

pany of emigrants of whom Rev. Mr. Higginson, Rev. Mr. Bright, and Thomas Graves, engineer, were members, who arrived from England and settled in Salem and Charlestown the last of June or the first of July, 1629. With the exception of Thomas Walford, a blacksmith, who had built and occupied a palisado house upon the south side of Breed's (now Bunker's) Hill, these emigrants were the first that settled in Charlestown.*

Nicholas Stowers† was herdsman for the settlement. His duties were "to drive the herd forth to their food (to the Cow Commons) in the main every morning and to bring them into town every evening, and to have fifty bushels of Indian Corn for keeping the Milch Cows till Indian harvest be taken in." He was also to have the benefit of keeping such other cattle as came into the town during the summer. Sept. 28, 1630, it was ordered by the General Court "that those of Dorchester who bought certayne Cattell of the Merchants of Dor-

* Frothingham gives the following record of the first proceedings of the first settlers of Charlestown:—

"The inhabitants y^t first settled in this place and brought it into the denomination of an English town was (were) as follows, viz.: Anno, 1628 (1629), Ralph Sprague, Richd. Sprague, William Sprague, John Meech, Simon Hoyte, Abra Palmer, Walter Pamer, Nicholas Stowers, John Stickline, Tho. Walford (smith), y^t lived here alone before.

"Mr. Graves who had charge of the servts. of the company of patentees with whom he built the great house this year for such of the sd. company as are shortly to come over which afterwards became the meeting house."

† Nicholas and Amy Stowers were of the thirty-five persons who were dismissed from the Boston Church the 14th of the eighth month, 1632, and formed the First Church in Charlestown. — *Frothingham*.