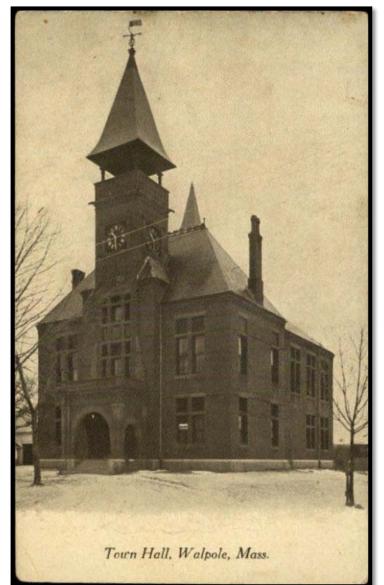
# COURTESY, WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WALPOLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION





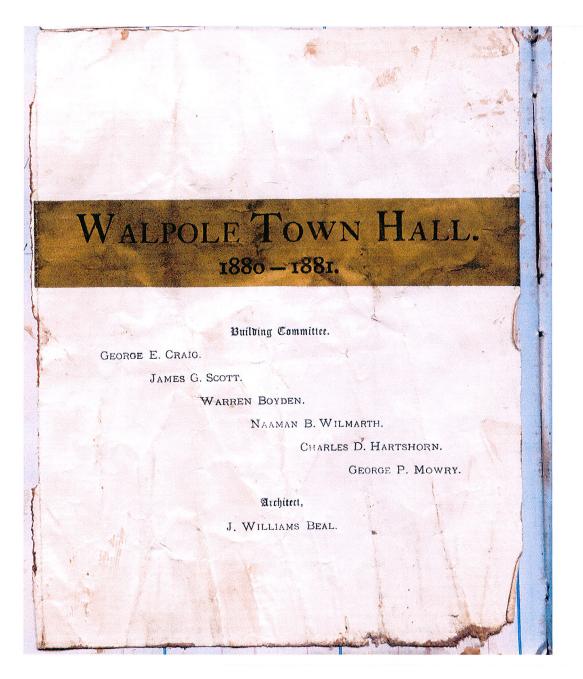
The Howard Co. Clock, identical image shown above, has been serving the town of Walpole faithfully since 1881

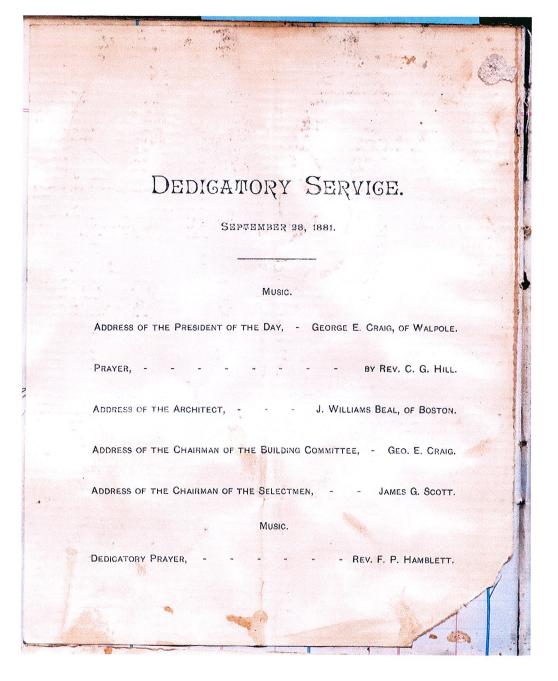
Excerpts from the Mann Scrapbook courtesy of the Walpole Historical Society regarding the Old Town Hall Walpole, Massachusetts 1881

WALPOLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION



CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL





HENRY E. FALES, ESQ., OF BOSTON. DEDICATORY ADDRESS, Music. HON. F. W. BIRD, OF WALPOLE. -ADDRESS, Music. - JAMES A. DUPEE, ESQ., OF BOSTON. ADDRESS, -MUSIC. GEORGE B. HYDE, ESQ., OF BOSTON. -ADDRESS, . Music: REV. FRANCIS GOUESSE, OF WALPOLE. ADDRESS, MUSIC. REV. EDWIN P. THOMPSON, OF WALPOLE. ADDRESS, MUSIC. - BY THE AUDIENCE. OLD HUNDRED, REV. G. R. BENT, OF WALPOLE. BENEDICTION, THE LEAGUE PENNANT. The close of the last week but one of the league season finds the fight for the pennant practically narrowed down to two clubs-isoston and Providence. The former has an advantage over the latter in having won one more game, loat two loss games and here one more to play than her

### COURTESY, WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WALPOLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

# FRANK BIRD DEFEATED

## In Town Meeting-Walpole Decides to Build a Town Mall.

The citizens of Walpole have been discussing the feasibility of constructing a town hall for the past two years, and three meetings upon that subject have been held since last February. A meeting was held yesterday afternoon, which was attended by over two-thirds of the legal voters. Nearly all of the manufacturing establishments were closed, teams were used to convey voters to and from the outskirts, proclamations by the con-tending factions had been made and circulated, and the public had been fully aroused so that when the meeting was called to order the building in which it was to be held was found to be inadequate, and an adjournment to the horse-sheds and grounds was made. Samuel Allen was chosen moderator. Hon. F. W. Bird led a conchosen moderator. Hon. F. W. Bird led a con-servative party, who favored the building of a hall of wood to cost \$15,000, from plans of Mr. Sillaway, or to postpone action at present. The opposing faction favored the Beal plan at a cost of \$20,000. As a hint of prospective pounding Mr. E. G. Piper presented the moderator with a 20 ponderous gavel made from a large knot of a tree. The votes were taken by check-list, and the town appropriated \$1800 to purchase 20,000 square feet of land on Main street, Centre, from E. D. Clapp. Then came the tug of war upon the cost of the building. Hon, F. W. Bird contrasted the valuation of this town with others in the county that are erecting halls, and he thought that was a fair criterion. he was willing to build that was a fair criterion. Le was willing to build a one-story structure, which would be ample. Dr. Stone, George Craig and others took an opposite view, and, during the discu-sion, many puns were interjected. The conservative party were defeated, it being voted to build a town house by the plans of W. J. Beal, for \$20,000, and the treasurer was authorized to borrow that sum, with the advice and consent of the selectmen, payable in not more than ten years, the sum to be raised by taxation. The plans of the hall provide for a two-story brick building, Gotnic style, the lower floor to be subdivided into selectmen's and other town officers' rooms, library room, small hall town officers' rooms, library room, small hall with stage appurtenances. A large hall, with galleries, will comprise the second story. George E. Craig, James G. Scott, N. B. Wilmarth, War-ren Boyden, Charles D. Hartshorn and George P. Morey were chosen a building committee.

### Town Meeting at Walpole.

THE VENTAM DATTIE PLACE

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hoade.

0 A special town meeting was held in Walpole yesterday afternoon, at which Samuel Allen was chosen moderator. The room in which the meeting was held being too small to accommodate the usual number of voters present, an adjournment was made to on air, the where, each the open check list taken, was vote used. After much discussion by Frank Bird, George E. Craig, James Hartshorn and others, it was voted to buy the Clapp lot of 20,000 square feet, on Main street, for a location for a town house, at a cost of \$1800; also to bor-row \$20,000, for 10 years, to build a two story brick structure for a hall and town offices.

#### COURTESY, WALPOLE MISTORICAL SOCIETY

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WALPOLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

#### WALPOLE.

Walpole's New Town House. The oilizens of the enterprising town of Walpole who, for many years past, have been agitating the subject of erecting a new town hall, have reason to feel prond of the hand-some structure which today adorns the centre of their principal village, and which will this (Wednesday) afternoon be dedicated to all the uses which a progressive people desire a public hall for. Mr. Henry F. Fales of Milnord delivering the dedicatory address. The building is of the Queen Anne style of architocture, and is, indeed, an imposing-looking structure. It is built of handsome red brick, and has brown freestone trummings, with foundations of granite. It has a slated roof and two spires, one for the belfry and the other for the ventilator. On both the top and the edge of the roof are odd-looking terra cotta trimmings. A handsome weather vane adorns the entire structure, and from the foundations to the top of this vane the dis-tance is 100 feet. The clock and beil, both of which are the gift of prominent citizens, oost some \$1000. Granite steps are located under the portice arch at the main entrance, and the double doors here, as well as all the other doors, swing outward. The first floor us devoted to an assembly hall, 45x32 feet m size; a public library room, 41x16 feet, and two additional rooms, some of these rooms. There are two star ways is dedicted in a freproof vauit, located in one of these rooms. There are two star ways is dediced in a freproof vauit, located in one of these rooms. There are two star ways is deting from the first floor to the main hall, which is located on the second floor. This hall will seat 500 people, being 43x76 feet in share share the first floor to the main hall, which is located on the second floor. This hall will seat 500 people, being 43x76 feet in share which the most approved style of halt inviture. There are an abundance of ante-point stage or speaker's platform adoms one end of it, while dithese rooms and arsen-prised with the most approved style of halt inviture Walpole's New Town House. The citizens of the enterprising town of Walpole who, for many years past, have been 27 basement and ventilated in an improved man-ner. The principal means of egress from the farthest end of the hall, in case of an emer-gency, is afforded by a stairway which leads from the rear of the speaker's platform to the assembly hall below. This structure is a costly affair, and one of the finest town halls in the second provide in the common wealth. Wednesday se

ten Haral

The dedication ball at Walpole last evening was a decided success, there being about 150 couple present. The elaborate ornamentation of the hall rendered any floral display by the committee unnecessary. A promenade concert by Hartshorn's band was given for an hour, and at 9.30 o'clock dancing was begun, and, with the exception of an intermission for supper, was kept up until 4.30 this morning. The dresses of the ladies were elaborate and the committee of arrangements were indefatigable in their attention to the wants of all. Join E. Mann was floor manager, aided by Messis. A. M. Cram, W. I. Lewis, H. E. Craig, — Rooney aud others. Supper was firmished by Tufts of Boston. It was conceded to be the largest social gathering held in town.

# To the Voters and Tax-Payers of Walpole.

You are again called to a Town-Meeting to act upon a plan for a Town-House which you have twice rejected. You are asked not only to adopt this twice-rejected plan, but to commit the building recommended by that plan to the committee who reported it, who were ashamed to say they approved of it, and yet now have the impudence to ask the town to adopt a plan substantially the same. They have called this meeting in the busiest week of the year—a time when they know the farmers of the town will be in the midst of their haying, and when they hope that that large class of our tax-payers who reside mostly in the outskirts will be unwilling to leave their work. It is important that this vexed question be settled; and to this end it is essential that the next meeting should be a full one, and should make a decision by such a majority that there shall be no appeal.

The reckless course pursued by the leaders of what is called the Beale plan shows that they mean to "rule or ruin"—that they mean to force their plan upon the town, or to prevent the town's adopting any. Believing as we do that a town-house can be built with all the conveniences desirable for town purposes, which shall be at the same time an elegant structure, an ornament to the centre of the town, and which will in the end cost at least from five to eight thousand dollars less than the "Beale" plan, we appeal to the voters and tax-payers of the town to attend town-meeting next Monday, to insist upon knowing all the facts in the case, and then render their verdict.

The issue before the town is simply this: 1st. Shall we build a town-house with ample and convenient accommodations for all *town purposes*, which, besides that, shall be a substantial and elegant structure which will be an ornament to the centre village: or, 2d, Shall we build, practically, two town-houses; one adapted to town-purposes; and the other, a smaller hall for concerts, caucusses, theatricals, etc., at an additional cost of at least five thousand dollars. Our people in the outskirts are willing, as I believe, to be taxed for a building of the class first above-named, without insisting upon any particular plan or material; but we ought not to be taxed for the extra cost of other rooms and superfluous ornamentation for the gratification of residents in the immediate vicinity. If the residents in the centre want to put this extra cost into a building for rooms, etc., let them put their hands in their pockets and pay for them, and I will join them, but I will not vote to tax the outskirts for the extravagant cost of a building which they will not enter more than three or four times in a year.

COME ONE, COME ALL! and, above all, COME EARLY!

F. W. BIRD.

EAST WALPOLE, June 22, 1880.

# To whom it may concern. Residents of the town of Walpole.

In the transaction of business, public or private, an appeal to your passions is an insult to your intelligence. What more than this is the peculiar address just issued to you by that incarnation of the "Rule or Ruin" principle, the Honorable F. W. Bird. It is an open secret among the friends and advocates of this gentleman, that he and his assistants propose to hold this town by the throat while they administer the nauseating dose prepared by the reverend and able Dr. Silloway, and that in the event of the town's utter refusal to take the dose, why, they shall have no town-house.

As we have said, this document is peculiar in many respects; in the first place, it is assumed beyond a doubt to be an impertinence on the part of any free citizen of this town to move toward a mutual consultation in town meeting, without first having obtained the assent or permission of Hon. F. W. Bird and party; upon what ground this assumption is based, of course it is not our privilege to inquire.

The gentlemen with characteristic conscientiousness and care in the imputation of motives, accuses all who differ with him of being intentionally wicked in so far as the next town meeting is called at an accidentally busy season of the year. We wonder that he did not make us blameable for the exceptional heat of the season as it is really the cause which makes haying imperative now rather than two weeks hence as usual, and further he says, that they, his opponents hope that a large portion of the voters will be detained from the meeting while the fact is that we have openly and honorably made every effort to have all the voters present. Our one desire is that a full town meeting free from the trammels of chicanery and wire pulling, shall have the privilege of saying whether they will have a town house which they, rather than any one else, shall deem appropriate and acceptable; by their decision we are willing to abide.

But it is a matter of self respect to ourselves, as well as to all of the independent voters of the town, that we should be secured in our right to have a fair and deliberate expression of the opinion of the town, upon such questions as we may from time to time desire properly to put to it, without let or hindrance from any self appointed and impudently assumed authority.

This document further attempts to distort and misrepresent that gentlemanly delicacy with which the original committee abstained from officially recommending the plan of their own choice because of its unexpected cost, while they have personally endorsed it with an earnestness which is attested by their repeated and continuous efforts to get it fairly before the town.

Regardless of our various locations, we are all alike interested citizens of the whole town of Walpole, and we think that the number of persons who are illiberal and narrow enough to allow themselves to be governed by sectional considerations is exceedingly small.

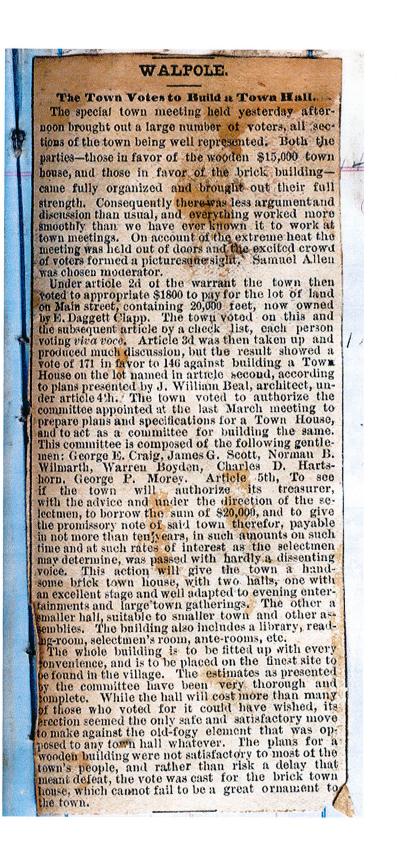
We are told that the one question before the town is, whether we shall build a town house deemed satisfactory by Hon. F. W. Bird, at a cost of \$15,000, or whether we shall spend an additional \$5,000 in a way that *he* does not deem necessary, although the additional facilities to be secured by this additional investment would be a largely remunerative investment, and, in fact, the only part of the investment which by direct return would secure any income to the town.

The question, as it really affects us is, whether we shall for ten consecutive years, submit to additional tax of \$1.60 per thousand, and get a satisfactory and superior Town House, or whether we shall submit to a like additional tax of \$1.20 per thousand, thereby saving (40c.) forty cents per thousand, but at the same time getting a decidedly unsatisfactory and inferior building.

The remarkable fairness of this document is evidenced by the fact, that it was cautiously issued at the last possible moment, so that the citizens might be be led to act under an impulse of passion, rather than, having a possible reply, be able to get at the merits of the case.

We are sincerely sorry to be obliged hastily to interfere with this eminently peculiar pregramme. It is with exceeding pleasure that we are able at least on one point to unite with the honorable writer in an earnest invitation to each and every voter in the town, "To come, and to come early"; but, in fairness we must add, that which he evidently did not care to emphasize, "that they should come prepared to act rationally and independently of any other influence whatever.

317 Voles 25 ahead A NUMBER OF VOTERS. June 28 1880



# COURTESY, WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE WALPOLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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A	Walpole.	
TOWN MEETING		ended, and
it. inhabitanta o	f Walpole look forwa	rd to the
the innaoitants o	Walpole look for a	nd much.
speedy erection of	the long-looked-for a	day after.
talked-of Town Ho	use. At 2 o'clock yester	h used for
noon the vestry o	f the Unitarian Churc	oters, and
town purposes, w	emarks it was impossi	la to tell
from the excited i	he largest number pre	sent. The
wolch party had	ord-wood," as the two pa	rties have
" BFICKS and "C	each anxious to have	their pet
been caucu, were	at Samuel Allen W	as chosen
Madarator by hal	nt. Samuel Allen w lot, receiving 139 vote	. Before
Axmon with a handad	me onvel and was away	Lou a row
of thonks by the m	pering, immediately are	GI WALL LAL
O D Clone moved t	hat the meating adjourn	to the yard
in the rear of the C	nurch owing to the close	suces of one
atmombore and th	a motion was carried.	TIMUT OTUUT
man what a what A set 1/1	IA 9 WIA SPEIT INE LOY	II WIII all
neonrigte \$1800. to	nev for the lot of lan	a on aroun
to hun of E D Clis	" was read, and all	r some uns-
Amaguan it 1003 201	ad to appropriate that	amount or
money. The check	-list was used and 177 v	M D Wil
manuth thon moved	that A THCHE A. LU SEU	II. IIIO VO TA
will vote to build a	Town House on said lo	arad by J.
ance with plaus	and specifications prep litect, and will make at	propriation
William Beal, arci	copted and an appro	priation of
therefor, be ac	that purpose, An opp	ortunity for
\$20,000 be milled to	Come burbohal wer abt	also mataging of
inscussion was now	given and it was eage	rly grasped
by several individu	als. Hon. F. W. Bird c	ampioned a
he cause of those	who were in favor of	Cheorge T
wooden building, at	he opposite party. Out	argument
dramand in fagor	of the brick building	way that it
and he much m	ore convenient to have	the Public
library on the gro	and floor than on the se	cond story.
where it would nec	essarivy be in the woode	n bullding.
A voto was finally r	eached with the check-	ist and the
ruicle was accepte	d by a vote of 171 to 14	6. The re-
mit was received	with great enthusiasus,	and mune-
listely ofter the vo	te was declared there w	as a great
corcity of the supr	orters of the wooden bu	ilding plan.
Everyhody was sud	denly seized with the id	ea that the
brick building was	mst what the town need	ea.
The mnortant w	wk of the meeting bein	g disposed
of, the rest of the h	usiness was hurried thi	ough with
n the shortest th	ne possible. Article 4	"TO 866
f the town will au	chorize the committee,	appointed
at the last March n	eeting to prepare plans	and speci-
fications for a Tow	a House, to act as a con	unittee for
building the same	" was read, and the	Walmonth
George E. Craig,	ames G. Scott, M. B. harles D. Hartshorn a	nd George
warren Boyden, C	naries D. riarishorn a	ill of once
r. Morey, were	so authorized, and warge their duty in the be	at nassible
organize and disch	5, "To see if the	town will
nanner. Article	urer, with the advice an	d under the
divention of its Pal	ectmen, to borrow the su	m of \$20
enection of its Sel	the promissory notes of	said town
It was to a manufally i	m mot mana than tan yan	none in chon
amounts on such	time and at such rate of	interest as
andounts, on such	determina?' was dian	osed of by
	the souther way with the	
outhorizing the	reasurer to borrow th	e specified
therefor, payable is amounts, on such the Selectmen may authorizing the T amount, and it was		
	reasurer to borrow the s voted that the money sed by taxation. The m	

CONDITION IN A DOMESTIC DOCUMENT D	
COURTESY, WALPODiring the part where the Farmers' IN COLLABORAT Con variables of the	AL COMMISSION
discussed the want of a town house. A committee of three were chosen by the	
Farmers' Club to visit different towns	e
and examine recently erected town houses, and see if one could be found	
that would do to copy from and supply	
the wants of our people, not only in size and convenience, but also in expense.	
The town house lately completed by the citizens of Uxbridge, seemed to be the	*
nearest towards supplying our wants.	
The whole expense of completion, ready for occupancy, of the building alone was	
thirteen thousand dollars. It was larger than we needed; had a cupola and spire,	
which cost five thousand dollars, an ex-	ic,
pensive driveway, that we could dispense with. In short, it was estimated that at	/
least three to four thousand dollars less	
expense could be dispensed with—in size, driveway and cupola, which, in a	
great measure, would make up for the late rise in the materials for its con-	
struction. In view of these facts, a very	
large part of the people of the town ex- pressed a desire that a town house should	11
be built at an expense not to exceed the	
sum of fifteen or sixteen thousand dollars. A committee of six was ap-	
pointed by the town to solicit plans, spe- cifications and bids for such a house. On	R
April 12th that committee reported a	4
plan, with specifications and bids, that would cost the town twenty-five thousand	
dollars, and that five hundred dollars	
appropriated had been spent for them. That was not what the people called for.	
The committee was discharged, and an- other one of six was appointed, of which	te
Hon. F. W. Bird was the chairman, and has been reported in your last issue. The	
parties who presented the plans and	1
specifications which would cost twenty- five thousand dollars, April 12, and was	1
desirous to pledge the town in that sum	
for its erection, came again with all force, June 7th, and in consideration of	
the great fall in the price of the materi- als for construction, etc., etc., strenuous-	7.
lly, by a minority report, urged the adon-	
tion of the former plans and specifica- tions, asking that the sum of twenty	0
thousand dollars be appropriated for the same. Upon a division of the house, this	2
party was seventy-six in number. They	
came thoroughly organized, and their report was made with ability; but their	
mouthpiece chosen to carry out their motion to adjourn in case they failed to	
carry their point exhibited a good deal	
more brass than brains. His manner and a language would have done very good	4
credit to a town meeting in Texas, where pistols and bowie knives are brought	
into requisition. His motion to adjourn.	
(which is always in order and not debatable,) not being instantly recognized, as	41
he wished, stepped forward, and with	
clenched fist and uproarous language, brought that fist down upon the table in	
front of the moderator. An officer stand- ing near told him he had no right to	
speak to the moderator in that manner.	,
His reply to the officer was, "You are a G-d d-d old fool." The penalty for	•
swearing is clearly defined by the law. If there is no penalty for such language	
and manner to an officer, the reflection	- 1
upon hinself will probably injure him more than it will the officer. A town	2
house will no doubt be built of brick and stone, and at a cost not exceeding fifteen	
or sixteen thousand dollars, at some fu-	
ture time, not very far distant, with a public library on the lower floor, and	
of convenient access	
THE AMERICAN TEAM ABROAD	7 <u>6</u>