

**Tewksbury** was detached from Billerica, and incorporated Dec. 23, 1734. Its Indian name was *Wame-sit*; and its English name was probably given to it in remembrance of Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire, Eng. It is situated in the north-west part of Middlesex County, 21 miles from Boston, and has the broad Merrimack River (separating it from Dracut) on the north, Andover on the north-east, Wilmington on the south-east, Billerica on the south-west, and Lowell on the west. The Lowell and Lawrence Railroad runs diagonally through the town; and the Lowell and Salem Railroad gives it communication with the last-named city.

The number of farms is 143; of dwelling-houses, 244; of voters, 295; and of inhabitants, 1,944. They are mostly engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The leading rock is Merrimack schist and calcareous gneiss; and the timber-growth is maple, oak, pine, birch, and alder. The Scottish heath is found in one locality near the Centre. The soil is light and sandy, and well adapted to the cultivation of early garden-vegetables, for which the city of Lowell offers a ready market. Prospect Hill, and the high lands at North Tewksbury, command a very splendid view of the Merrimack River and the distant mountains; and Snake Hill, near the line of Wilmington, overlooks the charming valley of Shawshine River, which winds through the southerly section of the town. The land is drained by several small affluents of the Merrimack and the Shawshine River; and Long Pond and Round Pond furnish perch and pickerel, and serve to beautify the landscape.

The town has two grist and three saw mills, a large tannery (carried on by W. H. Lee), and an establishment for making various preparations of parching corn, large quantities of which are raised on the light lands in this vicinity. The educational and civic interests of the place receive commendable attention. With a valuation of \$975,789, the town appropriates about \$2,000 annually for the support of public schools, of which there are seven in the place. It sustains a lyceum. It has a good town-hall, a handsome cemetery, and two churches. The pastor of the First church, C.T., is the Rev. S. F. French, installed Nov. 1, 1871; and of the Baptist church, North Tewksbury, the Rev. S. A. Romas, settled in 1873. Tewksbury furnished 81 soldiers for the war of the Rebellion, of whom 14 died in the service of their country.

The first church was organized here Nov. 23, 1735; and the Rev. Sampson Spaulding, ordained in 1737, was the first pastor. He was followed by the Rev. Titus T. Barton in 1792. The Rev. Jacob Coggin succeeded him in 1806.

The State has established a large and commodious almshouse near the centre of this town. The buildings occupy a commanding site, and present an imposing appearance. Connected with this institution is an extensive farm, on which such of the inmates as are able to perform manual labor are employed. The real estate is valued at \$228,875. By the Superintendent's Report, the whole number supported during the year ending Oct. 11, 1872, was 1,781; the number of deaths was 334. The whole establishment is under the efficient management of Thomas J. Marsh.