

Governor by order of the Generall Court in July last, and an answer thereunto [in Latin] received from the Sweeds Governor, and a Letter written by the Commissioners in Answer to that : also that when he was at Hartford at the Commission, severall spake to him there about Their goeing theither, if it might be planted : and therefore y^e Towne may now Consider, which way it may be carried on. But after much debate aboute it, and scarce any manifesting their willingness to goe at present, a Committee were Chosen, *viz.*, Robert Seely, William Davis, Thomas Munson, and Thomas Jeffery, to whom any that are *Committee.* willing to goe may repaire to be taken notice of ; and that, if there be cause, they treat with those of Newhaven, who have purchased those Lands, to know what consideration they expect for them."

Nov. 27th, the Committee reported that they had spoken with sundry persons in the towne ; but that not answering expectation, *Report.* they got a meeting of the brethren and neighbors, and for the most part they were willing to help forward the work, some in person, others in estate, so the work might be carried on and foundation laid according to God ; and at that meeting they desired that the governor and one of the magistrates, with one or both the elders, might by their persons, help forward that work ; whereupon they had a church-meeting, and propounded their desire. The elders declared they were willing to further the work and glad it was in hand ; but Mr. Davenport said, in reference to his health he sees not his way clear to engage in it in person ; nor Mr. Hooke, because his wife is gone for England, and he knows not how God will dispose of her. The Governor gave no positive answer, but said it was worthy of consideration.

They further informed that some from other plantations see a need of the work and are willing to engage in it. . . . They also declared that they had treated with the proprietors about the purchase of the land, and understood they are out about six hundred pounds, but are willing to take three hundred pounds, to be paid in four years.

It was propounded to Mr. Samuel Eaton and Mr. Francis Newman to go with the company, who took the matter into consideration, and on the 11th of December, signified their conditional assent.

1655. *Thomas Munson becomes leader in the movement to found a new commonwealth at Delaware Bay.*

Generall Court for the Jurisdiction, Jan. 30th.—

"A petition was p^rsented by Thomas Munson and Coop^r of Newhauen on behalfe of a company of persons intending to

remoue to Delaware Bay, wherein they propound that for the
Petition. inlargment of the kingdome of Christ, the spreading of
the gossell, and the good of posteritie therein . . . they
would afford some incourragment to help forward so publique a
work. 1. That two magistrats, M^r Samuel Eaton and Mr. Francis
Newman, may haue libertie from this court to goe in person at
first. . . . 2. In case that there be an undertaking, they that
goe may at first goe under the protection of this jurisdiction, and
that in case of any affront the jurisdiction will engage to assist,
till by the blessing of God they may be able of themselves to set
up a Comon wealth according to the fundamentalls for govern^t
laid at Newhaven. 3. That seeing our numbers are yet small,
aboute or betwixt 50 and sixty, wee desire the court to consider
what number they thinke may be a competent number, that wee
may serve Gods pvidence and yet not let the worke fall for want
of too great a number." They also request the grant of "two
great gunns," relief from taxation, and "a so^me of money w^{ch}
may be imployed, either to buy a small vessell that may attend
the service, or otherwise, as shall be thought meete." The petition
was signed by John Cooper and Thomas Munson, "in y^e behalfe
of the rest."

"To w^{ch} the Court returned,
" That hauing read and considered a papr of some propositions
presented by Thomas Munson and John Cooper of Newhauen,
Response. in the name and behalfe of sundrie psons of this juris-
diction, and elsewhere, appearing as undertakr for the
first planting of Delaware . . . do return in answer as followeth.
1. That they are willing . . . to grant libertie to one or both of
those magistrats mentioned to goe along w^h them, who"—with
"other fitt persons,"—"may be impowered for managing of all
matters of civill gouernment there." 2. "They [the court] pur-
pose when God shall so inlarge the English plantations in Dela-
ware as that they shall grow the greater part of the jurisdiction,
that then due consideration shall be taken for the ease and con-
ueniency of both parts, as that the gouernor may be one yeare in
one part and the next yeare in another, and the dept. gouernor to
be in that part where the gouernor is not, and that gen^ll courts
for makeing lawes may be ordinarily but once a yeare, and where
the gouernor resids; and if God much increase plantations in
Delaware and deminish them in these parts, then possibly they
may see cause that the gouernor may be constantly there and the
deputie gouernor here." . . . 3. The request for material aid
was commended "to the seuerall pticular plantations."

G. C. for N. H., March 16.—The town was informed that the occasion of this meeting is to let them understand how things are at present concerning Delaware, now John Cooper is returned; he finds little encouragement in the Bay [Mass.], few being willing to engage in it at present; and therefore they may consider whether to carry it on themselves or to let it fall. Mr. Goodyear said, notwithstanding the discouragements from the Bay, if a considerable company appear that will go, he will adventure his person and estate to go with them in that design; but a report of three ships being come to the Sweeds, seems to make the business more difficult. After much debate about it, it was voted *Difficulty.* by the town in this case, that they will be at twenty or thirty pound charge; that Mr. Goodyear, Serjeant Jeffery, and such other as they think fit to take with them, may go to Delaware and carry the commissioners letter and treat with the Sweeds about a peaceable settlement of the English upon their own right; and then after harvest, if things be cleared, company may resort thither for the planting [settlement] of it.

April 9th.—The town was informed that there were several who have purposes to go, but they conceive that they want number of men and estate to carry it on; now if any be willing to *Persistence.* further it, in person or estate, they may do well to declare it. . . They may go free and not engaged to be a part of this jurisdiction, yet they and all such as come after must engage upon the same foundations of government as were at first laid at New Haven. . .

Furthermore, two guns would be loaned them, property which should lie unimproved should be free from taxation a year and a half, and the emigrants should not be at the charge of hiring watchmen.

After the English made a conquest of the Dutch possessions, a letter to Col. Nicolls, one of the royal commissioners, dated 20 Dec. 1664, said: "We had purchased a great tract of land on y^e one and y^e other side of y^e Bay or River, and a plantacon begun by sundry persons, & a trading house set up, w^{ch} y^e Dutch pillaged and burnt, and so wholly destroid y^e designe at y^t tyme. Two or 3 yeares Afterwards, a new attempt was made and a vessell sent, w^{ch} was then alsoe stopt at the Manhatoes, and sundry of y^e principall persons imprisoned by the Dutch governo^r, so y^t nothing y^t way hath ever bin attempted since, although y^e *Discontinuance.* Indians of whome we purchased y^e land doe still owne our right & much desire y^e coming of the English." They humbly desire that their "just claim to ye premises . . . may be admitted."

G. C., March 12th.—A committee of nine, including Thomas Munson, was appointed to clear "the Necke" (the tract between Mill River and the Quinnipiac).

G. C., Aug. 8th.—Swine are spoiling Indian corn that is planted: T. M. is one of seven owners of swine which have haunted the quarters where Indian corn is planted.

1656. The project of founding a commonwealth at Delaware Bay having been relinquished after five years of vigorous endeavor, Serg. Munson again invests in real-estate at New Haven.

Court, Jan. 1st.—"Thomas Wheeler Senior passeth over to Thomas Munson that house lot he bought of Mr Augar* lying next y^e lot of Christopher Todd; six acres of Land or *Residence.* thereabouts in M^r Davenports qrt, lying betwixt Joseph Nash and Ffrancis Browne; and as much among the Lotts towards the Mill, betwixt the Lands of Edward Watson & John Vinson; and about 6: acres in y^e new feild toward y^e mill, betwixt the Land of Tho: Kimberly and Tho: Morris; and the meddow which lyes at the end of it, which is about three acres; and about 2 acres & a halfe of Land in y^e Neck; and y^e coñonadg which belongeth to the said accomodations." This "house-lot," on the S. E. corner of Church and Elm streets, fronting westward on The Green, was given to Nicholas Auger "by the Towne, out of a lott formerly called an Elders Lott;" he passed it over to Wheeler, Dec. 6, 1653; the record describes it as "lying betwixt Christopher Todd and the markit place." Munson seems to have resided on that corner about six years: he and Mr. Gilbert were of the same "quarter" in Feb. 1656.

G. C., Feb. 11th.—The "West bridge" grows old & rotten. The towne "left it to y^e townsmen to call workmen, viz^t, William Andrews, Thom: Munson, Jervic Boykin, and Geo: Smith, to view it," & advise. This historic bridge spanned West River, at the foot of West Lane (now Davenport St.).

Demmon of Fairfield had a ship burned, with a loss of £200: practical sympathy was proposed, and several were "appointed to speake with theire neighbours in the severall quarters . . . viz^t, M^r Gilbert, Thomas Munson, for his [their] owne and y^e next quarter;" etc.

By a seating of the Meeting-house announced at a G. C., Feb. 11th, Thomas Munson had a place at the head of the 6th of "the long seats in y^e midle for men;" one of his six seat-
At Meeting. mates was Christopher Todd, the miller, ancestor of Rev. Dr. John Todd; in the first of these seats were the Governor

* Physician.

and the Deputie Governor. "Permitted to sitt in y^e Alley (upon their desire) for convenience of Hearing—Goodwife Beecher y^e elder, Goodw : Munson," and 3 others.

About May 1st came a proposal from Cromwell "to the people of New Haven, who have thoughts of removing to Delaware Bay," that they should remove to Jamaica,* exchanging "that desert and barren wilderness" for "a land of plenty." Alluring inducements were offered, and the proposal was favorably entertained at first ; but an early decision was against removing. The Lord Protector had attempted five years previously to draw them away to Ireland ; they were to have "a small distinct province by themselves," at the city of Galway.

G. C., May 19th.—Thomas Munson was chosen one of the seven Townsmen (now selectmen). "Townes-men" were first chosen Dec. 3, 1651, that the town-meetings (general *Townsman.* courts), "w^{ch} spends the towne much time, may not be so often."

G. C., 4th of y^e 10th M^o [Dec.].—Towne to provide six horses, "with furniture," "towards the Raising of a small Troope for the publique service." (Serj. M. had been sent by the Townsmen to view furniture for four horses, at Milford. Munson was one of six citizens who signified a willingness "to keepe a horse for this service."

1657. (Aged 45.) Court, 3^d 1st M^o [March].—"Widdow Wheeler was Called before the Court, and asked if the business Betwixt Serjant Munson and she, about y^e wood, is Issued. She said, no ; whereupon she was told That if matters be not ended before the next Court, she must answer it then."

G. C., 18th 3^d m^o [May].—Thomas Munson chosen one of the seven townsmen.

Court of Elections at New Haven for the Jurisdiction, y^e 27th of y^e 3^d M^o.—The "rate" (tax) to be paid—"halfe of it in money, or beauour at currant price, or in good merchantable corn—w^{ch} is to be wheat and pease (or a third wheat, a third rie, and a third pease), at five shillings p bushel wheat, and foure shillings p bushel pease and rie ; and the other halfe in corne or flesh, as ordered last yeare [*i. e.*, beefe at two pence halfe penny a pound, and porke at three pence halfe penny],—or other paye as may satisfye the treasurer and answer the jurisdictions occasions."

G. C., 8th 4th M^o [June].—"Jervic Boykin & Thom: Munson are to search this [the incompetent Neck Bridge, which Wm. Andrewes is to rebuild quickly after harvest], that what danger there is may

* The Protector had taken the island from the Spaniards.

be discovered and prevented as much as may be." This most historic bridge, spanning Mill River near the foot of East Rock (State St.), was the one under which Whalley and Goffe were concealed when their pursuers rode over it into New Haven.

1658. 2: 1: [March].*—"Thomas Johnson had order to take y^e timber that he attached of Thom: the Indians, and let it be Justly prised by Thomas Munson and Richard Hull; and likewise a pare of old bootes, to be prised by Abraham Dowlittle."

G. C., 8: 1: M^o [March].—Chose Thomas Munson, Jervice boykin, William Russell and Jn^o Cooper, to consider whether "y^e beavour pond brooke can be brought to the *Beaver-Pond Brook*. Towne, that the mill might be set up here,"—to report to a committee consisting of the Townsmen, "the deputies of y^e Court, and Jno Cooper"—who will be plenipotentiary to call on every family for two days work to build "y^e damm."†

Court, 6: 2 M^o.—Inventorie of the estate of John Peaken . . . dated the first of february 1657,—prised by Thomas Munson and William Russell.

22: 2 M^o.—Order: "Serjant Boykins squadron is to goe first," then Serjant Whitheads, then Serjant Jeffery, then Serjant Munson.

G. C., 17: 3 M^o [May].—Thomas Munson chosen one of seven selectmen.

Court of Elections for the Jurisdiction, May 26th.—Francis Newman made Governor in place of Theo. Eaton who had died Jan. 7th.

Court, Aug. 3d.—"Sargeant Boykin informed, that Sargeant Munson & himself had lately had a treaty with Sarjeant Fowler, concerning his part of the Mill." They succeeded neither *The Mill*. in buying nor hiring. There is mention of "The owners of the Mill," June 1, 1642. John Wakefield is mentioned as "the Miller" Aug. 5th following. This mill was on Mill River, at Mill Rock, New Haven. It was one of the refuges of Whalley and Goffe. (Fowler built a mill at Milford in 1640.)

Court, Oct. 5th.—Stephen Peirson complained of his master Thomas Mulliner, to whom he was bound in England, for seven years, according to the indenture,—he was to be taught the trade of a house-carpenter; but in four years he has made scarcely any progress,—he "knows not how to hew a piece of timber." "Mr. Mulliner answered y^t when he had worked at his trade, he was set

* Mr. Gibbard wrote his servant's mother in England "last year and doubts not but he shall have an answer this next Summer!"

† Six years before, at a G. C., Feb. 9, 1652, it was "propounded that the beaver pond brook might be brought to the towne to sett a mill upon."

about it, & y^t he had already entered him in y^e trade so far y^t there was a rooffe of a barne which he hewed, & a gate which he made himself: he also said y^t he had spoken to Sargeant Munson to perfect him in his trade. To which Sargeant Munson now answered that Mr Mulliner did speake to him, but he could not undertake to fulfil that Indenture. But if it might be thought to be for the good of y^e boy, he would doe what he could. . . . Some Carpenters, being present, were desired to express, whether in the time remaining he might learne y^e trade: to w^h Sargeant Munson answered y^t there was no hope, that he should be taught according to y^e Indenture; but that he might learne it, according to the usuall way of this Country, something might be said."

An "apprizment" of the estate of Deputy-Governor Goodyear was made Oct. 15th by Nash, Davis, Lindon and Munson. His property included "a part in y^e iron worke" and "some debts at y^e Barbadoes."

Court, Dec. 7th. — Estate of Daniel Bradley owed Tho: Munson 3£.

1659. G. C., Jan. 13th.—"Sergeant Munson certified y^e Towne, y^t he had lately received a letter from Mr T Pell"—requesting the delivery of what was gathered for Deamon of Fairfield.

G. C., Feb. 28th.

Committee on Mill report through Sargeant Munson the advice of Goodman Bushnell. "Sargeant Munson exprest as followeth:

New Mill. That Goodman Bushnell being at the desire of the Committee come to the Towne, they appointed 3 or 4 of themselves to goe alonge with him to shew him the worke in hand; who, going first to the great dam, after they had viewed it, he declared that he judged y^e dam good—only advised to doe something more for the perfecting of it; afterwards, cominge to y^e great trench, it being not deep enough, It was propounded to him whether the pond should not be lowered, that the trench might be digged deeper, w^{ch} he inclined not to, but advised to lower the trench by some other meanes, & to place a pen stocke there; they comeing through the quarter, & observing y^e water course, & y^e Creeke, as also the ground through w^{ch} the water must run for an overshott Mill,—to that he advised not, but haveing tried y^e Creeke by y^e levell, he advised to make a dam over y^e Creeke, about Mathew Rowes house, & there to sett up a brest Mill, w^{ch}, wth the help of the brooke at John Sackitts (which he was informed of), he judged would be sufficient to serve y^e Towne; only this inconvenience he spake of, that y^e miller must oft goe to the penstocke, to stopp & let goe the water, w^{ch} by his experi-

ence* what quantity of water will serve the mill, with y^e help of the pond at the Towne, he said might be prevented in part that he need not daily goe to it.

"Sergeant Munson further declared that they had desired him to build the mill, w^{ch} he refused to doe; but had left directions (w^{ch} were taken from him in writeing) how y^e worke should be done, & withall had promised, that when y^e worke is prepared, that he would be here a fortnight, to see to y^e setting of her downe, for the preventing of any error in y^e matter."

Thereupon "the whole town declared their desire was y^e y^e worke shall be carried on with y^e first conveniency."

Court, May 11th.—Abigail Hitchcock chose Sergeant Munson as her guardian.

1660. G. C., Jan. 19th.—"Will Andrews declared that Thomas Munson, Tho Morris, Jervice Boykin, & himself, had taken a view of the Meetinghouse" (with reference to repairs).

Court, Feb. 7th.—Sam^l Marsh complained of for taking a bag of corn from the mill [hopper], and striking Nath^l Holt & kicking him part way down stairs. "He [Marsh] further said, that Brother Munson did at y^e time, wish him to consider of what he had done,—To whom he answered that the Boy did him wrong, w^{ch} he related in the particulers; after w^{ch} he remembers not that Bro: Munson sd any more, So that he thought he was pretty well satisfied. . . . After this he was at the mill, but neither y^e milner nor Brother Munson who[~] he saw there . . . spake anything to him of it. But almost a fortnight after, Bro: Munson sent, & by writeing informed him that the matter was publique, & advised him to speake wth Goodman Holt about it, w^{ch} he thought to doe [but was too late]. The Governor declared, that he was glad that he hath taken the matter into Consideration further then formerly he seemed to doe, w^{ch} was his duty to have done at first, when Sargeant Munson had left it with him to consider off,—who had waited about a fortnight to see the fruit of it."

Feb. 20th.—"The Gouvernor desired that it might be considered whether a village might not be settled neare the black Rock, and something thought off there for our defence; for y^e Black Rock. furtherance of w^{ch} businesse, Brother Andrewes & Bro: Munson were desired to Treat wth the Indians about exchange of some Land,—who are to make their returne to the Indians. Gouvernor, who with y^e rest of the Court are desired how it may be carryed on, in y^e best way to y^e end propounded."†

* An illegible word or sign.

† Gibbard is Sec.

The Governor desired that it might be considered whether a village might not be settled neare the black Rock, and something thought off there for our defence; for y^e furtherance of w^{ch} businesse, Brother Andrewes & Bro: Munson were desired to Treat wth the Indians about exchange of some Land.

Court, Mch. 6th.—The Commissioners on Mr Goodyear's estate "did Alienate for ever unto Tho: Munson, Francis Browne, W^m Russell, Tho Morris, & John Hall, y^e whole Accomodations wth Co^monage, w^{ch} remains unsould, belonging to the lott called m^r Hickcox."

G. C., March 21st.—"Viewers of fences . . . y^e Gouvernors quarter, Tho: Munson, Tho: meakes [Mix]."

G. C., June 21st.—"Mr Bower declared that he conceives, half of M^r Eldreds lott was granted unto him. To w^{ch} Sargeant Munson said," etc.

G. C., June 21st.

The Jurisdiction court* provided in 1659 "for y^e Settling of a Colony Schoole (for teaching of lattine, Greeke, & Hebrew)"—
Colony School. the schools in the several plantations proving inadequate; and the "first Tender" is made to New Haven. The Jurisdiction offers £100 stock "for the providing a house for the master to live in, & a Schoolhouse," and £40 per annum; the residue needful for the school, is to be supplied by the town accepting the tender. New Haven accepted: "To which end, M^r Gilbert, Leaftenn^t Nash, Sargeant Munson, & John Cowper, were appointed a Committee, to provide a house for the schoolemaster & a Schoolehouse." Jer. Peck of Guilford, the first and only teacher, began service in Oct. 1660, with a salary of £50 and a dwelling; but the General Court 5 Nov. 1662 voted to discontinue the school at the end of the month, on account of insufficient patronage. New Haven itself was sending only five or six pupils.

G. C., July 25th.—Schoolmaster Peck is to fit pupils for "the college;" Munson one of four to provide a house for his use next winter. (Samuel² Munson was seventeen years old.)

On the 4th of June previously, an institution had been founded, under the encouragement of Gov. Hopkins, which was designed for a college; but amidst the disturbance and depression
College. which characterized the last two or three years of the New Haven republic, the Colony Grammar-School, of which Peck was master, languished and expired, and the College, having no function, declined to a preparatory grade, becoming the Hopkins
Hopkins Grammar-School. Grammar-School. When the settlement at New Haven was only ten years old, March 23, 1648, a committee was empowered by Generall Courte "to consider and reserve what lott they shall see meete & most commodious for a colledg, w^{ch} they dissire may bee sett vp so soon as

* General Court of New Haven Colony.

their abillitie will reach therevnto." In 1654 the College project was "revived," and New Haven's subscription to the enterprise was "above £300," while the other towns of the jurisdiction raised £240.

1661. G. C., Feb. 25th.—"Complaint was made of unruly doggs w^{ch} bite horses as they passe in the streets to the endangering of their Riders. Sargeant Munsons dogg & Tho Johnsons dogg was spoken off: w^{ch} was also left till the next Meeting."

G. C., March 7th.—"Sargeant Munson being desired, declared that the way [of enlarging the schoolhouse] thought of, was, to sett up a crosse building, at the end of the old house, of the same height, breadth, and length (or within a foot) as the house that now is; and that so much of the length of the new building, as answers the Breadth of the old, to be an enlargm^t of the comō schoolehouse; the other part, a partition being made, and it furnished with a table, shelves to lay bookes ò, *etc.*, to be for a private Roome for the m^r or such as he sees meet, to make use of, as occasion is."

G. C., March 7th.—"Sargeant Munson was chosen Ensigne. But he not accepting the place, the vote was declared Null: who was desired, as a sargent, for some time to supply the place of an Ensigne, that he might have Triall of his Abillities, in the work and exercise of that Office, w^{ch} he promised to do." The "Ensigne" was an officer who carried the ensign or flag.

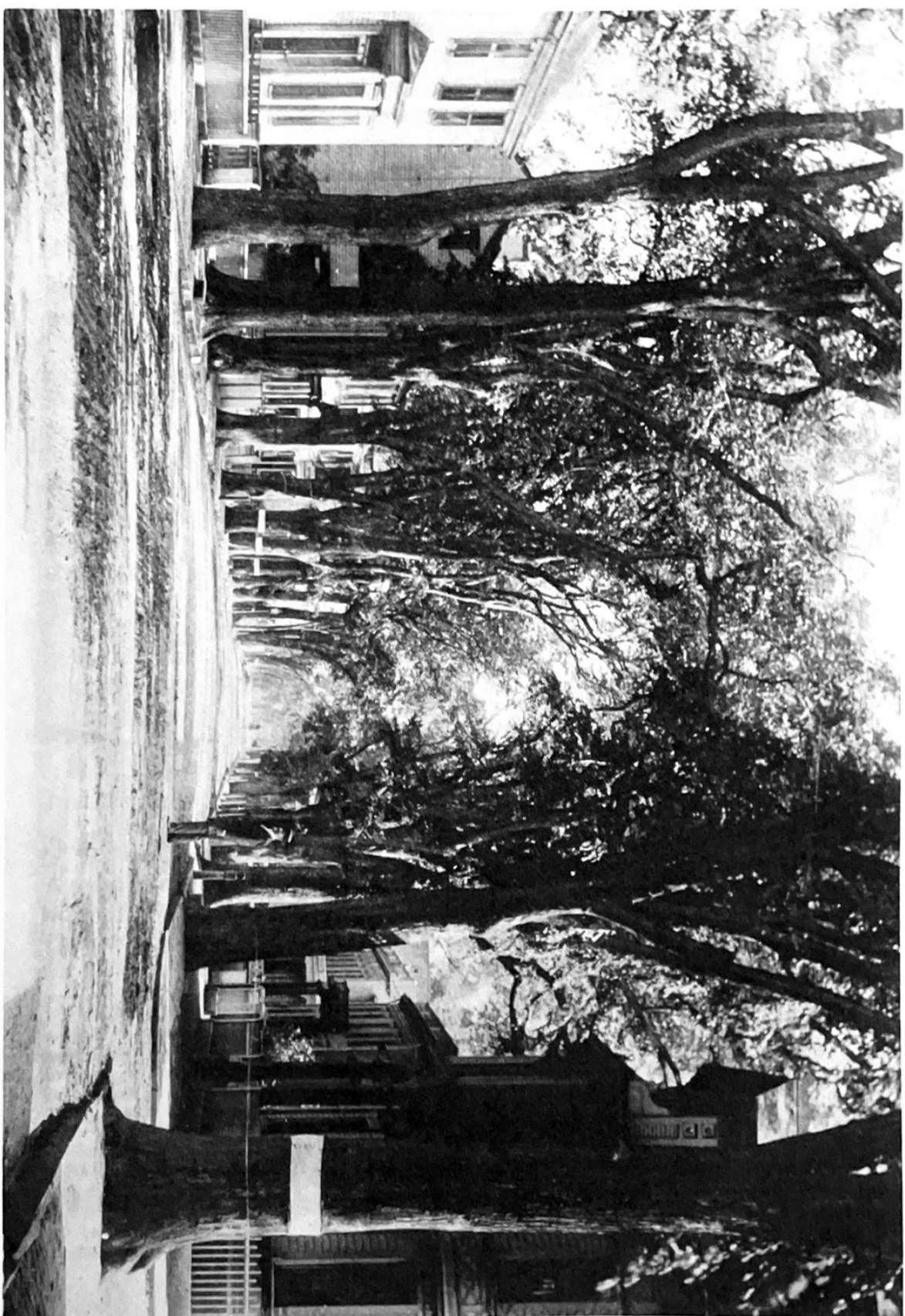
G. C., Aprill 29th.—"Sarjeant Munson, who was formerly Nominated for Ensigne to the Millitary Company, Now accepted that Trust."

Court of Election for the Jurisdiction, May 29th.—Wm. Leete chosen governor in place of Newman who died 18 Nov. 1660.

1662. (Aged 50.) Court, Jan. 7th.—Thomas Munson and J. H. appraisers of estate of John Benham.

G. C., Feb. 10th.—"John Cooper in the Name of the Committee appointed Jan: 20: 61 declared that they had sould the Townes house w^{ch} was lately M^r Kitchells, with all the accommodations thereunto belonging, unto Tho: Munson at the price of 105^{lb}, of w^{ch} 50^{lb} is to be presently paid, 10^{lb} sometime within y^e yeare 1662, the other 45^{lb} sometime within the yeare 1663." This was Elder Robert Newman's place, now divided by Temple St.,* and extending from Grove to Wall. On it stood the "mighty barn" in which the constitution of the colony was enacted 4 June 1639. Samuel^s and Caleb^s in Dec. 1726 quitclaimed

* Temple Street was laid out 22 Sept., 1784. His lot was mainly W. of the street,—extending only a few yards eastward.



SITE OF THOMAS MUNSON'S RESIDENCE, 1662-1685,
Temple Street, between Wall and Grove.

to Theophilus³ "a part of that home lot that was our Honoured Grand ffathers m^r Thomas Munsons," and they bounded it—"North by highway, west wd by that lot that was Mr Dixwels [the regicide], southward by Pirepont and Mixes, east by sd Munsons land."

G. C., Feb. 10th.—By the seating in the Meeting house, Ensign Munson, Mr. Auger, and others, were to occupy No. 2 of "the short Seates in the upper end;" while Sister Munson *At Meeting.* was to sit "before M^{rs} Goodyears seat,"—M^{rs} Goodyear and M^{rs} Gilbert being assigned to one of "the long Seates for weomen," the first appropriated to that sex.

Court, April 1st.—Thomas Munson & J. H. requested to attend to some business pertaining to the estate of John Benham, dec^d, viz., to induce creditors to make some abatement of claims for the benefit of the widow.

G. C., April 28th.—Will: Andrews, Tho: Munson, and 5 others, elected Townsmen.

G. C., April 28th.—Will Andrewes, Tho: Munson, & Thomas Morris, having lately viewed the meeting house, report by request that one of the Pillars, & one of the long girts, is very rotten. Their remedy adopted.

Court, May 6th.—Thomas Munson & J. H. report that 12 creditors of Benham's estate offer to abate 25 per ct., & one, Wm. Gibbard, all.

G. C., May 23d.—John Cowper & James Bishop were chosen deputies to the next Generall Court of the Jurisdiction or *Deputy.* Colony: "Tho. Munson the third in choice."

G. C., June 16.—Deputies for the towne Court,* Mr Davenport Jun., Leiftenn^t John Nash, Ensigne Thomas Munson, & James Bishop. This "towne court" was the "court," or "particular court," or "monthly court," or "plantation† court." *Judge.* A magistrate or magistrates, assisted by two, three or four deputies, might "try any Civill cause . . . in valew not exceeding twenty Pounds, and any Criminall cause, when the punishment by Scripture Light, exceeds not stocking, and whipping, and if the fine be

* To relieve confusion in respect to the various kinds of courts, distinguish, 1st, the "general court for the jurisdiction," the legislature of the Colony,—which was at the same time judicial as a supreme court of appeals; 2nd, the "general court" for the town or plantation, which was town-meeting; 3d, the "court of magistrates," a "jurisdiction" or Colony court, regularly semi-annual, for the trial of superior causes, and to serve as an inferior court of appeals; and 4th, "court," "town court," "plantation court," "particular court," "monthly court," a judicial body for the trial of ordinary causes. This 4th kind is usually indicated in these Annals by "Court;" the general court for the town is indicated by "G. C." We may add that the "court of election" was the May session of the "general court for the jurisdiction," at which the Colony officers were elected.

† A "plantation" was a community where there were "a Church duely gathered, and Freemen orderly admitted."

pecuniary, when the fine exceeds not five Pounds." (This court might become competent to try the greatest causes, not capital, by calling in the aid of two neighboring magistrates.)

In 1662, the custody of 4 "Indian Coats, for souldiers" (there were 20 such coats), "one sadle, 1 bridle and one Case of pistolls", was given to Serjant Munson.

G. C., Aug. 11th.—"Roger Alling [treasurer] informed y^e towne that y^e sixty pound to be received from Bro: Munson would not discharge all behind by thirty pound."

W^m Andrewes, Ensigne Munson, & Laurence Ward, viewed the Meeting-house "by desire of y^e Majestrate," & reported how they found it & what was deemed needful. Voted that the Townsmen see it done. (T. M. was one.)

1663. Court, Jan. 6th.—Estate of Richard Hull apprised by Thomas Munson & Roger Alling.

Court, March 3d.—Thomas Munson and John Cooper had apprised estate of Wm. Judson.

G. C., April 27th.—Thomas Munson elected first of the *Townsmen.* six Townsmen.

G. C., May 18th.—Deputies for Jurisdiction court: agreed to choose them for the whole year. John Nash & James Bishop chosen "Deputies for y^e jurisdiction, & Thomas Munson *Deputy.* the third man, if need require."

"Mr John Davenport, junior, Leftenn^t John Nash, ensigne Thomas Munson, & James Bishop, was chosen *Particular Court.* deputies for y^e towne Courte for y^e yeare ensuing."

"Ensigne Thomas Munson declared unto y^e towne that when he was chosen ensigne, he objected against it as not being able to doe y^e worke, but did take it upon triall; & hauing tried, he finds himselfe not able to doe it (especially in windy weather), neither to the honor of y^e Company nor for his own credit; therefore desired they would thinke of some other." . . . Left to further consideration.

General Court for the Jurisdiction, May 27th.—Present: Governor, Dep. Gov., four magistrates, and nine deputies; the deputies for New Haven were Thomas Munson and James *Legislature.* Bishop, showing that Munson acted as substitute for Lieut. Nash. This was his first service as a member of the Colony legislature.

Court, Sept. 1st.—Ensign Thomas Munson & Christopher Todd apprisers of the estate of Hill.

"Then the court came to consider how to dispose of Ebenezer Hill which was with ensigne munson; & haveing speech with

ensigne munson about him, though he apprehended himself at liberty from any ingagem^t to Rob^t Hill his father about him, yet upon desire of the Court he did ingage to keepe him untill the first of May 1666, & provide for him meate, drinke & apparell,—the Court alloweing (to y^t which he had already received of Rob^t Hill) out of y^e estate, as much white cotten to make him a sute, alsoe a payre of shoes, & two pounds ten shillings, wth the use of his portion untill the michaelmas next after the time beforementioned is expired.”

Court, Dec. 1st.—Joseph and Eleazer, sons of Henry Peck, chose Ensigne Munson guardian for theyr estate. He was approved by court, and accepted—but would run no venture in respect to the cattle.

1664. Court, Feb. 2nd.—Ensigne Thomas Munson & Thomas Kimberly, senior, apprisers of the estate of Hodgkis.

Court, Aprill 5th.—“Ensigne Tho: Munson doth Alienate for ever to Robert floote, his house, homelott, & all buildings & fences thereupon, lieing next Christopher Todd; with two *Sale of Home.* acres & a halfe in the quarter against John Coopers, lieing betwixt Mr Gilbert & W^m Bradley; alsoe six acres wanting some few rods, lieing in the milquarter, between Tho: Kemberly senior & Tho: Morris,—with a piece of meadow lieing at the end of it, the breadth of the Land, to the quantity of three acres.” This place of residence, S. E. corner Church and Elm, he had owned eight years. (He had bought the Robert Newman place in 1662; there he spent the last twenty-three years of his life.)

G. C., April 28th.—“Mr Gilbert againe renewed his motion about exchange of M^r Tenches 2^d devision lieing on the west side, for soe much above the shepherds pen lieing neare y^e Mill River . . . & sd he had got ensigne Munson to view it; who declared that he saw noe inconveniency it would be to y^e towne soe to doe; & soe by vote it was granted him.”

Deputy. G. C., May 9th.—“Ensigne Thomas Munson & John Moss were chosen deputies for the jurisdiction Gen^l courte for the yeare ensueinge. Mr. John Davenport, junior, L: John Nash, Ensⁿ Thomas Munson, & James Bishop, were chosen *Part^r. Court.* Deputies for the towne court for y^e yeare ensueinge.”

“Lieutenant Nash informed the court That the military company was much unsatisfyed to day that they had not the coulors, & y^t some sd they would not trayne if they had not the coulors. Ensigne munson answered, That he finds, upon tryall, y^t he is not able to doe it, & therefore spoke to the towne the Last yeare that they would provide another. But he was told that he should not have deserted y^e company till another had been chosen.

"Ensigne Munson was chosen Lieutenant for the company."

Lieutenant. (All the sergeants were unwilling to take the position of ensign.)

G. C. for the Jurisdiction, May 25th.—Deputies for New Haven plantation (or town), L^t Tho: Munson and Jn^o Mosse.

Deputy. G. C. for the J., Aug. 11th.—Thomas Munson and John Mosse present as deputies. The great controversy with Connecticut

As to Union. Colony in regard to an absorption of New Haven Colony, under the king's recent patent to Connecticut, ("publicly read" at Hartford, Oct. 9, 1662,)* was not yet ended. This extra session of the New Haven Colony legislature, was in view of news from Massachusetts that "the king's commissions were come over," and in view of the tender and anxious counsel of friends in the Bay Colony, urging an amicable union of New Haven with Connecticut, lest mischief come upon all the New England colonies. To messengers from Connecticut, the magistrates had signified "That if Connecticut would come & assert their claime to us in y^e king's authority," and engage to secure to New Haven the privileges which had been offered, they would "call y^e gen^l court together that they may consider of it." The court being now assembled, the Governor desired the members to consider what answer should be given, if agents from Connecticut should come. The problem was a bitter one. "Much debate there was upon it." Vote: "If they of Connecticut come & make a clayme upon us in his majesties name & by vertue of their charter, then wee shall submitt to y^m, untill the commissioners of y^e colonies doe meete." At the meeting of the Commissioners in September, Connecticut said: "We doe hereby declare that we shall haue a tender respect to o^r honoured freinds and bretheren of New Haven." And the Commissioners heartily and affectionately commended such a compliance between them that the sad consequences which would inevitably follow upon their further contentions, might be prevented.

G. C. for the J., Sept. 14th.†—The proceedings at the meeting of the Commissioners, laid before the body. The Governor deemed it a season to advise together "in what state is best for us to appeare when the commissioners from England come to visitt us." "There was much debate, and divers spake that to stand as God hath kept us hithertoo, is our best way."

* Dated April 23, 1662. The General Assembly at Hartford May 14, 1663, "Voted, That they would not send the Patent nor a copy thereof to be read at New Haven."

† Names of members participating, not recorded. Thomas Munson had been elected deputy for New Haven.

Oct. 13th, the General Assembly of Conn. appointed Samuel Shearman and Secretary Allyn to go to New Haven, &c., and in his Majesty's name require all the inhabitants of New Haven, Milford, Branford, Guilford and Stamford, to submit to the government established in Connecticut by his Majesty's gracious grant.

Nov. 19th, Shearman and Allen appeared before a meeting of the town in New Haven, presented their business, and "urged to have the matter put to vote." The conclusion of the meeting, "onely one dissenting," is not on record.

"Att a Gen^l Court held at New Haven for the Jurisdic^{con}, December 13th, 1664,* together with the Freemen of N. Haven, Guilford, Branford, & part of Milford, & as many of y^e Inhabitants as was pleased to come."—"Promise of further answer" had been made to the "Conecticut gentⁿ" who made the demand for submission to the government existing by regal authority; and "after some debate," an answer was now "concluded with universall consent:" "If it shall appeare to our co^mittee that we are by his maj^{ties} authority now put under Coⁿecticut P^{at}tentt, we shall submitt . . . but with a *salvo jure*." Moreover, they must not be understood by this vote "to justify Coⁿecticutts former actings." "The co^mittee appointed was y^e p^rsent members of this gen^l court" (Lieut. Munson was doubtless one), and several others. They write the Connecticut officials Jan. 5th: "Having seene y^e coppye of his maj^{ties} co^mission^{rs} determination . . . wee doe declare submission thereunto." Signed—"Yo^r very loving friends & neighbo^{rs}, the Co^mittee appointed by y^e freemen & inhabitants of N. Haven Colony."

1665. *After the union of New Haven Colony with Connecticut Colony.* (John Winthrop is Governor.)

G. C., March 10th.—Notice received from Conn. that there is to be a Gen^l Assembly the 15th of this month; invited to send deputies. "After much debate, it was thought best to *Deputy* send." Captⁿ John Nash was chosen, but as he declared his inability to go, L^t Thomas Munson was chosen "to supply in his roome;" John Cooper was elected second deputy.

G. C., April 18.—That meeting was "put by." Summons for another, "20th of this moneth." Most were for sending. "The former deputies declareing themselves not willing to goe," the next day John Cooper & James Bishop were chosen.

General Assembly (at Hartford), July 6th.—"This Court doth confirme these as officers to y^e Traine Band at N: Hauen, as follow: John Nash Cap^t, Thomas Munson L^t," *etc.*

* Names of members participating, not recorded. Thomas Munson had been elected deputy for New Haven.

G. C., Aug. 14th.—“The Townesmen were appointed to speake to L^t Tho: Munson, W^m Andrewes, & Thomas Morris, to view what is necessary to be done to the meeting house, both floore & rooffe, & make report to the towne.”

“At a Court held at New Haven, Octob: 3^d 1665. The jury—L^t Tho: Munson, M^r Henry Rotherford, John Gibbs, John Cooper, senior, W^m Andrewes, Henry Glover. L^t Tho: Munson apointed foremen of the jury.” This was the first trial by jury at New Haven.

G. C., Oct. 9th.—Deputies for Gen. Assembly at H., “12 this month:” W^m Andrews & John Cooper appeared to be chosen; there not being satisfaction, the freemen met again at evening & chose John Cooper & James Bishop, “& L^t Tho: Munson y^e 3^d man.”

1666. Court, Jan. 2nd.—Jury: L^t Tho: Munson, Jn^o: Cooper, senior, Jn^o: Herriman, Jn^o Mosse, Roger Alling, Nath: Merriman. This was the third jury-court at New Haven.

G. C., Jan. 15th.—“It was propounded for some to goe about, to see w^t men would give to the lords Treasury:” Tho: Munson & Jn^o Cooper for two quarters, 8 others for “y^e farmers on y^t side,” 2 for “y^e east side,” 1 for “y^e farmes on y^e west side & at y^e Playnes.”

Court, Feb. 6th.—Jury: L^t Tho: Munson, Jn^o: Cooper, senior, Roger Alling, Joseph Alsop, Tho: Trowbridge, Abra: Dowlittle. (Fourth jury-court.)

Next Jury-Court, March 6th.—Jury: John Cooper, senior, L^t Tho: Munson, Rotherford, T. Trowbridge, Alsop, A. Dowlittle.

Court, March 6th.—“Thomas Munson doth Alienate to Thomas Jn^oson the 5th p^t of y^e 2^d division of M^r Hickocks Lott, lieing on y^e west side, being about 8 acres & a halfe, and lieing next to Henry Line his farme.” (Another ¼th was alienated by Henry Glover, same time.)

G. C., April 30th.—“L^t Thomas Munson & James Bishop chosen deputies for the Gen^l Assembly to be held at Hartford the 10th of May next, & Capt Jn^o Nash the 3^d man.”

“L^t Tho^m Munsson & W^m Andrewes voted to be nominated for commissioners, to be added to y^e rest (if need be), M^r Gilbert being gone to Delaware.” The county courts were held the 2nd Thursday in June, and 3d Thursday in Nov.: “w^{ch} Courts shal consist of not less than two Assistants wth two or more Com^{rs}, to y^e number of five judges at least, for y^e triall of all cases excepting life, limb and banishment.” Mr. Gilbert returned in time for the court held June 11th.

Court of Election (Legislature) held at Hartford May 10. "Mr. Munson" recorded as deputy.

G. C., May 8th.—Shearman came "to tender y^e freemmens oath to our present freemen" and others. Only nine took the oath!

Court, Dec. 4th.—Jury: W^m Andrewes, L^t Tho: Munson, &c. (Seventh jury-court.)

1667. (Aged 55.) Towne Meeting, Aprill 29th.—"Thomas Munson & Thomas Kemberlye, senior, for m^r Lings Quarter;" *etc.*

1668. Town Meeting, Jan. 13th.—"L^t Thomas Munson acknowledged the love of the Towne in his being in the military office soe many years; but he desired now that the towne would free him from y^e place of a Lievetenant here, findeing not himselfe free to continue in it; but nothing was done in it at this time."

T. M., Feb. 7th.—W^m Andrews, L^t Thomas Munson, and Thomas Morris, are to "view the meeting house," and with others to report "what is meete to be done about it."

Seating of Meeting-house reported: In the 1st seat "in the Gallery" are 13 persons, including John Cooper, senior, Tho: Trowbridge, and L^t Tho: Munson. In the 2nd do. are 14, including Moses Mansfield, Sam^l¹² Munson, Tho. Yale and Jn^o Cooper. "There being noe gallery for women, they was not new seated."

T. M., Feb. 12th.—"M^r Jones acquainted the towne, that y^e Co^mittee appointed . . . about y^e meeting house, . . . doe apprehend it capable to be repayred. Wm. Andrewes explained "how it should be done," and estimated the cost of repairs and "makeing two more galleryes" at £200. "Soe after some debate," the former committee was requested "to agree wth y^e workmen about it."

"But after sometime of debate about other things, M^r John Davenport, junior, comeing in from y^e schoolehouse, informed y^e towne y^t he understood from L^t Munson, that for fifty pounds more then the repaireing of this old meetinghouse would Cost, he would build a new house;" after "some debate, y^e Towne came to another vote, whereby they referred unto y^e s^d Co^mittee to take into consideration about building a new meeting house, & to agree with any y^t shall appeare to doe it, as the Co^mittee shall see cause."

Court, April 7th.—L^t Thomas Munson at the head of the jury. (Eighth jury-court.)

T. M., April 29th.—L^t Thomas Munson elected one *Townsmen.* of seven Townsmen.

Court, July 17th.—Appointed L^t Thomas Munson . . . to consider the rent & repair of a house belonging to the Watson estate.

"Also appointed L^t Thomas Munson, Samuell Whitehead & James Bishop to settle the estate of the children of Robert Hill."

T. M., Sept. 7th.—J. Mosse & Abraham Dowlittell chosen deputies, "& L^t Tho : Munson the 3^d man in case any of
Substitute. the other two fayle."

Natⁿ Andrewes is to build a new meeting-house for £300 and the old edifice.

T. M., Nov. 9th.—The question about "settling the fferry* att the Red Rocke" was entrusted to the Townsmen. The
Ferry. removal had been effected before Jan. 18th.

1669. Jan. 1st.—T. M. owns land in "y^e Governors Quarter" bounded on Thomas Morris and Eben Browne.

T. M., April 26th.—"L^t Thomas Munson & John Mosse were chosen deputies for the Gen^l Assembly in May next, &
Deputy. A. Dowlittell as 3^d man."

T. M., May 3d.—"James Bishop, L^t Thomas Munson, W^m Andrewes, John Cooper, Sen^r, & John Moss, were apointed & impowered a Co^mittee to state & issue y^e bounds betwixt Brandford and us, with such as Brandford shall apoint & impower to treat & issue with y^m."

Court of Election, May 13th.—L^{nt} Thomas Munson recorded as deputy.

* "After the people on the East side returned to their former connection with New-Haven Society," according to Dodd, "Dea. John Chidsey, John Potter, and John Austin, obtained liberty of New-Haven, to buy one quarter of an acre of the Indians at the Ferry place, to build housing for their horses, when they went to New-Haven. They obtained a deed for the land, 4th March, 1686, which was signed by Narranshott, George Sagamore, Maug, and Kehow. They paid six shillings for it. And it was afterwards called *Stable point*." It was ordained in December of the same year that the high way should be continued four rods wide "from ye old ferry point at y^e place called y^e Stables." Stable Point is some sixty rods north of the east end of Tomlinson Bridge. The landing on the west side appears to have been on the cape from which Tomlinson Bridge was built; a record made about 1750 mentions the "Tract . . . at the ferry point, Called Oyster Shell field." In 1744 David Wooster and others obtained liberty to build a wharf at "the fferry point." Francis Browne, the first ferryman, is to be credited with having proposed the establishment of a ferry in 1645 (it was opened in June), and with having suggested in 1663 its removal to Red Rock.

In 1668 the ferry which had crossed the Harbor from Oyster-shell Field to Stable Point, was transferred up the Quinnipiac to "the Red Rocke,"—which rock is at the east end of the Ferry St. or Quinnipiac Bridge. George Pardee appears as ferryman. The Pardees (Benj. and Noah) were still conducting the ferry in 1752. Dodd mentions this as "Pardee's Ferry," but generally as "the Old Ferry," thus distinguishing it from "the lower Ferry," or Leavenworth's.

After a discontinuance of 110 years, the first ferry was revived, though with a new landing-place on the east side: Jan. 4, 1779, New Haven appointed a committee "to procure . . . the advantages of a ferry at East Haven River at the ferry point so Called,"—i. e., from the old Ferry Point in Oyster-shell Field to the east side of the Harbor; Dodd mentions this as "the New Ferry"; it was generally known as "Leavenworth's Ferry." Miss Eva Hughes states that her great-grandfather Hughes was ferry-master. Tomlinson Bridge marks the site of this ferry.

☞ As to the allusion in the beginning of this note: Conditions were appointed and provisions made for a village on the East Side 9 Feb. 1679 [1680]; it is recorded under 14 Feb. 1686 [1687]—"y^e East Side inhabitants . . . having now laid down y^e village designe and being returned to their former station."

T. M., July 5th.—“L^t Munson & W^m Bradley said they had viewed certain land desired by,” &c.

“L^t Thomas Munson propounded that some course might be taken to settle y^e bounds betwixt Brandford & us. It was left to y^e Co^mmittee apointed y^e last towne meeting, with y^e same power.”

T. M., Sept. 13th.—Lt Thomas Munson & John Mosse
Deputy. were chosen deputies for G. A. in Oct. next.

“Mr Benjamin Ling being sicke, L^t Thomas Munson was
Treasurer. chosen Treasurer for y^e towne in his stead untill the election of towne officers in Aprill or May next.”

Gen. Assembly, Oct. 14th.—L^{nt} Thomas Munson recorded as deputy.

The name of L^t Thomas Munson stands eleventh in a list of 91 freemen at New Haven whose names were returned by “the constobels” in October.

1670. “This writeing wittnesseth, That wee whose names are under written (being impowered by y^e towne), have sold, & by these presents doe make over, on y^e behalfe of the s^d towne, unto M^r Sam^h Streete, a certaine parcell of the beavor meadow, containing by estimation 12 acres be it more or less, lieing on the east side of the Creek, bounded on y^e North by samuell Munson his meadow, & Thomas Morris on y^e South. In testimony whereof wee have hereunto sett our hands this: 14th day of Merch 166⁹/₁₀

Abraham Dowlittle

Thomas Munson”

T. M., May 2nd.—L^t Thomas Munson & John Moss
Deputy. deputies to G. C. in May; A. Dowlittell 3^d man.

Court of Election, May 12th.—L^{nt} Thom: Munson present.

T. M., Aug. 8th.—“L^t Thomas Munson propounded about severall that went to help at Guilford when they were sicke, whoe stopt their rates upon that acco^t.”

T. M., Oct. 3d.—L^t Thomas Munson & John Moss, Deps.
Deputy. to G. A. in Oct., & John Cooper, Sen^r, 3^d man.

“A Generall Court, holden at Hartford, Oct. 13th”: L^{nt} Tho: Munson present.

“This Court doth nominate Mr Wadsworth, Ens. Steele, L^{nt} Munson, [& 5 others,] a committee whoe are desired to take into their consideration the land belonging to their seuerall plantations, and consider and set such apprizement upon the land as may as near as may be just and equal, and present it to the Court.”

T. M., Oct. 31st.—“Lt Thomas Munson propounded to the towne about a highway through the playne field into a swamp y^t is of use to the towne for timber.” Referred.

Court, Dec. 6th.—L^t Thomas Munson, & five, including Cooper, Sen., constitute the jury (the ninth).

1671. T. M., Jan. 9th.—Townsmen reported in favor of “y^e high way through y^e playnes to y^e swamp for timber,” as proposed by Munson (Oct. 31).

T. M., Aprill 25th.—“L^t Thomas Munson & Jn^o Cooper, senior, were chosen deputies for y^e Gen^l Assembly in May next;”
Deputy. Nash, 3^d man.

Court of Elec., May 12th.—L^{nt} Tho : Munson present.

“This Court appoynts L^{nt} Thomas Munson to runn the depth of the bownds of Brandford and Guilford to the northwards, according to their grant.”

T. M., Sept. 11th.—“The towne was informed that y^e indyans desire liberty for admitting some of their friends & relations to
Indians. sitt downe with them upon their owne ground: upon which The towne by vote desired & appointed The Deputy Governor, & Magistrates, with the Towns-men, & L^t Thomas Munson, a Co^mittee in reference to the indyans proposition about admitting of other indyans to them upon their owne ground, or any other thing respecting the articles betwixt the towne & them.”

L^t Thomas Munson & Jn^o Cooper, senior, chosen deputies for the G. A. in Oct. next; Nash, 3^d man.
Deputy.

Gen. Court, Oct. 12th.—L^{nt} Tho : Munson present.

T. M., Dec. 15th.—“The Magestrates & townes-men, M^r W^m Tuttell, M^r W^m Rosewell, and L^t Thomas Munson, were by vote appointed a Co^mittee & impowered to treat further with Christopher Tod upon y^e afore^sd undertaking & provisoes,” viz.: Nov. 27th, “Christopher Tod propounded unto y^e towne that they would be at some charge for y^e removeall of y^e mills on this side nearer y^e rocke & soe to make y^m breast mills.”

1672. (Aged 60.) T. M., April 30th.—Mr Thomas Yale, senior, & L^t Thomas Munson chosen deputies; Cooper, 3^d man.
Deputy.

“L^t Thomas Munson & James Bishop is desired & appointed to issue (with such whom Branford shall appoint) respecting y^e running of the line between them & us.”

Court of Elec., May 9th.—L^{nt} Tho: Munson present.

Gen. Court (at Hartford), June 26th.—L^{nt} Tho: Munson present. The occasion of this special session was the arrival of King Charles's declaration of war against the States General, with counsel to the New England colonies that they make speedy provision for defence against the Dutch.