court grants their request in that respect, so as it hinders not former grants; and grant the name of the plantation to be called Billerica.”

“In answer to the petition of the inhabitants of Billerica, this court doth grant to the town of Billerica, eight thousand acres of land, for the ends desired, in any place or places that are free and not capable of making a town, provided that the said lands be laid out before the next Court of election, and the inhabitants of Cambridge do accept thereof, and disengage the lands desired at Billerica; and also, that the town of Billerica be settled with twenty families, at least, within three years, that the ordinance of God may be settled and encouraged, in the said place of Billerica. And it is ordered, that Major Willard, Captain Edward Johnson, Mr. Edward Jackson, or any two of them with Thomas Danforth, or any other Surveyor, shall lay the same out at the petitioners’ charge, making return at the next Court of election.”

ART. IV.

SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, AND POPULATION

SCHOOLS.

The first notice in the records of a school in town, is in 1679, when Joseph Tompson was chosen schoolmaster by the selectmen. He continued an instructor of youth many years, and was employed as late as 1711. In 1718, and about that time, schoolmasters were chosen or appointed by the selectmen, and had an annual stipend of £.35. A committee was annually chosen to direct the affairs of the school, and order where they should be taught. The town is divided into ten wards, or districts, of which, two come under the appellation of grammar schools. These districts are designated as follows: first centre, second centre, third centre, first east, second east, north, south-west, Shawshin, north and south-west. The two last are west of Concord river.

LIBRARIES.

There are two libraries in town, besides Dobson's edition of the Encyclopædia, which, with the supplement, is a valuable source of information and instruction. The first Social Library in Billerica was instituted in 1772. It was among the first instituted in the Commonwealth.

The second Library was incorporated in November, 1807, by the name of the "Second Social Library." "Both together contain a large and valuable collection of books."¹

POPULATION.

The number of inhabitants of Billerica in 1790, was 1200, in 1800, 1383, in 1810, 1289. The number of free white males, according to the census of 1810, was 623, and of females 664. Of the former, 183 were under ten years of age, 108 of ten and under sixteen, 117 of sixteen and under twenty-six, 97 of twenty-six and under forty-five, and 118 of forty-five and upwards. Of the latter, 176 were under ten, 103 of ten and under sixteen, 116 of sixteen and under twenty-six, 139 of twenty-six and under forty-five, and 130 of forty-five and upwards. The number of polls in 1810, was 316. The number in 1815, was 251. In 1800, Billerica ranked as the ninth town in population in the county of Middlesex.

ART. V.

PASTORS OF THE CHURCH IN BILLERICA,

With the times of their ordination, removal, and death.

- I. SAMUEL WHITING, A. M. ordained, 11 November, 1663; died, 29 February, 1713, Æt. 80*.²
- II. SAMUEL RUGGLES, A. M. ordained, 19 May, 1708; died, 1 March, 1749, Æt. 67.
- III. JOHN CHANDLER, A. M. ordained, 21 October, 1747; dismissed, 5 June, 1760, died, 10 Nov. 1762.
- IV. HENRY CUMINGS, D. D. graduated at Harvard College, 1760; ordained, 26 January, 1763.
- V. NATHANIEL WHITMAN, A. M. graduated at Harvard College, 1809; ordained, 26 January, 1814.

¹ MS. Letter of Dr. Rufus Kittredge, April 5, 1816.

² The ages of those with this mark, *, are stated from the best evidence which could be obtained.

DEACONS OF THE CHURCH.

	Died.	Age.
Joseph Tompson,	13 October, 1732.	93.
James Frost,	12 August, 1711.	74.*
Joseph Foster	December, 1721.	75.*
William French,	30 September, 1723	55.
John Sheldon,	27 August, 1724	64
William Patten,	5 October, 1730.	60.
Joseph Davis,	30 September, 1747.	80.*
Joshua Abbot,	11 February, 1769.	84.
Samuel Whiting,	4 November, 1772.	70.
William Stickney,	27 August, 1781.	76.
Ralph Hill,	13 February, 1789.	82.
Joshua Davis,	18 February, 1777.	63.
Joshua Abbot,	8 August, 1807.	84.
William Tompson,	2 September, 1806.	83.
Timothy Danforth,	21 June, 1792.	63.
Oliver Crosby.		
Ebenezer Pemberton,	resigned.	
Samuel Whiting.		
Joseph Locke.		
Jeremiah Patten,	21 January, 1815	43.

ART. VI.

A LIST OF THE NATIVES OF BILLERICA,

Who have received a public education.

- I. Graduated in 1685. **John Whiting*, A. M. son of reverend Samuel Whiting, was born, 1 August, 1664. He was ordained at Lancaster, about 1691; was killed by the Indians, 11 September, 1697, Æt. 33.
- II. 1690. *Joseph Whiting A. M. who graduated this year, is supposed to have been brother of the preceding. If this supposition is correct, he was born, 7 February, 1669, and died, 6 September, 1701, Æt. 32.
- III. 1751. **Josiah Stearns*, A. M. son of John Stearns, was born, 20 January, 1732. He was ordained in 1758, at Epping, N.H. where he died in 1790, Æt. 62.
- IV. 1751. *Jonathan Kidder, A. M. son of Thomas Kidder, Esq. Was born, 26 March, 1728. he was a schoolmaster many years in his native town, where he died, 18 March, 1805, Æt. 77.

- V. 1764. *Joseph Kidder, A. M.* son of Capt. Enoch Kidder, was born, 18 November, 1741. He was ordained at Dunstable, N.H. in 1767.
- VI. 1769. William Bowers, A. M. son of Capt. William Bowers, was born, 20 April, 1744. He is a practitioner of Medicine in his native town.
- VII. 1779. Andrew Bowers, A. M. son of Capt. Josiah Bowers. He was representative several years to the General Court of N.H. from Salisbury, where he resides.
- VIII. 1794. *David Abbot, A. M. son of Mr. David Abbot, was born, 18 December, 1770 and died, 9 April, 1804, Æt. 33.
- IX. 1794. *James Bowers, A. B.* son of Capt. Josiah Bowers. He was ordained over the Episcopalian Society at Marblehead.
- X. 1794. William Crosby, A. B. son of Mr. Hezekiah Crosby. He was a Councillor at Law several years, and is now a Senator of the Commonwealth and Chief Justice of the Court of Common pleas, Third Eastern Circuit.
- XI. 1795. Oliver Crosby, A. M. son of Major Oliver Crosby, is an Attorney at law, Justice of the Peace and resides at Dover, N. H.
- XII. 1795. Henry Cumings, A. M. son of reverend Henry Cumings, D. D. is an instructor of youth in the State of New-Hampshire.
- XIII. 1802. *Joseph Richardson, A. M.* son of Mr. Joseph Richardson, graduated at Dartmouth College, and is settled at Hingham. He is author of the American Reader and several valuable publications.
- XIV. 1809. Artemas Rogers, A. B. son of Mr. Josiah Rogers, is an attorney at law at Henniker, N.H.
- XV. 1813. Frederic Augustus Parker, A. B. son of John Parker, Esq. is a student of medicine.

All the preceding recieved their education at Harvard College, excepting Rev. Joseph Richardson.

Under Graduates at Harvard College

SENIOR – Augustus Whiting, son of Samuel Whiting, Esq.

JUNIOR – Micajah Rogers, son of Mr. Josiah Rogers.

At Brown University, R. I.

FRESHMAN – Benjamin Bowers, Jun.

ART VII.

TOWN CLERKS

Of Billerica, from A.D. 1657, to 1816.

Years in office.		Years in office.	
John Parker,		William Stickney,	12.
William Tay,	1.	Joshua Abbot,	15.
Jonathan Danforth,	20.	William Bowers,	1.
Samuel Manning,	8.	Oliver Crosby,	14.
Joseph Tompson,	9.	James Abbot,	1.
John Stearns,	2.	Jacob Richardson,	5.
Oliver Whiting,	17.	Blaney Abbot,	5.
John Needham,	2.	Jeremiah Patten,	4.
Benjamin Tompson,	4.	Jeremiah Farmer,	2.
Joshua Abbot,	31.	Samuel Whiting.*	

*Chosen in March, 1816

ART. VIII.

INDIANS. Within the original limits of Billerica lived a considerable number of Indians. The Pawtucketts at Wamesit and its vicinity, contained in 1675, about 250 souls. They had formerly been estimated at 3000. The right of the Indians to the township of Billerica, seems to have been partially acknowledged by the English, as we find the inhabitants obtained a purchase from them in 1684. The Indians, however, appear to have retained a part of Wamesit, which bordered on Mrs. Winthrop's farm of 3000 acres. At this place they had a praying town, which, in 1674, according to Gookin's Collections, contained 15 families, and 75 souls. They inhabited a small tract of land on the east side of Concord river, and bordering on Merrimac river. The divisional line between them and the English, I am informed, extended from Merrimac river, about half a mile below the mouth of Concord river, on a direct line to Concord river, two miles from its mouth. Their plantation was separated from the English by a ditch, which may be seen at this day. Within these limits, is a hill, called *Fort Hill*, lying nearly parallel with Concord river, on which are the remains of their fortification. It seems that the Indians at this place, were in some degree civilized. They here attended to the cultivation of their land; planted apple-trees in the manner of the English, some of which remain, but have become incorporated with the trees of the forest. The names of several Indians are preserved in the records of Billerica. Capt. Danforth had one in his family of the name of *Warrick*, in the capacity of a servant, who died, about 1686.

ART. IX.

List of the Publications of reverend Dr. Cumings.

SERMONS.

1. On the day of Public Thanksgiving, 27 November, 1766
 2. On the day of Thanksgiving, 23 November, 1775.
 3. A sermon preached at Lexington, on the 19 April, 1781.
 4. On the General Election, at Boston, 28 May, 1783.
 5. On the day of National Thanksgiving, 11 December, 1783.
 6. At the ordination of reverend Phineas Wright, at Bolton, 26 October, 1785.
 7. On Natural Religion, 28 June, 1795.
 8. On Thanksgiving Day, 15 December, 1796.
 9. On Thanksgiving Day, 27 November, 1798.
 10. At the ordination of reverend Caleb Bradley, at Falmouth, 9 October, 1799.
 11. Eulogy on Gen. George Washington, 10 January, 1800.
 12. On the Public Fast, 9 April, 1801.
 13. Charity Sermon, at Roxbury, 21 September, 1802.
 14. An Half-Century Sermon, 21 February, 1813.
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15. Right Hand of Fellowship, annexed to the sermon preached at the ordination of reverend Elijah Dunbar, at Peterborough, N.H. 23 October, 1799.
 16. Charge, annexed to the sermon, preached at the ordination of reverend Wilkes Allen, at Chelmsford, 16 Nov. 1803.
 17. Charge, annexed to the sermon at the ordination of his colleague, reverend N. Whitman, 26 January, 1814.

ART. X.

The following information, respecting some others of the early settlers is given, as it maybe gratifying to their descendants.

John Stearns was one of the earliest inhabitants. He married Mary Lathrop, of Plymouth colony. He died, 5 March, 1669. John Stearns, his son, was the first person born in town, on record. His birth occurred the second week in May, 1654. In this town, he passed his days and died, 26 October, 1728, at the age of 74. His long continuance in several offices, of a civil and military kind, affords a proof of the confidence reposed in him by

his fellow citizens. From him descended reverend Josiah Stearns of Epping, N.H. Isaac Stearns, Esq. and reverend Mr. Stearns of Bedford.

John Baldwin, the ancestor of those of that name in Billerica, obtained a grant of land from the town in 1657. His sons, three in number, settled in town. He died, 25 September, 1687.

James Kidder, an inhabitant as early as 1656, was one of the selectmen six years. He died prior to 1678. He had nine sons, of whom three, James, Enoch and Ephraim, settled in town. His posterity are very numerous.

Roger Toothaker was admitted an inhabitant, 9 November, 1660. Tradition says he was a physician, and came from England, though it is probable he was not regularly bred. A medicinal herb, called Alexander, [Hipposeliui] which he is said to have brought with him from England, and planted on his farm in this town, continued to flourish till within a few years. His son, grand-son, and great-grand-son, all of the same name, have the appellation of physicians.

Thomas Patten, was son of William Patten of Cambridge, who appears to have been one of the original settlers. The former died, 16 January, 1689, aged 54, leaving four sons.

Job Lane was from England. He lived in that part of the town which is now Bedford. Major John Lane, probably his son, represented this town in the General Court, one or two years, and died, 17 January, 1715.

John Levistone, whose family suffered so severely from the Indians, was from Scotland, and settled in town about 1681.

Thomas Pollard emigrated from Warwickshire, in England. He was son of William Pollard, who was a glover, of the city of Coventry, in Great Britain.¹ He became an inhabitant about 1692, and died, 4 April, 1724, leaving ten sons.

Of the name of *Parker*, there appears to have been several, who received grants of land, viz. *John*, *James*, *Joseph*, and *Robert*. John we have already noticed. *Robert* belonged to Cambridge. Benjamin Parker, his son, resided in Billerica.

Of the name of *French* there were four – *William* and *John*, mentioned page 3; *Joseph*, who was accepted an inhabitant, 8 December, 1662. He was son of John French of Cambridge, and was born about 1638. *Jacob*, who was one of the selectmen, and died 20 May, 1713.

John Bracket was son of Capt. Richard Bracket, and died, 18 March, 1686.

Thomas Carrier, alias *Morgan*, an emigrant from Wales, was not at first accepted as an inhabitant, and a petition was presented to the county court against his admission. The witchcraft delusion in 1692, involved his family in the greatest distress. Richard Carrier, his son, (born in this town, 16 July, 1674,) was one of the witnesses against Mr. George Burroughs. His wife was arrested on suspicion of witchcraft, had a trial before the court at Salem, was condemned, 5 August, and executed on the 11th, among the unhappy victims at Salem village. The confession of his daughter, Sarah

¹ MS. Letter of Thomas Browne of Astley Hall, Warwickshire.

Carrier, a child about seven years old, before Major Willard, is given by Hutchinson, vol 2, page 44, first edition. It appears that he had left town, before his family was involved in this sad catastrophe, and had settled in Andover, or in its vicinity.

ART. XI.

CATALOGUE OF THE NAMES

In Billerica from the date of incorporation, 1655, to the year 1700; to which is annexed the number of births on record of each name, from the former period, to 1 January, 1816.

*Alden,	1	Frost,	90	*Patterson,	13
Bacon,	33	*Gorton,	4	*Perry,	1
Baldwin,	120	*Grimes,	4	Pollard,	78
Blanchard,	61	*Hale,	--	*Poulter,	8
*Bracket,	19	*Hamlet,	5	Richardson,	149
*Brooks,	6	*Hides,	2	Rogers,	94
Browne,	80	Hill,	135	*Rofs,	18
*Butler,	2	Holden,	6	Sanders,	74
*Carrier,	5	Hopkins,	16	*Sharp,	3
*Chamberlain,	50	*Hubbard,	--	Shed,	118
*Champney,	5	*Hunt,	49	*Sheldon,	14
*Corneal,	10	Jefts,	37	Stearns,	104
Crosby,	194	*Kemp,	24	*Tay,	6
Danforth,	143	Kidder,	100	*Tompson,	20
Davis,	42	*Kinsley,	--	*Toothaker,	28
*Ditson,	31	Kittredge,	72	Trull,	39
*Dunkin,	7	*Lane,	28	Walker,	70
Durant,	47	Levistone,	54	*Web,	2
*Dutton,	42	Manning,	75	Whiting,	69
*Farley,	57	Marshal,	54	*Wilkinson,	-
Farmer,	86	*Meades,	1	*Wilson,	46
*Farr,	1	*Moore,	--	*Whitaker,	1
*Fassett,	6	Needham,	44	*Willowes,	4
*Fitch,	8	*Page,	13	-----	
Foster,	43	Parker,	57	Total,	3186
French,	182	Patten,	76		

* Those names, having this mark above and in the table, are extinct in town. A few other names, than those in the table, are found in the records prior to 1700. These are Bird, Bly, Cary, Daniel, Deane, Ellis, Fisher, Fox, Goffe, Gould, Gurney, Hassell, Jaquish, Lewis, Muzzey, Osborn, Plumb, Scott, Solindine, Tudor, Willice. But no birth of either of these names occurs prior to 1700. The most of them were only temporary residents.

The above may be considered the ancient names of Billerica, of which, nearly one half are to be found there at this period. Some families, of names mentioned in the preceding Table, were detached from this town when Bedford and Tewksbury were incorporated. Some of these names are extinct in Billerica, but are still found in those places. Of those, who became inhabitants after the commencement of the last century, the most prevailing names are Abbot, Beard, Bowers, Dows, *Hall, Jacquith, Kendall, *Lewis, *Osgood, Ruggles, Sprake, Stickney, Spalding and *Tarbell. The numbers of births on record, of these several names, and all others not comprehended in the above table, amount to 949, which, added to the number in the table, make the whole aggregate of births on record to be *four thousand, one hundred and thirty-five*. It is not to be inferred that this is the whole number of births in town since its first settlement, as it is very evident that a large number is not recorded. Though it is of obvious importance, that they should be recorded, and notwithstanding a law, annexing a penalty for neglect, is in force, yet many of our citizens are totally regardless of the former, and with impunity incur the penalty of the latter.

ART. XII.

TABLE

OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS, IN BILLERICA,

For fifty-one years, commencing A. D. 1654.

Bths.	Mar.	Deaths.	Bths.	Mar.	Deaths.	Bths.	Mar.	Deaths.			
1654	3	1	0	1672	13	3	5	1690	14	3	6
55	2	1	0	73	11	2	3	91	16	-	3
56	2	1	1	74	14	5	8	92	13	-	14
57	2	0	0	75	16	1	10	93	19	-	6
58	4	1	0	76	15	1	7	94	19	-	10
59	5	1	2	77	17	6	6	95	14	6	13
1660	8	1	1	78	14	4	5	96	24	-	3
61	3	3	0	79	17	0	3	97	18	-	4
62	9	8	4	1680	25	2	7	98	24	-	8
63	8	1	2	81	14	7	4	99	22	-	3
64	16	3	1	82	12	2	5	1700	16	-	2
65	13	3	1	83	24	1	8	1	21	-	4
66	11	4	1	84	14	2	6	2	24	5	5
67	13	3	5	85	14	2	5	3	30	6	8
68	15	2	6	86	21	5	4	4	20	6	6
69	13	6	3	87	18	-	6	<hr/>			
1670	19	3	9	88	17	-	4	758	119	238	
71	23	1	7	89	19	5	4	<hr/>			

The preceding table of Births, Marriages and Deaths, excepting from the year 1693 to 1702, inclusive, is copied from a record made by Capt. Jonathan Danforth in the most ancient book of Births, &c. in Billerica. The number of marriages against those years having a dash, is not noted in said record.

ART. XIII.

A TABLE, exhibiting a view of the ages of those, who died from July, 1784, to February, 1813.

BY REV. DR. CUMINGS.

91 were under one year;			65 between 1 and 5		
23 between 5 and 10			21	50	55
11	10	15	23	55	60
21	15	20	15	60	65
26	20	25	36	65	70
22	25	30	31	70	75
15	30	35	32	75	80
17	35	40	42	80	85
23	40	45	18	85	90
19	45	50	8	90	95

ART. XIV.

The following document contains the report of the committee and the order of Court thereon.

“Anno Regni Regis Gulielmi decimo tertio. At a great and General Court, or Assembly for his Majestys’ Province of the Massachusetts Bay, begun and held at Boston upon Wednesday, 28 May 1701.

WHEREAS Major Jonathan Tyng, Major James Convers and Capt. Benjamin Garfield, a committee, appointed by the General Court, at their session in May, 1700, to view and settle the lines between the town of Billerica and the farms of John and Robert Blood, and the towns of Concord and Chelmsford, have reported their doings therein as followeth – That is to say, that as well as by their own view of the lines, court grants, and deeds produced to them, as on hearing of what was offered by the agents of the several towns, they find the land of Billerica bounded by the line of Chelmsford northward, beginning at Pawtucket stake, so called, by Concord River, where Chelmsford and Billerica and the Indians do meet; then Chelmsford line runneth south, forty-three degrees west, to a pillar of stones; then it runneth south , seventy-nine degrees west, three hundred and

thirty-two pole, which reacheth unto Major Willard's farm, to a great heap of stones in Chelmsford line; then the Major's farm runneth southwardly, forty-six degrees west, one hundred and sixteen pole to a little white-oak; then it runneth south, forty-one degrees west, three hundred eighty and four pole, which reached to a marked pine in Concord village line, near to a place called Berry corner; then it is bounded southward by a line which was run by the above said committee, betwixt the Bloods and Billerica, which ran from a pine called *Allias* corner, south, eighty and five degrees west, one hundred seventy and four pole, which reached unto Concord line. Again, it is bounded north-east and south-east, east and south-east by Concord river.

“Resolved, That the said Report be accepted and approved, and the boundaries and lines of the towns and lands above named settled accordingly. ISAAC ADDINGTON, Secretary.”