& if any other persons so offending shall refuse to pay y^e^ said fyne as aforesaid, they shall be liable to y^e^ punishment as aforesaid, & all such fines shall go one half to the informers, & the other half to y^e^ Selectmen, for the use of the town in bearing publik charges."

This had the desired effect as no record was made of the boys being whipt under the direction of the benign Deacon Chapin and his fellow-members of the board. But the spirit of youth was evidently abroad and if they could not throw stones at the meeting-house windows they could do some other things even at the risk of being punished. The argus eyes of the conservators of the public peace were not unmindful of improprieties by whomsoever committed, as the following indicates:—

"It being observed & complayned of that Persons do frequently take liberty to ride very swiftly with their horses in the streets to y^e^ endangering of children and others, it is therefore ordered that if any person be observed to Run his horse or to ride faster than an ordinary gallop in y^e^ streets of this town, except upon such urgent occasions as shall by y^e^ Selectmen be judged warrantabel so to do, he shall be liable to a fine of 3s 4d, to be paid, one shilling to the Informer & the rest to y^e^ Towne. This order not to extend to Troopers in tymes of their exercise."

"Troopers," were the members of the cavalry company, who might be out for exercise on a training day. The first to transgress this order were Thomas Stebbins, Jr., Timothy Cooper, John Hitchcock, Samuel Bliss, Jr., and Jonathan Ashley, all young men. On notification to appear, Stebbins went before the selectmen, who for "fiersely galloping & running his horse last Wednesday forenoon, in y^e^ street from Goodman Miracks upwards, acknowledged it and was sentenced to pay 3s 4d." The others not appearing, their trial was continued till the next lecture day, when they were fined 2s 4d each.

Youthful indiscretions began to show themselves about this time within as well as without the meeting-house. At

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a meeting of the selectmen April 7, 1669, it was voted:—

Miles Morgan and Jonathan Burt are ordered to sit in y^e^ Gallery to give check to the disorders in youth & young men In tyme of Gods worship. Anthony Dorchester is to sit in y^e^ Guard Seate for y^e^ like end."

The preceding are not the only instances in which the youth of that time were transgressors of the established customs. Even Elizur Holyoke's sons were subject to disciplin and were brought into court with others. In the Pynchon Magistrate Book is the following record:—

"Thomas Noble, Constable, presenting Thomas Thomson and John Horton for the last Sabbath, June 7, 1664, in the evening about 1-2 hour after Sunset, Samuel and Elizur Holyoke, being accessories in sayd fray; the Commissioners upon examination of the case do find that the said four persons did profane the Lord's day and therefore determine that they all shall be admonished thereof, and that Thomas Thomson, John Horton and Samuel Holyoke shall pay a fine of 5 shillings apeice to the County, or be whipt by the Constable on the naked body with three stripes apeice, whereupon they were all admonished and the three former desiring to pay their fines than otherwise, were ordered to pay them to the County Treasurer."

The Justices, or Commissioners, as they called themselves, who sat in this case, were Deacon Samuel Chapin and Elizur Holyoke, the latter the father of the Holyoke boys. Thomas Thomson was a Windsor youth who resided here for a short time.

John Pynchon's Experience in Pork Raising.

In 1656 John Pynchon set out on a pork-raising speculation, on Freshwater river, now in Enfield, Conn.,—at that time within the jurisdiction of Massachusetts. He procured a grant of land, 20 acres for himself, and 10 acres each for George Colton and Benjamin Cooley. When granted it was with the agreement that "if they doe not make use of it themselves it is to return into the Townes hands agayne—

From: "The First Century of the History of Springfield
The Offical Records from 1636 to 1736"
by Hnery M. Burt

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