

{Meeting of the} Town Fathers

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It would be impossible to detail the history of the "Town Fathers" in so short an outline as this, but it might be of interest for future generations to know where the Cranford Township Committee held forth during the years. It was clearly stated in the records that the first meeting took place in the "district School House" on April 15, 1871. This, of course, refers to the old red school on Lincoln Avenue. As a matter of fact, the Township Committee seems to have followed the Republican Club with lamblike docility, for it is known that town affairs were conducted as early as 1873 in Miller's Hall where the Republican Club members gathered, until the fire of 1875 destroyed the building. Next the Committee met in Crane's Hall for a short time, or until the so-called Republican Wigwam, or Cranford Hall, was erected in 1876 on North Avenue and Eastman Street. Here town affairs proceeded until the Opera House Block was opened in 1893. For ten years, there was undisturbed peace, but in 1903, the new Masonic Building at the corner of Alden Street and Union Avenue aroused discontent and the Township Rooms were transferred once more. There they remained until April 1, 1935, when the Township Office was established in its present quarters at Alden Street and North Union Avenue.