

Folsom, stating replies they had received from Londonderry and Exeter as to the result of their experience. The committee recommended to the town to purchase a farm, establish a house of industry, and keep their poor all together in one place.

At a meeting holden April 2, 1822,

“Voted, That the town purchase a suitable farm and appropriate the same to the residence, support and employment of the poor of said town.”

They appropriated any funds in the hands of the treasurer; to raise by tax twenty-one hundred dollars by seven annual installments; and to raise by loan what is necessary.

“Voted, That the Selectmen (John Folsom, Josiah Chase and Lemuel W. Blake) be a committee to purchase a farm.”

The selectmen purchased of Peter Shirley the farm where James Shirley, sen., first settled, and paid \$2,200. They made an addition to the house and repaired it. The stock, tools, furniture, &c., cost \$1,226.29. Cost of the establishment, \$3,426.29.

RATES OR TAXES.

The public expenses were at first borne by the original proprietors or grantees, and as they were mostly non-residents they soon sold their rights, or parts of rights, to actual settlers, or other non-residents, who then became proprietors and chargeable with the expense. Some items have been given in the Proprietary History. The proprietors were sometimes slack in their payments which caused great embarrassment.

In April, 1731, there was an act passed, the preâmble of which recites, “That, Whereas the several towns of Chester, Nottingham and Rochester labor under many inconveniences in carrying on public affairs and especially in the maintenance and support of the gospel ministry among them, by reason of the great numbers of the proprietors of land within said townships living out of the Province, by which means the constables or collectors of the aforesaid

towns are unable to collect the rates due from their respective proprietors living out of the province as aforesaid." It was enacted that the lands within any of those towns might be extended on for rates and cost, to continue in force three years. There were continually votes being passed and committees raised for selling the rights of delinquents, but as there came to be inhabitants who were not proprietors the rates were levied on both; but in what manner I have seen nothing to indicate. An act passed in 1703 provides "that the justices, yearly at their December session, shall appoint one freeholder in each town to go through the town in which he belongs, unto every inhabitant, and take an account of such person's ratable estate, and shall deliver it to the selectmen between December and March each year, and such person shall have power to appoint one or more assistants." At a town-meeting held the last Thursday of March, 1741, John Tolford and James Varnum were chosen "Invoice men to take the Invoice of the heads and Estates of the Whole town," which was taken. That document is in the Secretary's office and in the excellent hand-writing of Mr. Varnum. The town had never before been rated to the province and this inventory was for fixing the proportion. There are D houses and S houses. In some of the inventories the distinction is made of two-story houses and one-story houses, which is probably meant here.

The following is the inventory; interesting, as showing the taxable persons and property then in town:

An Invoice Taken of y^e mens Estates whose names are here mentioned Between the month of December and March, which is in y^e year 1741.

Pr. James Varnum, }
John Tolford, } Invois men.

Chester, Febuary 27th, 1741.

INVOICE TABLE.

NAMES.	Heds.	D. House.	S. House.	Mills.	Lands.	Oxen.	Cows.	Horses.	3 olds.	2 olds.	1 olds.	Colts.	Swine.
Mark Karr.....	1		1										
William White.....	1		1		6		2	1	2	1	4	1	
Jacob Sargent, Jr.....	1												
William Leach.....	1		1		4	2	1	1					
John Orr.....	1				4		1			1	1		
Daniel mac farland.....	1		1				1		1				
Ebenezer Gial.....					5								
Nathan Hale.....					1								
John Clement.....					1								
James mac fascn.....	1		1				1						
Adam Dickey.....	1		1		1				1				
James Shirley, Jun.....	1				3	2				1	2		
Michal Derbon.....	1							1					
Edward Crage.....	1												
James Quainton.....	1		1		8	2	2	1		1			
James Shirley.....	1		1		3		1						
James Willson.....	1		1		5		3	1					
John Dickey.....	1		1		4		2	1	1				
John Underhill.....	1		1				1	1					
Thomas Richardson.....	1		1				1						
Bradbury Karr.....	1		1				1			2			
Jonathan Sanders.....	1		1										
Nathan Webster.....	1		1		3	2	1						
Stephen Webster.....	1		1		1		1			2			
Daniel Webster.....	1	1			7		1	1	1	2			
James Varnum.....	1		1		5			1					
Wid. Elisabeth Underhill.....			1		6		1						
Wid. Elisabeth Rowell.....					6		1						
David Crage.....	1						1	1					
Samuel Aken.....	1		1		3	2	2	1					
John Basford.....	1		1		6		1	1					
Timothy Ingals.....	1												
Moses Richardson.....	1												
Thomas Wasson.....	1		1		2	2	2	1					
John Wadwell.....	1		1		5		1		1	1	1		
William Turner.....	1												
Robert Gillcrees.....	1		1		14	2	4	1		2	2		
John Mills, Jun.....	1		1		6		3	1			3		
Robert Mills.....	1		1		5		2	1		2			
Martha Forsith.....	1						1						
John Carswell.....	1		1		6		1		3				
Joseph Taylor.....	1	1			11	2	2	1					
John Robie.....		1			2		1				2		
Samll. Robie.....	1		1		5		2			2	1	1	
Samll. Powell.....	1												
William Powell.....	1	1			3		2	2					
Titus Wells.....	1	1			2		2	1					
Robert Graham.....	1	1			13		1	1		2			
Robert Graham, jun.....	1	1			3	2	1					1	
William Graham.....	1												
Patrick Melvin.....	1		1		6		3	1	2				
John Allen.....	1		1		2		1	1					
Thomas Worthen.....	1	1			9		2	1					
Eliphaz Sanborn.....	1		1		3		1	1					
Ithamer Berry.....	2	1					2	1		5	2		
Joseph Clark.....	1		1		2		1						

