

**1881**

**Warrant for Annual Town Meeting – March 7, 1881 – File 10 No. 25**

**Essex SS: -** To Eben G. Knight, Constable of the Town of Methuen

**Greeting: -** In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen on Monday the seventh day of March next at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and there to act on the following articles, viz.: -

- Art. 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2 To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of Poor, one School Committeeman to serve for three, (in place of William M. Rogers whose term expires), Constables, Auditor of Accounts and Fence Viewers, all on one ballot. Also to choose a Collector of Taxes by ballot or otherwise, and all other necessary Town Officers, in such a manner as the Town may determine. The polls to be kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m.
- Art. 3 To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and act thereon.
- Art. 4 To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges for the ensuing year, and make appropriations of the same.
- Art. 5<sup>th</sup> To determine the manner of collecting taxes, the year ensuing year and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 6<sup>th</sup> To determine by what method the Town will appropriate their highway taxes, and repair highways for the ensuing year.
- Art. 7<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town a sufficient sum of money to pay any notes that may become due during the year, or that may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen, and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to approve and accept the list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 9<sup>th</sup> To hear the report of Committees, and act thereon.
- Art. 10<sup>th</sup> To determine what compensation the Town will grant to members of the fire department for their services the ensuing year.
- Art. 11<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to restrain neat cattle, horses and swine from going at large the ensuing year.

- Art. 12<sup>th</sup> To determine the manner of appropriating the amount received from Dog tax in accordance with Chapter 250 of Acts of 1869.
- Art. 13<sup>th</sup> By request of Post 100 G.A.R. to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the purpose of decorating the graves of our soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day May 30<sup>th</sup> 1881; said money to be expended under the direction of Col. Wm. B. Greene, Post 100 G.A.R.
- Art. 14<sup>th</sup> By request of A. J. Whittier and others, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate twenty dollars to clear up the bushes and otherwise improve the burying ground in the west part of the Town.
- Art. 15<sup>th</sup> By request of Charles K. Clark and others, to see if the Town will vote to repair Vine Street, from the house of Alpheas Boles to the corner near the house of Justin E. Griffin, and appropriate two hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 16<sup>th</sup> By request of John Cluff and 140 others to see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to aid La France H. Mitchell, Constable of Methuen, in his defence to the indictment for manslaughter, in causing the death of Maurice Sullivan; the estimated expense will be two hundred dollars.
- Art. 17<sup>th</sup> By request of Charles Easton and others to see if the Town will vote that no person shall make any brawl or turmoil, or in any street, lane, alley, or other public place, be guilty of any rude indecent or disorderly conduct, or shall insult or wantonly impede any person passing thereon, or throw any stones, bricks, snowballs or dirt, or play at ball in the compact part of the Town, or any game at which ball is sued, on penalty of a fine not less than three, or more than twenty dollars for each offence.
- Art. 18<sup>th</sup> By request of Thomas H. Fernald and Willard M. Hardy, to see if the Town will vote to repair Highland Street and appropriate one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 19<sup>th</sup> By request of Charles M. Sawyer and others, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to locate and dig a well near the Barlett Schoolhouse, and furnish the same with pump and trough and make an appropriation of one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 20<sup>th</sup> By request of James O. Emerson and others, to see if the Town will erect and maintain a street light on Gage Street to be located by the Selectmen and appropriate ten dollars for the same.
- Art. 21<sup>st</sup> By request of James R. Crummett and 19 others of Pleasant Valley School District, so called, to see if the Town will vote to move the Schoolhouse or build a new one in said district to better accommodate the scholars and act thereon as the Town may think proper.

- Art. 22d By request of Hazen Messer and others, to see if the Town will vote to extend the Arch Bridge near Charles Ingalls, out to the line of the street on the east side, to correspond with the proposed bank wall and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars in addition to the one thousand dollars, the amount appropriated last year for the bank wall, and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 23d By request of Moses E. Kimball and others, to see if the Town will vote to repair Oak Street, commencing near the house of John Harrington, running to the house of John Fred Bishop, and appropriate three hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 24<sup>th</sup> By request of J. Sumner Emery and others, to see if the Town will vote to request the Selectmen not to grant any licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors for the ensuing year.
- Art. 25<sup>th</sup> By request of Wheeler Perkins and others, to see what action the Town will take in relation to the sale of intoxicating liquors and act thereon, as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 26<sup>th</sup> By request of James a Richardson and others, to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen and running easterly from land of Thomas Goldsmith, C. D. Robbins, through land of Mary Abbott to Railroad Street, and appropriate one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 27<sup>th</sup> By request of Edward S. Taylor and others, to see if the Town will accept, and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen running northerly one hundred and twenty feet past the house of the said Edward S. Taylor.
- Art. 28<sup>th</sup> By request of Charles Austin and others, to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen, running westerly from near the house of John A. Crosbie to Broadway Street near the house of E. A. Bridge, a distance of about fourteen hundred and seven feet to be called Centre Street, also a street running northerly from the above named Centre Street two hundred and fifty feet to be called Tenney Street, also a street running northerly two hundred and fifty feet to be called Phillips Street.
- Art. 29<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to appropriate five hundred dollars to be expended on the Highways, the most part to be laid out in the vicinity of the new Arlington Mill, the same to be laid out under the direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 30<sup>th</sup> To see what action the Town will take in relation to the purchase of a schoolhouse lot near Broadway Street, between Methuen Village and the Lawrence line.
- Art. 31<sup>st</sup> To see if the Town will vote to pay John G. Sherig for damage on account of being obliged to travel with his team outside of the highways, said highway being impassable on account of snow, and appropriate ten dollars for the same.

Art. 32d To see if the Town will vote to paint and otherwise repair the Town House and appropriate two hundred dollars for the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this twenty sixth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

John W. Frederick } Selectmen  
S. W. Williams } of Methuen

**Essex SS.: February 26 A.D. 1881**

By virtue of this warrant, I t his day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the time and place, and for the purpose within named, by posting up attested copies of this warrant at the Town House and at each of the public meeting houses in said Methuen as within directed.

E. G. Knight – Constable  
A true copy of warrant & return – Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk of Methuen

### **March 7, 1881 - Annual Town Meeting**

**The Annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Monday the seventh day of March A.D. 1881 at ten o'clock a.m. in accordance with Warrant No. 25, File 10.**

The meeting was called to order by the Town Clerk who read the foregoing warrant.

Art. 1 Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator by a unanimous vote

Prayer was then offered by Rev. J. W. Walker

Art. 2 The polls were then opened for the choice of those officers to be chosen by ballot, and were kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m. when they were closed. The votes given in were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made and were as follows, viz.: -

The whole number of votes cast for **Town Clerk** was six hundred and one 601

Joseph S. Howe had six hundred	600
G. W. Newell had one	1

And Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Town Treasurer** was five hundred and twenty nine 529

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred twenty eight	528
G. W. Newell had one	1

And Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of votes cast for **Collector of Taxes** was six hundred two 602

Joseph S. Howe had six hundred and one	601
G. W. Newell had one	1

And Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor** was six hundred and five 605

Franklin Saunders had three hundred forty five	345
Moses E. Kimball had three hundred twenty seven	327
Ebenezer Sawyer had three hundred and ten	310
John W. Frederick had two hundred eighty five	285
David M. Ayer had two hundred sixty six	266
George W. Newell had two hundred fifty nine	259
Albert B. Gordon had two	2
George O. Marsh had one	1
German S. Phippen had one	1

The whole number of votes cast for **School Committee** six hundred three 603

Daniel A. Rollins had four hundred fifty seven	457
Charles L. Mitchell had one hundred forty five	145
William M. Rogers had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Constables** was six hundred and three 603

Eben G. Knight had five hundred fifty three	553
George A. Closson had three hundred fifty seven	357
J. Calvin Taylor had two hundred fifty nine	259
Joseph Martin had two hundred forty eight	248
L. Henry Mitchell had two hundred twenty six	226
Daniel Currier had eighty five	85
Albert B. Gordon had four	4

James E. Messer had two	2
Marcus W. Keyes had one	1

And Eben G. Knight (sworn), George A. Closson and J. Calvin Taylor were declared elected.

Franklin Saunders, Moses E. Kimball and Ebenezer Sawyer were declared elected Selectmen, Assessors and Overseer of Poor and were sworn into those respective offices.

Daniel a Rollins was declared elected **School Committee**.

The whole number of votes cast for **Auditor of Accounts** six hundred three 603

James Ingalls had three hundred and eleven	311
Amos L. Gale had two hundred ninety two	292

And James Ingalls was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Road Commissioners** six hundred six 606

John Q. Hill had six hundred and two	602
Eben T. Sumner had six hundred and four	604
Edmund P. Sargent had six hundred and one	601
George N. Carleton had three hundred and sixty	360
Albert B. Gordon had two hundred thirty seven	237
Horace S. Whittier had two hundred forty two	242
James E. Messer had three hundred fifty seven	357

John Q. Hill, Eben T. Sumner, Edmund P. Sargent, George N. Carleton and James E. Messer were declared elected and were sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Fence Viewers** six hundred six 606

Eben G. Knight had five hundred and ninety	590
Marcus W. Keyes had three hundred sixty three	363
William H. Butters had five hundred twenty nine	529
George O. Marsh had three hundred seventeen	317
Tom Martin had one	1
George A. Closson had one	1

And Eben G. Knight, Marcus W. Keyes and William H. Butters were declared elected and were sworn.

The following persons were appointed **Field Drivers**.

John Welch	Edward Farr
Henry A. Merrill	E. L. Kent

**It was voted that the Sealer of Weights and Measures be appointed by the Selectmen.**

**Pound Keepers**

Stephen W. Williams

Hezekiah Chadwick

**Surveyors of Lumber**

Ralph Clark – sworn

Andrew J. Taylor – sworn

W. J. Nichols

Horace S. Whittier

Millett G. Copp

James O. Parker – sworn

John W. Frederick – sworn

Moses E. Kimball – sworn

Joseph R. Emerson

Millard F. Emerson – sworn

**Surveyors of Plastering**

Lyman B. Gage

Jesse A. Towne

Nahum P. Winn

Millett G. Copp

George A. Page

**Surveyors of Wood and Bark**

John C. Webster

Julius B. Holman

Ralph Clark – sworn

James E. Messer – sworn

Moses E. Kimball – sworn

Patrick Cox – sworn

Fred A. Russell – sworn

John G. Low

George O. Marsh – sworn

Nelson M. Blodgett – sworn

Eben G. Knight – sworn

Stephen Currier

Art. 3 Voted to accept the Annual Report of the Selectmen.

Art. 4 Voted to appropriate the sums reported by the Committee on Finance as necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year, as follows: -

<b>For</b>	Support of Schools: eighty two hundred dollars	\$8,200.
	Supplies for schools: three hundred dollars	300.
	Repairs on schoolhouses: five hundred dollars	500.
	Maps and apparatus: two hundred dollars	200.
	School furniture: three hundred dollars	300.
	Public Library: two hundred dollars	200.
	Opening Roads: fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.
	Highways and Repairs on Bridges: five thousand dollars	5,000.
	Street Lights: seven hundred dollars	700.
	Fire Department: twelve hundred dollars	1,200.
	Contingencies: fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.

Special Police: one hundred dollars	100.
Town Officers: one thousand dollars	1,000.
Collecting taxes: three hundred and fifty dollars	350.
Pauper Department: twenty two hundred dollars	2,200.
School Committee: three hundred dollars	300.
Interest: four thousand dollars	<u>4,000.</u>
Total	27,550.

On motion of J. O. Parker, voted that Town Officers be required to render to the Town itemized bills including the number of days service and the amount charged per day.

- Art. 5 Voted that the manner of collecting taxes be the same as last year.
- Art. 6 Voted that the method of appropriating highway taxes and repairing highways be the same as last year.
- Art. 7 Voted to authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town a sufficient sum of money to pay any notes that may become due during the year, or that may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen, and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8 The list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen, was read to the meeting, and it was voted that the name of Samuel A. Harvey be added to the list. The list as amended was then approved and accepted.

The list of **Jurors** is as follows: -

Ayer David M.	Hall Henry N.
Butters George A.	Hall Benjamin M.
Butters George W.	Harvey Charles H.
Boardman John	Harvey Samuel A.
Beedle Charles T.	Howe Joseph S.
Bradley George B.	Kimball Moses E.
Buswell Joseph E.	Merrill S. Ransom
Bodwell John W.	Merrill Daniel
Barker William H.	Marsh George O.
Coburn J. Varnum	Messer James E.
Coburn H. Newton	Morse James W.
Chase Elihu F.	Morrison Daniel T.
Corliss Varnum	Mitchell John
Cole Daniel E.	Parker James O.
Cole David M.	Rollins Daniel C.
Copp Millett G.	Rowe Alexander H.
Davis Stephen W.	Saunders Franklin



Dorr Elliott F.  
Dowding Edmund  
Dodge James S.  
Emerson Joseph R.  
Foster Joel 1<sup>st</sup>  
Frederick Edwin R.

Smith Moses G.  
Smith Nathan A.  
Swan Leverett  
Sumner George H.  
Stickney William H.  
Taylor Andrew J.

Fifield Roscoe A.  
George John H.  
Gage George W.  
Gordon J. Haskell

Tenney George W.  
Williams Stephen W.  
Woodburn Charles T.  
Webster John C.

Walton James

- Art. 9 Voted to accept the Report of the School Committee, and Report of Committee on Public Library.
- Art. 10 Voted that the compensation of members of the Fire Department be the same as last year.
- Art. 11 Voted that neat cattle, horses, and swine be restrained.
- Art. 12 Voted that the money received from the Dog tax be appropriated the same as last year (i.e. Purchase of books for Public Library).
- Art. 13 Voted that one hundred dollars be appropriated in accordance with Article 18 of the Warrant.
- Art. 14 Voted to appropriate twenty dollars to clear up the bushes and otherwise improve the burying ground in the west part of the Town, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 15 Voted to repair Vine Street from the house of Alpheas Boles to the corner near the house of Justin E. Griffin and appropriate two hundred dollars therefor, and that said sum be not exceeded; also that the above sum be laid out under the direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 16 After considerable discussion it was voted to pass over Article 16 by a vote of 216 aff. (affirmative) to 20 neg.(negative).
- Art. 17 Voted that the subject matter of Article 17 become a By-Law of the Town.
- Art. 18 Voted that an amount not exceeding one hundred dollars be appropriated to repair Highland Street, and that this sum be expended under the direction of the Road Commissioner for that part of the Town.

- Art. 19 Voted to locate and dig a well near the Bartlett School House in accordance with Article 19, and appropriate one hundred dollars therefor.
- Art. 20 Voted to refer Article 20 to the Selectmen.
- Art. 21 Voted to refer Article 21 to the School Committee and that they report to the Town at some meeting during the current year.
- Art. 22 Voted to pass over Article 22.
- Art. 23 Voted to repair Oak Street commencing near the house of John Harrington, running to the house of John Fred. Bishop, and appropriate three hundred dollars therefor, no part to be expended for land damages. Also voted, that the above sum be laid out under the direction of E. P. Sargent.
- Art. 24 A motion to pass over the Article was decided in the negative by a vote of 85 Yeas to 100 Nays. A motion to refer the whole subject to the Selectmen was lost 94 Yeas to 103 Nays. It was then voted to request the Selectmen not to grant any licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors for the ensuring year.
- Art. 25 Voted to pass over Article 25.
- Art. 26 Voted to accept as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen running easterly from land of Thomas Goldsmith and C. D. Robbins through land of Mary Abbott to Railroad Street, and appropriate one hundred dollars for the same. It was also voted that said sum be not exceeded, and no part thereof paid for land damage.
- Art. 27 Voted to accept as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen running northerly one hundred and twenty feet past the house of Edward S. Taylor.
- Art. 28 Voted to postpone the subject matter of Article 28 to a future meeting.
- Art. 29 Voted to appropriate five hundred dollars to be expended in accordance with Article 29 of the Warrant.
- Art. 30 Voted that Article 30 be referred to the Selectmen, and that they report to the Town at a future meeting this year.
- Art. 31 Voted to appropriate ten dollars to pay John G. Sherig, in accordance with Article 31.
- Art. 31 Voted to appropriate two hundred dollars, to paint and otherwise repair the Town House.

Article 20 was then reconsidered. Voted to refer to the Selectmen and that they be authorized to take a bond, for the purchase of a lot suitable for a schoolhouse and report at a future meeting.

Voted that the School Committee be added to the Selectmen to constitute a committee for the above purpose.

Voted that the sum of ten dollars be appropriated for the payment of the services of the Moderator this day.

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

**Treasurer's Account Jan. 1, 1881 (Jan. 1, 1880 to Jan. 1, 1881)**

**DR.**

Cash in Treasury, Jan. 1, 1880	\$12,071.58
Uncollected taxes, 1876, 1877, 1878 & 1879	8,911.66
Tax list for 1880	33,708.78
Bank tax list for 1880	1,511.92
Interest on taxes	383.08
Treas. of Essex Co. dog licenses	359.80
Town of Framingham, support of poor	163.36
Income of School fund	213.28
State of Mass, State paupers support	84.43
State of Mass, support of Henry Farrell	40.00
State of Mass, support of Mary Gibney	41.79
State of Mass, relief of indigent soldiers	161.73
State of Mass, State aid	1,186.00
State of Mass, Corporation tax	2,003.72
State of Mass, National bank tax	740.94
Wm. M. Rogers, guardian Cynthia Wilson	211.99
E. M. Woodbury board of E. Woodbury	175.92
Support of Sundry poor	70.27
Wm. D. Lamb burial Chas. Rushlo	8.00
S. H. Harris liquor licenses 6 <sup>th</sup> class	2.00
Castle & Stevens liquor licenses 6 <sup>th</sup> class	2.00
Wardwell & Nownes liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> class	225.00
S. Q. Hersey liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> class	275.00
John Skeritt liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> class	175.00
Wm. H. Dinsmore liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> class	275.00
David Widdub liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> class	275.00
Philip H. Fitz liquor licenses 1 <sup>st</sup> class	275.00
John Harvey liquor licenses 4 <sup>th</sup> class	125.00
S. H. Harris Rent, Jan 1, 1880 to Jan. 1, 1881	300.00
Nat. Bank. Meth. Rent, Jan. 1, 1880 to Jan. 1, 1881	300.00
Janitors of Hall, use of Town hall	500.00

John Q. Hill, old lumber, stone & loam	28.25
Geo. W. Palmer	62.80
Peter J. Lucas, privy	5.00
Varnum Corliss – horse collar returned	4.00
T. B. Currier – auctioneer’s license	2.00
John Q. Hill – cash overpaid	1.00
Old paper	.35
	<u>\$64,863.65</u>

**CR.**

Cash paid Selectmen’s Orders	\$27,142.37
Cash paid Interest	4,783.55
Cash paid Sundry notes	8,809.41
Cash paid County tax	2,188.00
Cash paid State tax	2,020.00
Cash paid National Bank tax	1,065.72
Cash paid State Treasurer liquor licenses	406.75
Uncollected taxes 1877	161.47
Uncollected taxes 1878	690.58
Uncollected taxes 1879	2,215.50
Uncollected taxes 1880	6,422.83
Cash in Treasury	<u>8,967.47</u>
	<u>\$64,863.65</u>

**Warrant for Special Town Meeting – File 10 – No. 26**

**Essex SS: -**

To Eben G. Knight, one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen,

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen, on Monday, May ninth at two o’clock p.m. then and there to act on the following articles, viz.: -

- Art. 1<sup>st</sup> To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2d To hear the report of the Committee to who was referred the petition for removal of the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse.
- Art. 3d To hear the Report of the Committee to who was referred the selection of a lot of land to build a schoolhouse upon near the Arlington Mills.
- Art. 4<sup>th</sup> To see what action the Town will take in relation to building anew schoolhouse between Methuen Village and the Arlington Mills.
- Art. 5<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fifty dollars to reimburse the Trustees of Walnut Grove Cemetery for widening the west end of Cemetery Street.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and each of the public school houses, and at the Town House in said Town, eight days at least before said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this twenty eight day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Ebenzr Sawyer	} Selectmen
Franklin Saunders	} of
Moses E. Kimball	} Methuen

**Essex ss:** - By virtue of the within warrant, I this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting up attested copies of t his warrant at each of the public meeting houses, and at each of the public schoolhouses and at the Town House in said Town of Methuen as within directed it being more than eight days before the time, of said meeting.

**Methuen, April 30<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1881.**

E. G. Knight – Constable of Methuen

## **May 9, 1881 - Special Town Meeting**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, held at the Town Hall in Said Town, on Monday, the ninth day of May A.D. 1881 at two o'clock p.m. in pursuance to Warrant No. 26 File 10.**

The meeting was called to order and the warrant read by the Town Clerk.

Art. 1<sup>st</sup> Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator by ballot.

Art. 2d Mr. Lyman B. Gage, Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the petition for removal of the Pleasant Valley School House, reported that the Committee had carefully examined the matter, and detailed to the meeting a statement of facts in the case. He also stated that the committee made no recommendation, but only reported the facts so that the Town might deal with the matter as it saw fit.

Voted to accept the Report of the Committee. The subject under consideration being Article 21 of the Annual Warrant, Wm. C. Sleeper moved to pass over the article.

Mr. Thissell moved to amend by appropriating two thousand dollars to build a schoolhouse near corner of East and Oak Streets.

The Moderator ruled the amendment out of order, for want of compliance with the By-Law requiring a detailed statement of expense. It was then voted to pass over the Article.

Art. 3d Mr. Ebenr. (Ebenezer) Sawyer, Chairman of the committee to w him was referred the selection of a lot of land to build a Schoolhouse upon reported that the Committee recommended the Town to purchase Lots numbered 14, 15, 16 & 17 of land owned by Mary E. Kimball, for the sum of sixteen hundred and fifty dollars. A motion of Mr. Sleeper to adjourn two weeks was decided in the negative; a motion of Mr. Rogers to adjourn one hour to view the premises, was also decided in the negative. On motion of Joseph How it was voted, that the Town buy the Kimball Lot recommended by the committee. Voted to appropriate sixteen hundred and fifty dollars therefor.

Art. 4<sup>th</sup> Voted that the subject matter of Article 4 be referred to the Selectmen.

Art. 5<sup>th</sup> Voted that the Town reimburse the Trustees of Walnut Grove Cemetery as asked for in Article 5 of the Warrant and that fifty dollars be appropriated. It was then voted, on motion of Mr. Parker, that the Town consider Article 28 of the Annual Warrant. Mr. Parker moved that the streets described in Article 28 as laid out by the Selectmen, be accepted, and that the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated for the payment of land damages, carried by a unanimous vote.

The part of this vote relating to land damage was then reconsidered, and it was voted that the sum paid for land damage shall not exceed the appropriation.

Voted to adjourn.

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

## **Warrant for Town Meeting – November 1881 – File 10, No. 27.**

**Essex ss: -**

To Ebenezer G. Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen in said County.

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required forthwith to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote as the law directs to assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the eighth day of November next at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and there to give in their ballots for a Governor of the Commonwealth, Lieutenant Governor, Councilor for District Number Six, Secretary, Treasurer and Receiver General, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, one Senator for the Sixth Essex District, County Commissioner, Clerk of Courts and three Representatives to represent Essex

District Number Nineteen in the next General Court of the Commonwealth all on one ballot, also to give in their ballots "Yes" or "No" upon a Resolve concerning an amendment to the Constitution to prevent the disfranchisement of certain soldiers and sailors becoming paupers, approved by the Governor on the sixth day of May one thousand, eight hundred and eighty one.

The polls to be opened at ten o'clock a.m. and kept open until four o'clock p.m. and no longer. And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon to ourselves at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Methuen this twenty ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Ebenezer Sawyer } Selectmen  
Franklin Saunders } of  
Moses E. Kimball } Methuen

Essex ss: -                      **October 29<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1881**

By virtue of this warrant I this day notified the inhabitants of Methuen qualified to vote as the law directs, to assemble at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting up attested copies of this warrant at each of the public meeting houses, and at the Town House in said Methuen, as within directed.

Ebenezer G. Knight, Constable of Methuen

## **November 8, 1881 - Town Meeting – State Election**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections, held at the Town Hall on Tuesday the eighth day of November, A.D. 1881 at ten o'clock a.m. pursuant to Warrant No. 27, File 10, the votes were given in , sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made as the law directs, and were as follows: -**

The whole number of ballots for **Governor** was four hundred and seventy nine                      479

John D. Long of Hingham had three hundred and four	304
Charles P. Thompson of Gloucester had one hundred seventy three	173
Charles Almy of New Bedford had two	2

The whole number of ballots cast for **Lieutenant Governor** four hundred seventy nine                      479

Byron Weston of Dalton had three hundred and five	305
James H. Carleton of Haverhill had one hundred seventy three	173
Fred S. Pearson of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Secretary of State** was four hundred seventy seven 477

Henry B. Peirce of Abington had three hundred and five	305
Michael T. Donohoe of Somerville had one hundred seventy one	171
L. L. Eastman of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Treasurer and Receiver General** was  
Four hundred seventy nine 479

Daniel A. Gleason of Medford had three hundred and five	305
William A. Hodges of Quincy had one hundred seventy three	173
John Tapley of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor** was four hundred seventy nine 479

Charles R. Ladd of Springfield had three hundred and five	305
Charles R. Field of Greenfield had one hundred seventy three	173
W. Norris of Lawrence had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Attorney General** was four hundred seventy seven 477

George Marston of New Bedford had three hundred and five	305
Patrick A. Collins of Boston had one hundred seventy one	171
Marcus Keyes of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Councilor** was four hundred seventy eight 478

George Heywood of Concord had three hundred and five	305
John C. Sanborn of Lawrence had one hundred seventy two	172
C. E. Bass of Lawrence had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Clerk of the Courts** four hundred and eighty 480

Alfred A. Abbott of Peabody had four hundred seventy nine	479
John W. Frederick of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **County Commissioner** four hundred seventy nine 479

John W. Raymond of Beverly had three hundred and nine	309
George W. Brown of Marblehead had one hundred sixty nine	169
O. S. Baketel of Methuen had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Senator** was four hundred sixty four 464

Andrew C. Stone of Lawrence had two hundred twenty nine	229
James O. Parker of Methuen had two hundred thirty four	234
Joseph Fulton of Methuen had one	1



### For **Representatives to the General Court**

Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen had two hundred thirty four	234
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill had two hundred sixty eight	268
Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill had two hundred and eighty	280
Woodburn J. Nichols of Methuen had two hundred sixty one	261
D. Smith Kimball of Haverhill had one hundred and sixty	160
William Mason of Haverhill had one hundred sixty eight	168
Samuel P. Prescott of Haverhill had fifteen	15
D. H. Patterson of Methuen had one	1
Henry Dorr of Haverhill had one	1
M. W. French of Haverhill had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast upon the “**Resolve concerning an amendment to the Constitution to prevent the disfranchisement of certain soldiers and sailors becoming paupers**”, was ninety 90

Number of ballots “Yes” four	4
Number of ballots “no” eighty six	86

The returns of the votes cast for the several officers balloted for, and for the Constitutional Amendment, were made up, properly certified, and delivered to the Town Clerk, and the ballots cast for the several officers, and the check list used, were sealed up and delivered to the Town Clerk, after which the meeting was dissolved.

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Record of Meeting of City and Town Clerks at Haverhill Nov. 9**

**City of Haverhill November 9, 1881**  
**Office of City Clerk**

At a meeting of the City Clerk of Haverhill and the Town Clerk of Methuen said City and Town forming the Nineteenth Essex Representative District, held at noon this day in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided upon comparing the transcript of the return, the following appears as the result of the ballotings in said District at meetings held on Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> 1881 –

To wit: -

	<b>Haverhill Vote</b>	<b>Methuen Vote</b>	<b>Total Vote</b>
Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill	793	280	1073
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill	729	268	997

Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen	888	234	1122
William Nason of Haverhill	594	168	762
D. Smith Kimball of Haverhill	538	160	698
Woodburn Jaquish Nichols of Methuen	501		501
George Frank Sheldon of Haverhill	202		202
Luther Day of Haverhill	135		135
Alpheus Z. Pettengill of Haverhill	131		131
Samuel P. Prescott of Haverhill	177	15	192
Charles H. Chase of Haverhill	1		1
Woodburn J. Nichols of Methuen	3	261	264
D. B. Cluff of Haverhill	2		2
Daniel S. Kimball of Haverhill	1		1
G. O. Willey	1		1
Edwin N. Hill	2		2
Alpheus L. Pettengill	3		3
Henry H. Johnson of Haverhill	1		1
William Jeffers of Haverhill	1		1
George F. Coffin of Haverhill	1		1
D. H. Patterson of Methuen		1	1
Henry Dorr of Haverhill		1	1
H. W. French of Haverhill		1	1

In accordance with the foregoing returns, Certificates of Election were this day issued to the three persons having the largest number of votes for Representative to the General Court from the Nineteenth Essex District.

To wit: -

Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill  
 Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill and  
 Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen

Attest,

David B. Tenney  
 City Clerk of Haverhill  
 Jos. S. Howe  
 Town Clerk of Methuen

A true copy of the Record

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe  
 Town Clerk of Methuen

**1882**

**Warrant for Annual Town Meeting – March 6, 1882 – File 10, No. 28.**

**Essex ss: -**

To Eben G. Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen,

**Greeting:-**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen, on Monday the sixth day of March next at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:-

- Art. 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2 To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor, one School Committeeman to serve three years (in place of Lyman B. Gage whose term expires), Constables, Auditor of Accounts, and Fence Viewers, all on one ballot. Also to bring their ballots "yes" or "no" in answer to the question "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor in this Town?". The vote shall be by separate ballot. Also to choose a Collector of Taxes by ballot or otherwise, and all other necessary Town officers, in such a manner as the Town may determine.

The Polls to be kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m.

- Art. 3 To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and act thereon.
- Art. 4 To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year and make appropriation of the same.
- Art. 5 To determine the manner of Collecting taxes the ensuing year and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 6 To determine by what method the Town will appropriate the highway taxes and repair highways the ensuing year.
- Art. 7 To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town a sufficient sum of money to pay any note that may become due during the year, or that may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8 To see if the Town will vote to approve and accept the list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 9 To hear the reports of Committees and act thereon.
- Art. 10 To determine what compensation the Town will grant members of the Fire Department for their services the ensuing year.

- Art. 11 To see if the Town will vote to restrain neat cattle, horses and swine from going at large the ensuing year.
- Art. 12 To determine the manner of appropriating the amount received from Dog Taxes in accordance with Chapter 250 Acts of 1869.
- Art. 13 By request of Post 100 G.A.R. to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the purpose of decorating the graves of our soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day May 30<sup>th</sup> 1882. Said money to be expended under the direction of Col. William B. Greene Post 100 G.A.R.
- Art. 14 By request of Charles K. Clark and others, to see if the Town will vote to build a new road around the hill on Vine Street, and repair the remaining part of said street from the house of Alpheas Boles to the corner near Justin Griffin and appropriate the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars for the same.
- Art. 15 To see if the Town will vote to pay Niles Howe forty six and 47/100 dollars for money he expended on roads and bridges in excess of the appropriation, while acting as surveyor of highways in the year 1867 and 1868 and appropriate the above sum.
- Art. 16 By request of the engineers, to see if the Town will extend the water pipe from the hydrant near the house of D. W. Tenney through Pleasant Street to the house of Charles Austin, the distance of fifteen hundred feet, requiring six hydrants. Also extend the pipe from the hydrant near the Methodist Church through Lowell Street to Cemetery Street a distance of nine hundred feet; this will require four hydrants: and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars for the same.
- Art. 17 To see what action the Town will take in regard to building a sewer near the Arlington Mills and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 18 To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for repairs on Broadway from Exchange Square to Lawrence line.
- Art. 19 To see if the Town will vote to repair Centre Street from Broadway to Chelmsford Street and appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 20 To see what action the Town will take in relation to building a schoolhouse on Merrill Street near the Arlington Mills and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 21 By request of Charles M. Sawyer and others, to see if the Town will repair the road between house of Rufus Griffin and James Allen and appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 22 To see if Town will vote to paint, and otherwise repair the Town House and appropriate five hundred dollars for the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses, and at the Town House, in said Town, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands **this twenty fifth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty two.**

Ebenezer Sawyer	}	Selectmen
Franklin Saunders	}	of
Moses E. Kimball	}	Methuen

Essex ss: -                      **Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1882**

By virtue of this warrant I this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting up attested copies of this warrant at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Methuen as within directed.

Eben G. Knight – Constable of Methuen

### **March 6, 1882. Record of Annual Town Meeting.**

**The Annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Monday the sixth day of March A.D. 1882 at ten o'clock a.m. in accordance with Warrant No. 28, File 10.**

The meeting was called to order at ten o'clock by the Town Clerk who read the foregoing warrant.

Art. 1      Granville E. Foss was chosen **Moderator** he having one hundred thirteen votes and Jacob Emerson sixty two.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. O. S. Baketel.

Art. 2      The polls were then opened for the choice of those officers to be chosen by ballot, and were kept open until twenty minutes before one o'clock, when they were closed. They were also opened, and kept open for the same period of time for voters to deposit their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor in this Town?" The votes given in were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made, and were as follows, viz.:-

The whole number of votes cast for **Town Clerk** was  
five hundred thirty three 531

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred thirty one  
And Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of votes cast for **Town Treasurer** was  
five hundred thirty one 531

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred thirty on 531

and Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and sworn.

The whole number of votes cast for **Collector of Taxes**  
five hundred thirty one 531

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred thirty one  
and Joseph S. Howe was declared elected and sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor** was five hundred thirty five 535

John E. Sawyer had two hundred ninety seven	297
Franklin Saunders had three hundred twenty three	323
George O. Marsh had two hundred forty nine	249
Daniel T. Morrison had two hundred and eighty	280
John W. Frederick had two hundred eighteen	218
David H. Paterson had two hundred thirty four	234
And John E. Sawyer, Franklin Saunders and Daniel T. Morrison were declared elected and sworn.	

Franklin Saunders had three hundred twenty three 323

George O. Marsh had two hundred forty nine 249

Daniel T. Morrison had two hundred and eighty

John W. Frederick had two hundred eighteen

David H. Paterson had two hundred thirty four 234

And John E. Sawver, Franklin Saunders and Daniel T. Morrison were

declared elected and sworn.

Art. 2 The whole number of votes cast for **School Committee** was  
five hundred thirty three 533

Lyman B. Gage had three hundred and thirteen 313

W. Othniel Norris had two hundred and twenty 220

And Lyman B. Gage was declared elected.

## For Constables

Joseph Martin had two hundred ninety one votes 291

George A. Closson had five hundred twenty three	523
---	-----

John W. F. Cooper had three hundred ninety two	392
--	-----

Eben G. Knight had one hundred seventy five	175
---	-----

Daniel Currier had twenty	20
Daniel T. Morrison had one	1
James O. Parker had one	1

And Joseph Martin, sworn, George A. Closson, and John W. F. Cooper were declared elected.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor** was five hundred and thirty five. 535  
 John H. Morse was declared elected having received every vote cast.

The whole number of votes cast for **Highway Surveyors** was Five hundred thirty five 535

John Q. Hill had five hundred and thirty three	533
John A. Shirley had one hundred forty seven	147
Andrew J. Powell had one hundred thirty seven	137
Edward P. Reynolds had two hundred forty five	245
Albert B. Gordon had three hundred twenty	320
E. W. Powell had two hundred and eighteen	218
Eben F. Sumner had five hundred and thirty five	535
James E. Messer had three hundred sixty three	363
Horace S. Whittier had one hundred sixty five	165

And John Q. Hill, sworn, Edward P. Reynolds, sworn, Albert B. Gordon, sworn, Eben F. Sumner, sworn, and James E. Messer, sworn, were declared Surveyors of Highways.

#### For Fence Viewers

Daniel Dowding had one hundred six votes	106
Moses E. Kimball had one hundred and eight	108
Joseph Martin had two hundred forty two	242
Samuel Crosby had one hundred and forty	140
John S. Bicknell had one hundred forty two	142
Eben G. Knight had two hundred seventy five	275
William H. Butters had two hundred eighty seven	287
Marcus W. Keyes had two hundred eighty three votes	283
Albert B. Gordon had one	1

And Eben G. Knight, William H. Butters, sworn, and Marcus W. Keyes were declared elected Fence Viewers.

The whole number of ballots cast on the question “**Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?**” was four hundred and eighty eight 488

The number of voters voting “Yes” was two hundred fifty five	255
The number of voters voting “no” was two hundred thirty three	233

The following persons were appointed **Field Drivers**

John Welch	Selwyn Dodge
George Kelly	John Messer

It was voted that the **Sealer of Weights and Measures** be appointed by the Selectmen.

The following persons were appointed **Pound Keepers**

Stephen W. Williams	Joseph E. Buswell
---------------------	-------------------

**Surveyors of Lumber**

Ralph Clark (sworn)	Andrew J. Taylor (sworn)
T. B. Currier (sworn)	Millett G. Copp
W. J. Nichols	James O. Parker (sworn)
Moses E. Kimball (sworn)	John W. Frederick (sworn)
Millard F. Emerson (sworn)	George Sumner

**Surveyors of Plastering**

Lyman B. Gage	Jesses A. Towne
W. O. Norris	Millette G. Copp
George A. Page	Silas K. Norwell

**Surveyors of Wood and Bark**

John C. Webster	Moses E. Kimball
Julius B. Holman	Rufus A. Griffin
Ralph Clark (sworn)	John W. Sawyer
James E. Messer (sworn)	Charles Jackson
George O. Marsh	Fred A. Russell (sworn)
J. W. F. Cooper	Nelson Blodgett (sworn)
Stephen Currier (sworn)	Wm. C. Sleeper (sworn)

Art. 3      Votes to accept the Annual Report of the Selectmen.

Art. 4      On motion of James O. Parker it was voted to take up the appropriations in detail.  
The following sums were then appropriated to defray Town charges for the current year.

**For**

Support of schools: eighty five hundred dollars	\$ 8,500.
Supplies for schools: three hundred dollars	300.



Repairs on schoolhouses: three hundred dollars	300.
Maps and apparatus: two hundred dollars	200.
Public Library: two hundred dollars	200.
Opening roads: fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.
Highways and Repairs on Bridges: five thousand dollars	5,000.
Street Lights: six hundred dollars	600.
Fire Department: one thousand dollars	1,000.
Contingencies: fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.
Special Police: one hundred dollars	100.
Town Officers: eleven hundred seventy five dollars	1,175.
Collecting taxes: four hundred dollars	400.
Pauper Department: twenty five hundred dollars	2,500.
School Committee: three hundred dollars	300.
Interest on Town debt: four thousand dollars	<u>4,000.</u>
Total	27,575.

Art. 5 Article 5 of the warrant was laid upon the table. It was subsequently taken up and after some discussion it was voted that on all taxes remaining unpaid after the first day of October next, interest shall be paid at the rate of seven per cent per annum. It was also voted that the Collector of Taxes be instructed to enforce the collection of all taxes within two years from the time of commitment of the list.

Art. 6 Voted that the method of appropriating highway taxes, and repairing highways, be the same as last year.

Art. 7 Voted two thirds of the legal voters present and voting having voted therefor. That the Selectmen be authorized to hire money to renew, replace, or pay any existing load or loans or any part thereof or to pay orders drawn by them, and that the Treasurer be empowered to issue notes of the Town therefor under the approval of the Selectmen.

Art. 8 The list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen was read to the meeting and the name of S. R. Merrill was, at his own request, stricken from the list. The Jury list as amended was then approved and accepted. The list of Jurors is as follows: -

Austin Charles 2d	Mitchell Charles L.
Butters George A.	Marsh George O.
Bowen Gilbert	Messer James E.
Boardman John	Morse James W.
Beedle Charles T.	Morrison Daniel T.
Buswell Joseph E.	Mann J. William
Barker William H.	Palmer George W.
Coburn J. Varnum	Parker James O.
Coburn H. Newton	Rollins Daniel C.
Chase Elihu F.	Rowe Alexander H.

Corliss Varnum	Russell Frank
Cole Daniel E.	Russell John H.
Cox Patrick	Saunders Franklin
Dame Albert L.	Smith Moses G.
Davis Stephen W.	Sawyer John E.
Dowding Edmund	Swan Leverett
Dodge James S.	Sumner George H.
Emerson Millard F.	Stickney William H.
Foster Joel 1 <sup>st</sup>	Trow Charles E.
Frederick John W.	Taylor Andrew J.
George John H.	Tozier Charles L.
Gordon J. Haskell	Tenney Daniel W.
Hall Henry N.	Taylor Elbridge B.
Hall Benjamin M.	Webster John C.
Harvey Charles H.	Walton James
Harvey Samuel A.	Walton Edmund M.
Kimball Moses E.	Woodbury Charles O.
Kimball Sylvanus G.	

- Art. 9 Voted to accept Report of School Committee.
- Art. 10 Voted that the compensation of members of the Fire Department be the same as last year.
- Art. 11 Voted that neat cattle, horses and swine be restrained.
- Art. 12 Voted that the money received from the Dog tax be appropriated the same as last year (i.e. purchase of books for Public Library).
- Art. 13 Voted that one hundred dollars be appropriated in accordance with Article 13 of the warrant.
- Art. 14 Voted that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be appropriated to build a new road around the hill on Vine Street and to repair the remaining part of said street from the house of Alpheas Boles to the corner near Justin Griffin's; and that it be expended under direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 15 Voted to pay Niles Howe the sum of forty six 47/100 dollars as asked for in Article 15.
- Art. 16 Article 16 was discussed at some length and laid upon the table to enable the Board of Engineers to prepare and present a detailed statement. It was afterwards indefinitely postpones.
- Art. 17 Voted that the Selectmen with Jos. S. Howe constitute a committee to investigate and report on the subject matter contained in Article 17 at a future meeting.

- Art. 18 Voted to appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for special repairs on Broadway between Exchange Square and Lawrence line.
- Art. 19 Voted to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars to repair Centre Street from Broadway to Chelmsford Street.
- Art. 20 Voted that the School Committee and Selectmen be a committee to investigate and report on the subject matter contained in Article 20, at a future meeting.
- Art. 21 Voted to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars for special repairs on Lowell Street, between the houses of Rufus Griffin and James Allen: and that said sum be expended under the direction of the Surveyor of Highways for that portion of the Town.
- Art. 22 Voted to appropriate five hundred dollars to paint and otherwise repair the Town House, and that said repairs be made under the supervision of the Selectmen.
- Voted: that the sum of ten dollars be appropriated to pay the Moderator for his services this day.
- Voted to dissolve the meeting.

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Treasurer's Account Jan. 1, 1882**

#### **DR.**

Cash in Treasury, Jan. 1, 1881	\$8,967.47
Uncollected taxes 1877, 78, 79,80	9,490.38
Tax List for 1881	36,572.28
Bank Tax for 1881	1,485.38
Interest on taxes	424.04
Treas. Essex Co. Dog licenses	304.38
Income of School fund	211.44
Received from Towns	244.58
State of Mass. Paupers	165.05
State Aid & relief	1,634.85
Corporation Tax	1,790.72
National Bank Tax	733.16
W. M. Rogers Guardian Cynthia Wilson	93.55
Eben M. Woodbury Board E. Woodbury	84.03
Support of sundry poor	13.00
Liquor Licenses	1,377.00
Loans	4,650.00

S. H. Harris – rent	300.00
Nat. Bank Methuen – rent	300.00
J. W. F. Cooper – Rent of hall	380.00
John Q. Hill – stone & loam	14.50
F. Saunders, Auct. Licenses	4.00
T. B. Currier	2.00
James Allen, State Aid overpaid	9.00
Spellers	19.01
Drawing Books	54.54
Old paper	.30
Billiard license	<u>2.00</u>
	69,326.66
Cash received on notes due	
Charles S. Whittier	750.46

**CR.**

Cash paid Selectmen's Orders	\$30,447.27
Bonds 1, 2 & 3	3,000.00
Interest on Bonds	2,970.00
Interest on Notes	1,095.92
Land – Mary E. Kimball	1,650.00
Note E.B. Homer	1,650.00
Note Nat. Bank, Methuen	3,000.00
Note State Treas. Liquor Licenses	344.25
Note County Tax	2,188.00
Note State Tax	2,010.00
Nat. Bank Tax	1,058.47
Uncollected Taxes	10,406.41
Cash in Treasury	<u>9,506.34</u>
	69,326.66

Cash held as Trustee for money	
Received on Whittier Notes	750.46

**Warrant for Special Town Meeting – May 1882 – File 10, No. 29.**

**Essex ss: -**

To J. W. F. Cooper one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen

**Greeting:-**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen, on Wednesday the twenty fourth day of May next at two o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:

- Art. 1<sup>st</sup> To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2d To hear the report of the Committee appointed at the Annual Meeting in March, to investigate and report in relation to building a schoolhouse on Merrill Street near the Arlington Mills, and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 3d By request of James A. Treat and others, to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen, running easterly from Broadway Street, past St. Thomas Church, to a stone wall or land of N. D. Piper.
- Art. 4<sup>th</sup> By request of Joseph S. Howe and others, to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen, running south from Brown Street, past the school house lot to Centre Street.
- Art. 5<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to build a school house on Merrill Street, and appropriate the money for the same.
- Art. 6<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to build a sewer from the corner of the street, near the store of Castle & Stevens, across Broadway to Pleasant Street, about one hundred and thirty three feet, and appropriate two hundred and fifty dollars for the same.
- Art. 7<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars, for edge stone to be set near the buildings of V. Corliss and others.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses, and at the Town House, and to be upon the several schoolhouses, outside the limits of Methuen Village, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return, with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands, **this thirteenth of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty two.**

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
D. T. Morrison } of  
John E. Sawyer } Methuen

**Essex ss: - May 24, 1882.** By virtue of the within warrant, I duly notified the inhabitants of Methuen, as within directed, to meet at the time, place & for the purposes within named, by posting up a copy of the within warrant on each of the schoolhouses in said Methuen outside of the village of said Methuen, and on each of the churches in said Methuen, and I also posted a copy of said warrant at the public entrance to the Post Office in said Methuen. All of

said copies were posted as aforesaid, more than eight days before the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May instant.

J. W. F. Cooper – Constable of Methuen

## **Special Town Meeting – May 24<sup>th</sup> 1882**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Wednesday the twenty fourth day of May A.D. 1882 at two o'clock p.m. in pursuance of Warrant No. 29 File 10.** The meeting was called to order and the warrant read by the Town Clerk.

Art. 1<sup>st</sup> Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator by ballot.

Art. 2<sup>d</sup> Franklin Saunders – Chairman of the Committee appointed at the Annual Meeting in March, to investigate and report in relation to building a schoolhouse on Merrill Street near the Arlington Mill, read the following,

### **Report of Committee**

The undersigned, a Committee appointed at the last Annual Meeting to investigate and report in relation to building a new schoolhouse on Merrill Street near the Arlington Mills have attended to that duty and report that in their opinion the educational interests of the Town require a new school house to be built immediately on the lot purchased by the Town last year on Merrill Street.

The necessity for this is apparent from the fact that we now have one school kept in the basement of the Town House, for which there are no proper accommodations, and from the additional fact that there are probably nearly enough school children living in the vicinity of the Arlington Mills, to form another school, so that by the time a new house can be completed, two schools will be ready to occupy it.

Your Committee also believe that in view of the probable future growth of that section of the Town, the wisest policy is to build a two story building suitable for four schools. Estimates of the probable cost of such a building, in quality of finish similar to the High School House, have been obtained and we find that the proposed building will probably cost in wood \$7500 to \$8000., and in brick \$10,500. to \$11,000.

The cost of furnishing the schoolrooms and grading the lot is of course not included in this estimate. Your Committee therefore recommend that the Town immediately build a two story four room schoolhouse, of wood or brick as shall be determined at this meeting; and that the sum of \$8000. or \$11,000 be appropriated to build and furnish the house and grade the lot according as

this meeting shall vote to build of wood or brick.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Franklin Saunders  
John E. Sawyer     } Committee  
Jos. S. Howe

**Methuen, May 24, 1882.**

**The report of Committee was then accepted.**

A motion to build a new schoolhouse of brick was decided in the negative.

Voted to build a new schoolhouse of wood in accordance with the Report of the Committee and that it be left optional with the Building Committee to cover the roof with slate or shingles.

It was then voted to appropriate eight thousand dollars for the purpose of building said schoolhouse, two thirds of the voters present and voting, having voted therefor.

Voted that the Assessors be instructed to assess twenty five per cent of the appropriation, the present year, and that the balance be hired.

Voted that the Selectmen and School Committee with Mr. Ebenezer Sawyer, constitute a Building Committee under whose direction said schoolhouse shall be built.

Art. 3d     Voted that Article 3 be referred to next Annual Meeting

Art. 4<sup>th</sup>     Voted to accept Merrill Street, and appropriate one hundred dollars for building it

Art. 5<sup>th</sup>     Voted to pass over Article 5 of the Warrant

Art. 6<sup>th</sup>     Voted to build sewer in accordance with Article 6 of the Warrant, and appropriate two hundred and fifty dollars therefor.

Art. 7<sup>th</sup>     Voted to appropriate one hundred dollars for setting edgstones, in accordance with Article 7 of Warrant.

Voted that Merrill Street be built under the direction of the Building Committee.

Voted to adjourn.

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

**Warrant for Town Meeting – November 1882 – File 10, No. 30.**

**Essex ss: -**

To J. W. F. Cooper one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen in said County:-

**Greeting,**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are required forthwith to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote as the law directs, to assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the seventh day of November next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to give in their ballots for a Governor of this Commonwealth a Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, and Receiver General, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, Councilor for the Sixth Councilor District, Senator for the Sixth Essex District, a County Treasurer, a County Commissioner, a Register of Deeds for the Northern District of Essex, one Representative to Congress from the Eight District, and three Representatives to represent Essex District number nineteen in the next General Court of the Commonwealth, all on one ballot. The polls to be kept open until four o'clock p.m. and no longer.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return to this warrant, with your doings thereon to ourselves at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Methuen **this twenty eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty two.**

Franklin Saunders	}	Selectmen
D. T. Morrison	}	of
John E. Sawyer	}	Methuen

**Essex SS: -**

**October 28<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1882**

By virtue of this Warrant I this day notified the inhabitants of Town of Methuen, to assemble at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meetinghouses and at the Town House in said Methuen as within directed, it being more than eight days before said meeting.

J. W. F. Cooper  
Constable of Methuen

## **November 8, 1882 - Town Meeting – State Election**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections, held at the Town Hall on Tuesday the seventh day of November A.D. 1882 at ten**



**o'clock a.m. pursuant to Warrant No. 30 File 10.**

**The votes were given in, sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made as the law directs, and were as follows: -**

The whole number of ballots cast for **Governor** was six hundred and thirteen 613

Robert R. Bishop of Newton had three hundred fifty six 356

Benjamin F. Butler of Lowell had two hundred forty nine 249

Charles Almy of New Bedford had five 5

Benj. F. Brickett of Haverhill had one 1

Granville E. Foss of Methuen had one 1

William A. Russell of Lawrence had one 1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Lieutenant Governor**  
was six hundred and twenty 620

Oliver Ames of Easton had three hundred eight one 381

Samuel W. Bowerman of Pittsfield had two hundred thirty four 234

John Blackman of Springfield had five 5

The whole number of ballots cast for **Secretary of State**  
was six hundred and eighteen 618

Henry B. Pierce of Abington had three hundred eighty seven 387

David N. Skillings of Winchester had two hundred and thirty 230

Solomon F. Root of Douglass had one 1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Treasurer and Receiver General** was  
Six hundred and twenty one

Daniel A. Gleason of Medford had three hundred eighty seven 387

William A. Hodges of Quincy had two hundred thirty three 233

Thos. J. Lothrop of Taunton had one 1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor**  
was six hundred twenty one 621

Charles R. Ladd of Springfield had three hundred eighty five 385

John P. Sweeney of Lawrence had two hundred thirty five 235

Jonathan Buck of Harwich had one 1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Attorney General**  
was six hundred and twenty 620

Edgar J. Sherman of Lawrence had four hundred and five	405
George F. Verry of Worcester had two hundred and fifteen	215
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Representative to Congress</b> Was six hundred and sixteen	620
William A. Russell of Lawrence had three hundred eight nine	389
Charles S. Lilley of Lowell had two hundred twenty seven	227
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Councillor</b> was six hundred and twenty	620
George Heywood of Concord had three hundred eighty seven	387
John C. Sanborn of Lawrence had two hundred thirty three	233
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>County Commissioner</b> was six hundred twenty one	621
Edward B. Bishop of Haverhill had four hundred and one	401
George J. L. Colby of Newburyport had two hundred twenty	220
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>County Treasurer</b> was six hundred twenty one	621
E. Kendall Jenkins of Andover had six hundred twenty one	621
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Senator 6<sup>th</sup> Essex District</b> was six hundred	600
Andrew C. Stone of Lawrence had two hundred eighty one	281
James O. Parker of Methuen had three hundred eighteen	218
Benj. F. Brickett of Haverhill had one	1
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Register of Deeds</b> was six hundred and twenty	620
John R. Poor of Lawrence had six hundred and twenty	620
<b>For Representatives to General Court Nineteenth Essex District</b>	
Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill had three hundred seventy six	376
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill had three hundred twenty nine	329
Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen had three hundred seventy three	373
John H. George of Methuen had two hundred forty two	242

Benjamin F. Brickett of Haverhill had two hundred sixty one	261
Samuel M. Currier of Haverhill two hundred twenty nine	229
Edwin M. Hill of Haverhill had thirty three	33

The returns of the votes cast for the several officers balloted for were made up, properly certified, and delivered to the Town Clerk, and the ballots cast for the several officers, and the voting list used were sealed up and delivered to the Town Clerk, after which the meeting was dissolved.

Attest,  
Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

## **Record of Meeting of City and Town Clerks – Haverhill – Nov. 14**

### **City of Haverhill November 14, 1882. Office of City Clerk**

At a meeting of City Clerk of Haverhill and the Town Clerk of Methuen, said City and Town forming the Nineteenth Essex Representative District, held at noon this day in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided, upon comparing the returns of the ballotings in said District at meetings held on Tuesday November 7, 1882

To wit.: -	<b>Haverhill Vote</b>	<b>Methuen Vote</b>	<b>Total Vote</b>
Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill	1388	376	1764
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill	1558	329	1887
Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen	1516	373	1889
Benjamin F. Brickett of Haverhill	1253	261	1514
Samuel M. Currier of Haverhill	1108	229	1337
John H. George of Methuen	1035	242	1277
William W. Sprague of Haverhill	161		161
Maurice J. Donahoe of Haverhill	182		182
J. Sidney Howe of Methuen	1		1
B. F. Brickett of Haverhill	1		1
D. B. Cluff of Haverhill	1		1
Morris Donahoe of Haverhill	2		2
M. Donahoe	1		1
Joseph Ridgway	1		1
Woodbury J. Nichols	2		2
J. Sidney Howe	2		2
Woodbury J. Nichols of Methuen	11		11
Woodburn Jaquish Nichols	1		1
J. Sydney Howe	1		1
Edwin M. Hill of Haverhill		33	33

**Haverhill, November 14, 1882.**

In accordance with the foregoing returns, Certificates of Election were this day duly issued to the three persons having the largest number of votes for Representative to the General Court from the Nineteenth Essex District,

To wit: -

Daniel B. Cluff of Haverhill  
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill  
Adams H. Cogswell of Methuen

Attest,

David B. Tenney  
City Clerk of Haverhill

Jos. S. Howe  
Town Clerk of Methuen.

The foregoing is a true Copy of the Record.

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe  
Town Clerk of Methuen.

**1883**

**Warrant for Annual Town Meeting – March 5 – 1883 – File 11 No. 1**

**Essex SS: -**

To John W. F. Cooper one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen;-

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

you

are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections

and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen on Monday the fifth day of March next at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:-

Art. 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2 To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor, one School Committeeman to serve one year in place of Charles L. Mitchell, one School

Committeeman to serve three years in place of Joseph S. Howe whose term expires, Constables and Auditor of Accounts and Fence Viewers all on one ballot; Yes or No. in answer to the question "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor in this Town?" the vote shall be by separate ballot; also to choose a Collector of Taxes by ballot or otherwise, and all other necessary Town officers, in such a manner as the Town may determine; the polls to be kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m.

- Art. 3 To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and act thereon.
- Art. 4 To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year, and make appropriations of the same.
- Art. 5 To determine the manner of collecting taxes the ensuing year, and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 6 To determine by what method the Town will appropriate their Highway Taxes, and repair Highways the ensuing year.
- Art. 7 To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town a sufficient sum of money to pay any notes that may become due during the year, or that may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen, and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8 To see if the Town will vote to approve and accept the list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 9 To hear the report of Committees and act thereon.
- Art. 10 To determine what compensation the Town will grant members of the Fire Department for their services the ensuing year.
- Art. 11 To see if the Town will vote to restrain neat cattle, horses and swine from going at large the ensuing year.
- Art. 12 To determine the manner of appropriating the amount received from dog taxes in accordance with Chapter 250, Acts of 1869.
- Art. 13 By request of Post 100 G.A.R. to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the purpose of decorating the graves of our soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1883. Said money to be expended under the direction of Col. William B. Green Post 100 G.A.R.
- Art. 14 By request of Amos E. Rollins and others, to see if the Town will vote to build a sewer or drain, on street leading from Vine Street to Whittier Street and accepted by the Town, and to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars for the same.

- Art. 15 By request of Silas K. Nowell and others, to see if the Town will vote to repair Annis Street and appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 16 By request of John H. Kimball and others, to see if the Town accept and allow as Town ways the following streets laid out by the Selectmen, Spruce Street running south from Lawrence Street past the house of John H. Kimball and buildings of Ashton Lee; Chelmsford Street running south from Lawrence past houses of Ashton Lee and others to Lawrence line.
- Art. 17 By request of W. H. Littebrandt and others, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of fifty dollars, this sum to be expended by the School Committee in the purchasing Temperance text books to be placed in the schools of the Town, that the young may be taught the nature and effect of alcohol on the human system.
- Art. 18 By request of Joseph E. Buswell, to see if the Town will vote to increase the number of School Committee, to six members, said members to receive no salary, and to authorize such School Committee to elect a Superintendent of Public School, at a salary not to exceed six hundred dollars per annum.
- Art. 19 By request of Moses E. Kimball and Samuel J. Pedler and others, to see if the Town will vote to establish street lights at the following corners; - t the corner of Broadway and Union Streets, corner of Broadway and Brown Streets, corner of Broadway and Chase Streets, corner of Chase and French Streets, corner of Chase and Ingalls Streets, one about half way between the corner of Ingalls and Stafford, one at the corner of Ingalls and Stafford, and appropriate the sum of ninety dollars for the same.
- Art. 20 By request of Fred S. Pearson and others, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars to be expended under the direction of the Selectmen to enforce the license law.
- Art. 21 By request of George W. Sawyer and others, to see if the Town will vote to build a fire escape on the Town Hall and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 22 By request of Esther W. Teel to see of the Town will discount fifty cents on a dollars on a bill of seven hundred and thirty one dollars and ninety three cents due the Town from the estate of Abbie P. Richardson, if paid within one year.
- Art. 23 To see if the Town will vote to dig a well near the High School Building, and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 24 By request of James A. Treat and others to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way a street laid out by the Selectmen, running easterly from Broadway past St. Thomas' Church to a stone wall on land of N. D. Piper.

- Art. 25 By request of Samuel G. Sargent and others to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way, a street laid out by the Selectmen running northerly from High Street to a private way near the house of Frank L. Whittier.
- Art. 26 By request of John Q. Hill, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars to be used upon the sidewalks in the village district.
- Art. 27 By request of John W. Frederick and others to see if the Town will vote to build a sewer on Lawrence Street, commencing at or near the house of James Snell, and running to the lower end of the burying ground on said Lawrence Street and make an appropriation for the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses, and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands **this twenty fourth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty three.**

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
Daniel T. Morrison } of  
John E. Sawyer } Methuen

**Essex SS. February 25<sup>th</sup> A.D. 1883**

By virtue of this warrant, I this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within named, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town, as within directed, it being more than eight days before the time of said meeting.

John W. F. Cooper  
Constable of Methuen,

The foregoing is a true copy of Warrant and return.

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

## Record of Annual Town Meeting – March 5, 1883.

**The annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Monday the fifth day of March A.D. 1883 at ten o'clock a.m. in accordance with Warrant No. 1 File 11.**

The meeting was called to order at ten o'clock by the Town Clerk who read the foregoing Warrant.

Art. 1 Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator by a unanimous vote and was sworn. Prayer was offered by Rev. L. L. Eastman.

Art. 18 On motion of Jos. E. Buswell, Article 18 was taken up for consideration. After some discussion it was voted that the article be adopted.

Art. 2 The polls were then opened for the choice of those officers to be chosen by ballot, and were kept open until half past twelve o'clock when they were closed. The polls were also opened and kept open for the same period of time for voters to deposit their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?". The votes given in were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made, and were as follows, viz.: -

The whole number of ballots cast for **Town Clerk** was four hundred and seventy five 475

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred and seventy five, and was declared elected, and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Town Treasurer** was four hundred and seventy five 475

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred seventy five and was declared elected and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Collector of Taxes** four hundred and seventy five 475

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred seventy five and was declared elected.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor** was four hundred seventy seven 477

John E. Sawyer had four hundred and forty	440
Franklin Saunders had two hundred sixty two	262
David H. Patterson had two hundred fifty five	255
Addison P. Russell had two hundred fifty five	255
George O. Marsh had one hundred ninety six	196
A. B. Gordon had one	1
E. F. Sumner had one	1
Daniel Currier had one	1
Eben G. Knight had one	1
Chas. Russell had one	1



David M. Ayer had one	1
Wm. O. Norris had one	1

And John E. Sawyer and Franklin Saunders were declared elected Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor and were sworn. A tie appearing in the votes cast for David H. Patterson And Addison P. Russell, the Moderator declared that there was no choice of a third Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor.

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>School Committee</b> was four hundred seventy seven	477
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Charles E. Goss (for 3 years) had two hundred seventy eight	278
Othniel W. Norris (for 3 years) had one hundred forty six	146
Wm. O. Norris (for 3 years) had ninety six	96
Chas. L. Mitchell (for 2 years) had sixty eight	68
J. W. Fulton (for 2 years) had thirty	30
Owen Copp (for 1 year) had four hundred sixty seven	467
Harriet E. Woodbury (for 1 year) had sixty two	62
Joseph E. Buswell had one	1
J. H. Morse had one	1
Geo. O. Marsh had one	1
Geo. Tenney had one	1
Dr. Woodbury had one	1

And Charles E. Goss and Othniel W. Norris were declared elected School Committee for three years; Charles L. Mitchell was declared elected for two years, Owen Copp and Harriet E. Woodbury were declared elected for one year.

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Constables</b> was four hundred seventy seven	477
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Joseph Martin had four hundred twenty nine	429
John W. F. Cooper had two hundred ninety five	295
Eben. G. Knight had two hundred seventy three	273

Ernest Wagner had two hundred eighty one	281
John N. Webster had two hundred eighty six	286
John E. Doran had one hundred fifty seven	157
Lewis E. Barnes had one hundred sixty seven	167
Michael Mahoney had one hundred forty five	145
Patrick Curran had one hundred and fifty	150
Chas. H. Merrill had two	2
Geo. O. Marsh had one	1
Varnum Corliss had one	2

The following named persons were declared elected Constables

Joseph Martin (sworn)	Ernest Wagner
John W. F. Cooper (sworn)	John N. Webster
Eben G. Knight (sworn)	

The whole number of ballots cast for **Highway Surveyors** was  
four hundred and seventy seven 477

John Q. Hill had four hundred seventy six	476
Eben. F. Sumner had four hundred seventy six	476
Charles H. Merrill had two hundred forty eight	248
Albert B. Gordon had two hundred seventy nine	279
Edward P. Reynolds had three hundred twenty nine	329
Homer Dow had one hundred and fifty	150
Eben W. Powell had two hundred and six	206
Charles J. Griffin had two hundred and sixteen	216
Cyrus B. Gage had one	1

The following named persons were declared elected **Highway Surveyors**

John Q. Hill sworn	Charles H. Merrill sworn
Eben F. Sumner sworn	Albert B. Gordon sworn
Edward P. Reynolds sworn	

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor** was four hundred sixty seven 467

John H. Morse had four hundred sixty seven and was declared elected Auditor.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Fence Viewers**  
was four hundred sixty seven 467

George A. Butters had two hundred eighty seven	287
Frank L. Peabody had two hundred eighty five	285
George B. Bradley had two hundred eight five	285
Woodburn J. Nichols had one hundred and eighty	180

Thomas Linsky had one hundred seventy three	173
George Clark had one hundred seventy eight	178

The following persons were declared elected **Fence Viewers**

George A. Butters  
Frank L. Peabody – sworn  
George B. Bradley

The whole number of ballots cast on the question “**Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquor in this Town?**” was three hundred ninety five

395

The number of voters voting “Yes” was two hundred fourteen  
The number of voters voting “No” was one hundred and eighty

214

180

The following persons were appointed **Field Drivers**

John Welch	George Kelly
Edward Farr	John L. Messer
Calvin Taylor	

It was voted that the **Sealer of Weights and Measures** be appointed by the Selectmen.

The following persons were appointed **Pound Keepers**

Stephen W. Williams	Joseph E. Buswell
---------------------	-------------------

#### **Surveyors of Lumber**

Ralph Clark sworn	T. B. Currier
W. J. Nichols	Moses E. Kimball
Willard F. Emerson sworn	Millett G. Copp sworn
James O. Parker sworn	John W. Frederick sworn
George H. Sumner	John C. Webster
Jesse A. Towne	Daniel Dowding

#### **Surveyors of Plastering**

Lyman B. Gage sworn	W. O. Norris
George A. Page	Jesse A. Towne
Millett G. Copp	Silas K. Nowell

#### **Surveyors of Wood and Bark**

John C. Webster	Julius B. Holman
Ralph Clark sworn	James E. Messer sworn
George O. Marsh sworn	Daniel Dowding
Stephen Currier	Moses E. Kimball
Rufus A. Griffin sworn	John E. Sawyer sworn
Edmund P. Sargent	Fred A. Russell sworn
Nelson Blodgett sworn	George W. Gage sworn
John A. Shirley sworn	J. W. F. Cooper
E. G. Knight sworn	

Art. 3 Voted to accept the Annual Report of the Selectmen.

Art. 4 Voted to take up the appropriations in detail.  
The following sums were then appropriated to pay Town charges for the current year.

**For**

Support of schools nine thousand dollars	\$ 9,000.00
Supplies for schools, three hundred dollars	300.00
Repairs for Schoolhouses, five hundred dollars	500.00
Furnishing Merrill Street School House, five hundred dollars	500.00
Maps and apparatus, two hundred dollars	200.00
Public library, two hundred dollars	200.00
Opening roads, fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.00
Highways and repairs on bridges, fifty five hundred dollars	5,500.00
Street lights, seven hundred dollars	700.00
Fire department, one thousand dollars	1,000.00
Contingencies, fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.00
Special police, one hundred dollars	100.00
Town officers, twelve hundred dollars	1,200.00
Collecting taxes, four hundred dollars	400.00
Pauper department, twenty five hundred dollars	2,500.00
Interest on Town debt, four thousand dollars	4,000.00
Military aid, two hundred dollars	200.00
On motion of Jos. E. Buswell it was voted (Ayes 77 – Noes 16) that there be appropriated to pay the salary of Superintendent of Schools, the sum of six hundred dollars	<u>600.00</u>
Total	\$29,900.00

Art. 5 Voted that taxes be collected as last year. Also,  
Voted that on all taxes remaining unpaid after Oct. 1 interest shall be paid from that  
date, at the rate of seven per cent per annum.

Art. 6 Voted that the method of appropriating highway taxes and repairing highways be  
the same as last year.

Art. 7 Voted two thirds of the legal voters present and voting having voted therefor; - That  
the Treasurer be authorized with the approval of the Selectmen, to hire money in  
anticipation of taxes of the next ensuing year, or to hire money to renew, replace or  
pay any existing loan or loans or any part thereof, and to issue notes of the Town  
therefor.

Art. 8 The **List of Jurors** prepared by the Selectmen was considered and the names of  
Stephen J. Barker and Elisha B. Homer, were, at their own request, stricken from the  
list, and the names of Stephen W. Williams and Justin E. Griffin substituted. The  
Jury List as thus amended was approved and accepted.  
The **List of Jurors** is as follows: -

Austin Charles 2d	Marsh George O.
Butters George A.	Mann J. William
Bowen Gilbert	Messer John L.
Beedle Charles T.	Messer Cummings
Buswell Joseph E.	Messer James E.
Coburn J. Varnum	Mitchell Charles L.
Chase Elihu F.	Morse James W.
Cole Daniel E.	Morrison Daniel T.
Cox Patrick	Parker James O.
Clark Elbridge A.	Rollins Daniel C.
Dinsmore William H.	Rowe Alexander H.
Davis Stephen W.	Sargent Edmund P.
Dowding Edmund	Saunders Franklin
Dodge James S.	Sawyer John E.
Emerson Milland F.	Smith Moses G.
Foster Joel 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sumner Eben F.
Frederick John W.	Sumner George H.
Gale Amos L.	Stickney William H.
George John H.	Swan Leverett
Griffin Justin E.	Thissell George N.
Hall Henry W.	Tozier Charles L.
Harvey Charles H.	Trow Charles E.
Jackson Charles	Tenney Daniel W.
Kenison Asa S.	Walton James
Kimball Moses E.	Webster John C.
Kimball Sylvanus G.	Williams Stephen W.
Woodbury Charles O.	

- Art. 9 Voted to accept the report of School Committee.  
Mr. Saunders – for the Committee on Sewers near Arlington Mills made a verbal report – that no action had been taken thereon which was accepted.
- Art. 10 Voted that the compensation of Members of the Fire Department be fifty cents per hour.
- Art. 11 Voted that neat cattle, horses and swine be restrained.
- Art. 12 Voted that the money received from the Dog tax be appropriated the same as last year: - for Public Library.
- Art. 13 Voted that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated in accordance with Article 13 of Warrant.
- Art. 14 Voted to build a sewer as asked for in the warrant and that the expense thereof be paid from the sum of fifty five hundred dollars, appropriated for roads and bridges.

- Art. 15 Voted that Annis Street be repaired as requested in Article 15, and that the expense thereof be paid from the appropriation for highways in the Village District.
- Art. 16 Voted to accept and allow as Town ways Spruce Street and Chelmsford Street, as laid out by the Selectmen.
- Art. 17 Voted that the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated to furnish temperance text books to be placed in the schools of the Town.
- Art. 19 Voted that the subject matter of Article 19 be referred to the Selectmen, with full powers; and that the sum of ninety dollars be appropriated for the purposes named in the Article.
- Art. 20 Voted to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars, to be expended under the direction of the Selectmen to enforce the License law.
- Art. 21 Voted to refer Article 21 to the Selectmen, to report thereon at a future meeting.
- Art. 22 Voted to settle the claim of the Town against the estate of Abbie P. Richardson, for fifty per cent of the amount of the bill, if paid within one year.
- Art. 23 Voted to dig a well near the High School House and to appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars therefor, the work to be done under the direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 24 Voted to accept and allow as a Town way, a street running easterly from Broadway Street past St. Thomas' Church to a stone wall on land of N. D. Piper, as laid out by the Selectmen..
- Art. 25 Voted to accept and allow as a Town way, a street running northerly from High Street to a private way near the house of Frank L. Whittier, as laid out by the Selectmen.
- Art. 26 Voted to appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars to be used on the sidewalks in the Village District and that it be expended under the direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 27 Voted to build a sewer on Lawrence Street, commencing at or near the house of James Snell, and running to the lower end of the burying ground on said Lawrence Street, and appropriate the sum of eighteen hundred and sixteen dollars therefor, in accordance with the written estimate of cost presented to the meeting. It was also voted that said sewer be built under the direction of the Selectmen.

Upon declaration of the vote for Selectmen, it appearing that a tie existed between David H. Patterson and Addison P. Russell, and that there was no choice, it was voted that when this meeting adjourn, it adjourn two weeks, until Monday March nineteenth at two p.m., to complete the election of Selectmen.

Mr. Phippen gave notice that we should make a motion to reconsider the vote whereby it was voted to build a sewer on Lawrence Street.

Voted that the sum of ten dollars be appropriated to pay the Moderator for his services this day.

Voted to adjourn.

Attest – Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Adjourned Annual Town Meeting.**

The adjourned Annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on **Monday, the nineteenth day of March, A.D. 1883** at two o'clock p.m. The Moderator Granville E. Foss in the Chair.

Voted to dispense with the reading of the Records of last meeting. The Clerk announced that Mrs. Harriet E. Woodbury declined to serve as School Committee.

Joseph E. Buswell arose to a point of order, that it was not competent for this meeting to chose a member of the School Committee to fill the vacancy occasioned by her refusal to serve and asked for the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair ruled that it would be competent for the meeting to elect a member of School Committee to fill the vacancy.

H. N. Coburn moved to reconsider so much of the vote whereby Article 18 of the warrant was adopted, as authorized the School Committee to elect a Superintendent of Schools at a salary not to exceed six hundred dollars per annum.

Jos. E. Buswell raised the point of order, that as the article had been adopted as a whole, it must be reconsidered as a whole, and that as Members of School Committee had been chosen under it, no reconsideration was possible.

The Chair decided the point of order not well taken.

Mr. Buswell appealed from the decision of the Chair. The Chair was sustained, Ayes 138, Noes 10.

A vote was then taken on the motion to reconsider, the vote being by show of hands, with the following result: Ayes 114 Noes 68 and the motion was lost – two thirds not having voted therefor. Mr. Phippen doubted the vote and moved that the vote be taken by tellers – the voters passing in front of the chair. Mr. Sumner moved to lay the motion to vote by passing in front of the Chair, on the table – and the motion was carried.

Voted to proceed to ballot for the officers to be voted for, and the polls were opened for the election of one Selectman and a School Committeeman to fill the vacancy occasioned by the refusal of Mrs. H. E. Woodbury to serve.

Voted that the polls be kept open until six o'clock. Mr. Coburn moved that the motion made by Mr. Phippen be taken from the table: the motion was lost.

Mr. Phippen moved that "In building the sewer in Lawrence Street, the abutters pay all expenses caused the building of said sewer exceeding the amount appropriated by the Town." The vote was taken by show of hands and was lost, Ayes 36 Noes 36.

Mr. Phippen then moved that the vote be taken by tellers – the voters passing in front of the Chair. The vote was lost, Ayes 41, Noes 47. The vote was then taken again on the original motion and was lost, Ayes 37 Noes 48.

Mr. Phippen then moved to reconsider, decided in the negative Ayes 15, Noes 34.

The polls were closed at six o'clock for the election of Selectman and School Committee, and the following was the result of the ballot.

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor</b>	
was four hundred and five	405

Addison P. Russell had one hundred and sixty	160
George O. Marsh had two hundred and forty five	245
And George O. Marsh was declared elected Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, and was sworn.	

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>School Committee</b> was	
Three hundred and eighty two	382

William M. Rogers had two hundred and twelve	212
James O. Parker had one hundred and sixty nine	169
Thomas Lynsky had one	1

And William M. Rogers was declared elected School Committee for one year.

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Treasurer's Account, Jan. 1, 1883**

#### **DR.**

Cash in Treasury, Jan. 1, 1882	\$ 9,506.34
Uncollected Taxes for 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881	10,406.41



Tax List for 1882	37,678.11
Bank tax list for 1882	1,507.15
Interest on taxes	610.29
Treas. Essex Co. Dog licenses	345.68
State Treas. Income School fund	217.84
State Treas. State paupers	209.42
State Treas. & Military aid	1,578.37
State Treas. Corporation tax	1,783.10
State Treas. Nat. Bank tax	800.29
Wm. M. Rogers – Guard, Cynthia Wilson	97.95
Board of Elizabeth Woodbury	169.46
Cities & towns – support of paupers	697.43
Edward Kelly – aid repaid	9.00
James Allen – State aid refunded	33.00
County Treas. Discount on County Tax	7.29
Rent of Town Hall	327.00
Nat. Bank Methuen – rent	300.00
Saml. H. Harris – rent	300.00

(Transcriber's note: it does not appear that the Treasurer's report was completed on page 274 of the original records.)

## **Warrant for Special Town Meeting – Sept. 1883 – File 1, No. 2**

**Essex SS: -** To Eben G. Knight, one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen,  
**Greeting:-**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
you  
are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in  
elections  
and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Methuen, on Monday the seventeenth day  
of  
September next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:

Art. 1<sup>st</sup> To choose a Moderator to preside at said Meeting.

Art. 2d To see if the Town will vote to cut down the hill and repair Broadway Street, near  
Memorial Hall and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at  
each of the public meeting houses, and at the Town House and upon the several  
Schoolhouses outside the limits of Methuen Village, eight days at least before said  
meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands, **this fourth day of September, in the year, one thousand, eight hundred and eighty three.**

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
John E. Sawyer } of  
George O. Marsh } Methuen

**Essex SS: - September 6, 1883**

By virtue of the within warrant I this day notified the  
inhabitants  
of the Town of Methuen to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within named by  
posting  
up attested copies thereof at each of the schoolhouses outside the village and at each of the  
public  
meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town, more than eight days before the time of  
said  
meeting.

Eben G. Knight,  
Constable of Methuen

A true copy of warrant and return

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **September 17, 1883 - Special Town Meeting**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen held at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1883, at two o'clock p.m. in pursuance of Warrant No. 2 File 11 the meeting was called to order and the warrant read by the Town Clerk.**

Art. 1st A ballot taken and James O. Parker was chosen Moderator.

Art. 2d Voted to lay out and appropriate five hundred dollars in accordance with the article in the warrant said sum to be expended under the direction of the Selectmen.

The meeting then voted to adjourn.

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Warrant for Town Meeting – Nov. 1883 – File 12, No. 3.**

**Essex SS: - To Eben G. Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen in said County,**

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote as the law directs, to assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the sixth day of November next at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and there to give in their ballots for Governor of this Commonwealth, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, and Receiver General, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, Councilor for the Sixth Councilor District, Senator for the Sixth Essex District, Sheriff, District Attorney, one County Commissioner, two Special County Commissioners, Register of Probate and Insolvency, three Special Commissioners of Insolvency, and three Representatives to represent Essex District number nineteen in the next General Court of the Commonwealth, all on one ballot, the Polls to be kept open until four o'clock p.m. and no longer.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon, to ourselves, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Methuen, **this twenty ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty three.**

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
John E. Sawyer } of Methuen

**Essex SS: - October twenty ninth 1883**

By virtue of the within warrant, I this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen to assemble at the time and place and for the purpose within named by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Methuen, as within directed, it being eight days before the time of said meeting.

Eben G. Knight  
Constable of Methuen

A true copy – Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

**November 6, 1883 - Town Meeting – State Election**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections, held at the Town Hall on Tuesday the sixth day of November A.D. 1883 at ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to Warrant No. 3 File 12, the warrant for the meeting was**

**read by the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and the polls opened, and the votes were given in sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration there of made as the law directs and were as follows: -**

The whole number of ballots cast for **Governor**  
was six hundred and seventy eight 678

George D. Robinson of Chicopee had three hundred ninety two	392
Benjamin F. Butler of Lowell had two hundred eighty one	281
Charles H. Alma of New Bedford had one	1
James S. Grinnell of Greenfield had one	1
James O. Parker of Methuen had one	1
Charles H. Flint of Haverhill had one	1
Calvin Damon of Haverhill had one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Lieutenant Governor** was  
six hundred and eighty three 683

Oliver Ames of Easton had four hundred and nine	409
James S. Grinnell of Greenfield had two hundred seventy four	274

The whole number of ballots cast for **Secretary of State**  
as six hundred and eighty 680

Henry B. Peirce (Pierce) of Abington had four hundred and eighteen	418
Charles Marsh of Springfield had two hundred and sixty two	262

The whole number of ballots cast for **Treasurer and Receiver General** was  
six hundred and eighty two 682

Daniel A. Gleason of Medford had four hundred nineteen	419
Charles H. Ingalls of North Adams had two hundred sixty three	263

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor of Accounts**  
was six hundred and eight two 682

Charles R. Ladd of Springfield had four hundred nineteen	419
John Hopkins of Millbury had two hundred sixty three	263

The whole number of ballots cast for **Attorney General**  
was six hundred and eighty 680

Edgar J. Sherman of Lawrence had four hundred eighteen	418
--	-----

John W. Cumming of Fall River had two hundred sixty one	261
Franklin Saunders of Methuen had one	1
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Councillor Sixth Councilor District</b> was six hundred and eighty	680
James W. Bennett of Lowell had four hundred and four	404
Charles S. Lilley of Lowell had two hundred seventy six	276
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Senator Sixth Essex District</b> was six hundred and eighty	680
Charles Smith of Andover had three hundred sixty eight	368
James O. Parker of Methuen had three hundred and twelve	312
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>County Commissioner</b> was six hundred and eighty two	682
Zechariah Graves of Lynn had four hundred twenty two	422
George J. L. Colby of Newburyport had two hundred fifty nine	259
Henry B. Peirce of Abington had one	1
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Special County Commissioners</b> was Six hundred and eighty two	682
Orlando B. Tenney of Georgetown had four hundred and nineteen	419
Aaron Sawyer of Amesbury had four hundred and eighteen	418
Daniel B. Lord of Salem had two hundred and sixty three	263
Thomas Keville of Salisbury had two hundred and sixty three	263
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Sheriff</b> was six hundred and seventy eight	678
Horatio G. Herrick of Lawrence had four hundred eleven	411
Luther Day of Haverhill had two hundred sixty seven	267
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>District Attorney</b> was six hundred and eighty one	681
Henry P. Moulton of Salem had four hundred eighteen	418
Henry F. Hurlburt of Lynn had two hundred sixty three	263
The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Register or Probate and Insolvency</b> was six hundred and seventy nine	679
Jeremiah T. Mahoney of Salem had six hundred seventy nine	679

The whole number of ballots cast for **Special Commissioners of Insolvency**  
was six hundred and eighty two 682

William L. Thompson of Lawrence had four hundred seventeen	417
Nathaniel J. Holden of Salem had four hundred and nineteen	419
Warrant Tilton of Haverhill had four hundred and nineteen	419
William F. Moyes of Lawrence had two hundred sixty three	263
John J. Flaherty of Gloucester had two hundred sixty three	263

The whole number of ballots cast for **Representatives to the General Court  
For the Nineteenth Essex Representative District**  
was six hundred and seventy nine 679

John Sawyer of Methuen had four hundred and twelve	412
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill had three hundred and sixty eight	368
Henri R. Watson of Haverhill had three hundred and eighty seven	387
Franklin Saunders of Methuen had three hundred and fourteen	314
Calvin Damon of Haverhill had two hundred and seventy nine	279

Charles H. Flint of Haverhill had two hundred and sixty one	261
Moses G. Smith of Methuen had one	1
George Bradley had one	1

The returns of the votes cast for the several officers balloted for were made up, properly certified and delivered to the Town Clerk, and the ballots cast for the several officers, and the voting list used were sealed up and delivered to the Town Clerk, after which the meeting was dissolved.

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

## **Record of Meeting of City and Town Clerks – Nov. 13, 1883**

### **City of Haverhill, November 13, 1883**

At a meeting of the City Clerk of Haverhill and the Town Clerk of Methuen, said City and Town forming the Nineteenth Essex Representative District held at noon this day in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided, upon comparing the transcripts of the returns, the following appears as the result of the ballotings in said District at meetings held on Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup> 1883.

To wit: -	<b>Haverhill Vote</b>	<b>Methuen Vote</b>	<b>Total Vote</b>
Calvin Damon of Haverhill	2057	279	2336
Charles H. Flint of Haverhill	2019	261	2280
Franklin Saunders of Methuen	1940	314	2254
John E. Sawyer of Methuen	1733	412	2145

Henri R. Watson of Haverhill	1728	387	2115
Edwin N. Hill of Haverhill	1664	368	2032
Simeon T. Peakes of Georgetown	1		1
Harry R. Watson of Haverhill	1		1
Moses G. Smith of Methuen		1	1
George Bradley		1	1

**Haverhill November 13, 1883**

In accordance with the foregoing returns, Certificates of Election were this day duly issued to the three persons having the highest number of votes for Representative to the General Court from the Nineteenth Essex District.

To wit: -

Calvin Damon of Haverhill  
Charles H. Flint of Haverhill  
Franklin Saunders of Methuen

Attest

David B. Tenney  
City Clerk of Haverhill  
Jos. S. Howe  
Town Clerk of Methuen

A true Copy

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Boundary line between this Town and the City of Haverhill established.**

We the subscribers, Selectmen of Methuen having been duly notified by the City authorities of Haverhill met the committee representing the board of Mayor and Aldermen of said City of Haverhill at the time appointed viz.: - Oct. 24, 1882 and examined all the monuments erected on the boundary line by the two towns in the year 1865, but upon examination we ascertained that no description of this work had ever been entered upon the records of either Haverhill or Methuen, consequently thing further was done during the year 1882.

March 2, 1883 in company with Civil Engineer Howe of this place we met the committee representing the City of Haverhill, accompanied by Civil Engineer Spofford of that place, on the ground and after consultation decided to re-run the entire line as soon as practicable.

That work has been completed and the report of Engineer Spofford is herewith presented.

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
John E. Sawyer } of  
George O. Marsh } Methuen

Joseph H. Sheldon } Com. representing  
Hiram C. Pearson } the City of Haverhill

**Dec. 22d 1883.**

### **Engineer's Report**

To the Hon. Mayor and board of Aldermen of the City of Haverhill and the Hon. Board of Selectmen of the Town of Methuen,

Gentlemen: -

Having been employed to re-run the boundary line between the City of Haverhill and the Town of Methuen, the following report will show what has been accomplished in that direction. In company with Mr. Franklin Saunders, Chairman of the Methuen board of Selectmen and civil engineer J. S. Howe of that place, we commenced the work Nov. 19, 1883 by getting a point in line of two of the monuments set in 1865, one standing on the southerly side of Broadway near the blacksmith's shop at Ayer's Village, the other about one mile s. easterly, standing on the northerly side of the crossroad b land of Geo. A. Haynes.

These two monuments could be distinctly seen from a point in the line on the high ground, about 800 ft. n. westerly of the Broadway monument. On projecting this line through n. westerly to the state line we came out one foot easterly of the center of the monument at that point.

Returning to the Broadway monument and projecting the line s. easterly we exactly bisected the monument at Crystal St., also the one at the crossroad, passing 3 inches easterly of the center of the

monument at Lowell Avenue, and 12 inches easterly of the new road monument, we came out at Hawk's Brook, 3 3/10 ft westerly of the center of the top of that monument as we then found it. No record having been made of the work done at the time of running this line and setting the monuments in 1865, there appeared to be some doubt as to the exact original location of the Hawks Brook monument, as we found it considerably inclined toward the Haverhill side of the line, with only about 1 1/2 feet of the top left out of the ground. Individuals familiar with the locality informed us that through the action of ice and water this monument had moved some 8

or  
10 feet easterly.

As the line we had run exactly bisected three of the monuments and passed but 3 inches distant from the center of the fourth, and but one foot from two others, it was thought best by some to adopt this as the true boundary line and re-adjust the monuments to agree with it, while others objected to moving the state line bound, as it had been established from time immemorial, therefore it was finally decided to replace the Hawks Brook monument, and take



the line from the center of said monument to the center of the state line monument as the true boundary line between the City of Haverhill and the Town of Methuen, and to replace the intermediate monuments to correspond thereto.

Accordingly we met Mr. Saunders accompanied by four laborers the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the present month

at Hawk's Brook, and immediately proceeded to reset that monument, and all the remaining ones through to Broadway, so that said boundary line now corresponds to the following description.

Commencing at the center of the stone monument as replaced on the s. westerly bank of Hawk's Brook near its junction with the Merrimack River running thence N 37 degrees w as the needle now points) passing over the s. westerly abutment of the bridge, 4794 feet to the center of a stone monument standing on the northerly side of the new road by land of Wm. Merrill.

Thence same course 2945 ft. to the center of a stone monument, standing on the northerly side of Lowell Avenue, opposite the residence of Nathan Perley, and b land of Geo. Mills.

Thence same course 4350-<sup>5/10</sup> ft. to the center of a stone monument standing on the easterly side of Crystal St. by land of Mrs. Stevens.

Thence same course 1060-<sup>2/10</sup> ft. to the center of a stone monument standing on the Southerly side of Broadway, near the blacksmith shop.

Thence same course 3733 feet to the center of a stone monument standing on land of A. B. Noyes, near the boundary line between the States of Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Total measurement from the bound at Hawk's Brook to this point, 18,108 <sup>7/10</sup> feet, or 3 <sup>43/100</sup> miles.

Average magnetic bearing No. 37 degrees W.

During progress of the work four distinct observations were made upon the North Star from which the true bearing N. 48 degrees 38 feet W was deduced, thus making the variation of t he needle in this locality at the present time 11 degrees -38 ft West of the true meridian.

For all further information reference may be had to the accompanying plans, on which the random line is represented in red, and the line as finally fixed is drawn in black.

The several monuments of split granite, each about 12 inches sq. and 7 ft. long, marked distinctly with the letters H and M on their respective sides, and a deep V shaped furrow cut across the top, showing the exact position of the line at that point, now stand at the river, at each road crossing and at the state line, firmly planted about equally above and below the surface of the ground, so

that when these doings shall have been accepted by both parties, and duly entered upon the records of both municipalities, no further doubt shall exist as to the location of the true boundary line between them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**Haverhill Dec. 22, 1883**

N. Spofford.

A true copy  
Attest

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk of Methuen

**1884**

**Warrant for Annual Town Meeting – March 3, 1884 – File 11, No. 4**

**Essex SS: -**

To Eben G. Knight one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen,

**Greeting:-**

In the name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen  
qualified

to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen on Monday the  
third day of March next at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and there to act on the following  
articles: viz. -

Art. 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2 To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor, two School Committeemen to serve three years in place of Wm. M. Rogers and Owen Copp, one School Committeeman to serve one year in the place of David M. Ayer, Constables and Auditor of Accounts and Fence Viewers, all on one ballot, "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?". The vote shall be by separate ballot; also to choose a Collector of Taxes by ballot or otherwise, and all other necessary Town officers in such a manner as the Town may determine. The polls to be kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m.

Art. 3 To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and act thereon.

Art. 4 To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same.

- Art. 5 To determine the manner of collecting taxes the ensuing year and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 6 To determine by what method the Town will appropriate their Highway Taxes and repair their Highways the ensuing year.
- Art. 7 To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town, a Sufficient sum of money to pay any notes that may become due during the year, Or That may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8 To see if the Town will vote to approve and accept the List of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 9 To hear the Report of Committees and act thereon.
- Art. 10 To determine what compensation the Town will grant members of the Fire Department for their services the ensuing year.
- Art. 11 To see if the Town will vote to restrain neat cattle, horses and swine from going at large the ensuing year.
- Art. 12 To determine the manner of appropriating the amount received from Dog taxes in Accordance with Chapter 250 Acts of 1869.
- Art. 13 By request of Post 100 G.A.R. to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the purpose of decorating the graves of our soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day May 30<sup>th</sup> 1884, said money to be expended under the direction of Col. William B. Greene Post 100 G.A.R.
- Art. 14 By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will vote to build an addition to the West side School House and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars therefor and two hundred dollars to furnish the same.
- Art. 15 By request of George W. Tenney, to see if the Town will vote to grant permission to enter sink drain into sewer near the B. H. Woodbury block on Lawrence St.
- Art. 16 By request of John Q. Hill, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars, for repairs on Broadway from Exchange Hotel to Lawrence line.
- Art. 17 By request of John Q. Hill, to see if the Town will vote to lay 100 ft. of drain pipe from foot of paved gutter near fence of George W. Tenney, to enter sewer near Exchange Hotel and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars for the same.

- Art. 18 By request of J. T. Desmond of Haverhill, to see if the Town will vote to have a surveys of the Town and appropriate the sum of nine hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 19 By request of Michael K. Byrnes and others to see if the Town will vote to establish street lights at the following places: - At the corner of Phillips and Lawrence Sts, corner of Lowell and union, on Broadway front of St. Thomas Church, on Steven's St. near the house of John W. Hall, and appropriate the sum of forty dollars for the same.
- Art. 20 By request of Varnum B. Richardson and others, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to locate and dig a well near "Grosvenor Corner", and furnish the same with pump and trough, and appropriate one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 21 By request of Michael Dooley, to see if the Town will vote to put in a bank wall and grade the sidewalk on Lawrence St. from Camden to Chelmsford St. a distance of about two hundred and ninety ft. The height of wall to be about two and a half feet, and appropriate one hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 22 By request of heirs of Esther W. Teel, to see if the Town will discount fifty cents on the dollar on a bill of seven hundred and thirty one dollars and ninety three cents due the Town from the estate of Abbie P. Richardson, if paid within one year.
- Art. 23 By request of Joseph E. Buswell to see if the Town will vote to instruct the School Committee to have one session per day of the High School.
- Art. 24 To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following By-Law "The Selectmen shall have authority to license suitable persons to be dealers in and keepers of shops for the purchase, sale and barter of junk, old metals, or second-hand articles in the Town of Methuen, subject to the provisions of the Public Statutes and other laws of this Commonwealth".
- Art.25 To see what sums of money the Town will appropriate to widen and straighten Brown St. as laid out by the County Commissioners.
- Art. 26 By request of Charles H. Tenney, to see if the Town will accept and allow the discontinuance of that part of a Town way running from Vine St. southerly past the houses of Amos E. Rollins and Isaac H. Laney as laid out by the Selectmen.
- Art. 27 By request of Lorin O. Norris, to see if the Town will vote to adopt the following By-Law: - "No persons shall remain collected on any sidewalk or in front of any church, dwelling house, or other building so as to obstruct passage along the same; or to impede or annoy other persons.

Any person offending against any provisions of the is By-Law shall forfeit and pay for each offence a find of not less than one dollar nor more than twenty.

- Art. 28 By request of John Mulligan and others to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way a street laid out by the Selectmen running easterly from Milk St. across "Bare Meadow" so called.
- Art. 29 By request of Thomas H. Fernald and others, to see if the Town will widen and fill up Highland Street and appropriate three hundred dollars for the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands **this twenty third day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty four.**

Franklin Saunders } Selectmen  
John E. Sawyer } of  
George O. Marsh } Methuen

## **Record of Annual Town Meeting – March 3, 1884**

**The Annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Monday, the third day of March A.D. 1884, at ten o'clock a.m. in accordance with Warrant No. 4 File 11.**

The meeting was called to order at ten o'clock by the Town Clerk, who read the foregoing warrant.

- Art. 1 Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator by a unanimous vote – the checklist being used – and was sworn.

Prayer was offered by Rev. S. L. B. Chase

- Art. 2 The Moderator read Chap. 229 of the Acts of 1883 providing for the appointment of tellers to aid in checking the names of voters, or assorting and counting votes, and appointed Franklin Saunders and George O. Marsh to assist in checking the names of voters, and John E. Sawyer and John H. Morse to assort and count the vote and they were each sworn to the faithful discharge of their duties, by the Town Clerk.

The polls were then opened for the choice of those officers to be chosen by ballot, and were kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m. when they were closed. The polls were also opened and kept open for the same period of time, for voters to deposit their ballots "Yes" or "no" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?".

The votes given in were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made, and were as follows, viz.: -

The whole number of ballots cast for **Town Clerk** was  
Four hundred and ninety five 495

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred and ninety five and was declared elected and sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Treasurer** was  
Four hundred and ninety five 495

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred and ninety five and was declared Elected and was sworn.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Collector of Taxes** was  
Four hundred and ninety five 495

Joseph S. Howe had four hundred and ninety five and was declared elected.

**For Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of Poor**

Darius Pierce had two hundred sixty eight votes	268
Addison P. Russell had two hundred sixty four	264
George O. Marsh had three hundred and seven	307
Henry N. Hall had two hundred and fifty eight	258
James T. Wall had two hundred and sixty one	261
Joseph Martin had one hundred and eight	108
John W. Frederick had one	1
John G. Low had one	1
Daniel E. Cole had one	1

and George O. Marsh, Darius Pierce and Addison P. Russell were declared elected Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor and were sworn.

**For School Committee** for three years

William M. Rogers had three hundred and nine	309
Hugh C. Smith had two hundred ninety seven	397
James O. Parker had one hundred ninety nine	199
Daniel T. Saunders had one hundred sixty eight	168
Joseph Martin had one	1
Henry N. Hall had one	1
James T. Wall had one	1
Daniel E. Cole had one	1

and William M. Rogers and Hugh C. Smith were declared elected School Committee for three years.

**For Constables**

John H. George had four hundred ninety three	493
George A. Closson had four hundred ninety four	494
Amos G. Jones had four hundred ninety two	492
John N. Webster had three hundred twenty two	322
Ernest Wagner had three hundred seventeen	317
Charles W. Kenison had one hundred sixty eight	168
John W. F. Cooper had one hundred seventy three	173
David W. Noyes had one	1

and John H. George, sworn, George A. Closson, sworn, Amos G. Jones, sworn, John N. Webster, sworn, and Ernest Wagner were declared elected Constables.

**For Highway Surveyors**

John Q. Hill (Village District) had four hundred ninety five	495
Edmund P. Sargent (Pleasant Valley) had four hundred and three	403
Gains H. Barnes (How Dis.) had two hundred seventy eight	278
David W. Noyes (Bartlett Dis.) had two hundred sixty four	264
Daniel E. Cole (Marsh Dis.) had three hundred thirty nine	339
Eben F. Sumner (Marsh) had one hundred fifty two	152
Charles H. Merrill (Bartlett) had two hundred thirty one	231
James M. Moreland (Howe) had two hundred and twelve	212
Edward P. Reynolds (pleas. Val.) had eighty nine	89
John N. Webster had one	1

The following named persons were declared elected Highway Surveyors

John Q. Hill (sworn)	Gaius H. Barnes (sworn)
Edmund P. Sargent	David W. Noyes
Daniel E. Cole (sworn)	

**For Fence Viewers**

George A. Butters had three hundred twenty one	321
Frank L. Peabody had three hundred twenty	321
George B. Bradley had three hundred	323
Samuel Cross had one hundred seventy three	173
Elliott F. Dorr had one hundred seventy three	173
George F. Stevens had one hundred seventy two	172

And George A. Butters, Frank L. Peabody and George B. Bradley were declared elected.

The whole number of ballots cast for **Auditor** was  
four hundred and ninety five 495  
John H. Morse had four hundred and ninety five and was declared elected Auditor.  
No other officers were chosen by ballot.

The whole number of names upon the voting list checked as having voted  
was five hundred and one. 501

The whole number of ballots cast on the question “Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Town” was three hundred eighty nine.

The number of voters voting “Yes” was two hundred sixty two 262  
The number of voters voting “No” was one hundred twenty seven 127

The following persons were appointed **Field Drivers**

John Welch	John L. Messer
John M. Currier	Fred A. Russell (sworn)
Calvin Taylor	George B. Bradley (sworn)
George Kelly	

It was voted that the **Sealer of Weights and Measures** be appointed by the Selectmen.

The following persons were appointed **Pound-Keepers**

Stephen W. Williams	Joseph E. Buswell
---------------------	-------------------

**Surveyors of Lumber**

Ralph Clark (sworn)	Samuel Emerson (sworn)
W. J. Nichols	Geo. H. Sumner
Millard F. Emerson (sworn)	Jesse A. Towne
James O. Parker (sworn)	T. B. Currier
Millett G. Copp	Moses E. Kimball
John C. Webster	John W. Frederick
Daniel Dowding	

**Surveyors of Plastering**

Lyman B. Gage	W. O. Norris
George A. Page	Jesse A. Towne



Millett G. Copp

Silas K. Nowell

**Surveyors of Wood and Bark**

John Webster	Stephen Currier
Ralph Clark (sworn)	Rufus A. Griffin
George O. Marsh (sworn)	Edmund P. Sargent
John A. Shirley	Nelson M. Blodgett (sworn)
Julius B. Kolman	James E. Messer (sworn)
Daniel Dowding	Moses E. Kimball
John E. Sawyer	Fred. A. Russell (sworn)
George W. Gage (sworn)	J. W. F. Cooper
Eben G. Knight (sworn)	Charles Jackson

Art. 3 Voted that the Report of the Selectmen be accepted.

Art. 4 Voted that the estimate by the Selectmen of money necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year be taken up item by item. The appropriations were made, as recommended by the Selectmen, and were as follows: -

**FOR**

Support of schools, teachers, janitor ship, fuel & music	
Nine thousand dollars	\$ 9,000.00
Supplies for schools, five hundred dollars	500.00
Repairs for schoolhouses, three hundred dollars	300.00
Shingling high school building, three hundred dollars	300.00
Superintendent of schools, six hundred dollars	600.00
Public Library, two hundred dollars	200.00
Opening roads, fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.00
Highways and bridges, fifty five hundred dollars	5,500.00
Street lights, eight hundred dollars	800.00
Fire department, one thousand dollars	1,000.00
Contingencies, fifteen hundred dollars	1,500.00
Special police, one hundred dollars	100.00
Town Officers, twelve hundred dollars	1,200.00
Collecting taxes, four hundred dollars	400.00
Pauper department, twenty five hundred dollars	2,500.00
Interest on Town debt, thirty six hundred dollars	3,600.00
Military aid, two hundred dollars	200.00
Edge stones, three hundred dollars	300.00
	<u>\$29,000.00</u>

Art. 5 Voted that taxes be collected as last year. Also voted that on all taxes remaining unpaid after Oct. 1 interest shall be paid from that date, at the rate of seven per cent per annum.

- Art. 6      Vote that the method of appropriating highway taxes and repairing highways be the same as last year.
- Art. 7      Voted two thirds of the legal voters present and voting thereon, having voted therefor;  
- That the Treasurer be authorized with the approval of the Selectmen, to hire money in anticipation of taxes of the next ensuing year, or to hire money to renew, replace or pay any existing load or loans, or any part thereof, and to issue notes of the Town therefor.
- Art. 8      The List of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen was next considered, and the name of Mark D. Smart stricken from the list at his own request. The Jury List as thus amended was approved and accepted.

The **List of Jurors** is as follows: -

Brown Kirk F.	Messer Cummings
Butters George A.	Messer James E.
Bowen Gilbert	Mitchell Charles L.
Beedle Charles T.	Morse James W.
Buswell Joseph E.	Pierce Darius
Coburn J. Varnum	Parker James O.
Chase Elihu F.	Powell Eben W.
Cole Daniel E.	Russell Edwin F.
Clark Elbridge A.	Rollins Daniel C.
Dinsmore William H.	Rowe Alexander H.
Davis Stephen W.	Sargent Edmund P.
Dowding Edmund	Saunders Franklin
Dodge James S.	Sawyer John E.
Emerson Millard F.	Sawyer Charles M.
Foster Joel 1 <sup>st</sup>	Smith Moses G.
Gale Amos L.	Sumner George H.
Griffin Justin E.	Stickney William H.
Hall Henry N.	Swan Leverett
Harvey Samuel A.	Thissell George N.
Jackson Charles	Trow Charles E.
Kenison Asa S.	Taylor Elbridge B.
Kimball Sylvanus G.	Walton James
Lanigan Lawrence	Williams Stephen W.
Marsh George O.	Webster John C.
Mann J. William	Webster George K.
Messer John L.	Woodbury Charles O.

- Art. 9      The only Committee which reported under Article 9 was the Committee on "Fire Escape from the Town Hall", appointed at the Annual Meeting in 1882.

Mr. Franklin Saunders for that committee reported verbally and in writing, and recommended a fire escape to be constructed of wood, on the north side of the Town House, to run from the second window to the ground, at an expense of three hundred dollars. The Report of this Committee was accepted but not adopted, and the motion to construct a fire escape rejected.

- Art. 10 Voted that compensation of members of the Fire Department be the same as last year, except that in case of forest fires the amount of compensation to be paid for services be left discretionary with the Board of Engineers, but in no case to exceed fifty cents per hour.
- Art. 11 Voted to restrain neat cattle, horses, swine & cattle.
- Art. 12 A motion was made that the money received from the Dog tax be appropriated the same as last year. Mr. Buswell moved an amendment that if any portion of the money received from Dog tax should remain unexpended by the Library Committee, I t be appropriated to t he Public Schools, and the amendment was carried. The motion as amended was then carried.
- Art. 13 Voted that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated in accordance with Article 13 of the Warrant.
- Art. 14 Mr. Mitchell moved that an addition to the West Side School House be built and the sum of one thousand dollars appropriated therefore, and that two hundred dollars be appropriated for furnishing the same. After considerable discussion, Mr. Johnson moved as a substitute motion, that the School Committee be authorized to procure plans and estimates for a new schoolhouse west of the river, and report at the next annual Town meeting, and the motion was carried. On motion of Mr. Buswell it was then voted to adopt the substituted motion of Mr. Johnson for the original motion of Mr. Mitchell.
- Art. 15 Voted to grant permission to enter sink drain into sewer near the B. H. Woodbury block on Lawrence Street.
- Art. 16 Voted to appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for repairs on Broadway, from Exchange Hotel to Lawrence line. 97 Ayes to 17 Noes.
- Art. 17 Voted to lay 100 feet of drain pipe from foot of paved gutter near fence of George W. Tenney, to enter sewer near Exchange Hotel and to appropriate one hundred and fifty dollars therefore.
- Art. 18 Voted to indefinitely postpone Article 18 of the Warrant.
- Art. 19 Voted to establish street lights at the following places: - at the corner of Phillips and Lawrence Street, at the corner of Lowell and Union Streets, on Broadway front of St.

Thomas Church, on Stevens Streets near the house of John W. Hall, and to appropriate the sum of forty dollars for the same.

- Art. 20 Voted to authorize the Selectmen to locate and dig a well near “Grosvenor Corner”, and furnish the same with pump and trouble, also,  
Voted to appropriate one hundred dollars therefor.
- Art. 21 Voted to put in a bank wall and grade the sidewalk on Lawrence Street, from Camden to Chelmsford St., a distance of about two hundred and ninety feet – the height of wall to be about two and one half feet; also,  
Voted to appropriate one hundred dollars therefor.
- Art. 22 Voted to settle the claim of the Town against the estate of Albie P. Richardson, for fifty percent of the amount of the bill, if paid within one year.
- Art. 23 On motion of Mr. Buswell, voted to instruct the School Committee to have one session per day of the High School – Ayes 59 Noes 36.
- Art. 24 Voted to adopt the following as a By-Law of the Town “The Selectmen shall have authority to license suitable persons to be dealers in and keepers of shops for the purchase, sale or barter of junk, old metals, or second-hand articles in the Town of Methuen, subject to the provisions of the Public Statutes and other laws of this Commonwealth.
- Art. 25 Voted that five hundred dollars be appropriated to widen and straighten Brown Street as laid out and ordered by the County Commissioners, and that it be expended under direction of the Selectmen.
- Art. 26 Voted to accept and allow the discontinuance of that part of a Town way running southerly from Vine Street past the house of Amos E. Rollins, as laid out by the Selectmen to be discontinued.
- Art. 27 Voted to adopt the following as a By-Law of the Town, “No persons shall remain collected on any sidewalk, or in front of any church, dwelling house, or other building so as to obstruct passage along the same, or to impede or annoy other persons. Any person offending against any provisions of this By-Law shall forfeit and pay for each offence a fine of not less than one dollar nor more than twenty”.
- Art. 28 Voted to pass over Article 28, relating to acceptance of Town way laid out by the Selectmen through “Bare Meadow”.
- Art. 29 Voted to widen and fill Highland Street, and appropriate three hundred dollars for the same.

Mr. Goss moved that three hundred dollars be appropriated for schools, in addition to the appropriation already made, to defray the increased expense caused by having but one session a day in the High School, and the motion was lost.

Voted that ten dollars be appropriated to pay the Moderator for his services this day.

The meeting was then dissolved.

Attest,        Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

### **Warrant for Special Town Meeting – June 1884 – File 11 – No. 5.**

**Essex SS: -**

To John H. George, one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen.

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby requested to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen, on Wednesday, the fourth day of June next at two o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:-

- Art. 1        To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2.        By request of John Emenegger and others to see if the Town will accept and allow as a Town way a street laid out by the Selectmen running easterly from Milk Street across "Bare Meadow", so called, and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 3        By request of Daniel Taylor, to see if the Town will vote to grant permission to enter sink drain into sewer near Baptist Church on Lawrence Street.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof, at each of the public meeting houses and the Town House, and upon the several schoolhouses outside the limits of the village eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of the warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands **this twenty fourth day of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty four.**

George O. Marsh } Selectmen  
Darius Pierce } of  
A. P. Russell } Methuen

I hereby certify that I have performed the duties herein set forth in compliance with the orders of the Selectmen of Methuen by posting up attested copies of this warranty on the several churches in \_\_\_\_\_ Town and on the schoolhouses outside of the village district (and other conspicuous places) on **this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May – 1886 (the Town Clerk wrote 1886 but it was 1884) – A.D.**

A true copy                  Attest                  John H. George – Constable  
Jos. S. Howe, Town Clerk.

## June 4, 1884 - Special Town Meeting

A legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen was held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Wednesday the fourth day of June 1884 at two o'clock p.m. in pursuance of Warrant No. 5, File 11.

The meeting was called to order by the Town Clerk and the warrant for the meeting read.

Art. 1<sup>st</sup> A ballot was taken and Granville E. Foss was chosen Moderator.

Art. 2<sup>nd</sup> The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen made a verbal report, and presented an estimate that the sum of three hundred dollars would be required to build the road as laid out.

On motion of E. F. Johnson it was voted that the road laid out by the Selectmen through Bare Meadow be accepted and that the sum of three hundred dollars be appropriated to build the same.

Art. 3d It was voted to postpone action on Article 3d of the warrant until the next Annual Meeting.

Voted to dissolve the meeting

Attest Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

## **Warrant for Town Meeting – Nov. 4, 1884 – File 11, No. 6**

**Essex SS:** - To John H. George, one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen in said County,

**Greeting:** -

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required forthwith to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote as the law directs, to assemble at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the fourth day of November next at ten o'clock in the forenoon then and there to give in their ballots for a Governor of the Commonwealth, Lieutenant Governor, Councillor for District Number Six, Secretary, Treasurer and Receiver General, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, One Senator for the Sixth Essex District, one County Commissioner, one Representative to Congress for the Eighth District, three Representatives to the General Court for the (19<sup>th</sup>) Nineteenth Essex District,

and fourteen Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, all to be voted for on one ballot. The polls may be closed at four o'clock p.m. And you are directed to serve this warrant

by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon to ourselves at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town, at Methuen, **this twenty fifth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty four.**

George O. Marsh } Selectmen  
Darius Pierce } of  
Addison P. Russell } Methuen

**Methuen, Mass. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 1884**

By virtue of this warrant I have this day posted attested copies of the within warrant on the several churches & on the Town House according to the within instructions.

John H. George  
Constable of Methuen

## **Record of State and National Election – Nov. 4, 1884**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections, held at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, the fourth day of November A.D. 1884 at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to Warrant No. 6 File 11, the warrant for the meeting**

was read by the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, the ballot box was publicly opened and shown to be empty after which the box was locked, and the figures on the register indicate four ciphers. The polls were then opened and the ballot box was not removed from public view until the close of the meeting. The polls were closed at four o'clock p.m. and the register indicated the figures 689. The marks on the checklist were counted by Selectman Pierce and found to agree with the number on the register. The ballot box was then unlocked, the ballots taken out and counted audibly by Selectman Pierce and the number was found to agree with the number on the register. The votes given in were then sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made as the law directs, and were as follows: -

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Presidential Electors</b> was	
six hundred and eighty nine	689

**For Electors at Large**

Mark Hopkins of Williamstown had three hundred and ninety	390
Thomas Talbot of Billerica had three hundred and ninety	390
Jonas H. French of Gloucester had two hundred and forty four	244
Reuben Noble of Westfield had two hundred and forty four	244
John O. Baker of Beverly had thirty three	33
Albion C. Drinkwater of Braintree had thirty three	33
Robert C. Pitman of Newton had eighteen	18
Alonzo A. Miner of Boston had eighteen	18

**For District Number one**

Azariah Eldridge of Yarmouth had three hundred and ninety	390
George Delano of New Bedford had two hundred and forty five	245
Thomas B. Chase of Harwich had thirty three	33
Charles Almy of New Bedford had seventeen	17

**For District Number Two**

Sylvanus N. Staple of Taunton had three hundred and ninety	390
Bushrod Morse of Sharon had two hundred and forty five	245
William L. Douglas of Brockton had thirty three	33
Thomas J. Lathrop of Taunton had seventeen	17

**For District Three**

Arthur W. Tufts of Boston had three hundred and ninety	390
Francis A. Peters of Boston had two hundred forty five	245
James Sumner of Milton had thirty three	33
Eugene H. Clapp of Boston had seventeen	17



#### **District Number Four**

Hugh A. Madden of Boston had three hundred ninety	390
Ebenezer M. McPherson of Boston two hundred and forty five	245
Dennis O. Reilly of Boston had thirty three	33
Israel S. Grafton of Boston had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Five**

Samuel L. Montague of Cambridge had three hundred and ninety	390
Christopher E. Rymes of Somerville had two hundred and forty five	245
Gilman F. Jones of Woburn had thirty three	33
James H. Roberts of Cambridge had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Six**

Ezra A. Stevens of Malden had three hundred and ninety	390
Knowles Freeman of Chelsea had two hundred and forty five	245
Henry Hastings Jr. of Medford had thirty three	33
George H. Harwood of Lynn had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Seven**

Daniel B. Hagar of Salem had three hundred and ninety	390
Charles P. Thompson of Gloucester had two hundred and forty five	245
Harry H. Hale of Bradford had thirty three	33
James J. H. Gregory of Marblehead had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Eight**

Charles A Stott of Lowell had three hundred and ninety	390
John C. Sanborn of Lawrence had two hundred forty five	245
James H. Carmichael of Lowell had thirty three	33
James K. Fellows of Lowell had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Nine**

Lucius G. Pratt of Newton had three hundred and ninety	390
James E. Cotter of Hyde Park had two hundred forty five	245
Patrick J. Conway of Marlborough had thirty three	33
Claudius B. Travis of Natick had seventeen	17

#### **District Number Ten**

Philip L. Moen of Worcester had three hundred and ninety	390
Waldo Lincoln of Worcester had two hundred and forty five	245

John Flint of Webster had thirty three	33
Charles Heritage of Warren had seventeen	17

### **District Number Eleven**

Eli A. Hubbard of Hatfield had three hundred and ninety	390
Festus C. Currier of Fitchburg had two hundred forty five	245
William O. Crocker of Montague had thirty three	33
Benjamin Snow of Fitchburg had seventeen	17

### **District Number Twelve**

William S. Shurtleff of Springfield had three hundred ninety	390
Elisha B. Maynard of Springfield had two hundred forty five	245
William M. E. Mellen of Chicopee had thirty three	33
John Blackmen of Springfield had seventeen	17

Four blanks were cast for Electors.

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Governor</b> was six hundred and eighty nine	689
---	-----

George D. Robinson of Chicopee had four hundred and eight	408
William C. Endicott of Salem had two hundred thirty one	231
Matthew J. McCafferty of Worcester had thirty two	32
Julius H. Seelye of Amherst had eighteen	18

The whole number of ballots cast for <b>Lieutenant Governor</b> was six hundred and eighty nine	689
--	-----

Oliver Ames of Easton had four hundred and five	405
James S. Grinnell of Greenfield had two hundred thirty one	231
Albert R. Rice of Springfield had thirty two	32
Henry H. Faxon of Quincy had twenty	20
Blank – one -	1

### **Councillor for District Number Six**

The whole number of ballots cast for Councillor for District Number Six was Six hundred eighty nine	689
--	-----

Abraham B. Coffin of Winchester had four hundred and eight	408
Thomas H. Hill of Woburn had two hundred thirty four	234
Lewis Towey of Lawrence had thirty two	32
George A. King of Concord had fourteen	14
Blank – one	1

The whole number of ballots cast for **Secretary of State**  
was six hundred and eighty nine 689

Henry B. Pierce of Abington had four hundred and seven 407  
Jeremiah Crowley of Lowell had two hundred thirty three 233  
John P. Sweeney of Lawrence had thirty three 33  
George Kempton of Sharon had sixteen 16

### **Treasurer and Receiver General**

The whole number of ballots cast for **Treasurer and Receiver General**  
was Six hundred eighty nine 689

Daniel A. Gleason of Medford had four hundred and eight 408  
Charles Marsh of Springfield had two hundred thirty three 233  
Nathaniel S. Cushing of Middleborough had thirty two 32  
Charles B. Knight of Worcester had sixteen 16

### **Auditor**

The whole number of ballots cast for Auditor  
was six hundred and eighty nine 689

Charles R. Ladd of Springfield had four hundred and eight 408  
John Hopkins of Millbury had two hundred thirty three 233  
Israel W. Andrews of Danvers had thirty two 32  
William W. Sherman of Lowell had sixteen 16

### **Attorney General**

The whole number of ballots cast for Attorney General  
was six hundred and eighty nine 689

Edgar J. Sherman of Lawrence had four hundred and five 405  
John W. Cummings of Fall River had two hundred thirty two 232  
Thomas W. Clarke of Boston had thirty four 34  
Samuel M. Fairfield of Malden had seventeen 17  
Blank – one 1

### **Senator Sixth Essex District**

The whole number of ballots cast for Senator for the Sixth Essex District  
was Six hundred eighty nine 689

Newton P. Frye of North Andover had three hundred eighty six 386

Samuel B. Locke of Andover had two hundred sixty two	262
Azro R. Durgin of North Andover had twenty five	25
John Aldred of Lawrence had fourteen	14
Blank – two	2

The whole number of ballots cast for **County Commissioner** was six hundred and eighty nine 689

John W. Raymond of Beverly had four hundred thirty two	432
John J. Sheehan of Salem had two hundred fifty six	256
Blank – one	1

### **Representative to Congress – Eighth District**

The whole number of ballots cast for Representative to Congress Eighth District was Six hundred and eighty nine 689

Charles H. Allen of Lowell had four hundred and seven	407
Charles S. Lilley of Lowell had two hundred forty nine	249
Hiram W. K. Eastman of Lawrence had twenty one	21
John W. Reed of Lowell had twelve	12

### **Representatives to General Court – Nineteenth Essex District**

The whole number of ballots cast for Representatives to General Court Nineteenth Essex District was six hundred and eighty nine 689

John E. Sawyer of Methuen had four hundred and forty five	445
Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill had three hundred and seventy one	371
William H. Johnson of Haverhill had four hundred and one	401
Charles H. Flint of Haverhill had two hundred and sixteen	216
Fred. G. Richards of Haverhill had two hundred and forty nine	249
Franklin Saunders of Methuen had two hundred thirty five	235

Isaiah W. Titcomb of Haverhill had fifty four	54
Charles M. Herring of Haverhill had thirty one	31
Fred. S. Pearsons had one	1
John W. Frederic had one	1
Blanks – sixty three	63

The returns of the votes cast for the several officers balloted for, were made up, properly certified, and delivered to the Town Clerk, and the ballots cast for the several officers were also sealed up in an envelope and delivered to the Town Clerk. The checklist used was also sealed up and delivered to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. The meeting was then adjourned sine die.

Attest

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

## **Record of Meeting of City and Town Clerks, Nov. 11, 1884**

**City of Haverhill Mass, November 11, 1884**  
**City Clerk's Office**

At a meeting of the City Clerk of Haverhill and the Town Clerk of Methuen, said City and Town forming the Nineteenth Essex Representative District, held at noon this day in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided, upon comparing the transcripts of the returns, the following appears as the result of the balloting in said District at meetings held on Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup> 1884.

To wit.:

	<b>Haverhill Vote</b>	<b>Methuen Vote</b>	<b>Total Vote</b>
William H. Johnson of Haverhill	1969	401	2370
Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill	1569	371	1940
Fred. G. Richards of Haverhill	1448	249	1697
Charles H. Flint of Haverhill	944	216	1160
Isaiah W. Titcomb of Haverhill	744	54	798
Charles M. Herring of Haverhill	298	31	329
John E. Sawyer of Methuen	2378	445	2825
Franklin Saunders of Methuen	1100	235	1335
F. Elvin Heath of Haverhill	2		2
Calvin Damon of Haverhill	1		1
John I. Baker of Beverly	1		1
Richards	1		1
Fred G. Richards	3		3
William H. Johnson	1		1
John W. Frederick of Methuen		1	1

In accordance with the foregoing returns, Certificates of Election were this day duly issued to the three persons having the highest number of votes for Representative to the General Court from the Nineteenth Essex District.

To wit: -

William H. Johnson of Haverhill  
Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill  
John E. Sawyer of Methuen

David B. Tenney – City Clerk of Haverhill  
Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk of Methuen

A true copy

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

**Perambulation  
Methuen and Salem**

**Perambulation of the line between Salem N.H. and Methuen, Mass.**

The subscribers, Selectmen of the Town of Salem, N.H. and Methuen, Mass, met on Friday **Dec. 12, 1884**, and perambulated the line between said towns, Salem and Methuen and found the bounds substantially set, and the courses from one bound to the other as follows, viz.: commencing at the northeasterly corner of Methuen at Haverhill line at a stone set in the ground, thence south 49 degrees 56' west 93 rods to a stone set in the ground, a few rods south Aaron G. Wilson's house, thence south 70 degrees 20' west 1159 rods to a stone set in the ground in Strong Water Meadow, thence south 62 degrees 18' west 691 ½ rods crossing the Turnpike, so called, to a stone set in the ground east of George W. Noyes' house, thence north 87 degrees 53' west 226 rods crossing the road in front of said Noyes' house on the side of the hill to a stone set in the ground southwest of said Noyes, thence south 79 degrees 19' west 137 rods to a stone set in the ground at the corner of Salem and Pelham.

And they find stones at the several points where the Town line crosses the public roads.

George O. Marsh } Selectmen  
Darius Pierce    } of  
Addison P. Russell } Methuen

Charles E. Knight } Selectmen  
Peter Batchelder   } of Salem

A true copy,

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

**1885**

**Perambulation  
Methuen, Mass and Pelham, NH**

**Boundary line between the Town of Methuen Mass. and the Town of Pelham NH**

We the subscribers, Selectmen of Methuen and Selectmen of Pelham, having been duly notified by the Selectmen of Methuen, met on the **second day of January 1885**, at the house of Mrs. Alonzo Harris accompanied by Jos. S. Howe of Methuen, Surveyor, and proceeded to run the line between said towns. This was done by erecting a signal over the monument at the west end of the line, and getting on a line between that point and the monument on the east end of the line, which was in plain view from the crest of the hill west of the house of Mrs. Harris. The line was then run down to the highway, and a stone boundary post, marked “P” on one side and “M” on the other, was set on the west side of said highway near a large ash tree.

The course of said line was found to be north 61 degrees – 40’ west – that being the magnetic bearing – and the distance from the monument at the east end of the line to the stone set at the highway, was two thousand and fifty three (2053) feet, or about 114 ½ rods.

The distance from the bound stone at the highway, to the west end of the line was thirteen hundred and seventy seven feet, or about 83 ½ rods.

Geo. O. Marsh } Selectmen  
Darius Pierce } of  
A. P. Russell } Methuen

Charles L. Seavey } Selectmen  
Richard B. Hillman } of  
Samuel Kelley } Pelham

### **Warrant for Annual Town Meeting – March 2, 1885 – File 11 – No. 7**

**Essex SS: –**

To John H. George, one of the Constables of the Town of  
Methuen,

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at the Town Hall in said Methuen on Monday, the second day of March next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.:

Article 1<sup>st</sup> To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2d To choose a Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of taxes, Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor, two School Committeemen to serve three years in place of C. L. Mitchell and German S. Phippen, two Trustees of Nevins Memorial, one to serve one year and one to serve two years, Constables, Auditor of Accounts, and Fence Viewers, all on one ballot; “Yes” or “No” in answer to the question, “Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?” The vote shall be by

separate ballot. Also to choose all other necessary Town Officers in such a manner as the Town may determine, the polls to be kept open until half past twelve o'clock p.m.

- Art. 3d To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and act thereon.
- Art. 4<sup>th</sup> To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year, and make appropriations for the same.
- Art. 5<sup>th</sup> To determine the manner of collecting taxes the ensuing year, and act thereon as the Town may think proper.
- Art. 6<sup>th</sup> To determine by what method the Town will appropriate their highway taxes and repair their highways the ensuing year.
- Art. 7<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to hire in behalf of the Town a sufficient sum of money to pay any notes that may become due during the year, or that may be necessary to pay orders drawn by the Selectmen, and empower the Treasurer to sign such notes in behalf of the Town.
- Art. 8<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to approve and accept the list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 9<sup>th</sup> To hear the report of Committees and act thereon.
- Art. 10<sup>th</sup> To determine what compensation the Town will grant members of the Fire Department for their services the ensuing year.
- Art. 11<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to restrain neat cattle, horses and swine from going at large the ensuing year.
- Art. 12<sup>th</sup> To determine the manner of appropriating the amount received from dog taxes, in accordance with Chapter 102 Sec. 107 of the Public Statutes.
- Art. 13<sup>th</sup> By request of Post 100 G. A. R. to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars for the purpose of decorating the graves of our soldiers and sailors on Memorial Day, May 30, 1885; said money to be expended under the direction of Col. William B. Greene Post 100 G.A.R.
- Art. 14<sup>th</sup> By request of C. R. Mason and others, to see if the Town will vote to construct a sewer through French Street, and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 15<sup>th</sup> By request of Joseph E. Buswell and others, to see if the Town will vote to pass the following resolution: "Whereas, it is claimed in behalf of the survivors of the Methuen quota in the war of the rebellion, and of the heirs of those that are dead,



that the Town of Methuen has heretofore incurred certain obligations to its volunteer soldiers which have never been discharged, and which are now legally barred by lapse of time, Resolved that the Town of Methuen recognizing its moral obligation, and believing that no mere technical defence should be permitted to bar the honest claim

of its veteran soldiers and their heirs, now reaffirms and renews the promise it made to its volunteer soldiers at the Town meeting of April 30, 1861, and at the several Town meetings held subsequent to that date, while the war of the rebellion was in progress.”

- Art. 16<sup>th</sup> By request of Moses E. Kimball and others, to see if the Town will vote to accept a street known as Camden Street, as laid out by the Selectmen, and appropriate a sum of money for the same.
- Art. 17<sup>th</sup> By request of Patrick Wright and others, to see if the Town will vote to accept a street extending from Union Street, near the house of John Bond, to a point near the house of Patrick Wright, as laid out by the Selectmen, and appropriate fifty dollars for the same.
- Art. 18<sup>th</sup> By request of James S. Dodge and others, to see if the Town will vote to construct a sewer from the corner of Pleasant Street, and the street extending past the west side of the stone church, through said Pleasant Street to the sewer near Exchange Hotel, and appropriate five hundred dollars for the same.
- Art. 19<sup>th</sup> By request of C. R. Mason, Sewall W. Tapley and John D. Robinson and others, to see if the Town will vote to establish street lights at the following places: on French Street near Mason’s Court, on Centre Street near the residence of Sewall W. Tapley, and on Annis Street near the residence of John D. Robinson, and appropriate thirty dollars for the same.
- Art. 20<sup>th</sup> By request of Varnum Corliss, to see if the Town will vote to pay a part of the expense of removing earth and building a wall on Lawrence Street, east of Pearson and Pages, stone, and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 21<sup>st</sup> By request of the heirs of Esther W. Teel, to see if the Town will discount fifty cents on the dollar on a bill of seven hundred and thirty dollars and ninety three cents due the Town from the estate of Abbie P. Richards, if paid within one year.
- Art. 22<sup>nd</sup> By request of the Board of Fire Engineers to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of eight hundred dollars for the purpose of remodeling the engine house, so that it will accommodate a pair of horses and a man to drive them, Mr. Henry C. Nevins having offered to furnish the horses and driver free of expense.
- Art. 23<sup>rd</sup> By request of Thomas Devine and others, to see if the Town will vote to cut down and lower the grade of “Gutterson Hill” so called, located on the road leading from Marsh’s corner to Dracut line, and appropriate two hundred dollars for the same.

- Art. 24<sup>th</sup> By request of John Q. Hill to see if the Town will vote to rebuild the bridge on Broadway near the Woolen Mill, either a stone arch or wood, as they may determine and make an appropriation for the same.
- Art. 25<sup>th</sup> To see if the Town will vote to allow the Trustees of Nevins Memorial to take from the public library such books as they may select for the use of the Memorial Library.
- Art. 26<sup>th</sup> By request of C. H. Tenney, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars to complete the grading, paving and fencing of Highland Street.
- Art. 27<sup>th</sup> By request of David W. Noyes to see if the Town will vote to instruct the Road Commissioners in the districts outside of the village, to work out their appropriations before the first day of July.
- Art. 28<sup>th</sup> By request of Mr. W. Keyes and others, to see if the Town will vote to abolish the office of Superintendent of Schools, and appropriate four hundred dollars for the services of the School Committee.
- Art. 29<sup>th</sup> By request of the School Committee to see if the Town will vote to purchase a lot of land on the west side of the village, on which to erect a school house.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses and at the Town House in said Town, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this twenty first day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty five.

George O. Marsh	}	Selectmen
Darius Pierce	}	of
Addison P. Russell	}	Methuen

**Essex, SS.**

**Methuen, Mass. Feb. 21, 1885**

By virtue of this warrant I have this day posted attested copies of the within warrant on each of the several meetinghouses in said Town of Methuen, and also on the Town House.

John H. George,  
Constable of Methuen

A true copy

Attest

Jos. S. Howe  
Town Clerk.

## **Record of Annual Town Meeting – March 2, 1885**

Pursuant to Warrant No. 7 File 11 the Annual Town Meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday the second day of March A.D.1885.

Art. 1 Granville E. Foss was c hosen Moderator by a unanimous vote, - the check list being used, - and was sworn.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Donald Frazer.

Art. 2 The Moderator appointed as tellers to check the names of voters and assist in assorting and counting votes John H. Morse, John E. Sawyer, and George W. Tenney, and appointed George O. Marsh to take charge of the ballot box, and they were all sworn by the Town Clerk. The ballot box was publicly opened and found to be empty, and was then locked. The figures on the register indicated four ciphers. The polls were then opened for the choice of those officers to be chosen by ballot, and the ballot box was not removed from public view until the close of the meeting. The “Yes” and “No” ballots were deposited in a separate box. The poll was closed at half past twelve o’clock p.m. and the register indicated the figures 558. The number of ballots in the box and the number of marks on the checklist were counted and found to agree with the number indicated on the register. The votes given in were sorted, counted, recorded, and declaration thereof made as the law directs, and were as follows: -

### **For Town Clerk**

Joseph S. How had five hundred and fifty five	555
and was declared elected and was sworn.	

### **For Town Treasurer**

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred and fifty four	554
Austin R. Burrill had one	1
and Joseph S. Howe was declared elected.	

### **For Collector of Taxes**

Joseph S. Howe had five hundred and fifty four	554
--	-----

Austin R. Burrill had one 1  
and Joseph S. Howe was declared elected.

**For Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor**

James T. Wall had two hundred and ninety four	294
Addison P. Russell had two hundred and ninety three	293
Darius Pierce had two hundred and eighty five	285
Henry N. Hall had two hundred and eighty	280
George O. Marsh had two hundred and fifty seven	257
Daniel C. Rollins had one hundred ninety one	191
John W. Frederick had one	1

and James T. Wall, Addison P. Russell and Darius Pierce were declared elected Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor, and were sworn.

**For School Committee for three years**

Charles L. Mitchell had four hundred	400
George B. Bradley had three hundred forty five	345
Joseph Martin had two hundred and fifteen	215
George O. Marsh had one	1
James T. Wall had four	4
Jos. S. Howe had one	1

and Charles L. Mitchell and George B. Bradley were declared elected School Committee for 3 years.

**For Constables**

John W. Silver had five hundred and fifty five	555
John H. George had five hundred and fifty one	551
Lewis E. Barnes had five hundred and fifty one	551
John L. Kelley had five hundred and fifty one	551
John N. Webster had three hundred and fifty three	353
George A. Closson had one hundred and sixty seven	167

John W. Silver, John H. George, Lewis E. Barnes, John L. Kelley, and John N. Webster were declared Constables and sworn.

**For Auditor of Accounts**

John H. Morse had five hundred fifty eight	557
--	-----

and was declared elected Auditor.

**For Highway Surveyors**

John Q. Hill had three hundred and fifty five	355
Edmund P. Edmonds had one hundred eighty two	182
Edmund P. Sargent had three hundred and eighty three	383
John A. Shirley had one hundred and eighty eight	188
Gaius H. Barnes had four hundred ninety three	493
Charles J. Griffin had three hundred and twenty two	322
David W. Noyes had two hundred and twenty four	224
Daniel E. Cole had five hundred and forty	540
Geo. O. Marsh had one	1

James T. Wall had one 1

The following named persons were declared elected Highway Surveyors:

John Q. Hill, Edmund P. Sargent, Gaius H. Barnes, Charles J. Griffin,  
Daniel E. Cole (all were sworn).

#### For **Fence Viewers**

Aaron Gilcreast had three hundred and fifty five	355
Everett Gilcreast had three hundred and fifty four	354
Clarence Wardwell had three hundred and forty one	341
Fred A. Russell had one hundred and ninety nine	199
David M. Ayer had one hundred and ninety nine	199
Marcus W. Keyes had two hundred	200
Albert B. Gordon had fourteen	14

Aaron Gilcreast, Everett Gilcreast and Clarence Wardwell (sworn)  
were declared elected Fence Viewers.

#### For **Trustees Nevins Memorial**

James Ingalls, for two years, had five hundred forty one	541
George E. Woodbury, for one year, had five hundred forty two	542

James Ingalls was declared elected for two years and George E. Woodbury  
was declared elected for one year.

The whole number of ballots on the question “**Shall licenses be  
granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town**”

was four hundred and thirty two 432

The number of voters voting “Yes” was two hundred ninety eight 298

The number of voters voting “no” was one hundred thirty four 134

The following named persons were appointed **Field Drivers**

John Welch (sworn)	Isaac H. Laney
John M. Currier	Judson I. Wood
Sylvanius G. Kimball	Charles E. Russell
Edmund Dowding (sworn)	

It was voted that the **Sealer of Weights and Measures** be appointed by the Selectmen.

The following named persons were appointed **Pound Keepers**

Stephen W. Williams	Joseph E. Buswell
---------------------	-------------------

The following named persons were appointed **Surveyors of Lumber**

Ralph Clark, sworn	W. J. Nichols
Millard F. Emerson, sworn	James O. Parker, sworn
James E. Messer, sworn	Millett G. Copp, sworn
Samuel Emerson, sworn	George H. Sumner
Jesse A. Towne	Thomas B. Currier
Moses E. Kimball	John W. Frederick, sworn
Daniel Dowding	

The following named persons were appointed **Surveyors of Plastering**

Lyman B. Gage, sworn	W. O. Norris
Millett G. Copp	Geo. A. Page
Jesse A. Towne	Silas K. Nowell
Nahum P. Winn	

The following named persons were appointed **Surveyors of Wood and Bark**

John C. Webster	Ralph Clark, sworn
George O. Marsh, sworn	John A. Shirley
Julius B. Holman	Daniel Dowding
John E. Sawyer	Silas L. Holman
George W. Gage, sworn	Stephen Currier
Rufus A. Griffin, sworn	Edmund P. Sargent
Nelson M. Blodgett, sworn	James E. Messer, sworn
Moses E. Kimball	Fred A. Russell, sworn
Charles Jackson	Eugene S. Chase
Millard F. Emerson, sworn	

Art. 3      Voted that the Annual Report of the Selectmen be accepted.

Art. 4 Voted that the estimate by the Selectmen of money necessary to defray Town charges the ensuing year, be taken up item by item.

Voted that any unexpended balance of the appropriation for Public Library be applied for the support of schools.

Voted to pass over the estimated appropriation for Superintendent of Schools, until after Article 28 shall be acted on.

The appropriations voted were as follows.

**For**

Support of schools, teachers, janitors, fuel and music nine thousand dollars	\$9,000
Supplies for schools – eight hundred dollars	800
Repairs for School Houses – six hundred dollars	600
Public Library – two hundred dollars	200
Opening roads – fifteen hundred dollars	1,500
Highways & bridges – fifty five hundred dollars	5,500
Street lights – one thousand dollars	1,000
Fire Department – twelve hundred dollars	1,200
Contingencies – fifteen hundred dollars	1,500
Special Police – one hundred dollars	100
Town Officers – twelve hundred dollars	1,200
Collection of taxes – four hundred dollars	400
Pauper Department – twenty five hundred dollars	2,500
Interest on Town debt – three thousand dollars	3,000
Military aid – three hundred dollars	300
Edgestone – three hundred dollars	300
	<u>\$29,100</u>

Art. 5 Voted that taxes be collected as last year. Also voted that on all taxes remaining unpaid after Oct. first, interest shall be paid from that date, at the rate of seven per cent per annum.

Art. 6 Voted that the method of appropriating highway taxes and repairing highways be the same as last year.

Art. 7 Voted two thirds of the legal voters present and voting thereon, having voted therefore – that the Treasurer be authorized with the approval of the Selectmen, to hire money in anticipation of taxes of the next ensuing year, or to hire money to renew, replace or pay any existing loan or loans, or any part thereof, and to issue notes of the Town therefor.

Art. 8      The list of Jurors prepared by the Selectmen was approved and accepted. The list of Jurors is as follows.

Brown Kirk F.	Messer John L.
Butters George A.	Messer Cummings
Buswell Joseph e.	Messer Hazen
Bowen Gilbert	Messer James E.
Beedle Charles T.	Mitchell Charles L.
Clark George S.	Morse James W.
Coburn J. B. V.	Parker James O.
Chase Elihu F.	Powell Eben W.
Cole Daniel E.	Russell Edwin F.
Dinsmore Wm. H.	Russell Addison P.
Davis Stephen W.	Rollins Daniel C.
Dowding Edmund	Rowe Alexander H.
Emerson Millard F.	Sargent Edmund P.
Foss Granville E.	Saunders Franklin
Foster Joel 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sawyer John E.
Gale Amos L.	Sawyer Charles M.
Griffin Justin E.	Smith Moses G.
Hall Henry N.	Stickney W. H.
Harvey Samuel A.	Swan Leverett
Jackson Charles	Thissell George N.
Kenison Asa S.	Trow Charles E.
Kimball Moses E.	Taylor Elbridge B.
Kimball Sylvanus G.	Tenney Daniel W.
Kent Elbridge K.	Williams Stephen W.
Lanigan Lawrence	Wardwell William H.
Marsh George O.	Webster John C.
Mann J. William	Webster George K.

Art. 9      Voted to accept Report of School Committee.  
Mr. Rogers – in behalf of the Committee appointed at the last Annual Meeting to present plans and estimates for a new schoolhouse on the west side of the village – reported verbally in favor of the purchase of a lot for a schoolhouse on Lowell Street – near the Methodist church.

The Chair ruled the report out of order.

The unfinished business, laid over to this meeting at the meeting held June 4, 1884, was never considered.

Voted to permit Daniel Taylor to enter sink drain into sewer near Baptist Church on Lawrence Street.



- Art. 10 Voted that compensation of members of the Fire Department be the same as last year.
- Art. 11 Voted to restrain neat cattle, horses, and swine.
- Art. 12 Voted that the money received from dog taxes be appropriated in the same way as last year.
- Art. 13 Memorial Day
- Voted that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated in accordance with Article 13 of the warrant.
- Art. 14 Sewer near Arlington
- Voted to refer the subject matter of Article 14 to a committee, to report at a future meeting.
- Voted that the Board of Selectmen and Jos. S. Howe constitute that committee.
- Art. 15 Soldiers' claim for more bounty.
- Mr. Jos. E. Buswell moved to pass the resolution; Mr. Grime moved that consideration of Art. 15 be postponed till the end of the meeting. Decided in the negative.
- Mr. Buswell and others supported the resolution and Mr. Frederick opposed it. Mr. Parker moved as a substitute motion that the whole subject be referred to a committee of five whose duty is shall be to investigate the matter and report at a future meeting.
- Mr. Phippen moved to indefinitely postpone the whole subject which motion was lost, Ayes 117, Noes 130.
- The motion of reference to a committee was then carried and the Chair appointed the committee as follows.
- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Hon. James O. Parker | Hon. Jacob Emerson  |
| Joseph W. Fulton     | Stephen W. Williams |
| George W. Gage       |                     |
- Art. 16 Voted to accept and allow as a Town way the street known as Camden Street, as laid out by the Selectmen.
- Voted to appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars to build said street.
- Art. 17 Voted to accept and allow as a Town way a street extending from Union Street past the house of Patrick Wright as laid out by the Selectmen and appropriate fifty dollars for the same.

Art. 18     Sewer Pleasant Street

Voted to build a sewer as asked for in Article 18 of the warrant, and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for the same.

Art. 19     Street lights

Voted to refer Article 19 to the Selectmen, with full power and also to appropriate thirty dollars as asked for in the article.

Art. 20     Voted to pay Varnum Corliss one half the expense of removing earth and building wall on Lawrence Street east of Pearson and Page's store and to appropriate that amount of money.

Art. 21     Claim of A. P. Richardson

Voted to settle the claim of the Town against the estate of Abbie P. Richardson, for fifty per cent of the amount of the bill, if paid within one year.

Art. 22     Engine House

Voted to appropriate the sum of eight hundred dollars according to the terms of Article 22 in the Warrant, and also

Voted that the appropriation be expended under the direction of the Board of Fire engineers.

Art. 23     Voted to cut down and lower the grade of Gutterson Hill and appropriate two hundred dollars for that purpose.

Art. 24     Broadway Bridge

Voted to rebuild the bridge on Broadway near the Woolen Mill of wood and also Voted that the bridge be built the entire width of the street.

Voted to appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars for that purpose.

Art. 26     Highland Street

Voted to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars to complete the grading, paving and fencing of Highland Street.

Art. 27     Voted that the Highway Surveyors in the districts outside the village, be instructed to work out eighty five per cent of their appropriations before the first day of July.

Art. 28     Voted that the office of Superintendent of Schools be abolished. Yeas 112. Nays 36.

Voted that four hundred dollars be appropriated for the services of the School Committee.

Art. 29 Land for Schoolhouse

Voted to pass over Article 29 of the Warrant.

Voted that when this meeting adjourn, it adjourn to Monday March 30, at two p.m.

Voted that ten dollars be appropriated to pay the Moderator for his services this day.

Voted to adjourn.

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

**Adjournment of Annual Meeting**

**The adjourned meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held on Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> (1885) at 2p.m. the Moderator in the Chair.**

Art. 5 Collection of taxes

The meeting was called to order at two o'clock and the records read by the Town Clerk.

Voted that the Collector of Taxes be instructed to enforce the collection of all taxes within two years from the commitment of the tax list.

Art. 15 The Report of Committee on Art. 15 of the Warrant, was called for. Mr. Phippen moved that when the vote be taken on the adoption of Report of Committee, that the vote be by ballot and the checklist used, and the motion was carried. Hon. James O. Parker from the Committee to whom was referred Article 15 presented the following.

**Report**

**To the legal voters of Methuen,**

Your Committee appointed at the Annual Town Meeting to consider Article 15 in the Town warrant, have attended to the duty and submit the following report: -

There appears to be two classes of claims. The first is based upon certain votes passed at a special Town meeting held April 30<sup>th</sup> 1861. At this meeting the following votes were passed. "Voted – that the sum of five thousand dollars be appropriated for the purpose of arming equipping or furnishing volunteers.

Voted – that the volunteers who are citizens of Methuen be paid from the time they enter the service until they are discharged according to the legal term of service a sum of money sufficient to make the whole amount received by them equal to twenty six dollars per month including volunteers already gone in the two Lawrence companies.

Voted – that each citizen of Methuen who shall enlist and become a member of the Volunteer Company and hold themselves in readiness to obey the call to muster into the service of the United States, shall receive the sum of fifteen dollars from the Town in addition to their monthly pay.”

The votes as passed evidently expressed the will of the Town, and they were legalized and ratified to a limited extent by an Act of the Legislature, Chapter 222 – passed May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1861, Section 2 of the Act reads as follows: -

“Any city or town may by vote raise money to defray any expense already incurred or to carry out and fulfill any contract heretofore made with or in behalf of any of its inhabitants who may be enlisted as members of the volunteer militia, or who have been or may be called into the service of the United States. But all contracts now subsisting between any Town or city and any member of the Volunteer Militia as such, shall terminate in ninety days from the date of enlistment if subsequent to such contract, and previous to the passage of this act.”

Thus it will be seen, that, in about three weeks from the time these votes were passed, the Legislature passed an act absolutely prohibiting the Town from carrying them out. We find that the Selectmen together with Ebenezer Sawyer, J. P. Flint, John C. Webster and Daniel Currier, a Committee to disburse the five thousand dollars faithfully carried out their instructions. This money was expended in two payments to the soldiers, one of fifteen dollars each, the receipt received for drilling dated June 4<sup>th</sup> 1861 amounting to \$1185, and one payment of \$30.00 each, made at Fort Warren Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> 1861 amounting to \$1590.00. This receipt is given under seal and on its face is a discharge in full of all demands and claims against the Town for services up to that date, and particularly releasing them from any liability on account of the votes passed at the special meeting held April 30<sup>th</sup> 1861. The balance of the money was expended for equipments and supplies and the various expenses attending the formation of the company. Had there been no Act of the Legislature such as Chapter 222 passed May 23<sup>d</sup> and had there been no compromise authorized and accepted by vote of the Town and accepted by the volunteers, the claim against the Town would seem to be equitable and just. It is now claimed by some of the soldiers, that when they signed the receipt at Fort Warren, they did not know that it was a full release from all liabilities, but only a receipt for so much money. It is certain that the great lapse of time, almost a quarter of a century, must make the transactions and events, the verification of which is dependent upon memory, extremely uncertain.

The passage of the Act by the Legislature, one of so much importance and so vitally affecting cities, towns, and particularly soldiers, and their families, must have been immediately generally known, - and that the committee acted upon such knowledge is apparent. That the Legislature realized that the pay allowed by the General Government to volunteers were inadequate is also apparent. By other sections of the same act, Chapter 222 a system of state aid was provided for the families of soldiers in the

service of the United States – under this act, and others subsequently made of the same general character.

The sum of \$59,783.00 has been paid to the families of soldiers belonging to Methuen. We think that this state aid which has been continued to this day, and which Massachusetts will be slow to discontinue an important item in considering the equity of this matter. As far as its value is concerned it is probably a fair offset to the claim for extra compensation. It is admitted by the representatives of the soldiers, that when the claim was presented they were not aware of the passage or existence of the statute limiting the power of towns to contracts with soldiers. It is not strange that such a misapprehension existed; it was probably shared by nearly the whole community. The changes of the laws are so numerous and occur so often that even lawyers are often obliged to consult the statutes. In relation to the claim under the vote of April 30<sup>th</sup> 1861 we find that the Town has carried out the vote as far as it was permitted to do so. It paid extra compensation to the limit allowed by law, and we are unable to see that the Town is liable, even as a matter of equity, to make further payments. It is to be regretted that there has been great inequality in the amount received as compensation by soldiers. The soldiers who were first to respond when called upon are certainly equally deserving as those who went with a large bounty at a later day, and should the State or National Government make a generous and proper provision to equalize such inequalities, it would be only an act of justice to brave men, and doubtless would be approved by the Country.

Another class of claims has been brought to our notice and received considerable attention at our hands. They perhaps do not come within the scope of Article 15, as it is not claimed that it is based on the vote of the Town made at any Town meeting while the war of the rebellion was in progress. This is a claim for bounty for certain soldiers, most, if not all of them members of Co. B. for re-enlisting to the credit of Methuen in the latter part of 1863 and the first part of 1864. The claim is not made that this is by virtue of any vote of the Town but by the verbal agreement of an agent of the Town.

Four soldiers who re-enlisted appeared before the Committee and testified that John W. Frederick, who was then one of the Selectmen, visited the regiment to which they belonged, and made certain promises.

These men agree in saying that Mr. Frederick promised that if they would re-enlist and be credited to Methuen, they should receive as much bounty as any other Town paid. Mr. Frederick on the other hand positively denies that he ever made any promise of the kind or held out such an inducement for re-enlistment. As a matter of fact there was some inducement for soldiers to re-enlist from the towns from which they origin-ally came. The convenience to their families in drawing the State Aid to which they were entitled under the law, and the feeling as expressed by some re-enlisted soldiers, that they would be better cared for in case of accident, by friends and acquaintances than by strangers, naturally would have some weight.

From the records and other evidence, it appears that only seven men re-enlisted after Mr. Frederick arrived at the headquarters of the Regiment. It would therefore seem if such a verbal contract existed, as is claimed, it could only apply to the seven men who re-enlisted after Mr. Frederick's arrival. This discrepancy in statement the Committee have not attempted to reconcile.

The lapse of time, twenty one years, may have dulled the memory of all parties, and perhaps statements depending entirely upon memory are less reliable than they would have been at an earlier period. It seems to the Committee, that if the claims of the seven men should be favorably considered, the others who re-enlisted earlier were equally deserving, and in equity are entitled to the same consideration. It also seems to the Committee very strange that such claims should not have been presented earlier. Had such been the case, it is probable that evidence could have been procured that cannot now be obtained. It is undoubtedly true that some towns at this time were paying bounties for re-enlistment; but most of the cities and Town paid no bounties. It should be remembered that at this time the United States and the State of Massachusetts were paying bounties to each veteran for re-enlistment, seven hundred and twenty seven dollars. This seems a pretty liberal sum, and it seems to us these soldiers have no cause of complaint. This matter of towns paying bounties of this kind is in a very uncertain condition. The Town of Acton received permission in 1882 to pay a bounty of \$125.00 to each soldier who re-enlisted for the Town and never received any bounty. This act was accepted by the Town by a "Yes" and a "No" vote. An injunction has been placed upon the Selectmen and Treasurer of the Town restraining them from paying out any money. The case was argued before the Supreme Court in January of the present year, and no decision has yet been reached.

In 1883 an enabling act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the Town of Stoneham to pay a bounty of \$125.00 to each soldier who served in the late war as a part of the quota of the Town of Stoneham and never received any bounty from said Town. This act was also accepted by the Town, but like the case of Acton an injunction has been placed on the Town Officers restraining them from paying out any part of the money. They are now awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court. Considering the circumstances of the case, the most prominent of which are the length of time, the

conflicting nature of the evidence, the large bounty already received, the uncertainty of what the decision of the Supreme Court may be in other cases, we should hesitate in recommending the Town to recognize this class of claims.

The effect of passing the resolution embraced in Article 15 would be that the Town would thereby acknowledge an equitable liability to pay the difference, to the men who enlisted in the early part of 1861, between the amount received by them, and twenty six dollars per month.

Should the Town pass the resolution, an act of the Legislature probably to be followed by Town action would be necessary before these claims could be adjusted.

Should the Town wish so to do, it can ask an enabling act from the Legislature, which alone has the power to grant towns authority to make such payments. In conclusion we would say, that the Committee have endeavored to consider the subject with fairness and impartiality, and this report expresses our best judgment.

James O. Parker  
Joseph W. Fulton } Committee  
S. W. Williams  
Jacob Emerson

**Methuen, March 30, 1885.**

Mr. Frederick denied that he ever offered any bounty to soldiers to re-enlist and made statements of fact to support his assertions, Messrs Johnson, Frye and others said that Mr. Frederick did make such promises. Objection being made to Mr. Frye speaking – he not being a legal voter – it was voted that he be allowed to speak. The Moderator appointed the members of the Board of Selectmen tellers, and they were sworn. After further discussion the meeting proceeded to ballot on the question “Shall the Town accept the Report of Committee and adopt the recommendations thereof and the result was as follows – Ayes – two hundred sixty five (265) – Noes – Sixteen (16).

Voted to dissolve the meeting

Attest Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

**Warrant for Special Town Meeting – June 2, 1885 – File 11 – No. 8**

**Essex SS: -**

To John W. Silver one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen,

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in elections, and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House in said Town, on Tuesday the second day of June next at two o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on the following articles; viz.: -

Art. 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2 To see what action the Town will take as regards instructing the Selectmen in reference to the hearing before the County Commissioners on the proposed new road as petitioned for by Joel Foster and others.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies at each of the public meeting houses, also at each of the schoolhouses outside of the village, and at the Town House, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town **this 23d day of May, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty five.**

Darius Pierce                      Selectmen  
Addison P. Russell }      of  
James T. Wall                      Methuen

**Methuen, May 23, 1885**

By virtue of this warrant I have served attested copies by posting them at the Town House, at each of the public Meeting Houses, and at the schoolhouses outside of the village district eight days before the time and place of said meeting.

J. W. Silver – Constable of Methuen

A true copy of warrant and return

Attest – Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

### **June 2, 1885. Record of Special Town Meeting**

**A meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, was held in the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday the second day of June A.D. 1885, at two o'clock p.m. in pursuance of Warrant No. 8 File 11. The meeting was called to order by the Town Clerk, and the warrant for the meeting read.**

- Art. 1      A ballot was taken, and Charles E. Goss was chosen Moderator.
- Art. 2      New road west of Powder House Hill  
On motion of Chas L. Mitchell, it was voted to instruct the Selectmen to take no action against the petition for the proposed new road.

### **Warrant for Town Meeting – November 3d 1885 – File 11 No. 9.**

**Essex SS: -**

To John H. George one of the Constables of the Town of Methuen in said County: -

**Greeting: -**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
you are hereby required forthwith to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified



to vote as the law directs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Tuesday, the third day of November next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to give in their ballots for a Governor of the Commonwealth, Lieutenant Governor, Councilor for District number six (6), Secretary, Treasurer and Receiver General, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, one Senator for the Sixth Essex District, one County Commissioner, County Treasurer, Clerk of the Courts, Register of Deeds for the Northern Essex District, and three Representatives, to represent the 19<sup>th</sup> Essex District in the next Legislature. All to be voted for on one ballot.

Also on a separate ballot Yes or No to the following amendment to the Constitution, viz.: -  
"The General Court shall have full power and authority to provide for the inhabitants of the towns

in this Commonwealth more than one place of public meeting within the limits of each Town for the election of officers under the constitution, and to prescribe the manner of calling, holding and conducting such meetings. All the provisions herein contained are hereby annulled." The polls may be closed at four o'clock p.m. And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof, at the Town House, and at each of the public meeting houses in said Town, eight days at least before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to ourselves at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands, and the seal of the Town, at Methuen **this (24<sup>th</sup>) twenty fourth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty five.**

Darius Pierce        } Selectmen of  
Addison P. Russell } Methuen

**Methuen, Mass., Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> 1885**

**Essex SS: -**

By virtue of the within warrant, I have this day posted attested copies of this warrant, on the several meetinghouses & also in the Town House.

John H. George – Constable.

A true copy of warrant and return,

Attest, Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk.

### **November 3, 1885 - Town Meeting – State Election**

**At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Methuen, qualified to vote in elections, held at the Town Hall in said Town, on Tuesday the third day of November A.D.**

**1885 at ten o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to Warrant No. 9, File 11,** the warrant for the meeting was read by Darius Pierce, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, the ballot box was publicly opened and show to be empty, after which the box was locked, and the figures on the register indicated four ciphers. The polls were then opened and the ballot box was not removed from public view until the close of the meeting. The polls were closed at four o'clock p.m. and the register indicated the figures 440. The marks on the checklist were counted by Selectman Pierce, and found to agree with the number on the register. The ballot box was then unlocked, the ballots taken out and counted audibly by Selectman Pierce, and the number of ballots was found to agree with the number on the register. The votes given in were then sorted, counted, recorded and declaration thereof made as the law directs, and were as follows: -

The whole number of ballots cast for the several officers voted for was four hundred and forty	440
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**For Governor**

George D. Robinson, of Chicopee, had two hundred seventy eight	278
Frederick O. Prince of Boston had one hundred fifty four	154
Thomas J. Lathrop of [left blank] had six	6
Blank – two	2

**For Lieutenant Governor**

Oliver Ames of Easton had two hundred eighty one	281
Jeremiah Crowley of Lowell had one hundred fifty two	152
George Kempton of [left blank] had five	5
Blank – two	2

**For Treasurer and Receiver General**

Alanson W. Beard of Boston had two hundred and sixty two	262
Henry M. Cross of Newburyport had one hundred seventy one	171
Claudius B. Travis of [left blank] had five	5
Blank – two	2

**For Auditor of Accounts**

Charles R. Ladd of Springfield had two hundred eighty two	282
James E. Delaney of Holyoke had one hundred fifty one	151
William W. Sherman of [left blank] had five	5
Blank – two	2

**For Attorney General**

Edgar J. Sherman of Lawrence had two hundred seventy nine	279
---	-----

Henry K. Braley of Fall River had one hundred fifty two	152
Samuel M. Fairfield of [left blank] had five	5
Newton P. Frye of North Andover had one	1
Blank – three	3

**For Councilor – Sixth District**

Abraham B. Coffin of Winchester had two hundred eighty two	282
Nathaniel P. H. Melvin of Lawrence had one hundred fifty three	153
Amos Cummings of [left blank] had three	3
Blank – two	2

**For Senator – Sixth Essex District**

Newton P. Frye of North Andover had two hundred and sixty	260
Samuel B. Locke of Andover had one hundred seventy five	175
William Denman of [left blank] had three	3
Blank – two	2

**For County Commissioner**

Edward B. Bishop of Haverhill had two hundred eighty six	286
John H. Cheever of Manchester had one hundred fifty three	153
Blank – one	1

**For Register of Deeds, North Essex District**

John R. Poor of Lawrence had two hundred forty eight	248
Moses F. Hutchins of Lawrence had one hundred eighty six	186
Edward L. Pease of Lynn had three	3
Blank – three	

**For County Treasurer**

E. Kendall Jenkins of Andover had two hundred eighty five	285
Benjamin A. Ward of Lyn had one hundred and fifty	150
Blank – five	5

**For Clerk of the Courts**

Dean Peabody of Lynn had two hundred fifty seven	257
David B. Kimball of Salem had one hundred seventy eight	178
Blank – five	5

**For Amendment to the Constitution**

Yeas – Nineteen	19
Noes – Thirty	30

**For Representatives – Nineteenth Essex District**

John E. Sawyer of Methuen had two hundred fifty six	256
Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill had two hundred seventy eight	278
William H. Johnson of Haverhill had two hundred and seventy	270
Albert L. Dame of Methuen had one hundred ninety six	196
Cleveland Gould of Haverhill had one hundred forty six	146
John B. Corliss of Haverhill had one hundred fifty four	154
Wm. H. Littebrandt of Methuen had one	1
Blank – nineteen	19

The returns of the votes cast for the several officers balloted for, were made up, properly certified,  
and delivered to the Town Clerk, and the ballots cast for the several officers were also sealed up in  
an envelope and delivered to the Town Clerk. The checklist used was also sealed up and delivered  
to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. The meeting was then adjourned sine die.

Attest,  
Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk

**Record of Meeting of City and Town Clerks – Nov. 10, 1885**

**City of Haverhill, Mass. November 10, 1885**  
**City Clerk's Office**

At a meeting of the City Clerk of Haverhill and the Town Clerk of Methuen, said City and Town forming the Nineteenth Essex Representative District, held at noon this day in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided, upon comparing the transcripts of the returns, the following appears as the result of the ballotings in said District at meetings held on Tuesday November 3d 1885.

To wit: -

<b>Total</b>	<b>Vote of Haverhill</b>	<b>Vote of Methuen</b>	
Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill	1428	278	1706
William H. Johnson of Haverhill	1207	270	1477
Cleveland Gould of Haverhill	850	146	996
John B. Corliss of Haverhill	834	154	988

John E. Sawyer of Methuen	1182	256	1438
Calvin Damon of Haverhill	2		2
Charles B. Emerson of Bradford	1		1
George H. Loughton	1		1
Blank	17	19	36
William H. Littebrandt of Methuen		1	1

In accordance with the foregoing returns, Certificates of Election were this day duly issued to the three persons having the highest number of votes for Representatives to the General Court from the Nineteenth Essex District.

To wit:

Edward G. Frothingham of Haverhill  
 William H. Johnson of Haverhill and  
 John E. Sawyer of Methuen

Attest,

David B. Tenney

City Clerk of Haverhill

Jos. S. Howe

Town Clerk of Methuen

A true copy,

Attest,

Jos. S. Howe – Town Clerk