December 29, 1775, the Selectmen of the Town of Concord met and appointed a Town meeting to be held in the Town house in Said Town on Monday ye 1st Day of January next at two o'clock in the afternoon to consider and act on the following article viz—

Resolved that a certain quantity of wood be conveyed from this Town to the Camp at Cambridge.

Therefore To see what method the Town will take to procure said wood and act on said affair as the Town shall think proper.

and the Selectmen ordered the warrants to be drawn for the calling Said Meeting.

at a General Town meeting of the notable inhabitants of the Town of Concord Leagoly assembled on the first day of January 1776 in the Town house in Said Town—

John Cumming Esq. was Chosen Moderator.

The Town taking the great necessity of the wood now being encampet at and near Cambridge Stands in need of at this Season of the Year. and Considering that the price Gived by the General of the army being small for His use in this Town to Convey any Quantities to said Camp, there fore the Town to Encourage the Inhabitants of said Town of Concord to fulfill what was said by the General Court on us (that was three Cord Per Day) the Town voted to give over and above what was the Price
Given by the General (which was twenty-four Shillings) twelve Shillings one month and that each man who Carried wood should produce a Certificate for the wood he delivered at Cambridge and to be lodged with the Town Clerk. (Ephraim Wood Jen) Every Saturday and also noted that Col. James Barrett give information of this the Town of Concord resolve that said Certificate may be procured.

And the Town meeting was adjourned to the twenty-ninth day of January at one o’clock afternoon.

At a General Town Meeting of the Notable Inhabitants of the Town of Concord upon an adjournment on the twenty-ninth of January 1776 on Monday at two o’clock p.m.

John Cuming Esq. Being Moderator

Voted that Considering the necessity of wood in the army. The Town further lengthens out the Time for the Inhabitants of Said Town for Carrying wood as above viz. at two Shillings per Cord more than given by General Washington for what said Inhabitants will carry within the Space of one fortnight and the Certificates be produced and lodged as above mentioned.

and the meeting was dismissed.
Concord, February 26, 1776. The Selectmen of Said Town met and agreed to the vote of the Town at their meeting on the first day of January last where in they granted two dollars per cord of wood over and above what the General Washington gave to any Person within this Town who should deliver the same at Cambridge in six weeks from the date of said meeting. And assessed the Inhabitants for the sum of one hundred & twenty-six pounds ten shillings & four pence, and made out three lists for said sum as follows:

To Nehemiah Davis, Constable — £44. 10. 8. 3
To Asa Brooks — — — 36. 8. 11. 3
To Capt. Tho. Barrett — — — — £45. 10. 7. 2
126. 10. 4. 0

Which lists was delivered to the said Constables to collect & pay in the same unto Mr. Alijah Bond, Town Treasurer, agreeable to the warrant there with annexed — and for which sum the said Mr. Alijah Bond is indebted to the Town —
Constable Thomas Barrett Jun. for his Province Rate being too big \( \frac{1}{2} \) 0 x 9.10.2
Constable Geo. Brooks Jr. for his Province Rate being too big \(--\)
added to Mr. Brooke Rate after Commitment Dan. & Brown's Pole \( \frac{1}{2} \) 0.12.0
added to Mr. Neffnich Davis's Rate after Commitment by adding to Simon Blood \( 0.19.7\)

1775 January 29 th Then Paid Maj. John Buttrick by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for a well Sweep and Crocket 10/- and for a Load of wood for the alma House 1/4 and money paid when having said Crocket 

1775 January 29 th Then Paid Alb. Buttrick by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for his Carriage a Load of hay from Concord to Cambridge 17 miles 1/2 Seventeen & Six pence 

1775 January 12 th Then Paid Mr. John Flint by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for keeping & Clothing Lucy Flint from Feb: 2.3. To October 19 th 1775 as per his acc't three Pound Seven

1775 Feb: 18 th Then paid Capt. Andrew Conant by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for two Buscles of Rice for John piper ten Shill & Eight pence
1776 Feb ye 21 st Then Paid Maj. Nathan Barrett by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers for Conveying hay to Cambridge had of Mr. Swain at Woolner two Tons one Pound Eight Shillings Eight pence

1776 Feb ye 23 rd Then Paid the wid. of Mary Harris by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers for Supporting her Mother from Feb. 21, 1775 to Feb. 21, 1776 one year at 2/8 per week with an ap being 9 1/6 pounds nine Shillings 8 pence

1776 Feb ye 23 rd Then paid Mr. Sam'l Buttrick Jr. by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers for his Servant Keeping School in Buttrick Society being in full of their Money for 1775 one pound twelve Shillings

1776 March ye 16 th Then paid Mr. Samuel Clerk by an order to Mr. Abijah Bond for his Wife Keeping School on Bloods Farms for the Year 1775 thirty Shillings.

1776 March ye 16 th Then paid Mr. Jesse Hooven by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers for Timber he found for the Bridge, and were near Darby's Eleven Shillings Six pence

1776 March ye 18 th Then paid Mr. Ephraim Melvern by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers twenty four Shillings for the Remainder of the School Money for that Society for last year.
1776 March 6. 21 Then paid by a General order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurers the person hereafter named the same debt against their names for their service as minute men by order of the Town.

- Capt. Charles Miles 1.17.0
- Capt. Jon: Farrar 1.19.8
- Capt. Francis Wheeler 0.17
- Capt. David Hartwell 1.0.6
- Capt. Amos Hooper 1.0.6
- Corp. Simon Heyward 0.18.8
- Corp. Nathan Pierce 0.19.8
- Simon Burridge 0.5.0
- Joseph Stratton 0.13.0
- Stephen Stearns 0.12.9
- Wm. Brown 0.3.0
- Ben: Hooper 0.15.0
- Oliver Wheeler 0.13.4
- Jesse Hooper 0.12.4
- John Corral 0.13.0
- Amos Melven 0.14.0
- Sam: Melven 0.14.0
- Nathaniel Clendenle 0.15.0
- Oliver Parlin 0.9.4
- Amos Harris 0.2.0
- Capt. David Brown 1.4.0
- Capt. David Wheeler 1.2.0
- Capt. Amos Wood 0.13.6
- Capt. Emerson Congwell 0.15.0
- Corp. Reuben Hunt 0.10.9
- Corp. Stephen Jones 0.13.0
- Corp. Stephen Barrett 0.12.0
- Corp. Amos Barrett 0.10.9
- John White 0.11.0
- John Buttrick Jun. 0.11.0
- Humphrey Barrett 0.11.0

Total of this General order 232.2.10

15.4.0

16.18.10

9.10.10

32.2.10
Concord February 4th 1776. The Selectmen of Said Town met and appointed a Town meeting to be held at the Town house in Said Town of Concord upon Monday the fourth Day of March next at one o'Clock on Said Day to Consider and act on the following articles viz —

1st To See what Sum of Money the Town will Raise to pay the Bounty Given by this Town for Carting wood to Cambridge for the use of the Continental army.

2nd To Choose the necessary Town officers for the ensuing year.

3rd To see what Sum of Money the Town will Grant to maintain their Highways & Bridges the year ensuing, and that Sum the Town Grants to be on the Same footing as in years past in this Town.

4th To Choose a Committee of Correspondance & agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court.

5th To Choose a Committee to settle accounts With the Town Treasurer.

6th To See what Method the Town will take to pay the Remainder of the minute men, & give directions thereon.

7th To See if the Swine may go at large the present year and the Selectmen gave orders the
Town Meeting

Warrants Should be drawn and committed to the Constables that the meeting might be warn'd accordingly.

at a General Town Meeting of the Votable Inhabitants of the Town of Concord, on the 4th day of March, 1776, being called by Gen. W. and held at the Town-house in said Town on Monday the fourth day of March 1776.

John Comming Esq. was chosen unanimously Moderator of said Meeting.

The Militia this Day, called upon by the General of the American Army to assist them and the people being chiefly gone, therefore it was thought advisable not to proceed to business but to adjourn to some future day according to the Eighteenth of March Currant at one of the Clock in the afternoon.

at a General Town Meeting of the Votable Inhabitants of the Town of Concord upon an adjournment at the Town-house in said Town upon Monday the Eighteenth Day of March 1776.

John Comming Esq. being Moderator of said Meeting

on the first article voted —
1776

Town Meeting

on the first article voted to raise one hundred and eight pounds. Deducting the wood out which John Brook of Lincoln carried, which was nine feet 4 1/4

The Town officers as follows —


Selectmen: Ephraim Wood Jun., Mr. Hezimiah Hunt, & Nathan Meriam — Said Selectmen was also appointed Assessors.

Constables: Messrs. Jonas Bateman, Elissa Jones, and Amos Wood —


Scales of Weights & Measures: Mr. Ebenezer Hubbard.

Town Treasurer: Mr. Abijah Bond —

Surveyors of Highways: Mr. Sam. & Brooks, Capt. Jonas Heywood, Maj. Nathan Barrett, Mr. Stephen Hooper Jun., Mr. Oliver Farrar, Asa Green, Esq., James Chandler and Mr. Elijah Hooper —


Hogreaves - Mrs. Simon Blood Jr., Abel Conant, Oliver Miles, Stephen Barrett, Stephen Jones, Jacob Walker, John Meriam, and Jesse Hooper.

Surveys of Boards and Coffers of Staves & stuffe, Cap. Ephraim Jones and Almex Wheeler.
Horse officers: Mr. Isaac Hubbard and Mr. Edward Wright.

Voted on the third article to raise forty pounds to maintain highways and bridges the ensuing year and to be on the same footing as in years past that is to be work out on the highways & bridges and if any person or persons shall refuse or neglect to work out the sum affixed to their names when properly notified then the said sum shall be added to their Town Rate and collected accordingly by the Constables.

on the fifth article voted that Ephraim Wood Junr.
Mr. Nehemiah Hunt and Mr. Nathan Meriam be a Comittee to Settle acct with the Town Treasurers

on the sixth article voted that the Remainder of the minute men be paid and the Sum voted as above to pay for wood and thence for paying the minute men be immediately assessed for and the said assessment be delivered to the Constable to Collect the Same

and voted to let the Swine go at large the ensuing year

Having thus Gone thro' the Business for which the meeting was Call'd the Moderator dismiss the meeting

att: Ephraim Wood Jun Town Clerk

1776 March ye 25th Tho' paid Mr. John Brown by an order to Mr. Alphonso Brown Town Treasurer for his keeping School in Batticks Society Six weeks three Pounds and for some posts & Rails Deliver'd at the alms house two Shillings & five pence whole 3 pounds 2 Shillings & 5 Pence

1776 March ye 29th Tho' paid Capt & Charles Miles by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for Sundries Deliver'd to Jo & Pipers family one pound three Shillings & two pence two farthing & one & four pence for a days work at the highways
The Selectmen of the Town of Concord met on the 14th of May 1776 and appointed a Town Meeting to be held at the Town house in said Town on Monday the 20th of this Instant May at one o'Clock in the afternoon to Consider and act on the following articles viz—

First, to Elect one or more persons to Represent them at a Great & General Court to be Convened and held at the meeting house in Watertown on Wednesday the twenty ninth of this Instant May.

Second, To See what Sum of money the Town will Grant to defray the necessary Charges of the Town the ensuing year.

Thirdly, To See what Sum of money the Town will Grant to Maintain Schools the year ensuing.

Fourthly, To See if the Town will Raise one thousand pounds as an addition to Mr. Emerson's Salary for this year to Enable him to discharge his just Debts or any other method the Town Shall think proper Equivalent there to agreeable to his own Request.

Fifthly, to Vote for a Register of Deeds for this County.

Sixthly, to hear the Report of the Committee Chosen last March to settle with the Town Treasurer.

Seventhly, to hear the Request of Mr. Oliver Farrar Respecting Ram's Going at Large, and act on
Said affair as the Town shall think proper—

eighty to hear the Request of Mr. Hugh Smith
Respecting his Promise of giving the land
Contained in the way laid out by the Select-
men by his house some time past and act
thereon if thought proper

and the Selectmen gave orders that the
Warrants should be drawn and committed
to the Constables that the meeting might
be warned accordingly.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the other
Inhabitants of the Town of Concord began and
held at the Town house in said Town on
Monday the twentieth of May Instant
Proceeded and acted on the articles as above
as follows.

In the first place the Town voted to Chose
two to Represent them in the Great and General
Court or assembly to be held in Watertown
the 29th of this May and made Choice of
Mr. Joseph Hoar and Colo. John Cuming—

Col. John Cuming was Chosen Moderator
of Said Meeting.

on the second article voted to Raise Forty
Pounds to defray the Charges for the Year ensuing

on the third article voted to Raise Sixty pounds
To Maintain Schools the ensuing year
On the fourth article voted to Continue the Consideration of this article till the next Town meeting only voted to Choose a Committee to draw up a Subscription to See if the Rev'd Mr. Emerson Can be Relieved thereby Col. Buttrick of the four Deacons was appointed said Committee

on the fifth article voted for a Register of Deeds and the vote Returned to the Deacons

on the Six article voted to accept of the Report of the Committee Chosen to settle with the Town Treasurer as Recorded below

on the Seventh article voted not to act thereon

one the Eighth article Voted to postpone the Consideration till next town meeting

and the Meeting was dismissed by the Moderator

We the Subscribers being appointed by the Town of Concord in March Last to settle accounts with Mr. Abijah Bond Town Treasurer we therefore on the 16th of May Instant attended that Service and found after a Settlement a Ballance in favor of the Town one hundred & four pounds sixteen shillings four pence two farthings having settled the year 1774 and no further

Which is Humbly Submitted

Ephraim Wood Jr
Nehemiah Hunt
Concord May 2d 16th 1776

Nathan Meriam
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1776</td>
<td>Then paid Mr. Redditt Jones for wood carried to Cambridge for the use of the army in Jan; or February. Last Eleven Shillings and three pence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1776</td>
<td>Then paid Mr. Joseph Hayward by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for his keeping school in his father's house thirteen Shillings and four pence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1776</td>
<td>Then paid Mr. Elnezer Hubbard by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for some slit wood for a loom for James Lincoln (which loom is now the Town property) five Shillings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1776</td>
<td>Then paid Capt. David Wheeler by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for Cyra Wheeler for his keeping a child put to him by the Town which sum of three to be refunded by others wood if able three pound and three pence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
July ye 3rd 1776 the Selectmen met and appointed a Town meeting to be held at the Towne house in this Town of Concord on Friday the fifth day of this instant July to Consider & act on the following article — viz —

To see if the Town will Raise a Sum of money to give those who shall Enlist in the Expedition now on foot to Canada in addition to the Bounty given by the Colony or act otherwise as the Town shall Judge proper

and the Selectmen gave orders the Warrants should be immediately drawn and delivered to the Constables that the meeting should be warned accordingly

at a General Town Meeting of the Notable inhabitants of the Town of Concord began and held at the Town house in said Town on Friday the fifth day of July 1776

Ephraim Wood Junr. was chosen Moderator of said Meeting

Then the Question was put whether the Town would Grant any Sum for the Purpose mentioned in the article in the Warrant and it pass'd in the affirmative.

Several Sums was proposed but Seven pounds to each Persons who should so Enlist in to said Service for their further Encouragement was put to Vote and it passed in the affirmative.
Voted that the sum to be raise for said purpose be raise by tax on the inhabitants of said town and that the assessors have the advice of the three militia captains for the equal distribution of said tax.

Voted that the selectmen be empowered to borrow the money for the immediate payment of the soldiers as soon as they shall enlist.

and the meeting was dismissed by the moderator.

July 25, 1776 The selectmen of the town of Concord met and appointed a town meeting to be held at the town house in said town on Monday the twenty-ninth day of this instant July at one o'clock in the afternoon to consider and act on the following article.

To see if the town will grant the same bounty to those men (and those only) who shall enlist in the Continental service as on reenforcement against Canada which number was eight as the town did three of the last levy destined them or act otherwise as the town shall think proper.

and the selectmen gave orders the warrants should be drawn and delivered to the constables that the meeting should be warned accordingly.
at a General Town Meeting of the Inhabited of the Town of Concord Leagally and held at the Town house in Said Town on Monday the 29th Day of July 1776

Ephraim Wood Jr. was Chosen Moderator of Said Meeting

Voted to Give those who shall Enlist into the Continental Service Seven Pounds Each (as an addition to what the Colony has Given) as a Bounty, as was Given to those of the Last Levy Destined for Canada

and the Meeting was dismissed by the Moderator—

1776 October 7th Then paid Wm. Harries by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for Supporting her Mother from the 21st of February to the 13th of June last 16 weeks two pounds two Shillings Eight Pence

1776 October 7th Then paid Mrs. Mary Brown by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for her Keeping School in Butterick's Society twelve & nine pence

1776 October 7th Then paid Mrs. Mary Soper by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for her Keeping School in the Middle of the Town five pounds nine Shillings
1776 October ye 10th then paid the wife of Joseph Barne by an order to Mr Bond Town Treasurer for keeping Sam & Bloode Dau twelve weeks to the Seventh of October twenty one Shillings

1776 October ye 14th then paid Mr Abel Buttrick by an order to Mr Bond Town Treasurer for Boarding Lucy Hunt from the 21st of October 1775 to the 5th of May 1776 28 weeks at 1/6 per week two pounds two shillings & seven & a penny for clothing

1776 December ye 20th then paid Jonas Heywood Esq by an order to Mr Bond Town Treasurer for Elizabeth Wood keeping school in the middle of the Town Society for 1774 three pound Eighteen Shillings

1776 December 27 then paid St Francis Wheeler by an order to Mr Bond Town Treasurer for Journeying Twice to Cambridge Littleton for the guineas fourteen Shillings

1776 Dec 27, then paid Sarah M'Curry (Mrs Clive) by an order to Mr Bond Town Treasurer for keeping School in the middle of the Town 4 2/8 Shillings and one pound 4 Shillings for keeping School in Barrett's Society 6 whole sum five twelve Shillings
Concord Sept 16th 1776 the Selectmen of the Town of Concord met and appointed a Town Meeting to be held in the Town House in said Town on Thursday the nineteenth Day of September instantaent at two o'Clock in the afternoon to consider and act on the following articles viz—

First to See if the Town will choose a Committee to Supply the Pulpit in the absence of the Rev’d Mr. Wm. Emerson now in the army

Secondly to see if the Town will raise a sum of money for the purpose of supplying the Pulpit

Thirdly To see if the Town will order a Grammar School to be kept till further order and if concluded in the affirmative then to see if the Town will make addition to the sum raised last May for schooling for the said purpose

and the Selectmen gave orders that the warrants should be drawn for said meeting that the same might be Warrant accordingly

At a meeting of the Votable Inhabitants of the Town of Concord legally warned on Thursday the nineteenth day of September 1776 at the Town house in said Town voted as follows

Ephraim Wood junr. was chosen Moderator

Voted on the first article to choose a Committee to consist of five to Supply the Pulpit in the absence of Mr. Emerson in the army the were chosen as follows viz Captn. James Heywood
Col. James Barrett, Mr. Amos Wood, Mr. Abijah Bond & Cap. Joseph Hooper

Voted to Postpone the Raising of any Money for the Supplying the Pulpit to some future meeting.

and as to a Grammar School the Town by their vote determined not for the Present to have any Grammar School.

and the meeting was Dissolved.

The True Proceeding of the above meeting att's

Ephraim Wood, Town Clerk.
Concord October 4th & 8th 1776

The Selectmen of the Town of Concord met and
Pursuant to a Resolve of the House of Represe-
tatives of this State appointed a meeting
of the Inhabitants of said Town on Monday the
fourteenth of October last instant at one o'clock
in the afternoon to Consider and act on the
following article viz:

To see if the Town will by their vote give
their Consent that the Present House of Represe-
tatives of this State, together with the
Council in one Body, & with equal Voice agree
on and Enact a Constitution or form of
Government for this State — and to see if the
Town will Direct that the Same may be
made Publick for the Perusal of the Inhabitants
of this & other Towns before the Ratification
thereof by said assembly —

and the Selectmen ordered that the
warrants Shd be drawn as soon as may be
that said meeting Shd be warned accordingly

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Inhabitants
of the Town of Concord of & above the age of
twenty one years being free legally warned
as appears by the Returns on the Warrants
for said Meeting on Monday the fourteenth
Day October last Instant at two o'clock in the
afternoon — Upham Wood Jim was Chosen
Moderator —

and the Town when assembled taking the
Question in the Warrant and the Importance
into Consideration, and seeing the Inhabitants
did not so generally attend as could be wished, it was motioned that the meeting should be adjourned for further consideration of the above question until Monday twenty-first day of this instant October at two o'clock in the afternoon precisely, and that the inhabitants of the Town should again be notified by the minister the next Lord's Day after Divine Service is over of the meeting being adjourned and ask them punctual attendance at said adjournment.

Which motion was put to a vote and it passed in the affirmative and the meeting was accordingly adjourned to the time above mentioned.
At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Concord being free and Twenty one years of age and upwards upon adjournment on the twenty first day of October 1776

Ephraim Wood Junr., being Moderator

Voted unanimously that the present house is not a proper body to form a constitution for this state.

and voted to choose a committee of five men to make answer to the question proposed by the House of Representatives of this state, and to give the reasons why the town thinks them not a suitable body for that purpose the persons following were chosen the committee above mentioned by Ephraim Wood Junr., Mr. Nathan Bond, Col. James Barrett, Col. John Buttrick, and James Barrett Esq.

and the committee reported the following draft which being read several times over for consideration it then was read resolve by resolve and accepted unanimously in a very full town meeting — the reasons are as follows —

Resolved 1st that this state being at present destitute of a properly established form of government, it is absolutely necessary that one should be immediately formed and established

Resolved 2d. Secondly that the supreme legislative, either in their proper capacity or in joint committee are by no means a body
Resolved, thirdly, that it appears to this Town highly expedient, that a Convention or Congress be immediately chosen to form and establish a Constitution; by the Inhabitants of the respective
Respective Towns in this State being free, and Twenty one years and upward, in proportion as the Representative of this State were formerly Chosen; the Convention or Congress not to consist of a greater number than the House of assembly of this State hereto fore, might, Consent of except that each Town or District shall have Liberty, to send one Representative, or other wise as shall appear meet to the inhabitants of this State in General.

Resolved 4th. That when the Convention or Congress have formed a Constitution, they adjourn for a short time, and publish their Proposed Constitution for the Inspection and Remarks of the Inhabitants of this State.

Resolved 5th. That the Hon. House of assembly of this State be Desirous to Recommend it to the Inhabitants of the State, to Proceed to Chuse a Convention, or Congress for the Purpose above mentioned, as soon as Possible.

Signed by order of the Committee EPhraim Wood Jr. Chairman and the Meeting was dissolved by the Moderator.

In Congress July 4th, 1776. A Declaration
By the Representatives of United States of America in General Congress assembled.

When in the Course of human Events it becomes necessary, for one People to dissolve the political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the Separate and Equal Station to
Which the Laws of nature and of nature's God entitles them a Decent Respect to the opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation. We hold the Truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain Inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of happiness; that to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among men, Deriving their Just Powers from the Consent.
of the Governed, that when ever any form of Govern-
ment becomes destructive of these ends, it is the
Right of the People to alter, or to abolish it, and
to institute new Government laying its
foundation on such Principals, and organizing
its Powers in such form, as to them shall seem
most likely to effect their Safety & happiness.
Prudence Indeed, will Dictate that Governments
Long Established Should not be Changed for
light and Transient Causes; and accordingly
all experience hath Shown, that mankind
are more disposed to Suffer, while evils
are sufferable, than to Right themselves by
abolishing the forms to which they are acustomed.
But when a Long Train of abuses and
invasions, Pursuing enevitably the same
object, servince a design to Reduce them
under absolute Despotism, it is their Right,
it is their duty, to throw off Such Govern-
ment, and to Provide new Guards for
their future Security. Such has been the
Patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and
Such is now the is how the necessity, which
Constrains them to alter their former Systems
of Government. The History of the Present King
of Great Britain is a History of Repeated
Injuries & usurpations, all having in Direct
object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny
over these States. To Prove this, let facts be
Submitted to a candid World.
He has Refused, his Assent to Laws the most
wholesome and Necessary for the Publick Good.
He has forbidden his Governments to Pass Laws
of Immediate & Pressing Importance, unless
Suspended in their operation untill his
assent Should be obtained; and when So
Suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.
He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the Rite of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inseparably connected with them, and formidable to Tyrants.
He has called together legislative Bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their Publick
Publick Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into a Compliance with his Measures — He has Dissolved Representative Houses Repeatedly for opposing with manly Firmness his Intrusions on the Rights of the People.

He has Refused for a Long time, after Such Dissolutions to cause others to be elected whereby the Legislative Powers in capable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their Exercisc; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all dangers of Invasion from with out, and Consequences within —

He has endeavoured to Prevent the Population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws of Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to Pass others to encourage their migration hither; and raising the Conditions of new-appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by Refusing his consent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us in Time of Peace, Standing armies without the Consent of our Legislature.

He has affected to render the Military Independent of, and Superior to the Civil Power.

He has Combined with others to Subject
us to a jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws, giving his assent to their acts of legislation.

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States.

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world.

For imposing taxes on us without our consent.
For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury.

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences.

For abolishing the free System of English Law, in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries So as to Render it at once and example, and fit Instrument for Introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies.

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the forms of our Governments.

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves vested with Power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has forbidden our proceedings at the risk of our lives, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to compleat the work of death, destruction and tyranny, already begun with Circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy. Scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages; and totally unworthy the head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captives on the high seas, to bear arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited Domestic Insurrections...
amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the
inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless
Indian Savages, whose known Rule of war-
force is an undistinguished Destruction
of all ages, Sexes, and Conditions.

In every Stage of these oppressions we
petitioned for Redress in the most Humble
Terms: our repeated Petitions have been
answered only by Repeated Injurious! — A
Prince whose Conduct is thus marked by
every act which may define a Tyrant
is unfit to be a Ruler of a Free People! —
Now have we been wanting in attention to our British Brethren
We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to extend and unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration, and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice, and magnanimity, and we have conjured by the ties of our common kindness to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections & correspondence.
They too have been deaf to the voice of justice & of consanguinity.
We must therefore acquiesce in the necessity which Denounces our Separation, and hold them as we hold the Rest of Mankind Enemies in War; in Peace, friends.
We therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America in General Congress assembled, appealing to the SUPREME JUDGMENT of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the names and by the authority of the Good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, that these united Colonies are, and of Right, ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown; and that all political connections between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be Totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, Conclude Peace, Contract alliances, Establish Commerce, and to Do all other acts and things which Independent States may have Right to Do, and for the Support
of this Declaration, with a Firm Reliance on
the Protection of Divine Providence we mu-
tually Pledge to each other our Lives and
Fortunes and our Sacred Honours

Signed by order and Behalf of the
Congress

John Hancock President
att't Charles Thompson Secretary
In Council July 27th 1776

Ordered, that the Declaration of Independence be Printed and a Copy be sent to each of the ministers of each Parish, of every denomination within this State; and that they severally be required to Read the same to their respective congregations as soon as Divine Service is ended, in the afternoon on the first Sabbath after they shall receive the same; and after the publication thereof, to deliver the said Declaration to the Clerks of their several Towns, or Districts, who are hereby required to record the same in their respective Town, and District Books, these to remain as a Perpetual Memorial thereof.

R. Darby, President

In the name and by order of the Council
A True Copy made by John Avery, Scribe.

Concord November 27th 1776 the Selectmen met and appointed a Town meeting to be held in the Town house in said Town on Monday the Eleventh day of November instant at one o'clock in the afternoon to Consider the following articles of the

First To See what method the Town will take, now in our Present Uncertain State as to a minister to Supply the pulpit, and to act on said affair as the Town shall think proper.

Secondly to See if the Town will pay the Charges already arisen by the Rev'd Mr. William Emersons Sickness & Death at the Rev'd Mr.
1776

Meeting of Selectmen to Appoint a
Town Meeting

Roots of ater. Creek and for the Journey of
Mr. Alvin to take Care of Mr. Emerson

Thirdly to see if the Town will take the
difficult circumstances that Mr. Emerson is
Lift in, into Consideration and in some
Way Grant her Some Relief

and the Selectmen Gave orders that the
warrants Should be drawed that the
meeting Should be Warned accordingly—
at a General Town meeting of the Votable Inhabitants of the Town of Concord began and held at the Town house in said Town on Monday the ninth day of November in the year of our Lord 1776. Proceeded as follows.

Ephraim Wood Junr. was chosen Moderator.

Voted on the first article to Choose a Committee of five men to supply the pulpit namely Capt. David Brown, Mr. Thomas Barrett, Mr. Job Brooke Col. James Barrett & Mr. Aljah Bond.

Voted on the second article not to pay the charges arisen by reason of the Rev'd Mr. Wm. Emerson's sickness & death at present but chose a committee of three men to search into that affair and if possible to have said charges reimbursed by the publick. Said committee was Col. Cuming Mr. Joseph Hoar & Ephraim Wood Junr.

Voted on the third article when taking the difficult circumstances that Mr. Emerson is left in the Town cheerfully voted that the salary of Mr. Emerson should go on for six months after his death for the advantage of his family.

and the meeting was dismissed.

1777 January 9th 1777 Then paid Mr. Lucy Jones by an order to Mr. Bond Town Treasurer for her keeping school in the East Society 3 pounds Seven Shillings & 8 Pence.